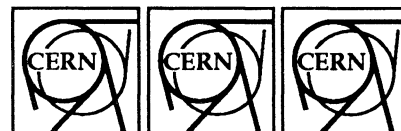




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Week Monday 11 May

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Semaine du lundi 11 mai

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICIELLES

OFFICIAL NEWS

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Members of the personnel shall be deemed to have taken note of the news under this heading.

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RAPPEL

DOCUMENTS DE LEGITIMATION

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En cas de problème, vous pouvez contacter la **Division du Personnel** (Bureau des dossiers - pour les titulaires - int. 3238-4682, ou Bureau des Boursiers et Attachés, int. 4471).

Relations avec les Pays-hôtes
Tél. 5152

REMINDER

LEGITIMATION DOCUMENTS

Members of staff are reminded that their spouses and children who are not nationals of the Host State in which they reside are required to possess a **valid legitimation document** issued by the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (for those residing in Switzerland) or by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs (for those residing in France).

In case of problems, contact **Personnel Division** (Records Service, for members of the personnel, ext. 3238-4862, or the Fellows and Associates Office, ext. 4471).

Relations with the Host States
Tel. 5152

ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF CERN USERS Summary of the 15th meeting held on 9 March 1992

Introduction

The Chairman opened the meeting welcoming the new members of ACCU, in particular L. Sandor, representing the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic.

News from the CERN Management

P. Darriulat speaking on behalf of the Director-General discussed five main topics : LHC, Eurolep arbitration, changes in the Directorate, LAA and Insurance for Users.

At its December Meeting, Council agreed that LHC is the right direction for CERN to proceed. Council requested the Director-General to present a detailed

costing of the project by the end of 1993, together with details of funding sources and the proposed experimental programme, in preparation for the final approval.

The results of the Eurolep arbitration are now known. The DG will seek an important contribution outside the normal budget from the Member States, and will consider ways of finding the remaining part of the required 100 MSF at the next meetings of CERN Committees.

A new Head of Administration and two Associate Directors have been appointed to the Directorate. Following the end of the mandate of J.J. Thresher at the end of June, there will be only two Research Directors.

The LAA project will be extended until the end of April 1994. DRDC will monitor LAA projects.

A draft recommendation concerning Insurance cover for death and disability for users working at CERN was introduced. Further details were presented later.

Finance and accounting for visiting teams

A. Naudi, Finance Division Leader, said that the CERN Review Committee had requested that better information on budgets and planning be made available. Phase 1 was introduced in January 1990. Further improvements for budgeting and accounting (including accrual accounting) were recommended by the External Auditors. Subsequently a new system for purchasing was introduced on 1 January 1992. It is hoped that the inevitable teething problems will be solved by early summer. The Budget Holders Toolkit will enable Team Leaders to follow closely the state of their budgets.

In view of the Euroleap arbitration CERN would greatly appreciate Institutes and Member States paying their bills upon receipt. Bills are sent every month, and any acceleration in payment will be most welcome.

Chairman's Report

In his final report as Chairman, P. Norton, described ACCU and its *modus operandi*. Delegates to ACCU represent their Member State communities rather than act as individuals. As regards ACCU's achievements during his term of office, he said that ACCU had set various priorities. There has been progress, albeit slow, concerning office space; the Housing Service has been reorganized; Insurance is still a worrying problem; overcrowding in the Restaurants, particularly No.1, gives rise to concern for the future. ACCU delegates must discuss issues with their colleagues as well as their Delegates to CERN Committees.

Finally, in calling for nominations for his successor, the Chairman thanked ACCU and the CERN Management for their support and wished his successor every good fortune.

P. Darriulat supported the views given by the Chairman, and expressed the appreciation of the CERN Management to P. Norton for his role as Chairman.

Over view of computing at CERN

J.J. Thresher introduced this item by briefly reviewing the computing situation within High Energy Physics as a whole, pointing to major changes which were taking place within the computer industry and in the way computers are being used by experiments. The challenge of experiments at the new hadron colliders was considerable and would require new approaches to solving the problems they posed. He stressed the growing importance of UNIX and the need to evaluate the role that medium-to-massively parallel computer systems might play in the future.

In the Computing Centre the IBM 3090-600 E computer had been replaced by a new IBM ES 9000 Model 900 giving an increase of a factor of three in computer capacity. The VAX systems had also been or were soon

to be upgraded to meet growing demand. The present contract for the CRAY XMP/48 which ends in October 1992 would be extended for about one year but at greatly reduced cost. The introduction of workstation farms to provide a service for batch processing, for example SHIFT, and for simulation work was proving to be successful and would probably be developed further.

Networking had high priority within the Laboratory and considerable effort was devoted to ensuring easy access to the CERN network from outside institutes. Many institutes now had high speed connections to CERN but progress was severely inhibited by the high tariffs charged by most PTTs for such links. Much progress had recently been made in establishing computer links to CERN from institutes in central and east European countries.

