

## Meeting of the Agenda of Action (AoA) Interim Preparatory Committee (IPC)

**Date:** 20.10.2011

**Participants:** Fritz Schneider; Niek Schelling; Neil Fraser; Berhe Tekola; Pierre Gerber; Henning Steinfeld; Jeroen Dijkman; Ben Henderson;

**Participants through conference call:** Hsin Huang; Joyce Turk; Francois Pythoud; Jimmy Smith (Chair); Dave Cieslak; Hayden Montgomery

**Not able to connect:** Brian Weech; Ruairaidh Petre

**Apologies:** Simplicie Nouala

### Main Conclusions:

a) The three broad thematic focus areas *(i) Closing the efficiency gap; (ii) Restoring value to grassland, and; (iii) Towards zero discharge*, proposed to be discussed at the Phuket meeting, were endorsed by the IPC. The interim Secretariat was charged to develop the concomitant Issues and Options papers as an input into the 2<sup>nd</sup> stakeholder meeting in Phuket with the following provisos:

- Need to more explicitly include the economic, social and public health dimensions as cross-cutting issues in each of the proposed thematic focus areas;
- Refrain from the use of polarizing language that appears to apportion blame or pass judgment. This was particularly indicate in respect of focus area (ii) which in its current wording appears to single out confined, concentrated livestock production as bad;
- Clarify that focus area (i) deals specifically with natural resource use efficiency (boundaries: supply side up to retail), as opposed to economic and biological efficiency – and that this is the current overall umbrella theme for theAoA ;
- Clarify that focus area (iii) deals essentially with manure management;
- Ensure that the thematic focus areas in their further development focus specifically on current gaps and where the AoA can add specific value;
- Need to include a clear preamble that explains ‘how we got here’, what choices were made and why, the AoA comparative advantage (and also indicating where the value added of AoA viz. the core mandate of others), to ensure ‘new entrants’ to get up to speed and arrive at the same conclusions;

b) Need to prepare an Issues and Options paper on the AoAs oversight mechanism, form and funding strategy will also need to be prepared by the interim Secretariat as a discussion input for the Phuket meeting;

c) Meeting agenda in Phuket will be further developed and shaped around the agreed focus areas in the following manner: Afternoon Day 1: Protocol and keynotes; Day 2: Introduction of Issue and Option papers on broad focus areas, multi-stakeholder working groups on separate focus areas to develop the substance of the proposals; Day 3: Individual stakeholder groups to agree on stakeholder group action to achieve the objectives (what will each stakeholder group contribute); Day 4: discuss AoA oversight mechanisms, and next steps required to move the AoA forward.

d) How best to (i) place of the AoA in the institutional architecture, (ii) shape its relation, links and exploit its value added to other initiatives, (iii) achieve its embedding into existing intergovernmental and other processes, (iv) ensure continued broad participation (concentrating on the inclusion of different points of view, not just ‘appropriate’ representation), and (v) support autonomous stakeholder actions, needs to be part of the afore mentioned actor group discussions on day 3;

e) The eventual launch of the AoA is probably best done at stand alone event, to ensure the maintenance of its unique multi-stakeholder nature. This does not prevent the AoA taking advantage of other meetings around the world in profiling itself. However, many factors, including its then funding status, will need to be considered and no final decision was taken;

f) Green Livestock Sector Growth was agreed to be a simple way of indicating what the AoA 'roughly' is about. However, the different connotations and definitions that are related to the *Green Growth* term, as well as the lack of originality, led the meeting to decide that further discussion and reflection is required before adopting any specific new names, and that, in the short-term, clearly defining what the AoA is about is of more immediate importance.

**Next steps and actions**

- Invite additional comments and suggestions from the IPC (by end of October);
- Distribution of Phuket invitee and attendance list to the ISC for comments and suggestions (by 24 October);
- Interim Secretariat to further develop and circulate Phuket meeting programme for comments to IPC (by 4 November);
- Preparation of above agreed Issues and Options papers by interim Secretariat, and distribute to all participants (by mid November);
- ISC to share additional reflections on new names for the AoA and launching suggestions with interim Secretariat (continuous).