

STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH (SCAR)  
Plenary Meeting  
Brussels, 2-3 February 2005, CCAB – Room 2A

**Summary Report**

Chairman: *Christian Patermann*, Director DG RTD/E  
Secretary: *François Constantin*, DG RTD/E3<sup>1</sup>

**1. Opening of meeting**

Highlights from the Chair's presentation:

- All 25 Member States + DG RTD, AGRI, ENTR, FISH and JRC represented.
- Main steps towards the launch of a renewed SCAR<sup>2</sup>.
- SCAR mandate in support of better coordination of agricultural research in Europe.
- Required efficiency, visibility, accountability, flexibility of SCAR.

**2. Approval of draft agenda**

- The participants approved the agenda.

**3. NL Presidency report/conclusions on "Cooperation between research funders and programme managers in the domain of Agriculture, Food, Rural Development and Fisheries in the EU"<sup>3</sup>**

- Dutch Delegation presenting Dutch presidency initiative to launch a survey on funding structures and perspectives of cooperation in the field of agriculture research. On the basis of Member States inputs, a report was produced including specific conclusions and suggestions for the future.

**4. Common Agriculture Policy Reform: state of play and research needs**

- Presentation from Director of DG AGRI/G on CAP reform and research needs for a sustainable agriculture.

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<sup>2</sup> 1974: Council Regulation N° 1728/74 establishing SCAR  
1974-1999: DG AGRI responsible for agricultural research and management of SCAR  
1999: DG RTD responsible for agricultural research at the start of FP5  
July 2004: SCAR management transferred from DG AGRI to DG RTD  
22 November 2004: Dutch Presidency report calling for a high-level decision platform: a new role for SCAR  
End November 2004: MS Permanent Representations to nominate two high-level representatives  
2-3 February 2005: First "new" SCAR meeting

<sup>3</sup> Doc. n°14413/04

## 5. Update on on-going EC-funded research activities: recent developments and future trends

- Presentation from DG RTD/E3 on EC-funded research projects/activities and future trends for FP7.

## 6. Contribution from Member States

- Tour de table.
- Presentations from the German and Hungarian Delegations on agriculture research structures and perspectives in these countries.

## 7. Identification of issues which could be addressed in the year 2005

Broad consensus on priority topics to be addressed in the next 6/8 months:

- Establishment of a **new joint research agenda**, to *inter alia* better coordinate views with respect to FP7.
- **Mapping** of agriculture research activities in Europe.
- Improved use of **research infrastructures**.

To this end, the Commission was requested to prepare, with the committee's assistance, an information website as soon as possible.

## 8. Modus operandi

- Establishment of one **standing oversight working group (SOWG)**, with variable geometry according to the identified research topics (possibility to split into ad hoc specific sub-groups). The first meeting of the SOWG should be organised within 6 weeks and will be co-chaired by the Luxembourg Presidency (now fixed for 8 March 2005).
- A first reporting from the SOWG works on priority settings will be discussed at the **2<sup>nd</sup> SCAR meeting**, which will take place in Brussels on 9-10 June 2005. Suggestion to invite coordinators of ERA-NETs<sup>4</sup> of relevance to SCAR.
- Possible reporting of the state of play to the **Agriculture Council meeting** on 20-21 June 2005.
- A **3<sup>rd</sup> SCAR** meeting may be held end of 2005 during the UK Presidency.
- Participation of representatives from Candidate and Associated countries (and possibly from intergovernmental research organisms) as **observers** in the next SCAR meetings.

## 9. Forthcoming events

- Table of DG RTD/E activities and events.

## 10. Miscellaneous

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<sup>4</sup> <http://www.cordis.lu/coordination/era-net.htm>