ICAR Board meeting
(Conference call 20th October 2015)
From 20:00 to 21:00

Minutes EC/MB

1. Call to Order & Approval of Agenda

In attendance: Hans Wilmink, Jay Mattison, Kaivo Ilves, Marco Winters, Laurent Journaux, Bevin Harris, Japie van der Westhuizen, Jorge Lama, and Niels H. Nielsen; Josef Kuçera (Inspector); staff: Martin Burke, Milan Zjalic, Charl Hunlun, Juhani Maki-Hokkonen, Cesare Mosconi and Elena Couto.

Apologies: Neil Petreny, Bianca Lind, Silvia Orlandini and Brian Wickham.

Welcome by the President who thanks all members and staff and specially Jay Mattison for chairing the previous meetings during his absence. Martin Burke also thanks Jay for his support during this period.

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

2. Approval of the minutes

Motion: It was duly moved, seconded and carried that the minutes of the Board of 29th September 2015 are approved as presented.

3. Matters arising

No matters arising since last meeting.

4. CE Report

4.1 Priorities

The priorities until December 2015 are those described in the CE report and Martin Burke informed about the state of the art.

4.2 Financial

The CE presented the YTD up to 30th September, income statement, balance and financial notes. According to this information, the forecast presented indicates that 2015 will be in line with the approved budget. In any case the accounts will be reviewed and discussed during the face to face meeting in November in consideration also of the SERVICE-ICAR Srl situation.

4.3 Legal

Martin Burke informed that the Deutsche Bank accepted all the documentation presented and has updated its records, while the broker informed today Elena Couto that the investment has been sold.

Before the end of 2015 the Secretariat will arrange the moving of the funds from DBI to BNL-BNP Paribas.

4.4 Membership / Membership process overhaul

New member applications

The CE presented the application for full membership received from the *Sistema Nacional Información Ganadera* (SNIG), a department from the Ministry of Agriculture of Uruguay. Jorge Lama explained the SNIG developed in the past few years a good programme for traceability of dairy cattle.

Motion: It was duly moved, seconded and carried that SNIG is accepted as full member of ICAR.

Sub-Saharan Africa

Since last meeting there is no update about a Workshop to organise jointly with FAO. Charl Hunlun and Elena Couto are in contact with Badi Besbes who is now in Nairobi and a skype conference is scheduled for the next week.

Membership process review (Global Reach)

The CE informed about the reviewing process of membership and implications on the web site, with the CoQ and the Global Reach proposal to replace the Developing Countries WG. Each one of these items will be presented later separately.

4.5 International Strategic Alliances

Martin Burke gave an update about the contacts with the different international organisations since last meeting.

- ISO Ken Evers and Juhani Maki-Hokkonen organised a SC conference call and with ISO in the last quarter for ID matters. Silvia Orlandini is checking with Harrie van Bijgaart the potential role for ICAR as certification for MIR analysers.
- ISAG 2017 committee (Ireland is venue) met on 9th October the CE attended and we will help with communications. Board will be updated as required.
- IDF Martin Burke and Brian Wickham had a conference call with the chair of the Functional Traits, Christa Egger-Danner, to discuss her WG adopting the Care aspects. The discussion is still ongoing.
- DG SANCO Martin Burke sent an email to Jan Venneman, who is in the Board of ATF, requesting ICAR recognition. ICAR received an invitation to attend the next ATF Seminar in Brussels on 17th November.
- EFFAB – ICAR received the link to the page information and will be included with release of ICAR web 1in Nov.

4.6 Web / IT Upgrade

The CE informed that the Secretariat met the schedule for the migration of all content to WordPress, and the new membership data entry.

The new CMS homepage "skins" will be circulated to the Board by the end of October for review and further release in the November meeting.

4.7 ICAR Brand

Martin Burke informed that following the approval by the Board of the MS2 the MS3 "Understand phase" is well underway. A first meeting took place on 5th and 6th October with J. Mogendorf and some staff (Martin Burke, Cesare Mosconi and Elena Couto). The rest of interviews will take place throughout the rest of October and early November with some 18 stakeholders from Board, Chairs of Groups, full and associate members and some international partners.

The MS3 report will summarise the findings and make recommendations and suggestions. This report will be presented at the next Board meeting in Rome. To avoid a waste of time in long discussions during the Board meeting it was proposed to pre-circulate for report comment to the Steering Committee beforehand. The CE will invite J. Mogendorf to attend part of the Board meeting.

Hans Wilmink thanked all involved in this process.

4.8 Groups reports

SC and WG communications

Update given by BW. See schedule of calls with SC/WG/TF.

Milk Analysis SC

Based on basic agreement for RFID between ISO and ICAR – our proposal is to initiate a similar ISO – ICAR agreement for the validation or certification of analyzers. As per ISO 8196-3. Opportunity for ICAR there. L. Journaux good thing to have this type of standardization and certification. H. Wilmink use of full Spectra to calibrate the equipment is the way to go but will take long time. It will move on but not before 3-5 years to reach the first steps - all agreed it would be long project. Lay-out presented is a good approach.

