

**GPNM Steering Committee Meeting**  
**24 April 2014**

**The Key Discussion Points and Decisions**

1. The meeting was held on Thursday 24 April 2014 starting at 8:30 am Washington Time, 15:30 Nairobi Time. This was a Virtual meeting with a combination of a teleconference call and a web conference using Adobe Connect at <http://nifa-connect.nifa.usda.gov/gpnm/>. Dr. Greg Crosby, GPNM Steering Committee Chair kindly organized the communication logistics for this meeting.

***The Key Discussion Points and the Decisions Agreed***

2. Dr. Greg Crosby Chaired the meeting. Ten members joined the meeting, while five members communicated their apologies (List attached as Annex 1).
3. The Chair started the meeting with thanks to Chilika Development Authority, Government of Odisha and its Chief Executive Dr. Ajit Pattnaik for hosting the meeting of the UNEP/GEF Global Nutrient Cycle Project Steering Committee and GPNM Partners meeting in Bhubaneswar, India in March 2014 and for the warm hospitality that was extended to all members attending the meeting.
4. The Chair then introduced the agenda of the meeting that was circulated with the meeting notification (see annex 2) and asked the members for their observations on the agenda in terms of any additions and/or deletion. There members approved the agenda circulated.
5. The Chair then followed the agenda items in a sequential manner.
6. **Agenda item 1: Approval of India meeting report of March 2014.**
  - 6.1 The Chair asked the Secretariat to give an update on the meeting report. On behalf of the Secretariat Dr. Anjan Datta informed the meeting that based notes provided by various members who attended the India meeting, UNEP/GEF International Water Task Manager Ms. Isabelle Vanderbeck prepared a draft report and submitted the report to the Secretariat, on the day of the meeting, for review, edit and eventual circulation among the members. The Secretariat is going through the draft and informed the meeting, the revised draft will be submitted to the Chair for final review and eventual circulation among all members by Monday 28 April 2014.
7. **Agenda item 2: Establishment of a 3 members team (representing government, industry and science) to review and recommend appropriate institutional arrangement for **merger of Global TraPs within GPNM****
  - 7.1 The Chair asked the Secretariat to inform the meeting on the proposal and what actions have been taken since the India meeting of March 2014. Dr. Anjan Datta, informed the meeting that the Secretariat received positive endorsement from various stakeholders

- group of the Global TraPs and the Global TraPs Steering Committee. In view of these positive supports the Secretariat carried out consultations with various key stakeholders group and the Chair of the GPNM Steering Committee, and suggested to the Chair a tentative 3 member panel for presentation to the Steering Committee for review and approval.
- 7.2 The Chair at this stage asked Prof. Roland Scholz to inform the meeting on the key developments and achievements of the Global TraPs and the issues that warrant further attention and the GPNM should pursue. Prof. Roland Scholz in his deliberations informed the meeting that the Global TraPs based on its research has just published a book through Springer titled “Sustainable Phosphorus Management - A Global Transdisciplinary Roadmap”. This book addresses flows, improvements and efficiencies of current phosphorus mining, processing and management for food security and supply security. It also elucidated where the losses happen and to what extent and where efficiencies could be improved. Further in the process up to the lead of this important publication Global TraPs managed to bring many diverse stakeholders e.g., from ‘K-Trade to Green Peace’ into one platform and managed to break the barriers in communications. Prof. Roland Scholz called members attention to the proposal of merging the Global TraPs within the GPNM as outlined in the discussion note that was presented by Dr. Amit Roy in India meeting of March 2014.
- 7.3 The Chair opened the floor for comments and observations on the deliberations made by the Dr. Anjan Datta and Prof. Roland Scholz. The members, in light of the India meeting discussion and the deliberation of the Secretariat and Prof. Scholz, gave their approval to institute a panel to look into the details of the proposal and write a “White Paper” and asked the Chair to propose the Panel that he identified based on his consultation with the secretariat and other key stakeholders.
- 7.4 The Chair announced the names of the 3 members panel representing government, industry and science, and they are; Mr. Kaj Sanders (Government of the Netherlands); Dr. Terry Roberts (IPNI) and Prof. Tom Sims (University of Delaware, USA).
- 7.5 This proposal was welcomed by the Committee. Dr. Terry Roberts, however, informed that IFA could be a better representative of the Industry, as IPNI represents a part of the Industry only. Mr. Patrick Heffer on behalf of IFA gave his unqualified endorsement for Dr. Terry Roberts to be the Panel member. The Committee unanimously welcomed the other two members of the Panel for undertaking the review and to write the “White Paper”. Mr. Kaj Sanders, though in principle agreed to serve as Panel member, informed the meeting that given the core focus of the subject he recommends to include the name of his colleague Mr. Arnoud Passenier for the task, and further added that Mr. Arnoud Passenier, who is a Senior Advisor of the Netherlands Ministry of Industry, Environment and Agriculture is also the current President of the European Sustainable Phosphorus Platform and has an intimate knowledge of the subject. The meeting approved this proposal.

