THE GLOBAL STANDARD FOR LIVESTOCK DATA

# ICAR Sub-Committee for Animal Identification
# Teleconference meeting
# 29 September 2016, 14.00 CET

## - Minutes -

Attendance:

SC Members:
Martin Burke (acting Chairman)
Kaivo Ilves
Jay Mattison
Folkert Onken
Erik Rehben
Henry Richardson
Andie Dimitriadou (Secretary)

Invitees:
Aude Didier (CETIM)
Lilian Hennecon (CETIM)
Susanne Gäckler (DLG)
Pieter Hogewerf (IMA)
Jonas Persson (RYK)
Robert Davies (SAIT)

**1. Welcome and opening of the meeting**

The meeting started at 14.05 CET. Martin welcomed the participants, and Andie Dimitriadou of the ICAR Secretariat was appointed as rapporteur.

**2. Agenda Review/Approval**

The agenda was approved with the addition of two items under item 11. Any other business: the complaint vs. KingDoes company and the ICAR guidelines on chromium concentration.

**3. Approval of the Minutes from the SC teleconference of 30 June 2016**

The minutes of the Sub-Committee's teleconference of 30 June 2016 were unanimously approved.

**4. Validation Service Procedure and Application review and approval**

Martin reported that the Manufacturers supported the draft of the validation service. Henry was pleased that all his comments had been incorporated in the draft documents. The Sub-Committee had no further comments on the drafts, which can be finalized and the service can be launched.

**Action: ICAR Secretariat to finalize the documents, ensuring that information across all documents (internal, external and application form) is consistent.**

**5. Outcomes/proposals from meeting with Manufacturers of 27th July**

Martin walked the Sub-Committee members through the issues discussed with Manufacturers in the meeting of July 27th. The Manufacturers expressed their satisfaction with ICAR's work, the ICAR Guidelines, the testing and certification procedures, and the excellent work of the Laboratories.

With regard to tendering, Manufacturers thought that ICAR should develop a template, although without spending too many resources on it. ICAR should identify general requirements of Competent Authorities in tendering processes, as tenders often have extra requirements than the ICAR standards. Laboratories brought up the issue of the maximum force requested to attach ear tags with pliers and the differences in standards among countries. ICAR should consider this and other issues, like the tensile force requested by the tenders, which are higher than what is contemplated by the ICAR Guidelines.

**Action: Laboratories to identify parameters not currently considered in the ICAR Guidelines but requested in tenders, and share with the Sub-Committee.**

In the field of supply chain quality assurance, Manufacturers agreed that more technical information should be submitted when applying for a test. The Sub-Committee noted that more control is necessary when applications are received by the ICAR Secretariat. Extra fields should be added in the application form, and all applications should be checked for completeness. Obligatory and optional fields should be identified.

**Action: ICAR Secretariat to review the application form and come back to the Sub-Committee with suggestions.**

- **Technology Task Force (priority UHF)**

  Following the meeting with the Manufacturers, Martin had a good meeting with the ISO WG3, where the technology group was discussed. Mark Tereszczak from Allflex has set up an Additional Technologies Working Group, including Jonas, Neil Hammerschmidt and Randy Munger (Aphis), with Martin as an observer. The task of the Working Group is to come up with a proposal on the use of ID codes. Given the existence of this group and the presence of ICAR in it, there is no reason currently for ICAR to duplicate with another group.

  **Action: Martin will share the TOR of the Working Group with the Sub-Committee.**

- **Promotion Task Force**

  The Sub-Committee, like the Manufacturers, agreed with the need to use commercial knowledge in order to further promote the ICAR services and enhance communication. The idea of a Promotion Task Force was supported and Manufacturers' expertise could contribute to it. It was agreed that, in order to reduce bureaucracy, the TORs of all groups that fall under the ID Sub-Committee should be included as annexes in the Sub-Committee's general TOR.

  **Action: The SC endorsed the formation of a Promotion Task Force with manufacturers help to advise the SC how to promote ICAR Certification services.**

  **Action: ICAR Secretariat to bring all TORs into one general ID Sub-Committee TOR document.**

- **Companion Expert Advisory Group**

  It was agreed that ICAR should not focus on this for the time being. The role of ISO will need to be central as ICAR is only involved in companion animals as a Registration Authority for ISO.

