

Attached document NGB16_AD01_FC_v01.pdf



NGB 15 minutes

Attached document NGB-16-AD01-FC-v01.pdf

Minutes of the SoftComp
Network Governing Board 15 Meeting
Primosten, Venice, May 29, 2018

Minutes of the SoftComp Network Governing Board meeting 15

Participants: P.Bassereau (15), F.Carsughi (SoftComp Project Manager), L.Chazeau (53), M.De Giacomi (46), J.Dhont (1b), P.Holmqvist (42), E.Koos (14), A.Giacometti (54), G.Gompper (1c), M.Grimaldo (45), L.Liz-Marzan (47), B.Loppinet (23), C.Monteux (34b), A.Moreno (20), T.Nicolai (18d), R.Pasquino (50), A.Patkowski (24), W.Paul (39), W.Poon (12), L.Ramos (18b), M.Rappolt (11), F.Schmid (2), A.Schmidt (7), J.Sprakel (41), J.Vermant (49), I.Voets (44), A.Wenzik (SoftComp Communication Manager), F.Zhang (48)

Representatives of the following groups were absent:

- 1a – Forschungszentrum Jülich, Germany
- 6 – Univ. Göttingen, Germany
- 8a – Univ. Utrecht, The Netherlands
- 19 – Univ. Vigo, Spain
- 28 – Unilever, United Kingdom
- 32 – Solvay, France
- 33 – Imperial College, United Kingdom
- 34a – EPCI Leibler, France
- 35 – Univ. Fribourg, Switzerland
- 37 – Univ. Catholique Louvain, Belgium
- 43 – Univ. Luxembourg, Luxembourg
- 52 – TU Darmstadt, Germany

Supporting documents: NGB-15-AD01-FC-v01.pdf
 NGB-15-AD02-FC-v01.pdf
 NGB-15-AD03-FC-v01.pdf

Prior to the meeting, the agenda was made available on the SoftComp web portal together with the attached document on May 19, 2017.

The meeting took place in the room Kravata of the Hotel Zora, Primosten, Croatia, on May 29, 2018, from 18:30 to 19:50.

AGENDA

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Approval of the present agenda | G.Gompper |
| 2. Approval of the minutes of the NGB meeting 14, May 30, 2017, Venice, Italy (document NGB-15-AD01-FC-v01.pdf) | G.Gompper |
| 3. Check of the actions | F.Carsughi |
| 4. Report on the last SoftComp period
- General information
- SoftComp finances
- Applications to the SoftComp programmes (document NGB-15-AD02-FC-v01.pdf) | G.Gompper
F.Carsughi
F.Carsughi |
| 5. SoftComp selection committees and NCC membership | G.Gompper |
| 6. Annual meeting concept | J.Dhont |
| 7. International Soft Matter Conference 2019 | W.Poon |
| 8. SoftComp communications | A.Wenzik |
| 9. SoftComp/EUSMI Annual 2019 meeting (document NGB-15-AD03-FC-v01.pdf) | F.Carsughi |

Minutes of the SoftComp
Network Governing Board 15 Meeting
Primosten, Venice, May 29, 2018

10. AoB

The meeting started at 18:30.

Item 1: Approval of the present agenda

The proposed agenda was unanimously accepted.

Item 2: Approval of the minutes of the NGB meeting 14, May 30, 2017, Ancona, Italy

The proposed minutes were unanimously accepted.

Item 3: Check of the actions

All foreseen actions have been accomplished timely.

Item 4: Report on the last SoftComp period

SoftComp applications

The applications submitted and approved by the SoftComp Consortium together with the committed costs by the SoftComp programmes are reported in the table below. The table in this chapter refers to the situation on December 31, 2017.

	Gender funds	Research visits	Dissemination and Educational programme	Total
Submitted	8	74	94	174
Approved	4	63	75	142
Paid in year 1	0	4	3	7
Paid in year 2	1	6	4	11
Paid in year 3	0	7	10	17
Paid in year 4	1	5	7	13
Paid in year 5	0	0	15	15
Paid in year 6	1	4	8	13
Paid in year 7	0	0	4	4
Paid in year 8	1	10	6	17
Pending	1	9	12	21
Committed costs SoftComp programmes	0,00 €	5.887,00 €	74.600,00 €	80.487,00 €

These committed costs include all the accepted applications that have not yet cashed the SoftComp financial contribution. SoftComp honours the commitments only until 12 months after the end of the event/trip, and in this case the committed costs were as high as 0.0, 5.887 € and 35.800 € for Gender funds, Research Visits programme and for Dissemination and Educational programme, respectively.

