

# IVOA Full Meeting: FM23

13 May 2007: 17.30- 20.50 Beijing Local Time

Notes: NAW

orig 13 May 2007  
revised 17 May 2007 (v3)

Present:

Executive or Representatives:

Christophe Arviset	<Christophe.Arviset@esa.int>	CA	Euro-VO/ESA
Chenzhou Cui	<ccz@bao.ac.cn>	CC	China-VO
Dave De Young	<deyoung@noao.edu>	DY	NVO
Laszlo Dobos	<dobos@gawain.elte.hu>	LD	HVO
Francoise Genova	<genova@astro.u-strasbg.fr>	FG	F-VO
Bob Hanisch	<hanisch@stsci.edu>	BH	NVO
Ajit Kembavi	<akk@iucaa.ernet.in>	AK	India-VO
Andrew Lawrence	<al@roe.ac.uk>	AL	AstroGrid
Gerard Lemson	<gerard.lemson@mpe.mpg.de>	GL	GAVO
Olga Dluzhnevskaya	<olgad@inasan.rssi.ru>	OD	RVO
Masatoshi Ohishi	<masatoshi.ohishi@nao.ac.jp>	MO	JVO
Paolo Padovani	<ppadovan@eso.org>	PP	Euro-VO/ESO
Fabio Pasian	<pasian@ts.astro.it>	FP	VObs.it
David Schade	<David.Schade@nic.ca>	DS	CVO
Nic Walton	<naw@ast.cam.ac.uk>	NW	AstroGrid
Roy Williams	<roy@cacr.caltech.edu>	RW	NVO

Apologies:

Areg Mickaelian	<aregmick@apaven.am>	AM	ArVO
Enrique Solano	<Enrique.Solano@esa.int>	ESo	SVO
Reagan Moore	<moore@sdsc.edu>	RM	NVO
Wolfgang Voges	<wvoges@mpe.mpg.de>	WV	GAVO

There was no representation from the Aus-VO or VO-Korea

## Glossary

ArVO - Armenian VO	<a href="http://www.aras.am/arvo.htm">http://www.aras.am/arvo.htm</a>
AstroGrid - UK VO initiative	<a href="http://www.astrogrid.org">http://www.astrogrid.org</a>
Aus-VO - Australian Virtual Observatory	<a href="http://www.aus-vo.org">http://www.aus-vo.org</a>
CDS - Centre de Donnes Astronomiques de Strasbourg	<a href="http://www.cdsweb.u-strasbg.fr">http://www.cdsweb.u-strasbg.fr</a>
China-VO - Chinese Virtual Observatory	<a href="http://www.china-vo.org">http://www.china-vo.org</a>
CVO - Canadian Virtual Observatory	<a href="http://www1.cadc-ccda.hia-ihc.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/cvo/">http://www1.cadc-ccda.hia-ihc.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/cvo/</a>
Euro-VO European Virtual Observatory	<a href="http://www.euro-vo.org">http://www.euro-vo.org</a>
F-VO - VO-France	<a href="http://www.france-vo.org">http://www.france-vo.org</a>
GAVO - German Virtual Observatory	<a href="http://www.g-vo.org">http://www.g-vo.org</a>
HVO - Hungarian Virtual Observatory	<a href="http://hvo.elte.hu">http://hvo.elte.hu</a>
VO-India - Indian Virtual Observatory	<a href="http://vo.iucaa.ernet.in/~voi/">http://vo.iucaa.ernet.in/~voi/</a>
VObs.it - The Italian Virtual Observatory	<a href="http://vobs.astro.it/">http://vobs.astro.it/</a>

