

EARN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EARN EXEC)

EARN EXEC-MEETING NR. 17

Minutes of the Meeting Held May 9, 1988

PLACE: Paris, France

EARN REPRESENTATIVES: Alain Auroux, EARN Office, Paris
Paul Bryant, United Kingdom
Joe Chester, EARN Office, Dublin
Jean-Loic Delhaye, France
Frode Greisen, Denmark
Dennis Jennings, Ireland
David Lord, CERN
Stefano Trumpy, Italy

A. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

The Minutes of the last EARN Exec meeting were approved and signed and will be distributed to EARN BoD by Michael Hebgen. Joe Chester will send a signed copy to Alain Auroux for the book.

MATTERS ARISING: The action list was updated and a new version will be distributed by Joe Chester. This new list will also contain actions from the Board of Directors action list.

Board Minutes: The draft minutes were discussed by the Executive Committee. Final comments should be sent to Michael Hebgen immediately.

Alain Auroux will circulate the reduced budget figures and will send an amendment to better reflect the discussion on the agreed items. A summary of the manpower discussion at the Board Meeting will be circulated to the Executive Committee by Alain Auroux.

B. ITEMS FOR DECISION

5. MANAGEMENT OF TECHNOLOGY

A discussion took place on the draft proposal circulated by Joe Chester. A further proposal incorporating the points raised will be circulated by Joe Chester. This item will be tabled for decision at the next meeting. It was agreed that the Executive needs to be informed of proposed changes. The intention of the propo-

sal is to assist the process of reaching agreement on necessary changes between EARN and the sites.

9. SNA

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

9. NODE ADMINISTRATORS PROPOSAL.

Alain Auroux reported that he had received no further comments on the draft circulated in Izmir. The current text will be circulated to the Board of Directors and to EARN Tech by Alain Auroux for comment. A decision on this item will be taken at the next meeting.

C. REPORTS

3. OSI PROGRAMME.

Dennis Jennings summarised the current situation following the Board of Directors meeting in Izmir:-

1) NJE/OSI

Availability of NJE/OSI is the most urgent item. An agreement has been reached between the ENC and Heidelberg to develop the required VTAM driver for VM and MVS Systems; a prototype will be available in August. Discussion will take place with the ENC on European level support and other issues (Dennis Jennings) .

The version for DEC/VMS systems is currently awaiting delivery of the latest implementation of VOTS. Joe Chester is to discuss this with Joiners.

IBM and Joiners are to work together to agree the protocol interfaces. Joe Chester is to follow up with IBM (Peter Streibelt) and Joiners (Steve Arnold).

2) Switches

Northern Telecom will announce EARN's acceptance of their offer of support in Stockholm on May 25th. The interoperability of IBM 37XX and NT DPN 100's is to be investigated. Joe Chester will follow up.

3) Lines

The DEC offer specifically excludes the use of SNA in DEC funded wires. The IBM offer is limited to linking actual or proposed supercomputer sites. Dennis Jennings will have fur-

ther discussions with the suppliers on these issues.

4) Pilot Phase

Dennis Jennings will write to the list requesting nomination of sites with the required resources and skills for participation in the pilot phase. Joe Chester will outline a draft implementation plan for the next meeting.

7. LIAISON

EUNET: Joe Chester outlined some possible joint projects with EUNET. It was agreed to continue discussions with EUNET on these projects. Paul Bryant will assist Joe Chester with these discussions .

Joint Working Party A: A new revision of the Terms of Reference had been circulated by EARN. The EARN representatives were instructed to raise the question of the Terms of Reference, and participation by others, including observers, at the meeting. Denis Jennings will discuss these issues with the other parties to the statement of Direction and on Cooperation.

Dr. Vogel's letter will be circulated to the Executive Committee by Joe Chester.

10. FINANCE

The revised budget (1.8 million ECU, four staff, and an algorithm for contributions) will be circulated by Alain Auroux. A letter will then be sent to the Board on contributions for 1989 by Alain Auroux.

The registration of the EARN name and logo will be investigated by Alain Auroux.

9. SOFTWARE LICENCES

Alain Auroux reported that IBM want to keep ownership of Netserv, possibly for release as a product.

Eric Thomas wants to talk to IBM about the possibility of turning Listserv into a product together with Netserv.

EARN's requirement is for a royalty-free licence for existing full members. Alain Auroux will follow up.

8. NEW COUNTRIES

The new Board member for Yugoslavia is Profesor Niketic from Uni-

versity of Belgrade. Alain Auroux reported that the line Belgrade - Linz is being ordered. It is hoped to have it operational by mid-May.

Alain Auroux will write to all contacts in Yugoslavia explaining the current situation and get a letter from the new Director. Joe Chester will send the name of the Luxembourg director to Alain Auroux.

A letter from Egypt was circulated. They are currently investigating the possibility of connection to EARN through Israel, Greece or Turkey. Joe Chester will follow up.

8. MEMBERSHIP

Frode Greisen has initiated a vote on new Associate Membership applications from Israel.

A paper on the issues relating to Country Membership will be prepared by Frode Greisen.

The position of Associate Members in relation to usage of the network will be summarised by Alain Auroux to the Executive Committee and the Membership Committee.

13. EARN90

The offer from Finland to hold EARN90 was accepted.

Dennis Jennings will send a message to the Board list looking for an offer of a site for EARN89. Otherwise EARN89 will not take place.

Congratulations were extended to Turkey on the organisation of EARN88.

9. BITNET

Dennis Jennings will write to BITNET inviting them to send a representative to the next EARN Tech meeting. Paul Bryant will investigate the outcome of Berthold Pasch's attendance at the next BITNET Technical Meeting.

ITEMS DEFERRED

Items deferred to the next meeting were Topology, Operating Procedures, Strategic Objectives and Reorganisation of Meetings.

NEXT MEETING.

The next meeting will be held in Paris on June 22, 1988

Joe Chester
24 May 1988