

## Meeting of ICAR MA SC on 24<sup>th</sup> of May 2007 in Munich, Germany

-Draft minutes-

**Present members:** Olivier Leray (Chair, FR), Harrie van den Bijgaart (NL), Christian Baumgartner (DE), Gavin Scott (NZ), Silvia Orlandini (IT), Egil Brenne (NO), Marina Gips (IL), George Psathas (CY), Patricia Gatti (AR) representing Roberto Castañeda.

**Absent Members:** John Rhoads (USA), Roberto Castañeda (AR).

**Observers:** Thomas Berger (CH), Peter Groeneveld (NL), Toshihiro Ohmori (JP), Neven Antunac (CRO), Natasa Mikulec (CRO), Miguel Rodriguez (ES), Saulius Savickis (LT), Dalia Riaukiene (LT), Jacquelin Page (USA), Eva Balslev Jørgensen (DK), Steen Kold-Christensen (DK), Georges Bühlmann (CH), Stanislava Golc Teger (SI), Rachid Kouaouci (CA), Akira Kushiro (JP), Yasuhisa Shimakawa (JP), Laura Monaco (IT).

**Chaired by:** Olivier Leray

**Minutes taken by:** Gavin Scott

### Opening.

The chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 1:40 pm.

### 1. Approval of the tentative agenda

The agenda was approved by all members present at the meeting.

### 2. Composition of ICAR MA SC

All existing members of the MTL WG were transferred as members to the MA SC.

New Members: Silvia Orlandini (IT), Roberto Castañeda (AR)

### 3. ICAR News

#### 3.1 ICAR Certificates of Quality

Chairman presented information about the quality assurance system developed by ICAR and its recent evolution endorsed by the General Assembly in Kuopio and pointed out that this provides a strong support to the AQA system developed for milk recording analysis. Any new member of ICAR must sign up to new certificate system. Previous special stamp held by existing members valid until 2009. Existing members have until 2009 to change over to new system.

#### 3.2 Web site

Chairman tabled the actual format of MA SC webpage, indicating that more than one page may be required in future to provide more clarity with regard to the numerous items. Members supported web page reformatting and confirmed the information content.

Marina Gips requested that web page information be expanded to include General Quality information (eg. Measurement of uncertainty). Idea thought to have merit with regard to accreditation concerns. A short discussion on the various ways to estimate analytical result uncertainty and the need for only one to be promoted by ICAR followed. George Psathas suggested that the way deriving from actual individual lab precision as presented by Olivier Leray in ICAR Session 2004 could be described in guidelines as it provides the true uncertainty in the situation of the laboratory. Group members agreed that it would be incorporated in the guidelines on organising proficiency studies in a chapter on the use of proficiency testing results.

**Action:** *SC Members involved in guidelines on organising proficiency studies to take into account that point.*

#### 4. Current activities

##### 4.1 Approval of the report of the last meeting:

The report drafted from the meeting in Kuopio Finland was reviewed incorporating changes received by email from members in Summer 2006. The final report was approved.

##### 4.2 Working programme 2007-2010:

The draft working program drawn in Autumn 2006 was reviewed by meeting participants. Eleven (11) work items had been identified, each with four years implementation plans (see Annex). Experts (project groups) were put forward for each of the 11 work items.

**Action: Project groups to start working on relevant subjects according to plan of action.**

##### 4.3 Progress in current works:

###### (a) Milk analyser approval/validation according to the ICAR protocol

Foss and Delta Instruments representatives at the meeting endorsed the protocol  
Discussion on how expert labs could be notified to prospective instrument manufacturers.  
Suggestion was that perhaps ICAR could maintain a list of labs that instrument manufacturers could use.

**Action: Olivier Leray to draft a complement to the approval request procedure and get comments from members.**

###### (b) Guidelines for milk testing laboratories

Guidelines to be checked regularly. Considered best to be done every two years as this coincides with the ICAR General Assembly which approves ICAR guidelines updates at every biennial session.

