

Minutes of the MICE Collaboration Board held on 31st March 2004 at CERN

Present

CB Chair – P. Dornan

Acting Spokesman – A. Blondel

Argonne – J. Norem

BNL – S. Kahn

CERN – H. Haseroth

FNAL – A. Bross

Glasgow – P. Soler

Illinois Inst. Tech. – Y. Torun

Imperial College London – K. Long

INFN Bari – E. Radicioni

INFN Milano – M. Bonesini

INFN Napoli – V. Palladino

INFN Roma III – L. Tortora

INFN Trieste – M. Apollonio

Jefferson Lab – R. Rimmer

KEK – K. Yoshimura

LBNL – M. Zisman

Liverpool – R. Gamet

Louvain – G. Grégoire

Northern Illinois – M.A. Cummings

Osaka – Y. Kuno

Oxford – J. Cobb

RAL – P. Drumm

Sheffield – C. Booth

UCLA – X. Yang

UC Riverside – G. Hanson

1) Approval of Minutes of 31st October 2003

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved, subject to a change in the list of those attending.

2) Spokesman's Remarks (Alain Blondel)

Alain gave an interim report from the Executive Board. It meets every two weeks by phone, with minutes taken and posted on the web by Yagmur Torun, who was thanked for his work. Resent actions have included organising future Collaboration Meetings, endorsement of baseline proposals (tracker, cryocoolers and RF power), fixing goals and assigning responsibilities within the collaboration. It reports to the CB. The funding situation is a worry, though by making more precise cost estimates some reductions have been achieved. The US review of the proposal to the NSF is the next major hurdle. An effort is being made to search for new collaborators world-wide, including amongst the accelerator community.

He next commented on the status of MICE, highlighting significant progress in all aspects of the design of the experiment. Examples include the beam-line, infrastructure, tracker and absorber & focus coils in the UK (with Daresbury a new collaborator contributing to the RF source); 200 MHz cavity, Lab G tests, magnet, absorber and RF designs in the US through MuCool; tracker and prototype absorber in Japan; and PSI solenoid, CERN RF source, ToF, calorimeter, spectrometer solenoids and prototype TPG in Europe. Yagmur was also thanked for his beautiful communications tools!

3) Funding Status

Belgium (G. Grégoire): The funding request for 05-06 was reintroduced last year and again refused. As Ghislain will retire in a few months, this will have to be addressed by his successor.

France (J-M. Rey, via A. Blondel): A letter is expected stating that Saclay will not participate in MICE. No other French institute has shown an interest in joining.

Italy (V. Palladino): The application in July '03 for funding in '04 was turned down apart from some travel. An application for '05 would have to be submitted in July (for consideration in September) but this will only have a chance of being considered

favourably as part of a bilateral agreement between UK and Italy. (K. Peach will discuss with the INFN management once the Gateway 1 report is available.) *(Subsequent update: K. Peach and A. Blondel visited INFN management on 8th June, and as a result the Italian proponents of MICE are invited to submit a proposal.)*

Japan (Y. Kuno): A request for ¥50M was submitted in October; news is expected at end of April. The US-Japan programme may also get ¥16M (\$160k) for MuCool and MICE.

Russia (via A. Blondel): No contacts have been received.

Switzerland (A. Blondel): A request was submitted last submitted last October. The decision has been delayed, but they have been encouraged to resubmit at a lower level. Funding is currently available for the tracker, but not solenoid etc. University money at the CHF50-100k may also be available.

UK (K. Long): Ken explained the Gateway process. Gateway0 was passed in July '03. Gateway1 in December '03 presented the "business case"; informal feedback indicates this was "passed on amber" – the scientific case for MICE was endorsed, and the strength and competence of international and UK collaboration recognised, but funding for the project was clearly not yet in place. Gateway2 presents the "financial plan", and the aim is to submit this in summer '04; this requires indications that international funding will be forthcoming. Gateway3 specifies the "procurement plan", and is likely to be combined with Gateway2.

A new PPARC initiative for Accelerator Science has allocated £224k to MICE over 2 years, mainly funding key University staff. A further £1.1M over 3 years has been allocated through rolling grants to University groups, again for personnel. CCLRC has also allocated £500k per year over 5 years. The largest amount of funding should come through the OST Large Facilities Fund. £7.5M is earmarked for MICE, to be released by passing through the Gateway process. The planning assumption is that funds will be released following Gateway2 from October'04; however, it is important we don't go to Gateway2 before we are ready!

USA (D. Kaplan): An NSF review of 5 Accelerator R&D proposals together was planned for 12-13th April, and a MICE addendum prepared. The review was then postponed – to 20-27th May? (Last year's review was positive.) The DoE will not be in a position to make any commitment for at least another month. *(Subsequent update: the accelerator panel to review the US MICE proposal will take place on 12th-13th July; K. Peach, M. Zisman and D. Kaplan will meet the NSF representatives on 15th July.)*

4) Technical Coordinator's Report (Paul Drumm)

Paul highlighted achievements and modifications to MICE design. The absorber review had been a considerable effort but had been highly successful – safety issues must remain paramount. Changes to coils would reduce heat-leaks, but the effects of magnetic shielding for photo-tubes, in terms of additional forces and non-uniformities of fields, were significant and needed careful consideration. The possible use of cryocoolers for magnets and absorber could bring significant cost and power savings, but might lead to longer cool-down times. There was consensus on a hybrid RF design, using both 2 & 4 MW tubes. For alignment and survey issues, ideas still need to converge, e.g. with regard to support of magnetic forces. Good progress has been made on the WBS, now available on the web, but more work is still needed – there should be a re-review by end April. It is important the WBS is used, e.g. to reduce costs by avoiding double counting of contingencies. Finally, a timetable for MICE installation and running was presented.

5) Issues from Plenary requiring Decisions

The developments with cryocoolers and the RF system were taken note of with enthusiasm! However, they were not yet ready for endorsement.

6) Procedure for Election of CB Chair (Peter Dornan)

It was agreed that the CB chair would be elected at the next Collaboration Board in Osaka. Nominations should be submitted in advance to Peter. A list of eligible CB members is required – Peter will organise this, with secretarial help from Imperial College.

7) Election of First MICE Spokesperson (Peter Dornan)

The Search Committee had obtained opinions in the different regions and 6 names were put forward. Two nominees, A. Blondel and D. Kaplan, had agreed to stand, so an election had been announced to the collaboration. One vote is allowed per institute with more than one member of MICE; the 8 with only one member were allowed to pair up and cast joint votes. Three institutes (Saclay, Genova & Mississippi) had given voting instructions to Peter before the meeting. Mike Zisman and Yoshi Kuno were appointed as returning officers. Twenty-seven votes were cast, resulting in the election of Alain Blondel.

8) Future Collaboration Meetings

The following dates were confirmed for Collaboration Meetings:

2 nd – 4 th August 2004	Osaka (after vFact'04)
27 th – 30 th October 2004	RAL

CNB 24/05/'04
Updated 03/08/'04