

19th ALADIN LTM meeting
Tuesday 06 Oct 2015
17:50-20:00
Belgrade, Serbia



draft minutes

Participants

ALADIN Program Manager : Piet Termonia

LTM's and representatives :

Algeria :

Austria : **Florian Meyer** (dep. LTM), **Christoph Zingerle**

Belgium : **Alex Deckmyn** (LTM),

Bulgaria : **Boryana Tsenova** (dep. LTM)

Croatia : **Martina Tudor** (dep. LTM)

Czech Rep : **Petra Smolikova** & **Alena Trojakova**(dep. LTM)

France : **Claude Fischer** (LTM), **François Bouyssel**

Hungary : **Balaz Szintai** (LTM)

Morocco : **Hassan Haddouch** (LTM)

Poland : **Marek Jerczynski** (LTM)

Portugal : **Maria Monteiro** (LTM)

Romania : **Simona Tascu** (LTM)

Slovakia : **Michal Nestiak** (dep. LTM)

Slovenia : **Neva Pristov** (LTM)

Tunisia : **Wafa Khalfaoui** (dep. LTM)

Turkey : **Alper Guser** (LTM)

LACE Program Manager : Yong Wang

ACNA: Maria Derkova (Mariska)

Hirlam observer : Ulf Andrae

Support Team : Patricia Pottier

1. Opening and welcome

Mariska opens the meeting (unfortunately rather late in the afternoon, after an already long day) and welcomes the participants : all partners but Algeria are represented at this meeting and we welcome Ulf as Hirlam Observer.

2. Adoption of the agenda

Patricia proposes to address first the item 9.1 about the organisation of the General Assembly in Algiers. The agenda is adopted with this re-ordering of the items on the agenda.

3. Code & Cycles

3.1 MF report on cycles and e-suites

Claude's usual progress and plans note on the cycles and MF e-suites) document was sent as preparatory document.

- LTMs should take notice about the plans for the BULL Phase 2 clusters at MF. There is a specific period over beginning of January through end of February where only one Phase 1 BULL cluster will be operating for both research and operations. This situation in practice means that very

limited computer power will be available for R&D. Full installation&migration shall be finished by Sep/Oct 2016.

- The call for phasers for CY43T1 and CY44 cycles will most likely cover the period from March through June 2016 (to be confirmed after the upcoming discussions with ECMWF).
- Claude thanks the teams who will send phasers for cycle CY41T1 (September-December 2015).
- Claude points out that, due to OOPS refactoring, people should expect some deep changes for the next cycles, even in the Fortran codes.

Petra reports on some modifications based on CY38 prepared by LACE. Claude recommends to introduce and check these changes into CY42, as there is already some refactoring done in this cycle. A Python script exists to do part of refactoring automatically, nevertheless part of the work is to be performed manually. Claude, Ryad and Alexandre shall be contacted in case of problems. MF and ECMWF are currently building CY43 and the next common cycle with Aladin/Hirlam will be CY43T1, where LACE modifications could enter.

3.2 CY40T1.bf05_export exported

CY40T1 export version was discussed during the last LTM meeting and officially announced beginning of September. A *companion note** describes the technical details about this cycle (pruning of the command-line arguments, transferred to namelist; SURFEX specificity), an advertising about EPyGrAM (a toolbox and a Python library to read and plot FA or GRIB files) and the validation of AROME-France cycled 3D-Var configuration over 2 weeks.

Mariska reports on the status of the porting and installation of CY40T1_export version in the ALADIN institutes (see the *ACNA table*** on googledocs). It is already operational in Poland (and France under the version CY40_op2) and under installation in several other countries. Some bugs were spotted and reported to Mariska upon inquiry but no information so far about how they had been solved.

We strongly recommend to use alabobo2@meteo.fr mailing list for announcements of bugs and solutions. This exchange is very important as it will save time for colleagues who may fall upon the same bugs. This could also be the basis for MF to prepare fixes to the export version and provide an incremental update of the export version with corrected routines.

It is proposed to ask Ryad (or other MF people who may be personally contacted to help solving a bug) to put the alabobo2 mailing list in copy of his answer about a specific problem in Full-Pos.

