2nd Common meeting of national Big Science Industry Liaison Officers and Purchasing Advisors in connection with ITER Business Forum (IBF/19) and General Assembly of the PERIIA Network

Summary Report

On 25 March 2019, the second common meeting of National Big Science **Industry Liaison Officers and Purchasing Advisors** took place in Antibes-Juan-les-Pins in connection with the ITER Business Forum (IBF/19). Following up on the first meeting of national Big Science Industry Liaison Officers and Purchasing Advisors organized in connection with the Big Science Business Forum (BSBF2018) in Copenhagen on 26 February 2018, the aim of this second common meeting was to:

- Give an updating on the work done so far by the informal steering committee of PERIIA – the Pan-European Research Infrastructure ILO Association (under development).

- Agree on a roadmap and framework for setting up PERIIA.

- Continue the group discussions on the themes defined at BSBF2018.

The main points discussed and agreed upon at the meeting are summarized for each agenda point below.

1) Welcome and objectives of this meeting

Paolo Acunzo (ILO for F4E/ITER, ENEA, Italy) welcomed participants and explained the objectives of the meeting and the program for the afternoon.

The list of the 22 participants can be found in **Annex 1**.

2) Information about BSBF2020

Ana Belén del Cerro Gordo (ILO for F4E/ITER, CDTI, Spain) explained that Spain had been chosen as the host of the BSBF2020. The event will take place 6-9 October 2020 in Granada and will be organized by CDTI. The program will be very similar to BSBF2018 with plenary sessions, parallel sessions, B2B meetings and exhibition. There will be a special focus on SMEs and Tech Transfer. A series of technical visits to IFMIF-DONES project, Calar Alto Observatory and Almería Solar Platform are being discussed. ILO and their industry are encouraged to register at the following website: www.bsbf2020.org. For more information, please consult the presentation.

3) Information about INFRAINNOV-02-2019 call (ILO network)

Juliette Forneris (ILO for CERN & ESO, DTI, Denmark) presented the ENRIITC proposal (European Network of Research Infrastructures & Industry for Collaboration) led by ESS, ESRF, DTI which was submitted on 20 March 2019 for H2020 funding under the call topic 'INFRAINNOV-02-2019: Network

of Research Infrastructure Industrial Liaison and Contact Officers'. If funded, ENRIITC will help to establish a strong European network of Industrial Liaison and Contact Officers (ILOs/ICOs) and provide an effective platform for interactions between ILOs, ICOs, pan-European research infrastructures, ERICS, and ESFRI landmarks and projects. ILO, and RIs are all represented in the consortium. 61 other organisations (RIs, ILOs, cluster projects, TT networks) have sent letters of support to become project associates. If ENRIITC receives funding, it will still be possible for other ILOs to become project associates.

4) Presentation of work done by the informal steering committee of PERIIA since BSBF2018 and proposed roadmap for setting up PERIIA

Anna Hall (ILO for ESS, IUC Syd, Sweden) presented the work done by since BSBF2018:
- Two meetings of the informal steering committee of PERIIA (sept and dec 2018)
- Decision to propose a staged approach towards PERIIA with first the PERIIA Network and second the formal PERIIA association.
- Drafting of PERIIA Network terms of engagement and work program
- Planning of the second common ILO meeting and PERIIA Network General Assembly

5) Discussion and agreement on:
   1. Roadmap
   2. Main objectives of the collaboration
   3. Work programme and Terms of Engagement for the PERIIA Network

The discussion of these three points was led by *Søren B. Korsholm* (ILO for F4E/ITER, DTU). The proposed roadmap was agreed upon. The general assembly of the PERIIA network on 25/3/2019 also agreed also that the main objectives of the PERIIA network in preparation of the future PERIIA association are the following:
- Be a key intermediary between the European supplier business/industry and big science-organisations for matters related to procurement, innovation and tech-transfer opportunities.
- Enhance the big science-organisations' interaction with business/industry in order to create an integrated and sustainable big science-market.
- Raise awareness and improve access for business/industry (particularly SMEs) entering and acting on the big science-market.
- Provide a forum for the exchange of best practices on how to work as an ILO.
- Enhance the cohesion and functioning of ILO networks at relevant big science-organisations.
- Act as a consultative reference body for other European/International stakeholders.

