
Chief Executive Report to ICAR Board

April 28, 2015



ICAR Chief Executive Report for ICAR Board Meeting 20:00 CET, Tuesday 28th April 2015.

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1 Priorities

1.1 Our priorities are currently:

- Appointment of New Chairs; SC Rec Devices, ID Devices, Animal Care
- Supporting Organisers of Krakow
- CE identifying Issues of Strategic Importance.*
- Keeping members and stakeholders informed.

*CE's initial focus will be on:

- Key Business Processes – S-ICAR, Contracts labs, Legal, Insurance
- SCs WGs – New Chairs and Review of Chairs Working model – key chairs forum
- Web/IT – upgrade summer 2015
- Key Organisations – Foster strategic alliances /agreements; IDF; ISO; EFFAB, COPACOGCECA, DG SANCO, etc.

1.2 Priorities from November 2014 Board Meeting

The following table contains the identified priorities from the Nov. '14 Board Meeting.

Table 1. Priorities as set by November 2014 ICAR Board

Group Name	Group Type	No.	Priority from November Meeting of ICAR Board
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, and promotion of services.
Board / Secretariat	CP	4	Review internal communications and tools to aid communication between groups, board and secretariat.
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.

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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.

These priorities have been used to help formulate the budgets and ICAR and Service-ICAR for 2015.

2 Interbull update

The President (Hans Wilmink) and (CE Martin Burke) have a scheduled conference call with Reinhard Reents the Chairperson of the Interbull Steering Committee on Mon 27th April as a routine commitment in advance of each ICAR Board meeting. The discussion to include:

- An update on second round recruitment of the new Interbull Centre Director.
- Progress by the Genoex PSE Task Force.

3 Service-ICAR

The next meeting of Service-ICAR Board is scheduled for Tues 19th May 2015 @ 2000hrs by teleconference. Some S-ICAR items for IVCAR Board update.

3.1 Communications

Newsletter – next issue is underway. In process of pulling material together from SC/WGs. This month will also feature coverage on a very good ID symposium held in South Africa between 14-16th April. (See more on that event below). Our plan is to send it out the first week of May and it will of course also promote our ICAR conference in Krakow. This Newsletter is key to maintaining ICAR's profile.

3.2 ID Devices Test Laboratories

3.2.1. CE and President are visiting the German Lab at DLG outside Frankfurt on May 01st and the following week have scheduled to visit the Wageningen Lab on Fri 08th May.

3.2.1. The ID Devices SC have received an application from a Canadian laboratory (SAIT Polytechnic in Calgary Canada, Contact: Mr Bob Davies) to become an S-ICAR ID test lab. They have recently received their ISO accreditation. From discussions between Kaivo and Martin we recommend a final inspection visit from a few selected ICAR members to ratify their suitability to become an ID Test Laboratory. If Board agrees we will proceed with organising that visit with the help of the ID SC and our North American members.

4 Financial

4.1 Investments

Since the last ICAR Board meeting of 31st March, the broker ("Finanzo e Futuro") has come back and agreed to release the funds. On recommendations of the last ICAR Board meeting of 31st March, the ICAR office has proceeded in any case to instruct our lawyer to document our history of communication and content on this matter and send on with a covering letter to the broker. This will

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also be lodged with the notary office in Rome as a matter of record. A further verbal update will be provided to the meeting.

5 Legal

5.1 Report from Agathemis

Proxy documents with President and CE – appointment has been rescheduled with Lawyer and Notary for May 20th 2015 where President will authorise CE as an authorised proxy signee for up to limit of €25,000 for both ICAR and S-ICAR.

5.2 Standard Laboratory contracts

New Version Standard Contracts were received in early April and after review by ICAR staff were deemed to be excessively complex – Jussi and Martin in process of editing with feedback to lawyer to change as per our edits. Once these edits are done and received back to use, we will circulate for comment.

