



AUDIS Steering Committee Meeting Brussels, 6 March 2008

Minutes

Member Universities

Aarhus (DK)
Barcelona (ES)
Bergen (NO)
Bologna (IT)
Bristol (UK)
Budapest (HU)
Cambridge (UK)
Coimbra (PO)
Dublin - Trinity (IE)
Edinburgh (UK)
Galway (IE)
Genève (CH)
Göttingen (DE)
Granada (ES)
Graz (AT)
Groningen (NL)
Heidelberg (DE)
Iasi (RO)
Jena (DE)
Kraków (PL)
Leiden (NL)
Leuven (BE)
Louvain (BE)
Lyon (FR)
Montpellier (FR)
Oxford (UK)
Padova (IT)
Pavia (IT)
Poitiers (FR)
Praha (CZ)
Salamanca (ES)
Siena (IT)
Tartu (EE)
Thessaloniki (EL)
Turku (FI)
Uppsala (SE)
Würzburg (DE)
Åbo (FI)

Executive Board

Chair: Prof. Guido Langouche (Leuven)
Guido.Langouche@kuleuven.be
Prof. Jean-Marie Boisson (Montpellier)
jean-marie.boisson@univ-montp1.fr
Prof. László Boros (Budapest)
borl@ludens.elte.hu
Prof. Mar Campins Eritja (Barcelona)
mcampins@ub.edu
Prof. Cristina Robalo Cordeiro (Coimbra)
Vicerreit@ci.uc.pt
Prof. Luigi F Donà dalle Rose (Padova)
dona@pd.infn.it
Prof. Ain Heinaru (Tartu)
Ain.Heinaru@ut.ee
Ms Anne Lonsdale, CBE (Cambridge)
al213@cam.ac.uk

Office

Egmontstraat 11, rue d'Egmont
BE-1000 Brussels

Director: Ms Inge Knudsen
Knudsen@coimbra-group.eu
Ms Anna Quici
Quici@coimbra-group.eu
Ms Nathalie Sonveaux
Sonveaux@coimbra-group.eu
Mr Serge Ngangue
Ngangue@coimbra-group.eu

Tel + 32 2 513 83 32
Fax + 32 2 513 64 11

<http://www.coimbra-group.eu>

Present:

Abdoulaye Barry (Université Gaston Berger)
Martine Dekoninck (K.U.Leuven)
Pierpaolo Faggi (University of Padova)
Mitiku Haile (Mekelle University)
Guido Langouche (Coimbra Group)
Angelo Macuacua (University Eduardo Mondane)
Anna Quici (Coimbra Group)
Roberta Rasa (University of Padova)

Leuven Workshop

Pierpaolo Faggi proposed 4 key lectures accompanied by open discussions and presentations on "success and failure" stories of African Partner Universities, on the four selected topics:

1. Fundraising
2. Management
3. Mobility
4. Languages

One whole day could be devoted to fundraising, as it appears to be the topic that most people prioritised in their selection; half a day is devoted to other topics.

The structure could be as follows:

- Keynote speech
- Regional position papers on one of the topics (by African members of Steering Committee plus Western Cape representative)
- Posters (each university should prepare a poster about something specific to their institution – success or failure stories).

Working language: English (with French résumés).

AUDIS Website

The IT consultant of the CG Office will take care of the setting up of the AUDIS website. It was decided to have a simple webpage, with an introduction (with logos of participating universities and ACP Secretariat), a page with contact details, while each phase of the project (4 phases in total) will have one page each, where the CG Office will post reports, seminar programmes, photos, and any information related to the given phase.

There will be no discussion forum on the website.

The CG Office will send out an email to notify all partners once the website is ready.

Organisation of internships

After a difficult exercise, where the Steering Committee had to take into account:

- the participants' first/second choice
- the CG Universities criteria (in terms of days available, duration, number of people, etc.)
- the costs related to travel within Europe
- the project limited budget for travel costs within Europe

the Steering Committee managed to combine two site-visits per participant. Please see the enclosed list for details.

An email with the above-mentioned list was circulated on 7 March to all AUDIS European partners/associates; after their agreement, it will be circulated to all African Partners.

Role of Louvain-la-Neuve: The University of Louvain-la-Neuve requested further details and a clear plan of what AUDIS partners intend to get out of their visit at the university. The Steering Committee decided that the University of Louvain-la-Neuve should have individual talks with AUDIS participants; the same will be with all European Partners/Associates.

