

**Servas International
SI Exco Meeting by Skype
Minutes
Sunday October 16, 2016 15:00 – 17:00 GMT/UTC**

Version: 1

Participants: **Jonny Sågänger (JS); Pablo Colangelo (PC); Penny Pattison (PP); Danielle Serres (DS); Ann Greenhough (AG); LV Subramanian (LVS)**

Minutes Recorder: **PP**

Chair: **JS**

Timekeeper: **DS**

Actions are identified in Italics and Underline. A summary of action items is at the end of the minutes

Decisions and Motions are in bold

Meeting began at 15:11 GMT/UTC.

1. Chit chat

2. Agenda Version 1 adopted as proposed

3. Adoption of minutes

a. Finalize Sept 18, 2016 minutes

- **Motion: Approve Version 3 of the Sept 18, 2016 minutes. Passed**

b. Review action items – not done, due to other priority agenda items

4. Email Decisions:

- a.** 2016/9/21 Pay 122,30€ to Magnus Adams for UN related expenses, out of the annual UN budget. Passed
- b.** 2016/10/2 Approved Version 2 of the 2016/8/14 SI Exco meeting minutes. Passed
- c.** 2016/10/2 That the following countries are not eligible to vote: Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador, India, Lithuania, Morocco, Pakistan, Paraguay, Slovenia, South Africa, Uruguay, Australia, Mexico. Passed
- d.** 2016/10/3 SI Exco enter into an agreement with Instituto de Literatura y Ciencias del Lenguaje at Pontificia Católica de Valparaíso, Viña del Mar in Chile regarding translations English-Spanish. Passed
- e.** 2016/10/4 That LV order the 2017 stamps, to be printed by the end of October, at a cost of up to 50 Euros, using the design attached. Passed

5. SICOGA 2018

- **DECISION: Continue the same basic 6-7 day conference and GA combined format that has been used in the last ten years**
- **DECISION: Use the same basic funding analysis process that has been used in the last ten years**
- Action: PP will contact Korea to confirm that they are still interested in hosting SICOGA 2018, as they stated at the end of SICOGA 2015
- Action: PP will draft an email to all Member Groups about SICOGA 2018 location and timing

6. Distant Vote November 2016

- The November 2016 Distant Vote voting is underway, ending Nov 30, 2016

7. SI Exco 2017 Face-to-face meeting

- Offers to host the SI Exco meeting have been received from Servas Czech Republic (Prague) and Servas Spain (Alicante or Valencia)
- **DECISION: Meet for 4 full days, all day Mar 30 – April 2 (Thursday morning to Sunday evening). For those SI Exco members who can take more time, a local event will be planned before or after the meeting.**
- Action: All SI Exco will check flight times and costs to Prague, Alicante and Valencia, and send the results to AG by Tuesday October 18, 2016
- Action: AG will consult with the two groups who offered to host an SI Exco meeting.
- **DECISION: The plan will be to meet in the other location in 2018 if the arrangements can cover the requirements for the Exco meeting.**

8. Stretch legs

9. SI Financials

a. Payment decisions

- The remuneration for the bookkeeper and External Auditor has not changed since 2008
- **MOTION: Increase annual payment for the bookkeeper from USD500 to USD750, and for the External Auditor from USD750 to USD1000. Passed.**
- Action: LVS will inform the bookkeeper and External Auditor.

- Two ServasOnline-related invoices have been received
- **MOTION: To approve payment of invoices from K. Gautreau totaling 290 Euros, for services related to ServasOnline. Passed.**
- Action: LVS will arrange payment of K. Gautreau invoices.

b. 2017 stamps

- The 2017 SI stamps have been printed.
- Action: LVS will distribute the 2017 SI stamps, and give the related details to the bookkeeper. This is expected to occur from November 2016 to February 2017

c. 2014 Audited Accounts

- Action: JS will ensure that the 2014 Audited Accounts are posted on the new website before the new website is launched. (They are currently posted on the existing www.servas.org website)

d. Outstanding Stamp payments and ServasOnline levy payments

- LVS reminded SI Exco that it was decided at SICOGA 2015 that unpaid SI payments would be deducted from funding for delegates to attend the next SICOGA conference
- Action: LVS will propose to SI Exco how to handle the outstanding ServasOnline levy amounts

e. 2015 Financial Statements

- LVS reported that the request for supporting documents has been prepared and sent by JS to MW.
- Since LVS reported that there are no other documents required, PP withdrew her motion to approve travel for MW to Bangalore to deliver 2015 documents
- Action: PP to reply to MW that SI Exco does not support his offer to deliver the 2015 documents to Bangalore.

