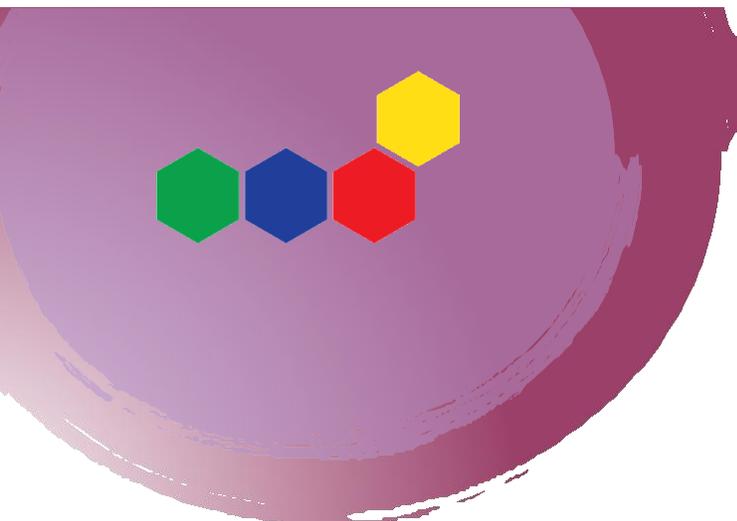


Annex 2 - for information & decision



Location: Online

Date: 13/01/2026

Time: 13h45-16h45

Participants (Closed Session)

- **Registration Forms**

Closed session: **Adriana Casillas** (Chair and IPIFF President, representing Tebrio), **Rajmond Percze** (ExCom, representing Agrollop) **Ivan Nikolic** (ExCom, representing Freeze M), **Marc Bolard** (Treasurer, representing Nasekomo), **Christian Bartsch** (ExCom member, representing Essento), **Daniel Murta** (ExCom member, representing EntoGreen) and **Sebastien Crepieux** (ExCom, representing Invers);

Simone Mancini (University of Pisa); **Jeremy Burks** (NutriEarth); **David Deruytter** (INAGRO) **Christophe Trespeuch** (Agronutris), **Carlotta Totaro Fila** (Alia Insect Farm), **Ana Glozalez** and **Victoria Giráldez Sánchez** (Protiberia) **Vasco Teixeira Esteves** (Tecmafoods) **Patrizia Falabella** (University of Basilicata), **Somaya Nasereldeen** (Wageningen University), **Carne Guell** (Universitat Rovira i Virgili), **Lotte Frooninckx** (Thomas More), **Montse Jorba** (Leitat University), **Jeroen Desmet** (KU Leuven), **Itzik Shachar** (Shachar), **Phillip Zimmermann** (Replod), **Franzisca Schindler** and **Kirsten Katz** (Hermetia); **Bob Holtermans** and **Bina Roovers** (Insect Engineers); **Juan Paredes** (Phileo by Lesafre); **Pia Schöneck** and **Mark Ebeling** (Green Cycle by Prezero)

IPIFF Secretariat: Steven Barbosa (SB)

**Draft Minutes
General Assembly meeting on 13-01-2026**

Closed session

Participants: IPIFF Ordinary Members, Common Associated Members, and Knowledge Sharing Associated Members.

1. Introduction: Welcome and Introductory points - Points for INFORMATION & DECISION 'C' points

The Chair, **Adriana Casillas (AC)**, opened the closed session of the General Assembly (GA) meeting, following the regular procedures, including the endorsement of the Antitrust Statement ([annex 1](#)), the approval of the minutes of the previous GA meeting held on 18-09-25 ([annex 2](#)) and the adoption of the [agenda](#) of the present meeting (closed session).

2. Governance

- Please refer to [Background Document 01- Internal Structure and Working Forums.](#)
- Please refer to [Background Document 2-Calls for Expression of interest-Members-Working Forums and other needs](#)

I. Internal Organization & Working Structure- The co-relation between WG's and Taskforces

a. Task Force on LCA

i. Completion of the IPIFF LCA Concept Note

SB recall the discussion point of the last General Assembly of the 18th of September, concerning the internal work to better align and focus the IPIFF Strategy with its Working Bodies, proposing the set up of Task Forces to deal with specific objectives already included in the Work Programme and Policy Roadmap. These taskforces, composed by a steering group of members experts on a certain field would work in time focus deliverables.

As part of the ongoing work, the Secretariat together with the board were revising the IPIFF Work Programme to identify key priorities for each Working Group (e.g., Food, Feed).

