

Draft Minutes of the ALADIN regular 17th General Assembly

Vienna, November the 13th & 14th 2012

1. Welcome and opening of the meeting at 14h on 13/11/2012

The General Assembly chairman (GA Chair, Klemen Bergant) warmly welcomed the members of the 17th GA, in particular the members participating for the first time: Mr. Abdelhak Razagui (Algeria), Mr. Daniel Gellens (Belgium), Mr. Roger Randriamampianina (Hungary), Mrs. Elena Mateescu (Romania) and Mr. Martin Benko (Slovakia). A full list of attendees is attached in Annex 1 (all Partners were represented with the exception of Bulgaria and Morocco).

Michael Staudinger took the floor and, on behalf of ZAMG, welcomed the participants and expressed his pleasure to host the GA in Vienna. He wished an efficient and fruitful meeting.

2. Adoption of the draft agenda

Radmila Brozkova (RB) proposed to add on the agenda a discussion about the possibility of giving an ALADIN license to Czech Globe (Centre of excellence on climate change in Czech Rep). This point was added on item 11.

The proposed agenda with an additional sub-item 11 (approval by GA to the use of the ALADIN system by Czech Globe) was adopted by the GA.

3. Approval of the minutes of the 16th GA

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

As no additional comments were made, the GA unanimously adopted the minutes of the 16th GA.

4. Program Manager's intersession report

The ALADIN PM, Piet Termonia, introduced the preparatory document* ”*Synthetic report of the activities of the ALADIN consortium since the previous General Assembly*”, including the report of his PM's activities in 2012 and some points of attention and activities to be discussed later on during the GA. **The GA took note of the report without comment.**

5. Report from the PAC meeting

The GA Chair thanked Aderito Serrao for his work and his guidance as PAC Chair until his retirement from the Portuguese NMS at the beginning of 2012. He also thanked Michael Staudinger, the vice-chairperson of the PAC, who had been chairing the PAC since that date.

Michael Staudinger summarized the main recommendations of the 9th PAC meeting (*see the PAC minutes* for more details*) :

- He mainly reported on the PAC discussions on licenses : the licensing aspects raised by the openIFS project @ECMWF seemed manageable on the basis of the present ALADIN MoU; concerning the GLAMEPS data policy, PAC had no firm objection against introducing a notion of “GLAMEPS product partners” (i.e. partners who contribute to the operational facilities), as suggested by the HIRLAM Advisory Committee.

*A copy of the presentations of the 17th 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?article244>).

- He also underlined the good understanding between the ALADIN members and Météo-France during the discussions about changes in the provision of the coupling files to partners (this issue eventually disappeared from the 2012 actions when Météo-France stepped back from its plans to put new production times into operations). He nevertheless stressed the partners' concern about an early warning and coordination in future, should this issue come up again.
- PAC recommended not to have a mid-term review.
- In case the Korean NMS colleagues were seriously interested in collaboration with ALADIN, PAC recommended that the conditions of becoming an Acceding Member was fully explained to them and asked Météo-France to host a first Korean scientific visit.
- PAC recommended to take a 2013 flat rate sum equal to the ceiling 8200 €, adjusted to the inflation.

The GA Chair thanked the PAC members for their valuable contribution to ALADIN, especially Michael Staudinger for his chairmanship.

6. Reports

- highlights and plans

The ALADIN PM reviewed the actions on the priority points identified during the last GA :

- search for skilled people who can work on code design;
- action on SURFEX;
- more forward action in verification (quality monitoring, end-users enquiry per sectors; development of the common verification package with HIRLAM). He asked the GA if the result of the end-users enquiry (*see, in the on-line presentation, the table of the end-users of NPW products prepared by Joao Rio*) answered the request of the last year GA . The GA gave a positive answer and Michael Staudinger asked for additional verification scores to be delivered to clients, well adapted to the products they had bought. The work already done by Joao will be continued with that objective;
- the need for a plan on the development of the dynamical core to face the future evolution in HPC technology : the ALADIN PM underlined the loss of influence on the computer market by the NWP community.

