
Chief Executive Report to ICAR Board

February 23, 2016



**ICAR Chief Executive Report for ICAR Board Meeting
20:00 – 21:00 CET, Tuesday February 23rd 2016.**

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12 February 2016

Table of Contents

1	PRIORITIES.....	2
2.	FINANCIALS 2015 AND 2016	2
3.	ICAR BRAND ACTION PLAN 2016	2
4.	MEMBERSHIP	3
5.	GROUPS REPORT.....	4
6.	ICAR 2018 & 2019 HOST SELECTIONS/OPTIONS	8
7.	FUTURE ICAR / S. ICAR BOARD MEETINGS	8

February 23, 2016

1 Priorities

1.1 CE and ICAR Team 2016 priorities (as set Dec 2015) are:

- GenoEx – PSE Implementation Task Force
- ICAR & Interbull Task Force / synergies
- The ICAR “Brand” Project incl. Web/IT Version 2 incl. guidelines overhaul
- Membership – Global Reach/growth
- Building Bridges with Key Organisations – Foster strategic alliances /agreements; IDF; ISO; EFFAB, DG SANCO, ASAD etc.
- Building ICAR’s QMS in line ISO 17065 – ICAR ISO accreditation for S-ICAR as a Certification Body (CB) review further in 2016.

2 Financial 2015 and 2016

2.1 2015

ACTION Item from 26th January 2016 Board: Full Financial Reports for 2015 in Standard Formats (as set out and agreed by Financial Committee) to be circulated in 29th March 2016 ICAR Board meeting.

2.2 ICAR Financial Audit 2015

ICAR and Service ICAR Financial Inspection Audits scheduled for 26th February 2016, by Josef Kucera.

2.3 2016

ACTION Item from 26th January 2016 Board: Review options of sharing some of **Brand** Project costs between ICAR and Service ICAR cost centres in 2016 Budget - Full Financial Forecast Reports for 2016 in Standard Formats (as set out and agreed by Financial Committee) to be circulated in 29th March 2016 ICAR Board meeting.

3 Brand Project Action Plan

3.1 Tender Process;

Following on from the 26th January Board approval to execute the Brand Action Plan 2016, the CE and Joost Mogendorff are to meet with two prospective companies on 18th February 2016 in Utrecht Netherlands. The two companies (1. VA Design and 2. Volta) were given the exact same Design brief and were asked to present their costed proposals for delivering the components of ICARs Brand Action Plan 2016. After this meeting the

February 23, 2016

CE and Joost will make recommendations to the “Schiphol” Steering Group before deciding. CE will give verbal update to the Board on the 18th February meetings.

3.2 **ICAR Vision;**

Martin and Joost, as part of the ICAR Story will develop and propose some Vision statements that ICAR can adopt. In our Interbull Strategy meetings in Verona we spent some time going over our ideas about one Brand, one family etc. All positively received. So much so that in the meeting we agreed that the Interbull SC would row in under the one umbrella "Vision Statement" that ICAR will come up withand I promised we would consult with them (and other 3 permanent ICAR SC's) rather than create their own. This will be a part of the ICAR fundament, where the Vision, Mission and Descriptor/Slogan should all be on "same page". Again proposal will be vetted by the “Schiphol” Group before submission to the ICAR Board.

4 Membership update

4.1 **New Members**

One New Member (Full) application received since last Board meeting, from;

Country: IRAN

Company: Ariasepehr – see **Appendix 1** Application Details IRAN Ariasepehr.

Contact: Mehdi Babaei, CEO & Chairman of the Board

Website: <http://www.ariasepehr.com>

4.2 **Fees 2016**

The Full Members’ Fee requests/invoices to be sent out to all Full Members February 19th 2016, based on updated data (where newly received) or existing data (if no update received).

The Associate Members requests were sent out February 3rd 2016. To date two Associate members have informed ICAR they will not renew in 2016, both Canadian.;

BIXCO Canada The Beef InfoXchange System (BIXS) (joined July '15!)

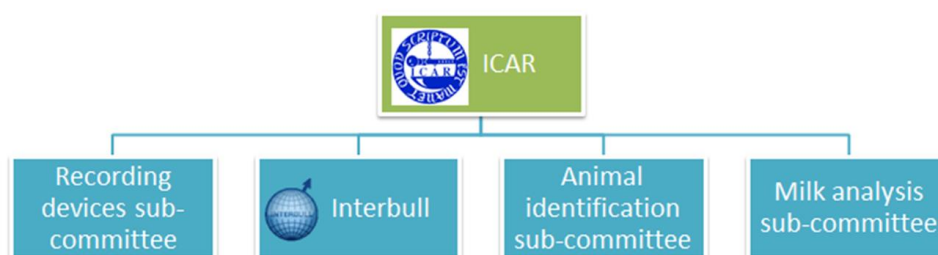
World Ayrshire Federation Canada

CE will personally call each to ascertain reasons for not renewing and update Board verbally

February 23, 2016

5 Groups Update / Report

Reports from ICAR's 4 Permanent Sub Committees:



5.1 Milk Analysis SC

ICAR Proficiency Testing (PT): S-ICAR have contracted Actalia to conduct ICAR PTs for 2016. Contracts drawn up and signed between S-ICAR and Actalia.

