Stewardship

CropLife Ethiopia Undergoes a Significant Transformation

Due to changes in legislation relating to which state authority the registration and certification of CropLife Ethiopia (CLE) would qualify, had left the national association being unable to register itself for almost 3 years. During this period the legal framework prevented all projects with partners and stakeholders from taking place. On 25 December 2015, the re-registration and certification of the national association by the Ethiopian Ministry of Trade was made official. This, says CLE Chairman, Mekonnen Buta, “has now opened the door for several SSP projects in which IPM will be the focal point”.

In the planning for this outcome a Special General Assembly took place in November at which two key decisions were taken:

- To significantly increase the annual membership fees for the purpose of strengthening capacity for the engagement in project activities.
- To upgrade and streamline the operational systems of the national association in order to meet the opportunities presented.

CropLife Ethiopia was established in 1998 and was initially registered with and certified by the Ministry of Justice. During the past 18 years, the association has provided a series of trainings focusing on Responsible Use. The association was an active partner in the World Bank Africa Stockpiles Programme in which more than 3000 tons of obsolete pesticides were removed from the country.

Les Hillowitz

L-R Mesfin Endezinaw, Deputy Chairman, Mekonnen Buta, Chairman, (holding the registration certificate) and Getachew Cherinet, Operational Manager
Introduction of IPM principles into the SSP project in Cote d’Ivoire

On 9 – 11 December, 110 SSPs selected from the network of active SSPs in cocoa production in Cote d’Ivoire underwent a 2-day IPM training.

The application of pesticides in cocoa is generally calendar-based using preventive programs during the growing season. The downside of such rigid preventive applications is that they do not take into account any prior assessment on the levels of pest and disease pressures. In other words, integrated pest management (IPM) principles are not taken in consideration prior to the application of the pesticide. In order to introduce IPM principles as a tool in controlling cocoa pests and diseases, the Stewardship Steering Committee (SSC) of CropLife International provided support for capacity building within the SSP program. CropLife Africa Middle East developed a 2-day IPM course focusing on cocoa that is based on the CropLife International IPM program.

The objective of this training program is to:
- Pursue and extend IPM principles into the SSP network
- Sensitize SSPs on the importance and benefits of IPM in agriculture
- Provide guidance for the adoption of IPM practices in cocoa
The training sessions took place in 6 major cocoa production areas of Côte d’Ivoire and where SSPs trained under the CropLife WCF/ACI project are active. The locations were Amélékia and Niablé in the East, Datta, Zikisso and Gagnoa in Centre West, and Soubré in the South West.

The program was conducted on an interactive approach through group work in the following three sessions:

- **Pillars of IPM**: agronomic, mechanical, biological and chemical control methods
- **Consideration for Integrated management of mirids/capsids and stems borers, black pods diseases and the cocoa swollen shoot virus**
- **Develop strategies for the control and management of mirids/capsids and stem borers, and black pods diseases**

Issues such as the toxicity of pesticides, labels and pictograms, residues were also discussed.

The sessions were facilitated by SSP trainers (field officers of CropLife CI member companies and trainers from sister organizations) who were previously briefed and guided by R. Yeboue, Master Trainer and Executive Secretary of CropLife CI.

Practical session on a cocoa farm (Left) followed by monitoring of flowering cocoa tree (Below).
Representing the Plant Science Industry

Responsible Use TOT to build capacity for the handling of pesticides: Cote d'Ivoire

On 14-18 December, in Yamoussoukro, 15 participants from CropLife CI member companies attended a 5-day Responsible Use TOT training.

The reasoning behind this exercise is that the pool of trainers from member companies has reduced as many from earlier years are no longer available owing to a variety of reasons. Moreover, many newly recruited field officers have never attended a ToT session.

The 5-day session facilitated by R. Yeboue was based on the SDF model focusing on:
- Adult learning, training philosophy and quality of the training.
- Processing styles, approaches to training, circle of competence, learning styles, facilitation rainbow.
- Group dynamics.
- Training aids, presentation skills
- Each participant was evaluated through a pre-test, post-test, participation in the sessions, and a 20-minute facilitation of a session. All participants passed with averages ranging from 65% to 90%. They were accordingly presented with certificates of competence.

