ACCORD LTM kick-off meeting
Thursday 14 January 2021
10:00-12:00
visio-conference

draft Minutes

Participants

ALGERIA	Mohamed Mokhtari	LITHUANIA	
AUSTRIA	Christoph Wittmann	MOROCCO	Siham Sbii
BELGIUM	Alex Deckmyn	NETHERLANDS	Jan Barkmeijer
BULGARIA	Boryana Tsenova	NORWAY	Jørn Kristiansen
CROATIA	Antonio Stanesic	POLAND	Bogdan Bochenek
CZECH REP	Radmila Brožková	PORTUGAL	Maria Monteiro
DENMARK	Bent Hansen Sass	ROMANIA	Simona Tascu
ESTONIA	Ivar Ansper	SLOVAKIA	Jozef Vivoda
FINLAND	Carl Fortelius	SLOVENIA	Neva Pristov
FRANCE	(Claude Fischer)	SPAIN	Javier Calvo
HUNGARY	Gabriella Szépszó	SWEDEN	Heiner Körnich
ICELAND		TUNISIA	Haythem Belghrissi
IRELAND	Saji Varghese, Eoin Whelan dep.	TURKEY	Yelis Cengiz

PM: Claude Fischer
CSS: Patricia Pottier
CSC-Leaders: Eric Bazile, Jeanette Onvlee, Martina Tudor

1. Welcome and virtual tour de table

Claude opens the kick-off ACCORD LTM meeting and gives the floor to all participants who present themselves during this tour de table. Patricia will prepare a photo gallery of the LTMs (see Annex I).
The abbreviations and acronyms in these minutes are not explained when they can be found on the organigram (Annex II).

2. Information about roadmap and first events in 2021

Claude presents the calendar of events:

- January-February: AL +CNA recruitment process
- Kick-off LTM meeting: 14 January 2021 (organized by PM+CSS)
- 8 March: Assembly for nomination of MG positions
- PAC meeting in case of difficulties with nomination process ?
- 12-16 April: All Staff Workshop fully virtual conference
- 27-30 Sept: EWGLAM meeting
- STAC in the autumn to review RWP-2021 status and advice on RWP-2022
- PAC if still required (address pending questions or teething difficulties?)
- End of the year Assembly: reporting, preparation for 2022

Claude also recalls the time line for the management recruitment process as it was approved by the ACCORD kick-off Assembly last November.

Jørn asks about any plan to wider announce the creation of ACCORD. Eric suggests to have a presentation on ACCORD at the EMS meeting in September in the session on collaboration in Europe. Siham proposes to take the opportunity of WMO meetings to present the new ACCORD consortium (may be through posters). Claude will represent the ACCORD consortium at the C-SRNWP Steering Committee and will introduce ACCORD at the next EWGLAM meeting.
Members are encouraged to seize all occasions to present ACCORD: Claude can provide one page text (in French) that MF has used to announce ACCORD outside MF.
Additionally to the press release and the small video prepared for the signature, the maps, organigram, graphics already available on the ACCORD website can be used. Please ask Patricia if you need something specific and let Patricia know about all initiatives so she can keep track of them.

3. Support Team information

3.1. Manpower registration 2020 and evolution

The LTMs are kindly asked to register the activities for 2020 last quarter quicker than usual (deadline is the 20th of January) as the CSS needs the data to wrap up the staffing effort on 1991-2020 and 2018-2020 to update the tables in Annexes VII & VIII of the ACCORD MoU (to be approved at the next Assembly meeting). The manpower registration tool will be frozen after the deadline (only consultation and statistics computation will be possible, no longer registration).

This tool will be adapted to better fit the ACCORD rules, with less compatibility with the former ALADIN and HIRLAM practices: the new version will be available on the ACCORD website, for use to register the first quarter of 2021, after a presentation at the next LTM meeting.

3.2. Last ALADIN-HIRLAM Newsletter

A last ALADIN-HIRLAM Newsletter will be published at the end of January with the last Tour d'ALADIN (national contributions based on the Tour d'ALADIN given during the last ALADIN GA, final manpower statistics at the end of ALADIN, …) and more thematic or project contributions. Please use the usual templates (word, writer, latex or googledocs).

The content, format, frequency (usefulness ?) of possible ACCORD Newsletters will be discussed with the MG. The LTMs are welcome to express any opinion with respect to the ACCORD Newsletters (please write to Claude & Patricia).

3.3. ACCORD mailing lists, shared documents, website

Patricia recalls the existing ACCORD mailing lists:

- a general list for news with subscription opened to everybody: accord_news@meteo.fr (to register your address, simply send an email to: sympa@meteo.fr with "subscribe accord_news" in the text of the message)
- lists for the ACCORD bodies (that already contain to addresses of their members): accord_mg@meteo.fr,accord_ltm@meteo.fr,accord_pac@meteo.fr, accord_stac@meteo.fr, accord_assembly@meteo.fr.

