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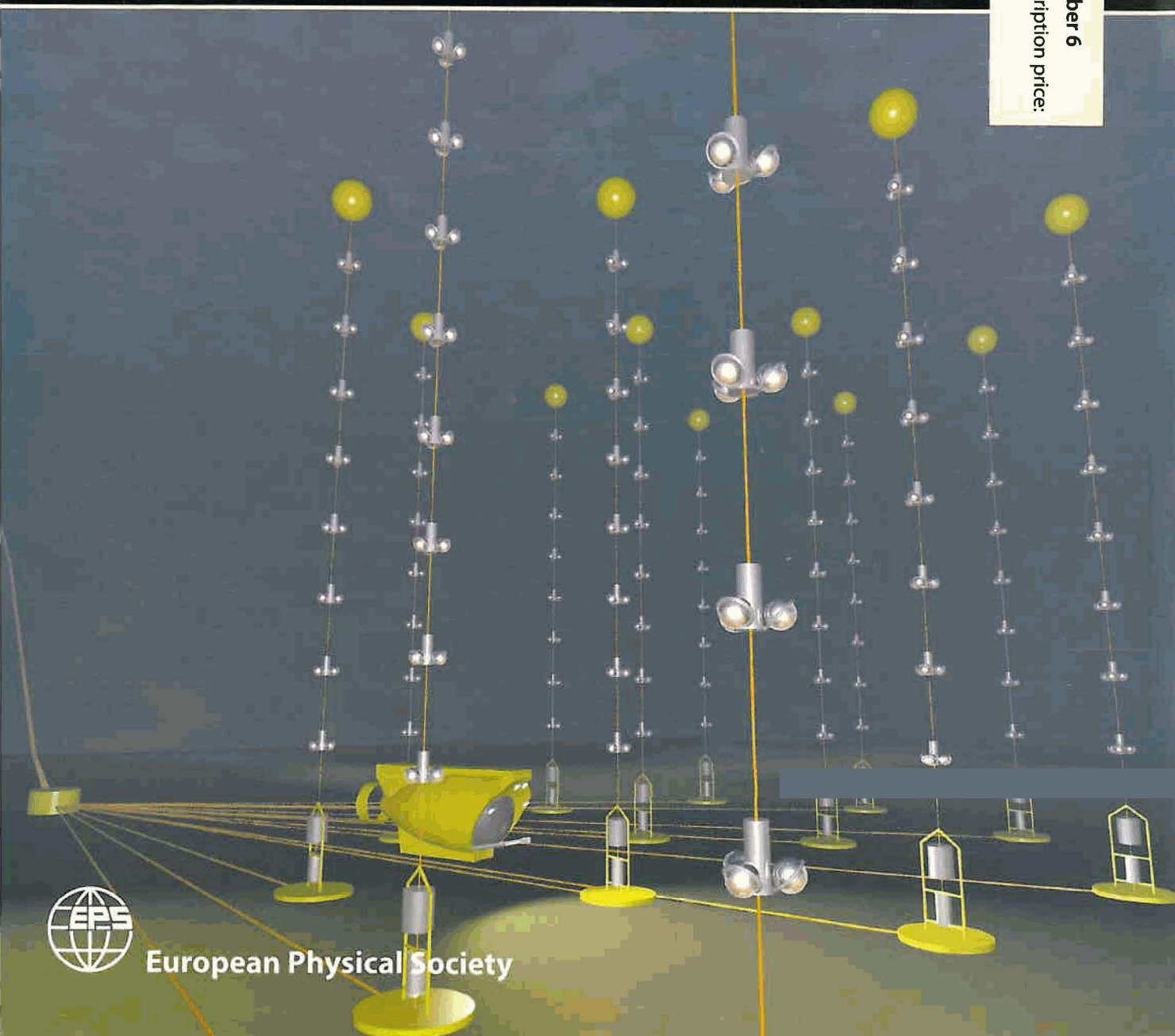
37/6

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Iberian-Rmerican Federation of Physical Societies

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The Council of the “Federación Iberoamericana de Sociedades de Física” (FEIASOFI) was held in Madrid (Spain), from 20 to 22 of September. This was the first General Assembly, bringing together presidents and representatives from the physical societies of the Latin-American countries plus Portugal and Spain. Although representatives from the entire region were not present, e.g. the presidents of Brazil and Paraguay had an important problem just at the last minute, those present, from fourteen countries, were able to establish several agreements to start the normal life of the Federation. This meeting was supported jointly by two Governmental Spanish institutions: the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) and the Spanish Foundation of Science and Technology (FECYT); and was also supported by a Spanish private institution, the BBVA Foundation.

The Federation is a not-for-profit association whose purpose is to promote physics and physicists in Iberoamérica. The first name of this federation was “Unión Iberoamericana de Sociedades de Física” (UISF), and it was created in 1996 by the president of the Federation of the Latin-American Physical Societies, and the presidents of the Spanish Royal Physical Society and the Portuguese Physical Societies. In September 2005, in La Plata (Argentina), the representatives of the different physical societies decided to approve a Constitution and they changed the name in order to stress the continuity of the Fed-

eration of the Latinamerican physical societies. The last meeting of UISF was held in Madrid in December of 2003, where also the president of EPS, Prof. Martin Huber and the International Coordinator of WYP2005 and past president of EPS, Prof. Martial Ducloy participated.

In this first Council of FEIASOFI, during the three days, we have accepted the creation of the first four divisions: Atomic, Molecular and Cluster Physics Division; Condensed Matter Division; Education in Physics Division; Statistical and Nonlinear Physics Division. We have decided also to establish the permanent seat in Montevideo (Uruguay) and it will be registered as a society in this country, but it will have also a second provisional seat in Madrid (Spain). Several scientific activities, such as schools, workshops and conferences will be supported and promoted by the Federation. In particular, a school in Medical Physics will be organized by the executive committee in Guatemala in 2007. FEIASOFI will also support several programs such as “Science on Stage: “New Talents in Physics” and the Iberoamerican Physical Olympiad. It was clear for all the participants, that a strong effort will be necessary to promote education in physics at all levels, because it constitutes an important step to strengthen physics in the region. Another important decision was taken about the official journal of FEIASOFI “Revista Iberoamericana de Física” that was first published in Madrid in 2005, and from now will continue to be published every six months.



An official presentation in the palace “Casa de America” in Madrid the 21st of September 2006. In the table from the left: Actual President of the Spanish Royal Physical Society, Prof. Antonio Fernandez-Rahada. Representative of the Spanish International Cooperation Agency, D^a Monica Ruiz. President of the FEIASOFI, Prof. Gerardo Delgado-Barrio. General Secretary of FEIASOFI, Prof. Raul Grigera and President of The Spanish Foundation of Science and Technology, Prof. Joan Comella.

All the Council meetings were held in the main building of the CSIC, apart from the official presentation of the Federation that was in the palace of “Casa de América” on the 21st, and the last session that was held in the seat of the BBVA Foundation on the 22nd. Several invited representatives of the CSIC, FECYT, and BBVA Foundation have also participated in the Council.

Finally, a very important goal for this Federation is to establish, not only a very strong collaboration among the physical societies in Iberoamerica, but also with APS and EPS. As a first step the federation has invited the APS and the EPS to participate in the Council.



◀ all the presidents and representatives of the physical societies that have participated in this 2006 General Assembly of the FEIASOFI, plus the representative of the EPS Prof. Victor Velasco and several members of the Spanish Royal Physical Society, in particular the Secretary of this Society Prof. Antonio Dobado.