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19th MEETING OF THE SNX COUNCIL

Oslo (Norway)
Thursday 30th and Friday 31st May 2013

SNX Council Meeting

Mr. Chairman welcomed everyone to this meeting. **Cecilie MATHIESEN** was thanked for the perfect organization of the meeting.

Jeroen VAN BOKHOVEN apologizes for his absence due to professional reasons.

Pierro MACCHI could not attend this meeting and is represented by **Radovan CERNY**.

1. Approvals and Review

[G. Chapuis]

1.1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda, **Appendix No. 1**, was unanimously approved.

1.2. Approval of the minutes of the 18th SNX Council

The minutes of the 18th SNX meeting were approved unanimously.

2. Financial Matters

2.1. Income, Spending and Audit - Accounts 2012

[C. Heurtebise]

See presentation and documents e-mailed to SNX participants in **Appendix No. 2**.

Documents e-mailed :

- Administrative report – Year 2012
- Income 2012 – Baseline and outside Baseline
- Income 2012 – Outside Contract
- Reserves as of 31st December 2012
- Spending “Compte d’exploitation as of 31st December 2012”
- Orders as of 31st December 2012
- Maintenance and running expenses – Budget 2012
- Auditor’s accounts + report

The accounts for year 2012 were approved unanimously.

2.2. Income and Spending 2013

[C. Heurtebise]

See presentation and documents e-mailed to SNX participants in **Appendix No. 3**

Documents e-mailed:

Administrative report – Year 2013

Income 2013

Spending “Compte d’exploitation as of 2nd May 2013”

Orders as of 23rd April 2013

Reserves as of 17th April 2013

It was agreed that presentations of the accounts as from now on will be in Euros only.

3. Report of the SNX Chairman

There was no report.

4. Report of the SNX Operations

4.1. SNX and A-SNG operations

[V. Dmitriev]

See **Vladimir DMITRIEV**’s presentation in **Appendix No. 4.**

- Beamtime statistics 2013/1
- Bi-annual Report 2011-2012
- Transferring SNBL's BM01B station to the vacant BMOX infrastructure

This item was discussed as to the possibilities still existing at the ESRF.

- Permanent SNBL offices in the new ESRF building

Moving offices and workshop is planned for this year.

Martin STEINACHER will keep SNX Members updated after ESRF Council Meeting has taken place on 24th and 25th June 2013.

4.2. Beamline A: Operations

[P. Pattison]

See **Philip PATTISON**’s presentation in **Appendix No.5.**

- Highlights from recent publications
- Operation of Pilatus2M - Examples of recent work
- Status KM6CCD diffractometer - tasks to be done :

- Software for control of KM6 diffractometer (replacement of PEP computer) supplied by Agilent
- Installation and commissioning of motor control hardware (with help from ESRF control group)
- Software for SPEC session to interface with new control program from Agilent

Tasks to be completed in summer shut-down

- Collaborative projects

1. Dectris Ltd, Baden, CH - Development of experimental techniques and data processing for general crystallography - Tests and meeting again at PSI on 24 May 2013
2. Global Phasing Ltd (Cambridge) - Joint development and testing of software for integration, scaling and merging data sets from Pilatus 2M. Test data sent to Global Phasing for Evaluation
3. Huber Diffraction GmbH (Germany) - Evaluation of beamline components (slits, position monitors, microscopes, filters etc.) - Meeting at ESRF in summer shut-down.

- Long-term developments

Plan of work for the next 6 months:

- Finalize installation of all components for the Pilatus2M setup (beam monitor, additional microscope etc.)
- Implement optimal count-rate corrections for Pilatus2M
- Complete new controls for KM6CCD and commission instrument

Philip PATTISON was thanked for his presentation.

4.3. Beamline B: Operations

[H. Emerich]

See **Hermann EMERICH's** presentation in ***Appendix No.6.***

Last 6 month of User Operation:

Hardly any beamtime was lost due to break downs. (1 ½ days due to a shutter failure).
Minor "Wear and Tear" problems which will be solved during this shut-down
13-element SSD Detector presently unusable. We are investigating different solutions.
2D-Detector produces high quality powder diffraction data.

