Associate Agreement between the National Science Centre (Poland) and ASPERA-2

Preamble

ASPERA-2 is an ERA-NET, established under Contract n° 235489 with the European Commission for a three-year period starting July 1, 2009. The work plan of ASPERA-2 is set out in Annex I of the Contract (*Description of Work*). Both of these documents foresee the addition of new partners during the project period at various levels, including that of Associate.

Purpose of This Agreement

Following the approval of the ASPERA-2 Governing Board the purpose of this Agreement is to define the conditions for the inclusion in ASPERA-2 of the organisation described below, hereinafter referred to as "The Associate".

Definition and Obligations of the Associate

Associates in ASPERA-2 are national or regional funding agencies with a major responsibility for funding astroparticle physics research in their country or region. The Associate commits itself to apply its best effort to support the goals of ASPERA-2 as described in Annex I of the ASPERA-2 contract. The Associate will also contribute to ASPERA-2's activities aiming to establish more transparent and coordinated statistical information on and planning and management of the financial and human resources of European astroparticle physics. The associate is also welcome to join the common activities laid out in Annex I.

Rights of the Associate

The Associate has access to all internal ASPERA-2 documents and is entitled to participate in all ASPERA-2 activities while respecting such plans and schedules as are defined at the time of its joining ASPERA-2. The Associate is also entitled to be represented at the ASPERA-2 Governing Board meetings, as observer for the Board closed session, and with speaking rights, but without voting rights, for the Board open sessions.

Financial conditions

The Associate may limit its contribution to its own human resources. The Associate will not itself administrate funds from the Contract, but cash expenses for its participation in ASPERA-2 activities may be refunded by the other Polish ASPERA-2 partner NCBiR within the limits of the approved budget.

Confidentiality

All information regarding the structure, set up and technical content of the project is confidential and may not be disclosed to third parties without approval of the disclosing party.