

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

ICFA SEMINAR ON FUTURE PERSPECTIVES IN HIGH ENERGY PHYSICS, KEK, JAPAN

14 - 20 MAY 1984

1. ICFA

ICFA is the International Committee for Future Accelerators, set up by the IUPAP Particles and Fields Commission in 1976, the first meeting being held in the summer of 1977. (The present membership is given in Annex I.) It arose out of a series of East-West meetings to review future perspectives in high-energy physics which took place at Riga (1967). Semmering (1968), Tbilisi (1969), Morges (1971), New Orleans (1975) and Serpukhov (1976).* At the two last meetings specific recommendations were made which directly led to the establishment of ICFA with the following mandate:

"To organize workshops for the study of problems related to an international super high energy accelerator complex (VBA) and to elaborate the framework of its construction and of its use.

To organize meetings for the exchange of information on future plans of regional facilities and for the formulation of advice on joint studies and uses."

In fact, in the little over six years of its existence (August 1977 to the present), ICFA has been active on the first topic and has organized three workshops, viz:

Two on "Possibilities and Limitations of Accelerators and Detectors" (Fermilab, October 1978 and Les Diablerets, Switzerland, October 1979)

and one on "Possibilities and Limitations for Superconducting Accelerator Magnets (Protvino, USSR, October 1981).

At an ICFA meeting held at Fermilab in August 1983, it was realized that the second task of ICFA as defined above, had been somewhat neglected, especially in view of recent developments of planned and projected accelerators in different regions of the world (e.g. LEP at CERN, UNK in the USSR, the SLC and the Desertron (SSC) proposal in the USA, TRISTAN in Japan). It was therefore decided to postpone a fourth workshop which had been scheduled to take place at the Japanese National Laboratory of High Energy Physics (KEK) in May 1984 and instead to organize a Seminar on "Future Perspectives in High Energy Physics", along similar lines to those held earlier, and particularly that of New Orleans in 1975.

2. The 1984 Seminar

To draw up the scientific programme for this Seminar, ICFA held a special "extended" meeting at CERN on 21 and 22 November 1983, and to which a number of senior scientists were invited (See Annex II for a list of participants). The programme that they drew up is attached as Tables 1 of Annex III, which is largely self-explanatory. The basic aim of the Seminar is to conclude with some specific recommendations being formulated by ICFA to lead to more international and interregional collaboration, not only in carrying out experiments (where it is well developed), but also in accelerator research and development work and in accelerator design and construction. These recommendations would be sent to the major high energy laboratories in the world as well as to appropriate funding agencies and other official bodies concerned with the support of elementary particle physics.

The Seminar will be limited to about 80 participants, being 15 - 20 per region, chosen by the ICFA members of the region concerned and meant to include theoretical and experimental physicists, accelerator specialists,

laboratory directors and a few appropriate officials. In view of the time scale under discussion, i.e. the next 10 to 20 years, it is hoped that some of the participants will be under 40 years of age.

* For details of the early history, see E.L. Goldwasser, Proceedings of the 19th International Conference on High Energy Physics, p. 961, (1978), Tokyo.