

# Minutes from 14<sup>th</sup> RC LACE SAC Meeting

Prague, 17<sup>th</sup> September 2002

Participants:

Jozef Vivoda	Slovakia, representative, SAC Chairman
Radmila Brozkova	PL of RC LACE
Jure Jerman	Slovenia
Thomas Haiden	Austria, PSO of RC LACE
Yong Wang	Austria, representative
Dijana Klaric	Croatia, representative
Martin Janoušek	CZ, representative
Jean Francois Geleyn	France, NWP partner
Gabor Radnoti	Hungary, representative

Notices taken by Dijana Klaric during SAC Meeting. Minutes prepared by Dijana Klaric and Jozef Vivoda.

## **1. Opening of the Meeting**

SAC Chairman, Jozef Vivoda opened 14<sup>th</sup> SAC Meeting and dispatched the topic relevant documents.

## **2. Adoption of the Agenda**

Jean Francois Geleyn proposed the changing the positions of the Items 5 and 6 (Overview of available experts from Institutes and ALADIN results from forecaster point of view). He had suggested that the session about the Management Group candidates for the next LACE period would be discussed among LACE participants only.

SAC adopted the new order between the Agenda items.

## **3. New Memorandum of Understanding**

Jozef Vivoda proposed to the SAC that the discussion about the draft of the next RC LACE MoU should be focused at the missing and unclear parts of the document. So far, only Austrian Deputy director Fritz Neuwirth has sent some comments about the first draft of the MoU to the Project Leader. Therefore, Radmila Brozkova was asked to present the comments and modifications related to the Austrian remarks.

Radmila Brozkova pointed out that the MoU was prepared according the proposal of 13<sup>th</sup> SAC Meeting as it was presented by Jozef Vivoda at 14th Council meeting at Cavtat. The proposal was judged as the very clear and successful by all directors and according to that document Council created the working group (Radmila Brozkova, Jure Jerman, Diana Klaric) with the task to create the proposal for the next MoU.

## **"Pro-forma"**

The several terms in the general part of the MoU were commented. PL commented that "pro-forma" should summarize the preparatory steps and documentation necessary for the organization of the R&D stays.

Decision: PL would define „Pro-forma“ with the help of WGLs, as the first task for the future MG. R&D proposals should obey the minimum set of common presentation rules defined as template.

## **Overlap of the Terms of References of Project Leader, Working Group Leaders, Steering Committee and Steering Committee Chairman**

The Previous SAC meeting introduced the Terms of References for Management Group and the hierarchy among the positions. Project Leader explained that some overlap between the Terms of References is just in the aim to underline the importance of the coordination at the horizontal and vertical direction. According to suggestions, the term "control" would be replaced by "follow" in MoU. Some overlapping sentences at Management Group Term of References would be erased from MoU.

It was pointed out that Steering Committee has the leading role in the future RC LACE. The members of the Steering Committee should be nominated among the most experienced persons with NWP background.

Decision: The Steering Committee is advisory body that evaluate and monitor all aspects of RC LACE Project activities and voluntary contributions of local R&D activities. Steering Committee reports the quality of the Project to the Council, according to the documents prepared by Management Group.

## **Mechanism to control Aladin System Coordinator (ASC)**

Project Leader explained the main objectives of Terms of References of ASC. In the new organization ASC position would be even more important than today. Apart from the ASC position, every service would have the obligation to keep the ALADIN version of the code not older than one main version.

Conclusion: ASC would work at the phasing issues at the Meteo-France and at home Service with possibility of remote work at other member's Services. In the case of emergency ASC would help by visiting the other Services for the period not longer than 2 weeks per country. Host would cover the travel cost, accommodation and per-diem for the ASC visits to the Services.

## **Salaries of new Management Group**

Project Leader proposed the new Management Group Salaries scheme with an aim to meet the two needs:

- To decrease the Common LACE Budget by keeping the part of the Salaries as direct contribution of the home Services

- to define the part of the salaries as the "prime" to the LACE activities added to the salaries.

Some questions were raised about the election procedure and duration of the contracts of the Management Group positions. All Management Group positions should be approved or nominated every year at the Council Meeting. As the proposed MoU would last for the three years, it would be proper to allow the prolongation of the contracts for the every position at the Management Group to the same period.

The following scheme for the “effective salary” was proposed with an aim to motivate the candidates and the Services to nominate the candidates.

$$S = \max [ A + \alpha C, \beta C + ((1 - \beta) / (1 - \alpha)) A ]$$

A = home salary; C = LACE salary

- Where the coefficients are  $\alpha < \beta < 1$  ( $\alpha, \beta$ , are monthly values)
- Coefficient  $\alpha$  is fixed by Council for everybody
- Coefficient  $\beta$  is chosen locally
- Recommended  $\alpha$  value is 0.6 (on the basis of estimated ratios C/A in the countries)

Members of the SAC commented the scheme and noted that even the current salaries could be calculated by the formula, where  $\beta = 1$  and  $\alpha = 0$ .

It was noted that alternative and more simple version is possible by left side of the formula:

$$S = A + \alpha C$$

-where  $\alpha$  is fixed by Council

Decision: According to the Austrian proposal to motivate the nominations to the MG for the every country the “prime” to the home salaries would be introduced. The prime would be paid for the international supervision and the responsibility for project. The formula for the effective salaries is recommended to the Council. The left side of the formula is considered as simpler solution.

### **Recommendations for the “transition problems”**

SAC recognized several subjects (“transition problems”) linked with the period between the old and new structure of the LACE Project.

