Minutes of meeting

Scientific Committee meeting SC(M)02-2022

Friday, 09 December 2022 (09h00 to 13h00)

Academy of Science, Budapest

Item 1. Welcome & review of actions

The SC Chair, TBO, welcomed all participants to the second meeting of the SESAR 3 JU Scientific Committee (SC).

LCR provided some clarifications on the process for the SC members to claim their reimbursements.
The SC members agreed to use their acronyms for issuing the minutes.

TBO and LCR went through the list of actions from the previous meeting and confirmed they were all closed.

Item 1. Conclusions:

Not applicable.

Item 2. SIDs 2022 debriefing

DSC, external observer and Chair of the SIDs Programme Committee, presented a debrief of the SIDs 2022.

81 papers were submitted (indicating a positive trend, increasing over the years). The high value is likely linked to the fact that almost all the ER4 projects have been closing out recently and were ready to submit papers.
In terms of acceptance rate, it was approx. 63%. Many good papers were identified (reflection of maturity of the project), and the acceptance was purely based on merit.
The SIDs had above 400 participants, showing again positive trend (excluding the online editions because of the COVID pandemic).
The whole process, i.e. the call for papers, the papers submission and the papers review is an established process and very efficient. The SESAR 3 JU PC meeting taking place during the SIDs, at the same venue is an asset for the conference. In this edition of the SIDs the feedback from attendees seems to indicate that the right balance between technical paper presentations and keynotes/panels was achieved.
In terms of members of the SIDs Programme Committee, the overlap between members of this committee and other committees (ICRART, ATM seminar) is positive. Also, some benefits may arise from having members of the SC to be part of the SIDs PC on a voluntary basis.

The tentative timeline for the next SIDs edition to take place in Spain, Seville is:
- March: SIDs PC established,
- May: Call for papers composed and posted,
- Mid September: paper submission deadline, possible extension by 10 days, till end of the month,
- End of October: reviews due,
- Early November: notifications sent out,

- SIDs 27-30 November

DSC recalled that the support to the SIDs was part of the Knowledge Transfer Network (KTN) to be selected from DES ER1 Call, but for the start of the prep activities, the SESAR 3 JU will communicate with ECTRL.

DSC tabled the topic of the special issue "best papers from SIDs 2022". Such special issue in Elsevier's JATM journal happened in 2018, 2019 and 2020, but some problems in the editorial process were encountered, as for the 2020 edition Gold Open Access was purchased from Elsevier for 2400 euros a paper.

The SC members engaged in a discussion on possible publication in an open journal: it has some disadvantages (e.g. open journals usually do not have an Impact Factor, which is a requirement from many universities and national academic accreditation processes) and some advantages (e.g. free of charge, in line with EC's mandate of open research data).

SBA noted that it would be nice to have half of the papers being published, not only few.

RAR noted that it takes time, we need to start to build now a solution, implying effort to see results not in the immediate future but maybe in 5 to 10 years.

PHE noted that in Germany the journals are categorized, and that only high impact journals are actually targeted.

FNE noted that, in his university, if you want to be promoted you have to publish papers in journals included in certain list of eligible journals. The money you pay to some (open) journals give you a fast track (sometimes).

RSO reacted that while the process does not seem fair, we cannot really alter it. Altogether the aim of the Committee with the extra publications needs to be seen clearly. What does the Committee want to achieve with the publications?

TBO proposed the option to publish in open access and then select few articles for special issues.

DSC added he could ask the authors if they were willing to publish in open journals and that he would report to the SC Chair.

A discussion on ownership, concluded that the "author" of the SIDs is the SESAR 3 JU, but that the SESAR 3 JU does not own the papers, this remains with the paper author(s) - all papers are also made publicly available on the SESAR 3 JU website.

Item 2. Conclusions:

The discussion on the SIDs 2022 special issue will continue, based on the feedback that in the meantime the willingness of authors to publish in open journals will be collected. The SC members willing to be the part of the SIDs Programme Committee to contact DCS via email.

Item 3. SESAR BAWP update and planning for review of ER2 Tech Specs

LCR presented the process followed by the SESAR 3 JU for the amendment of the BAWP (Bi-Annual Work Programme), with a specific focus on the timeline for the definition of the DES ER2 Call Technical Specifications, for which the JU Regulation foresees a consultation step with the SC.

The timeline, the process, the expected inputs from the SC and the interactions with the GB were presented and discussed. The SC will convene virtually to organise the review and provide the requested feedback.

Item 3. Conclusions:

By end of January 2023 the SESAR 3 JU will send to the SC a mature draft of the DES ER2 Call Technical Specifications. The SC is expected to feed the SESAR 3 JU back by February 14th 2023, to allow the SESAR 3 JU to update the specifications in light of the received comments and to present the updated version to the SC during the Feb 22 meeting, for final discussion.

Item 4. Contribution to SESAR 3 Annual activity report

While confirming that the SC members are aware of the need to contribute to the SESAR 3 Annual Activity

Report, TBO asked whether one or two paragraphs would be enough for this year, since the SC has been established almost at the end of the year.

The SESAR 3 JU replied positively.

Item 4. Conclusions:

TBO committed to prepare the aforementioned contribution.

