



« 4 per 1000 Initiative: Soils for Food Security and the Climate »

Document Consortium 5-1: Report 4th Consortium - Katowice



5th Meeting of the Consortium

Wednesday 11 December 2019

15:30 to 18:30

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food – Madrid (Spain)

Opening

The Consortium meeting was officially opened by the Vice-President Stéphane Le Foll,

The **agenda** (see document 4-0) was approved.

The **report of the third meeting of the Consortium** (see document 4-1) in Bonn on 16 November 2017 was also approved.

General matters:

Formal welcome of new partners and members of the Initiative since the last Consortium meeting (see document 4-2):

Since the third meeting of the Consortium in Bonn in November 2017, 77 new organizations and countries signed to become a partner (77) and a member (35). In detail:

- 3 States and provinces
- 1 International Organization
- 1 Bank / Development Fund
- 3 Foundations
- 5 Farmers Organization
- 17 Research Institutes and Universities
- 22 Civil Society/NGOs
- 25 For-profit or commercial organizations

Details on each organization were provided by the applicants and checked by the Executive Secretariat (ExSec).

The Consortium validated the new partners and members as presented by the Executive Secretariat.

Activity Report for 2017 -2018 (see document 3-2)

The Executive Secretary presented the activities carried out in 2018. The Consortium validated this report.

Mandate of the President and Vice-President for 2019-2020 (see document 4-3):

At the first meeting in Marrakech on November 17th, 2016, the Consortium elected:

- Dr. **Ibrahim Assane MAYAKI** (President)
- Mr. **Stéphane LE FOLL** (Vice-President)

At the end of their first term, both have expressed the desire to continue their respective tasks for a second term of 2 years, until the meeting of the Consortium to be held at the end of 2020, during which a new President and a new Vice-President will be elected.

Consortium approved the new mandate of the president and Vice-president, for two years until the Consortium meeting at COP 26.

Proposal to set up a Bureau to approve certain decisions between Consortium meetings (see document 4-4):

The Bureau of the “4 per 1000” initiative shall support the Consortium through the provision of advice and guidance regarding the ongoing work. It shall be mainly responsible for questions of process management and assist the President in the performance of his/her duties by providing advice and by helping with various tasks if needed. The Bureau shall consist of 12 members comprising the President, the Vice-President, the Chair of the STC, the ExSec and two representatives of each college of the forum except “for-profit organizations” college.

Discussions:

Concerns were expressed on the membership of two representatives for each college, as some colleges have a small number of members. It should be on a voluntary basis without the classification of representatives of the colleges.

- It should be noted that there are no colleges with less than 20 members, therefore with two representatives from at least 20, no member will automatically have to be part of the Bureau.

Concern was also expressed on the task of the Bureau and especially what is the difference between the Bureau and the ExSec.

- Consortium only meets once a year and for the approval of new members and partners the time period is too long; the Bureau can validate these submissions by the Executive Secretary.
- Preparation of agendas should also be a task of the Bureau. Currently, only the ExSec is responsible for this.

It was suggested to bundle the presented concept of the Bureau into Terms of Reference (ToR)

- ToR for the Bureau will be developed. To avoid loss of time no ToR were formulated for this Consortium meeting. The idea is to approve the principle of the bureau, elect the members of the bureau and develop ToR. These will be circulated with the members for comments and finalization.

The feedback to the idea of creating a bureau was positive. Comments from the audience were to be more ambitious about the tasks. It was proposed to include also the mission to develop and propose a long-term Vision of principles of the initiative by the bureau and support thereby the (Vice-) President and the ExSec.

The Proposal to establish a bureau of the “4 per 1000” Initiative was approved.

Proposal to extend the mandate of current STC members by one year (see document 4-5):

The Scientific and Technical Committee started their work two years ago and met six times. The STC was dynamic and produced the deliverables that were expected of it. The team thus formed is now operational, and with the exception of one case (Prof. **Pete SMITH**), it is ready to continue its work for an additional year.

As a result, at the end of the first mandate, it would be advisable to extend the first term of the current members of the STC for a period of one year (to a total of 3 years).

The “Terms of Reference of the STC elaborated by the STC and validated by the Consortium states that:

The members of the STC are appointed for 2 years as standard. Members can be re-appointed for a two years mandate with a maximum of 3 mandates by decision of the members of the Consortium.

The Consortium approved the extension of the first mandate of current STC for one year.

Proposal to replace Prof. Pete SMITH with Dr. Beverley HENRY (see document 4-5):

Prof. **Pete SMITH** wishes to retire after the end of his two-year term.

The “Terms of Reference” of the STC state:

The nomination of new members is performed by the Consortium on proposal made by the ExSec and led by the ExSec. If a member of the STC should leave before completion of their term, the ExSec will set up a new nomination.

The ExSec proposes Dr. **Beverly HENRY** to the Consortium for the replacement of Prof. **Pete SMITH**. She is an Australian national whose CV is issued from the July 2016 call for applications and who was selected by the Chair and Vice-Chairs of the STC. Dr. **HENRY** was contacted by Dr. **Cornelia RUMPEL** (Chair Person of the STC) and has given her formal agreement to participate in the work of the STC in the event of her nomination by the Consortium.

