



DIET, PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND HEALTH - A EUROPEAN PLATFORM FOR ACTION

**13 MAY 2011
10.00 – 17.00**

CENTRE DE CONFERENCES ALBERT BORSCHETTE (CCAB)

ROOM : 1B, 36, rue Froissart, B - 1040 Brussels

FINAL MINUTES

1. INTRODUCTION BY THE COMMISSION

Mrs. Despina Spanou, Chair of the Platform opened the meeting, explaining that the morning session of this meeting is devoted to a discussion on the annual monitoring report and to a presentation by Lars Hoelgaard, Hors Classe Adviser, from DG AGRI on the Common Agricultural Policy, *inter alia* to follow up on our promise to involve other Commission services more in the work we do under the Platform. The afternoon session has been dedicated to Platform members' initiatives in the field of 'physical activity'.

After the introduction, Mrs Logstrup, EHN, announced that she had an issue she would like to raise under AOB.

2. ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT

Mrs. Spanou introduced the point in underlining that the version e-mailed on 6 May by the Commission services is still a working document. A consolidated version is being prepared by the consultants. Dr. Christensen presented the draft annual report and an outline of how the renewed monitoring process is going to affect the Platform's work.

He first mentioned that there are rather stable figures for commitments and reports for 2009 – 2010. In terms of distribution among the fields of action, about 52% claimed to address lifestyle. However, some of these commitments actually addressed marketing and advertising. Furthermore, about two thirds of the commitments only cover one area/ field of action, whereas 30% cover two areas and 6 % cover three areas or more.

Looking at geographical coverage and field of action, he informed that national commitments were defined as commitments covering less than 2 countries, regional commitments if covering 2-5 countries, and commitments involving more than 5 countries were termed as European.

He continued by comparing reported versus assessed audiences for the commitments, number of audiences addressed etc. Based on this analysis, he claimed that the following needs had to be addressed in commitment monitoring and coaching in the future:

- to reduce the discrepancies in reporting fields of action (*one field of action/commitment, matching the field of action with the narrative part of the commitment*);
- to reduce the discrepancies in reporting target audiences (*allowing for reporting more target audiences, distinct reporting of end users, matching the target audience with the narrative part of the commitment*);
- to highlight the input and output indicators (*quantifiable figures for the end users in a dedicated field on the monitoring form*)

Dr. Christensen also presented the suggested changes to the monitoring system, based on results from last year's evaluation and the results of the work carried out by the working group on improving the monitoring system of the commitments. The proposed monitoring methodology would need to address the following four areas:

- assessing the relevance of each commitment
- specificity/coherence in setting objectives
- appropriateness of input and output indicators
- prerequisites for measuring outcome indicators (outcome and impact indicators)

The IBF Monitoring team's possible contribution to the Platform would be to give one coaching session per year (3 hours, up to 25 participants). In addition, IBF intends to establish a dedicated e-mail address for management of mail-based coaching with one week per year providing online continuous assistance. IBF will also give individual, written feedback to Platform members on the monitoring forms.

Regarding the coaching session, one solution could be to provide training on the "logical framework approach", which is a way of describing a project/commitment, addressing issues such as what are the indicators, what are the assumptions behind the project, what would be the logical indicators etc.

Mrs. Spanou thanked Dr. Christensen for a comprehensive presentation, and gave the floor to Platform members to ask questions or comment on the draft. She also asked them to give their opinion on the three suggestions from the external contractor.

Mr. Andriciu from IDF asked when the updated application form would be ready. He also wanted to know what to do when an assessment of a commitment is non-satisfactory?

Dr. Rzewnicki, ECF, asked whether the coaching session(s) would consist of individual or group coaching.

Mrs. Rundall, IBFAN, stated that the current draft is very long, where some good points are made. She was however worried regarding how people will read this paper based on a self-monitoring process, in particular regarding the coupling between self-monitoring and trust (referring to page 17 of the draft report). The risks and problems related to this should be mentioned in the executive summary.

She also stressed the fact that the report mentioned nothing about the alternative to self-regulation and self-monitoring, i.e. legislation – and that it did not address whether the current approach is fit for this purpose, i.e. if it solves the problem. In her mind, the executive summary should address the fact that there could be other ways of approaching this.

