

The Fourteenth Silk Board and Fourth OCCASION Meetings Groningen, Netherlands, March 12-16, 2007

Order of Meetings

The Silk/OCCASION Board meetings (SB 14) were held from Monday March 12 9.00 to Friday March 16 13.00 in Groningen in The Netherlands. A summary of the meetings is given below:

Monday March 12	9.00 – 10.30	Exco
	11.00 – 12.30	Small Meetings
	13.30 – 18.00	Silk/OCCASION Board
		Silk/OCCASION Dinner
Tuesday March 13	9.00 – 18.00	Silk/OCCASION Board
		Reception hosted by University of Groningen
Wednesday March 14	9.00 – 13.00	Future EC Activities in Black Sea and Central Asia
	14.00 – 22.00	Social Event including dinner hosted by Computer Centre
Thursday March 15	9.00 – 13.00	OCCASION meeting
	14.00 – 18.00	OCCASION Follow-on
Friday March 16	9.00 – 13.00	Voice and Video activities
	14.00 – 17.00	Silk-2 satellite and extension
	17.00 – 18.00	Wrap-up

There was simultaneous translation during the formal Silk/OCCASION Board meeting.

There were several presentations given during the meeting. These have not been minuted, but the presentations (if available) are accessible through the SB14 webpage.

Monday March 12 Exco meeting

9.00 – 10.30 Exco Meeting

As usual the ExCo meeting was devoted to the preparation of the various meeting items, last moment changes in the order of the agenda items and logistic issues with regard to the meetings.

Additional to these items there was a long discussion with regard to the Silk-2 preparation. The progress of installing equipment has slowed down seriously. The NRENs are very unhappy about this situation and will most probably express their concerns. The ExCo will have to come with a detailed explanation of the modulation and compression problems that are at the root of the implementation delays.

Monday November 12 Small Meetings

There were no small meetings and the time slot was used for an extended Silk ExCo discussion.

Monday March 12 Silk/OCCASION Board

Session 1 13.30 – 18.00: Session 1 Administrative Matters, Current Status and Plans for Silk-2

1. Welcome to Board Members

The Chair welcomes the Board members and other people who are present. He mentions that this is the first Silk Board or OCCASION Board meeting to be held in the EU. He is pleased to see that so many people have taken the effort to join the meeting.

2. Acceptance of, or Changes to, the Agenda [Kirstein, [SB14-2](#)]

Due to changed arrivals and departures of some attendees, changes in the order of the agenda items were announced. As the Cisco engineer involved with video-conferencing could not participate, this agenda item (Friday morning) was deleted. Further the Telenor presentation was moved to earlier in the meeting schedule due to the schedule of the Telenor representatives.

3. Introduction of Participants

An introductory round was made. All OCCASION partners were represented. The Afghan representative could not come due to visa problems. Most OCCASION representatives were accompanied by a technical staff member. Non-OCCASION members that participated in the whole SB part of the meeting were Hadassa Jakobovits (NATO), Tor Bloch (NATO consultant), Ole Jacobsen (Cisco) and David West (DANTE). During the meeting several other people were present for a shorter time.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting of the Silk Board in Istanbul [Kirstein, [SB14-4](#)]

The minutes were approved without any further changes.

5. Actions arising from previous meetings [Kirstein, [SB14-5](#)]

12.32: Janz will prepare OCCASION communication templates.

Not Done. This will be done before the next SB/OCC meeting.

12.40.8: Janz should put the names of the contacts onto the web

Partially done, will be completed with the next update of the sites.

12.40.12: Gajewski will produce a short report on the activity of the Cisco Academies in the Silk countries as a contribution to the user group deliverable D5.2.

Not done.

13.7.1: DESY and Telenor provide technical information on the characteristics of the Silk-2 POPs

Done. The information has been sent to the OCCASION partners.

13.7.2: The Silk NRENS will initiate license procedures when Telenor has provided them with the technical details.

Done.

13.9.1: DESY will try to prolong EurasiaSat contract.

This was tried but it was unsuccessful. The service ceased at the end of December

13.12.1: Telenor/DESY will organise VSAT workshop together with Uzscinet

Not done yet due the prolonged implantation of Silk-2.

13.12.2: AZRENA (Aliev) will organise wireless workshop

Will be done, but not yet.

13.12.3: TURENA (Amansakatov) will organise IPv6 workshop, together with UCL.
The workshop is in preparation and will be held in Ashgabat April 24-26.

