Terms of Reference for Global Reach Working Group

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Table of Contents

1   Background

The purpose of this paper is to outline the terms of reference for the ICAR Global Reach Working Group (GR-WG) following a review of the Developing Countries Working Groups (DC-WG).

This proposal follows:

- on the discussion, which took place on 23rd September, involving Martin Burke, Charl Hunlun and Brian Wickham,
- incorporation of feedback from Charl and Martin to a first draft.

This report is for consideration by the DC-WG.

The following sections cover the key elements of the proposed Terms of Reference for the GR-WG that will replace the DC-WG.

2   Objectives of the GR-WG

The objectives of the GR-WG are based ICAR's strategic goal of becoming a truly global organisation focused on providing members involved in animal recording with valuable benefits and services. Animal recording has a major role to play in helping animal farmers to provide the worlds growing population with food that is nutritious, affordable, sustainable and safe. ICAR's well-established infrastructure has considerable potential to be of benefit to other countries, other species, other animal products, and other farming systems, than those that currently form the core of ICAR.

The mission of the GR-WG is to *bring the benefits of ICAR to the rest of the world*.

The GR-WG will achieve this mission through the following objectives:

1) **Identifying and prioritising** those regions, and countries to which ICAR can deliver the greatest benefits in aspects of animal recording in the near future (three to five years) and longer term (five to fifteen years).

2) **Engage with leaders –** political, farming, technical, and economic **-** in the priority regions and countries to:

    a) **Understand**. Build an understanding within ICAR of the ways in which it can provide value.

b) **Take Action**. Initiating actions that result in ICAR being able to provide the greatest possible benefits to potential member organisations in those areas.

3) **Increase ICAR's membership** by recruiting relevant organisations in the priority regions and countries to become full and active members of ICAR.

4) **Identify and prioritise ICAR guideline and service developments** that are needed to ensure ICAR provides valuable benefits and services to its members in the priority regions and countries.
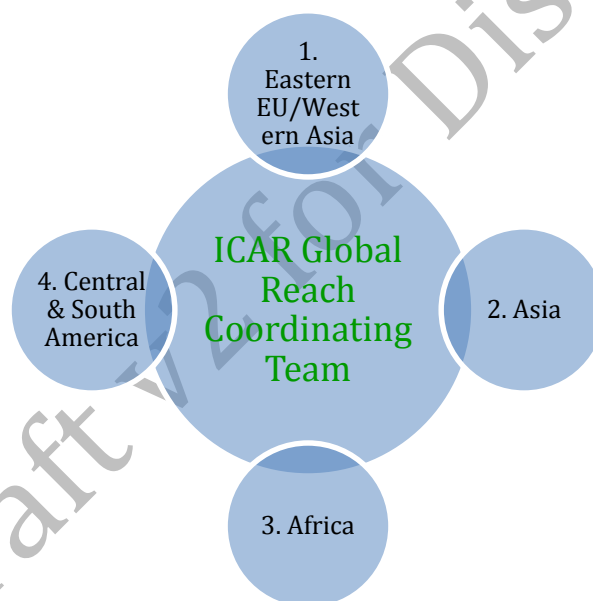
3   Governance

There will be a central ICAR Global Reach Coordination team which will cordinate and support the activities of four[1] Global Reach (GR) Sub-Groups.

Each GR Sub-Group will cover a territory where we feel the ICAR message has not fully reached yet.

Each GR Sub-Group is made up from persons from within these territories.

Each GR Sub-Group is responsible for achieving their goals in their own territories, eg number of new members recruited etc.

Each GR GR Sub-Group will have its own chair.

The ICAR Global Reach Coordinating Team will be made up of the ICAR Secretariat Coordinator and, at least, the 4 chairs of the GR Sub-Groups with support from ICAR administration staff.

The role of the ICAR GR Coordinating Team is to provide the GR Sub-Groups with;

- Agreeing priorities for (and with) the GR Sub-Groups

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[1] Working with 4 GR Sub-Groups for now but we may further divide as required. eg Sub-Sahara, East Africa, West Africa.

- Standard material for dissemination of ICAR message/brand
- Infrastructural support, web, meeting coordination
- Guidance on the interpretation and implementation of ICAR guidelines
- Links and engagement with leaders eg Breeder Assns, FAO, Government Agents, etc
- Guidance on workshop / platforms for networking and sharing forum(s)

The GR Sub-Groups will comprise members who cover some or all, depending on the level of interest and participation in ICAR activities, of the following interests:

a. Countries within the relevant territory with many farm animaIs, especially cattle, and few ICAR members.

b. **Technical expertise** in identification, performance recording, traceability, data management, data exchange, and genetic evaluations.

c. **Supporters of ICAR expanding its reach** to countries within the territory covered by the GR Sub-Group.

The GR Coordinating Team, may from time to time, create advisory committees to provide specialist and expert advice on topics of relevance to achieving the objectives of the Group.

4   Secretariat & Reporting

Secretariat to be provided by ICAR administration team with this role including:

a. **Meetings** - agree dates and venues in consultation with GR Coordinator or GR Sub-Group Chairperson, provide notice of meetings to members, agree agenda with GR Coordinator or GR Sub-Group Chairperson, distribute agenda, take minutes, agree minutes with GR Coordinator or GR Sub-Group Chairperson, and distribute minutes.

b. **Group Composition** – maintain list of members with up-to-date contact details, in consultation with GR Coordinator and ICAR Board ensure membership is comprised of interested and enthusiastic members.

c. **Website** – maintain website and forum ensuing contents are up-to-date and relevant according to the TOR.

5   Communications with the ICAR Board

a. Annual report from the GR Coordinator to the Board.

b. The ICAR administration support person as identified from time to time by the ICAR Secretary General. All communications for the GR Coordinating Team and the GR Sub-Groups are to be copied to this person.

c. Participation of the GR Coordinator in meetings with the Board, normally on an annual basis coinciding with the ICAR Annual Meetings.

6   Priorities

Priorities are to be established by the Committee taking account of its terms of reference and any requests from the ICAR Board.

That the priorities for Global Reach Working Group in the next 2 years include the following:

a. Build on recent progress in South and Central America;

b. Build on recent progress in Africa;

c. Develop and maintain a very effective working relationship with FAO, funding bodies, and manufacturers;

d. Determine priority countries in each GR Sub-Group territory;

e. Build and maintain a database of potential new ICAR members in each GR Sub-Group territory;