



RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS

INFN-ITHEMBA AGREEMENT SIGNED IN CAPE TOWN

On April 2nd, INFN [the Italian Institute for Nuclear Physics] and the National Research Foundation (NRF) signed a Memorandum of Understanding with iThemba Laboratory for Accelerator Based Science in Cape Town, South Africa. The agreement reaffirms the long collaboration between INFN and the principal South African nuclear physics research laboratory but is also more broadly important in representing a significant new step for scientific cooperation between Italy and South Africa. In fact, the agreement constitutes an important milestone for the collaboration between iThemba and INFN (with its Legnaro and Southern National Laboratories) in the field of nuclear physics and its applications. The focus is especially on research into nuclear astrophysics, the planning and development of facilities for the production of unstable nuclear beams, and biomedical applications, such as the production of new radioisotopes for medicine, radiobiology, and particle therapy. INFN's president, Fernando Ferroni, and iThemba's director, Faiçal Azaiez, signed the collaboration agreement in the presence of the Italian consul Emanuele Pollio; the NRF's executive director for strategic collaboration, Aldo Stroebe; INFN's vice president, Eugenio Nappi; and the directors of INFN's Legnaro and Southern National Laboratories, Diego Bettoni and Giacomo Cuttone. ■