

COST ACTION FA0804

Molecular farming: plants as a production platform for high value proteins

Agenda of the 7th Management Committee Meeting

Gromada Hotel, Warsaw, Poland
7th September, 2012 at 13:00 pm

1. Welcome to participants

The Chair opened the meeting at 13:00.

2. Adoption of the agenda

No modifications were made to the agenda

3. Presentation of the delegations

Seventeen MC members were present (**Appendix 1**).

4. Approval of the minutes of the previous MC meeting (Ghent on 16th of September, 2011)

The minutes of the last meeting were approved

5. Greetings from the COST-office

The Chair presented the greetings from the COST-office (**Appendix 2**). It was agreed that the Chair will circulate the report of the Rapporteur among the FA0804 participants. Overall the report was very positive. The prolongation of the Action until 26th of May 2013 and that the STSMs and training schools need to be completely conducted within that frame were noted.

The Final Conference will be open for everybody and speakers outside of the Action can be invited (max. four experts). The number of experts however cannot exceed four. The Final publication is funded by the COST General Budget. The form of final publication was discussed and it was agreed that the Current Pharmaceutical Design (CPD) special issue will be the final publication of FA0804 as it covers a high number of various aspects of Molecular Farming and the authors represent many partner institutes. The guest editor (Paul Christou) will formulate an introduction and send it to the Chair for comments. The possibility to have open access to this introduction and the other articles will be evaluated. In addition, it was agreed that an update of the FA0804 Plant Molecular Farming -leaflet will be drawn to be part of the final report and the maximum of 3000 € will be allocated for that. Bart van Droogenbroeck will make a cost estimate of the leaflet and circulate that among the MC members for approval.

During the meeting it was discussed about formation of a new European Molecular Farming Society. It was agreed that the foundation of the new European Society of Molecular Farming will be advertised in the leaflet. Julian Ma will find out the registration formalities and this



issue will further be discussed in the next WG1 meeting workshops in London and Rostock. The Chair will ask the COST Office if there will be budget available for the establishment costs of the Society.

For the evaluation process of the Action Cost office will appoint an Evaluation Panel (EP). The EP joining the Final Conference will constitute of: Rapporteur, External Expert (can be suggested by the FA0804 and names Elisabeth Hood and Ed Rybicki were brought up) and Scientific Officer as a moderator. Final Report needs to be ready one month before the Final Conference.

6. Status of the Action

▪ Reports by the WG coordinators

WG1 Everything is going very well and the deliverables will be met. WG1 will organize a small working meeting in UK in November to finalize the most important deliverables. The budget of the Action will be modified accordingly and this was approved by the MC. **WG2+WG3** also are going according to plan. In the WG1 Rostock meeting (February 2013) a special session will be dedicated to WG2 and WG3 in order to make sure that all the deliverables will be fulfilled. The database will be finalised and the idea is to turn it into a publication and possibly to be presented as a talk at PBVA meeting (June 2013). The European Society of Molecular Farming will inherit the database and the Society will keep it running. Furthermore, the database needs to be exposed and disseminated in a proper way. Dirk Bosch will circulate a mail among the participants with a link and instructions how to log in into the database and once more ask people to fill in their data.

▪ Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM)

The accurate figures need to be obtained from the STSM coordinator (Tomas Vanek, not present at the meeting) and added to the minutes. At least one application and one STSM confirmation are known to be missing. The Chair will contact the STSM coordinator. For the final budget year approximately 4 new STSMs can take place.

Added to the minutes after the meeting:

16 STSMs successfully conducted

3 STSMs on the way

▪ Action Web site

The Warsaw meeting abstract book and available presentations will be added to the Action web site. A question of “How many **visitors** we have” was raised. Bart van Droogenbroeck will check the situation.

Added to the minutes after the meeting:

According to the web page manager the visitor number data is not available

7. Working plan of the Action for the period 1.4.2012 - 26.5.2013

▪ Budget status

The Chair will confirm the total budget from Scientific Officer (approx. 160 k€) and an outline will be included as **Appendix 3**. The maximal share (60 k€) should be allocated to the final conference instead of 48 k€ as in the original budget. The Chair will find out if the EP participation is paid from the Action budget or from the COST General budget.

