



**Minutes (short) of WHEAT-Management Committee Meeting
10-11th December 2014, Istanbul**

W-MC Members present: Marianne Banziger (CIMMYT, Chair), Graham Moore (BBSRC, by webex), Michael Baum (ICARDA), Hans-Joachim Braun (CIMMYT), Olaf Erenstein (CIMMYT), Bruno Gerard (CIMMYT) Eric Huttner (ACIAR), Kevin Pixley (CIMMYT, Karnam Venkatesh (for Indu Sharma, ICAR)

Apologies: Maarten van Ginkel

Other participants: Victor Kommerell (CIMMYT, Program Mgr), Michelle Guertin (CIMMYT, M&E&L)

12:00		Close of WHEAT-IAC meeting	
		Joint WHEAT-IAC & WHEAT-MC meeting and lunch	
12:15	D	What should WHEAT research scope & structure (FPs, CoAs) look like during Phase II (2017-22?) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What have we learnt about the future WHEAT research scope and structure from global partners' meeting, CIMMYT-ICARDA meeting, WHEAT-IAC feedback? ▪ What conclusions can we draw and what major open issues remain? 	Doc D1
13:30		Joint Lunch	
14:30-15:30		Break	

Indicative time	Item	WHEAT-MC / Wed, 10 th December 2014	Docs provided
15:00	1	Minutes and Agenda, Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adoption of Agenda ▪ Approval of Minutes: 131128-29, 140307; 141024 – <i>W-MC Chair</i> ▪ Updates: Global varieties & release study, IWYP, HeDWIC, SeeD 	Agenda Minutes In-meeting
15:30	2	Budget/Spend 2014; What should we budget with 2014-2015? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Status: Plan/Is W1/2 2014 & last minute decisions, as needed ▪ What should we calculate with 2015? (W2/Canada; 10% safety margin W1/2?) – <i>WHEAT-MC Chair</i> ▪ Status: Both Centers' bilateral income 2015 – <i>Banziger, Baum</i> ▪ Decision on W1/2 2015 allocation to CGIAR-led Research, Partner, CRP Mgt budgets – <i>WHEAT-MC Chair</i> 	Briefing 2.0
16:45		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Preliminary findings / recommendations of the External Evaluation: Need for action by W-MC? – <i>W. Eversdorf via webex?</i> 	
17:00	3	WHEAT Gender Strategy progress <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Briefing on revised Gender Strategy and draft implementation plan for 2015 (mainstreaming & strategic research)– <i>Senior Gender Specialist</i> ▪ Discuss consequences for 2015 workplan (POWB) ▪ Endorse revised Gender Strategy – <i>WHEAT-MC Chair</i> 	Briefing 3.0
17:45	4	Workplan 2015 (POWB) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Review ongoing R4D funded by W1/2: Any need for change? ▪ Provide overview of 2015 workplan – <i>WHEAT Program Mgr</i> ▪ What of current/new projects should be funded 2015 by W1/2? – <i>WHEAT-MC Chair</i> 	Briefing 4.0
18:45		Close	



19:00			
Indicative time	Item	Thu, 11 th December	Docs provided
08:30	5	CRP Management & Governance / Research Management	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inform about changes to CRP Management starting 2015, endorsed by WHEAT-IAC/BoT – <i>Braun & Baum</i> ▪ Review results of ICARDA-CIMMYT 6-7th Dec meet: Endorse? Need for change? – <i>Braun & Baum</i> ▪ External members: Stay onboard until December 2016? & propose WHEAT Monitoring & Evaluation & Learning Specialist as new member – <i>W-MC Chair</i> 	Briefing 5.0 Present in-meeting
09:30	6	CRPs Phase II – all aspects	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Brief on likely process, timetable, requirements: Implications for W-MC? ▪ Review Global Partners Meeting on Phase II: Did we achieve our objectives? Major gaps, open issues to follow up? - <i>WHEAT Program Mgr</i> ▪ Decision: Finalize FP/COA Structure for 2015-16 – <i>W-MC Chair</i> 	Briefing 6.0 Briefing 6.1
11:30	7	Key Dates 2015	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agree timetable for Competitive Partner Grants 2015 process ▪ Next virtual and physical meetings: Agree dates 	Briefing 7.0
12:00	8	AOB	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tbd (possibly: GIZ-CIM/Returning Experts; USAID Linkage Fund assignment) 	
12:30		Close	



