

**BEE PROJECT**  
**WORKSHOP TECHNICAL REPORT**  
**LAUNCHING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MULTI-**  
**STAKEHOLDER PLATFORM (MSP) ON**  
**HONEY PRODUCTION, POLLINATION SERVICES**  
**AND BEE HEALTH**



**NAIVASHA, KENYA 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2014**

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## SUMMARY

A workshop to launch the establishment of a Multi Stakeholder Platform (MSP) on honey production, pollination services and bee health was organized in Naivasha (Kenya) and was attended by 41 Participants from 20 Member States of the African Union (AU-MS) and included representatives from the ministries in charge of beekeeping, representative of the beekeepers associations, representatives of private sector, representatives of NGOs and experts in beekeeping. The main outcome of the workshop was the establishment of bee MSP that will improve policy and institutional environment, enhance coordination, and advocacy for honeybee health and other pollinators. The MSP governance organ composed of Advisory **Group** or **Steering** committee, Working Group and Support Team.

An Interim Support Committee often referred as Preparatory Team, was put in place with representatives from AU-MS (Algeria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Egypt, Ethiopia (Ethiopian Apiculture Board) and Zimbabwe); Private sector representatives (Chad, Nigeria, Uganda, Zambia, Tunisia and Apitrade-Africa); Non-Governmental Organisation (SNV of Ethiopia); Expert Apiculture (Prof. Zacharie Mbou and Apimondia). AU-IBAR would serve as a facilitator and could invite 1 or 2 experts when necessary.

An Interim Support Committee was tasked to i) refine the role of the MSP, ii) prepare the TORs and define the modus operandi of the governance organs of the MSP, iii) develop criteria for the selection of the members of each organ, iv) prepare the work plan for the 1<sup>st</sup> year activity of the MSP, v) share documents with MSP and vi) advise on the possible launch before next year.

The workshop was officially opened by Prof Ahmed A. El-Sawalhy, Director of the African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) and facilitated by Dr Simplicie Nouala, Chief Animal Production Officer of AU-IBAR.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

A workshop to launch the establishment of a Multi Stakeholder Platform (MSP) on honey production, pollination services and bee health was held from the 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> September 2014 in Naivasha, Kenya. The workshop was organised and hosted by the African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR). The overall objective of the workshop was to establish MSP and its specific objectives were to i) agree on the institutional and governance structures of the MSP, ii) Propose Terms of References (ToRs) for the MSP and priority issues to be addressed by the MSP, iii) chart a road map for the establishment of the MSP, and iv) establish an interim governance structure for the MSP. The overall expected outcome of the workshop was the establishment of the bee MSP with clear objectives and functions and proposed road map.

### 1.1 Participants and organisers

The workshop was attended by 41 Participants from 20 Member States of the African Union (Algeria, Burkina-Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Ivory Coast, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Sudan, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe) and included representatives from the ministries in charge of beekeeping, representative of the beekeepers associations, representatives of private sector, representatives of NGOs and experts in beekeeping.

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

## 2. OPENING SESSIONS

The workshop was officially opened by Prof Ahmed El-Sawalhy, Director of the African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) and facilitated by Dr Simplicie Nouala, Chief Animal Production Officer of AU-IBAR. In his opening remarks, Prof El-Sawalhy 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. Within the AU-IBAR bees and fisheries are growing and given more priorities in order to unblock challenge and enhance their developments. He acknowledged partnerships between AU-IBAR and icipe (International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology) and European Union for funding this bee project. In his closing remarks, he emphasised that the launching of bee MSP will improve honeybee production and pollination services in the sector that will foster policy coherence, improve coordination and collaboration for honey production. The road map for implementation is clear and hopes that by the end of the year the MSP will be launched. He thanked everyone reiterating AU-IBAR commitment to facilitating stakeholder's coordination and strengthens capacity of AU-MS and that the outcomes of the workshop should be implemented.

### **3. TECHNICAL SESSIONS**

#### **3.1 Presentation on Policy and institutional challenges for bee health and honey bee production in Africa**

The technical session (scene setting) was introduced by Dr Simplicie Nouala the Chief Animal Production Officer of AU-IBAR, with a presentation on the Policy and institutional challenges for bee health and honey bee production in Africa. He emphasised AU-IBAR role in coordinating and facilitating AU-MS in ensuring coherence in bee sector development. The organization focuses on creating an enabling environment where all AU-MS can discuss policy issues such as formulation, implementation and monitoring. As a result, the role of the MSP should be to initiate policy formulation, implementation and monitoring, that is, a continental platform for honey bee production. He urged the participants to identify policy options for formulation of continental honey bee policy. This platform should also serve as a mechanism for policy development, implementation, monitoring and coordinating activities as well as jointly advocating for honey bee production, pollination services and bee health services.

