

## **Template for AG and Committee Annual/Semi-Annual Report (limit to 2 pages if possible)**

**AG/Committee Name: Wildlife Toxicology Advisory Group**

**Submitted by: Nico van den Brink**

**Date: 8-12-2014**

**Council/Board Liaison: Bruce Vigon**

### **Executive Summary**

The Wildlife Toxicology Advisory Group (SETAC-World) was established in 2014. It's membership currently encompasses approximately 75, increasing weekly. Currently the Steering committee consists of the initial set of people that initiated this AG (John Elliott, Mark Johnson, Kim Fernie, Derek Muir, Barnett Rattner, Richard Shore, Clémentine Fritsch, Renaud Scheifler, Rafael Mateo and Nico van den Brink). The coming year the strategic plan for the next three years will be developed in which activities will be described including people involved. At SETAC geographic branch meetings, business meetings will be organized to establish a founded membership, and to engage people. It is planned to organize steering meeting election after three years, once the WTAG is well established.

### **Organization**

Currently the WTAG is headed by a Steering Committee consisting of the group of people that initiated the AG. It is planned to organize SC elections within three years (2017). In this period the WTAG will be well established and structured. At that moment also the chair will be up for election, co-chair will follow two years later for reasons of continuation. Election will be held according to the Scope, mission and operating guidelines of the WTAG.

### **Activities Summary**

The WTAG is in the process of establishment and initial development. In 2014 the following activities have been organized:

#### **Sessions at geographical branch meetings**

Wildlife ecotoxicology: from acute toxicity to low level, chronic exposure related effects (Chairs: Nico van den Brink, John Elliott) SETAC-EU 2014 meeting (Basel). Platform and poster

The Use of Rodenticides, a Nagging Issue on Their Effectiveness and Risks (chairs Barnett Rattner and Richard Shore). SETAC-NA 2014 meeting (Vancouver). Platform, poster and interactive poster

Using Waterbirds as Indicators of Aquatic Ecosystem Health (Chairs Neil Burgess and Birgit Braune) SETAC-NA 2014 meeting (Vancouver). Interactive Platform and poster

Wildlife Ecotoxicology (Chairs Miguel Mora and Angela Matz). SETAC-NA 2014 meeting (Vancouver). Platform and poster.

Avian Species as Indicators of Environmental Pollution and Health:" Contaminant Exposure, Fate and Effects (Part 1 and 2). Chairs (Jonathan Verreault and Kim Fernie) SETAC-NA 2014 meeting (Vancouver). Platform and poster

Improving Wildlife Risk Assessment: Characterization of Exposure - Response Relationships (Chairs: Gary Mann, Bradley Sample and Anne Fairbrother). SETAC-NA 2014 meeting (Vancouver). Platform and poster

#### **Business meetings**

At the Basel meeting (SETAC-EU 2014) a first business meeting was organized (May 14<sup>th</sup> 2014, Nairobi room). Approximately 25 people attended. At the meeting the WTAG was presented, and the plans for further development of WTAG. Input from the audience will be used and are included in minutes from the meeting

At the SETAC-NA meeting Vancouver a second business meeting was organized, attended by 45-50 people. At this meeting WTAG was also presented to the people, including mission and scope. Tom Augspurger presented the concept of "One Health" that can be used to e.g. facilitate the interactions between AGs. The inputs from this meeting will also be used to optimise the website of the WTAG and to further develop the WTAG

### **Future Plans**

Specific action for the near future are listed below. For the mid-term future a strategic plan will be developed covering the first three years of the WTAG. This will be available for discussion at the SETAC-EU meeting in 2015 (Barcelona). In order to provide opportunity to all members for input it is planned to have a first draft in March 2015. For the SETAC-EU meeting a session has been proposed.

### **Business and Planning Meetings**

Business meetings were organized at the SETAC EU meeting and the SETAC-NA meeting.

It was decided that activities of the WTAG at first should focus on the further establishment of the WTAG (developing a strategic plan for the coming three-five years). To enhance the WTAG web presence, several volunteers are working on the following:

- develop inventories of available website and other types of information useful for wildlife toxicologists. Barnett Rattner and Richard Erickson have begun work on this task.
- prepare a detailed who-is-who within the Wildlife Toxicology arena. Nico van den Brink has begun work on this task.
- best-practice inventory
- update and improve the WTAG website

It was also decided to organize a business meeting at least at the SETAC-EU and SETAC-NA annual meetings. Efforts are underway to involve more people from other geographical branches.

### **Membership Communications**

Channels of communications were as follows:

- Direct mail to individual members
- Group mail to all members via the WTAG web-site
- SETAC globe communication (November 2014)

Most communication was from WTAG-SC to the members, and within the WTAG-SC.

### **Issues/Problems**

We are in the process of establishment. Therefore most activities are rather internally oriented, this will improve once the strategic plan has been developed.

### **Current Steering Committee**

Government

John Elliott, Environment Canada, Delta, BC

Kim Fernie, Environment Canada, Burlington, ON

Derek Muir, Environment Canada, Burlington, ON

Barnett Rattner, USGS-Patuxent Wildlife Research Center

Mark Johnson, U.S. Army Institute of Public Health, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD

Richard Shore, Centre of Ecology and Hydrology (CEH-NERC), Lancaster, UK

Academia

Clémentine Fritsch, University of Franche-Comté, Besançon, France

Rafael Mateo, Instituto de Investigación en Recursos Cinegéticos, Ciudad Real, Spain

Renaud Scheifler, University of Franche-Comté, Besançon, France

Nico van den Brink (acting chair), Wageningen University, sub-dept of Toxicology, Netherlands

No member of industry is involved in the Steering Committee. This will be a focal point for the first elections.

SETAC-World liaison: Bruce Vigon

***No. active members:15***

***Total membership: ±75 (increasing)***