

The Eleventh Silk Board and 1st OCCASION Meetings**Tbilisi, Georgia, March 12 – 16, 2006****Order of Meetings**

The general schedule will have small meetings and the Silk Executive Committee (SEC) on Sunday afternoon (March 12), the Silk board Monday – Tuesday (March 13/14) and an OCCASION meeting on Wednesday/Thursday (March 15/16).

The meetings themselves will be in the Hotel Tori, 10, G. Chanturia Str., **Tbilisi**, and that will be the official hotel for the delegates. As usual, outside guests may choose to stay elsewhere, though there are special rates at the Hotel Tori. Ramaz Kvatadze and Robert Janz will be organising the logistics.

I will keep largely to the above order, though there will be substantial differences in this Silk Board from previous ones. This time we will have a strong contingent from the EC and their activities: Bernhard Fabianek, Oliver Reisner and Dany Vandromme. Bernhard is in the Research Infrastructure Unit of the EC, Oliver is from the EC delegation in Georgia. Dany is the Director of the French RENATER NREN. We will also have Chris De Wispelaere and Hadassa Jakobovits (Walter Kaffenberger's replacement) from NATO and Ants Work the current Chair of the NATO Information and Security Panel. The EC contingent will be there for the 13-15 March, and the NATO one for March 13/14. There will be a strong Cisco presence with someone representing education (Dragostina Grancharova), CIS programmes () and media services (Georges Lalahy), Helmut Schramke from IMC will represent the EC Caucasus Distance Learning Project. We also expect to have the following organisations: ISOC (Mirjam Kuehne), ISTC (Irina Khomeriki), OSI (Medet Tiulegenov) and the World Bank (Mikhail Bunchuk), In view of our strong visitor contingent, I have tried to organise the Agendas so that the visitors need not attend the whole meeting; in fact the second afternoon of the OCCASION meeting (Thursday) will be restricted to OCCASION members. Bernhard will be there for only some of the March 15, and none of March 16; thus I have made training the subject of the morning of the 16th. The visitors will be welcome at the other times, but there will be little attempt to mould the agenda to their interests.

It is expected that much of the Silk Board discussions will move to the OCCASION meetings in the future. We will discuss at the Silk Board meeting whether it is necessary to keep the meetings so separate. One possibility, which we have started in this meeting, is to have general themes in a joint meeting. Specific concerns with the Operations of the Silk Network might be in one separate meeting, while those concerned with administrative and specific management aspects be a closed OCCASION meeting (open to all NRENs). One of the questions which will then arise is whether the future OCCASION meetings should be before or after the Silk Board. Another is whether we need separate Silk and OCCASION Executive Committees. Currently two different meetings are scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday afternoons.

For this series of meetings, I propose the following:

- Sunday March 12 – Small meetings
- Monday March 13 – AM Silk Board, Operational Discussions
– PM Silk Board, General Considerations
- Tuesday March 14 – Silk Board/OCCASION Board Joint Meeting
- Wednesday March 15 – OCCASION Board
- Thursday March 16 – AM Joint Silk/OCCASION Training meeting
- OCCASION Board (OCCASION and Silk NREN partners)

Sunday March 12, 2006 15.00 – 18.00 Small meetings

The Order of these Meetings will be adjusted nearer the time. It depends partly on what guests will be attending the meeting.

14.00: Silk-2 connectivity - Berezhnev, Dewispelaere, Frese, Gajewski, Janz, Kirstein, Kvatadze, Navotny, Work

15.00: Caucasian Distance Education – Schramke; Aliev, Bababan, Frese, Gajewski, Janz, Kirstein, Kvatadze.

16.00: Conferencing – Lahay; Janz, Frese, Ramaz, Kirstein, Work

17.00 Silk Executive Committee - All SEC members, De Wispelaere, Work

Monday March 13 Silk Board (SB11)

09.30 – 10.30 Silk Board Opening session

10.45 – 13.00 Silk Board Session 1

13.00: Lunch

14.00 – 18.00 Silk Board Session 2

20.00: Silk Board Dinner

Tuesday March 14 Joint Silk Board (SB11)/OCCASION Board (OB1)

09.00 – 13.00 Session 1

13.00: Lunch

14.00 – 16.45 Session 2

Wednesday March 15

OCCASION Board

9.00 – 13.00 OCCASION Board Session 1

13.00: Lunch

14.00 – 16.15 OCCASION Board Session 2

Silk Executive Committee Meeting

16.30 – 18.00

Thursday March 16

Joint SB11/OB1 Training Meeting AM

9.00 – 13.00 Session 1

13.00: Lunch

OCCASION Partners and NRENs) PM

14.00 – 17.00 OCCASION Board Session 3

17.15 -18.30 OCCASION Executive Committee meeting

The papers for all the meeting should be provided to Prof. Kirstein by email before Thursday March 9. Last minute paper copies can be provided for the Silk Board and OCCASION meetings, but it would be much better to have them in advance for putting onto the web. This is a very preliminary agenda, and is expected to change over the course of the next few weeks.

