

Draft Minutes of the ALADIN regular 18th General Assembly

Tunis, November the 14th & 15th 2013

1. Welcome and opening of the meeting at 14h on 14/11/2013

The General Assembly chairman (GA Chair, Klemen Bergant) warmly welcomed the members of the 18th GA, in particular João Lourenço (Portugal) and Jean-Noël Thépaut (ECMWF observer), who participated for the first time. A full list of attendees is attached in Annex: all Partners were represented but for Bulgaria and Hungary (OMSZ was excused due to the very recent nomination of its new President, at their request, the Czech Director acting on their behalf).

Abdelwaheb Nmiri took the floor and, on behalf of NIM, welcomed the participants and expressed his great pleasure to host the GA in Tunis, as new Director of NIM and former “ALADINer”. He wished an efficient and fruitful meeting.

2. Adoption of the draft agenda

The proposed agenda was adopted and the GA agreed to give the GA Chair **some freedom in the items' order**, to make sure that item 8 could be partly discussed during the first afternoon.

3. Approval of the minutes of the 17th GA

The GA Chair appreciated the preparation of the minutes from the last GA.

As no comment was made, the GA unanimously adopted the minutes of the 17th GA.

4. Report from the PAC meeting and the 1st joint HAC/PAC meeting

The PAC Chairman (Michael Staudinger) took the floor and summarized the main recommendations made by the 10th PAC meeting and the 1st joint HAC/PAC meeting, kindly hosted by Météo-France in Toulouse (*see* the 10th PAC minutes and the 1st HAC/PAC minutes for more details*).

The 1st HAC/PAC meeting highlighted the good synergy between both ALADIN and HIRLAM consortia (development of the same NWP system, existing common rolling plan, ...) but recommended an in-depth analysis on their working practices before deciding on further convergence. The open data policy within some HIRLAM countries was the main issue raised. The PAC Chairman reported on his meeting with A. Eliassen (from Met.no) and proposed to reach a compromise based on the free publication of national data by each NMS, publication of extraterritorial data being subject to approval by the concerned country

Jeanette Onvlee (HIRLAM PM) explained that HIRLAM did not have a block open data policy, each NMS applying the rules of its own country. She was also in favour of a compromise.

See item 8 for discussion on data policy and on ALADIN/HIRLAM potential further merge.

*A copy of the presentations of the 18th GA will be joined to the Minutes and are available on the ALADIN website, together with some preparatory documents (<http://www.cnrm.meteo.fr/aladin/spip.php?article256>).

5. Report

- *Tour d'ALADIN*

The ALADIN PM presented his “tour d'ALADIN”, i. e. the scan of the activities in the consortium, seen from the highlights sent by LTMs (*see the on-line presentation* for details country by country*):

- a new doctor in Algeria and a new computer for 2014;
- several operational examples of extra skill with respect to ECMWF forecasts of high-impact weather in the convection-permitting resolutions (ALADIN-Austria for Central Europe flooding, AROME-Portugal, AROME prototype in Tunisia, ALARO-0 baseline in Romania, ...);
- extra “control” to handle our “own” parametrizations: e.g. ALARO for the CE flooding case, the unsaturated downdrafts scheme to get more useful downdrafts for the Pukkelpop case;
- the potential for going to 1-km resolution (AROME 1.3km tests at Météo-France);
- preparation for convection-permitting EPS (prototype building : experimental AROME-EPS in Hungary, in collaboration with Météo-France);
- data assimilation in several (even “small”) countries (examples of Hu and Hr), GPS data assimilation in ALADIN-Morocco, assimilation of Mode-S Meteorological Route Air Report in Slovenia;
- introduction of more fancy verification tools (Poland);
- code work (optimization work in Turkey; system working week in Ankara that resulted in the compilation of the new export version by using Harmonie tools; last export version installed in Morocco, ...);
- first results of a long-standing innovative work (Czech and Slovakia) on finite element vertical discretization for ALADIN non-hydrostatic dynamics.

The GA Chair thanked the ALADIN PM for this overview and acknowledged the good scientific and technical work done in the consortium and the important role of the verification.

