



**IGAD
Livestock
Policy
Initiative**

**Fourth Meeting of the Steering
Committee for IGAD's Livestock
Policy Initiative**

Addis Ababa, 1 - 2 December, 2008



■ Meeting Report

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ACRONYMS

ADB	African Development Bank
ALive	African Livestock Partnership
AMESD	African Monitoring of the Environment for Sustainable Development
ASARECA	Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa
AU	African Union
AU-DREA	AU Directorate of Rural Economy and Agriculture
AU-IBAR	AU Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources
BecA	Biosciences eastern and central Africa
BSE	Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy
CAH	Community Based Animal Health
CAHW	Community Based Animal Health Worker
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
CODEX	Codex Alimentarius, International Food Standards Organisation
CPA	Comprehensive Peace Agreement (Sudan)
CPMR	Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution
CSP	Country Strategy Paper
EAC	East African Community
EC	European Commission
ECAPAPA	Eastern and Central Africa Programme for Agricultural Policy Analysis
EDF	European Development Fund
ESA	East and Southern Africa
EU	European Union
FAO	United Nation's Food and Agriculture Organisation
FAO AG	FAO's Agriculture Department
FAO TC	FAO's Technical Cooperation Department
FAO TCA	FAO's Policy Assistance Division
FAO TCE	FAO's Emergency Operations and Rehabilitation Division
FAO TCI	FAO's Investment Centre Division
FAO TCO	FAO's Operations Division

FARA	Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa
FEWS NET	Famine Early Warning System Network
FSAU	Food Security Analysis Unit
GIEWS	Global Information and Early Warning System on Food and Agriculture
GOSS	Government of South Sudan
HYCOS	Hydrological Cycle Observation System
ICPAC	IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Centre
ICT	Information and Communication Technologies
IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
IGAD LMIS	IGAD Livestock Management Information System
IGAD LPI	IGAD Livestock Policy Initiative
IOC	Indian Ocean Commission
IRCC	Inter-Regional Coordinating Committee
LESP	Livestock Epidemiology Surveillance
LPI	Livestock Policy Initiative
NTFP	National Technical Focal Point
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
NGO	Non-Government Organisations
NINC	National Information Node Coordinator
NLC	National Land Commission
NMTPF	FAO National Medium Term Priority Framework
OIC	Officer in Charge
OIE	The World Organisation for Animal Health
PACE	Pan African Campaign against Epizootics
PAAT	Programme Against African Trypanosomiasis
PATTEC	Pan African Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis Eradication Campaign
PCM	Project Cycle Management GOSS
PPLPI	Pro-Poor Livestock Policy Initiative
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers
RAO	Regional Authorising Officer
RDP	Reconstruction & Development Program
REC	Regional Economic Community

REFORM	Regional Food Security and Risk Management
REO	Regional Economic Organisation
RIO	Regional Integration Organisation
RIP	Regional Indicative Programme
RT	(Mid Term) Review Team
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SC	Steering Committee
SCM	Steering Committee Meeting
SPA	Strategic Partnership Agreement
SPS	Sanitary & Phytosanitary
SWALIM	Somali Water & Land Information Management
TFG	Transitional Federal Government of the Republic of Somalia
TPAG	Technical Policy Advisory Group
TPFT	Technical Policy Formulation Team
UNTP	UN Transition Plan
WFP-VAM	World Food Programme's Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping
WTO	World Trade Organisation

Sunday 30, November 2008

COCKTAIL

The cocktail was held on Sunday the 30th November 2008 at the ILRI Campus in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and was attended by the SC members, Project Staff and invited guests from the FAOR offices in Addis Ababa. Dr Peeling welcomed all the guests to the cocktail and informed them that his Excellency Dr Abera Deresa, State Minister in the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MoARD) of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, would officially open the workshop the following day.

Monday 1, December 2008

OPENING SESSION

Dr Dil Peeling, the Chief Technical Advisor of IGAD-LPI, began the opening session of the 4th Steering Committee Meeting (SCM) by welcoming the Guest of Honour, his Excellency Dr Abera Deresa, State Minister in the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MoARD) of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, and all those present to the meeting. He informed the meeting that, in the absence of Eng Mahboub Mohammed Maalim, Executive Director, IGAD Secretariat, Mr Maina Karaba would chair the SCM. He then invited the Guest of Honour to officially open the meeting.

Dr Abera started by welcoming all the participants to the meeting 4th Steering Committee Meeting of IGAD-LPI. He appreciated the recent steps taken by IGAD member states to revitalize IGAD as an important element of the continent wide integration process under the AU, and took the opportunity to welcome on board the new Executive Director of the IGAD Secretariat, Eng. Mahboub Mohammed Maalim.

Dr Abera pointed out that livestock plays a critical role in the agricultural sector in particular and in the economy of Ethiopia in general. 30% of agricultural employment is provided by the livestock sector and 90% of croplands are cultivated using animal power. He noted that IGAD-LPI plays a critical role in the livestock sector by strengthening the capacity of member states in the design and implementation of livestock related policies and by identifying investment opportunities in the livestock sector.

Dr Abera stressed the need for increased livestock production in the coming years mainly due to increased population and underlined the need for policy shift at national and regional levels to meet this growing demand. He furthermore recognized the need for participation at the grassroots level to guarantee a positive outcome of interventions and appreciated the role IGAD-LPI would play through the policy hub created within the multi stakeholder livestock policy forum under the MoARD. He finally concluded his speech by declaring the 4th IGAD LPI SCM officially open. (Full speech Annex 1)

Mr Karaba then took charge of the meeting and responded to the speech by the Minister by pointing out that it was a great honour for him to chair this important meeting and confirmed that he would deliver the personal message of the State Minister, and the outcomes and decisions of the meeting to the Executive Secretary of IGAD Secretariat. He then recognized the presence of Mr Ahmed Darar Djibril, SC member for Djibouti, Dr Berhe Gebreegziabher, SC member for Ethiopia, Mr Julius Kiptarus, SC member for Kenya, D. Abdirahman Nur Qeyliye, SC member for Somalia, Dr Suleiman Gabir Agib, SC Member for Sudan, and confirmed that a quorum was present to allow the meeting to proceed. He noted the absence of the Ugandan member of the SC and congratulated Somalia for sending a SC member for the first

time since the project was launched. He suggested that the meeting should adopt the proposed Agenda for the meeting (see Annex 2) after which he requested Dr Peeling, to commence the SCM with his presentations.

IGAD LPI: ACTIVITIES 2008

The Project Purpose (Dr Peeling)

Dr Peeling began by pointing out that the presentation would include an overview of IGAD-LPI activities since the third SCM that was held in February, 2008 in Khartoum, Sudan. He noted that the main purpose of the presentation was to establish the context for the subsequent discussion on the Mid Term Review (MTR) report and, following that, of the work plan for 2009. He stated that, at the risk of repetition, the presentation would start with a brief description of the purpose/outputs of the IGAD-LPI project, and how the project team goes about implementing them. This would be a short description of whom we are and what we do, particularly considering that there were new members of the SC among the participants who may not be fully conversant with the details of the project, and also as a way of refreshing the memory for the rest.

Dr Peeling pointed out that the fundamental purpose of the IGAD-LPI project (hereafter the Project) was capacity building i.e. to build the institutional capacity within the IGAD member states for making and implementing livestock related policies. The assumption underlying this approach was that the IGAD member states lack the relevant institutional and policy making capacity in the livestock sector. Dr Peeling underlined that the purpose of the project excludes physical targets such as the provision of animal health care services or animal vaccination and the like. An integral part of the project purpose was poverty alleviation. He noted that in the few cases where livestock related policies do exist, they fail to address the issue of poverty and therefore the benefits fail to reach the poor.

Dr Peeling noted that the project adopts a regional rather than national approach, and the area of intervention of the project is the IGAD region. He explained that the regional approach made more sense given that the problems concerning livestock in the region were regional in their nature, due to movement of people and cattle, cross border trade, the regional nature of animal disease and also to make use of economies of scale. The second and third meetings of the SC had recommended the project mandate to include activities such as the regulation of livestock trade (national, regional and international), animal health as a requirement in livestock trade, and livestock related poverty issues (such as livestock production, vulnerability of pastoralists).

Turning his attention to the project log frame, Dr Peeling noted that the outputs/results of the project were divided into four areas (see Annex 3). The first and second result areas were about delivering policies, while the third and fourth result areas were about putting in place the capacity for delivering policies. Result one was to bring about *'increased awareness by public, private, and tertiary sector organizations of the potential contribution of livestock and the livestock sector to growth, food security and poverty reduction'*. The issue being addressed here was the poor representation of the livestock sector in terms of prioritization in policy planning and resource allocation at the national level. The Project was addressing this at national level through the better integration of the livestock sector into national PRSP processes. The second objective is to provide *'policy options and investment opportunities for enhanced livestock sector contribution to growth, food security and poverty reduction'*. This result area was partly being addressed at national level

through output 1, but also at national and regional levels through the development of a regional policy framework for animal health and trade.

The third output aimed at putting *'systems in place for livestock policy information, analysis, decision-support and monitoring of policy change'*. Evidence based analysis was required to put the right policies into place. The fourth and last objective involved *'networks of professional and grassroots organizations established / reinforced for effective stakeholder representation in the negotiation of policies and institutional changes that better support poor people's livestock-dependent livelihoods'*. This output was expected to facilitate the inclusion of representative voices and the participation of the poor in the policy process.

Dr Peeling stated that these objectives were supposed to be delivered through concrete and practical engagement with and in the IGAD member states. This required mechanisms to facilitate this concrete and practical engagement and that could serve as vehicles for organizational learning. Among the IGAD member states, only Ethiopia had a mechanism in place in the form of a Livestock Policy Forum through which the project could implement its activities. The Project was filling this gap in the other IGAD member states through the provision of assistance in the establishment of Policy Hubs, Working Groups and Information Nodes. Policy Hubs are multidisciplinary bodies composed of 25 to 35 members with as broad a representation as possible including senior policy makers and representatives of civil society. The formation of these Policy Hubs is the outcome of recommendations coming out of a series of National Stakeholder Consultative Workshops held in all the IGAD member states. The policy hubs form the working groups made up of 10 - 15 members from both government and civil society who are delegated the responsibility by the policy hubs to go deeper into specific project priority areas i.e. engagement with PRSPs and the development of national positions on the regional policy framework for animal health and trade and then to report back to the Policy Hubs for guidance and endorsement of final outcomes at national level. The National Information Nodes would provide the necessary information support to both the policy hubs and the working groups. These nodes would be one stop shops and they would create linkages with information providers and networks in respective governments and countries.

Dr Peeling informed the meeting that, despite the difficult conditions in Somalia, the project had developed a suitable model for engagement. There were obstacles to the replication of the model being deployed in other IGAD member states in Somalia and the formation of a Policy Hub at the national level was not possible. Somalia also had no conventional PRSP process as in the case of the other IGAD member states. The project would instead primarily engage in the establishment of a position for Somalia on the regional policy framework for animal health and trade. To facilitate this, workshops would be held in each of the three entities making up Somalia i.e. Somaliland, Puntland and TFG. Technical groups made up of 5 -7 people in each of the entities would then be formed during these workshops to follow up and come up with a report on the position of the individual entities on the framework for animal health and trade. These technical groups in each of the entities would receive information support from one of the members. Their work would then be consolidated into a position for Somalia on the regional policy framework for animal health and trade. The first workshop had already been held in Hargeisa and others would follow in the TFG and in Puntland.

Dr Peeling disclosed that an evaluation of how these activities were being implemented would be raised by the MTR. It was however becoming apparent that, compared to the last SCM, the project was now moving faster, broader and deeper: faster because larger teams were being formed and more people were engaged in the issues at the national levels, and a lot of interest and motivation was being observed; broader because activities were getting synchronized and reaching out to all countries of IGAD; deeper because the project was moving into issues such as training, and the creation of mechanisms i.e. Policy Hubs and Working Groups as vehicles for

organizational learning. But this also implied that the project was becoming more expensive. The workplan would reveal that increased spending was required.

Dr Peeling recalled that the third SCM had requested the project to explore long term and short term options for strengthening IGAD itself. One short term option that the project had identified was through the development of the regional policy framework for animal health and trade which would contribute towards building IGAD's ability to draw on the technical expertise within the IGAD member states and to forge political agreement. This required technical knowledge with which to act as a secretariat in the field of animal health and trade and to establish mechanisms for consultation at the member state level and for harmonization at the regional level. Another short term option that the project was exploring was through assisting the IGAD secretariat with regional economic integration. The project was building IGAD's technical capacity to strategize on, and deliver, a program of regional economic integration with respect to livestock. The project had identified a roadmap for regional economic integration that would support IGAD to exploit benefits of REI and to ensure maximum gains for poorer livestock keepers. On a longer term perspective, the project would prepare IGAD to move into and clear the path for the establishment of a sustainable livestock unit within the IGAD secretariat. This would improve IGAD's capacity to manage and coordinate regional public goods (animal health, livestock trade, policy harmonization, REI) and to exploit regional economies of scale (information, training, trade negotiation). Another longer term objective lending itself towards strengthening IGAD's capacity was to create awareness of the potential of investing in and developing the livestock sector, and to gain political acceptance/support and resources.

Dr Peeling noted that one of the major accomplishments of the activities of the past ten months was the development of a better understanding of what is meant by 'pro poor' and what pro poor policies involve. At the outset of the project there was a lack of clarity on the concept 'pro poor'. Now however analyses and paired workshops had been conducted in order to discuss policy interventions that work for or against the poor. He observed that the project had reached the stage where the project could confidently claim to have a better understanding of the content of what a 'pro poor' policy process was. The first dimension of a pro poor policy process was the inclusion of evidence based analysis of the likely impacts of policies on the poor. A second dimension relates to making the policy process more inclusive by giving the poor a voice in the making and implementation of policies that affect them. A third dimension considers the proper understanding of institutions and their effects on the livelihoods of the poor. This last dimension created the link between livelihoods and livestock.

At the conclusion of his presentation, Dr Peeling noted that the project was only left with 21 months of implementation. Based on the activities since the last SCM, it was safe to say that the Project would be able to put the necessary capacity in place. There was however a challenge in that this capacity would possibly be lost after the completion of the project. In addition to sustainability, potential challenges could be found in the areas of trade, livelihoods, institutions, the availability of technical people, and broader understanding of the IGAD livestock policy initiative. The questions to be asked here were firstly, what would happen to project activities in the individual IGAD member states, and secondly, how could successes be replicated elsewhere.

Dr Peeling then invited Dr Mtula and Dr Jama to report on the activities addressed under the four outputs of the Project.

IGAD LPI: Results 2 and 4 (Dr Mtula)

Dr Mtula reported on the second and fourth outputs of the IGAD-LPI project log frame (see Annex 3).

He started his presentation with the second output which is to provide policy options and investment opportunities for enhanced livestock sector contribution to growth, food security and poverty reduction identified. Five activities are listed under this output.

The first activity is to '*conduct sector reviews and institutional analyses*'. Dr Mtula reported that under this activity, studies and consultant reports on the project's institutional environment had been completed and posted on the IGAD LPI website. The website now contained political economy studies for all IGAD member states, together with a synthesis paper, and a report on ongoing FAO initiatives.

The second activity under output two is '*analysing and debating policy options*'. Dr Mtula reported that under this activity area, stakeholder consultation workshops had been held in all project countries and the main findings had been compiled in a brief. The project had now prioritized activities to be addressed in this area which were now focussed on the development of a regional policy framework for animal health as relates to trade and vulnerability (hereafter regional policy framework for animal health and trade) and engagement with PRSP processes in the member states. The mechanisms for engagement with these project priority areas were being established, as elaborated below, and work was now moving to the Policy Hubs and working groups with support from the project.

Dr Mtula informed the meeting that the policy hubs were multidisciplinary groups with broad stakeholder participation established in each of the IGAD member states as a result of recommendations coming out of the stakeholder consultation workshops. The policy hubs would delegate two working groups to look deeper into establishing the national position on the regional policy framework for animal health and trade and engagement with PRSPs. The working groups would report back to the policy hubs for guidance and final ratification of the findings. Whereas engagement with PRSP processes is predominantly a national process, in the case of the regional policy framework for animal health and trade, member states develop national positions which in turn are harmonised at the regional level.

Dr Mtula pointed out that the process of practically carrying this forward involved: the identification and engagement of NTFPs, facilitators and Information Node Coordinators in each of the IGAD member states; development of TORs to guide their work; training of NTFPs, facilitators and Information Node Coordinators; and, establishment of Policy Hubs, Working Groups and Information Nodes. Dr Mtula observed that progress in the establishment of information nodes would be elaborated in detail in the following presentation by his colleague.

Dr Mtula reported that in the past year, NTFPs and facilitators had finally been identified for all countries and TORs that form the basis of the contracts with them had been prepared and given out to the NTFPs and facilitators. NTFPs were invited to an aside meeting held from the 7 - 8 April 2008, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. During the meeting, NTFPs were introduced to the process of developing the Regional Policy Framework for animal health and trade. In addition to this, they were introduced to their role as relates to the formation of the Policy Hubs and working groups in the countries. They were also introduced to the concept of PRSPs specifically related to the

need to improve visibility and inclusion of livestock issues in PRSPs. Dr Mtula noted that the facilitators did not attend this meeting.

He reported that this introductory meeting was followed by a substantive strategizing and PRSP training workshop attended by all NTFPs and facilitators held from the 19 - 23 May 2008 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Issues addressed during the first part of this training workshop (19 - 20 May 2008) included identifying possible policy hub members; initial consultation on PRSP engagement, and; process for the development of national positions on the Regional Policy Framework for animal health and trade. During the second part of this training workshop (21 - 23 May 2008), NTFPs and the facilitators received training on PRSP and PRSP processes. A follow up to the Strategising and PRSP training workshop was held from the 8 - 9 October 2008 with the participation of NTFPs, facilitators and NINCs. This progress review meeting coincided with the MTR and reviewed progress in the establishment of the Policy Hubs; establishment of the Working Groups; establishment of the Information Nodes; strategies for developing national positions on the Regional Policy Framework for animal health and trade; strategies for engaging with PRSPs in the individual country PRSP processes; and, the implementation of the June to December 2008 Work Plans.