- **Introduction of Task Forces:** A new, agile operational model based on cross-sectoral Task Forces was presented. These will be composed of members with specific expertise (e.g., R&D, finance, communications, policy) to address focused objectives.

SB recalled the launch of the Task Force on LCA and its ongoing work close to completion towards the adoption of an IPIFF LCA Concept Note and aggregate third party LCA's from member companies and collect the input and contributions from both industry and academic members. This document, with the aim of being finalized by February.

SB called the attention of the Members for [Background Document 03- IPIFF LCA Concept Note](#), containing the revised version of this document.

b. Task Force on Catalyse Finance

i. Call for members and scheduling of the kick-off meeting

SB recalled the members of the previously held discussion in the past General Assembly of the 18th of June concerning the launch of the IPIFF Task Force on Catalysing Finance. The aim to gather a restricted number of members with specific background on finances, experience on EU funded projects and/or with knowledge on captivating EU funding, to work together towards existing financial mechanisms to which EU insect producers could access to as to finance their industry needs/challenges.

SB also recalled that work to be developed under this Task Force includes horizontal policy endeavours, towards the catalysing of new financial support mechanisms addressing the sector (e.g. Protein Strategy and CAP; Sustainable Aquafeed in Aquaculture or under the recently published Bioeconomy Strategy).

SB also requested the members to fill in Background Document 02 to gather the names and contacts of each member company as to be able to deploy the respective Task Force and hold a Kick-off meeting of the Task Force.

a. Task Force on Communication

- ii. Mission of the industry for a coordinated strategy to counteract partially led information, studies and media articles objecting the sector.
- iii. Support from member companies to organize the IPIFF Annual event in 2026 in the European Parliament.

SB continued to provide updated information on the call for the re-launch of the IPIFF Task Force on Communication, recalling the aim to gather the Communication Managers of the different member companies. This task force to align key message and communication on behalf of the industry.

SB called the attention for the need of a coordinated action and response regarding counter lobby organizations, such as ONEI and Insect Institute, which partially led publication and papers were having detrimental impact in policy making at the EU level.

SB continued to mention that a coordinated communication and promotion of the IPIFF Annual Event in the end of 2026 in the European Parliament also would benefit from a coordinated communication endeavours on behalf of all member companies. SB informed the members that the event was already evolving with the support of the co-host of the European Parliament and that in different meetings with key stakeholders and policy makers, invitations have already been addressed for these to become speakers.

Lastly, SB also recalled the need to improve/align the key communication/messaging on behalf of the sector, recalling the President's recommendation, AC, to refocus its advocacy strategy by highlighting the role of insect farming towards food security and sovereignty at the EU level.

II. Proposal for honorary roles/responsibilities of different members to be the spokespersons-leaders on the progress in certain policy dossiers/ internal working topics.

SB introduced this Agenda item by highlighting the willingness of some of the members to have a more prominent role in the conduction of certain policy dossiers/internal work.

SB mentioned that the designated role/responsibility to be designated to different members would support a more dynamic internal organization and working bodies by certain members taking the role to advance these at the internal organizational level and by supporting the Secretariat in its policy and outreach activities.

SB closed the agenda item to open a call for expression of interest for different members to present their candidature to have these roles by identifying the responsibility/dossiers they wish to take the lead.

3. Budgetary matters

I. Information on the state of payment of the IPIFF membership fees 2025. 'A' point

Steven Barbosa (SB) provided an update on membership fee payments. He noted that while a few members, as previously communicated by the former Secretary-General Christophe Derrien, chose not to renew their membership this year, the majority have now paid their fees. Only a few instalments remain outstanding from a small number of members.

II. Proposals for the revision of the applicable membership fees for Ordinary Member for the year 2026

'B' point.

SB informed the members that the Board has proposed a 20% reduction in membership fees for Ordinary Members for adoption at the General Assembly. In addition, the proposal includes the option for all member categories to pay their fees in two instalments: the first by 31 January, and the second by 1 June.

SB informed that the Board developed this proposal after careful consideration of the current constraints and needs expressed by members, recognising the challenging times the sector is facing. This decision aims to ensure members have the necessary conditions to maintain their affiliation with IPIFF and continue collaborating on sectoral development.

Following discussion, the General Assembly unanimously approved the proposed fee reduction and flexible payment plan. There were no votes against or abstentions.

III. Diversification of Revenues for Secretariat activities and reduction of operational costs. 'A' point

SB recalled the members the different endeavours towards the reduction of operational costs concerning the operations related with the IPIFF Secretariat.

