

9th ECORD COUNCIL MEETING

Wissenschaftszentrum, Ahrstrasse 53175

Assembly room 12 (Saal S 12)

BONN – GERMANY

27-28 November 2006

Agenda

Monday, 27 November	13:00 – 18:00
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0. Welcome and logistical information (S. Dürr). 20'
1. Approval of the Bern meeting minutes (S. Dürr). 10'
2. Bern meeting actions (S. Dürr). 10'
3. New council vice chair to be elected (S. Dürr). 10'
4. ESSAC report (C. MacLeod). 50'
5. ESF report : status of EUROMARC and Magellan proposals (B. Avril). 30'
- Coffee break. 30'
6. Aurora Borealis (P. Egerton). 30'
7. ECORD evaluation (C. Franklin, P. Styles). 60'

Tuesday, 28 November	9:00 – 12:00
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8. SASEC report (G. Wefer or M. Bickle). 15'
9. Board of Governor report (J. Thiede or O. Eldolm). 15'
10. ESO report (D. Evans, incl. New Jersey). 30'
11. EMA report (C. Mevel, incl. finance overview and outlook). 30'
- Coffee break. 15'
12. Finances from FY 08 onwards (C. Mevel, increased contribution to IODP, end of, or gap in ECORD-net funding). 30'
13. 7th Framework program (A. Edwards). 30'
14. AOB (S. Dürr, date and place of next council meeting). 15'

Tuesday, 28 November	13:30 – 15:30
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ECORD-net Meeting

1. Report on ECORD-net activities (Mevel). 30'
2. Deep Sea Frontier initiative (A. Winkler) - New Workpackage WP8. 30'
3. Funding Strategy during FP7 (S. Dürr). 60'

Participants

Council members/alternates:

Austria	Reinhard Belocky (member)	belocky@fwf.ac.at
Denmark	Anders Kjaer (member)	akj@forsk.dk
Finland	Jan Bäckman (member)	jan.backman@aka.fi
	Eija Kanto (alternate)	
France	Elizabeth Kohler (alternate)	Elizabeth.Kohler@cnrs-dir.fr
Germany	Sören B. Dürr (Chair)	soeren.duerr@dfg.de
Ireland	Xavier Monteys (alternate)	Xavier.Monteys@gsi.ie
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Netherlands	Raymond M.L. Schorno (vice-chair)	Schorno@nwo.nl
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Switzerland	Teresa Bingham Muller (alternate)	teresa.binghan@erdw.ethz.ch
UK	Chris J. Franklin	cfr@nerc.ac.uk

Observers:

ESSAC	Chris MacLeod	MacLeod@cardiff.ac.uk
ESF	Bernard Avril	bavril@esf.org
EMA	Catherine Mevel	mevel@ipgp.jussieu.fr
	Rosa Bernal-Carrera	rbernal@ipgp.jussieu.fr
ESO	Dan Evans	devans@bgs.ac.uk
IODP-MI BoG	Dave Falvey	dfalvey@bgs.ac.uk
EC	Alan Edwards	Alan.Edwards@cec.eu.int
SASEC	Gerold Wefer	gwefer@marum.de
ECORD net	Amelie Winkler	amelie.winkler@dfg.de
Aurora Borealis	Paul Egerton	
Review Committee	Peter Styles	

9th ECORD COUNCIL MEETING BONN, 27-28 November 2006

Sören Dürr opened the meeting and presented the venue and logistics.

The Agenda was adopted with some minor modifications in the order of the items.

Agenda Item 1. Approval of the Bern meeting minutes

ECORD Council motion 06-02-01. ECORD Council approves the Bern minutes with no modifications.
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Sören Dürr moved, Chris Franklin seconded. All in favour.

Agenda Item 2. Bern meeting actions

Participants discussed the list of Actions from the 8th ECORD Council meeting:

C. Mevel informed that the EMA actions were all covered.

- The Review Committee was constituted and has almost finished its work.
- EMA has asked the Council for questions regarding the Aurora Borealis project to pass to Jörn Thiede, but there were no answers.

S. Dürr informed that the MoU between ECORD and ESF was finalised and signed.

D. Evans covered the point regarding the “possibility of industry liaison in support of MSP operations” in his ESO Report.