In addition, paired, analytical workshops entitled "Generating policy impact through strengthening policy-relevant capacities" had also been held with participants drawn from government and civil society organizations expected to have ongoing involvement in the work of Policy Hubs. The workshops developed a framework for identifying the defining characteristics of pro-poor policy processes. Initial set of indicators for process monitoring - the tool by which the policy hubs and working groups will access their progress and institutionalise effective policy processes - have been agreed upon. Countries are in the process of holding their first Policy Hub meetings. Already the Kenyan Policy Hub had held its first meeting.

Dr Mtula reported that to facilitate the in-country work of developing national positions on the regional policy framework for animal health and trade; the project had undertaken regional consultative visits to the IGAD member states (Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda) in July 2008 to agree on initial points of reference for the policy framework. During these visits, the team made up of IGAD, experts on animal health and trade law and members of the project team consulted with stakeholders including ministers of livestock and trade, senior policy makers and the policy hubs. The result of the regional consultative visits was a background document that has been distilled into a concise working document containing points of reference for the policy framework, and which has now been distributed to the national Policy Hubs as a suggested basis for their deliberations.

Reporting further on this activity, Dr Mtula pointed out that in June 2008, the 12th Summit of IGAD Heads of State and Government revitalised IGAD's mandate of Regional Economic Integration. The Secretariat is anticipated to deliver an assessment of the way forward in the New Year. The Project provided technical input supported by a policy brief to a regional experts' meeting on REI workshop. At the request of the IGAD Executive Secretary, the project was preparing a more substantial brief targeted specifically at the IGAD secretariat. It is intended that these will be the first steps towards further involvement in REI.

The third activity in the second output of the log frame is to '*identify measures to improve service provision*'. Dr Mtula recalled that after a series of consultations in 2007, a regional workshop on "Demand Led Animal Health Services" was held and a working paper presented to the 3rd SCM in February 2008. This fell under this activity. The working paper was now available on the project website. A concept note had also

been distilled from the consultation and submitted to the ADB. The ADB had scheduled an appraisal mission for early 2009 within which the project would participate

The fourth activity in the second output of the log frame is to *'identify measures to improve marketing'*. Dr Mtula pointed out that the Regional Policy Framework for animal health and trade was being developed within the context of trade and vulnerability which was relevant to this activity. The international trade lawyer who provided the original analysis had been contracted to provide further technical advice on the development of the framework. Links had been forged with the Regional Enhanced Livelihoods in Pastoral Areas (RELPA) Program which was being implemented through COMESA. Through COMESA's trade mandate, options were being explored for the project to enhance its impact on policies relating to intra-regional and export markets. Generic regional accessibility maps had been produced and a working paper describing the datasets, methodologies and applications had been posted on the website.

The fifth and final activity area under result two is to *'assist IGAD in early response'*. Dr Mtula reported that to facilitate this, IGAD-LPI was funding a study on improving response to livestock related emergencies conducted by UNU-MERIT and the African Centre for Technology Studies (ACTS), based in Nairobi. The study, that included case studies in Kenya, Ethiopia and Sudan, would be concluded in early 2009. IGAD-LPI had developed an electronic tool to accompany the Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards (LEGS). The prototype was now available and would be finalised in coordination with the guidelines before the end of 2008.

Dr Mtula then turned his attention to Output 4 of the IGAD LPI log frame which is *'the creation of networks of professional and grassroots organizations established/reinforced for effective stakeholder representation in the negotiation of policies and institutional changes that better support poor people's livestock-dependent livelihoods'*. Three activities are listed under this output.

The first activity is to *'support the establishment and/or development of professional and grassroots organizations and facilitate their participation in livestock policy processes'*. Dr Mtula pointed out that the project model for supporting grassroots organisations and civil society in general, involved facilitating their inclusion in Policy Hubs and working groups engaged in the project priority areas in conjunction with decision support and the capture of lessons through Result 3, which would be reported on by his colleague. To ensure this, terms of reference had been developed for national level studies of Civil Society, NGOs and CBOs who are active in areas of relevance to the Project. Supporting grassroots organisations was all about ensuring their participation in policy process in the project priority areas so that their voice could be heard and included in the outcomes of those policy processes.

The second activity is to *'facilitate regional representation at international policy fora'*. Dr Mtula noted that the ability of grassroots organizations to influence policy outcomes is dependent on the policy environment in which they operate. The active participation of civil society was therefore a particular focus of project monitoring, ultimately allowing an evidence-based case for a greater role for civil society to be developed. In Sudan, a team led by the NTFP visited 6 states to identify civil society groups. A similar field trip has been planned for Ethiopia. Results of these field trips would feed into the composition/work of the Policy Hubs and the Working Groups.

The third and final activity under result four is to *'identify training needs and build capacity to enable stakeholders to become effective in livestock policy processes'*. Dr Mtula pointed out that the identification of training needs/interventions to build capacity was specifically linked to the activities above. Over the last 6 months, the

focus of training had broadened beyond the national technical focal points and specifically the paired, analytical workshops entitled “Generating policy impact through strengthening policy-relevant capacities” have seen participation from a wider constituency of stakeholders. There have been deliberate efforts to include civil society representatives in these participatory workshops and trainings. Further trainings are proposed within the 2009 work plan. Dr. Mtula concluded his presentation by pointing out that ultimately, the developed monitoring indicators would ensure that specific capacities were developed within the policy hubs and the working groups as they engaged with policy processes linked to the project priority areas. These capacities related to the use of evidence in policy making, the consideration of livelihoods and the inclusion of the voices of poor livestock keepers.

Discussion

The chairman at the conclusion of the presentation opened the floor for discussions, in order to allow Dr Abera, State Minister in the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MoARD) of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to leave the meeting. His Excellency Dr Abera expressed his appreciation for the presentations which had provided detailed information about the project. He once again reiterated the importance of IGAD-LPI and the significance of livestock resources in the IGAD member states and in Africa in general. He however indicated that despite this significance, the benefits had so far been limited because of various challenges, which he believed would be addressed by the Project. Dr Abera noted that the different organizational /institutional set up among IGAD member countries could pose a challenge for successful implementation of livestock policies. While in some countries the livestock sector was organized as a separate ministry, in others, like in Ethiopia for example, it was subsumed within broader ministries, such as Ministry of Agriculture. The Ethiopian case was based on the understanding that agriculture and livestock are inseparable. Without livestock there could be no agriculture and without agriculture there was no economy. This was generally true for all IGAD countries, and institutional harmonization and organizational integration of agriculture and livestock was important.

With regards to the role of civil society, Dr Abera stated that without a doubt an inclusive approach was not only necessary but also desirable. He however noted that particular attention was needed in objective selection and assessment of civil society organizations, as the activities of some would contradict government policy priorities. He stressed the need for a proper understanding of what was meant by pro poor and understanding/awareness, the linkages between livestock and peace and security, and between livestock and PRSP. He noted that the composition of the SC and the representation of experts and donors in the meeting further highlighted the high expectations placed on the SC meeting and on the project in foreseeing challenges and providing effective solutions.

IGAD LPI: Results 1 and 3 (Dr Jama)

After a short coffee break, the meeting resumed with the presentation on outputs one and three of the IGAD LPI log frame by Dr Abdi Jama.

The first output is *'increased awareness by public, private, and tertiary sector organizations of the potential contribution of livestock and the livestock sector to growth, food security and poverty reduction'*. There are two activities under this output.

The first activity is '*the strategic inclusion of livestock in PRSPs*'. Dr Jama informed the meeting that the main vehicle for the delivery of output one was engaging with PRSP processes through working with the Policy Hubs to improve visibility and inclusion of livestock issues into the national planning processes. This would ensure that livestock's potential is understood, articulated into the process, and where appropriate, strategically built into the PRSP. Ways of ensuring that new strategies and approaches are followed that are likely to be successful to support the livestock-related livelihoods of the region's poor livestock-keepers (pro-poor) have to be designed. Brochures had been developed by the project to guide Policy Hubs in their engagement with and the monitoring of the PRSP policy process. Specific Working Groups were being formed by the Policy Hub in each country to lead this effort. The Working Group would work closely with the Information Node and Policy Hub to ensure a poverty-focused livestock development. The working group would report to the Policy Hub.

The second activity under output one is '*livestock PRSP process monitoring*'. Dr Jama pointed out that this activity involves monitoring the process for the inclusion of livestock in PRSP which is critical to ensure focus on livelihoods of the poor livestock keepers. The project contributes towards enhancing the level of participation of pastoralists and ensures that the voice of the poor livestock keepers is considered. It is based on evidence-based understanding of the specific livelihoods needs of poor livestock keepers with a special focus on poverty.

Output three addresses putting in place systems for livestock policy information, analysis, decision-support and monitoring of policy change. The first activity under this output is '*ensuring increased awareness of the potential contribution of livestock to growth, food security and poverty reduction*'. Dr Jama observed that, within this activity policy options and investment strategies in the livestock sector are identified. Networks for stakeholder representation in policy negotiation are fostered. The purpose of this activity was strengthening the capacity in IGAD, member states, other regional organizations and other stakeholders to formulate and implement livestock sector and related policies that sustainably reduce food insecurity and poverty. A sub component of this activity was the emphasis on *pro-poor livestock policies*. Pro poor policies are evidence based policies that support livelihoods, are responsive to the needs of livestock dependant poor, and are the product of an inclusive, transparent and multi-disciplinary process.

A second activity was on '*livestock policy decision-making*'. Dr Jama noted that livestock policy-making had to be evidence-based, meaning that, wherever possible, public policy decisions should be informed by careful analysis using sound and transparent data. Policy decisions were as much based on politics as on evidence. Considerable data are already available, but often in dispersed locations. Assembling these data in a one-stop-shop and preparing a consistent time-series database would be a significant service to the livestock policy makers.

A third activity deals with '*livestock policy information*'. Dr Jama noted that the challenges to this activity could be seen in the fact that issues of livestock policy information in most cases cut across many departments and programs and the need for a lead organization and a home for livestock information. He emphasized that information was only effective if shared, and used by a significant part of the livestock policy community. To this end, an organizational culture for sharing information to strengthen the policy-Information interface has to be built.

Dr Jama informed the meeting that, in order to '*develop an understanding of the role of the livestock sector*', a Welfare Index Mapping in the Horn of Africa had been completed and would soon be posted on the IGAD-LPI Web. Additionally an Accessibility Mapping in the Horn of Africa that can be used for a wide range of markets and services had been completed and was soon to be posted on the IGAD LPI website. This included input to a wide range of policy and sector analysis, decision support applications, and an input to poverty mapping.

He noted that another approach to improve the understanding of the role of the livestock sector was through the '*development of Poverty and Welfare Estimates*'. Relevant to this activity, poverty and welfare estimates in the Horn of Africa had been finalized and posted on the website. This was done building on an earlier work done in Uganda by PPLPI. Dr Jama noted however that extending this to the IGAD region using a regional "Wealth Index" would go beyond just mapping welfare and move towards explaining it.

Dr Jama pointed out that *Livestock-Livelihood review* was essential for purposes of fostering improved understanding among project partners of the defining principles of policies that are likely to benefit poor livestock keepers. Policies should be relevant to livelihoods of the poor, build upon poor people's existing livelihood strategies and be based on an understanding of livelihoods of poor household livestock keepers. Moreover, the success of pro poor policies depended on a sound analysis of the actual constraints of poor livestock-keepers, identification of the root causes, not just symptoms, of poverty. Poor livestock-keepers should be encouraged to genuinely participate in policies that reflect their broad priorities.

To highlight the vital interface between livestock and livelihoods, Dr Jama argued that policies should ensure that incentives enable poor people to benefit from livestock development. A proper understanding of existing enabling and disabling institutions, both formal and informal, was critical. In many cases, enabling institutions for the poor were different from those for wealthier people. Policies had to increase, rather than constrain, opportunities. The types of changes that were required, the compelling reasons for and the ways of effecting them all had to be taken into account.

He informed that meeting that *policy inventories* had been completed in Kenya, Uganda and Sudan. Inventories were on-going in Djibouti and Ethiopia. The on-going inventories had been expanded to include the 'rules of the game' surrounding policy making. There were steps that had been taken to collaborate with AU-IBAR in doing a study mapping out policy objectives affecting the livestock in the IGAD Region at all levels and cataloguing the objectives of the national level initiatives in the livestock sector.

In connection with the '*development and implementation of targeted public relations campaigns*', Dr Jama referred to the two project websites and a detailed contact database which had been developed. The contact database was structured to allow the Project to target specific stakeholder groups. Steps had been taken in the direction of developing the capacity of Information Nodes to work with Policy Hubs and to pro-actively come up with policy packages for specific target groups. The Project was becoming more visible with increasing number of visits and workshops. The 2009 workplan proposed the recruitment of a Communication Officer which would further facilitate visibility.

In relation to the '*identification of information needs and uptake pathways*', inventories had been conducted in Kenya and Sudan, and were being conducted in Ethiopia, Djibouti, Somalia and Uganda. Dr Jama observed that stakeholder consultation workshops had been organized in which information needs were discussed. Following that, an information design workshop was held with the participation of NTFPs, NINCs, Project staff, technical experts and other stakeholders. In these workshops, data/information types and needs had been identified and NINCs had been advised to identify the producers of the data.

Concerning the '*establishment of information management systems*', countries had signed MOUs on the establishment of the nodes and the Information Nodes had been set up. Identification of locations for National Livestock Information Nodes and appointment of respective coordinators had been taken care of. Capacity building needs and specifications of equipment had been assessed and the procurement

process for equipment for the nodes was underway. NINCs were in the process of identifying sources of primary data types to negotiate and gain access.

Dr Jama stressed that the Information Node was the cornerstone of the information system. It was a one stop shop for Livestock Policy Information that nurtures country-led efforts on information management. It promoted the sharing of information and knowledge in terms of best practices between institutions and countries and provided channels for communication between different actors in livestock policy and information. As an information resource centre, the node encouraged commitment to use the information generated by the Project in policy processes i.e. reports, and relevant literature and project documents. It provided information and analysis to feed into livestock policy processes. It generated advocacy materials to create awareness for the role of livestock and for other policy interventions.

For purposes of '*developing and adapting decision support tools*', evaluation was based on EXTRAPOLATE and TIPI-CAL systems. EXTRAPOLATE was a communication tool for policy impact assessment while the TIPI-CAL model was an on-farm policy impact assessment tool. These models had been used in analyzing policy impacts on Ugandan Dairy Farms. The final activity dealt with '*identifying and monitoring indicators of policy change*'. This activity monitored policy processes and policy outcomes. A policy process monitoring brochure (posted on the Project website) and forms for policy process monitoring during Policy Hubs and Working Groups' meetings had been developed. With regards to policy outcomes, an initial set of indicators in the short, medium and long-term had also been developed.

Discussion

After the conclusion of Dr Jama's presentation, the Chairman opened the floor for questions and comments on the activity reports presented by members of the project team. Dr Samuel Zziwa opened the session by raising a question on the formation of the Policy Hubs. He wanted to know whether the project team followed a bottom up or top down approach in establishing the policy hubs. He noted that there was some urgency required in integrating the policy hubs into national policy processes. To substantiate this point, he brought up the example of Uganda which just launched its five years development plan. Since these Policy Hubs were expected to be mainstreamed into the national policy mechanisms, it would be important to assimilate them into such national development policy planning at an early stage. With reference to the follow up of the project, Dr Zziwa said that the suggestion for an alternative source of funding through the European Development Fund (EDF) may be too late as the current phase of the EDF is fully committed until 2010, and any subsequent negotiations and/or agreement would have to come after that period which will prove to be too late for a continuation of the project.

Dr Samuel Jutzi expressed his appreciation for the presentations and the progress made in project implementation. He recognized that since the recruitment of the CTA, the project had somehow in the past year accelerated and many of the expectations had been met as per the recommendations of the third SCM. He noted that it was fortunate that the fourth meeting was being held at the closing stages of the MTR and hoped that the various issues presented would be discussed. He also noted that the MTR process was concluded in early October, and in a dynamically changing environment, new issues may have come up since then. His expectations from the SC meeting was that vital issues related to the importance of the project to IGAD would be addressed and the sustainability and follow up of achievements. Dr Simplicie Nouala on his part also asked the project team to provide some information regarding the sustainability of the policy hubs and the other institutions and processes after the completion of the project.

Dr. Qeyliye conveyed his appreciation for the presentations. He mentioned that it was the first time that Somalia was represented in the IGAD-LPI SCM since the start of the project. He noted that Somalia was late in all activities, but expressed his hope that it was not too late as Somalia was trying to catch up with the project activities. He stressed that the livestock sector was the backbone of the Somali economy, and was a source of livelihood for the majority of the country's population. He noted that there were other regional and international organizations engaged in livestock related activities. An example of these was the EU who were involved in rinderpest eradication and Somalia Livestock Certification Program. He suggested that IGAD-LPI could forge cooperation with these and other projects to harmonize activities, for regional cooperation and to avoid duplication of work. With respect to the proposed training activities, Dr Qeyliye said that he believed that training was crucial as Somalia was lagging far behind the rest, and there was therefore dire need for new technologies, trained manpower and local experts in animal health, production and trade.

