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Foundation meeting of the European Proteomics Organisation – EuPO

At the start of the sixth Siena Proteomics meeting (29th August 2004), European representatives from 12 national European proteomics organisations met to found the European Proteome Organisation – EuPO – committed to the field of proteomics. The initiative was motivated by a common will from national societies to join forces and reach a ‘critical mass’ necessary to promote Proteomics as a scientific discipline throughout Europe, and to enhance the services offered to the members of these national societies.

The primary objectives of EuPO are to promote proteomic activities throughout Europe, emphasising the benefits and contribution of proteomics to biological researchers, industry, the general public and politicians. Other areas where the organisation feels activities could help are the promotion of scientific exchange in all areas of biological research, and the consolidation and coordination of duplicate activities by national organisations.

Europe-wide there was strong interest and enthusiasm to form a united organisation that would coordinate initiatives with all countries interested in applying proteomic technologies for biological research. Organisations from countries that have agreed to take part in formation of EuPO include those from: Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, Holland, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. Other European national organisations will also be welcomed as they are formed.

Currently, Garry Corthals, Friederich Lottspeich and Jean-Charles Sanchez have been appointed as the strategic committee to take on the task of drafting an outline that declares EuPO’s objectives and activities. The next meeting for the EuPO member states will be during the Spanish Society of Proteomics (SEProt) inaugural meeting in February 2005, in Córdoba, Spain, to vote on its future directions and to discuss immediate and long-term activities.

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