

**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: 1-2 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 Deputy; Adolfo Ibañez and Perparim Kadrijaj nominated as Deputies.

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

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

-Final list of leading roles:

TASK/WG	Leader	Deputies
AIM-COST CHAIR	Alessandra della Torre	Dusan Petric
WG1 MONITORING & SURVEILLANCE of AIMs and EAIMBVs	Francis Schaffner	Miguel Ángel MIRANDA
T1.1a Review, optimisation and ToK of AIM monitoring and surveillance	Miguel Ángel MIRANDA	Perparim Kadrijaj, Adolfo Ibañez, Elton Rogozi
T1.1b Citizen Science	Frederic Bartumeus	Beniamino Caputo, Helge Kampen
T1.2 Integrating surveillance data analysis, spatial modelling & mapping	Els Ducheyne	Kamil Erguler, Roberto Rosà, Willy Wint
WG2 CONVENTIONAL and INNOVATIVE CONTROL TOOLS	Antonios Michaelakis	Carla Sousa
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
WG3 DISSEMINATION, CUSTOMISATION AND COMMUNICATION	Willy Wint	Eva Veronesi
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
Short Term Scientific Missions	Joao Pinto	Marie Picard
Training school	Andrei Mihalca	Bulent Alten
Science Communication	Filiz Gunay	Ana Firanj Sremac

### 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.

April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019 AdT