

EuropaBio: the European Association for Bioindustries

Summary of activities of the Marine Biotech Exploratory Task Force

Jasmiina Laurmaa

Industrial Biotech Project Officer

EuropaBio - Who we are



Created in 1996, EuropaBio, the European Association for Bioindustries represents:

69 members operating worldwide

2 BioRegions

19 national biotechnology associations

Through our national associations, EuropaBio is also the voice of over 1800 small and medium-sized enterprises involved in research, development, testing, manufacturing and commercialisation of biotechnology applications

3 main sectors: industry, healthcare, agri-food

To learn more visit: <http://www.europabio.org/>

Sector Councils & Strategic Goals

EuropaBio has 4 Biotech Sector Councils:

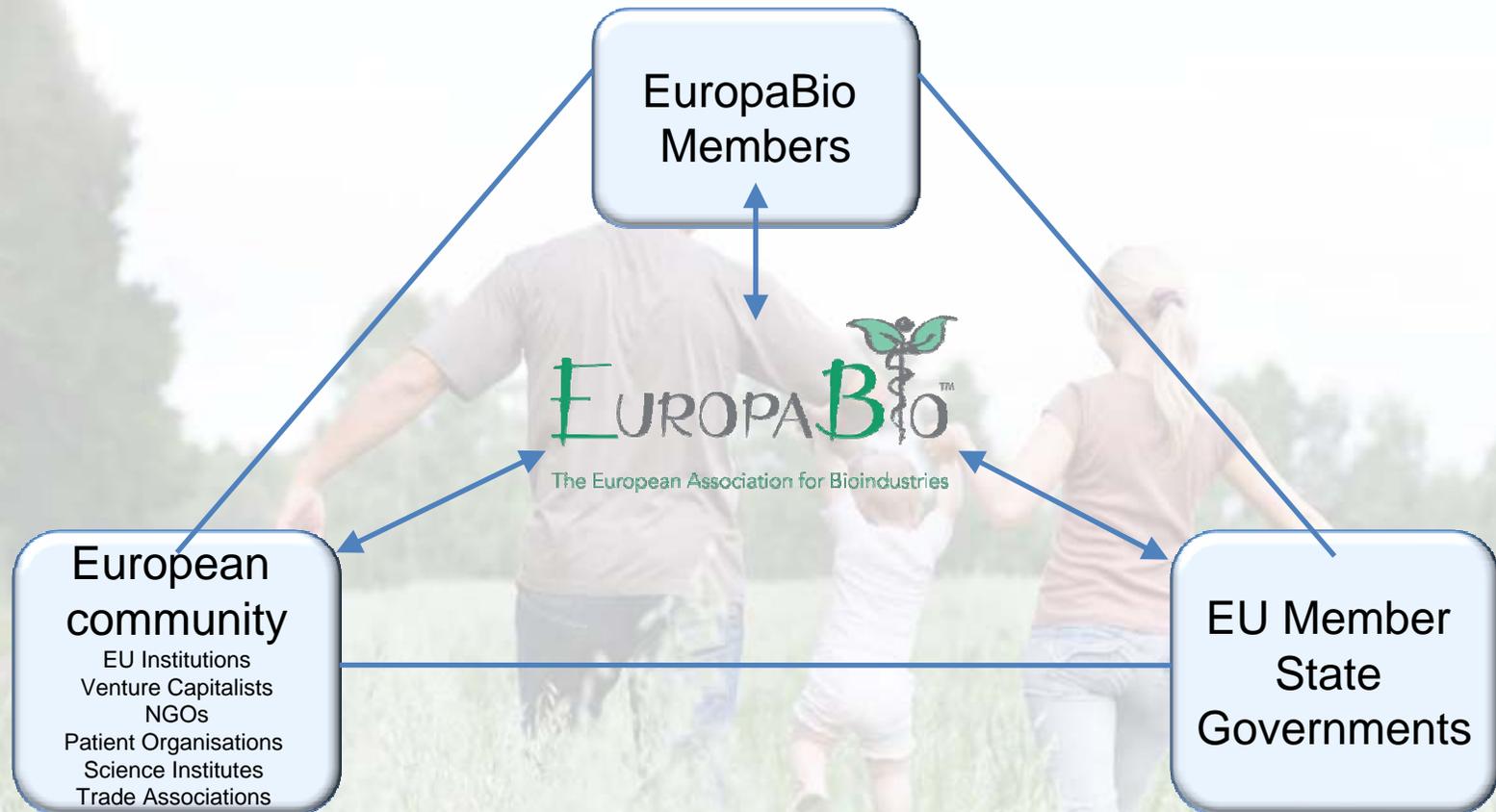
- [The Healthcare Council](#)
- [The Agri-Food Council](#)
- [The Industrial Biotech Council](#)
- [National Associations Council](#)
- And a Horizontal [SME Platform](#)