The discussion on Annual Work Programme and the terms of engagement led to the following comments and conclusions:

- Do the terms of reference for ILOs at F4E and other big science organisations need to be updated in order to clearly mandate the ILOs to participate in the PERIIA Network?

  The board will follow-up on this question with the relevant ILOs and organisations. It will also insure that information about the PERIIA Network is spread widely at upcoming ILO/PA meetings.

- Do we need to have membership fees in order to insure the financing of the future PERIIA association?

  So far in the less formal framework of the PERIIA Network, the suggestion is to keep the membership free but this point should be addressed and revised for the final association form, where a membership fee could be advisable.

6) Founding General Assembly for PERIIA Network

Martin Townsend (ILO for F4E/ITER, UKAEA, UK) was proposed and elected as the General Assembly Chair. The general assembly of the PERIIA network on 25/3/2019 approved the **PERIIA Network Work Program 2019-2020** (**Annex 2**) and the **Terms of Engagement of the PERIIA Network** (**Annex 3**).

The election of **PERIIA Network Board** was held. There were 6 named candidates (from Denmark, Italy, Spain, The Netherlands and the UK) and one at the time of the meeting unnamed candidacy from France. All candidates were elected, and the board later constituted itself according to the roles defined in the adopted terms of engagement:

- *Paolo ACUNZO*, ILO for F4E/ITER, ENEA, Italy. (Chair)
  Paolo.Acunzo@enea.it
- *Ana Belén DEL CERRO GORDO*, ILO for F4E/ITER, CDTI, Spain.
  anabelen.delcerro@cdti.es
- *Juliette FORNERIS*, ILO for CERN & ESO, DTI, Denmark. (Deputy Chair)
  jfor@teknologisk.dk
- *Anna HALL*, ILO for ESS, IUC Syd, Sweden. (Secretary – Responsible for communication)
  Anna.hall@iucsyd.se
- *Laurent JAMMES*, ILO for ESO, CNRS – INSU, France.
  laurent.jammes@cnrs.fr
- *Martin TOWNSEND*, ILO for F4E/ITER, UKAEA, UK.
  martin.townsend@ukaea.org.uk
- *Toon VERHOEVEN*, ILO for ESS & F4E/ITER, DIFFER, Netherlands. (Responsible for new memberships) A.G.A.Verhoeven@differ.nl

7) Parallel working groups to follow-up on the themes discussed at BSBF2018

Before splitting up in parallel working groups, each of the themes proposed were thoroughly discussed:

- Theme 1: Benchmarking best practice for ILO work
- Theme 2: Facilitating pan-European partnering between companies on the big science market
- Theme 3: Bringing down entry barriers for SME on the Big Science market
- Theme 4: Improving the Big Science organisations interaction with industry
- Theme 5: The role of the ILO in facilitating technology transfer

The conclusion of this discussion was that the PERIIA Network should start working groups on themes 2, 3 and 5 with the goal of presenting the results of these working groups at BSBF2020. Themes 1 and 4 were deemed relevant to take up in the future but that for now, the ENRIITC proposal (if funded), would create give input to these working groups, which could be started later on.

The participants were then split in 5 thematic parallel working groups, each one coordinated by one or several ILOs to summarize the conclusions. At the end of the meeting each contact person presented some preliminary suggestions as emerged during the discussions. The first composition of each thematic working groups and their main discussions and conclusions points are briefly summarized here:

- **Theme 2: Facilitating pan-European partnering between companies on the big science market**

The following topics were discussed and found relevant to pursue by the working group:

- Can ILOs play a role in the formation of consortia?
- Can ILOs build their own new database to enable this?
- Can ILOs organize info events for interesting CfTs/topics?
- Can ILOs arrange early info from BSOs to have more time for arranging cooperations?
- Can ILOs have an informal ILO-only meeting at each ILO-BSO meeting to discuss potential cooperations?
- Can ILOs build upon "Market Surveys"?
- Can ILOs exchange their "booklets on potential suppliers per country"?
- Can ILOs exchange their websites?
- Can ILOs invite other ILO's to their own meetings with national industry?
- Can ILOs share best practices regarding GDPR-issues linked to sharing information about firms with other firms or other ILOs?

