



Centro Latinoamericano de Física
Centre Latino-Américain de Physique
Centro Latino-Americano de Física



CLAF / MCTI High-Level Seminar

*“Opportunities for the Latin-American Participation and
Cooperation in Astroparticle Physics and the SWGO
Project”*

20 April 2023, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Closing and Way Forward
Ulisses Barres de Almeida

Esteemed Participants,

I believe that the different contributions that have been shared in this meeting, not only give us a broad overview of the status and relevance of Astroparticle Physics in Latin America, but through examples from other areas of scientific research, demonstrate the great potential that is linked to multi-lateral science collaboration, specially in large international projects at the forefront of knowledge and technology.

They also lead to the definition of the work programme to be undertaken by the CLAF Astroparticle Physics Unit, and all interested stakeholders, as we head towards the establishment of SWGO as the next global science experiment in the Region.

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Of particular relevance are the many possibilities, beyond the scientific studies, for technological development and innovation, education, and greater regional integration, that can result as by-products from such major projects.

In summary, a strong and sustained multi-lateral collaboration within the Region can greatly multiply the benefits and returns of the involvement of our individual countries in large international projects.

For this reason, one of the main objectives of this meeting was to present, mostly through examples, how occasions such as provided by the SWGO project should be seen as opportunities for strengthening Regional Collaboration. Which in turn is exactly the purpose of CLAF.

Questions such as access to STEM education and technological development, are extremely relevant to motivate and justify the involvement in large international science projects, and we have seen how this can play out in practice.

In this context, regional multi-lateral collaboration is a key ingredient to enhance the potential and multiply the benefits resulting from such major scientific enterprises.

An integrated regional participation in projects such as SWGO is therefore crucial if we wish to extract the most from this opportunity, and not only effectively tackle common issues for the Continent, but better achieve the specific goals of each of the countries involved.

After two decades of global-scale Astroparticle Physics experiments, and many more decades of research in the field in Latin America, the region is now mature, from the scientific, technological and human resources point of view, to

engage at a higher level in the new initiatives, and help lead the future of the field. But an integrated participation across the continent is key to achieve this goal.

In the way forward from this event, we hope to continue engaged as a group in the discussions towards securing a large scale and sustained Latin American participation in SWGO and Astroparticle Physics research.

As new occasions present themselves, the CLAF Astroparticle Physics Unit will seek to propose renewed debates targeting the four pillars of this participation: regional science partnerships, technological development, capacity building and education, and society outreach.

Once again, thank you very much for your participation and contribution, and we hope to see you again in a next opportunity.