

Trieste 13th January 2020

## **Subject | Minutes of the Third Management Committee Meeting of COST Action CA16104: “Gravitational Waves, black holes and fundamental physics” in Trieste Jan 13 2020**

### **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: 22 COST countries out of 29 attended the meeting (countries *not* represented: Austria, Croatia, Germany, Greece, Serbia, Sweden and Switzerland).



### **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. 1<sup>st</sup> 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

Laboratory of Theoretical Physics, JINR (Russia, representative Yakov Shnir)

b) External rapporteur's assessment on the Action progress.

The Chair updated the MC members on the external assessment by an independent rapporteur.

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

The Chair updated the MCs on the STSMs development. Details can be found in the presentation by the Chair.

#### **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.**

No representative from COST was present.

#### **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**

WGs now on cruise mode. Only deliverable left is Gravity Data Group, on a good way currently.

#### **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:

48 K STSMs  
43 K Global  
12 K ITCs  
5 K Perturbation toolkit Prague May 31 2020  
5 K Strong-field gravity Benasque July 5-18 2020  
5 K EMRI meeting Southampton 10-14 August 2020  
5 K GW meeting Belgrade October 12-17 2020  
5 K GW meeting Nordita Stockholm November 11-13 2020

The budget breakup was approved unanimously.

## 12. Requests to join the Action from:

- a) COST countries

There were no requests to join the Action by COST countries.



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

CBPF (Brazil, in course); Earlham College (US, in course); Abastumani Observatory (in course)

### **13. AOB**

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

The Chair urged expressions of interest to chairing an extension to GWverse.

### **14. Location and date of next meeting**

The Chair proposed Lisbon as the location of the next and final global meeting. The proposed dates are Jan 11-14 2021.



## 15. Summary of MC decisions

The following are the decisions by the MCs:

- i. The MCs unanimously voted to adopt the agenda.
- ii. The MCs confirm all the e-vote decisions, in particular welcoming the Laboratory of Theoretical Physics, JINR (Yakov Shnir) into the Action.
- iii. The MCs voted unanimously to have the next global meeting in Lisbon, Jan 11-14 2021
- iv. The following budget breakup for Grant Period 3 was unanimously approved:

48 K STSMs

43 K Global meeting

12 K ITCs

5 K Perturbation toolkit Prague May 31 2020

5 K Strong-field gravity Benasque July 5-18 2020

5 K EMRI meeting Southampton 10-14 August 2020

5 K GW meeting Belgrade October 12-17 2020

5 K GW meeting Nordita Stockholm November 11-13 2020

## 16. Closing

