

**Minutes of TERENA Technical Committee Meeting
Monday 16 December 2002
TERENA office, Amsterdam**

Valentino Cavalli
13 January 2003
Approved 14 March 2003

Present

Claudio Allocchio, VP Technical Programme (TTC Chairman)
Roberto Barbera
David Chadwick
Brian Gilmore
Christoph Graf
Dimitrios Kalogeras
Olav Kvittem
Ton Verschuren
Karel Vietsch

TERENA Staff

Valentino Cavalli
Licia Florio
Kevin Meynell
John Dyer (secretary)

1. Minutes of the previous TTC meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were not discussed.

2. Open Actions from the TTC meeting of 6 September 2002

020121-02	Secretariat to make a clear archive of old TERENA projects	ONGOING
020603-02	TTC - to stimulate NRENS in providing answers to the Deep2 questionnaire distributed in summer 2002	DONE
020708-02	TTC members to Keep each other informed about the activities that anybody is taking to bridge to campuses.	ONGOING
020906-01	Yuri and Licia would to finalize the date of TF-AACE, TF-LSD meetings and TF-AACE workshop in agreement with the GNOMIS organizers.	DONE
020906-02	Valentino to inform the TF-NGN group about the revision of the Task-Force Charter at the next meeting on 17-18 October.	DONE
020906-03	Yuri to discuss with the TF-AACE and TF-LSD chairs about the options of extending the TF-LSD mandate or merging it with TF-AACE.	DONE
020906-04	Valentino to negotiate the IP Telephony Cookbook proposal.	DONE
020906-05	TTC to hold a VRVS conference experiment on 7 th October 14:00 to 15:30 CET	DONE

020906-06	Valentino to discuss with Dick Visser about installing VRVS server at TERENA.	DONE
020906-07	Yuri and Roberto to finalise TERENA web page on GRIDs.	DONE
020906-08	TTC to include an item in the next meeting agenda about how to provide input to MACE.	DONE

3. Feedback from the TERENA General Assembly meeting

The vice president Technical Programme summarized the conclusions of a discussion held at the GA meeting in October 2002 about a plan to evaluate the financial implications of TERENA technical projects. The TTC and the TEC would play a joint role in the process of planning the TERENA Technical Programme and its finance in liaison with the TAC and the GA. Claudio Allocchio proposed that TTC and TEC meet together twice a year before GA meetings in order to discuss the proposal to the GA.

Karel detailed that the overall planning cycle would last three calendar years with an annual revision of project progress. Each year, besides the traditional TAC meeting, an open session would be organized during the TERENA Networking Conference to allow attendees to discuss and propose new ideas. The TTC would evaluate the technical aspects of arising project proposals and the TEC the financial ones. The results would go into a planning document to be approved by the GA.

There are doubts about the implementation of the planning cycle, especially concerning the way to collect project ideas. New projects may arrive unsolicited at any time or at a fixed date following a specific call for proposals? A call for proposals would steer the elaboration of new projects by the TERENA community, but, as it happened in the past, it would also encourage the submission of proposals with very little relevance. The biggest problem though is the match between the fixed time of the call and the unavoidable variety of new project proposal coming at any time. Valentino noticed that this is particularly the case for EC project proposals, which have also a major impact on the TERENA workload and finance. As a conclusion he said that a Call For Proposal is probably not a suitable model, and one might look instead at what the Commission does with the definition of a Framework Programme. Rather than specific projects the planning cycle could define key themes and areas, which however need to be more detailed than the traditional TERENA SIAs to be able to assign them a particular budget. Brian, observed that another model is that the TTC makes suggestions about new projects, even if this would raise the issue of how to find the people to work on them. There was consensus that TERENA task forces are the environments where projects stem from and their collaboration ought to be sought in the elaboration of the planning cycle.

Dimitrios observed that some projects might be relevant for some TERENA members only and not interesting for the core community, so that one should have different rules in place. He suggested for instance to adopt a mechanism for core TERENA members based on the planning scheme and to devise a different, more flexible one, for the periphery.