JVO - Japanese Virtual Observatory	<a href="http://jvo.nao.ac.jp/index-e.html">http://jvo.nao.ac.jp/index-e.html</a>
KVO - Korean Virtual Observatory	<a href="http://kvo.kao.re.kr">http://kvo.kao.re.kr</a>
NVO - National Virtual Observatory	<a href="http://www.us-vo.org">http://www.us-vo.org</a>
RVO - Russian Virtual Observatory	<a href="http://www.inasan.rssi.ru/eng/rvo/">http://www.inasan.rssi.ru/eng/rvo/</a>
SVO - Spanish Virtual Observatory	<a href="http://www.laeff.esa.es/svo/">http://www.laeff.esa.es/svo/</a>

IVOA - International Virtual Observatory Alliance <http://www.ivoa.net>

## Agenda:

1. Roll Call and Agenda
2. Minutes of TM22
3. Review of Actions
4. Approval of new IVOA Recommendation(s) [standing item]
5. Discussion of the IVOA Assessment (FG/DY)
6. Working Groups and Interest Groups
  - 6a. Standardisation process: highlights, concerns, goals (RW)
  - 6b. Proposal for creation of Solar System IG
  - 6c. Renewal of working group chairs
7. Status of the Assessment of Implementation of IVOA standards in Data Centres (DS/CA)
8. Status of the preparation of the Fall 2007 Interoperability meeting (NW)
9. Status of the preparation of the Spring 2008 Interoperability meeting (FP)
10. Data and venue of the next Exec meeting
11. AOB
12. Summary of Actions

A. Appendices - reports from the VO projects - see the wiki at  
<http://www.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoaExecMeetingFM22>

**NEXT MEETING : Telecon Thurs 12 July 2007 @ 15.00 GMT**

## ***1. Roll Call***

The participants - as listed above - introduced themselves, with apologies noted.

## ***2. Previous minutes.***

Notes from meeting 2007-03-08 at

<http://www.ivoa.net/internal/IVOA/IvoaRepMin/ivoa-tm22-20070308.pdf>

**AGREED**

## **2.1 Reports from VO projects and WG/IGs (to be uploaded to web page)**

These are located at <http://www.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoaExecMeetingFM23>.

FG encouraged all to upload reports if not yet done.

## ***3. Review of Actions and their current status***

**ACTION FM19-3A EXEC Chair:** ensure that there is an agenda item for each May Exec meeting to receive and discuss the yearly TCG Coordinator report on the IVOA technical status/roadmap

**CLOSED:** see agenda item 6.

**ACTION FM20-3D RW/FG** - generate draft procedure to be followed in terms of delivery of draft specs c.f the WG roadmap, and the procedure to follow when specs are delayed.

**ONGOING:** RW to report - closeout aim is for May 2007  
FG suggested that this topic be discussed during item 5 (the assessment)

**ACTION: FM20-8B TCG:** review status of WG/IG Chairs - report at the May 2007 Exec meeting.

**ONGOING:** see item 6 of this meeting

**ACTION TM21-6.4: FG/ DY** - to generate a proposal for selection/ renewal of Chairs - by end Feb 2007. Agreement on this at the May 2007 InterOp.

**ONGOING:** to be discussed in item 6 at this meeting.

**ACTION TM21-7 DS:** once the reflection period had ended - a telecon should be set up for interested parties to discuss data compliance - perhaps Mar/Apr 2007.

**CLOSED:** DS to report - see item 7

**ACTION TM21-9B EXEC** - suggestions to FG re possible venue/ form of a Oct 2008 meeting.

**ONGOING:** FG reported that she had received one proposal. For discussion under item 5 as this is related to the 'small projects' meetings.

**ACTION TM22-4A Ray Plante** - check final mods to the Identifiers and the RM documents.

**CLOSED:** RW reported that Ray had made these checked.

**ACTION TM22-4B RW** to summarise the required steps to progress UCD1+controlled vocabulary Version 1.21.

**CLOSED:** FG reported that the procedure has been summarised.

**ACTION TM22-5A FG/DY** - distribute questionnaire material and analysis to the Exec before the May Beijing meeting.

**CLOSED:** summary of the questionnaire returns distributed (9 May 2007) to the Exec

**ACTION TM22-5B Exec** - all encouraged to complete the questionnaire.

**CLOSED:** deadline for submission has passed.

**ACTION TM22-6.1 RW/BH** - to check that the submission process as defined at <http://www.ivoa.net/Documents/#process> is proving to be sufficient in practise.