Mrs. Logstrup commented on the background chapter, which aims to set out the reason why we do what we do. She wanted this to bring out the fact that we have huge problems with chronic, non-communicable diseases (NCDs), also, in addition to obesity. In replying to the last comment, Mrs. Spanou referred to the preface written by the Chair, where we will refer to these issues, i.e. NCDs and chronic diseases.

In replying to Mrs. Rundall, Mr. Roux stressed that in the Platform, we talk about self-monitoring for the commitments, but in addition, Platform action will also be externally evaluated, both mid-term (finalised last July) and final.

Dr Vladu added that the IBF team would propose a consolidated application form. As regards the coaching session, it can be done either in a group format or one-to-one, for instance clustered by the type of activity the different Platform members/ commitments addressed.

Mr. Gilroy, WFA, asked how relevance of commitments would be assessed. He was worried that WFA's commitments on strengthening self-regulatory organisations at national level were not directly relevant to the objectives of the Platform, or to the objectives of the Nutrition strategy.

Mrs. Spanou replied to his question, saying that what we do in the Platform is to be within the remit and policy directions of the Commission. In addition, it should relate to the Strategy and the Platform charter from 2005.

Regarding reporting, Mr Roux informed that a new version of the submission form will be available as from next week (16-20 May) and that the Commission services would send all Platform members a final draft of the annual report by Mid June, with a clear deadline for submitting textual comments. The consultant team would then put in place a system for consulting, plus the dedicated e-mail address, and carry out the management of coaching on an individual basis.

3. AGRICULTURAL POLICY IN RELATION TO NUTRITION, BY LARS HOELGAARD, HORS CLASSE ADVISER, DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

The Chair welcomed Mr. Hoelgaard, who started by recalling that the CAP has undergone an enormous amount of change over time. The slogan "Scrap the CAP" could have been relevant 20 years ago, i.e. around 1992 – when there was a high price policy, high taxes on import etc. Since then, there has been a drastic reduction of subsidies, and one has introduced the direct payment system, which implies that money is now spent by paying farmers directly, with no obligations to produce. Farmers can also choose themselves what they want to produce, under the respect of 'cross-compliance'. Cross-compliance is a requirement farmers need to follow if they want to get their full payment, and it implies to respect SANCO's requirements on Health, animal health, plan health etc, plus the requirements from DG Environment. The current CAP policy is hands off in orienting production. But, the system is still a serious source of income for the farmers. If direct payment is phased out, this will most probably lead to a concentration of production in mid-Europe and to abandonment in dry areas, in mountain areas and so on, as production in more

remote areas will not be economically viable. This may also lead to more pressure on the environment, on animal welfare etc.

Today's CAP consists of two pillars; the first one is the market support and the direct payment system, the second pillar concerns rural development, plus a so-called "greening" of the first pillar (rotation, set-aside, extensification¹ etc). The CAP as such is not normative, it does not say: do not eat sugar, do not eat animal fat etc. The normative issues are national.

The CAP is also about transparency, informed choice, and market orientation, and the CAP aims to maintain a high level of production, as the demand – supply equation is changing dramatically nowadays. As resources *are* finite, the use of water and land, climate changes etc. have created concern. The current economic growth in the world, with countries like China and India with a middle-class soon the size of EU, who would want more meat etc., means that the CAP will turn from a price taker to a price setter.

Currently, there are 3 programmes under the CAP which are relevant for the Platform; the EU School Fruit Scheme (SFS), the school milk programme and the food aid programme for the most deprived persons in the EU. As regards the most deprived persons' scheme, this originated from the high surplus production of the old CAP (1986). Currently, 500 mill euros are used every year, and 23-25 mill people are benefitting from this, through charities and local social services. This scheme is however not a nutrition policy, but a social policy. Recently, the scheme has countered contestations from the German side, who is taking CAP to court, which has created a need to revisit the whole scheme.

The School Milk Programme was originally a surplus scheme, providing support for dairy products with 3.5% fat or above. This has now changed, with more support for low fat products. The main problem is that the level of aid is very low compared to the price of the product (10-15%). The court of auditors is therefore asking where the EU added value is; do you get an additional consumption of dairy products compared to a situation without the school milk scheme?

One solution could be to re-orientate the school milk programme and tell MS that if they want to use it, they need to target it towards the socially disadvantaged groups.

