Minutes of the 4th SHiP Country Representatives Board  
(CERN, 7 October 2015)

Present:
H. Dijkstra (CERN), J. Chauveau (France), H. Lacker (Germany), W. Bonivento (Italy), M. Komatsu (Japan), N. Polukhina (Russia), V. Egorychev (Russia), D. Milstead (Sweden), N. Serra (Switzerland), A. Murat Güler (Turkey), M. Campanelli (UK), L. Shchutska (USA), E. van Herwijnen (interim Chairperson), A. Golutvin (interim Spokesperson), R. Jacobsson (CERN local contact person), G. De Lellis (ντ-detector)

Excused:
R. Tsenov (Bulgaria), S. Xella (Denmark, represented by M. Campanelli), C.S. Yoon (Korea), V. Shevchenko (Russia, represented by V. Egorychev), G. Mitselmakher (USA, represented by L. Shchutska)

1. Minutes of the previous CRB meeting. E. van Herwijnen, Interim Chairperson of the Country Representatives Board.
The minutes of the CRB of 1 July 2015 were approved.

2. Milestones for the TDRs. R. Jacobsson.

The TP has been submitted to the SPSC. For the SPSC, SHiP is a special case because in addition to proposing a new experiment, we are also asking for a new facility. Thus the approval will take more time. At the same time, CERN is trying to reduce its cumulative budget deficit, which sets limits on the new science it can do (“the MTP storm”).

In the meantime, our responsibility is to build the detector. The Addendum to the TP will be sent to the SPSC shortly. It contains a list of milestones for detector R&D for the “TDR” phase (see https://indico.cern.ch/event/406571/session/0/contribution/4/attachments/1166420/1681915/2015_10_SHiP_Plans.pdf, slide 11). Due to limited possibilities to apply for funding before the conclusion of the SPSC review, the milestones are organized to minimize the needs for 2016. For 2016, we concentrate on the global detector optimization and detector performance studies, which have significant room for cost optimizations.

The purpose of the milestones is for country representatives to obtain minimal funds from their FA’s to continue R&D for their groups to remain visible in the experiment.

We want to stay in contact with the SPSC who will monitor the progress of the milestones.

There are separate milestones for the facility and we will try to get support from the CERN management for their execution. In the ensuing discussion, the following points were raised.
• An endorsement from the SPSC for our 2015/2016 testbeam requests would be helpful.
• To proceed with the milestones, 2 conditions are required:
  1. A positive recommendation from the SPSC committee. As explained above, we cannot be expected to be asked for TDRs (as this would imply an approval of the experiment), but we want to be requested for a next, “TDR”-like document.
  2. A statement from the CERN management that “it supports a continuation of the R&D to address the key aspects of the facility”.
• Given these conditions are satisfied, the delegates were happy to accept the milestones are described in the Addendum.
  o There is no need to rush with the decision on final technologies where there are multiple options.

3. MoU

The CERN management has made it clear to us that it would be good to start preparing the MoU for the detector construction. Although this is still very preliminary, the aim is to show that we are a serious collaboration of strong groups that are interested in building the detector. Furthermore, it will indicate to the CERN management that the cost of the detector construction does not fall on CERN.

As an example, the contribution from CERN to the construction of LHCb was approximatively 17% (12M CHF out of 73M CHF), corresponding to 80 out of 453 members (17%). It was agreed that the SHiP groups follow the same pattern, i.e. contributions proportional to the proportion of collaboration members. Using this rule, the contribution of CERN would be ~2M CHF.

To continue the work on the draft MoU, Switzerland and Russia volunteered to do a ‘dry’ run, sitting together with their FA’s and the CRB chairman to check informally whether the current draft would be acceptable and that the commitments are realistic.

4. SHiP collaboration meetings in 2016

• 10-12 February, CERN
• 13-15 June, Imperial College, London, UK
• 23-25 November, CERN

There being no further business, the Chairperson closed the meeting.