Patricia asks the ALADIN LTMs to warn their team that the general aladin2@meteo.fr mailing list will disappear and they should subscribe to accord_news@meteo.fr to keep informed.
The alabodo2@meteo.fr mailing list is still on use for exchange of technical information, waiting for changes in working practices in the coming months[1].

[1] *We will also keep the "alacode@meteo.fr" list for the time being, as it is used by staff involved in system and cycles aspects*

Patricia is working on an ACCORD website: http://www.umr-cnrm.fr/accord/. It is a work in progress. Thus, it is the right time to let her know about the kind of information the LTMs would like to find on this website, or any remarks on the organisation of the articles/repertories.

An LTM shared google directory is proposed. So far, it is available to everybody with the link. In order to restrict the access to LTMs only, the LTMs are kindly asked to provide Patricia with a google-recognised address (or to write it directly in the information4LTM file).

Patricia asks the LTMs about any feedback about her proposals for ACCORD logo. It is suggested to remove the G key and to add visuals relevant for weather or climate (clouds or SYNOP past weather symbols as notes, or equations, …).

4. Inquiry for an early input to the preparation of the costed Detailed Actions Plan (DAP)

Claude explains the method for preparing the DAP, specific to 2021 (in parallel to the selection process for the AL and CNA). He asks t**he LTMs and the 3 CSC-L to send Patricia proposals for WW & scientific visits (with reference to RWP-2021)**. Early-March, a rough (financial) evaluation of the gathered proposals will be made by the PM and the CSS. In April, the 1st MG meeting will discuss the DAP proposal, amend or take additional actions and the completed costed DAP will be announced under the PM responsibility.
Claude explains the priority and criteria for visits and WW:

- Cross-family visits should be encouraged; duration of scientific visits about 1 month (2weeks < length < 2 months);
- Newly selected Area Leaders must be involved in the definition of ACCORD supported WW & visits;
- WW proposals will require good coordination with WW organized by HIRLAM or LACE;
- For 2021, perhaps quite some flexibility regarding the selection of ACCORD supported visits should be allowed;
- Do as if no Covid was around in 2021, but be prepared to manage VC mode for first half-year or more;
- Base for proposals: content of RWP-2021, strategy topics.

Jørn comments that more WW will probably be organised as hybrid physical&video meetings in the future. He has experiences with these hybrid meetings and will share them with Patricia.

Maria Monteiro asks about the possibility to propose ACCORD WW joint with WW planned by any specific group (like for instance a DAsKIT WW joint with a LACE DA WW). Claude answers that indeed, jointly organized WW can be considered. However, for this specific 2021 LTM inquiry, Claude suggests all LTMs to keep their proposals in a very simple format, like indicate which topic of interest, which time of the year, possibly the feasible size of attendance. The MG will anyway have to address the definition of the ACCORD WW (and the scientific visits) in spring.

Claude briefly explains the roadmap for ACCORD, as derived from the Strategy, with mid-term specific objectives (~2023). He also presents the headlights of the ACCORD strategy document with what should be reached by 2025 (more details on the 2 slides in Annex III or in his video-recorded interview during the PM jury).

5. Date of the next (video-)meeting

The 1st LTM meeting will be organised during the ASW week (12-16 April 2021). It will be prepared by PM & CSS with the CNA (if nominated by then).

