

# **BEE PROJECT**

## **WORKSHOP TECHNICAL REPORT**

### **1<sup>ST</sup> MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF AFRICAN APICULTURE PLATFORM (AAP)**



**NAIVASHA, KENYA 16<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> APRIL, 2015**

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## SUMMARY

A meeting of the 1<sup>st</sup> Executive Committee (EC) of the African Apiculture Platform (AAP) for honey production, bee health & pollination services was held in Naivasha Kenya from 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2015. The specific agenda items of the meeting were: assess the progress since Kampala, validate operational guidelines, validate the criteria for the selection of the members of the various working groups and select their members, discuss their sustainability of the platform beyond the project duration of 2 years and agree on issues to be discussed during the next Member States General assembly of the Africa Apiculture Platform – AAP. The meeting was attended by 41 participants comprised of the secretariat, elected members of the EC and observers.

The main outcomes of the workshop were:

- The reviewed and validation of the draft rules of procedure to presented to the General Assembly for endorsement,
- Elaboration, discussion and validated of criteria for selection of members into the 3 working groups (of Bee health, Pollination Services & biodiversity conservation and Production, Marketing and Technologies),
- Discussions and adoption of a 2 year work plan specifying activities along key objectives,
- Assessment of CVs for constitution of the Working Group’
- Discussion about the sustainability of the Platform beyond 2 year project timeframe,
- Identification of key policy issues for sustainable honey production, bee health and pollination services were identified after the breakout session,
- Information on AU – IBAR Project Activities

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 Dr Simplicie Nouala, Chief Animal Production Officer of AU-IBAR, Dr. Norber Mbahin, the Bee Project Officer.

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

A meeting of the 1<sup>st</sup> Executive Committee (EC) of the African Apiculture Platform (AAP) for honey production, bee health & pollination services was held in Naivasha Kenya from 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2015.

The workshop was organised and hosted by the Animal production Unit of African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR). The overall objective of the meeting was to strategize on various issues concerning the respective governance organ of the African Apiculture Platform (AAP) for honey production, bee health & pollination services in Africa. Its specific objectives who were also the overall expected outcome of the meeting were to (i) reviewed and validate the draft rules of procedure to presented to the General Assembly for endorsement, (ii) elaborate, discuss and validate criteria for selection of members into the 3 working groups (of Bee health, Pollination Services & biodiversity conservation and Production, Marketing and Technologies), (iii) discuss and adopt the 2 year work plan specifying activities along key objectives, (iv) assess CVs for constitution of the Working Group, (v) discuss about the sustainability of the Platform beyond 2 year project timeframe, and (vi) identify key policy issues for sustainable honey production, bee health and pollination services were identified after the breakout session,

### **1.1 Participants and organisers**

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

The meeting was organised by the African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) with the support from the European under Union-African/icipe joint project *"African reference laboratory (with satellite stations) for the management of pollinator bee diseases and pests for food security"*.

## **2. OPENING SESSIONS**

Dr Simplicie Nouala Master of Ceremony for this opening session welcomed EC members and the Director AU-IBAR, Guest of Honor. The opening Session of the EC started by members observing a minute of silence in memory of Mr. Tafera

Gezahegne Tadesse, from Ethiopia, also a member 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.

Prof Ahmed El-Sawalhy, Director of the African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) in his welcome remarks welcomed everyone and appreciated commitment from MS. He provided a brief background of AU-IBAR and that recently it is recognising the importance of bee sector and its contribution towards food security and poverty alleviation. He also highlights the significant role of beekeeping in sustainable environmental practices, contribution to global, regional & national economies. Africa has great potential if this sector is tapped and constraints to the growth of the sector are pests; use of pesticides, insecticides , unreliable data, ineffective associations, weak value chains, low uptake of technologies, weak policy, weak stakeholder participation in decision making process according to the Director.

