2014 ICAR Board meeting
(Phone Conference, 29th July from 07h30 to 08h30 CET)
Draft minutes

1. Call to Order & Approval of Agenda

In attendance: Hans Wilmink, Jay Mattison (from 8:20am), Bianca Lind, Niels H. Nielsen, Japie van der Westhuizen, Marco Winters, Neil Petreny, Bevin Harris, Reinhard Reents (item 4c), Brian Wickham and Elena Couto.

Apologies received: Josef Kuçera, Laurent Journaux, Kailvo Ilves and Badi Besbes

Not in attendance: Clara Diaz.

Motion: It was duly moved, seconded and carried that agenda is approved as presented.

2. Approval of the minutes

a. *Board Meeting – June 23rd, 2014*.

Motion: It was duly moved, seconded and carried that minutes of the Board conference call of 23rd June 2014 are approved as presented.

3. Matters Arising

Following several email exchanges involving the ASG and President with J. Mattison the Board agreed to move AQAS review to the next meeting on 28th of August.

4. Acting SG Report (ASG Report)

a. *Priorities*.

The Board asked the ASG to proceed with the priorities as identified in the report.

Following the email sent by the ASG to ICAR members and Group participants there was no feed-back from Members to the Secretariat; some Board members and the ASG received positive comments.

b. *Future ICAR.*

Item i) The position of Interbull Director will not be combined with CE of ICAR. The IB Steering Committee will proceed immediately with the recruitment with close participation of the ICAR President or ASG. The ranking of suitable candidates will be submitted by the Chairman of the Sub-Committee to the ICAR President before SLU make the contract.

It has been agreed to create a small Task Force with participants both from Interbull and ICAR to examine and consider synergies between the operations of the IB Centre, ICAR and S.I. This TF will make recommendations to the ICAR Board and to the IB Steering Committee to achieve greater efficiencies and effectiveness and to avoid overlapping, especially with S.I. which delivers services like Interbull Centre. The IB Steering Committee endorsed the creation of this TF and it is requested to ICAR Board to endorse the proposal and prepare the Terms of Reference in consultation with the IB Steering Committee.

Motion: It was duly moved, seconded and carried that the WG Future ICAR will prepare, in consultation with the Interbull Steering Committee the ToR the Interbull ICAR Task Force for Board endorsements at a future Board meeting.

Item ii) The WG recommended a full time position with a flexible location with preference given to Rome. The Board asked the WG to continue with the job description and finalisation of the recruitment process and to report back to the next Board meeting.

c. *Genoex Proposal from Interbull (Proposal, Response to DNA Working Group).*

Reinhard Reents participated under this item and after an introduction by the ASG made a short presentation supporting the distributed proposal. The request of funding is for 60.000 Euro over three years; there will be a contribution from SLU and from the Interbull Centre as outlined in the proposal. GENOEX implementation has three phases and the funds requested from ICAR are for the first one – implementation of PSE (parentage SNP exchange service). Four WGs from ICAR are involved in the process: Parentage Recording; Genetic Analysis, InterBeef and Breed Associations. A GENOEX PSE Implementation TF involving people from all these groups and IB Steering Committee will be created soon; the ToR will be prepared by the IB Steering Committee and in consultation with the ASG in advance of the next ICAR Board meeting. Board endorsement of the ToR will be sought by email exchange. Reinhard Reents suggested an email consultation instead of waiting the next Board conference call at the end of August. Joao Durr is leaving at the end of August and the IB Sub-Committee would like to speed-up the process before he leaves.

Phase two (GDE, genomic data exchange service) and phase three (CGR, custimized genomic repository service) may be taken up later. For these phases, no funding by ICAR is needed. Phase one, PSE, includes the set up of a platform for genomic data exchange. Standard software will be used for that. Phase two and three will benefit of phase one.

It is suggested to have this financial support from SERVICE-ICAR Srl but to do so there is a need of a S.I. Council to approve the expenditure. The Secretariat is requested to investigate with Italconsultants Srl the best way (grant, expenditure, etc.) of accounting for the investment

Motion: It was duly moved, seconded and carried that the ICAR Board will strongly recommend the S.I. Council to endorse the proposal and find the best way to account for its funding.

d. *Staffing*.

The job descriptions were done; the contracts will be reviewed for presentation to the next conference call end of August.

e. *Risks and Insurance*. Not discussed.

f. *Working Group Chairpersons.*

It is proposed that Pavel Bucek (Czech Republic) replaces Hans Wilmink as chairperson of the WG Dairy Cattle Milk Recording and that Andrew Cromie (Ireland) replaces Brian Wickham as chairperson of the WG InterBeef.

Motion: It was duly moved, seconded and carried that Pavel Bucek will be the new chairperson of the WG Dairy Cattle Milk Recording and Andrew Cromie of the WG InterBeef.

g. Application for Associate Membership.

The Secretariat received two applications for associate members: Deltamune (South Africa) and Felixcan (Spain). The recommendation to the Board is to endorse these applications.

Motion: It was duly moved, seconded and carried that Deltamune and Felixcan are associate members and the Secretariat is requested to proceed with the documentation.

h. Office Accommodation – Rome. Not discussed.

i. Moscow ID Conference (refer to Report from President). Not discussed.

j. Future Meetings – South Africa, 2015.

The Board accepted the new dates proposed for the Workshop and following the advice from Brian Wickham decided not have a face-to-face meeting in South Africa and in Rome (November 2014). Board members will reserve the allocated dates in November and South Africa just in case a face-to-face meeting may be needed.

Regular updates will be given to the Board on the preparation of this Workshop.

k. Future ICAR Board Meetings.

Brian Wickham pointed out that with the monthly conference calls of the Board there is no justification for face-to-face meetings. However, the Board will be flexible on that and the matter will be discussed with the new CE.

Board conference calls will take place monthly last Tuesday.

5. Other Business

Due to some constraints of certain Board members the next conference call will take place on Thursday 28th August at 7h30 CET.

6. Adjourn

The meeting was closed at 8h45.