

FORMAL METHODS EUROPE

Minutes of Meeting No. 2  
held at the  
Commission of the European Communities  
in Brussels on 5 June 1992

Present: Martyn Thomas Praxis plc  
Peter Froome Adelard  
Cliff Jones University of Manchester  
Eugene Durr Cap Gemini Innovation  
Peter Gorm Larsen IFAD  
Jim Woodcock University of Oxford  
Cristoph Blaue CAU-Kiel  
Nico Plat University of Delft  
Kees Pronk University of Delft  
Tim Denvir Lloyd's Register/Translimina  
Alejandro Moya CEC

Apologies: Stephen Bear, Kees Middleburg, John Nichols, Karel de Vlaminck. Robin Bloomfield was represented by Peter Froome.

1 MINUTES

The minutes of meeting no. 1 were accepted subject to minor corrections pointed out by Nico Plat and the addition of the following record of the committee's decision:

The committee agreed to pay out of FME funds an outstanding invoice from the Technical University of Denmark relating to the previous VDM Europe Conference. The sum is in the region of Dkr 20K.

The treasurer is requested to pay this invoice.

Action 2/1:Kees Pronk

2 MATTERS ARISING

Actions:

1/1 Done  
Cliff Jones agreed to put the Call for Papers into FACJ, Martyn Thomas into IEEE SE, Nico Plat into newsgroups.

Action 2/2:Cliff Jones  
Martyn Thomas  
Nico Plat

1/2 Done  
1/3 Done  
1/4 Done  
1/5 In progress, carried forward  
1/6 Carried forward

- 1/7 Done  
Chris Sennett at RSRE/DRA now has the list of formal methods. This is a substantial document which needs maintaining. Someone needs to be found who is willing to do this.
- 1/8 Done  
The charter is revised and is attached to these minutes. It will be used to provide information for the formalities necessary for incorporation of FME.
- 1/9 Done
- 1/10 Carried forward: will be done when the newsletter is ready.
- 1/11 Done
- 1/12 Done

3. OTHER MATTERS ARISING

Cliff Jones proposed that FME should similarly maintain a link with the Z user group. This was agreed. Jim Woodcock agreed to be the liaison person.

4. INDUSTRIAL MEETING

Martyn Thomas reported on the industrial meeting held in Brussels on 20 March 1992. This was successful. Fourteen attended from industrial organisations. All reported on being actively involved in using formal methods. Martyn Thomas agreed to write a report based on notes which Tim Denvir and Alejandro Moya can provide.

Action 2/3: Martyn Thomas  
Tim Denvir  
Alejandro Mayo

Martyn Thomas also agreed to write to the representatives at the industrial meeting asking if they would be willing to take an active part in FME.

Action 2/4: Martyn Thomas

There was a discussion on the form of future industrial meetings, their objectives and format. There is evidence that information meetings on formal methods are popular.

Alejandro Moya said that the CEC might be able to fund speakers' expenses for the next one or two industrial meetings to provide an initial impetus. In his view, however, they should aim to be self-financing.

Martyn Thomas agreed to insert an item in the newsletter inviting people to write to him if they are interested in a future industrial meeting.

Action 2/5: Martyn Thomas

The timing and duration of the next industrial meeting was discussed: joining it to IFIP92 in Madrid or FME93 in Odense were possibilities. It was decided to try having a one-day event joined to IFI92. Martyn Thomas agreed to write to the IFIP92 organisers to discuss this proposal.

Action 2/6: Martyn Thomas

There was a discussion on whether FME should include formal methods for system and/or hardware, eg. chip, design. No definite conclusion was reached.

5. BANK ACCOUNT, INCORPORATION OF FME

The current balance is BF 1.185M + DM44.

The transfer of signatories of the account is being progressed.

To incorporate FME there are needed a "statute and regulations of the society" (FME). Kees Pronk circulated a draft of these (attached). A management board containing at least one Belgium is required, and FME will need a registered address in Belgium.

Kees Pronk agreed to extract the relevant details from the Charter to form the statute and regulations.

Action 2/7:Kees Pronk

After some discussion it was agreed to continue to plan for incorporation in Belgium since Belgian regulations are reputedly easier and adapted to international organisations. Eugene Durr offered CGS Belgium to act as an address. A PO Box was also suggested.

6. FME93

Jim Woodcock has issued the call for papers and proposed the subtitle. It was agreed that members of the programme committee could not submit papers. The question of whether they could submit tutorials or industrial reports was not decided.

