

COST Action IC1403 - CRYPTACUS
Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting
March 29th, 2016, Haifa, Israel

* The MC Chair opens the MC meeting at 17:50.

* The secretary of the meeting is Julio Hernandez-Castro (UK).

* Represented countries are: Denmark (A. Bogdanov), Finland (B. Brumley, J. Rönning), Greece (P. Rizomiliotis), Ireland (F. Mtenzi), Israel (O. Dunkelman), Netherlands (V. Moonsamy), Poland (M. Kutylowski), Portugal (R. Chaves), Serbia (M. Mihaljevic), Slovenia (D. Trcek), Switzerland (P. Junod), Turkey (O. Kara, M. Sabir Kiraz), and United Kingdom (J. Hernandez-Castro).

* The MC Chair explains that two main points will be discussed during the meeting, namely the activities for the third grant period (GP3) and the location of the next meeting.

1. Adoption of the agenda

* The MC Chair displays the agenda, which was previously sent by e-mail to MC Members and Substitutes.

* The MC Chair asks whether there are new points to be included into the agenda.

* The MC Chair recalls that the attendance list must be signed, for reimbursement purposes.

2. Welcome to participants

* The MC Chair gives a short presentation of CRYPTACUS, with a description of the previous meetings and organized activities. The MC Chair also recalls the goals of the Action.

* The MC Chair welcomes the new representatives. There are currently 7 new MC Members and Substitutes, and a new country who accepted the MoU, Serbia, totaling so 29 countries.

* The MC Chair reviews the concept of inclusiveness, and other relevant COST criteria.

* The original schedule of the action is shown and discussed. The MC Chair stresses that the schedule is flexible as far as the objectives are achieved.

* The MC Chair recalls that the most important documents the MC should take care of are the following ones: Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that defines the Action's objectives and scientific targets, the COST Vademecum that contains all the administrative rules, the e-cost online application, the CRYPTACUS website (www.cryptacus.eu), and the Work and Budget Plan of the considered Grant Period.

3. Approval of minutes and matters arising since last meeting

* We move to the approval of the minutes of the previous meeting, which were sent in advance. The MC Chair asks whether there is someone who disapproves the minutes of the meeting that happened in Sibenik on May 31st, 2015. None disapproves. The minutes are approved.

* The MC Chair mentions that the decisions taken by e-voting between Sibenik's meeting and Haifa's meeting will be put in these meeting's minutes. The decisions are the following ones:

Decision 1: Serbia becomes a member of CRYPTACUS.

The MC Chair states that this decision was approved unanimously.

Decision 2: The next meeting will be in Haifa, Israel

The MC Chair states that 27 countries approved, Croatia abstained, and Switzerland's ballot was invalid (the two representatives voted differently).

4. Update from the Action Chair

* The Chair presents an update showing what has been achieved and where there is room for improvement. Most where achieved without problem.

5. Update from the Grant Holder

* The MC Chair – who is also the scientific representative of the Grant Holder – presents the expenditure for the first Grant Period (GP1), and discusses it in detail.

* The MC Chair explained the difficulties during GP1: GP1, which was expected to start in March 2015 and finish in February 2016, was split into two parts by the COST Association. The first part, namely GP1, ended in September 2015. The second part became GP2 and it was extended to the end of April 2016 instead of the end of February 2016. These modifications were not scheduled in GP1's Work & Budget plan. As a consequence, it was hard to organize activities, in particular STSMs, because activities must start and finish during the same grant period. Also, the COST association expended the budget given the Grant Period was longer than expected, but the initial work plan was not revised accordingly. So, a large part of GP2's budget has not been spent.

* The MC Chair says that, due to the mentioned difficulties, GP2's W&B Plan was approved in March 2016 only, which explains that invitations to participate to Haifa's meeting were sent so late.

6. Update from the COST association

* No news received from the COST Association.

7. Promotion of gender balance, Early Career Investigator (ECI), and Inclusiveness Countries

* Gender balance is discussed and the efforts done for guaranteeing gender balance are presented. The MC Chair says that 4 STSM grants were allocated to females. A total of 8 STSM grants have been assigned so far.

* The promotion of Inclusiveness Countries is also reviewed. The previous MC Meeting was organized in Croatia (Inclusiveness Country) and 3 WG vice-leaders among 4 are from Inclusiveness Countries.

- * STSM applications are discussed in detail, covering the causes for a reduced number of rejections.
- * A member from Finland asks about whether the call for STSMs is open all year round. The MC Chair responds in the positive, and clarifies some other related points.

8. Follow-up of MoU objectives

* The MoU objectives are covered, with a special focus on a brainstorming session where all people can throw ideas on how to improve the networking activities. Indeed, given WG4 does not organize any meeting in Haifa, the slot will be used to allow CRYPTACUS members to discuss on activities to enforce collaborations among the members. The brainstorming session is organized on Wednesday 30th March, 2016. All CRYPTACUS members are invited to join the session, not only MC Members.