- Strategic goals and priorities

The ALADIN PM called to mind the main points of attention identified during the strategic workshop in Brussels in 2011:

- to invest significantly in code design/development/maintenance,
- to improve the operational suitability of SURFEX,
- to facilitate collaboration and to intensify effort regarding external funding,
- to “define” our end users,
- to move to high resolution (1 km) and to assimilate high-resolution data.

The main activities of the consortium (actions, prioritization, meetings, working weeks, ...) aimed to address the above points of attention (*see also reports in items 5, 6 and 8 of the GA agenda*) and were presented in the PM activity report at the last PAC meeting (May 2013).

- *LACE report*

Yong Wang (LACE PM) first gave some LACE R&D highlights for 2013 in Data Assimilation, Dynamics, Physics (ALARO-0 baseline available in all LACE counties and ALARO-1 under development) and EPS (work on ALADIN-LAEF and on AROME-EPS).

He presented the main LACE common operations : more data and new data in OPLACE (the common Observation Pre-processing for LACE Data Assimilation and Verification); upgrade of ALADIN-LAEF, the new LAEF showing some added value against the old and the ECMWF EPS.

The performance of LACE forecast was scrutinized through long term verifications in each LACE country (under development) and through performance analysis on the June 2013 flooding case

(advantage of ALARO over ECMWF; better forecast with AROME).

Yong presented the current LACE management with a new position in an attempt to promote the ALADIN climate modelling in LACE (set up ALADIN climate network and search funding possibilities for all LACE NWP teams).

- *HIRLAM report*

Jeanette Onvlee (HIRLAM PM) focused on highlights on HIRLAM/ALADIN common efforts :

- to get the optimum impact of the use of high-resolution observations (RUC studies, use of non-national radar data, Mode-S availability, need for development of flow-dependent algorithms;
- to face the quite heavy impact on high-resolution data assimilation of the very necessary redesign of the code -OOPS- (with delays in the developments already announced by ECMWF and different ideas in MF and HIRLAM for the design of the LAM/En-Var);
- to identify the LAM aspects of COPE;
- to work jointly on the forecast model (i.e. radiation schemes inter-comparison, new physics-dynamics interface, ...), with exchange of experiences on sub-km scale modelling and discussions on some open scientific questions for hectometric resolutions;
- to share the experience with high-resolution physiography datasets (i.e. improvements and errors reported with ECOCLIMAP II)
- to save experiment costs and find complementary approaches between HarmonEPS (focus on the forecast model perturbations) and LAEF (soil data assimilation);
- to follow up the HIRLAM-ALADIN cooperation on quality assessment (development of HARP, discussions on common validation of new cycles).

- *Action on interfacing*

The ALADIN PM reminded that the highest priority of implementing and validating the new common (ALARO and AROME) physics-dynamics interface was approved by PAC during its last meeting. He proposed a stepwise approach to the scientific and technical issues related to this topic. The first steps had been completed by a group of ALADIN/HIRLAM people, with a very constructive collaboration with the Météo-France experts. It was proposed to analyse the next actions during the forthcoming ALADIN workshop/HIRLAM ASM and to report on the outcome at the next PAC meeting.

The GA took note of the importance of the issue and gave the green light to continue and give more concrete results at the next PAC meeting.

- *Newsletter*

The ALADIN PM announced the -electronic- publication of the 1st common ALADIN-HIRLAM Newsletter last September : it mainly contained articles based on some key presentations during the ALADIN WK/HIRLAM ASM in Reykjavik last April. The second issue of the Newsletter should contain articles on the 3 recent PhD, and elaborated version of the Tour presented to the GA and on events to come.

The GA approved on such electronic common Newsletters, with publication of the ALADIN and HIRLAM websites and announcement to the full teams.

- *Verification activities*

The ALADIN PM presented the outcome of the flat-rate funded verification meeting (Lisbon, September 2013) :

- proposal for **building a portfolio** with specific cases where the high-resolution performs better than ECMWF : to enhance R&D; This portfolio will be arranged in a form that will allow the countries to make brochures or catalogues to be used by their services for providing information about the model use for their end users and policy makers.