  **Action: Martin to discuss further with Pieter.**

## 6. Miscellaneous – Guidelines – SOPs – Updates

### a. Ring Test SOP finalisation Conference Call

Bob reported on the conference call held by Laboratories last week. The frequency of the ring tests will need to be decided. Pieter will send his comment on the minimum activation field to Bob. It was noted that the draft presented by the Laboratories will replace the previous draft, while keeping the introductory part.

**Action: Laboratories to send comments on the draft shared by Bob and discuss again if necessary, in order to finalize the document.**

**Action: ICAR Secretariat to merge the two drafts into one.**

### b. Guidelines 10.7 and 10.8 final version

There was general agreement with the revised Guidelines as reviewed by Susanne and Bob. The issue of the chromium concentration was discussed, and among the laboratories there was agreement with the proposed modification of the Guidelines sections 10.7.5.3.4.1.2.2 and 10.8.5.3.4.2.2, regarding the removal of the reference to the value of total chromium.

**Action: ICAR Secretariat to circulate the specific information on chromium concentration to the Sub-Committee for approval.**

### c. Draft Guidelines on international animal identity standards

Henry has looked at the cross-references on animal identity standards in the ICAR Guidelines with the aim to come up with consistent references for the 2017 Guidelines. Henry received good comments from Erik on the last draft and will finalize.

**Action: Henry to finalize and share the final draft with the Sub-Committee.**

### d. Protocol and procedure on mechanical testing of injectable devices

The ISO WG3 is working on the protocol, which will probably not include boluses given their decreasing use. Susanne, Jonas and Martin will look at the draft document.

**Action: Pieter to share the draft with Jonas and Martin when available.**

### e. NLIS test

Martin has been in contact with Mick Prendergast of the National Livestock Identification System of Australia, who are interested in being represented in the ID Sub-Committee. Martin shared their document on RFID tag testing for reference. It was commented that it is useful to see how a Competent Authority uses the ICAR certifications.

## 7. ID SC Chair recruitment update

Martin reported that since there were no developments regarding the recruitment of the Chair, he will continue to chair the Sub-Committee. He will have individual discussions with the Sub-Committee members in the following weeks. Henry expressed his appreciation for Martin's work while Martin welcomed any ideas from the Sub-Committee on the issue.

**8. ISO WG3 Registration Authority Meeting Update**

Martin provided an update on the meetings held with ISO in Amsterdam the week before. There was good discussion on the complaints management by the ICAR Secretariat. The document listing the complaints for 2015-2016 was shared with the Sub-Committee. Martin provided background information on the Petchip911/Trovan case, where the involvement of ISO is required since ICAR does not have adequate legal power. Martin will work with Pieter and Kees on a statement.

The role of ICAR as a Registration Authority was also discussed with the ISO SC19, who is happy with the registration process. It was agreed that the ISO-ICAR agreement needs to be updated, as well as the 11784 standard removing the reference to ICAR.

**Action: Martin together with Pieter and Kees to draft a statement on the Petchip911 case and share with the Sub-Committee.**

**9. Chile 2016 - Forum with key Manufacturers**

It was reported that Martin, Andie, Jay, and Jonas will be present in Chile.

**Action: Martin to contact Manufacturers to set up a meeting in Chile.**

**10. Next meeting**

The next meeting (teleconference) of the Sub-Committee was scheduled for Mon 12th December 2016 at 14.00 CET. The next face-to-face meeting of the Sub-Committee was scheduled for 8-9 February 2017 in Amsterdam.

**11. Any other business**

**a. Complaint vs ICAR-certified product (KingDoes RFID)**

Martin and Andie provided information on the case of the complaint of Luhsan Pet Products cc (South Africa) versus Beijing KingDoes RFID Technologies Co., Ltd. (China), who provided duplicate ICAR-certified transponders. ICAR sent an official request for corrective action to KingDoes, whose reply was considered not satisfactory. The ICAR Secretariat will need to follow up on the issue.

**Action: ICAR Secretariat to request more specific actions by KingDoes.**

Henry asked about the complaint by Crossway Cottage (UK) versus Smartchip (Taiwan).

**Action: ICAR Secretariat to provide the information and contacts to Henry to follow up on the case.**

**b. Concentration of chromium – ICAR Guidelines**

See item 6b.

**12. Meeting closure**

The meeting was closed at 15.50 CET with thanks to all participants.