



Brno, 18/11/2013

**Subject | Minutes of the 4th Management Committee Meeting of
CYANOCOST Action (ES1105)
“Cyanobacterial blooms and toxins in water resources: Occurrence,
impacts and management”**

**Grand Hotel Sofia, Sofia, Bulgaria
15/11/2013, from 09:00 till 14:00
Host: Prof. Maya Stoyneva, Sofia University 'St Kliment Ohridski'**

1. Welcome – Participants.

The Chair of CYANOCOST, Triantafyllos Kaloudis welcomed all participants especially new members from FYR Macedonia and Romania, new country representatives and guests from Europe and beyond (including USA and China). A total of 44 participants attended the meeting (including the Action's Rapporteur). 43 participants were representing COST countries (**Annex 1**) and one (Dion Dionysiou) was representing an IPC country (USA).

2. Adoption of the agenda

The draft agenda of the meeting as found in **Annex 2** (Agenda for 15/11/2013) was approved and Dr Ludek Blaha has been nominated to keep notes for the minutes.

3. Presentation by the Action's Rapporteur about the future of COST

Dick Blaauboer presented the current status of CYANOCOST and expressed satisfaction with the progress, introduced several new ESSEM actions, commented on increasing number of applications, informed about formation of COST Association (legal entity to implement COST activities, based in Belgium). Blaauboer also announced the need for recruitment of new experts for evaluation of COST actions, presented several other news including links to Horizon 2020 and an optimistic viewpoint about the continuation of COST as a programme. He also pointed out that Actions should be aware that changes in the funding scheme of COST may happen in the future.

4. Presentation of STSM Manager about current STSM status.

Zorica Svircev presented the current status of STSMs for CYANOCOST, numbers of scientific exchanges, comparison with other COST actions. Svircev also reminded about closing dates for applications: 15 December, 15 February, 15 June, 15 September. Svircev reminded that reports from STSMs are prepared in the form of posters, presented PowerPoint versions of existing posters and asked to print the posters and present them during the next action meeting.

5. Presentations of finalized WG plans by WG leaders.

The Working Group Leaders presented briefly progress of WGs.

- Linda Lawton summarized information about WG1 and asked Jussi Meriluoto and Kaarina Sivonen to show progress of Handbooks #1 and #2.
 - Meriluoto informed about the HB#1 (Cyanobacterial Monitoring and Cyanotoxin Analysis), commented on editorial workshop in Athens, current status (25 chapters out of 31 and 18 SOPs out of 29 received), timetable and future publishing. Meriluoto also summarized discussions at the editorial meeting in Sofia and informed about future steps towards the SOP validation.
 - Sivonen presented progress of HB#2 (Handbook on Molecular Tools for Detection of Toxicogenic Cyanobacteria), commented on discussions at Sofia editorial workshop, showed preliminary contents and timetable and asked for commenting from other experts. Rainer Kurmayer further stressed out the importance of the template provided to contributors which will assure compliance with the scope of HB and SOPs proposed.
- Petra Visser presented progress in WG3 that includes the development of two Handbooks - HB#3 (Control measures for prevention and control of toxic cyanobacteria), and HB#4 (Water treatment for Purification from Cyanobacteria and Cyanotoxins).
 - Visser reported on progress in HB#3 which will be published as open access in Aquatic Ecology, showed guidelines for contributing authors, present structure of HB and special decision support tool being developed. Visser also showed planned timetable and mentioned workshop for managers, where the HB will be presented (planned later for 2016). Following discussion addressed ways of publications (Blaauboer - fixed or dynamic), support for decision making, integration of existing models, possible environmental problems with dredged contaminated sediments (Codd)
 - Anastasia Hiskia reported about HB#4, planned table of contents, current contributing authors, discussions in editorial workshop and progress in communication with Wiley as potential publisher.
- Zorica Svircev and Geoff Codd progress of WG2.
 - Svircev presented outcomes related to WG2 which are now present in CYANOCOST repository and suggested formation of detailed regional Balkan database as an outcome of WG2. Svircev also presented selected details from her national database, which could serve as a template. During the final discussion Svircev again pointed out the importance of preparing specific outcome of WG2.
 - Codd highlighted need to report specific incidents and showed examples recently reported. Codd also called for active search of relevant information from other sources (e.g. EU WISER project etc.), pointed out importance of reporting uncertainties and looking for new trends (e.g. co-occurrence of BMAA with other toxins). Following discussion clarified relationship between WG2 and CYANOCOST repository (repository serves as one information source to all WGs) and the way of reporting other relevant "pan-European" information (extra sheet will be added to the online repository).
- Antonio Quesada, on behalf also of Luc Brient briefly summarized progress in WG4 that include web page, links to DSS presented by Jutta Fastner, existing repository etc. Quesada informed about planned meeting of WG-leaders (proposed in France). Members were repeatedly asked to include acknowledgements to ES1105 to their publications and report publications etc to WG4 leaders

MC4D1: The MC approved progress and plans of all WGs as presented by WG leaders.

6. Place and date of next meeting



Two suggestions received: Andrea Törökne expressed her interest and willingness to organize next meeting in Budapest, Hungary, and Svetislav Krstic suggested Ohrid in FYR Macedonia. After discussion MC members voted and decided to organize next meeting in Budapest.

MC4D2: The MC agreed by the vast majority of votes that next meeting will be held in Budapest during the first week in April 2014. The exact dates will be fixed at a later time depending on planning of programme and time needed.

7. Financial information

Triantafyllos Kaloudis informed about the status of the final and financial report for the 1st year (i.e. May 2012-May 2013) which was accepted by COST office and successfully closed. .

8. New logo of CYANOCOST

Triantafyllos Kaloudis briefly summarized process and status of newly selected logo which was developed by Camilla Capelli. After request from STSM manager Zorica Svircev MC members formally agreed that part of the prize (i.e. travel grant) will be processed via STSM procedure.

MC4D3: The MC unanimously approved new CYANOCOST logo and approved that travel grant prize will be processed via STSM procedure.

9. Other issues

Geoff Codd asked everyone and reminded everyone to provide information on contacts to officers or other responsible people in European or international institutions who might be relevant to CYANOCOST. This is needed to disseminate and increase outreach of CYANOCOST.

Kaloudis asked the MC to approve the use of CYANOCOST account in Twitter for information and dissemination purposes, as presented during the meeting of 14/11/2013.

MC4D4: The MC unanimously approved the use of CYANOCOST Twitter account.

10. Closing

The Chair, on behalf of all participants sincerely thanked Maya Stoyneva and her team for excellent organization of the meeting. The Chair also thanked all participants for their productive involvement, discussions and decisions and officially closed the MC meeting.

List of Annexes

- Annex 1:** attendance list
- Annex 2:** meeting agenda

List of MC Decisions

MC4D1: The MC approved progress and plan of all WGs as presented by WG leaders.

MC4D2: The MC agreed by the vast majority of votes that next meeting will be held in Budapest during the first week in April 2014. The exact dates will be fixed at a later time depending on planning of programme and time needed.



MC4D3: The MC unanimously approved new CYANOCOST logo and approved that travel grant prize will be processed via STSM procedure.

MC4D4: The MC unanimously approved the use of CYANOCOST Twitter account.