Monday March 13

Silk Board (SB11) Agenda

Technical activities could be discussed in the Silk Board, OCCASION or both. I have put in the Silk Board Agenda those activities arising directly from NATO grants, or which concern also other bodies.

Session 0 9.30 – 10.30: Formal Opening of SB10

Here we expect short general introductory talks from the Deputy Minister, Kirstein, De Wispelaere, Work and Fabianek.

Session 1 10.45 – 13.00: Administrative Matters, Current Status and Plans for Silk-1

1. **Welcome to Silk Board Members**
2. **Acceptance of, or Changes to, the Agenda [Kirstein, [SB11--2](#)]**
3. **Introduction of Participants**
4. **Minutes of Previous Meeting of the Silk Board in Almaty [Kirstein, [SB11-4](#)]**
5. **Actions Arising from previous meetings [Kirstein, [SB11-5](#)]**
6. **Status Report on Current Installations [Frese, Berezhnev]**

Since we have still not settled on a communications carrier for the next phase of the project, I am now re-defining Silk-1 to include the period of time until we obtain a solution to the next phase, and call Silk-2 the phase of the project which uses the eventual communications carrier. Bandwidth for Silk-2 can be discussed only after we have awarded the contract for Silk-2.

7. **Status Report on Current Negotiations on Silk-2 [Kirstein, Frese]**

This should include any questions about extension of the nodes including UCA and Moldova.

8. **Policy on Subsidisation of communications during remainder of Silk-1 [Frese]**

9. **Communications Distribution for the remainder of Silk-1**

- Bandwidth distribution – total, subsidised, free [Frese]
- Co-funding [Frese]
- Videoconferencing and VoIP [Frese]
- IPv6 [Kirstein]

Session 2 14.00 – 18.00 Preparation for Silk-2

10. **The funding prospects**

Normally we have representatives from various NGOs like the World Bank and the University of the Mountains. Both of these organisations need detailed information of the costs of communications under Silk-2. Since the choice of Carrier and the costs are not yet known, we have proposed that these organisations attend only SB12.

- NATO [Dewispelaere, Frese]
- OSI [Tiulegenov]
- University of the Mountains [Janz]

- World Bank [Janz]
- ISOC [Kuehne]
- ISTC [Khomeriki]
- The NRENS

11. Technical activities to be Discussed at the Silk Board

- The relation between technical discussions at the Silk Board and OCCASION Meetings

12. The Technical NIGs

- Silk CERTs [Gajewski]
- H.323 Conferencing [Frese]
- Setting up Silk and National IP Registration Authorities

13. Other Current NIGs

- Armenia
- Kazakhstan
- Others

14. Other Funding Opportunities from NATO

15. Future Meetings Structure

- Relationship to OCCASION Meetings

16. Future Meetings Calendar

17. Any Other Business

18. Summary of Actions

Tuesday March 14

Joint Silk Board (SB11) and OCCASION Board (OB1) Agenda
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The European Commission (EC) funds the OCCASION Project, and will have further initiatives in the Silk countries. These will be different, however, from those that have characterised the Silk Project so far. The first part of this joint meeting will describe current and future EC international connectivity initiatives, and how the Silk and OCCASION projects fall into their programme. Its second part will consider the aims and objectives of the OCCASION project and how these are expected both to be judged and how they should benefit the Silk countries.

Session 1 9.00 – 13.00 The Objectives, Experience and Performance Of the EC Programmes

19. Introduction, Background and Related Projects

The first part of this meeting is designed to make clear how the OCCASION project fits into the EC Research Infrastructure programme, and what both the EC and the Project Partners expect to get out of it.

