

**JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ
OF
THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE ON
THE HUMAN FRONTIER SCIENCE PROGRAM**

BRUSSELS, 11 June 2013

Representatives of the Management Supporting Parties (MSPs) of Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, India, Japan, The Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and of the European Union met at an Intergovernmental Conference (IGC) on 11 June 2013 in Brussels, Belgium to review the progress made and discuss the future of the Human Frontier Science Program (HFSP).

1. Mission and added value of the Human Frontier Science Program

- a) Representatives recognise that the ever-growing complexity and diversity of science makes international collaboration more imperative than ever.
- b) Independent reviews acknowledge that HFSP has an impressive track record in stimulating world-class excellence in high-risk/high-impact science and career development which, because of HFSP's particular niche (small-scale, bottom-up, high-risk, interdisciplinary, intercontinental), has significant added value.
- c) Representatives recognise that as a result of the investment made up to now, HFSP is uniquely positioned as the only bottom-up global program supporting frontier research in the life sciences.
- d) Representatives acknowledge the role of Japan as the initiator of HFSP, its largest contributor and the cornerstone of its hitherto success and sustainability.

2. Continuation of the Human Frontier Science Program

- a) Representatives renew their commitment to HFSP.
- b) Representatives confirm the mission given to HFSP to promote research into the 'complex mechanisms of living organisms' along the lines of the HFSP Strategic Outlook 2010-2016.
- c) Representatives confirm their aim to maintain the uniqueness of HFSP in supporting innovative, frontier research in the life sciences, encouraging high risk research and promoting international collaboration in the spirit of science without borders.

- d) Representatives note that the range of programs within the HFSP portfolio complement each other in providing scientists with opportunities to carry out frontier research at all stages of their career, with particular attention to early career scientists. The representatives recognise the value of all three programs (Research Grants, Fellowships and Career Development Awards), and agree that the Research Grant program has the highest priority on account of its unique value in supporting emerging fields.
- e) Representatives acknowledge the need of ensuring a sustained budget to maintain the attractiveness of the program, improve awarding capacity and be inclusive of fields as they emerge on the frontiers of the life sciences.

3. Finances

- a) While representatives acknowledge and commend the leading role of Japan in supporting HFSP for over 20 years, they also acknowledge that the time has come for greater burden-sharing to ensure that the Program continues to make profound contributions in extending the frontiers.
- b) Representatives accept a financial framework for their indicative contributions to HFSP for the period 2014-2016 (see Annex).
- c) Representatives recognise the need to move towards the development and application of new principles for calculating financial contributions in the long-term, taking into account quantitative and/or qualitative indicators.
- d) Representatives intend to consider the possibility of seeking additional resources from the private sector.

4. New membership

- a) Representatives acknowledge that HFSP should invite potentially interested new parties to apply for membership of HFSP.
- b) Agreement on new memberships should be subject to (i) the quality and capacity of frontier research in the life sciences conducted by the interested new party(ies); (ii) the willingness and ability of the interested new party(ies) to support HFSP financially in the long-term, in accordance with a GDP-based formula and a minimum contribution set by the Board.
- c) Representatives note that the contributions of any new party are to be added to the total amount contributed by the other MSPs.

5. Next Meeting

- a) The next meeting of the HFSP IGC will be held in United Kingdom in 2016, unless unforeseen circumstances make it necessary to hold a meeting before that date.

ANNEX

INDICATIVE BUDGETARY GUIDELINES 2014 – 2016

In K local currencies

MSP	Curr	BUDGET FY 2014	BUDGET FY 2015	BUDGET FY 2016
AUSTRALIA	USD	700	728	757
CANADA	CAD	1,812	1,884	1,960
EU ¹	EUR	4,765	4,861	4,958
FRANCE	EUR	2,231	2,275	2,321
GERMANY	EUR	4,269	4,440	4,617
INDIA	USD	1,009	1,029	1,050
ITALY	EUR	901	919	937
JAPAN ²	USD	22,200	22,200	22,200
NEW ZEALAND	USD	133	138	144
NORWAY	USD	620	633	645
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	USD	797	813	829
SWITZERLAND	CHF	851	885	920
UK	GBP	1,415	1,472	1,531
USA ³	USD	10,129	10,331	10,538

¹ Financial contribution of the EU is subject to adoption of the future relevant Work Programs under Horizon 2020 (the EU Framework Program for Research and Innovation 2014-2020)


² A review of this program's performance in Japan may be conducted. This amount is subject to change, depending on its results, and on exchange-rate fluctuations due to the yen based contributions from METI

³ Numbers subject to revision for 2015 and 2016

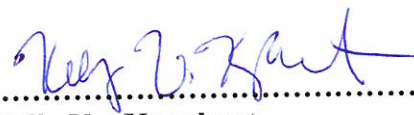
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Australia


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Tony Kingdon

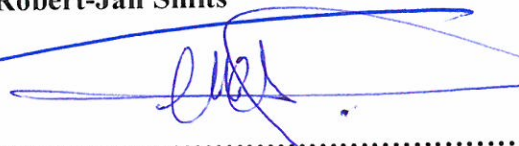
Canada


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Kelly VanKoughnet

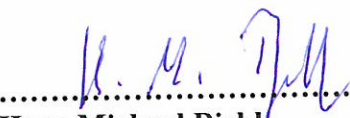
European Union ⁴


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Robert-Jan Smits

France


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Roger Genet

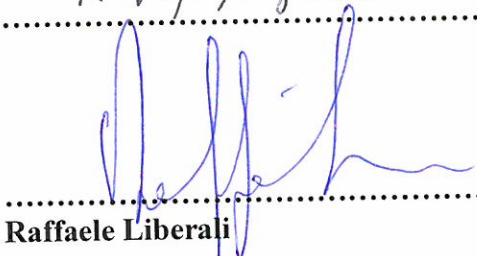
Germany


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Hans-Michael Biehl

India



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Italy



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Raffaele Liberali

⁴ Signature following Commission formal decision procedure


Japan


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Sotaro Ito


New Zealand


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Bruce McCallum


Norway


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Anders Hanneborg

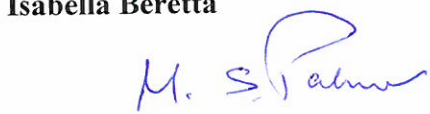
Republic of Korea


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Sanghun Lee

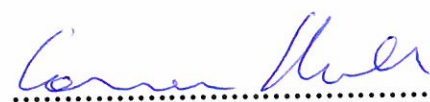
Switzerland


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Isabella Beretta

United Kingdom


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Mark Palmer

United States of America


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Carmen Huber