



INTERBULL BUSINESS MEETING

BM1 — Meeting Minutes

May 31, 2026 11.00-12.30

1. Opening

The Chair, Urs Schnyder, opened the meeting.

- Official delegates were asked to sign the attendance paper.

2. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was distributed in advance via meeting invitation; no amendments were proposed.

Urs noted that Toine Roozen, Interbull Director, could not attend the meeting this year.

3. Approval of Minutes of the 2025 Interbull Business Meetings

- Business meeting documents (activity reports, financial reports, work/breaking plan, last year's minutes) were available on the [Interbull resources page](#).
- The 2025 Minutes were accepted as read and there were no queries or questions in the meeting. Urs asked the delegates to come and discuss with him if there are any later queries on the minutes.

4. Interbull Governance

4.1 Organisational Structure

The Chair presented the organisational structure of the Interbull Steering Committee:

- Interbull is a permanent subcommittee of ICAR; Steering Committee members are appointed by the ICAR Board.
- The Interbull Steering Committee has 9 members representing 34 countries from 5 continents.
- Three subgroups operate under the Steering Committee: The Technical Committee (ITC, 9 members with 4 technical groups), commissions, task forces, and working groups.
- Interbull currently provides services to 35 member organisations worldwide.



4.2 Steering Committee Membership Changes

The following changes were reported:

- Thuy Nguyen (Australia) joined the Steering Committee last year, stepping in to replace Matthew Shaffer; she is now standing for a full new term of 4 years.
- Laurent Journaux (France) has been on the Steering Committee for four years and is standing for another term; he was unable to attend this meeting.
- Both nominations were put to the floor for approval, which was accepted. The nominations will be forwarded to the ICAR Board.

4.3 ITC Membership

- Peter Sullivan (Lactanet) and Valentina Palucci (Interbull Centre) reached the end of their terms; both were approved by the Steering Committee the previous day for a new four-year term (ending 2030).

5. Interbull Centre Director's Report

Valentina Palucci presented on behalf of the Interbull Centre Director, Toine Roozen.

5.1 Overview of the Interbull Centre

- Located within the Department of Animal Biosciences at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), Uppsala, Sweden.
- Operational unit for ICAR's Interbull Steering Committee and the Interbeef User Group.
- Serves as the European Reference Centre for Zootechnics.
- Certified against ISO 9001 quality management standard since 2015.

5.2 Key Achievements and Services

Core service activities:

- High-quality dairy and beef genetic/genomic evaluations.
- Improvement and maintenance of the GenoEx- GDE and GenoEx-PSE data hub system for genotype exchange, including facilitation the exchange of genetic traits/defects.
- Webinars for information dissemination.
- On behalf of ICAR we provide the DNA Data Interpretation Certification.
- All services are covered by the ISO-certified quality management system.
- We have developed research in the inclusion of Females in MACE, improved Validation methodology, research into new traits, and developing the Interbeef Genomic Evaluation.

The 2026 priorities for Interbull are in alignment with our current strategic plan which runs through to the end of 2026. We have 4 major pillars including promoting the service we offer, enhancing services, exploring, development and implementation of new services, and support, which enables continuing improvement of competencies of staff, continuing development with Business Funding Models Task Force, effective collaboration and improving project management so we can more swiftly develop and put projects into service.



5.3 Code Status and Type of Proof Updates

- Recommendations from the Technical Committee Working Group on MACE coding (status of bull / type of proof) were approved last year at the Louisville meeting.
- The September 2026 test run is the final implementation deadline.
- Target date for data submission under new codes: 1 September 2026 (coinciding with the data deadline for the September test run).
- From that date onward, only data coded under the new system will be accepted; legacy codes will no longer be valid.
- Detailed code descriptions are available on the [Interbull website](#).

5.4 T-MACE Service 2026

- [T-MACE](#) is an annual voluntary service offered each October.
- The Steering Committee established a minimum participation threshold of at least 5 interested organisations for the service to proceed.
- An email was sent the previous week to collect declarations of interest for T-MACE 2026.
- Organisations interested in participating, but who have not yet responded, may contact any Interbull staff member or submit by email to interbull@slu.se
- Deadline to declare interest: end of June 2026.
- The decision on whether to carry out TMACE 2026 will depend on the number of participating organisations, but the service will continue to be offered each year

5.5 Genetic Traits Exchange Service

- Genetic Traits Exchange is an ongoing service for exchange of information on genetic defects and favourable economic traits and is continually updated.
- Currently available for two breeds: Holstein and Brown Swiss.
- Expansion to additional breeds is possible; organisations interested in new breeds are invited to contact Interbull. (interbull@slu.se)
- The process involves working directly with the breed association to identify the relevant trait list, consulting the literature, and ensuring no conflicts with existing codes for other breeds.

