



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

Document Consortium 5-3



5th Meeting of the Consortium

Wednesday 11 December 2019

15:30 to 18:30

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

Inception of the Bureau and activities since then

Inception of the Bureau of the “4 per 1000” Initiative

At its fourth meeting in Katowice (Poland) during the COP 24, the Consortium of Members of the “4 per 1000” Initiative took the decision to establish a Bureau.

The introductory note contained the following elements:

"The Bureau of the "4 for 1000" Initiative supports the Consortium by providing advice and guidance on ongoing work under the "4 per 1000" Initiative, the organization of its sessions, in particular between meetings of the Consortium.

Not intended to be a forum for political negotiations, the Bureau is primarily responsible for issues related to process management. He assists the President in the performance of his duties by providing advice and carrying out various tasks for him, if necessary. The Executive Secretariat may seek advice from the Bureau on relevant issues.

The Bureau of the “4 per 1000” Initiative is composed of 12 members, including the President, the Vice-President, the STC Chair and the Executive Secretary, and representatives of the members appointed by each of the colleges in a balanced regional distribution.

The Bureau is responsible for reviewing membership applications as a partner or member, of the list of candidates wishing to join the Initiative and, finally, for approval or rejection of these applications. In case of difficulty to decide (lack of consensus), he will submit the final decision to the Consortium."

Based on documents prepared for or in report of the meeting of the 4th Consortium in Katowice (Document Consortium 4-4 and extract from the report of the Consortium) a **proposal for terms of reference** was submitted to the members of the Consortium by electronic communication. The attention of the Consortium Members was drawn to the importance of the establishment of this Bureau to support the momentum of the Initiative at the local, national, regional and global levels. It was also stressed that the members of the Bureau will have to perform important tasks and will therefore have to be available to do so.

The timeline and the process for the inception and appointment of the proposed Bureau members were as follows:

- Electronic consultation of all members of the Consortium regarding the terms of reference document and its contents, concomitantly with a call for applications within each constitutive college of the Consortium (excluding the college of for-profit organizations and commercial) - deadline: Saturday, June 29th, 2019
- Electronic voting for the choice of representatives (titular and alternate members) within each college - deadline: Saturday, July 13th, 2019.
- Formal installation of the Bureau and beginning of its work, mid-July 2019, by the communication to the members of the Consortium of the result of the vote.

As included in the Terms of reference of the Bureau validated by the Consortium (electronic procedure of June and July 2019), the “purpose of the Bureau is to provide the initiative with a support and advisory body for the work of the Presidency and the Executive Secretariat, within the framework of the operational program of the initiative between two meetings of the Consortium”. This document is in appendix.

Consequently, on June 12th and July 1st, 2019, the Executive Secretariat organized an electronic consultation of the members of the Consortium (list of members validated during the 4th Meeting of the Consortium of Members in Katowice – December 17th, 2018) to call for candidature by college.

The following candidatures were registered:

College	Candidatures
<i>Sub-College: National or Local Government</i>	Argentina Germany
<i>Sub-college: International or regional Organization or Development Bank</i>	FAO-GSP
<i>Research and Education Institutions</i>	IRD (France) / Lab Radiolotopes (Madagascar) Institut sénégalais Recherches Agricoles (Senegal)
<i>Farmers organizations</i>	GCAN (International) Demain la Terre (France)
<i>NGOs and Civil society</i>	Acalode (Mali) Congo Basin Conservation Society (DR Congo) GIERI (DR Congo)

The electronic vote by college and sub-college took place from July 9th to July 15th, 2019.

The participation was low, but as all members were aware of the procedure which started with the discussion during the Consortium meeting in Katowice, the consultation on ToR of the Bureau, the call for candidatures and finally the vote, the result was used for the first composition of the Bureau.

Consequently, the following table gives an overview of the results.

It has to be noted that in the college “NGOs and Civil Society”, numerous invalid votes were recorded from persons who were not in the position to vote (more than one vote per member organization) or do not belong to a member organization. They have not been taken into account.

College	Number of members	Total Number of votes	Votes per candidate		Candidatures	Result
<i>Sub-College: National or Local Gov.</i>	24	1	0	1	Argentina Germany	Alternate Titular
<i>Sub-college: Intern. or regional Org. or Devpt Bank</i>	14	4	3		FAO-GSP	Titular
<i>Research and Education Institutions</i>	61	10	6	4	IRD (France) / Laboratoire Radiolotopes (Madag) Institut sénégalais Recherches Agricoles (Senegal)	Titular Alternate
<i>Farmers organizations</i>	24	9	7	6	GCAN (International) Demain la Terre (France)	Titular Alternate
<i>NGOs and Civil society</i>	61	9	5	4	Acalode (Mali) Congo Basin Conservation Society (DR Congo) GIERI (DR Congo)	Titular Alternate