Bama Yao

R Yeboue providing guidance to the participants for the various exercises such as First Aid in case of pesticide poisoning.
Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Regional Program for the Integrated Protection of Cotton in West Africa

This 22nd session of the Steering Committee of the Integrated Protection of Cotton in West Africa (Program Regional de la Protection Intégrée du cotonnier en Afrique de l'Ouest, PR-PICA) met on December 17-18, in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire.

The 11 members of the Steering Committee are the six representatives from the cotton ginning companies or unions from Benin, Burkina Faso, Cote d’Ivoire, Mali, Senegal and Togo, two representatives from the African Cotton Association and the Association of the Professionals of Cotton and Cashew, (APROCA) of Cote d’Ivoire, a representative of the national agricultural research services in the above six countries, the Executive Secretary of PR-PICA and the Regional Director WCA of CropLife AME.

The discussions and exchanges focused on:

- The technical and financial reports of 2015 which were discussed and approved.
- The action plan for 2016, which was also approved with some prior amendments to accommodate the available funds. The activities should focus on the update of the “fertilizers formula ad program, monitoring of pest infestation, pursuing the “GIRCOT” program”
- An update provided by representatives of the member states indicated an expected reduction of production in all six countries due to poor weather conditions.
- Regarding cooperation, CropLife AME is seen as a technical partner to provide guidance on various issues related to cotton protection. The presentation made by the Regional Director provided a better understanding on areas of possible cooperation essentially in stewardship activities including IPM/RU, resistance management, and container management. He stated the member companies of CropLife AME would be strongly involved and tied to such activities. However such involvement needs a stable market environment to stimulate implementation of these programs and investment in and supply of innovative products and technologies by the member companies. Another area of cooperation covers the anti-counterfeiting issue.
- The Executive Secretary was asked to liaise with CropLife AME to discuss enabling ways for the stronger involvement of member companies of CropLife AME and thus provide tools to increase the productivity of cotton in West Africa.

Bama Yao
CropLife Zambia introduces IPM into the SSP program

CropLife Africa Middle East (CLAME) has developed an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) course for Spray Service Providers (SSPs). The main objective of the course is to train SSPs in IPM principles to enable them to assist farmers to design and implement an IPM system for their farms. This should lead to less dependency of pesticides as the only pest management tool but focuses on growing a healthy crop. In addition, the SSP would then be able to offer additional services and choices to the farmer.

Zambia was selected as the first country in the East & Southern Africa sub-region to introduce this program. The training was organised to train the SSP trainers in IPM principles and how to use the IPM Manual. The training was held in Lusaka, 28 – 31 December and was attended by 12 participants. During the current crop season it is hoped that each trainer will organize at least (1) SSP training course on IPM principles (with 15 participants) and that each SSP will be able to help at least 5 farmers to develop IPM systems for their crops.

The 12 participants were drawn from 5 CropLife Zambia member companies, 1 partner organization and 2 training professionals. The training took place over 4 days and was divided into 2 main parts:
- Revision of Facilitation Skills (on day 1)
- Introduction to IPM for SSPs (from day 2)

The training started with facilitation skills on day 1 and the IPM course on day 2 with a pre-test to ascertain the technical level of participants before embarking on the Introduction to IPM Training. The basic knowledge level was pretty good with a few grey areas.

From the results of the post-test, there was a marked improvement by a number of participants. An issue arose on the clarity of some questions, also that the choices offered were too similar to distinguish. For the future some questions will need to be rephrased or made clearer to allow the participants to make more informed choices.

Observations noted were that:
- Participants generally had a good technical knowledge on pesticides and a fairly good knowledge on IPM.
- They were all involved in training farmers on various aspects of agronomic practices with a few engaged in the training of SSPs.
- Participants were initially concerned about how they will make sales of pesticides if IPM is introduced. These fears were allayed in the later sessions and all were happy with the new approach.
- The IPM for SSPs was well appreciated by all the participants who are quite eager to introduce this to the SSPs.

Perry Ngomo
CropLife Kenya Stewardship Activities for 2015

2015 was a busy year for CropLife Kenya in terms of its various Stewardship Projects. The industry was able to setup and implement various projects under the Stewardship umbrella and partner with various organizations to fund and implement these activities.

