



Meeting "Chairs of Commodity Expert Groups", 28 March 2017

The main conclusions of the meeting of the “Chairs of Commodity Expert Groups”, held on 28 March 2017 in Brussels, are listed below.

- The meeting was attended by 13 people.
- As from 1 November 2016 the **MUCF is fully staffed** with the coordinator, administrator, IT-expert and the technical expert.
- **Homologa** is a Global Crop Protection Database about plant protection products and their Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs). After discussion in the Minor Uses Steering Group in its meeting on 5 October 2016 a subscription on Homologa for one year has been taken by the Coordination Facility.
- As many of the practical issues that are covered in the **Guidance Document on Minor Uses** are linked to the new EUMUDA further work has been postponed until the launch of the new EUMUDA.
- The MUCF had prepared an initial proposal for the **long-term funding** of the Coordination Facility. The option to ask for contributions from Member States according to their population (equal to the voting system in the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed) was agreed during the meeting of the Minor Uses Steering Committee on 5th October 2016. The long-term funding strategy was presented during the first Stakeholder Advisory Forum of the MUCF, that took place on 25 January 2017 in Brussels. As all Member States will benefit from the work of the Coordination Facility, the MUCF will encourage financial commitments from all Member States. In due course, all Member States will be approached by the Coordination Facility for a **voluntary assessed contribution**.
- Regarding the **organisation of next meetings**, the following was agreed:
 - The ‘autumn’ meetings can be organised by the HEG and CEGs individually.
 - The next ‘autumn’ meeting of the CEG F&V, CEG Seeds and CEG Ornamentals, together with the HEG are planned for 1, 2 and 3 November 2017 in Dublin. The HEG meeting could take place on 1 November and the CEG meetings on 2-3 November.

Post meeting note: In addition, the CEG Tobacco will have its meeting also in Dublin on 3 November 2017.
- The **‘spring’ meetings** can be organised in Brussels with all CEGs back-to-back. ‘Residues’ was suggested as topic for a plenary session for the ‘spring’ meetings of 2018. Representatives from the European Commission, EFSA and Member States - attending/involved in the Standing Committee on Residues- should be invited. Topics for discussions could be an overview of the process of MRL-setting; the Codex process; the use of residue data generated outside the Union; (consequences of) changes in the residue

definition related to minor uses; extrapolation possibilities from major to minor crops and between zones.

- As some important topics need to be addressed already before November 2017 it was decided that a **meeting of the Chairs** should already be organised before the summer. Issues to be discussed in that meeting are:
 - **EUMUDA**: access rights and confidentiality. It should be discussed which parts of EUMUDA are publicly accessible and which information (of projects) has restricted access (and by whom).
 - **Evaluation of participation in different CEGs/HEG**. The MUCF should develop clear rules on the composition of and the number of attendees in the Expert Groups. Information can be taken from the Terms of Reference and participation of the different stakeholders in projects can be considered.
 - **Final programme** of the ‘Dublin’ meetings (1– 3 November).
- The presentation on the **new EUMUDA** in September meetings of CEGs and HEG has been followed by a trial and commenting phase in October/November. In November/December the ‘new’ EUMUDA has been revised based on comments received. A final discussion with chairs CEGs took place in January 2017. As a starting point for the list of minor use needs, the (updated) table of IPM crop-pest needs as prepared by the C-IPM will be taken. Also, the information from the ongoing projects in the CEGs will be added. The MUCF will do an online demonstration of the new EUMUDA in all CEGs meetings in March 2017. *Post meeting note: The ‘new’ EUMUDA has been launched on 28 June 2017.*
- The **C-IPM Eranet** finished at the end of 2016. A discussion took place on the role of the Co-ordination Facility and stakeholders in developing and promoting IPM solutions. Preferably, the Co-ordination Facility should clearly contribute to the development of non-chemical and IPM routes to solve minor use problems. The establishment of a platform under the MUCF umbrella to ensure optimal liaison with stakeholders and knowledge sharing activities, with a focus on IPM, was discussed, but no clear decision was taken.
- In preparation of the **2nd Global Minor Uses Priority Setting Workshop**, an email regarding the update of the ‘table of needs’ will be circulated. The consolidated ‘EU table of needs’ should be ready before the summer break. It was also noted that the point on common databases/global input should be put forward.
- The **next meetings** of CEG F&V, Ornamentals and Seeds, as well as HEG are planned for 1, 2 and 3 November in Dublin (IE). *Post meeting note: In addition, the CEG Tobacco will have its meeting also in Dublin on 3 November 2017.*