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## MINUTES OF THE IT STAR AUTUMN MEETING

12 November, 2006  
Bratislava, Slovakia

### List of Participants and Apologies

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| Austria   | <b>Gabriele Kotsis</b>                 |
| Bulgaria  | <b>Kiril Boyanov</b>                   |
| Hungary   | <b>Balint Domolki</b>                  |
| IT STAR   | <b>Plamen Nedkov</b>                   |
| Italy     | <b>Giulio Occhini, Giovanni Franza</b> |
| Lithuania | <b>Eugenijus Telesius</b>              |
| Macedonia | <b>Ljubislav Lazarevic</b>             |
| Romania   | <b>Vasile Baltac, Alexandru Oancea</b> |
| Serbia    | <b>George Dukic</b>                    |
| Slovakia  | <b>Igor Privara, Branislav Rovn</b>    |
| Slovenia  | <b>Niko Schlamberger</b>               |

Invitations were sent to all IT STAR Member Societies and to P. Nedkov, Advisor to IT STAR. Apologies were received from the representatives of **CITS** and **CSKI**.

Invited observers:

Representatives of Albania – AAS,  
ECDL-Bosnia and Herzegovina (Aida Ajanovic),  
Polish Computer Society (Malgorzata Iszkowska)

The following **Agenda** was proposed:

1. Welcome
- 1.1. Presentation of the Host Society
2. Bringing the meeting to Order
- 2.1. Attendance and Apologies
- 2.2. Approval of the Agenda
- 2.3. Approval of the Ljubljana Spring 2006 Meeting Minutes
3. Organization
- 3.1. Membership issues, including new applications
- 3.2. IT STAR Governance
- 3.3. Recommendations of the Statutes Committee
4. Activities
- 4.1. 1<sup>st</sup> IT STAR WS in Bratislava and follow-up
- 4.2. IT STAR Professional Pool Database
- 4.3. New Initiatives – IT STAR organized competitions
5. IT STAR Newsletter
6. Future meetings
7. Any Other Business
8. Closing

### 1. Welcome

**Mr. Schlamberger** opened the meeting and welcomed the participants.



1.1. **Mr. Rován** said a report on SSCS is in the Newsletter and he had also made a short presentation during the WS.

## 2. Bringing the meeting to Order

2.1. Attendance and Apologies  
*[See list of participants above.]*

2.2. Approval of the Agenda  
The proposed Agenda was adopted.

2.3. Approval of the Ljubljana Spring 2006 Meeting Minutes  
The Minutes were adopted with one recommendation: In Ljubljana, it was decided that a letter regarding the IT STAR Professional Pool Database should be circulated to all IT STAR member societies with concrete instructions on available project material, expected follow-up and participation.

### Action:

**Messrs Schlamberger and Franza** will prepare a scenario for the database project implementation and will suggest assignment of tasks for all societies that have confirmed their participation in this project. A circular letter will be prepared for sending together with the project documentation and further recommendations and instructions.

## 3. Organization

3.1. Membership issues, including new applications

**Mr. Schlamberger** recalled that IT STAR decides on membership in the presence of the representatives of interested societies only after a formal letter with a request for membership is submitted. Interest for collaboration has been expressed by the Norwegian and German CS. The Turkish and Polish computer societies were also invited as representing countries in the region. There was a recent expression of interest coming from INIMA – Albania.

**Mr. Rován** opined that only national computer societies should qualify for IT STAR membership.

### Action:

It was agreed that IT STAR should take a broader view with respect to membership. Each application should be considered on the basis of its own merits and to what extent the society is representative of the ICT community in the given country. Additionally, membership of the society in other international bodies should be taken into account.

3.2. IT STAR Governance

**Mr. Schlamberger** said his term as IT STAR Coordinator comes to an end after this meeting. Following some consultations he was pleased to propose Mr. Giulio Occhini as the next IT STAR Coordinator. IT STAR is successfully expanding and he was also pleased to propose Mr. Plamen Nedkov as IT STAR's Chief Executive, a new position intended to strengthen the Association's activities and operations.

Unanimously **agreed**.

**Messrs. Nedkov and Occhini** recommended that in order to ensure smooth transition it would be important to institute in future the post of Past-Coordinator and, if this is agreed, Mr. Schlamberger would remain active in the IT STAR governance.



Unanimously **agreed**.