Horizontal Strategic Goals:

1. Access to biotech products;
2. Awareness of biotechnology;
3. Regulatory support for biotech-related initiatives;
4. Financing for SMEs
5. Support for research in biotechnology;
6. Support for intellectual property rights
7. Legislative coherence for biotechnology.

What We Do

EuropaBio is the voice of the European biotechnology industry and provides a platform for addressing issues and needs at a European level. We are dedicated to repositioning communications surrounding the applications and benefits of biotechnology



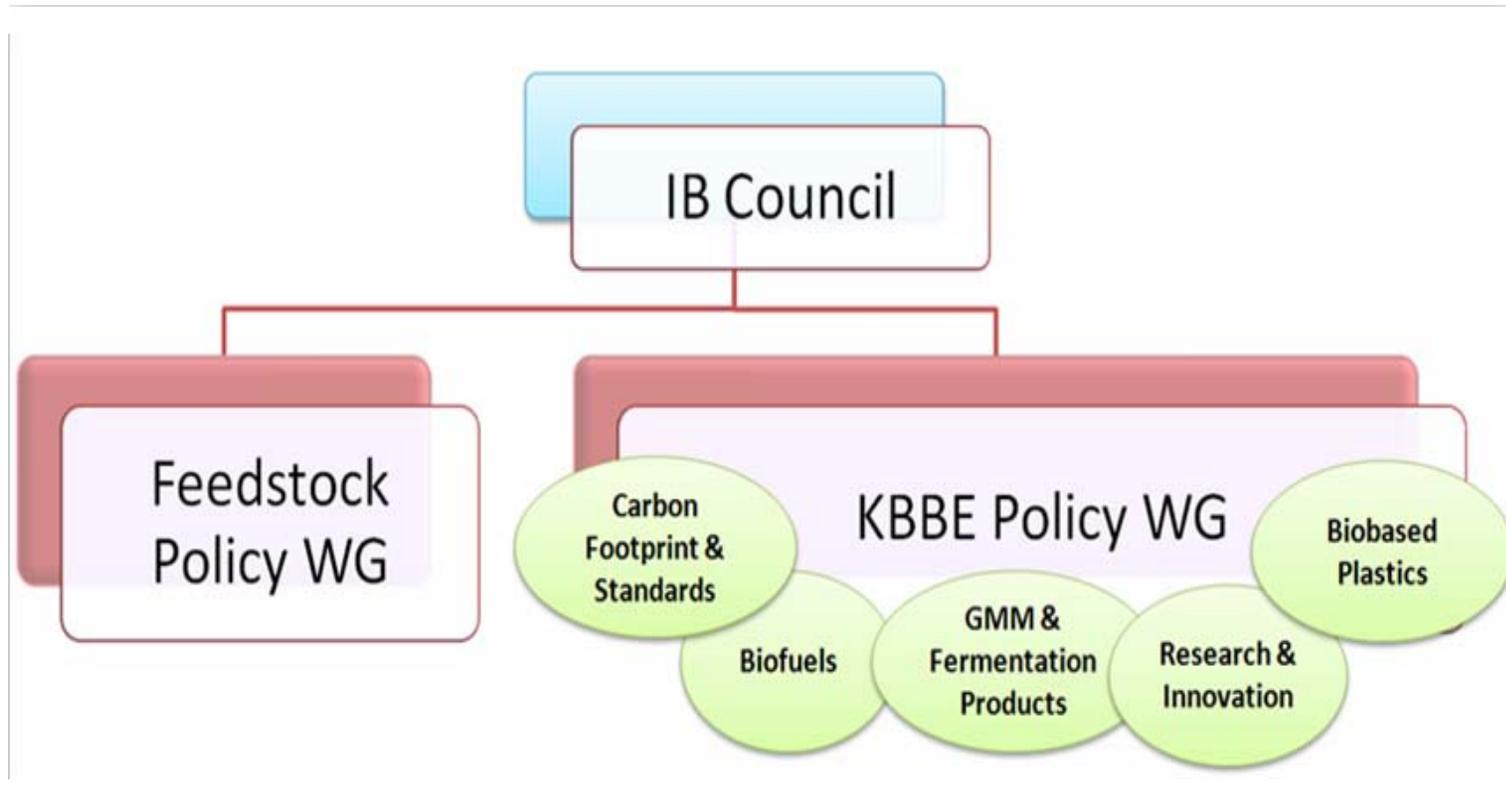
The Industrial Biotech Council



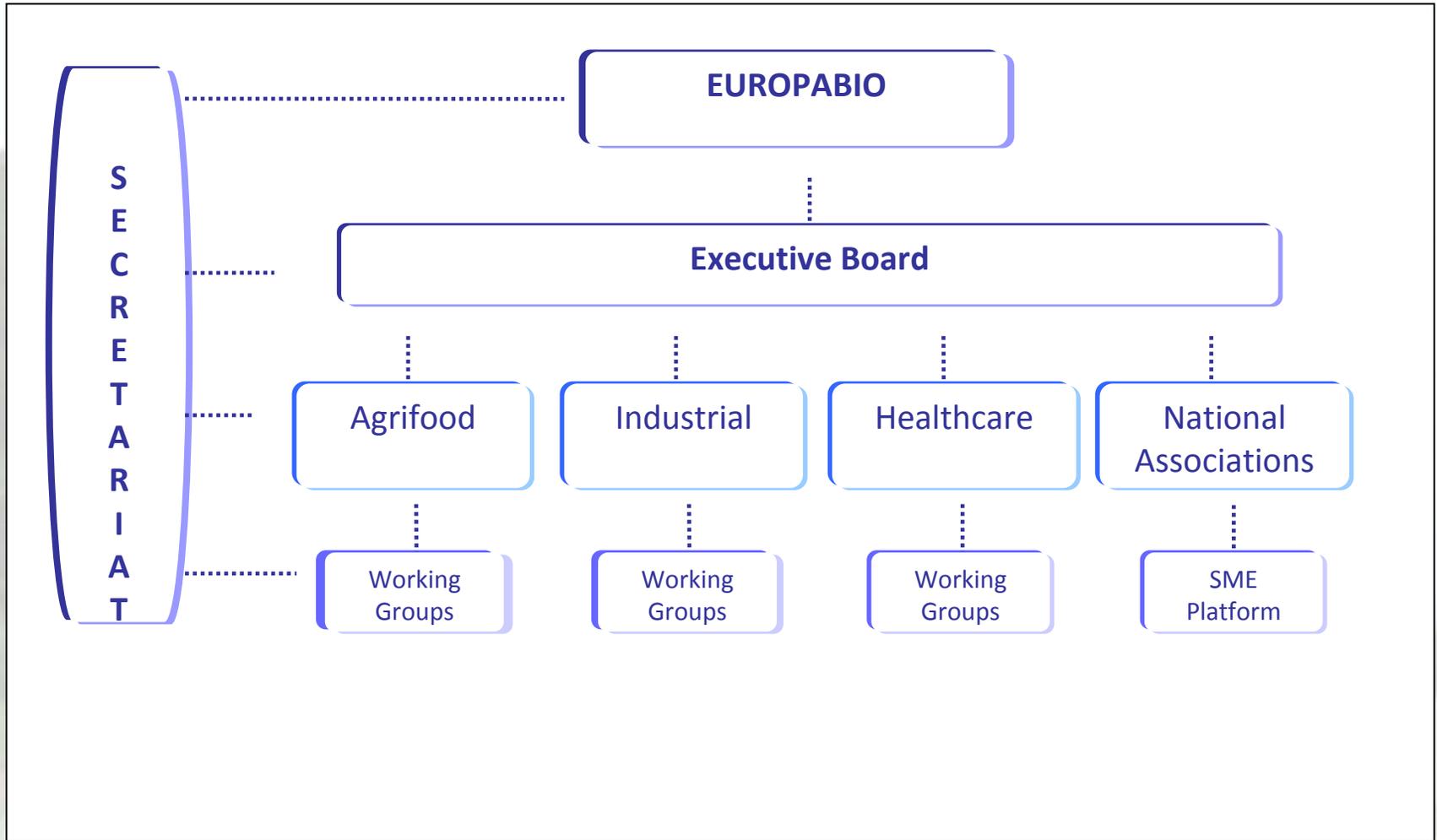
The Industrial Biotechnology Council sets priorities in the areas of innovation, policy and regulatory issues, as well as communication to promote the application of biotechnology for the processing and production of chemicals, materials and energy. The members of this Council include corporate individuals with interests in industrial and environmental applications of biotechnology.