**Action: All members to read the guidelines and propose updates. Olivier Leray to include appropriate changes where needed by the end of 2007.**

###### (c) ICAR reference laboratory network :

Reviewed membership list. Olivier Leray presented the new members from Kuopio meeting and indicated new nominations from Canada, Latvia and Norway whereas one laboratory in the UK no longer exists. Egil Brenne also indicated that the information about Norway may be out of date and should probably be corrected.

Chairman sought new prospects for Latin America members, Roberto Castañeda is willing to promote the network in that area. Patricia Gatti informs on his behalf that the new ICAR member organisation of Uruguay indicated it was not yet ready to nominate a reference laboratory. The group noted that countries not yet members of ICAR with significant dairy production (e.g. Brazil, Chili) could also find benefit in ICAR and its international AQA system and PTs.

**Action: Egil Brenne to check Norway details and update details as necessary. All to carry on promoting the network so as to broaden membership.**

###### (d) Workshops and meetings:

Christian Baumgartner indicated MUVA might no longer be in a position to carry out the training program. He gave a quick summary of MUVA training proposal and indicated that proposal was still sound.

Steen Kold-Christensen (Foss) indicated that his company used online training and that this worked very well.

Silvia Orlandini gave information on a project proposal. That is a discussion on using movies for analytical method for education and as a support to teaching/training sessions.

Olivier Leray concluded the group had to consider alternative ways to bring analytical training and education to labs so to adapt to various situations. Need to cope with possible large attendance (hence dedicated workshop is better suitable) or to smaller group with practical performance (hence specific facilities are necessary). The option mentioned by Steen Kold-Christensen is valuable to be considered as well by ICAR and would meet the

idea of an education tool box. Movies on analytical methods proposed by Silvia Orlandini could be part of it.

**Action: Christian Baumgartner and Silvia Orlandini to review options (ie. work item 10).**

ICAR INDRL meeting will be held in Niagara Falls next year. The plan is also to have a joint meeting with the network of North American Laboratory Managers Association (NALMA) chaired by Jere High so as to get reciprocal knowledge of respective objectives, organisations and analytical methods/systems. There is also the option to organise a training session for laboratory technical managers but this could only be a technical session specific for analytical methods. Chairman asked members for ideas on themes and subjects. He indicated that the venue made it opportune to have a North American specialists to do a presentation. Chairman proposed to contact Pr. Dave Barbano from Cornell University (Ithaca) to do a presentation in that capacity.

**Action: Olivier Leray to send email asking for meeting options. Preliminary programme required by 1<sup>st</sup> November.**

(e) Provision of information:

Databases on RMs available for milk recording purposes.

- o Nothing new in this area, however Christian Baumgartner reminded the AFEMA web site in Germany ([www.afema.eu](http://www.afema.eu)) had some of this information, although no English version was available.

Information on milk testing on farm.

- o Lodi Dairy Institute's project on near infra red in-line at farm but no news since Kuopio 2006,
- o Also mention that Lattec (Foss/DeLaval) was progressing with the introduction of on-farm analytical devices,
- o Small transportable devices are also developed by manufacturers (re doc on SCC Anameth (F) and LactiCheck of Page & Pedersen (US))
- o Discussion about accuracy required for on-farm devices to be beneficial for Herd Improvement. Olivier Leray reminded the group of the advantage of on-farm analysis in that they allow through repeated sampling and analysis on different days to reduce the day-to-day error - i.e. the largest part of the error in composition estimating - by averaging. He showed it may only need two tests per month in a draft paper he is working on in this area.

4.4

New work items under consideration:

All these items discussed as part of working program (Agenda item 4.2)

- a) Guidelines on organising proficiency studies
- b) Guidelines on organising centralised calibration
- c) Guidelines for on farm analytical devices
- d) ICAR milk analyser approval
- e) Questionnaire on situation of milk testing laboratories in ICAR countries
- f) ICAR laboratories data base on the Internet
- g) List of RMs suppliers available for milk recording purposes
- h) Education in analytical methods/matters

## 5. Other items in connection with other international bodies

### a) ICAR SC RD:

Uffe Lauritsen was informed on the project of guidelines for on-farm analytical devices in Autumn 2006 and agreed on making that work by a working party from different SC and WG. The first step is to form the group through a call for interest by e-mail and plan a first meeting either by or at the next ICAR session in 2008. Starting documents would be the presentation of Hans Wilmink in Kuopio 2006, the MTL WG communication and Lattec (Tove Asmussen) presentation in Sousse 2004 and a preliminary note (underway) by Olivier Leray.