**Mr. Rován** was pleased with the decisions and felt that they should be incorporated in the IT STAR Charter, which should also accent on the strategic development of the Association. There were other European and international organizations in the ICT field and the specific attributes of IT STAR need to be articulated. Furthermore, any changes with respect to membership fees need careful consideration and justification.

**Mr. Schlamberger** said there were no current plans to introduce membership dues. The organization according to its Charter has the possibility to operate on the basis of concrete projects. Yet, it would be worthwhile to consider registering IT STAR as a legal entity. This would give it some advantages including participation in EU-related competitions and projects. With this in mind it is recommended that the IT STAR Statutes Committee investigates the whole issue related to governance and produces a recommendation for the Spring 2007 Business meeting to discuss and decide upon.

This proposal was **adopted**.

3.3. Recommendations of the Statutes Committee  
*[See discussion and decision under 3.2]*

#### 4. Activities

4.1. 1<sup>st</sup> IT STAR WS in Bratislava and follow-up

The WS was very successful by all measures and IT STAR needs to build upon the results. The following actions are encouraged:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. The Declaration and other WS material should be distributed as widely as possible.</li><li>b. Societies should ensure the dissemination of the Declaration (see <a href="http://www.itstar.eu">www.itstar.eu</a>) through their printed and electronic media and by sending it and other WS material to the respective national authorities.</li><li>c. An article for the Winter 2006/2007 issue of the NL will be prepared.</li><li>d. Messrs Domolki and Nedkov, as editors of the WS proceedings, should make arrangements for an early publication of the material.</li></ul> |
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Furthermore, given the successful outcome, the Meeting agreed that IT STAR should proceed with a second IT STAR WS on Higher Education and the ICT Industry (see **Announcement at [www.itstar.eu](http://www.itstar.eu)** )

4.2. IT STAR Professional Pool Database  
*[See item 2.2.]*

4.3. New Initiatives – IT STAR organized competitions

**Mr. Nedkov** said that IT STAR should seek ways to develop new initiatives related to visibility. Such initiatives should be easy to organize with the involvement of all interested member societies and lead to a favorable PR effect at the national and the international level. The following scheme could be considered:

- a. The IT STAR national representatives at each Spring business meeting define the task/project that should be performed (develop a product, offer an original solution to a problem, etc....), agree on who is eligible to participate, determine deadlines and other parameters.
- b. An announcement is distributed through the member societies at the national level.



c. Deadlines are set and the submissions are assessed by IT STAR's member societies at the national level based on originality, usefulness and effect. One is chosen per country to be presented to IT STAR.

d. At the IT STAR spring meeting the following year, the national representatives present the winning submission of their countries, an IT STAR subcommittee of referees examines the results and tables a recommendation and on that basis the winner and the second are selected by secret voting.

e. Both get an IT STAR Award Certificate and monetary rewards (sponsors would be needed).

**Messrs. Schlamberger and Dukic** informed that JISA organizes a competition and its experience could be used as an example for further refinement of the IT STAR proposal.

Action:

Mr. Dukic will present well before the next meeting a summary of the JISA scheme for IT STAR to consider.

## 5. IT STAR Newsletter

**Mr. Schlamberger and Ms. Kotsis** were very pleased with the Newsletter. IT STAR's visibility benefits from its hard copy and online distribution and so do all member societies in the region. Austria, Hungary and Italy have ordered copies for past issues. Slovakia had also ordered copies for distribution to the WS participants. **Mr. Schlamberger** asked other member societies, especially the major ones, to consider hard-copy orders.

Action:

A. All member societies should assist the promotion of IT STAR and order hard copies for their membership and for distribution at national and international events.

B. IT STAR representatives should provide the Editor on a continuous basis timely and relevant information.

## 6. Future meetings

The next IT STAR Business Meeting will be held on 20 May 2007 in Rome, Italy in conjunction with the 2nd WS on 19 May.

**Mr. Baltac** invited IT STAR to hold its Autumn 2007 meeting in Timisoara, Romania. The exact dates will be considered and agreed upon.

## 7. AOB

**Mr. Telesius** presented some interesting facts with respect to ECDL-Lithuania with possibilities for a wider cooperation. He was invited to prepare a short article on the subject for a forthcoming issue of the NL.

## 8. Closing of the Meeting

**Mr. Schlamberger** thanked the participants for their attendance and contributions and wished all a safe return home.

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