



--MINUTES ICAR BOARD

ICAR Board meeting (Conference call)

DATE 17TH JANUARY 2017
TIME 20H00 TO 21H00 CET

1. Call to Order & Approval of Agenda

In attendance: Hans Wilmink, Jay Mattison, Laurent Journaux, Bianca Lind, Japie van der Westhuizen, Bevin Harris; Jorge Lama; Kaivo Ilves, and Daniel Lefebvre; inspectors: Josef Kuçera and Neil Petreny; staff: Martin Burke (CE), Cesare Mosconi, Charl Hunlun, Brian Wickham, Andie Dimitriadou, and Elena Couto.

Apologies: Niels H. Nielsen; Silvia Orlandini, Milan Zjalic.

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 November 2016 are approved as presented.

3. CE Report

3.1 Priorities

Martin Burke presented the Group Goals for 2017 (Appendix 1). The percentage for services is based on discussions and from background with staff and relevant chairs.

Hans Wilmink informed that the committee had performance review of the CE and set targets for 2017, the present document is important for this target.

The Board appreciated the details and asked if the document and goals were realistic. The CE explained the document took in consideration the feedback received from Board members in addition to staff and chairs.

There were some comments referred to the efficiency of the Groups and how to measure it. It is recommended to find a formula, as the productivity, i.e. number of meetings, cannot be considered as efficiency.

Action: The CE will send an updated document to the Board for discussion during the face to face meeting on 10th February 2017 in Rome.



3.2 Update on action items from previous ICAR Board

The President informed that a joint letter signed with Reinhard Reents was sent letter to all EU ICAR members on 3rd January 2017 (appendix 2) to support the Interbull Center as reference center for the international genetic evaluation of cattle.

The tender is at draft status and will be official in March; then Interbull Center will submit the proposal. The submission has to be done by the competent authority (CA) in Sweden, but others are aware and some lobby work is on-going to support other CAs.

Laurent Journaux will ask in France for the list of CAs and will also contact the French Ministry of Agriculture. It is important to have the support from several countries, but also to be aware that the fields covered by the reference center will be larger and bigger than in the current situation.

The President thanked Laurent Journaux; we will wait for the final proposal, and if there is an extension of fields of activities maybe a sort of Consortium can be considered.

At the moment there is no confirmation of proposals from other reference centers.

The Board will wait for more information for discussion during the face to face meeting in February.

Action: Laurent Journaux to send to the CE the list of CAs they have in France.

Brian van Doormaal, with the support of Matt McClure, are finalizing the “test file” for DNA Wet labs. This accreditation is a prerequisite for entry to the Genoex programme. So far three centres have sent applications: VIT (Germany), ANARB (Italy), and CONAFE (Spain).

3.3 Financials 2016 - schedule

The CE informed that since the last meeting a restricted area has been created for financials. The schedule for the checking, auditing, presentation and approval by the Board has been established. The financials 2016 will be ready for sign off by the Board on 28th March 2017.

Jay Mattison asked confirmation if the external checking will be an audit or a review. The CE will check with Deloitte and revert to the Board.

Neil Petreny asked if an internal inspection will be needed in Rome early March considering the external checking. Martin Burke will first clarify with Deloitte the type of control and then the Board will decide.

3.4 ICAR Board succession planning

The President, together with the two Vice-Presidents, Jay Mattison and Kaivo Ilves, were appointed to prepare a proposal for the February or March meeting regarding the terms of the Board members.



3.5 Groups update

Milk Analysis SC

The Call for ICAR PT 2017 has been sent with closing date 24th February 2017.

The statistical elaboration for the special December 2016 new parameters is under preparation and the single reports to participants will be delivered in January 2017.

Martin Burke and Silvia Orlandini had a call with Harrie van Bijgaart on 16th January to develop in 2017 a Strategy Document for ICAR's MIR equipment validation scheme. A certain number of big companies like Bentley, Delta and Foss have no scheme for validation and are interested in this activity/new process. The idea is to appoint 2-3 laboratories in the World to validate new equipment.

Action: Silvia Orlandini will prepare a summary document for the Board in March including budget.

Animal identification SC

The CE informed about the main items discussed at the last meeting of the SC on 12th December 2016:

- ID country codes guidelines update. A mini team will review the country code issues with Interbull/ Intergenomics.
- Promotions Advisory Group for 2017 ICAR certification services.

These and other routine matters will be progressed during the next face to face meeting in Rome on 8th and 9th February.

For the 2017 ID business growth, the ICAR team will focus on promotion "full test certification and Field Validation Service" through the Competent Authorities.

Recording and sampling devices SC

The CE with the support of Andie Dimitriadou and the Chair of the SC has established a list with the test lined up to be completed in 2017 and a provisional list with tests may start in 2017.

Sensor Device TF: Since last conference call in December 2016 now Reinhard Reents is also part of this TF. The following items have been progressed on this meeting:

- List of sensors/systems in our markets shared by the laboratories; further groupings and categorization required as suggested.
- Presentation of summary of recent research/studies on sensors.
- Two draft surveys developed by Brian Wickham to ask about sensors our DHI members are dealing with in the field.
- Reach out to include more manufacturers/ technologists into the TF.

Scope is to have an interim report to present in Scotland in June 2017 and a final report ready for the ICAR conference in Auckland early 2018.



Interbull/InterBeef

Interbull: The ICAR/Interbull TF met in December 2016 and pointed out that to rewrite the ICAR-SLU agreement was a priority.