9. Scientific planning

- * Next, we move to the discussion of the Work & Budget Plan for GP3.
- * An MC Member asks whether the GP3 budget has been cut. The MC Chair explains that GP3 budget (12 months) is similar to GP1+GP2 (14 months) budget. In other words, the budget (per month) slightly increased.
- * The MC Chair explains that the GP3 activities can now be discussed. The discussion will be continued by email to allow any MC Member to provide comments. Once done, MC Members will be requested to approve/disapprove the Work & Budget Plan. This should be done by the end of April.
- * The MC Chair suggests to organize two events during GP3:
 - A MC+WG Meeting between September and November 2016
 - A MC Meeting+Workshop between February and March 2017
- * The MC Chair also suggests to increase the number of STSMs in GP3
- * The floor is open to discussion.
- * It seems there is a consensus among people in the room about the following issues:
 - The workshop should be standalone, not a session in an existing workshop.
 - The workshop can be colocated with another event, though, or even a satellite of another conference.
 - A call for papers should be published. Anyone – not only CRYPTACUS Members – should be allowed to submit a paper.
 - The workshop should be free for participants.
- * The MC chair thanks the MC Members for this bootstrap of the discussion, which will be continued by email.

10. Promotion of the Action

- * The Website Manager, Pascal Junod, discusses the website design and proposes participants to come

with ideas and comments to improve it, and make it more interactive. He explains that the website is up, but it is currently static. Relevant ideas provided during the meeting include :

- Promote the publications done by Action members on the website. Members will be able to send to Pascal Junod the references they would like to put on the website.
- Publish on the website PhD/Postdoc proposals, call for papers, etc.

* The MC Chair also says that a monthly newsletter will be created. The content of the newsletter will be used to feed the website.

* The MC Chair will work with the website manager before the summer to set up these ideas. MC Members will be kept informed.

* The MC chair discusses the creation of flyers and its upload to the action website for improving the promotion of Cryptacus. The chair encourages the rest of the members to make an effort to improve the promotion and visibility of the action.

11. Requests for new members

* The Chair mentions that it is important to promote the action and to have more people joining the action.

* The MC Chair briefly introduces the new MC Members and Substitutes:

- Nele Mentens (Belgium), Substitute
- Kimmo Järvinen (Finland), Substitute
- Joonas Kannisto (Finland), Substitute
- Miodrag Mihaljevic (Serbia), Member
- Radomir Stankovic (Serbia), Member
- Mauro Conti (Italy), Substitute
- Veelasha Moonsamy (The Netherlands), Substitute

12. AoB

* The Chair opens the discussion about Any Other Business.

* The Serbian representative encourages more presence from industry and potentially end-users in Cryptacus, as in similar actions. The chair addresses this question, proposing to invite more external speakers from industry in future meetings.

14. Location and date of next meeting

* The MC explains that the next meeting should be between September and November 2016.

* So far, two informal applications have been received (they are displayed on the screen). An

application from SBA Research consists in organizing the next MC meeting jointly with ARES2016 in Salzburg (Austria). The second application, sent by Aurélien Francillon consists in organizing the next MC Meeting jointly with CARDIS 2016 in Juan les Pins (France).

* Juha Rönning (Finland) proposes a joint organization of the next MC Meeting with the Nordsec series of conferences in Oulu (Finland) in November 2016.

* Orhun Kara (Turkey) describes an additional proposal, in cooperation with LightSec 2016.

* There is some debate about the convenience of the different proposals. Raised comments and questions include :

- Cost of flights, especially to go to Oulu Finland, frequency of the flights.
- Convenience to reach Juan les Pins by bus.
- Safety issue in Aksaray, Turkey.
- Conflict between ARES 2016 and a training school organized by the COST Action CryptoAction.

* Panagiotis Rizomiliotis (Greece) says that Greece might also organize the next MC Meeting.

* The MC Chair closes the discussion with the following decision: once the W&B Plan will be approved, a discussion about the next MC Meeting will be open by email. The MC should select the next location before the end of June. This will allow the Grant Holder to send the invitations a long time in advance.

15. Summary of MC decisions

* No decisions voted during the MC Meeting.

* The Chair says that the budget allocated to MC Members to join the meeting is lost when they neither accept nor reject the invitation. The MC decided in a previous meeting to reallocate the unspent money to invite young researchers. This rule was not apply for this meeting because the invitations were sent late, but it will be applied next time.

* The Chair reviews the list of tasks to be done before the next meeting:

- MC Chair sends a W&B plan proposal for discussion.
- MC Chair sends the (unapproved) minutes of Haifa's meeting.
- MC Chair puts on the website the official acknowledgment to be included in published articles

16. Closing

* The Chair kindly thanks Orr Dunkelman and the local staff for the organization of the MC+WG meeting. [applauses]

* The Chair closes the meeting at 19:22.