

Minutes AHB SAG

Meeting Two of the Asian Honey Bee Scientific Advisory Group (AHB SAG)

Teleconference held on Wednesday 14th December 2011

Attendees: Rod Turner PHA (Chair), Sam Malfroy PHA (Secretariat), Sharyn Taylor PHA, Glynn Maynard DAFF, Denis Anderson CSIRO, Doug Somerville NSW DPI, Trevor Weatherhead AHBIC, Max Whitten FCAAA, Sharon De Wet DEEDI, Boris Baer UWA.

Apologies: Simon Barry CSIRO

Item 1: Welcome by the Chair

The Chair welcomed the Members of the Asian Honey Bee Scientific Advisory Group (AHB SAG) to the teleconference.

Item 2: Terms of Reference

The Chair stated that the Terms of Reference (ToR) will be distributed to all SAG Members for comment once approved by the Asian Honey Bee Transition Management Group (AHB TMG). The Terms of Reference will be provided for comment whilst the SAG is in Cairns.

Item 3: Members comment on the AHB T2M

All Members agreed that they could not comment on the AHB T2M without seeing the detailed operational plan. The Members agreed that there was a lot of scope regarding projects AG 2 and 3, which is likely to be the main area where comments and advice from the SAG would be directed. The Chair stated that the operational plan would be discussed while in Cairns on January 18th and 19th.

The Chair stated that the SAG's questions outlined in Meeting One relating to data collection and operational plan details had been provided to Biosecurity Queensland. It was agreed that all scientific and operational information will be provided to the SAG at the face-to-face meeting scheduled for early January 2012 in Cairns.

There was discussion amongst the Members regarding various research possibilities that could be of use to the AHB T2M, as well as the appropriateness and feasibility of possible research projects that could support the AHB T2M and extensive discussion was held on the types of research that may assist the AHB T2M program.

The Chair informed the SAG that Dave Alden (RIRDC) had contacted PHA and had provided research proposals that could be of benefit to the AHB T2M. These proposals had been provided because industry money (AHBIC and FCAAA) will be managed by RIRDC. The Chair noted that this issue will be discussed at Meeting Two of the AHB TMG on December 20th. Once approved by the AHB TMG, these proposals will be distributed to the SAG for technical and scientific feedback and will be formally discussed at the meeting in Cairns in early January 2012. The Chair reiterated that if distributed, these

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research proposals are confidential and not for distribution or discussion outside this group.

Item 4: Members comment on Minutes distributed from Meeting One and request for any additional information

The minutes from Meeting One of the AHB SAG were accepted as finalised by the Members of the SAG. The Chair added that the Minutes, once approved by the AHB TMG, would be placed on the website to provide an update on the situation to stakeholders and the public.

Item 5: Confirmation of dates and times for the trip to Cairns

As outlined in the minutes of Meeting One, the Chair proposed the dates of the 18th and 19th January 2012 for the SAG trip to Cairns. All Members present agreed to these dates. The first day (18th) was proposed to include a day of field visits, while the second day (19th) was for a formal meeting of the SAG to take place.

Item 6: Talking Points to be agreed upon and presented to the AHBMG

The issue of communication was raised by the Chair. It was agreed that minutes from meetings will be placed on the AHB website and these would provide the update on activities of the SAG to stakeholders and the community.