*** SERVAS INTERNATIONAL NEWS BULLETIN

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– SERVAS INTERNATIONAL NEWS BULLETIN –

– news from Servas International Executive Committee (Exco) –

= = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = torsdag den 16 jun 2016 = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = =
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*** **SERVASONLINE STATUS REPORT**

This image taken from a test version of the new Servas International website gives an idea about the future design that will be launched on the Internet domain servas.org. Illustration: Oonoops.

The creation of a new and modernized website is one of the top priorities for the Servas International Executive Committee (SI EXCO). The so called ServasOnLine System project has been prioritized based on decisions that were made at the Servas International General Assemblies 2015, 2012 and 2009.

The ServasOnLine System project consists of the following parts:

● The creation of presence and appearance on the world-wide-web, www=Internet.
● Information and communication platform (ICT platform)
● Members' database application.

The ServasOnLine System has a range of different features. Its search engine enables easy communication between travellers and potential hosts. It should also facilitate for better communication − and interaction − between all people who are part of our global organisation.

The website should be attractive enough to attract new members of all ages, in order to make our network bigger and to give the organisation a needed numeral and economic boost.

Other features in the ServasOnLine System project is to offer member groups and member countries tools to handle the important task of member administration. When this kind of bureaucracy can be done on shorten time and with less money spent Servas volunteers around the world can focus more on peace activities and the promotion of Servas services and values.

In December 2014 the French web design and development company Oonops delivered new versions of specification documents for the ServasOnLine system and so called mock-ups for the new website that will be located on the Servas International Internet domain servas.org.

The selection of the company Oonops was the result of a procurement process for the *design phase* of the ServasOnLine project. The design phase of the ServasOnLine System project was completed during 2015.

The next action was to create a process for the procurement of services for the *development phase* of the project, and to execute the development.

The group of volunteers in the ServasOnLine System Steering Committee Management Team (ServasOnLine System SCMT) that is planning and executing the project were in contact with a number of companies that considered to offer their services based on a so called Request For Proposals (RFP). The RFP presents what services ServasOnLine System SCMT and Exco wanted to be delivered by the company that would be chosen based on criteria like price, quality and ability to work fast and efficient.

The RFP for the ServasOnLine System project was sent to a selected group of companies, recommended by Servas countries representatives around the world at the beginning of 2015, for estimates of costs and timeframes.

ServasOnLine System SCMT and SI Exco identified and selected the company that offered the best combination of price and performance. A contract was signed by Exco and the developing company.

During 2015 and 2016 ServasOnLine System SCMT has defined roles and responsibilities like for example hosting, administration and webmaster for the ServasOnLine System operations. This work is in progress.
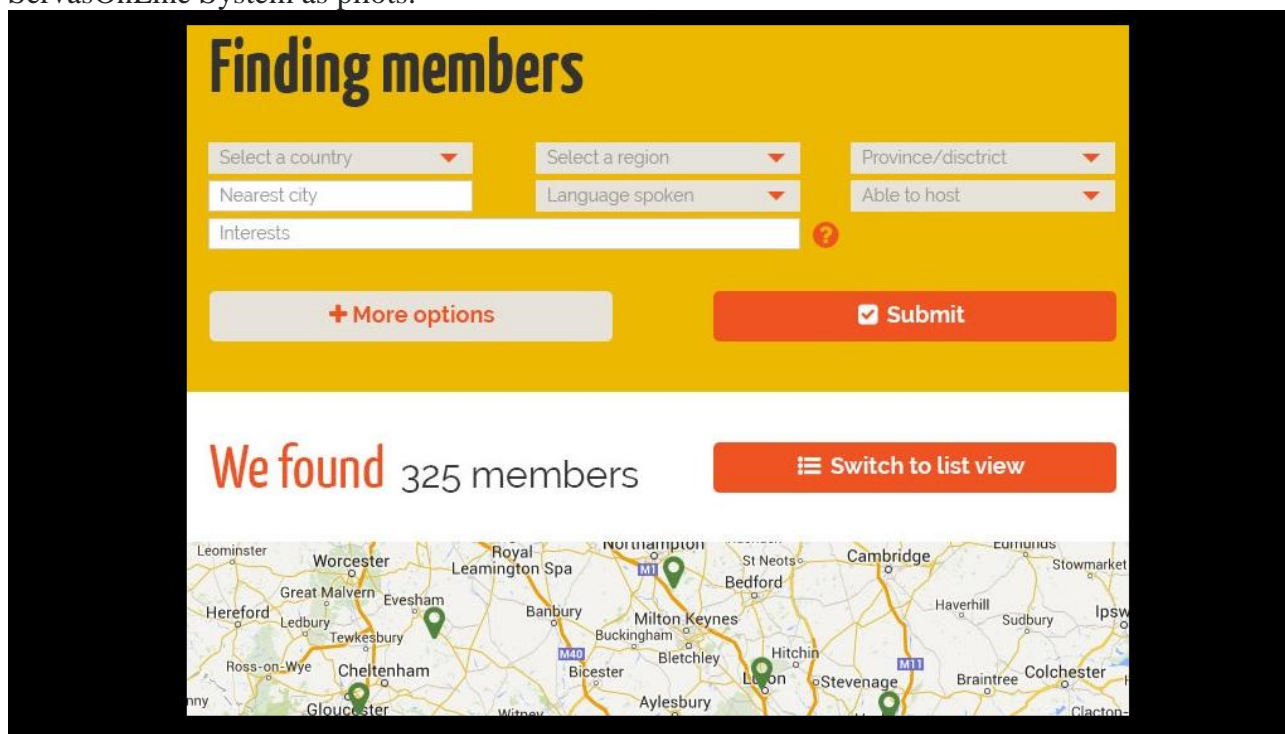
This will also happened in the ServasOnLine System project on short and long term basis:

● Preparation of ServasOnLine deployment in each country (jointly with the national secretaries, which implies a stop in use of their own national members' database).

● SI budgeting ServasOnLine System which will involve the cost for investments 2016-2018, for example the development of additional functions, and the future costs for yearly operations and evolution.

The first test part of the developed website was ready for testing during the summer of 2015.

During the Servas International Conference and General Assembly (SICOGA) in October 2015 in New Zealand a first test version was presented. During SICOGA there was an announce call for individual persons to test the first version of the ServasOnLine System.

Individual Servas groups/Servas countries have during 2015 and 2016 been offered to start using ServasOnLine System as pilots.

This image taken from a test version of the new Servas International website gives an idea about the future design that will be launched on the Internet domain servas.org. Illustration: Oonoops.

Canada, France, Sweden, NZ, Spain, Israel and Germany are among the countries that have expressed interest in volunteering as pilot countries for the implementation of the ServasOnLine System.

An operational version will be launched in June 2016.

SI Exco is convinced that the new website and the ServasOnLine System needs to be finished as soon as possible, in order to prevent loss of existing members and to keep recruitment of new members on an acceptable level.

Bernard Andrieu
ServasOnLine System project manager

Jonny Sågänger
ServasOnLine System project sponsor
President Servas International

*** SERVASONLINE TRANSITION UPDATES

In this text Pablo Colangelo, who is Servas International Host List Coordinator and member of Servas International's global board (Exco), informs about the link between the Dolphin System and the ServasOnline system, and where we are currently positioned and what you as key person in Servas can expect during the next months.

DOLPHIN

Since the ServasOnline system is about to be operative, there will be no need for those countries that use Host Dolphin to manage their host data to keep on using the Host Dolphin Database, assuming that they have already produced their 2016 Host list.

Some User names and Passwords may had changed recently in Dolphin, so in case you are not able to log in, please request a new User Name and Password from the following link

https://dolphin.servas.org/login/password and don't hesitate to get back to Dolphin Team dolphin.team@servas.org in case you may need individual assistance.

Dolphin will still be online and operative to get hosts list in PDF format and to keep key persons lists updated for internal communications. Once the ServasOnline systemis operative, anything related to hosts and travelers will be done using the ServasOnline system.

ServasOnline System

The test version of the system is currently installed into our Servas International server, where you can access on the following link: **http://testsolsys.servas.org/. Please remember that any information added to the test version will be erased when the systems becomes operative.** The system is on the last phase of testing before to become operative in June this year. There were some pilot countries that offered their HL data for testing proposes so we will be aware that everything will be in order before to start the transition period (refer to the previous email sent on Dec 28th 2015). No more need of pilot countries so far for now. Thank you very much to all those offered their country database for this purpose.

By Pablo Colangelo, Host List Coordinator, Servas International

*** WHAT HAS SI EXCO DECIDED - READ THE MINUTES AND FIND OUT

Servas International's global board is called SI Exco and the group has monthly video meetings via Internet. The meetings are minuted, which means that decisions and other important matters are documented. The minutes are published and available for you to read, in order to maximize transparency and openess in a democratic manner.

On this website you find the most recent and previous minutes from the SI Exco meeting:

http://www.servas.org/who-we-are-SI-EXCO.php

On this website you find minutes from previous SI Exco meetings:

http://servas.org/who-we-are-SI-EXCO.php

*** OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUNG SERVAS MEMBERS

It was agreed at the Servas International General Assembly in New Zealand in October 2015 that Servas International and the Servas national groups shall actively work towards a rejuvenation of the organisation. To do this, the global board of Servas (Exco) will appoint a workgroup of at least two people who will have the task of promoting the rejuvenation of Servas. The workgroup will report the results to Exco by the end of 2016, for distribution. They will also report the results and future strategy to the next GA.

Young people who would like to join the workgroup should present their interest in an email to Pablo Colangelo, who is the Servas International Host List Coordinator. Please write to Pablo Colangelo by using this email adress: hostlistcoordinator@servas.org.