- **developing common tools** to help each country assess the quality of their products supplied to end users

In 2013, progresses were made in the three aspects of verification (and the corresponding tools) :

- quality monitoring : **APMT** (the **Aladin Performance Monitoring Tool** in Ljubljana) was made operational, with the production of monthly reports to monitor the performance of the national applications using standard scores (each LTM will receive the scores about his own country, only the ALADIN PM and the CSSI member for verification will get the whole scores);
- scientific verification : a verification common toolbox (**HARP** for Hirlam-Aladin R-Package) was built and a first prototype was tested at some NMSs (probabilistic scores and spatial verification);
- validation of export cycles (using the **HARMONIE system**, *see item 8 and WW in Ankara*).

The ALADIN PM proposed to organise in 2014 a forecasters meeting (with flat-rate support) to identify and study the portfolio cases.

Abdalah Mokssit agreed with three deliverables for end users : a catalogue, for each user, of very good success stories in its category (cf. portfolio); the ALADIN statement of providing common verification tools; monthly reports that can be shared with end users.

The GA approved and asked the ALADIN PM to come back and report on the forecasters meeting at the next GA.

6. Scientific and technical issues

- *Cycles and code evolution*

Claude Fischer informed the GA that a complete overview of the System evolution (with at least two R&D cycles planned in 2014) had been provided and all technical details discussed at the last LTM meeting (Antalya, October 1). Claude insisted on the good technical knowledge of the phasers team gathered in Toulouse during the last upgrades of the system, this good level being reached thanks to a good training in the local teams. The involvement of partners in the continued crucial efforts for System maintenance (phasing in Toulouse and maintenance effort in each NMS \approx 15% of the total manpower) was acknowledged but with an unbalanced breakdown of the phasing effort by countries (*see the on-line presentation for details*).

Claude explained that OOPS (Object Oriented Prediction System) and COPE (new observation pre-processing code for IFS) have triggered an acceleration of the modernization of the codes (this is regularly discussed during technical meetings with ECMWF, Météo-France, ALADIN and HIRLAM representatives). To prepare the introduction of some specific features of Fortran 2003 in the IFS code (cycle 41, June 2014), Claude launched an inquiry to check the compilation of a specific test program for 6 new features. All ALADIN teams sent feedback (most compilers support the 6 features). All members but one (Cz) experienced no problem or found a solution.

Radmila Brozkova explained that some features would not work on their computer and proposed to postpone the introduction of these features from cycle 41 to 42.

Claude reminded ECMWF's choice for a progressive implementation of Fortran 2003 features, announced 1 year before a common IFS/ARPEGE cycle, meaning 1.5 to 2 years before the cycle would run on partners' computers. Some test programs were sent to the LTMs and recommendations were provided for benchmarks.

The GA Chair proposed to inform ECMWF about the current problem and suggested that Cz representative and ECMWF, with the help of the management of the ALADIN Consortium (PM and CSSI Chair), try to find an acceptable compromise.

Jean-Noël Thépaut (ECMWF Observer) agreed to seek an arrangement but explained that it would not

be reasonable to remove some features nor to stop the development at the very moment when efforts were made on OOPS and COPE.

- *SURFEX*

The ALADIN CSSI Chair, the PM and the ACNA stressed the work done by the ALADIN team gathered to improve the efficiency of PREP (a SURFEX interpolation routine that had proved too time consuming in the ALADIN System). The proposed changes had been agreed with the SURFEX team, presented at the SURFEX Steering Committee and eventually implemented in a release of SURFEX.

- *Migration to new HPC at MF*

Claude explained that part of the partners' operational applications should be simultaneously converted to be compatible with the switch of operations to BULL at Météo-France. The changes in coupling data production for ALADIN partners were presented to the LTMs in June and tests of the new files and data were made by the LTMs, with a feedback at the last LTM meeting. Further coordinated actions would go on until operational migration of Météo-France's operations. Claude stressed the important role played by the ACNA for the coordination with himself and MF operations' team. Piet stressed that Maria Derkova has been carrying out an excellent job since she took over the position of ACNA and thanked her for this.

The GA acknowledged the official position of Maria Derkova as ACNA and the importance of her role on technical and operational-type activities.

7. Rolling work plan: reporting and priorities

The ALADIN PM explained that the common ALADIN-HIRLAM rolling work plan had been updated to attribute the work, missions and stays in 2014, according to identified priorities (as approved by PAC). Special attention was paid during this update to treat the work plan as a true “rolling” plan, without rewriting it from scratch and to make sure it was completely in phase with LACE work plan.

