The Council,

Considering the wish expressed by Member State Delegations at meetings of the Committee of Council on different occasions, in particular in December 2002 and in March, June and September 2003, a) to enhance the role and visibility of Council and b) to improve the efficiency of the decision-making process and the working methods of CERN's governing bodies;

Considering the desire of the Member States that the Council should assume a coordinating role for the definition of European particle physics activities and policy as foreseen by Article II 2 (b) of the Convention;

Recalling the need to ensure that any changes to the structures and working methods in place are consistent with the provisions of the CERN Convention,

Having regard to

- the Report of the External Review Committee (CERN/2444) which identified areas of potential improvements in the current structures,

- the decision of Committee of Council of 19 June 2003 (CERN/CC/2512) to set up a Working Group on the Review of the Tasks and Working Methods of CERN's Governing Bodies and Committees,

- the role and terms of reference of the Council and its subordinate bodies as defined by Article V of the CERN Convention dated 1 July 1953 and revised on 17 January 1971,

- the Rules of Procedure of Council adopted by the Council on 24 February 1955 and revised on 22 August 1968 (CERN/96/Rev.3),

Decides

- To adopt the proposals set out in document CERN/2538, in particular:
  i) the new arrangements for Council’s operation (cf. paragraph III) under the terms of which, in particular, there shall henceforth be three operating modes of the Council: Restricted Session, Closed Session and Open Session;
  ii) those regarding the working procedures of the Finance Committee and the Scientific Policy Committee (cf. paragraph IV);
  iii) those concerning the role and visibility of the CERN Council and some administrative aspects (cf. paragraph V).

- To dissolve the Committee of Council established by the Council at its first Session on 7-8 October 1954;

- That these measures shall enter into force on 1 January 2004;

- That the corresponding proposals for amendments to the Rules of Procedure of Council shall be submitted to the Council for approval in due course. Pending that revision, any clause of the current Rules of Procedure of Council that is contrary to the new arrangements for Council’s operation introduced by the present Resolution and described in paragraph III of document CERN/2538 shall be deemed void.
Declares its intention to develop, in the framework of the CERN Convention, the Organization’s coordinating role in the definition of European policy in the domain of particle physics.