

## Supply Chain Working Group Meeting

Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February '24

Online, via Zoom

### **Participants:**

Rachel Park (RP), Adriano Ferreira (AF), Berniece Warley (BW), Juan Anziano (JA), PV Raju (PVR) Saameer Lele (SL), Taufik Wilmansyah (TW), Yiyuan Chen (YC), Rajinder Suri (RS), Sonia Villasenor (SV), Prerna Kumar (PK)

**Meeting** started at 1305 hours and adjourned at 1426 hours CET.

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RS welcomed RP as the new chair of the SCWG. He suggested the participants to set the objectives and the deliverables for 2024, with a very crystal-clear action plan with frequency of follow-up. It will depend upon what are the real challenges in the system that today the manufacturers or member companies are facing in supply chain, and what are the solutions or mitigation thereof, and make a realistic, doable, and result oriented plan, that it should have some impact. For example, work on squeezing the timelines from the receipt of the raw materials and packaging materials till the final product is delivered to the customer. To do some mapping, identify the challenges & bottlenecks common to all manufacturers and work together as a team to find solutions. Create a SMART goal.

RP introduced herself, the Chair of the SCWG in 2021 and 2022, issuing three publications. One is about stockpiling; the second is innovative packaging and the last one was packed with primary and secondary packaging. She invited the members to participate actively in the working group and invited members for a round of introductions.

RP then reviewed the objectives followed by the SCWG in 2023 which was the volumetric analysis for air freight, having identified 20% dead space in the process, from the inputs given from 8 companies. SV updated that maybe the plan is to request again more members to give their information if the group decides to follow up on this objective.

The second objective from 2023 was the listing on DCVMN website of the raw material stockpiling that could be offered for liquidation amongst members. SV updated that this project was finalized in the sense that the webpage was adapted to include these lists, but only one member company sent their list. In addition, the group considered that this may pose the inconveniences that manufacturers are not allowed to sell this kind of material.

RP then invited the participant to propose ideas for establishing the new objectives.

- BW proposed that each member could do a mapping exercise of their overall supply chain and timelines, identifying bottlenecks; then the members could share their experiences and lessons learned.
- AF proposed to work on validating frozen chain (rooms & transportation) at -20 and -50°C and finding logistic solutions for frozen products.
- SL proposed working on mapping the temperature and location during data analysis, this is actual live tracking.
- SL also proposed to work on the process to repack the shipment and its validation in case

of flight delays.

- JA proposed the group to discuss getting ready for a tender and planning resources and inventories without knowing the result of the tender, and how to have a mitigation plan in case the company is not awarded with the order of the tender. RP said this was covered 2 years ago when they discussed managing stockpile. However, we can discuss, though it is very challenging.
- AF suggested to discuss about designing primary and secondary package for frozen vaccines and the corresponding suppliers. RP asked the group how many members deal with frozen products, but none other expressed to deal with frozen products.
- RS suggested that maybe UNICEF or WHO have introduced latest guidelines or something novel that has not yet been executed or implemented by the members, having given a timeline for execution. This might be taken by the members as an objective.
- PVR said that UNICEF is promoting the implementation of TRVST, a tracking mechanism for the product from the start of manufacturing to the customer level. This could be included as training program and for discussion with the WG. UNICEF has reached some companies to implement a pilot project. PVR will share non-confidential information. Also, he expressed his concern about the restriction of issuing a publication on this topic as UNICEF holds the rights of this topic.
- TW suggested working on the standardization of the visual inspection.

Based on the suggestions above, the WG members established the following objectives:

SN	Objective	Action Plan	Deliverables	RC	Timeline
1	Implementation of TRVST	Share UNICEF document TRVST to the rest of the WG members Survey of how many members are not yet in process of implementing TRVST	Encourage as many members to implement TRVST pilot project	Taufik Wilmansyah	Start date: 22Feb24 End date: 31 MAY 24
2	Optimization of air freight space	Request more members to send information	Training on best practices for optimizing air freight space Publication	PV Raju	Start date: 22Feb24 End date: 30Jun24
3	Packaging validation	Share best practices	Training workshop	Saameer Lele	Start date: End date: 31Jul24
4	Stock management	Share best practices	Training Workshop	Rachel Park	Start date: End date: 31Jul24

**Other actions agreed:**

- PVR will share information on package validation and also about the TRVST without sharing any confidential information
- SL suggested to extract the exact goal or the expectations from UNICEF for implementation of TRVST
- PVR suggested SV to send a round email to all members to understand how many

members are not aware of TRVST so that we can support them.

- TW mentioned that the main goal of UNIEF is to offer this program to those companies who have implemented the Track and Trace system by the GS1 standards, perhaps the next delivery product UNICEF would like to connect the with TRVST system for the traceability.
- PVR suggested one of the outputs of objective number 2 is to provide training to members, based on a case-to-case basis, on how better select the pallet and shipper outer cages.

**End of minutes**

**Notes taken by SV  
22 February '24**

**Rachel Park  
Chair of Supply Chain Working Group -DCVMN**

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