5.6 ICAR-DNA Parentage Certification and GenoEx Platform

- 13 organisations are now certified under the ICAR-DNA parentage certification process.
- Software and documentation on the ICAR website have been significantly improved for clarity and streamlining.
- Certified organisations not yet using GenoEx are encouraged to contact Interbull.

5.7 New Service: GenoEx-GDE

- Until now, GenoEx-GDE was restricted to organisations participating in Intergenomics (the international genomic evaluation service).
- The service is now open to any breed, regardless of involvement in international genomic evaluations ('standalone' meaning it is independent of any international evaluation).
- A participation agreement is available on the Interbull website.



- Fee: €8,000 per user group per year.
- User group definition: This means a group of organisations who participate in MACE services that decide to share genotypes together; the fee is shared across participating organisations.
- Sharing decisions are fully controlled by the participant; sharing agreements can be modified or revoked at any time.

5.8 New Service: Pedigree on Request

- Initiated based on requests from member organisations needing more frequent pedigree data than the three official delivery windows per year.
- Format: identical to the official pedigree exchange (three generations, same structure and conditions of use as the standard IDEA database pedigree).
- Frequency: up to once per month.
- Limitation: only available for breeds for which the requesting organisation sends EBVs, GEBVs, or genotype data.
- Maximum number of requests of 150,000 animals across breeds per year
- Fee: €350 per request per breed, invoiced once during the second invoice period (November).

5.9 PrepDB

- Updates and improvements to the PREPdb platform will be presented in detail at Business Meeting 2 (Day 2) by Daniele Vicario.
- Key reminder: all organisations are urged to keep their national genomic descriptive information (models, trait definitions, etc.) up to date in PREPdb, particularly following any significant changes after a test run.
- This obligation applies to both dairy and beef organisations.

Questions and Discussion — Director's Report

Q1 — Brian Van Doormaal (Canada) (familiar with the services):

- If members request the expansion of the Genetic Traits Exchange to new breeds, How does Interbull pursue that practically?

A1 — Valentina:

- The process starts by identifying a trait list in collaboration with the breed or world association.
- A community / working group may be convened to determine traits of interest.
- Literature is reviewed, and conflicts with existing codes for other breeds are checked.
- The newly formed working group on genetic trait harmonisation will also contribute outcomes relevant to this expansion.
- The Interbull Centre works via collaboration and does not wish to reinvent procedures

Comment — Brian Van Doormaal:

- The ICAR DNA Working Group has existing, well-defined documentation on genetic abnormalities across multiple breeds (gene tests and haplotype tests).
- This documentation can serve as the starting point; Interbull need not re-develop definitions from scratch.



Comment — Sophie Mattalia (France):

- Praised PREPdb as a significant practical improvement over the old Form for comparing national evaluation models.
- In the old system, the same form fields could be interpreted differently by different countries (e.g., somatic cell score modelling).
- PREPdb now allows direct filtering by trait and model type across countries.
- Encouraged all attendees to visit PREPdb and provide feedback to Interbull.
- Thanked Anahit and the Interbull Centre for listening and acting on feedback to improve the system

5.10. Financial Report

The Chair presented the financial report on behalf of the Interbull Centre Director. The full report was published on the [Interbull website](#) in March 2026. Final accounts for 2025 were audited and approved by SLU.

Budget Overview

- Total budget for 2026: approximately €1.3 million, approved by SLU and the Interbull Steering Committee.
- Income is largely invoiced in Euros (service fees, EU grants); most expenses are incurred in Swedish kronor, creating exchange-rate fluctuation.
- Main income sources: Interbull service fees (largest component, ≈1 million euros), EU grants (≈€175k/year), and Interbeef service fees.
- Interbeef service fees dropped significantly: from €116k (budget 2025) to €51k (budget 2026), due to several Interbeef service users discontinuing participation.
- Approximately 75% of expenditure is staff/salary costs; overhead and office rent are calculated as a percentage of salary costs.
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Financial Position and Reserves

- The Centre has been drawing down reserves for the past several years (approximately €300k/year planned drawdown), intentionally, as part of investment in staff and projects.
- Note: the financial report contained a couple of typos in budget figures, but these did not affect the total result (the –€300k planned result remains valid).
- Actual 2026 results are expected to be less negative than budgeted, partly due to staff vacancies not yet replaced
- The Centre had built up significant reserves over past years (partly from SLU grants); action was taken to reduce reserves through hiring additional staff and investing in projects.
- The reserve fund policy was introduced in 2020 and a revised agreement with SLU was later deemed inappropriate by the new department structure at SLU, prompting the operational response described above.



