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Organisation de Coopération et de Développement Économiques
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English - Or. English

TRADE AND AGRICULTURE DIRECTORATE
COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURE

**Meeting of Representatives of the National Designated Authorities for the
Implementation of the OECD Scheme for the Certification of Forest Reproductive
Material Moving in International Trade**

Draft Summary Record of the Annual Meeting of the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme

7-8 October 2009, hosted by ISAR, Kigali, Rwanda

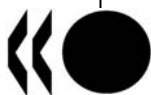
This Draft Summary Record was prepared by the Secretariat. It will be presented to the 2010 Annual Meeting for discussion and adoption.

The list of participants is attached as Annex I.

marion.lalisse@oecd.org

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DRAFT SUMMARY RECORD OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE OECD FOREST SEED AND PLANT SCHEME

7-8 OCTOBER 2009, KIGALI, RWANDA

1. Opening statements

The meeting was opened by the Director General of ISAR (National Agricultural Research Institute), Dr. Daphrose Gahakwa, who welcomed all participants from European and African countries. She recognized the contribution of Professor Nanson to the development of ISAR in Rwanda under the Swiss cooperation programme, as his work enabled Rwanda to join the OECD Scheme in 1994. She stressed the importance of seed certification as the compliance with international and EU standards are key elements to the success of Rwanda. She presented the Tree Seed Centre located at the arboretum of Ruhande where seeds are collected and tested. 203 tree species are present at the arboretum, both indigenous and exotic. A field trip would give the opportunity to delegates to visit the arboretum on Friday. She wished fruitful deliberation to the participants to the meeting.

Mr. Stanislas Kamanzi, Minister of Natural Resources, welcomed the participants and stressed the importance of Rwanda as the first African member of the OECD Scheme. He invited participants to the meeting to visit the country and enjoy the Rwandan hospitality. He highlighted the multiple tasks of the Forest and the key role of ISAR. He mentioned that ISAR processes and certifies a wide range of seeds. Over 12 tonnes can therefore be used locally or abroad. This work is part of the 8 Rwandan pillars of development and OECD can be considered as one of the cooperation partners. Forest and tree planting plays a key role in Rwanda where there is the highest rate of afforestation in Africa. The Forest covers 10% of the surface of national dryland in Rwanda and afforestation is on the rise. In the vision 2020 for Rwanda, an objective is to increase by 10% the forest cover. The Minister underlined that population is growing at a fast pace. Increasing crop cultures cannot be the only solution. New approaches are needed such as the use of genetically improved material. In Rwanda, forest is present in the Nyungwe national park, the Volcanoes Park as well as smaller protected areas. These areas allow wild species to thrive. He expressed his gratitude to the participants to the meeting. He wished delegates to have fruitful discussions, in particular concerning the adaptation of the Scheme to tropical countries.

Mr. Ryan, Head of the OECD Codes and Schemes Unit, welcomed the participants and warmly thanked Rwanda and ISAR for hosting the meeting. He underlined the fact that it was the first meeting of the Forest Scheme in Africa and that Rwanda had been the first African country to join the Scheme. He mentioned that for most of the participants, it was also the opportunity to visit Rwanda for the first time. He stressed the active role played by Rwanda since they joined the programme in 1994. He praised the strong economic development performance in the country in spite of the global economic downturn. Part of this success is due to the commitment to good public governance, the returning diaspora, the development of infrastructures as well as the key role of education. This allows Rwanda to be a leading model in the region. He stressed the importance of Rwandan integration into international commitments

such as the OECD Codes and Schemes and he mentioned that he was looking forward to Rwanda joining the other programmes (Fruit and Vegetables and Seeds Schemes). He underlined the importance of forestry in tourism, agro-forestry, socio-economic development and environment protection.

2. Election of officers

Mrs. Lolona Ramamonjisoa (Madagascar) was confirmed as Chair, Mr. R. Jean Gapusi (Rwanda) and Mr. Pierre Bouillon (France) were confirmed as Vice-Chairs. Mr. R. Jean Gapusi was confirmed as chair of the Technical Working Group.

3. Adoption of the Agenda [TAD/CA/F/A(2009)1/REV2]

The draft agenda was adopted.

4. Approval of the Draft Summary Record of the 2008 Annual Meeting [TAD/CA/F/M(2008)1/REV1]

The Summary Record was approved without any comment.

5. Report on the Meeting of the Bureau

The OECD Secretariat informed delegates about the outcomes of the Bureau meeting held on 5 October 2009. The meeting focused on the preparation of the 2009 Annual Meeting and the Technical Working Group Meeting (TWG). The Bureau had discussed changes in the timing of the meetings of the TWG and proposed to organize two TWG meetings per year to allow more rapid progress on the work programme. This recommendation was approved by the Annual Meeting.