The ALADIN PM presented then a “tour d'ALADIN” : what happened in the consortium, seen from the highlights sent by the LTMs (*see the on-line presentation* for details country by country*):

- Algeria : snow forecast;
- Austria : redesign of ALADIN-LAEF with operational implementation planned for early 2013;
- Belgium : an added economic value of ALADIN/HIRLAM multi-EPS systems, on top of ECMWF, from the point of view of the decision making;
- Bulgaria : a new lightning index based on ALADIN output;
- Croatia : wind climate for energy by dynamical downscaling of 10 year ERA-40 data to 8km with ALADIN;
- Czech Rep. : test of 3MT in ARPEGE on the globe and ALARO, at 4km resolution;
- Météo-France : last E-suite to prepare for the assimilation of recently launched satellite data and denser channel selection; strong improvement on the forecast of low clouds in AROME by improvements in the shallow convection scheme;
- Hungary : intensive work on data pre-processing; latest validated HARMONIE system locally installed for use of its verification package;
- Morocco : important team working on data assimilation : floods alerts; organisation of the annual ALADIN workshop/ HIRLAM All Staff meeting;

- Poland : active on verification to find scores for precipitation;
- Portugal : PhD of Maria Monteiro : development of flow-dependent assimilation methods;
- Romania : active in the verification package and data communication between countries;
- Slovakia : operational implementation of the surface data assimilation scheme CANARI; advances in the use of vertical finite elements in the non-hydrostatic system;
- Slovenia : ALARO-1 working days to prepare the plan for ALARO-1 (significant upgrade of the ALARO physics);
- Tunisia : active in SURFEX with test on a new ALADIN-Tunisia domain;
- Turkey : contribution on the development of FullPos-2 (one of the system recoding topics in ALADIN).

After this summary, the ALADIN PM noted some trends over the consortium :

- the use of multi-physics applications to add forecast skill in EPS systems, and, more importantly that the LAM community is capable of adding extra skill on top of the EPS of ECMWF;
- the effort to cope with the increasing amount of available observation data, one of the main challenges of data assimilation;
- renewed efforts on verification/validation/diagnostics;
- contribution of a newcomer to a difficult part of the code in terms of code design.

The GA thanked the ALADIN PM for this overview of the ALADIN countries.

- LACE report

Dijana Klarić (LACE PM) first summarized the main decisions from the 34th RC LACE Council meeting : RC-LACE MoU-IV was signed with a 4 year program (2013-2016). A new RC-LACE Management Group was elected (in charge from 1/1/2013) :

- Program Manager: Yong Wang (Au)
- Area Leader for Dynamics and Coupling: Petra Smolikova (Cz)
- Area Leader for Data Assimilation: Roger Randriamampianina (Hu)
- Area Leader for Physics: Neva Pristov (Si)
- Area Leader for Predictability: Teresa Gorgas (Au)
- LACE Aladin System Coordinator: Oldrich Spaniel (Sk)
- Data Manager: Alena Trojakova (Cz)

The Council also reviewed the 2012 R&D execution and the status of the 2012 deliverables. It decided on the deliverables for 2013 and the associated -frozen- budget.

A formal policy document on national data exchange should be signed in 2013. Some data from the OPLACE database (non-GTS SYNOP data) could be given to the ALADIN/HIRLAM community for data assimilation purpose (after filtering according to WMO list, for the non-LACE partners).

The LACE PM gave examples of some good achievements of the previous 5 year plan (although during this period, the manpower dedicated to ALADIN by LACE has fallen from 35% in 2007 to 30% in 2011 of the whole ALADIN manpower): all LACE partners use ALARO physics with different operative configurations; as presented during the last EWGLAM meeting, the SRNWP comparison of the quality of the LAM models over Europe shows the good quality of ALADIN, represented by the ALADIN-LACE domain in this comparison.

