

GF-TADs Bruxelles – 30 Sept – 1 October 2015

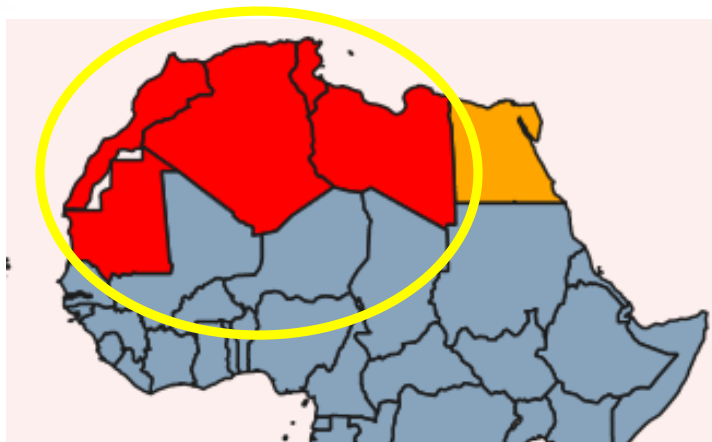
# REMESA activities on FMD



**WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH**  
*Protecting animals, preserving our future*

**Alessandro Ripani**  
**OIE Sub Regional Representation for North Africa**  
**Tunis, Tunisia**

# The OIE Sub-Regional Office for North Africa



- ❑ to support OIE Member Countries in the region to strengthen animal disease surveillance and control;
- ❑ to improve the quality of information on animal diseases and promote the harmonisation of disease control methods in the region;
- ❑ to implement, for the North Africa region, recommendations, strategies and action plans validated by the OIE's higher authorities
- ❑ To support Veterinary Services in the region to strengthen their activities in term of “Quality” (e.g. Quality of veterinary services, Quality management in veterinary testing laboratories)

# Agreement OIE-AMU



Organisation  
Mondiale  
de la Santé  
Animale

World  
Organisation  
for Animal  
Health

Organización  
Mundial  
de Sanidad  
Animal

24th May 2011

*The aim of the Cooperation Agreement is to ensure optimal collaboration between the OIE and the AMU, with a view to coordinating their efforts and the activities they pursue in sectors falling within their respective mandates*

**COOPERATION AGREEMENT**

**BETWEEN**

**THE ARAB  
MAGHREB UNION**

**AND**

**THE WORLD ORGANISATION FOR  
ANIMAL HEALTH (OIE)**

# Agreement OIE-AMU



The OIE Representative for North Africa is regularly invited to participate in the :

- ❑ Ministerial commission specialised on food security in relation to common actions in the Maghreb area for development and management of animal resources
- ❑ Maghreb Veterinary Permanent Committee with reference to matters linked to animal health, veterinary legislation, veterinary products/drugs etc..

# OIE Sub-Regional Representation for North Africa



The OIE office in Tunis – in collaboration with FAO office in Tunis - is in charge of the **REMESA Secretariat**

- ❑ **REMESA** = official platform for cooperation amongst the Countries of the Mediterranean basin to assist and coordinate the development, implementation and harmonisation of animal health activities, projects and programmes between the Mediterranean shores



# REMESA

## Joint Secretariat (OIE-FAO)



### REseau MEditerranéen de Santé Animale (REMESA)

(Mediterranean Animal Health Network)

2009



**Greece**  
(2013)



**Malta**  
(2013)



**Cyprus**  
(2013)



**Jordan**  
(2014)



**Lebanon**  
(2014)

There is rotation to hold the co-presidency (2 Countries)

# REMESA

## Joint Secretariat (OIE-FAO)



4 thematic sub-networks have been set up under the umbrella of REMESA:

- laboratories (RELABSA),
- epidemiology (REPIVET),
- communication (RECOMSA)
- socioeconomics (RESEPSA)



# REMESA

**Among the diseases identified by REMESA  
4 of them got the attention in the Region in the recent  
past**

**FMD**

**RVF**



**REMESA**

Mediterranean Animal Health Network

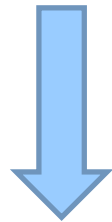
**PPR**

**Rabies**



# FMD in North Africa - 2014/15

*The most significant sanitary event in the region in 2014 was the new incursion of FMD in Tunisia and Algeria after 15 years of absence*



*Serotype 0  
O/ME-SA/Ind-2001*



# FMD in North Africa - 2014



Potential pathway of the introduction of FMD strain O/ME-SA/Ind-2001 in Libya in 2013 from the Indian Continent based on the epidemiological investigation carried out by the Libyan Veterinary Authority and subsequent spreading to Tunisia and Algeria

