**Operations Management Board (OMB)**

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| **Meeting:** | Operations Management Board |
| **Date and Time:** | 02 May 2012  |
| **Venue:** | Phone meeting - EVO |
| **Agenda:** | https://www.egi.eu/indico/conferenceDisplay.py?confId=720 |

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# Participants

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name and Surname | Abbr. | Organisation | Membership[[1]](#footnote-1) |
| Emrah Akkoyun |  | TUBITAK, NGI\_TR | Deputy Member |
| Torsten Antoni |  | KIT/NGI\_DE | SA1.6 Task Leader |
| Jan Astalos |  | UI SAV, NGI\_SK | Member |
| Riccardo Brunetti |  | INFN/NGI\_IT | Deputy Member |
| Mario David  |  | LIP, Ibergrid | Member, TSA1.3 |
| Claire Devereux |  | STFC/NGI\_UK | Member |
| Alberto Di Meglio |  | CERN/EMI Project  | Invited Participant |
| Tiziana Ferrari  |  | EGI.eu | Chairman |
| John Gordon |  | STFC, UKI | Member |
| Nikola Grkic |  | ROC Russia | Observer (EVO) |
| Vera Hansper  |  | CSC/NDGF, NGI\_NDGF | Member, TSA1.8 |
| Matthias Hofmann |  | IGE Project | Invited Participant |
| Boro Jakimovski |  | NGI MARGI | Member |
| Tomas Kouba |  | CESNET/NGI\_CZ | Deputy Member |
| Cyril L’Orphelin |  | CCIN2P3 | JRA1 |
| Malgorzata Krakowian |  | ACC CYFRONET, NGI\_PL | Member, TSA1.7 COD |
| Mingchao Ma |  | STFC | TSA1.2 |
| Mats Nylen |  | SNIC, NGI\_SE | Member |
| David Meredith |  | STFC/GOCDB PT | Invited Participant |
| Joao Pina |  | LIP/TSA1.3 | Invited Participant |
| Di Qing |  | TRIUMF/ROC Canada | Member |
| Serge Salamanka |  | UIIP NASB, NGI\_BY | Member (EVO) |
| Vladimir Slavnic  |  | IPB NGI\_AEGIS SERBIA, NGI\_RS | Deputy Member |
| Alex Stanciu |  | ICI, NGI\_RO | Member |
| Peter Solagna |  | EGI.eu | Minutes |
| Ulf Tigerstedt |  | CSC | TSA1.8 |
| Ron Trompert |  | SARA, NGI\_NL | Member, TSA1.7 |
| Luuk Uljee  |  | SARA NGI\_NL | Member, TSA1.7 |
| Paolo Veronesi |  | INFN, NGI\_IT | Member |
| Anders Waananen |  | UCPH, Denmark | Member |

Some participants were connected through Phone Bridges.

