
Chief Executive Report to ICAR Board

May 27, 2016



ICAR Chief Executive Report for ICAR Board Meeting 09:00 – 18:00 CET, Friday May 27th 2016.

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31 May 2016

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1 Golden Rules / Priorities

1.1 Board ‘Golden Rules’ – Recap and reaffirm the following agreed tenets:

- 1. We are focused on maximising the value of ICAR for our members.**
- 2. An open mind is needed for good communication and cooperation.**
- 3. We respect every person and are professional in our behaviour.**
- 4. We act according to our responsibility.**
- 5. We give honest feedback.**
- 6. We enjoy working for ICAR.**

- ✓ Agree
- ✓ Open professional discussion
- ✓ Review at the end of each meeting
- ✓ Take forward the alignment and decision
- ✓ Regularly repeat after face-to-face meeting

1.2 CE and ICAR Team 2016 priorities are:

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

The following table contains a summary update on the identified priorities from the Board/Chair meeting in Krakow;

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Table 1. Update on Priorities:

Item No.	Survey Rank	Priority Item Description	Status
6	1	Improving the ICAR website	Version 1.0 Web Released Dec 2015. Version 2.0 in 2016
5	3	Improving communications <i>and collaboration</i> between ICAR groups	Ongoing; MB/BW have called in on each SC/WG meetings. ToRs review in progress.
7	8	Improving the structure of the ICAR guidelines	Version 2 Web – Brand input, access to guidelines 2016
2	5	Reviewing its Groups	Ongoing; MB/BW - reviewing overlaps eg Interbull /Parentage/ Genetics Analysis, Genomics
8	6	Enhancing Links to International bodies/partners	Ongoing; CE working list of Orgs by priority
9	7	Growing its reputation in Africa (and globally)	Plan and execute initial Global Reach pilot South America Oct '16
3	9	Establishing Group on Climate Change	'Feed & Gas' Group established
4	2	Providing ICAR members with greater visibility	Brand Project, Web 1 and 2, ICAR Story, Newsletter,
1	4	Extend scope to cover developments	New Service development, MA PT Ring Test, Global Reach, GenoEx, EMR project
10	10	Improving its services to customers	CoQ, MASC PT, ID ICAR, Brand Project all activated.

2 ICAR Financial Reports 2016

Appendix 1. ICAR Balance Sheet Year to Date April 30th 2016

Appendix 2. ICAR Profit & Loss Statement Year to Date April 30th 2016

Appendix 3. Explanatory Notes to ICAR Financial Statements Year to Date April 30th 2016.

3 External Audit Firms - Quotes

As recommended by ICAR's Financial Inspectors, we sent out 'request for quotes' to International Accounting firms to provide an independent audit of our annual accounts in ICAR and Service ICAR. At the time of writing we sought quotes from audit firms Ernst & Young, Deloitte, KPMG and local Italian Accounting firm. The summary is for Board discussion in **Appendix 4.**

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4 Membership

4.1 Members Fees 2016

Members Fees' Returns Summary as of 19th May 2016 is shown in **Appendix 5**. A reminder letter was sent in May to those members who had not paid to date. We will continue to monitor and follow up as required.

4.2 New Members

One New Member (Full) application has been received in May 2016 from China. See in **Appendix 6**. Application for the Dairy Cattle Research Centre of Shandong Academy of Agricultural Sciences. They are active in DHI and AI stud/semen sales. They seek ICAR Board approval for full membership.

5 Certificate of Quality 2016

In 2016 we overhauled the Certificate of Quality process which meant a revised approach and schedule for our members. The new C of Q procedure's main changes were;

- ✓ Simplifying and making the fee structure appropriate to activities (inc Auditor fees)
- ✓ Moving from 3 year to a 5 year visit cycle BUT providing a mid-term new **Consultative Review (CR)** with each member in year 2-3, providing information updates and support for members

Charl has spearheaded the changes with the ICAR CoQ Auditors and here now will present a short overview/update on how these new processes went in 2016.