4. Updates on the TERENA Technical Programme

4.1. Task Forces

TF-NGN

At the TF-NGN meeting held in Budapest in October a new focus emerged on optical testbed activities, performance monitoring, and provision of new network services on GÉANT. The task force agreed to carry out some work of the ASTON optical initiative as a preparation for the submission of an EC proposal in summer 2003. Three subgroups were formed on Bandwidth on Demand, led by Michal Przybylski from PSNC, transport at 40+ Gbps, led by Mauro Campanella from GARR and 10 GE over long distance, led by Stanislav Sima from CESNET. On the performance side, DANTE announced the start of a network monitoring infrastructure on GÉANT and of a discussion on the creation of a PERT, Performance Emergency Response Team. A brainstorming meeting on the PERT organised by DANTE would be hosted at the TERENA office on Wednesday the 18th of December.

TF-NGN had agreed on the suggestion of the TTC to renew its term of reference by only updating the list of work items. The list was presented by Valentino in Budapest resulting in an action on him and the task force chairman to provide an update. That action was still ongoing, so the new term of reference could not be submitted to the TTC on time for an approval during this meeting. Valentino would finalise the new TF-NGN charter and distribute it to the TTC email list for approval.

TF-CSIRT

TF-CSIRT had a successful meeting at the end of September in Greece. The following one will be held in Zagreb, Croatia on 23-24 January 2003. Kevin Meynell and Karel Vietsch will attend the meeting.

Karel Vietsch reported that the Trusted Introducer service has been subcontracted to Don Stikvoort for a permanent service and the number of accredited teams is growing. He mentioned the EC funded projects EISPP, a project from BT-Ignite to set up an open European CERT network of expertise, and updated the TTC on the TRANSITS project where TERENA is involved together with Ukerna. TRANSITS, had a first, very successful training workshop at the end of October and the next one is scheduled in May 2003 in Warsaw back-to-back to the meeting of TF-CSIRT. At the TF-CSIRT meeting a demo was presented on a pilot Clearing House for Incident Handling Tools, (CHIHT, see <http://chiht.dfn-cert.de/>). Additionally, there were presentations and discussions on the FIRST Task Force on Regional Initiatives, assistance in establishing new CIRTs, and other initiatives.

TF-AACE

TF-AACE met on 27 November in Stockholm, the day after the workshop on inter-institutional authentication and authorization (IAA), first part of TF-AACE deliverable B4, having a second workshop scheduled in fall 2003. The next TF-AACE meeting would be held in Zagreb, Croatia, during TNC2003.

David Chadwick observed that the IAA workshop in Sweden was very good in terms of information dissemination but he felt it was not very effective towards the goal of planning and doing real work, more discussion on implementation details would have been needed for example. It was observed that being the first workshop more time had to be devoted to information dissemination than initially planned and David suggested that the next one was a two-days workshop covering both information and working issues, implementations, standards and APIs. The TF-AACE workshop is a very relevant activity towards a European equivalent of MACE, and was discussed further in that context, see below.

TF-LSD

TF-LSD met on 27 November in Stockholm adjacent to TF-AACE. The mandate of the task force was terminated and the group agreed to support Licia Florio in wrapping up all available deliverables so that they can be published on the TERENA web site before TNC2003. TERENA would close the task force down and keep the mailing list up, basically as a forum for discussion of the projects currently still running.

Participants in TF-LSD and TF-AACE had discussed a suggestion from Ken Klingenstein to think about a wider forum to discuss general issues related to Middleware, which could be seen as a framework for specific projects and task forces like TF-AACE, or other middleware related activities. The community agreed to start discussing the objectives of this forum in view of some decision to be made at the next TF-AACE meeting in Zagreb. David Chadwick remarked that a general middleware framework would be interesting for TF-AACE, especially when addressing privacy issues. It would be maybe less interesting on the indexing side, however there is a clear need for people in the LDAP and PKI communities to work together and such a middleware forum could match the requirement.

TF-Mobility

The TTC had received a draft Term of Reference of a new TERENA task force aiming at investigating roaming for mobile devices using access technologies being deployed by a few NRENS. The deliverables would investigate alternative authentication and authorisation techniques to provide inter-NREN roaming on wireless access networks, select the suitable options and set up a test bed.