He stressed the lack of accurate data for honey bee products. To date, only twenty seven (27) AU MS submit data and as a result, Africa accounts only few percentages

(12%) to global production. He requested the member states to submit their statistics, if the sector should be taken seriously and this will also inform and improve decision making process. Nonetheless he acknowledged increase in honey bee production and efforts directed to ensure growth. This illustrates a good sign of a lucrative business and the need to explore niche markets.

Dr Nouala alluded that in the Summit held in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea recognised 2014 as the “Year of Agriculture” with the aim to end hunger and double agricultural productivity by 2025. Thus, a contribution of honey bee to agricultural production is critical in achieving the set goals. There is a need to take honey bee production, pollination services and bee health very seriously. In addressing this deficit, these questions would need to be answered:

- How will beekeepers tap into growing markets of honey bee and bee hives products?
- How will bee sector contribute to increased regional trade in Africa?
- How will bee colonies survive to increased use of pesticides necessary to increased crop productivity and production?
- How will use of pesticides prevent colony collapsed disorder?
- How will bee sector contribute significantly to enhanced livelihoods in Africa?
- How will Africa be prevented from colony losses experienced in other countries?

Dr Nouala outlined the objectives and outcomes of the workshop as follows:

### ***Objectives of the meeting***

The overall objective of the multi-stakeholders platforms (MSP) workshop was to launch the establishment of MSP on honey production, pollination services and bee health in Africa that will improve policy and institutional environment, enhance coordination, and advocacy for honeybee health and other pollinators to food security and improved livelihoods.

### ***Specific objectives:***

- i) Agreed on the institutional and governance structures of the MSP

- ii) Proposed Terms of References (ToRs) for the MSP and priority issues to be addressed by the MSP
- iii) Agreed on a road map for the effective establishment of the MSP
- iv) Establish an interim governance structure for the MSP.

***Expected results:***

- i. Agreed structure of MSP
- ii. Agreed objectives and functions of the MSP
- iii. Agreed road map
- iv. Established interim governance structure for the MSP

***Expected outcomes of the established MSP would be to:***

- i. Improve decision making
- ii. Foster debate and interaction among stakeholders
- iii. Identifying trends and emerging issues on apiculture
- iv. Address issues on industrialized agriculture and hive products value chain.
- v. Support evidence-based advocacy for increased investment in modern apiculture
- vi. Inform public and private opinion

### **3.2 Presentation of the bee project**

Dr. Norber Mbahin, Bee Project Officer at AU-IBAR, after an overview of honey production in the world and in Africa presents the bee project to participants. The overall objective of the project is “To enhance the contribution of bees and other pollinators to food security and improved livelihoods” with operation purpose “To improve bee products and pollination services through reduced incidence of bee diseases and pests, enhanced markets access, and bee health institutional environment”. The four result area with activities was presents to participants.

The project will construct one (1) reference laboratory in Kenya (icipe) and four (4) regional labs that will be based in Ethiopia (East Africa), Cameroon (Central Africa), Liberia and Burkina Faso (Western Africa). The operations will improve bee products and pollination services through reduced incidence of bee disease and pests. Hence

an established MSP will address gaps identified in the institutional arrangements and governance of the honey bee and beekeepers associations. The reference laboratory will be accredited by International Office of Epizootics (OIE) and the regional laboratory will conduct additional research not carried by the reference laboratory.

The discussions arose from Dr. Norber presentation was that:

- There is a need to understand the market, that is, the consumption and demand of each region
- Strengthening capacity building especially in bee health disease and pesticides application is critical in increasing honeybee production
- The need to conduct surveillance and put corrective measures in place
- The need for regional laboratory in Southern and Northern Africa
- Provision to strengthen capacity of bee health institutions for example beekeeper association and the need for confederation at National level.

### **3.3 Presentation by countries**

Presentations were provided by countries in an alphabetical order; Algeria, Burkina-Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Ivory Coast, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Sudan, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Each country made a presentation on the status of bee sector/ honey bee production, institutional arrangements, challenges and constraints, best practices and lessons learnt.

In addition, Tanzania, and Rwanda were invited to present their policies while Ethiopia was invited to share the experience on the MSP in Ethiopia. The private sector representatives and representatives of beekeeping associations gave overview of the activities of their institutions.

#### ***3.3.1 Bee sector/ honey bee production***

Honey is used both in conventional and traditional medicines, cosmetics and agriculture by pollination service to improve the quality of fruits and increase production. The sector is dominated by Ethiopia, Tanzania, Kenya, Angola and Central Africa Republic amongst others. The dominating product is honey bee

followed by beeswax and propolis. Tunisia has expanded market opportunities by diversifying their products to sweet, beauty care etc. Ugandan is also exploring niche markets for honey wine, lotions/creams, shoe and furniture polish and bakery. There is a skill shortage in producing other bee hive products such as royal jelly and pollen which are sought after on the international market. Cameroon, Ethiopia and others have access to European markets which increases product value and broaden market opportunities. There is a need also of improving traditional methods of harvesting honey as noted by the Ethiopians. The quality of honey gets destroyed when removing honey from beehive and the main challenge is handling.