## **8. Agenda item 3: Nutrient related draft decision for the UNEA (2014 June meeting)**

- 8.1 On behalf of the Secretariat Dr. Anjan Datta informed the meeting on the First session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme

(UNEA) that will be held in Nairobi from 23 - 27 June 2014. He also stated that in the light of the UNEP Executive Director's report on the State of the Environment which clearly articulated on the importance of sustainable nutrient management there is an opportunity for the GPNM to table a draft decision for considerations by the Member States and in that pursuits the secretariat has shared a draft with the Chair for review. Dr. Datta also informed the meeting that in accordance with the rules and procedures of the UNEA only a member government is in a position to submit any decision at this stage of the UEA preparatory process, and if a government wants then the decision could also be drafted linking the current draft decision on Air Quality submitted by the USA. He also emphasized that if a decision is tabled then to facilitate its adoption it would be necessary to circulate a two page document articulating the links of nutrient management with Food security, Environmental Sustainability, Air Quality and Human Health, and noted that Prof. Mark Sutton has agreed to draft the two page information document.

- 8.2 Prof. Mark Sutton took the floor and endorsed this proposal and also indicated his willingness to draft this information document. He further called members attention to organize a side event during the UNEA specially to mobilize support for the recently approved INMS project. The meeting welcomed this and thanked Prof. Sutton for his agreement to write the document, but on the side event asked for Secretariat's opinion.
- 8.3 Dr. Sasha Koo-Oshima took the floor and wanted to know more on the draft decision that was referred to by the Secretariat. The Chair informed that this circulated during the India meeting of March 2014 and he will share this with Dr. Sasha Koo-Oshima.
- 8.4 Mr. Vincent Sweeney informed the meeting that the side vent proposed by the USA on Air Quality is focused on 'emission from road transport with a particular focus on Africa' and hence that may not be best option to pursue the nutrient agenda.
- 8.5 **The Chair** summed up the discussion on this agenda point and informed the meeting that he **and Dr. Sasha Koo-Oshima will work with the US State Department on the draft decision as well on the side event and keep the members informed on the development.**

#### **9. Agenda item 4: Planning and development of the new GEF project**

- 9.1 The Chair asked the Secretariat to inform the meeting on the implementation modalities of the project. Mr. Vincent Sweeney stated that the new project will not be implemented by UNEP as it is done for the current GNC project. UNEP will delegate the responsibility of implementing the project to a partner organization, but noted that the overall project guidance should be provided by the GPNM Steering Committee, as the project is to serve the agenda of the GPNM and thus be nested within the GPNM structure for all practical reasons and ensuring synergies of actions. Mr. Sweeney also informed that the project will be managed through the UNEP GPA Coordination Office and all necessary measures will be put in place to use the project resources to strengthen GPNM and mobilize actions to support GPNM agenda. UNEP GPA Coordination Office will work with the UNEP/GEF International waters Task Manager to work on the detailed time line/road map for the Project Preparation Phase and share this with the Committee Members.

- 9.2 The Chair and several members commented that given the inter-linkages between the current UNEP/GEF GNC Project and the new INMS Project, it would be of crucial significance to ensure synergies between the two, and they wanted to know what measures the Secretariat has taken to ensure smooth transition in view of the fact that current Project Manager and Coordinator of GPNM Dr. Anjan Datta is retiring on 30 April 2014. Mr. Vincent Sweeney informed the meeting that steps have been taken to recruit a replacement of Dr. Datta and UNEP is also exploring modalities to secure services of Dr. Datta for the project and GPNM after his retirement on 30 April 2014.