An LHC Computing Committee will shortly be set up to help assess the needs and coordinate the implementation of computing for LHC experiments.

Users' Office News

E. Lillestøl reminded the meeting that insurance (health, sickness, death and disability) has been an ACCU discussion point for more than two years. Short term health and sickness insurance has been adequately covered by the insurance offered by Austria since autumn 1990. A note has recently been issued by CERN stating that CERN has no commitment to cover Unpaid Scientific Associates, including those receiving subsistence, for accidents leading to death or disability. This is the responsibility of the individual and/or the home institute. ACCU delegates must bring this note to the knowledge of their user community and their authorities and collect their comments. J.-F. Barthelemy acknowledged that CERN would be satisfied if individuals, whilst working at CERN, were insured by their home institutes to the same level as when working in their own institutes. In future, checks will be made at registration time and extension of contracts when users would be requested to sign a statement that they understand that they are not covered by CERN for death and disability, etc., whilst working at CERN. The authorities of the Member States will be informed through Council.

Cards allowing access to the CERN sites will soon be mandatory, and their validity will be linked to the expiry date of Swiss Cards. Extensions will only be made after the person's data held on the AIS database has been checked. The introduction of the card has the full backing of the Directorate.

The successful Post-graduate Courses are being repeated this year.

Disappointment was expressed at a recent Academic Training Programme Committee meeting that there has been little feedback. Tutorials were poorly attended.

Following the presentation in December of the two models of the proposed new physics building, the Users have given a clear preference for their choice, and discussions are ongoing for the final details. A request to

go ahead will be presented at the March Finance Committee meeting.

The plans for a new hostel will be presented to the June Finance Committee meeting.

Any other business

Illegal parking is becoming a serious hazard, preventing, in some cases, emergency vehicles from approaching buildings. It was noted that the Staff Association had issued a questionnaire about the needs for a Crèche.

With the introduction of the new telephone system and PIN codes for direct dialling/billing, ACCU requested that users should not have to pay more than before. Direct charging is inevitable, but there is no preconceived notion that users should pay more.

ACCU noted that there are accelerator engineers 'on call' outside normal working hours, but not technicians, and asked that the experimental programme be adequately covered in this respect.

Election of the new ACCU chairman

Only one nomination had been received, that of D. Toet representing The Netherlands. He was elected by acclaim. He said that he would have a difficult task in replacing his predecessor, but would do his best.

Date and agenda for the next meeting

The next meeting will be on 25 MAY 1992 starting at 10.00 hrs, and will continue in the afternoon. Items for discussion would include: Information from the Evian LHC meeting, Charges for non-Member States, Insurance, Academic Training, Telephones and Crèche. The date for the September ACCU meeting was changed to 7 September.

Bryan Pattison

CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION DE LA CAISSE DE PENSIONS

GOVERNING BOARD OF THE PENSION FUND

En date du 14 avril, le Conseil d'administration de la Caisse de pensions a tenu sa vingt-septième réunion.

Le premier point à l'ordre du jour était l'examen du projet de rapport annuel de la Caisse pour l'exercice 1991. Le Conseil d'administration a approuvé ce document qui sera transmis au Comité des finances et au Conseil du CERN pour la session du mois de juin.

Par ailleurs, le Conseil d'administration a préparé à l'intention du Comité des finances une réponse écrite au sujet de la méthode d'adaptation des pensions telle qu'elle était proposée par la délégation française. Ce document devrait également être soumis au Comité des finances lors de sa réunion de juin. Il convient de souligner qu'en conclusion de son rapport, le Conseil d'administration est d'avis qu'aucune modification ne devra être apportée au système actuel, qui a fait ses preuves.

Le Conseil d'administration a été informé de l'avancement des travaux relatifs à l'étude actuarielle. Il est prévu que l'actuaire-conseil de la Caisse livrera ses premiers résultats au mois de juin.

Il a pris note avec regret du décès de deux bénéficiaires, MM. A. Vanel et F. Sobczak.

On 14 April, the Governing Board of the Pension Fund held its twenty-seventh meeting.

The first item on the agenda was the examination of the draft Annual Report of the Pension Fund for 1991. The Governing Board approved the document which will be forwarded to the CERN Finance Committee and Council in June.

The Governing Board also drew up a written response for the Finance Committee regarding the method of adjusting pensions proposed by the French Delegation. This document is also scheduled to be submitted to the Finance Committee at its June meeting. It should be emphasized that in the conclusion of its report the Governing Board expresses the opinion that no change should be made to the present system, which has proved its worth.

The Governing Board was informed of progress on work for the actuarial review. The consulting actuary of the Pension Fund is scheduled to make his initial results available in June.

The Governing Board noted, with regret, the death of two beneficiaries, A. Vanel and F. Sobczak.