Dear Colleagues,

DG, CSIR has decided to adopt Open Access policy in CSIR. As a follow-up of this policy, following mandate has been drawn up. This mandate is posted here to invite the comments of CSIR scientific community before it is formally implemented. Kindly note that we are aware that there will be some teething troubles with the publishers but a committee will ensure that these troubles are minimized and scientists are least inconvenienced. The committee will draw up the guidelines and bring out a handbook listing step by step procedure on how to implement this mandate. Scientific community will be kept informed about developments on a regular basis.

Your feedback on this document may be sent to me at my email hirwani@urdip.res.in before 5th May 2011.

R.R.Hirwani
Chairman

CSIR OPEN ACCESS MANDATE

1. All research papers published from all CSIR laboratories and supported by a grant from CSIR will be made open access either by depositing the full-text and the metadata of each paper in an institutional repository or by publishing the papers in an open access journals in the first place.

2. Each CSIR laboratory will set up its own interoperable institutional open access repositories for research papers, electronic thesis and dissertations. CSIR-URDIP will set up a central harvester which would harvest the full-text and metadata of all these papers/documents.

3. CSIR and its constituent laboratories publish number of journals. All the CSIR journals published by NISCAIR have been made open access. Progressively, all CSIR publications will be made open access.

4. CSIR-NISCAIR will organize training programmes: (a) for scientists to change their perceptions towards open access (b) for editors and journal production officers of CSIR and other scientific agencies and (b) for personnel from CSIR laboratories who would be setting up institutional repositories.

5. Every year each CSIR will celebrate "Open Access Day" during the International Open Access Week (http://www.openaccessweek.org/) by organizing sensitizing lectures, programmes, taking new OA initiatives, publicizing the statistics of downloads, etc.

6. If the publishers do not follow transparent models of subscription/licensing the content, CSIR scientists will not publish in the journals, will not review the papers and will not join the editorial boards of the journals of those publishers.

7. CSIR will lead the Open Access moment within the country and take on board other scientific agencies to form a National Open Access Policy including legislation if necessary to mandate the availability of output of publicly funded research in public domain.

8. CSIR will create a portal/database of the information resources subscribed by all the institutions along with a federated search engine to effectively share the resources.

To ensure that the concept of open access is really accepted and implemented, a committee of following persons is formed to make an appropriate action plan, draw timelines and if required negotiate with publishers the authors posting rights and institutional archival rights in consonance with above open access mandate.

1. Dr.R.R.Hirwani, Head, URDIP   Chairman
2. Dr.G.Radhakrishnan, CSIR HQ
3. Dr.M.P.Tapaswi, NIO
4. Dr. (Ms.) Poornima Narayana, NAL
5. Ms.P. Nishy,NISCAIR   Convener

Each laboratory will fund the hardware required for above purpose from the budget sanctioned for IT infrastructure augmentation under Budget Head P-26 (ICT) and Research Interns may be deployed for the population of repositories. The above committee is authorized to monitor the progress of implementation at each laboratory and link the access to information resources such as CSIR e-Journals Consortium to the implementation of open access mandate.