

ALADIN 26th General Assembly

26th November 2020
video-conference



Minutes

1. Opening and welcome

Martin (GA Chair) opened the meeting and greeted the participants (see Annex 1). Martin regretted that this 26th and last ALADIN GA had to be organized as a video-conference: video-conferences have many ecological and economical advantages but it would have been better to meet personally in such circumstances.

2. Adoption of the draft agenda

Piet (ALADIN PM) proposed to add a presentation after point 5 is finished, to look back at the last 10 years. Claude also asked to be given the floor in A.O.B after Piet.

The agenda was unanimously adopted

3. Report from previous meeting

3.1. Report for 20th PAC meeting

Daniel (Policy Advisory Committee PAC Chair) reported both on the [20th PAC meeting](#) and on the [11th PAC-HAC meeting](#).

Claude (future PM) and Piet (PM) had been tasked by PAC to contact the flat-rate LTMs for them to liaise with their directors and make proposals for flat-rate representatives at STAC and PAC. PAC recommended to close the 2020 flat-rate budget as it is (see item 5.2).

PAC-HAC supported the Annex III (list of Members entitled to have lower manpower commitments) and Annexes VII & VIII (manpower figures at the end of June 2020, to be updated with numbers at the end of 2020 and adopted by the 1st Assembly of the new consortium). PAC-HAC decided on the short list of names and the voting procedure for the choice of the name of the ALH Consortium. PAC-HAC recommended a contribution of 11k€ per Member to the ALH Consortium budget for 2021. PAC-HAC recommended that the Directors encourage their staff to apply to the call for applications for the Areal Leaders and the CNA positions.

Martin thanked Daniel for his extensive report and the GA took note without questions.

Martin thanked the PAC members for their involvement in this committee throughout those years.

4. Activity reports and plans

4.1. Tour d'ALADIN

Piet introduced the Tour d'ALADIN as an heritage from Jean-François Geleyn who had strongly organised ALADIN around the local teams and the LTMs. Piet always appreciated giving this Tour d'ALADIN as it is the opportunity to share with the directors the main achievements of the teams, as seen from the point of view of the teams.

All amazing achievements cannot be summarized in these minutes but the [slides of the Tour d'ALADIN](#) are on-line and articles will be published in the next and last joint [ALADIN-HIRLAM Newsletter](#).

Martin thanked Piet and all the teams in ALADIN Members for their impressive work and improving the SRNWP systems. Martin hoped that it will be possible to keep this kind of presentation in the future consortium: even if not all Assembly Members fully understand all details, it is important for Members to be presented all these achievements.

4.2. Common activities, DAsKIT coord, CA, ACNA

Piet reported on common activities, including the ACNA, DA coordinator and Code Architect activities. Besides [this presentation](#), a document “[Synthesis Report ALADIN activities by PM, November 2020](#)” had been published on the ALADIN website.

Piet underlined the importance of the tasks entrusted to the ACNA, the Code Architect and the DAsKIT coordinator. He reported in detail on the deliverables of the CA, with respect to his ToR and made the link with the Strategy of the future Consortium. The DAsKIT coordinator actions were synthesized in an extensive article published in the last [Newsletter n°15](#).

Piet thanked Mariska Derkova (ACNA), Daan Degrauwe (CA) and Maria Monteiro (DAsKIT coord) for their involvement and their achievements. Daniel commented on the importance of these common activities and acknowledged their successes. Claude (CSSI chair) supported Piet's nice comments and hoped to continue working with Mariska, Daan and Maria in the future Consortium. **Martin joined in thanking to Mariska, Daan and Maria.**

4.3. LACE report

Martina (LACE PM) recalled that Poland had joined LACE on 1st of January 2020 and presented the status and main plans for main LACE common operations and the activities of the LACE Management Group (see [Martina's presentation](#)).

GA took note of all reports presented in item 4, thanked again the local teams for their work and the PMs for organising it.

5. Budget issues and manpower

5.1. Manpower figures

Piet reported about the manpower invested in ALADIN by the Partners and [showed a few graphics](#) of the yearly evolution of the F.T.E., the type of work, the breakdown between flat-rate Partners, LACE and Météo-France, ... Patricia will produce a full report of the manpower invested in ALADIN since 1991 until end of 2020 (over the whole ALADIN life and according to ALADIN rules for registering the manpower). The annex VIII (legacy of ALADIN code) will be based on those statistics.

