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Argentina is the first Latin American country to join the outstanding European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL)



On April 22nd, the Minister of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation, Dr. Lino Barañao and the Director General of Iain Mattaj, signed the Associate Membership Agreement between Argentina and

EMBL. This is the first time that a Latin American Country joins this outstanding European Laboratory, considered as one of the top five world institutes specialized in genetics and molecular biology. The National Directress of International Relations of the Ministry of Science, Eng Águeda Menvielle, and the Directress of International



Relations of the EMBL, Dr. Silke Schumacher participated in the signature of the Agreement. This partnership will promote joint research and training of human resources, both in our country and Latin America, in collaboration with European centers of excellence. It will also facilitate preferential access to facilities, laboratories and EMBL; participation in research infrastructure projects; granting doctoral and

postdoctoral joint degrees; the promotion of courses, workshops, training and other activities of the laboratory; involvement of Argentine institutions in activities of companies related to EMBL; and the creation of Latin American interdisciplinary training centers to tackle complex issues.

Afterwards, a meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee was held with the participation of Dr. Osvaldo Daniel Uchitel, Director of the Institute of Physiology, Molecular Biology and Neuroscience (IFIBYNE) of the National Council for Scientific and Technical Research (CONICET) and the Universidad de Buenos Aires (UBA); Dr. Alberto Kornblihtt, Senior IFIBYNE researcher; Dr. Gustavo Adrián Turjanski, Executive Director of the Bioinformatics Platform Argentina; Dr. Cecilia Bouzat, senior researcher at the Institute of Biochemical Research of Bahia Blanca (INIBIBB-CONICET); Dr. Carlos Frasch, Dean of the Biotechnology Research Institute of the National University of San Martín (UNSAM); Dr. María Isabel Colombo, Deputy Director of the Institute of Histology and Embryology of Mendoza "Dr. Mario H. Burgos" (IHEM); Dr. Alejandro José Vila, Director of the Institute of Molecular and Cellular Biology of Rosario (IBR); Prof. Mattaj; Dr. Schumacher; B.Sc. Plamena Markova of EMBL; and Dr. Cecilia Aversa of the National Directorate of International Relations, Ministry of Science.

Scientific meetings in the framework of the Associate Membership of the Argentine Republic to the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL)



On April 22nd and 23rd 2014, scientific meetings were held in the framework of the Associate Membership of Argentina in the EMBL, which have been organized jointly by the National Directorate of International Relations, Ministry of Science, and EMBL in the Auditorium of the YPF Foundation. The Minister of Science, Dr. Barañao; the Director General of the EMBL, Prof. Mattaj; the National Directress of International Relations, of the Ministry of Science, Eng. Agueda Menvielle and the National Directress of International Relations of the EMBL, Dr. Silke Schumacher participated in the opening ceremony.

Among the participating speakers, the following ones are worth mentioning: the Head of the Laboratory of the EMBL Grenoble and Senior Researcher of the EMBL, Dr. Stephen Cusack; the Head of the Facilities of Advanced Light Microscopy, Dr. Rainer Pepperkok; the Deputy Head of the Laboratory EMBL Monterotondo, Dr. Cornelius Gross; the group leader of the EMBL-European Bioinformatics Institute (EBI), Dr. Paul Bertone; the group leader of the Developmental Biology Unit EMBL in Heidelberg, Dr. Francois Spitz; the group leader and senior researcher of the Structural and Computational Unit EMBL in Heidelberg, Dr. Anne-Claude Gavin; Senior researcher of the Laboratory of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, School of Medicine, Catholic University of Córdoba (UCC), Dr. Hugo Lujan; Senior researcher of the Institute of Biochemical Research Bahia Blanca (INIBIBB), Dr. Cecilia Bouzat; Director of the Laboratory of Transgenic Mice of the Institute for Research on Genetic Engineering and Molecular Biology (INGEBI), Dr. Marcelo Rubinstein; senior researcher of the Institute of Physiology, Molecular Biology and Neuroscience (IFIBYNE), Dr. José Estévez; the head of the Laboratory of Molecular Virology of the Leloir Institute Foundation, Dr. Andrea Gamarnik; and the Director of the Laboratory of Immunopathology, Institute of Biology and Experimental Medicine (IBYME), Dr. Gabriel Rabinovich. Besides, members of the Scientific Advisory Committee and a hundred scientists from around the country also participated.