The GA Chair thanked Dijana Klarić for this report and for 10 year reporting to the GA as LACE PM.

- HIRLAM report

In her report, Jeanette Onvlee (HIRLAM PM) draw the GA attention on the importance, for mesoscale data assimilation system, of an appropriate mix of many kinds of high-resolution data :

- radar data : availability (*see EUMETNET discussions*) and quality control (still insufficient in OPERA) issues;
- Mode-S data : on-going negotiations to provide the met community with real-time access to these huge amount of data, after sufficient quality control (both wind and temperature can be derived from these measurements that are made and transmitted by every sort of aircraft at an extremely high frequency in the vicinity of airports);
- radiosonde data : unemployed potential of the new BUFR format to capture the horizontal motion of the sounding.

Jeanette Onvlee also insisted on the need for higher accuracy of orography/physiography datasets and proposed it as a topic of discussion for the SURFEX Steering Committee. The ALADIN PM agreed (*see point 7*).

The GA Chair thanked Jeanette for her report.

The CSSI Chair underlined the quality of the ALADIN/HIRLAM collaboration on radar data assimilation for the NWP needs (discussions during the HMG/CSSI meetings), the complementarity between HIRLAM and ALADIN approaches and their (at present) good interaction with the OPERA community.

Invited presentation by the host : Emerging technologies in the numerical forecasting: ensemble prediction and nowcasting (*see on-line the presentation for the details*)

Yong Wang reported first on ALADIN-LAEF (Limited Area Ensemble Forecasting), the regional ensemble system developed by ZAMG and its partners, and used in LACE with encouraging results. Then, Yong presented INCA (Integrated Nowcasting through Comprehensive Analysis), a major global player in nowcasting, widely used in many application areas with reliable results.

The GA Chair thanked Yong for this very interesting presentation. The HIRLAM PM commented on similar results obtained with GLAMEPS when comparing EPS and deterministic models : **the EPS outperforms the deterministic forecast system, for example for qualifying extreme events.** Yong added that **increasing the resolution in LAEF proved more valuable than increasing the number of members**, a behavior also noticed with GLAMEPS.

7. Scientific and technical issues

- operational and maintenance reports

Claude Fischer (CF) gave some **highlights of the changes introduced in Météo-France's operations** on September 25th, 2012 : new version of code; assimilation of more satellite data (and not only in cloud-free conditions); some changes in AROME-FR, ... The recent ALARO updates have been implemented in the Toulouse repository code.

For 2013-2014, a new version of the code is planned (to be switched into operation at the latest in June 2013), with assimilation of new data, some changes in ARPEGE/ALADIN physics, in AROME-

FR (*see the on-line presentation for details...*).

In 2013-2014, Météo-France will move from NEC computing system to BULL computing system. A change of resolution and some extra applications (AROME nowcasting, convective scale EPS) will benefit from its new computer power.

CF gave the calendar of the IFS and the interim cycles with phasing efforts in the first half of 2013. He reminded that all these informations are given to the LTMs, twice a year : during the LTM meeting held besides the ALADIN Workshop and the EWGLAM meeting. He insisted on the vital importance of phasing and gave the statistics of manpower dedicated to it by each partner : some teams have built competences on phasing and can regularly send people to the phasing exercises; a few teams have managed to send some new efficient staff, thanks to local training; others haven't been able to train newcomers at home. The cooperation on maintenance with HIRLAM is strengthening.

The GA Chair asked the PM, together with Météo-France, to investigate the possibility to engage some newcomers in phasing, especially from countries that had not been so active during the last years; and to think about their necessary training, either on the spot or through some training workshop.

CF stressed the potential benefit for local teams to make efforts and have trained people involved in maintenance work : significant more local expertise on system installation, reduction of numerical costs for all partners thanks to dedicated work on optimization, porting, design, ...