The TTC largely agreed on the Term of Reference, however Christoph Graf remarked that deliverable C does not address purely technical issues but rather legal and regulatory aspects and these should be reflected in the objective of the charter. The most important things to consider are liability and data protection. Licia will take care of updating the charter and will distribute the revised version to the TTC email distribution list for final approval.

4.2. EC funded Projects

SCAMPI

The SCAMPI project is progressing well in view of the 1st review, which was proposed to take place the day after the 1st SCAMPI workshop scheduled on 27 January 2003 in Amsterdam [later in December the EC project Officer cancelled the proposed date and postponed the review to a later, not yet defined date in spring 2003, VC]. The Workshop Programme was almost finalized and going to be published before the 20th of December. There are only a few concerns related to a partner not providing the hardware adapter as originally intended. The consortium agreed to redistribute internally 10 out of the 60 person months originally allocated to it and sent a proposal to EC.

As a consequence, alternative technical options were being investigated. These included the DAG cards produced by Endace in New Zealand and other options like having a local filter on the card or at the software level, the latter coupled with less expensive hardware available today might be a temporary solution for lower speed and might allow to switch to higher speed later on when less expensive hardware adapters would become available.

Karel Vietsch informed the TTC that TERENA is spending less effort than planned in the project. TERENA staff members are fulfilling all tasks involved by their role in the project, mostly project coordination, web site creation and maintenance and organisation of workshops. But in practice those tasks do not seem to require so much work.

6NET

TERENA is planning to organise the 1st open 6NET workshop at the TERENA conference in May 2003, following on the successful 6NET/Euro6IX workshop at TNC2002. 6NET partners have been allowed by the EC to charge to the project the travel costs to Croatia. The PO has approved by email only and Kevin agreed to ask for an official letter to be sent to the coordinator.

Notwithstanding the administrative details the approval allows TERENA to start appropriate plans to hold the workshop in Zagreb. The first target is to have a preliminary programme available at the end of January 2003 when the Preliminary Programme of the TNC2003 needs to be published.

The TTC asked if there was any form of coordination with national initiatives at the 6NET dissemination level. Kevin replied that, as far as TERENA was informed by the partners, he was keeping the 6NET calendar updated with local events and provided links to local 6NET web sites, however he remarked that the partners and the coordinator have asked TERENA to play a larger role in dissemination than originally envisaged and even though most of the requests have been fulfilled, the limited amount of man power does not allow TERENA to be more active in coordination of national initiatives. Valentino said that a related issue was touched during a discussion of the 6LINK project team, in connection to a suggestion from the Commission to provide a coordination layer for an "IPv6 Summer School" with training courses organised at national level using standard educational material provided from 6NET/Cisco.

TEQUILA

The TEQUILA original contract was extended to the end of October, after which the project had a very good review. The project still had to submit a couple of deliverables but no activity was left on TERENA, who however agreed to continue running the web site indefinitely providing that minimal effort is spent in it.

6LINK

After a successful review the 6LINK project hold an IPv6 Cluster workshop in Copenhagen in November, the next one is scheduled on the 4th of February in Brussels.

SEEREN

The SEEREN project (<http://www.seeren.org/>) started on the 1st of December 2002 and held a kick-off meeting in Athens on 12-13 December. The project aims at providing network connectivity to West Balkan countries using spare capacity of GÉANT. Valentino attended the meeting via H.323 videoconference and clarified the role of TERENA in the project, who will lead two activities: a) the collection of requirements in the first two months of the project by providing input based on the NREN compendium to the creation and analysis of the questionnaire; b) the SEEREN workshops, including a training workshop to be organised by GRNET early in 2003 and a larger dissemination workshop to be held in fall 2003, likely in conjunction with a NATO Advanced Networking Workshop on Policy matters for the Balkan area. Valentino would work together with CEENET and GRNET in January in order to submit a proposal for an ANW to NATO by the deadline of 15 January 2003.

4.3. TERENA funded Projects

TERENA has ongoing contract about the following projects: Adding certificate retrieval to OpenLDAP, Directory Schema Registry, IODEF and DEEP2.

Adding certificate retrieval to OpenLDAP

The project has submitted a lot of deliverables which had useful follow up discussion on the TF-LSD mailing list and had a good review in Stockholm in November.