### **3.3.2 Institutional arrangements**

The general overview of presentation was that countries do not have proper legislation for bee sector, with exceptions of Tanzania, Rwanda. Beekeeping policies in Kenya and Uganda are still drafts. Existing conflicting laws are apparent in Kenya. Cameroon highlighted exemptions on value added tax (VAT), no custom charges at exportation on animal products transformed such as honey and bee hive products. This is reduces costs for exporting.

There is a lack of human/ technical capacity especially in areas of data collection and analysis. Lack of bee diseases information is also a major concern. Ethiopia is conducting research on bees and have mapped honey bee (10 million colonies) and Burundi have been allocated budget for bee health and disease surveillance for 2015. Tanzania and Uganda reported no disease occurrence in their sector; bees are resistance to *Varroa mite*. However, Madagascar has outbreak of the mite and Kenya is recovering from drought and the production is increasing.

### **3.3.3 Challenges**

Common challenges included but not limited to:

#### **i. Production**

- General lack of skills and knowledge in improved beekeeping and minimum use of improved technologies and practices

- A climate change is affecting colony abundance and population density of bee fodder plants.
- Traditional production system affecting honey bee quality resulting in lower yields.
- Bee killing due to local method of honey harvest (using fire), bush fires and insecurities from poachers, cattle raiders etc.

**ii. Technology**

- Lack of adequate research on beekeeping technologies and equipment's
- Lack of infrastructure for producing genetically superior queen bees for supply to beekeepers
- Limited processing facilities and technology especially in packaging)

**iii. Technical capacity**

- Lack of technical knowledge for efficient management of bee colonies for higher honey yield
- Inadequate training for both farmers and extension staff
- Little participation of women and youth (Traditional beliefs and taboos in some communities)
- Beekeepers with advanced age and illiterate and few emerging farmers

**iv. Financial support**

- Lack of accessible finance to different business entities along the value chain. Poor access to finance limits their capacities to grow their businesses.

**v. Markets**

- Lack of reliable market information on supply, demand and market prices for bee products leads to beekeepers unable to market their products
- Local markets unknown and challenges accessing international markets
- Low appreciation levels from public about honey bee (lack of consumer awareness)
- Lack of market competitiveness (price, quality, delivery)
- Absence of accredited laboratory for quality testing

- Little value addition skills and less diversification of products

**vi. Data collection and prioritisation**

- Inadequate statistical information to guide plans and operations for development of the beekeeping sector
- Lack of information and uncoordinated dissemination channels

**vii. Bee disease and health**

- Lack of a comprehensive pests and diseases surveillance and monitoring schedule
- Sanitary quality of honey and bee hive products
- Insufficient veterinary cover (farmers lack adequate skills on handling hive products and pests/disease management).
- Little research and development on disease management and control
- Indiscriminate use of insecticides and pesticides

**viii. Institutional capacities**

- Insufficient extension workers
- Low prioritization of beekeeping in relation to other enterprises in the wider Agricultural sector.
- Lack of Public Private Partnership in the sector
- Low level of private sector providing necessary services for the development apiculture sector.

## **4. WORKING GROUP DISCUSSIONS**

***Group's constitution was as follows:***

Group 1: Algeria, Burkina-Faso, Cameroon, Mali and Madagascar

*Rapporteur:* Dr. Karima Oumelkheir Chenaf

Group 2: Burundi, Chad, Tunisia, Cote d'Ivoire and Senegal

*Rapporteur:* Asma Lazghab

Group 3: Egypt, Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda and South Sudan

*Rapporteur:* Samuel Kabochi Kamau

#### Group 4: Zambia, Zimbabwe, Uganda, Tanzania and Ethiopia

*Rapporteur:* Dickson Biryomumaisho

The group tackled the following questions:

- i. What are the best practices and lessons learnt from your countries?  
As a group agree on 3 lessons and 3 best practices
- ii. Identify 3-5 key priority issues for honey bee production and bee health
- iii. What should be the key elements/issues in a coherent and effective bee policy?

#### **4.1 Best practices from country's presentations**

*Participants came out with the following best practices:*

- Establishment of the beekeeping associations as the best tool for advocacy of the sector.
- Farmer led extension service (Uganda model) to address the weakness of government extension service.
- The trend in the modernization of beekeeping and honey processing that has led to an increase in the quantity and quality of honey bee and other beehives products.
- Promotion of bee reserves where use of insecticides and pesticides is prohibited in order to protect bee colonies
- Promotion of beekeeping in protected areas e.g game, national parks and forest.