Agenda Item 3. New council vice chair to be elected

After a short discussion, the council passed the following motion

ECORD Council motion 06-02-02. ECORD Council elects Bruno Goffé as Vice Chair, as of April 1st 2007.
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Sören Dürr moved, Chris Franklin seconded. All in favour.

The ECORD Executive as of 1 October 2006 consists of S. Dürr (chair), M. Kullin (vice chair), R. Schorno (vice chair), C. Mével (EMA), S. Persoglia (Italy), and C. Franklin (UK).

Bruno Goffé has been nominated incoming vice-chair and will replace M. Kullin on the Executive as of 1st April 2007.

Agenda Item 4. ESSAC report (C. MacLeod)

ESSAC reported on the schedule of the drill ships. The delay on the refit of the SODV will likely postpone the return of the vessel to scientific operations to at least January 2008. A likely consequence will be the rescheduling of the Equatorial Pacific to September 2008, and postponement of the Part 2 to FY09-10. The new schedule is to be confirmed by USIO in January 2007. However the staffing of both expeditions continues in the original schedule. The CHIKYU is expected to commence scientific operations on schedule in September 2007.

ESSAC reported that contact with Magellan Steering Committee has been established and liaisons identified. However no such contact has been made yet for EuroMARC, except for the information that can be accessed on EuroMARC web site. ESSAC is not even aware of the constitution of the Steering Committee. ESSAC considers that there's still no opportunity for strategic input into EuroMARC by ECORD

Discussion:

The Council recommends that ESF provides ESSAC the opportunity for strategic input into EUROMARC. It also recommends that the EMA Director is informed about the ESF decisions concerning MAGELLAN AND EUROMARC.

ESSAC presented a programme and budget for activities in 2007

- A summer school in paleoclimatology
 - Fellowships to support up to 10 students to attend the summer school
- ECORD quotas.

- Request for funding to allow ECORD scientists from small countries to participate in IODP workshops.

Regarding the IODP Workshops, C. MacLeod manifested that the sponsorship of ECORD scientists was done according to 7:7:3 quota, although for most workshops approximately one-third of the applications have been from ECORD scientists. Typically only 6 ECORD scientists have been supported for each workshop so far; co-sponsors have also assisted in a few cases. EMA has clarified with IODP-Mi and the lead Agencies that additional ECORD scientists may be invited if they can support their travel expenses. However, ESSAC has currently no system for supporting them, and only some of the national offices would fund their 'over-quota' scientists. As a result of this situation, at some workshops (e.g. Continental Breakup) top ECORD scientists were ultimately prevented from attending. ESSAC requests limited funds from ECORD Council (€10K) to support over-quota ECORD scientists when circumstances arise.

After discussion, the Council passed the following motion :

ECORD Council motion 06-02-4. ECORD Council approves ESSAC request of 5000 euros to provide support for ECORD scientists to participate in IODP-MI workshops provided that they have approached their national funding agencies first.

Sören Dürr moved, Raymond Schorno seconded. All in favour.

- "European Distinguished Lecture Programme", including 3 speakers on the three major themes of IODP, for 6 lectures each

At the request of the ECORD Council, ESSAC discussed in detail possible formats for such a scheme, and how best to implement it, at its Naples meeting. ESSAC propose that we adopt a format similar to the US Distinguished Lecturer Series (www.usssp-iodp.org/Education/DLS). Initial phase of calling for nominations (self-nominations welcomed). Successful candidates chosen (by ESSAC) and advertised institutions then bid to host lectures.

ESSAC propose to have 3 Distinguished Lecturers per year with six lectures each, one for each of principal themes of IODP Initial Science Plan:

- Deep biosphere and sub-seafloor ocean
- Environmental change, processes and effects
- Solid Earth cycles and geodynamics

ESSAC has already issued a call for Distinguished Lecturer nominations for 2007 ~ 6 lectures per speaker, to institutions in ECORD countries and potentially other European nations. ESSAC will choose Lecturers annually. ESSAC Office to administer the whole process, and assist Lecturers in putting together a programme. Accurate cost plan impossible at this stage: the estimate budget is based on €1K/talk at this stage (actuals ± fee?).

