



REPORT: FIRST MEETING (Virtual) of the STEERING COMMITTEE for the GLOBAL ACTION FOR FALL ARMYWORM STEERING COMMITTEE, 27 February 2020

The Director-General welcomed the participants noting that this such a high-level virtual meeting was unprecedented and an example of his vision for a digital FAO. The DG expressed his appreciation to the participants for their interest in the Global Action for Fall Armyworm Control. He underlined how FAO was uniquely positioned to spearhead the Global Action, as the centre for technical support and coordination from the global to the national level. He also reiterated collecting the need to leverage countries' expertise, while enabling regional and international collaboration to complement each other.

The Global Action Secretariat summarized the main objectives and desired outcomes of the Global Action, and as well as the underlying reasons for why rapid reaction is needed. A brief presentation was given on the innovative mobile application FAMEWS (Fall Armyworm Monitoring and Early Warning System) mobile application, which had been launched on Google play that same day. The terms of reference for the Steering Committee and the Technical Committee were presented. The new FAO Office for Innovation was introduced. Finally, an information was provided about the High-Level Conference (HLC) due to be co-organized by FAO and the African Development Bank – which has pledged USD 50 million to the Global Action – on 21–22 April in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.

Main conclusions

Participants expressed their appreciation for FAO in developing the Global Action and for their enthusiasm for joining this unprecedented systemic collaboration. They endorsed the Global Action for FAW Control, as well as, the terms of reference of the Steering Committee and the Technical Committee. The next meeting of the SC was set for the 22 April in connection with the HLC and it was hoped that all SC members would be able to attend the meeting in person.

Suggestions for specific collaboration included ensuring scalability of the solutions; involving the private sector alongside the public sector; embarking on joint research initiatives; addressing bottlenecks for registration of microbial-based bio-pesticides and seeds; and supporting training on biological control and bio-pesticides.

One SC member expressed concerns about the estimated budget and about the focus on monitoring and early warning rather than on management. At the same time, some participants encouraged the Global Action to include a wider variety of options to countries.

On the SC TORs, participants suggested that the SC meeting reports should be posted publicly and that rules regarding decision-making and what would happen if consensus were not reached should be clarified.

Suggestions for improvement of the TC TORs included: adding experts with on-the-ground experience of ecological approaches, adding a smallholder farmer, and adding a civil society organization to the TC and; clarifying the rules regarding decision-making and what would happen if consensus were not reached; and meeting more often, possibly every two months.

(Revised 9 April 2020)

ANNEX 1: Agenda

AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTER
1. Opening of the meeting	Director-General
2. Adoption of the Agenda (FAW-SC_1stMeeting_01_Agenda; FAW-SC_1stMeeting_02_Participantslist)	Director-General
3. Endorsement of the Global Action for Fall Armyworm Control (FAW-SC_1stMeeting_03_Global Action; FAW-SC_1stMeeting_04_CN-Global Action)	Mr Bukar Tijani
4. Review and endorsement of the terms of reference of the Steering Committee (FAW-SC_1stMeeting_05_SC-TORs)	Mr Rémi Nono Womdim
5. Review and endorsement of the terms of reference of the Technical Committee (FAW-SC_1stMeeting_06_TC-TORs)	Mr Rémi Nono Womdim Mr Robert Bertram
6. Briefing on the Office for Innovation in FAO (<i>to follow</i>)	Mr XIA Jingyuan
7. Discussion on the High-level Conference on Fall Armyworm Control (FAW-SC_1stMeeting_07_HLC)	Ms Maria Helena Semedo
8. Date for next meeting and Closure	Ms Maria Helena Semedo / Director-General

ANNEX 2: List of participants

	NAME	TITLE	ORGANIZATION	ROLE	CITY, COUNTRY	Mode of Participation
1.	Mr QU Dongyu	Director-General	FAO	Chair	Rome, Italy	Rome
2.	Ms Maria Helena Semedo	Deputy Director-General	FAO	Co-chair	Rome, Italy	Rome
3.	Mr Robert Bertram	Chief Scientist	United States Agency for International Development (USAID)	Vice Chair / Chair of the Technical Committee	Washington, USA	Remote
4.	Ms Ismahane Elouafi	Director- General	International Center for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA)	Vice Chair	Dubai, United Arab Emirates <i>(18.00 hrs)</i>	Remote
5.	Ms Segenet Kelemu	Director- General	International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (icipe)	Vice Chair	Nairobi, Kenya <i>(17.00 hrs)</i>	Remote
6.	Mr WU Kongming	Professor and Vice President	Chinese Academy of Agriculture Science (CAAS)	Vice Chair	Beijing, P.R. China <i>(22.00 hrs)</i>	Remote
7.	Mr Dorothee André	Head of Unit	Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety		Brussels, Belgium	Remote