6. Participating countries, other interested countries [TAD/CA/F/(2008)1]

6.a Update of the List of Participating Countries in the Agricultural Codes and Schemes

The OECD Secretariat informed Delegates that the evaluation reports of the applications of Burkina Faso, Serbia and Croatia had been discussed and recommended at the 2008 Annual Meeting. Later in 2008, the Committee for Agriculture endorsed the decision and the Council approved the accession of the 3 countries to the Scheme.

Since the 2008 Annual Meeting, there has been no new application, but several countries expressed their interest in joining the Scheme.

The EC representative, Mr. Altpeter inquired whether information was sent to potential applicants. The Secretariat mentioned that 15 observer countries from the African continent and the tropical region had been invited to the meeting. Burundi, Ghana and Uganda answered positively but only Uganda was able to attend the meetings. Moreover, the Secretariat continues to follow up with OECD Member states, in particular those that attended the 2008 Annual Meeting as observers (New Zealand and Korea).

Professor Nanson informed delegates that several countries were preparing to join the Scheme and have nearly fulfilled the criteria. He mentioned that Morocco was up to speed, and that Senegal needed some further adaptations. Bangladesh could also join in the near future.

6.b Other interested countries

The Ugandan delegates presented the status of their tree seed and tree improvement research. The full presentation is available on EMS. Natural Forest and woodland covers 4.9 million hectares in Uganda. Private forest is very important (70%). The 2001 Forest Policy replaced the 1988 policy after extensive consultation. The new policy is based on the core principles of Conservation and sustainable development, livelihood enhancement, institutional reforms with decentralization and new roles and research for development and education. It was mentioned that Uganda covers 12 ecological zones. The delegates described the various aspects of tree improvement and of the seed supply at the National Tree Seed Centre (NTSC). The NTSC aims at securing and increasing provision of good quality tree seed in accordance with the Seeds and Plant Act of 2006. The delegates highlighted the partnership between the tree improvement activities at the National Tree Seed Centre and the research activities of the National Forestry Resources Research Institute.

The Norwegian delegate, Mr. Skrøppa asked for some clarifications on the national policy concerning the use of exotic species. The Ugandan representatives highlighted that the 2006 policy outlines rules on imports. They mentioned that import and export regulations do not differ from other countries. Guidelines for site matching are inspired by the National Forestry Resources Research Institute.

The EC delegate enquired what was the provenance of the imported seedlings. Uganda is importing from Australia and Brazil.

The representative of ASARECA, Dr. Demissie, enquired about the strategy of Uganda as regards the conservation of species and what synergies exist. Uganda stressed that the National Tree Seed Centre has 2 arms: tree improvement and seed procurement. Seed procurement does conservation. Collaboration also exists with gene banks. Forestry is part of a general nature conservation master plan. Besides, a specific Scheme exists for private forest as they represent the major part of forest in Uganda.

Mr. Lompo asked about the importance of trade of seeds so far. Uganda is progressively developing its trade of seeds. Initially, only identified seeds were concerned. Uganda is receiving from Tanzania 200 Kg per year, 300 Kg from Southern Soudan and 50 Kg from Kenya. Uganda imported 300Kg from Rwanda and sent 50 Kg to Rwanda. The delegate from ISTA, Mr. Gorian, enquired about the storage facility. Uganda could benefit from temporary storage facility. They are waiting for the accreditation of the laboratory that should occur soon.

The French delegate, Mr. Bouillon enquired about the number of indigenous tree species that are present in Uganda. Around 2100 species exist locally.

Rwanda mentioned that some species can have negative impacts on the soil such as pine trees. The Ugandan representatives explained that in 1971, the forest sector was down. The country faced a deficit of wood supply and massively imported from Congo. Importation of pine trees from abroad was a transitional measure before going back to indigenous species.

The Secretariat gave a summary of the situation of the application of Uganda to join the Scheme. Uganda sent an official application in 2006. An evaluation mission took place in 2007. A comprehensive report was prepared for the 2008 Annual Meeting for discussion and recommendation. Unfortunately, Uganda was not represented at the meeting. The Ugandan delegates explained that their intention was to enter the regional market. The last report gave some recommendations which were fulfilled since the mission and Uganda would like an evaluation mission to take place in order to assess the progress made.

Uganda will contact the Secretariat to reactivate its application. A follow-up mission will be organized and a report is expected to be presented at the 2010 Annual Meeting.

