

ExCom2, Oct. 2011

ECPGR Internal Operational Structure

- Secretariat
- Steering Committee
- Executive Committee
- Other structure (exploring alternatives)
- ToRs

SECRETARIAT

Responsibilities

1. To ensure the implementation of the Programme in accordance with the mandate given by the SC;
2. To coordinate the activities carried out in the framework of the Programme;
3. To be responsible for the financial management of the Programme;
4. To provide progress reports on a regular basis;
5. To provide technical and financial reports to the SC for approval;
6. To provide support to WGs and ensure that the agreed workplans are carried out;
7. To provide support to NCGs and, assist in preparing evaluation on Network activities and the formulation of workplans and priorities;
8. To initiate ad hoc activities in accordance with guidance provided by the SC;
9. To gather and distribute information;
10. To assist in project formulation proposals for joint activities and their implementation, as agreed SC;
11. To search for donors to support particular elements of workplans and ad hoc activities;
12. To provide a link with other regions;
13. To contribute to raising public awareness about the Programme and its activities;
14. To undertake any further activity as agreed mutually with the SC.

Secretariat: Strengths and Weaknesses

- Strengths

- Handling of admin and finance
- Organization of meetings
- Expertise on PGRFA
- Support for EU project preparation
- Quality of (WG) reports
- Ability to respond to ad hoc issues

- Weaknesses

- Lack of authority
- Limited interaction with SC between sessions (+ Lack of guidance/priorities by SC)
- Lack of outreach (Internal role/low visibility)
- Lack of initiatives/focus on routine operations of initiatives/focus on routine operations
- Lack of capacity (solution to last 4: increase capacity with more staff?)
- understaffed

STEERING COMMITTEE

Responsibilities

1. guiding the ECPGR Programme.
2. holds the overall responsibility for the Programme;
3. it approves its budget
4. provides overall technical and policy guidance to operations of Progr.
5. reviews the progress made by the Working Groups and other groups within the Networks or other ad hoc actions,
6. takes decisions regarding their general scope and the establishment or termination of Working Groups
7. approves and provides guidelines for ad hoc activities.
8. It mandates and oversees the Secretariat to carry out its decisions.

During the End-of-Phase Steering Committee meeting (year 5), the SC will:

1. Review the activities during the current Phase and progress made so far;
2. Assess opportunities for future activities, considering inter alia proposals from NCGs;
3. Adopt a programme of work for the subsequent Phase. The SC can accept proposals from the NCGs or request modifications;
4. Approve the final budget for the subsequent Phase.

Steering Committee: Strengths and Weaknesses

- **Strengths**

- Continuity
- All member countries represented
- Ultimate decision-making body
- High technical and diverse competence
- Vision and oversight on ECPGR Role of the SC of the SC

- **Weaknesses**

- Lack of leadership (lack of clear and specific priorities)
- lack of debate (lack of analytical and strategic discussions)
- Difficulties in decision-making, different perspectives
- Limited options for inter-sessional decision making
- No Rules of Procedure
- Lack of proper indicators and milestones to measure success
- Uncertainty about mandates individual members
- Costly SC meetings
- Routine operation
- Limited interaction with FAO CGRFA and IT