f. LVS Resignation

- None of the Internal Audit Committee (IAC) members are prepared to step into the SI Treasurer role (the 2006 GA decided that if the SI Treasurer was unable to continue, then an IAC member would take over the role temporarily)

- JS, AG and PP met on October 14, 2016 to discuss ideas of how to handle the SI Treasurer role. They sent some ideas and questions to LVS following the meeting.
- SI Exco agreed that the IAC idea of hiring an accounts payable contractor did not meet the needs
- There was discussion of what additional tasks could be done by the current bookkeeper to relieve the burden on the SI Treasurer
- There was discussion of the need for an SI Treasurer, who has financial experience and is a strategic thinker, as a key member of SI Exco
- Action: LVS will respond to the questions and ideas from JS, AG and PP regarding the resignation of the SI Treasurer
- Action: JS, AG, LVS and PP will continue to search for a solution to the resignation of the SI Treasurer

10. Modernized SI website

a. Status Report

- The new website is being proofread by a volunteer from Servas Britain
- Translation is being addressed; it was noted that 'static' information can be translated into many languages, but information that changes quickly will be a challenge, and there must be reasonable expectations for translation
- The ServasOnline team now understands what changes and updates they can do themselves
- JS is the Managing Web Editor now, and all content is to be sent to him for review and to arrange publishing

b. Communications before launch

- When the new website content has been proofread and corrected, JS will write the communication to all National Groups about the new website, including the launch date
- The communications about the new website will be sent out 2 weeks before the launch date
- Action: JS will prepare the communications for the launch of the new website

11. ServasOnline (ServasOnline member admin)

- It was noted that the new website is the SI window to the world, containing the editorial content, while ServasOnline is the member system
- There has been enthusiastic support for ServasOnline from many countries, and interest in getting their members registered on ServasOnline
- PC is working with various countries to move their data to ServasOnline
- It was noted that in all countries there are probably some Servas members who do not have easy access to the internet or to email. It was also noted that in developing countries, mobile phones are often more accessible.
- Action: PC will ask Servas France how they managed the hosts without easy internet access, without email addresses, or without unique email addresses for different household members, when converting their data to ServasOnline
- Action: PC will consult and recommend on how to handle Servas members who do not have internet or email accessibility
- It was noted that the transition to ServasOnline will take quite a long time. During the transition, the Dolphin Host List Storage Area, which contains pdf host lists for all countries, will be maintained. Also, the current interview and Letter of Introduction process will continue. Therefore, Servas travelers and hosts will still be able to arrange visits. This addresses the concern for those members who might be left out.
- Some countries are discussing getting together in self-funded gatherings to discuss and plan for ServasOnline

12. SI Exco members written reports – no discussion

13. Other Business None

14. Next meeting

- The next meeting will be Sunday November 20, 2016 UTC/GMT 16:00 – 18:00
- Regular time: third Sunday every month UTC/GMT 15.00-17.00 (1 hour later November-March)

15. Meeting ended at 17:20 GMT/UTC

Action Items

Jan 17, 2016 Action Items not completed:

- Action: JS and PP will work with Amir to complete step 1 related to a new SI Registration system – in progress, Amir is preparing a proposal

Feb 21, 2016 Action Items not completed:

- Action: JS will find a native English speaker for the ServasOnline team – in progress
- Action: PP will send a call for volunteers for the SI Archives Consulting Group – published in SI Bulletin #2, no replies, will send email to key persons

April 08 - 12, 2016 Action Items:

- Action: AG will bring a proposal to SI Exco re: links with FEE and inviting travelers to offset their travel through FEE – in progress
- Action: FM, JS (LV help) will look for Swiss legal expertise to complete the ServasOnline Terms of Use – in progress
- Action: JS and PC will take the lead in preparing a Transition Manual and checklist – will consult France, Canada, Sweden and Britain to identify what information is needed
- Action: JS will send PC the list of ServasOnline volunteers and competencies – not done
- Action: AG will coordinate comparing costs for Czech Republic and Spain – updated action item - in progress
- Action: AG will follow up with the current Area Coordinators about the SI Exco decision that Area Coordinators will cease to exist and their role handled by the Development Committee, and later announce the decision more generally – all ACs support the decision; AG will now contact national Groups
- Action: PP will follow up with the Job Descriptions and Statutes committee – not done

May 15, 2016 Action Items not completed:

- Action: SI Exco will try using the checklist, and give comments to PP – not done