Neils H. Nielsen, other companies looking in Spectra? OptiMir is EU but in Denmark looks also to Spectra; what about Australia, Canada, US? Important ICAR looks to global aspects. M. Burke informed that ring test is more global, now only 20 members, look to enlarge number of participants. H. Wilmink said the full Spectra is probably the way to go but will take some time to be reality. L. Journaux informed in France some are turning to full Spectra now. J. Mattison and H. Wilmink said there will be some hurdles around intellectual property importance.

It was agreed that CE and Silvia Orlandini would start initial discussions with ISO and IDF through Harrie van den Bijaart and update Board with progress there.

Recording and Sampling Devices SC

The SC is working on device lifetime “approvals” moving to ICAR Certification with annual review, and in a new web site in design for certified devices to include more detailed information.

Animal Identification SC

M. Burke, K. Evers and J. Maki-Hokkonen had a conference call for the preparation of the whole SC conference on 16th October. The main issues discussed by the SC were on Device Change Notice; ISO WG3 quarterly communication, and SAIT (Canada) as new laboratory which will be audited following the closed ring test. The CE will schedule a visit to CETIM in France as he did with DLG e.V. in Germany and IMA-Wageningen in the Netherlands in May.

<u>Interbull SC</u>

Following the visit of M. Burke and B. Wickham to Uppsala in October, it was agreed to move forward with the GenoEx by forming the new PSE Implementation Task Force. The CE proposed the Board to endorse the Terms of Reference as proposed in annex 6.

Motion: It was duly moved, seconded and carried that the ToR for the TF PSE Implementation are approved as presented.

So in summary three Task Forces ratified by Board on 20/10**;**

- **ICAR/Interbull Task Force**: Hans, Martin (Chair), Marco, Reinhard, Toine (Secretary) + A N Other likely from the Interbull SC

- **Parental Snip Exchange Implementation Task Force (PSE_ITF):** Related Chairs of related SCs with Toine and Convenor and Brian Van Dormaal as sec – Elena to be liaison from S-ICAR business/admin.

- **Expert Group –** technical group answering to PSE-ITF – Cahir and members of which to be decided by PSE-ITF

For the Task Force ICAR/Interbull it was agreed that H. Wilmink, R. Reents and M. Burke would work on the make up of this TF and report back during the meeting of November.

<u>Other WGs/ Task Forces updates</u>

Parentage Recording and Genetic Analysis WGs
The merge was discussed with S. Harding who gave good feedback. B. Wickham will review the ToR and take input from other groups to build up consensus. Also the prospect of a new Genomics WG with a scope from the taking of the genetic tissue sample though to laboratory test and genotype output is also being reviewed - the process is still ongoing.

Global Reach
This WG will replace the existing Developing Countries WG. The scope will be to extend our guidelines and support to those territories which have smaller/different farm input systems. This WG will focus on vast different systems and the idea is to have a sort of community group with members from that particular area who may share their knowledge. N.H. Nielsen asked about the funding of this Group, and M. Burke explained this will be a next step, to establish a pilot budget for 2016. The Board was requested to endorse the principles of the ToR as presented in annex 7.

Motion: It was duly moved, seconded and carried that the ToR for the Global Reach WG are approved as presented.

Animal Care WG
There is no news since the last meeting. Discussions are ongoing with Care experts to further advance on ToR and define exactly what we require to join the Functional Traits WG.

Certificate of Quality
The WG has been working on revising the CoQ service and the main changes are presented in the CE report and refer to a simplification of the fee structure (including the auditor's fee) and to move from 3 years to 5 years cycle of re-certification with a mid term review in year 2 or 3.

This is a major policy change which will require a full standard operating procedure to be sanctioned by the Board at the November meeting. The proposal is to start with some pilot auditing in late 2015 with a plan to release in January 2016.

Feed and Gas WG

Consultation process is now completed and the structure finalised for Board approval as presented in annex 8.

Motion: It was duly moved, seconded and carried that the ToR and structure of Feed and Gas WG are approved as presented.

Mare and Donkey mil recording

This proposal to set up a TF in ICAR to prepare milk recording guidelines came from a teacher of the Faculty of Biotechnology, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia (details in annex 9).

The Board has no expertise in this area, and ICAR does not believe there is sufficient demand in world for mare's milk to warrant the resource and focus to support the group. While the principle is in line with the Strategic Plan (increase new members and species) the ICAR Board has none or limited knowledge about such a market - following discussion it was decided to not endorse for now but subject to further information postpone the decision to the meeting in November.

4.9 Publications / Guidelines approval

The changes proposed by the Parentage Recording WG have been submitted through web site to the Members for comments by 9th November. The Secretariat will present the final document at the meeting of the Board in November for approval.

4.10 Future ICAR Board meetings

The schedule of the next meetings is accepted as presented in the CE report. Next ICAR Board will be a face to face meeting in Rome on Friday 20th November at 9h00 CET.

5. Any other business

N.H. Neilsen informed that Ole K. Hansen will retire in December and RYK is preparing a celebration and would like to invite ICAR CE to attend. (Date is Fri 27th November in Aarhus). The CE gratefully accepted on behalf of ICAR to mark Ole's retirement and his contributions over the years.

6. Adjourn

The meeting was closed on at 21h15.