

Meeting 02 oct 2006

Meeting of International Delegates at Socitm2006

2nd October 2006

Meeting at the Harrogate International Conference Centre, United Kingdom.

1. Welcome and Introductions – Bob Griffith welcomed the International delegates to an informal meeting of LOLA. In particular the delegates from Australia who had booked for the Conference and they were now able to find out about LOLA. NH was representing MAV, a local government organisation in the south east of Australia.

2. LOLA Board Meeting 28/6/2006 – the Minutes were distributed and noted.

Present:

Bob Griffith Socitm

Martin Ferguson Socitm

June Randall GMIS

Elaine Isler GMIS

Ake Nygren KommitTS

Christian Bonfre KommitTS

Renk Ruijter VIAG

Paul Zevenhuizen VIAG

Neil Hocking Whittlesea, Victoria, Australia

John Peasley Macquarie-Hastings, NSW, Australia

Richard Love Mitcham, South Australia

Stephen Fisher North Sydney, NSW, Australia

Apologies:

Caroline Ishola-Burrows Socitm



3. What do International Delegates want from attending conferences? –

The designated annual conference (in 2006 it was GMIS) is attended by all the LOLA presidents and it is the venue for the Annual Board Meeting. As

such it has a formal Agenda and is able to make decisions that will help to govern LOLA during the year. However, the delegates at the other conferences during the year attend because of the conference content, the learning issues and the networking opportunities with the other international delegates. The delegates like to meet together and the opportunity was taken to consider what format (if any) this should take. It was agreed to suggest to the LOLA Board that these meetings should;

- a) Set aside half a day
- b) Formally organised with an agenda agreed prior to travel.
- c) Set aside the first hour to describe the main ICT issues facing each country that is represented. This session would be open to all delegates to attend (possibly as a workshop that was advertised on the main Conference programme)
- d) Attendees would report back to their own organisations on the issues discussed.
- e) Attendees would not have the power to agree anything that would commit LOLA

4. Supplier Contracts – should LOLA negotiate contracts in a similar manner to the Microsoft negotiations? It was felt that there was little scope for this at the moment.

LOLA Joint Projects – the ALGIM proposal was noted and MF reported that he is currently liaising with Mike Manson.

5. LOLA Membership – the situation in Australia was considered. NH reported that there was no national organisation in Australia that solely represented the local government ICT manager/director. However, there were various regional groups, some of which are quite large. It may be difficult and take many years to create a national society that could qualify for LOLA membership and it was suggested that a special category of Affiliate could be created. Another option would be to create an umbrella organisation which the regional groups could support (similar to Canada). NH agreed to speak to MAV about the various options.

Bob Griffith

Socitm

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