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**MINUTES OF THE IT STAR AUTUMN 07 MEETING (Draft)**

**6 October, 2007  
Timisoara, Romania**

**List of Participants**

Croatia	<b>Marijan Frkovic</b>
Hungary	<b>Balint Domolki</b>
IT STAR	<b>Plamen Nedkov</b>
Italy	<b>Giulio Occhini, Giovanni Franza</b>
Lithuania	<b>Saulius Maskeliunas</b>
Romania	<b>Vasile Baltac, Horia Gligor, Alexandru Plesa</b>
Serbia	<b>Djordje Dukic</b>
Slovakia	<b>Igor Privara</b>
Slovenia	<b>Niko Schlamberger</b>

**Invited Observer:** Marek Holynsky, PIPS President, Poland

**Apologies:** Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Rep., Greece, Macedonia

The following **Agenda** was proposed:

1. Welcome

2. Call meeting to order

- 2.1. Attendance and Apologies
- 2.2. Approval of Agenda
- 2.3. Approval of Genzano di Roma May 07 Minutes

3. Organization

- 3.1. Membership issues and new applications
- 3.2. Activities
  - 3.2.1. 2nd IT STAR WS in Genzano di Roma – Assessment and Follow-up
  - 3.2.2. IT STAR Professional Pool Database

4. New Initiatives

- 4.1. IT STAR organized competition (as per discussion in Bratislava information re JISA experience in the field)

5. Strategy

- Recommendations of the Statutes Committee
  - 5.1. Changes to Statutes
  - 5.2. IT STAR Registration

6. IT STAR Publications

- 6.1. Publication of the Genzano WS
- 6.2. IT STAR Newsletter

7. Future meetings

8. Any other business



## 1. Welcome

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

**Mr. Dan Bedros**, CEO of Alcatel-Lucent South-East Europe presented an overview of the activities of his organization in Romania and the region.

## 2. Call 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 Genzano 2007 Meeting Minutes

The Genzano Minutes were adopted.

## 3. Organization

3.1. Membership issues including new applications

**Messrs. Occhini and Nedkov** informed that there had been contacts with the Polish Information Processing Society (PIPS) and IT STAR was informed of PIPS's wish to join. They were pleased to welcome the PIPS President who was in attendance.

**Mr. Holynsky** presented PIPS, its activities and its intention to join IT STAR. He said that following the IT STAR meeting he would report back to his Board and then a formal confirmation will be sent to the IT STAR management.

Decision:

IT STAR agreed to accept PIPS as member, subject to a formal confirmation and supporting documents.

Mr. Rován was previously asked to prepare a background paper for further discussion concerning the geographical region IT STAR should aim to cover, however, he could not participate in the meeting and there was no paper on the subject. Therefore, the discussion was deferred to the next IT STAR business meeting.

3.2. Activities

3.2.1. 2nd IT STAR WS in Genzano '07 – Assessment and follow-up

The meeting took note that all actions related directly to IT STAR have been successfully implemented. All present representatives reported that the Genzano Declaration has been distributed within their societies.

The book with the Genzano proceedings was published prior to the Timisoara meeting and copies were distributed at the meeting. The participants warmly congratulated the editors for the fine work and excellent result.

**Mr. Baltac** informed that as a result of the Genzano WS the topics have been further considered within CEPIS and he had been asked to chair a CEPIS Task Force on Education.

**Mr. Nedkov** reported that the organization of an IT STAR workshop and the publication of the proceedings require additional work and expenses. Since IT STAR has no budget, future hosts should plan a budget to cover expenses related to planning and coordination with IT STAR and for the publication. This recommendation was adopted.



Decision:

Organizers of IT STAR Workshops should plan, in consultation with the IT STAR Chief Executive, an additional budget to cover expenses related to coordination and the publication of the WS proceedings.

### 3.2.2. IT STAR Professional Pool Database

**Mr. Schlamberger** presented a full set of drafts related to the Database. Following a debate the meeting agreed as follows:

Decision:

1. Mr. Holynsky and PIPS are kindly asked to provide an independent opinion on the technical side of the database.

2. A general review and updating of the documentation should be organized and IT STAR representatives are asked to submit to Mr. Schlamberger concrete recommendations. The objective is to significantly shorten the non-technical part with clear statements related to organization, expectations, benefits and commitments.