The ALADIN PM compared the manpower committed by the LTMs for 2012 to the manpower reported in the usual manpower database (*see point 9*) for 2012. Back to end of 2011, not all countries had sent their commitments for 2012 but, for those who had done it, the LTMs had generally underestimated the work they planned to carry out for the following year.

The ALADIN PM proposed to use the commitments in the work plan as a way to identify the skilled experts per topic (and only as a rough estimate of the manpower, the reported numbers being the official manpower numbers) and to keep the project management light (the priority topics and the reporting being presented to PAC and at the GA). The reported posterior manpower figures collected by P. Pottier and annually presented to the GA are, on the other hand, very reliable and complete and will always be used to formalize the manpower reporting. **The GA agreed with this proposal.**

The ALADIN PM gave a first list of planned meetings for 2014. He proposed to use the flat-rate money (*see point 9*) also for the attendance to HIRLAM organised working weeks. **The GA agreed.**

Invited presentation from the host

Zied Sassi gave a comprehensive overview of the National Meteorological Institute of Tunisia (history, organisation, staff, budget, mission, strategic plan, ...), presented the ALADIN-Tunisia model and recent R&D activity (use of SURFEX, ECOCLIMAP II , ...). He also showed the first results of an AROME prototype over Tunisia (at 2.5km resolution), with better scores on precipitation on an extreme case.

Abdelwahed Nmiri added that NMI was recruiting young engineers from High Schools to fill in positions of members of the staff who will retire in the coming year. He also pointed out the ongoing

cooperation with the E.U. and the increase of the NMI budget (generated by the contribution of the civil aviation).

The GA Chair thanked Zied and Abdelwaheb for their interesting presentation. He pointed out two activities in which ALADIN NMS are seldom engaged : astronomy and seismology. He also congratulated Abdelwaheb for the development of NMI.

8. Link with other European programs

- *Data policy in Europe*

Michael Staudinger proposed to reach a compromise with HIRLAM, under the umbrella of INSPIRE¹ directive, whereby NMS would have full liberty regarding the publication of their own data over their national territory or abide by their respective government's requests, but to have the explicit consent from another member state prior publication of data over their country.

Abdalah Mokssit stressed that all data without exception produced by our models originated from the collaborative work of every member. He supported Michael's proposal to find a compromise.

Olivier Gupta pointed out the necessity of giving a clear mandate to the Task Force as members will be data policy specialists and not ALADIN-HIRLAM specialists.

Michael proposed a first guidance (Term of References, ToR) for the Task Force.

The GA decided to set up a Task Force to deal with the problem of data policy. This Task Force should prepare a compromise for NWP data exchange, acceptable for ALADIN GA and HIRLAM Council. It should take into consideration the importance of national sovereignty, that NWP products are collaboratively generated, the relation with existing data policy rules. The PAC Chair and the ALADIN and HIRLAM PM should finalise the draft ToR of the Task Force by the end of 2013 and make suggestions about its membership.

- *Potential further merge between ALADIN and HIRLAM*

The ALADIN PM took the stage and presented the work of the Task Force created by last year's ALADIN GA and HIRLAM Council to analyse the pros and the cons of a further merge. The Task Force had analysed the current situation and identified three issues (**besides data policy**, previously discussed and that is **conditional all other discussions**) to be considered before a further merge :

- quality assurance (the work on the two other aspects of verification – quality monitoring and scientific verification - being on-going and not needing special attention),
- data handling (in ALADIN, only organized at LACE sub-consortium level for the time-being),
- code collaboration on implementing scientific outputs in the code and declaring operational code version (export version).

LACE Council had expressed some concerns about the efficiency of a consortium with 26 members and favoured two separate consortia. LACE would appreciate well-defined procedures and competencies concerning common code maintenance .

The Task Force had worked on different options :

- (1) “business as usual” : to keep the consortia separately with enhanced cooperation (two separate MoUs but with a better definition of the interactions),
- (2) super-consortium with sub-consortia : HIRLAM could adopt a similar position in a super-consortium to the current LACE position in ALADIN,
- (3) super-consortium with more ambitious regional reorganization : to re-organize the sub-consortia in possibly more natural regional groupings.