For more information: http://www.europabio.org/Industrial_biotech/

IB Council Structure



Our Structure – The Board



Marine Biotech Exploratory TF

Exploratory TF integrated to EuropaBio:

Created in 2010 through a joint initiative of the French Museum for Natural History, as a means to strengthen links between research, industry (including SMEs) and policymakers in a knowledge-based economy, to improve the competitiveness of European Bioindustry and to promote the growth of marine bioindustries in Europe.

1. Preparatory meeting in June 2010 followed by discussions at Concarneau workshop in August 2010
2. August 2010 – June 2011: work in progress
3. June 2011: decision on continuation of TF activities by EuropaBio's Board



Participants:

- 6 EuropaBio members (Biosciences KTN, Novozymes, Novamont, Norwegian, Swiss & Portuguese NA)
- Non-members: 15 companies, mostly SMEs
- Non-members: 11 research organisations

Strategy and objectives

1. The Marine Biotech Exploratory Taskforce will develop an **agenda that engages stakeholders** in the private industry as well as in academia, research institutions and governmental bodies.
2. The Marine Biotech Exploratory Taskforce will work for the **promotion of research support (public or private), efficient tech transfer and other policies that accelerate innovation**. The common goal is to develop industrial operations that are economically viable in a long term perspective.
3. The Marine Biotech Exploratory Taskforce will **identify and address opportunities and barriers in the policy and legislative framework** for the deployment of marine biotechnology.
4. The Marine Biotech Exploratory Taskforce will **promote and integrate marine biotech in the value chain of the Knowledge-Based Bio-Economy** and make the link to other biotech areas within industry (red, white and green biotech).
5. The Marine Biotechnology Taskforce will **prepare the grounds for integrating marine biotechnology in solutions to meet the grand challenges** such as climate change, energy security, food security and health issues, particularly addressing the ageing population.



Outcomes and activities performed by the Task Force

- Established a mission document with key actions
- Drafted a document highlighting the links between main grand challenges and marine biotech for future research programmes (Horizon 2020)
- Mapped the marine biotech sector (legislation, stakeholders, events)
 - **Legislation and agreements:** international and EU level, including non-binding agreements (guidelines)
 - **Stakeholders:** list of associations, organisations, policy makers. Listing potential sources of information, collaboration opportunities
 - **Events:** European/national/regional events dealing with marine biotech or related issues
- Built active list of participants within EuropaBio membership and beyond
- Established and strengthened links with other organisations at European level (OECD, ESF Marine Board)
- Responded to stakeholder requests (e.g. DG MARE) on marine biotech, liaised with participants

Decision on continuation of TF activities

June 2011 Board meeting

Initially proposed developments for 2011-2012

- Further build on mappings
- Identify and integrate with other initiatives (OECD, ESF, JPI, potential CSA...)
- Involvement of marine biotechnology sector in EFIB
- Communicate the benefits of marine biotechnology through case studies