Mr Paul Weber expressed his appreciation to the project team for the interesting and detailed presentations. Compared to the previous SCM, he noticed that a lot of progress had been made and big steps had been taken forward. However, it seems that only the positive points had been emphasized by the presenters and the challenges and obstacles related to project implementation were not adequately raised. Secondly, it seemed to him that at the lower level everything was going smoothly with the formation of the policy hubs and working groups. However, it would have been interesting to learn how things were going on at the upper policy making level and what the responses from decision makers looked like because ultimately policy making was a political matter and would involve the higher level policy makers. In addition to that he noted that this was a soft project in a manner of speaking as there were no physical outputs expected. This rendered indicators of outcomes difficult to measure. Finally, noting that from the presentations, the policy hubs were still at the initial stages of the sequence of activities, Mr Weber asked how long it would take to climb up to the higher levels of activities and how challenging it would be to incorporate the LPI into the PRSPs.

Dr Berhe on his part stressed the importance of the project as livestock policy experience was absent in most of Africa. Lack of capacity was a major problem especially in the collection and dissemination of information. He pointed out that Ethiopia had launched livestock policy components such as emergency animal health, stocking and restocking, market and feed supply. He emphasized that though the LPI was getting faster and broader and although there were increasing expenses related to this expansion, the end result would justify such costs. He emphasized the need for a pro poor policy approach. The benefit from the exploitation of livestock resources was accruing to the middlemen only, and not the pastoralists. A pro poor policy intervention must strive to rectify such conditions and deliver concrete benefits to the pastoralists. He added that a regional approach spins out of a national approach and facilitates sharing experiences and cited Kenya as a case country which was ahead of most other countries in livestock policies and which had a lot of experience and information to share.

The Chairman then called upon Dr Peeling to respond to the questions and comments raised by the participants. Dr. Peeling started by addressing the question raised by Dr Zziwa. He noted that the Ugandan five year plan could have been better explained by the Ugandan delegate, who was unfortunately not present at the SCM. He informed the meeting that the Ugandan policy hub meeting took place prior to the launch of the five year development plan. However, preparation of development plans and PRSPs were not static activities but dynamic processes that entailed constant evaluation and re-evaluation. This, he pointed out, applied not only to Uganda but to the other countries as well and there would be a need to link/coordinate the activities of the policy hubs and working groups with the development of the plans and PRSPs in the

respective countries. He pointed out that PRSPs and development plans existed before and would eventually outlive the lifespan of the Project. What the Project needed to focus on for now in the engagement with PRSPs was to identify entry points into the development plans and PRSPs. In the case of Uganda, the Project was currently at the institutional building stage. The policy hubs were being put in place. The next step would be to link them with the country's policy making mechanisms. Referring to the development of a regional policy framework for animal health and trade, Dr Peeling noted that the immediate priority was to develop national positions which would eventually be harmonized to produce the regional position.

On the question as whether a top down or bottom up approach was used in the evolution of the policy hubs, Dr Peeling noted that while the lower level institutions like policy hubs and working groups were crucial; ultimately the senior decision makers had to accept the idea. The involvement of senior level policy makers in a "policy shell" was therefore essential for the success of the project. He identified three sources of information as being decisive factors in the formulation and implementation of the Project. The first source of information was project analysis related to the identification of areas of involvement for the project. The second source of information was the consultations based on national and regional workshops with national and regional stakeholders and the recommendations/outputs coming out of these consultations. NSCF was one such forum. The third information source was the steer from senior policy makers making up the Steering Committee of the project. Dr Peeling noted that information gathered from political stakeholders in the member states' showed that the project was largely getting it right and that the 'policy shell' had been designed. Therefore it was safe to say that the project involved both top down and bottom up approaches.

With respect to the special situation of Somalia, Dr Peeling noted that although some development initiatives were taking place, there was little coordination and linkage with these projects. There was however need for linkages to be established as all these initiatives were targeting the same Somali people. This situation was however not unique to Somalia. The project recognized that other regional level development partners had good national projects and programs and resource permitting, IGAD-LPI would collaborate with regional and continental initiatives such as AU-IBAR.

Dr Peeling stated that the point on the provision of training made by Dr Qeyliye was well taken. He however, pointed out that capacity building was a broader concept than training. Training was just one component of capacity building which included analysis, developing institutions, learning by doing and the like. Training related to PRSP would not make much sense for Somalia as there was no PRSP process there. Technical types of training were however beyond the purpose of the project. Taking animal health as an example, Dr Peeling underlined that while the project might provide training on how to design and implement a good policy on animal health, it could not go into technical issues like vaccination. Training within the context of the project referred to supporting policy guidelines and training to link with other issues in policy making like gender, livelihoods and livestock.

Dr Peeling conceded that his presentation did not touch upon the challenges and obstacles facing project implementation under the assumption that they will be raised and further discussed during the presentation of the MTR. He recognized Dr Berhe's comment for accelerating project implementation. He also cautioned that speeding up project implementation would also imply recentralization of most activities which would amount to backtracking from the current achievement of the project and rolling back the national level processes. This he emphasized required a balancing act between accelerating and maintaining the decentralized national level activities.

Commenting on the sustainability of the project in general, and of the Policy Hubs in particular, Dr Peeling reminded the meeting that the basic approach of the project was 'learning by doing'. Therefore, before investing too much on the Policy Hubs, they had to be given time to justify their worth. The problem with most other projects was

the rush to replicate isolated success cases. Dr Peeling noted that in the case of IGAD LPI, there was learning taking place through the development of new institutions, as in the case of the policy hubs. There was, first and foremost, the need to make these policy hubs sustainable by making them successful. Finally, Dr Peeling stated that he believed that more discussions would come up in due course during the presentations of the MTR, the work plan for 2009 and the project follow up.

MID TERM REVIEW (MR COLIN SMITH)

The leader of the Mid Term Review team, Mr Smith, commenced his presentation by informing the participants of the absence of the second member of the review team his colleague Dr Solomon Munyua. He reminded the meeting that the field work related to the MTR was concluded in October 2008, and new developments thereafter may not be included in the presentation. The objective of the MTR was threefold: evaluation of what had been done so far; recommendation on the project implementation; and recommendation on project sustainability and follow up. For the purpose of the review, the team visited all IGAD member states except Eritrea and Somalia, reviewed documents, and worked with the project team. The review team looked at the LPI using the PCM of the EU. Mr. Smith pointed out that he would present the findings of the Review Team, followed by recommendations based on the findings and the responses of the Project team to the findings.

To put the review in perspective, Mr Smith began his presentation by giving a brief description of IGAD LPI. The project officially started on January 1, 2006 and the operational closure was slated for August 30, 2010. Three years had gone by since the beginning of the Project and 62 percent of the project time had ended with little possibility for extension. The first SCM was held in September of 2006, 9 months after the start of the Project. Initially, there was an acting CTA based in Rome and two of the three professional staff positions were filled in late 2006. An interim CTA was appointed in the field in March 2007. The CTA was hired 22 months after the start of the project. Most of the activities at the beginning of the project in 2006/07 were limited to conducting studies and the activities on the ground gathered momentum after 2007.

The second SCM held in July 2006, redefined the strategic focus of the project to concentrate on a regional approach to common issues, with specific attention to market regulation and delivery of animal health services. This meant that project success depended on in-country beneficiaries' ability to engage in policy processes in line with the project logical framework. Most of the work since late 2007 had been focussed on strengthening in-country teams (mid 2008); carrying out preparatory work for operation of policy hubs/Working Groups; conducting inventories (policies & information inventories); identifying and reinforcing grassroots organisations through NSCFs; defining in-country information needs; and, increasing visibility of project. At the time of preparation of this report the project was preparing to hold policy hub and working group meetings.

Mr Smith then presented the following.

Project relevance and design

On the project's relations with IGAD, the RT found that the legal documents did little to transfer capacity to IGAD, to be located in IGAD offices or be part of IGAD organisation. Moreover, the RT concluded that the project had done little on the ground to rectify this from inception to date. Based on this finding, the RT recommended that IGAD-LPI should strive to build the capacity of IGAD in its mandate as a regional policy making initiator with emphasis on livestock. The project team agreed that original implementation strategy did little to support IGAD's capacity. The project team emphasised that in the coming two years, the project would adopt 'a learning by doing approach' with IGAD as a priority area. To this effect, the project pledged to strengthen IGAD's ability as a Secretariat to bring together country views at the regional level; support IGAD with the upcoming meeting of IGAD countries'

agriculture ministers; support IGAD to develop livestock trade and marketing protocols for consideration by member states; promote the profile of IGAD and the principles of Regional Economic Integration; support IGAD to develop a road map as to where it was going bearing in mind the Heads of States' request for a minimum integration plan; and, support IGAD to set up a livestock unit initially core funded by IGAD and located outside Djibouti.

On linkages with other programmes, the RT noted that the list of potential partners presented in the project documents was far too long and was unmanageable and impractical given the limited number of project staff. The RT therefore proposed that there was a need to be selective and to choose only those potential partners with important linkages to implementation and outcomes and to keep linkages few and within the capacities of staff to handle. The RT in addition proposed that the project should target those potential partners that were most relevant to project objectives, especially on regional trade and those linkages that will result in synergy or result in a symbiotic relationship. The project team agreed with the recommendations and confirmed that this approach was being followed. The project team, however, noted that improved communications would result in a wider group of potential partners knowing about IGAD LPI in case synergies needed to be established in the future.

On the relevance of the project, the RT found that the project was relevant to EDF 9 and 10 objectives, and was consistent with national policies and policies on poverty alleviation. Additionally, the logical framework was coherent at all levels in its design, performance and implementation strategies. Unless a pressing need was felt from elsewhere, the RT therefore did not recommend amending the logical framework particularly in view of the procedure this would involve within the EC. The project team noted that it was agreed at the MTR wrap up meeting (end of October) that existing OVIs should be updated and presented to this SC meeting.

Efficiency

On efficiency of project start up, the RT noted that delays in the recruitment of the project team in the field had resulted in a set back in project implementation, particularly in important areas of result 2, by up to 12-18 months. The RT recommended that in future, irrespective of competitive recruitment, a team should be hired on a temporary basis until competitive procedures could be undertaken as per the framework contract. Mr Webber observed that FAO was responsible for recruitment of personnel and that in hindsight the EC could have been more involved by making suggestions. Dr Robinson pointed out that, while the early hiring of a CTA without doubt would have been helpful, the delay at the outset of the project was not necessarily limited to the failure to recruit a CTA regardless of which some delays might have been inevitable.

On financial reporting, the RT concluded that the broad outlines for financial reporting to the donor, EC, and the contracting authority, IGAD was inadequate. The financial reports were never defined and have in practice proved inadequate. IGAD indicated that the half yearly activity reports were found to be inadequate and requested for quarterly reports. The CTA also did not have regular financial reports except when requests for the same were explicitly made. The RT advised that a fuller report in both USD and € was required. This report would preferably include disbursements by disbursement category and disbursements by component (activity) including project management. EC and IGAD should acquire fuller quarterly activity and financial reporting from the end of 2008 onwards and the CTA should have updated monthly accounts in both currencies. The CTA also recognised that the project had incomplete information at the Project office level.

Dr Robinson (FAO) reminded the meeting that the initial agreement was to provide the financial plan on a cost/disbursement by results method. For this particular project however, the targets were not physical and there was interlinkage among the various results. It had therefore proved difficult to prepare financial reports on a cost/disbursement by result method. FAO however had no problem with the provision of a regular financial report, and it was possible to provide reports even on a daily basis.

The RT found an indication of over expenditure based on actual expenses until the end September 2008 and the estimated expenses from October 2008 to the end of the project. The project according to the calculations by the RT was expected to cost around € 6.2 million while the total projected budget was € 5.49 million. Mr. Smith however noted that further refinements to estimates still had to be made. The RT had discussed this with the project and was still waiting for the amended budget for the information system. The RT had provided the project team with its own tables and calculations by disbursement category. The project team responded that it would in time conduct regular estimates based on the latest available information. The RT maintained that analysis by result component was difficult but better.

Dr Robinson suggested that if the actual spending for future activities was as calculated by the RT, there might be a need to cut down on some activities. Mr Smith concurred that there might indeed be a need to list priorities and some activities, like studies or trainings, may need to be cut back substantially. The RT advised that it was better to identify the activities that could be cut back sooner rather than later. Mr Kiptarus observed that the project work plan that would be discussed and approved by the SCM would reveal further issues of overspend, prioritization, and national level project costs and figures.

Mr Webber requested for further elaboration on the influence of USD and Euro on projects and informed the meeting that 5.71 million Euros would be the absolute limit for the project. Mr Smith elaborated on the variations in the exchange rate between Euro (€) and USD (\$). He noted that EC funds were generally provided in Euro, converted into USD and kept in the bank to earn interest. The exchange rate that was used in the budget was the exchange rate that was set at the beginning of the project. At the time of signing of the project document, the USD was weaker than the Euro and that was to the advantage of the project. Due to the weakening of the Euro against the dollar, that benefit had recently been reversed. Responding to the question as to whether the costs of the national consultations which were costing the project significant money could be financed by respective national governments, Dr Peeling responded that while the idea sounded good, the national budget cycle for 2009 was over and the suggestion was coming too late to be considered by national governments.

Mr Smith went on to report that the RT found that some FAO offices provided support to in-country teams while others did not. In those that fail to give the necessary support, the RT observed real frustration as a result of the delays in releasing funds by the FAO offices. The RT noted that this was undermining in-country commitment for the project and causing real delays in implementation. The RT urged FAO to engage with difficult country offices to improve support and assistance to the project. The RT also proposed the use of alternative means such as engaging an NGO to act as expediter of funds for in-country teams and that annual country budgets could be prepared so that funds are transferred to FAO offices in advance. The RT asked the project office to investigate if any of these options were workable.

Noting that the involvement of grassroots representatives and organisations in decision making was part of one of the outputs of the project; the RT noted that in some countries, the involvement of such groups was either limited or non-existent. The RT pointed out that there was need to establish how involved grassroots organisations really were in the project and recommended that this should be followed up by the project staff and where it was found that they were not adequately represented then

corrective action should be taken in the policy hubs and working groups. The project team noted this and pointed out that specific TOR had been prepared for consultants to identify appropriate NGOs and Civil Society organizations so that corrective steps could be taken particularly in the composition of the policy hubs and working groups.

Picking up on this, Dr Zziwa observed that the original idea for inclusion of grassroots organization was indeed an integral part of the project. He however stressed that, it was important to define who one was referring to when referring to such organizations. He brought up the case of a recent conference where there was different understanding of grassroots organization by different participants. While some thought of them as professional associations, others accepted churches and even NGO's. He noted that for purposes of the IGAD-LPI project, there was need to emphasize that grassroots organizations refer to associations of communities with particular emphasis on pastoralists. He pointed out that West African countries had some experience in engaging with such associations and recommended that the project could learn from their best practices.

On efficiency, Mr Smith observed that the first three NSCFs were held in 2006 (in Kenya, Uganda, and Sudan). This meant that they lost their benefit at the latter stages of the project. There was a noticeable disconnect between these and later activities. Some of the participants in these earlier workshops could not even recall their participation. He added that the approaches and methods used in implementation changed in 2007 moving more towards actions required to start up the policy formulation processes. In 2008 the approach shifted to handing over implementation activities to in-country representatives involved in the policy hubs and working groups. This change of emphasis was fully supported by the RT.

Mr Smith began the session by reporting on the findings of the RT on issues related to the beneficiaries of the project. He noted that the primary beneficiaries, that is in-country policy makers, had been involved in implementation to date, and generally, the experience had been positive. The secondary and ultimate beneficiaries (pastoralists) had seen nothing from the project to date. He added that the RT believed that the initial emphasis on studies was not driven by project needs and may prove to be of little benefit. The RT found that guidelines and training in specific areas supported ongoing activities and observed that most of the in-country teams were veterinarians. The RT also found that many National Information Node Coordinators (NINCs) had limited information skills.

On monitoring, the RT found that the EC's Project monitoring and evaluation functions were limited to releasing funds and endorsing contracts. IGAD's role in project monitoring was also limited by the legal agreements, although it had tried to question project activities from time to time. Only one audit had been carried out to date and that was from a verification mission on FAO as a whole. The RT found that the internal monitoring of the project by the CTA was generally satisfactory. They found that the SC had proved to be the main body doing the monitoring and evaluation of the project and it had performed its role well.

Effectiveness Analysis

The RT found that while the findings in Result 1 would highlight the relevance of livestock to GDP, the importance of the contribution of livestock to GDP in the countries was not adequately stressed. They suggested that the World Bank was a possible source of information on the contribution of livestock to GDP. They observed that there was a bigger picture emerging of processes going on through the policy hubs as well as participatory involvement through a broad strategy of engagement and linkages being established amongst all these related activities. The project team responded to this by agreeing that, whilst it was important to show the contribution of

livestock to a country's GDP, it was also important to link this to the bigger picture of ongoing in-country processes especially those related to the better integration of livestock in PRSP processes and the allocation of resources. The RT had also suggested that to enrich and inform policy discussions, the verified GDP calculations and other supportive information should be provided during policy hub and working group meetings, whilst also targeting those who make public expenditure decisions. The project planned to commission studies to establish the real contribution of livestock to GDP and Agriculture GDP in the IGAD member states.

Mr Smith observed that the RT had learnt of plans to hire a Public Relations/ Communications Officer in place of a GIS specialist who recently left the project. The project team had recognised the need to engage a PR/communications specialist in place of GIS specialist. The RT supported the project team's view that a PR/communications specialist was required to intensify in-country awareness of IGAD-LPI and to enhance project visibility. The RT noted that the Project website would need support from January 2009, as the support person in Rome was leaving. The project team further indicated that the website would be transferred to IGAD from 2009 onwards as part of efforts to establish closer working relations. The RT supported the transfer of the management of IGAD-LPI website to IGAD.

Picking up on the transfer of the IGAD-LPI website from FAO to IGAD, Dr Robinson pointed out that as far as he was concerned IGAD had outsourced its own website to a consultant based in Nairobi. This would create a challenge for IGAD to manage the IGAD LPI website. Dr Zziwa responded to this by stating that IGAD indeed had the capabilities to host the website as all the hosting equipment were ready. The only reason why the IGAD website was being administered from Nairobi was because the internet speed in Djibouti was too slow. IGAD considered it better to temporarily handle its website from Nairobi. Dr Zziwa however assured the meeting that by the end of the project, IGAD would be in a position to assume control of the management of the website. The meeting finally recommended that the website should continue to be managed by FAO until such a time as IGAD would be in a position to take it over.