**Action: Olivier Leray by 15 September 2007**

### b) FIL-IDF:

Olivier Leray and Harrie van den Bijgaart will be natural representatives as chairs of standing committees and members of MSSG and will make liaison for ICAR needs. They are no official liaison needed on IDF side and MA SC chairman to be the link between IDF and ICAR Head Offices.

5. **Next meetings** 19-24 May 2008 during the IDF/ISO Analytical Week in Montreux, Switzerland then MA SC and ICAR INDRL meetings during 36<sup>th</sup> ICAR Session in Niagara Falls, USA, 19-21 June 2008.

Hamilton, 26 June 2007  
Gavin Scott

## ANNEX

### Four Yearly Programme of Sub-Committee on Milk Analysis (MA SC) 2007-2010

Work item	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Theme	Analytical QA (toolbox)	Analytical QA (toolbox)	Analytical QA (toolbox)	Analytical QA (toolbox)	Analytical QA (toolbox)	Laboratory network & harmonisation	Laboratory network & harmonisation	Laboratory network & harmonisation	Laboratory network & harmonisation	Laboratory network & harmonisation	International co-ordination & consistence
Title	Guidelines on organising proficiency study	Guidelines on organising centralised calibration	Guidelines on on-farm analytical devices	Reference materials	ICAR approval of new milk analysers	On-line questionnaire on laboratory situation within ICAR	Website data base on laboratories of ICAR countries	International proficiency studies	Reference Laboratory Network meeting	Education & training on analytical matters	Liaison to other (international) groups of experts
Experts	<i>O Leray G Psathas S Orlandini</i>	<i>C Baumgartner O Leray S Orlandini</i>	<i>C Baumgartner H v d Bijgaart M Gips O Leray</i>	<i>C Baumgartner O Leray S Orlandini</i>	<i>3 examiners + All</i>	<i>G Psathas G Scott + ICAR HO</i>	<i>O Leray G Psathas + ICAR HO</i>	<i>O Leray S Orlandini</i>	<i>All</i>	<i>C Baumgartner S Orlandini + ICAR HO</i>	<i>H v d Bijgaart O Leray</i>
Objectives	ICAR guidelines and IDF/ISO IS	ICAR guidelines and IDF/ISO IS	ICAR guidelines	To be considered	Eval. report examination / advising ICAR	Two-yearly information	Regular updated information	Evaluation services	Two-yearly information	Improving laboratory testing performances	Information and feed-back / Horizontal work
2007	- Introduction - Outlines	- Introduction - Outlines	- Introduction - Outlines	Consideration for interest : - Provision of information - Guidelines on RM Qualification - Qualifying RMs	On-going process	Definition of: - content - structure - reporting on the website (tables)	Definition of: - content - structure - links - steps of developments	Annual Programme	Programming	Workshop on reference method of milk analysis (MUVA)  Elaboration of supports for teaching/training (movies on methods)	Setting up of a horizontal ICAR working party on on-farm testing ( <i>composition, work programme, meeting</i> )  Liaison persons with IDF MCM & QASADS SC
2008	Working draft	Working draft	Working draft		On-going process	- January: Launching the on-line survey  - June : Report in ICAR Session	Developing existing RLN part	Annual Programme	Organising	Workshop / training session during ICAR session  Movies	Meeting of on-farm testing WP
2009	- Reviewed draft - MO draft	- Reviewed draft - MO draft	- Reviewed draft - MO draft		On-going process		Implementing country web spaces and self-maintenance facilities	Annual Programme	Programming	Movies	Meeting of on-farm testing WP
2010	Final draft: - G.A. approval - Inclusion in ICAR guidelines	Final draft: - G.A. approval - Inclusion in ICAR guidelines	Final draft: - G.A. approval - Inclusion in ICAR guidelines		On-going process	- January: Launching the on-line survey  - June : Report in ICAR Session		Annual Programme	Organising	Movies	Meeting of on-farm testing WP