WHEAT-MC Decisions and To Do's 10th-11th December 2014

What	Who	With whom	By when
Day 1			
Agenda Item 1 - Adoption of Agenda and Minutes & Updates			
Decision: Agenda adopted and Minutes of WHEAT-MC 131128-29 (virtual), 140307, 141024 (virtual) approved.			
<p>Recommendation re: Global variety release and adoption study: When preparing to communicate results, articulate convincing arguments regarding stakeholder / donor / critics' concerns about</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does IAR4D do to help breeders in developing countries develop 'their own' varieties? • Does CGIAR's global wheat breeding platform encourage / promote use of the same varieties world-wide, thus reducing genetic diversity globally? <p>In completing study, focus on high quality, in-depth data for countries, in which WHEAT aims to have development impact.</p>	Braun	Mollins, Listman, Lantican	Feb 2015
<p>Decision concerning HeDWIC (Heat and Drought Wheat Improvement Consortium): Push and monitor G-20 Wheat Initiative Research Committee/Scientific Board's endorsement of on heat and drought as top global wheat R&D priority, to Wheat Initiative's Institutions Coordination Committee</p>	Braun	Helene Lucas WI	End January 2015
<p>Decision regarding donor communications about IWYP, HeDWIC, Precision Phenotyping Platforms: Show that R&D initiatives are / have</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High priority • Clear long-term objectives • Multi-partner & linked to other major ongoing R&D programs • Complementary, reinforcing one another and well linked <p>Global wheat research community undergoing major change. For the first time, European institutions are coordinating their nationally funded research and linking with US, Australia and other G-20 members through the Wheat Initiative, to prioritize developed countries' R&D priorities and put to their national donors. The CGIAR Research Program on Wheat implements research-for-development in developing countries. CIMMYT, ICARDA and its partners jointly plan ahead and prioritize R&D/R4D within WHEAT. WI and WHEAT come together to plan, coordinate, prioritize and link developed and developing world wheat R&D resources. First example of this is IWYP.</p>	Braun	Victor, Graham M (do draft)	End January 2015
Agenda Item 2 - What should we do with remainder W1/2 2014 budget; What W1/2 budget to work with 2015?			
<p>Decision 2014 Budget: Apply remainder of 2014 W1/2 budget as proposed in Briefing 2.0 (precision phenotyping platforms ca 1.3M, competitive & commissioned partner grants ca 1.2M, ICARDA CRP Mgt 150k, advised over-spend). As needed, CIMMYT and ICARDA to apply remaining W1/2 to CRP-relevant cost centers.</p>	Marianne	Michael B, CIMMYT PDs, Victor	By 17 th Dec 2014



<p><u>Decision 2015 Budget:</u> WHEAT-MC endorses midi-scenario (16.63M, e.g. not mini/maxi-scenarios), as recommended and as per CO Nov21 FinPlan (lowest figure scenario) and agrees to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> maintain 4 budget categories (CIMMYT-Res, ICARDA-Res, Partner, CRP Mgmt) during 2015-16; WHEAT Management Budget to be no longer subsidized by MAIZE, therefore maintain 2.1M in midi & maxi-scenarios, to cover for increased W-IAC cost (more members, honorarium) and 150k ICARDA CRP Mgmt; Use any additional W1/2 income 2015-16 (above midi-scenario), as per agreed prioritization of W1/2 deployment <p>See To Do, below: Priorities W1/2 deployment among CoAs or their components</p> <p>Note: As per 12th Dec, no information about 10th Dec Consortium Board decision on FinPlan received.</p>			
<p>Both Centers' projected bilateral income under WHEAT not discussed</p>	<p>Victor to follow up with template</p>		<p>Mid-Jan 2015</p>
<p>Agenda Item 4 - Workplan 2015</p>			
<p><u>To Do:</u> WHEAT-MC to prioritize (high, medium, low) among currently W1/2-funded and new projects proposed for W1/2 funding, based on agreed upon template. On that basis, WHEAT-MC to endorse POWB 2015 virtually by latest 26th Jan 2015 (formal deadline is 30th Jan).</p>	<p>WHEAT-MC</p>		<p>6th Jan 2015 to Victor</p>
<p>Agenda Item 7 – Update on preliminary findings External Evaluation led by IEA</p>			
<p><u>Decision:</u> Defer to 17th Dec webinar, alert External Reviewers to need for greater clarity on certain formulations. (Virtual connection did not work, Wally could not present. Victor shared slides provided with WHEAT-MC.)</p>	<p>WHEAT-MC, -IAC</p>	<p>IEA Victor sends feedback points to IEA</p>	<p>17th Dec 2014</p>
<p>Agenda Item 3 - Gender Strategy: Progress</p>			
<p><u>Decision:</u> WHEAT-MC endorses revised Gender Strategy</p>			
<p>Agenda Item 5- CRP Management & Governance</p>			
<p><u>Decisions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 non-CGIAR members will stay on board until Dec 2016 (to be confirmed by email to Victor); DDG-RP Banziger to stay member; Michelle Guertin, MAIZE/WHEAT M&E&L Senior Specialist, to join as ex-officio and non-voting member; Hans Braun, as CRP Director starting Jan'2015, to become Chair; 	<p>Moore, Sharma, Huttner</p>		<p>Mid-Jan 2015</p>
<p>Decision on increased CRP Mgmt Budget, see Item 2, above</p>			
<p><u>Decision:</u> Keep WHEAT-MC updated on ICARDA-CIMMYT progress in setting up one global wheat program. Mgmt and cost implications of</p>	<p>Hans, Michael</p>	<p>With all WHEAT-MC</p>	<p>periodically</p>