Directory Schema Registry

The project is late with the submission of first deliverables but they have been promised for January 2003. In general a tighter project monitoring should be ensured by TERENA in order to make sure that deliverables are provided on time and match the required quality level.

IODEF

The project has been superseded by events. The work was taken up in the IETF INCH working group. The TERENA project has not really done much in addition, so officially the project has ended but the implementation did not start yet. However, others have already implemented a previous version of IODEF and the remaining work should be taken up by the eCSIRT.net project. As a result TERENA money will not be spent on the project. There was no clear information about the kind of work that eCSIRT.Net would do, however discussion about that was already included in the agenda of the next TF-CSIRT meeting.

DEEP2

The TTC received the result of the questionnaire provided by Peter Gietz as a first part of the DEEP2 project. The TTC had previously agreed to fund the questionnaire and evaluate its result before making a decision about the remaining activities proposed.

The TTC found the result of the questionnaire very interesting. David Chadwick specified that some of the attributes defined in the report could be actually standardised. However the TTC was still in doubt whether the result of the questionnaire justified the remaining work and thought that enough is already covered by the Schema Registry project. TTC members debated whether as a follow up one could recommend changing the eduPerson schema rather than proposing an alternative one. David concluded that a schema definition should never be changed, if new attributes are needed a new schema has to be created, however this can be certainly proposed within one of the existing fora, for instance in the form of an Internet draft.

Other doubts were expressed in a brief review of the DEEP2 proposal about the need for a web site and the effort estimated to work on standardization. The amount of work to be done could easily be done on a volunteer basis inside TF-AACE.

As a conclusion, the TTC recognised the value of the questionnaire result and recommended Peter Gietz to put up an Internet Draft, however decided not to approve the remaining part of the DEEP2 activity as a TERENA funded project.

IP telephony Cookbook

In the previous meeting the TTC approved the IP telephony Cookbook proposal and recommended TERENA to look for the needed funds in the TERENA membership. Valentino reported about progresses on the financial issue and said that several members agreed to provide significant funding and others would support the project in kind, but the contribution was not enough to cover the requested amount yet. Other members were still evaluating

the possibility of funding the project and Valentino suggested to send a reminder to the GA and TAC email distribution lists requesting TERENA members to commit funding to the project by January 2003.

5. Relation with MACE

TTC members participating in MACE reported that the Americans are quite keen in having an equivalent in Europe, and the issue to be discussed in this item of the TTC agenda was indeed how to do it. Officially there has been no progress since TNC2002 in Limerick, however TTC members felt that TF-AACE is currently doing what the Americans want. So the real question was whether it is being done at the right speed or not and if there is any recommendation the TTC should convey to TF-AACE.

The next TF-AACE workshop is scheduled in fall next year, however people in Stockholm had discussed whether TNC2003 would have been a suitable venue to meet and discuss implementation issues. The TTC felt that TNC would actually be good for information dissemination but if the goal is to have people working then a closed secluded separate meeting is a better option.

It was reported that Alan Robiette had offered to look at the possibility of hosting a workshop in the UK, but people were not sure whether the offer was for the spring or the summer. It was observed that March 2003 would be a good date in order not to lose momentum. Brian urged to start planning and offered to chase Alan. The event should be coordinated with MACE and therefore TERENA should encourage Americans to provide input and attend it. Participation in the workshop should be by invitation and submission of a position statement. A deadline for contributions should be set up for this purpose.

The content of the workshop should address middleware design and architecture; these can be further divided into generic issues and details. Brian observed that an impressive amount of work is going on in Europe. However some activities, like PAPI and Shibboleth belong to the same problem space, whereas others belong to more than one different problem space. Therefore one of the first goals should be to understand how those problem spaces and systems interact with each other. Christoph added the importance of understanding how local authentication mechanisms can scale especially in interaction with Grids.

Two actions resulting from the discussion were a) to suggest on the mailing list that October would be fine for a dissemination meeting but an extra one devoted to implementation issues needs to be organised, possibly before summer 2003; b) to report to TF-AACE Brian's questions: does TF-AACE need to coordinate with MACE in a better way, do some more or different work to that purpose or at a different speed, etc?

