Statement of Support for the European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers adopted by the European Commission

At the EIROforum General Assembly in Grenoble, on 15 November 2006, the Directors General, or equivalent, of the seven major European Intergovernmental Research Organisations considered the Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers, on the basis of a report prepared by their experts on Human Resources.

As a key stakeholder of the European Research Area, EIROforum:

- welcomes the initiative of the European Commission, aiming at the development of a sustainable and attractive labour market for researchers in Europe in order to strengthen the European Research Area,

- notes with satisfaction the high level of compliance with the guidelines of the Charter and the Code in the EIROforum organisations, where most of the recommendations are implemented and part of internal practice,

- recognises the value of all forms of mobility as a means for enhancing the professional development of researchers and considers that the mobility of researchers is one of the strengths of the EIROforum organisations where international recruitment and/or mobility, on the basis of excellence, is part of their mission,

- considers that in order to be applicable within the EIROforum organisations some of the recommendations require further discussion.

The EIROforum organisations, willing to contribute to the success of the European Research Area, as well as to the career development and international mobility of researchers:

- support collectively the general principles contained in the Charter and the Code, and

- will endeavour individually, where appropriate, to implement recommendations that have not yet been undertaken, or which could be improved within their own organisations.
The implementation of the recommendations of the Charter and the Code of Conduct will be done in full compliance with the relevant intergovernmental conventions and agreements, staff rules and regulations, applicable to each of the EIROforum organisations.

Signed in Grenoble, on 15 November 2006.

Robert Aymar
Director General of CERN

Catherine Cesarsky
Director General of ESO

Francesco Romanelli
EFDA Associate Leader for JET

William G. Stirling
Director General of ESRF

Iain Mattaj
Director General of EMBL

Richard Wagner
Director ILL

David Southwood
ESA Science Director