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DEVELOPMENT OF THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA: PROMOTING COLLABORATION WITH THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION'S JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE AND SWITZERLAND

Information Event, Eawag, Dübendorf, Switzerland,

16 March 2007

This event will present recent achievements and future plans of the Joint Research Centre (JRC) to Swiss entities from academia, industry and administration. The intention is to encourage dialogue, identify potentially interested partners and pave the way for further collaboration within the 7th Framework Programme. Following the successful outcome of previous Framework Programme, Switzerland is in the process of becoming associated to the 7th Framework Programme, which runs from 2007 to 2013. A part of the Framework Programme consists of "direct" actions where the JRC performs, in close collaboration with European research organisations, research activities in support of the European policymaking process, within its own research labs.

The mission of the European Commission's Directorate General Joint Research Centre (JRC) is to provide customer-driven scientific and technical support for the conception, development, implementation and monitoring of EU policies. Through specialised Institutes in five countries, the largest of which is in Ispra near the Swiss border with Ticino, the JRC supports European policymakers to acquire the scientific and technological know-how needed to implement and develop further the body of EU law. The European Commission's European Research Area initiative enables the JRC to consolidate this role through increased networking with research organisations both inside and outside the EU. The JRC provides support for a wide range of topics that are of direct concern to European policies and citizens. These topics are broadly related to safety and security issues within three core areas: *environment and sustainability; food, chemical products and health and nuclear safety and safeguards*. These core areas are reinforced by three horizontal competencies: *reference materials and measurements; public security and antifraud and technology foresight*.

The event will be organised at Eawag's new headquarter building "Forum Chriesbach" which is among the winners of the Solar Prize 2006 as an energy-efficient building.

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

16 March 2007

**Eawag, Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology
Forum Chriesbach, Überlandstrasse 133, CH – 8600 Dübendorf (Zurich), Switzerland**

09.30 – 10.00 **Registration and welcome coffee**

10.00 – 10.50 **Opening Session**

Moderator: Jean-Pierre Ruder, Swiss Representative in the JRC Board of Governors

Charles Kleiber, State Secretary for Education and Research
Roland Schenkel, Director General, Joint Research Centre
Janet Hering, Professor and Director, Eawag, Dübendorf
Johannes Kaufmann, Director Strategy, ETH Board, Zurich

10.50 – 12.00 **Examples of potential collaboration**

Water Quality and Intercalibration

Anna Stiina Heiskanen, Action Leader, JRC-IES
Rik Eggen, Professor and Deputy Director of Eawag

Solar Energy and Energy Efficiency

Heinz Ossenbrink, Head of Unit, Renewable Energies, JRC-IES
Aldo Steinfeld, Professor Renewable Energy Carriers, ETH Zurich and Head of Solar
Technology Laboratory, Paul Scherrer Institut, Villigen

12.00 – 13.00 **Lunch Break**

13.00 – 14.45 **Examples of ongoing collaboration**

Monitoring Landslides and Avalanches

Joaquim Fortuny Guash, Action Leader, JRC-IPSC
Jakob Rhyner, Head research unit Warning and Prevention, WSL/SLF, Davos

GMO in food and feed

Marco Mazzara, Community Reference Laboratory on GMO, JRC-IHCP
Christof Sautter, Professor, Institute of Plant Sciences, ETH Zurich

Nuclear Energy

Didier Haas, Head of Unit, JRC-ITU
Jean-Marc Cavedon, Head, Department of Nuclear Energy and Safety, Paul Scherrer
Institute, Villigen

14.45 – 15.15 **The Way Forward**

Practical aspects for collaboration between JRC and Switzerland
Giancarlo Caratti, Head of Unit, JRC-ISR
Sasha Hugentobler, JRC National Contact Point, Euresearch

15.15 – 15.30 **Closing**

Logistical organisers

Annina von Muralt
ETH-Board
Haeldeliweg 15
CH-8092 Zurich
Phone: +41 44 632 75 78
Fax: +41 44 632 14 10
www.ethrat.ch
vonmuralt@ethrat.ch

Jane Muncke
Eawag
Ueberlandstrasse 133
CH-8600 Dubendorf
Phone: +41 44 823 55 35
Fax: +41 44 823 75 78
www.eawag.ch
jane.muncke@eawag.ch

Swiss Representative in the JRC Board of Governors

Jean-Pierre Ruder
State Secretariat for Education and Research SER
Head of the Multilateral Research Cooperation
CH - 3003 Berne - Switzerland
Phone: +41 31 322 96 95
<http://www.sbf.admin.ch/>

JRC National Contact Point for Switzerland

Sasha Hugentobler
National Contact Point (NCP) for Health and JRC
Euresearch Head Office, P.O. Box 7924
CH-3001 Bern
Phone: +41 31 380 60 06
Fax: +41 31 380 60 03
www.euresearch.ch
sasha.hugentobler@euresearch.ch

JRC Organisation

Giancarlo Caratti, Head of Unit
Cynthia Dennis, PR Unit
Directorate for Institutional and Scientific Relations
European Commission, Joint Research Centre
SDME 10/44 – B – 1049 Brussels
Phone +32 2 296 81 02
cynthia.dennis@ec.europa.eu

Information on the DG JRC can be found at:

<http://www.jrc.cec.eu.int> (general information)

<http://projects.jrc.cec.eu.int> (projects)