The GA took note without question and thanked Patricia for having monitored these data for years.

5.2. Execution of the ongoing budget

Piet presented the flat-rate budget (contributions from flat-rate Members to the ALADIN budget). The 2020 flat-rate budget plans were prepared in line with all recommendations of the Istanbul General Assembly. The flat-rate 2020 document was sent to the relevant Partners, together with the letter of exchanges for the money transfers. Most money transfers have already been executed. Many visits and missions have been cancelled due to Covid-19 crisis leading to an overpayment received by all flat-rate Members. Claiming the refund of the overpayment would be very difficult to achieve in 2020, and being the last budget of this kind (rules change from 2021), PAC recommended to close the budget as it is, each Members keep the overpayment they received and use it as they see fit.

The GA approved the closure of the 2020 budget as it is.

Piet presented the breakdown of the flat-rate budgets over the last 15 years (since this budget exists) with the yearly expenses for missions, scientific visits, organisation costs, compensation for Code Architect and DAsKIT coordinator salary. 92% of the actions planned in January each year for the whole year have been completed, the money corresponding to the non-executed actions being transferred to the following year. At the end of each year (including 2020), the balance from Météo-France point of view is Zero (it is anyhow a mandatory financial rule in Météo-France for such account). Patricia added that a similar mechanism to this flat-rate budget is proposed by Météo-France for managing the budget of the future Consortium and, seeing how it had worked well with the flat-rate budget gives confidence in the future mechanism.

Klemen (Director from Slovenian NMS) thanked Météo-France for managing these funds all over these years and thanked Patricia for the huge amount of work to manage these budgets and prepare the yearly extensive reports to the GA.

6. A.O.B

Klemen announced that this was his last GA in the position of Director of ARSO. He thanked all the members of the GA for their support along all these years, including during the 4 years he chaired the GA.

For this last part of the GA, teams were invited to join and [the presentations were recorded](#).

Although he is generally kind to look forward rather than back, for this last ALADIN GA and after 10 years being ALADIN PM, Piet [looked back](#) to these 10 years.

Claude then expressed his appreciation to Piet for his 20 year participation in ALADIN including the last 10 years as Programme Manager.

Patricia, on behalf of all ALADINers, gave Piet a farewell gift (rather a “thank you” gift): [an advent calendar](#) with everyday until Piet’s retirement as ALADIN Programme Manager, a “thank you” box from an ALADINer or from a team.

Martin thanked Piet for bringing back the memory of JFG who influenced the lives of many of GA Members and ALADIN colleagues. Martin also thanked Piet for the leading of the consortium over 10 years.

7. Closing

Martin thanked the delegations for their active participation in the ALADIN General Assemblies and closed this last Assembly at 12:30

Annex 1: Participants to the 26th GA (other teams joined for AOB)

COUNTRY	NMS	Participants
ALGERIA	ONM	Salah SAHABI, Mohamed MOKHTARI
AUSTRIA	ZAMG	Yong WANG
BELGIUM	RMI	Daniel GELLENS (PAC chair)
BULGARIA	NIMH	Andrey BOGATCHEV, Boryana TSENOVA
CROATIA	DHMZ	Branka IVANCAN-PICEK
CZECH REP	CHMI	Radmila BROZKOVA
FRANCE	MF	Anne DEBAR, Philippe BOUGEAULT
HUNGARY	HMS	Mihaly SZUCS
MOROCCO	DMN	Hassan HADDOUCH
POLAND	IMGW	Bogdan BOCHENEK
PORTUGAL	IPMA	Nuno LOPES, Maria MONTEIRO
ROMANIA	NMA	Simona TASCU
SLOVAKIA	SHMU	BENKO Martin (GA chair)
SLOVENIA	EARS	BERGANT Klemen
TUNISIA	INM	Hatem BACCOUR, Haythem BELGHRISSI, Rahma BENROMDHANE, Wafa KHALFAOUI
TURKEY	TSMS	Volkan Mutlu COŞKUN, Murat ALTINYOLLAR, Ersin KÜÇÜKKARACA, Yelis CENGİZ
ALADIN / PM		Piet TERMONIA
LACE / PM		Martina TUDOR
CSSI CHAIR		Claude FISCHER
ALADIN / ST	GA sec.	Patricia POTTIER