R. Schorno proposed to coordinate the lectures with national IODP related activities.

S. Dürr proposed the following motion which was voted:

ECORD Council motion 06-02-5 ECORD Council will support an ECORD Distinguished Lecturer Programme for one year, reviewable at the end of the first year, at the level of 18 000 euros for travel and subsistence only

Sören Dürr moved, Chris Franklin seconded. All in favour.

- ECORD Summer School.

Chris MacLeod reported that after discussion ESSAC proposed to support the proposal of Henk Brinskhuys. This proposal is to merge the ECORD summer school with the Urbino Summer School in Paleooceanography (USSP) which has been running for several years. The request is to contribute a total of 45 000 euros to support this summer school for three years. This would allow to extend the duration to 3 weeks.

S. Durr noted that Urbino Summer School has been going on for several years, and that he would like to see something that is more ECORD organized. C. Mevel noted that a three weeks summer school seems too long for students and instructors.

G Wefer informed the Council that he is willing to organize a two weeks summer school on Paleoceanography associated with the IODP topical symposium in Paleoceanography which is being organized in August 2007. It would be held at the IODP Bremen Core Repository and would host thirty students. He requested a 10 000 EUR contribution for the organization.

C. Franklin proposed to fund the two summer schools this year and to split the money requested between both schools. For the subsequent years, there should be an open call. Students will choose which school to attend. He presented the following motion which was voted the next day.

ECORD Council motion 06-02- 6 ECORD Council will support for 1 year only an IODP designated summer school on palaeoclimatology consisting of an amalgamation of the Urbino Summer School and the proposed summer school to be held at the Bremen core repository. ECORD Council agrees the sum of €7,500 for support of the programme at Urbino and a further sum of €7,500 to create a virtual ship at Bremen by transferring part of the Urbino school. (Council believes that 3 weeks is too long at one location for a summer school.)

ECORD Council requests ESSAC to issue an open call for summer schools in subsequent years (provided funds are available to Council to support a school).

ECORD Council will also support up to 10 scholarships annually at a cost of €1,000 each. Such scholarships to be awarded at the discretion of ESSAC for an ECORD approved summer school

C. Franklin Moved, E. Kohler seconded. All in favour.

ACTION ESSAC: To try to involve non-ECORD European Country scientists/universities in workshops and summer schools.

ACTION ESSAC: To issue an open call for summer schools in the subsequent years.

ACTION ESSAC: To coordinate the relationship between the Urbino Summer School and the one to be held at the Bremen core repository.

SAS Panel Nominations

The ECORD Council endorsed the ESSAC recommendations for the following IODP committees and panels:

ECORD Council motion 06-02-3 ECORD Council endorses ESSAC nominations for the following IODP committees and panels:

- **SPC (Science Planning Committee), Hugh Jenkyns (UK)**
- **EDF (Engineering Development Panel), Maria Ask (Sweden) member, Daniel Ask (Sweden) alternate.**
- **STP (Scientific Technology Panel), Georger Gorin (Switz) member, Silvia Spezzaferri and Aarno Kotilainen (Fin) as alternates.**

Chris Franklin moved, Raymond Schorno seconded. All in favour.

ESSAC reported on the simultaneous staffing of 5 expeditions. ESSAC considers the quantity and quality of ECORD applicants excellent. 38% of the total applicants come from ECORD.

The Council applauded the efforts made by ESSAC to manage the applications processes and recommended to keep a balance in the participation of experienced and young scientists.

Agenda item 5 – SASEC report

Gerold Wefer reported on the SASEC #2 meeting, Odawara.

SASEC will undertake a long term evaluation of the science in IODP. A panel on one of the themes of the Initial Science Plan will be convened each year during three years (2007-2009). The first one, in 2007, will deal with climate variability.

Workshops

Based on the revised proposal, SASEC recommends that IODP-MI funds a workshop on LIPs. A call for workshop proposals will be issued by IODP-MI with a deadline on Feb 1st, 2007.

Among possible topics,

Extreme climates and abrupt climate changes during the Cretaceous and Palaeogene

IODP-ICDP workshop on high to ultra-high resolution records in sedimentary rocks

The ECORD council recommends that the ECORD SASEC members communicate with IODP-MI concerning the workshops organized in Europe.