- Container Management
- Spray Service Provider program
- Agro - Dealer Development
- Industry Stakeholder Trade Fair

Container Management

CropLife Kenya partnered with a World Bank sponsored program under the Ministry of Agriculture (Kenya Agricultural Productivity and Agribusiness Project (KAPAP), to setup a container management project referred to as the ‘Sustainable Empty Pesticide Container Initiative (SEPCI) in (10) counties in Kenya. The main objective of the SEPCI Project was the ‘Establishment of environmentally sustainable and commercially viable empty pesticide containers management systems in Kenya.

Kenya Agricultural Productivity and Agribusiness Project is one of the government initiatives to implement the Agriculture Sector Development Strategy (ASDS) and are designed around the key pillars of ASDS. KAPAP aims to consolidate and up-scale the achievements in the sector and in addition support agribusiness development.

The projects development objective is to increase agricultural productivity and incomes of participating smallholder farmers in the project area. In the past 10 years, empty pesticides container management in Kenya has become of major importance especially in the horticultural export sector following the demand by the market through certification organizations such as Kenya Flower Council (KFC), Fresh Produce Exporters Association of Kenya (FPEAK), GlobalGAP, Milieu Programmer Siesteeltl (MPS) among others, that demand the documentation of the process of handling of pesticide containers on the farm as part of the traceability process to ascertain use of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) in production of crops intended for export into the EU.

The identified counties were: Makueni, Nakuru, Nyandarua, Kakamega, Taita Taveta, Trans Nzoia, Homabay, Meru, Nyeri and Embu.

Under the project CropLife Kenya (CLK) was able to conduct sensitization meetings to different stakeholders in the agricultural industry which included farmers, agro-dealers, extension officers, county administration, exporters and certification bodies. The project was able to setup 437 Collection Centres close to core farmers and farmer groups and agro vet outlets. 18 Central collection centres were also setup and were mainly located in cooperative society offices and designated areas within reach of collection. In the same activity 11,000 farmers received training from CLK on Container Management and Triple Rinsing under SEPCI.

Under the project, CLK was able to collect over 5 tons of empty plastic containers for the purpose of incineration and it is estimated that in 2016 the project will collect over 10 tons of empty containers.
Spray Service Provider Program

Following the successful pilot of the SSP program in Kirinyaga among the horticultural export farmers, CLK partnered with the Agriculture Sector Development Support Program (ASDSP), a program under the Ministry of Agriculture that is funded by the Swedish Government under SIDA. The overall program goal of the ASDSP is to: “support the transformation of Kenya’s agricultural sector into an innovative, commercially oriented, competitive and modern industry that will contribute to poverty reduction and improved food security in rural and urban Kenya”.

The program purpose is to: “increase equitable income, employment and improved food security of male and female target groups as a result of improved production and productivity in the rural smallholder farm and off-farm sectors”. CLK and ASDSP partnered to setup an SSP program in 10 counties following different value chains as supported by ASDSP as shown below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Value Chain</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Bungoma Tomato</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Uasin Gishu Passion fruits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Kisumu Cotton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Kericho Tomato</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Makueni Tomatoes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Murang'a French beans and snow peas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Machakos Mango</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Kajiado Tomato</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Isiolo Tomato</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Kwale Tomatoes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The project is being implemented by CropLife Kenya with part funding from ASDSP. The project aims to train 200 youths as SSP trainers in 10 counties who through a multiplier effect will be required to train a minimum of 10 other SSP’s below them and who will work under their supervision. In the end the concept will aim to create jobs for 2000 youths in 10 counties in a single year. They will take up the concept as a business and earn an income from this. As a rule of thumb, one SSP can service 10-15 farmers in a year. With the concept developed, the SSP’s will reach out to between 20,000-30,000 farmers in a year in the 10 counties.

The project also has linked up the youths with micro-financing institutions for funding their enterprises and through CLK will link the SSP’s with distributors to ensure access to good agro-inputs.

The partnership aims to promote the different value chains while at the same time create employment for the youth.