3. On that basis, Mr. Schlamberger shall prepare a finalized draft to be considered by the IT STAR management.

## 4. New Initiatives

4.1. IT STAR organized competition (as per discussion in Bratislava information re JISA experience in the field)

**Mr. Dukic** was not ready with a paper but would submit short information in written form to the IT STAR Chief Executive by the end of November 2007. Other representatives also referred to various competitions in which their societies are involved.

**Mr. Nedkov** has published in the NL several articles about the International Olympiad in Informatics (IOI). Since the IT STAR region is traditionally strong and many IT STAR members are involved, it might be interesting to investigate possibilities for cooperation.

Decision:

1. All to submit to Mr. Nedkov by 30 November brief information about competitions organized by their societies.

2. Mr. Nedkov to investigate possibilities for cooperation with IOI.

## 5. Strategy

- Recommendations of the Statutes Committee

The Statutes Committee in consultation with Mr. Stuller proposed an amended text based on previous decisions. It is also proposed that the category "Individual membership" is abolished.

### 5.1. Changes to Statutes

The meeting approved the proposed amendments to the Statutes based on the decisions of the Bratislava'06 and Genzano'07 meetings, as well as on a recommendation to abolish the category "Individual membership" (see [www.itstar.eu](http://www.itstar.eu) for the updated document).



### 5.1.2. IT STAR Registration

The meeting was grateful to AICA for providing an address and offering to cover the actual costs of registration in Italy. At the same time it was felt that a thorough analysis of the benefits and possible long-term costs should be prepared for an informed debate.

**Decision:**

Messrs. Occhini and Nedkov to investigate the matter of registration, including benefits and associated costs, and report at a future meeting.

## 6. IT STAR Publications

### 6.1. IT STAR Newsletter

The meeting was very pleased with the high quality of the publication, both contents- and product-wise, and extended its congratulations to the Editors.

**Mr. Nedkov** informed that the Newsletter has a growing Internet circulation and provides increasing visibility to IT STAR and its member societies. He was grateful to AICA-Italy, SSI-Slovenia and OCG-Austria, which currently order hard copies in bulk for distribution within their societies and countries. Other societies should also consider taking bulk subscriptions.

The min. bulk hard-copy order is 25 copies. The price for an individual copy at present is EUR 1.80 (incl. VAT). However, for societies in EU countries the price is EUR 1.50 per copy if they provide a tax number to the printer. Handling and mailing are calculated additionally at actual costs.

**Mr. Schlamberger** encouraged all member societies to take a subscription.

### 6.2. Publication of the Genzano WS *(see article 3.2.1, of these Minutes)*

## 7. Future meetings

**Mr. Domolki** invited IT STAR (subject to reconfirmation of his society) to hold its next WS and Fall meeting in Budapest. This would be in conjunction with a John v. Neumann anniversary event. A concern was raised whether two meetings per year is viable in the future but the decision was left to the IT STAR executives.

Mr. Domolki proposed National Strategies for the development of the Information Society in IT STAR countries as a tentative topic for further consideration.

**Decision:**

1. Mr. Domolki in consultation with his society to confirm NJSZT's readiness to host the 3<sup>rd</sup> IT STAR WS and Business meeting and to propose concrete dates in October or early November 2008.
2. All IT STAR representatives to submit by 15 December to Messrs. Domolki, Nedkov and Occhini suggestions with respect to the topic, subtopics and possible speakers.
3. On that basis, Messrs. Domolki and Nedkov to finalize the program and the organization details.

**Messrs. Frkovic and Maskeliunas** said that their societies, respectively CITS and LIKS, are interested in hosting a future IT STAR meeting.

## 8. Any other business

**Mr. Occhini** expressed IT STAR's grateful thanks to ATIC and to Mr. Baltac for the generous arrangements and excellent organization in Timisoara.