



« 4 per 1000 Initiative: Soils for Food Security and Climate »



Document Consortium 6-3

6th Meeting of the Consortium

Wednesday 10 December 2020

13:00 to 15:00

Online with Zoom

Activity Report of the Bureau in 2020

In 2020, the Bureau held 7 meetings (February 3 & 27, April 17, May 25, September 7, October 26 and November 30) under the chairmanship of Dr. Ibrahim MAYAKI, and with the assistance of the Executive Secretary, Paul LUU, by virtual conference. All colleges were represented by the titular or alternate.

The following main topics have been discussed and the decisions made:

1. New partners and members to join the Initiative

The Executive Secretary provided a list of countries and organizations interested in joining the Initiative and who have submitted a complete application to do so. All documents related to the new applications were uploaded on the Collaborative platform (version 2.0 under Confluence). In addition, the Executive Secretariat made available to all members of the Bureau a synthesis of all complete applications received with a short paragraph summarizing the activities of the candidate.

On the basis of the information provided, the Bureau validated all the applications presented by the Secretariat.

Since the fifth meeting of the Consortium in Madrid in December 2019, the Bureau validated a list of **120 new partners including 46 new members** during 2020.

The following table summarizes the situation:

	Partners	Among which Members
<i>Countries and provinces</i>	2	2
<i>International Organisations</i>	3	2
<i>Banks / Development Funds</i>	0	0
<i>Foundations</i>	0	0
<i>Producers Organizations</i>	11	7
<i>Research Instituts & universities</i>	9	6
<i>Civil Society/NGOs</i>	46	29
<i>For-Profit or commercial Organizations</i>	49	
Total 2020 for the Bureau	120	46

2. Selection of the last two members of the STC

After the nomination in Madrid (December 2019) by the Consortium of 2 new members (**Professor Budiman MINASNY** from Australia and **Professor Saïdou Nourou SALL** from Senegal) on the list of 4 proposed by the Bureau due to the fact that this list did not address the under-representation of socio-economic skills, the Executive Secretariat had to proceed with a new call for candidates specifically reserved for socio-economists and/or economists, early January 2020, since 14th February 2020 (midnight).

Despite the extension of this call until 31st March 2020, only six applications (3 females and 3 males, among which 4 from Europe, 1 from Latin America, and 1 from North America) were received and submitted to the Ad Hoc Selection Committee which had been appointed by the Bureau in the second half of 2019 in order to conduct the selection of candidates to fill the four vacant positions. This

Committee therefore gave its opinion, ranked the candidates in order of preference and was thus able to draw up a short list of 3 candidates.

At its meeting on 25th May, the Bureau, taking into account the current composition of the STC (12 members out of 14 - 6 women and 6 men - 2 Africa, 3 Asia, 2 Oceania, 3 Europe, 1 South America, 1 North America) and wishing to preserve the "gender" and "geographical origin" balance, selected the following two candidates proposed for validation to the Consortium of members:

- **Professor (Mrs.) Consuelo VARELA-ORTEGA** (Spain)
- **Dr Alejandro FUENTES ESPINOZA** (Chile)

This validation by the Consortium occurred by electronic means on proposition of the Bureau.

3. Animation within each college of the Forum and the Strategic plan elaboration

In the context of the animation within each college, among the tasks that the Bureau has been particularly involved in throughout the first half of 2020, is the **joint elaboration of the Strategic Plan** with the Executive Secretariat. Thanks to the interactions of each of the members of the Bureau with the college of which he is the representative, several iterations have been possible with the members of the Initiative.

The following schedule has been followed by the Bureau:

- end of January: **version 0.0** of the Strategic Plan was proposed by the Executive Secretariat on the basis of the founding documents of the Initiative and its activities since its creation.
- The Bureau worked on February 3, 2020 on this first version 0.0 which it was able to modify (at this stage, it was the vision, mission, ambition, general principles and goals), which led to the development of **version 1.0** including all the objectives proposed for each goal.
- At its February 27th meeting, the Bureau amended version 1.0 to **version 1.1**.
- Concertation with the colleges through the members of the Bureau representing these same colleges from the beginning of March to April 26, 2020. For information, the table indicates the number of proposed comments and amendments to version 1.1 of the Strategic Plan received by the Executive Secretariat during this period.
- All the proposals made by the Colleges and received until May 19, following the Bureau meeting of April 17, allowed the elaboration of **version 1.2** of the Strategic Plan.
- On this basis, the Executive Secretariat proceeded to make arbitrations in order to consolidate the different proposals and prepare **version 1.3**.
- At its meeting of May 25 (the fourth meeting on the Strategic Plan), the Executive Committee reviewed, amended and validated version 1.3 in order to prepare the final **version 2.0** proposed for approval by the Consortium of members.