#### **4.2 Lessons learnt:**

- Surveillance (active and passive), monitoring and control bee diseases and pests are very important for the sector development.
- Excessive use of pesticides could hamper sector growth.
- Monitoring of residues scheme is very important to facilitate trade within Africa and is a requirement to export beehive product in EU and USA markets.
- The need for accredited laboratories on the continent for testing of beehive products to cut down the cost of sample analysis.

#### **4.3 Six priority areas identified for promoting sectors growth:**

Subsequent areas require attention by MSP in unblocking sector growth and development:

- Absence of regulations on the use of insecticides and pesticides due to intensification of agriculture.
- Absence of surveillance, monitoring and control of bee diseases and pests due to little knowledge on bee diseases and pests.
- Lack of accredited laboratories for testing of honey and other beehive products.
- Lack of reliable apiculture data in order to guide investment and planning and to show the importance of the sector for livelihood.
- Weak intra-country and intra-regional trade of beehive products between African countries.
- Absence of national apiculture policies in many African countries and lack of regional and continental African policy framework for honey bee production and pollination services.

#### **4.4 Participants also agree on three policy intervention entry points that includes:**

- Formulation of honey bee policy in MS and these policies should also promote value addition for beehive products.
- Formulation of guidelines and protocols on the use of pesticides in honey production basin
- Formulation of guidelines and strategies for surveillance, monitoring and control of bee diseases.

## **5. MSP FOR HONEY BEE PRODUCTION AND POLLINATION SERVICE**

### **5.1 Presentation by AU-IBAR on the role of MSP in advancing Animal resources development and proposed structure and governance of the MSP for bee production and pollination services.**

Prior to the presentation by Dr. Simplicie Nouala, the group discussions dealt with the following questions:

- i. What could be the objective(s) and functions of a bee MSP?
- ii. What could be its structure and the role of each element of the structure
- iii. What could be the roadmap for establishment of the MSP (provide if possible some milestones)

In his presentation, he highlighted the importance of improving governance over natural resources. A MSP is regarded as a platform that can improve current conditions and decision making process. However this varies at implementation level. Its objectives are to enable empowered and active participation of stakeholders and this includes conflicting stakeholders such as crop, finance departments. An MSP can be at continental, regional or country level and that must be linked to political decision and agenda.

### **5.2 Feedback from the group discussion**

The *overall objective* of the MSP should be to improve honey bee production, pollination services and bee health among AU MS and enhance its contribution to food security and poverty alleviation.

Its *specific objectives* will be to:

- i. Facilitate collaboration and cooperation within bee value chain stakeholders including sharing of best practices and lessons learnt; policy making, improve and promote apiculture sectors growth.
- ii. Serve as advocacy platform to influence policy and decisions making at national regional and continental levels for the development and protection African bee resources, increase investment and facilitate access to market.

### **5.2.5 The following structure of the bee MSP was agreed by participants:**

- i. Advisory Group or Steering Committee
- ii. Working group
- iii. Support team (provided by represented institutions)

### **5.2.6 Name of the MSP:**

Participants proposed the MSP to be called the *African Honey Bee Platform (ApiAfrica)*

### **5.2.7 The member of the Interim Support Team (Preparatory Team) proposed by AU-IBAR and adopted by the participants includes:**

- Member States representatives: Algeria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Egypt, Ethiopia (Ethiopian Apiculture Board) and Zimbabwe.
- Private sector: Chad, Nigeria, Uganda, Zambia, Tunisia and Apitrade Africa.
- NGO: SNV (Ethiopia)
- Expert: Apimondia and Zacharie Mbou
- AU-IBAR will be the facilitator
- AU-IBAR could invite 1 or 2 experts when necessary

### ***An interim support team was established with the following tasks:***

- Refine the role of the MSP
- Prepare the Terms of Reference (TORs) and define the modus operandis of the governance organs of the MSP (Advisory Group, Working Group and Support team).
- Develop criteria for the selection of the members of each organ
- Prepare the work plan for the 1<sup>st</sup> year activity of the MSP.

### **5.2.8 The below road map with timeline for the bee MSP was agreed by participants:**

- The draft of the TORs by October 15, 2014.
- Meeting of the Preparatory Team to validate the draft document by the 3rd week of October 2014 (between 20<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> October 2014).

- Electronic discussion (e-discussion) on the draft document 2 weeks (27<sup>th</sup> October to 08<sup>th</sup> November 2014).
- Launch of the MSP before the end of year and probably in Tanzania in November 2014 (Interim Support team will clarify if it will be before or after Apimondia who will be held in Tanzania from 11<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> November 2014).