#### ***1. Telecommunications and LBC products***

The transition between the current telecommunication network based on RMDCN lines and the new one relaying on RETIM2000 type of dissemination was discussed. The SAC summarized the following objectives:

- LACE needs the formal coordinator for the telecommunication problems that would monitor the current situation and proposed some actions to the members.

- At Meteo-France the test of dissemination of ARPEGE LBC files by RETIM 2000 system is not yet performed. Meteo-France Partner would contact RETIM2000 coordinator to perform the local test of the system.
- So far, just Austria has ordered the RETIM 2000 system. The equipment has not yet been delivered.
- The list of products that would be disseminated by the RETIM2000 should follow the current ALADIN/LACE input:
  - the same LACE domain, 37levels
  - 3 hours coupling frequency (17files) ARPEGE coupling files-twice per day
  - ARPEGE analysis and first guess for blending type of assimilation (3 files) – four times per day.
- The backup-system for the RETIM dissemination should be either Internet or ISDN line circuit
- Hungary is performing the test via Internet for the last two months and the results are promising. The possible bottleneck at the telecommunications could occur if the all LACE members would do the same experiment simultaneously.

Proposal: LACE would test the transmission of ARPEGE LBC files from CHMI to ZAMG via RMDCN lines, in the two modes: “delay mode” after the daily transmission and in “real-time” mode at the period before the Council meeting. The test would be performed with the 6 hours coupling frequency of ARPEGE LBC files. Due to the fact that the width of the line PRG-VIE is twice greater than the lines VIE-members, it was estimated that test would not delayed the transmission of the products to the end users.

The schedule of the files would be the following:

HIGH priority	LOW priority
COUPL00-00	Prod-00
COUPL00-06	Prod-03
...	...
COUPL00-24	Prod-24
Prod-27	COUPL00-30
Prod-30	COUPL00-36
...	...
Prod-48	COUPL00-48

COUPL                   = ARPEGE LBC file  
 Prod                     = products of ALADIN/LACE resp. ALADIN/CE together  
                               With PFNASULACE LBC files

## ***2. New Management Group and Steering Committee***

- Project Leader has mandate from the Council to search for the candidates for the new Management Group. More than one candidate should be nominated for the each position.

- Members should nominate the candidates for the Steering Committee, after the October RC LACE Council held in Budapest.

### **3. *Scientific Plan and research at year 2003***

- The first half of the year 2003 should be dedicated for the transition period, regarding the organization of the research.
- At that period WGLs should, together with the PL and SC, prepare the scientific plan with the list of the subjects, working groups, missions and workshops.
- In order to continue with the development of opened subjects, each WGL is authorized to propose one and half months to the missions of scientists, even before the scientific plan would be accepted.

### **4. Discussion about Scientific Plan**

Meteo-France Partner informed SAC about the achievements of Non-hydrostatic version of ALADIN model. The formal decision about the structure of AROME model would be reached at the meeting planed for 30<sup>th</sup> of October 2002.

#### **Verification at ALADIN level**

Slovenia informed SAC that prototype version of verification software would be ready for presentation at the next meeting of ALADIN Assembly of partners at Bucharest. Austria announced the future work at the objective verification of precipitation with radar data.

Project Leader underlined that in the future RC LACE Data Manager should be responsible for the verification issues.

Decision: LACE will build the list of “missed forecasts cases ” important for the evaluation and test of the new ALADIN versions.

#### **Physics**

Jean-Francois Geleyn commented the decisions from the 12<sup>th</sup> ALADIN workshop at Medulin about some development of the new parts of the physical package. He has stated that the decisions were not good coordinated with the plan for the LACE training for the physics that is organized at the Prague simultaneously with the SAC meeting.

Decision: Jean Francois Geleyn proposed to prepare pruned list of topics according to ALADIN Research Plan together with document about the contradictions between ALADIN Research Plan and decisions taken during Medulin Workshop. Jozef Vivoda and Thomas Haiden will then prepare the list of topics as a concensus between the two scientifically “non-compatible” documents. This has to be done with a cooperation with Meteo-France.

## **5. ALADIN results from forecasters' point of view**

Slovakia presented the report “ Evaluation of ALADIN model forecasts in 2002 summer season from the forecaster point of view”. It was underlined that the ALADIN model showed some very suspicious surface temperatures at the extremely hot period during June 2002. The horizontal gradients for Tmax were unrealistic.

Project Leader informed SAC that Prague Center tested suspicious cases immediately after they were informed. The part of the ISBA scheme could be treated in more complex way in order to avoid the similar behavior of the model.

Hungaria representative mentioned few cases when unrealistic prediction of precipitation has been predicted by ALADIN.

## **6. Overview of available experts from Institutes**

Project Leader informed SAC that the list of the possible candidates should be tailed regarding to the beneficial interest of all LACE community. The candidates from each member country should be encouraged.

The first draft of nominations was listed regarding to the knowledge and experience of the candidates. Project Leader took the obligation to make the personal contact with the candidates at the Directors of the services.

Management Group positions:

WGL for Data Assimilation:	Gergo Boloni, Maria Siroka (maternity leave)
WGL for Physics:	Martin Bellus, Thomas Haiden
WGL for Dynamics:	Petra Smolikova, Jozef Vivoda, Jan Masek, Filip Vana
ASC:	Gabor Radnoti, Oldrich Spaniel, Stepan Ivatek Sahdan
DM:	Sandor Kertezs, Romano Zehnal, Filip Vana
PL:	Jure Jerman, Andras Horanyi, Radmila Brozkova

## **7. AOB**

Hungary informed the SAC about the maintenance workshop. The workshop would have at disposal 8 workplaces for the simultaneously exercise.

The SAC recommended that the 50% of the workshop should be dedicated to the phasing issues.

## **8. Closing of the Meeting**