Item 5. SC meetings plan 2023

The SC members decided the following plan for the 2023 SC meetings:

- Feb 22 (face to face)
- Jun 28 (face to face)
- Sept 19 (virtual)
- Dec 1 (face to face, contextual to SIDs 2023 in Seville)

Item 5. Conclusions:

Not applicable.

Item 6. Initial planning of SC activities

JBE presented a summary of the previous SC activities. There were three main categories of tasks:

1. General support to SESAR 3 JU/SESAR (YSA jury, review of the SIDs papers, etc.)
2. Task Forces related to SESAR methodology (e.g. Scientific Research Agenda, innovation pipeline, SESAR Digital Academy, etc.)
3. Thematic Task Forces related to hot research areas (e.g. Automation Task Force, Security Task Force, etc.)

Then the discussion moved to some open questions from the SC members to the SESAR 3 JU, which resulted in the following clarifications:

- There will be a mechanism to let some experts, via the SC, to support the evaluation of the YSA.
- With reference to art. 9 of the adopted Rules of Procedure, it is clarified that in principle the ED will not contact the SC asking for a written opinion in 5/15 days. There may be some areas, such as the Performance area, where a contribution from the SC may be envisaged (e.g. how SESAR can become more concrete on the Performance assessment), but not in such short notice.

An open discussion on several topics potentially leading to the definition of task forces followed. For example, open data availability is a topic where the SC may have further discussions; in fact, while there are examples (ADS-B) where data are already available, data on passengers and itineraries are not public. Also, the Eurocontrol DDR database provides only four months of data (and the months are picked by Eurocontrol) but in some areas of research, such as sectors workload, such database is not wide enough. Availability of MET data is another example of area of research where data availability is on the critical path.

PHE noted that for the identification of a list of topics, the SC should wait for the establishment of the new SESAR Knowledge Transfer Network (KTN), to better understand what to do more/differently. FNE complemented the statement by saying that data accessibility is a topic potentially linked also to the SESAR Digital Academy.

RSO added that in order to continue the work of the Improved Scientific Methodology Task Force from the previous SC, it would be helpful to get some feedback from the ER projects.

JBE concluded that it is necessary to consolidate the list of topics to be able to allocate the SC resources to the different activities, but given the previous comments additional discussions will need to take place in next SC meetings.

Item 6. Conclusions:
The SC members will further discuss the potential list of activities, in order to have specific agenda items for the next meeting, and to allocate effort in the near future within the SC.
The SESAR 3 JU will share with the SC the list of references (i.e. PJ coordinators references) for the ER projects, so that the SC could contact ER projects to receive feedback on the Experimental approach guidance.

Item 7. AOB and close of the meeting
No AoB was discussed.

TBO closed the meeting thanking all for their participation.
ABO expressed his appreciation for attending the meeting, saying that the first meeting was purely administrative but this one represented the start of content-related discussions, he is looking forward to receiving the SC contribution for the benefit of the SESAR programme.

Signature of the Chairperson

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Annex I – List of participants

Arnaldo Rosa (RAR)

Bagassi Sara (SBA)

Besada Juan (JBE)

Bolic Tatjana (TBO)

Delahaye Daniel (DDE)

Hecker Peter (PHE)

Malakis Efstathios (SMA)

Netjasov Fedja (FNE)

Somogyi Rita (RSO)

Andreas Boschen – SESAR 3 JU Executive Director (ABO)

Peter Hotham – SESAR 3 JU Deputy Executive Director (PHO)

Luca Crecco – SESAR 3 JU Programme Officer (LCR)

Dirk Schaefer – Eurocontrol – SIDs Programme Committee Chair (DSC)

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Annex II - List of actions

Actions	Responsibility	Description	Due Date	Status
SC01/01	TBO	To sign the decision for the RoP adoption.	18/11/2022	Closed
SC01/02	SESAR 3 JU	To check internally the options to be able to reimburse the costs, and to inform the SC Members.	09/12/2022	Closed
SC01/03	SC Members	To inform the JU Secretariat in case any SC Member wants to change their email address used in the SC distribution list.	18/11/2022	Closed
SC02/01	SESAR 3 JU	To send to the SC members the references of the ER4 project coordinators for potential follow up on the ER Experimental/Validation Plan guidelines	12/12/2022	Closed
SC02/02	SESAR 3 JU	To share with the SC members the latest YSA Contest Rules including the evaluation criteria	12/12/2022	Closed
SC02/03	SESAR 3 JU	To book the meeting rooms for SC-03 and SC-04	asap	Closed
SC02/04	SC members	SC members willing to be members of SIDs PC to contact the PC Chair on individual basis	March 2023	Open
SC02/05	TBO	To liaise with DSC regarding the SIDs' authors opinion on publication in an open journal	February 2023	Open
SC02/06	TBO	To setup the virtual call with the SC members to organise the feedback for the DES ER2 call.	December 2023	Closed
SC02/07	SC members	SC members to provide feedback on the call specifications to S3JU	February 14 2023	Open

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SC02/08	TBO	Draft the SC Annual report and circulate with the SC members	January 2023	Open
SC02/09	SC members	Poll the ER project on the usefulness of the Experimental plan material.	April 2023	Open

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