Certification for the SSP’s is being carried out by CLK, PCPB, and ASDSP. The project is on-going and is anticipated to end in October 2016.
Agro-Dealer Development

In August 2015, CLK and Plantwise CABI signed a partnership agreement which saw the 2 organizations come together to build capacity of the Agro-dealer network to not only be able to provide for pest and disease solutions to farmers but also provide the correct information and solution on the principles of IPM. CABI is coordinating Plantwise, a global program that aims to strengthen national plant health systems through developing local capacity to establish and manage plant health clinics and provide supporting information through a global knowledge bank.

The purpose of this partnership is to facilitate collaboration in promoting sustainable agricultural practices that enhance productivity, improve the livelihoods of smallholder farmers and protect biodiversity. The right training with relevant information is therefore very important. It is for this reason that CLK and Plantwise teamed up together to build capacity of the agro-dealer network so that they will be able to make correct diagnosis and give sound recommendations to farmers on pests and diseases and their management based on IPM principles. The collaboration involved a review of the existing CLK agro-dealer training curriculum to enrich it with aspects of diagnosis of pests and diseases, and on giving the correct information. It also involved a review of the agro-dealer trainers’ manual to include the above aspects.

Through funding and support from CABI, the curricula were tested in 3 counties in November. This involved committing two days to training on diagnosis of pests and diseases and IPM.

Through this collaboration, the following was noted:

- There is a huge knowledge gap among Extension Officers and Agro-Dealers on diagnosis of pests and diseases. Many were not able to effectively identify pests and diseases and their causal agents. The problem is further challenging when abiotic factors come into play.
- It was further noted that many agro-dealers did not understand the IPM concept and many of them thought of pesticides as the only solution to pest and disease problems. Therefore, many of them never offered other pest management options when providing recommendations to farmers.
- Many of the agro-dealers did not understand the pesticide label and more specifically the pictograms and colour codes.

It is hoped that the collaboration will continue into 2016. Plantwise CABI has also expressed that there is a possibility of a similar rollout with other CropLife national associations.
Industry Stakeholder Trade Fair

CLK organized its 2nd Annual Industry Field Day in Bungoma County which is a draw-card for all key stakeholders in the agricultural industry together for the purpose of reaching farmers in the county. With the success of the first industry field day, members requested for a similar forum in Bungoma, an emerging market especially in horticulture farming where the industry has a keen interest. Farmers in the region have embraced horticulture fully and many have formed groups through support of organizations such as USAID-KAVES.

This year’s field day was undertaken in collaboration with USAID – KAVES. The Kenya Agricultural Value Chain Enterprises (KAVES), is a five-year project (January 2013-2018), supported by the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to increase the productivity and incomes of 500,000 smallholders and other actors along staple crops, dairy, and horticulture value chains in 22 counties, thereby enhancing food security and improving nutrition, especially of women and children.

CLK’s main objective for the field day was to create a forum where its members can showcase their products through exhibitions and also demonstrate their effectiveness by setting up demonstration plots where farmers are able to see for themselves how the products work. Through the forum CLK aims to ensure access of inputs to farmers, train farmers on “responsible use”, and sensitize farmers on accessing registered products to avoid counterfeit and illegal pesticides. Through this forum CLK was able to draw stakeholders from the seed industry, fertilizer industry, banks and micro finance institutions, NGO’s in different value chains and the government.

The Trade Fair was held on 19th November. It was officially graced by the Minister of Trade, Bungoma County, who was accompanied by the Minister of Agriculture for the county with Chief Officers from Trade, Agriculture, Youth and Gender and local administration. The fair attracted over 60 exhibitors with 23 being from the Pesticide Industry. A total of 1480 farmers attended the fair. The fair gave CLK an opportunity to sensitize the county on its activities with focal interests on the county. This included Responsible Use training to farmers, agro-dealers, and extension officers. CLK also informed the county on the anticipated Spray Service Provider Program to be implemented among the horticulture farmers in the region with specific emphasis on the tomato value chain. The program aims to develop and establish professional sprayers who will hire out their services to farmers.

The Minister for Trade praised CLK for bringing the forum to the county and urged the stakeholders to make this an annual event. He noted the keen interest among farmers in the county in horticulture and noted that demand for agro-inputs had grown extensively over the years. The Minister also urged farmers to desist from purchasing fake and counterfeit pesticides and urged them to buy only from registered sources. He further urged farmers to protect themselves when handling pesticides and ensure they observe the PHI specified on pesticide labels to avoid issues of MRLs. On USAID-KAVES, the Minister thanked them for the work they are doing in the different value chains through promoting farmers in groups. He noted that their contribution had improved the livelihood of farmers in the region.