Fee Structure and Invoicing

- Service fees are set on a cost-recovery principle (no profit target); fees cover both service delivery and development.
- Fees for 2026 have been increased by 3%; in practice, the net revenue effect is offset by the reduction in cow numbers year-on-year.
- 2026 invoices are currently being issued by the SLU financial department. Organisations should expect invoices with an unfamiliar email address.
- Concern was raised about Interbeef sustainability: if the number of users continues to fall, the service may not be viable, which also jeopardises the M3GE project (intended to replace Interbeef in the future).

Questions and Discussion — Financial Report

Q1 — Marco Winters (UK):

- Is there a plan to address the ongoing reserves drawdown (\approx €300k/year)? Should service fees be increased?

A1 — Chair:

- Part of the drawdown was intentional and driven by staffing investment; the 2026 outcome will likely be better than budgeted.
- Interbeef is the main current financial concern. If the user base does not stabilize, further measures may be needed.
- Staff replacement timing (months with vacancies) has contributed significantly to reserves (\approx 50k/year per vacant position).

Q2 — Brian Van Doormaal (Canada):

- Clarification on the SLU capital fee: does the current budget level (heading toward \approx €200k reserves) fall below the 10% threshold and avoid the fee?

A2 — Chair:

- Yes, approaching or falling below the 10% threshold will reduce or eliminate the fee; both the department and the Centre are working toward this.
- The threshold is approximately 10% of total turnover; the fee applies to amounts above this level.



6. Steering Committee Chair's Report

- Topics covered included the operating plan and strategic planning. All documentation around these areas is available on the Interbull Centre website [Resources page](#)
- The 2024–2026 strategic plan is in its final year; a new strategic plan process has been initiated.
- [The Interbull Code of Practice](#) was updated; new instructions on which organisations can access international evaluation results were issued.
- ICAR guidelines Section 9 (genetic defects) was updated, specifically the Brown Swiss exchange reference. This can be found on the ICAR Wiki: wiki.icar.org
- The Interbull website underwent significant updates; the new design was noted as a clear improvement.
- Urs thanked the Interbull Staff, and Ana, the new general Manager of ICAR who has a good collaborative approach to working with Interbull.

6a Input into Strategic Planning

- Delegates were asked to take part in a Mentimeter interactive presentation to contribute their thoughts to the development of the next Strategic plan for 2027-2029
- Delegates from over 28 countries took part
- Delegates were asked questions regarding Interbull Services, the role of Interbull, as well as opinions regarding the future priorities.
- Results will be analysed and used for Interbull's strategic plan.

7. Discussion

There were no questions from the audience, but they were encouraged to talk to the SC committee or Interbull staff during the breaks and that there were more opportunities for questions in the Business Meeting tomorrow.

8. Next Meeting

Business Meeting BM2 will take place the following day.



INTERBULL BUSINESS MEETING

BM2 — Meeting Minutes

June 1, 2026, 11.00-12.30

9. Opening

The Chair opened the second business meeting

- The Chair thanked delegates for their strong participation in the previous day's session and the high number of survey responses received; outstanding remarks could still be submitted by email.

10. ICAR Update (Ana Granados Chapatte)

Ana presented an update on [ICAR](#) in the context of Interbull, noting she was still relatively new in her role.

- **Structure and purpose.** Interbull is part of ICAR. Member organisations meet in subcommittees, working groups and similar bodies to exchange knowledge and develop standards intended for implementation across the group. Data collection — including for genetic evaluation — is central, with new and emerging data-collection technologies presenting both opportunities and challenges.
- **Recent guideline initiatives.** New guidelines have been published on the validation of new analyses, including a full-scale reproducibility test. A new validation system for data-recording devices is in place (currently covering certain sensors only), with the intention to develop further options.
- **Strategy 2027–2029.** ICAR is developing a new strategic plan with the aim of adapting to changes in the livestock sector, technology and regional policy. Work has begun with the board to identify what is important to ICAR — what to keep, discard or explore.
- **Task forces.** Two task forces were created at the end of 2025 and held their first meetings in Verona: A Beef-on-Dairy task force and an automatic milking systems task force, the latter exploring data arising from these systems.
- **Team development.** ICAR intends to strengthen the technical side of its team to better support working groups, improve coordination and transferability, and increase outreach and marketing so that the sector.