CY41 is already installed in Croatia. Martina asks if they should install CY40T1_export version. This decision is up to the Croatian team. However, CY40T1_export version contains updates and validation that won't be done for CY41T1 and the ACNA is only coordinating the local installations of the export versions.

3.3 how to report bugs and make bugfixes?

Discussed above (item 3.2)

3.4 what is ALADIN reference in export version?

With MF plans to no longer run any ALADIN configuration in the future, the question of the ALADIN reference in export versions was raised.

Claude explains that “mitraille” tests are run in every cycle, including a version of ALADIN, AROME and ALARO configurations. The ALADIN version there (i.e. the configuration with the ARPEGE physics) is kept at a minimum whereas AROME and ALARO are fully validated and their corresponding namelists are provided with the export versions.

The teams who are running an ALADIN can still install new ALADIN version (ALADIN is still used for climate and will be used for EURRA reanalysis) but the ALADIN consortium won't put too much effort to solve bugs in an ALADIN version. Or, they could move to an ALARO configuration.

Piet explains that the effort, the coordination and the responsibility of the Consortium will be limited to the Canonical Model Configurations (CMC) as proposed in the draft MoU5 (see item 5). The Code Architect (new position) will help with the definition of these CMC : so far, two CMCs are proposed for consideration (AROME and ALARO configurations).

4. Coordination (TODO from last LTM meeting)

4.1. *telecom LBC upgrade wrap-up*

The operational implementation of the new telecom climate and LBC files took place after the last LTM meeting, 30/06/2015. **Action closed.**

4.2. *CY40T1.bf05_export - implementation by Partners (progress, problems)*

Discussed above (item 3.2)

4.3. *TAC2BUFR migration: implementation by Partners (status)*

Mariska gives the status of the TAC2BUFR migration in partners teams (*see on-line ACNA table*).

Claude proposes that some partners begin to work on this migration and run some DA experiments using the CY40T1 export version; MF could provide support for one or two teams who would act as pioneers on those issues for the others.

Alena explains that anytime any country can stop the TAC production, without any preliminary announcement. That already happened. Thus, if this is a problem for some countries, they should not delay the migration effort.

François warns to not underestimate the complexity of this migration (it is depending on the kind of data and on each NMS own pace) and reminds of the ECMWF webpage dedicated to the status of this continuous migration :

<https://software.ecmwf.int/wiki/display/TCBUF/TAC+GTS+switch+off>.

Maria and Frank Guillaume already worked on it, backphasing MF's modifications in BATOR from CY40 and CY41 to CY38. **Maria is encouraged to continue the testing and share her conclusions via alabobo2 mailing list.**

4.4. *update of ALADIN website*

Patricia insists on the LTM sending information to update :

- their ALADINers page : under <http://www.cnrm.meteo.fr/aladin/spip.php?rubrique16>, please check your team composition and coordinates (photos are important for people coming to Toulouse to prepare the access badges);
- their operational configurations pages (models, domains, vertical levels, ..) : <http://www.cnrm.meteo.fr/aladin/spip.php?article129> (with possibility for update using the same access they use for manpower registration). Patricia points out that operational changes don't happen that often and the pages should be updated soon after the changes. It is very convenient to have these kind of operational information gathered on a same page (anytime, we may be asked to produce some maps or graphics of other ALADIN countries).

4.5. *tool for monthly monitoring/verification reports*

Neva reminds that the Ljubljana monitoring tool now produces monthly reports. The files are too big to be sent by email but can be consulted on-line (the access codes were sent last Friday to the LTMs). Neva would appreciate feedback from the LTMs : do they agree with the results ? Are there some errors ? Shall the list of stations/points be upgraded?

Piet recalls that this tool answers to a long-time request from the Directors that we assess what we are doing for the end users. We have answered with concentrating on the forecasters (thus the venue of forecasters meetings) and installing a monitoring/verification tool to see if there are any problems. During the next forecasters meeting, Piet and Christoph will extract from these monthly reports some conclusions to be presented at the next GA. Thus, **the LTMs are asked to have a look to their reports and send any feedback before 16 October 2015.**

Piet underlines that the purpose is not to compare the scores between countries nor models. So far, it is not technically possible to prevent somebody from accessing other countries scores. If it is a problem for some LTM, their should contact Piet and Neva.

