

## Table of Contents

<b>1.</b>	<b>Approvals and Review</b> .....	<b>2</b>
	1.1. Approval of the Agenda .....	2
	1.2. Approval of the Minutes of the 12th SNX Council .....	2
	1.3. Review and results of actions decided at last meeting (actions 12.1.1, 12.1.2, 12.4.1 and 12.4.2)	3
<b>2.</b>	<b>Report of the SNX Chairman</b> .....	<b>4</b>
	2.1. Performance Reviews - Resolution 12/3 – Report from SNBL Director.....	4
	2.2. Resolution 12/1 – Report from SNBL Director.....	4
<b>3.</b>	<b>Report of the SNX Director</b> .....	<b>4</b>
	3.1. SNX and A-SNG operations.....	4
	3.2. Report on meetings and Workshops .....	4
<b>4.</b>	<b>Financial Matters</b> .....	<b>4</b>
	4.1. Income and Spending 2009 (Balance 2009) .....	4
	4.2. Income and Spending 2010 .....	4
<b>5.</b>	<b>Status of the SNBL operations</b> .....	<b>4</b>
	5.1. Beamline A: Operations .....	4
	5.2. Beamline B: Operation .....	4
<b>6.</b>	<b>Any other business</b> .....	<b>5</b>
	6.1. Report court case + Provisions for Lawyer .....	5
	6.2. MoU SNBL - MAXLAB Collaboration.....	5
	6.3. Industrial Beamtime – Conditions to be satisfied .....	5
	6.4. Proposal PILATUS 2M.....	5
	6.5. Board Meetings A SNX, A SNG, and SNX Foundation .....	5
	6.6. The ESRF / SNBL Contract – New Period .....	5
<b>7.</b>	<b>Discussion of Proposals</b> .....	<b>5</b>
	7.1. Beamline Scientist’s Technical Assessments of Proposals and Shepherd’s Assessments.....	6
	7.2. Assessment Committee –allocation of beamtime .....	6
<b>8.</b>	<b>Summary of actions to be taken</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>9.</b>	<b>Concluding remarks</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>10.</b>	<b>SNX Delegates Meeting</b> .....	<b>7</b>



## 13th MEETING OF THE SNX COUNCIL

Tromso (Norway)  
Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2010

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### SNX Council Meeting

**In Attendance:** SNX Council, SNX Secretary, Observers from RCN and SER.

#### 1. Approvals and Review

[D. Nicholson]

##### 1.1. Approval of the Agenda

The time allocated for Item 5 was extended to one hour and item 6.6. Amendment ESRF / SNBL added.

The revised agenda (**Appendix 1**) was approved unanimously.

##### 1.2. Approval of the Minutes of the 12th SNX Council

The following text clarifying item 1.3 is requested to be recorded in the minutes (unanimously carried):

The long term budget: the amount mentions contributions outside those stipulated in the contract. Since the foundation of SNBL, EPFL has contributed 1/3 of the former director's salary. On retirement, EPFL continued to pay 1/3 of the salary but now to the deputy director This contribution is in order to promote the use of synchrotron radiation in the Swiss scientific community.

- 12th SNX Minutes – page 5 – point 4.1. Income and Spending 2009 as of November 2009  
It is also recorded in the minutes that Council recognises that the Norwegian side is not obliged to match EPFLs contribution to the salary of the deputy director. Future budgets must take into account this apparent disparity between the two sides.

The modification is as follows:

Council recognises that the Norwegian side is not obliged to match EPFLs contribution to the salary of the deputy director. Future budgets must take this into account.

12<sup>th</sup> SNX Minutes – page 10 – point 8.2. Assessment Committee

It is recorded in the minutes:

1. In the first part of the evaluation the two Beamline Scientists are present in order to answer questions relating to their written comments on technical feasibility and the number of shifts necessary.

The clarification is as follows:

1. In the first part of the evaluation the Director and Beamline Scientists are present in order to answer questions relating to the written comments on technical feasibility, the number of shifts necessary and any other pertinent information.

The minutes and the above clarifications of the 12<sup>th</sup> SNX Council Meeting were approved unanimously.

### 1.3. Review and results of actions decided at last meeting (actions 12.1.1, 12.1.2, 12.4.1 and 12.4.2)

**12.1.1. Dates of the ESRF Upgrade to be communicated to the SNX Members so as to plan the costs for moving to new offices, workshop, plus new cabin in experimental hall (total estimation EUR 109'000). Vladimir DMITRIEV. Deadline May 2010.**

Delay is expected to be until winter shutdown of 2011.

Action reissued as 13.1.1.