By Pablo Colangelo, Host List Coordinator, Servas International

*** SERVAS FOR FAMILIES ON NEW WEBSITE

As a priority the Servas International General Assembly in October 2015 supported the promotion of Servas as a family, child, and youth friendly organization. Exco was encouraged by the General Assembly to create a special interest group for those willing to develop ideas and initiate activities for Servas families worldwide.

 The ServasOnline team, which is currently developing the new Servas International website, will create a section of the website that is dedicated to sharing information about, and helping to implement, action plans for family and youth.

Keep your eyes open for the families and youth in Servas section on the new website.

By Pablo Colangelo, Host List Coordinator, Servas International

*** FACTS ABOUT SERVASONLINE SYSTEM

The ServasOnLine System includes the following parts:
● A public website, including a restricted area accessible to authentified Servas members only.
● An online application for updating contents of the public website. This is called a content management system (CMS).
● An online application for the Members Administration.
There are now a test version of the new website with interactive but basic functionality.
The test website can be visited here:

http://servasonlinesystemvkbhfhhnzu.devcloud.acquia-sites.com

The graphical design has been developed by Oonops in cooperation with the ServasOnLine Steering Committee Management Team (ServasOnLine System SCMT)* and SI Exco during the second half of 2014.
During 2014 a Servas International Image & Design Support Team (SIIDST) created one of the main components for the website: a Servas International logo with this design:

SI Exco has through SIIDST been able to offer member groups and member countries the tools and services needed to use the new logo. The offer has been well received and many groups have made use of the opportunity.
The investment in the new servas.org website will at least partly be financed with the so called ServasOnLine levy, which is money that has been collected from Servas member groups according to a decision that was made at the Servas International General Assembly in Argentina in the year 2009 (SIGA2009). Alternative economic resources for ServasOnLine were allocated in the SI

budget for the period 2012-2015. Economic resources has also been allocated for investments and running costs for 2016-2018.

* The SOLSCMT currently consists of the Servas members Bernard Andrieu (Project Manager), Frédéric Morizot, Pablo Colangelo (SI Host List Administrator) and Jonny Sågänger (SI Exco project sponsor).

Jonny Sågänger
SI Exco ServasOnLine System project sponsor
President Servas International

*** SURF IN AND VISIT SERVAS CURRENT WEBSITE

Servas International (SI) has an internet domain called http://servas.org. This is the domain where the project group ServasOnLine System SCMT and SI EXCO will launch the new website during 2016. On the domain servas.org there's currently a website with basic functionality and weblinks to for example Servas member groups and national groups.

The current website has been created during 2014 mainly by Stefan Fagerström, Jean-Marc Eyot and Matthew Pashkovskiy after the shutdown of the previous website in December 2013.

The old website was shut down by the SI Information and Communication Team (SI ICT), which considered it too old fashioned and virtually impossible to modernize.

Please visit Servas on its Internet domain http://servas.org/

The test version of the new system you find here: **http://testsolsys.servas.org/.** Please remember that any information added to the test version will be erased when the systems becomes operative.

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*** About Servas International News Bulletin

The Servas International News Bulletin (SI News Bulletin) is a newsletter from Servas International Executive Committee (SI Exco), which is the organization's global board.

The SI News Bulletin contains a brief report about current issues and decisions.

Editors & Newsletter Coordinators:
• **Jonny Sågänger** SI President president@servas.org
• **Ann Greenhough** Vice-President vicepresident@servas.org

What would you like to read about in the SI News Bulletin? Please let ut know. Send an email to president@servas.org

Servas key persons around the world are encouraged to forward the newsletter to individual members of the Servas movement.

Feel free to quote this newsletter, but please remember to mention Servas International News Bulletin as source.

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SI Exco 2016-2018

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General Secretary **Penny Pattison** generalsecretary@servas.org
Host List Coordinator **Pablo Colangelo** hostlistcoordinator@servas.org
Peace Secretary **Danielle Serres** peacesecretary@servas.org

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Here you will find Servas International on the world wide web/Internet

Servas International website
http://servas.org/index.php

Servas on Facebook:
Facebookgroup Servas
This public group is for people who are interested in Servas International.You don't have to be a member of Servas. Membership in this group does not make you a member.
Administrators: Alan Stone, Stefan Fagerström, Pablo Colangelo, Jonny Sågänger.
https://www.facebook.com/groups/servas/

Facebookgroup Servas International
This closed group is for people who are a member of Servas. Your membership will be verified.
Administrators: Pablo Colangelo, Arnoud Philippo.
https://www.facebook.com/groups/117649068294944/

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About Servas International
Servas International is an international, non-profit, non-governmental federation of national Servas groups, encompassing an international network of hosts and travelers.
The purpose of the network is to help build world peace, goodwill and understanding by providing opportunities for personal contacts among people of different cultures, backgrounds and nationalities.

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