## **10. Agenda item 5: Any other Business**

- 10.1 Prof. Mark Sutton informed the meeting on the Press Event that took place in London few hours before the SC Meeting on the launch of the report "Nitrogen on the Table". Prof. Sutton reported that the event was well attended and the Press showed keen interest on the subject. He also informed that the media coverage will be monitored by his institution CEH and all Press clippings will be shared with members.
- 10.2 Dr. Sasha Koo-Oshima informed that meeting on the work of the OECD Working Group on Nitrogen Cycle, of which she is a member. Prof. Mark Sutton also commented on this and informed the group that in 2016 OECD is hosting a meeting of the Finance Ministers of the member States and GPNM SC and Members should work with its constituents to influence the agenda and discussion of 2016 meeting.
- 10.3 The Chair summed up the key discussion points and agreements reached during the meeting and informed that the following documents will be shared with all the members
- UNEP/GEF GNC PSC meeting report and the GPNM partners meeting of March 2014 held in Bhubaneswar India
  - Draft decision for the UNEA circulated by the Secretariat during the March 2014 meeting
  - The Project Identification Form (PIF) or the Project Concept that has been approved by the GEF
  - Steering Committee meeting report
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## **11. Closure of the meeting**

- 11.1 Before closing the meeting, the Chair on his own behalf and on behalf of the Committee recalled Dr. Anjan Datta's contributions in mobilizing stakeholders and defining the agenda that led to the launch of GPNM and bring the Partnership to its present state, as well as Dr. Datta's role as a Project Manager of the UNEP/GEF GNC Project. He thanked Dr. Anjan Datta for his contributions and facilitating role. Several other members joined the Chair and reiterated their appreciation for Dr. Datta's contributions in raising the profile of GPNM and making nutrients as an important agenda point for global discussion in the context of Sustainable Development.
- 11.2 Dr. Anjan Datta thanked the Chair and the members of the Steering Committee for their unconditional support and creating the enabling conditions for discharging his

responsibilities. Dr. Datta also noted that he will circulate an email to all members of the GPNM with his new coordinates and indicated renewed commitments to work with all members in addressing the nutrient challenge in support of enhancing human wellbeing.

- 11.3 The Chair thanked all members for their participation and assured to explore further improvement on the communication technologies.

**Annexure – I: Steering Committee members attended the meeting and members who communicated their apologies**

- Dr. Greg Crosby, USDA. Email: [GCROSBY@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:GCROSBY@nifa.usda.gov) **The Chair**
- Dr. Terry Roberts. International Plant Nutrition Institute (IPNI). Email: [troberts@ipni.net](mailto:troberts@ipni.net)
- Dr. N. Raghuram. Indian Nitrogen Group, Email: [raghuram98@hotmail.com](mailto:raghuram98@hotmail.com)
- Mr. Kaj Sanders, Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment. Government of the Netherlands. Email: [Kaj.Sanders@minienm.nl](mailto:Kaj.Sanders@minienm.nl)
- Dr. Sasha Koo-Oshima, US Environment Protection Agency. Email: [Koo-Oshima.Sasha@epa.gov](mailto:Koo-Oshima.Sasha@epa.gov)
- Prof. Mark Sutton, Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, Edinburgh, UK. Email: [ms@ceh.ac.uk](mailto:ms@ceh.ac.uk)
- Mr. Patrick Heffer, International Fertilizer Industry Association. Email: [pheffer@fertilizer.org](mailto:pheffer@fertilizer.org)
- Prof. Ramesh Ramachandran. National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management, Ministry of Environment and Forest, Government of India. Email: [rramesh\\_au@yahoo.com](mailto:rramesh_au@yahoo.com)
- Prof. Roland Scholz. Global TraPs. Email: [roland.scholz@isc.fraunhofer.de](mailto:roland.scholz@isc.fraunhofer.de)
- Dr. Yuelai Lu. UK-China Sustainable Agricultural Innovation Network, UK. Email: [y.lu@uea.ac.uk](mailto:y.lu@uea.ac.uk)

**Apologies**

- Dr. Amit Roy, International Fertilizer Development Centre, Email: [aroy@ifdc.org](mailto:aroy@ifdc.org)
- Dr. Andrew Hudson, UNDP email: [andrew.hudson@undp.org](mailto:andrew.hudson@undp.org)
- Mr. Bert Diphoorn. UN-Habitat. Email: [Bert.Diphoorn@Unhabitat.org](mailto:Bert.Diphoorn@Unhabitat.org)
- Prof. Fusuo Zhang, China Agricultural University, Beijing. Email: [zhangfs@cau.edu.cn](mailto:zhangfs@cau.edu.cn); [zhangfusuo@gmail.com](mailto:zhangfusuo@gmail.com)
- Ms. Caterina Batello. FAO. Rome. Email: [Caterina.Batello@fao.org](mailto:Caterina.Batello@fao.org)

**Secretariat representative**

- Mr. Vincent Sweeney
- Dr. Anjan Datta

**Annexure – II: The meeting agenda**

1. Approval of India meeting report of March 2014
2. Establishment of a 3 members team (representing government, industry and science) to review and recommend appropriate institutional arrangement for merger of Global TraPs within GPNM
3. Nutrient related draft decision for the UNEA (June meeting)
4. Planning and development of the new GEF project
5. Any other business