CLK representative Mr. Patrick Amuyunzu noted that CLK had a keen interest with the county and mentioned the various projects that CLK was implementing to assist farmers in the county. He thanked the county government for its support especially in the Trade Fair. CLK would like to thank its members who participated in the fair and urged its members to support such industry forums in future.

Evelyn Lusenaka

Left: CLK Vice Chairman, Patrick Amuyunzu and Head of Stewardship, Evelyn Lusenaka at the Trade Fair. Above : View of the stand
Another 270 SSPs in Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana and Nigeria are ready to apply Integrated Pest Management (IPM) techniques in cocoa. All followed the 2-day training program on IPM the second half of 2015 that has been specifically developed for SSPs. The activities were made possible through a grant by the Stewardship Steering Committee of CropLife International.

The target group for the training program were SSPs that received their initial SSP training more than 2 years ago and are still actively selling services. It was reasoned that this group has sufficient experience to understand the benefits of the IPM concept and be able to apply the knowledge and skills acquired during the training program. The training was an adaption of the IPM course that was developed a few years ago by CropLife International. The IPM SSP course is highly practical and participants learn about pest control and pest management, the IPM circle, and IPM strategies on cocoa farms for the management of mirids/capsids, stem borers, and black pod among others. All sessions took place on a cocoa farm.

The participants were enthusiastic to learn about the basic principles of IPM. They realized that they were already practicing some of the topics discussed but were not really aware of the importance in the managing of pests. Owing to the fact that the participants already had a great deal of experience in the application of pesticides, it was easy for the trainer to transfer the new insights and skills on IPM concepts.

The group was a second batch of SSPs in the three countries that received the IPM SSP training. During the first half of 2015, a total of 201 SSPs followed the program. In 2016, the three country associations would like to offer the training to those SSPs not as yet trained in IPM.

Manon Dohmen
CropLife Africa Middle East has signed an agreement with the IFDC/2Scale project to introduce the SSP concept among tomato, chili and maize farmers in Nigeria. A total of 90 SSPs will be trained in Kaduna, Oyo and Plateau states. Activities will start in February 2016.

The “Towards Sustainable Clusters in Agribusiness through Learning in Entrepreneurship” (2Scale) project, implemented by the International Fertilizer Development Centre (IFDC), is focused on building agricultural clusters along value chains in a certain geographical area. The SSP concept fits in very well with the concept of Agribusiness Clusters, as SSP providers contribute to strengthen entrepreneurship and local networks linking farmers to input dealers and other actors. In early 2015, an SSP pilot was set up with the 2Scale project in Ghana in fruit and soybean value chains, and the project proposed to collaborate with CropLife to replicate the concept in Nigeria. CropLife Nigeria will train selected farmers to become SSPs and will monitor their activities in the field and provide coaching where necessary.

In 2013 the SSP concept was introduced to Nigeria in the cocoa sector during a project implemented with funds from the World Cocoa Foundation. When the term of the project ended at the end of 2014, CropLife Nigeria, with the support of its member companies, continued SSP activities in the cocoa sector owing to the benefits members derived from the activities. Also, under the USAID/Markets II project, in which IFDC is responsible for the training component, there was continued collaboration with CropLife to manage and train SSPs in their farmers’ groups. At the moment, approximately 700 SSPs are active in the cocoa sector in Nigeria.

Manon Dohmen
Association Management

Establishment of a West Africa Fertilizer Entity, Grand Bassam, Cote d’Ivoire

Approximately 50 participants from the fertilizer supply chain comprising blending plants, importers, distributors, and technical partners including IFDC organized a 2-day workshop for the sole purpose of discussing ways for the creation of a regional fertilizer organization in the ECOWAS sub-region.

The workshop was organized by the West Africa Fertilizer Program (WAFP). CropLife AME was invited to share experiences covering organization, activities and cooperation with stakeholders in the pesticide industry.