ICAR & European Milk Recording (EMR) – Joint Project application to FTI Horizon 2020. (The Fast Track to Innovation (FTI) pilot is a fully-bottom-up measure in Horizon 2020 to promote close-to-the-market innovation activities).

For MIR, the problem is that an algorithm built on a specific MIR spectrometer cannot be transposed on another apparatus even if same model and same brand in the same lab. Algorithms are thus specific to each single MIR apparatus.

EMR (www.milkrecording.eu) was created in the continuation of OptiMIR. The objective is to deliver a marketable standardisation service to milk laboratories, Milk Recording Organizations, dairy industries and other stakeholders who use MIR technology.

The steps are:

- > To optimize the different process of the standardisation service, to industrialise its different steps and to reduce its overall costs.
- > To achieve the international certifications and quality label of the methodology and the process of the standardisation service for MIR spectrometers in milk labs (ISO/IDF and ICAR certifications).
- > To disseminate the standardisation service for MIR spectrometers in milk recording companies, milk labs and industries to enable valid development and utilisation of same MIR algorithms everywhere.

Chief Executive Report to ICAR Board

February 23, 2016

The proposition of EMR would be to create a partnership which includes:

- CRA-W, the research centre that developed the standardisation methodology and that is in charge of the computation of ring-tests data, and of all R&D (Pierre Dardenne and Frédéric Dehareng team).
- The milk laboratory of North Rhine-Westphalia as pilot testing lab for the industrialisation phase.
- EMR as the service provider
- ICAR service for quality label, communication and dissemination.

Work packages:

WP	Title	Leader	Partners
WP1	Strengthening of EMR standardization network	EMR	CRAW
WP2	Process optimizations of the prototype standardisation service	CRAW	IfM, EMR
WP3	Certifications and Quality label	ICAR	CRAW, EMR
WP4	Commercialization and dissemination	EMR	ICAR, CRAW
WP5	Communication and promotion	EMR	ICAR, CRAW
WP6	Feedback and improvement	IfM	CRAW, EMR

While this is a European pilot the standardisation protocols if successful can be disseminated throughout the ICAR global community. Silvia is coordinating application activities on behalf of ICAR. The project submittal is being managed by Xavier Massart of AWE Belgium with submittal target date of 15/03/16. Results of submittal and workload implications will be shared in future Board meetings.

5.2 **Recording & Sampling Devices SC**

RSD SC key project tasks include;

Tissue Sampling Protocols: The May 2015 ToR included a reference to expansion of the RSD-SC to include testing of tissue sampling devices. As previously discussed by the RSD-SC, there is a need for clarification on the both the need and desire to establish guidelines and implement testing. A proposed liaison with Suzanne Harding (Parentage Working Group) and Ken Evers (ID-SC) to determine concerns and needs will be implemented. Andrew Fear, Snorri Sigurdsson, and Richard Cantin will represent the RSD-SC. Jussi and Andie from ICAR will provide extracts from minutes of these groups' meetings to aid the RSD-SC representatives moving forward.

February 23, 2016

German Test Centre (ATB) : after reported inactivity of the German Test Centre and after considerable discussion, the RSD-SC agreed that Martin Burke, CE, Steven Sievert Chair SC, and Hubert Rothfoss SC Member, to convene a conference call with Prof. Sandra Rose in Potsdam ATB to gauge their interest in continuing as test centre for the ICAR RSD-SC. The call was held on 18th January and Sandra recognised that in last 12 months due to some organisational changes made for poor service – she reassured us a) that ATB are very much interested in continuing and b) she will be main contact. The decision was made to continue to keep ATB Potsdam as an ICAR Test lab for the RSD SC.

5.3 **ID Devices SC**

ICAR Office continue to support the ID SC on main topics of a) documenting key ID certification SOP's, and b) assist the revamp of the ID certification listings on the web site.

Note: Ken Evers Chair has relocated to USA – may have an issue in 6 months re Member representation. CE to track and advise.

5.4 **Interbull**

EU Reference laboratory – ICAR and Interbull Centre has been again been named as the reference laboratory for livestock genetics for 2016 and 2017 with associated funding.

