

GA(05)013r1

## **Draft minutes of the 23rd GA meeting**

**9 – 10 June 2005**

**Poznań, Poland.**

### 1. Welcome and Apologies

The President, Dorte Olesen, welcomed the participants and in particular those who attended a GA meeting for the first time.

Peter Rastl and Wilfried Wöber (ACOnet), Jan Gruntorád (CESNET), Margita Kon-Popovska (MARNET), Dany Vandromme (Renater), Antoine Barthel and Theo Duhautpas (RESTENA), Arne Sundström and Hans Wallberg (SUNET), David Foster and Jean-Michel Jouanigot (CERN), Peter Villemoes and Sven Tafvelin (NORDUnet) and Yves Poppe (Teleglobe) had all conveyed their apologies for the 23<sup>rd</sup> GA meeting.

Werner Koblitz represented ACOnet, Austria with proxy  
Petter Kongshaug represented SUNET, Sweden and NORDUnet with proxy  
Stefan Winter represented RESTENA, Luxemburg with proxy  
Jorge Sanchez represented the University of Belgrade, Serbia and Montenegro, with proxy (Friday only)

The number of votes represented at the start of the meeting was 1047 out of a total of 1184.

The list of participants is annexed to these minutes.

### 2. Approval of Agenda, GA(05)001

Dorte Olesen proposed to move item (9) to immediately after item (2). With this change, the agenda was approved.

It was noted that Dany Vandromme had submitted a number of questions in preparation of this meeting and that these had been answered by the TEC by e-mail.

### 9. Discussion about the relation of research networks with Grids

Claudio Allocchio first presented a set of slides on NRENs and Grids (see <http://www.terena.nl/about/GA/ga23/20050609CANrenGrids.ppt>) that contained some of the conclusions of the recently-held TERENA workshop on NRENs and Grids. Workshop participants had prepared several recommendations, including regular workshops bringing together NRENs and people from the Grid community.

He then presented slides on a possible new role for TERENA in the area of Grids (see <http://www.terena.nl/about/GA/ga23/20050609CAegee2.ppt>). This recalled the role TERENA had played in the EGEE project. This had been positive from the point of view of delivering on promises, but less positive from the point of view of benefits for the TERENA membership. A decision would be needed very soon on whether and if affirmative then how TERENA should participate in a successor to the EGEE project. Claudio Allocchio outlined the pros and cons of participating in the EGEE2

project as opposed to staying outside of it. He felt that if TERENA were to participate in a successor project, it should be in a different role and only if fully-funded.

In the discussion that followed, Urs Eppenberger, Kees Neggers, Petter Kongshaug, Werner Koblitz and others expressed their doubts about the usefulness of a TERENA participation in a successor to the EGEE project. They felt that TERENA should be open to collaboration with several Grid projects, should concentrate on its participation in the GN2 project and should focus on the needs of its members in this area. Claudia Battista pointed out that working on Grids outside of a project would also require resources and that therefore it might be better to do such work on a funded basis. Also, she felt that given the other partners in the EGEE project, staying outside of a successor project might give the wrong political signal.

Dorte Olesen recalled that a decision to participate in the EGEE project had been taken two years ago by the General Assembly and that therefore it was logical for the GA to discuss the matter again, now that a decision about a successor needed to be taken. The earlier decision had received support from a clear majority of the members, even though TERENA's activities had been only 50% funded. She concluded that apparently, circumstances had changed and that there was now only very limited support for a TERENA participation in a successor project to EGEE. However, TERENA would definitely follow up on the recommendations that had been made at the TERENA-organised Grids workshop and engage in Grid-related activities with the goal of benefiting its members.

### 3. Minutes and Action List of previous GA meeting

(See <http://www.terena.nl/about/GA/ga23/20050609KVGAadmin.ppt> for the accompanying slides on administrative issues.)