	NAME	TITLE	ORGANIZATION	ROLE	CITY, COUNTRY	Mode of Participation
			(DG SANTE), European Commission		(15.00 hrs)	
8.	Mr Bouchaib Boulanouar	Partnerships Coordinator	Africa Development Bank Group (AfDB)	Member	Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire (14.00 hrs)	Remote
9.	H.E Aslak Brun <i>Represented by Gunnvor Berge, Counsellor and Deputy Permanent Representative of Norway to the FAO, on 27 February</i>	Ambassador	Permanent Representative of Norway to FAO	Member	Rome, Italy	Rome
10.	Ms Giulia Di Tommaso	President and CEO	CropLife International	Member	Brussels, Belgium (15.00 hrs)	Remote
11.	H.E. Mohammad Hossein Emadi	Ambassador COAG Chair	Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to FAO	Member	Rome, Italy	Rome
12.	Mr Fernando Hercos Valicente	Senior Scientist, Embrapa Maize and Sorghum	Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation (EMBRAPA)	Member	Brasília, Brazil (11.00 hrs)	Remote
13.	Mr Hanns-Achim Krebs	Senior Policy Officer	Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DG		Brussels, Belgium	Remote

	NAME	TITLE	ORGANIZATION	ROLE	CITY, COUNTRY	Mode of Participation
			DEVCO), European Commission		(15.00 hrs)	
14.	Mr Martin Kropff	Director-General	International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)	Member	Texcoco, Mexico (08.00 hrs)	Remote
15.	H.E. Marie-Therese Sarch <i>Represented by Neil Fourie, Alternate Permanent Representative of the UK to FAO, on 27 February</i>	Ambassador	Permanent Representation of the United Kingdom to FAO	Member	Rome, Italy	Rome
16.	H.E. Kip Tom <i>Represented by William Berger, Alternate Permanent Representative and Senior Humanitarian Advisor, U.S. Agency for International Development, on 27 February</i>	Ambassador	United States Mission to the United Nations Agencies	Member	Rome, Italy	Rome
17.	Mr Keith Tyrell <i>Represented by Ms Kristen Shafer, Executive Director, PAN North America, on 27 February</i>	Executive Director	Pesticides Action Network UK	Member	Brighton, UK Berkeley, California, USA (06.00 hrs)	Remote

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18.	Mr Antonio Malta Reis	Policy Officer	Directorate-General of Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI), European Commission		Brussels, Belgium <i>(15.00 hrs)</i>	Remote
19.	Mr Juan Manuel Velasco Leon	Senior Policy Officer	Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DF-DEVCO), European Commission		Brussels, Belgium	Remote
20.	Ms Christiane Wolff (Observer)	Head, SPS Section	World Trade Organization (WTO)	Member	Geneva, Switzerland	Remote
21.	Mr Bukar Tijani	Assistant Director-General	FAO, Agriculture and Consumer Protection Department	Secretary	Rome, Italy	Rome
22.	Mr Rémi Nono Womdim	Deputy Director	FAO, Plant Production and Protection Division	Secretariat	Rome, Italy	Rome
23.	Mr XIA Jingyuan	Secretary	International Plant Protection Convention Secretariat	Secretariat	Rome, Italy	Rome
24.	Ms Elisabetta Tagliati	Programme Coordinator	FAO, Plant Production and Protection Division	Secretariat	Rome, Italy	Rome

	NAME	TITLE	ORGANIZATION	ROLE	CITY, COUNTRY	Mode of Participation
25.	Mr Keith Cressman	Senior Agricultural Officer	FAO, Plant Production and Protection Division	Secretariat	Rome, Italy	Rome
26.	Mr GU Baogen	Senior Agricultural Officer	FAO, Plant Production and Protection Division	Secretariat	Rome, Italy	Rome
27.	Ms Eva Moller	Assistant	FAO, Plant Production and Protection Division	Secretariat	Rome, Italy	Rome
28.	Mr YE Anping	Senior Adviser	FAO, Office of the Director-General		Rome, Italy	Rome
29.	Mr Frederic Castell	Technical Adviser	FAO, Office of the Deputy Director-General, Climate and Natural Resources		Rome, Italy	Rome
30.	Ms Gaby Piacentini	Adviser	FAO, Office of the Deputy Director-General, Climate and Natural Resources		Rome, Italy	Rome



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