

Summary of the Steering Committee Meeting, April 22 2002, ESF-Headquarters in Strasbourg, France

Participants: R. Garcia (Spain), J. Pethica (UK), F. Mugele (Substitute of B. Persson, Germany), U. Valbusa (Italy), M. Szymonski (Poland), A. Foster (Substitute of A. Nieminen, Finland), J.P. Celis (Belgium), I. Kink (Substitute of A. Lohmus, Estonia), R. Colaco (Substitute of R. Vilar, Portugal), E. Meyer (Switzerland)
Non-present members of the Steering Committee: Y. Klaffer (Israel), S. Ciraci (Turkey), A. Shluger (United Kingdom)
ESF-representatives: N. Williams, C. Werner

Introduction and background to the NATRIBO-Programme by E. Meyer

The motivation to start to the programme was given by the fact that most conferences in the field of nanotribology were organized in the US. Furthermore, the research need intensive contacts between theoreticians and experimentalists.

Short presentation of the ESF and ESF-Programme by N. Williams

The idea to build up open networks in the active field of research is essential for ESF-programmes. Other activities, such as the COST-action in the field of Nanostructured Materials were summarized.

Composition of the Steering Committee

The contributing countries are at present the followings:

United Kingdom, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, Germany, Turkey, Finland, Poland, Norway, Belgium, Israel, Portugal

France is still unclear. Ireland may join the programme. However, the Irish Science Foundation has first to formally joint the ESF.

According to the role, that one member of each contributing country should be in the Steering Committee, the following composition of the committee was chosen and accepted by all the present members.

Members of Steering Committee (April 2002):

J. Pethica, A. Shluger United Kingdom
E. Meyer, Switzerland
U. Valbusa, Italy
R. Garcia, Spain
B. Persson, Germany
S. Ciraci, Turkey
R. Nieminen, Finland
M. Szymonski, Poland
J.P. Celis, Belgium
Y. Klaffer, Israel
R. Vilar, Portugal

A. Lohmus, Estonia

E. Meyer is chairman of the NATRIBO-programme.

Remark: J. Pethica is currently Professor in Oxford and in Dublin. As soon as, the Irish Science Foundation joins the ESF, he will become the representative of Ireland.

In addition, an advisory board is formed:

T. Baumberger, France
M. Scherge, Germany
N. Spencer, Switzerland

NATRIBO work plan for 2002:

A conference will be held in Portovenere, Italy. The local organized is U. Valbusa. At maximum, 80 participants can be accomodated. Some non-European speakers will be invited.

Visits: Short (7days up to 1 months) and long visits (1-3 months) will be supported by NATRIBO. Deadlines for applications will be every 3 months. The decision will be made by the steering committee.

NATRIBO budget plan:

The main activity of 2002 is the conference in Portovenere. A first estimate of the budget was given. Short and long visits of partners will be financed as well. Approximately 30kEuros will be dedicated for these grants.

Publicity and advertisement

A web page was initiated in April: www.nanotribo.org

The brochure is currently being edited by E. Meyer and will be finalized until July 2002.

Date and place of next meeting of the steering committee:

The next committee meeting will be held in Portovenere during the Conference.

Short presentations:

Each of the participants gave 10min short presentation to illustrate the activities of their country and their home institution.