7. Secretariat's activity report [TAD/CA/F/RD(2008)1]

The OECD Secretariat informed delegates of the activities since the 2008 Meeting and presented the programme of work and budget of the Scheme.

The representative of EFNA, Dr. Gordon, mentioned that the US was the main contributor to the budget, but that the country was not represented for two consecutive years. He mentioned that the seed exports by the US had significantly dropped and wondered about their future commitment. The Secretariat explained that the US was unable to attend due to budgetary issues and that written comments had been provided on the documents. Canada was in the same position and also commented in writing.

Concerning the Programme of Work, it was mentioned that the Strategic Plan and Preliminary draft Action Plan presented under the item 9 of the agenda, are linked to the Programme of Work.

8. In-depth Evaluation of the OECD Agricultural Codes and Schemes for International Trade [C(2008)95 and C(2008)95/CORR1]

Mr. Ryan informed delegates about the evaluation that took place for the 4 programmes of the Codes and Schemes Unit. This evaluation was carried out by an independent evaluator and analysed the relevance, the efficiency and the effectiveness of the Scheme. The 4 programmes came out well. He stressed the fact that the time period for the evaluation was 2003-2007. At that time, the Forest Scheme did not have a Technical Working Group or an Annual Meeting. Since 2006 only, an Annual Meeting was introduced. Recent changes are therefore not included in the evaluation. Mr. Ryan also emphasized the different scales of the programmes: the Seed Scheme has 57 Member countries whereas the Forest Scheme has only 25 Member countries with a budget that is significantly smaller (4 times). As regards the recommendation on strategic planning, the Secretariat referred to the decisions to have more frequent meetings of the TWG and to the discussion to extend the programme to tropical countries. Since the publication of the report, the Secretariat discussed the content with the Bureau of the 4 programmes and an ad-hoc group was set up with one member of each bureau. This group is considering the various options and will issue a paper. Mrs. Ramamonjisoa from Madagascar is representing the Forest Scheme.

ISF welcomed the idea of more frequent TWG meetings. He stressed the importance of the openness of the meetings so that everybody can express his point of view on the topics. The Secretariat mentioned that the TWG is opened to all Members of the Scheme. It initially started with a limited group but it is open to all countries, international organizations and observer countries. ISF suggested working in sub-groups of experts for each topic so as to allow more efficient progress of the work.

9. Strategic Plan and preliminary draft Action Plan of the Scheme [TAD/CA/F(2009)2 and WD/RWANDA/AM2009/1]

9.a Strategic Plan

The Secretariat presented the document [TAD/CA/F(2009)2] which is the updated version of the document that was presented in 2008. The Strategic Plan is a framework document accompanied by an Action Plan providing more details on the implementation of the different projects.

The EC insisted on having a sentence indicating that duplication of work should be avoided. It was agreed to include Oceania in the geographical areas where new member countries will be sought.

The Annual Meeting approved the Strategic Plan subject to some limited changes as discussed during the meeting. A revised version will be submitted to all Member countries for approval under

the written procedure.

Under the activities related to communication on international developments, ISF proposed to exchange information on sanitary problems that could have a potential impact on trade.

9.b Preliminary Draft Action Plan

The Action Plan was presented by the Secretariat for the first time as an attempt to give details on the projects necessary to achieve the objectives of the Strategic Plan. The Action Plan describes the prioritization, the timeframe and the resources requirements. It was agreed that the document should be revised with more fleshed out projects. The results of the TWG meeting will be one source of information. At the request of the EC delegate, ongoing and regular activities of the Secretariat will be separated from specific and ad-hoc projects.

Delegates expressed their point of view on the priorities. It was noted that prioritization will be easier after the document will have been fleshed out with some detailed projects. Overall, delegates agreed that their priority was the introduction of the advanced categories into the Scheme, and in particular the category qualified. They also quoted the adaptation of the Scheme to tropical countries as another priority area. Delegates also stressed the importance of creating a useful and accurate database as well as improving the attractiveness of the programme in order to gain new members. Short rotation plantations, the adaptation of the rules of the Scheme and harmonizing definitions were mentioned as priority areas. Monitoring and Evaluation as well as biodiversity conservation were also mentioned as very important.

The Secretariat pointed out the link to the biennial Programme of Work and Budget. If resources are left for 2010, smaller projects can be discussed.

A revised working document will be prepared and circulated by the Secretariat and further work can be accomplished thanks to delegates' comments ahead of the next TWG meeting.

