

**Minutes of the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the CEA – Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport (MESCS) Steering Committee  
Ljubljana, 11 December 2012**

Location: Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport, Kotnikova 38, Ljubljana.

**Participants:**

**France – CEA:**

- Ms. Sylvie Aniel, International Relation Division/EU Affairs/Bilateral Relationships
- Ms. Sophie Avril, International Relation Division/EU Affairs/Bilateral Relationships

**Slovenia – MESCS:**

- Ms. Tea Glažar, M Sc., International Cooperation and EU Affairs Office
- Dr. Tomaž Boh, Directorate for Higher Education and Science, Head of Department for Science
- Dr. Primož Pristovšek, Slovenian Research Agency, Head of Department for International Cooperation and Research Infrastructure

**General Information:**

After the welcome made by Ms. Tea Glažar, both sides adopted the agenda of the meeting. The Slovenian side informed about the new merged Ministry and explained its general structure. Both sides informed each other about the recent policy developments in the field of R&D, French side also explained the recent developments in the field of energy policy.

Dr. Tomaž Boh especially put the emphasis on the new Centers of Excellence and the Competence Centers, as well as on the preparation of the Strategy of Smart Specialization which is connected with the Research and Innovation Strategy, as well as with the Industrial policy. The preparation of new programmes which will be financed by the EU Structural funds will be very important as well. Another important field is Research Infrastructure - Slovenia had its so-called "Research Infrastructure Roadmap" which was approved by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia. Slovenia will also enter into the FAIR programme and is already active in the infrastructure initiative C-ERIC (material science).

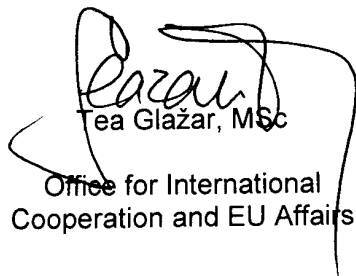
Ms. Tea Glažar explained the general orientation in the field of bilateral scientific cooperation where some reduction of bilateral mobility cooperation with the EU countries was made due to the present budgetary restrictions (exception are neighbouring states). The fact is that the cooperation with EU countries is quite vivid also in the EU framework. Cooperation with France, especially with CEA, where we are dealing with bigger project will continue also for the next period.

Dr. Primož Pristovšek presented the funding field of science of the Slovenian Research Agency (young researchers, research programmes, infrastructure programmes). Slovenian Research Agency is recently joining forces with other agencies applying the principle of Lead Agency.

Ms. Sylvie Aniel informed the Slovenian side on recent public consultation with the representatives of Universities and Research Institutes in the preparation of a new Law on Higher Education and Research. This new law shall be based on the outcomes of a consultation that was held during the 2012 fall semester. France is also putting a lot of efforts to improve the "French energy mix". Priority is given to energy efficiency, sobriety and renewable energies. As for Higher Education and Research, the government launched, at the end of 2012, a public debate on the "Energy transition". The debate shall end in June 2013. Its outcomes shall be used for the preparation of a new energy bill (expected before the end of 2013).

## Review of Project call 2012

The Project Call 2012 includes 8 eligible projects. Both sides approved 7 projects. The total amount of money by the Slovenian side is 420.000 EUR. The CEA part is 672.000 EUR. The next meeting should be programmed in France in 2013. CEA will take the initiative to propose the dates to Slovenian partners. The status of current projects will be reviewed and the 2014 call will be prepared during that meeting.



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Ms. Sylvie Aniel  
International Relation  
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