

N A T O



O T A N

SERVICE DE PRESSE

PRESS SERVICE

NATO/OTAN, 1110 Brussels/Bruxelles • Tel.: 728 41 11 - Telex: 25-599

PRESS RELEASE (95)23

Telefax/Télécopieurs: 728 50 57 - 728 50 58

20 March 1995

**MEETING OF THE NATO SCIENCE COMMITTEE WITH COOPERATION
PARTNERS IN BUDAPEST - 23-24 March, 1995**

On March 23-24 the NATO Science Committee will hold its annual meeting with Cooperation Partners in Budapest, Hungary. This represents the first formal gathering of the NATO Science Committee in a country outside the NATO Alliance. All of NATO's Cooperation Partners, i.e. countries that once comprised the Warsaw Treaty Organization, are expected to send representatives. In addition, Finland and Sweden will send observers.

The meeting will be chaired by the NATO Assistant Secretary General for Scientific and Environmental Affairs, Dr. Jean-Marie Cadiou. Nations will be represented by leaders of academies of science, state committees on science and technology, ministries of science and senior academic officials. Hungarian representation is expected to include Mr. László Pál, Hungary's Minister of Industry and Trade and Dr. István Bihari, Chairman of the Council of the National Committee for Technological Development.

Participants will exchange information about NATO's programme of scientific cooperation and will discuss how scientific and technological infrastructures once built up to meet defence needs, can now be put to effective use in the civilian sector. Leading the latter discussion will be Mr. Lajos Nyiri, President of Hungary's National Committee for Technological Development, Mr. Andrey G. Fonotov, First Deputy Minister of Science and Technology of the Russian Federation, Mrs. Pauline Newman, Circuit Judge, United States Court of Appeals and Dr. Hans Ambos, Senior Vice President, of Daimler-Benz Aerospace AG.

NATO cooperative programmes in science are currently concentrated on questions related to (1) the dismantlement and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, (2) environmental security including the reclamation of contaminated military sites and cleanup technologies, (3) the transfer of military science and technology to the civilian sector, (4) science policy and (5) computer networking.

Last year over 1500 scientists from Cooperation Partner countries participated in the various seminars and collaborative research activities sponsored under this Programme. Cooperation Partner scientists, some of whom came from the once "secret cities" of the former Soviet Union, were able to work with colleagues in Western Europe and North America in a way that was either very difficult or even impossible during the cold war.

Young scientists also benefitted from the Programme which has allowed over 240 scientists from Cooperation Partners NATO to study in each other's countries.

The meeting is supported by the NATO Division of Scientific and Environmental Affairs. Journalists wishing more information on this meeting should call +32 2 728-4207.