6 International Strategic Alliances

6.1 International Partners

ICAR has developed fruitful cooperation with a number of international organisations dealing with animal production or with fields relevant to the ICAR mandate. Programs and activities of a number of International Government Orgs (IGOs) and Non-Governmental Orgs (NGOs) are complementary to the ICAR's mission. An executive summary of these activities so far in 2016 is in Table 2 below;

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Table 2. ICAR relations with International Organisations.

<u>International Organisation</u>	<u>ICAR Relevance</u>	<u>CE Update/comment: 20th Nov</u>
ISO - International Standards Organisation	ICAR is ISO's Registration Authority (RA) for RFID devices & member of working group to develop ISO RFID Standards ISO TC23\SC19\WG3 ICAR refers to ISO standards in developing standards and guidelines for certification of ID and Recording devices	Annual ICAR RA report sent to ISO March 2016 CE attended ISO TC23\SC19\WG3 in Vienna Jan 2016 CE acting Chair of SC ID will liaise directly with Chair and Sec of ISO WG3 in 2016.
IDF – International Dairy Federation	Milk Analysis is the main field of cooperation between the two organizations. ICAR and IDF agreed to cooperate in the field of functional traits. The ICAR Functional Traits WG has been requested to carry out activities on the ICAR side.	SO has been (or is) representing ICAR at ; IDF World Dairy Summit (WDS) September 2015 Lithuania. ISO/IDF Analytical Week Denmark 30.05-03.06 2016 The ICAR interest is for the working groups of Standing Committee Statistic and Automation-SCSA (Spectrum Standardization -S03, protocol for instruments validation S01 and S14, Reference System for Somatic cell Counting S09 and SCSA itself. EMR Project submission also – To be decided late summer 2016 - ICARs role is envisaged to provide standardisation and certification services to members for Milk Analysers, MIR spectral calibration etc. IDF WDS 16-19 October 2016 Rotterdam CE & Groups coordinator met with IDF SCAHW in Krakow. Agreed will not duplicate and have two groups but rather combine forces. CE met in Brussels last summer with Delanie Kellon IDF and agreed to collaborate on Animal Welfare & Care. MB/BW yet to progress in 2016 – ongoing.

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FAO - Food and Agriculture Organisation (UN)	Joint cooperation of regional workshops FAO through its DAD-IS information system regularly transmits news and information from the ICAR web site.	ICAR originally proposed a follow up ICAR/FAO Workshop for Spring in East Africa (Ethiopia (Nairobi) as a possibility. Badi was not in position to co-organise African workshop in 2016 – we reviewed doing it ourselves under ICAR but instead will focus energies on Global Reach 2016 in South America to coincide with our Conference there. CE, CH and BW to review strategy with Jorge and again in a specific Global Reach strategy meeting planned for Rome June 01 st 02 nd
DG SANTE (EU Commission)	Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the zootechnical and genealogical conditions for trade in and imports into the Union of breeding animals ICAR Interbull referenced regarding identification methods, performance monitoring rules and genetic assessment of livestock. ICAR clearly designated as the reference body in the development of zootechnical legislation in its areas of competence.	Laurent Journaux contact with Michel Dantin of DG SANTE in Brussels must be maintained - review 2016 meeting need LJ. Need to continue to reinforce message that ICAR's major role and guidelines reference in Zootechnical EU legislation. ICAR now an official Observer in 'Animal Task Force' http://www.animaltaskforce.eu/ ... and particularly important their Precision Livestock Farming (PLF) EU-PLF is an FP7 project - see http://www.eu-plf.eu/ Steven Sievert will attend the conference on Precision Dairy Farming in Leuwaarden Netherlands, June 21st.
EFFAB – European Forum for Farm Animal Breeders.	Potential outsource of Patent Search & Update service	CE met with Jan Venneman EFFAB CE and ICAR now in communication distribution list of EFFAB.
ASAS – American Society of Animal Science	Mutual participation at annual meetings and exchange of invited speakers. Use of ASAS meetings to promote ICAR	CE met with Dave Barbano in Krakow – introductory email to incoming ASDA President BW has send on ASDA contact Al Kertz and we