Mr Webber informed the meeting that the EC was not aware of the existence of a FAO support person who was being paid from project funds to manage the project website. Dr Robinson informed the meeting that there was indeed a support person in Rome managing the project website. He informed the meeting that the person was not leaving her post and that her contract was coming up for renewal in January 2009. He added that she was being paid a token amount given the importance of the website for the project.

There were two alternative views regarding the replacement of GIS specialist with a communications officer. The CTA informed the meeting that GIS data could be managed on a short term consultancy basis or by a part time person. The main task involved feeding/inputting of data of which 90 percent was already completed. Understanding and interrogating the data could be carried out on an *ad hoc* basis by some other person. A communication person could eventually also take care of this. Dr Jama in turn informed the meeting that the project GIS lab could provide support to the member states information offices and the outgoing GIS person had been at the point where he was about to transfer most of the activities to the member states. Dr Herve pointed out that if it was a question of one or the other, then the EU would prefer a communications officer for the sake of visibility. He noted that the profile of the project was too low and broad broadcast and publicity was necessary.

Other participants emphasized the need for a GIS specialist instead of a communications officer. Mr Kiptarus felt that it was possible to use a communication officer either from the member countries ministries or the IGAD secretariat. He observed that due to the technical nature of the work, the GIS function could not be done on an *ad hoc* basis. He informed the meeting that Kenya alone had 21 GIS specialists at the Ministry. The cost of software was quite considerable and a specialist was required to make good use of it. Sustainability was also an issue. Dr Robinson on

his part argued that GIS was an important function to the project since there was a lot of data requiring entering processing and analyzing. Dealing with the gap created through the absence of a GIS specialist would be a matter of concern.

The meeting reached a consensus that in both cases, the skills and activities offered by both the GIS specialist and the communications officer looked crucial for the project. The GIS specialist was needed for analytical skills, to carry out the quantitative analyses for policies, to support regional hubs and for spatial statistical analysis. A communications officer was on the other hand critical for increased and broader publicity and visibility as the project would have a lot more to communicate at the latter stages. It was therefore, decided / recommended that the CTA and the project team should take into account the necessity of both functions and make a decision on the issue. In doing so, they were advised to take into consideration cost, budgetary constraints, sustainability, and the general profile of the project.

Mr Smith informed the meeting that the RT noted that there was progress in the implementation of Result 2 of the project log frame. He however observed that IGAD-LPI was currently not showing its interest in supporting regional early response mechanisms. The RT recommended that the project should fast track the activities aimed at identifying policy options and implementation strategies. IGAD-LPI should, through both the IGAD Secretariat and FAO, make known their interest in developing pro-poor policies that would cushion the most vulnerable livestock producers through the use of LEGS and other tools available to the project. In their response, the project team informed the meeting that they planned to fast track the implementation of these activities through involvement with LEGS. There was also a case study going on which was intended to lead to the integration of emergency response into government planning process.

On Result 3, Mr Smith pointed out that the RT had established on the basis of discussions with in-country teams, that there seemed to be an expectation on the ground that IGAD LPI was establishing a separate livestock information system. The RT however noted that there were many working livestock information systems in livestock ministries supported often by the state and other donors. Based on this, it was questionable whether setting up a parallel one under the project would be relevant, maintainable and sustainable, The RT would therefore like to see project livestock information systems supporting and strengthening existing systems in government especially those supported by the state and other donors. There was therefore a need to fast track the inventories of existing livestock information systems by country including reviews of past initiatives. The existing systems needed to be documented including the hardware and software being used, level of funding, source and duration. Such an inventory would reduce the chances of IGAD-LPI funding a system that was already receiving other funds and would also enable the project to determine what outputs could be ascribed to its activities.

In their response, the project team indicated that they would not support a new livestock information system but would instead build on what is already there. The information contained in the system would however need to be specialised so as to generate verifiable data and information for the proposed evidence-based policies. The project team had already developed lists of information needs for policy hubs with NTFPs and NINCs. The project would ensure that the Information Nodes being established were as close as possible to existing systems as possible and this would be emphasized. The project would provide basic hardware for each NINC and would ensure that any software for data and information management would be compatible with those currently in use in the member states.

The RT had also observed that some NINCs were not aware that the information collected and passed on to IGAD-LPI would belong to FAO (as per the contract) and that the information could be posted in the IGAD-LPI website. The RT pointed out that it was important to ensure that the information released to IGAD-LPI was cleared, when required to do so by the bureaucracy or that the NINC was authorized to share

it. In their response, the project office informed the meeting that they were aware of the sensitivities of member states and that they would endeavour to take this into consideration. The RT further informed the meeting that they had recently examined a proposal dated end October 2008 that contained costing for very expensive GIS software for in-country teams as well as budgeted expenditures on training on the information systems. The RT noted that the necessity and sustainability of the GIS needed to be reassessed before IGAD-LPI invests into the system. In their response, the project team acknowledged that the proposal including the GIS would be reassessed.

On Result 4, Mr Smith informed the meeting that the RT felt that the participatory project approach had suffered from limited involvement by grassroots organisations and CBOs in the NSCFs and the policy hubs. This was in part due to an unsatisfactory stakeholder analysis in the member states. The RT recommended that a proactive approach should now be adopted to include grassroots organisations in the policy hubs and working groups even if it meant expanding the numbers and/or substituting some of the policy hub/working group members for a more representative grassroots involvement. In their response, the Project team agreed that the involvement of grassroots organisations was limited in some in-country NSCFs and that this was not desirable. The team had recognised this and was adopting a proactive approach to including such organisations in both the policy hubs and the working groups.

On the appropriateness of OVIs, the RT pointed out that the OVIs for the 4 Result Areas were unlikely to be met within the dates set out in the logical framework, in part because of the late start to project implementation. The RT hence recommended that 2009 rather than 2008 should be the likely date of accomplishment of the OVIs and they needed to be updated accordingly. In their response, the project team agreed that the time frame needed to be revised and felt that in most cases, 2010 would be a more appropriate time frame. The team would also eventually propose new OVIs to the SC.

Mr. Smith informed the meeting that the RT felt that IGAD-LPI had not only increased the visibility of the IGAD Secretariat but had also assisted the IGAD Secretariat to prepare a very important concept note for possible funding. The SC meetings had also provided a forum for CVOs and other professionals in the industry to make their voices heard and to exchange ideas. The RT considered this as unplanned results and beneficiaries.

Impact analysis

On this, Mr Smith informed the meeting that the RT felt that it was in most cases still too early to gauge the impact of the project. IGAD-LPI had been responsive to changing circumstances but still had a lot to do in a reduced time frame. The RT had also noted that the indicators at the overall objective level were not measurable. The Project team expressed their confidence that the project would likely lead to a positive impact. The RT in turn suggested that the project would have to fast track all the remaining activities. The indicators at the objective level would however need to be dropped since they were not measurable against project performance. In their response, the project team argued that if the project activities were to go any faster, then the national partners would not be able to keep up and funds for activities would as a result have to be returned back to the project office.

Mr Smith pointed out that gender and the environment were two cross cutting issues raised in the MTR. Mr Smith underlined that gender did not seem to be addressed in the composition and involvement of grassroots organisations. He noted that gender analysis should have been carried out as part of each country's stakeholder analysis.

Mr Smith observed that environmental considerations would only be considered through environmental assessments built in to subsequent investments.

Sustainability

Ownership and policy support: Mr Smith informed the meeting that the RT felt that the member states, government and civil society, appeared to have embraced the project, its objectives and approach to implementation. In the case of IGAD there was however far less ownership because of the legal relationship with FAO. The RT found that at the higher levels of governments there was recognition of the objectives of the project. Each IGAD member state however had its own procedures for policy making and it was not always evident that this was fully understood by the in-country teams. The RT found that some of the internal processes of policy making were not clear to all of the in-country teams and that this would require support from the project office through visits and onsite support. The project noted this and would hence forth be spending more time supporting in-country teams.

Regional policy measures: Mr Smith informed the meeting that the RT felt that IGAD was being left behind by other REOs. Some REOs for instance were getting into IGAD areas such as livestock. Other REOs were unifying rules and regulations on trade as evidenced by the end of October tripartite meeting in Uganda between COMESA, EAC & SADC on harmonisation plans. Mr Smith noted that IGAD was not represented in this meeting. IGAD needed to develop a road map with a stronger, clearer idea as to where it was going, bearing in mind the Heads of States' request for a minimum integration plan and ongoing study findings. This would involve IGAD undertaking a self-evaluation to identify its comparative advantage. The project needed to assist IGAD in preparing a road map for regional economic integration bearing in mind IGAD's role *vis a vis* COMESA and EAC.

In their response, the project informed the meeting that they had agreed to do this and to provide support in other areas to strengthen the Secretariat as mentioned above. The project team informed the meeting that coincidentally the RT mission and the project staff met a team from the ECA, which had the task of defining a minimum integration plan for IGAD as requested by the IGAD Heads of State meeting held in June 2008 and a subsequent workshop was held by the ECA team in early November 2008 which IGAD LPI in their support for IGAD, attended and delivered a paper.

At this point, Dr Zziwa expressed his concerns that the RT may be going beyond its mandate in issues related to IGAD. He pointed out for instance, that IGAD was indeed represented in the Kampala meeting and that afterwards IGAD held an extraordinary summit meeting in Kenya to revitalize itself. In response, Mr Smith pointed out that the Kenyan summit was held at the end of November 2008 and was therefore not covered in the presentation as it was held after the conclusion of the field work by the RT. As for the Kampala meeting, the RT was informed that IGAD did not send any representatives. Mr Smith again stressed that regional harmonization within IGAD could be superseded by rules and agreements of other regional organizations as there was overlapping membership by countries. Some countries were members of COMESA, EAC and IGAD at the same time. There was therefore need for IGAD to clearly articulate its rules and regulations, particularly as relates to livestock and other REOs.

Institutional capacity: Mr Smith informed the meeting that there were questions on the sustainability of the policy hubs in the member states and whether the institutional capacity existed to sustain the hubs even after the end of the project. He noted that only Kenya seemed to have the institutional arrangements in place that could ensure the sustainability of the policy hub. He observed that policy hubs had not held any meetings in the countries as at the end of October 2008, with the exception of Kenya, where the policy hub had just carried out its first meeting. The RT were

concerned that the operations of the policy hubs would be limited by the remaining time frame for planned activities thereby reducing the 'learning by doing' concept which was important for overall outcomes and sustainability. The RT believed that the project should continue the operation of policy hubs beyond the present planned activities to the end of the project in order to ensure that there is as much learning by doing as possible. The RT had however noted that the project team did not necessarily agree with this, given its limited funds and the remaining time available for implementation. The project team argued that policy processes were not perfect and that by making the processes more inclusive they were thereby clearly articulating livelihoods issues. The project team pointed out that the project objective was to create capacity and the political will to use it.

Dr Robinson (FAO) asked if the RT had raised the issue of financial sustainability with participating countries during their field work and whether they had explored ways through which the countries could provide additional funding to take over the policy hubs prior to or after the end of the project. Mr Smith replied that the RT had not discussed such issues with government ministries. He added that it was quite unrealistic to expect the governments to make budgetary provisions for the maintenance of the RT had questioned the sustainability of the policy hubs in the member states policy hubs or any aspect of the project for that matter.

Dr Kiptarus gave the example of the Kenyan model that could be used to ensure sustainability of the policy hubs. A operating stakeholder analysis system was already in place at the district level. The RT confirmed that Kenya of all IGAD members had a very active institutional arrangement for livestock through the livestock ministry, which was very active and had the ability to maintain the policy hubs and other project activities through the agriculture sector coordinating unit. The support of donors was important for the agricultural sector including livestock. What was of concern was the capacity of other member countries to sustain the policy hubs.

Mr Smith went on to report that the RT found out that the Policy Hubs were not always embedded in existing government institutions. The RT recommended that the Policy Hubs should as much as possible be part of existing livestock ministries' organisational set up for policy making and as much as possible should be adapted to local conditions. The CTA however noted that the hubs were indeed embedded in the respective ministries responsible for livestock.

The project team informed the meeting that on the regional policy framework for animal health as relates to trade and vulnerability, they were looking for a 'consensus position' in the member states and not necessarily for a country position cleared at ministerial level because of time limitations. The project team also felt that that if there was a problem related to the continuity of the Policy Hubs, then the next best option was to maximise on the capacities engendered by the Project. The Project team recognized that some of the messages on the operation of the Policy Hubs would need to be repeated by Project staff until they were clarified.

Coordination among donors: Mr Smith noted that it was not clear to the RT how the framework of the ALive partnership would contribute towards the sustainability of IGAD-LPI especially since there had been no reciprocating support hitherto from the organisation. The IGAD Partners Forum was the basis for donor meetings to support the IGAD Secretariat although it was not clear how this forum would support project sustainability. As long as the PPLPI continued implementing activities then it would provide support to IGAD-LPI. PPLPI was however approaching project closure in 2009 and it would therefore do little towards IGAD-LPI sustainability.

Financial adequacy and sustainability: On this, Mr Smith informed the meeting that the RT noted that the funds may currently be adequate for the project but they were inadequate for the sustainability of project activities after closure. Government recurrent cost funding was unlikely and the non-governmental sector appeared unwilling and/or unable to fund the initiative fully since this would reduce

government interest and commitment. Financial sustainability by the Project itself was not relevant since none of the entities under the project were revenue generating.

Mr Smith informed the meeting that the issue of project sustainability was critical for the project mechanisms such as the policy hubs. There were budgetary constraints which would lead to the question as to how sustainable such mechanisms and processes were. Dr. Jutzi asked whether there could be discussion/agreement with government ministries for additional funding to take over the policy hubs. Mr Smith replied that the member countries had so far made no provision for budgetary/financial support for the policy hubs and it was quite unrealistic to expect them to do so at the end of the project.

The overall conclusion of the RT on sustainability was that on balance there were serious concerns on project sustainability. The start up of the Policy Hubs in the countries had been very slow and in general, there was the feeling that the Hubs would not survive till the end of the Project. There were questions on the sustainability of the information systems given that there were other competing systems being developed or that had been developed and that were no longer functional. Delays in Project start up had impacted on the commitment and sustainability of grassroots organisations since there had been big time gap in several countries between NSCFs and subsequent activities. The RT recommended that it was important to re-engage and revitalise the commitment of civil society and grassroots organisations in the policy processes. The RT also noted that there had been in the past a lack of planning between related events. NSCFs, inventories, policy hubs and so on all needed to be planned and sequenced so that there was a short time lag between the different activities. Careful planning was now required to ensure that events were sequenced so that in-country teams could be provided with required information for Policy Hubs and Working Groups before detailed work started.

Project design: Mr Smith informed the meeting that the RT found that the Project needed to review the list of programs/projects in the region and to select and create linkages with only those that create synergy and add value to the planned activities. Before IGAD-LPI engaged projects/programs being funded through or being managed by other REOs and there were clear areas of overlap, it was important that it undertakes a critical self analysis to clearly identify its competitive advantage and possible niche areas. A Project arrangement, that involved a contracting authority (IGAD) which was not directly involved in implementation, should be explicit in the design about the capacity building objectives and activities for that authority.

Project planning: The RT found that it was imperative that all activities that are linked are clearly identified and sequenced for implementation. Where a series of events are linked closely in a time sequence then careful planning should be carried out to ensure that the human, financial and physical resources necessary for their successful implementation are in place prior to activating the process.

Project management: The RT found that the importance of having a full professional complement of staff in the field for implementation purposes as soon as possible after the effective start date of the Project was considerable. The solution was to appoint one or more staff in the field on a direct hire basis until the laid down procedures could be followed and suitable candidates found by competitive bidding.

Grassroots organizations: The RT found that where pro-poor organisations were involved in seeking solutions to their own problems a strategy which allowed this to happen in a manner acceptable to all stakeholders had to be introduced. This required country specific sector and institutional analysis including in-country policy review/development processes, the target groups' key players involved, and a structured training programme to inculcate the ability to analyse problems and rationally suggest solutions. When choosing grassroots organisations a transparent stakeholder analysis should first be carried out following strict guidelines. An

adequate budget should ensure that local procedures and customs allow and facilitate the meetings by grassroots organisations.

Information systems: The RT found that in developing a livestock information system that can be used over the IGAD region the first priority should be to support and link in with systems, which are either under development or operational, including in-country systems. This entails reviewing in detail the existing systems centralising information in each country's livestock unit through an information node and providing sufficient support for start up. Support will also be required on an ongoing basis but at diminishing levels over time. Hardware and software systems compatibility must also be addressed at all times.

Recommendations

Mr Smith reported on the following recommendations made by the RT:

General and Result 1: the RT did not propose any material change of direction but a continuation of the activities set out in the logical framework with an emphasis on 'learning by doing' at the country level. On activity 1.1 studies needed to be more targeted to address the parameters used to calculate the much quoted contributions of livestock to the agricultural and national GDPs and the potential effects of supportive livestock policies. The remaining 4 country livestock sector policy inventory reports should be prepared in the course of the remainder of the Project. On activity 1.2, the compilation of inventories covering policies, rules and standards was ongoing and needed to be completed prior to the start of Policy Hub and Working Group meetings, building on the considerable number of policies already in place, and identifying the area(s) of the policy and legal frameworks, which needed to be reviewed and retooled to better address the plight of the poor livestock keeper. On activity 1.3, as a public relations exercise IGAD-LPI had been targeting information dissemination and had prepared a number of livestock sector profile brochures/briefs for distribution. The Project needed to explore other means of promoting itself such as strategic use of print and electronic media in IGAD and FAO events. The Project had drafted a communications strategy in November 2007 and requested for the services of an associate professional officer to help support the strategy. The RT supported this and recommended that this be filled through the vacant GIS specialist position.