13.12.4: Gajewski will organize CSIRT-2 workshop
This is being done.

13.12.5: Janz will explore possibilities of financial workshop.
Not done yet.

13.12.6: Janz will update and distribute workshop status table.
Not done yet, will be addressed during the meeting.

13.12.7: Janz will approach ISOC for funding of workshops.
Done, ISOC does not have funds left for 2007, but is open for applications for 2008.

13.13.1: Janz will contact University of Mountains concerning participation in Silk.
Not done yet as the terms and conditions of Silk-2 are not known yet.

13.17.1: Janz will produce a new version of the user group report.
Not done.

13.23.1: Janz will request further input for a new version of sustainability report when the exact information required has been stated by the Reviewers
Not done (see AP's 13.23.2 to 13.23.4)

13.23.2: All NRENs furnish the information requested for D2.2 swiftly when requested by Janz.
Not done.

13.23.3: Janz will request further input for a new version of the User Group report D5.2, when the exact information required has been stated by the Reviewers
Done, Questionnaire has been prepared in English by Janz and translated into Russian by Asinova and sent to the NRENs.

13.23.4: All NRENs furnish the information requested for DD.2 swiftly when requested by Janz.
Have received responses only from AfRENA, TuRENA, TaRENA and KRENA.

13.23.5: Janz will produce new version of sustainability report.
Not done

6. Status Report on Silk-2 from DESY viewpoint [Frese, Berezhnev]

All PoPs have been installed. Most are working with reasonable bandwidth – at roughly the same level as Silk-1. The installation is not considered completed.

The following at least are missing:

- While all the Compressors have been installed, only one has been put into the running system.
- Inclusion of further compressors will follow satisfactory operation of the one at Yerevan. We may put in one or two more for trouble shooting
- Mechanisms for QoS have not been fully defined. There is draft SLA but this is still in discussion with Telenor. Currently the routers are limiting the traffic to 75% of that claimed to be available. As we have no Service Level Agreement yet it is difficult to use Telenors operational people for trouble shooting.
- We are running with only QPSK coding on the hub transmitter, though with 8PSK on most of the remotes.
- We are currently running on only a 4.6m dish at reduced power; this should be remedied to go at higher power on the DESY 5.6 m dish shortly.

The Contract has been signed.

NSS-8, the supposed definitive satellite for the Silk-2 connectivity, destroyed when the its launcher exploded during launch. Telenor has to come with an alternative for this.

Specific Problems are:

- The Kabul installation is faulty; it will be re-installed shortly
- Both Bishkek and Baku are still running at QPSK on the transmission E→W; this will be remedied by replacing their current 4W BUCs with 8W ones.
- The DESY 5.6m dish is not yet commissioned; one is still running on a 4.6m one. This will be remedied shortly.
- Latency times sometimes grow large; this is believed due to the lack of QoS in the current configuration. It is expected to improve when the Junipers have been installed with their traffic shaping and compression.

Traffic Provision according to Telenor is the following:

W→ E data rates

- 4368 Kbps to AF, KG, KZ, TJ, UZ on one transponder
- 4391 Kbps to AM, AZ, GE
- 1977 Kbps to TM

E→ W data rates:

- 1333 Kbps to KG, KZ, GE
- 1116 Kbps to AM
- 1012 Kbps to TJ, UZ, AZ
- 964 Kbps AF

The traffic can be prioritised. 256 Kbps are allocated so far.

In all, the best description of the current service is that it is poor and not up to the level of Silk-1. Most of the remaining problems are the responsibility of Telenor, but there are also issues at DESY and at the NRENS that must be improved with regard to response to questions (NRENS) and communication with Telenor (DESY).

Following the overview given by DESY, there was a lengthy discussion about the problems that the NRENS are encountering as a result of the current service level. Some NRENS are losing customers because of the service level, others have been forced to buy extra capacity at other providers at very high costs. Concern is expressed from several NRENS with regard to the future situation with regard to the service level, especially in view of the failure of the NSS-8 launch. This satellite was supposed to overcome the known shortcomings of the intermediate solution. The Silk management has not heard yet how this will be solved. The NRENS also urged NATO to initiate financial penalties for the delay of adequate service levels. Especially KAZRENA stresses the fact that they are losing customers, thus endangering the plans they have for sustainability.