Under this item, SB recalled the [Background Document 04- Revenue streams and Operational Costs](#) on the strategic restructuring of IPIFF's finances, focusing on cost reduction and revenue diversification to ensure long-term sustainability.

SB reported on completed measures to reduce operational expenditures. It was noted the successful implementation of cost-saving initiatives, resulting in confirmed savings of 68,509,72 Euros. Key measures included:

- Office & Meeting Rooms renting Costs: Elimination of all external office rental, meeting room, and catering expenses (saving €41000 /Annually).
- Office Consumption: Reduction of supplies, printing, and communications costs to zero (saving €5,350 during 2nd Semester of 2025).
- Webinar Logistics: Removal of budgetary allocation for external webinar platform costs (saving €1,850 during 2nd Semester of 2025).
- External Services Consolidation: Merging of website maintenance, IT support, graphic design, and communications into a more cost-effective annual services contract (During 2nd Semester of 2025 and envisaged for the totality of 2026).
- Administrative Fees: Significant reduction in VAT declaration-related costs.

SB recalled this decision was taken to offset reduced membership fee income and create a more resilient financial base, the Secretariat presented a strategy to secure revenue through partnership in EU-funded research and innovation projects.

Two confirmed project participations for the upcoming cycle were detailed:

- Project CIRCLES IPIFF budget allocation of 73,000 EUR. Applicable costs includes Human Resources, Communication, Indirect costs, and Travel.
- Project EC Path Finder EAT Plast: IPIFF budget allocation of 90,000 EUR. Applicable costs include Human Resources, Communication, Indirect costs, and Travel.

- Total Project Pipeline Budget: 163,000 EUR

SB concluded that the combined strategy of rigorous cost-cutting and proactive pursuit of alternative revenue streams is essential for IPIFF's financial health and its ability to effectively advocate for the sector under the new budgetary framework.

The Assembly endorsed the strategy to diversify revenues through project partnerships, which included as next steps:

- **The Secretariat to implement the approved cost-saving measures in the 2026 operational plan.**
- **The Secretariat to pursue new partnership agreements for EU project.**

III. Opening of a consultation for proposals for a revised membership fee structure. 'A' point

SB informed members that following a Board discussion and feedback received by some of the Members concerning a need to revise current membership fee structure beyond the proposed aforementioned measures, a consultation period was open to collect proposals for a revised, longer-term membership fee structure.

Members were invited to submit their proposals for new a membership fee structure which will be consolidated and presented for discussion and formal approval at the next General Assembly meeting on 8 June in Turin.

IV. Framework and Proposals for New Membership Types other regions of the World outside the EU 'B' point.

Considering the ongoing IPIFF endeavours to enhance Global cooperation, SB presented the proposal for the adoption of a new framework which enables new type of Membership categories.

The proposed framework establishes new "Affiliated" and "Strategic Partnership" membership categories ([Background Document 05- Proposal for Affiliated Membership Agreements](#)). This structure is designed to prevent frequent deep statutory amendments while enabling tailored cooperation agreements. These agreements can include specific objectives—such as enhancing global advocacy, communication, industry events coordination, and standardisation—particularly with organisations outside the EU.

The new "Affiliated" category safeguards the EU industry's policy-sensitive work from external influence while fostering close international cooperation. Additionally, the framework allows membership fees and conditions to be adapted to regional contexts, such as GDP per capita, and to include other bespoke clauses.

SB highlighted several ongoing engagements that illustrate the demand for such flexible membership types. These include:

- Participation in the Chinese International Insect Protein Conference, reflecting strong interest from Chinese counterparts.
- Advocacy work in Turkey, where SB and AC recently spoke at an event promoting regulatory approval for insect meal in aquaculture.
- Discussions with SB and Ivan Nikolic (IN) by request of GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit) in the Philippines to support a national stakeholder platform for Black Soldier Fly production, with backing from the European Commission delegation.
- Expressed interest from insect-producing companies in Brazil and Lebanon to join IPIFF.

SB elaborated on the purpose of the proposed **Strategic Membership Agreements**. These agreements are envisaged to formalize close cooperation between EU insect producers and pivotal players in their target markets, including manufacturers of aquafeed, animal feed, pet food, and human food.

The primary objective is to establish a collaborative and constructive environment between our industry and its principal end-users. This framework would facilitate direct cooperation, allowing insect producers and key market players to jointly address strategic needs and priorities. Furthermore, SB emphasized that such alliances would send a very strong signal to policymakers, significantly enhancing the sector's advocacy power.