10.1 Discussion — Beef-on-Dairy / Beef Task Force

A delegate asked about the scope and terms of reference of the Beef on Dairy task force, noting potential overlap with the Interbeef community and genetic evaluations, and stressing the need for good communication and collaboration between the groups.

- **Ana:** One of the main objectives is to explore and agree which data will be useful for genetic evaluation, recognising how this practice is expanding among farmers depending on region and breed.



- **Kim Matthews:** A foundational document will be Joe Newton's Young Person Exchange Programme report, which contains several recommendations. The task force will review these to identify opportunities for ICAR. Membership extends beyond genetic evaluation to include health and welfare perspectives. The terms of reference, agreed by the board, would be confirmed at the group meeting the following day and published on the ICAR website thereafter.

11. Interbull Technical Committee (ITC) Report (Gerben de Jong)

Gerben de Jong reported on the ITC, which met in person the previous Friday and held three online meetings over the year.

- **Role.** The ITC identifies and reviews technical steps needed for more efficient, higher-quality services, supports the continuous development of services, and makes methodology recommendations to the Steering Committee, which takes implementation decisions. The ITC therefore acts as an advisory board to the Steering Committee.

Four working groups operate within the ITC:

- Validation — chaired by Andres Legarra.
- Genomic reliability — chaired by Zengting Liu.
- Future MACE — chaired by Pete Sullivan.
- Inclusion of external information in national evaluations — newly established, chaired by Ignacio Aguilar.

11.1 Validation Working Group

- Work is ongoing to update the Interbull III and Interbull II validation methods, taking account of current national evaluation practices and data structures.
- A decision was taken on the appropriate basis for the Interbull III test, allowing predictability of EBVs from a reduced run to be compared with the full run. The next step is to incorporate the new version of the test into the software, followed by testing among working group members. An updated test is expected by the next Interbull meeting.
- For Interbull II, the group is considering moving from standard deviation to Mendelian sampling term and shortening the period over which deviations are currently calculated (per year) to obtain more data points. This is linked to the new data structure and remains a work in progress.

11.2 Genomic Reliability Working Group

- Guidelines on computing genomic reliability were addressed, including for small and new breeds; in case the GEBV test can also be executed for these, and reliability calculation is then valid.
- The SNP-BLUP software developed by LUKE (Finland) has been made considerably more efficient and faster.
- A comparison of the Interbull genomic reliability method against the theoretical method showed very comparable results; a peer-reviewed paper will be prepared. A further comparison against a third method developed by the University of Georgia is planned,



also to be published. Guidelines will be updated once the advised routine method is clear.

- Application for Beef-on-Dairy will be discussed coming year.

11.3 Future MACE Working Group

- The model was tested using extra three-year data and behaved as expected.
- Variance components are required for the multi-trait model; Luke has developed software providing first estimates, which perform well for this data and model.
- The next plan is to estimate all variance components for the multi-trait combinations and re-run the new MACE model; a complete update is expected at the next Interbull meeting.

11.4 Inclusion of External Information Working Group

- The group's goal is to deliver guidelines on including external information used in national evaluations, drawing on a survey, published literature, and current practice.
- A survey is being prepared to map which methods are applied; harmonisation of terminology is already needed, as different terms are used for the same method. A literature review and draft guidelines will follow, to be discussed by the ITC and decided by the Steering Committee.

11.5 MACE coding (completed)

The ITC finalised work on how to code status of bull and type of proof for MACE. The updated coding procedures will be applied in a test evaluation in September and implemented in the next routine run thereafter, resulting in updated guidelines.

12. Interbull Centre R&D Update (Valentina Palucci)

Valentina presented the status of current R&D topics at the Interbull Centre, organised in line with the Centre's strategic priorities.

