

Minutes #99

Executive Board Meeting

May 30, 2013-Beijing, China.

Minutes taken by: Verónica Chorkulak

Representatives of the Industry Constituency: 4 out of 5 members present. Olaf Brugman (Rabobank), Patricio Watson (ACSOJA), Cornel Boere (Agrifirm); Belinda Howell (Retailers soy group).

Representatives of the Producers Constituency: 2 out of 5 members present. Martin Descalzo (Aapresid), Joao Shimada (Grupo A.Maggi). Proxy vote: Alex Ehrenhaus (Los Grobo) delegated his vote to Martin Descalzo.

Representatives of the Civil Society Constituency: 3 out of 4 members present. Cassio Franco Moreira (WWF), Oswaldo Carvalho (IPAM), Gert van der Bijl (Solidaridad). Proxy vote: Ashis Mondal (ASA) delegated his vote to Cassio Franco Moreira.

RTRS Secretariat: Daniel Meyer, Mariana Seghezzo, Jimena Frojan, Verónica Chorkulak, Agustin Mascotena and Ben Zeehandelaar.

1. Opening and expectations of the meeting

The meeting is opened and quorum is confirmed.

2. EB elections

Discussion

Ashis Mondal doesn't keep candidacy for being treasurer, but proposes to be vice president in case is needed.

Cassio Moreira keeps candidacy for vice president, but he comments that he is leaving the board in about two months. Nevertheless WWF will remain with a representative as Vice president. Nobody is against WWF continues to be Vice president.

It is mentioned that Alex Ehrenhaus could be a candidate for being President but he first needs to discuss time and budget consequences for his company.

Decisions:

Election of the treasurer: Gert van der Bijl

Election of the Civil Society Vice president: Cassio Moreira

Election of the Industry Vice president: Olaf Brugman

It is decided to maintain Alex Ehrenhaus as Producers Vice President until receiving a confirmation for the president position.

Confirm the President Position **A1**

3. **Cornel Boere proposals**

Discussion

Olaf Brugman agrees with the proposal. He comments that it would be a more explicit role of the EB in the up taking of responsible soy. It will indicate what the challenges are.

Gert agrees and emphasizes that it is a perfect timing to formulate where we are. It is important to make the principles of RTRS known in the soy sector and avoid thinking in the standard as the objective of RTRS.

Cassio proposes to analyze the credibility of RTRS in the market.

Belinda Howell explains that retailers she represents want to know the direction that RTRS is taking.

Conclusion

All agree with Cornel's proposal (in general).

Proposal 1: Workshop with the entire board in a physical meeting (2 days)

Date: 12 and 13 September. Place: Netherlands or another country in Europe.

EB will come with a proposal of place and budget. Olaf will prepare the agenda for the meeting **A2**. It is remarked to involve the moderator before the meeting. It would be wise to invite an external coordinator, able to handle the strategic discussion with the board. Cassio will submit a proposal for a coordinator **A3**

Proposal 2: Establishing a working group on marketing & sourcing strategies for European Feed industry.

Discussion: Highly important to start as soon as possible. Importance of having a working group in parallel to the physical meeting in order to start working on the strategy.

The strategy towards engaging USA is discussed. It is mentioned as part of the background of the group. It is decided to focus in Europe.

It is mentioned that any RTRS WG should have the representation of the 3 constituencies. It is decided to come with a proposal. Cornel will send an email with the decision made. **A4**

4. **Board Meetings-Calls. Plan for next months**

Conference Call 1: Secretariat will send a doodle for last week of June 2pm CET. **A5**

FSP meeting on June 27th: They will invite president or vice president. Olaf accepts to go.

5. RT8 Conclusions-RT9

It is mentioned that it was a great event and very well organized. It is pointed out the importance of taking actions in China. There is an important event focused in local production during first week of September.

The EB is asked to speak with Mr Liu about this event (during the dinner of May 30). Olaf takes the lead.

Press release about the RT8 will be sent (with RT8 and GA7 outcomes).

RT9 and General Assembly (GA8) will take place in Foz de Iguazú.

