

CERN: Report from Council (1)

- a WG on scientific and geographical enlargement has been set up (CH representatives: EDA [lead] and SER):
 - it has taken stock of the existing collaboration and will deal with membership and also other (and possible new) forms of increased cooperation;
 - for the time being, all pending requests for membership and observer status have been suspended (Cyprus, Israel, Pakistan, Serbia, Turkey).
 - scientific enlargement: main examples: astroparticle experiments.
- the Medium-Term Plan 2010-2014 prioritizes the exploitation of the LHC and the preparation of the future (injector chain, LinColl and Det. R&D, workshop for other opportunities); it includes also important efforts to minimize down-time for the annual maintenance of the LHC and to maintain and replace ageing technical and general infrastructure;
- Romania has been granted the status of “Candidate for Accession” with a probation period of 5 years.

CERN council (2):

- The new Director-General (Rolf Heuer) and his crew have taken over on 1st January 2009.
- Notable changes introduced by the new management:
 - improved dialogue
 - improved flow of information
- LHC status: repair, prevention, mitigation and spares production are the key activities at present.
- the plan is to run the LHC for a significant period of time, i.e. without shut-down during the winter 2009/2010. Goal: 3.5 TeV per beam, starting some time in November.
- in addition to scientific activities, the DG has embarked on an aggressive consolidation programme for the CERN buildings and the piping system.
- Austria has threaten to leave CERN (but has revised its decision soon after). The CHIPP chair had written a letter (among many others) to the Austrian Bundesminister Hahn.