12.1 New Traits Portfolio

- **Interbull portfolio expansion: New traits.** Following the 2024–2025 research run for gestation length, metabolic diseases and claw health traits, the gestation length evaluation began with an official test run in the May evaluation 2025 and the first official routine evaluation in the August evaluation; gestation length has been added to the calving traits group.
- **Metabolic disease / claw health official test run.** Steering Committee approval was obtained for a first official test run covering subclinical ketosis and digital dermatitis. Participation is still modest but is expected to grow as the traits enter regular evaluations. The offer remains open for the remaining traits in both trait groups whenever national pipelines are ready.
- **New conformation traits.** A research run is planned for two new additional conformation traits — front-feet orientation and udder balance — building on work by the ICAR Conformation Working Group and the World Holstein Federation. Interested



countries provided information to the PREP database; the Steering Committee approved a research run, starting October 2026.

- The data call will be issued in mid-October, allowing approximately four weeks for data submission.
- Data will then be reviewed, included in the pipeline and analysed (EBVs, connectedness), with results presented to the Steering Committee and participating countries.
- Depending on the review, a recommendation will go to the Steering Committee. If successful, the earliest official inclusion of the two traits could be the May or September test run next year.
- Evaluation centres can propose further new traits via the PREP database electronic forms. Participation in the research run is open to all members; countries may join an official evaluation at any time once it is established.

12.3 PREP Database Improvements

- New calving trait gestation length now has been added to the dairy calving trait group electronic form both direct and maternal.
- Users can now delete or correct breeds/traits selected by mistake before populating a form.
- The query function now allows corrections to be made directly from the query output, for forms belonging to the user's own organisation only.
- Under the Help tab, two new files were added — a list of abbreviations and a list of country/organisation acronyms — and the user manual was updated to describe the new features.

12.4 IDEA Database — Authoritative Pedigree

- IDEA receives pedigree, EBV, GEBV and performance information. Until now, one authoritative organisation per country was responsible for confirming pedigree correctness, identified via the country code in the animal ID.
- Because ownership of pedigree no longer always matches the country code, the Centre has identified the best approach to allow more than one organisation to be an authority for a pedigree record (illustrated by the CRV / Flemish herdbook example). Work starts in July, continuing through the fall, with deployment expected by early next year.
- A webinar on the best use of the platform is planned during Autumn/Winter 2026--27

12.5 Females in MACE

- Research is ongoing and continuing. We have almost finalized the update of the pipeline and adjustments to double-counting. It is an ongoing project, but we are pleased with the speed and development and the way the project is going.



12.6 External Projects

- **Global methane/genomic database.** In collaboration with the Global Methane Genetics Initiative and ICAR, the Centre has advised on platform development and validation methods. Status updates were scheduled in ICAR sessions 8 and 10.
- **Dairy sheep (ARDI2 project).** The Centre supported the possibility of an international genetic evaluation in dairy sheep, adapting the IDEA and GenoEx platforms to receive combined pedigree, EBVs and genotypes, and assisting with map alignment. Partners include ICAR, INRAE (France) and NEIKER(Spain); a status update was scheduled in ICAR technical session 7.

Delegate question: (clarification on multiple pedigree authorities): Valentina explained the practical example of herdbooks split between countries/organisations, where authority for declaring a pedigree correct is being homogenised so that multiple partners can validate and correct records as needed. The approach is in the pipeline, targeted for the fall or early next year, accompanied by guidelines and a webinar.

13. Interbeef Update (Kim Matthews)

- **Structure.** A clear separation has been established between the ICAR Beef Working Group (paralleling other ICAR working groups) and the Interbeef Evaluation User Group (participating countries), which reports into the Beef Working Group. Kim currently chairs both. New terms of reference are on the [ICAR Beef pages](#).
- **Membership.** Italy participates in the M3GE project but not directly in evaluations; Switzerland expressed interest. An indication was received from Ireland of an intention to withdraw from the Interbeef evaluations — a key topic for the meetings in the coming days.
- **Strategic roadmap.** Developed with Chris Murphy, the roadmap defines four work streams: developing the international evaluations toward wider traits and breeds; moving to genomic evaluation (in parallel with M3GE); developing data-sharing services; and determining how best to use them for the beef community.
- **2025–26 progress.** International evaluations have continued, with a run this year on the original basis including data from departing countries. Integration of international EBVs back into national evaluations was deferred to coincide with the move to genomic evaluation. The key focus is a single-breed, single-trait, single-step genomic evaluation using GEBVs and SNP solutions, integrated with M3GE.
- **Services and validation.** Genotype exchange and pedigree/performance exchange via IDEA are in place. A review of validation produced a new ICAR guideline (Section 25) on beef validation, adapting the Interbull validation method II as a first tool; it is available in the wiki. A presentation was scheduled in Technical Session 14.
- **M3GE.** First results have come out; work on health and conformation traits is ongoing. Renzo Bonifazi will go through results at the project meeting.