CF presented the status of two main projects impulsed by ECMWF, that will shake our current practices : **OOPS** for Object-Oriented Prediction System and **COP(E)** for Continuous Observation Processing (at ECMWF), a re-thinking of the observation pre-treatment that will affect our assimilation system.

The HIRLAM PM added that OOPS and COP(E) designs had been made by ECMWF and ALADIN and HIRLAM should check that our LAM future needs will be taken into account.

The ALADIN PM regretted our lack of skilled people for code design (as for maintenance).

RB insisted on the lack of people working on optimization (OpenMP). CF contested that it was no longer the case with 2 full-time people working on optimisation at Météo-France for at least 2 years and experienced people in HIRLAM and LACE too. The HIRLAM PM added that we did need more experts on parallelization and should look for them.

The GA took note of the need of skilled people on code design and looked forward for the proposal of the PM to improve the situation.

RB raised the question of a Météo-France support to the library handling Input/Output (ARPEGE/ALADIN having its proprietary files format, the so-called "FA format"). CF answered that there presently indeed is no dedicated support to this I/O library. Olivier Gupta asked the ALADIN partners to describe their needs, so that an estimation of what manpower Météo-France or any partner can provide can be made. In the general context of a drastic decrease of Météo-France staff, Météo-France will do its best but might be no longer able to offer the same service as in past years.

The GA Chair asked the PM to investigate the question with Météo-France.

- exploring possible solutions for a future common system

Roger Randiamianpianina (as ACNA i.e. ALADIN Coordinator for Networking Activities) reported on the HARMONIE system installation at OMSZ and presented a possible solution using a namelist maker (a HARMONIE tool) to improve the existing operational system : some experts could use the

namelist maker to build all namelists for the known schemes and methods; after the phasing, these namelists will be used for a common meteorological validation process outside Météo-France : it will speed up the porting of a new cycle; its local installation and validation will be also eased. All settings in the common namelist will be exclusively controlled by experts whose continuous participation is needed (risk factor).

The GA welcomed this first initiative to investigate how work duplication within ALADIN & HIRLAM could be reduced and proposed the ACNA, the CSSI Chair, the ALADIN and HIRLAM PMs to come up with more proposals at the next GA.

- SURFEX code

The ALADIN PM explained that SURFEX had a lot of potential but needed extra work to make it fully fit for the future operational needs (ergonomics and optimization aspects).

After the last SURFEX working week, a core group of experts was created, which addressed the main problems preventing a satisfactory use of SURFEX in the partners' operations. A two step proposal has been written down : first, some short-term improvements without parallelization; then the parallelization done either (1) in the SURFEX code or (2) in the NWP code, the core group being in favour of option (2). This will be proposed to the SURFEX Steering Committee.

The GA understood that the PM cannot give any guaranty for the future operational use of SURFEX before a decision is taken by the SURFEX Steering Committee.

The GA was aware of the commitment relative to the work on SURFEX code from the ALADIN and HIRLAM communities.

The GA requested the PM to approach the SURFEX Steering Committee in order to submit and possibly get confirmation for the suggested actions, and thus answer the NWP operational needs.

8. Rolling work plan

The GA decided last year to have a common ALADIN/HIRLAM rolling work plan, valid until the end of the ALADIN & HIRLAM MoUs.

Through a quite complex process, the ALADIN & HIRLAM PMs, the ALADIN CSSI and the HIRLAM Management Group have prepared a complete common scientific plan. ZAMG asked the PM to not include INCA in the working plan. Not all LTMs have completed the ALADIN manpower commitments yet. A full version was expected within 2 weeks. The ALADIN PM apologized for the delay and proposed to send the full plan with manpower to PAC for approval.

The GA Chair thanked the PM for the renewal of the 2012 work plan and asked the GA members to remind their LTM to provide the PM with manpower commitments. The GA supported the PM proposal to send the full work plan to PAC for approval.