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ADSA - The American Dairy Science Association	Use of scientific results for improvement of ICAR programs.	– currently 2 nd level priority. No activity to report here.
Others; ISAG, OIE, EAAP, NAAB..others??		ISAG – CE and Groups Coordinator have agreed to be on Org Cttee for upcoming ISAG 2017 Conf in Ireland – ongoing.

7 Brand Project 2016 - ICAR New ICAR logo, New Strapline and New Descriptor – Next Steps/Views.

At the April 26th ICAR Board meeting, the following new aspects of the ICAR fundament were presented and approved by the Board;

- ICAR Logo
- ICAR Strapline
- ICAR Descriptor

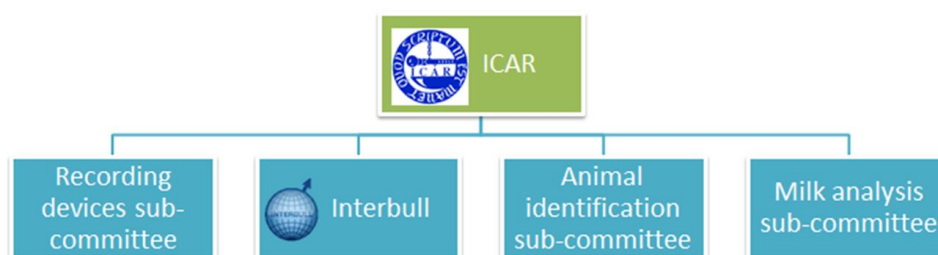
Re the final colour combinations, by summing up the preferences expressed at that meeting and from a small subsequent email poll from Board members, we settled on Option 3 (Dark Blue and Orange) as the preferred option to implement.

We have in May moved on with; creation of proper artwork files, developing a presentation deck/suite for powerpoint templates, leaflets design, as well as initial drafts of material and page designs for our new web transition. As we are in the Netherlands this week, the CE, Cesare and Elena have taken the opportunity to meet with Mojo Strategy and VA Design on the morning of Thu 26th May to plan the implementation phase and switchover/soft launch for the new logo. At this May 27th Board meeting the CE will now share with the Board the latest manifestations of our new logo in practice through examples of its use in powerpoint, leaflets and web page views.

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8 ICAR Sub Committees & Working Groups – Key Updates / Reports

Reports from ICAR's 4 Permanent Sub Committees:



8.1 Milk Analysis SC

S-ICAR PT: In 2016, Service ICAR took operational control of the Milk Proficiency Test Program for ICAR members. The results and statistical treatment reports (as set out by ICAR's MA SC) for the first run (March 16) were sent to all participants on May 02nd 2016. Silvia designed and coordinated the operation of the PT for ICAR. Silvia will now provide a summary of the 2016 programme for the Board.

S-ICAR & European Milk Recording (EMR) – S-ICAR in partnership with EMR have submitted a Joint Project application to FTI Horizon 2020.

S-ICAR's primary role is in Work Package (WP) 4 to provide standardisation and certification services to validate the new EMR algorithms for Milk Analysers. S-ICAR also has a secondary dissemination role in WP 5.

The decision on whether the project (titled SIMILAR) will be EU approved or not is expected within 6 months (likely between June-September time frame). If this project submittal gets approved by the EU (20-25% chance success according to Project Leader), then at that time CE and staff will look at the specifics of the agreements, and tackle the IP aspects and a more detailed budget.