#### a. Minutes of the 22nd TERENA General Assembly, Limassol

D23 - 01        The General Assembly unanimously approved the minutes of the 22nd GA meeting (GA(04)032), Limassol, 21 October 2004.

### 4. Membership matters

#### a. Admission of new members

No new requests for membership had been received.

#### b. Changes in membership

No changes in membership had been requested.

#### c. Changes in representatives

CARNet (Croatia): Igor Velimirović had been appointed as Substitute Representative in place of Vesna Vrga.

SUNET (Sweden): Hans Wallberg had been appointed as Substitute Representative in place of Matts Andersson.

ULAKBIM (Turkey): Cem Saraç had been appointed as Representative in place of Tugrul Yilmaz.

Cisco Systems: Johan Paardekooper had been appointed as Representative in place of Graça Carvalho. Graça Carvalho had been appointed as Substitute Representative in place of Jane Butler.

Level(3) Communications: Bart van Aanholt had been appointed as Representative in place of Geert-Jan Spelde.

The GA noted the information, and thanked the outgoing representatives for their contributions to the work of the association.

d. Outstanding membership fees

Lajos Bálint presented the latest status of the outstanding membership fees. Payment was still outstanding from IPM (3 years), MARNET (4 years), ANSTI/RNC, EMBL, IBM and Juniper. Lajos Bálint reported that MARNET had announced that it had ordered a payment, but that such a payment had not yet been received by the Secretariat.

5. TERENA Formal matters

a. Adoption TERENA Financial Accounts 2004 – FIN(05)002

Lajos Bálint pointed out that the result had been better than what had been forecast at the time of the last GA meeting. He pointed to the explanations for this, which were contained in the Complementary Notes to the agenda item. Kees Neggers wondered if the accounts showed the true financial situation of the organisation, because they lacked a clear assessment of the situation with regards to the different EU-funded projects. Lajos Bálint and Karel Vietsch pointed out that the financial report gave a true account of the current financial situation. However, it was difficult to give a fully accurate multi-year overview, because of the uncertainties inherent in EU-funded projects. Dorte Olesen underlined that the TEC itself did carefully examine the multi-year implications of the projects TERENA was involved in.

D23 - 02           The GA unanimously adopted the TERENA Financial Accounts 2004.

b. Appointment of Auditors for the 2005 and 2006 Financial Accounts

Lajos Bálint recalled that the GA had requested a change in the firm of auditors. Therefore, proposals had been requested from several firms and discussions had taken place with a number of them. As a result of that, the TEC proposed to appoint PriceWaterhouse Coopers as the TERENA auditors for 2005 and 2006.

D23 – 03           The GA unanimously appointed PriceWaterhouse Coopers as the auditors for the TERENA accounts for 2005 and 2006.

c. TERENA Annual Report 2004, including Secretariat report

D23 - 04           The GA unanimously approved both parts of the Annual Report 2004.

d. Notices of Termination of TERENA membership

D23 – 05           The GA unanimously decided to automatically end the membership of IPM (Iran) on 1 September 2005 unless payment of at least the outstanding membership fee for 2003 has taken place before that date.

Lajos Bálint recalled the decision of a year ago, namely to automatically end the membership of MARNET (FYRoMacedonia) on 1 September 2005 unless payment of at least two years of the outstanding membership fees has taken place before that date.

#### 6. Technical Programme

Claudio Allocchio presented a report on the TAC meeting and an update on recent developments (see slides at <http://www.terena.nl/about/GA/ga23/20050610CAtechprogr.ppt>). Responding to a question by Andrea Baldi, he clarified that the Calls for Ideas and Proposals had been discontinued because they had not been a success. Responding to a question from Marko Bonač, he mentioned that EduRoam was now available in 18 countries, but that the extent of availability within those countries was still a problem in some cases. Also, in some countries it was already being offered as a service, whereas in others it was seen as an experiment.

Dorte Olesen reported that the GN2 Networking Activities led by TERENA were progressing according to schedule.

