



# Opening Remarks

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# Welcome to the 29<sup>th</sup> Geant4 Collaboration Meeting!

- A very warm welcome to everybody!
  - To both the numerous in-person participants and those who are not here but are joining through Zoom
    - Especially those in unfavorable time zones
- A big THANKS to our host!
  - It is a great pleasure to be back in Catania for the third time
    - Which is a record
- We are trying a new format for this Collaboration Meeting
  - Nearly all plenary talks, with the goal of having more discussions among all
    - The downside is that there are fewer and shorter talks, in particular those traditionally dedicated to physics – development and validation. Our wish and suggestion is to have more talks and detailed presentations in regular Working Group meetings during the whole year.
  - Kept Friday morning nearly completely free – for further discussions and perhaps unplanned topics that might emerge during the week...

# Some highlights since last year's Collaboration Meeting

- Releases and patches
  - G4 **11.2** on December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023
    - **11.2.1** on February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024 ; **11.2.2** on June 21<sup>st</sup> , 2024
  - G4 **11.1.3** on November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023
  - G4 **11.3.β** on June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024
- **1 Oversight Board meeting** (February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024);
- **3 Steering Board meetings** (December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023 ; February 8<sup>th</sup> and April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024);
- **2 Technical Forums** (February 15<sup>th</sup> and April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024)
- **Geant4 Space Users Workshop** (December 5-7, 2023)
- **Geant4 assessment of AdePT and Celeritas** (December 13-14, 2023);
- **G4 User Conference at the Physics - Medicine - Biology frontier** (March 27-29, 2024)
- **Several Geant4 tutorials and courses around the world**
  - Still fewer than what the user community would like to have!
- **Elections of Working Group coordinators and deputies with new rules**

# Enjoy and take advantage of this special week!

- In this new format, we hope that more people will have a chance to express her/his opinions, in various topics
- Besides the public discussions, being physically in the same place offers unique opportunities, such as
  - To have informal chats
  - Sit together with a laptop and do some work
  - Strengthening existing collaborations and creating new ones
  - ...
  - In short, and above all, know each other better!
- Let's then start and enjoy!