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| File Ref. | 3rd Meeting on the African Synchrotron Initiative (ASI) |
| Date of Meeting | 11th May 2022 |
| Document name | Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of ASI |
| Time of meeting | Meeting started at 1709hrs to 1930hrs (EAT) |
| Present | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shabaan Khalil (Chair) – Zewail City of Science and Technology, Egypt 2. Malik Maaza – IThemba Labs, South Africa 3. Fairouz Malek – CNRS, France 4. Edward Mitchell – ESRF, France 5. Yannis Papaphiippou – CERN Switzerland 6. Emmanuel Tsesmelis – CERN, Switzerland 7. Faiçal Azalez - IThemba Labs, South Africa 8. Catherine Ngila – African Academy of Sciences (AAS) |
| Absent with apology | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gihan Kamel – SESAME, Jordan |
| Absent | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Rolf Heuer – CERN, Switzerland 3. Mary Bishai – Brookhaven National Laboratory, USA |
| Agenda | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approval of the Terms of Reference 2. Contacting ICTP and entering an MOU (check and approve the AAS letter to the ICTP director). 3. Contacting SESAME and signing an MOU 4. Create an awareness plan for the ASI |
| <p>The opening remarks were by the Chair, Prof Shabaan Khalil, who thanked the members for attending the meeting.</p> <p>Deliberations on the Agenda</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approval of the Terms of Reference (ToRs) for the ASI had been reviewed and modified. These were shared for comments. A few corrections to the documents were made on the shared screen. The document is available on the drive file with the changes made tracked. 2. The letter to ICTP and other institutions was read and discussed. The members agreed that the letter is concise and clear. The letter was cleared to be sent and after response then there could be further | |

discussion on how to collaborate with the organisations. The letter will be saved to google drive together with the ToR for easy access of the members.

3. **Contacting SESAME and signing an MOU**

A similar letter will be drafted for SESAME and both will be sent out. Another letter will be written to the International Organisation of Women in Science asking them for support.

The letters will be sent through the AAS Secretariat.

4. **Awareness creation plan for the ASI.**

It was discussed that Mary Bishai has sent a proposal offering to provide support for people wishing to come to the accelerator school in BNL.

It was cited that before a physical workshop is held, there could be first a virtual one, whereby interested scientists from Africa are invited for an online session hosted by a couple of experts to spread awareness on ASI.

There was a suggestion to have leaflets, or a road show spread to major universities in Africa describing what the Synchrotron Initiative is for, why it is useful, why it is multidisciplinary and what its initiative is. There is need to spread awareness about ASI in all the African countries so that they can assume ownership of it, not just one country.

It was cited that at the upcoming World Science Forum in December 2022, the AU and the President of the AAS, Prof. Dakora should be sure to network at that time.

There is need to form committees and sub committees for various tasks such as spreading awareness. There is need to think of subgroups of topics such as scientific meetings, lobbying, political outreach, awareness, and think of people who can join these committees.

The various languages recognised by the AU i.e., French, English, Kiswahili etc. should be taken into consideration.

Next steps – Tasks/Actions of ASI Committee

1. Define aspects of the sub committees.
2. Define the work and coordination of the sub committees.
3. Continuous lobbying with the AU and updating them on milestones achieved by the ASI.
4. Preparation of documentation to invite countries that wish to host the Synchrotron.
6. Creation of flagship projects to create awareness of and support for the African Synchrotron.
7. Inclusion of emerging early career scientists in Synchrotron training.
8. Reaching out to ICTP and entering an MoU.
9. Consideration for good projects that can attract funding opportunities.
10. Reaching out to AfLS for a meeting with ASI to discuss mutually beneficial areas towards achieving of the Synchrotron for Africa.

The meeting ended at 1930hrs (EAT).

Signed: -----

Date-----

Prof Shabaan Khalil
Chairperson of African Synchrotron Initiative