

Management Board, Thursday 1st June 2017

Minutes

<https://indico.cern.ch/event/639974/>

Participants:

Federico Antinori, Harald Appelshaeuser, Ralf Averbeck, Alberto Baldisseri, Anju Bhasin, Peter Braun-Munzinger, Predrag Buncic, Thomas Cormier, David Evans, Jens-Jorgen Gaarhoeje, Martino Gagliardi, John Harris, Boris Hippolyte, Alex Kluge, Marco van Leeuwen, Volker Lindenstruth, Constantinos Loizides (vidyo), Grazia Luparello, Gines Martinez-Garcia, Silvia Masciocchi, Luciano Musa, Rosario Nania (vidyo), Tapan Nayak, Mike Sas (vidyo), Johanna Stachel, Adriana Telesca, Pierre Vande Vyvre.

Excused: Pietro Antonioli, Werner Riegler, Enrico Scomparin

Approval of the Minutes:

Minutes from the last (4th May 2017) ALICE-MB meeting have been approved after modifications (suggestions from Silvia).

Introduction/News: Federico Antinori

- US budget: DOE proposal for 2018 calls for 19.2% cut for NP and specific cuts include the LHC HI program. A meeting between DOE-NP and LHC experiments took place on May 31st, where the expectation/hope was that budget will be modified. CERN management is involved to improve the situation and is in contact with experiments.
- Prevešin Computing Center (PCC): Director of Research, in a recent mail, has decided to decouple PCC and ALICE/LHCb computing needs. ALICE will have to proceed with container based solution. ALICE needs to present technical and funding elements in a procurement plan. Main action item is to prepare again the MoU with a clear budget plan and present to the Technical Board.
- NA61 requests for TPC Electronics: a draft MoU for the transfer of the current ALTRO-based TPC electronics to NA61 has been received. We should ensure that the agreement is compatible with possible modifications of the running plans.
- New groups:
 - AGH University of Science and Technology (Kraków, Poland) as Associate Member of ALICE. It is a technical University, interested primarily in computing. A visit is being planned (by Boris, Pierre and Mikolaj).
 - Universiti Teknologi Petronas (Perak, Malaysia) has shown interest in participating in computing. Discussions are scheduled at Pusan at the end of June.
- Student Careers Group: poor feedback from ALICE for the survey compared to other experiments. More steps to be taken to gather more responses.

News from the Offline Board (Predrag):

- In the most optimistic scenario with all pledges installed, ALICE will miss 6 PB of disk in 2017, extending to 16 PB in 2018.
- Reminder of the conclusion of LHCC meeting: LHCC supports ALICE Run2 physics program and needs for corresponding computing resource. We are encouraged to engage in discussions with funding agencies in order to cover the gap.
- List of countries not providing or underproviding resources were discussed (with details related to disk and bandwidth). Special offline board meeting before next ALICE week will be held for discussing various issues and progress as well as preparation for next meeting of the scrutiny group (end of august).
- Need an updated Usage & Requirements documents for discussion with C-RSG
- Replicas of data
- Simulation Group: building on the success of DPG, a Simulation Group is being formed. The group will actively engage detector groups to start working on Run3 simulations as well as improvements on Run2:
 - Roberto Preghnella (coordination with detectors), Sandro Wenzel (Run3 developments) and Andreas Morsch (Run2 improvements).

News from the Run Coordination (Grazia):

- Recommissioning schedule 2017 was presented along plans for June. 23 May: the first stable beam of 2017 with 3 colliding bunches.
- Commissioning of all detectors completed in time.
- Status and performance of ALICE for the first stable beam conditions: all requests for detector commissioning were fulfilled; details of detectors participating to data taking (time and # of runs) were presented.
- Weekly meetings and daily RC meetings have started.
- Shift booking 2017: general overview was presented. Lack of shift leaders was underlined. Booking of on-call shifts is progressing. Suggestions for improving the situation were proposed.
- Run coordinator thanked all the experts, shifters, RM/RC, Trigger Coordinator and everybody involved for the great job!

Items from the Technical Coordination (Alex):

- TRD: would need Xenon to achieve nominal gas mixture. The money needed may come from M&O-A. Without the nominal mixture, drift velocity and trigger are affected. Efficiency will be known in due time.
- TPC readout test: very nice dE/dx of electrons and total charge
- TPC distortions: In terms of distortions we are back to Run1 conditions. No more hot spots observed.
- New IROC installed in ALICE
- Muon Chamber electronics EDR: technical implementation supported by referees. Worry about manpower and time schedule
- Visit to CEA-IRFU in Saclay scheduled for the 27th of June for muon electronics
- SAMPA V3 on track and SAMPA V4 layout implemented. Submission in June.

News from the Physics Coordination (Marco):

- 5 new paper proposals (2 from QM), approval for WPCF, talk on fixed target prospects, presentation on UPC physics
- PWG conveners : Raimond Snellings (PWG-CF) and Oliver Busch (PWG-JE) leaving: thanks to Raimond and Oliver
- PWG conveners: Ilya Selyuzhenkov (PWG-CF) and Leticia Cunqueiro (PWG-JE) are starting the mandate
- two items from Physics Forum were shown: Charge dependence of v_1 and Non-identical baryon femtoscopy with consistent feed-down treatment
- the schedule of EPS and SQM preparation were summarized (preview and approvals of ~40 presentations).
- ALICE week presentations: For the July 2017 ALICE week, the PWG overview talks will be replaced by shorter topical talks on analysis results.
- ALICE Physics Week in Amsterdam in Dec 2017 confirmed.

News from the Conference Committee (Pietro and Ralf):

- Summary of the points discussed within the CC were discussed: next conferences and scheduling of the corresponding rehearsals
- Sudhir Raniwala (in CC since 01/2013) is leaving: thanks to Sudhir
- Panos Christakoglou and David Chinellato are joining the CC.
- Proposal for improving the workflow was made: implementation of i) automatic emails to presenter and team leader (TL); ii) reminders to conveners and project leaders. Implementation related to the time ordering of the approvals (TL, PWG or PL then CC) was discussed.

Discussion on Service Work (Federico)

- Reported the discussions with John and Peter
 - two possible measures envisaged for Run2 timescale:
 - service work for new collaborators (similar to what is done in ATLAS)
 - shift rebate for groups with heavy construction load
- Input from the MB members:
- how to define if a group is heavily loaded
 - is the shift rebate feasible?
 - Service work for new collaborators need minimal organization and feasible
 - For the shift rebate: request to be made to the spokesperson, proposal to be made in front of the MB for discussion.
 - Need to decide on the implementation of the two measures

AOB

Next MB: 29th June 2017 at 14:30

Link: <https://indico.cern.ch/event/648561/>
