|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Prepared by:** | Rolando Zamora/Keith Jones |
| **Date:** | 15 April 2014 |
| **Reviewed by:** | Reiner Emrich |
| **Status:** | DRAFT  |
| **To:** | Stewardship Steering Committee |

Title: Stewardship Steering Committee

Date: 10 April 2014

Venue: CropLife International Office. Avenue Louise 326, Brussels

Attending in person:

R. Emrich RE BASF

Eva Erisgen EE BASF

Peter Ohs PO Bayer CropScience

Detlef Döehnert DD BASF

Shinsuke Shojima SS Sumitomo Chemical

Andy Leadbeater AL Syngenta

Claudia Michel CM ECPA

Les Hillowitz LH CropLife Africa Middle East

Raghavan Sampathkumar RS CropLife Asia

Gabriela Briceño GB CropLife Latin America

Will Surman WS CropLife International

Keith Jones KJ CropLife International

Rolando Zamora RZ CropLife International

Attending via telephone:

Jane Stautz JS Dow

Regrets

Richard Brown RB Syngenta

Peter Natkanski PN Syngenta

Ray Forney RF Dupont

Stefan Endepols SE Bayer CropScience

Diane Re DR Monsanto

Domingos Pedroni DP Syngenta

Chris Ball CB Syngenta

1. **Introduction**

RE welcomed all to the meeting

1. **Antitrust Reminder**

KJ reminded the meeting of the anti-trust obligations.

1. **Agenda**

The agenda was approved as written.

1. **Review of the minutes of the previous meeting, 22 October 2014**

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted without change.

1. **Actions arising from last minutes**

International CoC e-learning: KJ informed that the modules are being reviewed and updated versions will be drafted prior to the next meeting.

Split funds template: GB was reminded to send to KJ asap the template dully completed.

Obsolete Stocks communication materials: The obstocks guidelines are being updated and will be completed before the next meeting. The updated obstocks leaflet will be presented in the next meeting.

Resistance Management Strategy: KJ and AL noted that a strategy on Resistance Management has been agreed upon the RAC’s. This will be developed into a vision, strategy, goals and activities and will be discussed together with the update of the 2020 Vision document and will be presented during the next meeting.

Seed treatment guidelines: RZ informed that the matrix containing references for documents on seed treatment was sent to PO and RB for comments. There is a need to identify a consultant to draft the guidelines.

|  |
| --- |
| Action: Stewardship Committee members to send to RZ names of possible consultants |

The group requested to have access to the minutes some of the issue teams that fall under the CP Regulatory Steering Committee (OpEx, Biologicals, Pollinator, Environmental Assessment, Foresight (Issue Sensing)). The OpEX and Pollinator minutes are being circulated. KJ will discuss with Bernhard Johnen and will ensure that the minutes of the other teams are circulated to the Stewardship Committee members.

|  |
| --- |
| Action: KJ to arrange for all issue team minutes (OpEx, Biologicals, Pollinator, Environmental Assessment and Foresight) to be circulated to Stewardship Committee members |

Following a question to KJ from Denise Dewar, It was agreed (confirmed) that the Stewardship Stakeholder Conference would be held every 5 years (next due in 2016) and therefore there is no need to make a provision in the 2015 budget. It was noted that the last two events took place in Europe, so a developing country should be considered as the host for the next Dialogue in 2016. Members agreed to this suggestion.

1. **Outcome of the Strategy Council Meeting**

RE updated the group on the highlights during the last CPSC Meeting held in Washington DC. The highlights of the meeting were that the CPSC signed off on the HHP's pledge and reached consensus on the pollinator paper. He also informed that the results achieved with the Adoni Project and other regional efforts on stewardship were well received and appreciated by the CPSC which showed interest in developing more projects with visible impact (like Adoni and Cocoa Foundation). The group discussed that perhaps post-harvest has the potential to become a subject that can be addressed by a key project (in Africa this is a hot issue at the moment). The group acknowledged though that collecting successful stories on postharvest from the companies maybe challenging.

**Action: PO, EE, KJ and LH will further discuss ideas on possible post-harvest projects in Africa and report to the next meeting**

1. **Update of Vision 2020**

The external version of this document needs to be updated as some of the goals have being achieved already and some additions should be made (i.e. Resistance management).