The Consortium approved Dr. **Beverly HENRY** as a new member of the STC.

Proposals of the Scientific and Technical Committee:

Dr. **Cornelia RUMPEL**, Chair of the STC, presented the proposed orientations to the Consortium by the STC:

- The STC encourages the Consortium to be more active within the initiative. The Bureau is a good opportunity to be less passive.
- The STC encourages the EU members to lobby the missing EU member states to also join the initiative. Unless not all EU member states are member of the initiative, the EU and the European Commission cannot join and therefore the interactions will be less.
- The STC encourages the Consortium to provide financial support to the ExSec and the STC to continue and extend their work.
- The STC encourages the Consortium to get in touch with funding agencies to e.g., enable calls for projects and overall to be more active on the ground to increase SOC.
- The STC requests the Consortium to provide a view of how it wants to promote SOC projects.
- The STC recommends to develop a long-term vision for the initiative including a business plan.
- The STC is available to conduct formative assessment of SOC actions of the partners on voluntary basis by using the developed 4per1000 set of indicators.

Work programme for 2019: roadmap and budget (see document 4-6):

The ExSec presented the roadmap proposal for the year 2019.

It provides among other things:

- 1) Continuation of the work of the Scientific and Technical Committee
 - Research orientations and scientific cooperation
 - Work on projects' evaluation (launch an international call for projects; partners are very welcome to submit a project for evaluation)
 - Engagement on discussions regarding harmonization and standardization of measuring, monitoring, reporting and verifying SOC
- 2) Continued work on the collaborative platform and its operation
 - Identification of all partners in the initiative; Request to the partners to be highly active on the platform
 - Maps with geographic location of members and partners
 - Establishment of a place for collecting information on practices
 - Development of work within each college
- 3) Specific work to be done with public and private funders
 - Continuation of the donor awareness and fundraising campaign initiated in 2018
 - Building a network of partnerships
 - Working on taking into account the Green finance and the Carbon Markets Initiative
 - Exploration of the possibility and the usefulness of a creation of a foundation will be launched
- 4) Establishment of a regional level within the initiative
 - Promotion of the initiative
 - Organization of meetings at regional level
- 5) Contribution to international debates on carbon sequestration in soils
 - Create synergies in participating and contributing to cross-exchanges
 - Promote harmonized view among different UN agencies and the three Rio conventions
- 6) Communication
 - Development and animation of the regional correspondent's group
 - Website needs to be maintained permanently
 - Continuation of the publication of the newsletter in French and English (in future potentially also in Spanish)
 - Development of press relations
 - Presence of the initiative on social networks/media

Comments from the audience:

- The STC would also welcome to review proposed public policies on SOC measures
- How is 4 per 1000 involved within the Koronivia process?
 - o 4 per 1000 will apply to become an observer to UNFCCC
 - o Proposed a submission to the last Koronivia submission in the name of 4 per 1000; the document was circulated around the members

- The 4 per 1000 initiative will propose topics to be included to Koronivia submission of the member states
- The STC will make a submission for the next Koronivia workshop cycle together with other relevant expert groups and organizations
- The wish to the initiative was raised to take stock of good practices and mapping of what is done already globally
- Representative from the Japanese Agricultural Ministry, Ms. Akiko Nagano, proposed the opportunity to organize a regional “4 per 1000 Symposium” in Japan in May back to back to the Japanese “Symposium on Agriculture for Climate Change” and the 49th session of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC 49).

Statutory meetings and meetings related to the “4 per 1000 Initiative” in 2019
(see document 4-7):

The ExSec presented the list of STC and Initiative meetings in 2019 with the possible locations. The STC meetings will be tried to held back to back to other relevant meeting/conferences. For instance, back to back to the “World Congress on Agroforestry” in Montpellier.

Financial and human resources matter (including information about the ExSec composition)
Adoption of the Budget (see document 4-8):

The ExSec presents the balance sheet for the year 2017 and the projected budget for 2019. The budget is higher than last year: 805,000 €.

The Consortium validates the budget.

Comments from the audience:

- Representative from French Ministry of Agriculture announced to provide 221,000 Euros for 2019 in order to highlight the importance of the initiative and enable the initiative to face the challenges

Report of the Symposium “4 per 1000” in Africa-Johannesburg (South Africa):

From 24 to 26 October, the 4 per 1000 Africa Symposium took place. It was co-organized by NEPAD and Regeneration International. Dr. Viridiana **ALCANTARA-CERVANTES** and Ms. **Precious PHIRI** presented the details and results of the “4 per 1000 Africa Symposium”.

Ms. **Precious PHIRI** from Regeneration International presented a letter on behalf of different lead authors from Latin America which focus on connections between migration and land degradation and climate change

Consortium conclusion

At 18:30, the agenda having been finished, the meeting was closed by the Vice-President, Mr. **Stéphane LE FOLL**.