

Group Name	Group Type	No.	Priority from Group Report to Berlin Meeting or subsequent decisions	Status
Board / Secretariat	CP	1	Extend scope of ICAR to better cover research developments for new recording devices, traits and systems.	
Board / Secretariat	CP	2	Review groups - link to species, to product (milk, meat, fibre, ...), to traits, to farming system (intensive, low input, climate)	
Board / Secretariat	CP	3	Review communication with members - visibility - more regular report of work going on, priorities, newsletter, promotion of services.	
Board / Secretariat	CP	4	Review internal communications and tools to aid communication between groups, board and secretariate.	
Board / Secretariat	CP	5	Website revision - easier to find - better communication - wiki like - new guideline structure.	
Board / Secretariat	CP	6	Establish WG on climate change (methane) and sustainability	
Board / Secretariat	CP	7	Structure of guidelines - link to species, to product (milk, meat, fibre, ...), to traits, to farming system (intensive, low input, climate)	
Board / Secretariat	CP	8	Build confidence in "back-office" by becoming familiar with key service providers - identifying any vulnerabilities and taking corrective action.	
Board / Secretariat	CP	9	Review and enhance links to international bodies - ISO/ISAG/IDF/OIE/SLU etc	
Board / Secretariat	CP	10	Build on South African workshop to grow reputation in Africa.	
Board / Secretariat	CP	11	Move to next level of detail in business processes.	
Service-ICAR	CP	1	Conduct full review of Certificate of Quality and report results in June 2015	
Service-ICAR	CP	2	Patent watch - develop relationship with EFFAB	
Service-ICAR	CP	3	Seek participation in relevant EU and other country public funded research projects	
Animal Identification	SC	1	Revision of ICAR Guidelines	Done
Animal Identification	SC	2	Set up the system for audit of devices from manufacturers (audits, field sampling).	
Animal Identification	SC	3	Implementation of new test procedures	
Animal Identification	SC	4	Revise and re-issue the Synopsis of ICAR Guidelines on Animal Identification published last in 2010	
Animal Identification	SC	5	Review causes of high rejection rate in plastic ear tag preliminary test	
Interbull	SC	1	World class genomic infrastructure and services for diverse customer needs	
Interbull	SC	2	State-of-the-art classical genetic evaluation services	
Interbull	SC	3	Business operations and image	
Interbull	SC	4	Strategic communications and marketing	
Interbull	SC	5	Network for research collaboration, quality assurance and best practice methods	
Interbull	SC	6	Establish GENOEX PSE Service	

Group Name	Group Type	No.	Priority from Group Report to Berlin Meeting or subsequent decisions	Status
Interbull	SC	7	Extend the pedigree module of the Interbull Data Exchange Area (IDEA) to cover other animal specific information such as specific genes (including genetic defects), availability of genotypes.	
Interbull	SC	8	Create a new module for the distribution of MACE/GMACE results to the Interbull Data Exchange Area (IDEA).	
Interbull	SC	9	Plan for implementation of GMACE in breeds other than Holstein.	
Interbull	SC	10	Routine implementation of the validation method (Mendelian Sample variance estimation) for all breeds and traits.	
Interbull	SC		Extend services to exchange of DNA including sequence data.	
Milk Analysis	SC	1	Reviewing the AQAS[1] proposal and developing a revised proposal that is achievable within the resource limitations of ICAR. The ICAR Board will clarify the parameters within which the proposal must fit.	
Milk Analysis	SC	2	Establishing a system and service for ensuring predictions of milk composition and animal characteristics based on full IR spectral data are as accurate as possible and as widely available as possible. Work to be done in close collaboration with the concerned IDF Project Groups.	
Milk Analysis	SC	3	Review the range of services provided as part of the performance test, and reference laboratory network with a view to improving the worldwide equivalence of milk analysis results provided by ICAR members to farmers.	
Milk Analysis	SC	4	Work with IDF and ISO in order to identify gaps and additional needs with regard to international standard methods for milk sampling, milk analysis and quality assurance and supporting guidance.	
Milk Analysis	SC	5	Extend to standards, testing, certification to mid-infra-red spectral based prediction.	
Recording Devices	SC	1	Carry Over Project	
Recording Devices	SC	2	AMS universal sampler development	
Recording Devices	SC	3	Accuracy Task Force	
Recording Devices	SC	4	Meter Approval webpage refresh (include application details e.g. hi line/low line, S/W rev etc)	
Recording Devices	SC	5	Extend to standards, testing, certification of other devices - pedometers.	
Recording Devices	SC	6	Extend to standards, testing, certification of devices for taking tissue samples.	