9. Link with other European programs

- ALADIN – HIRLAM convergence

The GA recognised the convergence in scientific (common work plan) and technical (i.e. ACNA proposal for a future common system) issues whereas the governance structures and the budget rules are different : ALADIN is organised by countries (LTM) with an advisory body (CSSI); in HIRLAM, the management is carried out by scientific leaders; for the budgeting, in ALADIN the countries are

contributing by manpower; in HIRLAM, the management group, the area leaders and the computing resources are paid from the common budget; ALADIN GA and HIRLAM Council are natural counterparts whereas the scopes of PAC (policy oriented body that advises the GA) and HAC (both policy and science oriented, advises both the Council and the HMG) are different.

The GA supported the idea of a further merger, also on the governance level, but would like to have more details for taking the decision.

The GA asked PAC and PM to analyse the pros and cons of a further merger (also taking into account the impact at the organisational and financial levels) at the next PAC meeting and to send their analysis to the GA members to decide before the next GA.

Taking into account the ALADIN and HIRLAM agendas, the GA proposed that the chairman of the PAC would contact the chairman of the HAC to possibly organise a back-to-back PAC/HAC (spring 2013). The GA Chair will also contact the chairman of the Council to discuss the possibility of a back-to-back GA/Council.

The GA decided, conditionally to what HIRLAM Council might accept or change, to create a task force to draft a merger roadmap. This task force will gather both ALADIN and HIRLAM PMs, the chairpersons of PAC and HAC, and Claude Fischer for Météo-France. It will prepare a 2-3 pages paper to analyse the advantages and disadvantages of a further merger, the need for 1 or 2 consortia, the feasibility of a merger within 2-3 years, in preparation for the next HAC/PAC.

The HIRLAM PM will bring this proposal to the next Council (December 2012).

- EUMETNET: new and old programs, ET issues, link with EUMETCAL, SRNWP, OPERA

OPERA :

The HIRLAM PM explained that, waiting for OPERA to be fully operational with its licensing policy, HIRLAM will propose at the next EUMETNET Assembly to agree on a free exchange of radar data, within the members, for data assimilation and validation purposes.

The GA was not able to support this proposal as an assembly (not all ALADIN partners are EUMETNET members) but took note of the HIRLAM proposal. The ALADIN partners who are also EUMETNET members will consider this proposal for the next EUMETNET Assembly.

SRNWP-I :

The ALADIN PM reported that ALADIN had made the prototype (adaptors) that had been promised to the SRNWP/Interoperability program. As the program ended in 2012, each consortium would have to maintain his own adaptors, at a potentially important manpower cost. **The PM proposed that that future testing of the adaptors will be based on the technical specifications of the adaptors in its final form at the end of the SRNWP-I program, specifically the form in which they exist at the end of 2012. This can be guaranteed within the available manpower of the ALADIN consortium. For extra developments, extra manpower should be found and provided.**

The GA proposed that the maintenance of the adaptors would rather be included in the new EUMETNET programs.

C-SRNWP program :

The ALADIN PM underlined the importance of C-SRNWP : no concrete deliverables but an important frame for friendly exchange, without competition; a possible role in finding funding outside EUMETNET (FP7, FP8 ?); its future role for HPC. He advocated that the ALADIN countries vote for

the continuation of C-SRNWP at the voting in the EUMETNET/GA the following week.

The HIRLAM PM added that C-SRNWP had played a crucial role in fostering and promoting the needs of the NWP community towards OPERA and proved very necessary as an intermediate coordinating framework towards other EUMETNET programs.

The GA took note of the messages of support for C-SRNWP.

Olivier Gupta reported that Météo-France had still not made a firm decision whether to support or not C-SRNWP at the next EUMETNET voting.

10. Budget issues and manpower

- Manpower figures

Patricia Pottier (PP) presented the record of cumulative manpower contributions 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 after the reporting by each LTM of the quarterly participation in his/her NMS.