8.2 Recording & Sampling Devices SC

Sensor Data Task Force – CE, Steven Sievert, Kees de Koning and Brian Wickham convened a call on 10th May 2016 to develop a Project Charter and Terms of Reference for an ICAR Task Force to address an ICAR response and approach to Sensor Data and Validation of same. We would like the ICAR Board to endorse the Terms of Reference document and goals for this proposed Task Force. (see **Appendix 7**).

8.3 ID Devices SC

Chair – CE stepped in as Acting Chair of ID SC until we recruit a replacement. CE with Brian Wickham and SC will use the opportunity to review and bolster the make-

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up of the SC. An SC meeting was held on May 12th with subsequent follow up meeting scheduled for June 30th.

The SC has in last year introduced a lot of new Services (.g. 5 yr Certification, Device Change Notice (DCN) and a new Validation Service for Competent Authorities planned for late 2016). The focus of the SC for the next 12 months will be to appoint new chair, introduce new members and bed in and make robust the new processes. Jussi will now provide a summary for the Board of these new services for 2016.

8.4 **Interbull**

ICAR/Interbull Task Force (IC-IB TF) – following on from February meetings in Verona, conference calls were held on March 16th and April 18th. Task Force had subsequent face to face meeting on Thursday 26th May. Items for ICAR Board review include;

- **Interbull SC Terms of Reference – Update May 2106** - Reinhard and SC have reviewed and updated the Terms of reference for the SC – this was for review by the Task Force on 26th and any edits comments will be updated and submitted to ICAR Board for its June meeting.
- **GenoEx PSE -Implementation Task Force (PSE-ITF)** based on feedback received there is an updated proposal for the **GenoEx** PSE Service Agreement Contract (Version 6 – 04th May April 2016 - See **Appendix 8**).

Email from Chair of PSE Expert Group Brian van Doormaal 04th May 2016 to explain the changes from V5 to V6;

“A meeting of the GenoEx-PSE ITF was held this morning, which included a review of Version 5 of the Service Agreement, as distributed to the Interbull SC and the ICAR Board. During discussion on this agenda item it was pointed out that an inconsistency existed between Points 3.4 and 11.4. In the end the ITF agreed to modify the wording of clause 3.4 as reflected in the attached revised Version 6 dated today.

In addition, it was agreed to clarify point 9.5 to reflect that the annual fee of 1 000 Euro would be applied to each organization that would end up having access to the GenoEx-PSE database. This clarification is required since one authorized Service User in a country (say a breed association) may elect to have a contractual agreement with more than one Contacted Service Provider and the text now clarifies that the fee would need to be paid by both such Contracted Service Providers (rather than once by the authorized Service User directly).

The attached Version 6 of the Service agreement has these two modifications clearly identified (compared to Version 5) with the text is red being that which is deleted and the text in blue is that which is added.

...I trust that the ICAR Board can ultimately consider this new Version 6 for any possible official approval at the meetings scheduled later this month.”

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CE circulated for comment by Board members by May 11th with the following feedback received on V6;

French comments concerning genoex in coordination with members of interbull (Sophie) and interbeef (Laurent G) : Globally the proposal is clear and allow to understand how genoex will be implemented.

Some points should be more precise or clear :

- 1) We don't see very well the perimeter of data permitted for one specific user : all the animals ? Only the animals needed for a parentage verification ?... In other hand : witch is the information to be sent by the members (all the animals, exchanged animals, animals with a request in genoex data base) ? We understood that the core population is AI sires, Embryos donors ; and for others animals on demand).*
- 2) For France FGE is designated to be the contact of Genoex and to organize the exchanges between genoex and the French national data base of SNP (and micro satellites) for parentage verification. The practical modalities will be defined in autumn.*
- 3) Concerning the list of SNP and the use of this SNP (verification, discovery of parentage) : there is a large work of the WG to explain more precisely the practical aspects of the application of ISAG rules and set of SNP (and to establish a strong and confident collaboration in this field to obtain a better reactivity and integration of land constraints by ISAG)...*
- 4) Can you precise clearly if the perimeter of Genoex covers micro satellites ? It's not completely clear and there is some incoherent information between the parts (cf §626 for example)*
- 5) Vocabulary and sound definitions : the text is using "SNP analysis" in the mean of "Parentage verification" (comparison of different SNP analysis to verify parentage). It will be good to add the definitions in §1 and to verify all the text to confirm the use of the right words.*