6 Board Matters, Statutes and By-laws

6.1 Statutes and By-Laws

Marked up versions of the two by-laws below are presented here for the board. If sanctioned by the Board the unmarked version will be sent to the members in first week of May

Appendix A: “Rules of Procedure of the general Assembly” (By-Law I)

Appendix B: “Procedure for updating and approval of the international agreement on identification, recording and evaluation in animal production” (By-Law II)

6.2 Non Statute Documents update

Milan has updated the following introduction section to the guidelines;

Appendix C: Introduction & Agreement on Recording Practices (formerly “international” agreement - see page 1 to page 4 of Guidelines)

Milan has also worked on an internal non statutory document entitled “Cooperation with international organisations”. The purpose of this documents is to outline the other key international organisations that ICAR should collaborate with and will be used by the office to target and prioritise which International Orgs we need to forge relations with.

6.3 Board Members Election

Please be advised that two (2) positions in the ICAR Board have to be renewed and their election will be held during the next ICAR General Assembly in Krakow, Poland (10th June, 2015), to replace Badi Besbes and Clara Díaz.*

Candidates for positions to the Board have to provide a short CV and a supporting letter signed by a Full ICAR Member Organization. These documents must be sent by email to elena@icar.org by 15th May 2015. Board position description is available on ICAR site at http://www.icar.org/pages/job_offers.htm

*Further modified suggested Selection Process (for discussion by Board);

- President appoints Selection Committee – proposal from last ICAR Board meeting on 31st March were; Jay Mattison or Kaivo Ilves, with Bianca Lind and Nils Henning – yet to be

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agreed) – **When?**: This should be done before May 01st 2015, if possible at this board meeting.

- Selection Committee reviews applications and summarises the list of those candidates that qualify for Board consideration. **When?** : As deadline for application is May 15th then we should target completion of this list by May 20th.
- President may want to discuss suitability of application with various candidates ahead of GA vote. **When?** : Between May 20th and vote at GA in Krakow June 10th.
- Present list of candidates for vote in at GA in Krakow June 10th.

7 Groups Report

7.1 Chairs of Groups Workshop

Mon June 08th (PM) Chairs Workshop – one clear outcome of that Chairs workshop is to provide us with a governing structure for the key services ICAR provides to members under Service-ICAR. Martin Burke and Brian Wickham scheduled planning meeting on Apr 24th – verbal update and follow up email to Board outlining approach/structure of that meeting.

7.2 Certificate of Quality

Two recommendations for Certificate of Quality;

7.2.1 Association Wallonne de l'élevage a.s.b.l., Belgium (See **Appendix D**)

7.2.2 TINE SA Norway (See **Appendix E**)

7.3 Milk Analysis SC

Gavin Scott & Brian met in Namur April 12th - conference call in May with Gavin, Brian & Martin to review make up of group and particularly the role of Silvia Orlandini who is now working as a consultant as opposed to a member. With a good knowledge base, we will look at ways of retaining her services to ensure MASC Ring test comes back in under S-ICAR wing.

7.4 Recording Devices SC

New Chair update; This has been a very difficult decision with two very good candidates in Clement Allain and Steven Sievert. MB/BW have reviewed and ranked the CVs & applications. Both are technically well qualified and have both been major contributors to the ICAR Recording Devices SC in the last years. Because of his vast field experience and manufacturer exposure we are recommending to the Board to appoint Steven Sievert to the new position.

7.5 Animal Welfare Recording WG

New Chair – previous candidate selection was not been successful. Further consideration is being given to other candidates - further verbal update will be given at the Board.

7.6 Genetic Analysis WG / Parentage Recording WG

The board previously ratified expanding the scope of the Genetic Analysis WG group to certify to genetic trait level. Brian Wickham has since amended the Terms of Reference and this draft has been reviewed by the WG. The WG is one for concern as all members are very much tied up in their own

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business/labs. It's a case of getting some new blood into the WG to help with tasks – Martin & Brian to review with Wim.

7.7 ID Devices SC

New Chair: Brian W sent out request to SC seeking suitable applicants. Important position in that the ID SC is key to S-ICAR. The role requires both technical and management skillset. Will update in Krakow.

Martin and Kaivo met with Mfrs in SA – very positive meeting and ensured them we will be looking to find Kaivo's replacement asap, and that we will continue to work closely with them – further meetings scheduled for Krakow.