SB concluded by informing the members that IPIFF is currently engaged in discussions with several prominent aquafeed and pet food producers, with the goal of onboarding them as the platform's inaugural strategic partners.

Key Discussion Points & Proposed Structure:

Core Problem Addressed: The current statutory amendment process is slow and costly. Partnership Agreements offer a flexible, efficient contractual alternative for onboarding new member types.

Advantages of the Partnership Agreement Model:

- Flexibility: Contracts can be tailored and updated by the Board/Secretariat more easily than statutes.
- Tailored Value: Allows for customized fee structures (based on turnover, volume, GDP per capita of countries/regions where companies and organizations are based etc.) and specific benefit packages (e.g., access to working groups, branded partnerships based on a case-by-case scenario- to be tailored in each individual affiliated membership/partnership agreement).
- Governance Preservation: Engages non-EU and non-producer entities ****without**** diluting the voting rights or core governance of statutory EU producer members.
- Strategic Scalability: Enables IPIFF to build a global network and test relationships without statutory constraints.

Proposed Three-Tier Structure:

- Tier 1: Statutory Members** (unchanged): Ordinary, Common Associated, Knowledge Sharing, and Observer Members as defined in current IPIFF Statutes.
- Tier 2: Affiliated Members (via Agreement): For non-EU producer associations and chambers of commerce. Focus on knowledge exchange, limited access to EU insights, and non-voting committee participation. Each potential members with a tailored made membership/partnership agreement.
- Tier 3: Strategic/Institutional Partners (via Agreement): For global companies, research consortia, and NGOs. Focus on project-based collaboration, joint advocacy, and supply chain development, often with higher, project-tied fees.

Implementation Considerations:

- A clear, enabling clause must be added to the statutes authorizing the Board to create these non-voting categories.
- All partnerships must align with IPIFF's strategic goals (market expansion, standard harmonization).
- The ****non-dilution principle**** of core voting rights must be explicitly stated in all agreements.
- Guidelines are needed for brand management (logo use) and defining reciprocal value from partners.

Conclusion & Recommended Path Forward:

Revising the statutes is deemed unnecessary. The contractual Partnership Agreement model is recommended as the professional standard to:

- Maintain IPIFF's core as an EU-focused association.
- Build a global network and diversified revenue stream.
- Allow tailored engagements with various partners.

Following discussion, the General Assembly unanimously approved the proposed Affiliated & Strategic Membership Categories. There were no votes against or abstentions.

V. Proposal for an Affiliated Partnership Agreement between IPIFF and CFNA (China) 'B' point.

SB continued by explaining that ongoing exchanges have been developed with the Chinese counterparts since mid-2025. The ongoing discussions initially foreseen a membership fee structure adapted to the nature of CFNA (an organization with includes several member companies and located outside the EU). Please refer to [Background Document 06-Proposal for Affiliated Membership Agreement with China](#).

SB recalled that initial discussions within the Board towards the development of a tailored membership fee structure proposal that would translate into a membership fee of 25,000 EUR and the amendment of the IPIFF Statutes to allow the integration of new type of members, outside the European Union and Schengen Area.

SB recalled that the aforementioned proposal of 'Affiliated Membership fee type' would preview the inclusion of such types of members, without 'in deep' restructure/amendment of the IPIFF Statutes, a membership fee structure based on the proposal of the Chinese counterparts, while at the same time enabling our organization to restrict essential strategic policy endeavours, reserved to European industry representatives, to these actors, without compromising ongoing strategic policy work.

SB proceeded to give the word to the Board Member **Sebastien Crépieux** (SC) who presented the proposal for a tailored membership agreement with Chinese counterparts that would envisage key strategic priorities for the sector (Background Document 06) for a strategic Affiliated Membership Partnership between the International Platform of Insects for Food and Feed (IPIFF) and the China Feed Industry Association (CFNA).

SC started by identifying the Key Problem: The EU market is experiencing significant distortion due to price-undercutting imports of insect products (dried *Tenebrio molitor* and *Hermetia illucens*) from China that may not be fully compliant with EU regulations. This threatens EU producers, market integrity, and the long-term growth of the global insect sector.

Proposed Solution: A cooperative framework to transform this challenge into a structured, win-win partnership. The initiative leverages CFNA's authority within China's production sector and IPIFF's EU regulatory expertise to promote compliant trade and market stability.

SC continued to explain the proposal for Affiliated membership Agreement with CFNA to ensure EU Market Compliance & Knowledge Exchange Initiative; The partnership would be established under IPIFF's Affiliated Members (Via Agreement) framework, ensuring a flexible, non-voting collaboration. The aim, to ensure insect products imported from China into the EU are traded by entities aware of and committed to EU regulatory compliance, supporting a level playing field.

