

**MINUTES COST Action CA17108**  
**2nd Management Committee Meeting**  
**Athens, Greece**  
**13 February 2019 (12:00-13:30)**

1. **Welcome to participants.** The participants were welcomed by Prof. Alessandra della Torre, Action Chair.
2. **Verification of the presence of two-thirds of the Participating COST Countries:** Quorum: **27/32**
3. **Adoption of agenda.** The agenda for the 2nd Management Committee (MC) meeting was adopted.
4. **Approval of minutes and matters arising during last MC meeting.** Minutes of 1<sup>st</sup> MC Meeting (Brussels, 6-09-2018) unanimously approved.
5. **Update from the Action Chair**

**a) Status of Action:**

List of participating COST FULL MEMBERS (31) + COST COOPERATING MEMBER (1)  
[in red COST FULL MEMBERS absent in present MC meeting; in bold COST FULL MEMBERS included in the Action after the KoM]

<u>Country</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Status</u>
Albania	03/09/2018	Confirmed
Austria	08/05/2018	Confirmed
Belgium	23/06/2018	Confirmed
Bosnia and Herzegovina	21/05/2018	Confirmed
Bulgaria	23/07/2018	Confirmed
<b>Croatia</b>	<b>11/05/2018</b>	<b>Confirmed</b>
Cyprus	25/07/2018	Confirmed
<b>Czech Republic</b>	<b>06/08/2018</b>	<b>Confirmed</b>
<b>Denmark</b>	<b>15/11/2018</b>	<b>Confirmed</b>
France	11/05/2018	Confirmed
Germany	24/07/2018	Confirmed
Greece	25/06/2018	Confirmed
<b>Ireland</b>	<b>24/07/2018</b>	<b>Confirmed</b>
Israel (COST Coop Member)	22/05/2018	Confirmed
Italy	13/07/2018	Confirmed
Luxembourg	17/08/2018	Confirmed
<b>Malta</b>	<b>14/07/2018</b>	<b>Confirmed</b>
<b>Moldova</b>	<b>28/11/2018</b>	<b>Confirmed</b>
Montenegro	15/05/2018	Confirmed
Netherlands	21/06/2018	Confirmed
<b>Norway</b>	<b>11/06/2018</b>	<b>Confirmed</b>
Poland	22/05/2018	Confirmed
Portugal	01/06/2018	Confirmed
Romania	18/07/2018	Confirmed
Serbia	15/05/2018	Confirmed
Slovenia	14/05/2018	Confirmed
Spain	07/06/2018	Confirmed
<b>Sweden</b>	<b>12/11/2018</b>	<b>Confirmed</b>
Switzerland	03/05/2018	Confirmed
Turkey	09/07/2018	Confirmed
United Kingdom	03/05/2018	Confirmed
fYR Macedonia	11/07/2018	Confirmed

**-COST NEAR NEIGHBOUR COUNTRIES/INTERNATIONAL PARTNER COUNTRIES:**

Approved during KoM:

- ARMENIA - National Center for Disease Control and Prevention and Armenian National Academy of Sciences - Scientific Center of Zoology and Hydroecology;
- KOSOVO (under UNSCR 1244/99) - Faculty of Agriculture and Veterinary, University of Prishtina;
- TUNISIA - Institut Pasteur Tunis;
- U.S.A. - Yale University;
- U.S.A. - USDA-ARS European Biological Control Laboratory;

Approved after KoM: MOROCCO - Institut Agronomique et Vétérinaire Hassan II (*From 08/02/2019*)

Pending approval by eVOTE: UKRAINE - Ukrainian Mosquito Control Association (UMCA) (*Ongoing Votation*)

**b) Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM):**

1-Cintia Horváth (from University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Cluj-Napoca, Romania to University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Agriculture, Laboratory for Medical and Veterinary Entomology, Novi Sad, Serbia): 28 January-08 February 2019; 900€.

2-Mircea Coroian (from University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine Cluj-Napoca, Romania, to Umeå University, Department of Clinical Microbiology, Sweden): 11-24 feb 2019; 1,400€.