Result 2: In reference to activity 2.1, the RT noted that the NTFPs at their own meeting agreed that the immediate focus would be on policy and information inventory work, stakeholder workshops and updating of pro-poor policy networks within the IGAD Member States. There was now urgent need to undertake comprehensive sector reviews and institutional analyses. Activity 2.2 was an important Project activity and included the work carried out to date in country policy formulation processes. In the immediate future it would be prudent for the NTFPs to finalise the policy inventories so that they could be made available to the Policy Hubs and Working Groups. The ensuing policy development process should be carried out within the prevailing institutional arrangements to ensure that the policy hub was relevant to country PRSP initiatives. In addition, meetings of the Policy Hubs and Working Groups should continue in order to embed the policy hubs in government livestock policy making units. On activity 2.3, the RT noted that over the last decade there had been a shift in the provision of animal health and production inputs and services from public sector to public-private partnerships, which often did not reflect the prevailing socio-economic realities. The studies carried out to date did not provide this essential information. The RT therefore recommended that the identification of policy and institutional measures that could improve the performance of the livestock service providers should be undertaken at the same time as the inventories.

On Activity 2.4, the RT noted that the Project's strategic direction takes a regional approach to issues that are common to the IGAD member states. Project policy formulation and recommendations relate to a regional policy framework for animal health and trade, and engagement with PRSPs. The RT recommended that studies commissioned by IGAD-LPI could serve as a basis for identifying policy, legal and institutional measures to enhance marketing of livestock and livestock products within and outside the region. On activity 2.5, the RT noted that responses to livestock emergencies had largely been unsatisfactory. This needed to be strengthened. Country studies undertaken to date indicated that the social abilities of working and organising, the institutional context and related policy environments were unsatisfactory and were the main cause of the poor performance. The RT recommended that the Project needed to work with the ICPAC (an IGAD division), veterinary and animal production departments, and food security and national emergency response units in the IGAD member countries to realise this result. IGAD-LPI and the LEGS project were also collaborating on the development of electronic emergency response capacity assessment tools to combat the effects of drought and disease. The RT recommended that the practical application of LEGS should be tested within the current PPR outbreak in regions of Kenya, Ethiopia and Somalia

Activity 3: On Activity 3.1, the RT noted that guidelines had been prepared to assist NINCs to identify required livestock information. This process needed to be finalised as soon as possible. In the longer run the lists of essential information needed to be modified, based on experiences learned in this first pro-poor policy formulation exercise and should also provide guidance on the content of the information systems. On activity 3.2, the RT observed that all IGAD member countries had a livestock information system in some form or other. These needed to be clearly documented by the Project in order to determine the outputs that could be obtained from these activities. Further in establishing a regional system of data management, the capacity building of actual users was a priority. The trained users could then train others so as not to lose the benefits of the training. It was also important that system compatibility be taken into account. On Activity 3.3, the RT noted that to date the project relied on EXTRAPOLATE, poverty maps, economic performance studies and the information inventories as the decision support tools. Of these, EXTRAPOLATE remained more of a research tool that was not widely used and its practical and widespread use could be put into question. The Project therefore needed to concentrate on other time tested and practical decision support tools. On Activity 3.4, IGAD-LPI was still developing indicators of policy change at different levels and thus the RT was not able to evaluate their appropriateness. They however needed to be developed.

Activity 4: On Activity 4.1, the RT noted that IGAD-LPI had just commissioned inventories of NGO's in the livestock sector; reports of which had not yet been received. Due to the ever changing business and foci of local and international NGOs and considering their political origins and allegiances, the RT recommended that the Project should focus on CBOs and lay and professional associations operating in the livestock sector/industry. On Activity 4.2, the RT noted that there was no indication from the available reports that IGAD-LPI had facilitated regional representation at international policy fora. The RT recommended that given the increasing realisation in ESA that free trade and harmonisation in many areas is important for overall prosperity, then to the extent possible the Project should support regional representation whether it is in Africa or elsewhere and should cover as wide a range of topics relevant to livestock as is practical. On Activity 4.3, the RT observed that there did not appear to have been any out or in-country training for grassroots stakeholder organisations to assist and enable them to contribute more effectively to policy formulation. This was an area that should be given a higher priority over the remainder of the Project.

Possible follow on project:

Mr Smith reported on the following recommendations of the RT:

On overall objective and purpose, the RT recommended that IGAD should actively seek donors from then onwards to fund the follow on investment in order to avoid interruption at the end of the current Project. The overall objective of the follow on project should be similar to that of the existing IGAD-LPI since the task of meeting the overall objective would take considerably longer than the first 5 year time slice investment. The IGAD-LPI purpose in broad terms was appropriate for the follow on project, which should build upon the achievements of the existing Project. There however needed to be greater emphasis on strengthening capacity in IGAD and member states.

On the core activities the RT recommended that the formulation of evidence based, pro-poor, national and regional livestock policy recommendations involving representatives of all stakeholders including the ultimate beneficiaries should continue. The Policy recommendations needed to be supported by PRSPs and country information systems.

The RT recommended that in the follow on project, IGAD should continue to be the recipient of funding. There should be much closer links with IGAD in implementation to the extent that any livestock unit involved in this should be embedded in IGAD's formal structure. The RT recommended that IGAD should be included in the information systems upgrade and that IGAD should be actively supported in its wider role of national, regional and international livestock trade regulation and promotion.

Finally the RT recommended that in country project policy formulating units must be mainstreamed into existing policy units in each country and should not run in parallel. This should be reinforced both as a principle and in practice. The emphasis should be on gender equity and participatory practices. There should be sufficient funds and emphasis should be on training. Hands-on technical support (not just studies) should be provided on an as needed basis in any areas identified by the policy formulators. Finally the RT suggested that the follow on Project duration should be at least 5 years. Mr Smith concluded his presentation by thanking the participants for their patience.

Taking over the meeting, the SCM Chairman noted that the MTR and the issues raised in the MTR formed the core of the current meeting. He observed that from the just concluded presentation and accompanying discussions, it was possible to identify variations between countries and regions. This called for the exchange of best practices. He noted that the MTR had concluded that there were policy messages coming out of the project. He suggested that instead of bulky documents, simplified policy briefs should be used in presenting the messages to governments. He then invited all members of the SC to reflect on the MTR.

Dr Jutzi (FAO) observed that the review team had a good grasp of what the Project was about. He noted that he was quite impressed by the presentation and expressed his appreciation to Mr Smith and Dr Munyua for a detailed and thorough report. The review was a reconfirmation of the direction and logical framework of the Project. He also recognized the work of the project team and noted that the visibility had indeed improved in the important stakeholder communication. He noted that IGAD's involvement was critical for the initiative especially after the new changes and IGAD restructuring.

Dr Jutzi had the following observations. On the appointment of CTA, he noted that the review team considered this to be a failure on the part of FAO. He however pointed out that FAO had reported the reason for this to the SC. FAO considered it unsound and difficult to hire a highly qualified person on a temporary basis. On financial reporting, Dr Jutzi noted that the review notes indicated that it was unsatisfactory to IGAD and the Project team/CTA. Dr Jutzi reaffirmed that FAO would do whatever it

could to assess the financial position of the project and to provide timely financial reports in the proper format. Dr Jutzi found the failure, of some FAO country offices to provide proper support to the project, unfortunate and rather embarrassing. He observed that FAO had systems in place to deal with such failures and assured participants that FAO would deal with such bottlenecks.

On upcoming project expenditures, Dr Jutzi noted that there would be more clarity when the work plan was discussed. He however observed that the need may arise to tailor the spending according to the sustainability of the project and the relevance of activities to be undertaken. He noted that this was a high value project of high importance to the IGAD region. He stressed that everything possible had to be done to secure its funding and suggested that IGAD could convene a donor meeting towards this end. Dr Jutzi finally, pointed out that as indicated in the review report, the SC had been working well but something had to be done about the gender composition as no female was represented in both the SC and the project team.

Mr Webber commended the RT for excellent and committed work. He noted that it was unfortunate that the project had experienced administrative problems that could have affected its ability to achieve its objectives and observed that a year ago; he had feared that the project might fail. He however noted that given the review report and other activities put in place by the project, it was fair to assume that the project would indeed achieve its objectives. Mr Webber expressed his interest to learn more about how the livestock sector was included in member states budgets and how resources were sourced domestically. He noted that PRSPs were high level technical reports and expressed interest to learn how these documents provided for international negotiation or the role they played in internal advocacy for the livestock sector.

Mr Webber stressed the problem of sustainability. He noted that the review had provided a timetable for a follow up phase 2 Project. No estimate of funding required was however provided with the timetable. Mr Webber noted that donors would want to know how much a project costs before committing themselves. Regarding the funding from EU, Mr Webber stated that discussions on funding between EU and IGAD under the EDF10 (2010) were quite advanced and would be completed by February 2009. Any slot for the project after that would have to be discussed under EDF 11 for which funds would be available in 2011, which would be too late for the project. He however informed the meeting that in the current EC-IGAD negotiation the focus was on a regionally integrated approach involving thematic areas instead of individual projects. He noted that one of the thematic areas under discussion was bio diversity under which the IGAD-LPI project could be subsumed. He added that with the new administrative structure in IGAD Secretariat, it was possible to forge a close partnership with EC.

Commenting on the ongoing negotiations between IGAD and the EC, the chairman informed the meeting that the negotiation originally involved the identification of projects under the common area of natural resources. He however observed that due to lack of consistency in this broad approach, the area of natural resources had to be broken down into component parts. The first one was water, one of the most important resources in this region and a major priority for EU's involvement in the Horn of Africa. The second area being negotiated was climate change involving issues such as renewable energy technologies, CO2 emissions and the carbon market. The IGAD region was also very rich in geothermal energy, which was considered to be an alternative source of energy. This component involved the monitoring and assessment of the development of climate change and ICPAC was quite advanced in this aspect. The third area being negotiated was biodiversity, which was linked to the establishment of a pastoralist development centre, and which could include the IGAD-LPI. A fourth area being negotiated was human security which included issues such as migration, youth, refugees, returnees and internally displaced people (IDPs). Several committees were currently involved in the process of identifying and revising

individual projects within these areas. The funding would be for the following year (2010) which would coincide with the completion of the IGAD LPI project. He however cautioned that EDF discussions did not accept the continuation of previous projects and that an IGAD-LPI follow-up would have to be presented as a new project with a different label, not Phase II.

Dr Zziwa expressed his appreciation for the work of the review team. He pointed out that for IGAD there was far less ownership because of the distance between FAO and IGAD. More involvement such as participation in regular meetings would facilitate a sense of IGAD ownership and good communication on relevant issues. He found the recommendation for a livestock unit within IGAD commendable. He however cautioned that the location of the unit did not have to be emphasized at such an early stage to avoid competition for its location among the IGAD member states. Dr Zziwa also requested the project team to forward to him any information they came across on the Livestock Marketing Information System being funded by CIDA. He noted that the Information Nodes under IGAD-LPI seemed to be engaged in a similar activity and raised the possibility of synchronizing with the IGAD LMIS to ensure sustainability and to avoid duplication. He finally informed the meeting that other regional organizations had similar projects and noted that it would be wise to share experiences. SADC for instance was one year ahead of IGAD LPI and sharing best practices, and comparing notes with them could be useful.

Mr Kiptarus picked up on the same point and asked whether the livestock information system that was previously being developed by IGAD was now integrated within IGAD LPI. He noted that in the case of Kenya, the livestock ministry had come together with ILRI and USAID to create an internet based national livestock market information system to provide information on prices based on grades. He also noted that other countries such as Ethiopia, Kenya Uganda, Tanzania and Sudan were also on a similar track. He recommended that country reports being produced on early warning systems should be shared between member countries. Mr. Kiptarus pointed out the case of Uganda and Kenya, both of which had good systems for livestock policy formulation involving a technical task force for the preparation of a draft report, discussions among stakeholders at the regional and national levels, and the presentation of the policy document to the cabinet in the form of a cabinet memo which would finally lead to the policy document being debated by the national parliament. He noted that other IGAD member states could learn from these national level policy making processes. He finally observed that the RT presentation did not include reallocation of funds given the need to identify priority areas.

Dr Qeyliye appreciated the clear and well presented report by the RT. He again emphasized that Somalia was lagging behind other states because of the civil war. He however noted that a lot of work had been done by FAO with consultants in the preparation livestock policy documents. NGO's were also involved in this work. Terranova had for example a project on livestock enhancement capacity. These documents were to be discussed and decided upon by the council of Ministers and Parliament. Private and public institutions could provide all this information. He reminded the meeting that he hoped that the special support Somalia needed would be given due consideration in the work plan for 2009.

Dr Peeling, responding to some of the issues raised, noted that the Project team had been working very hard and was therefore not able to go deep into Project evaluation. He thanked the review team for such a detailed and deep evaluation. He acknowledged that the budget was indeed tight, and observed that the SC needed to identify and decide on what could be undertaken within the available resources when the work plan was presented. He noted that the project could engage with some of activities being proposed by the SC but the challenge was how to reconcile the project objectives with such activities. Taking the example of ILMIS, Dr Peeling noted that this was clearly a valuable infrastructure project but which could not fit in terms of the core mission of IGAD LPI which was engagement with PRSP and the regional policy

framework for animal health and trade. He noted that questions could be asked as to how to link the two information system, the ILMIS and the information nodes in the IGAD-LPI. The difference would specifically arise in the target groups. IGAD-LPI target groups were policy makers while for the ILMIS the target groups were the traders and not the policy makers, and there was no specific linkages between the two. He concluded that such suggestions would therefore be evaluated within the project mission.

Mr Smith expressed his gratitude for all the comments which he said he would communicate to his colleague Dr Munyua. He noted that it had been quite a strenuous trip and observed that everybody in the countries had been very supportive, in arranging meetings and discussing issues. He expressed his appreciation to the Project office in Addis, FAO in Rome, the European Commission. He noted that the comments were well made and that the RT had taken note of all comments. He reminded the meeting that his presentation was a draft and he expected the final report to be submitted by the end of December 2008 and the comments would be included in that final report.

The Chairman wrapped up the day's proceedings by recognizing from the comments of the SC, the continued commitment by FAO to support in country teams and to remove constraints by FAO country offices. He noted that IGAD had mentioned the ILMIS as one of its priorities and a way needed to be found to integrate it with the IGAD-LPI. He noted that the policy making process was indeed very important and the Project should take a look into that in the statement to policy. He also emphasized the special status of Somalia and the need for special attention to be accorded to Somalia.

The meeting adjourned at 17:30.

PRESENTATION OF 2009 WORK PLAN (DR PEELING)

The second day of the SCM 4 commenced with a presentation of the workplan for 2009 by the CTA of IGAD-LPI Dr Dil Peeling. He disaggregated the Project into its component results and activities and elaborated the work plan for 2009 against each one of these activities (see Annex 2). He stressed that the precise cost/spending for the activities could not be tracked as of now. The Policy Hubs and Working Groups would however claim the bulk of the Projects resources. He finally informed the meeting that it would be possible to have a more accurate figure on the remaining budget by January/February of 2009, upon which decisions could be made on the activities of the fourth and fifth years of the project.

Beginning with Activity 1 of Output 1 (see Annex 2), Dr. Peeling indicated that all the pertinent activities had been completed and the Project had moved on to the second phase of implementation. Through the activities of the past three years, it had been possible to understand the role of the livestock sector in the IGAD regional and national economies, and a first rate study had been conducted on the links between livestock, livelihood and poverty. The second activity under output 1 was to compile inventories of existing policies, rules and standards and to determine their effect on different strata of livestock-dependent people. The review of national livestock policies fell under this activity and consultants would be hired for the review to be carried out in Ethiopia and Djibouti. This activity would be finalized by April of 2009. Now that the Project had been able to create the context of the gaps to be addressed at national and regional level, it was in a position to constructively engage with other initiatives of which AU -IBAR was a major one. Another planned activity to be done in collaboration with AU-IBAR was mapping out the various policies, institutions and interventions impacting on the livelihoods of poor livestock keepers in the region. On receipt of clearance from AU IBAR, the project would undertake this activity which would be completed by December 2009. The calculation of the role of livestock in GDP was raised by the MTR. The Project team believed that the livestock figures in already existing GDP calculations was underrepresented due to the difficulty in accounting for livestock and lack of information. The Project planned to commission a study to review how the livestock component in GDP was calculated in selected countries in order to understand the real contribution of livestock to GDP.

The third activity falling under output 1 was the development and implementation of targeted public relations strategies. Within this, was the activity dealing with increased resource allocation for the livestock sector under the national PRSPs. The Policy Hubs and Working Groups would engage with PRSP processes at national level towards this end. On the recruitment of a communications officer, buying communications equipment and improving spatial data capacity, Dr. Peeling noted that the SC had made the decision during its Monday session, to give the Project team leeway to decide on these issues which would however be finalized by April 2009. By the same token the Monday session of the SC had also recommended that the IGAD LPI website (www.igad-lpi.org) should be kept under FAO until IGAD was ready to take it over.

The second activity under output 2 was the analysis and debate of policy options. Dr Peeling noted that national positions on the Regional Policy Framework on Animal Health and Trade would be completed in June 09. This date would however be firmed up after consultation with NTFPs in January 2009. The regional level harmonization and wrap up was expected to be finalised at the end of 2009. With reference to Regional Economic Integration, Dr Peeling informed the meeting that the Project provided technical support to the IGAD secretariat in analysing the implications to the livestock sector; prioritising areas of harmonisation; coordinating with other RECs;

and, supporting member states to understand the implications and opportunities of regional economic integration as they develop the regional policy framework on animal health and trade. The Project expected IGAD to identify and list its needs, and to produce a roadmap for regional economic integration and the formation of a free trade area. Livestock was one of the priority areas for regional trade as IGAD enjoyed a comparative advantage in that sector. The IGAD- LPI had the advantage of experience in the identification of conditions for regional trade in livestock, which included the removal of barriers to livestock trade. There were non transparent, complicated and arbitrary restrictions on national and regional trade. The role of the Project in relation to regional integration was twofold. The first was in relation to the provision of technical support in mapping out the programme and the second role recognized that economic integration was not an end in itself, but a means towards economic advantage and making the most out of trade. The project had a continuing advantage in ensuring that the benefits of economic integration reached the livestock dependent poor.