July 24, 2016 Action Items

- Action: JS will arrange to have the time period of the contracted resource to support ServasOnline changed to be June-Dec 2016 – in progress
- Action: JS and PP will ensure that a communication is sent to all key people before the launch of the new website – in progress
- Action: JS will prepare and send necessary documents to DS for setting up the Maison des Associations SI address in Geneva – in progress

August 14, 2016 Action Items

- Action: JS will ask if the Servas description section can be moved above the News section on the home page
- Action: JS will manage the preparation than distribution of the communication, since PP will be on vacation
- Action: JS will contact the other SI Treasurer candidate and the Nominations Committee after consulting with the Internal Audit Committee related to the SI Treasurer's resignation
- Action: JS will work with the Swiss lawyer related to an SI Registration contract, and inform SI Exco

September 18, 2016 Action Items

- Action: More information to be provided to inform proposals to address LV's resignation (JS) – in progress

October 16, 2016 Action Items

- Action: PP will contact Korea to confirm that they are still interested in hosting SICOGA 2018, as they stated at the end of SICOGA 2015
- Action: PP will draft an email to all Member Groups about SICOGA 2018 location and timing
- Action: All SI Exco will check flight times and costs to Prague, Alicante and Valencia, and send the results to AG by Tuesday October 18, 2016
- Action: AG will consult with the two groups who offered to host an SI Exco meeting.
- Action: LVS will inform the bookkeeper and External Auditor.
- Action: LVS will arrange payment of K. Gautreau invoices.
- Action: LVS will distribute the 2017 SI stamps, and give the related details to the bookkeeper. This is expected to occur from November 2016 to February 2017
- Action: JS will ensure that the 2014 Audited Accounts are posted on the new website before the new website is launched
- Action: LVS will propose to SI Exco how to handle the outstanding ServasOnline levy amounts
- Action: PP to reply to MW that SI Exco does not support his offer to deliver the 2015 documents to Bangalore.
- Action: LVS will respond to the questions and ideas from JS, AG and PP regarding the resignation of the SI Treasurer
- Action: JS, AG, LVS and PP will continue to search for a solution to the resignation of the SI Treasurer
- Action: JS will prepare the communications for the launch of the new website
- Action: PC will ask Servas France how they managed the hosts without easy internet access, without email addresses, or without unique email addresses for different household members, when converting their data to ServasOnline
- Action: PC will consult and recommend on how to handle Servas members who do not have internet or email accessibility

Appendix 1 SI President's Report

Jonny's short report to Exco

2016-10-16

Action report 2016-09-17 - 2016-10-13

Modernized/new website on servas.org and ServasOnline

Modernised/new website:

I have been executing the plan of action for the transition from the current website on servas.org to a modernized website on servas.org.

Now the modernized website is almost ready to become Servas International's new window to the world, with new relevant texts, photos and other illustrations.

Final proof reading of the landing page/front page is being done at this moment.

There is still a need for creation and changes of menus, sub-menus and sub-submenus.

This will be handled as soon as possible.

ServasOnline

I'm working with Stefan Fagerström, and been in dialogue with Bernard Andrieu (project manager for ServasOnline project), Pablo Colangelo and about the migration of member information from the Servas Dolphin system, the Servas Whale system and other systems to ServasOnline.

SI ICT has also been involved in the work.

SI in cooperation with university in Chile

I have signed an agreement between SI and Instituto de Literatura y Ciencias del Lenguaje at Pontificia Católica de Valparaíso, Viña del Mar in Chile regarding translations english-spanish.

Communications

* I have published SI News Bulletin No 3 Vol 3 2016, in both english and spanish versions.

SI registration and SI domicile

- I have an ongoing email dialogue with legal experts to get advice from regarding the registration of SI as an NGO and for the establishment of a domicile.

Search for new SI treasurer & treasurer backup

I have been operative in the action to find a person or a group of people who can replace Venkatasubramanian Lakshmanan Subramanian (LVS) who has communicated that he intends to leave his position as SI treasurer.

I have involved other members of Exco in the project to find a new SI treasurer.

Miscellaneous

* Day-to-day business (email communications, preparation of agenda for SI Exco meeting, monitoring Servas Facebook pages and groups)

I have executed/not executed the following action items that I was assigned by Exco

September 18, 2016 Action Items

Done

- Action: More information to be provided to inform proposals to address LV's resignation (JS).

