



Terms of Reference for Artificial Insemination & Related Technologies Working Group

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1 Background

The following are the Terms of Reference (ToR) for an ICAR Group. The Group is known as the Artificial Insemination & Related Technologies Working Group (AI&RT-WG).

The changes to these ToR over time are summarized in Table 1:



Table 1. Change summary.

Date of Change	Nature of Change
29 th November 2016	Version approved by ICAR Board.
13 th June 2017	Amended to clarify that the objectives of the group include the use of artificial breeding data to assess reproductive success
25 th July 2017	Change approved by ICAR Board.
22 nd October 2019	Standard sentence on term of membership and voting rights added under Governance. Updated conflicts of interest sentence including a link to policy for ICAR Groups.
30 th October	Priorities updated following Oct. 30 th meeting of Board and Chairs.

The following sections cover the key elements of the Terms of Reference for the AI&RT-WG.

2 Objectives

The objectives of the AI&RT-WG are to:

- a. Maintain, update, promote and extend universal guidelines for recording data associated with artificial breeding (for both male and female gametes, primarily in cattle) and its use to assess reproductive success.
- b. Conduct and report the results of periodic international surveys related the recording of artificial breeding data and its use to assess reproductive success.
- c. Identify and specify services that can be provided by Service ICAR to facilitate the recording of artificial breeding data and its use to assess reproductive success.
- d. Stimulate and facilitate international collaboration in research and development on all aspects of recording artificial breeding data and its use to assess reproductive success.

3 Governance

3.1 Working Group

The AI&RT WG is a Committee whose Chairperson is appointed by the ICAR Board and whose members are appointed by the ICAR Secretariat in consultation with the



Chairperson. The term of membership and voting rights of members will be determined at the time of appointment and may be reviewed from time to time.

All ICAR Group members are required to comply with the most recent version of ICAR's Conflicts of Interest Policy as [here](#).

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

- Geographical regions: Europe (West and East), North America, South & Central America, Asia, Africa & Oceania.
- AI&RT Technical experts in:
 - + Semen collection, processing, storage, distribution, and insemination for cattle and other species of interest.
 - + Embryo and oocyte collection, processing, storage, distribution, and implantation for cattle and other species of interest.
 - + Use of artificial breeding data for assessing reproductive success.
- Supporters of ICAR Participation in: recording and using artificial breeding data for male and female gametes.

The Committee may create advisory committees to provide specialist and expert advice on topics of relevance to achieving the objectives of the Group.

3.2 Secretariat & Reporting

- Role of AI&RT WG Secretariat:
 - + **Group Composition** – maintain list of Group members with up-to-date contact details, in consultation with Chairperson and ICAR Board ensure membership is comprised of interested and enthusiastic members representing active stakeholders.
 - + **Group Meetings** – agree dates and venues in consultation with Chairperson, provide notice of meetings to members, agree agenda with Chairperson, distribute agenda, take minutes, agree minutes with Chairperson, and distribute minutes.
 - + **Website** – maintain website and forum ensuing contents are up-to-date and relevant according to the TOR.
- Communications with the ICAR Board



- + Annual report of the AI&RT-WG Chairperson to the Board.
- + The ICAR Staff support person as identified from time to time by the ICAR Chief Executive. All communications for the Group are to be copied to this person.
- + Participation of the Chairperson in meetings with the Board, normally on an annual basis coinciding with the ICAR Annual Meetings.

4 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 AI&RT-WG in the next year include the following:

1	Olivier Gérard will resign in June 2020: need for a new chairperson.
2	Data exchange platform: how to implement and to finance it? 1. What are the main expectations for such a platform? 2. Would an hackathon be the right solution? 3. Could a PhD student (agronomist) do the job? 4. Would ICAR or Interbull fund the project (at least to start with)?
3	Update of the Guidelines Section 6.
4	State of play of QR codes and RFID chips to identify straws in various countries.

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