Further applications for GP1 will be assessed very rapidly. For administrative reasons GP1-STSMs should be completed within April 15<sup>th</sup>. The first GP2 call for STSM will open on April 2019.

c) **E-vote: MC decision for AIM-COST First ANNUAL MEETING DAY CHANGING** (13-11-2018: 52 agreed; 2 dissent)

d) **E-vote: MC decision for AIM-COST STSM rules** (17-12-2018: 56 agreed; 0 dissent)

**6. Update from the Grant Holder: Action budget status**

	Grant budget	Expected Expenditure					Delta
	(a)	Actuals (b)	Accruals (c)	Total (d=b+c)	Forecast (e)	Total (f=d+e)	(g=f-a)
<b>Total Meeting</b>	<b>120.600,00</b>	14.616,00	0,00	14.616,00	115.000,00	129.616,00	-9.016,00
<i>Dissemination meeting (2)</i>		1.830,00	0,00	1.830,00	2.000,00	3.830,00	
<i>Annual Conference</i>			0,00	0,00	90.000,00	90.000,00	
<i>WG-meeting (nov 18, Brussels; 21 participants)</i>		12.786,00	0,00	12.786,00		12.786,00	
<i>WG1 meeting (march 2019; 25 participants)</i>		0,00	0,00	0,00	23.000,00	23.000,00	
<b>Total Training School</b>	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
<b>Total Short Term Scientific Mission (STSM)</b>	10.000,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	2.300,00	2.300,00	7.700,00
<b>Total Inclusiveness Target Countries Conference Grant (ITC CG)</b>	4.000,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	1.910,00	1.910,00	2.090,00
<b>Total Action Dissemination</b>	3.000,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	3.000,00	3.000,00	0,00
<b>Total Other Expenses Related to Scientific Activities (OERSA)</b>	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	1.000,00	1.000,00	-1.000,00
<b>Total Networking expenditure</b>	<b>137.600,00</b>	<b>14.616,00</b>	<b>0,00</b>	<b>14.616,00</b>	<b>123.210,00</b>	<b>137.826,00</b>	<b>-226,00</b>
<b>Total FSAC 15% of Eligible Networking expenditure</b>	20.640,00	2.192,40	0,00	2.192,40	18.481,50	20.673,90	-33,90
<b>Total Eligible Costs</b>	<b>158.240,00</b>	<b>16.808,40</b>	<b>0,00</b>	<b>16.808,40</b>	<b>141.691,50</b>	<b>158.499,90</b>	<b>-259,90</b>

In red WG1-Task 1.1b Workshop to be approved during MC (see point 7)

## 7. MC approval of:

- a) **Dissemination Meeting:** Francis Schaffner to EMCA meeting “MOSQUITO CONTROL WITHOUT BORDERS” (La Rochelle, France, 10-14/03/2019) (*vote: unanimously agreed*)
- b) **Delegation of approval of Dissemination Meetings to Core-Group.** (*vote: unanimously agreed*)
- c) **Conference Grants for ECI investigators from ITC:**  
-Mihaela Kavran (Faculty of Agriculture, Novi Sad, Serbia) to EMCA meeting “MOSQUITO CONTROL WITHOUT BORDERS” (La Rochelle, France, 10-14/03/2019): 1,910€ requested.  
(*vote: unanimously agreed*)
- d) **WG1-Task 1.1b Workshop** on “Linking Citizen Science to Epidemiological Modelling” to be held at Centre for Advanced Studies of Blanes (CEAB-CSIC) (Barcelona, SPAIN) on 25-27 March 2019. Funds available as shown in point 6. (*vote: unanimously agreed*)
- e) **WG3 Workshop** to set up structure of Delphi questionnaire report. Brussels, 1-2 April 2019. (*vote: unanimously agreed if funds are available*)

## 8. Implementation of COST policies on:

### a) Promotion of gender balance and Early Career Investigators (ECI)

- Gender Balance at Annual Meeting: 36% females, 64% males (40% and 60% among Applicants to AC)
- ECI representativeness at:  
AC: 64% ECI among Applicants from Research Institutions  
STSMs (2): 1 ECI out of 2 STSMs

### b) Inclusiveness and Excellence (see below list of Inclusiveness Target Countries):

**17/22 in AIM-COST (in red ITC Countries presently not in AIM-COST Action):** Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, **Estonia**, FYR Macedonia, **Hungary**, **Latvia**, **Lithuania**, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, **Slovakia**, Slovenia, Turkey

Expected participants to Annual Meeting 117 (65% from CC, 28% from ITC, 2% from NNC, 2% from Cooperating Countries, 3% from International Organizations)

**9. Nomination of ITC Conference Grant Coordinator:** It is proposed that the role is covered by the STSM coordinator, Prof. Joao Pinto. (*vote: unanimously agreed*)  
Specific Rules will be produced and approved by Core Group.