Martina appreciates the work done to provide these scores and reports. She would like to revisit the list of stations. Neva agrees on the list of stations needed to be revisited but it will need a coordinated actions as, after agreeing on the stations, simultaneous changes should be made into the namelists people use to produce the files they send to Ljubljana database.

5. MoU

The Directors received the draft MoU5 two weeks ago and the LTMs got a copy of the message. Piet explains that this draft version was prepared after an extraordinary PAC meeting mid-September. PAC considers that this draft version is coherent with the European Directive on the re-use of public sector information (so-called PSI¹ directive) and it is quite final; only minor modifications are thus expected.

5.1. *cononical model configurations*

A first definition of the CMCs (see item 3.4) is proposed in the draft MoU5. Concretely, so far, the CMCs can be defined by the validated and supported configurations in the export version (AROME and ALARO – ALARO currently only with ISBA).

6. Planning of future meetings, forthcoming training courses, work meetings

¹ <http://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/european-legislation-reuse-public-sector-information>

Patricia reminds that the future events are announced on the aladin main webpage. Some pages are also dedicated to these events, including a list of ALADIN-HIRLAM working weeks or days (<http://www.cnrm.meteo.fr/aladin/spip.php?article276>) with links to other Aladin or Hirlam wiki pages. All ALADIN Partners shall have access from their Institute. For personal access to HIRLAM wiki pages contact Ulf.

- [37th EWGLAM & 22 SRNWP](#) (& 19th ALADIN LTM meeting), **5-8 October 2015, Belgrade**
- HAC Meeting, **27-28 October, De Bilt** (NL)
- HARMONIE working week on EPS and predictability, **19-23 October 2015, Tenerife**, Canary Islands
- Forecasters meeting, **21-23 October 2015, Lisbon** (Pt)
- HARMONIE system working week with some SURFEX validation, **9-13 November 2015, Bratislava** (Sk)
- [25th ALADIN GA & 2nd joint ALADIN GA & HIRLAM Council](#), **24-25 November 2015, Algiers** (Dz), with new MoUs signature
- [21st ALADIN Workshop & HIRLAM All Staff Meeting 2016](#) (& 20th ALADIN LTM meeting), **4-7 April 2016, Djerba, Tunisia**
- Coordination meeting between ALADIN CSSI and HIRLAM MG, **8 April 2016, Djerba** (Tu)
- ALADIN-HIRLAM Strategy meeting, proposed on **26-28 April 2016, Toulouse** (Fr)
- [13th ALADIN PAC meeting](#), **23 May 2016** morning, **Ankara** (Tk),
- [4th joint HAC/PAC meeting](#), **23 May 2016** afternoon, **Ankara** (Tk),
- HAC meeting, **24 May 2016, Ankara** (Tk)

The WW in Bratislava next November could still welcome some additional participants. Some flat-rate money is still available for possible flat-rate participants. For LACE participants support is also possible upon cross-check by Yong.

7. Manpower commitment/contribution to the rolling plan

As agreed during a previous GA, the rolling work plan is considered as a working document and a tool for researchers and developers rather than a preparatory document for GA. Each year, the CSSI&HMG make an incremental update of this plan and the LTMs are asked to commit some manpower. This year, due to preparation for the MoU5 and the upcoming strategy meeting, no updates are planned before the GA. HIRLAM HMG is preparing on request from HAC and Council an update version of the plan. This version should be considered as a HIRLAM-only update, as Piet will explain at the next HAC meeting.

8. Newsletter, 1slide4GA

The LTMs are asked to think about what is important to be shown to the Directors and published in the Newsletter with respect to the ALADIN activities in their NMS in 2015. They should prepare :

- **before November 6, 2015 : one slide to be shown by Piet during the next GA**

- before December 6, 2015 : one article for the “tour d'ALADIN-HIRLAM” in the 6th ALADIN-HIRLAM Newsletter (please use the templates proposed on the aladin webpage for NL6 : <http://www.cnrm.meteo.fr/aladin/spip.php?article260> .