6. AOB and closing

6.1. MF migration to new HPC

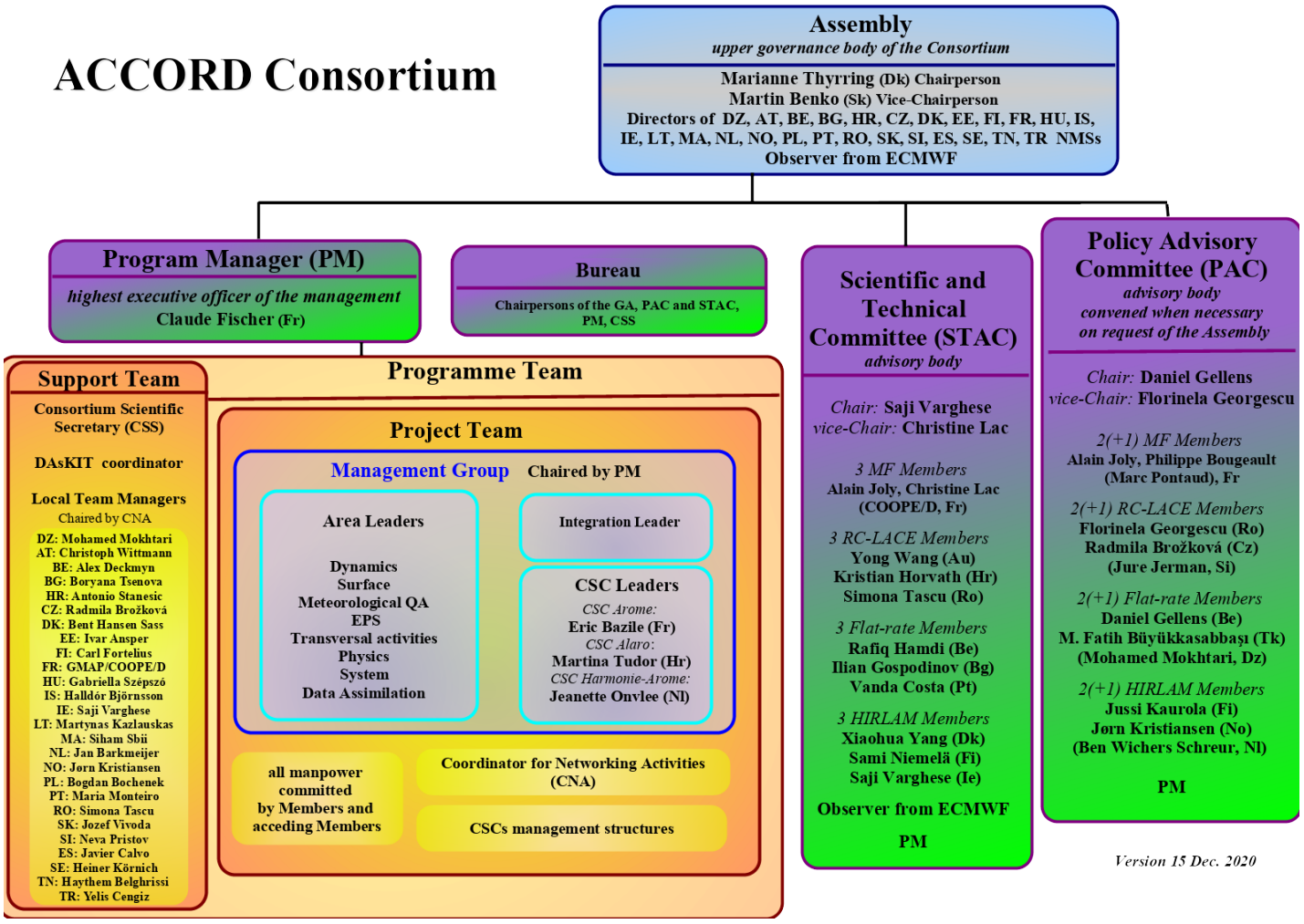
MF will switch its operational production from the present HPC (prolix/beaufix) to the new one (belenos, then taranis) on the 26th of January 2021. The ACCORD partner NWP teams must transfer any data stored on beaufix before mid-February and the hard shutdown of the old HPC, LBC files from the mirror suite are available since December for partners who use ARPEGE coupling files (feedback coordinated with Claude & Mariska).

6.2. Closing

Claude thanks the LTMs and closes the meeting at 12:15.

Annex I : trombinoscope[2] (on-line photo-gallery)

Annex II: ACCORD Organisational chart



Annex III: slides 12-13

A trial roadmap derived from the Strategy

- **Mid-term specific objectives (~2023):**
  - Progress in working methods & environment (new code versions)
  - Concrete involvement of Consortium Project staff into code refactoring for adapting to new HPC architectures (link with ECMWF/Scalability)
  - Data Assimilation: OOPS ready for transition to operations at some Member institutes (and assess timing at ECMWF)
  - DAs-KIT progress (capacity building)
  - SURFEX in all CSCs based on a common version
  - Analysis of interoperability for physics packages and ability to derive a work plan from it
- **… while not sacrificing steady progress in the long term goals described in the Strategy**
- **… and ensuring no breech of interoperability across CSCs nor significant break-out in the scientific choices**

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What do we want to reach by 2025 ?

- **A significant convergence in working methods and environment (and scripts?)**
- **A code with a certain level of readiness for new HPC architectures**
- **New options for the dynamical core**
- **A modernized upper-air DA solution (EnVar)**
- **Increased use of observations for all CSCs, based on some common standards (pre-processing)**
- **An improved surface representation (SURFEX) and the realization of steps for a modernization of the surface assimilation**
- **Improved physics (reduced specific biases) in any CSC; solutions for the hectometric scales (3D, aerosol/cloud/radiation, model output diagnostics etc.)**
- **Ensemble prediction systems at state-of-the-art**
- **Increased capacities in Meteorological Quality Assurance**

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