Welcome and agenda approved – Chair Risto Rautiainen.

Minutes and matters arising of September Core Group meeting in Norway.

(Note; As these minutes were in the process of being finalized by RR, each working group representative at this Berlin meeting reviewed and approved minutes relevant to their area.)

Review of SACURIMA Goals, Objectives with timelines and the deliverables.

RR Went through a PowerPoint presentation of the issues looking at each working group tasks milestones and deliverables.

Progress and plans for year 2 and year 3 - Working Groups

It was noted that there seemed to be general difficulties in progressing work in most WG’s. Possibly need to ensure we have dedicated full day meetings for WG’s.
CG concluded that WG’s need to have longer dedicated meetings e.g. full half-day meetings with pre-meeting preparations done.

WG 1 have completed a questionnaire survey but variations within responses make it difficult to analyze. Each country within COST Action report different systems to progressive Agriculture OSH. Need to prepare a report summarizing systems, setting out what is common and what is unique within each member country.

FM asked if anyone had any data or work done on clinical investigations of Diary or Forestry workers health issues to develop screening tools to be used by physicians to do annual health surveillance

Need to establish what stage each working group is at and what needs to happen to push progress. Possibly need to get members to commit to one specific working group and not keep changing to progress specific work.

Also need to establish a specific member as point of information for each country to gather specific information. This would ensure we get accurate info on the critical issues. WG’s must become more permanent.

Activities around STSM’s, ITC’s & Training Schools were discussed.

Much of the discussion was around systems to assess safety culture in agriculture and the possibility of this COST Action developing its own.

WG’s Need to consider the fact that both “safety culture and risk management” have to be considered as to date we seem to have focused only on safety culture. WG1 will give us info on risk management tools currently in place such as education, engineering and enforcement practices.

WG3 has done 3 surveys, however some did not get full returns. Need to look at the possibility of having a workshop for WG3 in Brussels or in Lithuania in early April or late May. WG4 has a paper submitted and two more under development.

More detailed discussion ensued on STSM’s, one proposal from Diana with Claudio at University of Milan and are managing this proposal. Another proposal was to make a promotional video clip on persons experience of involvement in STSM’s so that young researchers may be more inclined to get involved. It was noted that anyone could get involved in STSM’s. There is of course a set format on how to apply which is on the cost action website in the ground period up to end of April we have a budget of €10,000 with no expenditure yet. Conference visits are only eligible if you are presenting at the conference on COST Action and we can fund two per period, one is already done. ITC Students must be early career our PhD students and we need to identify some students to get involved.

Information was presented on the NOVI SAD meeting, the capital of the northern part of Serbia running from 18th to the 22nd of March 2019. There was some discussion on the program and dates for the NOVI SAD meeting and a detailed program would be agree for submission to COST Office for approval. The hotel has been booked and final arrangements
to be confirmed with Hotel, Scientific Veterinary Institute and farmer with need to have full half day meetings of WG’s held on one morning of meetings.

Claudio wants to reschedule the COST Action Meeting planned in Milan from September to October. Proposed dates now either Sept 18th to 20th or Oct 2nd to 4th.

Sustainability after COST Action.

Need to develop a proposal for funding for OSH/EU in agriculture. Possibly looking for up to €20m funding, see if any EU agency currently exists that may take it on.

If WG3 cannot have s workshop in Brussels, maybe we can have a workshop on policy formulation and seeking funding for a delicate OSH agency for Agriculture.

Meeting ended and RR captured some COST Action member Bio Video Clips.

Minutes documented by Pat Griffin.