

# Minutes of the ERFP Steering Committee meeting

August 25, 2023, Lyon, France

## Participants:

**Chair:** Montserrat Castellanos Moncho, Spain

## **National coordinators, members of the SC:**

Danijela Bojkovski, Slovenia, In situ Chair	Jan Hendrik Schneider, Germany
Christina Ligda, Greece	Nina Svartedal, Norway
	Ruta Šveistienė, Lithuania

## **Invited participants:**

Roswitha Baumung, FAO	Fernando Tejerina, <i>Ex Situ</i> Chair, Spain
Enrico Sturaro, Doc & Info chair (virtually), Italy	

## **Secretariat:**

Coralie Danchin, and Eleonore Charvolin-Lemaire (Inrae) (France)

Montserrat Castellanos welcomes the participants and introduces the agenda. The Agenda of the SC meeting is approved.

*Most of the slides presented by the secretariat are to be validated and/or changed by the Steering Committee before their presentation to the General Assembly (GA) the next day. Therefore, the slides presentations are posted in the GA webpage.*

## **1. Annual and financial progress**

The secretariat presents the main items of the annual progress as well as the final financial report and current financial situation (as for August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023). The closing budget for the previous financial year (2022) was presented to the SC, which accepted it.

The SC suggests including in the AHA templates the obligation to publish their reports – when appropriate – in the GENRES journal to boost the number of publications in the journal and increase the visibility of ERFP work.

Eleonore Charvolin will include a training on the inclusion of data in EFABIS in the next training sessions for new NCs.

## **2. ToR and MYPOW**

The SC by majority decision will ask the NCs to vote for a raise of 33% or 50% for the country contributions in 2025. It will be reminded that they are voluntary contributions.

### 3. Meeting with the WG/TF Chairs

Written reports were prepared by all WG/TF Chairs, prior to the Assembly meeting, and sent to all NCs and Secretariat. All the Chairs attended the meeting of the SC to discuss future plans (virtual attendance of Enrico Sturaro).

- WG *ex situ*

Portugal just sent a letter to enroll EUGENA which are great news Portugal is the country with the best information in DAD IS.

A discussion is raised about the EUGENA Steering Board AHA. There is a general feeling that the steering board is a permanent body, therefore it should have a stable budget. Fernando Tejerina suggests a cautious approach by having an AHA at least a year or two to check the implications of its members before deciding on a permanent budget – probably within the *ex-situ* WG budget.

- TF transboundary breeds.

Eleven online meetings were held since last year. The main objective for 2023 is to publish an article in the GENRES journal. Some interesting facts were found thanks to this TF, such as there is no country without a Transboundary breed, and 88% of the Transboundary breeds are classified as being at risk in Europe.

### 4. Final plans for activities in 2023 and budget proposal

There has been a sharp increase in the number of actions to be financed. Also, some AHA seems quite disconnected from the WG plans. Starting 2024, the following procedure will be implemented to submit an AHA.

- Deadline for submissions is June (final dates depending on the WG venue) instead of November 1<sup>st</sup>. When possible, the list of submissions will be provided to the WG for discussion.
- Each AHA will have to be reviewed by the relevant WG chairs and/or WG (cf. supra).
- SC will give the final review before the GA to have a consolidated funding line to be included in the next year budget.
- General recommendations to publish in the GENRES journal will be included in the AHA template provided by the secretariat.

For the 2024 AHA, there are still actions that should be submitted after the GA since the 2023 deadline was November 1<sup>st</sup>. A global budget proposal was calculated by the secretariat for the 2024 budget to be voted by the general assembly. The individual validation for each AHA

will be reviewed by the next SC, including their final budget that might need to be lowered to remain in the budget boundaries.

It is reminded that the maximum yearly budget for an AHA is 10 k€.

## 5. Link with EURC EAB; organisation of the GA inputs

During the dedicated slot, the assembly will be split in small groups to collect the NCs thoughts on the links to build with the EURC EAB. The SC suggests creating groups of maximum 5/6 persons including one person familiar with the EURC EAB or the EU Animal Breeding Legislation, and to have them answer these two questions:

- Where ERFP and EURC EAB should work together.
- and its opposite: what are the specific roles of each organization.

## 6. AOB

The ERFP secretariat received an invitation to a workshop “Optimising genetic potential for resilient and diverse production systems” that will be held 23rd October 2023 in Brussels, Belgium, without being able to participate. SC agrees that ERFP funds a travel reimbursement for the chair or an alternate to represent ERFP at this congress.

The 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ABS Consultation Forum will be held in hybrid format on September 27<sup>th</sup>. Didier Bouchel (France) who was following this topic is in sick leave. Danijela Bojkovski agrees to register on behalf of ERFP.

Montserrat Castellanos tries to keep the AnGR strategy on the agenda of the next Zootechnical Committee, however the Commission does not show a strong will to follow this item.

**The next SC will be held virtually by the end of the year 2023, date to be set up with the new SC members.**

## 7. Bilateral meeting of the ERFP SC and the FAO

Roswitha Baumung presents a detail version of her GA slides.

The next ITWG should be held from October 29<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> 2024 and the next CGRFA from March 24<sup>th</sup> till 28<sup>th</sup> 2025.



The ERFP 5 years report will be sent by FAO probably after the countries' ones. Roswitha will send a template. A dedicated group will have to work on it, probably the SC plus the WG chairs.

FAO starts to have an important experience with social media and the global feeling is that the effects are quite marginal. In general, the documents the most read are the ones related to production information and climate changes.

Setting up a Mediterranean workshop (follow-up of a 2019 AHA): FAO will support the participation of non-European NCs provided they are showing some investment in the workshop (presentations...).

**The bilateral meeting closed at 18:10.**