



2014-07-23

Wim van Haeringen
Chair of the DNA WG
wha@vhladmin.nl

Dear Wim,

This is a response to the memo from the ICAR DNA working group from May 20, 2014, expanded on June 1st, 2014. Initially, your initiative of providing input to the discussion around the Genoex proposal is very welcome and timely. The Interbull Steering Committee (SC) analyzed your concerns and the responses to the points raised in your memo are presented below.

Point 3

The storage of STR profiles is not the focus of the PSE module, just an additional feature to facilitate exchanges among the service users. It is not expected to become a major activity within Genoex, but the SC sees no reason to prevent exchanges of STR profiles for particular animals that may be important ancestors for several populations.

Point 4

Good suggestion. The software of choice (BC Platforms) can handle any arrays of practically any density. Guidelines to users should stimulate uploading the suggested set of SNPs (~1000), but it would probably be interesting to keep a flexible policy for those cases in which less data is available.

Point 5

Service agreements should assure that the data uploaded into Genoex is generated by reliable sources (accredited labs).

Point 6

The filters will have two main objectives: data consistency and cross validation with the Interbull pedigree. A task force will be proposing the specific criteria to be adopted.

Point 7

The SC understands that although ICAR membership is necessarily compulsory, it is not in itself a sufficient requirement to grant access to Genoex. As pointed out during the meetings in Berlin, Interbull does not want to disrupt the existing arrangements at the national level regarding parentage verification and discovery. As a consequence, a policy considering the particularities of different countries needs to be defined for granting access to the Genoex services.



Point 8

This point is to be specified soon, but the total value expected to be generated from fees in the PSE module should only cover operational costs and it is quite low, indicating that the fees will be affordable for any sort of organization.

Point 9

The SC is unaware of the ISAG developments and would therefore appreciate any further information that you may supply.

Finally, in order to guarantee that the business rules for the PSE service do not create conflicts with stakeholders which are not currently among the Interbull service users, a Task Force will be created including representatives of the SC (Sophie Mattalia and Brian van Doormaal) and from the following ICAR groups:

- Parentage recording working group
- DNA working group
- Breed associations working group
- Interbeef working group

The SC of Interbull has appointed Hossein Jorjani as convener of this group.

You should expect a formal invitation to indicate a representative to the above task force shortly.

Sincerely,

Reinhard Reents, Chair
Interbull Steering Committee