- The Background of the EC Framework Programme for R & D [Fabianek]
- Experience in other Regions [Vandromme]

20. The Objectives and Status of the OCCASION Project

- The Objectives as in the Description of Work (DoW) [Kirstein]
- The SPONGE Review and moves to sustainability [Kirstein, SB11-1]
- Porta Optica in relation to OCCASION [Gajewski]

21. The impact of Reporting and Reviews [Fabianek]

- Reporting Requirements (Progress Reports, Review, Annual)
- Deliverables
- Activity by Silk NREN Partners
- Planned Reviews
- The impact of Project Reviews

22. The first OCCASION Review and its expectation [Fabianek, Kirstein]

23. Funding through DESY and RUG of Partners' Activities

- Staff and Travel via RUG (Janz)
- Equipment via DESY (Frese)
- Payment to 3rd Parties (Kirstein)

24. Current OCCASION Status [Kirstein]

Session 2 14.00 – 16.45 The OCCASION Activities and Impact

25. The Work Packages

- WP1 OCCASION Management
- WP2 Silk Project Management and Information Services
- WP3 Silk Network Management
- WP4 Technical Activities
 - The progress in H.323 conferencing and VoIP at DESY in the OCCASION context (K. Ohrenberg)
 - Possible Cisco activities in VoIP and conferencing for OCCASION (G. Lalahy)
- WP5 User Groups

- WP6 Dissemination

26. Sustainability

Sustainability is an important objective, some feel the only important objective, of the OCCASION project. This session should define what the term means, give some information on how it has been achieved in some other countries, give a basis of the situation currently in the Silk countries, and propose action plans under this project.

- The Meaning of Sustainability
- What has been achieved and how elsewhere [Van Drome]
- The current status of the Silk NRENs and their moves towards sustainability [All Silk NRENs]

Here we expect a report from each NREN on the current state of their network, what institutions are attached, any information they have on their users, what their plans are for development.

27. The mechanisms for moving towards sustainability

- The progress made so far, and their limitations
- The role of the EC, NATO and other NGOs
- Mechanisms for influencing the National bodies
- Closer links with other parts of the worlds
- Closer links with other EC initiatives
- The impact of harnessing User Support
- Proposed Activities under OCCASION
- Possible budget shifts to increase the effort

28. The organization of technical activities and meetings in OCCASION vs Silk

29. The Schedule of Future OCCASION Board meetings

Wednesday March 15

The OCCASION Board (OB1)

Several of us must attend another meeting on Wednesday. We expect that this will be only at 17.00, but do not know yet. This may require some changing of the Agenda

9.00 – 13.00 OCCASION Board 1 Session 1**30. Welcome to any new members****31. Changes to the Agenda****32. Membership of OCCASION Board and Committees**

- The OCCASION Board (OB)
- OCCASION Executive Committee (OEC)

33. Management Activities

- The Status of the Contract
- Work-package and Activity leaders
- Project Management Committee and meetings
- Special roles of Frese, Janz, Kirstein
- Regular Teleconferencing meetings and their evolution
- Regular Reporting
- The relationship between effort and payment
- The Consortium Agreement

34. Meetings

- Regular audio teleconferences (VoIP T/c) – English speaking representative
- Regular multimedia (VoIP T/c) – English speaking, choice of system
- Technical T/c and Meetings

35. Attendance at outside conferences**14.00 – 17.00 OCCASION Board 1 Session 2****36. Technical Activities**

- Providing bandwidth for conferencing
- Voice over IP (VoIP) – with hardware and soft-phones (Lahaly, Ohrenberg)
- H.323 conferencing – with Tandberg units and software ones, Servers, MCUs, Gatekeepers (Lahaly, Ohrenberg)
- Mbone conferencing, multicast over Silk, VRVS, Access Grid
- Caching
- IPv6
- Security
- Novel use of satellite

37. Distance Education (Will include Interaction with and role of Cisco Academies)

- Current Status in Silk countries [Granchova – Plus more general on Cisco]
- Training the Trainers
- Security, Sustainability, IPv6 other modules

- Wireless and Mobility
- Transition studies to use of fibre

38. Technical Infrastructure

- Facilities for normal use of the Internet
- VoIP - with hardware and softphones
- H.323 conferencing – with Tandberg units and software ones, Servers, MCUs, Gatekeepers
- Mbone conferencing, multicast over Silk, VRVS, Access Grid
- Web sites
- The Principals
- Distribution and mailing lists

Thursday March 16

Joint Silk Board and OCCASION Board Meeting
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Session 1 09.00 – 13.00: Distance Education, Training and Technical

39. Progress on Distance Education

- The EC Initiative [Schramke]
- The Silk/OCCASION Working Group [Aliev]
- The Virtual University [Schaumburg]

40. Progress on Workshops

- The Security Workshops
- Sustainability Workshop
- Real-time communications Workshop
- Inventory of education requests [NRENs should provide input]

41. Other workshops planned

14.00 – 17.00 OCCASION Board 1 Session 3

42. User Groups

- Identifying User Groups
- Getting User Groups organised
- Supporting User Grops

43. Dissemination

- National Dissemination
- Papers
- International Meetings
- Web sites
- TERENA Compendium

44. The Deliverables over the next 6 months

45. Future Meetings

46. Summary of Actions

Attendees

ExCo

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Guests

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