
Chief Executive Report to ICAR Board

July 19, 2016



ICAR Chief Executive Report for ICAR Board Meeting 20:00 – 21:00 CET, Tuesday July 19th 2016.

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1 Priorities

1.1 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
- 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 2016/17.

2 Financial 2016

2.1 External Auditing Firm

At May 27th Board meeting it was agreed ICAR would contract an international accounting firm to a) not only do the end of year 2016 accounts but b) also offer advice consultancy with respect to the structure and reporting of our accounts (with special emphasis on Service ICAR). ICAR has asked Deloitte to provide this service. Deloitte are visiting ICAR in July/August with aim of providing specification and quote for presentation to ICAR Board in September.

3 ICAR Brand - Update

3.1. ICAR Brand – Release Schedule;

The following is the release schedule for New ICAR Brand

Task	Date
Circulate dedicated Brand Newsletter to Immediate ICAR family (Board, Staff, SC/WG’s, Members and Associate Members)	19th August
Development Website 1.5 (with new brand, colour scheme, logo, strapline etc)	19 th September
Release Website 1.5 Externally	30th September
Circulate Brand Newsletter to all other External ICAR Stakeholders (full mailing list)	03 rd October

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ICAR Office Start using new logo only (old one archived). So all letters, invoices, emails etc from this date on with new logo.	03 rd October
‘Official’ New ICAR Brand Launched in Chile (ICAR Marketing material like Stand, back drop, pull ups, leaflets etc)	24 th October

4 Board membership

4.1 Board Elections due in General Assembly October 2016

In October 2016 we have one Board member, Marco Winters, finishing his second term. See **Appendix 1. Board Members & Inspectors’ Term dates - October 2016**, which gives the full list of Board members and Inspectors terms’ dates.

The ICAR Board is governed according to ICAR Statutes (Article 11) and ICAR Board Members are elected in accordance with ICAR By-Laws (Rule 6). The process by which ICAR board members are nominated and voted in is described in detail in our ICAR Handbook – See **Appendix 2. Handbook Section 2.1 Election of Board Members**.

Summary of actions required by ICAR Board for Board Member Election;

- 1) Open position must be posted on ICAR website and all **Members publicly notified** re the position, the application process and deadline for receipt of applications, cv etc (must be sent before notice period of minimum six weeks prior to the upcoming General Assembly i.e. post to web and send alert by last day August 2016)
- 2) ICAR Board appoints a “**Nomination Committee**” whose job will be to consider the applicants and recommend to the Board the candidates it considers to best serve the ICAR Board.
- 3) Prior to the nomination process the Board should conduct a ‘**Board Review**’ which should highlight any gaps re skills on existing Board and can provide direction to the Nomination Committee with respect to the particular skill set the new candidates should have.
- 4) The Nomination Committee then send the **recommended candidates to the Board** with reasons.
- 5) President or his nominee shall present following to the **General Assembly**;
 - i. Present all applicants received for open positions.
 - ii. Outline the review process for candidates by the Nomination Committee.
 - iii. Present the recommended candidate(s).
 - iv. Provide justification for recommendations.
 - v. Announce election results following voting (if more candidates received compared to positions available).

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- vi. Request a motion to destroy the ballots following the announcement of the election results.

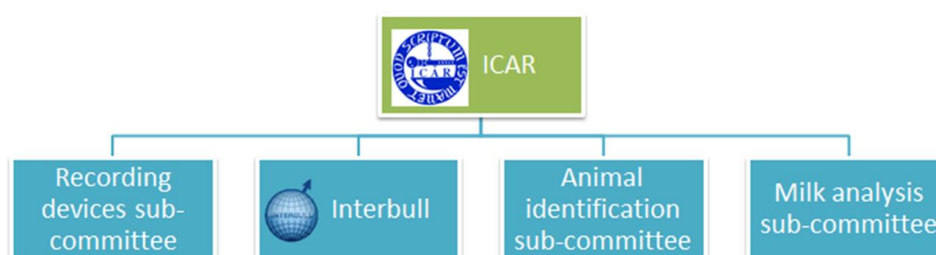
5 Membership

5.1 Fees 2016

CE has written final personal letter to CONARGEN Mexico, CIS Egypt, DESCO Peru, Animal Improvement Center IRAN and the JSC Agropribor in Russia with respect to closing out membership if 2014 fees remain unpaid. If payment still not received by September 30th we will cancel membership and delist on October 1st 2016.