### **2.1 Recap and key outcomes of Kampala workshop**

A brief recap on the way forward from the Kampala workshop in regard to the African Apiculture Platform were as follow: (i) adoption of the structure of AAP, (ii) Modus operandis on the role & functions of EC, composition, (iii) Creation of working groups, (iv) agreement on the secretariat, (v) Election of EC members by region (with right to vote), (vi) Elections of EC Office Bearers & working group coordinators. Other outcomes were: (i) book on the status of honey production in Arica, (ii) MS to provide an assessment of the status of apiculture, and (ii) identification of priority areas & Actions.

### **2.2. Assess the Progress since Kampala**

A summary of achievements made were itemised including: (i) Shared final meeting communiqué 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 EC; (vi) Received 27 out of 54 country reports on status of bee keeping; (vii) Cvs received from applicants expressing interest to serve in AAP WGs

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 scientific symposium and APIMONDIA in the month of September, 2015.

After this presentation, participants were divided in three working groups to scrutinize and amend different documents proposed by the Interim preparatory Committee and who will be validated at the plenary discussion.

### **3. OUTCOMES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING (EC)**

#### **3.1. 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 and presented to the General Assembly for endorsement.

#### **3.2. Criteria for selection of Members of Working Groups**

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

#### **3.3. EC Work plan 2015 - 2016**

Following group discussions a 2 year work plan was adopted by the meeting specifying activities along key objectives:

- Communication strategy
- Facilitate collaboration and cooperation between value chain members
- Share lessons learnt and good practices
- To facilitate the creation of regulatory and legal framework at the continental level
- Encourage development partners to increase public funds for apiculture development
- Advocacy on issues affecting apiculture sector

- Organize executive committee activities

A final document will be circulated alongside the communiqué and presented to the General Assembly for endorsement.

### **3.4. Constitution of the Working Group**

Under the leadership of the Working Group 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 working group
- All Cvs received will be used to create a database of experts in the industry
- Secretariat will verify the information supplied by candidates after which a letter will be send to confirm
- Finalizing the lists of members will take into account the need to balance representation of the 54 AU MS
- Co-optation of members in to respective WGs

### **3.5. Sustainability of the Platform beyond 2 year project timeframe**

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

- Sustaining meetings of the GA & EC
  - Funding participation by members
  - 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 Africa Union for investment in the sector

### **3.6. Key Policies for Bee sector**

Key policy issues for sustainable honey production, bee health and pollination services were identified during the breakout session as follows:

- Establishment of continental regional & national platforms representing bee keeping stakeholders;
- Adoption of regulatory frameworks regarding bee keeping practices;
- Continental, regional & National platforms for information dissemination in bee keeping;
- Policy for increase, protection of bee forage and prevention of deforestation;
- Harmonized policy on pesticide use;
- Policy on bee pests & diseases and a reporting mechanism on the same;
- Quality control and product testing;
- continental Survey / inventory of pollination services;
- Teaching of importance of bee keeping in school – inclusion school curriculum;
- Government commitment to support the sectors sustainability;
- Genetic integrity: Protection of indigenous bees including indigenous honey bees ( movement of bees);
- Policies that facilitate better market access, storage and handling, quality of packaging, standard certification, marketing of all bee products (honey, Royal Jelly, propolis, beeswax, bee, larvae);
- Standardization of taxation and revenue
- Policies that facilitate sustainable production and productivity per colony;
- Policies that facilitate investment in beekeeping equipment, and access to credit;



- Policies that encourage sustainable management of natural resources;
  - Policies that encourage appropriate use of natural resources and forests;
  - Policies that encourage organized structures., e.g associations, federations
  - Policies that encourage continuous training and public education;
  - Policies that encourage organized private sector and communities to manage and use forest reserves for bee product production;
  - Policies that encourage control of importation of used honey production equipment and facilities;
  - Policies that encourage development and management of indigenous honey bees;
  - Quantify the value of pollination issues and create awareness and determine demand;
  - Standards (honey and other Bee products, equipment, packaging, hygiene;
  - Honey Bee Diseases diagnosis and control;
  - Coordination of the sector (is a problem in some countries);
  - Biodiversity conservation and protection;
  - Promotion of honey production as an enterprise;
  - Capacity building (training and uptake of technologies);
  - Adopt and adapt phyto-sanitary practices that consider non-target species
- This will be collated and circulated by the secretariat for input.

