

CERN-LITHUANIA COMMITTEE

ANNUAL MEETING

March 9, 2020

Date: March 9, 2020

Venue: Lithuanian Academy of Sciences, Vilnius, Lithuania

Members of the Committee: Prof. Christoph Schäfer, Senior Adviser for International Relations; Prof. Emmanuel Tsesmelis, Head of Associate Member and Non-Member State Relations (co-chair, replacing Ms Warakaulle), Ms Charlotte Lindberg Warakaulle, Director for International Relations (co-chair – online for introduction only), Prof. Juras Banys, President of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences, Prof. Saulė Mačiukaitė-Žvinienė, President of National Council of Education, Vilnius University (co-chair), Mrs. Jekaterina Rojak, Viceminister for Economics and Innovation, Dr. Mantas Vily, Director at Lithuanian Innovation Centre.

Mandated Participants: Mr. Paulius Baltokas, Advisor to the President, Mr. Andrius Krivas, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Lithuania, Prof. Valdemaras Razumas, Vice-Minister for Education and Science, Dr. Aurelijus Rinkevicius, Chair of Particle Physics, Vilnius University, Mr. Andrius Bernotas, Head of Organising Department, Lithuanian Academy of Sciences, Mrs. Dalia Kreiviene, Director of External Relations and Economic Security Policy Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Dalia Kadisiene, Head of the International Economic Organisations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Aim: In line with its Terms of References, the Joint CERN-Lithuania Committee conclusions are adopted during each CERN-Lithuania annual meeting. They are used to identify specific issues of concern or attention for Lithuania and CERN, and outline particular actions to take or goals to reach within the relevant frameworks.

The Joint CERN-Lithuania Committee (hereafter The Committee) during its meeting on March 9, 2020, took note and welcomed the latest achieved results in science and industry between Lithuania and CERN. The Committee thanked all presenters providing it with the relevant information of Lithuania aims as a CERN Associate Member State, including the objectives of the Lithuania-CERN Business Incubation Centre (BIC) Agreement. The Committee agreed on the following points:

- The Committee recognized that due to Lithuania's status as an Associate Member State, the cumulative industrial and personnel return is capped at the membership annual financial contribution of one million CHF currently. In view of the positive trend of Lithuania's return – which CERN welcomes - this could, in the near future, lead to Lithuania no longer being eligible to bid for larger industrial contracts in a particular year.

The Committee hence took note of the request from Lithuania to consider using multiyear accumulated balance numbers for the appointment of Lithuanian nationals in CERN personnel positions and industrial procurement contracts for the period 2018-2020 and to apply such multiyear balances to the current year 2020 and possibly beyond. The modalities of such an approach would need to be further discussed between CERN and Lithuania in order to be in line with the rules that are set out by the CERN Council and apply to all Associate Member States.

- The Committee reconfirms its importance for Lithuania to put in place a sustainable payment scheme for the annual financial contribution of the Associate Membership.
- The Committee takes note and welcomes the public funding provided for strengthening the research base and performance in Lithuania and applauds continuing efforts to increase further to provide for a higher socio-economic impact.
- The Committee takes note that the level of participation of Lithuanian teachers in CERN activities varies significantly year-on-year. Therefore, the Committee reconfirms the importance to render the participation of Lithuanian teachers in CERN activities more sustainable and hence would welcome if the relevant decisions could be adopted in a timely manner and a CERN teacher programme coordinator could be appointed in Lithuania.
- The Committee takes note that the current involvement of Lithuania in CERN is mainly in well-established experiments and R&D activities. Therefore, the Committee encourages Lithuania to consider exploring with CERN participation also in future projects, such as the Future Circular Collider study.
- The Committee welcomes the initiative between CERN and Vilnius University for starting the new Master's degree programme "Deeptech Entrepreneurship", which is foreseen to begin in September 2020, and to implement the relevant actions in the best possible way.

Co-Chair of the Committee (CERN)



Prof. Emmanuel Tsismelis

Co-Chair of the Committee (Lithuania)



Prof. Saule Maciukaite-Zviniene