

5 May 2007

**LIP International Advisory Committee**  
Meeting of 26 March 2007 in Lisbon

Present: E. R. de Arantes e Oliveira, J.-E. Augustin, C. W. E. van Eijk,  
C. W. Fabjan, P. G. Innocenti

Apologies: H. Schopper

The LIP International Advisory Committee met in Lisbon on 26 March 2007 to review the 2006 results and discuss the 2007 programme of work.

In a formal session Committee Members met with members of the LIP Directorate, G. Barreira (Lisbon), J. Carvalho (Coimbra), R. Marques (Coimbra) and M. Pimenta (Lisbon). Catarina Espirito Santo, secretary of the LIP Scientific Committee also participated in the meeting.

Committee Members also met with the LIP group leaders in a question and answer session on results and perspectives.

The Committee was informed that A. Policarpo is requesting to step down from his position of Member of the LIP Directorate. In this capacity A. Policarpo took part in meetings of the LIP Advisors for many years. The Committee wishes to thank A. Policarpo for his leading role in the success of LIP and for his contributions to the work of the LIP Advisors.

LIP has concluded the first five year contract as an Associated Laboratory and a second five year contract is confirmed. Pending a review, the conditions of the new contract are still under discussion. The Committee strongly supports the requests of the LIP Directorate, in particular for the continuation of the personnel policy which has enhanced the long term perspectives of the Laboratory by recruitment of research and technical staff.

The Committee discussed the budget situation in some detail and was pleased to notice that an increased independence from the Fundo CERN was confirmed and other funding sources stabilised over the past year.

The Committee was informed of the notable progress in finding new premises for LIP Lisbon, on a site (Fisica-N) where many branches of science will be grouped together. Positive effects are to be expected by synergy with other Institutions and by improved opportunities for teaching and higher education.

As far as the research programme is concerned, the preparation of the LHC experiments and of the associated computing infrastructure needs were by far the main activity in the past year and will continue to be such in 2007.

The very important detector hardware contributions by LIP to ATLAS and CMS are on

5 May 2007

schedule and operational, at present being integrated with the rest of the experiment.

The first phase of the GRID infrastructure for LHC physics has been put in place both in Lisbon and in Coimbra and is being used for simulation.

The ATLAS Top Physics group based in Coimbra has taken responsibility of 2 out of 9 physics channels and is actively pursuing the preparation, in collaboration with theorists. By looking at the numbers of staff deployment, the Committee notices with satisfaction a significant increase committed to LHC physics.

An important effort of the Laboratory has been devoted to astroparticle physics and is expanding:

- The participation in Auger took a good start in 2006 and is going well.
- An increased effort is planned for the second phase of SNO.
- Due to the success of their detector work, LIP Coimbra has shown to be an essential partner in UKDM: In the view of the Committee LIP should take a more decisive role in the Collaboration.

The Committee appreciates the medium term physics programme of COMPASS and looks forward to seeing many publications from NA60.

The success in building the TOF system for HADES is acknowledged and a strong participation in the physics programme is encouraged.

LIP Coimbra has covered with success a wide spectrum of detector related activities. The Committee encourages the groups to actively look for opportunities to apply these techniques to particle physics (or other) experiments, as it was done for instance for the RPCs in HADES.

The PEM project has made remarkable progress: It should be vigorously continued through operation and clinical tests. This project has raised quite some expectation in the medical community and has now a large visibility.

Installation of the computing infrastructure in relation with GRID went through a big step in 2006. The Committee strongly supports the upgrade programme over the next three years in view of LHC physics.

Finally the Committee stresses the importance of the outreach efforts of LIP which should be continued and enhanced.

The Committee concludes with a very positive appreciation of the work of LIP in 2006 and of the research programme for 2007.

  
E. R. de Arantes e Oliveira

  
C. W. E. van Eijk

  
C. W. Fabjan

  
J.-E. Augustin

  
P. G. Innocenti.