6 Groups Update / Report

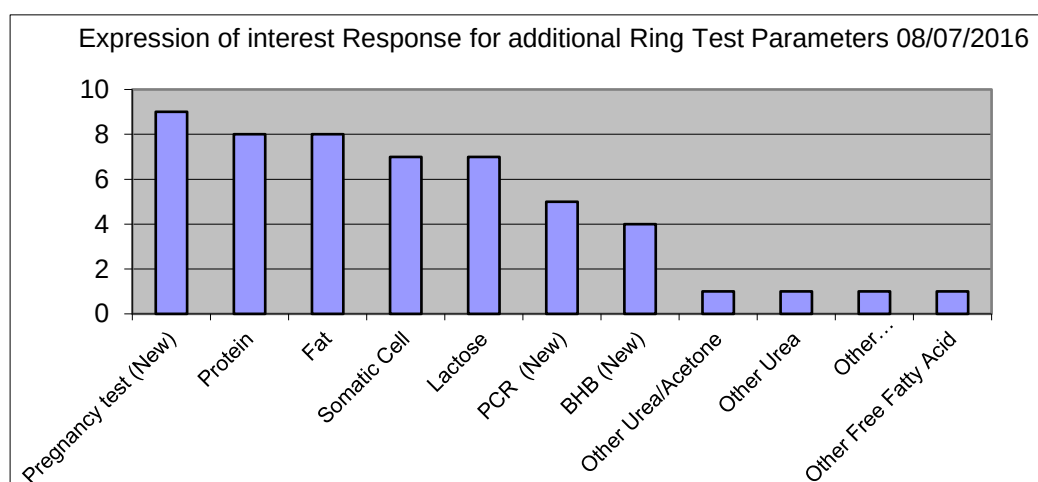
Reports from ICAR's 4 Permanent Sub Committees:



6.1 Milk Analysis SC

6.1.1 S-ICAR PT: At the ICAR Board meeting of May 27th it was agreed we would look to add further parameters to the scope of our Ring Test. To find out what our members wanted we polled them in a short survey in June asking them to list what extra parameters they would like us to include. This 'expression of interest in other parameters' survey had a close date of 11th July for replies. At time of writing (July 08th) some 13 labs came back with requests for inclusion of extra parameters.

Diagram 1. Expression of interest Response for additional Ring Test Parameters



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Some laboratories that responded did not participate in the first March 2016 round (hence the Protein, Fat above). So overall a good response, we will include these new laboratories and new parameter requests in the September 2016 round of Service ICAR Ring tests.

Bianca Lind also has a short update for the Board on how Ring tests for Pregnancy tests operate in Bavaria.

6.1.2 S-ICAR & European Milk Recording (EMR) – The AWE/EMR Project application to FTI Horizon 2020 (titled ‘SIMILAR’) has been rejected by the H2020 Research and Innovation Research Programme. The score required for approval was minimum 12 and the project scored 10.41. In summary the panel commented the market size and potential ROI was insufficient to grant Fast Track Innovation funding. **See Appendix 3. ‘SIMILAR H2020 Proposal Evaluation Form’** for more details. Next step is Xavier Massart Project Manager (AWE) to meet the NCP Wallonia, get advice and re-submit to match FTI specifications, at least for a score of 12/15. Will update further when feedback comes through from Xavier.

6.2 Recording & Sampling Devices SC

6.2.1 Sensor Data Task Force – following on from endorsement from May 27th Board, we have been busy populating the Task Force team. To date we have on board;

- Project Champion; Martin Burke
- Project Leader; Steven Sievert
- ICAR Groups Coordinator: Brian Wickham
- Recording & Sampling: Clement Allain
- Meter Lab; Kees de Koning
- Milk Meter expert; Uffe Lauritsen
- Dairy Cattle Milk Recording Group: - expert lact calc genetics x 2 (TBD)
- Technologists: 1 x Expert in AMS and 1 x Expert in Milk Meter tech (TBD)

On Fri 08th July a conference call was scheduled with the Dairy Cattle Milk Recording Group Chair to identify and nominate suitable members from the DCMR to contribute to the team. Will update further at Board meeting.