The composition of the first Bureau of the “4 per 1000” Initiative is the following:

College	Representative	Candidatures
<i>Sub-College: National or Local Gov.</i>	Titular Alternate	Germany Argentina
<i>Sub-college: Intern. or regional Org. or Devpt Bank</i>	Titular	FAO-GSP
<i>Research and Education Institutions</i>	Titular Alternate	IRD (France) / Laboratoire Radiolotopes (Madag) Institut sénégalais Recherches Agricoles (Senegal)
<i>Farmers organizations</i>	Titular Alternate	GCAN (International) Demain la Terre (France)
<i>NGOs and Civil society</i>	Titular Alternate	Acalode (Mali) GIERI (DR Congo)

Activities of the Bureau of the “4 per 1000” Initiative in 2019

Since its inception, the Bureau has held two meetings (9 September 2019 and 29 October 2019) under the chairmanship of Dr. Ibrahim MAYAKI and with the assistance of the Executive Secretary, Paul LUU, by audio conference. All colleges were represented by the titular or alternate.

The following main topics have been discussed and the decisions made:

1. New partners and members to join the Initiative

The Executive Secretary provided a list of countries and organizations interested in joining the Initiative and who have submitted a complete application to do so. Following the difficulties for the majority of the Members of the Bureau to consult the files of new applicants (Partners and Members) on Dropbox, the Executive Secretary opened a specific space on the collaborative platform of the Initiative for the Bureau. All documents related to the new applications were uploaded on that platform and an individual access to the platform was provided to all members of the Bureau. In addition, as wished by the members of the Bureau, the Executive Secretariat sent to all members of the Bureau a synthesis of all complete applications received with a short paragraph summarizing the activities of the candidate.

The Executive Secretariat confirmed that all applications received after the validation of the Bureau but before a meeting of the Consortium, will be examined and validated by the Consortium of Members during its next meeting. On the basis of the information provided, the Bureau validated all the applications presented by the Secretariat.

2. Renewal mechanism of the STC members

The Executive Secretariat recalls the Consortium's decision to extend by one year the first term of mandate of the STC members appointed at COP 22 in Marrakech, and that at the end of this 3-year term, volunteer members will be replaced. He pointed out that in order to respect the current geographical balance, the new members would have to come, if possible, from Africa, Latin America and a less restricted origin, as at the end of 2018 an Australian (Dr. Beverley HENRY) took the place of a British (Prof. Pete SMITH). The Executive Secretariat further adds that the STC wished to amend the description of the desired profiles for new members, specifying that preference will be given to candidates with related experience in economics and social sciences. The Executive Secretary also mentioned that the call for applications was opened on July 15th until September 15th, 2019 (and even extended to September 30th), and published on the “4 per 1000” website, as well as broadcasted to all partners and members of the “Research and Education institutions” college for a larger diffusion.

The procedure in four steps including the constitution of an Ad hoc Selection Committee was validated by the Bureau to conduct the renewal of STC members and elaborate a list of candidates to propose to the Consortium of members for validation. Concerning the creation of an Ad hoc Selection Committee to ensure the selection and constitution of a short list, prior to September 30th, each member of the Bureau communicated to the Executive Secretariat names of scientists who could be a member of this ad hoc committee. After few days of consultation, the Bureau decided via electronic consultation on the composition of the Ad Hoc Committee (Dr. Axel DON, Dr. Robert ZOUGMORE, Dr. Abigail FALLOT and Dr. Yacine BADIANE NDOUR).

The work of the Ad hoc Selection Committee led to a list of 4 candidates which was transmitted to the Bureau, who, after validation proposed it to the Consortium of Members for nomination of the 4 new members of the Scientific and Technical Committee.

3. Animation within each college of the Forum

The President recalls that the animation within each college is one of the missions of the members of the Bureau. As the Bureau is now established, and composed of representatives of 4 of the 5 colleges of the Forum, it is possible for all members of the Bureau to conduct internal reflections within each college to which they belong, in order to draft summaries on the types and level of commitment of each college in order to achieve the objectives of the “4 per 1000” Initiative. The Executive Secretariat

is at the disposal of each member of the Bureau to facilitate this animation within each college, in particular by serving as a focal point for exchanges, or by making available to the members of the Bureau the list of partners of each college as well as the mailing lists to communicate with these partners.

On request by the Bureau, the Executive Secretariat send to all members accordingly to their respective college, a mail with a specific document and instructions to facilitate the consultation and the animation processes. All colleges started the process but with different paces and various methodologies: consultation for some or survey with a questionnaire for others.

The Bureau also agreed that this process is sensitive and that all stakeholders should appropriate their own commitments in order to be active in the field. The importance and role of the regional meetings were also stressed by the Bureau, in order to find local declination of all commitments.

The Chair of the STC recalled that the STC can be mobilized by the colleges to provide a stronger scientific basis to all propositions.