#### 7. Executive Committee Elections

D 23 – 06 By acclamation, the GA appointed Dorte Olesen President of TERENA for a three-year term of office.

D 23 – 07 By acclamation, the GA appointed Marko Bonač Member at Large of the TERENA Executive Committee for a three-year term of office.

#### 8. Projected membership categories 2006

There was no new information to report or discuss on this item.

#### 10. Preliminary discussion about the GN2 Foresight Study (successor to SERENATE)

Sabine Jaume-Rajaonia introduced the topic (see slides at <http://www.terena.nl/about/GA/ga23/20050609SJgaSERENATE2.ppt>).

In the discussion that followed, Kees Neggers pointed out that the advent of optical and hybrid networking was leading to a whole new paradigm, which the networking community would have to deal with now, rather than as the result of a future study. He felt that it was necessary to set priorities for the short term as well as for the long term and cautioned against waiting for a study. Dorte Olesen felt that this was a valid point, but that it did not mean that a long term study would not be needed. She thought that an organisation like EUNIS might be a relevant partner for a “SERENATE2” study, and that it should be carefully considered which other European bodies might advantageously be involved. Leif Laaksonen and others pointed to organisations such as ESFRI and the eIRG, which were supposed to be able to supply TERENA with information about the requirements of large users. Jorge Sanchez pointed out that these agendas were not fixed themselves, but evolved over time; he also felt that NRENs were not well-represented at these forums. Hans Döbbeling remarked that we currently are working with 'one model fits all' and that this might not be appropriate for all countries in the future. Urs Eppenberger and others felt that it was primarily the task of NRENs themselves to understand their users. In Switzerland, some 10% of the IT departments of Universities had formulated a strategy. Such strategies should be a key input for the NRENs. In response, some felt that a TERENA study should also look further into the future and consider new user groups. A study

should complement what NRENs can do themselves, rather than try to do things for them. One possibility might be to make a comparison of NREN strategies.

Regarding the process, Karel Vietsch recalled that this was only a first, preliminary brainstorming discussion. The study itself was not due to start until March next year. It could be an idea to ask the NRENs to point to 3-5 “visionaries” in their countries who might contribute. Probably, there would be a workshop to launch the study, similar to the workshop that was held at the start of the SERENATE study. This would then lead to firmer decisions about priorities, partners and timelines.

Dorte Olesen thanked GA members for their inputs, which would be used in the further planning of the study. She thought it a good idea for TERENA to arrange a workshop in the spring of 2006 to launch a study, and welcomed suggestions also after the meeting as to the relevant partners in the project.

A 23 – 1           The Secretariat to tentatively plan a workshop to launch the “SERENATE2” study.

#### 11. Discussion on opinions of the TERENA membership about the 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme

Karel Vietsch gave a presentation on the results of a workshop that was hosted on the 11<sup>th</sup> of April by the European Commission on ‘Research Networking – Where do we go next?’ (see slides at <http://www.terena.nl/about/GA/ga23/20050610KVGAp7.ppt>). A trend was that NRENs needed to spend more time on services, less on the network itself. He felt that it was now necessary to keep reminding the Commission that Grids were not the only users of the networks.

Responding to a question from Kees Neggers, José Fernandes said that FP7 budget was currently being negotiated between the European Parliament and the Council of Ministers and would probably be agreed by mid-2005. Discussions on the content of the programme would probably start in earnest from September. The first Call would be probably be issued early in 2007, or at the earliest at the end of 2006.

Lajos Bálint and others felt that it would be welcome if better than 50% funding could be introduced in the new Programme. Especially some of the smaller and/or more peripheral countries had relatively high cost to give their researchers what they needed and expected, and a solution for that problem was needed. Others doubted whether better than 50% funding would be an attainable or even a desirable goal. They felt that it would be dangerous for NRENs to rely on EU funding too much for crucial infrastructure and services, since this might erode the national support base NRENs needed to cultivate.