13.1 Challenges Going Forward

- The paying members currently intending to continue are four countries — UK, Latvia, Norway and Estonia — not all with large budgets, and with limited genetic overlap in some cases, raising questions of critical mass and deliverable service.
- Because the Interbull Centre's in-kind contribution to M3GE is funded from Interbeef evaluation fees, reduced income affects the Centre's ability to deliver project requirements; this will require discussion with all participating countries, including Italy and Ireland.
- These matters were to be explored at the Interbeef Evaluation User Group and Beef Working Group meetings; updates would follow in the coming days and weeks.

13.2 Clarification

Haifa Splittorff clarified that she represents NAV (Denmark, Finland and Sweden) in the Beef Working Group rather than Norway. Kim acknowledged the correction.

14. EU Reference Centre / PREPdb Report (Daniele Vicario)

Daniele, Steering Committee member and Chair of the EURC Working Group, reported on the Interbull Centre's role as the European Union Reference Centre (EURC) for zootechnics, designated in 2018.

- **Role.** The EURC works to harmonise and improve performance testing and genetic evaluation methods and provides scientific and technical expertise to breed societies, designated bodies and national competent authorities. It supports implementation of the EU Animal Breeding Regulation (2016). Annex 3 requires AI bulls to have a (genomic) breeding value evaluated by a method validated by the reference centre on a regular basis.
- **Dissemination.** A webinar for breed societies, competent authorities and AI/semen industries — targeted at European organisations but open to all — is scheduled for September.
- **PREP database.** PREPdb is a core EURC activity, fully funded by the EU but open to all countries (including small breed societies and breeds not yet in international evaluation). It supports harmonisation, comparison and transparency of trait definitions, models and publication policies.

Daniele illustrated PREPdb queries:

Transparency:

- Milk production: of 28 countries, 20 express the trait as 305-day yield and 8 as 24-hour yield.
- Fertility (conception rate): 7 of 8 countries define it as the percentage of inseminated heifers becoming pregnant; one expresses success/failure in binary form.
- New conformation trait (front-feet orientation): 7 of 8 organisations use the same definition (orientation scored from behind the cow), in cooperation with the World Holstein Federation and ICAR.



Comparison:

- Method comparison (milk production): 18 of 28 countries use a random regression test-day animal model; only one country uses single-step SNP-BLUP officially in MACE.
- Red dairy cattle: the majority use a multi-lactation random regression test-day animal model; 9 of 14 use single-trait and the rest multi-trait.

Harmonisation:

- Harmonisation example (metabolic disease / subclinical ketosis): a country showing low correlation expresses the trait via non-esterified fatty acids in blood, while others use ketone bodies in milk — explaining the discrepancy.

Daniele thanked Anahit and Interbull Staff for preparing the presentation and colleagues of the working group — Sophie Mattalia, Maria Klopčic, Carolina Markey, and Toine Roozen.

15. Open Discussion

- A delegate asked whether, for the October data call, countries must opt in in advance for the conformation traits. Valentina clarified that the specific data call for the research run will take place in October; once a run is approved and moves into an official service, countries may join at any time. To participate in the research run, countries simply await the data call.

16. Future Events (Filippo Miglior)

- **WCGALP.** Scheduled 13–17 July in Madison, Wisconsin (USA). Julius Mugambe of the Interbull Centre will present a paper there.
- **EAAP — Hamburg.** A joint Interbull-EAAP session will be held at the EAAP meeting in Hamburg, 7–10 September, on “Utilization of automatically recorded traits (sensor data) in cattle breeding and production”. The session will be chaired by Dr Christa Egger-Danner.
- **Next year — Ireland / EAAP.** The next Interbull meeting will be held jointly with EAAP, with the Interbull schedule on Saturday–Sunday, 21–22 August, and EAAP starting Monday 23 August through the 27th, including two joint sessions with the EAAP genetics and cattle commissions and Interbull.

17. Close of Meeting

The Chair thanked delegates for participating and encouraged attendance at the final open meeting session in the afternoon.