IODP-MI will organize the IODP DRILLS program, i.e. conference tours. Bo Barke Jurgensen, Ted Moore and Yoshiyaki Tatsumi are selected as the inaugural speakers in 2007.

SASEC has decided to organize topical symposia to advertise the science achieved in IODP. The first one will be convened by Gerold Wefer in Bremen, in August 2007, on “North Atlantic and Arctic climate variability”. The second one, in 2008, should address the ocean crust formation and evolution.

SASEC discussed the revision of the Initial Science Plan. This document is now 10 years old. It requires some updating. It will be a major agenda item of the next SASEC meeting which will be held on March 22-23 via videoconference.

Agenda item 6 : Aurora Borealis

Paul Eggerton presented the Aurora Borealis project, in the absence of Jörn Thiede.

This project is supported both by the European Polar Consortium, an ERAnet which has 19 members including Russia, and the ESF Polar Board. It is now included in the ESFRI list of the EC.

The construction cost is evaluated at 350 M€, and the operating costs around 17.5 M€/year.

The project is still in the feasibility study phase. It is expected that the ship could be available for operations in 2012 (i.e. at the end of IODP).

A European Research Icebreaker Consortium will be in charge of the management. The experience of ECORD in this matter will be highly appreciated.

The ECORD council is interested in the project. Polar regions will be exciting areas of research in the future, and the Aurora Borealis would be a key tool for their investigation. It could be used as a MSP within IODP.

However, the ECORD council is not in the position of making a commitment. The decision needs to be made at the funding agency level.

Agenda item 7 – ECORD evaluation report

The chair, Peter Styles, reported on the work of the committee and presented the first draft of the report. The council congratulated Peter Styles for the work accomplished. The report should be ready by the end of the year.

ECORD Council motion 06-02-7 ECORD Council very much appreciated the draft external review as presented by Prof. Peter Styles at the meeting and asks EMA to express Councils appreciation to the members of the external evaluation panel for their time and dedication to
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deliver an extremely valuable report.
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R. Schorno moved, F. Barriga seconded. All in favour.

Once the report is finalized, it will be printed and distributed to the council members.

ACTION EMA: To express Councils appreciation to the members of the external evaluation panel for their time and dedication to deliver an extremely valuable report.

Agenda item 8 – ESF report (B. Avril)

The MOU between ESF and ECORD was signed last September.

Magellan is funded by the participating countries. In 2006, the budget was 83 000€. The steering committee, chaired by Jeroen Kenter, evaluates the proposals. Chris MacLeod, as the ESSAC chair, is invited to the next steering committee meeting, to be held on 11/1/2007 in Zürich.

The situation is more complex for EUROMARC. Following the call, 8 proposals have been selected to be considered, and a funding meeting with the funding agencies is scheduled on 8/12/2006. Once the funding decisions are made, a scientific committee composed of the project leaders will be set up. ESSAC will be represented in this committee.

Chris MacLeod points out that being involved in the scientific committee is too late to be able to provide any strategic input, since the funding decisions are already made.

Agenda item 9– Board of Governor Report

None of the ECORD Governors were able to attend the meeting. A written report, submitted by Olav Eldholm, is distributed to the Council members.

Agenda item 10 – ESO report

Scientific impact of ACEX IODP Expedition 302: 4 papers published in Nature and hundreds of related stories generated.

Status of the New Jersey Shallow Shelf Expedition

It is intended to use a jack-up platform which has limited accommodation space. There are still three major issues to solve before contract signing: geotechnical surveys, permits, and confirm platform availability. Co-chiefs for this expedition: Greg Mountain (USA) and Steven Hesselbo (UK) have been invited. The science party is complete and includes 9 ECORD scientists. The aim is May 07 to start offshore.

Referring to the MSP scheduling after FY07, ESO indicates that there is continued need for high-quality MSP Proposals. At this time only two are highly ranked in the IODP system. ESO has started working on the Great Barrier Reef proposal. It still lacks a site survey, which is scheduled for the fall of 2007. The aim is to implement this project in the fall of 2008. The other proposal, New England hydrogeology, is a complex program in terms of the technology required, and still requires site survey data.

