

## Advisory Committee Meeting 8/17

13 December 2017 15:00-16:30 SE Asia Standard Time

Venue: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/436649421>

### Participants

Mark Radka	UN Environment	Bruce Tolentino	IRRI
Matthias Bickel	GIZ	James Lomax	UN Environment
Wyn Ellis	SRP Secretariat	Lea Las Pinas	SRP Secretariat
Peter Sprang	SRP Secretariat		

### Alternate:

Arif Hamid Makhdum	WWF Pakistan	Nana Suhartana	Rikolto (VECO)
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### Apologies

Ladda Viriyangkura	Thailand Rice Department	Hammad Naqi Khan	WWF Pakistan
Luc Beerens	Mars Food	Jai Sheel Oberoi	LT Foods
Christ Vansteenkiste	Rikolto (VECO)		

## Meeting Report

### 1. Chairperson's remarks

- The Advisory Committee meeting 8/17 was called to order at 15:05 SE Asia Standard Time.
- MR welcomed AC members and alternates Arif Hamid Mahkdum (AHM) on behalf of HNK, and Nana Suhartana (NS) on behalf of Christ Vansteenkiste.

### 2. Approval of report of last meeting (6-17), and adoption of agenda (Annex 1)

- MR moved for the approval of report of last meeting. With no objections, the report was approved as circulated.
- BT moved for the adoption of meeting agenda, and was seconded by JL. The Agenda was adopted unanimously.

### 3. Secretariat Report for November-December (Annexes 2, 3 and 4)

- WE reported recent activities and progress on operations and programmes as outlined in Annex 2: Secretariat Report for November-December 2017.
- LLP provided an update on Working Group 1 (Communications, Outreach and Resource Mobilization), highlighting support on media relations and a social media campaign by UN Environment Asia and the Pacific Office for the recent UN Environment Assembly held in Nairobi.

- JL communicated ongoing activities of Working Group 2 (Policy Development and Incentives for Scale), including progress on the Strategic Visioning Exercise, strategic partnership with FAO Rome, and COP23 participation, represented by MR and LB.
- Reporting on COP23, MR noted heightened global interest in agriculture and particularly in rice (corroborated by BT). While opportunities for collaboration are available during climate negotiations, much work needs to be done in fostering partnerships beyond such events. BT further noted that the challenge is now upon the SRP on how to take advantage of these opportunities.
- PS summarized progress by Working Group 3 (Farmer Support, Performance Measurement and Assurance), including the availability of SRP-UTZ Third Party Audit Protocol for Pilots, Assurance Framework and SRP Standard Revision. The first two documents are presented for endorsement under Agenda Items 6 and 7, respectively.
- WE concluded the Secretariat Report with details on pipeline projects envisaged to contribute to SRP's goal of promoting wide-scale adoption of climate-smart and sustainable best practices in rice production.
- A Calendar of Activities (Annex 3) will facilitate prioritization of SRP participation in key events in 2018. MR urged members to submit list of relevant activities for inclusion in the calendar.

**[Action: AC members to identify and submit list of relevant events and activities for 2018, to be included in the organizational calendar]**

#### **4. Conference Financial Report (Annex 5)**

- BT presented the audited financial report prepared by Deloitte on behalf of IBC Asia, and reported net revenues to SRP of SGD7,599 (or USD5,500). The funds are to be transferred to IRRI by IBC.
- WE clarified that for this flagship event, the AC had agreed with IBC Asia on a conservative risk and profit-sharing model to minimize financial exposure. Based on the success of this first flagship conference, SRP will aim for a more ambitious revenue generation model for future events.
- JL expressed that the launch of the Conference paved the way for a new era for SRP, one that will attract a more diverse set of stakeholders.
- MR requested inputs from AC members on how to allocate the revenue, recommending the funds be allocated directly to a specific project or activity to avoid incurring additional administrative expenses. BT confirmed that IRRI will hold the funds on SRP's behalf until a decision is reached.

**[Action: Secretariat to compile recommendations of AC members regarding allocation of SGD7,599 / USD5,500.]**

**[Note: Approx USD3,000 has been committed to fund technical services of consultant for the SRP Standard revision exercise.]**

## 5. Strategic Visioning Exercise (Annex 6)

- WE reported that a call with Richard Rogers and his team was scheduled for 14 December, to discuss updated scope of work, budget, timeline and next steps.
- MB stated that GIZ and Olam remain fully committed to supporting the visioning exercise with additional financial support of US\$20k as previously announced. He stressed, however, that the AC must clarify how it will decide and manage outputs and recommendations brought forward by the consultant in a transparent way. BT voiced his agreement with this sentiment.
- MR confirmed UN Environment's commitment to respect and support implementation of any AC resolutions arising from the final recommendations of the exercise.
- BT commented that the proposed visioning workshop (previously dropped due to time and budget constraints) should now be reinstated within the consultant's scope of work. However, MB clarified that activities and resources must be carefully examined and balanced for maximum benefit.

**[Action: WE to provide an update based on the discussion with Richard Rogers and his team on 14 Dec]**

## 6. Third Party Audit Protocol (Annex 7)

- PS introduced the SRP-UTZ Third Party Audit Protocol for Pilots and requested AC endorsement for release of the document as an interim SRP tool to allow claims to be made based on pilot implementation until the official Assurance Framework is operational. A number of partners have requested this endorsement to facilitate their supply chain activities.
- BT commented that although already endorsed at Working Group level, IRRI institutional approval may need to be further sought through internal consultation among its key officers (legal office). MB expressed a similar concern, and requested for additional time for internal review.
- MR recommended to set a deadline for submission of feedback. AC members are therefore requested to offer further inputs and recommendation by 12 January 2018.

**[Action: AC members to further review and provide comments and recommendations by 12 January 2018 to the Secretariat]**

## 7. Assurance Framework (Annex 8)

- PS presented the draft Assurance Framework, emphasizing that the framework is predicated upon the establishment of a formal legal identity.
- BT congratulated PS and WG3 but repeated that internal consultation within IRRI will also be required for this document in order to provide consolidated institutional feedback. He suggested that AC members could perhaps participate during public consultation.
- MR clarified that AC members will have two opportunities for review; 1. Initial AC review before public release; and 2. During the public consultation itself. It was agreed that AC members may send their initial feedback to the Secretariat by 12 January 2018.

**[Action: Secretariat to send Annexes 7 and 8 and request for members' feedback by the agreed deadline]**

## 8. AOB

- **Process for AC endorsement of SRP documents:** WE proposed that in order to streamline AC endorsement of future WG proposals, WG members should be reminded to secure institutional endorsement of documentation before endorsement by the WG and subsequent submission to the AC. This was agreed unanimously.
- **Alternates for AC:** Clarification was sought on representation by alternates in AC meetings when the primary representative is unavailable. The question was deferred.

**[Action: Secretariat to launch Doodle poll for the week of 15 January 2018]**

**[Action: Secretariat to include question of representation by alternates as an agenda item for next AC meeting]**

The meeting adjourned at 16:35 SE Asia Standard time.

**W W Ellis**

**19 December 2017**

### Annexes

Annex 1:	Meeting Report – SRP Advisory Committee meeting 7/17 20 October 2017
Annex 2:	Secretariat Report for November-December
Annex 3:	SRP Programme Brochure (GHG and Local Action)
Annex 4:	SRP Calendar of Activities 2018
Annex 5:	Audited Financial Conference Report
Annex 6:	Letter of Acceptance sent to Rogers MacJohn
Annex 7:	SRP-UTZ Third Party Audit Protocol for Pilots Version 1.4 Nov2017
Annex 8:	Draft Assurance Framework