SoftComp finances

The new SoftComp Consortium has closed the SoftComp year 8 (self-financing) with overall costs of 138.704,69 €. The costs have been audited by an external German company.

Description	Allocated	Audited costs
Annual meeting	83.000,00	75.889,15
Audit	1.000,00	970,00
Communication	14.950,00	15.058,00
Dissemination and Educational programme	73.400,00	33.903,50
Management	0,00	638,53

Minutes of the SoftComp
Network Governing Board 15 Meeting
Primosten, Venice, May 29, 2018

NCC	1.000,00	0,00
Research Visits programme	22.287,98	11.745,51
Gender funds	0,00	500,00
Reserve	2.362,02	-
Total	198.000,00	138.704,69

The NGB Members unanimously approved the proposed budget for the year 8 unanimously.

The status of the payment of the SoftComp fees for the period January 1 – December 31, 2017, (update 18 May 2018) is reported here below.

N	Group	Expected	Paid
1°	FZJ - Richter	2.500,00	
1b	FZJ - Dhont	2.500,00	
1c	FZJ - Gompper	2.500,00	
2	Univ. Mainz	2.500,00	2.500,00
6	Univ. Göttingen	2.500,00	2.500,00
7	Univ. Köln	2.500,00	2.500,00
8	Univ. Utrecht	2.500,00	2.500,00
11	Univ. Leeds	2.500,00	2.500,00
12	Univ. Edinburgh	2.500,00	2.500,00
14	K.Univ. Leuven	2.500,00	2.500,00
15	Institut Curie	2.500,00	2.500,00
18b	CNRS Montpellier	2.500,00	2.500,00
18d	CNRS Le Mans	2.500,00	2.500,00
19	Univ. Vigo	2.500,00	2.500,00
20	Univ. Basque Country	2.500,00	2.500,00
23	FORTH	2.500,00	2.500,00
24	Univ. Poznan	2.500,00	2.500,00
27	Schlumberger	5.000,00	5.000,00
28	Unilever	5.000,00	5.000,00
32	Solvay	5.000,00	5.000,00
33	Imperial College	2.500,00	2.500,00
34°	ESPCI - Leibler	2.500,00	2.500,00
34b	ESPCI – Tribet/Monteux	2.500,00	2.500,00
35	Univ. Fribourg	2.500,00	2.500,00
37	C.Univ. Louvain	2.500,00	2.500,00
38	Malvern Instruments	5.000,00	5.000,00
39	Univ. Halle	2.500,00	2.500,00
41	Univ. Wageningen	2.500,00	2.500,00
42	Univ. Lund	2.500,00	2.500,00
43	Univ. Luxembourg	2.500,00	2.500,00
44	T.Univ. Eindhoven	2.500,00	2.500,00
45	Univ. Durham	2.500,00	2.500,00
46	ILL	2.500,00	2.500,00
47	CICBiomaGUNE	2.500,00	2.500,00
48	Univ. Tuebingen	2.500,00	2.500,00
49	ETH	2.500,00	2.500,00
50	Univ. Napoli	2.500,00	2.500,00
	Total	102.500,00	100.000,00

The FZJ fees will be paid soon.

The funds available to SoftComp on December 31, 2017, was as high as 437.660,59 €.

Minutes of the SoftComp
Network Governing Board 15 Meeting
Primosten, Venice, May 29, 2018

SoftComp year 9

The foreseen costs are reported in the table below.

Description	Committed costs	Other foreseen costs year 9	Total foreseen costs
Annual meeting		70.000,00	70.000,00
Audit		1.000,00	1.000,00
Communication		2.000,00	2.000,00
Dissemination and Educational programme	74.600,00	20.000,00	94.600,00
Management		4.000,00	4.000,00
NCC		1.000,00	1.000,00
Research Visits programme	5.887,00	10.000,00	15.887,00
Gender funds		1.000,00	1.000,00
Reserve		2.500,00	2.500,00
Total	80.487,00	111.500,00	191.987,00

During the SoftComp year 9 the foreseen costs will exceed the incomes by about 87.000 €. FC stressed the point that likely not all the committed costs will be cashed; as reported above in these minutes, the contribution to the Dissemination and Educational programme should not exceed 35.800 €. The NGB Members unanimously approved the proposed foreseen budget for the year 9 unanimously.