### **3.7. Information on AU – IBAR Project Activities**

Bee Health Project Manager, Dr. Norber Mbahim provided an update on planned and ongoing activities focussing on

- Country reports of on the status of honey production and beehive products in Africa
- Guideline of regional and continental policy and legislative frameworks
- Matrix for data collection
- Assessment of impacts of environmental threats and stressors on bees, honeybee products and pollination services

## **4. RECOMMENDATIONS**

The following recommendations were made:

- ✓ It was recommended that the EC consult further with AU-IBAR to clarify actions that are implementable before the next GA.
- ✓ A proposal was made to call for a meeting of the WGs to also clarify actions that are in line with project activities in June 2015.
- ✓ AU IBAR to make considerations on the timing of the symposia in reference to the APIMONDIA event as well as supporting some members of EC to participate in the APIMONDIA event.

## 5. APPENDIX

### 5.1. Agenda

#### 1<sup>st</sup> MEETING of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF AFRICA APICULTURE PLATFORM (AAP)

Naivasha, Kenya – 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2015

#### DRAFT AGENDA OF THE MEETING

Day 1		
Time	WORKSHOP OPENING	
8:00	Registration of participants	Secretariat, All
9:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Opening session</li> <li>▪ Introduction of participants</li> <li>▪ Welcome Speech by the Director AU-IBAR</li> <li>▪ Official opening of the workshop</li> </ul>	
9:30	Workshop objectives and expected results	
9:50	Presentation and adoption of the agenda	
10:00	<b>Group photo and Health break</b>	
10:30	<b>Session 1:</b> Recap on Kampala meeting	
11:00	<b>Session 2:</b> Assess the progress since Kampala	
11:30	<b>Discussion</b>	
12:00	<b>Lunch break</b>	
14:00	<b>Session 3:</b> Review, discuss and Validate the Operational guidelines	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Executive Committee ,</li> <li>▪ Working Group</li> <li>▪ General Assembly</li> </ul>	
15:00	<b>Session 4:</b> Validate the criteria for the selection of the members of the various working groups and select their members	
15:30	<b>Session 5:</b> Discuss and agree on the AAP the 2 Years programme of events at a glance for the Executive Committee	
17:00	<b>General Discussion</b>	

Day 2		
Time	Activity	
8:00	<b>Session 6:</b> Constitution of the Working groups	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bee health working group</li> <li>▪ Production, Marketing Technologies working group</li> <li>▪ Pollination Services &amp; biodiversity working</li> </ul>	

	group	
10:00	Presentation findings	
11:00	Discussion	
12:00	Lunch break	
14:00	<b>Session 7:</b> Discuss the sustainability of the platform beyond the project duration	
	Presentation findings	
	Discussion	
15:30	<b>Session 8:</b> Discussion and identification of key policy for sustainable honey production, bee health and pollination services	
	Presentation findings and discussion	
17:00	General discussion	

Day 3		
Time	Activity	Resource Person
8:00	<b>Session 9:</b> Agree on various documents that will be prepared by the secretariat and others keys issues to be discussed during the next Member States General Assembly of the Africa Apiculture Platform (AAP).	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bee Project exist strategy</li> </ul>	
10:00	Presentation findings	
11:00	Discussion	
12:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Adoption of the final communiqué</li> <li>▪ Closing Remarks</li> </ul>	
13:00	Lunch break	

## 5.2. List of Participants

### 1<sup>st</sup> Executive Committee Meeting of the Africa Apiculture Platform (AAP)

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Naivasha, Kenya 16 – 18 April 2015

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