STATUS OF THE STRATEGY GROUP PROCESS AFTER THE ZEUTHEN MEETING AND BEFORE THE JULY 14TH COUNCIL MEETING IN LISBON

The CERN Council launched at its June and September meetings 2005 a process to define a European strategy for particle physics. An ad hoc scientific advisory body, the Strategy Group, was created for this purpose. This group is composed of delegates from the CERN member states, the directors of the major particle physics laboratories in Europe, has a scientific secretary from CERN, and four members each from the European Committee for Future Accelerators and the CERN Scientific Policy Committee; the Strategy Group is co-chaired by the chairpersons of these two committees.

The remit to the Strategy Group states that "… at a meeting in Zeuthen-Berlin from 2-5/6 May 2006, the Strategy Group shall produce a Draft Strategy Document (DSD) addressing the main lines of Particle Physics in Europe, accelerator-based and non-accelerator based, including R&D for novel accelerator and detector technologies".

In early 2006 the Strategy Group arranged an Open Symposium at Orsay outside Paris, to have a broad discussion of the issues and to get an overview of the field. It also received a large amount of written material from individual researchers, laboratories, national societies and agencies. This was assembled in Briefing Books for input to the meeting in Zeuthen. These books are publicly available through the Strategy Group web site, http://cern.ch/council-strategygroup/.

The Zeuthen meeting ended on May 6 with a consensus on a DSD of a few pages, comprising a series of concise ordered statements on scientific activities, organizational issues, and complementary issues included in the remit.

The rules of procedure for the CERN Council mean that documents like the DSD that are to be submitted to it cannot be made public before the Council meets.

The DSD will be considered for unanimous approval and adoption by the Council during its special Session of July 14, 2006, in Lisbon.