Group Name	Group Type	No.	Priority from Group Report to Berlin Meeting or subsequent decisions	Status
Accuracy	TF	1	Develop a scientifically sound philosophical basis for ICAR to use in establishing accuracy guidelines for the collection of animal recording data that is incorporated into information services that support: i. breeding, ii. farm management, iii. traceability/supply chain/quality assurance, iv. health/welfare.	
Accuracy	TF	2	Provide statistical tools and guidelines, for use by ICAR Groups in establishing accuracy guidelines relevant to their particular area of expertise.	
GENOEX PSE	TF	1	Propose business rules for the GENOEX Parentage SNP Exchange service, including: o Service eligibility o User rights and obligations o Data types o Data quality standards o Data usage o Conflict resolution o Service fee calculation criteria	
Interbull and ICAR Operations Task Force	TF	1	Elaborate the business processes of Interbull, ICAR and Service ICAR.	
Interbull and ICAR Operations Task Force	TF	2	Identify common and overlapping business processes.	
Interbull and ICAR Operations Task Force	TF	3	Evaluate options for achieving greater efficiency and effectiveness in common and overlapping business processes.	
Interbull and ICAR Operations Task Force	TF	4	Provide a report with recommendations to the Interbull Steering Committee and the ICAR Board.	
AI and Other Relevant Technologies	WG	1	Update existing recommendations	
AI and Other Relevant Technologies	WG	2	Monitor new developments in straw labelling and/or automatic reading systems	
AI and Other Relevant Technologies	WG	3	Offer on website to SCC a page to give a description of their straw identification	
Animal Data Exchange	WG	1	To complete design and testing of prototype system for data exchange between farm devices and recording organisation databases.	
Animal Data Exchange	WG	2	To develop business model for routine service to facilitate development, testing, and quality assurance of data exchange protocols.	
Animal Data Exchange	WG	3	To launch animal data exchange quality assurance through Service-ICAR.	

Group Name	Group Type	No.	Priority from Group Report to Berlin Meeting or subsequent decisions	Status
Animal Fibre	WG	1	Define the guide of the objective parameters to differentiate Suri and Huacaya fibre;	Done
Animal Fibre	WG	2	Produce the guideline on objectives and criteria of Alpaca selection.	
Animal Fibre	WG	3	Application of the new guideline for cashmere goat fibre production worldwide.	
Animal Fibre	WG	4	Involvement of international bodies for animal fibre analysis and certification.	
Animal Welfare Recording	WG	1	Establish and maintain an inventory of recommendations and standards from international bodies and regulations from international authorities about good practices for animal welfare in the breeding and husbandry of farm animals.	
Animal Welfare Recording	WG	2	From these recommendations and regulations, extract the different traits that need to be recorded on farm.	
Animal Welfare Recording	WG	3	Propose guidelines for the recording of these traits.	
Animal Welfare Recording	WG	4	Identify the already routinely recorded traits by recording organisations as described in ICAR Guidelines that are potentially indicators of welfare traits.	
Animal Welfare Recording	WG	5	Maintain, update, promote and extend universal guidelines for recording of welfare traits worldwide.	
Animal Welfare Recording	WG	6	Conduct and report the results of periodic international surveys on the recording of animal welfare traits or others traits potentially indirect indicators of welfare in ruminants.	
Animal Welfare Recording	WG	7	Facilitate and coordinate international collaboration in research and development on genetic and nongenetic factors affecting animal welfare.	
Breed Association	WG	1	Common Breed Association activities for Cattle, Sheep, Goats, Alpaca, and Buffalo. It is accepted that work is likely to proceed more rapidly for cattle than the other species.	
Breed Association	WG	2	Review the activities of Breed Associations worldwide and those of ICAR, including those of its Groups, and identify the areas of common interest.	
Breed Association	WG	3	Evaluate options and recommend a mechanism for ensuring the combined capabilities of Breed Associations & ICAR are used to deliver mutual benefits in the areas of common interest: pedigree recording, animal identification, conformation recording, performance recording, genetic evaluation and international collaboration	
Conformation Recording	WG	1	To check with diary breed federations if recommendations of ICAR suit them.	
Conformation Recording	WG	2	Organize a meeting with beef organisation to set up ICAR recommendations on beef conformation traits. Meeting has been held in September 2014.	
Conformation Recording	WG	3	Start a survey among goat organisations on conformation scoring.	
Conformation Recording	WG	4	Make conformation standards appropriate to all breeds.	