10. Presentation of the Work of the Technical Working Group

10.a Update on the progress of the work of the TWG since the last session

The TWG was discussed in 2007 and agreed at the following Annual Meeting in 2008. Terms of Reference were agreed with the prioritization of topics. Ten delegates were originally part of the TWG and 11 fields were listed for online discussion. Four themes were discussed so far as there was no time to deal with short rotation plantations for bioenergy and agro-forestry and shrub species.

10.b Development of a relevant and more up-to-date database [WD/RWANDA/AM/2009/2]

Mr. Gapusi summarized the discussion of the TWG: it was decided that the starting point would be the current database. Existing national database would be shared and compared. It was mentioned that the amount of information was huge and that it would be difficult to create a unique document. ISTA had presented an example of database in Italy with the use of Google map where information is located on a map. Data should be accessible to both dealers and producers. A revised document will be prepared by the Secretariat and presented at the next meetings. EC mentioned that not all information fields would be mandatory and that some could be blanked such as commercially sensitive information.

ISF noted that the most difficult part would be to gather data from Member countries.

10.c Development of common definitions [WD/RWANDA/AM/2009/3]

The working document was discussed at the TWG. It was agreed that English and French were the languages to be used. Other languages can be used as 3rd language. It was discussed whether documents should be harmonized. The use of a code system will allow understanding easily documents in various languages as the same code will refer to a translation of the same term. Botanical names should be used (latin denomination).

10.d Adaptation of the Scheme for conditions in tropical countries [TAD/CA/F(2009)3]

A document drafted by Professor Hans Muhs, which outlines some guidelines to adapt the scheme to tropical countries, was discussed at the 2008 Annual Meeting. A new document drafted by the Secretariat with 3 proposals was discussed by the TWG. The group agreed to keep the current definition of stands and it will work on guidelines for the implementation of the definition in tropical countries.

It was agreed that a revised document would be discussed at the next TWG in 2010.

10.f Proposal on how to deal with the category “qualified” [TAD/CA/F/RD(2009)6]

A document was prepared by Belgium. Some changes were discussed and agreed by the TWG. It was proposed to merge seed plantations and seed orchards in a common definition called seed orchards. The group supported the proposal with the corrections proposed during the meeting. The text was recommended in view of its approval at the Annual Meeting. It was requested from the Secretariat to enquire from the US whether they would agree with the proposal. The text would then be submitted for approval by written procedure. GM could be covered in a 4th category to be included in the Scheme in the future.

Norway wondered what were the changes between the Belgian proposal and the text presented 10 years ago, apart from the elimination of the tested category. Belgium explained that there was no major difference except the proposal to merge the two materials seed plantations and seed orchards in a common definition. Norway agreed with the proposed changes.

The OECD Secretariat will seek the opinion of other Member countries on the revised proposal. Subject to general agreement, the document could then be submitted to delegates under the written procedure.

It was decided that the TWG would work on several new items, in addition to the current work items: In reference to Annex 1 of the document TAD/CA/F(2008)3/REV1, item “8. Capacity building”, “9. New country adhesion” and “10. Marketing and promotion of the system” will be added to the work of the TWG. It was noted that 9 and 10 could be combined. Item 4 on Short rotation plantations for bioenergy and agroforestry and shrub species will also be tackled. Following a proposal from ISTA, two other items will be added: storage procedures for tree seeds, and collecting and processing procedures in forestry seed production.

11. Update on the implementation of the 2007 Forest Scheme in member countries

Belgium: The new system is being implemented and Belgium is looking forward to the introduction of the qualified category in order to trade with the US.

Burkina Faso: national legislation is mostly used to certify and not the OECD system.

Croatia: OECD rules and EU directive are translated into national legislation. Croatia is in the process of creating a national register.

Finland: Finland expressed its support for the introduction of the qualified category if the US accepts.

France: France expressed the need of the qualified category as 200 000 ha of forest of pine trees were damaged up to 40% in the Landes because of a storm. Reforestation is being done with seeds of the qualified category. Adding the qualified category to the OECD Scheme would facilitate imports of pine trees reproductive material from the US.

Norway: Norway is in favour of the addition of the qualified category. The categories of the EC directive are used internally by Norway. The delegate underlined the importance of forest for climate change mitigation. Norway mentioned that a special permit is needed to import exotic species that can have a potential negative impact on the environment.

Rwanda: Rwanda mentioned recent changes in the institutional arrangement. The National Forestry Authority and the Rwandan bureau of standards are recent. A gene bank is under construction and will have a department for forest seeds. Equipment was provided by the Belgian cooperation.

Madagascar: They updated the national register. Technical and administrative procedures for tree seed control and certification under the OECD rules are currently being established.