To identify measures to improve service provision a donor workshop was scheduled for March 2009. The activities to identify measures to improve marketing involved an improved understanding of how the poor participate in and benefit from markets which was to be finalized by July 2009. It also involved the analysis of benefits of different control techniques for Trypanosomes to be completed by June 09.

Turning his attention to the identification of information needs and uptake pathways, Dr Peeling noted that a critical activity was conducting inventory of livestock related information in the IGAD region. For this purpose national level consultants would be hired and the inventory would be completed within the first three months of 2009. Information nodes were already in place for the establishment of systems for data and knowledge collection, processing and dissemination. The information systems would be designed based on a prototype that would be developed at the Project office. Training and support would be provided for the national information nodes. An Institutional Home for the spatial Data would be identified by December 2009. Policy contents, processes and outcomes would be monitored for purposes of identifying and monitoring indicators of policy change at different levels. The process would be monitored from the perspective of a better understanding of livelihoods and participation. The framework for monitoring the outcome of policies would be put in place by June 2009.

Dr Peeling pointed out that for the purpose of supporting the establishment and/or development of professional and grassroots organisations and facilitating their participation in livestock policy processes, national inventory of Non Governmental organizations (NGOs) Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and Community based organisations (CBOs) would be carried out in the IGAD member states by April 2009. The identified NGOs, CSOs and CBOs would then become part of the Policy Hubs and Working Groups according to their areas of expertise. Concluding his presentation, Dr Peeling informed the meeting that to meet stakeholder training needs and for capacity building purposes, training would be conducted on mainstreaming gender and livelihoods in livestock policy making. For the indicative costing of the work plan 2009, see Annex 4.

Discussion

The Chairman opened the floor for comments and questions on the workplan and budget presentation. Dr Zziwa thanked the CTA for his presentation and putting the work plan in the context of the lifespan of the Project, noted that 2009 would be the most important year for the project in terms of implementation. Referring to the format of the presentation, he observed that the work plan would have been easier to understand if it had been presented in a tabular form. This would facilitate follow up

of implementation, achievements and challenges. The SC agreed with the observation and requested that for future Steering Committee Meetings, possible recommendations should be noted during the meeting, to be reported back to the committee as draft recommendations for adoption.

On national allocation of resources to the livestock sector, Dr Zziwa reminded the meeting of the resolution by African Heads of States and Governments (The Maputo Declaration) to allocate at least 10% of their budgets to the agricultural sector. He pointed out the possibility of governments providing funds for the livestock sector within this commitment. Dr Zziwa further asked how the Project planned to approach coordination of IGAD with other RECs and whether this would involve sending consultants to the respective institutions or convening joint meetings and consultations. He noted that identifying arrangements and mechanisms for coordination in terms of livestock was important. He informed the meeting about an EU funded initiative to provide around 1 billion Euros for food security, around which five regional organizations recently met in Gambia and agreed to form a joint program for absorbing the funds. He suggested that the Project could explore ways of linking with such initiatives.

Dr Zziwa referred the meeting to a new terminology called 'tangibility', and argued for the importance of producing a summary of the workplan in a tangible and understandable manner for the consumption of decision makers/politicians. An incoming communications officer could lend a hand in this respect. In a related issue, he stated that the six months' time frame for the preparation of the Regional Policy Framework (RPF) was too long, stressing that the RPF was a tangible result that could appeal to donors and politicians and that should be completed at a relatively shorter period of three months with the addition of more resources and consultants. Dr Zziwa finally observed that the Project seemed reluctant to fund the LMIS. He noted that a similar system for crop marketing information died away because of lack of funding and stressed that the ILMIS faced a similar fate. He argued that the activities of the Project were related to ILMIS and requested for a way to support it.

Dr Qeyliye recognized the orientation of the Project and specifically the intentions within the 2009 work plan to improve the market to allow poor people to participate and benefit. He however noted that there had to be a clearer understanding of contentious terms such as pro poor, gender, human rights, civil society, professional associations and the like. For instance, in the case of Somalia, there were no organized grassroots associations that could effectively participate in policy formulation. Therefore one had to be specific on what one meant by grassroots and how this applied to specific contexts.

Dr Qeyliye once again reiterated that Somalia should be given special treatment in the work plan due to the objective conditions in the country. To illustrate his point he mentioned the plan to hold national workshops, observing that due to security concerns and transportation problems, this was unrealistic in the case of Somalia as a single national workshop was not impossible. Instead, he suggested three workshops, one each for South Western, Central and Northern parts of Somalia respectively, in light of which the allocated budget of USD 10,000 (ten thousand US Dollars) may not be enough. He requested for the possibility of providing training in addition to those planned on livelihoods and gender, noting that there was a dire shortage of livestock specialists in Somalia. The Project could fill that gap by funding technical training in addition to training on policy formulation.

Dr Nouala indicated that the special circumstances of Somalia should be considered by the Project team. He requested for clarification on the livestock information system whether the Project supported existing information systems or created new systems. He noted the importance of coordination with AU projects, both donor and AU funded. He finally noted that the increased spending in agriculture within the auspices of NEPAD (the Maputo declaration) was separate from national PRSP processes.

Responding to the views on LPI involvement in LMIS, Dr Peeling stressed that the LPI and LMIS had different target groups, different types of information and different timeframes. LPI targeted policy makers whereas LMIS provided information mainly for traders. LPI was expected to be concluded in 2010 whereas LMIS required a longer term involvement with proper funding. He felt that it would be difficult for the LPI to get involved in LMIS due to these reasons, adding that the final decision would have to be made by the SC.

Dr Zziwa on the other hand stated that the LMIS was originally funded by CIDA. It was a two years project and an extension of Crop Marketing Information System. He added that all the necessary steps for a regional livestock information system were in place. The countries had separate individual livestock marketing information systems. What was unfinished was to integrate this national data into national aggregate data. He informed the meeting that a single workshop with a budget of not more than USD 80,000 (eighty thousand US Dollars) would be enough to conclude the project. He added that the system was in fact included at the beginning of IGAD-LPI and was not contradictory to the overall objectives of the Project.

Dr Robinson replied that the original text agreement document does state that the information system could build on the existing LMIS. He noted however that other activities that were raised in the original agreement, such as dairy production in Uganda, were discontinued once the Project was up and running due to irrelevance or shift of Project focus. The question here was whether the LMIS fitted into the current IGAD-LPI priorities. He added that he was sceptical on what a single workshop could do to address the sustainability of the LMIS.

All the members of the SC were requested to express their views on the issue. Dr Qeyliye pointed out similar projects being carried out in Somalia by Terra Nova. He noted the availability of information at the national level and agreed on the linking of LMIS with IGAD-LPI. Mr Kiptarus cited the Kenyan example to highlight the importance of information in livestock marketing. There was an open marketing system at the village, district and national levels, to link pastoralists with traders. FAO itself supported the Kenyan NLMIS which was comprehensive so that traders could know the price in a specific location at a specific time. Pastoralists could also access the information. He noted the need for the regional consolidation of such information and the possible role that the Project could play in this.

Dr Agib also mentioned that similar projects existed in the Sudan noting that there was a pilot program for livestock information funded by the World Bank that had been implemented for the past two years in six localities. He emphasised the role for LPI in coordinating and providing technical assistance to such projects. Dr Djibril informed the meeting about a COMESA supported project (FEMIS) that included livestock market information, whose main problem was the availability of trained manpower, an area in which the Project could play a role. Dr Berhe emphasised the importance of market information at the national and regional level. He added that the Project could prioritize its activities enabling some finance to be redirected towards support for the LMIS.

Dr Jutzi reminded the meeting that the Project was set to prioritize its activities to those related to the Regional Policy Framework, the Policy Hubs and Working Groups. He noted that without information, market and trade were unthinkable. Both policy makers and traders, the target groups of LPI and LMIS respectively, could potentially benefit from livestock related information. He however emphasised the need to make sure that the system was sustainable. Mr Webber reminded the meeting that the LMIS was funded by a different donor, noting that this was not only a matter of the amount of money involved, but also of principles with regard to funding a project which was initially covered by a different donor. He however confirmed that the EC would accept the decisions of the SC, if the benefit of the LMIS could be justified by the IGAD member states,

Dr Jama was asked to give his expert opinion on the issues raised. He informed the meeting that he was originally involved in the establishment of the LMIS. He noted that different countries were now using different livestock information systems. Uganda was using the Food net Program. Kenya had the GLIS. Ethiopia was using LINKS for expansion and utilization of markets. Sudan had a new information system, SIFSIA. In Djibouti, the data collection system was still paper based as the system was not computerized. He noted that fixing the LMIS at this stage would be difficult. Instead of a single workshop, which he said would not do much to make LMIS sustainable, he suggested that one expert could travel to the countries to address the problems and assist in regional information coordination. This, according to him, would be a more targeted, less expensive approach.

The SC finally decided that IGAD-LPI should provide assistance to the successful completion of LMIS. IGAD and the CTA were advised to work out the modalities of the assistance. The Project involvement should however take into consideration the overall purpose and direction of the Project.

Dr Djibril on his part noted that the work plan did not present activities geared towards building capacity of grassroots and community based organizations in policy formulation process. Dr Peeling once again informed the meeting that consultants would be hired to do an inventory of NGOs, CSOs and CBOs, which would contribute towards the composition of the policy hubs and working groups. NGOs, CSOs and CBOs as members of the policy hubs and working groups would be part of the recipients of training on livelihoods and gender. He observed that the civil society would play a key role in the policy processes leading up to the development of the regional Policy framework on animal health and trade and engagement with PRSPs. Dr Peeling however noted that capacity building went beyond simple training, and involved the creation of institutional space for civil society's involvement in policy making as both governments and civil society had their role to play in policy processes.

Dr Agib informed the meeting that an animal census was being undertaken in the Sudan and that the Sudan would require technical assistance on this. He pointed out the security related problems in Darfur, noting that Darfur was an important livestock producing region in the Sudan. The Project was however hampered from reaching Darfur due to instability. In a similar manner, South Sudan had been excluded from the project activities. He pointed out the need to coordinate and collaborate with the Government of South Sudan. He informed the meeting that a new and united farmer and pastoralist union had been formed, which would contribute to improved participation of grassroots organizations in policy making. He noted that in the work plan, Dr Peeling had stated that the study on the contribution of livestock to GDP would initially be done in two countries. He expressed his hope that Sudan would be one of the countries, as he felt that the country's livestock sector, despite its size and impact, had been underrepresented in national GDP calculations. He requested for a progress report on the provision of hardware for the information node coordinator observing that information on animal health was required to address the Project priority areas.

Dr Peeling responded that Sudan had done a commendable job in the recruitment of the NTFP and NINC. He reminded the participants that the second SCM had, while stressing that the federal government in Khartoum was ultimately the representative of the Sudan in the Project, emphasized the need for a greater level of participation from the Government of Southern Sudan (GOSS). This had however proven to be challenging and needed to be reviewed by the SCM. Referring to the provision of hardware for the information focal points, Dr Jama replied that the location of the Information Node had already been decided. The list of equipment that was required had been compiled and the Project was in the process of procuring them. Dr Jama noted that the animal census being carried out in the Sudan was indeed interesting, and pledged the Project team's willingness to assist.

Dr Berhe noted the Project intention to forge links with AU-IBAR by the end of 2009, and commented that the contact should start earlier. He observed that work plan could have been better presented in such a way as to clearly show the beginning, progress and completion of each activity so as to facilitate measurement and supervision, instead of only stating the completion. On market access for the poor, Dr Berhe proposed that poor pastoralist should be directly targeted thus minimizing or avoiding the involvement of middlemen. Experience showed that the most benefit from livestock trade went to the middlemen, which went against a pro poor policy approach. Finally Dr Berhe asked the CTA if tentative venues for the IGAD ministerial meeting had been decided upon.

Dr Peeling replied that the venue for the IGAD ministerial meeting had not yet been decided upon, noting the importance of deciding early in order to inform relevant ministers early enough for their necessary preparation. In response to the request to bring forward the AU-IBAR collaboration, Dr Peeling noted that IGAD-LPI already had contacts with AU-IBAR and that the first two to three months in 2009 would be occupied with other more urgent activities. He noted that if an agreement on the study on policy and intervention areas could be reached after that then the collaboration with AU-IBAR could kick off by the middle of 2009.

Dr Robinson noted that the first activity of the first output was considered as concluded and hence was not included in the work plan and expressed his belief that the activity should be ongoing. The relationship between livestock and livelihoods was dynamic and needed ongoing analysis. He further added that analyzing the role livestock in GDP was a narrow approach that should be replaced by the analysis of livestock in economic growth. This would broaden the context of the place of livestock within the wider national economy. He questioned the implications of Regional Economic Integration for issues such as animal health and the impact on the poor.

Dr Peeling reminded the meeting that the log frame showed that the analysis of livestock and livelihoods was to be completed in 2007. The activity had however been extended for an additional twelve months. Through a comprehensive study, the project now had a better understanding of the forces and institutions that shape policies. The findings of the study would be integrated into policy making, and would be provided to the Policy Hubs, working groups and national governments and would be used in policy monitoring, training and the like. The analysis of the contribution of livestock to GDP was in itself a lobbying strategy. The broader message here was that livestock was contributing to the wider economic growth through such roles as a means of savings, its contribution to securing livelihoods, and as a source of draught power for agriculture. It was within the context of a lobbying strategy that the Project was looking at the actual contribution of livestock to GDP taking into account its contribution to the wider economic growth. With reference to Regional Economic Integration, challenges included animal disease, consumer protection and poverty. Regional integration in itself however assisted the harmonization of standards to a level that was internationally acceptable. Mr Kiptarus noted that in order to maximize profits for pastoralists and avoid middlemen, pastoralists needed to be organized at the primary, secondary and terminal market levels.

Mr Webber raised several points on the workplan and its budget. He firstly noted that USD 40,000 (forty thousand US Dollars) had been allocated for the ministerial meeting, which according to him looked exaggerated. He wondered whether civil servants working in the Policy Hubs and Working Groups were earning remuneration from the Project. Secondly, he observed that from the reported figures, the total expenditure for 2009 was USD 950,000 (nine hundred fifty thousand US Dollars) which came to around 760,000 Euros (seven hundred sixty Euros) whereas according to the figures in the project document, the annual budget should be around 1.1 million Euros (5.5 million divide by five years). He requested for an explanation regarding this discrepancy. He further noted that the budget fitted well with the project contribution agreement. He added that any budget amendment might take time. He

pointed out that the annual payment tranche by the EC would be released once the annual report and the financial report were submitted. Any problems with financial reporting might delay disbursement.

Dr Peeling responded that the budget for the ministerial meeting was deliberately made higher for several unknowns such as the size of the delegation/entourage and the technical support that was required by participants. The actual expenditure was expected to be lower. He stated that civil servants participating as NTFPs and NINCs were being paid according to the rules of the respective governments. The decision to pay and how much should be paid was negotiated by the respective governments and FAO. This was not an ideal mechanism as it was unfair and created inconsistency. However given the tremendous amount of work that the NTFPs and NINCs were engaged in, it was fair that they were being remunerated.

Dr Peeling pointed out that the 2009 budget was prepared taking into consideration the following: the money available for activities, the amount that remained from previous years and the money that should remain for the final year of the Project. As it now stood, Dr Peeling estimated that around 200,000 to 300,000 USD would be remaining for the final year of the project. The amounts pegged to activities related to Policy Hubs, regional trainings, workshops and ministerial meetings were only indicative. Financing was tight and some activities would have to be cancelled.

Mr Webber, at this juncture, raised two concerns. Firstly, he pointed out that the financial report that had been provided by the Project had been according to the FAO financial rules and as per the accepted financial reporting system between the EC and FAO. He had however been informed that IGAD had requested for a detailed financial report from now onwards. Secondly, the EC was changing its online payment system from OLAS to ABAC and no payments would be made from December 2008 to January 2009. He stated that the budget amendment would likely take some time and no payment would be made until all the Project reports i.e. the financial report and the budget amendments were submitted. He felt that he should share the information and pointed out that the financial people at the EC were not flexible.

Dr Zziwa noted that the financial reporting system between the EC and FAO was not different from other systems. The contractual agreement clearly identified the required details. The previous financial reports had been too brief and inadequate, and IGAD had objected to this. The agreement according to him was that there was need to account for expenditures against the related activity line and to make the report detailed. 2009 would be a busy year and there would be some variations in activities and reimbursements thus creating problems.

Dr Robinson responded that the initial contractual agreement did recommend expenditure by activity. He noted that the RT had also proposed that financing should be done by each activity. This had however proven to be very difficult over the last three years of the Project because of the nature of Project results. The FAO budget report system was not set up for this. Asked whether financial details could be gathered from FAO country offices, Dr Robinson replied that the accounting division based in Rome had the transaction listings and details of expenditures. National offices did not have the system.

Mr Webber proposed that a meeting should be arranged between Dr Robinson, the EC financial staff and a representative from IGAD. The SC accepted the idea and recommended that the EC, IGAD and FAO should consult and decide on a format for financial reporting that would satisfy all parties.

Concluding the meeting, the chairman requested for any remaining issues regarding the work plan. He noted that issues of prioritization, timeframe, deadlines and realistic expenditures had been raised by the SC members. Finally, subject to the contributions, the work plan was approved by the SC.