- **CFNA's In-Kind Contributions (In return for a preferential affiliation fee):**
 - **Facilitate Awareness:** Proactively communicate to Chinese producers/exporters the mandatory EU regulatory requirements (Novel Food, feed hygiene, traceability).
 - **Promote IPIFF Engagement:** Actively encourage Chinese companies to recommend their EU importers join a new IPIFF "Importers Chamber".

- **Knowledge Sharing:** Participate in an annual, non-confidential market intelligence exchange with IPIFF.
- **IPIFF's Role & Value Proposition:**
 - Establish and manage an "Importers Chamber" for EU-based importers of insect products.
 - **Provide chamber members with regulatory training**, compliance guidelines, documentation checklists, and dedicated events.
 - **Create a "Trust Mark"** for verified importers in the program, signaling them as reliable, compliance-aware partners to CFNA members.
 - **Reciprocity & Broader Cooperation:** CFNA will provide **market access information for EU producers interested in exporting to China.
- The partnership also includes collaboration on a Global Insect Industry Events Calendar and Joint Global Policy Advocacy in policy forums.
- **Financial Structure**
 - Noted as a marginal cost relative to product value (e.g., -€50/ton or <1% for a Tier 2 importer).
 - **Importers Chamber" Fee Tiers (for EU Importers):**
 - Tier 1 (1-100 tons/yr): €5,000
 - Tier 2 (101-500 tons/yr): €25,000
 - Tier 3 (501-1000+ tons/yr): €50,000
- **CFNA Affiliation Fee:** A **symbolic annual fee of €3,500 for the initial year**, with potential reduction to €0 based on the success and tier achievements of the "Importers Chamber" initiative.
- **Governance & Agreement Principles**
 - The partnership is non-voting regarding IPIFF's internal governance.
 - Proposed **initial term of two years, with review based on KPIs (e.g., importer engagement, market feedback).
 - Includes provisions for **joint branding/communication** and is founded on the principle of reciprocal value.

Proposed Next Steps & Symbolic Momentum

- **Formal Engagement & Drafting:** Present the proposal to CFNA leadership and co-draft a formal agreement.
- **Launch & Implementation:** Execute a joint communication plan and operationalize the "Importers Chamber."
- **Key Symbolic Moments:** Aim for a Chinese delegation at the IPIFF Annual Event 2026 in Brussels** and an **IPIFF delegation at Chinese/AFIA Industry Events in 2026.

Conclusion & Action Items

The proposal was seen as a pragmatic and forward-looking model to address market dysfunctions and set a positive precedent for international sector cooperation.

Action Items:

- **Legal/Governance Team:** To review the framework as to include/ check existing clauses allowing IPIFF to celebrate partnership agreements against the need of amending the core of the IPIFF's internal statutes for affiliated membership agreements.
- Meeting with CNFA to celebrate the agreement
- Cooperate towards a global industry events calendar

- Cooperate towards Global cooperation envisaging supporting advocacy activities and Key communication messages
- Ensure a proper enforcement of the ‘Official Controls Regulation’ at the EU level concerning the import of non-compliant insect-derived products
- Enable access to information concerning procedures/requirements for the export of EU insect-derived products to the Chinese market.

Following discussion, the General Assembly unanimously approved the proposed Affiliated Membership Category for CFNA. There were no votes against or abstentions.

VI. Proposed updated budgetary framework for the year 2026 (annex 5)- ‘B’ point.

Revised Budget Proposal Summary

SB presented the agenda item concerning the draft IPIFF budget for 2026. The proposed budget is designed to continue current initiatives while advancing key strategic priorities: minimising the financial burden on members, upholding a lean operational model, and enhancing secretariat capacity. Specifically, it envisions reinforced support for the Secretary-General to facilitate more effective and transparent operations, improve member communication, and ensure the full operationalisation of IPIFF’s various working bodies, including Task Forces and Working Groups.

SB called the attention of the Members to [Background Document 07-Provisional 2026 Budget Proposal](#)

Revenue

The budget proposal forecasts total revenue of approximately €250,000. This is based on membership fees, incorporating the recently adopted measures: a 20% reduction for Ordinary Members and the introduction of two instalment payment options for all member categories.

Expenses

Core expenses include the salary of the Secretary-General and subcontracted services required for operational and legal functions. All employment-related costs, such as insurances and social fringe benefits (e.g., meal vouchers, pension scheme, and workplace insurance), will be applied in accordance with Belgian legislation.