Sweden: Swedish trade is mostly taking place in the 2 categories source identified and selected. A large share of the trade is occurring with Belarus. There are therefore discussions to integrate Belarus into the Scheme but they are not yet conclusive. Sweden supports the extension to the advanced category.

12. Update on statistics and on the list of approved basic material

12.a Weight of certified seeds [TAD/CA/F/RD(2009)7]

The Secretariat presented the document that was updated as of September 2009. It was mentioned that there was not only the information related to the 2 categories of the OECD Scheme but also the information related to the 2 advanced categories. 18 countries sent updated data. Countries that did not send updated data were reminded to do so (Denmark, Spain, Switzerland, Rwanda, US and Turkey).

The Delegate of EFNA mentioned that there were discrepancies in the size of seeds and noted that no progress had been made in trying to take this into account to remove this influence on the data. France noted that adding the weight of pine seeds to oak acorns is not very meaningful. He called for an attempt to quantify the trade through the number of seeds. He mentioned that it is difficult to present aggregated data. At national level, France uses two presentations of the data allowing analyzing the data through two angles. Rwanda mentioned that discussions already took place at the last meetings. He proposed to have two columns: one for the weight and one for the number of seeds. Belgium mentioned that advanced categories may be underestimated due to the presentation of aggregated data. The Technical Working Group could further reflect on this.

It was agreed that the current presentation of data does not allow for a comparison between countries. It was also mentioned that some exports from one country to another were actually destined to a third partner and only transited in a country.

12.b Summary list of approved basic material [TAD/CA/F/RD(2009)8]

The Secretariat presented the document that was updated as of September 2009. For the first time, data from the 3 new member countries, Burkina Faso, Croatia and Serbia, were included. Some countries did not update their data and were kindly reminded to provide updated information as soon as possible (Denmark, France, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Romania, Rwanda, Spain Sweden, Switzerland and the United States). Online information has been updated.

ISTA commented on the situation in Italy: both agriculture and forestry sectors are managed by administrative regions; only few Italian regions (four) had observed the timeframe to set up the summary list of approved material. That is why the Secretariat does not receive the compiled information for Italy, due to the administrative situation.

13. **Statements by International and Regional Organisations on recent developments**

African Academy of Sciences:

The idea of the African Academy of Sciences came from a meeting that took place in 1985 in Trieste, Italy. It was then created in 1986 in Nairobi around 10 thematic areas. The AAS is dedicated to the promotion of the excellence of research.

- It honours the best achievers as fellows. 180s were rewarded all over the continent. They are nominated by existing members.
- The AAS strengthens and mobilizes the African scientific community.
- The AAS promotes capacity building, among other in the field of forestry.

The organization benefited from the support of SIDA (Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency)

ASARECA

The Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa (ASARECA) is a sub-regional not-for-profit organization whose mission is to enhance collective action in agricultural research for development, extension, training and education to promote economic growth, fight poverty, eradicate hunger and enhance sustainable use of resources in Eastern and Central Africa (ECA). ASARECA works in 10 eastern and central African countries viz. Burundi, D.R Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda. The Eastern Africa Plant Genetic Resources Network (EAPGREN) is a project under the Agro-biodiversity and Biotechnology Program of ASARECA and financially supported by SIDA. EAPGREN works in eight of ASARECA countries.

The overall goal of the project is to develop and to strengthen capacities in the countries of the region for more effective utilization and conservation of plant genetic resources (PGR) for food security, sustainable agricultural development and socioeconomic development. Since its establishment in May 2003, the project has been involved in developing the capacities (human and infrastructure) of national

genebanks and enhancing basic PGRs (biological foundations of agriculture) works including characterization, evaluation, documentation, conservation with ultimate aim of enhancing utilization both at national and regional levels. Through the project, new genebanks were established and old ones rehabilitated especially those in countries which went through civil unrest.

EAPGREN/ASARECA's participation in the Annual Meeting of the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme has provided us the opportunity to understand the OECD scheme, realize the scope of international trade in forest seeds and its implication to the sub-region in terms of economic growth, livelihood improvement and forest species germplasm conservation and sustainable use. The major challenge in our region is capacity limitations and awareness about the scheme given the number of countries party to the scheme. EAPGREN in partnership with relevant institutions including the OECD secretariat will endeavor to enhance its awareness and sensitization efforts regarding the potential advantages of the scheme to the sub-region especially in international and regional forest seed trades and germplasm conservation and sustainable use in eastern Africa.

EFNA – European Forest Nurseries Association

Dr. Gordon explained the strange presence of a European Forest Nursery organisation in a world-wide organisation such as the OECD and suggested that at the start of the scheme EFNA was the only international nursery organisation that existed although possibly a case could now be made for a similar African nursery group.

