

Malta 25th January 2018

Subject | Minutes of the Third Management Committee Meeting of COST Action CA16104: “Gravitational Waves, black holes and fundamental physics” in Athens Jan 21 2019

1. Welcome to participants.

The participants were welcomed by The Chair (Prof. Cardoso) and Vice-Chair (Prof. Ferrari). Prof. Cardoso Chaired the meeting, Prof. Ferrari took the minutes.

2. Verification of the presence of two-thirds of the Participating COST Countries or, if applicable, a quorum.

Total number of COST Countries having accepted the MoU: 29 (**Annex 2 - Action Fact Sheet**)

Total number of COST Countries intending to accept the MoU: 0

Number of parties present at the meeting: 23

The quorum (2/3 of COST Countries participating in the Action) was reached: 23 COST countries out of 29 attended the meeting.



3. Adoption of agenda.

The MCs unanimously voted to adopt the agenda.

4. Approval of minutes and matters arising of last meeting.

The MCs unanimously voted to adopt the minutes and matters arising from last meeting. In particular, the changes to the budget were approved.

5. Update from the Action Chair



a) Status of Action: start and end dates of Action, participating COST countries, participating NNC/IPC institutions and Specific Organisations.

The Chair provided the following information about the Action.

Start date: 7 April 2017. End Date: 6 April 2021. 1st MC meeting: 7 April 2017

Participating COST Countries: 29

Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom

IPCs:

Cape Town University (SA, representative Bishop Mongwane,

Rhodes University (SA, representative Nigel Bishop),

Caltech (US, representative Davide Gerosa),

Virginia University (US, representative Kent Yagi).

Johns Hopkins (US, representative Emanuele Berti)

Montana (US, representative Nicolas Yunes)

Mississippi (US, representative Leo Stein)

Moscow State (Russia, representative Dmitry Gal'tsov)

b) Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM): review of completed reports and new applications.

The STSM Coordinator updated the MCs on the STSMs development. Details can be found in the presentation by the Chair. In summary,

6. Update from the Grant Holder: Action budget status

The Grant Holder Representative (Susana Oliveira) updated the MCs on the budget status. Complete information can be found on the Chair presentation.

7. Update from the COST Association, if a representative is present.

The Science and Administrative Officer updated the MCs on the rules and procedures to manage

8. Monitoring of the Action

The Chair discussed how the concerns from the European union were addressed:

1. Increase of ITC level at leadership and Action participation level: of the core members, 3 are ITCS (the Chair, the STSM Coordinator and the Dissemination Advisor); roughly 50% of the ITC countries are in the Action.
2. Enhance participation of ECI and gender balance: 50% of core group are females, 50% are males. 50% of TLs are ECIs; 1/3 WG Leaders is a female.

9. Implementation of COST policies on:

- a) Promotion of gender balance and Early Career Investigators (ECI)
- b) Inclusiveness and Excellence (see below list of Inclusiveness Target Countries)

The diversity Adviser discussed the gender and geographical distribution of the participants, as well as the ECI distribution. Further details can be found in the Chair presentation.

10. Follow-up of MoU objectives: progress report of working groups

WG1, WG2 and WG3 leaders updated the MCs on the WGs and scientific tasks and deliverables.

11. Scientific planning

- a) Scientific strategy (MoU objectives, GP Goals, WG tasks and deliverables)
- b) Action Budget Planning
- c) Long-term planning (including anticipated locations and dates of future activities)
- d) Dissemination planning (Publications and outreach activities)

The Chair presented and discussed the MOU objectives and deliverables.
The Chair proposed the following budget break-up:

- 43 K for STSMs
- 5K for ITC Grants
- 50 K for Global Meeting
- 2 K for Norway meeting (LOC contact: Nardini)
- 8 K for France Meeting (LOC contact: Bernard)
- 5 K for Spain Meeting (LOC contact: Amaro-Seone)
- 7 K for AEI/Potsdam meeting (LOC contact: Witek)
- 4 K for Netherlands meeting (LOC contact: Volonteri)
- 3 K for Gravity Data Group meeting

The budget breakup was approved unanimously. It had been approved in the previous MC meeting in Malta that small (up to 10000 Euros) changes and/or re-distributions in the budget could be performed by the core group. These changes need to be communicated to the MCs afterwards.

12. Requests to join the Action from:

- a) COST countries

There were two requests to join the Action by Romania (Victor Ambrus and Eugen-Mihaita Cioroianu) and Sweden (Stephan Rosswog).



b) Institutions in Near Neighbouring Countries, International Partner Countries, and/or Specific Organisations: EU agencies, European RTD Organisation, International Organisations

Johns Hopkins (US, representative Emanuele Berti)

Mississippi (US, representative Leo Stein)

Montana (US, representative Nicolas Yunes)

Moscow State (Russia, representative Dmitry Gal'tsov)

These requests were unanimously approved

13. AOB

The Chair highlighted the need for a publication record update to be sent to Dissemination Coordinator (Herdeiro).

The Chair highlighted two meetings in the near future where this GWverse COST Action is of importance: the EPS meeting in Rome Feb 19-21, and the GR22/Amaldi 13 in Valencia July 7-12 2019.

ITC grants are and will be available to Early Career Investigators to join these events.

14. Location and date of next meeting

The Chair received several interesting proposals. The details will be circulated by the MCs and voted within 2-3 weeks.



15. Summary of MC decisions

The following are the decisions by the MCs:

- i. The MCs unanimously voted to adopt the agenda.
- ii. The following budget breakup for Grant Period 3 was unanimously approved:
 - 43 K for STSMs
 - 5K for ITC Grants
 - 50 K for Global Meeting
 - 2 K for Norway meeting (LOC contact: Nardini)
 - 8 K for France Meeting (LOC contact: Bernard)
 - 5 K for Spain Meeting (LOC contact: Amaro-Seone)
 - 7 K for AEI/Potsdam meeting (LOC contact: Witek)
 - 4 K for Netherlands meeting (LOC contact: Volonteri)
 - 3 K for Gravity Data Group meeting
- iii. Changes of up to 10000 Euros and/or re-distributions in the budget of that amount could be performed by the core group. These changes need to be communicated to the MCs afterwards.
- iv. The MCs voted to fund participants in the Global Meetings as follows: MCs and speakers are entitled to full reimbursement. Remaining participants are entitled to meal and hotel expenses. All the rules need to be transparent and made available to the participants prior to the meeting.
- v. The requests by Romania and Sweden to join the Action were approved unanimously.
- vi. The requests by Johns Hopkins, Mississippi, Montana and Moscow State to join the Action were approved unanimously.

16. Closing