¹ **INSPIRE** is an EU initiative to establish an infrastructure for spatial information in Europe to support Community environmental policies, and policies or activities which may have an impact on the environment (<http://inspire.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>)

The Task Force recommended that, for the next few years, the two consortia should focus on actions that would bring convergence on system/maintenance to fruition. It also recommended to look at ways that would facilitate minimal convergence at governance level, keeping within the bounds of option 1. The two remaining options could be discussed later on a next programme phase.

The GA thanked the Task Force for the excellent scoping document, considering the complexity of the topic.

Olivier Gupta, Abdalah Mokssit and Daniel Gellens advocated the necessity of the merge of the consortia at long term and the importance of sharing a long-term vision with similar objectives and more efficacious means to achieve them.

The GA Chair proposed, that, for the time being, each consortia should have its own MoU, which would include short-term common working fields, and, as often as possible, similarly worded items and as many cross references as possible, which would be a clear sign of a will to a future merge. The principle that some meetings should be partly common should also be added (back-to-back ALADIN PAC/HIRLAM AC, ALADIN GA/ HIRLAM Council, with half a day in common).

The HIRLAM PM added that HIRLAM Council shared the same opinion and would also like to write down clearer common position on code maintenance and, first of all, clearer data policy. They supported to have back-to-back meetings (HAC/PAC, GA/Council).

**The GA agreed on going toward a common governance, but not for the next MoUs.
The GA agreed on common meetings (HAC/PAC as in May 2013, next Council/GA).**

The GA asked the Task Force (the ALADIN, HIRLAM and LACE PMs, the chairpersons of HAC, PAC and CSSI) to set clear directives for the renewal of MoUs, considering still two separate MoUs. The Task Force should identify which points should be addressed in the common parts (to be presented and discussed at the next joint HAC/PAC meeting) and reported at the next GA/Council).

- *SRNWP-V outcomes*

The main results of this first extended inter-comparison of LAM (ALADIN, COSMO, HIRLAM, LACE and UK) forecasts were presented at the last EWGLAM/SRNWP workshop by Clive Wilson (UK, SRNWP-Verification program coordinator) and the final written report is available on the EUMETNET portal.

Clive proposed to give full access to this report on the C-SRNWP public website.

Taking into account the potential misunderstanding of the methods and scores, **the GA asked that access to these results be restricted to experts and members of SRNWP-V programme.**

- *SRNWP-EPS*

The GA supported the initiative of the ALADIN and HIRLAM PMs that ALADIN and HIRLAM consortia formulate a scientific programme on convection permitting EPS which could provide a base for **Horizon 2020**.

- *OPERA*

The ALADIN PM did not identified any critical issues that would need some actions from the GA.

- *Link with ECMWF*

Jean-Noël Thépaut (ECMWF observer) presented the status of the OpenIFS project : it aims to investigate the benefit of providing a supported version of IFS to a limited number (10-12) of NMSs

or academia, with a 2 year licence, for teaching and research use only. The December ECMWF Council will decide about the licence policy (slightly wider range of users but with limited resources for support). A first OpenIFS user workshop took place at the University of Helsinki in 2013 and some institutions showed interest in developing advanced NWP training using OpenIFS and Single Column Model.

Abdelwaheb Nmiri expressed an interest on behalf of NIM.

Radmila Brozkova feared there might be some misuse by non-meteorological licence holders. Jean-Noël answered that ECMWF was working on a licence policy that would avert any misapplication but not barring entry of newcomers.

Claude Fischer informed the GA that ECMWF was working out a clear licence policy whereby the IFS/ARPEGE code would be distributed for research. In this context, the IFS/ARPEGE software agreement will be revisited. Discussion has yet to begin, HAC/PAC and GA/Council will be kept informed.

The GA expects to have more information for the next GA meeting.

9. Budget issues and manpower (+issues in the NMSs)

- *Money for maintaining the lake database*

The Global Lake Data Base (GLDB) was developed by Ekaterina Kurzeneva when working at Météo-France/GMME as a scientific visitor. In 2011, ECMWF provided support for the maintenance and development of GLDB. As it is widely used in the LAM community, the SRNWP Advisory Expert Team meeting (3 October 2013, Antalya) proposed to share the costs between the SRNWP consortia on a rotational basis (HIRLAM in 2013, COSMO in 2014).