Such criteria would also benefit the EU School Fruit Scheme (SFS). It is worth noting that the SFS actually comprises both fruit and vegetables, and the aim is to use it as a vehicle to introduce nutrition and health, environment and agriculture, into the schools. In addition, the aim is to establish a national strategy to achieving the objective, by putting in place a rational system and by encouraging authorities responsible for health, agriculture and education, to work together on a national basis.

Half of the schools participating in the SFS are distributing fruit/ vegetables once a week. However, this is not the uptake of the scheme that it was hoped for.

The budget for the SFS is 90 million euro per year, and allocation per MS is based on the number of children 6-10 in the participating countries. However, for 2009/2010, only 30% of the money

¹ Extensification means the use of less intensive farming methods, involving using fewer chemical fertilisers, leaving uncultivated areas at the edges of fields, reducing sizes of herds of cattle, etc. This allows lower yields from the same area of farmland, which is necessary if production levels are too high (as they are in the EU). Source: AgricultureDictionary.com

was used, addressing only 18 % of the target group. The fundamental problem seems to be the 25 or 50% co-financing². In France, for instance, the schools have to come up with the co-financing themselves. In Germany, out of the 16 Länder, only 7 are participating in the SFS, and this is creating a concern, i.e. if uptake is too low, or the programme is weakened by the co-financing issue, Mr. Hoelgaard said he was worried that it may not be sustainable. He therefore highlighted that the Platform is important in that it can help in spreading the gospel.

Mrs. Spanou thanked Mr. Hoelgaard and asked how can we help the scheme, but also how can the scheme help what we are doing in the Platform? Can we join forces to have more effect? And how can we use the scheme to complement actions already taking place within the Platform's commitments?

Mrs. Rundall made several comments to Mr. Hoelgaard's presentation, in particular about taste profile and sweetness, including artificially sweetened fruit, and claims made.

Mr Hoelgaard clarified that the SFS consisted basically of *fresh* products, and that products with added sugar should not be included. Fruit juices are not ruled out, but not encouraged either. Vending machines have for the most been removed from the school setting.

In this regard, CIAA informed about their/UNESDA's commitment not to sell soft drinks in primary schools, saying they would be able to share their monitoring results of this commitment with the Platform members.

EHFA asked whether the school fruit scheme inspires other policies to implement other interventions, and whether it inspires any policies around physical activity for DG SANCO?

Mrs. Spanou replied that the European Commission cannot impose school curricula in Member States. In the Platform, however, we can create commitments in the area of physical activity. We can also learn from the difficulties the SFS has encountered.

When asked what about physical activity, by FEPI, Mr. Hoelgaard replied that this was beyond the SFS's ambition.

Mrs. Logstrup asked regarding the school milk scheme; would it be possible to target low SES groups for added value, and is this something that could also apply to the SFS?

Mr. Breda, WHO Regional Office for Europe said that WHO supports the SFS. As regards the food for the most deprived scheme, could any nutrition criteria be linked to it?

Mr. Hoelgaard replied that DG AGRI encourages the voluntary organisations to get into such discussions. They have also invited MS to set up a common strategy for school milk and school fruit, but there is more debate as regards the healthiness of dairy products. We do not have data on the difference between users and non-users, but experience from other national studies, in Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, but also from extensive studies in Norway show that SFS have a beneficial effect on dietary habits, also for low SES-groups. Regarding the socially disadvantaged groups, Mr. Hoelgaard prefers the SFS to remain a generic programme.

² National or regional co-financing difficult in current budget context: 50% EU (75% EU in Convergence regions), 50% MS (public or private).

3.1. Presentation of Freshfel's new public website www.enjoyfresh.eu, by Sebastian Kruse, Freshfel Europe

Mr. Kruse introduced Freshfel's new public web-site, "Enjoy Fresh". Freshfel's reasons to communicate about the benefits of fruit and vegetables include the current consumption deficit in the EU, with stagnating or even declining trends. Several MS have a fruit and vegetable supply below WHO's minimum intake recommendation of 400 grams/ day. Furthermore, there are several (image) misconceptions related to fruit and vegetables, for instance regarding pesticides, price, freshness, nutritional value etc. Finally, there is a lack of cohesion in the fruit and vegetable sector. Also, according to a Eurobarometer study, consumers are ready to eat more fruit and vegetables.