Item 5: SoftComp selection committees and NCC membership

GG reported that P.Schurtenberger, the Experimental Research Platform Leader, is ready to resign from this position, and proposed JV to replace him. The NGB members unanimously agreed. FC explained that the membership of the SoftComp selection panels had to be renewed because one member is no longer a SoftComp member, another one is happy to resign and others had a very poor response. The NGB thanked all the members for their service until now and unanimously agreed on the following membership.

Dissemination and Educational programme

F.Carsughi
J.Dhont (Chair)
L.Liz-Marzan
J.Sprakel
J.Vermant

Research Visits programme

A.Alegria
F.Carsughi
J.Dhont (Chair)
J.Oberdisse
A.Patkowski

Gender programme

P.Bassereau (Chair)
F.Carsughi

The selection member rights will be set in the new SoftComp portal: **action FC**.

Item 6: Annual meeting concept

JD explained the proposal for the new SoftComp/EUSMI Annual meeting, submitted jointly by JD and JV, and discussed by the NCC members. Its content is described in the figure below.

Minutes of the SoftComp
Network Governing Board 15 Meeting
Primosten, Venice, May 29, 2018

First day	Second day	Third day
X plenaries Joint session Contributed talks	topical session topical session organized by external/internal seniors	the "student session"
X plenaries Contributed talks Contributed talks	X plenaries poster session	1 plenary Joint session Contributed talks NGB
NCC	EUSMI general assembly	conference dinner

The NGB members commented as follows:

TN – 1) the student session should be opened to all participants; 2) due to number of foreseen talks, a strong selection of the proposed talks will be applied with a penalization likely of the students

CL – the poster session is less attractive for students than oral contribution

LR – the topical sessions will be organized by external scientists? It was agreed that one topical session will be organized by an external senior scientist and the other one by an internal one.

BL – will the proposed format be used for joint SoftComp/EUSMI meetings?

GG explained that there will a try in 2018, and if the attempt will not successful, we may go back to the format used until 2018 or even to a new one.

The proposed format will be used for joint SoftComp/EUSMI meetings until EUSMI will expire.

The NGB members unanimously agreed to accept the proposed format for at least the Annual meeting 2019. For the future its success will be taken into consideration.

Item 7: International Soft Matter Conference 2019

GG reported that the IUPAP has established a working group formed by American, European and Asiatic/Pacific scientists. The aim of this working group is to organize the soft matter research activities all over the world. For example, there will be a International Conference on Soft Matter each year on a different continent, in such a way, that it will be organized every three year in each continent.

WPo updated on the organization of the ISMC 2019.

The ISCM 2019 will be organized in Edinburgh, United Kingdom, 3-7 June 2019.

Plenary talks will be held at the McEwan Hall and parallel session will take place at the Appleton Tower; the two buildings are at 3 minutes walking distance.

The ISCM 2019 web portal is in operation since January 2018 (www.ismc2019.ed.ac.uk).

The proposed fee is 400 £ and includes lunches and coffee breaks; neither a reception nor a gala dinner is included. The budget is formulated under the assumption of 600 participants. Eight plenary speakers and thirty keynote speakers will be selected among the contributed talks. Plenary speakers will be fully (travel and accommodation/subsistence) reimbursed by the ISCM organizers, while keynote speakers receive a partial financial contribution (either travel or accommodation/subsistence).

For the gala dinner the National Museum of Scotland has been considered, and the foreseen cost is about 90 £ (about 100 €) per persons for a three-dish menu.

After the discussion at the SoftComp NCC meeting, the proposed Programme Committee is the following:

Chair: WPo (Edinburgh, colloids, active matter)

SoftComp:

Colin Bain (Durham & SOFI CDT; surfaces)

Patricia Bassereau (Paris; biophysics)

Minutes of the SoftComp
Network Governing Board 15 Meeting
Primosten, Venice, May 29, 2018

Gerhard Gompper (Jülich; simulations, active matter)
Helen Gleeson (Leeds; liquid crystal)
Jan Vermant (ETH; surfactants, rheology)
Dimitris Vlassopoulos (FORTH; polymers, colloids, rheology)
Pascal Hervé (Solvay; formulations)

External:

Gijse Koenderink (AMOLF; biophysics)
Patrick Spicer (UNSW; ex-P&G; formulations modelling)
Emanuela Zaccarelli (Roma; simulations; IUPAP WG "Soft Matter")
Need another chemist: Barner Kowolik (Queensland) or Paul Mulvaney (Melbourne) or someone European
Peter Olmsted (Georgetown; theory)
Jian Ping Gong (Hokkaido)

There will no Advisory Board.