Kees Neggers felt that together with the current introduction of optical networking there were many new technologies being developed by the industry and he predicted that those would also influence research networking.

#### 12. Research networking and EU Structural Funds

Marko Bonač showed a few slides (see <http://www.terena.nl/about/GA/ga23/GA-Poznan-SF.ppt>) outlining some of the problems that NRENs experience when trying to access Structural Funds. He proposed to organise a workshop in Brussels with the relevant Commission officials later in the year. Jorge Sanchez pointed out that decisions about which projects to support from Structural Funds were taken primarily at the national level. Marko Bonač responded that there were conflicting interpretations of the EU rules in different countries and that therefore exchange of experience and direct contacts with the Commission might be useful. Alberto Pérez and others supported this idea.

Dorte Olesen concluded that a meeting in Brussels, firstly among relevant NRENs and then with relevant Commission officials, should be organised.

A 23 – 2           The Secretariat to assist Marko Bonač in organising a meeting on Structural Funds in Brussels later in 2005.

### 13. Conferences and Workshops

#### a. TERENA Networking Conference 2005, Poznań

Shirley Wood presented some slides, giving a very first evaluation of the Conference (see <http://www.terena.nl/about/GA/ga23/20050610ShirleyGA.ppt>). Overall, the Conference had been a success. There were around 460 delegates; financially, there was hope of a small surplus. Shirley Wood thanked Artur Binczewski and all of the people of PSNC for their remarkable effort.

#### b. TNC in 2006, Catania, Italy

As announced in the closing session of the TNC 2005, next year's conference will take place in Catania, Italy, from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> of May. A Programme Committee, chaired by Ingrid Melve, had been formed and would meet for the first time in September. A Conference Organisation Committee meeting had been planned for October.

#### c. Schools Workshop – GA(05)003

Shirley Wood announced that the second TERENA Schools Workshop would take place on the 24<sup>th</sup> and the 25<sup>th</sup> of October in London.

### 14. TERENA Secretariat Matters

Karel Vietsch reported that most of the FP5 projects that TERENA had been working on were now ending and that work had started on a number of FP6 projects.

### 15. Liaisons

#### CCIRN

Kees Neggers reported that IPv6 and hybrid networking had been the main topics of the meeting and that having such a focus had worked well. The CCIRN had agreed that it would continue its work, specifically as a meeting place for continental networking organisations. As a result of this, George Strawn from NSF had stepped down as the North American co-chair. The next meeting would take place somewhere in North America in the spring of 2006.

#### EUNIS

Dorte Olesen reported that EUNIS had proposed a Memorandum of Understanding between the two organisations, which included things such as mutual links to each others' websites. The GA agreed that such a MoU could be signed.

A 23 – 3           TERENA to sign a MoU with EUNIS.

#### EURid

Marko Bonač reported that registrars were now being accredited. The Sunrise period for .eu domain name registration would start later this year.

16. Next meetings

The 24<sup>th</sup> GA meeting will be combined with an NREN PC meeting and will take place on the 21<sup>st</sup> of October in Budapest, Hungary. The TEC would try to make sure that the 26<sup>th</sup> GA meeting would be combined with an NREN PC meeting as well.

17. Any other business and close

Helmut Sverenyák announced that CESNET would host a conference to celebrate its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year.

Claudio Allocchio announced that the TNC 2006 would most likely be followed by a GARR Users' Conference in the same location.

Artur Binczewski thanked the delegates for coming to Poland. Dorte Olesen thanked PSNC for hosting the meeting.