## 6. RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations were made:

- Review and compile countries presentation for publication; "Status of Apiculture in Africa, 2014"; this will serve as baseline data information
- Harmonize methods for apiculture data collection and analyze; this can be done by developing a strategy for improve data collection and analysis in apiculture in Africa;
- Creation of a module for bee in ARIS 2
- Creation of a repository for all relevant bee policies document in MS who will be hosted by ARIS 2.
- Need to conduct studies to demonstrate the contribution of bees to improved livelihoods (income generation), poverty reduction and food security. This will be used as advocacy document.
- Need to document "farmer led extensions pilot case study of Uganda" for dissemination in other AU-MS.

## 7. Meeting evaluation

All participants were given opportunity to express the conduct of the workshop including "likes and dislikes". The participants were satisfied with the meeting outcomes and looking forward to bear the fruits of the MSP. Appraisal was provided to AU-IBAR for coordinating the workshop and bringing all stakeholders together in achieving a coherent "African voice" in addressing honeybee production, pollination services and bee health.

## Announcement

- 1 APEXPO 2014, "Beekeeping for Economic Empowerment in Africa." Harare International Conference Centre (HICC) from the 6<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> October 2014
- 2 Api African Symposium on African Bee and Beekeeping is organized with The Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism in collaboration with the Apimondia. It will be held in Arusha Tanzania from 11<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup> Nov, 2014 at the AICC (Arusha International Conference Center). [www.apiafrica.org](http://www.apiafrica.org)

## 8. APPENDIX

### 8.1. Agenda

<b>Day 1 - Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2014</b>	
<b>Time</b>	<b>WORKSHOP OPENING</b>
08:00 – 08:30	Registration of participants
08:30 – 09:00	Opening session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Introduction of participants</li> <li>▪ <b>Welcome Speech by the Director AU-IBAR</b></li> <li>▪ Adoption of the agenda</li> </ul>
09:00 – 09:15	
	<b>Session 1: Settings the scene</b>
09:15 – 9:45	Policy and institutional challenges for bee health and honey bee production in Africa; Workshop objectives and expected results
09:45-10:15	Presentation of the bee project
10:15 – 10:45	<b>Discussions</b>
10:45:11:15	<b>Group photo and Health break</b>
	<b>Session 2: Country presentations(10mn max each)</b>
11:15-13:15	Algeria; Burkina-Faso; Burundi; Cameroon; Chad; Ivory Coast; Egypt; Ethiopia; Kenya; Libya, Madagascar, Mali,
13:15-14:00	<b>Lunch break</b>
	<b>Session 2 continued</b>
14:00-15:40	Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, South Soudan, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe
15:40-16:15	<b>General discussions</b>
16:15-16:30	<b>Coffee break</b>
16:30 – 18:00	Group work : What are the lessons from countries presentations
<b>Day 2 – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2014</b>	
<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>
08:30 – 09:15	Report to plenary and discussions
	<b>Session 3: Creating an enabling environment for honey bee production and pollination services</b>
09:15-09:45	Presentation Case study: (15mn each) Bee policy in Tanzania, Bee Policy in Rwanda
09:45: 10:15	<b>Discussions</b>
10:15-10:30	<b>Coffee break</b>
10:30-12:00	<b>Group work 2:</b> What are the priority issues for honey bee and bee health in Africa
12:00-13:00	Report to plenary and discussions
13:00-14:00	<b>Lunch</b>
	<b>session 4: MSP for honey bee production and pollination service</b>
14:00-14:30	The role of MSP in advancing Animal resources development and proposed structure and governance of the MSP for bee production and pollination services

14:30-15:00	<b>Discussions</b>
15:00-18:00	<b>Group work:</b> Objectives, role, structure, TORs of Governance organs
<b>Day 3 – Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2014</b>	
<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>
08:30-09:15	Report to plenary and discussions
09:15-10:30	▪ <b>Group work:</b> Road map for the establishment of the MSP
10:30-10:45	Coffee break
10:45-11:30	Report to plenary and discussions
11:30-12:15	Establishment of interim governance bodies (Elections of the members)
12:15-13:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Final communiqué</li> <li>▪ Closing Remarks</li> <li>▪ Lunch</li> </ul>
14:00	Departure

## 8.2. List of Participants

### ALGERIA

Dr Karima Oumelkheir CHENAF  
Chargée d'Etudes et de Synthèse,  
12, Avenue Colonel Amirouche.  
Alger, Algerie  
Email: [k.chenaf@hotmail.fr](mailto:k.chenaf@hotmail.fr)  
[chenaf.karima@minagri.dz](mailto:chenaf.karima@minagri.dz)

Chief of Service for Wildlife,  
Nonconventional Livestock and Bee  
Health  
Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and  
Animal Industries (MINEPIA)  
Yaounde, Cameroon  
Tel: 00237 94729745  
E-mail: [vibanvictor@yahoo.fr](mailto:vibanvictor@yahoo.fr)

