

**JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ  
OF  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE (IGC)  
ON  
HUMAN FRONTIER SCIENCE PROGRAM  
BERNE, 25 JUNE 2004**

**Paragraph 1 Continuation of HFSP**

Representatives of the Management Supporting Parties of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and of the European Union met on 25 June 2004 in Berne to review the progress made and discuss the future of the Human Frontier Science Program (HFSP). Conscious of the important role of the Program in promoting interdisciplinary and international cooperation in basic life sciences among excellent researchers, they agreed enthusiastically to the continuation of HFSP on the basis of the following understanding:

**Paragraph 2 Strengthening governance**

- a) The representatives supported the recommendation of the Working Group that consideration of international status be discontinued and instead agreed to strengthen the governance of HFSP by requesting the Board of Trustees (Board) to review the Statutes of the International Human Frontier Science Program Organization (HFSP/O). It is suggested that the IGC be renamed the HFSP International Conference (HFSP IC), that countries or international organizations be called "IC Members" and the HFSP IC be defined as having the responsibility to establish the overall strategy of HFSP and the total funding target.
- b) So as to facilitate the operations of HFSP/O, it is expected that the French government will address the issue of the duration of the contracts of senior HFSP/O staff to allow a regular turnover.

**Paragraph 3 Indicative three-year budgetary plan and target levels for FY2005-2007**

- a) The representatives appreciate the continued efforts made to enhance the value and visibility of HFSP by the introduction of new initiatives and hold the achievements of HFSP in high regard. Taking into account past achievements and the projected scope and financial requirements of future HFSP activities, the representatives agreed to adopt an indicative three-year budgetary plan (FY2005-2007) as the fundamental framework for establishing the annual budget of HFSP/O (Table 1). It is expected that this new framework will provide target levels for contributions by IC members. One approach is given in Table 2.
- b) Within the framework of an indicative three-year budgetary plan, an annual increase is recommended to maintain the program as set out in Table 1. In an effort to achieve a balance between the contributions of Japan and the other IC members, Japan is exempt from this annual increase. At the same time, this plan is formulated in the strong expectation that Japan will maintain its current

high level of support and that the other IC members will make every effort to achieve the target levels.

**Paragraph 4 New membership**

- a) The representatives welcomed membership of the Republic of Korea as approved by the Board at its meeting in March, 2004. Membership of the Republic of Korea will become effective after the completion of the necessary procedures.
- b) Following discussion of membership of HFSP, the representatives agreed that IC Members should be urged to take steps to encourage potential candidates to take up membership of HFSP.
- c) It is noted that the contribution of new members is to be added to the total amount contributed by the current IC Members.

**Paragraph 5 Review of HFSP**

- a) HFSP will continue to be reviewed by various means, including regular audits and reports. The representatives agreed that a further external review, including an evaluation of the impact of the new initiatives, should be complete by the meeting of HFSP IC in 2007.
- b) The Board is asked to establish guidelines for the external review and to evaluate it on completion.

**Paragraph 6 Next meeting**

It was decided that the next meeting of HFSP IC will be held in Canada in 2007, unless unforeseen circumstances make it necessary to hold a meeting before that date.

**Table 1: Indicative three-year budgetary plan: 4% annual increase of HFSP0 budget**

The Program's awarding capacity would be maintained, taking into account the following:

- the alignment of Young Investigator Grants with Program Grants (decision in FY2003 implemented in FY2005)
- the adjustment of 5 % for inflation in FY2005 .

CONTRIBUTIONS				
HFSP IC Members	2004 (based on Washington distribution reference)	ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS (USD) - CYCLE I		
		2005	2006	2007
<b>Japan</b> <small>Japan as % of total</small>	30 000 000 <small>57%</small>	30 000 000 <small>54%</small>	30 000 000 <small>52%</small>	30 000 000 <small>50%</small>
<b>Non Japanese IC Members</b> <small>Annual growth non Japanese IC Members</small>	23 000 000	25 129 990 <small>9,3%</small>	27 457 234 <small>9,3%</small>	30 000 000 <small>9,3%</small>
<b>Total contributions FY</b> <small>Annual growth total</small>	53 000 000	55 129 990 <small>4,02%</small>	57 457 234 <small>4,22%</small>	60 000 000 <small>4,43%</small>

ASSUMPTIONS ON EXPENDITURE				
" 3 year plan" assumptions for Program activities budget (kUSD)*	2004	2005	2006	2007
Secretariat	3 505	3 546	3 587	3 630
Program Grants (total cost per new award)**	1 155	1 155	1 155	1 155
Young Investigators Grants (total cost per new award)**	750	<u>1 155</u>	1 155	1 155
Long Term Fellowships (total cost per new award)**	138	<u>146</u>	146	146
Short Term Fellowships (per annum)	200	200	200	200
Career Development Awards (total cost per new award)	180***	180	180	180
Workshops/ Annual Awardees meeting (per annum)	300	300	300	300
<small>* Figures underlined highlight year of change</small>				
<small>** over 3 years</small>				
<small>*** over 2 or 3 years</small>				

NEW AWARDS PER YEAR				
Number of new awards per year	2004	2005	2006	2007
Program Grants	27	27	27	27
Young Investigators Grants	6	6	6	8
Long Term Fellowships	90	92	98	100
Career Development Awards	17	17	18	18

**Table 2: Target levels for contributions by IC members FY2005-2007: one approach**

HFSP IC Members	2004 (based on Washington distribution reference)	ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS (USD) - CYCLE I		
		2005	2006	2007
Canada	800 000	874 087	955 034	1 043 478
Switzerland	450 000	491 674	537 207	586 957
Germany	3 200 000	3 496 346	3 820 137	4 173 913
European Union	3 000 000	3 277 825	3 581 378	3 913 043
France	2 050 000	2 239 847	2 447 275	2 673 913
Italy	1 550 000	1 693 543	1 850 379	2 021 739
Japan	30 000 000	30 000 000	30 000 000	30 000 000
Japan as % of total	57%	54%	52%	50%
UK	1 500 000	1 638 912	1 790 689	1 956 522
USA	10 450 000	11 417 756	12 475 134	13 630 435
<b>Total contributions FY</b>	<b>53 000 000</b>	<b>55 129 990</b>	<b>57 457 234</b>	<b>60 000 000</b>
Annual growth non JP IC Members	<b>9,3%</b>			
Annual growth total		4,02%	4,22%	4,43%