# ACTION REVIEWS

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Action Owner** | **Content** | **Status** |
| **Actions from the 26 March 2012 OMB meeting** |
| **21.01** | T. Ferrari | To get in contact with partners interested in training and finalize logistics (date and hosting institution) | OPEN |
| **21.02** | P. Weber | To distribute information about dates and programme of the GridKa school to relevant mailing lists | OPEN |
| **21.03** | NGIs | To provide feedback on which topics for sessions and workshops to be organized at the Technical Forum 2012. Please provide feedback at: <https://wiki.egi.eu/wiki/Operations/tf12> | OPEN |
| **21.04** | NGIs | To provide feedback in case of problems with the phasing out of the old GGUS end-point gus.fzk.de | OPEN |
| **21.05** | T. Ferrari, COD | To review current usage of TEST in GOCDB and in general to formulate a recommendation on how testing should be performed (in terms of usage of GOCDB features) | OPEN |
| **21.06** | T. Ferrari | To review the current WCLG TEG operations requirements document and see if VO information in GOCDB is still a valid requirement | OPEN |
| **21.07** | M. David | To assess usage of UMD for NGIs supporting ARC and the needs | OPEN |
| **21.08** | NGIs  | To review the new software provisioning proposal by the 26th of May and to provide comments to the OMB list | OPEN |
| **Actions from the 26 March 2012 OMB meeting** |
| **20.01** | T. Ferrari | To propose a process for MoU negotiation between VOs and NGIs/RCs | OPEN |
| **20.02** | T. Ferrari | To organize a EMI/EGI seminar on new features released, deployment aspects and usage aspects from a user perspective | IN PROGRESS |
| **20.03** | E. Imamagic | to assess the availability of storage occupation tests in Nagios | OPEN |
| **20.04** | T. Ferrari | to constitute a task force addressing the problems faced by BIOMED in terms of allocation of a sufficient share of resources | OPEN |
| **20.05** | E. Imamagic | to start the procedure for assessing the impact of GLOBUS/UNICORE probes on daily operations. | OPEN |
| **Actions from the 24 January 2012 OMB meeting** |
| **18.04** | E. Imamagic | To assess deployment of NGI SAM failover configuration (<https://rt.egi.eu/rt/Ticket/Display.html?id=3457>) | OPEN |
| **18.05** | E. Imamagic | To distribute documentation on how to trouble shoot the message broker network (<https://rt.egi.eu/rt/Ticket/Display.html?id=3459>) 🡪 IN PROGRESS. Waiting to see the status of the next May SAM update | IN PROGRESS |
| **Actions from the 20 December OMB meeting** |
| **17.04** | T. Ferrari/P. Solagna | To contact NGIs who are in favour of changing their GOCDB configuration of critical services and implement changes during Jan/Feb and to support the other NGIs in computing their A/R statistics by extracting data from the SAM PI | IN PROGRESS |
| **17.05** | T. Ferrari | To review the naming scheme of EGI profiles when POEM will be in production 🡪 this action will be completed after the first release of POEM | ON HOLD |
| **17.07** | COD | To reassess the UNKNOWN test percentage in March 2012 🡪 The unknown percentage has been decreasing. The status will be reviewed in collaboration with COD in May. | IN PROGRESS |
| **Actions from the 28 November OMB meeting** |
| **16.02** | M. Ma | To consult with technology providers and VOs with the aim of updating the EGEE notice about maximum proxy lifetime. | IN PROGRESS |
| **Actions from Oct 2010 OMB meeting** |
| **Action 3.** | TF | to update as necessary the procedure to retire middleware components (<https://edms.cern.ch/document/985325>). <https://rt.egi.eu/rt/Ticket/Display.html?id=347>  | OPEN |
| Note: Actions from previous meetings are closed. |

# Introduction

Tiziana Ferrari/EGI.eu (see slides).

## Training

A number of expressions of interest in having EMI training delivered to site administrators have been collected. A ARC-dedicated training event could be hosted by NGI\_FI if there’s sufficient interest from other ARC-based NGIs. A second training event (gLite/UNICORE) could be hosted by a partner in Eastern Europe region. The training event agenda should be organized in a way that allows remote attendance from other NGIs, and possibly in the afternoon from Latin America (ROC LA and IGALC).

**ACTION (T. Ferrari). To get in contact with partners interested in training and finalize logistics (date and hosting institution).**

Partners can also benefit from training delivered at the GridKa Summer School which will took place in August 2012.

**ACTION (P. Weber). To distribute information about dates and programme of the GridKa school to relevant mailing lists**.

M. Ma. CSIRT training will be provided to TF12, but because of time constraints no hands-on session will be possible there. EGI CSIRT is discussing the possibility to have security training included in the GridKa programme.

NGI\_FI agrees to host the training event for ARC if finalized.

## Resource Centre Forum

There’s a general need of better cooperation between site managers and VOs and site managers. During the Resource Centre Forum meeting at CF12 there were discussions about having an operations board (complementing the agenda of the OMB), where VO experts can discuss operational needs with site representatives. There’s an action on T. Ferrari to provide a draft terms of reference so that this idea can be discussed with the EGI management.

## Technical Forum 2012

The Technical Forum 2012 will feature a full operations track, which will include training, activity meetings (on Monday and Friday), sessions and OMB workshops. OMB workshops should be focused on the medium-term evolution of operations: where do we want to be by the end of EGI-InSPIRE?

**All NGIs are requested to provide feedback on this, and to suggest topics for operations sessions (ACTION)**.

J. Gordon: accounting workshop

D. Meredith: information system workshop

## Gus.fzk.de decommissioning

gus.fzk.de has to be phased out as the domain name is no longer existing, and will be replaced by ggus.eu. Links to tickets will be affected if still including gus.fzk.de. Redirects to ggus.eu have been in place since a long time. The decommissioning will be around June. After the decommissioning the re-direct will be no-longer possible. More information will be provided to the OMB when dates are finalized. In the meanwhile, all NGIs are requested to check internally in case of dependencies on gus.fzk.de. Please contact the GGUS team through GGUS in case of problems with the phasing out of gus.fzk.de.