Other arrangements had been dealt with by Jim Woodcock and Peter Larsen and a checklist produced (attached).

Peter Larsen displayed a series of mock-ups of proposed posters. The first was chosen, but with the FME logo placed on it.

Suggestions were made for invited speakers, demonstrations, the presence of publishers, sponsorship, what rates/expense payments should be made for invited speakers, etc. An option of a daily conference rate was suggested.

It was agreed that FME will have a business meeting at the conference. CEC will thus be able to pay for travel of FME Committee members to the conference, but not their registration fees.

Programme committee members will also pay their registration fees.

The budget will be reissued based on separate fees for attending the tutorial and conference.

Action 2/8: Jim Woodcock  
Peter Larsen

The treasurer will arrange a float for the FME93 committee to use.

Action 2/9: Kees Pronk

7. NEWSLETTER

Martyn Thomas showed a draft layout and title. He expects to produce the first issue in about 6 weeks (action 1/6).

8. OTHER ACTIVITIES

Cliff Jones reported on the VDM formal semantics review board meeting held in the Hague on 18-20 May. Some £2000 (c 2900 ecu) is needed to fund Peter Larsen to update the formal semantics definition and complete the work.

For legal reasons the CEC cannot provide rapid small grants like this. Alejandro Moya suggested approaching an existing ESPRIT project, or a company, or ESSI for these funds.

It was agreed that FME will underwrite this. A request will be made to the CEC for ultimate funding. The chairman of the VDM BSI panel, Derek Andrews, will be informed of this.

Action 2/10: Peter Larsen  
Martyn Thomas  
Cliff Jones

The major technical decisions of the VDM formal semantics review board were to remove "undefined" from the language and not to include modules in the first draft. Modules would be incorporated in an early revision. To this end a meeting will be held at NPL to discuss a proposal for an informative annex on requirements for module extensions.

To facilitate Cristoph Blaue's travel funding to this meeting, the next meeting of FME will be held in London.

It was agreed that FME will take over the catalogue of Formal Methods. It is not yet clear who will take responsible for this. Martyn Thomas will write to Chris Sennett to obtain the catalogue.

Action 2/11: Martyn Thomas

Martyn Thomas was asked to make the following amendments to the draft Charter.

Page 1 Line 1: change "sponsored" to "supported"  
Page 1 Switch first two sentences  
Page 1 Para 2 line 1: add "and systems" after  
"software"  
Page 2 Line 6: add "and development" after "research"

Page 2 Line 19: add "FME organising" before  
"committee"

Action 2/12: Martyn Thomas

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held in London on 5 October 1992.  
Martyn Thomas agreed to provide a location at Praxis South  
East or seek an alternative, possibly at NPL.

Action 2/13: Martyn Thomas

T. Denvir  
Secretary

11 June 1992

## SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

### Carried Forward:

1/5	Draft differences between VDM and Z	Cliff Jones John Nichols
1/6	Produce Newsletter	Martyn Thomas
1/10	Write to trade journals and newsnets about FME	Martyn Thomas

### New Actions

2/1	Pay invoice from TUD	Kees Pronk
2/2	Send Call for Papers for FME93 to various journals etc.	Cliff Jones Martyn Thomas Nico Plat
2/3	Notes/report on industrial meeting	Martyn Thomas Tim Denvir Alejandro Moya
2/4	Write to people at industrial meeting	Martyn Thomas
2/5	Item on future industrial meetings in newsletter	Martyn Thomas
2/6	Write to IFIP92	Martyn Thomas
2/7	Draft statute and regulations	Kees Pronk
2/8	Reissue FME93 budget	Jim Woodcock Peter Larsen
2/9	Arrange float for FME93	Kees Pronk
2/10	Inform Derek Andrews that FME will underwrite completion of VDM formal semantics	Peter Larsen Martyn Thomas Cliff Jones
2/11	Write to Chris Sennett	Martyn Thomas
2/12	Final amendments to Charter	Martyn Thomas
2/13	Location of next meeting	Martyn Thomas

Tim Denvir	2/3
Cliff Jones	1/5, 2/2, 2/10
Peter Larsen	2/8, 2/10
Alejandro Moya	2/3
John Nichols	1/5
Nico Plat	2/2
Kees Pronk	2/1, 2/7, 2/9
Martyn Thomas	1/6, 1/10, 2/2, 2/3, 2/4, 2/5, 2/6, 2/10, 2/11, 2/12, 2/13
Jim Woodcock	2/8