The ALADIN PM added that the flat-rate mechanism could manage this expense (cf the contribution to the joint ALADIN/HIRLAM annual workshop) without impact on the flat-rate contribution.

The HIRLAM PM added that the shared costs covered only the funding of E. Kurzeneva's missions (her work at her institute is in-kind from the Saint-Petersburg University).

The ALADIN GA gave the ALADIN PM a mandate to agree on the rotational funding on ALADIN's behalf, with an ALADIN funding expected for 2015.

- *Man power figures*

Patricia Pottier presented the record of cumulative manpower contributions, their tendencies and the usual statistics (breakdown of the manpower by Partners or by Components of the consortia, mobility, type of work, funding, ...). These figures were prepared from the quarterly reporting by each LTM of its NMS's participation.

The cumulated manpower since 1991 is equivalent to 51 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) persons per year (above 80 FTE during the MoU4 years, with a **significant contribution for all Partners**). 91% of the total work was realised by the local permanent staffs in their NMSs, **the mobility showing a long-term decrease** (6% during the last 12 months), the emphasis being lately put on **“virtual mobility” through tele-, web- or video-conferencing**.

The mean partial time (the quotient when dividing the number of active participants by the FTE) reached 50% this year (40% on average, since 1991), more work being done by **“key” persons, working mostly full-time on the Project**.

The GA Chair appreciated that all countries contributed to the development of ALADIN and succeeded to gather core teams with people dedicated to ALADIN.

- *Report of the execution of the ongoing budget*

Patricia gave an overview of the full 2013 budget, with its resources (flat-rate contributions, LACE countries contribution on top of the flat-rate, MF and Belgium RMI in-kind contributions, ACNA

reserve, royalties redistribution) and its expenses for networking, research & maintenance stays, staff costs (LACE only), HIRLAM contribution (MF only). 90% of the 2013 flat rate budget was spent, the remaining 10% were due to missions not carried out by some LTM.

- *Adoption of the 2014 budget*

Following the PAC recommendation, Patricia had prepared a provisional 2014 budget with a flat-rate contribution set at 8770€, i.e. 2011 flat-rate contribution adjusted and rounded by the inflation over the Euro-zone. The resources (money from the 2013 non-executed actions and flat-rate contributions) should cover expenditures related to administrative or cooperation overheads and mobility in accordance with the ALADIN work plan. Besides the funding of scientific stays and the attendance to the usual events (annual meeting, LTM meetings, PAC meeting, specific working weeks), it could also fund a Forecasters' meeting (already agreed at point 5 during the discussion on verification) and some missions to HIRLAM working weeks.

The 2014 budget, based on a flat-rate contribution of 8770€, and the proposed expenses were unanimously adopted by the GA.

- *Royalty-linked issues*

Patricia presented the royalties for the actions performed by Météo-France International (MFI) and underlined their significant increase this year (+100%). She also pointed out that very few countries had claimed their royalties in 2013.

The GA took note of the amount of the royalties to be claimed to MFI by RC-LACE (8783€) and the flat-rate countries (661€ each) in 2014. The GA Chair reminded the participants to yearly claim their royalties.

10. Governance issues

- *Request from Bosnia Herzegovina and Serbia*

Over the past year, two Institutes showed an interest for joining the ALADIN consortium.

The ALADIN PM has been approached by Mr. Kemal Sehbajraktarevic from the Bosnian part of the Met. service of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (i.e. the Federal Hydrometeorological Institute).

Additionally, the General Assembly chair was approached via the DHMZ director, Ivan Cacic. by the Serbian director general deputy, Jugoslav Nikolic, and they discussed the possibility for RHMSS to become an observer in the ALADIN GA.

The Federal Hydrometeorological Institute was given the 4th ALADIN MoU, including the conditions needed to apply to join the ALADIN Consortium (to be the National Met Service of a WMO member, to pay the entry fee, to dedicate the necessary manpower, ...).

The Serbian NMS asked Ivan Cacic to represent the Republic Institute at the GA meeting and to put forward its willingness to join the consortium as it already had a NWP team, ran a global model and wished to concentrate on LAM.