## 10. Follow-up of MoU objectives: progress report of working groups

### 11. Scientific planning

#### a) Scientific strategy (MoU objectives, GP Goals, WG tasks and deliverables)

The Chair highlighted the forthcoming WG objectives, tasks, deliverables, as follows:

WG1, ML1.1 - Critical review and cost benefit analysis of different approaches implemented across Europe for AIM surveillance/monitoring, experimental design, data recording, statistical treatment of the results, spatial modelling mapping and identification of needs for harmonization and optimal exploitation (**Year 2- Trimester III; GP2**)

WG1, DL1.1 - Report/publication on sampling design for monitoring and surveillance of AIMS and EAIMBV in Europe, **(Y3-I; GP3)**

WG2, ML2.1- Systematic mapping of conventional and novel AIM control practices **(Y2-II; GP2)**

WG2, DL2.1 - Report/publication on conventional and novel AIM control practices in Europe **(Y2-IV; GP3)**

WG3, ML3.1 - Website functional **(Y1-I; GP1)** (*achieved*)

WG3, ML3.2 - Delphi and specialised questionnaires designed, tested and distributed **(Y1-IV; GP1)** (*achieved with the distribution of questionnaires at AC conference plenary, on 14-02-2019*)

WG3, DL3.1 - Web platform and science blog platform **(Y1-II; GP1)** (*achieved*)

WG3, DL3.2 - Report on results from Delphi and specialised questionnaires **(Y2-I; GP2)**

Progresses and plans for GP2 discussed during the WG-meetings were briefly summarized by the WG-coordinators (see minutes of WG-meetings). The Chair highlighted the need to identify possible delay ML/DL in order to request a postponement to COST, after appropriate motivations.

#### b) Action Budget Planning

The Chair informed that the GP-2 expected budget would be 159,000€ and proposed a tentative budget plan for discussion, as follows.

<b>Total Meeting</b>	82.250,00
<i>Annual Conference + WG meeting + MC meeting (~ 65 participants x 3 day: total expected cost/participant=750€) + 10000€ LOS</i>	58.750,00
<i>WG meeting - Workshop (20 participants for 2,5 days) (total expected cost/participant=750€) + 5000€ LOS</i>	20.000,00
<i>Dissemination Meeting</i>	3.500,00
<b>Total Training School</b> (5 days, 20 participants+ 6 trainers, 1.000€ each)	26.000,00
<b>Total Short Term Scientific Mission (STSM)</b> (14: 1500€/STSMs)	20.000,00
<b>Total Inclusiveness Target Countries Conference Grant (ITC CG)</b>	4.000,00
<b>Total Action Dissemination</b>	5.000,00
<b>Total Other Expenses Related to Scientific Activities (OERSA)</b>	1.000,00
<b>Total Networking expenditure</b>	<b>138.250,00</b>
<b>Total Eligible Networking expenditure</b>	<b>138.250,00</b>
<b>Total FSAC 15% of Eligible Networking expenditure</b>	20.737,50
<b>Total Eligible Costs</b>	<b>158.987,50</b>

The budget was found appropriate by the MC, but the need to identify possible co-funding sources was highlighted in order to increase number of participants to AC and TS. MC members committed to contribute to identify possible sources.

### c) Long-term planning (including anticipated locations and dates of future activities)

#### - Annual Meetings

2<sup>nd</sup> - (Lisbon 2020): Focus on surveillance (WG1)

3<sup>rd</sup> - (Tentative: Istanbul 2021): Focus on control (WG2)

4<sup>th</sup> - (Tentative: Rome 2022): Focus on Stakeholder Holder Engagement (WG3)

#### - Training Schools:

**GP-2 (WG1)** Proposed topic “Design of monitoring schemes, data collection, and practical training with selected monitoring tools in the field and species identification approaches”

Proposed Location: Enalia Physis Environmental Research Center Cyprus (LOS: Ageliki Martinou)

Proposed Length: 5 days

Proposed dates: January 2020?

Link with “AIM field collection 2020 and following 2021-Workshop on Monitoring Data Analysis”

#### **GP-3 (WG1+WG2)**

Proposed topic: “AIM control using integrated approaches including SIT and assessment the efficacy of control method” (in collaboration with IAEA and MediLabSecure)

Proposed Location: Turkey (Black-Sea coast)

Proposed Length: 2 weeks

Proposed dates: Summer 2020

#### -Workshops:

**GP2 (WG2)** - Proposed topic: “Assessment the efficacy of control method in public health”

Proposed Location: to be defined

Proposed Length: 2-3 days

Proposed Dates: within GP2

*With participation of PH and companies*

**GP3 (WG1)** - Proposed topic “Monitoring data analysis” (linked with GP-2 Training School)

Proposed Location: to be defined

Proposed Length: 2-3 days

Proposed Dates: Oct-Nov 2020 GP3

### d) Dissemination planning (Publications and outreach activities)

-Results of the Questionnaires will be synthesized in a technical report for stakeholders (DL-3.2), and later in a scientific publication.