Cooperation with the European Union in Nanotechnology



The Ministry of Science, through the Liaison Office Argentina - European Union in Science, Technology and Innovation (ABEST III) of the National Directorate of International Relations, organized a series of activities focused on nanotechnologies in order to promote cooperation with the European Union in this strategic area, a priority issue not only in the bilateral relationship between Argentina and the EU but also at the bi-regional level.

The Activities began with the nanomedicine workshop organized under the NMP-Dela Project (Nanosciences, Nanotechnologies, Materials and new Production Technologies. Development in Latin America), where experts from Latin America and Europe presented research practices, in order to develop a joint strategy for bi-regional cooperation. The conference, which was held in Buenos Aires, was opened by the National Directress of International Relations of the Ministry of Science, Eng. Águeda Menvielle.

The following day, the nanotechnology meeting organized by ABEST III took place, in which specific cooperation opportunities existing in the framework of Horizon 2020 program were outlined, to create synergies between researchers and Project leaders in view of the implementation of research consortia. In parallel with the abovementioned activities, an intensive nanomedicine course lectured by the Italian consultancy REDINN, targeting especially young researchers from all over Latin America, was held.

Argentina coordinated ALCUE NET event in Costa Rica



The Ministry of Science, through the National Directorate of International Relations, participated from April 1st to 5th in a series of meetings held in San Jose, Costa Rica. During the first days, the Second Senior Officials Meeting in Science and Technology of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) and the Senior Officials Meeting in Science and Technology of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean - European Union (CELAC - EU) took place. As a closing of the event, and in the context of the CELAC meeting - EU, on April 4th and 5th an ALCUE NET Project meeting was held, organized and coordinated by the Argentine Ministry of Science through its Office of Argentina - European Union (ABEST III). The meeting, aimed at seeking an action plan for 2014-2016, was attended by 19 project partners, as recommended by the CELAC - EU meeting. Moreover, the activities carried out under the project were analyzed.

First Meeting of the National Contact Points of Latin America

In May 5th and 6th, in the City of Montevideo, the First Annual Meeting of the National Contact Points (NCP for its acronym in English) in Latin America - "Strengthening capacities in Latin America and the Caribbean: creation of networks", organized by the Ministry of Education and Culture of Uruguay (MEC) under Project LACEU NET, an initiative coordinated by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation of Argentina.

This meeting aimed at unifying knowledge in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) on the New Innovation and Research Program of the European Union (EU) and Horizon 2020; the development of the capacities of the existing NCP in LAC; and expanding the network of NCP in that region. These objectives will promote the necessary steps to enhance and strengthen the links between both regions (LAC- EU) synergies.

On behalf of the Ministry of Science of Argentina the technical coordinator of the LACEU NET and of the Liaison Office Argentina - European Union ABEST III, Ms. Monica Silenzi, and the NCP for the thematic area of space, Cesar Bertucci. On the second day, Silenzi and Bertucci presented the ABEST III case to disseminate best practices and recommendations of the NCP Argentine system.



For more information: www.alcuenet.eu

International Conference on Research Infrastructures in Athens



The Undersecretary for Institutional Coordination of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation, Dr. Sergio Matheos, participated in the International Conference on Research Infrastructures that took place between April 2nd and 4th in Athens, Greece, organized by the Directorate-General for Research and Innovation of the European Commission. The objective of this activity was to evidence the manner in which global research infrastructures tackle current challenges and the future priorities and guidelines.

As a local specialist and only representative from South America, Dr. Matheos participated, along with more than 780 representatives from across Europe, in discourses, lectures and discussions on topics related to research infrastructures and coordinated support, the strengthening of existing initiatives, the identification of potential needs and development of an "open science" vision. The mission of the Undersecretary was coordinated by the National Directorate of International Relations of the Ministry of Science.