There is room to invite external experts. The involvement of companies will be encouraged.

- **Action plan**

- How to reach the Deliverables**

- Plans and clear action points were made during the general and MC meeting

- Publications, update the list**

- It was noted that it is important to include the COST Action number on acknowledgements. It was agreed that an example sentence how the acknowledgements should be done will be placed on the Action web site.

- Database, status and development**

- Discussed above

- Upcoming STSMs**

- Discussed above

8. Status of Non-COST country participants

Except the Indian member all the other non-COST members have been inactive so far. An e-mail list will be provided for Vice-Chair in order to get them involved with the COST Action publication related to the developing country (WG1, FG3). A video link could be provided for the Non-COST members for the Final Conference to facilitate their participation and also to get their contribution. In addition, the Chair will contact them and discuss their possibilities to join the Final Conference at place.

9. Place and date of future meetings

- **WG1 task force meeting, November 2012, UK**

- It was agreed to arrange a small task force meeting in November in UK (costs 4-5 k€).

- The Vice-Chair will act as a local organizer.

- **WG1 meeting with WG2 and WG3 workshop, February 2013, Rostock, Germany**

- Inge Broer will host a WG1 meeting in Rostock, Germany in the first half of February 2013 (preferably Thursday – Friday). Invited talks from University of Rostock were suggested and supported by MC members. As topics of the meeting it was discussed to include: presentations of the CPD papers (Final Publication) and perhaps also PMF regulatory issues. In addition, the foundation of the European Society of Molecular Farming will be elaborated and discussed. It was also decided that a WG2 +WG3 workshop will be included to the program to be able to finalize the deliverables of these two working groups. Also the drafting of the Final Report will be initiated and the planning of the final meeting continued.

- **Final Conference, May 2013, Valencia**

- Approximately 100-150 participants are expected. Diego Orzáez will find out the place and suggest dates for the meeting preferably around early May 2013. The duration of the Final Conferences was agreed to be approximately three days. It was discussed that it is important that the program deviates from PBVA (5th-7th June, 2013) program.

The Chair will find out the possibility to invite two young promising students from Uganda and Mozambique and reimburse their costs. If this is possible Bart van Droogenbroeck and Rita Abranches are authorized to select the best candidates.

Added to the minutes after the meeting:

Science officer has told to the Chair that the students can be reimbursed but they will then be considered as invited experts.

A proper poster session will be organized and 5 posters will be selected to be presented as short 5 min oral presentations. A possibility to have an after dinner speaker e.g, Sydney Brenner was discussed and supported.

The conference should be advertised for people outside the COST Action e.g. on different web sites and in Power Point format in presentations of COST participants to be used in different occasions.

▪ **Organizing committee**

A committee was put in place consisting of: Diego Orzáez, Paul Christou, Julian Ma, Stefan Schillberg, Dirk Bosch, Rina Iannacone, Bart van Droogenbroeck and Ann Depicker

• **Possibility for a joined conference**

Not as such, but if the European Society of Molecular Farming will be in place by then the conference will be arranged as a joint effort of these two forces.

• **Preparation of the program, invitation of speakers**

The drafting was agreed to be started as soon as possible.

10. Final report

The Final Report needs to be provided for the EP one month before the Final Conference.

11. Miscellaneous

It was agreed that the European Molecular Farming Society should be established. The Vice-Chair will find out how the society should be registered and in which country. He will select a board of approximately five members in order to get the Society in place before the Final Conference. The nomination of the chair of the Society will be conducted accordingly.

Bio-based industries related in private public partnership (PPP) – questionnaire was brought to knowledge of the FA0804 by Fernando Ponz (answering deadline 6th October). The form will be distributed to all Action members. It was agreed that an answer on behalf of COST FA0804 will be filed in if possible. In addition, the individual Action members and their respective institutions are encouraged to provide their own input as well. There will be an event in Brussels in which the European Commission will officially launch the public consultation "Bio-based industries, towards a public-private partnership under Horizon 2020?". It will also serve to collect views and opinions on the current state-of-play of the full bio-based industries value chains in Europe and their potential. Bart van Droogenbroeck may be able to attend.