8 Membership

8.1 DAC China

A Chinese contact from Charl, a Prof Chen is helping us with getting answers from Dairy Association of China – so we've reopened the file and further emails sent from Prof Chen, await response.

8.2 ABRI/AGBU – Australia

Through Andrew Cromie (Interbeef Chair) we have some very solid enquiries from Alex Mc Donald and Agricultural Business Research Institute (ABRI) – in process of working out full member fees. Will meet with them in Krakow.

8.3 Sub Saharan AFRICA

As a result of a very positive ID symposium in RSA last week we should capitalize and look to recruit and encourage ICAR participation now. (see 9.1 for more)

9 Conference/Workshops

9.1 FAO/ICAR Identification Workshop – 14th to 16th April in South Africa

RSA ID symposium went very well. Up to now I would say the Africans (with the exception of SA) had not really heard of or understood ICAR and its role. After last week I think we have taken the first steps to bridge that gap, we were well received. (see my summary to FAO attached ; **Appendix F**). We should be able to capitalise on the symposium now and grow our ICAR membership in Africa, which has been a real blackspot for us. I would like to make special mention to both Elena and Cesare whose support to Badi in making this a success was invaluable.

9.2 Technical Meeting - Krakow, May 2015

Danuta Radzio and local committee in regular teleconference with Rome, last meeting 23rd April, proceeding according to the agreed timetable, next meeting Apr 23rd.

President's Award; One recommendation from John Cole - member of FT-WG that ICAR make a special award to Christa Egger-Danner for the leadership she has provided in developing standards for foot health. Both Brian and I support this. She has done great work in the new Claw Atlas. We recommend that the Board approves Claw Atlas to be incorporated into ICAR Guidelines in Krakow.

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9.3 Technical Meeting 2016 Chile

Martin Burke with Elena and Cesare held teleconference with Jorge Lama, Cooprinsem, Chile on Mar 18th and we agreed Initial Program for 24- 28th October 2016 – Jorge will put it up on the website <http://www.icar2016.cl> prior to Krakow. A new skype conference will take place before Krakow in order to finalise the draft programme and presentation/invitation during the General Assembly.

9.4 Technical Meeting 2017 and 2018

Martin Burke and Marco Winters and agreed UK for 2017 – will be in in Edinburgh, likely start of June – dates to be confirmed by Marco and Mike Coffey ahead of Krakow

Martin Burke had a meeting with Kamlesh Trivedi in SA at ID symposium re India 2018. Kamlesh was little concerned about finding suitable hotel in his town may have to move it to larger city. Overall he is positive and will review with us over next few months. Other option might be to run ICAR 2018 off the back of the World Genetics Congress in NZ... TBD

An approach has been made to FEAGAS Spain with a view to 2019.

10 Future ICAR Board Meetings

10.1 Meeting Schedule

The following table is the updated schedule of meetings for the ICAR Board and the Council of Service ICAR. Please note 2000hrs for all meetings (other than those at conferences). Meetings in Krakow for ICAR Board:

- 1) Monday 8th June
 - a) 9:00 – 12:00 ICAR Board closed meeting – will include last hour for InterBull
 - b) 13:00 – 17:00 Strategy Development with full ICAR Board and Chairpersons of ICAR Groups
- 2) Wednesday June 10th, 10:00 to 10:30 – Post AGM Board meeting.

Table 2. Future Meetings.

Org'n	Meeti ng	Date	Start-finish (CET)	Venue	Notes
Service ICAR	Board	Tuesday 19/05/2015	20:00 - 21:00	Telephone Conference	
ICAR	Board	Monday 8/06/2015	8:00-12:00	Krakow	Inc. Interbull
ICAR	Board/ Group Chairs	Monday 8/6/2015	13:00 - 17:00	Krakow	Strategic planning discussion.
ICAR	Board	Wednesday 10/06/2015	10:00-10:30	Krakow	Post AGM/EGM Meeting

Martin Burke, Chief Executive,

Date 23rd April 2015.