

Second Management Committee Meeting Cost Action 869 "Mitigation options for Nutrient Reduction in Surface Water and Groundwaters"

Ashbury Hotel Golf Club, Okehampton, 27 November 2007

DRAFT MINUTES

PRESENT

Kaspars Abramenko (Latvia)
Jaroslave Antal (Slovak Republic)
Elisabetta Barberis (Italy)
Charles Biolders (Belgium)
Wim Chardon (Netherlands)
Peter Csatho (Hungary)
Dana Daniela (Romania)
Antonio Delgado Garcia (Spain)
Kazimieras Gaigalis (Lithuania)
Chantal Gascuel (France)
Claudia Hahn (Switzerland)
Phil Haygarth (United Kingdom)
Leszek Hejduk (Poland)
Josef Hejzlar (Czech Republic)
Nicholas Holden (Ireland)
Jari Koskiaho (Finland)
Tore Krogstad (Norway)
Frank Liebisch (Switzerland)
Michael Litaor (Israel)
Barbara Martin de Madariaga (Spain)
Ralph Meissner (Germany)
Romulus Mocanu (Romania)
John Quinton (United Kingdom)
Karl Richards (Ireland)
Gitte Rubaek (Denmark)
Joost Salomez (Belgium)
Oscar Schoumans (Netherlands)
Moshe Shenker (Israel)
Antanas Sigitas Sileika (Lithuania)
Istvan Sisak (Hungary)
Barbara Staudinger (Austria)
Barbro Ulen (Sweden)
Boukje Stol (COST Office)

1. WELCOME TO PARTICIPANTS

The Action chair, Wim Chardon, welcomed the participants. For some countries the regular MC members do not attend, their places are (partly) taken by others: Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Hungary, Latvia, Spain, Switzerland, and United Kingdom. The chair of WG2, Seppo Rekolainen, has indicated that he is too busy to further act as chair. His colleague, Petri Ekholm, is willing to take over; this was accepted unanimously.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The agenda was adopted unanimously.

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes were sent to all participants of the Action in November 2006, and can also be found on the website (www.COST869.alterra.nl). It was agreed upon that the Executive Committee would send a plan for meetings in 2008. Since this was not done the program will be discussed under 13. on the agenda. The Minutes were approved unanimously.

4. REPORT FROM THE SCIENTIFIC OFFICER

No news was reported from the COST Office or about the Status of the Action. Since the First MC Meeting the memorandum of understanding was signed, or the intention to sign was confirmed, by Czech Republic, France, Greece, Luxembourg, Portugal, and Slovak Republic. The total number of countries is now 27. The procedure for signing the MoU will be simplified, so it will become easier for new countries to join the action. The pay-as-you-go financing system will continue for the time being, since the Web-based-IT tool to be used by the grant holders is still not available.

5. ACTUAL BUDGET YEAR 2008

For the period June 1st 2007 – May 31st 2008 a budget of ca. 102 K€ is available. It is foreseen that in the near future the budget will be available per calendar year again.

6. SHORT TERM SCIENTIFIC MISSION (STSM) STATUS, APPLICATIONS

During 2007, 4 applications were received by Ken Irvine, who coordinates the STSMs. The procedure for application is described on the website. One STSM was done by Trevor Page, who visited M. Bechmann in Norway, and wrote a report of the WG1-meeting in Hamar in May. An STSM for 2 persons that was approved, was withdrawn since the host was too busy at the time that was agreed upon; this mission will now be done in 2008. One STSM was planned in autumn 2007, but could not be done since the budget of the action stopped in June 2007 due to the change from FP6 to FP7. The visit planned did go on, on costs of the applicants institute. For 2008 a reservation of 10 K€ will be made for STSMs.

7. PUBLICATIONS, ANNUAL REPORT

On the website of the action the following documents are available:

- Minutes of the small meeting of chairs and vice-chairs in Amsterdam, December 2006.
- Minutes of the small meeting of WG2 in Oslo, May 2007.
- Abstracts and presentations of the WG1 Meeting in Hamar, May 2007, and report written by Trevor Page of this meeting.
- Abstracts of the WG3 meeting in Devon are also available, presentations will become available too, depending on cooperation by authors.