Finances: The Steering Committee wondered whether left over money from international travel could be transferred and use for travel costs within Europe, so as to enable AUDIS partners to visit two universities instead of one. After contacting Mr Mueller from GOPA, it was confirmed that this action is possible.

Stakeholders meeting: Another question to GOPA was whether left over money could be used to fund a trip for one or two persons to the Edulink event in Africa. GOPA replied that the sum should have been budgeted for when the proposal was submitted, which was not the case for AUDIS. As a result, the trip cannot be covered by the project.

Meeting with VLIR

The Steering Committee was welcome at the Flemish Interuniversity Council (VLIR) office by Mrs Verbrugghen.

The Steering Committee was interested in finding out how VLIR can contribute to AUDIS and if some of the AUDIS partners could visit the VLIR office during their internship in Europe.

Mrs Verbrugghen announced that VLIR, as an associate, would like to bring in some of its member universities from Flanders and would take care of the extra costs related to this. She added that VLIR could play an active role in the evaluation of proposals by the African partners.

No decisions were taken in relation to whether VLIR will have a specific task or active role.

AUDIS Steering Committee Meeting K.U. Leuven, 7 March 2008

Minutes

Present:

Abdoulaye Barry (Université Gaston Berger)
Martine Dekoninck (K.U.Leuven)
Thierry de Waha (Université Catholique de Louvain)
Pierpaolo Faggi (University of Padova)
Mitiku Haile (Mekelle University)
Guido Langouche (Coimbra Group)
Angelo Macuacua (University Eduardo Mondane)
Roberta Rasa (University of Padova)

Leuven Workshop

The meeting started with a quite long discussion about the four topics selected for the Workshop: in particular, the fourth topic (languages) seemed to be difficult to deal with, because of its seeming "low complexity". The Steering Committee discussed whether this topic has to be included in the work programme, and how it has to be treated. At the end of the discussion the Steering Committee decided that, since this topic has been selected during the St. Louis Seminar, it has to be part of the discussion, just like the others.

Afterwards, the Steering Committee tried to identify the names of likely speakers for each topic, identifying the following group of possible candidates:

1. Fund raising: Prof. Macuacua (University Eduardo Mondane)+ someone from the European Commission, someone from VLIR, from Groningen and from K.U. Leuven (names to be identified)
2. Management: Prof. Mitiku (Mekelle University), Prof. Mar Campins (University of Barcelona)
3. Mobility: Prof. Barry (Université Gaston Berger), Prof Luigi Filippo Donà dalle Rose (University of Padova).
4. Languages: Dr. Jan Persens (Western Cape).

The identified persons will be contacted by the members of the Steering Committee in order to know their willingness to participate into the Leuven Workshop as keynote speakers.

Logistics

Martine Dekoninck informed the Steering Committee's members about some practical details of the organisation of the meeting: Hotels in Leuven, Meeting Rooms in the University, meals etc.

Louvain-la Neuve Workshop

In the afternoon Thierry de Waha joined the meeting, and the Steering Committee started the discussion about the organisation of Louvain-la-Neuve workshop.

It has been decided that the workshop will be partly devoted to receive the experiences and the feelings of the African Partners about the internships in European Universities, and partly to prepare the third phase of the AUDIS Project (implementation, by African partners, of their selected short-term projects to reinforce their international dimension).

The structure of the meeting should be as follows:

First day:

- Short presentation of the work done within the AUDIS Project so far, and of the programme for the coming months (P. Faggi)
- Working session (African partners will have time to meet and discuss about their recent experience in European partner universities)
- Presentation of the results of the discussion (African partner's representatives).

Second day:

The whole day will be devoted to the explanation and the implementation of the third phase of the AUDIS Project: African partners, following the results of their training periods and seminars, will be asked to identify and implement some activities to improve their international relations policies and services according to the needs expressed in Phase 1 and the results of Phase 2.

Third day:

Meeting of the Steering Committee.

Participants: bilateral contacts with partners and discussion of proposals.

Working language: English (with French résumés)

Dar-es-Salaam

After a short discussion the Steering Committee decided to write an official letter to the Rector and to the two representatives of the University of Dar-es-Salaam, in order to understand the reasons of the unjustified absence in the St. Louis Meeting and of the absence of communication after the Meeting. Moreover, the Steering Committee needs to know if the University of Dar-es-Salaam still intends to be involved in the AUDIS Project.