Mrs. Spanou asked whether the web-site had a special part for kids. She also commented by saying that fruit is cheap if you buy them in the supermarket, but at school, at restaurants, in fast food outlets, gas stations etc. fruit and vegetables are very expensive.

FEPI congratulated Freshfel, and asked a practical question on the number of staff behind setting it up?

Mrs. Rundall stated that this (i.e. the web-site) was an excellent PPP without conflict of interest.

Mr. Kruse replied that the website is for the general public, for the media. He is feeding it on a weekly basis; it is not even one full-time job. Mr. Binard added that the web-site was set up to address a general communication deficit in the sector.

4. PRESENTATIONS – ACTIVE COMMITMENTS IN THE FIELD OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Mrs. Spanou opened the afternoon session by giving the floor to Mrs. Susanne Logstrup, EHN.

Mrs. Logstrup raised the issue of branding of commitments to the Platform, specifying that Platform members cannot have commitments that go against the Platform's principles and objectives. Use of branding as part of Platform commitments is inappropriate and should not be accepted. Mrs. Logstrup illustrated her statement with a slide showing an image from an activity of Sport and Food for a Balanced Youth Lifestyle - where children were wearing t-shirts with the brand KINDER. Mrs. Logstrup also asked for a general discussion in the Platform plenary on branding as such.

Alessandro Cagli, FERRERO, mentioned that this is a Platform for action, and that the project itself gave results. In their approach, the company had only followed the principles of CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) developed by Harvard University, namely to benefit the society by creating good for the company. Mr. CAGLI does not see any conflict of interest in this issue; the branding in this case is the signature of the program. Mr. CAGLI has also mentioned that, in their view, this is only part of other things that they do.

Patti Rundall, IBFAN, emphasized the fact that the branding will result in promoting consumption of Kinder chocolate; she also underlined the fact that commitments in the area of education and physical activity issues should not result in fulfilling commercial purposes of the companies.

Mrs. Logstrup then made the point that what a company does outside the Platform is up to the company, but when it is a commitment to the Platform there should be no branding.

The Chair specified the need for separating two issues: one is the issue of the advertising, the other one is the issue of commitments. In this case, if this activity is not linked to a commitment to the Platform and if the picture that has been presented is not representing an activity linked to a commitment, then it does not pose a problem in the context of the Platform, where commitments are to be free from branding.

The Chair then proceeded by introducing the first presentation of the afternoon; ***“Enhancing our capacity as an inter-institutional team to promote effective physical activity”***, by Dr. Cristina Vladu, IBF International Consulting. (The ppt is attached as annex to the minutes).

In particular, Dr. Vladu shared IBF's analysis of the Platform commitments in the area of physical activity. She showed that Platform members sometimes indicate different fields of action than the ones they are approaching (i.e. commitment described as a pure physical activity; may be recorded under marketing and advertising). Also, as the monitoring form contains only one field for target audiences, most of the times the commitments are richer than what is reported in the form (i.e. Platform members report less than they actually achieve). Up to 1.400.000 beneficiaries (about 1.000.000 children and 400.000 adults) have been reached by the physical activity commitments.

“Promoting Children’s physical activity”, by Mr. Mark Hardy, FEPI (Federation of the European Play Industry) Board Member and Executive Vice President Playpower Europe

FEPI represents the Play industry, which is a relatively small, innovative industry (1 billion euro), with a distinct social responsibility policy. Mr. HARDY underlined the main principles of the CSR policies within FEPI:

- Every child has a right to play – UN Convention on the Rights on the Child.
- The lack of physical activity had been causing significant social implications, not only obesity, but also antisocial behavior.
- Play is natural, it is good, it makes you socially aware and it is fun.

Mr. Hardy brought to attention the trends of the industry, basically that expenditure is decreasing, and that the EU Market in this area is dropping. Differences between countries were also explored:

- Nordic countries spend more money per child than other EU Nations and besides, cultural norms in Nordic countries allow for more children to be roaming freely; also, the same countries do not believe that “Play should have a purpose”.
- Play settings also differ, as in countries like France, UK, Germany, or Spain, children will normally go to a square/ play-ground to play whereas in the Nordic countries they tend to build more structures into the neighborhood/ environment to provide more possibilities for activity for the children, like swings, sandpits, or basketball hoops.