Last year, the average total manpower dedicated to ALADIN by the Partners slightly increased towards 80 persons per month; nearly 93% of this work being realized by the local permanent staffs in their NMSs.

The cumulated manpower since 1991 was equivalent to 51 full-time persons per year. The 3 main Components of ALADIN (the flat-rate countries, RC-LACE and Météo-France) contributed with roughly the same manpower (1/3 of the total manpower) with a long-term tendency to the decrease of the LACE participation and the increase of Météo-France participation.

See the on-line presentation for more details.

- Report on the execution on the ongoing budget and adoption of the 2013 budget

PP gave an overview of the execution of the 2012 budget : it was realised at more than 90%, the only non-executed actions being some LTM missions to the annual workshop or to the LTM meeting held besides EWGLAM.

Following the PAC recommendation, the PM and the support team had prepared a provisional 2013 budget : the resources (money from the 2012 non-executed actions and the flat-rate contributions at 8400€, i.e. the 2012 amount of the contribution adjusted to the inflation over the €-zone) should cover expenditures related to administrative or cooperation overheads and mobility in accordance with the ALADIN work plan : contribution to organization and attendance to some events (the annual meeting, the LTM meeting, the PAC meeting, specific working weeks like for instance on maintenance/SURFEX, ...) and funding for some scientific stays and visits.

The GA Chair proposed to adopt the proposed 2013 budget with a flat-rate contribution at 8400€.

Maria Monteiro answered on behalf of the Portuguese Director : he acknowledged the work done by ALADIN but could not approve any increase of the flat-rate contribution.

Besides Portugal, the mere adjustment of the flat-rate to the inflation was not considered as an increase of the effort by the GA representatives who had made no reservation to the proposed amount.

The GA Chair reminded that, according to the MoU, the decision should not be necessarily taken by consensus (even if it would be preferable). **Taking into account the approval of all GA participants with the exception of Portugal, the 2013 budget, based on a flat-rate contribution of 8400€ per country, is adopted.** The chair of GA indicated that he was willing to discuss the non-consensual

decision directly with Portugal, should this be helpful.

- Royalty-linked issues

PP presented the royalties concerning actions performed by Météo-France International (MFI) and their share among the ALADIN NMSs.

The GA took note of the amount of the royalties to be claimed to MFI by RC-LACE (4351€) and by each flat-rate country (328€) in 2013.

11. Governance issues

- licenses (GLAMEPS, ECMWF/ALADIN/HIRLAM code, OPERA)

The ALADIN PM introduced his preparatory document on this topic : OPERA had already been discussed (point 9); discussions were going on with ECMWF about open-IFS.

GLAMEPS :

The ALADIN PM explained that GLAMEPS was a regional EPS system, commonly developed by HIRLAM and ALADIN, with ECMWF, HIRLAM and ALARO components, that run on ECMWF. HIRLAM had asked during its last HAC meeting to have a data policy for GLAMEPS and had proposed to create a GLAMEPS products partners status, as a trial to better identify partners immediately committing resources to the maintenance of GLAMEPS and those interested only in using products of the system. The LTMs have clearly expressed their wish that ALADIN would access the GLAMEPS products as a consortium, without separate status.

The ALADIN PM proposed that Belgium would set up a data policy agreement with HIRLAM, that could be a basis for the whole ALADIN consortium to join.

CF clarified that this document should be proposed to PAC and that it should specifically allow all ALADIN members to have access to the GLAMEPS products, even for commercial use, even if they hadn't contributed to the development. CF also stressed that, in case that the presence of ECMWF EPS components is confirmed, this direct use then should be submitted for approval to the ECMWF Council.

The HIRLAM PM suggested to study the possibility of replacing the ECMWF components by something else, in order to be able to use the GLAMEPS products for commercial purposes without needing an extra commercial license with ECMWF.

The GA asked Belgium to prepare and the PM to propose to PAC a data policy agreement taking into account the existing ALADIN/HIRLAM agreement and the ALADIN MoU.