The reaction from the Chair to this discussion is as follows:

- In a formal sense the Silk-2 service has not been accepted; it is therefore not an operational service yet. Further until there is a Service Level Agreement (SLA) that is accepted by both parties it is extremely difficult to accuse Telenor of not meeting the service level specifications.
- The technical implementation committee (Kirstein, Frese and Jakobovits) are negotiating improvement of the service to the best of their ability.
- There have been staff changes at DESY intended to improve the communication between DESY and Telenor.
- The NRENS will be reimbursed up to the level of Silk-1 connectivity if they have had to buy additional bandwidth. He requests that the NRENS provide information on their needs in writing to him.
- Almaty will be given a high priority in the corrective measures that are being taken.
- Finally he states that additional financial pressure on Telenor at this stage of the

implementation will prove to be counter productive. In order to solve the problems one needs an open dialogue with the provider, without threats of legal financial suits.

AP 14.6.1: The Silk NRENs will provide information of their needs with regard to reimbursement of extra costs in writing to the chair.

7. Report on Silk-2 from Telenor Viewpoint [Floryn, Slettengen]

This agenda point actually took place later during the meeting, but is kept here because of the relation to the preceding item. It was the intention to have a managerial, commercial and technical representation of Telenor present during this agenda item. Due to personal circumstances, the managerial presentation could not attend the meeting, so it was more a commercial introduction to Telenor, followed by a technical overview of the provision.

The following discussion was a repetition of the discussion of agenda point 6 with no real new action points to be taken.

8. Results of Recent ICT Panel [Jakobovits]

Jakobovits reports that 20% of the proposals that were discussed during the recent panel meeting were Silk related. The Silk ExCo and the ICT consultants provided the necessary information for the approval process. The following grants have been approved during the panel and are now in the "silent procedure" before formal approval can be given:

- A workshop in Uzbekistan
- A Tajik proposal for the deployment of fibre optic infrastructure outside of the capital
- A Georgian proposal for the improvement of the infrastructure at three institutes, introduction of distance learning and the training of IT staff
- A Georgian proposal for telehelp in a medicine project
- An Uzbek proposal for the use of telepathology in the establishment of a small health centre.
- An Uzbek proposal for the creation of a portal together with the University of Strasbourg.

Jakobovits specifically requests that the NREN send any relevant (positive) information with regard to the effects of NIGs and workshops to NATO. It is extremely important that NATO has insight in the effect of the budget that is being funnelled into the academic communities of the Silk countries.

AP 14.8.1: NRENs are to provide feedback to NATO with regard to the effects of NIGs for the academia.

9. Silk funding [Frese, Jakobovits]

The funding of Silk bandwidth stays within what has been agreed in the past: NATO will provide two years of funding of the connectivity during Silk-2. Any additional funding would be critically dependent on a scheme being in place leading towards sustainability.

10. OCCASION Funding [Kirstein]

The current OCCASION project terminates at the end of October 2007. Kirstein reports that the delay of the operational service of Silk-2 has delayed several of the activities that were to take place in the area of user services and user group support. It is therefore his intention to apply for a cost neutral extension of the project until June 2008. Such a request is usually granted, but only if certain aspects are taken into consideration. For one, the deliverables that are not dependent on Silk-2 should be submitted on-time. In particular the response to the remarks of the OCCASION review should be addressed seriously. This means that especially the report with regard to sustainability is vital.

11. Other sources

At the project level there are no other funding sources at the moment. Interested parties can be approached only after the service level of Silk-2 has become stable.

12. The OCCASION Review – and resulting actions

The review of November has been very thorough. The reviewers knew what to look out for, and were well prepared. All the technical work was satisfactory. We will have little problem with that next time as long as we keep up reasonable progress.

Points that need improvement are:

- The reports from the NRENs were not adequate. These following needs to be done:
- Each NREN should produce regular reports highlighting the current status and future strategy/action plans for securing economic network sustainability. These should include the activities of the main stakeholders and the funding arrangements for the whole NREN.
- Each NREN should produce regular reports highlighting the project impact on the university system.
- The OCCASION Management should produce regular reports highlighting present status and plans for sustainable regional cooperation etc.
- The Deliverables D2.1, D2.2, D5.2 are not accepted. They must be re-submitted by April 24. They are the ones where one needed input from the NRENs. We can have these deliverables confidential if that is wanted by the NRENs.
- The reviewers recommend that the EC does not allocate more funding beyond November 1, 2007 if there is not firm evidence that the project has made some tangible and effective attempts to address the issues and recommendations made in this review.
- D2.1 and D2.2 as well as its supposed replacement are so vague and poor in descriptive quality and in terms of real content that they cannot be accepted.
- Because of its poor quality, D5.2 could not be accepted. The re-issue should be more informative as well as analytical about the OCCASION projects current and potential impact on user communities. It should state what proportion of Silk and National bandwidth is use for which purposes – and how might Silk/OCCASION change this. Almost all the work on User Groups is devoted to Distance Education; virtually none is given to scientific users.
- The dissemination Deliverables D6.1 and D6.2, while very important have not been written.
- The reviewers can recommend further funding only if the project shows:
 - The Silk NRENs can move to a sustainable NREN infrastructure with good performance within its practical limitations
 - The NRENs need to demonstrate that the stakeholders (government and universities mainly) have real interest in the project other than as a source of income.
 - The NRENs must participate more actively in the preparation of the Deliverables.
- Most of the issues addressed above will be discussed again later during the meeting. The action points to be taken by the NRENs and other partners are quite clearly listed above.

Tuesday March 13 Silk/OCCASION Board

Session 2 9.00 – 13.00: Technical Progress, Educational Plans and Funding Prospects

13. Communications Distribution for Silk-2

Nothing was discussed under this point.

14. Bandwidth distribution proposal [Frese]

Frese presents the distribution proposal for the coming months and explains the underlying rationale. The NRENs have until the end of the meeting to provide comments, after that the distribution will be fixed until the next SB/OCC meeting.

15. Co-funding [Frese]

Under Silk-1 some 16% of the total traffic costs were met by the NRENs from the subsidised capacity. There will be a considerable growth in this area when the cheaper and much larger satellite capacity of Silk-2 becomes fully available. The current plans are to allocate 25% of the capacity for NATO purposes, if they so want. This includes, for example, the documentation centres they wish to attach, and any specific bandwidth provisions that they make in their NIGs. We will then provide half the capacity remaining free to each of the Silk countries; each country will be entitled to one-ninth of the capacity. The other 50% will be provided at a rate subsidised to 50% of the cost to those NRENs willing to pay for the subsidised capacity. Once all the contracted capacity is being used, we will negotiate with Telenor for the provision of extra capacity – though this must be paid fully by the NRENs.

The NRENs are requested to provide Frese with their plans with regard to co-funding of bandwidth. They need not to commit themselves to this forecast, but additional information is necessary for future capacity planning.

AP 14.15.1: The NRENs provide Frese with information with regard to future co-funding of Silk connectivity.

16. Changes over next few months

No changes are envisaged as long as the minimal service levels are not reached.

17. Videoconferencing progress

There are regular video-conference meetings with the OCCASION Board. The lack of quality of service is often causing faults. DESY is in the process upgrading the access infrastructure.

All NRENs have working operational video-conferencing systems in place.

18. The Delivery and Deployment of equipment

All equipment intended for the NRENs is underway. In some cases (such as Afghanistan) there are problems with customs with a delay of actual delivery to the NREN as a result.

19. Videoconferencing Plans [Frese, Kirstein]

Further plans will be worked out after a stable quality of service is available.

20. CSIRTs Progress [Gajewski]

Gajewski reports on the progress of the CSIRT NIG. All equipment is in place and the NRENs have appointed staff members for the local CSIRT activities.

21. The Education Programme [Janz]

Several issues were discussed under this agenda point:

The Caucasus Education Project (Schramke)

The project is now in its final phase and Schramke hopes to obtain funds for an extension of the project. According to Schramke the objectives have been met and there is a substantial chance that there will be a follow on project.

Cisco Academies [Sadhu]

Sadhu reports on the implementation of a NIG (of which he is co-director) aiming at the establishment of Cisco Academies in various countries. The goal is to prepare the technical staff of network organisations for their tasks. Security is a major issue in the training. Staff members will be educated to CCNA level and the necessary equipment will be put in place.

In the framework of the (Cisco) NetAcademy Alliance Project, a series of trainings for future instructors of Cisco Academies will be organised.

Recent Workshops [Janz]

CEENET has recently organised (October 2006) organised a workshop on “Effective Methods of Distance Education”.