The proposed Local Organizing Committee is reported below:

Chair: Dr Simon Titmuss

Physics: Prof Rosalind Allen, Dr Daniel Hodgson, Dr Anne Pawsey, Dr John Royer, Dr Job Thijssen

Chemistry: Dr Matthew Horrocks, Dr Fabio, Nudelman

Engineering: Dr Adam Stokes, Dr Jin Sun

Edinburgh Complex Fluids Partnership: Dr Tiffany Wood

Secretary: Lyndsey Ballantyne

A discussion took place on the cost of the gala dinner, as it is likely that many participants are prevented by their administration to spend up to 90 £ for a gala dinner. FC suggested that, only for those participants that cannot be reimbursed, the costs of the gala dinner could be hidden inside the conference fee. In practice, the conference fee is 400 £, and during the registration, if a participants would like to attend the gala dinner, the additional 90 £ are hidden in the invoice as conference fee is in this case increased up to 490 £, leaving the normal conference fee untouched at 400 £.

Other options were discussed, such as, to have a fraction of the costs for then gala dinner included in the conference fee. In particular 100% (conference fee of 490 £), 50% (conference fee of 445 £) and 0% (conference fee of 400 £) were discussed and voted. No clear indication was found out of the votes of the NGB members, and therefore it was unanimously agreed to leave this decision to WPO.

The NGB members unanimously agreed on the proposed Programme Committee membership, and WPO will report to the NCC members on the ISMC 2019 organization evolution: **action WPO:**

Item 8: SoftComp Communications

AW showed the new SoftComp Newsletter issued last summer 2017. It has a completely new format and contains no long articles. All SoftComp members are kindly invited to submit new scientific highlights for the web portal, and few of them will be selected for the next SoftComp Newsletter, which is planned for the end of 2018. A limited number of copies have been sent to all the SoftComp groups last August 2017.

AW described also the new SoftComp portal. It has been developed by an italian company (Jobinformatica srl) on a Wordpress platform, and costed in total 19.800 €.

The server is hosted by FZJ and it complies with the new European Data Protection Regulations.

The SoftComp newsletter will be printed in a limited number of paper copies for VIP, industries and politicians, and will be sent electronically to all interested persons. AW invited all registered persons in the new SoftComp portal to check the flag for the Newsletter, in order to get it. Nevertheless, it is available together with all the old ones on the new portal. The new portal has a user statistics tool for checking the delivery status of each newsletter.

The new SoftComp portal has buttons for social media, and AW encouraged everybody to connect it to their social media pages.

AW also asked the registered persons to check carefully their scientific and partner information, and to keep this information updated.

Each user can upload job/event/pictures that need to be approved by an admin for their publication.

Last but not least, now the page of the SoftComp groups contains the link to the main institution, AW asked to receive the URL of the group and to send to AW or FC for updating it.

Any feedback, positive or negative, is very welcome to correct, improve and continuing on working on the new SoftComp portal.

Minutes of the SoftComp
Network Governing Board 15 Meeting
Primosten, Venice, May 29, 2018

Item 9: SoftComp/EUSMI Annual 2019 meeting

FC reminded that there was the interest of the SoftComp group from Univ. Napoli, Italy, to organize the Annual meeting 2019, however no offer was received timely. FC presented three offers:

- Hotel Zora, Primosten, Croatia; Offered dates 27th May – 2nd June
- Excelsior Hotel La Fonte, Portonovo, Italy; Offered dates 27th May – 30th May and 3rd June – 7th June

Also possible on April-May and September-October

- Hotel Knossos Beach, Heraklion, Greece; Offered dates until 16th April 2019

Due to the organization of two important conferences in 2019 (ISMC 3-7 June and ECIS 9-13 September) the SoftComp/ESMI Annual meeting should take place a couple of weeks away from the above mentioned conferences.

The NGB member unanimously agreed to have in Ancona, at the following preferred dates

- 1) 24-26 September 2019
- 2) 1-3 October 2019

The availability of the Hotel Excelsior La Fonte will be investigated: **action FC**.

Item 9: AoB

None

The meeting ended at 19:50.