6. EGEE Project Proposal

Licia attended a meeting focusing on the EGEE project proposal which was held in Geneva on 10 December 2002. The proposal addresses the 1st FP6 call of 17 December 2002 with a deadline of 6 May 2003 for the specific action on Grids. Licia gave a presentation about TERENA and the role it would play as a partner involved in dissemination. A steering committee was appointed at the meeting and a phone conference was scheduled on 17 December to start defining the technical specifications and the way to proceed with the proposal. An editorial board composed of people from CERN will edit the proposal, individual task forces will work on defining and writing specific technical parts of it.

The EGEE project would follow the model of GÉANT with the aim of providing an operational Grid infrastructure in Europe connecting about 20 national computing centres and creating a limited number of GOCs (named after the NOCs). The project is initiated by CERN; DANTE,

TERENA and many NRENs would be part of the consortium. Each country in the project would have a Grid access point, however it was not clear if these would be managed by NRENs or by other organisations. Not enough information was available yet to inform the TTC about what the project would do in detail, how it would be structured and what the deliverables are.

TERENA is in touch with Rosy Mondardini from CERN for working on the dissemination part. Roberto Barbera made some suggestion on the TERENA role based on the good work done by the Italian CNR in the DataGrid project, like, among other, organising booths at international events and conferences, press releases, film the event and produce multimedia material, running a testbed, maintaining a web site and database of contact, issue a quarterly magazine, organise a workshop. It appeared clear that TERENA alone does not have enough resources to perform all the mentioned tasks, nor they would fit to such an extent with the TERENA mission, and that, as stressed by Licia at the meeting in Geneva, other project partner should have a role in the dissemination of EGEE too.

The conclusion was that notwithstanding the limited amount of information available the participation of TERENA appeared to be extremely appropriate as a project partner, not the exclusive one, having either a contribution or also coordination role in the dissemination activity. Licia would follow up on the development of the EGEE proposal.

7. AOB

Claudio Allocchio recalled the TTC about the result of the VRVS videoconference exercise carried out on the 7th of October. The experiment was good for many participants, but a few of them had serious problems in using the audio tool on Linux. Claudio announced that a new release of VRVS was currently being tested, but additionally people were porting openMesh on different platforms expecting that this will solve the VRVS audio problems with Linux, and that it will be integrated in VRVS soon. He expected some stable implementation to be ready for beta testing in February 2003.

The TTC agreed to provisionally set 17 February 2003 at 15:00 GMT as a target date for a new VRVS test with all participants, and to set up beforehand separate tests between those organisations who have problems at the moment.

The mandate of Olav Kvittem and David Chadwick as TTC members is going to expire during 2003 and having served for two consecutive mandates their position cannot be renewed. The TTC should start think about possible suitable candidates to take over their portfolios.

8. Date of next meetings

The next meeting would be held on the 14th of March 2003 at the TERENA office in Amsterdam.

The following meeting would be held during TNC2003 in Zagreb, Croatia.

A joint meeting of the TTC and the TEC would be held at the TERENA office in Amsterdam from the 23rd of June at 1 pm to the 24th of June at 1 pm.

9. Summary of New and Open Actions

020121-02	Secretariat to make a clear archive of old TERENA projects	ONGOING
020708-02	TTC members to Keep each other informed about the activities that anybody is taking to bridge to campuses.	ONGOING
021216-01	Valentino to finalise the new TF-NGN charter and distribute it to the TTC email list for approval.	NEW
021216-02	Licia to update the TF-Mobility charter and distribute the revised version to the TTC email distribution list for final approval.	NEW
021216-03	Kevin to ask the 6NET Project Officer to send an official letter authorising the project participants to attend the 6NET workshop in Zagreb.	NEW
021216-04	Valentino to send a reminder to the GA and TAC email distribution lists requesting TERENA members to commit funding to the IP Telephony Cookbook project by January 2003.	NEW
021216-05	Brian to chase Alan Robiette on his proposal to host a TF-AACE/MACE workshop in the UK in March 2003.	NEW
021216-06	Licia to suggest the TF-AACE mailing list that an extra workshop devoted to implementation issues needs to be organised, possibly before summer 2003.	NEW
021216-07	Licia to insert the issue of coordination with MACE in the agenda of the next TF-AACE meeting.	NEW