



Standing Group of Experts on African swine fever in Europe

under the GF-TADs umbrella

Twelfth meeting (SGE ASF12) Prague, Czech Republic, 11-12 March 2019

Recommendations

Following the discussions, after reviewing the reports from the SGE Members¹, after the report on the field visit in Bulgaria and on the basis of the Czech Republic experience

The SGE ASF 12 recommends that:

General issues

1. Countries continue to implement the recommendations of all previous SGE African Swine Fever (ASF) meetings. In particular in relation to transparency, trust and sharing of information.
2. Countries not affected should take advantage from experience of other countries. The GF-TADs team of experts can support countries preparedness activities and provide recommendations to affected and free countries. Preparedness activities like the one in the Balkan region should be supported.
3. More trans-boundary collaboration should be envisaged between countries even without the disease. Examples and protocol of cooperation should be shared.
4. SGE ASF field mission should be sent to Belgium, to understand in depth field aspects and collate best practices in the prevention and control of ASF.
5. The next SGE ASF meeting (SGE ASF13) should be held in the margins of the OIE 87th General Session (28 May 2019, Paris) followed by an SGE ASF technical meeting (SGE ASF14) in

¹ Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Russia, Ukraine

October/November 2019 (precise date and venue to be confirmed). The topic could be training and/or outbreak investigation and data collection.

6. Presentations by countries during the GF-TADs meeting should be based on a template to be developed for the next meeting so to benchmark and assess progress made from the previous meetings and between members.

Preparedness and surveillance

7. Preparedness activities are key to prevent the introduction of ASF in free countries and areas. Awareness campaigns should continue to be organised. With this regards the information material available on the ASF depository on the GF-TADs website should be printed and disseminated, shared also via social media or emails, the visuals should be used for presentations.
8. Surveillance of dead wild boar and carcass removal (passive surveillance) should be enhanced as the most efficient tool to reinforce early detection in case of introduction or re-introduction of ASF. An efficient and detailed surveillance system for ASF should be put in place in free countries and free areas of affected countries.

Long-term management of wild boar

9. Long-term management solutions for wild boar populations, including appropriate reduction through better cooperation and coordination between veterinary services, farmers, forestry management bodies, and hunters should be implemented, on top of an efficient early detection system.
10. Any dispatch of live wild boar must be banned because of the high risk for transmitting the disease.

Eradication of ASF in wild boar population building on the Czech Republic experience

11. Countries should approach the introduction of ASF taking advantage of the field experience gained by the Czech Republic. The Czech Republic experience demonstrates that multiple actions and actors are needed to control and eradicate ASF.

The African Swine Fever Competence Center

12. The GF-TADs SGE on ASF recognize the added value of the African Swine Fever Competence Center established at the Veterinary Academy of the Lithuanian University of Health Sciences.

Review of the pool of experts for SGE on ASF

13. Drs Petr Šatrán and Krzysztof Jażdżewski should be included in the existing team of experts on ASF for enabling more flexibility in organising missions in the field. The Secretariat could explore the identification of further experts to be possibly included as well. An updated list of ASF experts endorsed by the SGE ASF is provided in Annex I.

Annex I

Name	Approval
Silvia Bellini	SGE ASF2, Tallinn, Estonia - February 2015
Klaus Depner	SGE ASF2, Tallinn, Estonia - February 2015
Konstantine Gruzdev	SGE ASF2, Tallinn, Estonia - February 2015
Vittorio Guberti	SGE ASF2, Tallinn, Estonia - February 2015
Sergei Khomenko	SGE ASF2, Tallinn, Estonia - February 2015
Marius Masiulis	SGE ASF6, Vilnius, Lithuania - November 2016
Edvīns Oļševskis	SGE ASF6, Vilnius, Lithuania - November 2016
Ago Partel	SGE ASF6, Vilnius, Lithuania - November 2016
Alexey Igolkin	SGE ASF8, Chisinau, Moldova – September 2017
Krzysztof Jażdżewski	SGE ASF12, Prague, Czech Republic – March 2019
Petr Šatrán	SGE ASF12, Prague, Czech Republic – March 2019