Czech Globe :

RB presented the request of Czech Globe (Global Change Research Centre), a research centre for climate purposes that was collaborating with CHMI, to get an ALADIN license for research.

The GA proposed that Czech Globe should send a short description of its purpose to the GA Chair and asked RB and the ALADIN PM to prepare a template defining an ALADIN license for research.

The GA mandated the GA Chair to answer, then, positively to the request of Czech Globe.

- PAC composition, GA composition

Klemen Bergant proposed the current vice-chair to take over the official chairmanship of PAC, Fatih Buyükkasabbasi as the new vice-chair and Daniel Gellens as substitute representative for non-Météo-

France non-LACE members.

Václav Dvořák informed the GA of some changes in the LACE representatives at PAC with Dijana Klaric as LACE substitute and Yong Wang as observer (as the new LACE PM from 1/1/2013).

The PAC composition was approved as the following :

- **chairperson : Michael Staudinger (Au)**
 - **vice-chairperson : Fatih Buyükkasabbasi (Tk)**
 - **2 Météo-France members: Philippe Bougeault and Alain Joly (subst. Gwenaëlle Hello)**
 - **2 RC-LACE members : Radmila Brozkova (Cz) and Vladimir Pastircak (Sk) (subst. Dijana Klaric, Hr)**
 - **2 Flat-rate members : Abdalah Mokssit (Mo) and Maria Monteiro (Pt) (subst. Daniel Gellens, Be)**
 - **Observers : LACE PM, chairperson of CSSI, chairperson of HAC.**
- CSSI composition, ACNA position, Task Force Leader on verification

Piet Termonia proposed Christoph Zingerle (the Task Force Leader on verification) as the CSSI representative for verification.

The GA approved.

The GA took note that there was no longer any “representative for nowcasting” in the CSSI as nowcasting was removed from the ALADIN rolling plan.

12. Date and place of the next assembly

The PM and the support team proposed to shift the GA annual meeting to the last week of November, in order to have more preparation time after the EWGLAM meeting.

Chedly Ben Mohamed confirmed the invitation of Tunisia for the 2013 GA.

The GA thanked the Tunisian representative and his Director for this invitation and approved the 18th GA meeting in Tunis at the end of November 2013 (tentatively 26-27).

Abdelhak Razagui kindly invited the GA for 2014 in Algeria.

The GA thanked and approved.

13. A.O.B.

The GA Chair closed the meeting and thanked Michael Staudinger and ZAMG for the very good support, organization and hospitality. He also thanked the participants to the GA and the LACE Council meetings for the fruitful discussions.

Annex 1 . List of Participants to the ALADIN 17th General Assembly

NAME & FIRSTNAME	COUNTRY
BANCIU DOINA	ROMANIA
BENCO MARTIN	SLOVAKIA
BERGANT KLEMEN	GA Chair, SLOVENIA
BROZKOVA RADMILA	CZECH
CACIC IVAN	CROATIA
BEN MOHAMED CHEDLY	TUNISIA
DVOŘÁK VÁCLAV	CZECH
FISCHER CLAUDE	CSSI Chair
GELLENS DANIEL	BELGIUM
GUPTA OLIVIER	FRANCE
JERCZYNSKI MAREK	POLAND
KLARIC DIJANA	LACE PM
KOCAMAN FATIH	TURKEY
MATEESCU ELENA	ROMANIA
RAZAGUI ABDELHAK	ALGERIA
MONTEIRO MARIA	PORTUGAL
ONVLEE JEANNETTE	HIRLAM Observer
PASTIRCAK VLADIMIR	SLOVAKIA
POTTIER PATRICIA	GA Secretary
RANDRIAMAMPINANINA ROGER	HUNGARY
STAUDINGER MICHAEL	AUSTRIA, PAC Chair
TERMONIA PIET	PM ALADIN
WANG YONG	AUSTRIA