

# National Plant Biosecurity RD&E Strategy Implementation Committee Meeting 14

**FACE TO FACE**  
**12 April 2016**  
**10:00am- 3:00pm AEDT**

## Attendees

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Dr Clive Noble (Chair)	Independent Chair
Dr Gary Fitt	CSIRO
Mr Greg Fraser	PHA
Dr Sharon Harvey	Wine Australia
Mr Tim Lester	CRRDC
Mr David Moore	HIA
Dr Suzy Perry	QDAF
Dr Simone Warner	DEDJTR Vic
Mr Rod Turner (Strategy Leader)	PHA
Dr Victoria Ludowici (Executive Officer)	PHA

## Via teleconference

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Dr Satendra Kumar	NSW DPI
Dr Rosalie McCauley	DAFWA
Dr Sally Troy (on behalf of Kim Ritman)	DAWR
Dr Michael Robinson	PBCRC
Dr Ken Young	GRDC

## Apologies

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Dr Mike Ashton	QDAF
Dr Rob Loughman	DAFWA
Dr Kim Ritman	DAWR

## **Key dates**

14-15<sup>th</sup> July- NPBRDES IC Forum.

## **Meeting Summary**

The committee reviewed the discussion paper 'A sustainable plant biosecurity RD&E system for Australia'. The committee agreed it would lodge a submission.

The committee will be holding a series of one day workshops on specific cross sectoral plant biosecurity issues such as whitefly transmitted viruses over the next 6 months.

## **Agenda items 1 and 2: Welcome and apologies**

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting. Apologies were received from Dr Mike Ashton, Dr Rob Loughman and Dr Kim Ritman. Dr Ken Young was welcomed as the representative of the Grains Research and Development Corporation.

## **Agenda item 3: Review of Action Items**

Progress on the individual Action Items arising from the previous meetings were discussed. Individual Action Items to be covered through the agenda were deferred to the appropriate Agenda Item. A number of Action Items were noted as complete.

Each of the state representatives provided an update of their discussions with the states not represented on the committee. QDAF had discussed the committee's work within their department but had not had a chance to discuss it with NT DPIF. DAFWA was yet to discuss the committee's work with PIRSA and DEDJTR had been in contact with DPIPWE.

**Action:** DAFWA to contact PIRSA and QDAF to contact NT DPIF regarding the committee's activities.

## **Agenda item 4: A Sustainable RD&E System to Support National Plant Health- Update**

The Committee was provided with a copy of the final report for the "Sustainable RD&E system to support National Plant Health" project out of session and a copy of the submission template. The committee agreed it should make a submission while acknowledging that the organisations represented on the committee are likely to make submissions as well.

The Strategy Leader was tasked to complete the submission form and circulate it to the committee for comment.

**Action:** Strategy Leader to complete the submission form and circulate it to the committee for comment before submission to Currie Communications.

## **Agenda item 5: Audits**

CSIRO provided an update of progress on the northern Australia audit. A response from NT DPIF has not been received. Both QDAF and DAFWA stated that capability and capacity was severely constrained and heavily reliant on NAQS.

The Executive Officer received an update from the SPHD deputy chair that there had been little progress on the Diagnostics audit.

The Executive Officer presented a report analysing the cross sectoral priorities for the plant biosecurity system. The committee felt that the recommendations in this report should be grouped together, timelines should be added along with the responsible party. The report will be put on the committee's website, circulated to the RDCs and government agencies and a link to the document will be included in PHA's newsletter, Tendrils.

The committee discussed audits that should be carried out in the future. A number of options are listed in the program logic documents. The executive were asked to review the timelines for these audits and report back to the next meeting.

**Action:** Executive Officer to discuss the diagnostics audit with the SPHD deputy chair and find out if the IC can assist progress the audit.

**Action:** Executive Officer to edit the recommendations in the cross sectoral analysis report and upload report to the committee's website and prepare a PHA newsletter article with a link to the document.

