

Short Report from the 93rd Council Meeting

EISCAT Scientific Association

Holmenkollen Park Hotell, Oslo 27-28 November 2019

Council:

Finland: Prof. A. Aikio (Vice-Chairperson), Dr. K. Sulonen (delegate) and Dr. J. Virtanen
Japan: Prof. H. Miyaoka (delegate) and Dr. S. Nozawa
Norway: Prof. I. Mann (Chairperson), Prof. K. Ruud* (delegate) and Prof. P. J. Espy
P. R. of China: Dr. Z. Ding and Prof. J. Wu (delegate)
Sweden: Dr. T. Andersson (delegate) and Prof. J. Gumbel
UK: Dr. M. Freeman (delegate) and Dr. I. W. McCrea.
*attended first day from 14:00 to second day until 10:00.

Headquarters: Dr. C. Heinselman (Director) and Mr. H. Andersson (Head of Administration).

By invitation: Dr. I. Solheim (AFC Vice Chairperson) and Dr. Andrew Kavanagh (SAC Chairperson), Dr. Herman Farbrot (The Research Council of Norway) and Dr. Solveig Flock** (The Research Council of Norway).
** attended first day

Absent: Magnus Friberg (AFC Chairperson)

Short report by: Dr. I. Solheim

[Council related](#)

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

2. Approval of the minutes of the 92nd meeting

The minutes of the 92nd meeting were approved with a change in the phrasing of item 5.5 to:

The Council decides that AFC receives the Council minutes, the Chair of SAC receives the Council minutes.

3. Matters arising from the 92nd meeting

The Council encourages the plans of the Director and HQ to prepare an EISCAT_3D technical reference paper.

[Reporting](#)

4. Report from the Director

The Director presents the report on the existing systems.

Following the presentation the Council discussed the following issues:

- Heating operational hours
- Staffing at sites
- Input power fluctuations Svalbard
- EISCAT_3D and frequency protection
- Availability of Dynasonde data

- Internal network problem within the EROS system
- Status on Affiliates
- Project funding

Council recommends the Director to look into the options of using EISCAT_3D for space weather and space debris observations and to actively communicate with experts involved in related feasibility studies.

The Council notes the report from the Director.

5. Report from the Administrative and Finance Committee

The AFC report was presented by the AFC Vice Chairperson.

The AFC made recommendations on:

- Rules for conditions and process of hiring a Director.
- Health and Safety plan
- EISCAT_3D project schedule
- Budget 2020
- Five Years plan
- Decommissioning of the old EISCAT mainland systems

The Council discusses the recruitment process in the restricted session.

The Council notes the report from the AFC.

6. Report from the Scientific Advisory Committee

The SAC report was summarized by the SAC Chairperson.

In the 92nd Council meeting, Council asks SAC to discuss the potential for overlapping operations between EISCAT_3D and the existing radars (UHF and VHF): What would be the scientific and experimental advantages of overlapping operations?

SAC did not find a science case justifying making overlapping observations of current UHF and VHF system with EISCAT-3D, but found science cases for joint Heating, UHF, VHF and EISCAT_3D observations.

The Council appoints Anthea Coster as a new external member of SAC for a period of two years.

The Council encourages external SAC members to apply for peer-review time.

The Council notes the report from the SAC

[EISCAT_3D related](#)

7. Overall status

The Director reports on the overall status of the EISCAT_3D project.

Following the presentation, the Council had discussion on the following issues:

- Technical review plans
- Data processing and e-infrastructure
- Site Issues

The Council recommends a technical review on e-infrastructure, data products, software development.

The Council recommends to continue the dialogue with the Nordic e-infrastructure experts after the completion of the NEIC project.

The Council concludes that it is important to have the 3D capability on scheduled time.

The Council notes the report on EISCAT_3D status.

8. Financial situation

The EISCAT_3D financial status is summarized by the Head of Administration.

The Council notes the report on EISCAT_3D financial situation.

9. Options to be ordered

The Council did not at this point make further recommendations on option to be ordered.

Regular financial matters

10. Financial development 2019

The financial development of 2019 was presented by the Head of Administration.

The Council has no objections to selling one house on Svalbard.

The Council notes the financial development for 2019.

11. Budget 2020

The budget for 2020 was presented by the Head of administration.

The Council approves the 2020 budget as presented.

12. Five Year plan

The Five year plan was presented by the Head of administration.

Council notes the five-year plan.

Other matters

13. BlueBook updates

Timeshare formula

In the 92nd Council meeting, The Council formed a group that shall develop options of the timeshare formula and membership conditions.

The Director will call for a meeting, and the group will discuss scenarios covering fluctuation between countries now and scenarios for new Affiliates.

Strategy group

Council formed a group consisting of Dr. Freeman, Director Heinselman, Dr. Nozawa, Dr. Ding, Prof. Espy, Prof. Gumbel and Prof. Aiko (Chair). The group will recommend the mandate for the strategy group and expected outcome, and will suggest experts for the strategy group.

In-Kind contribution

Japan will prepare a proposal to EISCAT Council concerning in-kind contribution in terms of software development.

14. Science presentation

Therese Moretto Jørgensen, Senior research scientist, Department of Physics and Technology, University of Bergen, Norway gave the presentation:

“Space weather research in Norway and at UiB, new capabilities, collaborations, and future possibilities”

15. Plan for decommissioning of the present EISCAT mainland system

Council recommends the old system is switched off as soon as the new system provides standard ionosphere parameters equivalent to the current system.

The Council notes the SAC recommended heating experiments in the early EISCAT_3D phase.

Council accepts that decommissioning of remote sites can be done earlier if necessary.

Council related

16. Restricted Session

Council meets in restricted session.

17. Any other business

For future meetings the HQ is asked to clearly mark the documents with agenda item.

Council finds having the presentations available after the meeting useful.

18 Summary of decisions and recommendations

The agreed decisions and recommendation are as presented in the agenda items above.

19. Next meeting

Finland will host the 2020 Spring meeting on June 3-4, 2020.

UK will host the 2020 Fall meeting, preferably in November 2020.

Closing of meeting

The Chair thanks HQ for preparing the meeting, and for attendance.