Proposed Secretariat Structure. The Secretariat will continue to be led by the Secretary-General, **supplemented by the following subcontracted services:**

Communications & Digital Support (600 EUR/month)

- Website maintenance, content updates, and back-office management for the members’ area.
- Design of templates and publication of materials for internal and external communications.
- Management of social media, weekly updates, monthly newsletters, and contact databases.
- Support for communication campaigns targeting policymakers and media.

Events & Stakeholder Outreach (estimated cost 1000 EUR/month)

- Organizational support for internal working groups and events.
- Coordination of media outreach and external communication activities.
- Logistical support for policy outreach and stakeholder engagement.
- Event planning, management and organization

Financial & Administrative Support (estimated cost 300 EUR/month)

- Ongoing accountancy, financial reporting, and VAT declarations
- Internal documentation and other administrative-related tasks support
- Event planning, management and organization

Public session (from 5:10 pm until 7 pm)

1. Introduction: Welcome and Introductory points - Points for INFORMATION & DECISION 'C' points

AC recalled that this session was open to all IPIFF Members, including **Observer Associated Members** and to the **Members of the IPIFF National Network**. 'Only' **Ordinary members** have the power to vote on points that are open for decision.

The Chair, **Adriana Casillas (AC)**, opened the Public Session of the General Assembly (GA) meeting, following the regular procedures, including the endorsement of the Antitrust Statement ([annex 1](#)) and the adoption of the [agenda](#) of the present meeting (closed session).

1. EU policy developments & IPIFF policy activities - points for INFORMATION & DISCUSSION 'A' points

SB recalled the state of implementation of the [IPIFF Working Programme for the years 2025-2027](#) and update on the [activities of the related IPIFF working fora](#) (e.g. Working Groups, Knowledge Platforms) ([annex 6](#)) and the articulation on the desired objectives through the work to be conducted within the launched Task Forces, which are targeting Working Programme objectives already envisaged in the context of the Working Groups, to ensure more efficient delivery of each specific task.

SB proceeded with an update of the advocacy and policy activities, recalling the members of the [Background Document 01- Position Papers, Policy and Advocacy Activities](#), and the related efforts towards relevant EU Commissioners:

Regarding the Structural Dialogue between IPIFF and the European Commissioner for Fisheries and Ocean cabinet & DG MARE conducted between July and November in the frame of the Study conducted on Sustainable Aquafeed, SB informed that a Report summarizing the responses of the members to the study, accompanied presentations on behalf of Member Companies, Biomar, Food4Revolution and Researcher from University of Torino were compiled as to provide a comprehensive Report and Policy Recommendations to the Commissioner on Fisheries and Aquaculture as to promote the uptake of sustainable aquafeed from insect meal in the soon-to-be published Vision for Aquaculture 2040 and reviewed Common Fisheries Policy.

- Please refer to [Background Document 02- Policy and Advocacy Activities- Increased uptake of insect meal](#) and [Background Document 03- Report- EU insect producers part. EU SURVEY AQUAFEED](#)

SB also recalled the held meeting between IPIFF and the Commissioner on the Environment, Water Resilience and a Competitive Circular Economy and the subsequent policy initiatives and activities for IPIFF and the EU insect sector to become active in the implementation of the Bioeconomy Strategy.

SB mentioned the participation of IPIFF in the Bioeconomy Strategy Conference hosted by the Danish Presidency of the Council, the ongoing exchanges with the Circular Bio-based Europe Joint Undertaking, the DG ENVI Hed of Unit for Bioeconomy & Sustainable Materials, the proposal for the involvement of IPIFF in the Bio-based Industries Consortium. SB recalled IPIFF Position Paper on a Circular Economy Act and the Joint Position Paper submitted by 8 EU-level organizations on promoting Circularity in Animal Feed and the Catalogue of Measures to promote it, submitted to the European Commission.

SB highlighted that despite the positive engagement and ongoing developments, there was a call of attention for the critical Eurogroup for Animals Position Paper against the EU insect sector in the frame of EU Circular Economy Act Consultation launched by the European Commission.

- [Please refer to Background Document 04-Eurogroup for Animals-PP Circular Economy](#)

SB highlighted that together with the aforementioned activities, IPIFF would submit the IPIFF Concept Note on LCA together with scientific-based bibliography on the circularity of the sector and the key takeaways of the European Environmental Agency on “Assessing the Potential to enhance circularity of Bio-based Waste”. This work to be complemented by a Report and Policy Recommendations to enhance the circularity of the Sector in the frame of the Circular Economy Act and Bioeconomy Strategy.

