

ACFA Statement on the BELLE Collaboration at KEKB Collider

The 4th ACFA Statement was issued on April 16, 1999 at the 4th ACFA meeting.

The Asian Committee for Future Accelerator (ACFA) met at the Center for Advanced Technology in Indore, India on April 15-16, 1999. ACFA appreciates that remarkable progress has been made in KEKB project at KEK High Energy Accelerator Research Organization in Japan. It realized that KEKB electron-positron colliding accelerator is about to be commissioned for data acquisition beginning from May 1999. ACFA believes that the outcome of KEKB will open a new window for mankind's quest for one of the fundamental mysteries of the Nature concerning the creation of our Universe.

ACFA also notes that the BELLE collaboration utilizing KEKB accelerator consists of nearly 300 scientists from 49 institutions and 10 regions including Australia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Philippine, Poland, Russia, Taiwan and USA. ACFA realized that it is presently the largest and most advanced high energy physics project in Asian region. It has noticed the TRISTAN accelerator project prior to KEKB helped building strong infrastructure of Asian high energy physics community and provided substantial workforce for KEKB. Likewise ACFA is convinced that the successful operation of KEKB would undoubtedly produce many talented physicists in Asia region which are in definite need for next collider project, Linear Collider.

ACFA notices, however, that KEKB/BELLE faces strong competition around the world in the race for search of new physical phenomena and satisfactory operation of KEKB/BELLE for the next three years is a critical requirement. ACFA wishes to urge governments in Asian region that the BELLE groups are adequately supported from their own governments for timely cooperation in this scientific venture. ACFA also wishes to urge KEK to undertake a supplementary program of providing living expenses to the BELLE collaborators who do not happen to be timely funded from their own funding agencies.