

**Draft Minutes**  
**Final Management Committee Meeting**

**COST Action FA872**

**Action title: Exploiting Genomics to Understand Plant-Nematode Interactions**

**Place: Ghent (BE). 25<sup>th</sup> May. 15.30**

**0. Welcome to participants**

The Action Chair welcomed the participants and introduced the evaluation team of Prof R.N. Perry and Dr D. Honys.

Present: J. Jones (Chair – UK), G. Gheysen (vice-chair – BE), K. Davies (UK), E. Grenier (FR), G. Smant (NL), T. Allersma (NL), M. Sobczak (PL), W. Golinowski (PL), S. Kiewnick (CH), B. Geric Stare (SI), S. Sirca (SI), M. Mota (PT), L. Robertson (ES), C. Escobar (ES), F. Grundler (AT), H. Elekcioglu (TK), T. Kakouli-Duarte (IE), R. Holgado, (NO), E. Karanastasi (GR), N. Mestrovic (HR), M. Plohl (HR), J. Nchung Oru (COST Office), Prof R.N. Perry (External Evaluator) & Dr D. Honys (COST Rapporteur).

**1. Adoption of agenda**

The agenda was adopted unanimously.

**2. Minutes of last meeting**

The minutes were unanimously accepted as a true record of the previous meeting. No outstanding actions were noted.

**3. Report from the COST Office**

A short presentation was made by J. Nchung Oru on the activities of COST 872. Details of the funds spent under COST 872 during its lifetime (excluding the present meeting) were provided. It was announced that the Action Chair had been invited to attend the APC meeting in Greece in order to make a presentation showcasing the Activities of the Action over the last 4 years. The Chair confirmed that he planned to attend the meeting and warned MC members that he would be seeking help in generating an impressive presentation. News from COST Office was also presented to the MC.

**4. Report from the MC Chair summarizing the outcomes of 4 years of the Action**

The Chair confirmed that a draft final report (circulated) had been prepared and sent to COST Office. MC members were invited to comment on the report before the final submission to COST Office. J. Nchung Oru requested that the final version should be with COST Office before June 10<sup>th</sup> in order to allow it to be circulated in advance of the APC meeting.

**5. Comment on Actions activities by External Evaluator and DC Rapporteur**

The External Evaluator (Prof R.N. Perry) and DC Rapporteur (Dr D. Honys) were invited to comment on the draft report and on the activities of COST 872. Both complimented the MC on a

highly successful Action. The high rate of participation of ESRs, and close linkages with researchers in other areas of Nematode Biology, were highlighted.

## 6. Follow-up/perspectives

### 6.1 Application for a “follow-on” Action

Dr S. Kiewnick gave a short summary of the application for a new Action that he had coordinated and thanked all MC members for their help in putting the proposal together. Although the application had reached the last stage of the process, being one of five applications chosen for the final round of selection, the application was eventually not funded. Feedback from COST Office was that the assessors felt that the network was now established and that funding from another source was now more appropriate. Following some discussion with J. Nchung Oro S. Kiewnick agreed to contact COST Office for further feedback in order to determine whether another application, modified to take note of these comments, was worthwhile.

### 6.2 Relevant EU calls

The Action Chair reported that many MC members had sent a document outlining the need for EU funding in the area covered by COST 872 to various National Contact Points. Many reported positive feedback. However, a draft version of the 2012 work programme apparently does not include any call of relevance to COST 872. MC members were encouraged to contact their National Contact Points in order to seek clarification.

The Action Chair suggested to J Nchung Oru that COST Office could play a more proactive role in this area by facilitating contacts between Action representatives and relevant persons within the EU research funding community. J. Nchung Oru agreed to make this point to her colleagues.

## 7. AOB

### 7.1 MC Approvals

**The MC of COST 872 approved the award of a meeting support grant of up to 900 Euro to the organiser of the Final Meeting**

**The MC of COST 872 approved all decisions of the STSM committee taken since the last MC meeting.**

### 7.2 COST 872 Book

The Action Chair informed the MC that the book produced with funds from COST 872 had now been published. All MC members will receive a copy and were asked to nominate other potential recipients.

### 7.3 “Genomics” sessions at ESN 2012

The Action Chair informed the MC that there would be the possibility of holding sessions related to the themes of COST 872 at the forthcoming ESN meeting in Turkey (September 2012). Any MC members willing to act as convenors of these sessions were invited to contact the Chair or Halil Elecklioglu (the local organiser).

## 8. Closing

There being no further business The Action Chair declared the meeting, and the Action, closed.