creating one CGIAR global wheat program not reviewed; no recommendations, decisions			
Day2 -11th December 2014			
Agenda Item 6 – Phase II All Aspects			
<p>Decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare overview of WHEAT-MC and –IAC intervention points in Phase II proposal development (Victor; joint doodle with Dave) As ISPC assuming greater role/responsibilities in Phase II process, show content/substance gap in 1st draft pre-proposal, related to ISPC questions/comments on the Extension Period Proposal & Ideas Notes (deadline 10th Dec) questions/requested content and propose: Who works on what? (Victor, Olaf, others as needed) Plan for WHEAT-MC+ meeting dedicated to prep-proposal development around early-mid April, link to MAIZE-MC meeting on same topic Keep WHEAT-MC up-to-date on finalization of SRF and Accountability Framework (SLOs-IDOs-SubIDOs) 	Victor	WHEAT-MC	By mid-Jan latest
Results of WHEAT Global Partners Meeting 8-9 th Dec not reviewed			
Changes in FP/CoA structure effective 2015 not discussed (see separate minutes of joint –MC/-IAC discussion, next page)			
Agenda Item 7 – Key Dates 2015			
<p><u>Decision:</u> Use International Wheat Conference 20-25th Sept 2015 for WHEAT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keynote to show how regional and international coordination and collaboration among wheat R&D actors is changing and what the role WHEAT plays in that Have select WHEAT competitive partner grantees present their findings (those in YR 2 or 3) via posters or presentations Based on feedback received about pre-proposal, have session on WHEAT Phase II to get feedback from conference participants (as several of them are potential reviewers of full proposal, which will be hired by ISPC) 	Hans, Victor	Nina, Mike	Propose grantees, prepare action plan by mid-Jan
<p><u>Decision</u> regarding Competitive Partner Grants process 2015-16:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Do gap analysis and develop ideas for calls latest in April meeting on Phase II pre-proposal Make call public summer 2015 Have sub-grant agreements signed by end Sept 2015 – for 2015-16 (no additional call in 2016) <p><u>Recommendation:</u> WHEAT-MC to re-think balance of commissioned versus competitive calls and how to use which for what by April 2015</p>	Victor, Nina	WHEAT-MC	Share initial list of ideas, based on W-MC previous lists, pre-April meeting
Plan for WHEAT-MC+ meeting dedicated to prep-proposal development around early-mid April (see above Item 6)			
Any other business			



Joint WHEAT-IAC & WHEAT-MC meeting and lunch

What should WHEAT research scope & structure (FPs, CoAs) look like during Phase II (2017-22?)

- What have we learnt about the future WHEAT research scope and structure from global partners' meeting, CIMMYT-ICARDA meeting, WHEAT-IAC feedback?
- What conclusions can we draw and what major open issues remain?

