Document No 7-b

Establishment of a task-force for the redaction of the strategic long-term part of the ALADIN plan

PAC-required 'canvas' prepared by the Programme Manager (14/2/06)

Background: At its first session, 26/1/06 in Vienna, the ALADIN PAC agreed that

"a task force should be established to draft the strategic plan ("the upper part", not entering in the detailed scientific programme). In the task force the different groups inside ALADIN should be represented as in PAC. Members or Group of Members should be asked at the Brussels GA to designate a contact point for the PM to discuss the task-force composition"

PAC further tasked the Programme Manager to prepare

"a canvas of the "vision" (NDLR: of this task-force target) for the Brussels GA (= the questions to be addressed in the next 6 months)"

Draft PM 'canvas' proposal to the General Assembly

- A) The task-force (which, in the PM's opinion, should represent all actors and all finalities of the ALADIN Programme) should first analyse the current situation by considering the following 'environmental' constraints/questions:
 - what does ALADIN want to work out of the AROME \Leftrightarrow ALADIN links?
 - what does ALADIN want to work out of the HIRLAM ⇔ ALADIN links?
 - how does the status of others organisations (RA VI, ECMWF, EUMETSAT, EUMETNET, ...) can help positioning ALADIN in its full environment?
 - how far should the current 'Euro-NWP-vision' initiative of EUMETNET and the EURRA-linked integration drive influence the long-term ALADIN strategy?
- B) Further, the task-force should investigate the following issues:
 - how to optimise the long term handling of ALADIN structures and use of resources?
 - what should be preserved from the current ALADIN legacy (mobility, solidarity, research-operational mix with little political interference, emphasis on cost-effective solutions, importance of the common maintenance issue, ...)?
 - where are the main potential self-conflicting issues and which type of arbitration should be responsible for tacking them?
- C) Finally, the task-force should try and synthesise the above through answering the basic questions:
 - Where does ALADIN stand?
 - What has ALADIN to achieve? Which scope for its existence?
 - What is the added value of ALADIN?
 - What are the key difficulties and proposed key success factors to tackle and solve them?

The General Assembly is invited to amend and approve these guidelines for the task-force work and to help PM building the concrete team for it.