



Draft Minutes of WHEAT-Independent Advisory Committee Meeting, 10 December 2014, Istanbul

Note: To accommodate current CGIAR terminology, WHEAT-ISC now called WHEAT-Independent Steering Committee (WHEAT-ISC)

W-ISC Members present: Yiching Song, Tony Fischer, Shirish Barwale, Nora Lapitan, John Porter, Rachid Dahan, Ephrame Havazvidi; Ex-officio: Masum Burak, Marianne Banziger (for Tom Lumpkin), Mahmoud Solh, Hans Braun, Tom Payne (for Neal Gutterson)

Apologies: Emilio Ruz, Neal Gutterson

Other participants: Victor Kommerell (CIMMYT, WHEAT Program Mgr / WHEAT-ISC Secretary), Phillipe Ellul (Consortium Office), observer

		WHEAT Global partners meeting on Phase II (2017-22?) / 8-9th December 2014, Istanbul	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WHEAT-ISC members attend all or 2nd day, according to availability 	
Indicative Time	Item	WHEAT-ISC / Wed, 10th December, Istanbul	Docs provided
9:00	A	WHEAT-ISC Opening of the meeting	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome new members Adoption of Agenda Approval of Minutes (from Sept 2014 meeting) 	Agenda doc, Minutes
		WHEAT-ISC Governance	
9:30	B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Onboard new members: Q&A about role and responsibilities of W-ISC Endorse updated Terms of Reference for WHEAT-ISC Agree on Terms of Reference for an independent W-ISC Chair Proposal of candidates for Chair (self; proposed by voting member) and select (by simple majority, given quorum of 6/8) Should WHEAT-ISC receive an honorarium? 	Minutes Doc B1
10:30	C	How WHEAT-ISC should engage in Phase II	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand CGIAR Research Program Proposal for Phase II (2017-22?) process (which runs 2015-16) When should WHEAT-ISC engage, on what, how? What is time investment needed? 	Doc C1
12:00		Close of WHEAT-ISC meeting	
		Joint WHEAT-ISC & WHEAT-MC meeting and lunch (see p.3-4)	
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-ISC feedback? What conclusions can we draw and what major open issues remain? 	Doc D1
13:30		Joint Lunch	



WHEAT-ISC DECISIONS OF 10th DEC 2014

Decision, Recommend, To Do	Who	Due	Comments
Agenda item A; WHEAT-ISC Opening of the meeting			
<p><u>Decision:</u> Agenda adopted and Sept 2014 minutes approved</p> <p>Members' review of To Do's from previous meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - W-ISC ToRs: Form selection committee with DG ...: Only becomes relevant if Hans Braun not confirmed after 1 year as CRP Director - GM/transgenics proclamation to CGIAR Consortium: See To Do below - Preliminary Findings from External Evaluation: Webinar date is set for 17th Dec 	W-ISC	DONE	
Agenda item B WHEAT-ISC Governance			
<p><u>Decisions:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agree final version ToRs Independent W-ISC Chair & ToRs W-ISC (see p.5-6), based on comments made, by mid-January 2. Tony Fischer proposed as candidate by Barwale & Porter, elected as Chair until December 2016, by unanimous vote 3. W-ISC members to receive a honorarium of \$400 times 5 days per meeting; CIMMYT BoT travel policy will apply (e.g. business class travel if flight longer than 4 hours); Reimburse Members directly for actual expenses, not to receive a per diem; ad hoc occasional travel to wheat-related stakeholder events, which meets W-ISC ToRs and objectives, if approved by W-ISC Chair, in consultation with the CRP Director. <p><u>Recommendation to Chair:</u> Put on W-ISC agenda presentations on specific science/R&D issues for discussion.</p> <p><u>To Do:</u> Check whether W-ISC members are insured when on W-ISC business</p>	Victor	W-ISC	Send updated ToRs W-ISC & Chair for approval, on no-objection, virtual basis, by mid-January 2015; 1-week turn-around time
Agenda item C How WHEAT-ISC should engage in Phase II			
<p><u>Decision:</u> Review draft W-ISC declaration on GM/transgenics research by mid-January. Agreed that following points be added:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support UPOV, support IPG, patents are for inventions not for hard work - Make reference to CGIAR Declaration on Biotech - Also big issue: Stewardship on the ground - Public sector to invest more in cap dev to better deal with GM IPR issues 	Kevin, Victor	W-ISC	Draft text for review by mid-January 2015
<p><u>Recommendation:</u> Make sure publication on Partner Priorities Survey is widely shared, in particular with R&D partners. This increases chances of partners participating in another future survey. Consider turning partner consultations into a series, or similar. W-ISC notes that opportunity is now lost to get more representative sample for Latin America, North Africa. Note: Report featured on home page of http://wheat.org/ http://repository.cimmyt.org/xmlui/handle/10883/4070 ISBN: 978-607-8263-41-7</p>	Hans, Victor	Mike, Comms	Mid-February 2015
<p><u>Decision:</u> W-ISC to act as reviewers of pre-proposal (due either 30Jun15 or 15Aug15), expected to take place in Feb and again 1st week of June 2015.</p> <p><u>Recommendation to W-MC:</u> Similar to IPCC process, invite global wheat research community to comment on pre-proposal</p>	Hans, Victor	W-ISC, W-MC	Prepare overview of WHEAT-MC – IAC intervention points in Phase II
<p><u>Next meetings</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Anticipated to take place just before CIMMYT BoT 12-13 Oct 2015 ▪ Separate meeting may be needed for W-ISC input on Phase II Full Proposal, between Dec 2015 (after Consortium Board / Fund Council final decision on CRPs pre-proposal in Nov) and end March 2016 (Full Proposal is due 30th April 2016). 	Tony	Hans	Finalize dates ASAP