Mr. Hardy then presented the Practical Guidelines for European Cities to promote children's physical activity, which have been used since 2007 in a number of cities like Innsbruck, Stuttgart, Rotterdam; these guidelines support city development in a way that they are child

friendly, thus creating an environment favorable to physical activity of children, for instance to build a sandpit in the middle of the road. The key element to make space in cities is to take a holistic approach, to include modern “State of the art” facilities; to include natural elements, to establish an infrastructure that encourages children and adults to travel by foot freely around the urban environment.

"Lessons learned from the PATHE project – Physical Activity Towards a Healthier Europe", by Mogens Kirkeby, President, International Sport and Culture Association (ISCA).

PATHE is a project with 23 not-for profit partners/voluntary organizations, which aim to promote innovation in programming and policy-making in the field of sport and build capacity within the Sport for All organizations. This in order to develop effective national programs, activities services for local citizens and to make selected targeted audiences aware of the necessity of physical activity as part of a healthy lifestyle.

PATHE has worked to reach these aims by adapting to the specificity of civil society organizations, to the current wishes and demands from society and citizens with regard to the health oriented activities (i.e. they have to be very flexible and adapted to the life phases of the target groups). The direct transfer of knowledge (practice and concepts) is a way to empower, and to attract consumers.

The follow-up of this commitment is seen through the implementation of programs by other partners/countries, by transnational policy development and by continuing cooperation on specific fields/programs.

The next commitment foreseen by ISCA is “MOVE –European Physical Activity Promotion Forum” which goes from March 2011 – February 2014 with a total budget of 1,128,000euro; it is a project between 9 associate partners and 15 collaborating partners which are united in MOVE to identify, qualify and implement good practices and to promote health enhancing physical activity in socio-economically disadvantaged areas.

“LIFE CYCLE Gets Babies on Bikes & Grampas on Trikes”, by Randy Rzewnicki, PhD, and Project Manager LifeCycle – ECF.

Mr. RZEWNICKI described the marketing strategy of their project, the fact that they approach parents before giving birth to their first child as they consider this is a good time for information transfer, making them buy in the ideas. Mr. RZEWNICKI also underlined the importance of existing policies at the level of the local governments; the need for every city to be cycle friendly in order to offer an enjoyable environment to live in.

Resources developed through this project were described; a website, a best practice handbook and implementation manual, a free digital handbook (which is based in Europe and the world; it is not Anglo-centric, not a very long handbook) and help to use the material, through training workshops.

Mr. RZEWNICKI described the Lifecycle Planning Laboratory, which provides a manual specifying what can be done to promote cycling at local/ city level; however Mr. Rzewnicki

emphasized that this is not easy as cities are different and they need to implement it in their own way.

In talking about the expectations for the end of this year, Mr. RZEWNICKI mentioned the need to carry out the dissemination plan. One of the main achievements of this project is that so many of the activities that have happened will not stop (sustainable effects). Some of the project partners considered the funds provided by DG SANCO as a start up; they will keep running these programs as the national programs, for instance in Belgium and Hungary. They will continue providing the LifeCycle training, workshops, etc.

“SPORTS CLUB FOR HEALTH GUIDELINES” – Indicators and long term outcomes, by Eerika Laalo-Häikiö, Finnish Sport for All Association.

This project was funded by DG Education and Culture 2/2010 – 5/2011 and had the aims to update and develop the initial guidelines on one side - and to develop networking in the area of health-enhancing physical activity with special focus on sports clubs on the other side. The partners in the project were Estonia, Croatia, Italy, Poland, and Spain, in addition to Finland.

The project idea is that sport is seen as a setting to promote health and give actual guidelines to this end. Why should sports clubs promote health? Because physical activity greatly benefits health, sports can benefit health especially effectively; and health benefits of sports have not really been promoted.

The focus on sports clubs was found meaningful as sports clubs are the cornerstones of sports, and are the best place to mobilize the health potential of sports, [provided that the health perspective is identified in the sport club context](#). The guidelines are mainly aimed for local sports clubs (members, coaches, instructors) and can be used as a tool to bring health and sports closer together. Hence, the Guidelines look at: Planning - Implementing – Documenting and Communicating.

The project had 7 work packages with key roles in developing the guidelines further, including the development of a model certificate system for the assessment of Sport Clubs for Health (SCforH). The dissemination of the guidelines is open to all organizations in the field of sport; they can take the part which suits them best, experts in use.