**ONGOING:** see item 6 discussion

**ACTION TM22-6.3 RW** - to discuss with the DM-WG the route forward with the STC std - and whether there is a place for a subset of STC for operational use in some cases.

**ONGOING:** recommendation contained within the Tech Coordinator/ TCG roadmap May 2007. Discussion in agenda item 6.

**ACTION TM22-7 EXEC/ WG/IG Chairs** - send suggestions to FG/RW as to possible follow-on Chairs. Review in May 2007.

**ONGOING:** FG/RW to report.

**ACTION TM22-9 CC** to email all at [interop@ivoa.net](mailto:interop@ivoa.net) to remind all potential attendees that they may need to sort out their visas in advance of travelling to China.

**CLOSED:** meeting now happening.

**ACTION TM22-11 RW:** Confirm time (soon) of TCG telecon before the May Beijing meeting.

**CLOSED:** telecon did not occur. However, conversation took place by email.

#### ***4. Approval of new IVOA Recommendation(s)***

FG reported that the following had passed the Recommendation stage - see <http://www.ivoa.net/Documents/>:

- IVOA Identifiers 1.12
- Resource Metadata 1.12
- UCD1+ Controlled Vocabulary 1.23

#### ***5. Discussion of the IVOA Assessment***

DY introduced his discussion of the IVOA questionnaire. Two papers detailing the analysis had been distributed: IVOAassessment0407a.doc and IVOA Assessment Analysis0507a.doc. DY noted that question 11 - relating to communications between the IVOA and the external community - had the most significant negatives.

It was **AGREED** that the responses should be distributed to the IVOA Exec.

**ACTION FM23-5ADY:** will email all public responses to the IVOA questionnaire to the Exec

Key points noted by DY:

1. Review and update the IVOA web site
2. Progress through the std procedure is too slow
3. Improve the functioning of the WG and IG
4. Better communication from the Exec to the IVOA is required
5. The IVOA needs to connect to the astronomy community
6. The small project meetings need more focus
7. Parallel sessions at the Interops continue to be a problem

In a discussion concerning the scope of the IVOA and the role of the VO projects, AL suggested that it should be the VO projects that encourage take up of VO standards and make the 'scientific' connections to the astronomy community. This is not necessarily a task of the IVOA.

FG presented a number of slides giving an analysis of the feedback from the questionnaire.

During discussion a number of areas were considered.

- It was **AGREED** that there is currently no need to alter the current membership and 'decision making by consensus' of the IVOA Exec.
- **ACTION FM23-5B FG:** during the DataCP-IG meeting, a discussion will take place to assess its future role.
- Communication from the Exec to the community must be improved
- It was **AGREED** that it was not currently necessary for the IVOA to have a Science Advisory Committee

**ACTION FM23-5C FG:** summarise the key discussion points including agreed and not agreed and organise a telecon to reach closure. Time-scale will be June/July 2007 for the telecon.

**ACTION FM23-5D FG:** to summarize the different aspects of 'IVOA communication with the external world' with help of volunteers from the Exec

## ***6. Working Groups and Interest Groups***

### **6a. Standardisation process: highlights, concerns, goals (RW)**

RW gave an overview of current standardisation issues. The issues are contained within the Roadmap 2007 document at <http://www.ivoa.net/internal/IVOA/IvoaExecMeetingFM23/IVOARoadMap-2007-may1.pdf>

Concerning the recommendations contained within the Roadmap 2007, it was **AGREED** that the TCG should aim to agree these themselves. The Exec would then aim to ratify these recommendations.

Key issues:

- Need for the SSA standard
- STC
- Registry
- Implementations - is the current definition sufficient? Yes - **AGREED**.

