

## 1. PARTICIPATION OF NEW COUNTRIES:

### 1.a COST countries:

- Two COST countries have finalized their involvement since last MC meeting: Austria (MC: Johanna Knapp, Daniel Grumiller) and Iceland (MC: Larus Thorlacius, Valentina Giangreco Marotta Puletti).
- Turkey (D. Van den Bleeken) just joined officially few days after the CG meeting (MC: D. Van den Bleeken).
- Ireland (T. McLaughlin) is negotiating with its COST representative.
- Rumania (D. Ghilencea), Czech Republic (R. von Unge, M. Schnabl) and Finland are under discussion.

### 1.b Non-COST countries:

Approved:

- U. Witwatersrand (J. Murugan, A. Weltman), U. Cape Town (R. de Mello Koch, K. Goldstein, V. Jejjala, J. Rodrigues) (South Africa)
- CERN (L. Alvarez-Gaumé, I. Antoniadis, J. Drummond, W. Lerche, B. Pioline)
- CECS (Valdivia, Chile) (J. Zanelli)

In the process of approval from COST DC:

- U. Buenos Aires (G. Giribet)
- U. Chile (G. Palma)

In the process of MC approval:

- U. Católica de Chile (M. Bañados)

Template completion:

- Stanford (R. Kallosh)

Future:

- Australia: Contacts made, process will start soon.
- Japan, Brazil under discussion.

## 2. CHANGES IN WG MANAGEMENT:

WG1: Leader: Johanna Erdmenger  
Vice-leader: Tassos Petkou (accepted few days after the CG meeting)  
Core group: Ofer Aharony, Jerome Gauntlett, Charlotte Kristjansen,

WG2: Riccardo Argurio added to CG

WG5: Leader: Marian Lledo  
Vice-leader: Jose Edelstein  
Core group: Anna Ceresole, Yolanda Lozano, Carlos Nuñez, Silvia Penati

## 3. FINANCIAL SITUATION:

2013 budget: 123000 euro

Spendable: 107000

EVENT	TOTAL EXPENSES (euro)
BERN CONFERENCE	25776.43
TRIESTE "Career Workshop Development for Women in Physics"	1014.93
LEUVEN "Joint Postdoc Recruitment 2013"	3000.00
WIS "Black Holes and Quantum Information"	27650.00
PALENCIA "Iberian Strings 2014" (approved)	2000.00
CAMBRIDGE "Supersymmetry Breaking in String Theory" (approved)	11000.00
STSM (first call)	21000.00
TOTAL	92000.00
STILL AVAILABLE	15000.00

## 4. COMING EVENTS:

- Iberian Strings 2014: Palencia, January 29-31, 2014 (2000 euros LOS support from COST)
- WG2 Workshop: Newton Institute, March 10-14, 2014 (11000 euros support from COST, also partially supported by HoloGrav)
- Second call STSM: Launched one week after CG meeting. Budget 12000 euros

## 5. FUTURE EVENTS (BUDGET 2014):

- Lisbon/Porto Training School, July 14-25, 2014. WG1 activity. Lisbon part under discussion (topics, format).
- 2nd workshop "The String Theory Universe", Mainz, September 22-26, 2014. Opinions were expressed in favor of not having parallel sessions.

## 6. FUTURE EVENTS:

- [3rd workshop](#), (20th Anniversary since the first RTN network conference), Leuven, sept. 2015.

- [Final workshop](#), Summer/Fall 2016. Interest Crete/Thessaloniki, Valencia, Varna.

**Proposal:** Open a call in September 2014.

- [Second Training School](#), 2016. Interest Cargèse.

**Proposal:** Open a call in September 2014.

- [Annual WG activities](#), WG leaders will launch calls for WG events and collect proposals.

**Proposal:** Open a call in March 2014.

#### **7. TOKENS FOR OTHER EVENTS:**

The idea is to use left-overs from past COST events to support small COST events or participation of people (primarily ESR and women) in events organized by COST members.

This year: Iberian Strings 2014. CERN expressed an interest for using some of this money for the Winter School in 2015.

**Proposal:** Open a call for next year tokens in May 2014.