Dan Evans reported that there are presently discussions among the Lead Agencies and IODP-MI regarding the E&O policy. The ECORD Council considers education as a national responsibility with no SOC funding. However, the Council believes that if there is no integration and central policy in outreach within IODP, it will be to the detriment of the program.

ACTION EMA: EMA to officially consult IODP-MI about situation of E&O within IODP-MI. If the Lead agencies refuse, EMA will contact the funding agencies.

Agenda item 11 – EMA report

EMA presented an update on SODV. Due to the increased price of all activities related with the oil industry, the original budget allocated by NSF to the refit of the JR will not be enough for the execution of the initial plan: the ship will not be stretched. As a consequence, it is necessary to revise the plan, and this will likely cause a delay. The CHIKYU has completed 80% of the planned activities at the shakedown cruise. The CHIKYU will start operations under a contract with an Australian company, as part of the testing phase. CEDEX still plan to deliver the ship to IODP in September 2007. The Lead Agencies are aware that they may have to revise the amount of the ECORD contribution in FY08, depending on the delay of the SODV. However, at this point it is too early to make a decision.

EMA informed the council that the Lead Agencies are expecting information about ECORD funding for the second phase of IODP at the IODP Council at the latest (June 2007).

EMA informed on the E&O activities developed by EMA. New releases include Newsletter #7 and a brochure on the accomplishments of ECORDnet during the first phase of IODP. ECORD will be present on the IODP booth at AGU, in December, and will organize the IODP booth at the EGU meeting in Vienna, next April. A joint IODP-ICDP town-hall meeting is being organized. EMA informed that in cooperation with the ESSAC office, the database on the ECORD scientific contribution to IODP is been developed.

FY07 budget

- General ECORD situation

see appendix 1

- ESO FY07 budget

Dan Evans presents the BGS statement for FY06, the financial statement from the start of the program and FY06, and the justification for the budget request in FY07 - see appendix 2 , 3 and 4

- EMA FY07 budget

Catherine Mével presented the justification for the EMA budget request in FY07 - see appendix 5

- ESSAC FY07 budget

Chris Franklin explains that supporting ESSAC in 2006 turned out to be very expensive, in particular because of the organization of the EuroForum. He presented the expected costs of ESSAC in FY07 as follows:

- *Office costs*

ESSAC Science Coordinator salary costs - UKP£56500 = Euro€83088

[Teaching Assistant salary costs - £43,000 = €63235

Science Coordinator travel - £3000 = €4412

Chair travel - £13000 = €19118

Expenses Chair - £5000 = €7353

general ESSAC Office costs - £8000 = €11765

ESSAC meeting costs 2007 - £3000 = €4412

total = £131 500 = €193 382

- *Additional costs, as approved by the council*

- €5000 to provide support for ECORD scientists to participate in

IODP-MI workshops provided that they have approached their national funding agencies first.

-€18000 to support the Distinguished Lecture Programme in 2007

--€7500 to support the summer school at Urbino, in summer 2007

--€7500 to support the summer school at the core repository in
Bremen, in August 2007
--€10000 to support 10 scholarships annually at a cost of €1000 each
total = 48 000 €

Therefore, the total budget for ESSAC in FY07 will be £164140 = €241382
NERC will support the salary of the teaching assistant at the level of
£43000 (€63235).

Therefore, the request for ESSAC budget supported from ECORD commingled funds is:
£121,140 = € 178,147

ECORD Council motion 06-02-8 ECORD Council approves the FY07 budgets of EMA, ESO and ESSAC, including the changes approved in motions 06-02-4, 06-02-5 and 06-02-6.

R. Schorno moved, I. Björnsdóttir seconded. All in favour.

Agenda item 12. Finances from FY08 onwards (C. Mével)

The ECORD member countries presented the situation at the national level regarding the 60% increase in the contribution which will occur in FY08. Appendix 6 shows the expected contributions for all the ECORD member countries. There are still uncertainties in most of the countries. Decisions will be made generally in the first half of 2007.

In the absence of representatives from Canada and Italy, EMA is tasked to contact these countries. For both of them, the contribution is small compared to the weight of the scientific community. Therefore, they should make all efforts not only to meet the 60% step, but to increase substantially their contribution.