Planned Workshops [Janz]

Keuhne of ISOC reports on the possibilities of ISOC with regard to (co-)funding of training activities. After discussion with the meeting participants, it was concluded that the most feasible workshop to fall under ISOC flag is the financial workshop. ISOC can provide (part of) the funding and has an extensive network of experts to participate in the workshop. Together with Janz a project proposal will be prepared.

CEENET has the following workshops in the pipeline:

1. 12-14 March 2007 – CSIRT training, Skopje Macedonia
2. 13-17 September 2007 – Managerial Workshop, Tirana, Albania: Challenges for Secure Networking in Developing Countries
3. October/November 2007, Technical Workshop, Tashkent, Uzbekistan

KAZRENA will organize a workshop on Distance Education in September. A total of 120 participants are expected to attend.

22. Collaboration with other bodies

NATO [Jakobovits]

There are various NATO activities that can support collaboration:

- Collaborative linkage grants to provide for travel in an existing collaboration project.
- Re-integration grants to support the return of (young) scientists to their country
- The ASI mechanism to get lecturers to the country

Detailed information is available on the NATO/Science web pages.

OSI [Janz]

OSI has withdrawn from the regional stage with regard to infrastructure funding. They are still very active within the various countries, but mainly in the area of information retrieval and access projects.

University of the Mountains [Janz]

As mentioned earlier during the meeting, there has been no contact awaiting stable quality of service. There was some discussion during this agenda point with regard to the justification of using Silk funds for the connection of that university. In the view of some NRENs there are other cities within their countries where connectivity is more needed (cities as Kjudjand (Tj) and Osh (Kg) were mentioned. Especially KAZRENA has reservations with respect to any special treatment of the University of Central Asia. It was decided that issue will be picked up after the meeting.

AP.14.22.1: The Silk ExCo will clarify the situation with regard to the status of the University of Central Asia.

23. Setting up Silk and National IP Registration Authorities

This has been settled in all countries except Armenia.

24. Progress on Current NIGs

Some NIG progress has already been mentioned. Other reports were:

- **Afghan NIGS:** the Kabul University campus NIG is underway again after a long period of delay. As soon as the weather permits a team of Uzbek technicians will go to Kabul for the finishing of the fibre optic infrastructure. The equipment for

part of the metropolitan NIG has been delivered and instalment awaits necessary agreements with regard to licences.

- **Osh NIG:** this is still at a standstill due to lack of cooperation from Kyrgyz Telecom.

25. Other Funding Opportunities from NATO

These possibilities have already been discussed.

Session 3 14.00 – 18.00 Future Activity

26. The Progress with User Activities [Janz]

The deliverable with regard to user activities is still in preparation. The completion of the report has been severely handicapped by the slow (and sometimes absence of) response from the NRENs with regard to the questionnaire that was sent out. None of the NRENs responded on time and there are still two responses missing.

27. Report on Sustainability [Janz]

The sustainability report is also still pending because of lack of appropriate feedback. During the meeting the following remarks were made with regard to sustainability:

ARENA

The problem with the national Telco is still standing in the way of any true path to sustainability.

AZRENA

Customers are starting to pay for their international connectivity. Starting April 2007 there will be a contract with the universities. In cooperation with AZNET, 30 schools have been connected to the NREN. The cooperation with government is good, although there is no funding for international connectivity, only for national connectivity.

GRENA

The NREN is not allowed to receive direct government funding for their activities; they have to compete with commercial NRENs. GRENA has recently won a tender for the connection of primary and secondary schools. This contract is very important in view of reaching sustainability.

KAZRENA

The poor Silk-2 performance is costing the NREN large customers and as a consequence endangering sustainability prospects. The NREN is very active in contracting new academic customers and hopes that the planned expansion into the rest of Kazakhstan will lead to better prospects.

KRENA

There is no finance at all from government, nor are there any signs that this is to be expected in the short term. The license problem for the Silk-2 dish is still not resolved and the NREN is therefore dependant of the AKNET commercial connection for their services to academia.

TARENA

The intended expansion to the regions outside Dushanbe should add to the sustainability of the NREN. The current users within Dushanbe are paying for their services but not enough to reach a sustainable situation. The NREN is broadening its services to activities such as web site creation and support.

TURENA

There is cooperation with several donors. The new government is pro-Silk, but will not

provide funds.

UZSCINET

The NREN has a budget of \$ 250,000 per year for operational expenses. These costs have to be covered from user tariffs. All costs for investments and upgrades come from grants. There is no government support.