# FMD in Tunisia in 2014

29 April 2014






29 May 2014



04 November 2014



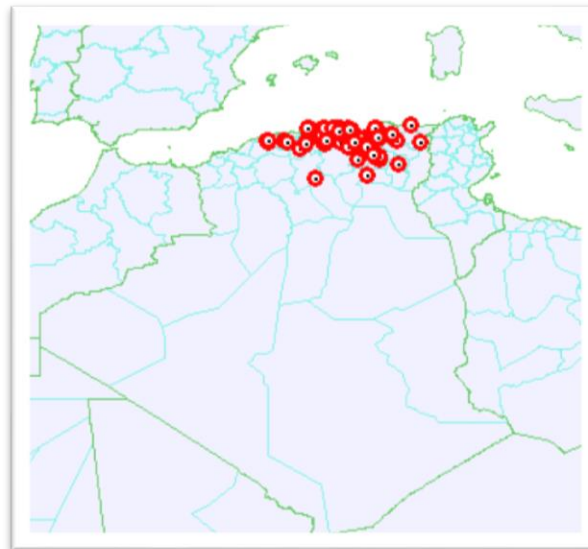
-  FMD outbreaks continuing domestic
-  FMD outbreaks resolved domestic
-  FMD outbreaks cluster resolved domestic

# FMD in Algeria in 2014

23 July 2014





19 August 2014



22 October 2014



-  FMD outbreaks continuing domestic
-  FMD outbreaks resolved domestic

# FMD in North Africa in 2014/2015

- ❑ The strain (O/ME-SA/Ind-2001 - serotype O) circulated in 2014 in Tunisia and Algeria was introduced into Libya in 2013 (coming most probably from the Middle East) – *new serotype in the Maghreb Region*
- ❑ The sequencing of this new strain showed that it is distant in the phylogenetic tree from the strain (also serotype O) circulated in Libya in the recent past (2010 - 2012)
- ❑ The serotype O reoccurred in Algeria in March 2015 affecting mainly small ruminants. Peri-focal vaccination of small ruminants was also added around the outbreaks;
- ❑ SAT 2 was notified by Mauritania. The last notification of FMD in Mauritania was in 2006

# REMESA activities



- ❑ **MAY 2014** - 82nd OIE General Session: In the margin of the event, a meeting was held under the context of REMESA network to discuss the FMD outbreaks occurred in Tunisia since April 2014
  
- ❑ **SEPTEMBER 2014** - An additional meeting was held at the OIE Office for North Africa (Tunis) with the CVOs of the NA region and representatives from EC from the OIE Reference Laboratory for FMD (IZSLER Brescia, Italy) who joined the meeting: The objectives of the meeting were:
  - ✓ to update the participants on the evolution of FMD in the affected countries (Algeria, Tunisia and Libya);
  - ✓ to share all the relevant information pertinent to the vaccination strategy between countries in order to mitigating the spreading of the disease;
  - ✓ to discuss the current and future sanitary control measures to stop the spread of the disease in the region

# REMESA activities



- ❑ **NOVEMBER 2014** - At the 9th meeting of the JPC held in Tunis, the OIE was entrusted by REMESA Countries to implement a regional bank for North Africa of vaccines and antigens for FMD to allow access to high quality vaccines or antigens for the countries of the Region complying with intergovernmental standards - in particular in emergency situation - through an international call for tender prepared by the OIE



Original: French

**FMD resolution of REMESA (vaccine bank)**

**Joint Permanent Committee (JPC) – 3-4 November 2014**

# REMESA activities



- ❑ **MARCH 2015** - At the 10th meeting of the JPC held in Heraklion (Greece), the participants discussed the reoccurrence of FMD in Algeria in March 2015 – after the epidemic occurred in 2014 – and continued to provide and share information;
  - ✓ The CVOs of the REMESA countries insisted that OIE implements, with urgency, the Resolution on the FMD regional vaccine bank adopted during the 9th meeting of the REMESA in Tunis (Tunisia);
  - ✓ It was envisaged the establishment of the Steering Committee for the vaccine bank that will also be the appropriate framework to reinforce the sub-regional approach to control FMD, in compliance with the FAO/OIE Global FMD Control Strategy.