## Handover of SA1.2 task leadership

The OMB thanks M. Ma – EGI security officer and leader of task TSA1.2 – for his good work. M. Ma will leave STFC by the end of May and STFC is now recruiting to appoint a new leader. EGI.eu is working with STFC for a smooth handover of responsibilities.

# EMI software maintenance and support after April 2013

A. Di Meglio/CERN

EMI is a 3 year project. EMI as a project and EMI as collaboration of partners have to be distinguished when discussing future plans. The project will end in April 2013, and the project partners for ARC, dCache, gLite and UNICORE, are discussing how and in which form the collaboration can be continued beyond that deadline.

EMI is surveying the partners to understand what institutions can commit to software maintenance and support, and for which communities (it is likely that many partners will keep supporting the products after the end of the project, in some form, but possibly for a subset of user communities). The survey will be closed at the end of the current week.

EMI is currently funding software development and global services such as product integration, testing, etc. At the end of EMI as a project the software provisioning process will likely change.

EMI will identify gaps – if any – trough the survey (services not supported, or supported for a subset of use cases), and a joint discussion will start with EGI to assess the impact on this and identify actions. This will likely happen around the end of May (after the EMI all hands meeting).

T. Ferrari: EGI has surveyed NGIs and VRCs about current priorities in terms of software to be maintained and supported (see output of the survey [here](https://www.egi.eu/indico/images/pdf_small.png)). The survey can be re-iterated once more information from EMI will be available.

M. David. For EGI software provisioning activities (verification and staged rollout) it is important to understand how new releases will be announced when available, as this will have implications on the current processes in place.

A. Di Meglio: this problem is related to the continuation of the EMI's global tasks. As to repositories, the main goal of EMI is to rely more and more on EPEL, which means that the EMI repositories should gradually comprise a smaller number of products. It is very likely that the repository will continue to exist after EMI, but discussions are still in progress. As to release and coordination: EPEL is a releasing mechanism, the technical coordination can continue after the end of EMI project. ScienceSoft is one of the ideas in order to have a communication gateway across distributed product teams and with users. There are two metapackages (UI and WN) that go beyond the single product, and their future will be discussed as well.

# IGE software maintenance and support after April 2013

M. Hofmann/IGE project

Various activities need to be sustained after the end of IGE:

* Operation: repositories, web sites
* User support: third level support
* Collaboration: to exchange ideas, information, best practices
* Development: software adaptation for European users

The products and events to sustain are Globus for Europe, the European Globus Community Forum, and the European Globus Hub (Website, repositories, training material, mailing list).

Various funding models are being investigated, including pay per usage, EC/national funding, voluntary development, community support etc.

T. Ferrari. A gap analysis is needed for IGE too in order to understand for which products maintenance and support will be likely to be discontinued. What is the timeline for this?

M. Hofmann: IGE will provide information on maintenance/support plans by the end of June 2012, so that EGI can analyze the status and identify problems with the NGIs.

# Overview of new GOCDB features

D. Meredith/STFC provides an overview of the main new features delivered with the last update, and about future plans. The main GOCDB features for users are scoping of sites and service end-points – to record sites and services in GOCDB even if they are not part of EGI, and grouping of service end-points – to implement the so-called virtual sites, an handy feature to get monitoring results and availability/reliability statistics for NGI services.

T. Ferrari. Usage of scoping for testing sites and services should be discouraged. We have other mechanisms in GOCDB (e.g. usage of the TEST flag that automatically disables monitoring of those end-points), but these requires revision too (for example, it is desirable that a TEST instance is also monitored, otherwise the whole purpose of having a test instance is compromised). COD was involved in this discussion at CF12 (ACTION).

T. Ferrari. Another point to assess is the usage of UNCERTIFIED status in GOCDB. Currently it is used to declare local sites in GOCDB. Scoping should be used instead. Also, the real need of having a permanent UNCERTIFIED status to deploy unsupported software should be reviewed (it is currently a supported usage that was introduced in EGEE-III but this requires revision).

J. Gordon: before adopting scoping for UNCERTIFIED sites, UK would like to have operations tools aware of the local sites. UK has a local plan to introduce monitoring for local resources (through usage of a local VO), but deployment of this requires the availability of POEM.