Turning his attention to the next Agenda item, the chairman informed the Project team that the presentations should be as brief and focused as possible because of time constraints.

Regional Policy Framework for Animal Health and Trade (Dr Mtula)

Dr Mtula informed the meeting that the IGAD-LPI SC had identified the development of a harmonised regional policy framework for animal health and trade as deserving utmost priority. He informed the meeting that to facilitate the development of the framework, the Project was establishing a bottom-up consultative process of policy formulation in which stakeholders, including those who can articulate the voice of poorer livestock keepers, are represented (the national policy hubs). The hubs would formulate national positions after which IGAD would then facilitate a regional consultative process, based on the national positions, from which the regional policy framework would be drawn. He informed the meeting that the Project had commissioned Dr Melaku Desta (International Trade Lawyer) and Dr Berhanu Admassu (Animal Health Expert) to prepare a brief containing the analysis behind the need for a regional policy framework and to suggest areas that the framework might address. The brief formed an important part of regional consultative visits to IGAD member states carried out by project staff and the consultants in July 2008. The purpose of the consultative visits was to make the project analysis, underpinning the decision to develop the framework, available to key players in the countries and to take the first steps towards regional harmonisation of national priorities. After the consultative visits, reference points on the regional policy framework for animal health and trade had been developed to guide member states in their deliberations as they prepared national positions. Dr Mtula informed the meeting that the sole purpose of the reference points was to provide background information to the policy hubs as they develop their national positions on animal health, in the contexts of trade and of poverty, in preparation for further, regional harmonisation. The responsibility of IGAD-LPI was to facilitate a policy development process that delivers an agreed set of regional objectives (a regional policy framework) and that makes space for the interests of poor livestock keepers to be adequately represented. He pointed out that the discussions and consultations conducted thus far had shown broad agreement on the contents of an IGAD-wide regional policy framework. Dr Mtula noted that the issues could be grouped into the following seven main areas.

The first area was about the development of harmonized regional policies and coordinated response mechanisms related to trans-boundary animal diseases (TADs) and other emergencies, which included the following: Emergencies - establishment of an IGAD-wide system for the exchange of information, experts, expertise as well as the creation of an early warning system; TADs - their transboundary nature means it is better to use regional approaches for their control; Diseases of production (endemic diseases and parasites) - their implications for local markets, and, the effectiveness of animal health policy in targeting poverty and women.

The second area was about the development of regional strategies on how best to participate in, and influence, the international standard setting system relating to animal health and other standards as well as the international trading system that is used as a vehicle to enforce such standards. A principal reason behind IGAD member states' inability to benefit from their otherwise rich livestock resources related to the poor animal health status of the region. Each IGAD member state was working hard to develop livestock and livestock product exports as a priority. The question then was whether IGAD member states should do it in a haphazard and uncoordinated manner or through a deliberate strategy defined at the level of IGAD in a way that could maximize the impact and minimize the cost.

The third area in the reference points was the enhancement of regional capacity to assist national compliance with international standards. Related to this was the need to build the necessary capacity at IGAD level so that member states would get direct technical support from the regional body. The ultimate end, however, remained to build national technical capacity so that each member state would have the means and facilities to implement agreed regional standards. Potentially, this could cover a fairly wide-range of activities, starting from the production phase all the way down the value chain to retail sale. The question here was whether there was a need for a livestock unit at the IGAD Secretariat.

The fourth area was about the development of an IGAD-wide approach to the provision of livestock services including the role of public-private partnerships and a policy on the use of community-based animal health workers (CAHWs) in service provision based on agreed minimum standards. To the extent CAHWs were essential, and so long as there was a need to create a harmonised system of animal health in the region, a set of agreed minimum standards across the region would need to be established so that their services could be recognized throughout the region. Experience from many countries suggested that clinical veterinary service delivery by the private sector operating under normal commercial terms could be the best option. This however implied that the roles of the public and private sectors in each member state would need to be reconsidered.

The fifth area was about the development of an IGAD-wide animal welfare strategy and guidelines. The inclusion of animal welfare in the regional animal health policy framework would recognize the ever-increasing public and scientific attention being given to the topic and the need for intergovernmental leadership in the development of science-based animal welfare policies and guideline. Hence, there was a strong argument for IGAD-wide, science based welfare standards and their effective implementation. An option for taking this forward would be the development of animal welfare guidelines, quite possibly based on existing OIE standards.

The sixth area was about the development of an IGAD-wide free trade area within which the free movement of livestock and livestock products across borders would be legalized, streamlined and promoted subject only to meeting the animal health standards. At IGAD's 12th Ordinary Summit in June 2008, IGAD Heads of State directed the IGAD Secretariat "to develop and implement regional integration policies and programmes". This follows the 2003 IGAD Strategy which gave high importance to economic cooperation and integration "IGAD will focus on changing and harmonizing the policies, procedures and standards necessary to foster an increase in trade among the Member States in two areas: grains and livestock." The development of the Regional Policy Framework on Animal Health would, in itself, be an important step towards the development of an IGAD Free Trade Area for two reasons: the harmonization of policies was an essential step in delivering a FTA; and, conversely, the existence of an FTA was likely to increase the benefits of harmonizing policies. It would therefore be important to review the recommendations emerging from the working groups to see how best they could be crafted to maximize their benefits both for, and from, the formation of a FTA.

The seventh and final area was on Commodity Based Approach to Trade (CBT), providing an alternative way of improving access to international livestock commodity markets. Commodity-based trade was an alternative approach to accessing export markets without the necessity of first eradicating all Transboundary Animal Diseases. This approach was based on the fundamental principle that different livestock commodities inherently pose different risks so far as content and potential for spreading animal pathogens are concerned. This approach focused on the quality of each product and how it was produced (tested for food safety), rather than from where it originated (an approach which required area-based disease eradication).

Dr Mtula concluded his presentation by informing the meeting that a brochure had now been developed charting out the steps leading up to the regional policy framework.

The brochure clearly stipulated the roles of the Policy Hubs and the Working Groups and also showed the support function being undertaken by the Information Nodes. The brochure would enable the NTFPs and the facilitators to provide guidance to the Policy Hub and Working Groups as they developed national positions up to the convening of the technical and subsequent ministerial meeting to agree on the framework. The brochures on the policy process monitoring and PRSP process would similarly enable the NTFPs and the facilitators to provide guidance to the Policy Hub and Working Groups as they engaged with PRSPs and as they monitored both of the policy processes.

Dr Robinson asked what was implied by a framework in the Project's context, how it would be used as a guiding principle and whether it was to be ratified by member states or not. Dr Mtula responded that the framework was a consensus position that delivers an agreed set of regional objectives (a regional policy framework) and that makes space for the interests of poor livestock keepers to be adequately represented. At national level, positions would be developed on issues that the countries would like to agree on at the regional level. Thereafter, it would be up to the individual countries to adjust/develop national livestock policies that would respond to the agreed upon regional objectives. Dr Peeling added that the reference points were not prescriptive, but would facilitate dialogue and provided a starting point towards a regional policy framework.

Dr Berhe noted the important role played by the private sector and CAHWs and pointed out that the latter should be living with and come from the communities. He observed that the effects of TADs and parasitic disease on animals were felt by both men and women but that the interests of women should be given attention.

Strategic Inclusion of Livestock in PRSPs (Dr Jama)

Dr Jama stated that the livestock sector had been neglected in PRSPs' because of the inadequate understanding of the PRSP process itself as the PRSPs were too generalized, with poor analysis of livestock issues and there was also limited stakeholder participation in the formulation of PRSPs. There was also lack of recognition of the contribution of the livestock sector to national economic growth, poverty reduction and food security. Moreover there were gaps in policy-relevant data and information on the livestock sector, an inability of livestock professionals to articulate the existing information for policy decisions, lack of skills of people involved in the policy and institutional issues and lack of co-coordinated, synergetic and sustained approach among the livestock stakeholders and with other sectors.

Dr Jama pointed out that the third SCM gave the Project the mandate to engage with Livestock issues in PRSPs, especially as relates to the need to improve visibility and inclusion of livestock issues in PRSPs. The focus area was improving the process of PRSP formulation and ensuring that livestock's potential was understood and articulated into the process, and strategically built into the PRSP. Policy Hubs were now engaged in the following: forming strategic links with the national institutions in charge of preparing the PRSP; understanding the PRSP process to identify entry points; current status of livestock in PRSP process; understanding the current role of the ministries in charge of livestock and their stakeholders in the PRSP process; awareness creation, ensuring popular and stakeholders participation, information and experience exchange; and, identification of entry points, strategies and issues.

He noted that the approach taken by IGAD-LPI was to work through Policy Hubs and specific Working Groups supported by Information Nodes as they engaged in the process of identifying priority issues for investment in each country. Capacity building for the Policy Hubs was through learning by doing, monitoring and lesson learning with the support of the project. Studies and analysis would be conducted and information

fed into the policy development processes as identified by the Policy Hubs. Issues and strategies for integrating livestock into both the PRSP and the budgeting process that determines the allocation of national funds would be devised and implemented by Policy Hubs. Livestock sector development initiatives would be linked to a clear rationale as to how they would impact on poverty. Entry points would be identified and required actions and strategies would be put in place to accomplish the changes that would ensure appropriate representation of livestock in the PRSP process. Political economy studies and Stakeholder workshops had already started the process of identifying issues to be addressed in this regard.

Regional Economic Integration (Dr Peeling)

Dr Peeling began his presentation by stating that regional integration was already happening among IGAD member states. There was increased regional trade and IGAD-LPI had a role to play in fostering this regional livestock trade. It was also the Project's mandate as the 2nd Steering Committee had recommended that IGAD LPI should have "...as a focus the regulation of markets for livestock and livestock products ... to enable the livestock industry to comply with regulations of national, regional and selected international markets". The region had a comparative advantage in its livestock wealth, and shared the same ecosystems. In addition, animal related diseases were transboundary in nature and affected all the IGAD member states.

Dr Peeling pointed out that national policies required harmonization to create a level playing field by removing taxes and subsidies that distort trade. The steering capacity of the region, both technically and politically, needed to be strengthened. Activities had to be coordinated with other regional organizations like RELPA, COMESA, and EAC to share best practices. He noted that the member states needed to agree on sanitary standards and to harmonize other standards related to health, customs and trade. There was a need to make the most of regional integration through regional harmonisation, decreasing inefficient trade distortions, forging common trade positions and reducing costs to improve the region's international competitiveness.

Asked whether there are winners and losers from regional integration and whether there would be political resistance to regional integration, Dr Peeling responded that exporters generally benefit from it. There was a mixed impact on importers however as they had to compete with imports. While there were individual losers and gainers, he emphasized that the strong case for integration was that the community as a whole gained in terms of welfare and competitiveness.

Project Follow Up (Dr Peeling)

Dr Peeling started his presentation by reminding the participants that the third SCM held in Khartoum requested "...the project management to coordinate the process of identification of follow up to the LPI, beyond its current phase..." and that the SCM expected to discuss the "... the elements of such a follow up, in the context of the discussion of the MTR, in its next meeting." He stated that his presentation had partially been discussed during the presentation of the MTR, where the RT concluded that the overall objectives for a follow up project should be similar to the existing IGAD-PLI. He pointed out that his presentation would cover areas and activities in the event of a follow up to IGAD LPI and how the Project would manage the follow up and the vehicles to take the Project forward in that direction.

Dr Peeling stated that one of the areas of activity would be the elaboration of the RPF, agreeing on the framework at the regional level to give direction on how national policies would subsequently be developed. The RPF was not going to remain a static

document, but would be rolled out at national level, evolving and becoming more complex. The main expression of the RPF would be the development of national policies. He noted that this would be a valid area within which to use the mechanisms and institutions of the project to support the development of national policies.

Another area which remained valid was that if new national policies were to be developed, than this would call for a change in existing systems. This would place new demands on national level organization of health and trade services. There would be a need for institutional support for national institutions. This would involve training at a technical level as part of a broader program of institutional support and change management. Another area would be the provision of further support for IGAD in terms of REI. The 2nd Steering Committee recommended that IGAD LPI should have "...as a focus the regulation of markets for livestock and livestock products ... to enable the livestock industry to comply with regulations of national, regional and selected international markets". Dr. Peeling stressed that this was the most valid and practical way of engaging with those regional and national market issues. What this entailed was to provide support for the gradual elimination of trade barriers, capacity to convene, steer, and prioritise at regional level, delivering REI, and ensuring benefits from REI. The last area where the Project would be engaged in would be giving further support to IGAD in terms of the creation of a livestock unit; a unit within IGAD to manage regional public goods and regional economies of scale. Dr. Peeling however stressed that there were linkages between these areas in the Project follow up as providing support for REI encompassed regional harmonization of policies, support for national institutions and assistance in the formation of an IGAD livestock unit.

Dr Peeling emphasised that time was of utmost importance. As observed in the MTR, there was "... urgency of setting project processing in motion, if there is not to be an interruption at the end of the current Project..." and "... IGAD should be actively seeking donors from now on to fund the follow on investment." He observed that the Project needed to actively seek donors to fund the follow on investment. The first option was the AfDB concept note, after a process involving regional investigations, a regional workshop, and the production of a working paper that was presented to the SC. The last SCM had given priority to this. An alternative source of funding was the EC, who could continue with their investment in the Project to build on its' strength. A donor workshop was planned to link entry points of the Project with donor interests as a means of expanding the possible sources of financial support. Dr Peeling concluded his presentation by indicating that national governments could also possibly provide support if the Project strongly corresponded with their national level priorities.

Discussion

Opening the discussion, Dr Jutzi recalled that the SC had put some effort in discussing the AfDB concept note during the last SCM. The concept note may however not reflect priorities as expected by the AfDB. On EC funding, he noted that there had been a suggestion that the Project could be catered for under biodiversity as part of the pastoralist unit proposed there. He pointed out that if the options for a follow on project were presented at a donors' meeting, then one would have to admit that the stakeholders who had so far invested in the Project, had taken a certain distance. This could to a certain extent discourage alternative donors unless the orientation and achievements of the Projects could be convincingly demonstrated. In terms of looking for support for investment at the national level without having support from outside, he noted that national governments may hesitate to give support to the follow on project. All this was of quite some concern as the Project might be forced to wind up at a time when there was so much optimism.

Dr Robinson agreed entirely with what Dr Jutzi had said. He stated that the prospect for funding looked rather bleak as the AfDB option had been taken out of the Project's hands. Other donors were unlikely to buy into something that was half finished. The logical obvious route, according to Dr Robinson, was for the EC to continue to fund the Project. He noted that the project had done a lot of background, had developed focus and was gaining momentum. A new project would specifically focus on the achievements instead of coming up with a more general design. He pointed out that the ongoing Project budget, of around 6 million Euros, was quite tight and that possibly 8 million Euros would be required for a follow up funding, which would take a big chunk from the allocation of the fourth PIF, under biodiversity considering that there were other competing projects within the focus area. It was important to explicitly state this and to look for ways of securing the necessary resources. He saw two alternatives ways to go about looking for funds. One way was to have a new five year project. The other way was to have a two to three year extension to the existing project. One could avoid losing all the achievements of the Project with a bit more time. He again stressed that the EU was the place to be lobbying, but rather more explicitly rather than making the Project part of an overall proposal coming from IGAD secretariat.

Dr Zziwa informed the SC that IGAD had recently written to the EC delegation in Addis Ababa requesting for the Project extension. Mr Webber confirmed that he had seen the letter Dr Zziwa was referring to. The letter stated that IGAD wanted to send a delegate to discuss the extension with the EC, but Mr Webber stated that he was not aware of any meeting taking place between IGAD and the EC on Project extension. Mr Webber informed the meeting that money under the 9th EDF had already been allocated. He stated that in his opinion, the only way to move forward would be through an LPI phase two, and not an extension to the previous contract. The prospects were indeed dismal. He noted that the idea of slotting the Project into the biodiversity component was not likely to succeed. What should be stressed was that it was a REI Project because this was supposed to be the focal area for the EC's regional indicative programs.

The best chance was for the new Executive Secretary of IGAD, who had started off winning quite a lot of strong points within the EC, to use them to see the possibility of getting IGAD LPI phase II.

Dr Peeling observed that if there was a fifth PIF identified as REI, then the Project would logically and specifically fit into that and it would make a lot of sense. He asked what the processes for the development of the Project Identification Fishes (PIFs) were, and whether it was possible to adjust them. The Chairman informed the meeting that there was a total of 12 PIFs and that IGAD had a role in four of them. COMESA had a leading role in the PIF covering REI and LPI could be brought into this. This should be explored as a way out.

Mr Webber noted that the EC Regional Indicative Programs, which set aside a lump sum of money for the so called NDEFs which goes on from 2008 to 2013 involved four RECs: IGAD, COMESA, EAC, and the Indian Ocean Commission. IGAD was the lead REC for four of these 13 PIFs which meant that although the PIFs were IGAD led they were not restricted to IGAD only. Another concern that the EC might have was that IGAD had come very rapidly from receiving very little funding from the EC to receiving around 15-20 million Euros through programs such as IGAD LPI, REFORM (Regional Food Security and Risk Management) program, Conflict Prevention and Risk Management Program, and with two other projects under the natural disaster facility. There were concerns about the absorbing capacity of IGAD to take on even more commitments. He pointed out that this was his personal opinion and not an official position of the EC.

Dr Nouala was of the opinion that the issue of the follow up of project should mainly be answered by IGAD, since they had initially requested for the project and since they had witnessed the results of the Project. He felt that at this point IGAD should be able to say whether they wanted the project to continue. Discussions on how to continue

could only take place after that. Dr Zziwa stressed that IGAD had actually written to the EC to the effect that they wanted to extend the project. The IGAD commitment was there, and they were looking for ways to make it happen. The best way was not through a time extension of one or two years, but through a reprogramming for a full new phase.