August 14, 2016 Action Items

Done:

- Action: JS will ask if the Servas description section can be moved above the News section on the home page
- Action: JS will find out who can make changes to the ServasOnline menus
- Action: JS and PP will contact the Internal Audit Committee related to the SI Treasurer's resignation
- Action: JS will contact the other SI Treasurer candidate and the Nominations Committee after consulting with the Internal Audit Committee related to the SI Treasurer's resignation

Ongoing

- Action: SI Exco will email anything they would like to see on the home page to JS
- Action: JS will initiate requests to SI Exco for text for the home page when it is needed
- Action: JS will manage the preparation than distribution of the communication, since PP will be on vacation
- Action: JS will work with the Swiss lawyer related to an SI Registration contract, and inform SI Exco

July 24, 2016 Action Items

Done:

- Action: JS will respond to Servas Italy, indicating that it is not possible to begin a pilot as soon as 2017, and that they are urged to work with the group established at the 2015 GA (NS Servas Germany identified as the lead person)
- Action: JS will request that the Chilean university translate the agreement, and will arrange for it to be signed in both Spanish and English

Ongoing

- Action: JS will arrange to have the time period of the contracted resource to support ServasOnline changed to be June-Dec 2016
- Action: JS and PP will confirm where all data on the existing www.servas.org website will be accessed after the launch for the new website by Aug 16, 2016
- Action: JS and PP will ensure that a communication is sent to all key people before the launch of the new website
- Action: JS will ensure that information about ServasOnline being under development will be placed on the new website
- Action: JS will prepare and send a signed copy of the SI Statutes (to DS)
- Action: JS will send a letter related to LVS's role in SI by Aug 1, 2016

June 19, 2016 Action Items

Done:

- Action: JS will collect articles, text, illustrations, etc. which will be published in the SI Exco bulletin or through other channels
- Action: All SI Exco will review what they have sent to the latest version of SI News, and decide with JS how to publicize it in another way

Will do 2016-07-22:

- Action: JS will clarify points in the ServasOnline May 2016 Status Report with Bernard, and report to SI Exco

- Action: JS will discuss the points raised related to ServasOnline with Bernard, and report to SI Exco

Not done:

- Action: JS and PP will add 'review of action items' to the next agenda, allowing sufficient time for discussion

* on **April 8-12, 2016:**

Executed action items:

- Action: JS will write and send a message regarding ServasOnline transition, focusing on expectations management

Not yet executed:

- Action: JS will set up calls to larger countries related to ServasOnline transition

Jonny needs more instruction to execute the following:

- Action: JS to create document re: SI Committee decisions
 - Action: JS will find a native English speaker for the SOLSYS team

Feb 21, 2016 Action Items not completed:

- Action: JS will find a native English speaker for the SOLSYS team

May 15, 2016 Action Items:

- Action: JS will send final SICOGA 2015 minutes to PP (Done)

a. SI News

- Indications are that the next issue will be ready soon
- Action: JS will contact Terry to see what is happening with SI News (Done - contact reestablished)

* On hold:

1. Ethical fund and bank '

Jonny Sägänger
President
Servas International
2015-2018

Appendix 2 SI Vice President's Report

Ann Greenhough VP Report for Exco Skype meeting on 16th October 2016

Since the Summer break I have focused on the following during September and October:

Making Connections

Following a message to the SI key list to launch the Making Connections project I have had an encouraging response from around 15 countries so far that would like to be involved. A number of smaller and less visited national groups are particularly enthusiastic about offering travellers something that goes beyond the usual two night stay.

Having acknowledged all responses and identified a link person in a number of countries the next step will be to create a standardised format to gather information about opportunities for extended and in-depth contacts between hosts and travellers.

Search for new SI treasurer

Work with others within Exco is on-going to develop a workable plan to cover SI financial responsibilities following LV's retirement as treasurer.

Future of Area Coordinator role

Once a translation is available I will circulate a message to national secretaries to give an update about Exco's position of the future of the AC role and to ask for comment on the proposal that the AC role is not continued.

Venue for next face to face meeting

Work is in progress to collate preferences for dates for the next SI Exco face to face meeting in March 2017 before I approach countries interested in hosting the meeting.

Priority for action:

To work with others, on DC, Youth Team and Innovation project, to bring together material in various development areas that can then be introduced onto the SI website in the coming months.

Topics include: Youth, Families, Making Connections, Special Interest Networks, Environmental projects and publicising the commitment to ethical travel.

