

**Minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Joint Meeting of the Management Boards of the Orange House Partnership (PMB) and the Orange House Trust Fund Foundation (TMB) held as conference call on 13 March 2013 from 14:00-15:30 (GMT+1)**

Abbreviations used: AG= Alan Goldberg, CH= Coenraad Hendriksen, EB= Ezzeddine Boutrif, HK= Herman Koëter, HS= Horst Spielmann, KL= Kartika Liotard, KM= Kalimi Mworira, MB= Michael Blackwell, VS= Vittorio Silano.

**Agenda item 1: Opening of the meeting, adoption of the agenda**  
**[Document: JM/M/A(2013)1/REV]**

1. HK opened the meeting and welcomed the other Board Members present: MB, CH and HS. He explained that KL was stuck in a voting session of the European Parliament, KM had informed the Secretariat that she did not have access to a landline in her close environment and VS was stuck at Paris airport as a result of heavy snowfall. (*note from the Secretariat: after the meeting it appeared that EB could not contact the local dial-in number*).
2. For the record, HK reminded the meeting of the initial agenda and the failing teleconference of 18 February resulting from a malfunctioning Skype service. The meeting agreed on the revised agenda and considered the initial agenda items 1, 2, 3 and 4 as done and the respective documents as endorsed and ready to be published on the web. However, the meeting suggested to introduce a new item i.e. the succession of AG and proposed to start with that item up front.

**Agenda item 1bis: The resignation of AG and his succession**

3. HK explained that AG had made his decision following a long telephone call with him on 26 February. Emails of HK and AG of 1 March to the members of both MB's indicated that his decision was based on personal reasons. HK stressed that Alan had mentioned explicitly that his resignation was unrelated to OHP, its vision, mission and activities.
4. HK requested whether any of the members of the Partnership MB present would be willing to take over the Chairmanship or whether any member of the Trust Fund MB would be willing to do so. However, no MB member present opted for this function. HK suggested that until there would be a 'Trust Fund' to manage, the 2 Boards could probably continue to meet more effectively as a Joint Meeting of the 2 Boards. Awaiting the views of Board members unable to attend, the meeting agreed that, as far as they are concerned, Joint Meetings of the 2 Boards would be preferable and that the vacancy of AG should be filled as soon as possible. HK expressed his preference for a North American female successor in order to further improve the geographical and gender balance. It was agreed that all would consider appropriate candidates in the next 2 weeks and that HK would circulate his suggestions as soon as possible [**Action Point 1**].

**Agenda item 5: Update on project RT(2010)6: Food Labelling**

5. The Secretariat referred to Room Document JM/M(2013)RD1 which explains the current situation. This can be summarised as a continuous series of promising opportunities without any substantial subsequent success. HK explained that possible opportunities at the moment include: (i) exploring further cooperation with ClearKarma ([www.clearkarma.com](http://www.clearkarma.com)) that has a similar objective (providing more and truthful information to the consumer); (ii) considering working with the public sector only and focussing (for the time being) on mandatory information together with more in-depth

clarifications (such as the reliability, or lack thereof, of energy calculations), and (iii) expanding the project to include food-related diseases and healthy ageing issues. With respect to the latter HK has already applied for OHP membership of the European Partnership on Healthy Ageing and, meanwhile has been offered a booth at an information market of the Partnership in the European Parliament in the first week of June. In order for the current FITI project to fit better with the 'healthy ageing' objective, the project description has been somewhat modified to include as partners: the UMCG (University Medical Center Groningen) and VitalinQ (food and disease data collector). Also, it was renamed "Food and Nutrition Assisted Healthy Ageing (FaNaHa). The meeting agreed that these opportunities and others, when arising, should be further explored. The meeting indicated that it would appreciate receiving the modified project description (FaNaHa) [**Action Point 2**].