## **Annex I to the minutes of the 23rd TERENA GA meeting**

### **List of Decisions and Actions from the 23rd TERENA General Assembly meeting**

#### **Decisions**

- D23 - 01      The General Assembly unanimously approved the minutes of the 22nd GA meeting (GA(04)032), Limassol, 21 October 2004.
- D23 - 02      The GA unanimously adopted the TERENA Financial Accounts 2004.
- D23 – 03      The GA unanimously appointed PriceWaterhouse Coopers as the auditors for the TERENA accounts for 2005 and 2006.
- D23 - 04      The GA unanimously approved both parts of the Annual Report 2004.
- D23 – 05      The GA unanimously decided to automatically end the membership of IPM (Iran) on 1 September 2005 unless payment of at least one year of the outstanding membership fees has taken place before that date.
- D 23 – 06      By acclamation, the GA appointed Dorte Olesen President of TERENA for a three-year term of office.
- D 23 – 07      By acclamation, the GA appointed Marko Bonač Member at Large of the TERENA Executive Committee for a three-year term of office.

#### **Actions**

- A 23 – 1      The Secretariat to tentatively plan a workshop to launch the “SERENATE2” study.
- A 23 – 2      The Secretariat to assist Marko Bonač in organising a meeting on Structural Funds in Brussels later in 2005.
- A 23 – 3      TERENA to sign a MoU with EUNIS.

## Annex II to the minutes of the 23rd TERENA GA meeting

### List of participants at the 23rd TERENA General Assembly meeting, Poznań, 9 – 10 June 2005.

#### National members

Austria, ACONet	Werner Koblitz (by proxy)
Croatia, CARNet	Igor Velimirović
Cyprus, CYNET	Agathoclis Stylianou
Czech Republic, CESNET	Helmut Sverenyák
Denmark, UNI-C	Ole Kjærgaard
Finland, CSC	Leif Laaksonen
France, RENATER	Sabine Jaume-Rajaonia
Germany, DFN	Peter Kaufmann
Greece, GRNET	Jorge Sanchez-Papaspiliou
Hungary, HUNGARNET	Lajos Bálint
Iceland, RHnet	Jón Ingi Einarsson
Ireland, HEAnet	John Boland
Italy, Consortium GARR	Claudia Battista
Latvia, LATNET	Katrina Sataki
Lithuania, LITNET	Petras Sulcas
Luxembourg, RESTENA	Stefan Winter (by proxy)
Malta, University of Malta	Robert Sultana
Netherlands, SURFnet	Kees Neggers
Norway, UNINETT	Petter Kongshaug
Poland, PCSS	Jan Węglarz
Portugal, FCCN	Pedro Veiga
Serbia and Montenegro, University of Belgrade	Zoran Jovanović (Thursday only), Jorge Sanchez-Papaspiliou (Friday, by proxy)
Slovakia, SANET	Tibor Weis
Slovenia, ARNES	Marko Bonač
Spain, RED.ES	Alberto Pérez
Sweden, SUNET	Petter Kongshaug (by proxy)
Switzerland, SWITCH	Urs Eppenberger
Turkey, ULAKBIM	Cem Saraç
United Kingdom, UKERNA	Shirley Wood

#### International members

ESA	Andrea Baldi
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#### Associate members

Cisco Systems	Johan Paardekooper
DANTE	Hans Döbbeling
Juniper Networks	Jean-Marc Uzé
Level 3 Communications	Bart van Aanholt
NORDUnet	Petter Kongshaug (by proxy)

#### Observers

Dorte Olesen (President), Claudio Allocchio (Vice-President Technical Programme), Artur Binczewski (PCSS), José Fernandes (FCCN), Avgust Jauk (ARNES), Fernando Liello (GARR), Mike Nowlan

(HEAnet) , Valentino Cavalli, John Dyer, Bert van Pinxteren and Karel Vietsch (all TERENA Secretariat)

Apologies received

Peter Rastl and Wilfried Wöber (ACOnet), Jan Gruntorád (CESNET), Margita Kon-Popovska (MARNET), Dany Vandromme (Renater), Antoine Barthel and Theo Duhautpas (RESTENA), Arne Sundström and Hans Wallberg (SUNET), David Foster and Jean-Michel Jouanigot (CERN), Peter Villemoes and Sven Tafvelin (NORDUnet), Yves Poppe (Teleglobe)