



IGWN

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PATH TO IGWN

- Consensus regarding the concept of a unified organization, but there are notable concerns about the practical implementation, particularly from international partners outside the US, including LSC members from the UK, Spain, and other countries

- “Sensitive topics”:
 - **Single governance.** While having a unified governance offers efficiency benefits in decision-making and overall coordination, it’s essential to acknowledge that IGWN will operate four detectors across three continents, each with its distinct funding and stakeholder landscape
 - **The concept of “Laboratory group”** which is “tailored” around the LIGO lab organization and the implementation of which is not obvious in Virgo
 - **The different organization of scientific research in the US, Europe and Japan** must be considered
 - The **timeline** that is considered too aggressive

PATH TO IGWN

➤ Motion approved by the LSC Council:

The LSC Council extends the current LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) through 31 May 2026.

After that date, any collaboration between LIGO, Virgo, and KAGRA will need to be defined by a structure substantially different from the current MoA

➤ The proposed charge for the IGWN formation committee leaves ample room for negotiation

➤ Funding agencies are starting to talk

- Chat of GG with Pedro Marronetti
- Bilateral INFN-NSF meeting
- Presentation at GWAC meeting, end of May
- Possibly, meeting of a “subset of GWAC” in the summer (at or after the DAWN meeting)

➤ My proposal/recommendation:

- Let’s accept that we have to move from the current structure of the LVK MoA
- Let’ accept the principle that going towards “IGWN” can be a positive evolution
- Let’s keep open the communication channel, and let’s try to formalize “something” that goes in this direction

PATH TO IGWN

- Appointment of the IGWN Formation Committee:
 - Gemme, Carpinelli, **Barsuglia**, Carbognani, **Fafone**, Freise, Martinez, **Van Den Broeck**

- Next f2f meeting: before DAWN, 10-11 June, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, <https://dawn7.phas.ubc.ca/>

- Documents
 - [“Essence of IGWN”](#) document available, open for comments
 - [Presentation](#) at LVK plenary
 - [Draft charge of the IGWN Formation Committee](#), open for comments from VSC members