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VITALITY AND CREATIVITY OF SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

We present below extracts from a paper entitled

"Enhancing the Vitality and Creativity of Science and Research
- The Role of Research Equipment -"

presented at the OECD Conference on "Policies and Directions for Science and Research".
nov. 1986 by Dr. Joseph Rembser, Federal Ministry for Research and Technology, (RFA),
member of CERN Council.

"International cooperation in Large Facility Research"

Large research facilities are most important for our universities and their scientists, particularly young scientists. Here, the researchers learn and experience cooperation with partners from abroad. Here they have opportunities to compare their ideas and proposals and the quality of their work with international standards. Here personal friendships and scientific partnerships are created which will accompany the work of the scientists for many years, if not for an entire professional career. At such large facilities physicists learn to cooperate with chemists and biologists and to apply techniques and models developed in one scientific field in others.

Research at large facilities is characterized by the provision of access to these installations and experiments to all scientific groups which present a high standard of proposals and contributions. This holds true not only for researchers from countries or member states which own these facilities and which have contributed to the construction or which finance operation. [...]

There is a tendency, under the pressure of decreasing or insufficient government budgets for fundamental research and a philosophy that also institutes of fundamental research should demonstrate their usefulness by selling services on the research and commercial markets, to give access to large international facilities only to those groups of non-member states which pay an equivalent amount of money for the general operation of the facility.

The result of such a policy could only be a substantial decrease in international scientific cooperation. This would particularly encourage prejudice and discriminate researchers from smaller countries. As long as there are excellent and unique contributions from groups of non-member states to the scientific exploitation of a large facility they should be accepted by the facility shareholders. In international "Large

Facility Research" not every state must become a member of a multilateral organization or institute when it wants to utilize its installations and instruments. What we need is an open system, where research proposals are judged on the basis of their scientific quality and merit. If this policy continues to be observed in the future as has been done up to now, each country will continue to take advantage of the activities of the others. Science would lose substantially from a new policy of "juste retour" in "Large Facility Research". This does not mean that international solidarity and partnership would not be needed in the development and construction of new large instruments. [...]

Implications of international technology transfer policy for research equipment

Modern research equipment is based upon modern technologies. It includes and gives an insight into these technologies. Modern research equipment allows new research. Its use is ambivalent: it may be applied either for civil or for military purposes. It is therefore only natural that the purchase, sale and utilization of research equipment are influenced by non-scientific political considerations. It is easier to tolerate, to understand and to live with such a reality in the business sector, in industry. Here, due to the rules and regulations of competition, within a philosophy that an industrial company should earn the benefit from own investments, availability and use of research equipment underly primarily commercial considerations: the considerations of a supplier-customer market.

Things become more difficult where we move into the sector of publicly-financed basic and applied research, where the progress and the advancement of science and technology are a global issue and request.

Here, the transfer of know-how and equipment should be limited as little as possible. Only severe political objections should gain influence. Unavoidable administrative procedures should be as simple as possible. Only with such a policy can science and research retain their international, global character, and only with such a policy will progress and advancement in science and technology continue as up to today. [...]

A permanent renewal of research equipment in laboratories and institutes is necessary. International cooperation in the development and use of modern research equipment, particularly in the field of large instruments of basic research, has shown its importance, and it will be still more important in the future. One thing is evident: without modern equipment and without international cooperation there will be no modern research."



La semaine dernière, dans les pages de l'Association du Personnel, le paragraphe, "*énigmatique*" pour certains, faisait référence à la décision que la Direction a prise, le **vendredi 6 mars**, au sujet des restaurants du CERN.

Last week, in the Staff Association pages, the paragraph considered "*enigmatic*" by some people, referred to the decision of the Management, on **Friday 6 March**, regarding the CERN Restaurants.