GenoEx PSE-Implementation Task Force (PSE-ITF) held subsequent meetings on Jan 25th and Feb 11th - Main topics being worked on are;

- Define authorities and their accredited / appointed labs for usage of data and access rules
- Define Service fee structure
- Wording of service agreement – working on roles and responsibilities between ICAR, Interbull Centre and User.
- Wording for contacting ICAR members to inform them of GenoEx PSE and for requesting information on the service eligibility for organisations in their country (as defined in the GenoEx PSE Business Rules)

ICAR/Interbull Task Force(IC-IB TF) – the first face to face meeting was held on Wed 03rd February ahead of the Interbull Strategy meetings in Verona. A good meeting with the following areas/activities identified for collaboration;

a. Business Process

Chief Executive Report to ICAR Board

February 23, 2016

- i. Phase 1 – document the “As Is” key SOPs between IB and IC e.g. Members data/fees
 - ii. Phase 2 – Recommend areas for Improvement to get “Future state”
- b. Communication**
 - i. Pre board call with Exec Summary MB/HW/RR/TR
 - ii. Martin/Toine regular conference calls
 - iii. External: Joint presence at conferences etc. - “one brand”
- c. Interbull Internal**
 - i. Review ToRs of SC especially the Secretary role and recommend new ToRs
- d. SLU Relationship**
 - i. Risk Mitigation, governance
- e. Future meetings and milestones:**
 - 16 March 2016: Conference call from 15:00-16:00
 - 18 April 2016: Conference call from 15:00-16:00
 - 26 May 2016: Interbull-ICAR Task Force Meeting from 14:00-18:00 in Amsterdam.
 - October 2016: Final Report to Interbull Business meeting and ICAR Board

Interbull Strategy Meeting 04th and 05th February Verona;

From ICAR, Hans, Jay, Marco and Martin took part in a very positive Interbull Strategy meeting. Full day Thu and morning wrap up session on Fri. Summary of priority / outcomes include;

Interbull vision should be under the ICAR umbrella Vision – Martin and Joost to involve Interbull SC and other 3 permanent SC’s in formulation of the ICAR Vision statement.

Governance – between ICAR/S-ICAR/Interbull SC/Interbull Centre SLU – the lack of clarity of contractual roles and responsibilities between these entities was recognized by all as a real weakness and possibly a threat.

MACE Relevance in future? – SC and SAC recognise that a review of MACE use and relevance by Interbull customers is needed.

Customer Needs – recognised we need to get closer to customers’ needs and use that information to further enhance service offerings

Service opportunities; Validation, New Traits, Data hub sensor data.

Chief Executive Report to ICAR Board

February 23, 2016

6 ICAR 2018 and 2019 Conference – Host Selections / Options

ICAR 2018:

As agreed and endorsed in the January 26th Board meeting ICAR 2018 will be in New Zealand from February 06th to 09th 2018th. It will precede the WCG the following week. Next steps;

- BW to officially notify the WCG LOA
- BW to make contact with local NZ members and associate members to solicit their endorsement

ICAR 2019:

Now that 2018 has been decided we should ask the ICAR Board put together a new similar Task Force to review and recommend locations for our 2019 conference.

7 Future ICAR Board Meetings

7.1 **Meeting Schedule**

The following table is a first draft proposed schedule of meetings for the ICAR Board and the Council of Service ICAR for Jan – June 2016. Please note 2000hrs for all meetings (other than those face to face).

Table 1. Future Meetings: Proposed January – June 2016.

Org'n	Meeting	Date	Start-finish (CET)	Venue	Notes
Service ICAR	Board	Tue 19/01/2016	20:00 - 21:00	Rome	8:00 in NZ and 15:00 in Columbus, Ohio
ICAR	Board	Tue 26/01/2016	20:00 - 21:00	Rome	8:00 in NZ and 15:00 in Columbus, Ohio
ICAR	Board	Tue 23/02/2016	20:00 - 21:00	Rome	8:00 in NZ and 15:00 in Columbus, Ohio
Service ICAR	Board	Tue 22/03/2016	20:00 - 21:00	Rome	8:00 in NZ and 15:00 in Columbus, Ohio
ICAR	Board	Tue 29/03/2016	20:00 - 21:00	Rome	8:00 in NZ and 15:00 in Columbus, Ohio
ICAR	Board	Tue 26/04/2016	20:00 - 21:00	Rome	8:00 in NZ and 15:00 in Columbus, Ohio
Service ICAR	Board	Tue 24/05/2016	20:00 - 21:00	Rome	8:00 in NZ and 15:00 in Columbus, Ohio
ICAR Face to Face	Board	Tue 27/05/2016	09:00 – 18:00	Amsterdam	
ICAR	Board	Tue 28/06/2016	20:00 - 21:00	Rome	8:00 in NZ and 15:00 in Columbus, Ohio

Martin Burke, Chief Executive

Date 12th February 2016.