SB continued to reference the importance of the completion of the IPIFF LCA Concept Note to continue the initiated engagement with the European Commission DG AGRI and relevant stakeholders towards the EU Protein Strategy and follow-up on the recent developments on crucial policy dossiers- CAP, Livestock workstream and EU Fertilizer Plan.

SB highlight the request from the European Commission on verifying the sustainability of the sector, especially considering the DEFRA Study which was considered as a reference to the sector.

SB continued to explain that the LCA Concept not is also extremely important to continue the engagement with the cabinet of the Commissioner for Startups, Research and Innovation, who have previously mentioned the DEFRA Study as well.

SB addressed the long-delayed Novel Food authorisation of an IPIFF Member application since its EFSA Positive Safety Opinion dated from July 2024. SB recalled the support from expressed by the European Parliament ENVI Committee following the overwhelming rejection of two non-binding resolutions objecting the authorisation of *Ancheta domesticus* Novel food application-continuous engagement to ensure progress in the procedures.

SB continued by explaining that following different inquiries on behalf of Member States represented at the PAFF Committee on Toxicology and Novel Foods, with no response from DG SANTE, after informal inquiries from IPIFF to DG SANTE and different communications on behalf of IPIFF and of the member company to the Commissioner cabinet, with no right of response, IPIFF sent a letter to the Commissioner on Health and Animal Welfare informing of the different legal procedures and timelines which were not respected by the Commission.

- Please refer to [Background Document 05-IPIFF letter to Commissioner on Heath and Animal Welfare NF](#)

SB has informed that following several exchanges with MEP's, (Members of the European Parliament) Member States and officials of DG SANTE the only possible avenue was for the member company to enter a litigation process against the European Commission. SB further informed that an advocacy strategy was being pursued to create a favourable supporting environment where Member States and MEPs to address the Commissioner to the need to comply with predictable legislative framework and furthermore to address President of the Commission denoting the clear disregard for EU legislation and policy procedures.

SB finalised by informing the ongoing exchanges and requests for meetings with the Vice-President of the European Commission for Cohesion and Reforms, and the Vice-President of the European Commission for Prosperity and Industrial Strategy.

SB continued by recalling the members of several ongoing policy, outreach and advocacy endeavours towards the different EU Member States with the aim of forming a coalition of MS to propose a Council initiative to request the European Commission a Strategic Vision for the Sector.

SB also recalled that EU MS strongly advocated for a Protein Strategy that encompasses both animal and plant-based proteins in the AGRIFISH Council discussion in July and even addressed the Commissioner for Agriculture for regulatory developments concerning the EU insect producing sector. SB further informed about the ongoing endeavours towards a favourable environment towards the sector within the European Parliament and the objective of the draft of an Own Initiative Report supported by a Member of the European Parliament to request the European Commission to have a strategic vision for the sector.

SB provided a **short overview of IPIFF Contribution & Position papers** in response to [relevant EU policy consultations](#). Please refer to [Background Document 01-Position Papers, Policy and Advocacy Activities](#)

SB continued to provide an overview of the main ongoing regulatory developments, [namely concerning the following dossiers](#):

- Please refer to [Background Document 08-Ongoing Regulatory Activities](#)
- 1. **Organic production methods for insects**- SB recalled the Publication of the [EGTOP report on 'organic rules for farmed insects'](#), and the close cooperation between IPIFF and its members [represented at Expert Group on Technical Advice or Organic Production \(EGTOP\)](#) for the period 2026-2029. SB recalled that despite the Report being adopted and during the months of July and August Member States have planned working groups to prepare their national authorities' opinion towards the report, upon decision of the Commission and Member States, these meetings were put on hold for not being considered urgent topics. SB mentioned that follow-up discussions with representatives of IFOAM and members towards national authorities to take place and for the IPIFF members represented at the EGTOP to propose a discussion on this item.
- 2. **EU imports of insect feed products** - ([background document: IPIFF's Policy roadmap for the next 5 years - page 6](#)): SB recalled that during the months of July and August, a request for members to present evidence of the existence of non-compliant insect-derived products was sent, with the intention of IPIFF to compile a dossier to request DG SANTE to inform the MS to apply applicable legislation, namely the EU Official Controls Regulation. DG SANTE has no

other power than to advise the National authorities to comply, but further to the information of DG SANTE to respective national authorities, member companies should, simultaneously, report to their respective national authorities the existence of non-compliant products and if needed to submit to the court if national authorities do not enforce applicable legislation. SB also reinforced that these endeavours were being addressed through other means, namely through cooperation with Chinese Chamber of Commerce. SB referred that a Dual approach strategy would deliver results more effective.

