

GF-TADS for Europe
Third Meeting of the Regional Steering Committee

European Commission, Brussels 24-25 February 2010

Recommendation No.1

Governance Mechanisms of GF-TADS for Europe

CONSIDERING

1. The importance of animal health on food safety and food security;
2. The impact of Transboundary Animal Diseases (TADs) on public health, agricultural sector, trade and the means of existence of small breeders and farmers, stressing the need to combine efforts to combat the diseases at national, regional and global levels involving all relevant stakeholders;
3. The Cooperation Agreement for the promotion of the joint FAO-OIE initiative "Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases" (GF-TADS) signed in 24 May 2004 aiming at establishing a facilitating mechanism which endeavour to empower regional alliances in the fight against TADs, providing capacity building and assisting in establishing programmes for the specific control of certain TADs based on regional priorities;
4. The outcomes of the GF-TADS Second Global Steering Committee held in Rome on July 2009;
5. The FAO Regional Representation and OIE Regional Representation for Eastern Europe have the mandate of promoting political will and commitment of the relevant Ministries of the countries that they oversee. As with the OIE Regional Commission, the FAO and the OIE representations are critical to participate in overseeing implementation of the GF-TADS objectives and developing additional financial support;
6. The set up in October 2005 of the Regional Steering Committee of the GF-TADS for Europe in order to ensure Regional coordination and monitor progress for field interventions, laboratory strategic support, and epidemiological evaluation of disease events and control efforts;
7. The outcomes of the Second meeting of the GF-TADS for Europe which took place in Paris on December 2007, the subsequent recommendations and the encouraging progress made in their implementation;
8. The Regional Steering Committee of the GF-TADS for Europe composed of representatives of Chief Veterinary Officers, representatives of the Regional Specialised Organisations (RSOs) involved with animal health, specific donors, and representatives of centralised and regional structures of the FAO and OIE;
9. The existing global tools such as the FAO-OIE-WHO GLEWS, FAO-OIE CMC-AH and OIE-FAO OFFLU to tackle animal diseases worldwide; the Regional Networks of laboratories; the several initiatives on the prevention and control of animal diseases in Europe; the Regional Support Units (RSUs) and the need for institutional and financial arrangements to provide sustainability to such initiatives;

10. The necessity to consolidate terms of reference for the Regional Steering Committee of the GF-TADS for Europe setting up composition, roles, duties and responsibilities, relations within the global governance, frequency and venue of the meetings; for a comprehensive and collaborative framework based in regional priorities;

THE THIRD MEETING OF THE REGIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE GF-TADS FOR EUROPE
DECIDES

1. To endorse the enclosed Terms of Reference of the Regional Steering Committee of the GF-TADS for Europe proposed by the Secretariat;
2. To appoint the following members:
 - Representatives of Chief Veterinary Officers
 - 2 non EU members : Russia, Ukraine
 - 2 EU members : Spain, Portugal
 - Chairman: Dr Bernard Van Goethem
 - Vice-Chairmen : Russia, Portugal

THE THIRD MEETING OF THE REGIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE GF-TADS FOR EUROPE
RECOMMENDS THAT

1. The enclosed Terms of Reference of the Regional Steering Committee of the GF-TADS for Europe proposed by the Secretariat be a basis for its work pending its final adoption by the Global Steering Committee, and be published by the OIE and FAO on their website;
2. The RSOs, RSUs and Networks within the region be defined and updated under the framework of the GF-TADS Governance for Europe;
3. A 4 year work plan be prepared during an ad hoc meeting in the next OIE General Session of May 2010, in order to be adopted in the next SC meeting, to be held at the end of 2011.

Encl.: 1