



GF-TADs

GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE
PROGRESSIVE CONTROL OF
TRANSBOUNDARY ANIMAL DISEASES



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



GF-TADS for Europe

Ninth Meeting of the Regional Steering Committee (RSC9)

Videoconference meeting, 18 November 2020

Conclusions and Recommendations

CONSIDERING

- 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, establishing a facilitating mechanism to empower regional alliances in the fight against TADs, providing capacity building and assisting in specific control of certain TADs based on regional priorities;
- The importance of animal health for food safety and food security;
- The impact of Transboundary Animal Diseases (TADs) on animal and public health, the 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;
- The current epidemiological situation in Europe, particularly for TADs, prevention, and control measures in place for TADs recognized as priority diseases for the whole region;
- The set up in October 2005 of the Regional Steering Committee (RSC) of the GF-TADs for Europe (and its Secretariat) with the aim to ensure regional coordination and monitor progress for field interventions, laboratory strategic support, and epidemiological evaluation of disease events and control efforts; the RSC and regional Secretariat operate in accordance to their Terms of Reference (ToRs), and in line with Action plan;
- According to the abovementioned ToRs, the Regional Steering Committee of the GF-TADS for Europe is composed of the OIE Delegates from two non-EU countries and two EU Member States, the members of the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe, representatives of WHO as well as of the central and regional structures of the FAO and OIE, specific donors, and representatives of the Regional Specialised Organisations (RSOs) involved with animal health;
- The outcomes of the previous meetings of the GF-TADs for Europe Steering Committee, notably of the 7th meeting (RSC7) held in Brussels in October 2017 during which two recommendations were adopted and serve as regional guidance for the prevention and control of priority diseases in Europe, and the 8th meeting (RSC8) held in Tbilisi (Georgia) in September 2018 during which one recommendation was adopted (on governance);

- Previous conclusions and recommendations of the Regional Steering Committee (RSC) regarding the importance of prevention and control of rabies in the region of Europe are still valid;
- The FAO Regional Offices in Europe (Budapest and Ankara), the OIE Regional and sub-Regional Representations in Europe (Moscow, Brussels, Nursultan) 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 for Europe, the FAO and the OIE regional representations are critical to participate in overseeing implementation of the GF-TADs objectives and developing additional financial support;
- Collaboration with WHO in the region including for TADs with zoonotic potential is of high priority for the RSC. That collaboration should be strengthened in areas of mutual interest, to facilitate synergies and ensure rational resource management. The RSC will provide support to relevant FAO/OIE/WHO Tripartite structures in Europe;
- The numerous initiatives on the prevention and control of animal diseases in Europe, in particular the Standing Groups of Experts on African Swine Fever, Lumpy Skin Disease and Rabies under the GF-TADs for Europe umbrella; the Regional Support Units (RSUs) and the need for institutional and financial arrangements to provide sustainability to such initiatives;
- The 3rd Global GF-TADs external evaluation (2017/2018) report;
- The activities of the Regional Core Group of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe, whose objective is to encourage OIE Member Countries of Europe to a greater involvement in the OIE regional activities in Europe, including GF-TADS.

THE GF-TADS FOR EUROPE STEERING COMMITTEE DECIDES:

1. To endorse the amended composition of the GF-TADs Regional Steering Committee for Europe (list of members in *Annex 1*), with:
 - i. the transfer of appointment from the former to the new OIE Delegate of Georgia (as a non-EU member representative);
 - ii. the transfer of appointment from the former to the new OIE Delegate of Russian Federation (as a non-EU member representative);
 - iii. the update of the representatives of the Bureau of OIE Regional Commission for Europe the appointment of Vice-President and Secretary General;
 - iv. the appointment of the OIE Delegate of Italy as a donor;
 - v. the appointment of the President of EuFMD as a representative of Regional Specialized Organisation (RSO);
 - vi. the update of the representatives of the FAO at the central and regional level;
 - vii. the update of the representatives of the OIE at the central and regional level;
 - viii. the update of the Permanent Regional Secretariat, which is the OIE Regional Representation in Moscow.
2. To confirm Dr Bernard Van Goethem (EC/DG SANTE) as the newly elected President, the OIE Delegate of Austria as Vice-President, and to endorse the new OIE Delegate of Russia as Vice-President of the GF-TADs Regional Steering Committee for Europe;
3. To strengthen collaboration with the WHO Regional Office, and encourage collaboration with Tripartite partners in the region, in order to facilitate and contribute to the development and implementation of One Health agenda in Europe;