In this way an ongoing report of the activities of the and action is created on the website. A progress report will be prepared by the chair according to the official COST rules.

8. EVALUATIONS

An evaluation for the year 2006 of all actions in the Domain Food and Agriculture was organized by the Domain Committee on 31 January and 1 February 2007 in Antalya, Turkey. All chairs gave a presentation about their action. An evaluation for the year 2007 will be not earlier than June 2008.

9. REQUEST FOR NEW MEMBERS

No new requests were received.

10. NON-COST PARTICIPATIONS

No requests were received so far, suggestions from participants are welcome.

11. WEB NEWS

As mentioned above, reports and presentations of meetings are placed on the website. Also, announcements of jobs are now made on the site, mostly for PhD positions. If a position is available a description can be sent to the chair for this purpose.

12. PROGRESS REPORT OF WORKING GROUPS

WG1 - A meeting in May 2007 in Hamar was very well organized by Marianne Bechmann and Louise Heathwaite, 22 COST-countries were represented. A report prepared by Trevor Page can be found on the website.

WG2 - A small 1-day meeting was held in May, a report is on the website. The topic of a future meeting in either 2008 or 2009 was discussed about, this will be N or P limitation.

WG3 - The plan for the Devon workshop was made at the MC in 2006, so this was realized.

- An inventory of the legislation in EC-member countries on soil P was made, and reported by Oscar Schoumans at the workshop in Hamar.
- An inventory of research on, and application of mitigation options was made by Wim Chardon. An excel database was created, the results were briefly presented at the MC in 2006, and will be presented in more in detail at the Devon workshop.

WG4 - A topic for a meeting was discussed during the small meeting in Amsterdam, a plan was made for a meeting in spring 2008.

13. PLANNING 2008 AND YEARS THEREAFTER

- A plan for a workshop of **WG4** (Evaluation of projects in example areas) was made by Peter Strauss, the local organizer. The workshop will be held before 31 May 2008 in Austria.
- A plan for a workshop of **WG2** (Influence of nutrients on ecological processes in surface waters) about N/P limitation and interactions was made in Oslo. Nicolaos Skoulikidis (GR) will be the local organizer. The workshop will be combined with the third MC Meeting, and held in September 2008.
- It was suggested to have a (final) meeting of **WG3**, organized by Oscar Schoumans and Wim Chardon. The location could be The Netherlands in case no other location will be found. The outcome of this meeting should be a (web-based) database with information on mitigation options. This includes general descriptions and experience, and references from all countries on specific mitigation options. The workshop will be held before 31 May 2008 (end of budget period). Time for preparation is short, so a small meeting with the purpose of preparing the workshop is also suggested.

For all meetings place and date have to be determined. The MC agreed to organize the meetings in 2008.

- An offer was received from Christian Stamm from Switzerland to organize a meeting in 2009 with the emphasis on WG4. The proposal was elucidated by Claudia Hahn. Possible combinations with WG1 and/or WG2 will be discussed. The MC accepted this offer.
- Furthermore, a proposal was received from Ralph Meissner (Germany) for combining a COST 869 WG1 Meeting with the International Conference organized by the commission of Land Degradation and Desertification (COMLAND) of the International Geographic Union (IGU) in 2009. No decisions were made on this proposal. The chair of WG1 is asked to take this into account as an option for the year 2009.
- An offer to organize the final meeting of the action in Budapest, Hungary, in 2010 or 2011 was received from Tamas Nemeth.

14. GENERAL SUPPORT TO THE CHAIR

Support was received for 2006, this was expended on buying a laptop and on labor costs for preparing the website. The support for 2007 was expended on costs of a room for the small meeting of WG1 in Oslo, on printing the proceedings of the WG3 meeting in Devon, and on labor for maintaining and further expanding the website.

For creating and updating this website the MC agreed to allocate 2000 Euro in 2008 as general support to the chair.

15. TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The third MC Meeting will be combined with a workshop of WG2 in autumn 2008.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No points were raised.

17. CLOSING