Decision on continuation of WG activities

- Interest from European Commission in marine biotech (Barroso's speech at Benefits event, request from DG MARE, projects funded by DG R&I)
- Continuation of the WG would bring at least 2 new corporate members and 2 associate members (insufficient resources to reach goal of 15% of a person's time)
- Interest amongst companies, but more would have been needed to ensure continuation of activities

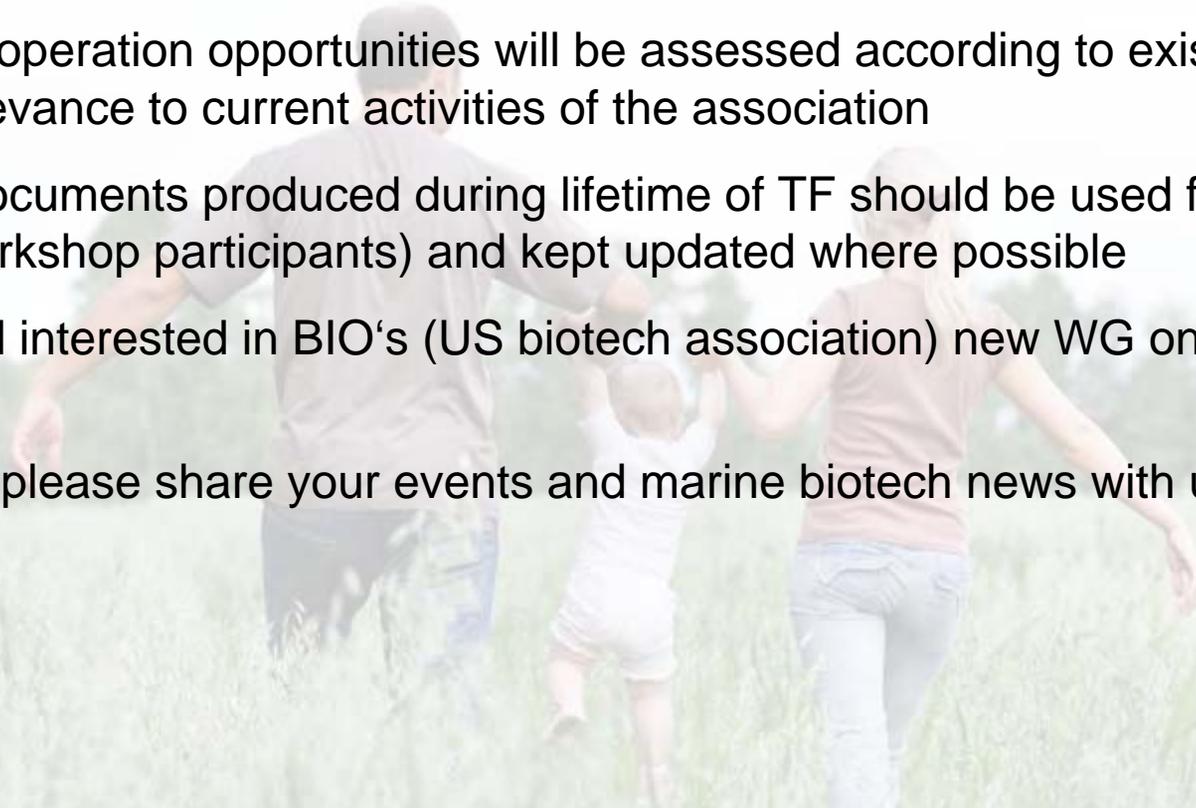


Further collaborations between EuropaBio and marine biotech sector



EuropaBio's Exploratory Task Force will cease its activities. However:

- Established network of contacts should be maintained
- Possible for marine biotech to feed into the different sectorial WGs within EuropaBio and/or product-driven WGs (industrial biotech, pharma, agri-food, SME platform)
- Case by case cooperation opportunities will be assessed according to existing resources and relevance to current activities of the association
- Mappings and documents produced during lifetime of TF should be used further (to be shared with workshop participants) and kept updated where possible
- EuropaBio Board interested in BIO's (US biotech association) new WG on Marine Biotech
- Communication: please share your events and marine biotech news with us!





Avenue de l'Armée 6
1040, Brussels,
Belgium

Contact: j.laurmaa@europabio.org
Website : www.europabio.org