

ALADIN LTM/CSSI/ST meeting

Thursday 15 April, 14:00 – 15:30

Krakow, Poland

1. Adoption of the Agenda

2. ALADIN/ALARO/AROME planning

2.1. Outcome from Istanbul GA, some elements from HAC, and planned actions.

Establishment of the annual workplan :

As the last year procedure for establishment of the 2009 plan proved to be too much compressed in a short time, GA has approved the new procedure proposed by the Programme Manager and the CSSI chair (all details in the presentation during the GA: <http://www.cnrm.meteo.fr/aladin/spip.php?article122>).

- **at the ALADIN Workshop** (April-May) : CSSI (with the help of interested LTMs) draws up a list of short term priorities and actions needing a steady support, for which there will be a call for contributions in manpower; → this is slightly delayed this year and will be completed by email exchanges before PAC
- **confirmation or modification of these topics by the spring PAC session** (May-June);
- between June and September : **call for contributions** (answers by LTMs : volume of effort, priorities, names and short description of the proposed actions in each country), iterations with PM and CSSI for immediately identified problems ; preparation of a **draft-version** of the ‘partial-work-plan’;
- **consolidation of this work-plan at EWGLAM/SRNWP meetings** (1st week of October);
- the **PAC dedicated virtual session** (October or early November) verifies for the last time the match between the plan and the priorities set by the previous year's General Assembly and the spring PAC Session;
- November : PM and CSSI chair verify the complementary output provided by LTMs and prepare a synthesis document for GA;
- **GA (November or December) reviews the synthesis document prepared by PM and CSSI chair and adopts the final version of the work-plan;**
- January-February : **the ‘flat-rate-visits’ plan is established according to the work-plan;**
- ALADIN Workshop ...(the process repeats itself for next year)

As decided during the last GA, all LTMs will receive an email from Jean-François Geleyn to express their opinion on the worrying decrease in manpower dedicated to some topics and their proposal to issue this problem. Jean-François Geleyn will prepare a fully anonymous synthesis of LTMs opinions to be presented at the mid-term review of the 4 year-plan.

There was a demand from the LTMs to be more informed of the decision making process in between LTM meetings. CSSI chair promised to write a document with more detailed explanations of this process in particular against the background of the decisions in the GA meeting and the discussion in the HIRLAM Advisory Council (HAC) meeting.

Some elements from HAC:

After the HIRLAM review, the HAC advises that HIRLAM and ALADIN should continue to merge from the science (common scientific plan, as it is a well-going part) toward governance, so-called

bottom-top convergence. The core of the procedure to make changes in the governance is at the level of PAC.

MoU4 :

Claude Fischer is the chairman of the redaction committee for the MoU4 (PAC chair, PM, CSSI chair and French LTM) : the GA guidelines are that the MoU4 should keep to governance and contain a description of how we work (maintenance) but would not mention technical or scientific plans.

- Expected changes to the MoU : internal matters :

- reassessing the role of CSSI and LTMs and the relationship within these two bodies ;
- policy of code distribution (appendix to the MoU, co-signed with HIRLAM);
- explicit the ToR of the Bureau if we keep a bureau;
- keep the MoU simple and rather short and if some parts proved usefulness during the last five years, we should erase them.

- About flat-rate :

The GA votes the yearly contribution but the flat-rate document is not validated nor by GA, nor by PAC : it is a day-to-day PM management task and, as we face a drop in offers for stays or stagiaires, it would be strange to ask for more governance from PAC or GA. The opportunity to try to finance cross-stays between HIRLAM and ALADIN was raised but the ALADIN management through that the flat-rate mechanism supported only by non-LACE and non-MF partners would not be a fair way to address the issue. This should become a transversal topic of discussion with HIRLAM at a later stage.

- Governance :

CSSI chair explains the ALADIN governance (see matrix on the aladin web) and the HIRLAM one: as both consortia have different bodies, it is difficult to organize strategic meetings between corresponding bodies. In a bottom-top convergence, i.e. everyone recognizes that the scientific merge with HIRLAM is progressing at a steady pace and that we should merge first the science completely and then address the merge of the two governance structures. So, it was felt during the HIRLAM Advisory Council (HAC) that we will not have a common MoU for 2010-2011-2015. However we should pay attention to avoid writing down any elements in the coming MoU4, that could limit the bottom-up merge, i.e. that could limit a complete merge in the planning and the execution of a common scientific programme. If CSSI-LTM agree on this bottom-up approach then the yearly redaction of the work plans will become crucial, reinforcing the proposal of the above-mentioned procedure. All this may be reflected in the content of MoU4. CSSI-LTM were expected to take note of this impending decision. They were not expected to express any informed opinion on the choice of this bottom-up approach at this meeting. Instead, Claude Fischer will write a mail to CSSI and LTM asking them for suggestions how to handle this issue about merging but not too quickly?

2.2. Follow up of the convergence actions decided during the ``convergence days': the physics-dynamics interface.

Due to lack of time, this point was not addressed.

2.3. SURFEX

Jean-François Geleyn feels that SURFEX scientific goals are good but political and technical ones are not.

Jean-François Mahfouf is less pessimistic : last year SURFEX main issue was efficiency and an action had been taken. HIRLAM has started to use SURFEX with reasonable technical success. At MF, the ALADIN oversea and Reunion project will begin in parallel suite. Claude recalls that, when Partners face some problem with SURFEX, they should describe their difficulties and it will be up to the SURFEX team in Toulouse to study them and find a compromise between time, manpower and priorities.

If someone wishes to propose some modifications in SURFEX, he should discuss directly with concerned people (it is the same procedure, as explained by Ryad, for GMAP people with IFS).

CSSI chair summarized the participants agreement: a slow but a long term development.

2.4. Phasing news

Due to lack of time, this point was not addressed.

2.5. The COST programme

The COST ES0905 action (Core Group on Theoretical Studies of the Convection Parameterization Problem) was accepted last December with a 1st official workshop in March 2010. Jean-François encourages LMTs and CSSI members to have a look on the working group activities (<http://convection.zmaw.de>) and send him any comments on 5-10 years perspectives.

2.6. Newsletter?

Due to lack of time, this point was not addressed.

3. HIRLAM-ALADIN common actions:

3.1 Issues from the discussions on Monday

This point was addressed during the workshop.

3.2 Common work plan (4-years plan)

→ together with 2.1

7.3 System aspects: the maintenance issue

Due to lack of time, this point was not addressed.

7.4 Scientific issues: SURFEX, deep convection issues, HIRLAM-ALADIN convergence

4. SRNWP Interoperability and verification

Due to lack of time, this point was not addressed.

5. AOB

Special research project on LBC in ECMWF :

Claude reminds ALADIN partners about our research project at ECMWF. It allows the ALADIN Partners who are not ECMWF member, to use ECMWF computers for research on LBC. These research projects are limited to 3 years, with an annual report to be produced (for us) before the end of May 2010 to benefit from the last (3rd) year of the project. At the end of April 2011, the project will end.

We may find a volunteer, ALADIN (or HIRLAM ?) partner, with full ECMWF member status, to write a new proposal if we want to keep this facility at ECMWF.

6. Closing.

Many points were not addressed and an added CSSI/LTM meeting is proposed besides EWGLAM (Exeter, October 4-7, 2010).

For next year workshop, in case of a so busy agenda for LMT/CSSI meeting, we should plan a longer meeting.