

# Minutes of the ERFP Steering Committee meeting

June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023, webmeeting

## **Participants:**

**Chair:** Montserrat Castellanos Moncho, Spain

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

Christina Ligda, Greece

Ruta Šveistienė, Lithuania

Jan Hendrik Schneider, Germany

## **Excused:**

Danijela Bojkovski, Slovenia

Nina Svartedal, Norway

## **Secretariat:**

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

### **1. Presentation of the Agenda and follow-up of the previous SC**

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

All the items needing follow-up will be discussed during the proposed agenda.

### **2. Follow-up of the Working Groups: main outcomes of the Toledo meetings**

*Cf. slide presentation.*

Overall, the participants were satisfied with the meeting even if there is still room for improvement. Among the most appreciated point was the possibility of connecting with other meetings' participants.

One of the points that still needs to be tackled is the fact that individual meetings are held during the same time period which limits the participation of experts that are part of several WG. We still need to push countries to nominate one expert per WG, however this is not feasible in small countries. ERFP is also still struggling to find committed persons in the WG that agree to be WG chair for instance.

Several people thought that more time should have been devoted to the individual WG. Montserrat Castellanos suggested that each WG has the opportunity of virtual meetings to move forward on specific items.

The survey results will be provided to the WG chairs so they can include some of the items in their yearly report; a summary of the results will be shared during the GA and in the secretariat report.

Christina Ligda presents the outcome of a discussion with the EAAP President, Isabel Casasús. The 2<sup>nd</sup> regional EAAP meeting will be held in Cyprus in April 2024. A proposal is done to host the annual ERFP WG meeting the same period, one day before the EAAP regional meeting, followed by the Mediterranean workshop, an ERFP AHA that was planned but has not been possible to be realized for various reasons. This Mediterranean Workshop will be organized in cooperation with the FAO North African regional network. This Workshop could be a session in the EAAP regional meeting, but we need to confirm with Isabel the issue about the registration fee. Other option is to organize only

the Mediterranean Workshop (AHA action) as part of the EAAP regional meeting and not connect this with the WG meeting.

Christina Ligda will keep working on this proposal (in contact with FAO and EAAP) while the secretariat will ask WG experts and NCs if there is any other proposal for hosting the next WG.

### **3. MYPoW and ToR**

The secretariat will finalize the inclusion of all the comments gathered by the WG chairs for the MYPoW and will disseminate the new version to the SC and chairs, for final comments to be sent by July 14<sup>th</sup>.

The new ToR proposal is discussed. A main issue is how to find an acceptable way to increase the country contributions. Several options are included in a simulation Excel sheet calculated by the Secretariat that will be sent to the SC for final decision. All the proposals are the ones already discussed at the last SC in March 2023. A new hypothesis will be tested, by keeping the old UN scale and increasing all categories fees by a % (i.e. 25% at least).

### **4. Organization of the General Assembly**

Some logistics issues concerning the rooms where the SC and GA will be held are presented by the secretariat and discussed with the SC which decides that the secretariat should wait for the last offers by the end of Friday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> and finally decide on the location. Depending on the choice made, there might not be a social dinner since lunches might be included in the logistics package.

A provisional agenda is presented by the secretariat and validated by the SC. The proposal leaves room for NCs or guests to present AnGR projects from their country. The secretariat will send a registration link, the CV of SC candidates and the EAAP program as soon as these documents are made available, as well as a strong suggestion for NCs to suggest topics for the GA as well as new AHA.

The field trip will be held in a farm an hour from Lyon in Nervieux which have two cattle breeds including a rare one, a local breed of sheep and couple pigs from a rare breed. Farmers from the rare cattle breed will come including the president of the rare cattle breed, the Ferrandaise.

The farmer website is available here: <http://www.laforest-viande.com/>

### **5. Communication: GENRES journal/Alcandora contract/Zoom subscription**

Both the contract with Alcandora and funding of the GENRES journal are fairly heavy budget for the ERFP network. An in-depth evaluation will need to be done by next year to assess the interest of keeping both fundings since ERFP activities are peaking again after two years of low expenses due to Covid, and the budget spent by the network is superior than the country contributions.

The GENRES journal secretariat strongly appreciated the ERFP commitment both from a financial point of view as well as its constant reminder of the interest of the journal through the social media or during our working groups. Within the GENRES editorial board, among the AnGR editors, Etienne Verrier (France) stepped down due to change of activities. Christina Ligda (Greece) offered to join, and her candidacy was accepted. The SC congratulates her for this new nomination.

The Zoom subscription will need to be renewed by Coralie Danchin by using her own debit card since ERFP does not own one, therefore she asks the SC if the subscription should be renewed and if so, to be reimbursed by ERFP. The SC approved the renewal of the Zoom subscription to encourage ERFP virtual meetings and its reimbursement to Coralie Danchin.

## **6. Elections of new SC members**

A mail will be sent to all NCs before the GA with the list of nominees. It will be reminded to all NCs that other candidacies are accepted too and that the final elections will be done during the GA.

## **7. Follow up of the work of the EURC centre**

The main accomplishment of the consortium since the last SC was the finalization and launch of the survey about the implementation of Regulation (EU) 2016/1012 for endangered breeds. Different templates were designed depending on the target: EU or non-EU countries, NCs, National Competent Authorities, breeding associations or organisations. The main outcome of the survey will be presented by Hoger Goderz during our GA.

The second action related to the centre is the setting up of the AHA Animal Health and Genebanks which is led by Fernando Tejerina in connections with the EURC centre. A kick off meeting was held May 16<sup>th</sup> and a physical meeting is planned 9<sup>th</sup> October close from 's-Hertogenbosch (the Netherlands), before the AI Vets annual meeting.

**The next SC will be held virtually, August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023.**