For more information: www.icri2014.eu

Signature of the Agreement by BIOTECH II

The delegation agreement and the financing agreement between the European Commission and MERCOSUR providing for the development of BIOTECH II to support the development of biotechnologies in MERCOSUR, which operative operation will be coordinated by the Ministry of Science, through its National Directorate of International Relations, has been signed.

For more information: mdominguez@mincyt.gov.ar

Dissemination of the Horizon 2020 Program in Tandil



The National Contact Point (NCP) for Information and Communications Technology (ICT), B.Sc. Rosa Wachenchauer, participated in the session "Realities of international cooperation" that took place in the workshop "Master lectures on the future of research funding and transfer of software: Looking to 2020", organized by the Institute of Software Engineering OF Tandil (ISISTAN) of the National University of the Centre of the Province of Buenos Aires (UNICEN-CONICET) B.Sc. Wachenchauer presented opportunities available for Argentine institutions to participate in Horizon 2020 calls and informed about the support services provided by the Liaison Office Argentina - European Union (ABEST III) for those who wish to receive information.

Argentina participates in the Fifth Conference of the INCONTACT project



Through the National Directorate of International Relations, of the Ministry of Science Argentina will participate in the Fifth INCO Conference - "Addressing future challenges" in the framework of the INCONTACT project, from June 1st to 3rd June in the city of Athens, Greece. This meeting aims at bringing together representatives from European countries and countries outside the European Union, and Argentina, to carry out a series of activities including training, developing dissemination strategies and proposals for international cooperation projects.

During the session on experiences and opportunities for cooperation, Argentina will have a special space to present national funding programs and initiatives that promote reciprocal opportunities and support to European experts.

This opportunity will be used to organize the meeting of INCONTACT 2020, the new edition of the project in which the Ministry of Science participates as a partner, with a view to updating the plan of activities aimed at facilitating the participation of Argentine institutions in the Horizon 2020 Program and other European cooperation initiatives.

For more information: http://www.ncp-incontact.eu/nkswiki/index.php?title=Main_Page



LAC –ICT Expert Group of LEADERSHIP Project

The National Contact Point (NCP) for SMEs, Dr. José María Louzao Andrade, attended the workshop to launch the LAC ICT Expert Group that was carried out in April 1st, in San Jose, Costa Rica, where 25 experts, that represented the industry, academic and scientific community and the governments of Mexico, Costa Rica, Cuba, Colombia, Venezuela, Brazil, Chile and Argentina participated to support the ICT policy dialogue between Latin America and Europe. This workshop was held as a parallel event of the Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean - European Union (CELAC - EU).

The LAC-ICT panel is an initiative carried out in the framework of LEADERSHIP project, which aims at providing new insights related to ICT research and innovation in Latin America and the Caribbean as input for the ongoing policy dialogue. For this purpose, three workgroups focused on Digital Agendas, Financial Mechanisms, and ICT Regulations have been created.

For more information: www.leadershipproject.eu

Activities of the ENSOCIO-LA project in Latin America

On March 26th and 27th the ENSOCIO-LA project workshop was held in Buenos Aires to define future activities and recommendations of thematic lines about climate change, efficient use of resources and raw materials. This was a closed meeting for European and Latin American project partners.

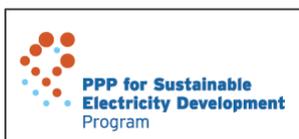


The next ENSOCIO-LA project event is the International Conference "Improving collaboration and joint research initiatives European Union - Latin America and the Caribbean", which will take place from June 30th to July 2nd at the Crown Paradise Club Hotel in the city of Cancun, Mexico. This meeting will have two phases: the first two days will be directed to special guests, successful projects will be presented in the reference areas, gaps and research priorities and a tentative research LACEU agenda will be analyzed. The last day will be a working day dedicated only for project partners.

From Argentina, the National Directorate of International Relations, of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation will facilitate the presence of four experts who have coordinated or are currently coordinating bi-regional projects.