Appendix 3 SI Peace Secretary's Report

Servas International Peace Secretary September 19 to October 14, 2016

Servas at the UN

Maison des Associations address in Geneva

All the papers were sent on August 26. I called them on September 5 to follow up. It seems the director was on vacation. On September 21, I met with Ricardo Espinosa, former Chief of NGO Liaison office at the UNOG, and board member of the FEA (Federation running the venue) who said he would support our request. Still awaiting an answer.

HRC 33rd session in Geneva

A written statement on the Durban Declaration and Program of Action (DDPA), prepared by Daniela Doenges, Servas International Main representative and I, have been submitted at the 33rd HRC session in Geneva (see in SI Exco Meeting 2016-10-16, Documents folder). I attended from September 21 to 23rd, including on the special event organized by Geneva Peace Talks on International Peace Day. It would be good if Servas could be among the key participants next year. Margaret Seelig, former Servas Britain Peace secretary, also attended from September 20 to 22, and Christoph Kuhn, Servas Switzerland NS, on the 23rd (please see report in SI Exco Meeting 2016-10-16, Documents folder). I met with a young South Korean intern working with CIVICUS NGO who will be willing to assist Servas in future meetings, in Geneva and/or in Korea.

Servas at UN NYC

Keeping in tune with active team in NYC UN venue, i.e. Fanny Bello, Radha Radhakrishna, Sedef Piker, and Jeanne Devine. They have been participating in various meetings/events at the UN, and national/local US Servas gatherings where they explained their work, and more generally advocating about how Servas members can contribute to UN SDGs goals.

Activities related to Peace other than UN

Exchanging information with Servas Costa Rica, Guatemala, Brazil, Venezuela, about what Servas can do to contribute to peace.

Others

Translating several items for the new website into French.
Helping Aneris Cao advancing the Chile University translation agreement.

Appendix 4 SI General Secretary's Report

SI General Secretary Report: August 15 – October 16, 2016

Accomplished:

- Distant Vote November 2016
 - Finalized eligible voters – 64 Member Groups
 - Worked with DVA to update website
 - Voting is now in progress
- www.servas.org transition
 - Reviewed status of transition of data to new website
 - Waiting to review and finalize communications to National Groups with JS
- GA 2018
 - Proposed approach to begin the process of identifying location, for decision by SI Exco
 - Prossy and Amir are already committed as GA 2018 team members
 - Discussed registration system with Amir
- Continue to receive 2015 annual reports – 57 of 77 received by October 12, 2016
- Participating in meetings regarding SI Treasurer resignation and ServasOnline
- Organized and managed process for email decisions
- Continued communication with Prossy
- Maintaining contact with SI Archivist
- Continuing to track time spent on Servas activities since the face-to-face meeting to get an idea of the time commitment replied

Action item update:

Jan 17, 2016 Action Items not completed:

- *Action: JS and PP will work with Amir to complete step 1 related to a new SI Registration system – in progress*

Feb 21, 2016 Action Items not completed:

- *Action: PP will send a call for volunteers for the SI Archives Consulting Group – will be sent once Anna completes her Archives course*

April 08 - 12, 2016 Action Items not completed:

- *Action: PP lead preparation of expectations for SICOGA 2018 – in progress*
- *Action: PP will follow up with the Job Descriptions and Statutes committee – in progress*

May 15, 2016 Action Items:

- *Action: SI Exco will try using the SI communications checklist, and give comments to PP – no comments received*

July 24, 2016 Action Items

- *Action: JS and PP will ensure that a communication is sent to all key people before the launch of the new website – in progress*

Short Term Priorities:

1. Day to day SI Exco and General Secretary correspondence and pressing issues
2. Integrating the current www.servas.org content with ServasOnline
3. Moving forward on GA 2018
4. Work to get remaining 2015 Annual Reports and identify a team to analyze the data
5. Support SI Archivist to move forward effectively and setting up supporting team

Key Concerns/Issues:

1. Transition to ServasOnline, including process for travelers and hosts connecting during the transition, ICT responsiveness, link to Key Dolphin

Appendix 5 SI Host List Coordinator's Report

SI HLC 2015-2018 Working Report #12

PABLO H COLANGELO
hostlistcoordinator@servas.org
Skype: Pablo Colangelo
+54 (911) 5569-7446

