

ORGANISATION EUROPEENNE POUR LA RECHERCHE NUCLEAIRE
CERN EUROPEAN ORGANIZATION FOR NUCLEAR RESEARCH

Action to be taken

Voting Procedure

For feedback	SCIENTIFIC POLICY COMMITTEE 306 th meeting 11 and 12 December 2017	-
For feedback	RESTRICTED COUNCIL 186 th Session 14 December 2017	-

**Proposed detailed plan for the organisation of the
update of the European Strategy for Particle Physics
and
for an enlarged composition of the Physics Preparatory Group**

The Council is invited to give feedback on the proposed detailed plan for the update process, set out in Section III, and on the proposed amendment to the composition of the Physics Preparatory Group, set out in Section IV.

Proposed detailed plan for the organisation of the update of the European Strategy for Particle Physics and for an enlarged composition of the Physics Preparatory Group

I. Background

At its Restricted Session on 15 December 2016, the Council approved the time frame for the next update of the European Strategy for Particle Physics, defining May 2020 as the optimum date for the Council's approval of the updated Strategy, together with an amendment to the applicable procedural framework, set out in document [CERN/3092/Rev.](#) This allowed the Strategy Secretary to be appointed and the Strategy Secretariat to be established in September 2017, in order to prepare the Strategy update process sufficiently in advance of its formal launch.

At its Restricted Session on 28 September 2017, the Council thus appointed Professor Halina Abramowicz as Strategy Secretary and established the Strategy Secretariat as follows:

- Professor H. Abramowicz (Strategy Secretary and Chair),
- Professor K. Ellis (SPC Chair),
- the incoming ECFA Chair (to be appointed by Plenary ECFA on 16 November) and
- Professor L. Rivkin (Chair of the European Laboratory Directors group).

At its meeting at CERN on 16 November 2017, Plenary ECFA appointed Professor J. D'Hondt as its Chair, thereby completing the composition of the Strategy Secretariat.

In line with its remit¹, the Strategy Secretariat has met on several occasions since its establishment and now seeks the Council's feedback on its proposed plan for the organisation of the Strategy update process.

II. Timeline considerations

The Strategy Secretariat proposes to broadly follow the steps of the previous two Strategy processes (concluded in 2006 and 2013) which leads to the following timeline considerations:

- 1) The formal approval of the Strategy update in May 2020 at a special Open Session of the Council implies that the draft Strategy update document to be prepared by the European Strategy Group (ESG) must be presented by the Strategy Secretary to the Council for feedback in March 2020. Accordingly, the Strategy Drafting Session of the ESG should take place in the second half of January 2020 over five days (Monday to Friday).
- 2) For the Strategy Drafting Session of the ESG to be efficient, the latter must receive the scientific input from the community (Briefing Book) compiled by the Physics Preparatory Group (PPG) by the end of September 2019 at the latest.

¹ Recalled in document CERN/3325/RA, dated 6 September 2017.

- 3) To prepare the Briefing Book over the summer of 2019, the PPG will organise an Open Symposium (such as those held in Orsay and Cracow during the previous Strategy processes), at which the whole particle physics community will be invited to debate the possible future orientations of European particle physics based on proposals submitted by the PPG. The optimum time to hold the Open Symposium would be the second half of May 2019.
- 4) To leave the necessary time for in-depth discussions on the Open Symposium, the Strategy Secretariat proposes to hold it over four days (instead of three, as was the case for the previous symposia). As the Symposium will probably attract some 500 participants, its organisation might take more than a year.
- 5) A call for proposals to host the Open Symposium should therefore be issued as soon as possible, i.e. in December 2017. On the same occasion, a call for proposals to host the Strategy Drafting Session could be launched.
- 6) The dates and venues of the Open Symposium and the Strategy Drafting Session should be decided by the Council in June 2018 at the latest.
- 7) The scientific proposals submitted by the PPG for discussion by the community in the Open Symposium will be based upon scientific input gathered from groups organised around projects, experiments and national institutes as well as from individuals. The call for such input must be addressed, as soon as possible, to the entire particle physics community across the world. The deadline for submission of such input to the PPG should be mid-December 2018. This will leave the PPG approximately four months to prepare the agenda and proposals for the Open Symposium.
- 8) Finally, it should be noted that, in addition to the Open Symposium, the special ECFA/EPs-HEPP session on 14 July 2019, during the European Physical Society Conference on High Energy Physics (EPs-HEP) in Ghent, will constitute another important opportunity to interact with the grass-roots particle physics community in advance of the ESG's Strategy Drafting Session in January 2020.

III. Proposed milestones for the update process

On the basis of the above considerations, the Strategy Secretariat submits the following reverse plan for the Council's feedback, with a view to formal approval at the Restricted Session on 15 March 2018:

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| May 2020: | approval of the updated European Strategy for Particle Physics by the Council at a special Open Session (venue to be determined). |
| March 2020: | submission of the draft Strategy update to the Council for feedback. |
| January 2020:
(2 nd half) | Strategy Drafting Session of the European Strategy Group (ESG) lasting one week (Monday to Friday) |
| September 2019:
(end) | Briefing Book compiled by the Physics Preparatory Group (PPG) submitted to the ESG as input for the Strategy Drafting Session. |
| May 2019:
(2 nd half) | A 4-day Open Symposium for the whole community to discuss and agree upon the scientific input to the work of the ESG (Briefing Book). |

Beginning of 2019: First formal meeting of the ESG.

December 2018: Deadline for the submission to the PPG of written scientific input (middle) for proposals to be discussed in the Open Symposium.

September 2018: Formal launch of the Strategy update process through the establishment of the ESG and the PPG by the Council.

June 2018 Decision by the Council on the venues and dates of the Open Symposium of May 2019 and the Strategy Drafting Session of January 2020.

March 2018: Formal approval by the Council of the proposed detailed plan for the update process and enlarged composition of the PPG, submitted by the Strategy Secretariat.
Call for nominations of the members of the ESG and PPG.

December 2017 Call for proposals to host the Open Symposium of May 2019 and the Strategy Drafting Session of January 2020 (deadline for submission of proposals 15 May 2018).

IV. Proposed amendment to the composition of the PPG

Pursuant to the revised procedural framework for the European Strategy for Particle Physics adopted by the Council in December 2013 ([CERN/3092/RA](#)), the composition of the PPG is as follows:

- the Strategy Secretary (acting as Chair),
- four members appointed by the Council on the recommendation of the SPC,
- four members appointed by the Council on the recommendation of ECFA,
- the SPC Chair,
- the ECFA Chair,
- the Chair of the European Laboratory Directors' meeting,
- one representative appointed by CERN,
- one representative from Asia appointed by the respective regional representatives in ICFA,
- one representative from the Americas appointed by the respective regional representatives in ICFA.

The Strategy Secretariat considers that, in view of the increasing number of countries in Asia and the Americas that are assuming important roles in shaping the global scientific particle physics programme, it would be desirable to increase the respective number of representatives on the PPG from one to two from each region.

V. Conclusion

The Council is invited to give feedback on the proposed detailed plan for the update process, set out in Section III, and on the proposed amendment to the composition of the Physics Preparatory Group, set out in Section IV.