For more information: www.ensocio-la.eu

Renewables Energies Workshop: in search of synergies and exchange of experiences



The National Contact Point (NCP) of Argentine in Energy, Dr. José Viramonte, attended the workshop for public-private partnerships in Latin America: cooperation and exchange of experiences to promote renewable energy projects that took place on April 10th and 11th in the Hotel Madero in Buenos Aires.

The event, organized by the Economic Commission for Latin America (CEPAL-ECLAC), the Secretariat of Energy of Argentina and the Global Sustainable Electricity Partnership (GSEP), aimed at promoting better relations and international organizations, the private sector companies and public institutions and companies from several countries in the region to enable the implementation of effective projects for the development of renewable energy in Latin America.

Calls

Second Joint Call ERA- MIN



In the framework of the financing scheme of the ERA-NET, ERA-MIN project launched its 2nd joint call for sustainable supply of raw materials in which it is contemplated that, at least, one of the partners of the consortium must be one of the countries participating in the call, including Argentina. The purpose of the call is focused on the

needs of the research on non-energy commodities, by addressing one or more areas of the value chain. Proposals must be submitted online only through the ERA-MIN system by the coordinator in charge of the project no later than June 17th, 2014 at 17:00, Central European Time (CET by its acronym in English). The eligibility criteria, rules and application forms may be downloaded from the website of ERA-MIN: <http://www.era-min-eu.org/about/era-min-joint-call>

Horizon 2020 Calls

Those interested in applying under the open calls for Horizon 2020, the new Framework Program (FP) of the European Union for Research and Innovation which will run from 2014 to 2020 are invited to visit the Participant Portal of the European Commission: <http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/home.html>. The preliminary information in Spanish is also available in the webpage of ABEST III: www.abest.mincyt.gov.ar/.

First Call for Technological Business Cooperation Argentina - Spain



El The Ministry of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation of Argentina and the Centre for Industrial Technological Development (CDTI) of Spain have launched the call to submit project proposals under the "First Call Business Technology Collaboration Argentina Spain".

From April 4th to June 17, 2014 the first phase of the bilateral call Argentina- Spain will be open for the submission of business and technological innovation development projects. Project proposals must be implemented by cooperation between companies from both countries and is open to all sectors of industry. Projects approved during the first phase of the call, will be authorized in a second phase to apply for decentralized financing provided by the National Agency for the Promotion of Science for Argentine companies and CDTI in Spain.

At the presentation of the call, held on April 23rd at the Libertador Hall of the San Martin Palace, the National Directress of International Relations of the Ministry of Science, Eng. Águeda Menvielle, the Ambassador of Spain in Argentina, D. Estanislao de Grandes Pascual, CDTI delegate for the Southern Cone, Francisco Sánchez Quintana, and over 110 attendees participated in the event.

For more information: <http://www.mincyt.gov.ar/convocatoria/convocatoria-bilateral-mincyt-cdti-2014-9882>

Agenda

Organization of future information sessions on Horizon 2020

The Liaison Office of Argentina - European Union assistance for all the institutions of the country to conduct briefings, trainings and thematic videoconferences during 2014 and 2015 to disseminate the opportunities of international cooperation with the European Union, through Horizon 2020 calls. Any institution (university, research center, cluster, technological pole and companies) who is interested in conducting a meeting is required to send a formal request to abest@mincyt.gov.ar.

About this newsletter

ABEST III Newsletter is a bimonthly electronic newsletter published by the National Directorate of International Relations of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation (Argentina). ABEST III is the acronym that identifies the Argentina Liaison Office with the European Community in Science, Technology and Innovation. Jointly funded by FP7, the Consortium is ABEST III coordinated by MINCYT (Argentina) with the participation of: CIRAD (France), APRE (Italy), DLR (Germany) and MADRI+D (Spain).

The main objective is to support ABEST III bilateral activities of EU ARG- in STI and develop sustainability in the long-term actions of such platform. The information contained in this publication should not be used in any way to reflect the views of the European Commission. Please send a message to abest@mincyt.gob.ar to send comments on this newsletter, if you would like other colleagues to receive this e-newsletter, or if you want to unsubscribe.