Group Name	Group Type	No.	Priority from Group Report to Berlin Meeting or subsequent decisions	Status
Dairy Cattle Milk Recording	WG	1	Preparation of the draft ICAR guidelines on dairy cattle milk recording.	
Dairy Cattle Milk Recording	WG	2	Implementation of new technologies and new milk-recording methods.	
Dairy Cattle Milk Recording	WG	3	Survey on global milk-recording practices and management.	
Dairy Cattle Milk Recording	WG	4	Have a tech. meeting in Poland. Technical session III: Recording of milk, meat and fibre performance in sheep, goats and cattle.	
Developing Countries	WG	1	Organize the symposium on animal identification, traceability and performance recording in Africa, 13 to 15 April 2015, in Pretoria, South Africa.	
Developing Countries	WG	2	Analyze the data of the Monkey Survey on the status of animal identification, traceability and performance recording in DC, and publish the results;	
Developing Countries	WG	3	Produce a synthetic document with simplified modalities for Dairy production recording (section 2 of ICAR guidelines)	
Developing Countries	WG	4	Write short communications on identification and recording in the respective regions of the WG members, for publication in the proceedings of Biennial Sessions	
Developing Countries	WG	5	Work towards forming a regional network and promote ICAR activities in the respective region of WG members.	
Functional Traits	WG	1	Update udder health guidelines (Cole)	
Functional Traits	WG	2	Publication of ICAR survey on functional traits and health key (Stock)	
Functional Traits	WG	3	Foot and leg problems (meetings with claw health experts in Berlin on 20th May 2014 and in Vienna on 22/23rd October 2014) - aim: harmonized definitions of claw disorders / foot and leg conditions in 2015 (Egger-Danner)	
Functional Traits	WG	4	Review article for Animal about presentation of ICAR WGFT at joint session of EAAP/Interbull on "Overview of new traits and phenotyping strategies in dairy cattle with a focus on functional traits" (in press).	Done
Genetic Analysis	WG	1	Maintain guidelines for DNA genotyping, aimed at parentage verification.	
Genetic Analysis	WG	2	Send out questionnaire for labs to be accredited.	
Genetic Analysis	WG	3	Follow developments in the field of DNA typing.	
Genetic Analysis	WG	4	Genetic diseases	
Goat Performance Recording	WG	1	Revision of the guidelines for goat milk recording.	Done
Goat Performance Recording	WG	2	Enlarge on-line survey with new tables on milk composition and enhance members' interest to the on-line survey.	
Goat Performance Recording	WG	3	Develop on-line survey on goat meat recording.	
Goat Performance Recording	WG	4	Standards for non-milking traits in goats	
Interbeef	WG	1	Development of services for international evaluations of beef breeds and traits.	

Group Name	Group Type	No.	Priority from Group Report to Berlin Meeting or subsequent decisions	Status
Interbeef	WG	2	Continue research on method development for international beef evaluations.	
Interbeef	WG	3	Collaboration to facilitate use of genomic data in national and international beef evaluations.	
Interbeef	WG	4	Extend to other breeds - Angus & Hereford in addition to Simmental, Charolais and Limousin.	
Interbeef	WG	5	Make evaluations routine.	
Interbeef	WG	6	Include genomics in Interbeef developments.	
Parentage Recording	WG	1	Guidelines for an accreditation for applying the results of genotype identification.	
Parentage Recording	WG	2	Good practices guideline for natural service, liaising with AI WG	
Parentage Recording	WG	3	Guidelines as to acceptable level of errors in a population and what should be done about high occurrence of errors	
Parentage Recording	WG	4	Define the percentages of herds and animals that should be parentage checked	
Parentage Recording	WG	5	Define possible alternatives for optimal Parentage Recording.	
Parentage Recording	WG	6	Produce optimal parentage recording guidelines	
Parentage Recording	WG	7	Ensure that Parentage Recording is covered for all species	
Parentage Recording	WG	8	Include parentage discovery and microsatellite imputation from SNPs as a guideline, once they are fully agreed.	
Parentage Recording	WG	9	Extend parentage recording to all species and all mating systems	
Performance Recording of Dairy Sheep	WG	1	Encourage the group to participate more actively to the sessions.	
Performance Recording of Dairy Sheep	WG	2	Enhance members' interest to the yearly enquiry	
Performance Recording of Dairy Sheep	WG	3	Organize a session dedicated to small ruminants at every biennial session and maintain incentive to a good participation	
Performance Recording of Dairy Sheep	WG	4	Update the guidelines when necessary	
Performance Recording of Dairy Sheep	WG	5	Promote simplification of milk recording to increase its impact in dairy sheep population	