3. **Export of Insect Frass**- SB recalled that following the request of certain member companies, a Request was submitted by the Portuguese national authorities to the European Commission DG SANTE as to amend the ABP Regulation as to authorise the export of insect frass. SB further highlighted that based on the current legal pathways **export of insect frass** was not permitted under the Animal-by-products legislation and by exchanging with national competent authorities and DG SANTE, IPIFF was studying all feasible regulatory pathways for EU insect producers to export its insect frass once it reaches an endpoint- i.e.- composting.
4. **Authorisation of a wider spectrum of feeding substrates**- Under this agenda item SB recalled that IPIFF together with other 7 EU-level organizations submitted the [EU Catalogue to promote Circularity in Animal Feed](#) to the European Commission. This policy and advocacy activity aims to reinforce the need for the European Commission to examine new possibilities to promote circularity in animal feed.

SB recalled that the aforementioned advocacy and policy endeavours were being pursued in parallel with scientific research conducted by Wageningen University under the SAFE INSECTS Project. SB gave the word to **Elise Hoeck (EH)**, who provided an overview of the most recent updates of the project.

- **IPIFF outreach & communication activities - points for INFORMATION, DISCUSSION & DECISION 'A' points**

SB presented a comprehensive overview of recent communication efforts. An Overview Table of recent IPIFF media outreach and external event participation was reviewed, showing increased engagement across multiple channels. The Secretariat noted a consistent positive reception to IPIFF's messaging.

- Please refer to [Background Document 07-Executive Briefing-Communication Activities](#).

SB mentioned that within the frame of cooperation with Global regional actors, endeavours were being pursued towards a proposal to develop an EU Insect Industry Global Events Calendar. The aim, to coordinate participation and amplify the sector's presence at key international forums and aligning key messaging while providing an united global sector image. The importance of strategic cooperation with EU and global partners, to maximise outreach impact was emphasised.

- **Follow-up: Task Force on LCA & Concept Note Adoption**

SB provided an update on the **Task Force on Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)**, confirming its work is on track. The primary deliverable, the IPIFF Concept Note on an EU Insect Sector LCA, was nearing finalisation, integrating aggregated third-party LCA data and contributions from industry and academic members.

- **Relaunch of the IPIFF Insider Newsletter**

SB presented plans for the relaunch of the 'IPIFF Insider' newsletter in a new, streamlined format. The proposal includes thematic sections compiling key activities, policy updates, and member highlights from the last semester, as a sum-up leading to the relaunch of the monthly newsletters. SB further informed of the set-up of weekly updates to keep members informed of ongoing policy, advocacy, outreach and internal organizational work being pursued by IPIFF.

- **Ongoing Work & Proposals: New Communication Documents**

SB introduced three new strategic information documents being 'on the works' by IPIFF:

- Simplification Omnibus: Analysing its potential impact on EU insect producers' daily operational activities.
- Circular Economy: Brochure titled "Unleash the Potential of the Insect Producing Sector."
- Bioeconomy Strategy: A brief on "The Vital Role of the Insect Sector" in the EU Bioeconomy.

- **Knowledge Sharing & Research Involvement**

SB provided an overview of ongoing and upcoming research projects involving members was shared. The Secretariat highlighted the importance of strengthening industry participation in research and deeper involvement between industry and academic members. SB highlight that individual meetings were being pursued to ensure a clear identification of the different ongoing research projects and areas of expertise from academic members.

SB informed that to materialize the aforementioned, through individual meetings different initiatives were being pursued:

- **Research Projects:** Members agreed to share non-confidential updates on project proposals and submissions.
- **Annual Calendar:** create an Annual Calendar of Research Project Activities. This will include calls for participation, deadlines for proposals, and consortium-building opportunities to reinforce industry involvement.

SB informed that a document was to be circulated, comprising of a template for members to populate with their project activities.

- **IPIFF Secretariat & Meetings Updates**

- **SB recalled the IFW & General Assembly:** Final updates were provided on the ['Insects to Feed the World' event](#) and the [IPIFF General Assembly in Turin on 8 June](#). SB further recalled that logistics information and registration details were circulated.
- **SB also informed the members about the ongoing activities towards the organization of the IPIFF Annual Event in the European Parliament with a provisional date of the 4th of February.**

The meeting was adjourned by the Chair, **AC**