

ISAB members:

Present by Zoom: Mar Capeans (CERN), Kalevi Ekman (Aalto University), Michela Magas (ICF), Ezri Tarazi (Technion), Erika Garutti (Univ. Hamburg).

Present in person @ ID2: Sijbrand de Jong (Radboud, Chair)

ID2 staff:

Present in person @ ID2: Pablo Garcia-Tello (CERN), Laetitia Pedroso (CERN), Catarina Batista (CERN), Ole Werner (CERN), Dina Zimmermann (CERN), Lauri Valtonen (CERN), Jimmy Poulailon (CERN), Oday Darwich (CERN), Giulia Gaddi (CERN), Roy Pennings (CERN, secretary)

Excused: N/A.

Meeting agenda: <https://indico.cern.ch/event/1383043/>

S. de Jong opened the meeting at 10:00. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved. The draft Agenda was approved. The ISAB members settled on 27/6/2024 for their next meeting, with a recommendation from the Chair that this meeting is held in-person. Focus will be on feedback concerning the draft IdeaSquare strategy 2024-2030 and running business. The meeting will be held as a full-day workshop to allow for concise progress reports and sufficient time for discussion. On 27/6/2024 a dinner will be organised. From 2025 onward, the January-meeting will be held in-person, and the June-meeting via Zoom.

Agenda item: Advance of the IdeaSquare key strategic lines for 2024-2030

Pablo Tello then gave a presentation on the advance of the IdeaSquare key strategic lines for 2024-2030. The first draft of the IdeaSquare strategy 2024-2030 will be shared with ISAB in autumn 2024 to receive a first round of feedback. The final draft will be submitted for ISAB's consideration during its Annual Meeting in January 2025.

Following the presentation¹,

1. The ISAB-members took note that the strategy aims to ensure that emphasis is placed on the value of the people working at ID2, since they "make the building work". However, some members pointed out that the strategy should foremost make clear what ID2 stands for as a concept. Both people and the building support the concept and should be clearly linked to it. Moreover, the concept gives direction to the profile of the people needed for ID2. All ISAB members agreed with Pablo Tello that ID2 will always be a 'work in progress', and that the profile of the people working at ID2 continuously evolves. However, there are some clear traits that can be identified: strong commitment, strong resilience, focus on innovation (e.g. non-inertia), creativity, self-starting attitude that is happy to function in an uncertain/largely unstructured environment. This led to the comment that this may lead to a risk of bias in the type of persons selected to work at ID2 (i.e. young persons with few family responsibilities). The recommendation was given for ID2 to be transgenerational.
2. It was raised, that access to the new I2P programme should also include participants from underprivileged countries. Potential sources of funding such participation could be addressed through the CERN4SOCIETY fund, which e.g. also found sponsors for beamslines4schools or sponsoring by member countries.

¹ The minutes reflect a summary of the discussions per topic, rather than the sequence of speakers.

3. The question was asked whether new streams of funding, like the Executive Programmes that are being investigated, have been discussed with the department head. In response, Pablo Tello confirmed that for the EU projects and for the Executive Programme this is indeed the case (as per the 2023-memo from Markus Nordberg to the DH regarding the building extension and additional budget sources). In that context, it was recommended that the Executive Programme should not be labelled as 'for profit' activity; instead the revenue generated simply recovers incurred cost. Revenue could thus also be labelled 'full costing' to highlight that costs are more than just the training activity itself. In response, Pablo Tello confirmed that originally ID2 started with the working hypothesis that CERN funding could not be always secured. As a result, it is only prudent to always be open to alternative sources to cover cost.
4. The ISAB members noted that the prototyping activities are in high demand from the CERN community. It was proposed that in future it might be interesting to have an additional satellite prototyping location inside the CERN fences. Pablo Tello commented that this could be explored, but it would – in any case – require additional capacity.
5. In regard to the 10th Anniversary of ID2, the question was raised whether this event could/should be more closely linked to the 70th anniversary of CERN. Pablo Tello commented that as a result of Claudia Marcelloni's departure from CERN initiatives in this direction have stalled, A replacement is urgently needed with a person who ideally has knowledge about CERN politics and is a strong communicator. The originally envisioned replacement person is not available, so the search is still on.
6. ISAB members unanimously complemented the excellent quality and branding of the ID2 Annual Report and the ID2 website. The rebranding has been a great success and on behalf of the ISAB members, the Chair lauded Claudia in achieving this feat.
7. ISAB members subsequently pointed (using the Annual Report) to the high diversity ratio achieved in the student programmes during 2023 linked to the ATTRACT Academy. Especially highlighting that it was superior to the average gender balance achieved by EC programmes (except of course Women in Tech related ones). The ISAB members noticed that this success could be showcasing as an example that might help in future EU funding applications.
8. Coming back to the Strategy, it was pointed out that the strategy should cover the period 2025-2030. To emphasize the value and impact of ID2, one idea could be to describe the 'world before and after' ID2.

Agenda item: Financial Status

9. Roy Pennings presented the financial status of ID2 for the period up to the end of 2025. The slide showed no change from the status shown to ISAB in November 2023.
10. The presentation then showed the pipeline of EU collaborative projects (topics, expected funding, time-planning) and direct collaboration projects, each with their expected funding to CERN. It was again stated that EU funding and direct collaborations, as well as the already mentioned Executive Programmes are the cornerstone to sustain ID2. Funding will be requested from CERN (process starting in March 2024), but at this time such funding (or the level) cannot be relied upon. The submitted projects listed in the presentation are still being evaluated, and first results (meaning: funding) will not be available until at least the summer of 2024. The ISAB members took note of the projects pipeline and were informed on the process for selecting project participation. The ISAB approved the approach and the current state-of-play.

Agenda item: AOB & close

11. No items were brought forward.
12. At 13.15 hrs. the Chair closed the meeting.