

13th Meeting of the Upper Mekong Working Group on Foot and Mouth Disease

Zoning and Animal Movement Management

Mandalay, Myanmar, 9 - 10 February 2017

DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. NOTE the developments and progress in the Upper Mekong Zone since the 12th UMWG Meeting in 2015, notably: the completion of the Upper Mekong Animal Movement Study; successful implementation of FMD vaccination projects in pilot areas in Northern Lao PDR and Central Myanmar; signing of a Joint Statement on Harmonizing Procedures for Livestock Movement Management; identification of possible areas for the establishment of “control zones” in Myanmar-China and Lao PDR–China border areas; conducting a Risk Assessment study on the possible incursion of FMDV into the proposed “border control zones”.
2. AGREE to implement the priority activities identified to operationalize the Joint Statement on Animal Movement Management in the Great Mekong Sub-Region.
3. On FMD surveillance:
 - AGREE to continue to monitor and establish measures to control the risks of exotic FMDV strains such as O/ME-SA/Ind2001d, and to actively support OIE’s Regional risk analysis for incursions of exotic strains of FMD in South-East Asia.
 - AGREE to continue to enhance sample collections in field outbreaks and sample submissions to Regional FMD Reference Laboratories for strain characterisation.
 - AGREE to continue performing systematic FMD outbreak investigations in order to better understand the sources of FMD outbreaks and prevent their spread.
 - AGREE to assist member countries to develop FMD surveillance strategies upon request.
4. On animal movement management:
 - AGREE to actively support the ongoing Risk Assessment study and provide data requested.
 - EXPLORE the possibility of accrediting private farms/holding yards to serve a pre-quarantine facility for animals to be moved to the proposed “control zones” along Myanmar-China and Lao PDR-China borders.
 - Agree to engage in greater regional cooperation, high level advocacy and promote collaboration amongst inter-governmental agencies (e.g. border security and commerce departments) to reduce illegal cross-border livestock movements and promote legal movements.
5. On vaccination:

- AGREE to continue monitoring the effectiveness of FMD vaccination campaign as per the FAO/OIE Post-Vaccination Monitoring (PVM) guidelines.
 - EXPLORE the effectiveness of risk-based vaccination strategies in high- and low-risk animal populations.
 - AGREE to conduct socio-economic impact studies in order to better elucidate the benefits of FMD Control Programmes including vaccinations and support member countries to build capacities to implement such studies
6. AGREE to re-consider the scope and boundaries of the Upper Mekong Zone in relation to the proposed animal movement control zones along Myanmar-China and Lao PDR-China borders.
 7. NOTE that the recommendation of the 13th UMWG will be presented to the March 2017 SEACFMD Sub-Commission Meeting for endorsement.
 8. AGREE to hold the 14th Meeting of the Upper Mekong Working Group on Foot and Mouth Disease Zoning and Animal Movement Management in February 2018, and PROPOSE China/Thailand to host the meeting.
 9. THANK the officials and staff of Myanmar Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department for their hospitality and excellent hosting of the meeting.