-WG would focus on discussing further dissemination and outreach activities in future months and propose an action plan for the 2<sup>nd</sup> AC at the latest.

-It was agreed to try to organize in GP3 or GP4, a special meeting for policy makers/national focal points (possibly co-organized with ECDC or WHO), possible as side meetings in EU ministry of Health or as a session on appropriate meeting.

-The need to acknowledge AIM-COST in future publications on AIMS was stressed.

### 12. Requests to join the Action from:

**a) COST countries:** the Chair highlighted that Estonia, Finland, Hungary, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovakia are presently not included in AIM-COST. The MC committee are invited to identify reference groups involved in activities related to AIM and to propose participation to AIM-COST.

**b) Institutions in Near Neighbouring Countries, International Partner Countries, and/or Specific Organisations:** EU agencies, European RTD Organisation, International Organisations.

The Chair informed that the following Institutions expressed interest to join AIM-COST and that the required procedures have been initiated.

1-Central Research Institute of Epidemiology of Rospotrebnadzor - RUSSIA (Dr. Marina Fyodorova)

### 13. AOB

-WG1, task 1.1 Enkelejda Dikolli replaced by Elton Rogozi (same Institution) as Task-Leader; Adolfo Ibañez nominated as Deputy.

-WG1, task 1.2: Kamil Erguler and Roberto Rosà nominated as Deputies.

-WG3, task 3.1a; Kelly Martinou nominated as Task-Leader and Frederic Jourdain and Eva Veronesi as Deputies.

-Final list of leading roles:

	Leader	Deputy(ies)
<b>AIM-COST CHAIR</b>	<b>Alessandra della Torre</b>	<b>Dusan Petric</b>
<b>WG1 MONITORING &amp; SURVEILLANCE of AImS and EAImBVs</b>	<b>Francis Schaffner</b>	<b>Miguel Ángel Miranda</b>
T1.1a Review, optimisation and ToK of AIM monitoring and surveillance	Elton Rogozi	Perparim Kadrijaj, Adolfo Ibañez
T1.1b Citizen Science	Frederic Bartumeus	Beniamino Caputo, Helge Kampen
T1.2 Integrating surveillance data analysis, spatial modelling & mapping	Els Ducheyne	Kamil Erguler, Roberto Rosa, Willy Wint
<b>WG2 CONVENTIONAL and INNOVATIVE CONTROL TOOLS</b>	<b>Antonios Michaelakis</b>	<b>Carla Sousa</b>
T2.1 Review, optimisation of current control options	Gregory Lambert	Sandra Gewehr, Clare Strode
T2.2 Quality evaluation of AIM control operations	Vincent Robert	Alexandra Chaskopoulou
T2.3 Innovative vector control tools/New Paradigms	Nikos Papadopoulos	Antonios Augoustinos
<b>WG3 DISSEMINATION, CUSTOMISATION AND COMMUNICATION</b>	<b>Willy Wint</b>	<b>Eva Veronesi</b>
T3.1 Dissemination within the COST-Action network & to scientific external audience	Jolyon Medlock	Hans-Peter Feurher, Angeliki Martinou
T3.2a Surveillance and control guidelines	Angeliki Martinou	Frédéric JOURDAIN, Eva Veronesi
T3.2b Mapping and modelling outputs	Willy Wint	Sophie VanWamBecke
<b>Short Term Scientific Missions/ITC Conference Grant</b>	<b>Joao Pinto</b>	<b>Marrie Picard</b>
<b>Training school</b>	<b>Andrei Mihalca</b>	<b>Bulent Alten</b>
<b>Science Communication</b>	<b>Filiz Gunay</b>	<b>Ana Firanj Sremac</b>

### 14. Location and date of 2nd AIM-COST Annual Conference (approved by MC):

- Location: Institute of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of Lisbon (Portugal)
- Dates: 11-13 February 2020
- Local Organizers: Joao Pinto and Carla Sousa

### 15. Closing

The meeting is closed at 13:30.