The Bureau agreed that it will be difficult to have a complete synthesis of this exercise to be presented by each college during the meeting of the Forum of Partners in Madrid. However, each college would be able to present the methodology adopted, eventually the questionnaire used, and possibly a synthesis of the first answers.

4. Main subjects to be discussed during the “4 per 1000” Initiative day in Madrid (11/12/19)

The Executive Secretariat had proposed the respective agendas of the Forum of Partners and the Consortium of Members for the "4 per 1000" Initiative day on 11 December. Between the two meeting of the Bureau, the Executive Secretariat proposed, in order to give more strength to the whole day, that a common thread was selected: “Move from pilot project to large-scale change”. The Bureau commented on these agendas and proposed to:

- reduced to a maximum of 5 or 10 minutes, the time allocated for the presentation of the summaries of each college during the Forum of partners, as the consultations intra-college are just at the beginning of the process.
- study the possibility of having a streaming link via the Internet on 11 December in order to allow partners and members who were unable to be present to follow the discussions, and possibly to interact via e-mail or message sent to the Executive Secretariat.
- Organize, if possible and if needed, an in-presence meeting of the Bureau members present in Madrid to finalize the final organizational points.

With those amendments and remarks, both agendas were validated by the Bureau. The Executive Secretariat confirm the possibility of a streaming via the Internet on December 11th.

The Chair of the STC mentioned the Circasa Project and the consultation of farmers in native language on the appropriate practices, which is different from a participation of farmers to direct discussion.

Considering that the Initiative would strengthen its legitimacy by doing so, the Bureau insisted on the importance to establish an innovative mechanism (a budget for instance) to facilitate the participation of farmers representatives to all meeting of the “4 per 1000” Initiative.



Terms of reference for the Bureau of the “4 per 1000” Initiative

The purpose of the Bureau is to provide the initiative with a support and advisory body for the work of the Presidency and the Executive Secretariat, within the framework of the operational program of the initiative between two meetings of the Consortium.

Functions of the Bureau

- Support and advice to the Consortium
- Animation in the colleges of partners and members of the Initiative

The missions of the Bureau

- **Manage processes with the Executive Secretariat:**
 - Examination of membership applications as a partner or member, establishment of a list of candidates to join to be validated in the Bureau or for debate at the Consortium meeting if the consensus is not reached at the level of the Bureau.
 - Elaboration of the procedure for renewal of the members of the Scientific and Technical Committee (call for candidature and selection) and follow up of the implementation for submission of the list of selected candidates for approval at the Consortium meeting.
- **Participate in the strategic reflections for the initiative through the preparation of support documents particularly a vision of medium term (5 years) and an operational roadmap for the action plan at 3 years** to submit to the Consortium
- **Contribute to the preparation of the roadmap** and the annual work program to be submitted to the Consortium
- **Facilitate the exchanges within the colleges of partners and members of the Initiative** particularly between two meetings of the Consortium and the Forum, in order to serve as a relay for the positions and commitments of the colleges, within the framework and in favor of the Initiative.
- **Support the Executive Secretariat in the search for partnerships at the level of actions** (programs, projects), **at the scientific level, and at the financial level** for the operation of the initiative and for the actions/projects and scientific activities.
- Carry out **any action that the Consortium wishes to entrust to the Bureau.**

The governance

- Composition: 13 members among which 8 titulars and 5 alternates, including:
 - **President** or Vice President of the Consortium
 - **President** or Vice-President of the STC
 - **Executive Secretary** or his representative
 - **1 or** in some cases **2 members per consortium college + 1 alternate** in an attempt to respect a balanced regional distribution

It is proposed that the Consortium colleges be represented on the Bureau as follows:

- national governments, local governments, international (IO) and regional organizations and development banks: 2 titular members including one IO + 2 alternates including one IO;
- research and teaching organizations: 1 titular member + 1 alternate (one from a developed country and the other from a developing country);
- farmers' organizations: 1 titular member + 1 alternate;
- civil society organizations and non-profit organizations: 1 titular member + 1 alternate.

The members (titulars and alternates) are appointed by each of the colleges via a process including a call for applications followed by an electronic vote (The titular member being the one who arrived at the top of the vote and the alternate the one who came in second). They will be responsible for representing the positions of their college.

- **The members of the Bureau are elected for a term of 2 years** and cannot exercise more than two consecutive terms.

Organization

The **meetings** of the Bureau are **convened and are chaired by the President** (or Vice-President) and are generally held:

- by **electronic means such as videoconferences**;
- **between sessions** as needed (eg every quarter to start) in order to prepare and validate the list of new partners and members or to seek the final decision of the Consortium in case of difficulties (lack of consensus);
- **on a regular basis, before the Consortium meeting**, in order to finalize the agenda and the main points to discuss.

The **agendas for the Bureau meetings are prepared by the Executive Secretariat**.