We are now able to perform quasi simultaneous PD/XAFS measurements on the second scale accompanied by Raman measurements.

Current status of PDF on SNBL:

Both hard and software improvements are needed:

- Improved calibration procedures (currently ~1.5 days)
- Easier installation of the set-up (during the test data collection provisional slits, beamstop, etc were used)
- Shielding (to reduce background)
- Better beamstop design
- Harmonic suppression
- Faster shutter
- Focusing of the incoming x-rays
- Detector cooling
- Improved integration software (PyFai)
- Image analysis tools (software) to improve the signal to noise ratio
- Reducing the beamtime per sample

Finally, the aim is to build up know-how and to set-up a streamlined PDF environment with well documented capabilities and limitations.

Summary

Improvements are underway to expand our capabilities towards PDF techniques but restricted space is still a major handicap for further improvements (Mirrors/Mono)

The issue with the “new” beamline is still unsolved.

Hermann EMERICH is thanked for his presentation

The SNBL Team is thanked for its efficiency and for the contribution to very important scientific publications

5. Any other business

No other business was discussed.

6. Discussion of Proposals

[Shepherds]

6.1. Beamline Scientist’s Technical Assessment of Proposals and Shepherd’s Assessments

6.2. Assessment Committee –allocation of beamtime**BM1A**

Total number of shifts available :	220
Shifts for ESRF	73

Shifts available for discussion :	147
Shifts for LTP	- 15

<i>Shifts for discussion :</i>	132
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Total Shifts requested : 120 in 13 proposals from Swiss (9) and Norwegian (3) Institutes.

All proposals are allocated beamtime.

BM1B

Total number of shifts available :	220
Shifts for ESRF	73

Shifts available for discussion :	147
Shifts for LTP	- 15

DUBBLE (15 + 9)

<i>Shifts for discussion :</i>	132
<i>Minus 24 DUBBLE + 6</i>	30
<u><i>Total available</i></u>	<u>102</u>

Total Shifts requested : 268 in 20 proposals from Swiss (8) and Norwegian (11) Institutes.

All proposals with Grades 1, 2 and 3 are allocated beamtime. Proposals with Grade 4 are on the Reserve list. The committee has established a priority list which defines the order at which the remaining beamtime will be distributed.

Allocation of beamtime, see **Appendix No.7**.

7. Summary of actions to be taken**[C. Heurtebise]**

No actions

8. Concluding remarks**[G. Chapuis]**

20th SNX Meeting. This meeting will take place on Thursday 28th November (proposals to be dealt with on Thursday morning) and Friday 29th November 2013, in Grenoble. To be organized by Chantal HEURTEBISE (Meetings taken place in Grenoble : ILL Steering Committee 27 and 28 November 2013 and ESRF Council Meeting 2 and 3 December 2013).

21st SNX Meeting. This meeting will take place on Monday 26th and Tuesday 27th May 2014, in Lausanne. To be organized by Gervais CHAPUIS.

22nd SNX Meeting. This meeting will take place on Monday 24th and Tuesday 25th November 2014, in Grenoble. To be organized by Chantal HEURTEBISE.

Mr. Chairman, Gervais CHAPUIS, thanked everyone for this very nice meeting.

9. SNX Delegates Meeting

No delegate meeting took place.

List of appendices, showing the page number on which they appear in the minutes.

Appendix A available only to SNX Members and Observers

Appendix B available to all.

Appendix No. 1.B.	P.1.	Approved agenda
Appendix No. 2.A.	P.1.	Income, Spending and Audit 2012
Appendix No. 3.A.	P.2.	Income and Spending 2013
Appendix No. 4.B.	P.2.	A-SNX and A-SNG operations
Appendix No. 5.B.	P.2.	Operations - Beamline A
Appendix No. 6.B.	P.3.	Operations – Beamline B
Appendix No. 7.B.	P.5.	Allocation of beamtime