4. Permanent Regional Secretariat to inform GF-TADs Global Steering Committee and GF-TADs Management Committee on the results of the elections and the new governance mechanism (i.e. Terms of References) of GF-TADs for Europe, and to update the regional web-pages of GF-TADs for Europe (OIE regional website) with information on the new composition of the GF-TADs Global Steering Committee (i.e. list of Members).

THE GF-TADs FOR EUROPE STEERING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THAT:

1. The Terms of Reference of the Regional Steering Committee and Secretariat of the GF-TADs for Europe was revised in light of the recommendations of the 3rd Global GF-TADS external evaluation, taking into account the needs expressed in Recommendation No. 1 of the RSC7 of October 2017, and has been adopted by RSC9;
2. The draft second GF-TADs for Europe Action Plan 2020-2024, with integrated list of priority diseases and procedure for branding (labelling) was elaborated and presented by the Secretariat, and will be further developed during electronic consultations of RSC members in following not more than three weeks in line with comments provided during RSC9, and will be proposed for adoption in December 2020 via an electronic written procedure;
3. The GF-TADs for Europe will be additionally strengthened with sufficient resources (financial and human) to implement a regional agenda;
4. Stakeholders in Europe continue to make use of GF-TADs as the main mechanism of coordination and collaboration for transboundary animal disease prevention and control activities at regional and sub-regional level, including by making use of the GF-TADs branding (labelling) procedure for regional events, thus ensuring greater visibility of the GF-TADs and consistency with regional strategies and policies.

Annex 1 – Composition of the GF-TADs Steering Committee (RSC9, 2020)

Name	Serving in the RSC in the quality of: (see ToRs)	Responsibility in the RSC	Country/ Organisation
Dr Vasili Basiladze*	OIE Delegate, CVO (non-EU Member Country)	Member (voting)	Georgia
Dr Konstantin Savenkov*	OIE Delegate, CVO (non-EU Member Country)	Vice President, Member (voting)	Russian Federation
Dr Jean-François Heymans	Chief Veterinary Officer (EU Member Country)	Member (voting)	Belgium
Dr Christianne Brusckhe	OIE Delegate, CVO (EU Member Country)	Member (voting)	The Netherlands
Dr Maris Balodis	Bureau of OIE Regional Commission for Europe (President)	Member (voting)	Latvia
Dr Ulrich Herzog	Bureau of OIE Regional Commission for Europe (Vice-President)	Vice President, Member (voting)	Austria
Dr Vesna Dakovic*	Bureau of OIE Regional Commission for Europe (Vice-President)	Member (voting)	Montenegro
Dr Ivan Smilhin *	Bureau of OIE Regional Commission for Europe (Secretary General)	Member (voting)	Belarus
Dr Keith Sumption*	FAO HQ Representative	Member	FAO, Rome
Dr Jean Philippe Dop*	OIE HQ Representative	Member	OIE, Paris
Dr Vladimir Rakhmanin*	FAO Regional Representative	Member	FAO, Budapest
Dr Budimir Plavsic	OIE Regional Representative	Member, Regional Secretariat,	OIE, Moscow
Dr Hans Kluge*	WHO Regional Representative	Member	WHO, Copenhagen
Dr Pierdavide Lecchini*	Donor, Member Country, CVO	Member	Italy
Dr Loïc Evain	Donor, Member Country, CVO	Member	France
Dr Hans Wyss	Donor, Member Country, CVO	Member	Switzerland
Dr Bernard Van Goethem	Regional Specialised Organisation (RSO)	President, Voting Member	European Commission
Dr Martin Blake*	Regional Specialized Organisation (RSO)	Voting Member	EuFMD

* New members appointed at RSC9 (November 2020)