28. The Progress made by the NRENs in ascertaining the Connectivity Prospects for Fibre [Burke, Cardenas]

The Porta Optica project has brought the prospects for the Caucasus (and other countries) in the spotlight. At the previous meeting the results of this project were presented. In order to have a similar overview of the situation in Central Asia, Burke and Cardenas have been appointed by the EU to produce a report on this issue. They were present during a part of the meeting and had discussions with the NREN members in preparation of their tour of Central Asia later this spring.

29. The progress in user collaboration (Janz, NRENs)

Nothing was reported.

30. NRENs becoming part of CEENET (Gajewski)

Gajewski gave an overview of the activities of CEENET with the aim of having more Central Asian NRENs become part of CEENET.

31. The Nature of Future Silk/OCCASION Board meetings

The combination of Silk and OCCASION meetings will not be changed. There was some discussion, as usual, about the length of the meeting. The Chair promised to try to keep the length to four days, even if this means that the social event will not take place. Not all participants were in favour of such a draconic measure.

32. The Schedule of Future Silk/OCCASION Board meetings

The next Silk/OCCASION BOARD meeting will take place in Tashkent from June 26 to June 29.

The fall meeting will take place in Ashgabat at the beginning of November 2007.

33. Summary of Actions

The outstanding are listed at the final part of these minutes.

Wednesday March 14 9.00 – 13.00 Future EC Activities in the Black Sea and Central Asia

The Wednesday morning was devoted to presentations with regard to the prospects of EU support for projects in the Silk area. An EU delegation was present for this part of the meeting and they were in command of the content. No minutes were made, but the presentations are available on the web site.

The following presentations were given:

1. The EC Future Activities with TEIN and Central Asia (Fabianek)
2. TEIN2 practical and operational aspects (West)

The presentations were followed by a general discussion.

Wednesday March 14 14.00 – 21.00 Social Event

The Social Event consisted of a short tour through the countryside to give the participants an impression of the area they are in, a visit to the University Computing Centre and a dinner hosted by the Computing Centre.

Thursday March 15

OCCASION Project Meeting

Session 1 9.00 – 13.00 OCCASION Project Meeting

The OCCASION project meeting was partly a repetition of some points that were discussed during the Silk Board meeting and have not been minuted separately. Some extra action points were distilled from the discussions and these are listed below.

34. Status of Action items from VCs

The following action points were brought to the attention of the OCCASION project group:

AP.14.34.1: Action ALL: To look at the Telenor statistics page and check if your unit responds.

AP.14.34.2: Action ALL: To report all IP addresses of VC equipment to DESY.

35. The OCCASION Review

This point had already been discussed thoroughly during the Silk Board meeting. Some action points were already noted during the SB13 meeting. New action points are:

AP 14.35.1: NRENs are to provide presentations with an overview of their current status. The KAZRENA and AZRENA presentations given at the SB13 meeting are examples of what is expected.

36. The status of Actions arising from the Review

See agenda points 12 and 35 for the overview.

37. Current plans from each partner on where they will contribute in the project

Nothing particular was discussed under this agenda point.

38. Current information on use of resources (man-months and finance in each of the categories) from each partner

The OCCASION partners are expected to submit a claim for the use of resources until the end of February by the end of April. A decision with regard to reimbursement of the claim will come in May. Payment of the claim will take place in July/August. The claim need not be audited but should be audit proof. The NRENs should also provide information who will be the auditor of the claim.

Resulting (new) action points are:

AP 14.38.1: OCCASION partners are expected to submit a claim for the use of resources until the end of February by the end of April.

AP 14.38.2: The NRENs should provide information who will be the auditor of the claim.

39. How to deal with funding gap after current end of OCCASION

After the EU presentation on Wednesday it is clear that there cannot be additional funding of OCCASION. As Silk-2 lasts until the end of 2008 there is a substantial gap to be covered for the funding of non-connectivity related issues. The first possible moment for extra EU funding is after the summer of 2008. The chair therefore proposed that a cost neutral extension of the current project should be requested. To release funds for the extra meetings shifting of budget lines is necessary. It will be politically unwise to use too much of user activity budget for this, therefore the equipment budget will partially be sacrificed.

