



Global Lambda Integrated Facility Governance Working Group
8th Meeting, 14 October 2010
CERN, Geneva, Switzerland

Attendees

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Country</u>
Maxine Brown	University of Illinois at Chicago	United States
Tom DeFanti	Calit2	United States
David Foster	CERN	-
Joe Mambretti	iCAIR/Northwestern University	United States
Cees de Laat	University of Amsterdam	The Netherlands
Kevin Meynell (Secretary)	TERENA Secretariat	-
Kees Neggers (Chair)	SURFnet	The Netherlands
Michael Stanton	RNP	Brazil
Karel Vietsch	TERENA Secretariat	-

1. Welcome

Kees Neggers opened the meeting by welcoming everyone. He noted there was a smaller turnout than usual, but he hoped this was because an interesting technical meeting was taking place at the same time, and that it reflected satisfaction in how GLIF was being governed.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting held on 28 October 2009 were approved. These are available at <http://www.glif.is/meetings/2009/gov/minutes.pdf>.

3. Update on GLIF Secretariat: January 2009-June 2010

Karel Vietsch reported on the work undertaken by the GLIF Secretariat over the past 18 months (see <http://www.glif.is/meetings/2010/gov/vietsch-report.pdf>).

The GLIF Secretariat was provided by TERENA who hosted and maintained the website and mailing lists, organised the workshops and meetings, and provided administrative support to the working groups. They had also been tasked with producing an updated version of the GLIF brochure, and whilst this was substantially complete, it had been agreed with the Working Group Chairs to postpone its publication until the new version of the map was available. This map was currently being produced by Maxine Brown and Bob Patterson.

26 organisations had provided sponsorship amounting to EUR 88,900 in 2009, and they were thanked for their support. Actual expenditure amounted to EUR 74,642, which came in under the agreed budget of EUR 83,000 for the year. This also meant that the overall surplus currently stood at EUR 95,424, although it should be noted that TERENA had until now not charged its indirect costs, as its way of sponsoring GLIF.

Karel Vietsch recalled that in the previous meeting he had reported that the TERENA General Assembly had decided to discontinue subsidising the indirect costs of running the

GLIF Secretariat from 2010 onwards. This was part of a wider strategy of recouping the operating costs of what were considered non-core activities, and as a result the amount to be covered by the contributions from the GLIF Sponsors had increased from 2010 onwards (the indirect costs amounted to EUR 28,295 in 2009).

Karel Vietsch went on to report on the amount of sponsorship money that had been committed for the year 2010 thus far. As agreed at the previous meeting, it had been suggested to all existing Sponsors to commit the same amount for 2010 as for 2009, and most had done so.

Unfortunately, CESNET had a difficult year financially, and had announced that they would have to skip a year of sponsorship, and HEAnet had decided to withdraw as a sponsor. AARNet were yet to indicate whether they would continue as sponsor, whilst two other organisations would slightly reduce their sponsorship due to their own budgetary cuts.

On the positive side, KISTI wished to increase their contribution, whilst the amounts pledged by those organisations paying in dollars actually represented a small increase due to a favourable exchange rate. In addition, e-ARENA (the Russian Association of Research and Educational Infrastructures) would take over sponsorship from RIPN. In total, the amount committed so far was EUR 54,679.

David Foster asked about the level of support for GLIF amongst the TERENA membership. Karel Vietsch replied a significant majority of members supported or had no objection to the TERENA Secretariat's involvement, but there were a small number of members who disagreed. This simply reflected the diversity of an international organisation representing nearly forty countries.

4. Budget for GLIF Secretariat 2011

Karel Vietsch presented the proposed budget for the GLIF Secretariat for the forthcoming year (see <http://www.glif.is/meetings/2010/gov/vietsch-forecast.pdf>). This amounted to EUR 75,000 and represented a slight decrease compared to 2010, largely because no one-off tasks such as redesigning the website or producing a new brochure were planned.

The proposed budget for 2011 was accepted, and it was agreed to ask existing Sponsors to commit the same amount for 2011 as for 2009. The effect of this might be that the reserves would be halved during 2010 and 2011, and whilst it had been agreed in previous years to try to reduce the reserves this could obviously not be sustained indefinitely. There was therefore a discussion as to how additional funds could be raised in future.

One proposal was to raise the annual workshop participation fees, as these were currently set at quite a low level. However, it was felt this would discourage participation, and in any case it would be complicated as local organisers often subsidised the cost of these events. Another suggestion was to seek commercial sponsorship, but there was a general reluctance to do this as it was felt important to keep GLIF as a forum where technical issues could be freely discussed.

It was therefore decided that organisations who regularly participated in GLIF activities but who were not currently listed as participants, should be approached to see whether they were interested in becoming an official participant, with a view to seeking sponsorship from them later. Karel Vietsch was entrusted with this task.

Action 8.1 – Karel Vietsch to approach organisations that regularly participate in GLIF activities to see whether they are interested in being listed as official GLIF participants.

5. Global LambdaGrid Workshop 2011

Kees Neggers explained there had been several expressions of interest in hosting future annual workshops, so earlier in the year, potential hosts had been asked to submit outline proposals. In the end, the only proposal received for 2011 was from RNP, and the Governance Working Group was very pleased to confirm the dates and venue. This would be held on 13-14 September 2011 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Michael Stanton then presented some details about the planned event (see <http://www.glif.is/meetings/2010/gov/stanton-glif2011.pdf>) which would be held in the newly refurbished Windsor Atlantica Hotel on Copacabana Beach. This was quite close to the RNP headquarters and its metropolitan optical network, and it was therefore expected that at least 20 Gb/s (and possibly up to 100 Gb/s) would be available for demonstrations. It was intended to use the event to showcase some of the leading Brazilian institutions in computing and networking technologies, and up to 10 Gb/s to Europe could be made available for demonstrations. It was pointed out that the main issue for non-Brazilian demonstrators would likely be the cost of shipping or renting equipment.

The registration fee would probably be in the order of USD 350 per person, but this still needed to be confirmed.

6. Any other business

The issue of promoting GLIF at the forthcoming SC'10 event on 13-19 November 2010 was discussed. As a result, the GLIF Secretariat was asked to create some A3-sized signs with the GLIF logo and URL that could be displayed by GLIF participants in their booths.

Action 8.2 – GLIF Secretariat to produce GLIF promotional signs for SC'10.

As Kevin Meynell from the GLIF Secretariat would be attending SC'10, he would bring the signs with him and would arrange to meet with Maxine Brown in order to distribute them.

Open Actions

8.1 Karel Vietsch to approach organisations that regularly participate in GLIF activities to see whether they are interested in being listed as official GLIF participants.

8.2 GLIF Secretariat to produce GLIF promotional signs for SC'10.