Kathy Gillis has informed EMA that Canada is organizing a meeting in February 2007. They have invited the ESSAC chair.

ACTION EMA: Contact Italy and Canada,

1. To encourage Canada, to reach in FY08 and beyond, a level of contributions of at least 480 000 dollars.
2. To encourage Italy, to increase substantially its contribution to truly reflect the level of implication of the Italian scientific community in IODP.

The situation for all the other countries is presented by the council delegates:

Austria : will maintain the same level of funding

Finland : the increase will be difficult because the funding comes out of the Research Council budget.

Denmark : the decision will depend on an internal evaluation, conducted in December.

France : decision in March

Germany : the increase is secured

Ireland : has already indicated that it will not be possible to increase the contribution

Iceland : decision in a few weeks

Netherlands : the increase is secured.

Norway : decision in the spring

Portugal : under discussion. Fernando is interested in IODP material that may help promoting IODP and ECORD.

Spain : discussions are ongoing. It will be necessary to sign a new agreement

Sweden : internal evaluation in January, decision in April

Switzerland : decision in April, based on internal evaluation + ECORD evaluation report

UK : increase OK in FY08, but continuation will depend on 5 years review. The ECORD evaluation will help

Belgium, not represented at this meeting, has already indicated that it will not be possible to increase the contribution

Agenda item 13. 7th Framework program (A. Edwards)

Alan Edwards presented the present situation of the 7th Framework Programme. The first call for FP7th will be launched at the end of December, and the deadline for submitting proposals will likely be April. The budget has been reduced and as a consequence, there will be no funding to build infrastructures, only for feasibility studies. This will impact the seafloor observatories and the Aurora Borealis projects. The Deep Sea Frontier will be mentioned in the first call, however substantial funding for science will not occur before mid FP7.

The budget for the Environment in FP7 will be 1 886 M€. It is not clear at this stage if the funding of ERAnets will be included in this budget. ERAnet Plus is a new scheme which will allow to fund science, as opposed to ERAnets. It will require a coordinated call, to which the EC will add 30%. The person to contact regarding the ERAnet Plus is Robert Jan Smit. At this point, the Article 169 route does not seem promising. The EC is evaluating the first funded Article 169.

It is important to make contact with key individuals at the EC to discuss future strategies. .

ACTIONS CHAIR:

- To officially request a meeting with Robert Jan Smith at the European Commission. The future of ECORDnet in FP7 and the possibility of an ERA net + will be discussed.
- To officially request an interview with Eluned Morgan who is a member of the European Parliament's Industry, Technology, Research and Energy Committee (ITREC). C. MacLeod will act as liaison. EC funding possibilities for ECORD will be discussed.
- To organize a meeting with the new Director of Environment, M. Soares. F. Barriga may help as a liaison.

The EC has released the Green Paper: "Towards a future maritime Policy for the Union : A European vision for the oceans and seas". There is now a consultation process that will end next June. The Marine Board is organizing a collective response and it would be good to be involved in it as ECORD.

ACTION EMA: To contact the Marine Board to be involved in the consultation process of the Green Paper on Marine Policy.

Associated with the OCEANS 2007 meeting in Aberdeen (18-21/6/2007), there will be a EUROCEANS 07 meeting (22/6/2007). At this meeting, the consultation process about the Green Paper will play a major role. It might be important to have an ECORD representation.

Following this discussions, the council decides to call for an exceptional Council meeting in February 2007.

ACTION EMA, ACTION CHAIR: To organize an exceptional Council meeting in February, hosted by C. Franklin, to discuss

1. ECORD response to the Green Paper published by the European Commission: "Towards a Future Maritime Policy for the Union: A European Vision for the Oceans and the Seas"
2. Deep Sea Frontier Initiative.
3. Implications of the Evaluation Report for the future of ECORD.

Possible venues: NERC or Brussels

Agenda item 14. AOB

The next council meeting will be hosted by Raymond Schorno in the Netherlands.

Dates: 7-8 June 2007.

The council thanks the hosts, Soeren Dürr and Amelie Winkler, for the organization of the meeting.