

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

Action to be taken

Voting Procedure

For Approval	RESTRICTED COUNCIL 153rd Session 17 December 2009	Simple Majority of Member States represented and voting
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TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE JOINT WORKING GROUP FOR THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION-CERN
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

At its September 2009 European Strategy Session the Council endorsed the setting up of a joint working group (hereafter referred to as “the Working Group”) to study specific measures that the European Commission and CERN should undertake together in pursuance of the partnership established by their Memorandum of Understanding, including providing feedback to the Commission for its interim review of the 7th Framework Programme. To that end, the Council requested the Strategy Secretariat and the Director-General to draw up a proposal for approval by the Council at its December 2009 Session, with a view to the submission of the report by the working group in March 2010.

This document contains a proposal for the terms of reference for the Working Group on the workplan for the implementation of the CERN-European Commission MoU covering the years 2010-2011. This proposal has been prepared in conjunction with the European Commission.

The Council is invited to approve the terms of reference of the Working Group, including its composition, set out in this document.

JOINT WORKING GROUP FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION-CERN MOU TERMS OF REFERENCE

Purpose of the Working Group

The MoU between the European Commission and CERN, signed on 17 July 2009, provides for mutual consultation and cooperation activities on a broad range of issues of common interest.

At the European Strategy Session on 18 September 2009, the Council agreed to set up a joint European Commission-CERN Working Group “to study specific measures that the European Commission and CERN should undertake together in pursuance of the partnership established by their Memorandum of Understanding, including providing feedback to the Commission for its interim review of the 7th Framework Programme.”

The Working Group should assist the two organisations in the preparation of a "Work Plan" for the implementation of the MoU covering the 2010-2011 period (hereinafter referred to as "the Work Plan"), including timelines, priorities, and optimum work methods, including the arrangements for the annual meeting between the two sides.

Main topics of the Work Plan

- Consolidation and further development of ERA (European Research Area), with particular attention to the furthering of the five initiatives launched by the Commission and approved by the European Council in 2008, notably concerning research programming, training and mobility of researchers, research infrastructures, management of intellectual property and international cooperation.
- Follow-up and implementation of the European Strategy for Particle Physics.
- Consultations on any other issues of common interest, such as structured inputs on the impact of FP7 from the perspective of the European Particle Physics Community.

For each topic, the Working Group shall identify the most appropriate actions to be undertaken, with concrete outputs and timelines.

Composition of the Working Group

In the interests of efficiency and responsiveness, the Working Group shall be small, comprising up to 3 members from each side. Two additional persons from each side shall be entitled to attend the Working Group meetings. Where necessary, experts may be called upon to participate in discussions on specific issues.

Members shall ensure through the appropriate consultation mechanisms that they represent all the relevant interests of their respective sides.

Members shall be designated by each side according to their own internal procedures.

Method of work

As a rule, the Working Group shall organise its meetings using teleconferencing technology. Face-to-face meetings may also be arranged, as necessary.

Output

Proposals for the 2010-2011 Work Plan, as defined under "purpose" above.

Time Frame

The final report on the 2010-2011 Work Plan shall be available by 01.03.2010, in time for the March Session of the CERN Council, with a view to the latter's approval of the 2010-2011 Work Plan in pursuance of the provisions of the MoU.

The first meeting of the Working Group shall take place in January 2010.