P. Solagna. A fix will be released with the next SAM update, allowing a NGI SAM instance to monitor locally scoped sites.

T. Ferrari. GLOBUS and UNICORE tests are not currently used for availability/reliability computation so this is now a showstopper right now.

D. Meredith: grouping can be used to support a number of use cases, for example for grouping of NGI services (as done by NGI\_UA), for grouping of EGI.eu operational tools, and for grouping of IPv6 services.

A failover configuration for GOCDB is not available. The failover instance is read only, and it is supposed to stay read only unless the central instance is unavailable for a long time.

GRIS end point used to be a site property (not of the end-point). Now a GRIS end-point can be declared for service end-points (this allows top-BDII to pull information from individual end-points in addition to site-BDIIs). A service can have GRIS url, a service url and an administration url. GOCDB team is now working on rendering of GOBDB information in GLUE2.0 format (through a series of PI methods).

T. Ferrari. GOCDB used to be used for recording of service types that are general (part of a middleware layer). This was recently reviewed and the proposal is to extend this policy to include VO-specific services (e.g. SQUID, FRONTIER, …) or site-specific services.

D. Meredith. Some control is needed to make sure that service types are properly assessed to differentiate between community-specific services and generic services. Requests need to be submitted through RT.

**DECISION. The OMB approves that the OMB will be informed about any request of new service type received by the GOCDB PT, so that the community can assess the impact/scope of a new service type and is informed about new needs**.

Information about which VOs are supported by which end-points could be added to GOCDB (there was a requirement being discussed in the WLCG Operations TEG), however, it is very hard for a site manager to keep this information up to date.

**ACTION (T. Ferrari). To review the current WCLG TEG operations requirements document and see if VO information in GOCDB is still a valid requirement**.

# SL5/SL6/Debian deployment plans: results from the survey

P. Solagna/EGI.eu reviews the output of the survey on NGI OS and VM deployment plans (see the [results](https://wiki.egi.eu/wiki/Operations/Platform_Deployment_Survey)). Information from the survey will be used to define the distribution of Early Adoption effort after EMI 2 release, so that effort will be concentrated on products/OS of interest.

T. Ferrari. Usage of the UMD repository for installation of ARC products has to be reassessed.

U. Tigerstedt reports problems with the usability of arc-client 1.1.0 with respects to the ability to EMI1 and UMD to upload files into dCache and DPM. Ulf reports problems with the usability and freshness of ARC releases made available through EMI and UMD. So far NorduGrid repositories have been used in NGI\_FI, being those repositories more up to date. This is confirmed by NGI\_SE. A. Waananen: NGI\_DK is maintaining the NorduGrid repository. The plan is to put ARC components into EPEL and to use that.

**ACTION (M. David). To assess usage of UMD for NGIs supporting ARC and the needs**.

# Impact of EMI 2 on Staged Rollout and Software Provisioning

M. David/LIP

The proposal is that for the time being no gLite 3.2 products will be staged rollout, unless a critical fix is released, in which case ad-hoc EA volunteers will be identified. This is justified by the fact that many products in gLite 3.2 are no longer supported.

T. Ferrari. A gLite 3.2 phase out plan needs to be discussed at the next OMB, together with the NGI support needs of EMI 1.

The distribution of resources for EMI 1 and EMI 2 staged rollout will depend on the amount of components in EMI 2 that are non-backward compatible.

M. David illustrates various proposed changes in the UMD repository structure and the related software verification and staged rollout processes. The proposal foresees that the UMD release frequency is reduced (now UMD updates are released monthly, this should change to quarterly releases).

T. Ferrari. The UMD release frequency needs to be carefully reviewed by NGIs. Now that gLite 3.2 is largely no longer supported, NGIs are having EMI upgrade campaigns and more issues with the EMI deployed software may emerge in the coming months.

M. David. The availability of EMI/IGE updates already available in a testing repository of UMD allows sites that need a fresh EMI update to use that UMD repository. For critical issues emergency fixes are still a possibility.

T. Ferrari: what will be supported after emi and ige will be likely available through EPEL. The proposal needs to be reviewed in a few month time so that the process is updated to reflect that change.

The OMB agrees to review the current proposal and provide comments by the next OMB (end of May). The proposal will be reviewed again in a second stage when changes will be introduced to reflect changes in the provisioning processes of the technology providers (**ACTION**).

1. Member, Observer, in Attendance [↑](#footnote-ref-1)