CropLife’s presentation focused on:

- Organization with the member companies and national associations, a board of directors, a general assembly and 4 executives.
- Strategic imperatives (with sponsors), translated into annual action items and the role of member companies.
- Implementation of activities through the national associations involving partners and projects.
- The availability of funding through membership fees, support from the global federation and various projects and partnerships related to specific activities.
- The activities of such an organization aim to contribute to enabling a sound and competitive business environment, attractive and secure for private investment in innovations and technologies. The regional fertilizers association, if established, could benefit from the experiences of CropLife AME. Immediate cooperation could be sought in the fight against counterfeit and illegal ag-inputs.

Bama Yao

Left: B. Yao, Regional Director WCA CropLife AME addressing participants on the experiences of CropLife AME as an industry association contributing to agricultural productivity in W & C Africa.

Below: Group photo of the participants
The National Biosafety Management Agency (NBMA) has approved the trial of the first genetically modified rice in Nigeria at the National Cereals Research Institute (NCRI), Badeggi, Niger.

Mr. Rufus Ebegba, the Director-General of the agency, made this known in an interview with the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) in Abuja. Ebegba said that the new genetically modified rice has efficiency in nitrogen and water when compared with the conventional rice. According to him, the agency has also accredited and certified five institutes to engage in the practice of modern biotechnology. He identified institutes and companies currently engaging in biotechnology activities as the National Root Crops Research Institute (NRCRI), Umudike, Abia and Institute for Agricultural Research (IAR), Zaria.

Others are Federal University of Technology (FUTA), Akure, National Biotechnology Development Agency (NABDA), Abuja, and the National Cereal Research Institute (NCRI), Badeggi, Niger. Ebegba said the agency gave approval for confined field trials of bio-cassava plus with pro-Vitamin A. He said that the agency also approved the development of genetically modified cassava resistance to attack by Cassava Mosaic Virus Disease (CMVD) in Umudike, Abia.

The Director-General urged all other companies and institutions involved in biotechnology activities to register with the agency, adding that it would begin the prosecution of unregistered companies by January 2016. “The National Biosafety Agency Act is the only safety net and valve in the adoption of modern biotechnology and the use of GMOs for national development.

“The agency has the capacity to give Nigeria the desired holistic biosafety in a transparent manner, so that the nation can benefit maximally from modern biotechnology without compromising the environment and human health.” Ebegba, however, called for the inclusion of biosafety courses universities’ curriculum up to Master’s degree, for better awareness and understanding.
Kenyan Regulator to Release Decision on GM Crops This Month

The Kenya National Biosafety Authority is expected to release their decision on the application of the Kenya Agriculture and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO) and African Agricultural Technology Foundation to release biotech maize seeds. According to NBA chief executive Willy Tonui, the decision will be made this month about biotech maize, while the second ruling in February will touch on biotech cotton.

Kenya prohibited the planting and importation of biotech maize, locking out major exporters including South Africa from the local market which faces frequent grain shortage. Thus, the scientists are pressing for the release of biotech seeds to farmers to increase production of crops.

ISAAA

UPCOMING EVENTS

CP Communications Steering Committee Meeting, Brussels  
Feb 9
Joint Communications Steering Committee meeting, Brussels  
Feb 10
Anti-Counterfeiting Steering Committee Meeting, Brussels  
Feb 10
Crop Protection Strategy Council Meeting, Brussels  
Feb 11
GlobalGAP meeting, Stellenbosch  
Feb 16
RRC meeting, Limburgerhof  
Feb 29-1 Mar
Risk assessment training by IUPAC, Nairobi, Kenya  
Feb 23–25
Maghreb Regulatory Meeting, Lyon  
Mar 22 - 23
HHP Management Project Team meeting, Brussels  
Mar 15
Pollinator Issue Team meeting, Brussels  
Mar 16
RSC meeting, Brussels  
Mar 17-18
Board Meeting and AGM, Brussels  
Apr 4 - 5
IPM/RU Project Team, Brussels  
April 6
Stewardship Steering Committee meeting, Brussels  
April 7
Container Management Project Team meeting, Brussels,  
April 8
Hub and Regulatory Meeting WCA, (Lagos or Accra)  
May10-11
Hub and Regulatory Meeting ESA, (Nairobi, Dar es Salam)  
Aug 30-31