**13.1.1. Dates of the ESRF Upgrade to be communicated to the SNX Members. Vladimir DMITRIEV. Deadline November 2010.**

**12.1.2. Helge LARSEN, on the Norwegian side, Jeroen VAN BOKHOVEN on the Swiss side, are to investigate the need for each community for the use of BM29 . Helge LARSEN and Jeroen VAN BOKHOVEN. Deadline May 2010.**

From the Norwegian side, clarification is needed from the ESRF regarding equipment available on the beamline, and the position on the manpower. The Swiss side has not yet enquired.

After discussion Council deleted this action.

**12.4.1. Establish a roadmap with timetable, costs, manpower, for work to be accomplished on the beamlines. Vladimir DMITRIEV – Deadline : May 2010.  
Roadmap/timetable/costs/manpower - to be approved by SNX Council**

The roadmap was sent to SNX Participants on 12th May 2010, see *Appendix No. 2*.

The various aspects of the roadmap will be discussed during next SNX Meeting in November 2010.

**12.4.2. The beamline team led by the Director is invited to submit economic models that satisfy the needs of CH and N users over the next 4-year period (2012-2015) to be covered by a new contract. This contract will have fixed resources that will not be increased over the contract's lifetime. Therefore, it is important that the model is realistic and does not depend on outside-contract contributions; This request/estimate is to be submitted to SNX by May 2010. Vladimir DMITRIEV. Deadline May 2010**

The economic model was sent to SNX Participants on 12th May 2010, see *Appendix No. 3*.

Vladimir DMITRIEV explained that the document raises the issue of concerns: the local contact compensations. Council stated that this matter will be considered in the negotiations on the new 4-year contract. SNBL will need to provide a full costing in a unified consolidated document.

**13.1.2. Action Local contact mode, cost to be provided by Vladimir DMITRIEV. Deadline November 2010.**

**To be in the Agenda 14th SNX Meeting:** the two options for the next contract. Aase Marie Hundere and Martin Steinacher to report in November 2010.

**12.5.1. The pdf file confirming the grant allocation received from the Swiss National Science by Prof. W. Steurer is to be sent by the SNBL Director to David NICHOLSON and to Aase Marie HUNDERE. Vladimir DMITRIEV. Deadline January 2010. Done**

**2. Report of the SNX Chairman****[D. Nicholson]****2.1. Performance Reviews - Resolution 12/3 – Report from SNBL Director**

Vladimir DMITRIEV reported that confidential Staff Performance Reviews have been carried out and that he is very satisfied with the usefulness of the process.

**2.2. Resolution 12/1 – Report from SNBL Director**

Vladimir DMITRIEV reported on the progress towards replacing the current postdocs. SNBL would like the replacements to overlap with the outgoing staff by two months in order to facilitate a smooth transition. Council accepted this suggestion on the understanding that the costs must be borne by the budget.

The SNX Chairman is to be kept informed on the selection process prior to selecting the successful candidate.

**3. Report of the SNX Director****[V. Dmitriev]****3.1. SNX and A-SNG operations**

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

**3.2. Report on meetings and Workshops**

A workshop will be organized by the Italian Crystallographic Society on Crystallography + EXAFS + Raman. SNBL is invited to co-organise.

**4. Financial Matters****4.1. Income and Spending 2009 (Balance 2009)****[C. Heurtebise]**

Income 2009, compte d'exploitation (spending 2009), Audit report and Balance 2009, see **Appendix No. 5.**

The accounts for 2009 are approved by all.

**4.2. Income and Spending 2010****[C. Heurtebise]**

Income and spending as of May 2010, see **Appendix No. 6.**

Suggested Refurbishment re-payments to RESERVES approved by all SNX participants, see Refurbishment repayments as agreed in **Appendix No. 6.**

**In Attendance:** SNX Council, SNX Secretary, Observers from RCN and SER, BL Scientists.

**5. Status of the SNBL operations****5.1. Beamline A: Operations****[P. Pattison]**

See Philip PATTISON's presentation in **Appendix No. 7.**

**5.2. Beamline B: Operation****[H. Emerich]**

See Hermann EMERICH's presentation in **Appendix No. 8.**

Hermann EMERICH is thanked for his presentation and for his suggestions regarding the improvements on the beamline. This is well received by the SNX participants.

The SNX observers are satisfied by the work presented by the beamline scientists.

***In Attendance:*** SNX Council, SNX Secretary, Observers from RCN and SER.

## **6. Any other business**

**[D. Nicholson]**

### **6.1. Report court case + Provisions for Lawyer**

The court produced the written document, the opponent appealed using the same arguments as in the past. There will be some expenses to cover the fees of the lawyer.

