

12 February 2008

ICFA Statement on Funding for the Linear Collider

The International Committee for Future Accelerators, ICFA, created to facilitate international collaboration in the construction and use of accelerators for high energy physics, expresses its deepest concern about the recent decisions in the United Kingdom and the United States of America on spending for long-term international science projects.

Carrying out frontier science relies increasingly on stable international partnerships, since the scientific and technical challenges can only be met by enabling outstanding men and women of science from around the world to collaborate, and by joining forces to provide the resources they need to succeed.

A good example is the proposed International Linear Collider. In order to advance the understanding of the innermost structure of matter and the early development of the universe, several thousand particle physicists and accelerator scientists around the world, during the past 15 years, have coordinated their work on developing the technologies necessary to make a Linear Collider feasible.

In view of these tightly interlinked efforts, inspired and driven by the scientific potential of the Linear Collider, the sudden cuts implemented by two partner countries have devastating effects. ICFA feels an obligation to make policy makers aware of the need for stability in the support of major international science efforts. It is important for all governments to find ways to maintain the trust needed to move forward international scientific endeavours.

For Background see: http://www.fnal.gov/directorate/icfa/icfa_LCstatement0204.html