

ORGANISATION EUROPÉENNE POUR LA RECHERCHE NUCLÉAIRE
CERN EUROPEAN ORGANIZATION FOR NUCLEAR RESEARCH

For information	RESTRICTED COUNCIL 155 th Session 17 June 2010	-
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STATEMENT OF INTENT BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION
AND THE EIROFORUM ORGANISATIONS

Council is invited to take note of the Statement of Intent annexed to this document.

On 27 October 2003, the EIROforum¹ Organisations signed a joint Statement of Intent with the European Commission confirming their common commitment to the realization of the European Research Area (ERA)². Council was informed about the signature of this document at the time.

In order to restate their desire to collaborate with the European Commission in the framework of EIROforum, and taking into account the recent science policy initiatives for the implementation of the ERA, a new Statement of Intent between the the European Commission and the EIROforum Organisations is currently being signed. The Chair of EIROforum and the EU Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science will complete the round of signatures at the end of June 2010.

There are no fundamental changes with regard to the 2003 Statement of Intent.

The new Statement of Intent will have no effect on the existing MoU between CERN and the European Commission.

Council is invited to take note of the Statement of Intent between the European Commission and the EIROforum Organisations annexed to this document.

¹ CERN, EFDA-JET, EMBL, ESA, ESO, ESRF and ILL; www.eiroforum.org

² CERN/2540, 05.12.2003



STATEMENT OF INTENT
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**STATEMENT OF INTENT
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The **European Commission** (hereinafter referred as "**the Commission**") duly represented by its Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science,

and

the following intergovernmental Organisations:

The European Organisation for Nuclear Research (CERN);

The European Fusion Development Agreement (EFDA);

The European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL);

The European Space Agency (ESA);

The European Organisation for Astronomical Research in the Southern Hemisphere (ESO);

The European Synchrotron Radiation Facility (ESRF);

The Institut Laue-Langevin (ILL);

duly represented by the Directors General, or equivalent:
(hereinafter referred to as "**the EIROforum Organisations**")

CONSIDERING

- The Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union whereby cooperation in the field of research, technological development and demonstration with third countries and international organisations is promoted;
- The EIROforum Charter which constitutes the framework for EIROforum (see enclosure) and whereby the EIROforum Organisations commit to play an active and constructive role in promoting the quality and impact of European research;
- The common 2020 vision for the European Research Area adopted on 2 December 2008 by the Council of the European Union (EU)³;
- The Framework Programmes of the European Union for research, technological development and demonstration activities;
- That the EIROforum Organisations in their position as European world-class research infrastructures in their scientific fields each focus a significant part of their Member States' international activities in their own specialist areas whilst extending scientific relations beyond the borders of Europe, thereby actively contributing to the international visibility and standing of European science and research;
- That the EIROforum Organisations have demonstrated excellence in other areas, such as knowledge exchange, training of young scientists and engineers, science communication and outreach to society;
- That several of the activities and interests of the EIROforum Organisations interface with those of the Commission, in particular in the European Research Area (ERA);
- That the co-operation between the Commission and the EIROforum Organisations is of mutual interest and for the benefit of the European Research Area and of European citizens;
- The 2007 Green Paper on new perspectives for the European Research Area⁴, which calls for greater cooperation and strengthened partnership with intergovernmental research organisations such as the EIROforum Organisations, notably as regards research programming, training and mobility of researchers, research infrastructures, intellectual property and international cooperation in research;
- The ERA International Cooperation Communication of 2008⁵ which confirms the usefulness of a strengthened partnership between the European Community and European intergovernmental research organisations, notably the EIROforum Organisations to help assemble the critical mass needed to provide an effective response to policy challenges that are increasingly global;

³ Competitiveness Council Conclusions 16767/08 on "2020 Vision for the European Research Area", 1-2 December 2008.

⁴ "The Green Paper on the European Research Area" refers to the Commission Green Paper "European Research Area: New Perspectives", adopted on 4 April 2007, COM (2007) 161 final.

⁵ "A strategic European Framework for international science and technology cooperation", 24 September 2008, [COM(2008)588].

- The cooperation between the EIROforum Organisations and the Commission on the basis of a Statement of Intent signed on 27 October 2003;
- That the Commission is a signatory of the European Fusion Development Agreement (EFDA) under which the Joint European Torus (JET) Facilities are used collectively by the EURATOM Fusion Associates;
- The Framework Agreement signed on 25 November 2003 between the European Space Agency and the European Community;
- The Administrative Arrangement for Cooperation signed on 18 January 1995 between the Commission and EMBL;
- The Memorandum of Understanding signed on 17 July 2009 between the Commission and CERN which has replaced the Administrative Arrangement for Cooperation of 10 October 1994 between these two Sides.