### **6.2. MoU SNBL - MAXLAB Collaboration**

The MoU was signed on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2009. Regarding the validity of the MoU, it is mentioned in the document that: *“The MoU will be valid in the first instance to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009, and will be automatically extended on a yearly basis unless due notification in writing is given with 6 months notice by one of the participating facilities”*.

### **6.3. Industrial Beamtime – Conditions to be satisfied**

SNBL is reminded that the conditions governing industrial beamtime are set out in the contract.

### **6.4. Proposal PILATUS 2M**

Work on the application process is still in progress on the Norwegian side. The Research Council’s deadline for the application is October 2010, the result should be known by February / March 2011.

Council requested that Kenneth Knudsen ensures that those involved on the Norwegian side send a letter to Professor W. Steurer apprising him of the situation.

### **6.5. Board Meetings A SNX, A SNG, and SNX Foundation**

An annual report has to be sent beginning of July to the “Autorité de Surveillance des foundations”. This will be prepared by the SNX Chairman.

### **6.6. The ESRF / SNBL Contract – New Period**

The document now includes the names of the persons authorised to sign these documents on behalf of the Norwegian side.

## **7. Discussion of Proposals**

**[Shepherds]**

Project Proposals and Allocations of Beamtime on BM1 A and BM1 B, see **Appendix No. 9**.

***The Assessment Committee consists of the six SNX delegates.***

***Part I: In Attendance:*** SNX Assessment Committee, SNBL Director, Beamline Scientists and the SNX Secretary

## 7.1. Beamline Scientist's Technical Assessments of Proposals and Shepherd's Assessments

### BM1 A

Total Number of shifts available:		<b>228</b>
Shifts for ESRF	84	
Shifts available for scheduling:		<b>144</b>
Carry-over from 2010/I		
Cerny 01-02-901 : 6 shifts		
Fossum 01-02-904: 9 shifts		
Total :	15 shifts	
Long Term		
Hauback 01-02-862	12 shifts	
<b>Shifts available for discussion:</b>		<b>117</b>

Total Shifts requested by users :174  
(72 from Swiss and 102 from Norwegian groups)

**All the proposals with Grade 4 and better are allocated beamtime**

### BM1 B

Total Number of shifts available		228
Shifts for ESRF	75	
Shifts available for scheduling		153
Long Term		
Hauback 01-01-805	18 shifts	
<b>Shifts available for discussion:</b>		<b>135</b>

Total Shifts requested by users : 258  
(81 from Swiss and 177 from Norwegian Groups)

**All the proposals with Grade 4 and better are allocated beamtime**

***Part II: In Attendance:*** SNX Delegates and SNX Secretary

## 7.2. Assessment Committee –allocation of beamtime

See ***Appendix No.*** showing the allocation of beamtime.

## 8. Summary of actions to be taken

[C. Heurtebise]

**13.1.1. Dates of the ESRF Upgrade to be communicated to the SNX Members. Vladimir DMITRIEV. Deadline November 2010.**

**13.1.2. Action Local contact mode, cost to be provided by Vladimir DMITRIEV. Deadline November 2010.**

## 9. Concluding remarks

**Attendance:** SNX Members, SNX Secretary

**14<sup>th</sup> SNX Meeting.** This meeting will take place in Grenoble, France, on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> and Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2010. Organisation : Chantal Heurtebise

**15<sup>th</sup> SNX Meeting.** (This meeting will take place in La Gruyère on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> and Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2011. Organisation Gervais Chapuis. (not weeks 24 and 25) to be confirmed.

**16<sup>th</sup> SNX Meeting.** This meeting will take place in Grenoble, on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November and Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2011. Organisation: Chantal Heurtebise. To be confirmed.

David NICHOLSON thanked the participants for a positive and constructive meeting, and also RCN for organising the venue and reception.

The Council would like to thank the SNBL team for their engagement, and for the good work that continues to be carried out on the beamlines.

## 10. SNX Delegates Meeting

**Attendance:** SNX Delegates and SNX Secretary

The issue of confidentiality of staff salaries was raised. Since Council is responsible for overseeing and approving the budget it is necessary that the salaries are divulged to council members in addition to the chairman. However, this information is privileged.

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

**Appendix A are available only to SNX Members and Observers**

**Appendix B are available to all.**

Appendix No. 1 B	P.	Approved agenda
Appendix No. 2 B	P.	Roadmap
Appendix No. 3 A	P.	Economic model
Appendix No. 4 B	P.	Report of the SNX Director
Appendix No. 5 A	P.	Income and Spending 2009
Appendix No. 6 A	P.	Income and Spending 2010 + Refurbishment
Appendix No. 7 B	P.	Beamline A: Operations
Appendix No. 8 B	P.	Beamline B: Operations
Appendix No. 9 B	P.	Requests and Allocations of Beamtime