In order to request the project extension, cost estimates of the following are necessary:

- SB 15 costs (Tashkent)
- SB 16 costs (Ashgabat)

- SB 17 costs (Dushanbe)\
- SB 18 costs (Yerevan)

AP 14.39.1: Janz will provide cost estimates of the SB meetings until the summer of 2008.

40. Silk-2 bandwidth needs and bandwidth allocation

This was discussed earlier in the meeting.

41. Activities over the next 6 months

The following activities were identified for the coming period (until the SB15 meeting in Tashkent)

The Silk web site needs to be up-dated, in particular the links to the Silk NOC have to be put in place

AP 14.41.1: Janz will update the Silk and OCCASION web sites

The technical activities need to be inventoried and communicated to the NRENs.

AP 14.41.2: Frese will inventory the technical activities to be undertaken.

The statistics of the Silk connectivity need to be made available.

AP 14.41.3: Berezhev will make the statistics available.

42. Outstand action points

12.32: Janz will prepare OCCASION communication templates.

12.40.8: Janz should put the names of the contacts onto the web

12.40.12: Gajewski will produce a short report on the activity of the Cisco Academies in the Silk countries as a contribution to the user group deliverable D5.2.

13.12.1: Telenor/DESY will organise VSAT workshop together with Uzscinet

13.12.2: AZRENA (Aliev) will organize wireless workshop

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14.15.1: The NRENs provide Frese with information with regard to future co-funding of Silk connectivity.

14.22.1: The Silk ExCo will clarify the situation with regard to the status of the University of Central Asia.

AP.14.34.1: Action ALL: To look at the Telenor statistics page and check if your unit responds.

AP14.34.2: Action ALL: To report all IP addresses of VC equipment to DESY.

AP14.35.1: NRENs are to provide presentations with an overview of their current status.

AP14.38.1: OCCASION partners are expected to submit a claim for the use of resources until the end of February by the end of April.

AP14.38.2: The NRENs should provide information on who will be the auditor of the claim.

AP 14.39.1: Janz will provide cost estimates of the SB meetings until the summer of 2008.

AP14.41.1: Janz will update the Silk and OCCASION web sites

AP14.41.2: Frese will inventory the technical activities to be undertaken.

AP14.41.3: Berezhnev will make the statistics available.

Session 2 14.00 – 18.00 OCCASION Follow-on

This block was used for the Telenor presentation.

Friday March 16 Technical Meeting

Session 1 9.00 – 12.00 VoIP, Video-Conferencing and Shared Work Spaces, and CSIRTs

Session 2 13.00 – 17.00 Satellite and Network Activities

Due to the absence of the Cisco representative responsible for the videoconferencing the technical discussions were combined into one meeting. No minutes were made.

Friday March 16, 17.00 – 18.00 9 Silk/OCCASION Wrap-Up

The wrap-up was done at the beginning of the afternoon, leaving the rest of the day open for bilateral discussions and shopping.

Attendees at Silk/OCCASION Exco
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ExCo

S. Berezhev	- MSU	sfb@RADIO-MSU.NET
H. Frese	- DESY	hans.frese@DESY.DE
J. Gajewski	- CEEnet	gajewski@ceenet.org
R. Janz	- RUG	R.F.Janz@RUG.NL
P. Kirstein	- UCL	kirstein@cs.ucl.ac.uk
H. Jakobovits	- NATO	jakobovits.hadassa@hq.nato.int

Guests

S. Burke	- CEC	sean@frontiertraining.com
JL. Dorel	-CEC	Jean-Luc.DOREL@ec.europa.eu
D. Cardenas	- CEC	
H. Fabianek	- CEC	Bernhard.fabianek@cec.eu.int
O. Jacobson	- Cisco	Ole Jacobsen< ole@cisco.com >
N. Sadhu	- Cisco	"Nicolai Sandu (nsandu)" nsandu@cisco.com
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W. Kaffenberger	- NATO	
E. Slettengen	- Telenor	Erik.Slettengen@telenor.com

NRENS

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V. Navotny	- UNDP, UZScinet	navotny@UZSCL.NET

Technical Meetings

M. Kartvelishvili	- Georgia	
A. Aliyev	- Azerbaijan	
M. Guliev	- Azerbaijan	
Kartvelishvili	- Georgia	
A. Zhapar	- Kazakhstan	
L. Anisimova	- Kyrgyz Republic	lana@aknet.kg
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R. Gontcharuk	- Turkmenistan	
G. Yudin	- UZScinet	