### BURKINA FASO

Dr ZERBO *Lamouni Habibata*  
39ème promotion de l'EISMV de Dakar  
*Ministère des Ressources Animales et  
Halieutiques*  
promouvoir la MEDECINE VETERINAIRE  
AU BURKINA-FASO  
Tel: 0022677911616  
Email : [liselaure2002@yahoo.fr](mailto:liselaure2002@yahoo.fr)

Michael Tchana  
Vice President  
Reseau Interprofessionnel des  
Apiculteurs du Cameroun (REINAC)  
Ministre des Peches et des Industries  
Animales  
Cameroun  
Tel : +237 75335499  
E-mail : [mtchana@yahoo.fr](mailto:mtchana@yahoo.fr)

Desire Marie Yameogo  
President  
L'Union National des Apiculteurs  
B. P. 153 Koudougou  
Ouagadougou,  
Burkina Faso  
Tel: +226 70240456  
Email: [yamdema@yahoo.fr](mailto:yamdema@yahoo.fr)

Dr. MBOU Zacharie,  
Apiculture Expert  
Yaounde, Cameroun  
E-mail: [mbouzacharie@yahoo.fr](mailto:mbouzacharie@yahoo.fr)  
Tel : +22377957186 / 96594290

### BURUNDI

Dr. Deogratias Nsanganiyumwami  
Directeur de la Santé Animale  
Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Elevage  
BP 1850  
Bujumbura, BURUNDI  
Tel: +257 22225141/799 222 22  
Fax: +257 22222873/22402021  
Email: [nsanga5@yahoo.fr](mailto:nsanga5@yahoo.fr)

Jean JOUBOUH  
PLEG / Classe Exeptionnelle  
IPR / SVT-EEHB / Centre à YAOUNDE  
Environnementaliste  
Consultant en EVF/EMP/VIH et sida  
Tél:(237)77784011 - (237)33152035

### COTE d'IVOIRE

Bernard TIEIDE  
Ingénieur des Techniques d'Agronomie  
Directeur Départemental de  
Ferkessédougou  
Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire  
Tél (00225) 07 74 83 22 – 01 05 97 27  
E.mail : [btieidide@yahoo.fr](mailto:btieidide@yahoo.fr).

### CAMEROON

Viban Banah Victor

Koffi Ahonon

Commissaire au compte  
Fédération Nationale des Apiculteurs  
Conseiller Formateurs des Apiculteurs  
Tel: (00225) 07 94 37 05  
E-mail: [ahonon.koffi@yahoo.fr](mailto:ahonon.koffi@yahoo.fr)

## EGYPT

Dr Alaa Morsi Shaaban Marzok  
Senior Veterinarian,  
Technical office for CVO  
General organization for Veterinary  
Services  
Ministry of Agriculture and Land  
Reclamation  
Tel.No.01221163736  
Email: [amarzok3@gmail.com](mailto:amarzok3@gmail.com)

## ETHIOPIA

Haile Giorgis Demissie  
Beza Mar Agro Industry P.L.C  
General Manager  
Tel. off +251-11-5505099  
Mob. +251-91-1201686  
E-mail: [beza\\_mar@yahoo.com](mailto:beza_mar@yahoo.com)  
[bezamarh@gmail.com](mailto:bezamarh@gmail.com)

Negash Bekena  
Manager  
Ethiopian Apicultural Board (EAB)  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
E-mail: [eab2005@Your.co.uk](mailto:eab2005@Your.co.uk)  
Phone: (251)115-504149 / Mobile: (251)  
911-879963

Mr. Gizachew Sisay  
Sr Value Chain Advisor "GRAD PROJECT"  
SNV Ethiopia  
E-mail: [gsisay@snvworld.org](mailto:gsisay@snvworld.org)  
[sisaygizachew@gmail.com](mailto:sisaygizachew@gmail.com)  
Tel: +256911889468

Mulufird Ashagrie Zewdu  
President

APIMONDIA – Regional Commission for  
Africa  
P. O. Box 46580, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
Tel: +251 912 038353  
E-mail: [mlfrdashagrie@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mlfrdashagrie@yahoo.co.uk)

## KENYA

Samuel Kabochi Kamau  
Chief Principal Zoologist  
State department of Livestock  
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock &  
Fisheries, Private bag, 00625, Nairobi  
Tel: +254724684035  
E-mail: [kamaukabochi@gmail.com](mailto:kamaukabochi@gmail.com)

Ernest Simeoni  
Managing Director  
African beekeepers ltd  
P. O. Box 3752 - 00506  
Nairobi, Kenya  
E-mail: [bees@africanbeekeepers.co.ke](mailto:bees@africanbeekeepers.co.ke)  
Tel: +254722700226

Michael Muiruri  
Board Member  
Kenya Honey Council  
P. O. Box 60424, 00200  
Nairobi, Kenya  
Tel: +254720239087  
E-mail : [info@kenyahoneycouncil.org](mailto:info@kenyahoneycouncil.org);  
[mk\\_muiruri@yahoo.com](mailto:mk_muiruri@yahoo.com)