Participants in the workshop on theme 2:

- Juliette Forneris (Denmark)
- José Antão (Portugal)
- Toon Verhoeven (Netherlands) – **contact person**
- Carol Watts (United Kingdom)
- Martin Townsend (United Kingdom)
- Allanah Bayliss (United Kingdom)
- Laura Sewell (United Kingdom)

- **Theme 3: Bringing down entry barriers for SME on the Big Science market**

The working group identified 5 areas interesting to work further with:

- Why? Identify what are the benefits for Research facilities to work with SMEs?
- Gather information on what has been done in order to bring down entry barriers for SMEs on the Big Science market.
- Gather and compare policies for SMEs for different research facilities.
- Analysis of data for SME Business by using the data from different (a number of) countries. Use the data ILOs can provide. What can the facilities provide?
- Identify what funding and support needed in order to bring down entry barriers for SME on the Big Science market.

Participants in the working group Theme 3:

- Petr Brezina (Czech Republic)
- Laurent Jammes (France)
- Søren Korsholm (Denmark)
- Anna Hall (Sweden) – **contact person**
- Michel Hübner (Switzerland)

- **Theme 5 (NEW): The role of the ILO in facilitating technology transfer**

Since some of the Large Scientific Facilities such as CERN or ESA have technology transfer responsibles, the group discussed how ILOs could add value avoiding duplicities. It was concluded that the best way to address the discussion should be to organise a workshop where best practises could be shared and where the added value of the knowledge of ILOs regarding technology transfer activities could be discussed and defined.

Participants in the working group Theme 5:

- Eleonora Getsova (Bulgaria) – ***contact person***
- Paolo Acunzo (Italy)
- Belén del Cerro (Spain)
- Patrik Carlsson (Sweden)

After the group discussions, it was made clear that all ILOs/PAs (including those who could not participate in the meeting) were encouraged to participate and/or lead a working group. Interested ILOs/PAs should communicate their interest to that effect to the **contact person** of the specific working group or to one of the board members.

In general, the PERIIA Network encourages national Big Science Industry Liaison Officers and Purchasing Advisors interested in the network's activities to get in contact with the Board through the Responsible for new memberships.

On behalf of the PERIIA Network Board

Paolo ACUNZO   Juliette FORNERIS
Chair   Deputy Chair & GA Secretary

Approved on 18 April 2019

Annex 1: Meeting participants

First Name	Last Name	Country	Remote participant
Sophie	Pireaux	Belgium	x
Eleonora	Getsova	Bulgaria	
Michel	Hübner	CH	
Petr	Brezina	Czech Republic	
Jonas Okkels	Birk	Denmark	
Søren	Korsholm	Denmark	
Juliette	Forneris	Denmark	
Laurent	JAMMES	FRANCE	
Kurt	Ebbinghaus	Germany	
Paolo	Acunzo	Italy	
Mauro	Morandin	Italy	x
Francesco	D'Acapito	Italy	x
Elisabetta	Narducci	Italy	x
Toon	Verhoeven	Netherlands	
José	Antão	Portugal	
ANA BELÉN	DEL CERRO	SPAIN	
Sven-Christian	Ebenhag	Sweden	
Hakan	Nilsson	Sweden	
Frida	Tibblin Citorn	Sweden	
Patrik	Carlsson	Sweden	
Fredrik	Engelmark	SWEDEN	
Anna	Hall	Sweden	
Carol	Watts	UK	
Martin	Townsend	UK	
Allanah	Bayliss	United Kingdom	
Laura	Sewell	United Kingdom	

Annex 2: PERIIA Network Work Program 2019-2020

The general assembly of the PERIIA network on 25/3/2019 has decided that the main objectives of the PERIIA network in preparation of the future PERIIA association are the following:

- Be a key intermediary between the European supplier business/industry and big science-organisations for matters related to procurement, innovation and tech-transfer opportunities.
- Enhance the big science-organisations' interaction with business/industry in order to create an integrated and sustainable big science-market.
- Raise awareness and improve access for business/industry (particularly SMEs) entering and acting on the big science-market.
- Provide a forum for the exchange of best practices on how to work as an ILO.
- Enhance the cohesion and functioning of ILO networks at relevant big science-organisations.
- Act as a consultative reference body for other European/International stakeholders.