#### **Agenda item 6: Developments and initiatives**

RT(2011)4: cooperation with the university of Khartoum (UoK)

[documents: announcement of establishment of a scholarship trust fund, D/RT(2011)4/1]

6. The fundraising for the scholarship trust fund has so far not been successful. As an alternative approach (suggested by KL) a project proposal was submitted to the European Parliament political GUE/NGL Group (European United Left/Nordic Green Left). The project comprises: (i) an internship of a promising student at the EP and OHP, (ii) financing the 2-year MSc in food safety for the same person, and (iii) continue the already started series of food safety training courses at the UoK. HK had expected KL to explain during this MB meeting progress with this project proposal. He will contact her with the request to provide the Board with an update [**Action Point 3**].
7. HK requested the Joint MBs to approve his proposal to offer a follow-up food safety training course in Autumn this year in Sudan (as agreed in the MoU signed with the UoK in 2011) and possibly also in South Sudan. He explained that it would be preferable to use the limited resources still available for this training than to leave it in the bank: it would confirm OHP's continuous activities in developing countries. The Meeting agreed and supported the initiative.

RT(2012)1: Global Food Safety Partnership – GFSP

8. HK referred to Room Document JM/M(2013)RD1 for the briefing on this partnership project and explained his offer to the World Bank of OHP services to the project, in particular to the Working Group on training and methodology. HK also mentioned that he took the initiative to apply for membership of IUFoST (the International Union of Food Science and technology) in order to strengthen the bottom-up approach as explained in the Room Document.
9. The next meeting of the GFSP will be in Washington DC on 22 April. Unfortunately, HK will be unable to attend and, moreover, lacks the resources to finance the mission. Fortunately, MB offered to attend and represent OHP at the meeting. In order for Michael to be fully informed and well prepared, he requested to be provided with all documents and correspondence on this project. HK offered to send all available info to him after the meeting with the MB members in copy [**Action Point 4**].

RT(2013)1: Cassava Project Evaluation. Document: D/RT(2013)1/1

10. This project involves the participation of HK on behalf of OHP, as a member of a team of 3 experts, requested by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to assess the success of a 3-

year public/private partnership project on improved cassava production, processing and marketing. Document D/RT(2013)1/1 describes the project and the ToR of the evaluation committee. The evaluation will take place in May and will involve meetings and inspections in Nigeria and Mozambique. The fees earned will be donated to OHP.

RT(2010)1: EUCTP 2

11. No progress in this project. It seems that for each of the subprojects the expertise is first sought among experts proposed by the EU member countries. Also in the future no change in attitude is foreseen.

Offering OHP services to Qatar authorities

12. No response was received to the 3 letters sent to Qatar authorities as suggested by EB. However, from one letter (to Dr Jasim Al-Jedah) a response came back saying that this person had left the government. Since EB did not participate to the meeting this item will be dealt with bilaterally with EB [**Action Point 5**].

#### **Agenda item 7: Future of OHP: Initiatives, Suggestions, Approaches**

13. HK referred again to the agreed new training initiative in Khartoum, which fits under this agenda item as well. Furthermore he referred to a recent request from GAIN (Global Alliance on Improved Nutrition) which had arrived on 2 March following several meetings and teleconferences with GAIN staff. In its request GAIN management invited OHP to respond to a request for assistance with strengthening national food authorities' capacity to undertake systemic and effective regulatory monitoring of food fortification in GAIN's priority countries in order to achieve better coverage of adequately fortified foods. Priority countries of GAIN are: Afghanistan Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Mozambique and Nigeria. An offer from OHP is expected before the end of March. HK promised to keep the Joint Meeting informed [**Action Point 6**].

#### **Agenda item 8: Activities of MB members relevant for OHP**

14. HS informed the meeting of his involvement through the German Animal Welfare Organisation (Deutsche Tierschutzbund - DTB) in the EU-wide scandal about horsemeat contaminated beef products. The interest of the DTB is mainly in the fate of the horses before they end up in the illegal food chain.
15. MB informed the MB Members of his advisory role on drug residues in animal products resulting from treating live-stock. In this regard he works for the Humane Society University in the US.

#### **SUMMARY OF ACTION POINTS**

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**Action Point 1:** for HK to provide the MBs with his initial list of possible replacement candidates for the vacancy of AG.

**Action Point 2:** HK will circulate to the MB members the adapted description of the FITI project (referred to as FaNaHa).

**Action Point 3:** for KL to update the MBs on the project proposed to the GUE/NGL Group.

**Action Point 4:** for HK to send to MB all available documents and relevant correspondence on the GFSP, with the MBs in copy.

**Action Point 5:** HK to contact EB on further initiatives towards Qatar

**Action Point 6:** HK will share the offer to GAIN before end of March and keep the Joint Meeting informed of possible follow-up.