

DRD1 Elections (Co-Spokesperson) - Eraldo Oliveri - Statement

A year ago, I was asked to compose a statement for the upcoming Co-Spokespersons elections within the RD51 collaboration. I believe it is beneficial and transparent to reproduce the statement here exactly as it was originally written. Please note that the statement was specifically addressed to a portion of the future DRD1 community, namely the RD51 community.

*The proposed implementation of the ECFA Detector roadmap is challenging our community and what the collaboration has built during the last fifteen years. We are asked to interrupt our collaboration and to **contribute to the formation of a new collaboration** with extended scope and communities.*

*The list of potential risks connected to this transition could be endless. In the organization and structure of the new collaboration, we have to avoid that **rushed actions would damage unintentionally the research environment and framework that we carefully put together.***

*A few examples of **RD51 assets** that I believe we should firmly **preserve and protect** – while we will decide together with other communities how to organize and structure the new collaboration – are:*

*- **Community-based:** with **open and lively exchanges** and with a **flexible and dynamic** collaborative environment, the community itself represents a **competent and up-to-date reference and support** (scientific and technical) for all the groups, facilitating the exploration and validation of new concepts and ideas potentially disruptive.*

*- **Technology Driven:** keeping a technology-driven approach, we profit undoubtedly from the **diversity and variety of all our research programs**, and the consequent contamination and reciprocal inspiration. The new collaboration should be settled by granting proper scientific recognition to all activities and all scientific communities.*

*- **R&D framework:** investing our common efforts in “**how to do R&D**” more than in “what to do”, we create and maintain an **appropriate framework** (with common tools, and facilities) that is fruitful for everyone, **without limiting the research scope and freedom** of the groups. This approach must be preserved in the transition.*

*- **Common projects:** research lines for **generic, innovative, and explorative R&D** based on ideas and concepts often born within or inspired by the collaboration and which are **selected, supported, and reviewed by the community** itself, with the central potential of **creating long terms synergies and cooperation within the community.***

*With this in mind, we should positively take this challenge and the opportunity of disseminating our collaboration model in the new schema proposed by the roadmap implementation. It is our interest to **proactively propose** what we believe is, thanks to fifteen years of experience in R&D Collaboration, the best international collaborative framework to **stimulate and advance new ideas, new developments, and new applications.***

***Active participation** in the last year of RD51 will be very important for the transition:*

*· The **conveners and Management Board** of RD51 will be engaged in **reviewing our collaboration** and projecting our experience in the new collaboration, **enriching and improving** when possible. This process has already started and has to converge soon to proposals that will be discussed with other communities.*

*· **Every member and group** interested in the new collaboration should react and act at a local and national level to understand how the roadmap implementation can be translated into **support and***

opportunities for the research activities and the team members, with particular attention to young researchers.

*This transition will be a **complex process** but with **stimulating perspectives and important possibilities**.*

Reflecting on this statement today, I vividly recall my concerns, especially about quickly engaging in a process that lacked clarity, with the potential risk of damaging what had been established. Furthermore, I was considering the importance of providing independence and time for the diverse communities to familiarize themselves with each other before initiating common efforts.

Today, I acknowledge that some of these concerns have evolved and are no longer valid. In this shift of perspective, Leszek and Anna's vision and guidance, focused on building a cohesive community, played a pivotal role. The unified effort invested in shaping the DRD1 proposal offered an opportunity to deepen our understanding of each other, highlighting all the similarities among us.

Concerning the potential risk of damaging what had been established, I acknowledge that the DRD1 implementation team, where the different communities are well represented, has attributed the proper value to the experience and assets of the RD51 collaboration. In the current proposal, the legacy of RD51 has been encouraged, marked by a constructive approach aimed at enhancing it further by leveraging a more extensive community and a diverse range of technologies, facilities, tools, and developments. This would have not been possible without the support from the full community. I will recognize this and appreciate.

Concerning the interplay between different communities, in the spring, I held the belief that, considering the diverse communities and the different levels of coordination within them, fostering some independence would have been beneficial. It seemed at that time to me advantageous for already-coordinated groups like RD51 to maintain their existing operational methods and for less coordinated or uncoordinated groups to have the time and freedom to determine their optimal organizational structure without imposition.

Today, the upcoming elections for the Co-Spokesperson with three candidates coming all from the MPGD community makes these beliefs weaker. Keeping a positive view on this, I read it as a sign of trust and as an indication of the interest of the community to be together in a unified community.

With the insights gained over the past year, you can therefore read at my previous statements knowing that the mentioned concerns have diminished while the core value strongly persist.

I would like now to close my statement, highlighting three aspects that I consider relevant toward the building of our community and the successful implementation of our proposal:

Encourage Participation and acknowledge contributions: We must foster a culture of active involvement where all collaborators feel encouraged to contribute to our shared goals. Recognition for these contributions is crucial, both within our collaboration and across our respective institutes.

Grant a proper representation for all communities and groups: the organization of our collaboration should reflect and inclusively represent of the diversity in our research community. It should be

capable of providing tailored support that addresses the unique requirements from different research lines, technologies competencies, and levels of expertise within the different groups, promoting synergies when possible.

Start our collaboration activities without delay: following the hard work and dedication invested in finalizing our proposal, it's essential to promptly initiate collaborative efforts. The community deserve a prompt start to be able to appreciate the potential support that can arise from our collaboration. Despite the formal agreements may require time to be finalized, the DRD1 Collaboration and the collaborative efforts, profiting from the existing framework built within RD51, should promptly start, without unnecessary delays.

- **Working Groups** should form, plan their modus operandi and activities to cover the set of objectives that we were considering relevant to our studies and that we listed in our extended proposal.
- The process to initiate **Common Projects** to support initiatives of groups in the community that are proposing blue sky and generic R&D or studies that are relevant for the community, should be agreed, to make this opportunity accessible to the community once common funds will be available.
- **Work Packages** that have been introduced with the aim of giving the opportunity to our group to access new and strategic resources and to try to establish more stable and long-term funding should move to the next step. Groups involved in WP, with the help of coordinators, should prepare their internal scientific peer-review and the resource backing by the involved funding agencies. If we aim to increase the available resources, the workload will be large, and we should start now and understand how to make it efficiently and effectively. The advantages if the mechanism will work can be important.

Independently from the elections' outcome, I am positively looking forward to 2024 and to the way we will implement our proposal.

Geneva, December 5, 2023

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized 'E' followed by a horizontal line and a small mark at the end.