Joint WHEAT-ISC & 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-ISC 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.

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.
- 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.

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 training (capacity development) and 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.



RESEARCH PROGRAM ON
Wheat



ToRs of the WHEAT-ISC Chair (includes Members' comments 10th Dec 2014)

The Chairperson is elected every two years from the sitting WHEAT-ISC voting members (e.g. non-CGIAR members, who are not ex-officio) by a majority vote of the voting members. Given the importance of continuity, a Chairperson once elected may be expected to be re-elected for a second two-year term only, but such re-election is subject to annual assessment of performance by the entire Committee.

Qualifications for the Chairperson – The person nominated should generally possess:

- Experience on the W-ISC for at least two years;
 - Eminence (or recognized standing) in a field relevant to the Research Strategies of the CRP;
 - Personal qualities of leadership, including skill at chairing meetings and building consensus;
 - Experience in working with persons from varied cultural backgrounds;
 - Ability to represent WHEAT in international meetings; and
 - Familiarity with the CGIAR System and with the donor community.
- In addition, the Chair must have the time and the scheduling flexibility to be able to devote four to eight weeks each year to WHEAT and the CGIAR.

Key role: The Chairperson presides at all meetings of the WHEAT-ISC; He/she is responsible for the good functioning of the W-ISC and that it performs according to its Terms of Reference. To do so, the Chairperson, in collaboration with the CRP Director:

- Ensures and monitors implementation of WHEAT-ISC recommendations and decisions;
- The Chair oversees the prioritization of issues and preparation of meeting agendas;
- Ensures WHEAT-ISC Members are kept abreast of deliberations of the CGIAR Consortium Board, the Independent Science and Partnership Council (ISPC) and other CGIAR entities, as relevant and appropriate;
- Issues invitations on behalf of the W-ISC to new members and ensures their orientation and on-boarding.

If needed, the Chair will nominate a voting member to assume the responsibilities of the Chairperson. The Chair is supported by the CIMMYT and ICARDA CRP Teams.



WHEAT-Independent Advisory Committee (IAC) Terms of Reference

WHEAT-ISC vision

- 1) Fully functional CGIAR Research Program (CRP);
- 2) WHEAT = single most important network organization for wheat;
- 3) Better visibility of WHEAT, in particular viz Fund Council;
- 4) Enable every single wheat research program in the world to link with WHEAT, as appropriate.