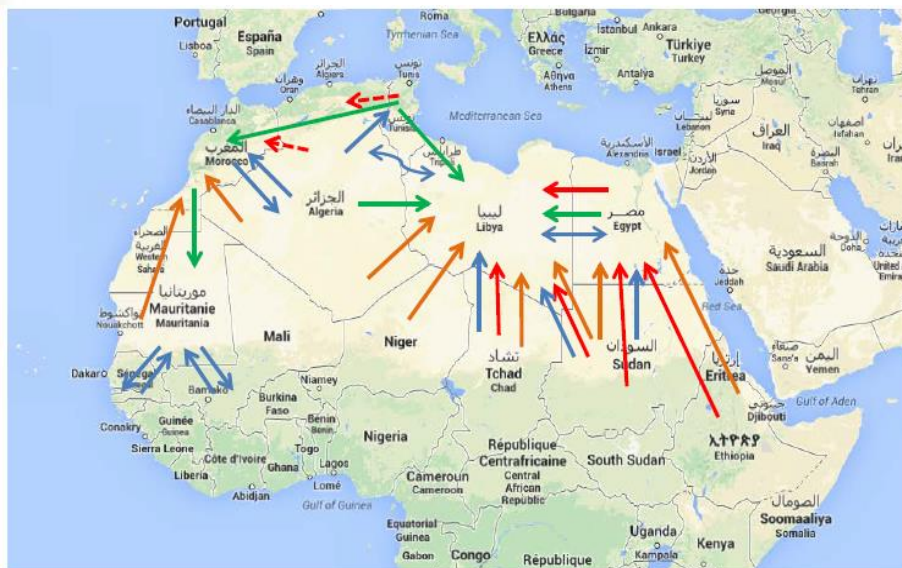
# OIE Vaccine Bank



## □ APRIL 2015 (OIE HQ): Preliminary technical meeting related to FMD vaccine bank for the REMESA Region

- ✓ A preliminary technical meeting was conducted at the OIE HQ with the support of the experts from OIE Reference Laboratories for FMD (IZSLER and Pirbright);
- ✓ The objective of the meeting was to prepare a concept note to select, in accordance to the epidemiological situation, the strains that can be considered as “core strains” and “optional strains” to be included in the vaccine bank
- ✓ The results of the preliminary meeting is being discussed with the CVOs of the beneficiary countries

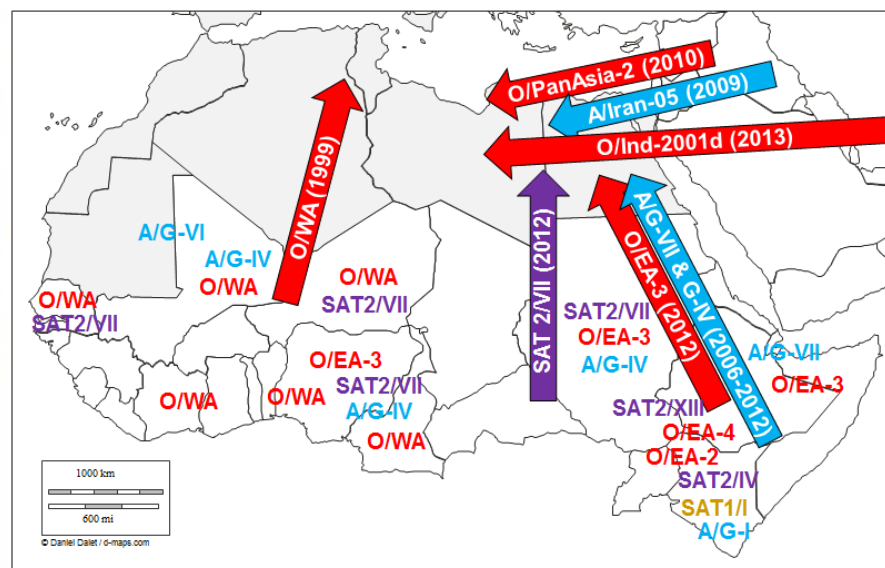
# FMD risks in North Africa and animal movements



- - - -> Imported bovine
- > Domestic bovine
- > Small ruminants
- > Camelidae
- > Dairy products



Cartography of the traditional animal movements and dairy products



Pathways of the recent incursions of different FMD strains area based on the samples analysed by OIE reference laboratories