**ACTION FM23-6A FG:** will attend an interop session of DAL in the role of IVOA Chair to discuss options for the STC standard.

### **6b. Proposal for creation of Solar System IG**

There was some concern expressed about the way to start cooperation between IVOA and other communities (eg Planetary and Solar Systems). It would be more efficient to seek cooperation at equal level rather than creating "internal IVOA groups" about these communities. This latter approach could be seen by them as "patronizing" instead of real will to cooperate. In particular, it is interesting to note that the Planetary people have recently created the IPDA - International Planetary Alliance.

Thus it was **AGREED** that further consultation would be required. It was noted however that the proposal to form an IVOA Solar System-IG had come from the solar community.

**ACTION FM23-6B FG** will consult at the appropriate level with the appropriate Solar and Planetary projects and report back to the IVOA Exec

### **6c. Renewal of working group chairs**

**ACTION FM23-6C EXEC:** suggestions should be sent to FG with names for replacement Chairs and Vice Chairs of those groups where their time limit had expired.

### **7. Assessment of Implementation of IVOA standards in Data Centres**

DS discussed the document available at

<http://www.ivoa.net/internal/IVOA/IvoaExecMeetingFM23/Report-Action-FM19A.pdf> where a number of recommendations were made. The Exec noted the report and will consider the recommendations contained therein in due course.

### **8. Status of the preparation of the Fall 2007 Interoperability meeting**

NW reported that the Autumn interop would be 27+28 Sept 2007 at the IoA, Cambridge. 2007. Details at <http://www.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/InterOpSep2007> It was **AGREED** that NW will organise this meeting.

### **9. Status of the preparation of the Spring 2008 Interoperability meeting**

FP reported that preparation was underway and that fuller details would be released soon.

### **10. Data and venue of the next Exec meeting**

It was **AGREED** that the next (TM24) telecon will be 12 Aug 2007 at 15.00 GMT

## **11. AOB**

### **11.1 Autumn 2008 InterOp**

MO has offered to host the Autumn 2008 meeting in Tokyo, Japan.

**Action FM23-11A FG:** To consider this proposal in the context of the evolution of the Small Projects Meeting, and report back with a decision by July 2007 to MO.

### **11.2 Next Vice-Chair**

FG noted that she would stand down as IVOA Chair after the Sept 2007 InterOp.

**Action FM23-11B Exec:** Send nominations and self-nominations to FG with suggestions for the next vice-Chair.

## **12. Summary of Actions**

### **12.1 Old Actions**

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**ACTION: FM20-8B TCG:** review status of WG/IG Chairs - report at the May 2007 Exec meeting.

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2007. Agreement on this at the May 2007 InterOp.

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**ACTION TM22-7 EXEC/ WG/IG Chairs** - send suggestions to FG/RW as to possible follow-on Chairs. Review in May 2007.

## 12.2 New Actions

**ACTION FM23-5A DY:** will email all public responses to the IVOA questionnaire to the Exec

**ACTION FM23-5B FG:** during the DataCP-IG meeting, a discussion will take place to assess its future role.

**ACTION FM23-5C FG:** summarise the key discussion points including agreed and not agreed and organise a telecon to reach closure. Time-scale will be June/July 2007 for the telecon.

**ACTION FM23-5D FG:** to summarize the different aspects of 'IVOA communication with the external world' with help of volunteers from the Exec

**ACTION FM23-6A FG:** will attend an interop session of DAL in the role of IVOA Chair to discuss options for the STC standard.

**ACTION FM23-6B FG** will consult at the appropriate level with the appropriate Solar and Planetary projects and report back to the IVOA Exec

**ACTION FM23-6C EXEC:** suggestions should be sent to FG with names for replacement Chairs and Vice Chairs of those groups where their time limit had expired.

**ACTION FM23-11B Exec:** Send nominations and self-nominations to FG with suggestions for the next vice-Chair

Meeting closed: 20.50