Summary

1. Go for shorter, crisper FP titles in Phase II.
2. In **FP1** WHEAT Business Case, address and improve post-harvest issues. Flag in FP1/CoA descriptions.
3. Keep IWYP and HeDWIC as separate CoAs under FP2. Do not move to FP3. Give both CoAs more generic titles and insert programs (IWYP, HeDWIC) under each CoA.
4. Add new **FP2** CoA on genebanks: Conserve, enrich, and provide access to wheat genetic resources to mine for useful traits
5. No separate, new CoA for Transgenics.
6. Keep CoAs 3.4 and 3.5 separate (3.4 Precision field-based Phenotyping Platforms for key traits to support the Global Breeding Platform / 3.5 Accelerate breeding cycle through genomics, improved bioinformatics, and data management)
7. Reword **FP3.6**: Genetic improvement to contribute to nutritional food quality and safety
8. Re-number **FP4** CoAs:
 - a. 4.1 (was 4.3) Development and field testing of innovative agronomic technologies including crop rotation or diversification (has 6 sub-categories)
 - b. 4.2 (was 4.1) Multi-scale farming system framework to better integrate & enhance adoption of sustainable intensification options for cropping systems, including at landscape scales
 - c. 4.3 (was 4.2) Participatory approaches to adapt and integrate technological components
9. Reword **FP5**: Human and institutional capacities for scaling-out & a new generation of wheat scientists (e.g. take out 'seed systems', which should remain a separate CoA).
10. Reword FP5.3: Wheat University and WHEAT Volunteers OR Wheat Learning Platform: To build the next generation of scientists and farmers
- 11.

Discussion

Reword FP titles

- FP3&4 are WHEAT/CIMMYT/ICARDA 'bread and butter', what you'd be doing, if you had less budget and had to focus only on 'essentials'
- When rewording FP4, make clear linkages to other CRPs
- Crisp and short titles should encompass all core R&D performed in Phase II

FP2

- IWYP aims for milestone change re: yield and Hybrids CoA aims for novel hybrid system. Both represent high risk / high return R&D and should stay in FP2.
- Once Hybrids CoA has gotten to stage of creating hybrids routinely, CoA could move to FP3.
- Keep Genebanks as a separate CoA, to make sure it continues to get W1 funding. This will seem logical to 'quick readers' of Phase II proposal.



RESEARCH PROGRAM ON
Wheat



- Don't put HeDWIC under a pre-breeding CoA, as it is closely linked to Precision Phenotyping Platforms (PWPPs) CoA in FP3, it is multi-trait R&D, the focus is on germplasm development including better exploiting genetic resources, with R&D outputs going to FP3.
- If IWYP stays in FP2, so should HeDWIC. It features crop design and pre-breeding components. It is not up and running yet. It will be different from heat & drought-related research-for-development performed under FP3, which is much closer to NARS testing & release and farmer adoption.
- Transgenics are a part of several CoAs: IWYP, HeDWIC, Hybrids. Mgmt of transgenics would indeed be a new issue, potentially new CoA. But that would only apply once there will be applications, when WHEAT has a product.
- Do not apply new FP2 CoA logic proposed by work group during WHEAT global partners meeting. It will be too difficult to report against, as several projects under FP2 would cut across the 'new' CoA categories.

FP3

- At this time, need to flag Precision Phenotyping Platforms, as they are being built. Keep as separate CoA, as technically / in terms of disciplines very different from Genomic Selection / Bioinformatics CoA (under FP3.5).
- Problem with 3.5 (GS/bioinformatics) is WHEAT does not show that bioinformatics and data management are needed for practically all other CoAs across the FPs.
- 3.5 should not just be about Genomic Selection. "Big Data" is a fashion. Big Data should prominently feature in Phase II proposal preamble.
- Do we need more than one CoA on breeding, e.g IWWIP, bread wheat durum wheat?

FP4

- FP4 does not explicitly refer to seed systems, so put it into FP5
- FP5 is about scaling-out of any kind, not only FP4-related outputs/research outcomes
- Renumbering FP4 CoAs is ok, to reflect logic of starting with new/improved technologies/practices, evaluating their potential impact via scaling-out at landscapes level, and developing new ways of participatory validation & scaling-out.
- Keep 'sustainable intensification' in FP4 title: Sustainable intensification of wheat systems (short title)

FP5

- Add 'farmers' to CoA 5.3 (WHEAT University)
- Good to flag 5.1.3 (post-harvest issues). Post-harvest will become more important donor-driven issue, so keep visible, but for now under FP1 as a matter for analysis
- Impact pathway for CoA5.1 is: Demand from NARS, including for for training (capacity development), policy/legislation advice – scale out seed production & delivery, efficient seed systems including PPP and value chain approaches, NOT about seed systems analysis (see FP1)
- How and where can we report on 5.1.1 – 5.3.2. (proposed new CoA logic for FP5)?
- Take out seed systems from FP5 title, but keep in CoA title. In future, FP5 will be about scaling-out of many technologies and practices, not only seed systems, even though today seed systems projects dominate FP5.