6.3 ID Devices SC

6.3.1 Chair – The closing date for Call for nominations for SC ID Chair was Jul 01st and unfortunately this turned up little or no response (one general query but no nominations or applications). The ID SC is a critical Chair position for ICAR for many reasons not least from a Service ICAR revenue viewpoint. CE and Brian Wickham will escalate priority to fill this key position.

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6.3.2 **Meetings**; CE will continue to chair the SC ID in the interim. An SC ID meeting was held on 30th June. Along with identifying New Chair and Members the SC's main priorities are; 1. Release Competent Authority Validation Procedure 2. Ring Test SOP 3. UHF Technology Group formation.

Also CE is holding a further meeting with key manufacturers (Allflex, Datamars and Caisley) in Amsterdam on July 27th to review the new Validation Service for Competent Authorities, focussing on the integrity of the field sampling as part of that new process.

6.4 **Interbull**

6.4.1 **ICAR/Interbull Task Force (IC-IB TF)** – following on from May 26th meeting the IC-IB TF endorsed the disbanding of the Genetic Analysis and Parentage Recording Working Groups and to replace them with the formation of one new Genomics Group (subsequently renamed DNA Working Group). This idea was presented to the Board on May 27th who also approved. Since then the terms of reference have been drafted and shared for comment with relevant group chairs. As a result please find for this Boards approval **Appendix 4. Terms of Reference of this new DNA Working Group**

The Interbull SC Terms of Reference are under review and the plan is for Reinhard Reents and the SC to finalise and present the revised ToR at the ICAR Board meeting scheduled 30th August.

The IC-IB TF has a further meeting scheduled from September 07th 2016 – aim is to develop a report by PowerPoint presentation at ICAR Chile 2018.

6.4.2 **GenoEx PSE -Implementation Task Force (PSE-ITF)** have an updated proposal See **Appendix 5 GenoEx PSE Service Agreement Contract (Version 8 – June 22nd 2016)**. Goal is to have this Version 8 of the Service Agreement document presented at this July 19th Board meeting and ask Board members to approve.

6.4.3 **GenoEx PSE – conditions of €60k investment** – CE to review existing documentation on file with Elena and in turn write to Toine/SLU re three items;

- 1) Software/hardware procured
- 2) Ownership/IP question
- 3) Profit sharing for ICAR.

In the next weeks we will address with SLU with a view to having answers for August 30th Board.

6.5 **Other Groups Updates:**

6.5.1 **Sheep, Goat & Fibre**– after consultation with the three chairs of the three WGs' (Marco Antonini (Fibre), Zdravko Barac (Goat) and Jean-Michel Astruc

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(Sheep), it was agreed these would now come under the one umbrella group called **Sheep, Goats and Small Camelid WG**. In summary the modified proposal:

1. Recognises we are dealing with sheep, goats and small camelids.
2. The current Sheep, Goat and Fibre WG become Expert Advisory Groups to the proposed to SGC-WG. A new Expert Advisory Group is formed to cover Sheep meat and some other relevant traits.
3. The SGC-WG is comprised of the Chairs of each of the Expert Advisory Groups and a support person from the ICAR Secretariat.

The terms of reference for this new Umbrella group is here in **Appendix 6. Sheep, Goats and Small Camelid WG**. We now ask the Board to approve this new umbrella WG in place of the three existing WGs

6.5.2 Certificate of Quality - Member complaint - In June our President received a letter of complaint from one of our Polish Members, the National Animal Breeding Centre (LOM KCHZ). The complaint was in relation to the expiry date of their CoQ Certificate.

In summary LOM KCHZ was one of our three test cases (along with NMR UK and ACP Finland) for our new Consultative Review pilots we conducted in November 2015. The CRs went successfully but when we generated the renewed Certificates we in error put a new expiry date of June 2018 instead of December 2017 on the Certificate for LOM KCHZ. The complaint came when we realised the error and wanted to reissue the Cert with a 6 month earlier date – to kill the confusion caused and as we were the source of the error we will honour the June 2018 date.

The corrective action taken in the office is to create an automatic alert for expiry dates of Certificates rather than leaving it to human calculation. (This is already in place and works well for ID certification, we will do the same now for CoQ alerts). The complaint and written response are attached in **Appendix 7 and 8**.