Sep 18th to Oct 16th 2016

- Assist Key people from the following countries regarding Dolphin issues: Nepal, Kenya, Britain.
 - Assist Key people from the following countries regarding Servasonline issues: Spain, Uganda.
 - Servas Kenya HL was updated and basic information is on Servasonline already. Im in permanent contact with the Kenyan Nat Secretary by Whatsup.
 - Servasonline report: The following basic data from HL from Bolivia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Lebanon, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Kenya, Uganda and half of Indian HL are already in Servasonline. Those countries whom their database were lost in dolphin have priority to be uploaded in servasonline. By the meantime I had been distributing the spreadsheet template to several countries like brazil, indonesia, Greece, Chile, Ireland, etc. to be filled by every member or their NS so I can work importing the data to servasonline when it will be ready.
-

Important tasks to be done next

- Seek a youth volunteer for the position of SI HLC
 - Find out what happened with the interviewed host in Cuba, he is willing to become a member of Servas and he still waiting for someone to confirm him what to do. He is in permanent contact with me through Facebook messenger. and Whatsup
 - Check making connection link upon Ann request, and its forwarding in dolphin as it seems not to be working well
 - Check bouncing back email address from key list sent by Ann
-

Appendix 6 SI Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report for the EXCO meeting of 16th October 2016

I would like to confirm on the following points

1. 2014 Audited Accounts made available for Distant Voting.
2. Follow up with the Stamp Dues and SOL Fees has resulted in payment outstanding dues by many of the member-countries. The enclosed file shows that Stamp fees 3901 and SOL fees 4019 is due. Against which the internal audit had asked CHF 5000 to be provided for each of these which we did. Now we can write back these provisions since Australia may also pay up after their board meeting.
3. 2015 Accounting statements under preparation. The book keeper has called for certain supporting documentation which Mirek needs to send to the book keeper. Except for these, the accounting is complete and the financial statements will be made available possibly by this month end. I would suggest Exco ask him to send the required documentation to Pramod the book keeper.

Today's update: 15/10/2016 : I had been to meet the auditor and book keeper and I understand that the draft financial statements for 2015 would be available by next Saturday since their offices have been busy with the corporate tax filing work whose last date is 17th October. They will finalize all the transactions and make the final statements based on the inputs given by Chris and Mirek.

4. The Stamps for 2017 have been printed and is available for distribution by November end.
5. The book keeper annual fees of USD 500 and External Audit fees of USD 750 need to be enhanced since these have been stagnant from 2008 onwards. It is fair that these are increased forthwith since they are handling the 15 months accounting this time to facilitate the switchover from Jan/Dec to Jan/March to implement the GA decision at NZ. I recommend increase to USD 750 for the book keeper and USD 1000 for the external auditor.
6. Bernard has forwarded me two invoices of Kevin for payment namely Invoice 20160929-036 for Euros 200 covering Evolution notification par email and Invoice 20160929-036 for Euros 90 covering Monitoring and daily backup. I have forwarded the mails to Exco for approval.

Regards,

L V Subramanian, Treasurer.

Appendix 7 ServasOnline Status Report

ServasOnline status 2016 September.

The project is on its way. The final delivery of the first version was done and operational on the Servas server on June 30, implemented on three environments (development, user testing, and production). Then a three-month warranty period began where the bugs or requested changes had to be done until the end of September. During this period, Kevin Gautreau - a French freelancer hired by Exco to carry on the development after the Indian company – shared technical issues with ICT and the Indian company to make the website operational and monitored, to implement organised tools for a secured parallel development by both him and the company. Kevin developed a first feature launched in September: notification of internal messages forwarded to the personal email of the members. The next requested developments are: Letter of Introduction customizable by country; Members Host-list pdf; etc.

The ServasOnline website was open in France on July 24th, after an upload of the members' data from Whale the same day, which means 2,450 members. A motivated team worked hard to help the members to connect and learn how to use the website. French userguides are available, they still have to be translated (English, Spanish).

During the summer, the web editor team updated the news, testimonies, pictures and menus of the website, and is currently working on their translation in the four languages of the website (English, Spanish, French and German). The Italian version could be added soon, and some Arabic translations were given by a friend of a German member. The replacement of www.servas.org by ServasOnline (prodsolsys.servas.org) is upcoming.

After New Zealand, Canada, Spain, Switzerland, Great Britain, Israel, Austria, Denmark, Sweden, USA, many new countries volunteered to be pilot members: Germany, Kenya, Paraguay, Ecuador, Bolivia, Lebanon, Jordan, Saudi, Argentina, Thailand, Uruguay, India, Uganda, Indonesia, etc.

A certain number of these countries have their members' data managed on Dolphin. A team, led by Stefan Fagerström, investigate to extract the data in accordance with the requested file format. Some countries prefer to let their members input their personal data manually.

Bernard Andrieu
ServasOnline Project manager
2016-10-13