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

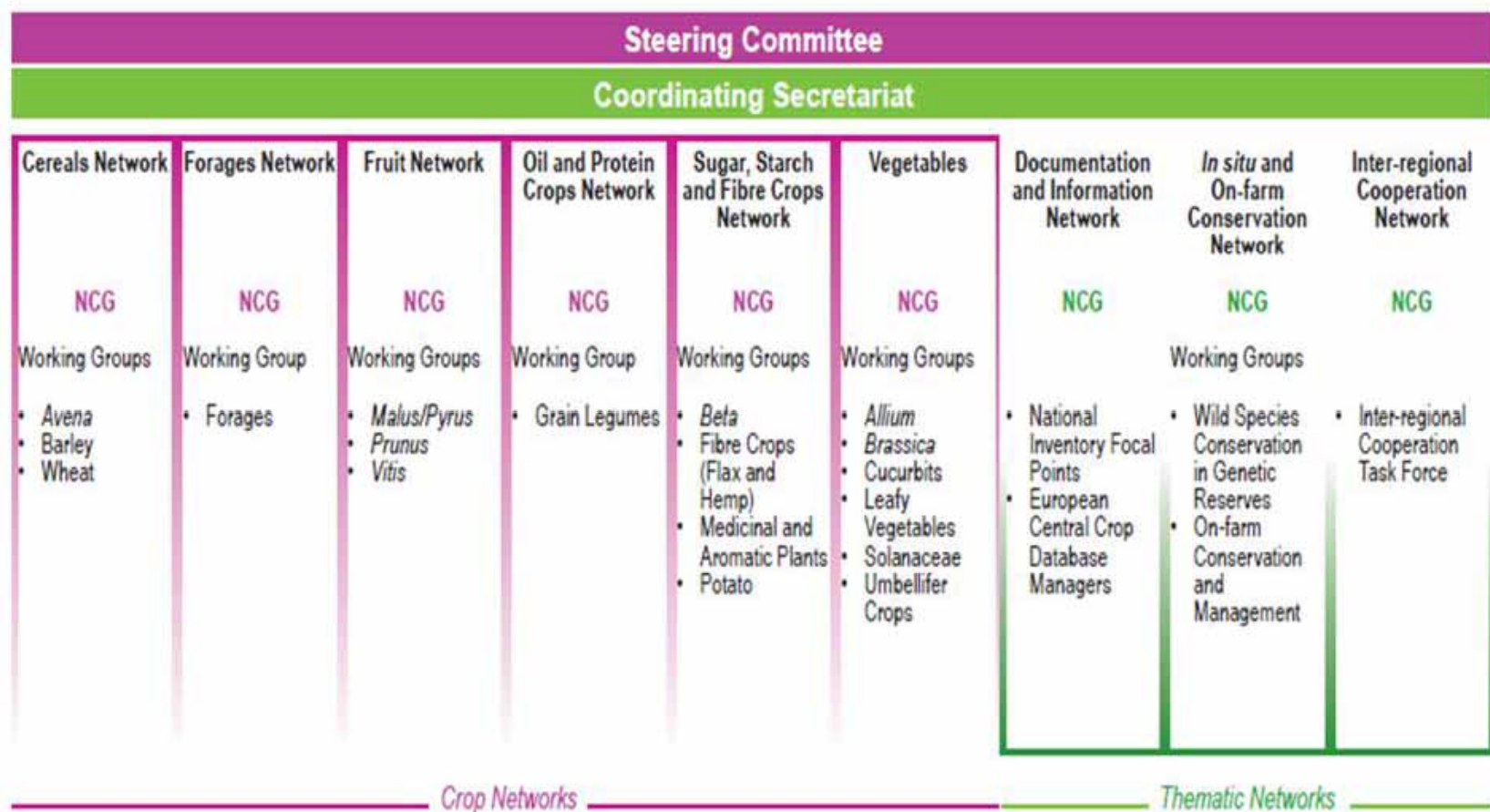
Responsibilities

- plans or executes the activities of ECPGR as decided upon by the SC.
- The Executive Committee can deal with financial issues up to 5000€.
- prepares the SC meetings supported by the ECPGR Secretariat.
- identifies strategic issues important for ECPGR and brings proposals to the attention of the SC.
- mandates the Secretariat in carrying out its decisions, offers guidance to the Secretariat and assumes the technical supervising of the ECPGR Coordinator.
- may establish short-term Task Forces (TFs) for well defined topics.
- The Executive Committee members, especially the Chair, represent ECPGR to the external world.
- can meet when necessary. The decision to meet must be taken by the Executive Committee members on the proposal of the Chair. The minutes of these meetings may be sent to the members of the SC.

Executive Committee: early comments

- Too early for S & W analysis
- A number of issues could be discussed:
 - Of the shortcomings from the Panel Review and the discussions in Bratislava, which are not covered by Exec Com?
 - Without an increase in financial resources could we strengthen the current organisation?
 - Is the Exec. Com. meeting expectations? Any comments from NCs?
 - What could we improve in the Exec. Com.?

OTHER STRUCTURE: current



OTHER STRUCTURE: exploring alternatives

Recommendation from Review Panel → Simplify structure

•options:

- Keep the networks, dissolve working groups (NO)

Or

- Keep the working groups, dissolve the networks (NO)

Or

- Replace by three networks only: ex situ, in situ, information/documentation (NO)

Or

- Establish add hoc working groups/task forces (NO)

Or

- Combine meetings in time and venue (explore? Savings?)

Or

- Consider self-organization and (partial) self-funding (explore? Savings?)

Terms of Reference (ToR)

- **Existing:**
 - ToR for the operational bodies of the ECPGR, include (description and responsibilities):
 - National Coordinators
 - Steering Committee
 - ECPGR Secretariat
 - Networks
 - Working Groups
 - Task Force
 - Database manager of a Central Crop Database
 - Draft ToR of ECPGR
- **Do we need specific TORS for those different elements? can we already work on this or do we need agreement on revised structure/bodies?**