The GA made a note of the intentions of the Federal Hydrometeorological Institute and of the Republic Hydrometeorological Service of Serbia. If they wished to apply, they should first send a formal letter of intention to the GA Chair.

- *licenses (for academic use)*

Two licences for academic use of the model code were proposed to the GA :

- Czech Republic proposed a licence between two parties : a NMS (CHMI) and a University (Czech Globe)
- Belgium proposed a licence between three parties : a NMS (RMI), a University (Gent) and an

IT group where the model runs (Vlaams Supercomputing Centrum)

The GA approved the two licences and decided to keep them as templates with flexibility to adapt them to future licences for research purposes.

- *ACNA, CSSI composition*

The ALADIN PM summarized the last changes in the ALADIN governance (see the matrix on the ALADIN website <http://www.cnrm.meteo.fr/aladin/spip.php?article12&lang=en>) : a new LTM for Tunisia (Zied Sassi) and a new ACNA (Maria Derkova).

11. Election of new GA chair and vice chair, PAC composition

The GA Chair and vice-Chair had been elected twice for two years and thus, according to the ALADIN MoU, were no more eligible at these positions. The GA Chair proposed his vice-Chair to become the new Chair and proposed Martin Benko from the Slovak Republic as vice-Chair.

The GA agreed on Abdalah Mokssit becoming the GA Chair and Martin Benko the GA vice-Chair.

Abdalah Mokssit took the floor and thanked the General Assembly for their trust and the honour being done to him. Piet Termonia stated that he enjoyed working together with Klemen Bergant as GA chair and expressed his sincere appreciation for Klemen Bergant's contribution to the ALADIN consortium. He is looking forward to starting working with Abdalah Mokssit.

Daniel Gellens from Belgium will replace Abdalah Mokssit as flat-rate representative in the PAC. Abdelwaheb Nmiri from Tunisia will replace Daniel Gellens as flat-rate substitute in the PAC.

12. Date and place of the next assembly

Bachir Hamadache confirmed the organization of the 19th General Assembly in Algeria.

The GA Chair asked the HIRLAM PM to pass on to the HIRLAM Council our kind invitation to join us in Algeria for a back-to-back meeting (with a possible common half-day, depending on the conclusions of the Task Force).

Václav Dvořák wished to hold the LACE Council just before the GA, as usual.

The GA asked the PMs to find a proper date, at the end of November.

13. A.O.B

The next PAC meeting was confirmed for Monday 19 May in Lisbon (PAC in the morning, 2nd joint HAC/PAC in the afternoon).

14. Closing

The GA Chair closed the meeting, thanked all participants for the good input and fruitful discussions. He also thanked Abdelwaheb Nmiri and the NMI for the very support, organization and hospitality. He wished all the best to the new GA Chair.

Annexe 1 : List of Participants to the ALADIN 18th General Assembly

NAME & Firstname	COUNTRY
BANCIU Doina	ROMANIA
BENKO Martin	SLOVAKIA
BERGANT Klemen	SLOVENIA, GA Chair
BROZKOVA Radmila	CZECH REP
ČAČIĆ Ivan	CROATIA
DERKOVA Maria	ALADIN/ACNA
DVOŘÁK Václav	CZECH REP
FEHRI Hichem	TUNISIA
FISCHER Claude	FRANCE, CSSI Chair
GELLENS Daniel	BELGIUM
GUPTA Olivier	FRANCE
HADDOUCH Hassan	MOROCCO
HAMADACHE Bachir	ALGERIA
JERCZYNSKI Marek	POLAND
KLARIC Dijana	CROATIA
KOCAMAN Fatih	TURKEY
LOURENÇO João	PORTUGAL
MATEESCU Elena	ROMANIA
MOKSSIT Abdalah	MOROCCO
NMIRI Abdelwaheb	TUNISIA
ONVLEE Jeanette	HIRLAM observer
POTTIER Patricia	GA Secretary
STAUDINGER Michael	AUSTRIA, PAC Chair
TERMONIA Piet	ALADIN / PM
THEPAUT Jean-Noël	ECMWF observer
VIVODA Jozef	SLOVAKIA
WANG Yong	LACE PM