PRESENTED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MR. ADEMOLA ADESHINA
1. INTRODUCTION

i. A meeting of the Executive Committee of Africa Apiculture Platform (AAP) was held in Naivasha, Kenya from 16th – 18th April, 2015

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2. SPECIFIC AGENDA
The Specific agenda items of the meeting were to:

i. Assess the progress since Kampala

ii. Validate operational guidelines

iii. Validate the criteria for the selection of the members of the various working groups and select their members

iv. Discuss the sustainability of the platform beyond the project duration of 2 years

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2. SPECIFIC AGENDA (Contd)

v. Agree on issues to be discussed during the next Member States General Assembly of the Africa Apiculture Platform – AAP

3. THE MEETING

The Meeting was attended by 41 participants comprised of the secretariat, elected members of the EC and observers

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4. OPENING SESSION

The opening session of the EC started by members observing a minute silent in memory of Mr. Tafera Gezahegne Tadesse, from Ethiopian, also a member of the of EC. This was followed by a welcoming speech by the EC Chair, Mr Ademola Adeshina. The Meeting was officially opened by Prof Ahmed A. El-Sawalhy, Director of the African Union inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR). The meeting was jointly facilitated by the Chair and Vice Chairpersons of the EC.

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5. THE ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The adoption of the agenda of the meeting was proposed by Mr. Kithuma Nyaninga, Kenya and seconded by Dr. Muli, Kenya
II. THE MEETING

6. RECAP ON KAMPALA WORKSHOP

A recap of the outcomes of the workshop to launch Africa Apiculture Platform (AAP) on Honey Production, Bee Health and Pollination Services held in Kampala, Uganda from 9\textsuperscript{th} to 11\textsuperscript{th} December, 2014 was presented.

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7. Assess the Progress Since Kampala

i. A summary of achievements made were itemised including: Shared final meeting communique with participants

ii. Finalized nominations of EC Members by respective institutions and governments

iii. Drafted criteria for selection of WG members

iv. Drafted rules of procedure of the EC

v. Drafted work plan of the EC

vi. Received 27 out of 54 country status reports on bee keeping

vii. CVs received from applicants expressing interest to serve in AAP WGs

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7. Assess the Progress Since Kampala (Contd)

viii. This was followed by plenary discussions recommending that a proposal to the general assembly be made for additional categories of members with no voting powers. It was further recommended that project and AAP activities be harmonized to avoid duplication and AU-IBAR considers permanently representing the bee sector to the African Union. A clarification was also provided on the upcoming 1st Continental Symposium on Honey production, bee health & pollination services in Africa and Apimondia Congress in the month of September 15 – 20th, 2015

• A proposal was made by EC members that AU IBAR reconsiders the date of the symposium to avoid cashing with the APIMONDIA congress

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IV. OUTCOME OF MEETING

8. Rules and Procedures to Govern EC Operations. Draft rules of procedure were reviewed and validated during plenary discussions. A final document will be circulated alongside the communiqué to members.

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IV. OUTCOME OF MEETING

9. Criteria for selection of Members of Working Groups. Criteria for selection of members for the 3 working groups (of Bee health, Pollination Services & biodiversity conservation, and Production, Marketing and Technologies) were discussed and validated.

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IV. OUTCOME OF MEETING

10. EC Work plan 2015 - 2016. Following group discussions a 2 year work plan was adopted by the meeting specifying activities structured along key objectives. A final work plan is attached to the communiqué.

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IV. OUTCOME OF MEETING

11. Constitution of Working Group. Under the leadership of the WG Coordinators, EC members selected members of the working groups from CVs received through the secretariat based on the criteria agreed upon (see 9). After the process it was noted that:

- Some applicants may need to be moved to relevant groups whose TORs suit their qualifications especially, the production, Marketing and Technologies WG
- All CVs received will be used to create a database of experts in the industry.

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IV. OUTCOME OF MEETING

- The secretariat will verify the information supplied by candidates after which a letter will be sent to confirm.
- Finalizing the lists of members will take into account the need to balance representation of the 54 AU MS.
- Co-option of EC members to respective WGs was approved.

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12. Sustainability of the Platform beyond 2 year project timeframe

Following deliberations in breakout sessions, EC requests AU-IBAR to support AAP develop a sustainability strategy with specific focus on:

- Sustaining meetings of the GA & EC
- Funding participation by member or
- Mobilize resources for the meetings of the platform.
- Supporting the work of the respective WGs (to generate evidence for policy making
- Sale of products (information) from AAP
- Advocacy/lobbying by AU-IBAR to MS through the AU for investment in the sector

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13. Key Policy Issues for Bee Sector

Key policy issues for sustainable honey production, bee health and pollination services were identified during the breakout session. This will be collated and circulated by the secretariat for input.

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14. Information on AU-IBAR Project Activities

Bee Health Project Officer, Dr. Norber Mbahim informed the EC on planned and ongoing activities focussing on:

- Country reports on the status of honey production and behive products in Africa
- Guidelines of regional and continental policy and legislative frameworks
- Matrix for data collection
- Assessment of impacts of enviromental threats and stressors on bees, honey bee products and pollination services
The EC was briefed by ICIPE Bee Health Project Manager, Everlyne Khamala on the existence of the African Reference Laboratory for Bee Health that ICIPE as well as 4 satellite labs in Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, Cameroon and Liberia, a request for more information on the services:

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15. Africa Reference Laboratory ICIPE Bee Health Project Activities

It is hoped that a second phase of the project will enable the setting up of such facilities in South Africa.

offered by the reference lab was requested. The EC was informed that the reference lab is in the process of getting OIE accreditation. It was also asked that (Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, Cameroon and Liberia) to serve the respective regions once finalised.

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15. Africa Reference Laboratory ICIPE Bee Health Project Activities

A request for samples was made to EC members Participants to contact their respective departments to provide to ICIPE the following:

- 3 bottles of honey each bottle from the same hives and from the same regions aforementioned.
- 3 bottles of waxcomb samples from the same hives and floral origins
- All should be labelled with date of collection, origin, genus or species or subspecies, collectors name and source of honey and waxcomb pieces.
- EC requested to include coordinators of the Bee health project from the 4 satellite labs

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16. AOB

- It was recommended that the EC Chair consult further with AU-IBAR to clarify actions that are implementable before the next GA
- AU-IBAR informed the EC of their intention to call a meeting of the WGs in June 2015 to clarify actions that are in line with project activities
- Both Nigeria and Zimbabwe expressed interest to host the next GA meeting. After consultations, Nigeria agreed to step down, leaving Zimbabwe as the proposed host of the next GA

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17. Adoption of the Communique

The communique was proposed for adoption by Michael Allsops and Johannes Jacobus (Jac) Wolffaardt

18. Closing Remark
The EC Chair thanked members for their respective contributions and the Meeting was adjoined.