6.5.3 AI Technologies – Inactivity. Both the CE and Groups Coordinator are concerned that this AI Technologies WG is not as active as it should be. CE and Brian tried to kick start it again by convening a meeting last Sept 09th 2015 after which, we understood that activity would recommence. No conference call or activity has happened as far as we know with the only response after our Sept 2015 meeting was the Chair was organising a meeting of the group in Chile 2016. We believe this to be an important WG for our members and would like to escalate this inactivity to the Board for discussion and action.

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7 ICAR Conferences

7.1 ICAR 2016 Chile:

Weekly conference calls in place with Jorge and local organizer Elizabeth Mora. Programme is up on website (see www.icar2016.cl). Call for Abstracts deadline was Jul 01st. CE and Brian Wickham had a conference call on Jul 12th with chairs of the 9 x Technical Sessions to begin finalisation of the Thurs 27th and Fri 28th programme.

A key part of the program is the ICAR Plenary sessions on Wed 26th Oct. This is a great opportunity to portray ICAR's best work. We need to ensure we have our best speakers in the Plenary session. Below in Table 1 is an initial draft of topics and speakers for the ICAR Plenary session. I would like to ask the Board for their input and suggestions before we approach the presenters and finalise with the LOC.

Table 1. ICAR Plenary Session Wed Oct 26th Chile (Draft)

Session #	Time	Presenter	Plenary Topic
1.1	11:00 - 11:20	Neil Petreny	Directions in Milk Recording – the Challenge of Low Milk Prices
1.2	11:20 – 11:40	Roel Verkamp	Feed and Gas
1.3	11:40 – 12:00	Steven Sievert	Integrations of new devices into animal recording and ICAR structures.
1.4	12:00 – 12:20 + Qts	Martin Burke	The ICAR Brand
	12:30 – 14:00	LUNCH	
2.1	14:00 – 14:20	Andrew Cromie	Beef Genomics developments
2.2	14:20- 14:40	Toine Roosen	Parentage Snip Exchange – New Service Developments
2.3	14:40- 15:00	Silvia Orlandini	ICAR Laboratory Proficiency Testing
2.4	15:00 – 15:20 + Qts	Joao Durr	Using Data from Multiple Sources – the reality of genetic evaluations
	15:30 – 16:00	Coffee Break	
3.1	16:00 – 16:25	Matt Schaffer	New Structures for Cattle Breeding – Australian experience.

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3.2	16:25 – 16:50	Graham Alder	What would I like from ICAR as the manager of Beef and Lamb Genetics?
3.3	16:50 – 17:15	Gavin Scott	Using the whole Spectra
3.4	17:15– 17:40 + Qts	TBD	Recent Developments in Latin America traceability systems

Also the ICAR office will send a note to all Chairs that for guideline updates the members must be notified by the end of August 2016 to allow 8 weeks advance notice of the General Assembly approval.

7.2 **ICAR 2017 UK:**

ICAR secretariat held a conference call with Marco Winters to review the ICAR ‘Conference Agreement Document’. UK LOC will review and revert with their legal representatives but positive initial comments. Good start – first official ICAR – UK2017 LOC conference call is scheduled for July 26th 2016.

7.3 **ICAR 2018:**

No activity to Report since last Board meeting.

7.4 **ICAR 2019:**

Plan A is Czech Republic for ICAR 2019 - CE has been in contact with Josef Kucera re Czech hosting ICAR 2019. Josef is positive and is bringing proposal to his own Czech Breeders Board on July 28th 2016 for decision. CE updated ‘Board subgroup 2019’ on a call held July 07th. If CZ are not in position to host ICAR 2019 we will explore the Belgian/Netherlands option – it was agreed let Josef revert first

7.5 **ICAR 2020:**

If CZ host 2019 then we propose to look at Belgium or Netherlands for ICAR 2020 – especially interesting as in 2020 we will have Interbull full sessions with our ICAR conference- the ‘Board subgroup 2019’ will review after the ICAR2019 CZ decision.

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8 Future ICAR Board Meetings

8.1 Meeting Schedule

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

Table 2. Future Meetings: June – December 2016.

Org'n	Meeting	Date	Start-finish (CET)	Venue	Notes
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 11th July 2016.