## MADAGASCAR

Fidy Ndriana Harijaona Andriamamonjy  
Secrétaire Exécutif de la FENAM  
Ministère de l'Élevage  
Antananarivo, Madagascar  
Tel: +261 343877445  
E-mail: [mail.fidy@yahoo.fr](mailto:mail.fidy@yahoo.fr);  
[apimadagascar@orange.fr](mailto:apimadagascar@orange.fr)

## MALI

Saidou TEMBELY  
Technical Adviser  
Animal Health & Veterinary Public Health  
Ministère du Développement Rural  
Cité administrative  
Bamako, Mali  
Tel: 00223 76075046  
E-mail: [saidouatembely@gmail.com](mailto:saidouatembely@gmail.com)

## NIGERIA

Mahmud Balarabe  
Assistant Director  
Animal Production & Husbandry Services  
Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural  
Development  
PMB 135, Garki Abuja Nigeria  
Tel: +2348036204551  
E-mail: [balarabemahmud@gmail.com](mailto:balarabemahmud@gmail.com)

Ademola Adeshina  
Chairman  
A Shine Limited  
PMB 83, Kuje,  
Abuja, Nigeria  
Tel: +234 8036879116  
E-mail: [ashineld@yahoo.com](mailto:ashineld@yahoo.com)

## RWANDA

Dr. Isidore Gafarasi Mapendo  
Director of Veterinary Services  
Rwanda Agriculture Board (RAB)  
Ministry of Agriculture and Animal  
Resources  
P.O. Box 7065  
Kigali, Rwanda  
Tel: +250 788 50 35 89  
Email: [igafarasi@gmail.com](mailto:igafarasi@gmail.com)

Nzabonimpa Anselme  
Chairman

Fédération Rwandaise des Coopératives  
d'Apiculteurs (FERWACAPI)  
Ministry of Agriculture and animal  
resources  
B.P 241 Gisenyi/Rwanda  
Tél. + 250 7 88 52 31 26  
E-mail: [anselmenza@yahoo.fr](mailto:anselmenza@yahoo.fr)

## SENEGAL

Sakho Karamokho  
Secrétaire General  
Union Nationale Sénégalaise  
d'Apiculteurs  
Ministère d'Elevage  
B P 13453, Dakar, Sengal  
Tel : +221777556714  
E-mail : [unasaxo@yahoo.fr](mailto:unasaxo@yahoo.fr);  
[sakho.karamokho@yahoo.fr](mailto:sakho.karamokho@yahoo.fr)

Ibrahima Diawara  
Coodonnateur National de programme  
Apicole  
Ministère d'Elevage et des Production  
Animales  
Dakar, Senegal  
Tel : +221 773217349  
E-mail : [iddiawara@hotmail.com](mailto:iddiawara@hotmail.com)

## SOUTH SUDAN

Dr Jada Rombe Wani  
Veterinary Officer  
Department of Vector & Disease Control  
Ministry of Livestock & Fisheries  
Industries  
Juba, South Sudan  
Tel: +211 955022128  
E-mail: [jadarom78@yahoo.com](mailto:jadarom78@yahoo.com)

Ashjan Edward  
Senior Inspector  
South Sudan Apicultural Organization  
Department of Standards  
National Bureau of Standards

Juba, South Sudan  
Tel: +211 956908082  
E-mail: [ashjanedward@yahoo.com](mailto:ashjanedward@yahoo.com)

### TANZANIA

Joyce Dugo  
Director of Finance & Development  
National Beekeeping Supplies Ltd  
Makole Industrial Area, P. O. Box 1458  
Dodoma, Tanzania  
Phone/Fax +255 22 2134026,  
Cell: +255 763558844  
Email: [beekeepingsupplies@email.com](mailto:beekeepingsupplies@email.com)

Danstan Kabialo  
Executive Secretary  
Tanzania Honey Council  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor, DCC Business Park Ilala  
P. O. Box 41063  
Dar-es-salaam, Tanzania  
Tel: +255753562778  
E-mail: [kabialo@yahoo.com](mailto:kabialo@yahoo.com)  
[secretary@tanzaniahoneycouncil.co.tz](mailto:secretary@tanzaniahoneycouncil.co.tz)

Frida Kundy  
Beekeeping Officer  
Bee Reserves & Apiaries  
Ministry of Natural Resources & Tourism  
P. O. Box 40832  
Dar-es-salaam, Tanzania  
Tel: +255 754948417  
E-mail: [fridak@live.com](mailto:fridak@live.com)