Added to the minutes after the meeting:

Bart was not able to attend the Brussels meeting. The answering time has been extended to December 14th. The link to the questionnaire is available again in the following link:

http://ec.europa.eu/research/consultations/bio_based_h2020/consultation_en.htm

KBBE call for High Value Products was discussed. The Chair informed that according to her knowledge there will be 20 million euros available and approximately 3 to 4 separate projects will be financed. The target in this call is, however, tapping the plant secondary metabolite diversity. It was agreed that it is important to get MF topics in Horizon 2020 calls. EPSO was mentioned as one very important channel to get the topics in.

12. Closing of the meeting

The meeting was closed at 14:55.

Appendix 1.

List of participants

Name	Country
1. Abranches, Rita	(PT)
2. Bellucci, Michele	(IT)
3. Bosch, Dirk	(NL)
4. Brinch-Pedersen, Henrik	(DK)
5. Christou, Paul	(ES)
6. Depicker, Ann	(BE)
7. Gergana Zahmanova	(BL)
8. Iannacone, Rina	(IT)
9. Ma, Julian	(UK)
10. Oksman-Caldentey, Kirsi-Marja	(FI)
11. Ritala, Anneli	(FI)
12. Schiemann, Joachim	(DE)
13. Schillberg, Stefan	(DE)
14. Schots, Arjen	(NL)
15. Sirko, Agnieszka	(PL)
16. Strid, Åke	(SE)
17. Van Droogenbroeck, Bart	(BE)

Appendix 2.



News from COST

OC-2011-2

- **FA1201** - Epigenetics And Periconception Environment: Periconception environment as an epigenomic lever for optimising food production and health in livestock
- **FA1202** - A European Network For Mitigating Bacterial Colonisation and Persistence On Foods and Food Processing Environments
- **FA1203** - Sustainable management of *Ambrosia artemisiifolia* in Europe (SMARTER)
- **FA1204** - Vegetable Grafting To Improve Yield And Fruit Quality Under Biotic And Abiotic Stress Conditions
- **FA1205** - Assessing and improving the quality of aquatic animal gametes to enhance aquatic resources. The need to harmonize and standardize evolving methodologies, and improve transfer from academia to industry
- **TD1203** - Food waste valorisation for sustainable chemicals, materials & fuels (EUBis)



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OC-2011-2

- **TD1203** - Food waste valorisation for sustainable chemicals, materials & fuels (EUBis)

Annual Progress Conference

The DC FA APC Meeting was in Glasgow on the 27-28-29 June, 2012

Each MC Chair had to present the Action and the Rapporteur's (Prof. Henrique GUEDES-PINTO) report was sent afterwards to the Chair.

Last year of activities

Please note

1. Training schools and STSMs can only take place within the lifetime of the Action
2. The Action has been granted a prolongation; new end date **26/05/2013**
3. The Final Conference is a wrap-up of the Action's activities and normally signals the end of the Action
4. The **Final publication** is paid from the **General COST budget**, not from the Action's budget

Publication

The final publication can be a

- special issue in a journal,
- review or
- Book

Actions are encouraged to have a final publication. Please inform me as soon as possible whether you intend to have one to secure some budget from the publications budget line (if more than 3000 euros 2 offers are requested unless there is a good justification why the selected publisher was chosen)

Final Evaluation process

- Evaluation Panel is appointed by the COST Office in consultation with the Rapporteur and Chair **6 months before the end of the Action**

EP: Rapporteur: Prof. Jens C. STREIBIG
External Expert
SO as a moderator

- The EP members **have** to participate to the Final Conference
- A **draft** of the **final report** should be made available to the EP members **1 month before** the Final Conference

Appendix 3.

Budget outline for 1.4.2012 - 26.5.2013