Date: May 5-9 week. Starting with the EB Meeting on May 6th, 2014.

6. Other actions from Feedback survey

Some of the topics mentioned in the survey were:

1-Multi crop certification

2-Certification less based on paper work and more on certified unit experience.

Agustin suggests proposing this item for the CBs annual calibration meeting.

It is suggested that producers may help in this process.

3-More awareness raising

4-standard documents for standardization and make easier farmers compliance

5-Narrow down legal requirements

6-Improve CoC procedures

7 Premium

8-Certification fee improvement

It is important to discuss these items with a proposal. It is decided that three EB members together with Agustin will work on these topics with a proposal. Make a priority list. **A6**

The EB members designated are:

Producer: Martin Descalzo (Patricio to cooperate)

Industry: Belinda Howell

Civil Society: Oswaldo Carvalho

7. Any other business

Resolutions after GA

-5.6 pesticides proposal acceptance

After this approval, secretariat has to write a new version of the standard. Check if even being approved by the GA it is necessary to make a public consultation. **A7**

It is commented the proposal of the Pesticides WG continuity. It has been suggested to add more consultants, more scientific input and communication expertise for the group.

It is commented that a new ToR should be created for this WG.

Cassio remarks that the proposed changes involve costs and therefore suggests continuing the WG with EB members only.

It is decided to wait Cecilia's ToR for this WG to make an approval. It is mentioned that first it is necessary to approve or not the continuity of the WG. Afterwards, the EB can proceed to approve or not the content and objective of the group.

Joao comments that one of the most important issues is how to use pesticides.

It is commented that it is difficult to integrate this item at this moment in the Task Force Brazil Agenda

-Changes in the Bylaws

Action: to Re-write the bylaws and communicate them. **A8**

Belinda emphasizes the importance of working on a new proposal for article 2.2.

It is suggested not to wait until next year to work on this article. It is recommended to work now in order to take advantage of the interest the topic has generated.

It is asked to work in a form to make it easier to make an annual report of members **A9**

Sandra suggests to allow during next GA (through members presents and a free proxy's vote), a rewording of point 2.2

-John Landers emails

John's Motion 2: Transparency of the price paid for the credit. The trading Platform should be managed so that the price paid exceeds the cost of the producers.

Agustin explains what's been done.

Motion 1: The mechanism for payment to producers of services to the environment should have a WG set up with a one year deadline to come up with a solution.

The discussion will arrive at the time of testing the maps. The pilots will raise these issues. It was suggested to link the motion 1 to the mapping discussion.

It is suggested to create a guidance group for these pilots. WG based on communications and follow up policies.

It is asked to undertake a fundraising plan for the three pilots and the compensation mechanism. Daniel is requested to prepare a budget. **A10**

The stages for testing the maps are:

Stage 1: Only for the pilots (to see the things on the ground)

Stage 2: Alternatives for compensation

Stage 3: Communication as a result

Cassio will help Daniel on writing the proposal and fundraising plan.

Cassio comments that Sandra will help him in the transition of his position.

8. Meeting Close

Action List

Activity	What	Who	When
A1	Confirm the President Position	Secretariat	
A2	Send a proposal for venue and agenda for the Workshop in September 12 and 13	Olaf Brugman	
A3	Workshop in September 12 and 13: Submit a proposal for a coordinator	Cassio Moreira	
A4	To send a proposal for working group on marketing & sourcing strategies for European Feed industry.	Cornel Boere	
A5	Conference Call 1: send a doodle for last	Secretariat	

	week of June 2pm CET		
A6	Feedback Survey: work on the topics with a proposal. Make a priority list	Martin, Belinda and Oswaldo together with Agustin	
A7	Pesticides: To write new version of the standard. Check if even being approved by the GA it is necessary to make a public consultation	Secretariat	
A8	Re-write the bylaws and communicate them	Secretariat	
A9	Create a new format for Annual report of members	Secretariat	
A10	Mapping: Create a fundraising plan for the three pilots and the compensation mechanism	Daniel	