**Action:** Executive Officer to review the timelines of the audits in the program logic.

## **Agenda item 6: Workshops**

The executive presented ideas for four different one day workshops that could be held this calendar year. The workshops will involve presenting cross sectoral RD&E opportunities to different funding bodies and industry with the view to enable collaboration between funders and industries. The proposed topics for the workshops were:

Diagnostic platforms- how to extend diagnostic R&D specific to one industry to other industries or how to establish validated pipeline methodologies for next generation sequencing.

Fusarium- how to extend RD&E on Fusarium pathogens affecting specific industries to improve biosecurity in other industries.

Whiteflies and begomoviruses- how to improve preparedness for whitefly vectored viruses (particularly in the North) using a cross sectoral approach.

Pastures and weeds- how to improve farm biosecurity practices in animal biosecurity to reduce the movement of pasture pests and weeds.

The committee supported this initiative and CSIRO was keen to assist with the diagnostics workshop.

## **Agenda item 7: Forum Working Group**

The Strategy Leader advised that the PBCRC had stepped down from chairing the Forum Steering group and the Organising Committee had been dissolved with the members being included in the Steering group on an as needed basis.

The forum agenda and invitee list was presented to the committee. The committee recommended that fewer presentations be included in the agenda and individual speakers be given more time with time for questions allocated directly after the presentations. It was also agreed that sessions 5 and 6 should be combined into a single workshop session to allow the forum to finish around lunch time on the second day.

**Action:** Executive to edit the Forum agenda and send it around to the committee for approval out of session.

**Action:** Executive to send invitations to speakers.

## **Agenda item 8: Program Logic Finalisation**

Since the last meeting the program logic has been updated. It was felt that a number of the timelines, particularly surrounding the audits should be reviewed. The document can then be finalised at the next meeting.

**Action:** Review timelines in the program logic and circulate to the committee out of session.

## **Agenda item 9: AGSOC R&I Committee Presentation Outcomes**

The Strategy Leader made a presentation to the AGSOC R&I committee outlining the progress of the strategy in February 2016. The AGSOC R&I Committee supports cross sectoral strategies and are currently reviewing the strategy reporting process. A forum for the Strategy Leaders and Executive Officers of the NPIRDEF strategies will be held in May 2016 in Canberra.

The report to the AGSOC R&I committee was also discussed. The committee felt the tone of the report should be more positive and there should be more details about what the committee has achieved and what it plans to achieve.

**Action:** Edit the AGSOC R&I committee report to include more details of the committee activities over the last six months.

## **Agenda item 10: Environmental RD&E Strategy**

The Executive submitted a paper to NBC regarding the links between the National Plant Biosecurity RD&E Strategy and the National Environmental Biosecurity RD&E Strategy (NEBRDES). The committee recommended that at least one representative should sit on the implementation committees of both strategies. NBC replied stating that at this stage the NEBRDES is currently under review.

## **Agenda item 11: Future Governance Arrangements for the Implementation Committee**

When the strategy was written it was explicitly stated that an independent chair should be appointed to run the implementation committee as there is a diverse range of parties involved in plant biosecurity. The Chair announced he will be stepping down at the end of this financial year and proposed Greg Fraser replace him. The committee's sponsors have been informed as have the PHA board and all agreed to the change. The AGSOC R&I Committee have been informed.

## **Agenda item 12: Key Messages for Communication**

The committee's stakeholders should be made aware of the upcoming forum in July, the one day workshops being held this year, the presentation to the AGSOC R&I Committee and the committee's submission to the AFI 'A sustainable plant biosecurity RD&E system for Australia' Report.

## **Agenda item 13: Other Business**

No other business was raised.

## **Agenda item 14: Next Meeting and Close**

The next meeting will be held in the first two weeks of June.

**Action:** Executive to send around a doodle poll to ascertain the availability of the committee.

**Meeting close:** 3:00pm