As regards the future direction of the project, SCforH as part of already existing networks and forums will continue this type of activity; a strong alliance between health and sport shall continue to be emphasized and is to be promoted as part of policy-making.

“Let’s Dance”, by Steven Ward from the Fitness Industry Association (FIA), UK

This commitment has been developed under the mission to improve the health and well-being of the UK population through encouraging more people, to be more active, more often.

FIA is a 20 year old representative body of the UK health and fitness sector (the largest in Europe), with members from public, private, and charitable sectors. FIA has worked in close partnership with Government, commercial, and community organizations.

Change4Life was launched in 2009 as a social marketing campaign based on partnership between government and private organisations to address obesity with the aim to promote

specific projects for children, families and adults. More Active4Life encouraged FIA members to think beyond their facilities and lead local walking groups to promote a 'less sitting, more moving' approach by embracing the wider community. The campaign reached over 200,000 people.

The present commitment, "Let's Dance with Change4Life" did promote physical activity within the community and made dance more accessible for all, by promoting different types of dances in local community clubs. During one open weekend in March 2010, a total of 1,718 hours of free dance classes were provided.

"Bielice Run in Poland: the way to include disabled children in physical activity", delivered by Sylvie Charton, Public Affairs Europe, Mars Chocolate, France

The Bielice Run Programme – started as a programme promoting physical activity among children in Poland in 1993. It is today the biggest sport event dedicated to children in Poland. The program concentrates on educating and prompting disabled youth that they can be as active as their abilities allow them to be; as well as developing a coalition of various public and private entities in order to be successful.

The aims of the Bielice Run program are:

- To promote physical activity and healthy lifestyle among Polish schoolchildren.
- To promote running as the cheapest way to do physical activity.
- To promote other forms of physical activity.
- To encourage children to be active during their free time.
- To promote fair play.
- To promote integration between healthy and disabled children.
- To increase the awareness of healthy diet and nutrition.

Since 1994 Mars Polska has been the strategic sponsor of this initiative: a full day sports event in June dedicated to physical activity, supported by renowned athletes. Participants have been selected during the school year and have to train to be selected; therefore, the organizers plan it for months. The event is based on voluntarily service and support from Mars associates and their families and Mars contractor companies, destined for 3,500 children at 250 schools, and 200 disabled children. The army also assist at the event. Mars would like to replicate this initiative in all countries where Mars has a factory.

The presentation "Cycle to work promotion", by Dominic Lyle, Director General, European Association of Communications Agencies (EACA) had to be postponed, as Mr. LYLE, was unable to attend the meeting due to a prior and urgent competing commitment.

5. NEW STAKEHOLDER'S INITIATIVES IN ALL AREAS

No presentations were given under this point of the agenda.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Before closing the meeting, Mrs. Spanou mentioned a couple of points of information. Firstly, the date for the next plenary meeting of the Platform has to be changed from **20 September to 6 October**. In addition to the already announced subject of education (with a focus on children and youth environments), **communication** is one of the issues we will tackle at this meeting. Mrs. Spanou therefore encouraged Platform members to send issues they wanted to raise/ discuss and recommendations well in advance of the meeting to the Platform secretariat.

She then briefly informed about the UN Summit on non-communicable diseases, and the exchanging practises with other parts of the world. She will update Platform members about the outcome of this event at the 6 October meeting. In relation to this issue, she asked the Platform members to provide examples of good practices that can be used by DG SANCO at this event, but also in relation to a coming exchange of experience with the United States. This could be promotional material, for instance from commitments, but also other examples.

Mrs Spanou then reminded Platform members about the timeline for the annual monitoring report, please cf. point 2 above.

She also mentioned the "PREVACT" expert level conference, taking place in Budapest, Hungary, 30 and 31 May, under the Hungarian Presidency. The Commission will participate at this event, as will representatives of the High Level Group.

Since DG SANCO experienced some technical problems in sending through the minutes from the Platform meeting 15 February, several Platform members only received them this morning. They were therefore given a deadline of two weeks to provide their comments on these minutes, i.e. until 27 May.

Minutes prepared by Camilla Sandvik Børve (for the morning session), and by Cristina Vladu, IBF Monitoring Team (afternoon session).

End