### TCHAD

Dr Mahamat Guinde  
Directeur des Services Veterinaires  
Adjoint  
Ministere de l'Élevage et de  
l'Hydraulique  
B P 750, N'djamena  
Tchad  
Tel : +235 66294768 / 235998140  
E-mail : [mht.guinde@yahoo.fr](mailto:mht.guinde@yahoo.fr)

Yamidjimte Ndingadal Roi  
Coordonnateur  
Coopérative des Apiculteurs  
Ministère de l'Environnement  
51 Koumra, Tchad  
Tel : +235 996386581  
E-mail : [yamidjimte@gmail.com](mailto:yamidjimte@gmail.com)

### TUNISIA

Asma LAZGHAB  
Vétérinaire officiel, chargée d'étude sur  
la santé des abeilles  
Direction générale des services  
vétérinaires  
Ministère de l'agriculture  
30, avenue Alain Savary  
Tel: 0021698551118  
E-mail : [lazghabasma@yahoo.fr](mailto:lazghabasma@yahoo.fr)

Mr Walid Nagara  
Apiculteur professionnel  
Fédération Tunisiennes des Apiculteurs  
(FTA)  
Tunis, Tunisia  
E-mail: [walidnagara@topnet.tn](mailto:walidnagara@topnet.tn)  
Tel: 0021698918632

### UGANDA

Alice Kangave  
Principal Entomologist (Apiculture)  
Department of Livestock & Entomology  
Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry  
& Fisheries  
P. O. Box 102,  
Entebbe, Uganda  
Tel: +256 712273059  
E-mail: [akangave@utlonline.co.ug](mailto:akangave@utlonline.co.ug)

Dickson Biryomumaisho  
Executive Director  
Uganda National Apiculture  
Development Organisation (TUNADO)  
P. O. Box 8680  
Kampala, Uganda  
Tel: +256 414258070 / 782891933  
E-mail: [biryomumaisho@tunadobees.org](mailto:biryomumaisho@tunadobees.org)

## **ZAMBIA**

Caesar Lubaba  
Acting Chief Epidemiologist  
Veterinary Services  
Ministry of Agriculture & Livestock  
P. O. Box 50060  
Lusaka, Zambia  
E-mail: [caesar.lubaba@gmail.com](mailto:caesar.lubaba@gmail.com)

## **ZIMBABWE**

Ms. Jacqueline Gowe  
Beekeepers Association of Zimbabwe  
(BKAZ)  
1184 Tynwald Industrial Stands,  
Harare-Zimbabwe  
Mobile: +263772 860 102  
Email: [info@beeszimbabwe.org](mailto:info@beeszimbabwe.org)

Dr Columbus Chaitezvi  
Chief Veterinary Officer  
Head of Wildlife Veterinary Unit  
Ministry of Agriculture, Mechanisation  
and Irrigation, W.V.U  
18 Borrowdale rd, Harare, Zimbabwe  
Tel: +263777457484  
E-mail: [colchaitezvi@gmail.com](mailto:colchaitezvi@gmail.com)

## **AU-IBAR**

Prof. Ahmed El-Sawalhy  
Director  
AU-IBAR  
Kenindia Business Park  
Museum Hill, Westlands Road

P.O. Box 30786-00100  
Tel: +254 20 3674 000  
Email: [ahmed.elsawalhy@au-ibar.org](mailto:ahmed.elsawalhy@au-ibar.org)

Dr Simplicie Nouala  
Chief Animal Production Officer  
AU-IBAR  
Kenindia Business Park  
Museum Hill, Westlands Road  
P.O. Box 30786-00100  
Tel : +254 20 3674 000  
Email: [simplice.nouala@au-ibar.org](mailto:simplice.nouala@au-ibar.org)

Dr Norber Mbahin  
Project Officer – Bee Health Project  
AU-IBAR  
Kenindia Business Park  
Museum Hill, Westlands Road  
P.O. Box 30786-00100  
Tel : +254 20 3674 000  
Email: [norber.mbahin@au-ibar.org](mailto:norber.mbahin@au-ibar.org)

Hellen M. Moepi  
Project Assistant  
AU-IBAR  
Kenindia Business Park  
Museum Hill, Westlands Road  
P.O. Box 30786-00100  
Tel : +254 20 3674 000  
Email: [hellen.moepi@au-ibar.org](mailto:hellen.moepi@au-ibar.org)

Jemima Makanda  
Administrative Assistant  
AU-IBAR  
Kenindia Business Park  
Museum Hill, Westlands road  
P.O. Box 30786-00100  
Tel: +254 20 3674 000  
Email: [jemima.makanda@au-ibar.org](mailto:jemima.makanda@au-ibar.org)

Shem Cheruiyot  
Accountant  
AU-IBAR  
Kenindia Business Park  
Museum Hill, Westlands road

P.O. Box 30786-00100  
Tel: +254 20 3674 000

Email: [shem.cheruiyot@au-ibar.org](mailto:shem.cheruiyot@au-ibar.org)