# OIE Vaccine Bank



- ❑ **MAY 2015: 83rd OIE General Session – Presentation and discussion of the result of the preliminary meeting on FMD vaccine bank for the REMESA Region**
- ✓ The implementation of the REMESA FMD vaccine bank by the OIE would help the harmonisation of the vaccination programs and would surely improve the regional strategy against FMD in North Africa;
- ✓ The participation of potential main donors for financing the vaccine bank would certainly be facilitated by the co-financing of the beneficiary countries;
- ✓ This point will be on the agenda of the next JPC REMESA meeting to be held late November in Algiers on 24 and 25 November 2015

- **AUGUST 2015:** EuFMD organised a workshop on "FMD outbreaks in North Africa: from lessons learnt to regional strategy" from 24-26th August in Rabat (Morocco) with the support of the OIE and FAO Sub regional office in Tunis

The objectives of the workshop were:

- to Identify the priorities to reduce the risk of repeated incursions of FMD and reduce the impact if the disease is introduced;
- to identify best practices and lessons learnt, and;
- to develop recommendations based on this experience useful to build a regional strategy

The workshop was organised in line with the EuFMD work plan 2015 under the component “support to REMESA countries”

# Lesson learnt from the 2014/2015 FMD epidemic



## ❑ Major strengthens

- For the first time - over the past 60 years (at least) - FMD had not spread in all three countries (Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco); Morocco as of today is free:
  - ✓ Better performance of the Veterinary Services and
  - ✓ Better circulation and sharing of the sanitary information
- In general, the Local Authorities - other than Veterinary Services - supported the fight against the disease (showing an increasing of the political willingness)
- Better performance and communication between National Veterinary Laboratories and OIE Reference laboratories for FMD

# Lesson learnt from the 2014/2015 FMD epidemic



## ❑ Major weaknesses

- Difficulties were encountered in controlling animal movements between the countries and within the countries;
- No financial compensation mechanisms available in Tunisia to implement the stamping-out;
- Difficulties were faced when dealing with animal traders;
- Difficulties in having immediate availability of appropriate vaccine for some countries that were ready to pay for it (e.g. Algeria);
- Difficulties in implementing regular active surveillance in the affected countries which is needed in such cases;
- Challenges related to the political instability in some countries in the region such as Libya

# What immediately next?




- ❑ The OIE Sub Regional Representation in Tunis is being organised workshops under the context of REMESA for the focal points on laboratory, epidemiology, and socio-economics where FMD is the priority disease to be treated:
  - Laboratory biosafety and biosecurity (29-30 September 2015) and
  - Epidemiology and surveillance of animal diseases (1-2 December 2015)
  
- ❑ 11<sup>th</sup> JPC REMESA in Algiers (Algeria) on 24 and 25 November 2015

# Curiosity!

## VIDEO : Un mouton parmi les passagers de l'aéroport de Djerba-Zarzis

sept 2, 2015

 Partager sur Facebook

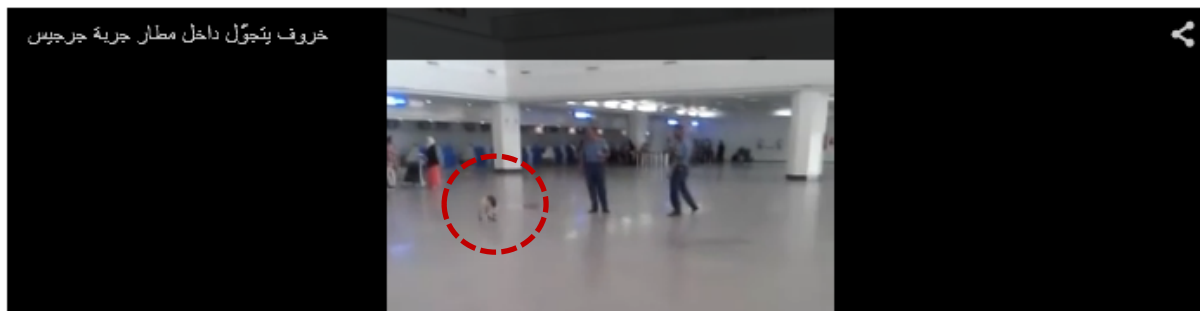
 Tweeter sur twitter





Une vidéo montrant un mouton en train de se promener à l'aéroport international de Djerba-Zarzis fait le buzz sur les réseaux sociaux.

Contacté par Jawhara FM, le commandant de l'aéroport de Djerba-Zarzis, Nejb Ali, a précisé qu'un tunisien résidant à l'étranger a voulu emmener son mouton avec lui en France, ce qui a suscité l'intervention des agents de la Douane et des agents de sécurité de l'aéroport qui lui ont expliqué que c'était interdit.





# Thank you for your attention!



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