HEREBY ACCEPT:

The Commission and the EIROforum Organisations, with due regard to their respective competences, institutional settings, operational frameworks and internal rules and procedures, as may apply, intend to cooperate in the areas covered by the present Statement of Intent.

- (1) The Commission and the EIROforum Organisations will explore synergies and conduct specific joint activities that are of common interest and have European added value, including contributing to the consolidation and further development of the European Research Area, in areas such as :
 - research programming,
 - human resources and training and mobility of researchers,
 - research infrastructures,
 - intellectual property and knowledge sharing,
 - international cooperation in research.

Furthermore, the Commission and the EIROforum Organisations also intend to continue and to strengthen their collaboration, in particular in the fields of e-science, science education and communication. For this purpose they may explore synergies and develop joint activities.

- (2) The Commission and the EIROforum Organisations will inform and consult each other, as appropriate, on issues of mutual interest pertaining to their respective research programmes, in particular in relation to the consolidation and further development of the European Research Area.

- (3) The EIROforum Organisations will endeavour to make available to the Commission their experience and expertise for the benefit of the European Research Area, including through participation of representatives of the EIROforum Organisations in relevant EU meetings, committees, and expert working groups.
- (4) The Commission will endeavour to draw upon this expertise and consult, as appropriate, with the EIROforum Organisations on the development of policy and strategy in areas of mutual interest.
- (5) The Commission and the EIROforum Organisations will establish and maintain contacts and mechanisms for communication to achieve the aims foreseen by the present Statement of Intent.
- (6) The Commission and the EIROforum Organisations will meet annually to assess progress and possibly discuss further ways to enhance mutual collaboration and explore potential synergies.
- (7) The present Statement of Intent is without prejudice to any bilateral instrument concluded between the Commission and individual EIROforum Organisations or which may be concluded in the future.
- (8) The Commission and the EIROforum Organisations will agree on questions related to the interpretation and implementation of the present Statement of Intent.
- (9) The Statement of Intent of 27 October 2003 is replaced by the present Statement of Intent.

Done in _____ on _____ in eight original versions in the English language.

For the European Commission

Máire Geoghegan-Quinn
Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science

For the European Organisation for Nuclear Research

Rolf Heuer
Director General

For the European Fusion Development Agreement

Francesco Romanelli
EFDA Leader and
EFDA Associate Leader for JET

For the European Molecular Biology Biology Laboratory

Iain Mattaj
Director General

For the European Space Agency

David Southwood
Director of Science and
Robotic Exploration

For the European Organisation for Astronomical Research in the Southern Hemisphere

Tim de Zeeuw
Director General

For the European Synchrotron Radiation Facility

Francesco Sette
Director General

For the Institut Laue-Langevin

Richard Wagner
Director

ENCLOSURE

EIROforum CHARTER

A number of powerful research infrastructures and laboratories which are used by extensive networks of scientists have been developed and deployed within Europe by European Intergovernmental Research Organisations since the early 1950s. These organisations have set up a coordination and collaboration Council (EIROforum) with their Director General (or equivalent) as its members.

A primary goal of EIROforum is to play an active and constructive role in promoting the quality and impact of European Research. In particular the group will be a basis for effective, high-level interaction and coordination between the member organisations. It will mobilise its substantial combined expertise in basic research and in the management of large international infrastructures, facilities and programmes, for the benefit of European research development. This will be pursued by exploring the existing intimate links between the member organisations and their respective European research communities.

The aims of EIROforum are, in particular, to:

- 1) Encourage and facilitate discussions among its members on issues of common interest, which are relevant to research and development.
- 2) Maximise the scientific return and optimise the use of resources and facilities by sharing relevant developments and results, whenever feasible.
- 3) Co-ordinate the outreach activities of the organisations, including technology transfer and public education.
- 4) Take an active part, in collaboration with other European scientific organisations, in a forward-look at promising and/or developing research directions and priorities, in particular in relation to new large-scale research infrastructures.
- 5) Simplify high-level interactions with the European Commission (EC) and other organs of the European Union, and enable an effective response to specific requests for expert advice in the areas covered by the member organisations.
- 6) Provide co-ordinated representation to the outside world including the general public, national governments and non-European countries.