Advisory scope:

- 1) The W-ISC provides guidance on the CRPs' strategic direction (e.g. science / research scope, depth/breadth, focus, intended impact) and effective and efficient management at program-level (e.g. CRP). In so doing, it will largely focus on the program (e.g. cross-Flagship Projects) perspective and how WHEAT success comes together based on mutually reinforcing FP's performance, whilst the WHEAT-MC concerns itself also with Flagship Project components and how their success comes together.
- 2) The W-ISC reviews and makes recommendations on WHEAT annual workplans, budgets & progress reports, which are prepared, agreed upon and submitted by the CRP Director, Chair of the WHEAT-MC; "review" means that the CRP Director, representing the WHEAT-MC, carries the primary operational responsibility towards the Consortium Board/Office; WHEAT-ISC wants to see how it is being done.

Advise whom?

Topic	Provide advice on	To whom
Strategy	Strategic direction (next 5-10 years); How strategy is reviewed; Need for/focus of external, Center-, CRP-commissioned reviews; Relevant CGIAR Consortium guidelines, regulations (e.g. push for change, improvements?)	Lead Center's (CIMMYT) Board of Trustees' Program Committee <i>for endorsement</i> and/or CRP Director (Chair WHEAT-MC), <i>for implementation</i>
R&D Partners' perspectives	That R&D partners perspectives are reflected in CRP strategy development (in terms of content and process)	Lead Center BoT PC and/or CRP Director
Annual Workplan, Budget, Progress Report	Does resource allocation match strategic priorities at program level (across FPs)?	CRP Director (Chair WHEAT-MC)
CRP Director / W-MC performance	Selection of candidates (see below); effective & efficient management at program-level (e.g. need for improvement or change?);	Lead Center DG
Conflicts of interest	Act as or advise on next level of escalation, if cannot be solved at W-MC, Centers' level (e.g. Lead Center bias; competitive bidding processes)	W-MC, Center DGs

- 3) W-ISC advises the Lead Center's (CIMMYT) Board of Trustees' Program Committee and/or the CRP Director (who chairs the WHEAT Management Committee (W-MC) and/or the Lead Center's Director-General (who supervises and manages the performance of the CRP Director) on the key topics shown in table above. In general, BoT PC endorses (or not) W-ISC advice, whilst the CRP Director, leading WHEAT-MC, is responsible for implementing advice, once endorsed.



- 4) With regard to hiring and performance management of the CRP Director, W-ISC will form a selection committee with CIMMYT DG, who will have the final say on selection and appointment. The CRP Director reports administratively to the Lead Center DG and with a dotted line to W-ISC. CRP Director's performance will therefore be managed by Lead Center DG, who seeks advice from W-ISC, with input from ICARDA DG (ex-officio non-voting W-ISC member).

Committee functioning:

- a) It consists of 8 external (e.g. non-CGIAR) voting members representing different geographies (East, Asia, S. Asia, CWANA, SSA and Latin America one each; three from Eurasia/AU/USA/CA) and disciplines, and 5 ex-officio non-voting members: ICARDA & CIMMYT Board Program Committee Chairs, WHEAT CRP Director plus CIMMYT and ICARDA Director-Generals.
- b) Are appointed for a 3-year term (renewable), with a maximum of 50% of members changing at any one time.
 - Forfeit their membership, if not present twice in a row, not excused.
 - For the initial period of Oct 2012 to Oct 2014, at least 50% of current members will need to remain members for a 2nd term & propose and agree upon new members to join the W-ISC by end 2014.
- c) In order to validate decisions, the W-ISC will apply majority vote under a quorum of 6/8.
- d) W-ISC will practice a transparent (formal) agenda-setting process (see Chair ToR).
- e) In its advisory role, reports via its Chair to the WHEAT Lead Center Board of Trustees Program Committee.
- f) Is chaired by a voting member, who is selected from among the voting members by simple majority (see W-ISC Chairperson ToR), since ex-officio members are not eligible to chair or vote.
- g) W-ISC Secretary performed by the WHEAT Program Manager.
- h) W-ISC members are champions for WHEAT within their area of influence, in particular their country and region. Based on disciplinary expertise or regional activities, W-ISC members may want to attend WHEAT-relevant meetings or meetings in their region; such attendance to be determined by the Chair, in consultation with the CRP Director (see Chair ToR).
- i) As a prerequisite, the CRP Director must keep W-ISC members regularly informed about progress and issues in WHEAT, wheat research more generally and in particular as it affects their region. At meetings and in-between, the CRP Director informs W-ISC members about targets, achievements and future plans.