

## **Regional Workshop for Transboundary Animal Diseases (TADs) Control**

**Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, 22-23 August, 2018**

### **Draft Conclusions and Recommendations**

#### **Considering that:**

- Regional disease priorities set by the Regional Steering Committee of GF-TADs for Asia and the Pacific include Avian Influenza, Peste des Petits Ruminants, Foot and Mouth Disease, Swine Diseases and Rabies
- African Swine Fever outbreaks have recently occurred in P.R. China and the disease is now present in the region
- There are also numerous other exotic and emerging diseases that pose a potential threat to the region such as lumpy skin disease and sheep and goat pox
- Asia and the Pacific is a large geographical region with significant movement of animals, animal products and trade within the region as well as with other regions contributing to the risk of spread of transboundary animal diseases

#### **The meeting therefore:**

##### **Recognises:**

- The achievements gained through capacity building activities such as OIE laboratory twinning projects, which help to strengthen the ability of countries to control transboundary diseases and build ongoing technical relationships and networks between countries
- The leading role of FAO and OIE in regional coordination and cooperation under the GF-TADs umbrella and the importance of ongoing coordination between members and partners to prevent and control transboundary animal diseases
- There are many tools and resources already available at global, regional and national level for emergency preparedness and management
- The Emergency Management Centre for Animal Health (EMC-AH), located in FAO headquarters in Rome is available to provide support at country, regional and international level to assist in preparation and response to animal health emergencies

##### **Recommends:**

##### **General**

##### **Member countries:**

1. Utilise the EMC-AH and other FAO and OIE tools for capacity building on emergency preparedness and response (e.g. GEMP, laboratory twinning, lab mapping tool, surveillance evaluation tool, joint risk assessment etc.)
2. Give permission and actively share already existing national contingency and emergency management plans through the OIE platform created for this purpose
3. Consider the possibility of a regional centre, such as OIE collaborating centre for expertise in emergency management in Asia and the Pacific that could contribute to a larger global network.
4. Continue to maintain and strengthen existing regional and sub-regional platforms such as GF-TADs, SEACFMD, SAARC CVO Forum, East Asia CVO Forum, ASEAN to enhance transparency, share information and initiate regional activities and agreements
5. Explore opportunities for regional and national simulation exercises to prepare for emergency situations
6. Engage with private sector to explore and enhance public-private partnerships in prevention and control of transboundary animal diseases and strengthening the delivery of veterinary services

#### **For Avian Influenza**

1. The formation of an expert network for AI in the region with annual meetings with the purpose to exchange data sharing, information and action proposals for better preparedness and control policies
2. For the conclusions and recommendations from the regional network meetings to be shared and brought to the attention of decision makers for strict implementation
3. The continuous training of trainers from countries on field epidemiology including surveillance and control measures
4. The real time sharing of virus characteristics for new viral strains between national laboratories in the region
5. Countries in the region to educate the poultry farmers and industry to adopt the biosafety and biosecurity measures and international standards and guidelines
6. An increased participation of experts from the whole region into the OFFLU network activities

#### **For FMD**

1. FMD endemic countries strengthen public awareness, farm level biosecurity and surveillance activities
2. The choice of appropriate vaccine strains and post vaccination monitoring to ensure effectiveness of vaccination campaigns
3. Appropriate legislation be in place with effective implementation to ensure the compliance of stakeholders in disease control programs
4. FMD free countries to focus on strict border control and cooperation and information sharing with neighbouring countries

#### **For African Swine Fever**

1. To strengthen border control for land, sea and air and to strengthen public awareness by TV, broadcast, poster, social media and all possible tools
2. To understand the distribution of wild boar, soft ticks and the role they may play in spreading African Swine Fever
3. To learn from the experiences of African Swine Fever spread in Europe and utilize the information and expertise gained on the disease adapted to suit the national and regional situations in Asia for preparedness planning, early detection and coordination
4. To formalize a coordinated regional network in Asia and the Pacific on African Swine Fever, taking advantage of the existing platforms under GF-TADs and EMC-AH and the work already done with FAO and OIE to continue and enhance information sharing on preparedness, surveillance, research, early detection, contingency planning etc., and work in collaboration and consultation with the Standing Group of Experts on ASF and other experts in Europe and other regions
5. To conduct national and regional training in a coordinated way, through the regional network to meet gaps and needs as they are identified, especially laboratory diagnosis capacity which should be strengthened urgently through training and proficiency test.
6. African Swine Fever be considered a priority disease not only for East Asia, but also ASEAN and SAARC sub-region now the disease is present in the region.

#### **FAO and OIE:**

1. Continue to work together in a coordinated way, taking advantage of the strengths of both organisations to implement prevention and control activities in collaboration with members and partners in Asia and the Pacific and other regions.

#### **The Meeting:**

1. Thanks the Government of Mongolia, the General Authority of Veterinary Services and the State Central Veterinary Laboratory of Mongolia for hosting the meeting.