College	nb
Countries & Regions	4
International Organzations	1
Research & Education institutions	19
Producers Organizations	6
NGO	5
Businesses (<i>not considered at the stage</i>)	3
Total nb propositions	38

The electronic consultation of the Members' Consortium took place from May 29th to June 15th on version 2.0 of the Strategic Plan, with a choice between "I agree" and "I have no position". The results of this consultation show a result of 25% of voting members on a total of 221 members at that time. The Strategic Plan was thus validated.

4. Adaptation of the Initiative's Presidency to make it a "troika" type presidency.

During the first years of the Initiative, the Executive Secretariat encountered some difficulties with the non-availability of the President or the Vice-President for some important meetings. Thus, the Secretariat proposed to the Bureau to validate the principle of an evolution of the Presidency or the Initiative by introducing the principle of a troika. In that system, the Presidency is held by a group of 3 personalities elected by the Consortium of Members, whose functions alternate between incoming

Vice-President, President and outgoing Vice-President. The mandate is 3 times 2 years in order to ensure, on the one hand, continuity of action and, on the other hand, relative stability of the Presidency. This system, validated on the principle by the Bureau would be put in place from 1st January 2021, after final approval by the Consortium of Members. In this case:

- the President in office on 31st December 2020 would become the outgoing Vice-President for two years;
- the Vice-President would become the current President for two years;
- a new incoming Vice-President would be elected.

The Bureau validated the principle in which, from 1st January 2021, a new incoming Vice-President will be selected and elected by the Consortium, while the present Vice-President in 2020 would become President, the President in function would become the outgoing Vice-President. During its validation the Bureau also include the need for a mixture of regional origin and college in the troika system, as well as a specific attention to be paid to gender issue, with a “balance” between men and women.

5. Validation of the change of hosting entity of the Executive Secretariat as of January 1, 2021 with the transition from CGIAR SO to the Alliance Bioversity International - CIAT.

On June 2020, the CGIAR System Organization informed the executive Secretariat its wishes to end the MoU concerning the hosting of the “4 per 1000” Initiative Executive Secretariat in its premises of Agropolis International. After a short investigation, the Executive Secretariat identified the Alliance between CIAT and Bioversity International (two international research centers of the CGIAR System) as a potential new partner as hosting entity. After validation of the principle by the Alliance CEO, the proposition concerning the signature of a MoA with the Alliance for the hosting of the “4 per 1000” Initiative Executive Secretariat in replacement of the MoU with CGIAR System Organization was made to the Bureau.

The Executive Secretariat will remain in Montpellier in the same office of Agropolis International but the administrative hosting agreement with a shift from CGIAR SO to the Alliance. As the Alliance host all the “Climate Change Projects” of the CGIAR SO, it makes sense to operate this transfer. The Bureau validated the principle of this transfer after the explanation of the Executive Secretary and allowed the Presidency of the Consortium to sign the new MoA in replacement of the on-going one which will end at the end of the year 2020 (December 31st). The financial cost will remain of the same order of magnitude for the Executive Secretariat.

6. Advice on the dates and agendas of the Forum and the Consortium for the 4th day of the “4 per 1000” Initiative (9th and 10th December 2020 Online).

The Executive Secretariat had proposed the respective agendas of the Forum of Partners and the Consortium of Members for the “4 per 1000” Initiative day on 9th and 10th December to be held Online as no COP is organized in 2020 due to CoVid19. Between two meetings of the Bureau, the Executive Secretariat proposed, in order to give more strength to the whole day, that a common thread was selected: “Soil health to fight Climate Change in the context of One Health and a needed International Solidarity”. The Bureau commented on these agendas and proposed to give the floor to farmers of the world in that particular context. With this amendment, both agendas were validated by the Bureau.