

European Spallation Source ERIC
30th Meeting of Council
11 October 2022
by video

Approved Open Minutes

Prepared by: ESS Governance Office

Meeting participants

Beatrix Vierkorn-Rudolph Chair of Council
Kurt Clausen* Vice Chair of Council

Delegates

Lukáš Levák	Ministry of Research and Development	Czech Republic
Petr Lukáš	Nuclear Physics Institute of the CAS	Czech Republic
Bo Smith*	Danish Ministry of Higher Education and Research	Denmark
Jane Hvolbæk Nielsen	Technical University of Denmark, Dpt. of Physics	Denmark
Toivo Räm	Ministry of Education and Research	Estonia
Priit Tamm	Research Council of Estonia	Estonia
Marie-Hélène Mathon	French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission	France
Sylvain Ravy	National Centre for Scientific Research	France
Andrea Fischer	Federal Ministry of Education and Research	Germany
Balázs Káplai	Development and Innovation Office	Hungary
Aldo Covello	Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research	Italy
Pierluigi Campana	National Institute of Nuclear Physics	Italy
Odd Ivar Eriksen	The Research Council of Norway	Norway
Mateusz Gaczyński	Ministry of Science and Higher Education	Poland
Marek Jeżabek	The Henryk Niewodniczanski Institute of Nuclear Physics	Poland
Adolfo Morais Ezquerro	Basque Department for Education	Spain
Estibaliz Hernaez	Basque Ministry for Innovation	Spain
Lars Börjesson	The Swedish Research Council	Sweden
Kevin Raymond	State Secretariat for Education, Research, and Innovation	Switzerland
Mark Thomson	Science and Technology Facilities Council	United Kingdom

Experts

Line Bekke Poulsen	Danish Agency for Higher Education and Science	Denmark
Susana Gota-Goldmann	French Ministry of Higher Education and Research	France



Jean-Luc Biarrotte	French Ministry of Higher Education and Research	France
Ingo Pfeil	Federal Ministry of Education and Research	Germany
Roberto Cimino ¹	Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research	Italy
Mario Perez	ESS-Bilbao	Spain
Aleksandar Matic	Chalmers University of Technology	Sweden
Mikaela Rapp	The Swedish Research Council	Sweden
James Loveder	Dpt. for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy	United Kingdom

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Helmut Schober	Director General
Agneta Nestenborg	Director Project Support and Administration
Andreas Schreyer	Science Director
Dimitri Argyriou ²	Assoc. Director In-Kind
Carlo Bocchetta	Deputy Technical Director
Florian Weissbach	Head of Finance (interim)
Karin Hélène	Senior Executive Assistant
Michela Dell'Anno Boulton	Governance Office Lead – Council Secretary
Elisabetta Romano	Governance Office Administrator

Excused

Martin Müller	Helmholtz-Zentrum Hereon	Germany
Inmaculada F. Rojas	Ministry of Science and Innovation	Spain
Christian Rüegg	Paul Scherrer Institute	Switzerland
David Edvardsson	Ministry of Education and Research	Sweden
Elin Swedenborg	Ministry of Education and Research	Sweden

¹ Joined for Agenda item 5

² Joined on Zoom

* At ESS Campus

1. Welcome and Opening of the Meeting

The Chair called the meeting to order on the 11th of October 2022 at 10:05 and welcomed the participants.

The Chair noted that this 30th meeting of Council had been duly convened and was quorate.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

The Chair presented the agenda.

Council unanimously

- **approved the agenda for its 30th meeting.**

3. Approval of the Minutes of the 29th Meeting of Council

Council unanimously

- **approved the Open Minutes from its previous meeting with no amendments**

4. Update on ESS cash flow planning

The Director for PS&A, Agneta Nestenborg, gave a presentation on the current cash flow planning and the status of the negotiations with the three banks (EIB, NIB and SEK), which were invited to a very productive meeting at ESS on 1 September 2022.

The main outcomes of the visit were:

- Decision to opt for a third Cash Facility instead of a revision of the second. This choice is strategically better and shows progress in the project. The process and set-up for CF3 should follow closely the one for CF2.
- Council commitments are key for the banks and a state guarantee is needed also for CF3. EIB also needs Council to take on-board that the third Cash Facility will be the last one.

The current timeline shows commitments and allocations of the additional funding at C.31, allowing more concrete negotiations with banks, followed by AFC scrutinising and recommending to Council the terms & conditions for CF3 in early 2023.

Nestenborg concluded with a reflection on the fact that inflation is having a strong impact in all European countries.

Council

- **took note of the presentation on the ESS Cash flow planning**
- **was invited to indicate to ESS as soon as possible the planned contribution profiles**

5) Tour de Table – Status of Commitments

The Chair invited the delegations to start the Tour de Table on the current status of their negotiations on the commitments for the additional project funding

After the tour de table, the Chair concluded that all Members see the necessity to confirm the level of commitment expressed in June. Unstable political situations in several countries can possibly challenge the timeline, but there are still good hopes to receive most formal commitments in December, pending parliamentary approvals. She also encouraged the Members to indicate their contribution profiles and appreciated the fact that from several countries there were indications for flat profiles and some early contributions, which could also reduce the size of CF3.

A.o.B.

UK (Loveder) announced that the UK delegate James Partington had moved to a new position and therefore left the ESS Council delegation. A new delegate had been nominated, Dr Shabana Haque. She will actively join the delegation starting in December 2022.

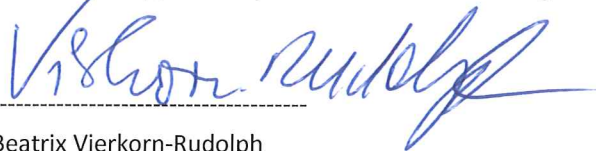
Closure of the Meeting

The Chair informed the delegates that the next meeting of Council would be held in Lund at ESS. She also informed that an extra-ordinary session is planned directly before C.31 inviting some of the most relevant In-kind partners to confirm to Council, together with ESS, their engagement, commitment to schedule and the measures to mitigate possible delays.

The Chair and the Director General thanked all delegations for their support.

There being no further business to discuss, the Chair brought the meeting to an end on the 11th of October at 11:36.

Verified and approved by Council at its 31st Meeting on 1 December 2022



Beatrix Vierkorn-Rudolph
Council Chair



Michela Dell'Anno Boulton
Council Secretary