



CLAF-MCTI High-Level Seminar (05/12/2025)

SIGNING CEREMONY ULISSES BARRES DE ALMEIDA

I would like to say just a few words before we proceed with the signing ceremony of the CLAF-CNPq agreement for Latin American research scholarships.

The CLAF-CNPq scholarship scheme was a traditional programme that existed for almost 30 years, between the 1990s up until the previous decade. This programme directly contributed to the training and formation of over 100 postdoctoral researchers and around 50 PhDs from 15 countries across Latin America. The last scholarship of the programme was concluded in 2017 and since then we have been hoping for an opportunity to restart the cooperation, to continue to respond to the growing latent demand for regional research scholarships in physics.

Almost a decade since the last scholarship was granted, it is therefore a great satisfaction to be here for the relaunching of this programme, as it lies right at the heart of what we are hoping to build when we talk about CLAF as an instrument for the active promotion of regional integration in physics research.

I would like to remark that I also hope that the restart of the CLAF-CNPq programme be a first instance, serving as a regional example, and that in the short term other similar actions can be created with other countries and agencies, so to produce a coordinated network of mobility actions focused on contributing to the integration of physics research in Latin America, especially in



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areas considered strategic for the development of capacities by countries of the region.

So, I am very happy that today we are signing this instrument, and I believe it is also a satisfaction for CNPq, which historically is one of the institutions that most supported CLAF and its programs.

So, thank you, Prof. Olival Freire Junior, and also to Prof. Ricardo Galvão and the team of CNPq, who have made possible for this to become a reality, recognizing the role that CLAF can continue to play in contributing to the development of Physics in Latin America today.

Thank you.