Dr Robinson, proposed that a meeting of the real decision-makers i.e. the Executive Secretary of IGAD, people in the EC, and AU-IBAR if necessary, should be arranged where the current stage of the Project, the lost benefits if the Project stops after its completion, and the additional benefits of a follow up project could be explained so that nothing would be left to chance and issues could be explicitly discussed by people in charge of the decision-making process. Mr Kiptarus suggested that, in addition to reminding the EC delegation of the importance of the Project, the Secretary General of IGAD should dialogue with the President of AfDB on the concept of a follow on Project.

The Chairman reiterated that the Executive Secretary was very much interested in the continuation of the Project and that the secretariat would do everything in its power to ensure its continuity. He felt that the SC must come up with a good recommendation regarding this. Dr Zziwa pointed out that the PIF process could be re-oriented to give high priority to the livestock sector and to include LPI within the biodiversity component. Dr Robinson however stressed that to give it more weight; the project would have to be put more explicitly instead of being presented as an appendage of the biodiversity program.

Dr Nouala proposed that a brief note could be prepared by the Project team outlining the achievements of the Project its potentials and the risks associated with stopping the Project at a certain stage. This note could be presented to the donors to support the Executive Secretary's effort to lobby for a follow up. Dr Peeling reminded the meeting that there was an upcoming donor workshop as indicated in the work plan. The proposed note, backed up by any other information that could be mustered, would be one way to influence the donors attending the meeting. Dr Jutzi proposed that it might be more useful, if Mr Colin Smith as an outside consultant could write a specific dedicated note with the justifications for a phase two of the IGAD-LPI Project.

The chairman summarized the options identified for the follow up project into the following areas. The first option was that the follow up project could be integrated into and be part and parcel of the PIF for regional integration. The second option was for the Executive Secretary of IGAD to approach the EC at a higher level to consult on a second phase of IGAD-LPI. A third option was to focus on the upcoming donor workshop, in light of which a short note for the justification of the project follow up should be prepared by Mr Smith. He also stressed that one should not totally give up on the AfDB option. He pointed out that if in the concept note, the follow up was presented as a phase II of LPI, AfDB may be willing to accommodate it. With this the chairman stated that it was time to go into identification of the recommendations of the SC.

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- The Steering Committee has adopted the annual report and commends the work done by the Project team.
- The Steering Committee appreciates the participation of Somalia in the meeting.
- The Steering Committee endorses the priority submitted by LPI management, on action to be taken at country level, with the national policy hubs in their role in preparing a regional livestock policy framework.
- The Work Program and budget for 2009 as presented by LPI staff is endorsed, whereby any budget reduction after establishing 2008's financial situation should respect this priority.
- Financial Reporting on LPI by FAO needs to be adjusted to accommodate EC and IGAD requirements through agreement of a mutually acceptable format.
- The Steering Committee also supports the recommendation by the MTR regarding the need for the CTA to have more regular financial reports.
- The Steering Committee requests presentation of the Work Plan such that it would support a results-based program management.
- The Steering Committee invites the ES of IGAD to undertake urgent high level discussions with the EC to accommodate an IGAD LPI phase II within EDF 10 in time to avoid any break in implementation of project activities. The Steering Committee encourages the ES to make further approaches to other donors, notably AfDB.
- The MTR team is invited to prepare a short document in support of project extension based on its main findings.
- The Steering Committee has received with satisfaction the draft MTR report and its recommendations. It looks forward to receiving a final report reflecting its discussions.
- The Steering Committee welcomes FAO's commitment to address administrative bottlenecks in support to project activities in country offices.
- The Steering Committee recommends that the project should consider strengthening the IGAD Livestock Marketing Information System. Options should further be discussed between IGAD and the project CTA.
- The Steering Committee requests its national members to identify measures to institutionalize the mechanisms and resources being developed by the project into their own systems and expects presentations from the member states at the next steering committee meeting to that effect.
- The Steering Committee supports the recommendation by the MTR that IGAD be more comprehensively involved in the LPI, such as monthly meetings etc.
- The Steering Committee expresses its warm thanks to its Ethiopian hosts for their hospitality.

- The Steering Committee recommends that its 5th Steering Committee should be held in Djibouti, in the first week of December 2009.

CLOSE OF MEETING

In closing, the Chairman invited Dr Berhe to say a few words. Dr Berhe, on behalf of the host country, expressed his appreciation to participants, donors, IGAD, the CTA and the Project team. The Chairman, on behalf of IGAD, then concluded the 4th SCM by thanking the CTA, the Project team, and all the presenters and participants for a successful SCM. The meeting adjourned at 17:00.

ANNEX A: SPEECH MADE BY THE STATE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT, DR. ABERA DERESSA

Geay

01 December 2008

A Statement by H.E. Dr Abora Deressa, State Minister for MoARD

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to welcome you all to the 4th Steering Committee Meeting of the IGAD LPI.

The recent moves towards the revitalization of IGAD, call for the IGAD secretariat to develop and implement regional integration policies and programmes to make IGAD relevant as a building block of the AU is appreciable.

I note that a regional experts meeting on Regional Economic Integration was recently held in Ethiopia. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the new Executive Director of IGAD Eng. Mahboub Mohamed Maalim to the IGAD Secretariat.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In Ethiopia the agricultural sector encompassing the livestock sector is large. It accounts for about 47 percent of national GDP and 90 percent of foreign exchange. Thus, the agriculture and livestock sector is not only crucial for the country's food security but also an important contributor to the overall economic.

The livestock sector generates about 30% of the total agricultural employment and more than 90% of the croplands are cultivated with draft animals serving as a source of power. Furthermore, livestock rearing is an important source of capital. It accounts for more than half of the rural household's cash income and 15% of export earning.

Livestock therefore plays a significant role in the livelihoods of 85% of the population of Ethiopia.

I believe that IGAD-LPI will strengthen the capacity of IGAD member states, regional organizations and other stakeholders to formulate and implement livestock sector related policies.

*important
much higher
than the*

It enables to identify policy options and investment opportunities to enhance the performance of the livestock sector.

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Ethiopia welcomes the IGAD LPI's support towards agreement on Regional policy framework for animal health and trade.

I welcome IGAD LPIs contribution towards making the role of the livestock sector in food security and economic development more visible in the region.

Projections for the Horn of Africa show a significant increase in the demand for livestock products over the next 30 years, mainly as a result of population increase. Projected growth in per capita consumption of livestock products is generally above the predicted consumption of other food items.

This growth in demand for livestock products can be met largely by in-country production. It is one of the few opportunities to improve livelihoods of the livestock owners. Linking small-scale livestock producers to the expanding markets for livestock products requires significant policy shifts both at national and regional level.

The MoARD encourages projects directed towards improving feed and water resource management, planning and implementation of emergency feeding and watering scheme to reduce vulnerability of livestock to drought situations. We believe that adequate emergency intervention programme require a policy support through the involvement of various stakeholders.

We cannot underestimate the role grassroots organizations in ensuring effective use of resources. In view of this, I call up on IGAD LPI to ensure the involvement of communities in order to guarantee impact of the interventions. It should be noted that livestock production does not offer a universal solution to rural poverty but it represents a practical way to build assets and financial security.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am happy to note that IGAD LPI will be working through a Policy hub within the Multi-Stakeholder National Livestock Policy Forum established under MoARD. The LPF has been working on guidelines to assist the revision or creation of livestock related policies. The "Best-Practice Guidelines" provides an in-depth analysis of emergency response by the national LPF. The LPF will therefore be the ideal location for the IGAD LPI to address its objectives in Ethiopia.

With these few words, I would therefore like to ascertain you that the MoARD welcomes you to Ethiopia and I hope that your deliberations will further enhance the work of the IGAD LPI in the region.

Having said this, I would like to declare that the 4th Steering Committee Meeting of the IGAD LPI is officially opened.

I thank you all!

ANNEX B: AGENDA

Day 1	Sunday 30 November	
17:45	Registration (ILRI)	
18:00	Cocktail & Opening Addresses	
Day 2	Monday 01 December	
09:00 - 09:30	Welcome, introductions	Maina Karaba (Chairperson)
09:30 - 10:30	Report on 2008 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Project Purpose • Results 2 & 4 	Dil Peeling Otieno Mtula
10:30 - 11:00	Break	
11:00 - 11:30	Report on 2008 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Results 1 & 3 	Abdi Jama
11:30 - 12:00	Discussion of Report on 2008	
12:00 - 13:00	MTR Report; Presentation and Discussion	Colin Smith
13:00 - 14:15	Lunch	
14:15 - 15:15	MTR Report; Presentation and Discussion	Colin Smith
15:15 - 15:45	Break	
15:45 - 16:15	Work plan 2009	Dil Peeling
16:15 - 17:00	Discussion	
19:00	Welcome dinner - Hiber Ethiopia Cultural Restaurant	
Day 3	Tuesday 02 December	
09:00 - 10:00	Substantive Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Regional Policy Framework for Animal Health and Trade Discussion	Otieno Mtula

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRSP Discussion	Abdi Jama
10:00 - 10:30	Break	
10:30 - 13:00	Substantive Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Economic Integration Discussion • Project Follow On Discussion 	Dil Peeling Dil Peeling
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch	
14:30 - 15:30	SCM Recommendations	Maina Karaba
15:30 - 16:00	Break	
16:00 - 17:00	Summary of Discussions, next SC meeting and close of meeting	Maina Karaba

ANNEX C: LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

Intervention logic	OVis	MoV	Assumptions
Overall objective			
Enhanced contribution of the livestock sector to sustainable food security and poverty reduction in the IGAD region	<p>Incidence of poverty and food insecurity among livestock dependent people reduced by 10% by 2010</p> <p>Livestock sector growth is larger than overall economic growth</p>	<p>National poverty surveys National health statistics</p> <p>National economic indicators</p>	
Project purpose			Project purpose to overall objective
Strengthened capacity in IGAD, member states, other regional organizations and other stakeholders to formulate and implement livestock sector and related policies that sustainably reduce food insecurity and poverty.	<p>Documented link between policies affecting the livestock sector and poverty reduction, and evidence of effective stakeholder representation in IGAD member states by 2008</p> <p>Detailed implementation plans for selected policies in IGAD member states by 2008</p> <p>Information system for measuring policy impact in IGAD Secretariat and member states by 2008</p>	<p>Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs)</p> <p>Regional development initiatives (e.g. NEPAD)</p> <p>National economic development plans</p> <p>Policy impact assessments</p>	<p>Political agendas do not restrict regional integration</p> <p>Competing policy priorities do not reduce political will to implement pro-poor policies at regional and national levels</p> <p>Diverging interests of essential partners do not constrain collaboration</p> <p>There is adequate institutional capacity for pro-poor policy implementation and stakeholder representation at regional and national levels</p>

Intervention logic	OVis	MoV	Assumptions
Results			Results to project purpose
1. Increased awareness by public, private, and tertiary sector organizations of the potential contribution of livestock and the livestock sector to growth, food security and poverty reduction	IGAD and stakeholders are actively promoting identified pro-poor livestock-related policy and institutional options in the region by 2008	<p>Press reviews</p> <p>Minute of IGAD ministerial meetings</p> <p>PRSPs and government reports</p> <p>Report of Steering Committee meetings and external reviews</p>	Stakeholder participation and enhanced access to information and decision-support tools are sufficient to ensure the formulation of appropriate policies and institutional changes
2. Policy options and implementation strategies for enhanced livestock sector contribution to growth, food security and poverty reduction identified	<p>Importance of livestock acknowledged in the PRSP processes of 2 countries by 2008</p> <p>National livestock strategies in place in 2 countries by 2008</p>	<p>PRSPs and government reports</p> <p>Project reports</p> <p>Public, private, and tertiary sector organizations strategic plans</p> <p>Approved project documents and financing agreements</p>	
3. Systems in place for livestock policy information, analysis, decision-support and monitoring of policy change	<p>Policy makers and other key stakeholders actively seek information and use tools generated by the project in policy formulation and in preparation of PRSPs by 2008</p> <p>Appropriate indicators identified for monitoring policy change by 2007</p>	<p>Statistics on numbers of website visitors and requests for tools and information</p> <p>PRSPs and government reports</p> <p>Project reports</p>	
4. Networks of professional and grassroots organizations established and/or reinforced for effective stakeholder representation in the negotiation of policies and institutional changes that better support poor people's livestock-dependent livelihoods	At least 10 organizations / networks participating in the policy formulation process in IGAD member states by 2008	<p>Distribution lists of pro-poor livestock policy networks</p> <p>Reports of stakeholder meetings and workshops</p> <p>Records of attendance of stakeholder representatives at policy debates</p>	

Intervention logic		Assumptions
Activities		Activities to results
<p>1.1 Develop understanding of the role of the livestock sector in food security, livelihood strategies, poverty reduction and economic development</p> <p>1.2 Compile inventories of existing policies, rules and standards and determine their effect on different strata of livestock-dependent people</p> <p>1.3 Develop and implement targeted public relations strategies</p> <p>2.1 Conduct sector reviews and institutional analyses</p> <p>2.2 Analyze and debate policy options</p> <p>2.3 Identify policy and institutional measures to improve the performance of livestock service providers</p> <p>2.4 Identify policy and institutional measures to enhance marketing of livestock and livestock products within and outside the region</p> <p>2.5 Assist IGAD to determine regional early response mechanisms to drought and disease</p> <p>3.1 Identify information needs and uptake pathways of stakeholders in the policy process</p> <p>3.2 Establish systems for data and knowledge collection, processing and dissemination</p> <p>3.3 Develop and adapt decision support tools to guide policy formulation, and build capacity in their use</p> <p>3.4 Identify and monitor indicators of policy change at different levels</p> <p>4.1 Support the establishment and/or development of professional and grassroots organizations and facilitate their participation in livestock policy processes</p> <p>4.2 Facilitate regional representation at international policy fora</p> <p>4.3 Identify training needs and build capacity to enable stakeholders to become effective in livestock policy processes</p>	<p>Inputs: total budget:</p> <p>€5,489,945</p> <p>Means of Verification</p> <p>Six-monthly financial reports</p> <p>Work plan reviews</p> <p>Project evaluations</p>	<p>Sufficient financial support is secured for activities at national and regional levels</p> <p>Core staff continuity</p> <p>Pledged funds are disbursed as agreed</p> <p>Diverging interests of essential internal and external partners do not constrain collaboration</p>



Indicative Costings (\$)

Regional Policy Framework/PRSP

Policy Hubs (3) & Working Groups (12) in 5 countries	215,000.00
Somalia Policy Hub Workshop (1)	10,000.00
Regional Technical Workshop (1)	25,000.00
Ministerial Meeting (1)	40,000.00
NTFP, NINC & Facilitator	250,000.00
Trade Law Consultant	15,000.00
Animal Health Consultant	15,000.00
Poverty and Trade Studies	40,000.00
Consultants: CSOs/policy/information inventories	35,000.00
	645,000



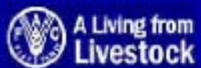
Indicative Costings (\$) Studies and Trainings

NTFP Regional Meetings X 2	30,000.00
GDP Study	10,000.00
AU-IBAR Collaboration	20,000.00
Gender & Livestock Training (1)	25,000.00
Livelihoods & Livestock Training (1)	25,000.00
Donor Workshop (1)	10,000.00
	105,000



Indicative Costings (\$) Information/Decision Support

Information Node Equipment	50,000.00
Consultant: Information System	26,000.00
Consultant: Communications	24,000.00
Capacity Building (Information)	100,000.00



200,000

ANNEX E: EC/FAO VISIBILITY CAMPAIGN

Since September 2006, the Knowledge and Communication Department of FAO implements a visibility campaign, advocating the strong and growing co-operation between the EC and FAO, as laid down in the Strategic Partnership concluded between EC and FAO in 2004.

The UN and EC confirmed their commitment to communicating results of partnership through the Joint Visibility Action Plan of September 2006. As foreseen in the Action Plan, the EC and UN have undertaken to adopt joint visibility guidelines.

Presently in their final drafting stage, these guidelines outline a two-pronged approach to communication. While emphasizing the need for visibility-related actions to be incorporated in project work plans and budgets, the guidelines also provide for "wider communications" and envisage "to use the individual project communication and visibility budgets to put together a more comprehensive communication programme." (art. 2.3).

Accordingly, FAO's EC visibility campaign provides for actions at two different levels:

- i) "at" the project level, providing hands-on assistance to staff of EC-funded FAO projects in complying with EC visibility requirements;
- ii) "above" the project level, communicating the added value of the strategic partnership between FAO and the EC to selected audiences.

In defining a consistent communication strategy, the campaign ensures that both levels are mutually reinforcing. Individual projects serve to illustrate the core message that partnership strengthens both organisations in helping developing countries alleviate rural poverty and hunger. At the same time, action above project level trickles down to projects, for example through world wide distribution of promotional material and by largely expanding the audiences reached via media releases.

The EC/FAO visibility campaign is funded by all EC-funded FAO projects on a cost sharing basis with a maximum of US\$ 10,000 per project per year.

Results achieved "above" project level in 2007 include:

- EU/FAO calendar, distributed worldwide among EU/FAO partners;
- Public Service Announcement on EU/FAO partnership; placed on Al Jazeera, BBC World, CNN, Euronews, Deutsche Welle, RAI and others;
- multimedia package for World Water Day, with Video News Release (VNR) aired through Reuters, APTN, Eurovision, UNIFEED, as well as radio feature, print feature, photo gallery;
- booklet on EC/FAO cooperation "Success stories from inside poverty's door"
- multi-media package on Cassava Mosaic Disease for the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, including 1 VNR, 2 audio features, 2 illustrated feature stories.

ANNEX F: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Secretariat		
Chairperson	Mr Maina Karaba, Acting Director, Agriculture and Environment, IGAD Secretariat Djibouti, Djibouti	maina.karaba@igad.org Off. +253 312 742 Cell. +253 812 338 Fax. +253 356 994 / 250 161
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Uganda	(Not Present)	
Other Organizations		
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