It was suggested that the best approach would be tasking each Project Team with the update of its section and then organized a half-day meeting to share results and draft the new version. The group agreed to this. The aim should be to hold this prior to the next SSC meeting.

**Action: EE, KJ and RZ to further discuss and come back with suggestions on venue, attendees.**

1. **Pollinator Stewardship:**

KJ reviewed with the group the overview of pollinator stewardship developed for the Pollinator Team Issue. He noted it is a living document so all members are requested to send any further references showing how good practices can prevent bee’s death or improve their health. Company members are also requested to send case studies on successful pollinator stories so they can be added to the document. The document is intended to be a global reference of good stewardship when handling bees, so references to studies or successful stories by non-industry organization are very welcome.

The IPM project team should discuss the idea of adding a pollinator section within the IPM Manual and featuring this subject in the new edition of *Leading the Vision*.

**Actions: Member companies are requested to send case studies or successful stories that showcase the benefits of stewardship on pollinators.**

**KJ and EE to raise the issue of a pollinator section in the IPM manual at the next IPM/RU PT meeting**

1. **Highly Hazardous Pesticides**

KJ informed the group that a new definition on HHP’s developed by the Industry was being discussed in Washington at the Board of Director’s Meeting. The definition implies that classification as an HHP should trigger a risk assessment procedure rather than an immediate move to ban or withdraw a product use. The industry will combine efforts with NGOs and local authorities to improve capacity in developing countries to ensure that the risk assessment process is effectively done. Also, stewardship efforts will play a critical role in preventing products falling into this category, or mitigating risks once the product has been categorized as HHP. If the Board of Directors approve the strategy, the small sub-team that have been formed to develop the HHP strategy (RB, JS and KJ represent the SSC on this) will work with the CropLIfe International Secretariat to draft guidelines to comply with this new approach than can be referenced by the national associations. THE SSC highlighted the importance of developing alliances with groups that want to solve the issues around adverse incidences with pesticides as we move forward on this issue.

1. **Project Teams**

IPM&RU PT: EE informed the decisions made during the IPM PT meeting with respect to the Global GAP Summit in Abu Dhabi. EE is attending and so is KJ. It was agreed that KJ should aim to give a presentation on IPM and its benefits, including resistance management and responsible use of pesticides. In general, the Regions have informed their willingness to keep utilizing the materials provided (posters, videos, etc.) which have being broadly used during farmer training in the countries.

It was highlighted that there is a need to strengthen IPM training and training skills in the regions. This will be initiated through a series of regional workshops.

CoC FAO PT: KJ informed that the e-learning tool will be updated in 2014. It was also mentioned that a guideline developed by FAO’s Pesticide Unit on how to identify HHP’s was rejected by the Joint Meeting of Pesticide Management as it went well beyond the remit, for example creating categories such as ‘almost HHP’s’. The scope of the guideline is likely to be discussed at the next JMPM.

**Action: RB to present an update on the materials (e-learning and printable) in the next meeting**

CM PT: DD mentioned the main issues around container management programmes. One being sustainability of the programmes. This is certainly true for programmes in developing countries where resources are limited and intrinsic value of the plastic is high and so are the number of competitors.

He also raised awareness among participating members about the lack of participation of the member companies in the meetings and concalls and how to revert this situation. A personal approach to those members maybe needed.

**Action: DD to report at the next meeting on the progress improving member companies participation**

ObStocks PT: KJ updated the meeting on current progress with the ASP. Two countries have been identified as priority for CropLife International in ‘Phase 2’- Benin and Morocco. We are working with FAO to develop projects in these countries (which will include full funding for destruction of collected stocks).

Efforts to identify funds to destroy safeguarded stocks from Phase 1 continue: FAO have requested donor funds to deal with Ghana and Cameroon. No funds significant donor funds have been identified for Kenya. The meeting agreed that the Kenya stocks need to be dealt with and supported the view that CropLife, at an International, Regional and National level should partially fund this, if necessary. Some funds from the Kenyan Government and FAO should also be sought. With regard Nigeria, discussions continue with the Nigerian Government.

FRAC: AL informed the group that FMC is the new member of FRAC effective in 2014. One of the main concerns for FRAC is influencing those outside FRAC with regard to the recommendations and agreements agreed upon those inside FRAC as these are only recommendations and cannot be enforced. The main issue that is being faced at present is the resistance to medically important triazoles – research is proposed on the issue, which is partly funded with CropLife International funds; this research will commence in August if the proposal is successful.