8.5 **Other Groups Updates;**

Parentage/Genetic Analysis – ICAR secretariat is working on a protocol for the ICAR accreditation of Organisations applying the results of genotype analysis for Parentage Verification (as per new section 4.3 of ICAR Guidelines).

ICAR has already an accreditation listing for laboratories who conduct DNA analysis. This new proposed accreditation level is for those organisations who will take the output from those DNA analysis labs (eg Genotypes) and interpret SNP data for the purposes of parentage verification, parentage discovery and possibly, pedigree discovery. The accreditation will include a validation step before granting accreditation (taking technical guidance from the PSE Expert Group and/or the Parentage Working Group). The accreditation proposed protocol will be shared with the ICAR Board for ratification before implementation.

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9 ICAR Conferences 2016 - 2019

9.1 ICAR 2016 Chile:

Weekly conference calls in place with Jorge and local organizer Elizabeth Mora. Focus in June on;

Registration – Jorge to update Board

Program – CE and BW will convene a call in June with session chairs to add ‘flesh’ to the Program

9.2 ICAR 2017 UK:

ICAR secretariat will begin conference calls with Marco/Mike and Local Organising committee in June 2016. Marco to give update to Board.

9.3 ICAR 2018:

Auckland will be the location and on same site as World Congress of Genetics. Bevin to provide update to Board.

9.4 ICAR 2019:

CE convened a call on April 26th to kick off the host selection process with Japie, Niels and Bianca and secretariat. Our initial suggestions on possibility of South Africa as host for 2019 were ruled out for two reasons of a) Instability (as advised by Charl & Japie) and b) EU members have will have travelled to Chile, New Zealand and now RSA in space of 4 years.

Consensus then was to recommend an EU location for 2019 ICAR conference. Targets agreed were 1. Czech Republic 2. Spain 3. Netherlands. Belgium now also a possibility. CE to initially follow up with Josef re CZ and then convene another call to discuss with – schedule 2nd call in June.

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10 Future ICAR Board Meetings

10.1 Meeting Schedule

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

Table 1. Future Meetings: June – December 2016.

Org'n	Meeting	Date	Start-finish (CET)	Venue	Notes
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	Fri 27/05/2016	09:00 – 18:00	Amsterdam	
Service ICAR	Board	Tue 19/07/2016	19:00 - 20:00	Rome	8:00 in NZ and 15:00 in Columbus, Ohio
ICAR	Board	Tue 19/07/2016	20:00 - 21:00	Rome	8:00 in NZ and 15:00 in Columbus, Ohio
ICAR	Board	Tue 30/08/2016	20:00 - 21:00	Rome	8:00 in NZ and 15:00 in Columbus, Ohio
Service ICAR	Board	Tue 20/09/2016	20:00 - 21:00	Rome	8:00 in NZ and 15:00 in Columbus, Ohio
ICAR	Board	Tue 27/09/2016	20:00 - 21:00	Rome	8:00 in NZ and 15:00 in Columbus, Ohio
Service ICAR	Board	Sun 23/10/2016	08:00 – 09:00	Puerto Varas, Chile	
ICAR Face to Face	Board	Sun 23/10/2016	09:00 – 18:00	Puerto Varas, Chile	
ICAR	Board	Tue 29/11/2016	20:00 - 21:00	Rome	8:00 in NZ and 15:00 in Columbus, Ohio

Martin Burke, Chief Executive

Date 27th May 2016.