EFNA has continued to raise important issues as they arise with the European Commission. With the exception of Ireland, the recession has not hit nurseries too hard although the number of diseases of trees that have begun to affect the species being planted is causing some concern.

ISF – International Seed Federation

The representative indicated that the last ISF meeting took place in Hamburg in August. Discussions were particularly fruitful. Among others, it was considered as essential that the following topics should be raised at the OECD meeting:

- Necessity of the implementation of a common database for available Forest Reproductive Material
- Adoption of a common document for the trade of seeds, for a better traceability and in order to facilitate seed trade (supplier's document). So far, there are many examples of incomprehensible suppliers' document accompanying seeds between various suppliers and customers.
- ISF members would like the OECD Scheme to be extended to qualified and tested categories: current rules do not only slow down seed imports from the US but they also have an impact on the activity of certain ISF members who would like to export some essences of the qualified category to the US.
- For the first time, a questionnaire was sent to ISF members this year. The synthesis of these questionnaires should enable to improve the attractiveness of ISF meetings. The following comments should be noted:
 - Concerns were expressed because Europe is cutting itself off from the rest of the world. Members expressed their wish to develop international seed trade.
 - Willingness to revive links with the US: the next meeting will take place in New York State.
 - Concerns about the impact of climate change: what policy should be adopted? What actions should be taken? What species will compose tomorrow's forests?

ISTA – International Seed Testing Association

ISTA was founded in Switzerland in 1924. 70 countries joined. More than 100 laboratories are accredited, but only 30 among them are accredited for tree seed testing. European but also North and South American countries are part of the organization. Among the ISTA technical committees, the Forest trees and shrub seed committee is dealing with tree seeds. The Chair of this committee is from the Czech Republic. ISTA is not only a seed testing association but also seed research, organization organizing technical workshops and conferences. Next year, a conference will be organized from 9 to 12 September on the climate change and tree species selection. It is organized by Mr. Gorian and some German colleagues. More information will be available on the webpage: <http://www.iskc.eu/> in January 2010.

14. Nomination of officers

It was mentioned that the Chair and the two vice chairs are at the mid-term of their two-year mandates.

15. Date and place of 2010 meetings of the OECD Forest Scheme

There will be 2 TWG meetings in 2010. The first one will take place on 27 and 28 April in the US (Purdue). It will be followed by a one-day field trip. The second meeting of the TWG will take place on 28 and 29 (morning) September 2010 over 1.5 days. The Annual Meeting will take place on 29 (afternoon) and 30 September. The OECD Secretariat welcomes proposal of Member countries to host future meetings. Tropical countries are invited to consider hosting the meetings as this will allow fruitful discussions on topics linked to the region.

Other business

- Madagascar mentioned a survey that took place between August 2008 and July 2009 on tree seed centres in sub-Saharan Africa and the role in food tree seed conservation. This survey is not only linked to Forest Reproductive Material production and exchanges. It is also linked to biodiversity conservation and food safety. Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Senegal, Tanzania and Togo took part in the survey.
- Rwanda mentioned the need to integrate more African countries into the Scheme. Ghana and Burundi are willing to join. He called for a framework to support their efforts to join the Scheme.
- Professor Nanson gave a statement on his vision for the future.

Mr. Gapusi presented the Rwandan organizers who were warmly thanked. The chair thanked Rwanda for hosting the meeting, the Member countries and observers for their active participation. The meeting was closed.

2010 meetings of the OECD forest Scheme

27-29 April: TWG in Purdue University, Indiana, US

28-29 (am) September: TWG at the OECD Headquarters, Paris, France

29 (pm)-30 September: Annual Meeting at the OECD Headquarters, Paris, France

ANNEX I

**2009 Annual Meeting of the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme
Réunion annuelle 2009 sur le Système de l'OCDE
pour les semences et plants forestiers**

Held in Kigali, Rwanda on 7-8 October 2009

Final List of Participants / Liste finale des participants

National Designated Authorities / Autorités nationales désignées

Belgium/Belgique

Dr. Dominique JACQUES
Attaché
Service public de Wallonie
Direction Générale Opérationnelle de l'Agriculture, des Ressources
Naturelles et de l'Environnement
Avenue Reine Astrid, 39
5000 Namur
Belgium

Tel: +32 (0) 81 715.402
Fax: +32 (0) 81 715.410
Email: dominique.jacques@spw.wallonie.be

Burkina Faso

M. Djingdia LOMPO
Forestry Engineer
Centre National de Semences Forestières - CNSF
01 BP 2682
Ouagadougou 01
Burkina Faso