HRAC: They are currently working on organizational issues, as the USA group and the global team have now started to work together. Updating the HRAC constitution is being also a focus, including existing and emerging working groups and their roles.

RRAC: It was highlighted that some studies in new strain resistance mouse are being carried out and also that the group is refreshing guidance documents on the website.

IRAC: It was noted that the national diamide working groups will broaden to become national IRAC groups. It was also noted that, while Mode of Action labelling is a global recommendation, some local industry members are against the idea due to the cost of changing labels. The meeting was informed that a new mobile app on Insecticide resistance has been launched and the group is working on fine tuning the tool.

The SSC recommended that the RACs to utilize the CropLife International communication team to develop communications material around resistance management and its importance.

**Action: RZ to invoice FMC, new member of FRAC, through the central budget.**

1. **Regional Reports:**

Europe: CM mentioned the main challenges and issues for the European Region. She informed that new materials on water protection have been produced, including a computer based tool that traces contaminants in water.

She also informed about a project on Best Practices to enhance biodiversity through working with partners. - Company members are also receiving training on this.

The main focuses for the Region continue to be ED, Pollinators and Water.

Asia: RS outlines the strategy and activities proposed in the region. He highlighted the need to demonstrate the economic value of stewardship. He also showed a matrix with funding for stewardship programmes in the Region, which indicated that more than 75% has been allocated to Container Management Programme. The meeting promptly urged RS to redefine focus and priorities in the Region, as IPM&RU programmes should be receiving more attention and funds; without adjustment it was proposed that the stewardship support funds to the region should be reduced in 2015.

**Action: RS, with assistance from KJ, to discuss with his Stewardship Leadership Team priorities and the fund allocation for programmes in the Region.**

Latin America: GB informed that 100% of the stewardship programmes in the Region are co-financed. It is also noted that 13 IPM&RU programmes are running in 2014 and there is an on-line platform that will help launch at least 10 on-line courses in several subjects, including Container Management. She also highlighted that Honduras was granted a USD 120,000 project by USAID ACCESS that will support efforts in both CuidAgro and CampoLimpio programmes. There have being also changes on some National Association's names (i.e. CropLife Ecuador is now InnovAgro and CropLife Peru is now CultiVida). Finally, it's being decided that a Stewardship Committee will be set up in the Region, mainly consisting of member company representatives.

The Region could be the recipient of CropLife International funds to run specific projects that demonstrate impact and gain traction among stakeholders.

**Action: GB to send some ideas to KJ/RZ on potential projects that can be funded in 2014.**

Africa: LH mentioned some of the highlights in the Region, including the introduction of the resistance management concept to the Region; a Rodenticide Resistance Action Committee has been set up in South Africa and possibly In Tunisia; and launching the Service Sprayer Provider in Ghana. He also highlighted that now the Region is regarded as a “credible reliable” partner by donors such as WCF, AGRA, IFDC, USAID, thanks to the work done over the years.

Canada:

The main issue mentioned in Canada is the ongoing effort finalizing standards for seed treaters and then the implementation of these standards in the Q3 2014.

1. **Operational Plan and Budget 2015**

All the PT's are requested to send their 2015 budget request and plan of activities by Friday May 9, 2014.

**Action: PT's and RAC's to send their 2015 budget request to KJ, including a breakdown of activities by May 9, 2014.**

1. **Step Change in Impact:**

KJ reminded the group about the request from the CPSC to make a step change in Impact. The group discussed how to better address this request. There are vast materials broadly used by the Regions but they can also be further used by other outside the CropLife network; for example by PlantWise, the CABI’s initiative aimed to improve food security and the lives of the rural poor by reducing crop losses. The group also discussed the communication technologies (i.e. tablets, GSM messages). This is an ongoing task so members are welcomed to send ideas to the Secretariat at any time. It was highlighted that we should start with our own membership – how do we get our own network to be more involved.

**Action: All members to send ideas to KJ/RZ. These will be further discussed at the next meeting**

1. **Any other business**

None were raised.

1. **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be in September or October, venue and specific date to be confirmed. A concall to discuss the budget will be planned for 15th May (3 pm Brussels time).

**Action: Lieu to send out doodle poll to finalise the date of the next face to face meeting. KJ and RE to discuss venue.**