9. AOB

9.1. GA information (visa...)

At the next GA, the new MoU5 will be signed. Patricia explains that the 16 representatives will sign the 16 copies of the MoU5. In case some Directors could not attend the GA, they should write a letter to the ALADIN GA chairperson (Abdalah) to appoint somebody from their N(H)MS to sign the MoU on behalf of their N(H)MS. You can scan the letter once signed and send it by email to Patricia.

The GA will take place in Algiers and most participants will need a visa and should be aware of delay and necessary documents (the procedure is country-dependant but, for exemple, the consultat of Algeria in Toulouse asks for photos, passport and copies, invitation letter, insurance certificate, work order, plane ticket and 2 week delay).

The participants should fill in the doodle with their choice for hotel and dinner before October 16 : <http://doodle.com/swquicb447paa7q2>. They will receive their invitation letter once they filled in the doodle.

The proposed hotels (for accommodation and the meetings) are at less than 2km from the airport. The airport-hotel transfer will be organised by the Algerian NMS and an official dinner offered in a nearby restaurant (with dedicated transportation between the hotels and the restaurant).

Each LTM should check with their Director who will attend the GA and sign the MoU, remind them about the doodle and let Patricia (with copy to Mariska and Piet) know about the attendance as soon as possible before October 16.

9.2. H2020 SC5-02-2017 call

Within H2020, a call for an Integrated European regional modelling and climate prediction system has been issued with a deadline beginning of 2017 (“*There is high demand for, and an urgent need to develop, integrated multi-model ensemble climate predictions at European scale which can provide actionable climate information and assessments. This integrated climate prediction system should go hand in hand with coordinated regional modelling and observational studies to constitute a robust foundation for Europe-wide climate service activities.*”). More information on the dedicated webpage :

<https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en/draft-work-programmes-2016-17>.

Piet and Yong agree that we should consider to prepare a coordinate answer as a consortium.

Annex : Agenda with list of preparatory documents

	Agenda	Introduced by	Decision, comments, information	Documents	Indicative time
1.	Opening and welcome	ACNA			3 min
2.	Adoption of the agenda	ACNA		Agenda	3 min
3.	Code & Cycles				
3.1	<i>MF report on cycles and e-suites</i>	CF	information	doc 3.1	10 min
3.2	<i>CY40T1.bf05_export exported</i>	CF	information	companion note*	5 min
3.3	<i>how to report bugs and make bugfixes?</i>	ACNA	discussion		5 min
3.4	<i>what is ALADIN reference in export version?</i>	PT	discussion	companion note*	10 min
4.	Coordination (TODO from last LTM meeting)				
4.1	<i>telecom LBC upgrade wrap-up</i>	ACNA	information		5 min
4.2	<i>CY40T1.bf05_export - implementation by Partners (progress, problems)</i>	ACNA	information, discussion	overview table**	15 min
4.3	<i>TAC2BUFR migration: implementation by Partners (status)</i>	ACNA	information, discussion	overview table**	10 min
4.4	<i>update of ALADIN website</i>	PP, ACNA	information	overview table**	5 min
4.5	<i>tool for monthly monitoring/verification reports</i>	PT, Neva	information, discussion	web page	10 min
5.	MoU	PT	information	Draft MoU5	10 min
5.1	<i>Canonical Model Configurations</i>	PT	discussion		10 min
6.	Planning of future meetings, forthcoming training courses, work meetings	PP	information		5 min
7.	Manpower commitment/contribution to the rolling plan	PT	information, discussion		10 min
8.	Newsletter, 1slide4GA	PP, PT	information	Aladin web page	5 min
9.	AOB	ACNA			
9.1	<i>GA information (visa...)</i>	PP, PT	information		5 min
9.2	<i>H2020 SC5-02-2017 call***</i>	ACNA	information	doc 9.2	3 min

130min

*companion note http://www.cnrm.meteo.fr/aladin/IMG/pdf/companion_note_export40t1.pdf

**ACNA table https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1_IQMFDaRRDNEng21asHKQ42Hx_-lIOnRG3EX3BtfzVo/edit?usp=sharing

***Integrated European regional modelling and climate prediction system

<https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en/draft-work-programmes-2016-17>