Tel: +226 70.28.10.37
Fax: +226 50.35.61.10
Email: ldjingdia@yahoo.fr

Croatia/Croatie

Mr. Goran VIDEĆ
Head of Department
Forest Protection and Forest Reproductive Material Department
Ministry of Regional Development, Forestry and Water Management
Ul. grada Vukovara 269D
10000 Zagreb
Croatia

Tel: + 385 1 6002 934
Fax: + 385 1 6002 865
Email: goran.videc@mrrsvg.hr

Finland/Finlande

Mr. Kari LEINONEN
Senior Officer Ph.D. (For)
Finnish Food Safety Authority Evira
Control Department, Plant Health Unit / Forest Reproductive Material
Mustialankatu 3
00790 Helsinki
Finland

Tel: +358 40 542 2493
Fax: +358 20 77 25034
Email: Kari.Leinonen@evira.fi

France

Mr. Pierre BOUILLON
In charge of Forest Genetic Resources
French Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fishery
19 avenue du Maine
75731 Paris Cedex 15
France

Tel: +33 1 49 55 51 26
Fax: +33 1 49 55 84 06
Email: pierre.bouillon@agriculture.gouv.fr

Madagascar

Dr. Lolona RAMAMONJISOA
Director
Silo National des Graines Forestières (S N G F)
B.P. 5091
Antananarivo 101
Madagascar

Tel: +261 20 22 402 85
Fax: +261 20 22 412 41
Email: lolona.sngf@moov.mg

Norway/Norvège

Mr. Tore SKRØPPA
Director
Norwegian Genetic Resource Centre
Norwegian Forest and Landscape Institute
P.O. Box 115
N-1431 Ås
Norway

Tel: +47 64 94 90 67
Fax: +47 64 94 29 80
Email: Tore.Skroppa@skogoglandskap.no

Rwanda

Mr. Stanislas KAMANZI
Minister of Natural Resources

Tel: +250.252.582.627
Email: skamanzi@gov.rw

Dr. Daphrose GAHAKWA
Director General
ISAR
B.P. 617
Butare
Rwanda

Tel: +250.252.578.768
Email: dg@isar.rw

Dr. Jonas MUGABE
Deputy Director General
ISAR
P.O. Box 5016
Kigali
Rwanda

Tel: +250.788.30.87.68
Fax: +250.252.578.768
Email: j_mugabe@yahoo.fr

Mr. R. Jean GAPUSI
Head of Forestry and Agroforestry Research Station
ISAR
B.P. 617
Butare
Rwanda

Tel: +250 530 308 / +250.788.313.88
Fax: +250 252 578 768
Email: gapusirj@yahoo.fr

Mr. Amini MUTAGANDA
Head, Tree Seed Centre
ISAR
617 Huye
Rwanda

Tel: +250 788 531 374
Fax: +250 252 530 308
Email: mutamini@yahoo.fr

Rwanda
(Continued)

Dr. Athanase MUKURALINDA
Director, Land and Forestry Research Centre
ISAR
P.O. Box 617
Butare
Rwanda

Tel: +250 788 210 530
Fax: +250 252 530 308
Email: mukuratha@yahoo.com

Mr. Jean Damascene NDAYAMBAJE
Scientist in Agroforestry Research Program, PhD Student
ISAR
P.O. Box 617
Butare
Rwanda

Tel: +250 788 487 721
Fax: +250 252 530 308
Email: ndjeadamas@yahoo.fr

Mr. Frederic MUNYANSANGA
Professional in charge of Reforestation and Agroforestry Policy
Ministry of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 3502
Kigali
Rwanda

Tel: +00.250.07.88.47.96.56
Email: fmunyansa@yahoo.fr

Mr. Canisius P. MUGUNGA
Lecturer
National University of Rwanda
P.O. Box 651
Butare
Rwanda

Tel: 00.250.788.533.348
Email: mugungac@yahoo.co.uk

M. Claudien HABIMANA
PAREF
B.P. 621
Kigali
Rwanda

Tel: 00.250.788.301.375
Email: hab_claudien@yahoo.fr

Rwanda
(Continued)

Mr. Eric NIGABA
Rwanda Bureau of Standards
P.O. Box 7099
Kigali
Rwanda

Tel: +250.788.303.609
Email: nigeric@yahoo.fr

Mr. Louis RUGERINYANGE
Chief Park Warden
RDB
P.O. Box 78
Nyamagabe
Rwanda

Tel: +250.788.866.625
Email: louis_rugerinyange@rwandatourism.com

Mr. Frank RUTABINGWA
NAFA

Tel: +250.788.30.68.26
Email: frank@yahoo.com

Sweden/Suède

Mr. Björn MERKELL
Deputy head of Division
Swedish Forest Agency
SE-551 83
Jönköping
Sweden

