

The DIRECTOR-GENERAL said he was grateful to hear from delegates that studies on new principles for the acceleration of particles should be actively pursued. It was most important for the staff of the Organization to know that there was a possibility of extending the CERN programme, once the work undertaken by the new group produced sufficient results to warrant proposals for such an extension.

The PRESIDENT remarked that, in accordance with the provisions of Article II, para. 4 of the Convention, any supplementary programme could be adopted with the approval of a two-thirds majority of all the Member States. As Sir John Cockcroft had pointed out, the Organization could not be committed to such a programme until more precise scientific and financial data were available regarding the projects which might emerge from the studies of the new group on acceleration principles.

However, Professor Heisenberg had already emphasized that CERN could not be expected to live unless it retained a number of staff members on long-term contracts that would enable them to make a career in the Organization. Though it was essential to ensure a constant free flow of qualified graduates working at CERN on a temporary basis, it would not be possible to run the laboratory without a strong permanent professional group. Consequently, it was desirable to examine the position of staff members without delay in order to decide which of them the Organization wished to retain on indefinite contracts, and, in his opinion, there should be quite a large number of staff members whom the Organization should keep. Once the Director-General had thus examined the position, he should discuss it with the Scientific Policy Committee and the Finance Committee in order to make firm proposals to the Council.

He proposed therefore that the following resolution be adopted by the Council :

"Council reiterates its previously expressed view that the studies of the group, under the leadership of Mr. Adams, on new ideas for accelerators are of great importance to CERN and considers these studies should be actively pursued.

"Council requests the Scientific Policy Committee and the Finance Committee to consider the implications of the work now in progress and to submit reports before the next session of Council."

Mr. de ROSE proposed that the words "and to the Member States" should be inserted after the word "CERN" in the first paragraph of the resolution.

Mr. WILLEMS supported Mr. de Rose's proposal.

It was so agreed.

The DIRECTOR-GENERAL said that the resolution should also mention the work carried out by the other Divisions of CERN, such as the development of bubble chambers and of the instrumentation for the evaluation of photographs, since that work was extremely important not only for the Organization but for the Member States themselves.

Mr. WILLEMS said he shared the views expressed by the Director-General.

The PRESIDENT said he agreed with the Director-General.

It was so agreed.

The resolution was adopted as amended.

Professor GENTNER said that the Synchro-cyclotron had been run at full energy for the first time on 1 August, 1957. It was not yet possible for the machine to operate on a 24 hours a day basis, as there were a number of problems to be solved before it was completely ready for experimental research. It was hoped, however, that the difficulties encountered with the new system of modulation would soon be overcome as the radio-frequency was now pulsed to avoid overheating of the tuning fork. Work had started on the production of an internally produced pion beam and on the construction of a neutron wall and channel. The circulating proton beam produced was 30 mm high at a radius of 2.1 metres.

Professor Bernardini had joined the Division as Director of Research in September and many discussions had been held since then concerning the Research Programme. It was hoped that both the physicists and the machine would be ready to carry out experimental research in March 1958. It was hoped that every week from Monday to Thursday the accelerator would be run for the benefit of the engineers, while it would be run on Fridays to enable physicists to try out their equipment, and Saturdays and Sundays would be earmarked to let the machine cool down and to carry out repairs. Several new detecting systems were being constructed, and he was confident that the Division would be able to carry out interesting experimental research in the near future.