Besides these overall aims, the steering committee should facilitate efforts towards the following work program themes:

- Theme 1: Benchmarking best practice for ILO work.
- Theme 2: Facilitating pan-European partnering between companies on the big science market
- Theme 3: Bringing down entry barriers for SME on the Big Science market
- Theme 4: Improving the Big Science organisations interaction with industry
- Theme 5: The role of the ILO in facilitating technology transfer

The work should be carried by working groups for each of these themes.

Approved by the PERIIA Network General Assembly, 25-03-2019.

Annex 3: Terms of Engagement of the PERIIA Network
Approved by the PERIIA Network General Assembly, 25-03-2019

Mandate and aim of the PERIIA Network

The PERIIA Network has the aim of paving the way and preparing for the initiation of the **Pan-European Research Infrastructure ILO Association** as a formal European association. The members of the PERIIA Network give the mandate for this preparatory work to the board in view to establish a legal statute of the future association.

While working for this overall aim, the board will also follow the work program defined at the latest General Assembly.

Membership of the PERIIA Network

Membership of the PERIIA Network is on an individual personal basis. A person is eligible for membership if he/she is a nationally appointed (in a country being a member of the council of Europe) Industrial Liaison Officer (ILO) or Purchasing Advisor (PA) to any of the European Big Science Organisations, such as ESO, ESS, ESA, F4E/ITER, CERN, ESRF, XFEL, EMBL, and ILL.

An ILO/PA is external to the Big Science organisation and therefore not to be confused with for example a purchasing advisor within the procurement department of such an organisation.

There is no membership fee; however, all costs incurred by the membership (e.g. travels to meetings) have to be covered by the member.

Membership can be obtained by application to the representative of the board appointed to membership matters.

Members can revoke their memberships at any time by sending an e-mail to this effect to the representative for membership matters. Members could automatically be revoked if they stop their function as ILO/PA. If they wish to remain active, they can become Associate Members of the PERIIA Network under the same terms of engagement except that Associate Members will not be allowed to become board members or elect board members.

Governance of the PERIIA Network

The highest authority of the PERIIA Network is the General Assembly, which will meet at least once per calendar year. The board will announce the date as early as possible, and no later than 6 weeks in advance. Remote participation to the General Assembly will be made available when technically possible but cannot be guaranteed.

The annual work program for the PERIIA Network board will be presented, discussed, and agreed upon at each General Assembly. Agreement should be reached by consensus. If consensus on the work program or other matters cannot be reached, the decision is made based on a simple majority vote

The members of the board will be up for election every 2 years with an optional supplementary election after a year if a board seat is vacant. Candidates for the board can make their candidature known to the board up to 3 weeks prior to the General Assembly. In this case, the

board will distribute their candidature presentation alongside the invitation and agenda for the General Assembly. Candidates for the board are recommended to participate in the General Assembly (either in person or remotely) but are not required to.

The PERIIA Network General Assembly seeks to elect the representatives to the board by consensus taking into consideration balance among the represented big science organisations and the geographical distribution of participants. If consensus cannot be reached, simple majority decides elections. Participation in the voting on candidates require presence (either in person, delegated or remotely) at the general assembly.

These Terms of Engagement are temporarily and not legally binding. They are valid until the legal status of the PERIIA association has been established. Changes to these Terms of Engagement can be made at the general assembly by a 2/3 majority vote of the members present (either in person, delegated or remotely) at the General Assembly.

Draft agenda for the PERIIA Network General Assembly

1. Presentation of recent activity and progress towards the ultimate aim of the PERIIA association by the board
2. Election of five to nine board members (re-election possible)
3. Discussion of the work program for the next year
4. Setting up working groups
5. AOB

Board of the PERIIA Network

The Board of the PERIIA Network is elected at the General Assembly and has five to nine members taking into consideration balance among the represented big science organisations and the geographical distribution of participants. The board itself will elect a Chair, Deputy Chair, Secretary, as well as a membership responsible representative (a role possibly carried by one of the other three mentioned roles).

Dissolving the PERIIA Network

With the realization of the Pan-European Research Infrastructure ILO Association as a formal European association, the board of the PERIIA Network will act as interim board of PERIIA until the first General Assembly of the PERIIA Association is held. The board will then initiate the closure and dissolving of this PERIIA Network. The board has the mandate to dissolve the Network without a General Assembly when the aim of the PERIIA Network has been achieved.