The TF also discussed the intellectual property and liabilities, as well as the Interbull logo and how to express it as part of ICAR family. It is a difficult item but the Interbull Center is well oriented to show they are part of the ICAR Brand.

A mini group has been asked to work on this agreement and a meeting was scheduled on 13th January to address the item. The goal is to complete the work and close the TF by Edinburgh in June 2017.

InterBeef: New agreements (1. ICAR-SLU and 2. ICAR-Client) were presented and reviewed by the WG in Chile. New changes were recommended by the WG and brought back to the legal advisor and subsequent changes were incorporated and final drafts are now for review in the context of the ICAR-SLU agreement. Once ready the new agreements will be presented to the S.I. and ICAR Boards for adoption for 2017.

Other Groups

DNA WG: On Monday 9th January 2017 there was the first meeting of this WG; main items were: i) review of the ToR for the WG; ii) agreeing and setting of priorities which include the release of the Accreditation of DNA Centres; iii) PSE services; iv) recessive gene data exchange, and v) new technologies. Three meetings are planned between January and June 2017.

The WG wanted to highlight to the Board the issue of the “Hayes and Goddard” (Australia) patent; an application filed by them at WIPO in 2007 entitled “Artificial selection method and reagents”.

The chair of the WG, Brian van Doormaal, reported that this patent application has been approved in Canada and they are currently in the process of assessing if they should initiate a request for a re-examination of the patent by providing published documents as prior art. On the other side, he informed that the US Patent office had rejected this application due to prior art evidence received.

This patent could have a significant impact on several ICAR members and Interbull clients. In EU some key members are already working with EFFAB to challenge this patent application. ICAR is requested to provide a platform to help non EU members with a global unified counter argument/ approach.

The President was not aware about details but will strongly support the creation of this platform. The idea is to do something similar as with the Cornell patent in the past. He asked Bianca Lind to be member of the platform because quite familiar with this patent matters, and also as representation in the Board. He asked all the Board members to think and propose other people with time and familiar in this field, as we will need also someone to push and do the daily work.

The CE will check with Reinhard Reents exact timing, while Bianca Lind underlined the importance of expertise in fields of genomics. It will be good also to have someone from US, Canada, Australia and New Zealand, because of different systems. Laurent Journaux previously participated in patent issues with EFFAB; he informed they have a specialized lawyer who is very efficient. In his opinion there is a need to put forces together.

Action: Board members will send names and contacts for discussion at the next face to face meeting in February.

3.6 ICAR Conferences

Chile 2016

Martin Burke sent the results of the Post Event Surveys (appendix 4). The document was shared and discussed with the LOC during the After Action Review and also with the UK2017 LOC for feedback. The conference abstracts and presentations are now available on the ICAR web site and the ICAR team is now working on finalizing the proceedings for web publication.

The President asked Jorge Lama about his experience as part of the LOC in Chile; he confirmed his personal satisfaction for the good experience and also for Cooprinsem.

ICAR 2017 UK

Martin Burke informed the change in the date for the Board meeting in Edinburgh; it was decided to anticipate it on Sunday 11th June 2017.

On 9th January 2017 the ICAR team met with Marco Winters, Mike Coffey and LOC to follow-up the progress in the organization. The LOC informed that the venue for conference had changed and now will be at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre. The draft programme is detailed in appendix 5. Next meeting is scheduled on 30th January 2017.

The Board appreciated the programme and issues, although the President considered these were not complete in balance with requests from non-EU members but it is not realistic to expect all congresses to be totally balanced, there is a need to focus on selected items.

Martin Burke reported the comment from Niels H. Nielsen on email about lack of agenda items from the farmer perspective; he will report this to the LOC at their next meeting.

ICAR 2018 New Zealand

The proposed 2018 Program and Registration for ICAR/Interbull/WCGALP was shared with the Board. CE reported to the Board that Reinhard Reents of Interbull SC would prefer if there were more Registration options then proposed, He particularly suggested to extend the ICAR/Interbull days so it encompasses the joint sessions with WCGALP on the Mon and Tue. CE has asked Reinhard to send back formal feedback so he could pass onto Brian Wickham and the LOC for review and response to Interbull suggestions. BW and CE to follow up.



ICAR 2019 Czech Republic

There is nothing new to report. Josef Kučera informed he is quite sure the event will be in Prague but will need to confirm in February with his Board both the venue and dates, which will be anyway at the end of May or beginning of June 2019.

ICAR 2020

The CE informed that the sub group and staff held a call on 16th December 2016. The sub group agreed to pursue with The Netherlands and/or Belgium. Hans Wilmink will talk to the CRV Board next week and revert to the CE, but he expects a positive answer from CRV and probably the event will be in The Netherlands.

3.7 Future ICAR and SERVICE-ICAR Board meetings

The schedule for the next Board meetings was confirmed as presented in the CE report.

Action: Martin Burke will provide a provisional agenda for the face to face meeting in February 2017.

4. Any other business

Martin Burke asked the President to give a brief update to the Board on the pending legal case. The President informed that the lawyers have now the 3rd draft of defence ready for discussion, and a list of witnesses to decide tomorrow. The President is happy that the ICAR position and defence is very strong. It will be completed and submitted before 30th January, and the case will take place on 9th February. On 9th February our lawyer will ask to move the Court from Terni to Rome as both seats of ICAR and EAAP are there. The President will also look to convene with EAAP to find a solution.

The President reminded the high confidentiality of this matter and asked all the present not to discuss it outside the office.

5. Adjourn

The meeting was closed on at 21h15.