Tel: +46 36 359 378
Fax: +46 36 166 170
Email: bjorn.merkell@forestagency.se

EC/CE

Mr. Rüdiger ALTPETER
Principal Administrator
Directorate General for Agriculture & Rural Development
European Commission
130 rue de la Loi
L 130 DGAGRI - 6/78
B-1049 Bruxelles
Belgium

Tel: +32 2 295 33 98
Fax: + 32 2 2969636
Email: ruediger.altpeter@ec.europa.eu

Observer Countries / Pays observateurs

Uganda/Ouganda

Mr. David MUNUNUZI
Manager Tree Seed Centre
National Forestry Authority
P.O. Box 70863
Kampala
Uganda

Tel: +256.31.264.035
Fax: +256.41.23.036
Email: mununuzidavid@yahoo.com

Mr. Sebastian Javan WALAITA
Seed Procurement Specialist
National Tree Seed Centre
National Forestry Authority
10/20 Spring Road
P.O. Box 70863
Kampala
Uganda

Tel: +00.256.71.29.59.29.04
Email: s_walaita@yahoo.co.uk

Mr. John Francis ESEGU
Director
National Forestry Resources Research Institute (NaFORRI)
P.O. Box 1752
Kampala
Uganda

Email: naforridir@infocom.co.ug

Observers & International Organisations / Observateurs et organisations internationales

**AFRICAN ACADEMY
OF SCIENCES**

Dr. Iba KONE
Programme Coordinator - African Forest Research Network
African Academy of Sciences
P.O. Box 14798-00800
Nairobi
Kenya

Tel: +254.20.88.44.01/05
Fax: +254.20.884.406
Email: i.kone@afornet.org

ASARECA

Dr. Abebe DEMISSIE
Regional Coordinator
Eastern Africa Plant Genetic Resources Network (EAPGREN)
ASARECA
P.O. Box 765
Entebbe
Uganda

Tel: +256.414.322.131
Fax: +256.414.322.593
Email: a.demissie@asareca.org

**EFNA - European Forest
Nursery Association**

Dr. Andrew GORDON
Secretary
EFNA - European Forest Nursery Association
25 Kenton Drive
Shrewsbury SY2 6th
Royaume-Uni
United Kingdom

Tel: +44.1743.357.252
Fax: +44.1743.357.252
Email: andyg.gordon@btopenworld.com

ISF - International Seed Federation

M. Guy SANCEY
Tree Seeds Department Manager
Semences d'arbres, Vilmorin
VILMORIN
Route du Manoir
49250 La Ménitré
France

Tel: +33.2.41.79.41.40
Fax: +33.2.41.79.75.41
Email: guy.sancey@vilmorin.com

ISTA - International Seed Testing Association

Mr. Fabio GORIAN
Responsible of CNBF
Corpo Forestale dello Stato
ISTA - International Seed Trade Association
Centro Nazionale per lo studio e la conservazione
per la biodiversità forestale
Via del Ponte, 256
37020 Peri VR
Italy

Tel: +39.045.628.40.71
Fax: +39.045.628.40.89
Email: fabio.gorian@libero.it

OECD / OCDE

**TAD/CODES
(Trade and
Directorate)**

Agriculture

Mr. Michael RYAN
Head of Unit
TAD/COD
OECD
Marshall Building 5061
2 rue André-Pascal
75016 Paris
France

Tel: +(33-1) 45 24 85 58
Fax: +33 1 44 30 61 17
Email: Michael.RYAN@oecd.org

Mme Marion LALISSE
Administrator
TAD/COD
OECD
Marshall Building 5063
2 rue André-Pascal
75016 Paris
France

Tel: +(33-1) 45 24 15 40
Email: Marion.LALISSE@oecd.org

OTHER / AUTRE

Dr. Alphonse NANSON
Forest Geneticist
Rue Chapelle-Dieu 29A
5030 Gembloux
Belgium

Tel: +32 81.600.351
Email: nanson.a@skynet.be

Mr. Martin BUTARAMA
Interpreter
Conference & Interpretation Services (CIS) Ltd
Kigali
Rwanda

Tel: +00.250.788.83.53.53
Email: martinbutarama@yahoo.com

Mr. Guillaume Pacifique GIRIMANA
Interpreter
Conference & Interpretation Services (CIS) Ltd
Kigali
Rwanda

Tel: +00.250.788.304.597
Email: ggirimana@yahoo.fr