

same time, a new Agreement for Cooperation in Nuclear Research was signed. The administration of the Agreement for Scientific and Technological Cooperation is the responsibility of a Joint Science and Technology Cooperation Committee (JSTCC) whose functions are to promote and review joint activities, advise on ways to enhance cooperation, provide an annual report on the level, status and effectiveness of cooperation and review the efficient and effective functioning of the Agreement. The first JSTCC meeting took place in Brussels, in January 1997, and the second took place in Ottawa, in June 1998. The next meeting will take place in Brussels, on May 23, 2000. Cooperation in nuclear research will be discussed the following day.

5. Opportunities for Canada

The European Fifth Framework Programme is itself a \$25 billion opportunity for stimulating new European research, not counting that 90 percent of European research takes place in a variety of other contexts. The international role and dimension of European public research efforts has been reiterated and confirmed under FP5, with the result that publicly funded European consortia can cooperate with researchers from non-European countries such as Canada.

At the end of 1998, more than a hundred research initiatives involving Canadians and Europeans were tabulated. There are Canadians involved in a dozen of European FP5 consortia formed in 1999. The level of Canadian participation in the 1999 calls for FP5 proposals is in keeping with that observed under FP4, but our success rate is lower. Difficulty in securing Canadian funding was reported by many Canadian applicants.

Both the Government of Canada and the European Commission promote research collaboration between Canada and Europe. Among provincial governments, the most active has been the Government of Quebec. All the details have been published on CORDIS. The equivalent of \$5 million has been set aside for special International Cooperation (INCO) calls to stimulate European cooperation with emerging economies and industrialised countries that have a scientific cooperation agreement with the EU. To our knowledge no one in Canada has applied yet. See <http://www.cordis.lu/inco2/calls/199909.htm>

In the last year, the US has succeeded in establishing a better track record of collaboration with the EU than Canada. With support of the Department of State, the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Energy and other US government agencies, several "implementing arrangements" have been concluded, joint conferences and workshops organised and "joint calls for proposals" launched. The Europeans have announced recently that they will fund a transatlantic Euro-link for broadband communications across the Atlantic, thereby making it easier for researchers on both shores of the Atlantic to work together.

With Canada at the apex of the transatlantic triangle it forms with the EU and US, what should its science and technology policy objectives be in order to maximise benefits? How can it maintain the right balance between the EU and US?