



GF-TADs

GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE
PROGRESSIVE CONTROL OF
TRANSBOUNDARY ANIMAL DISEASES



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



GF-TADS for Europe
Seventh Meeting of the Regional Steering Committee (RSC7)
AFSCA, Brussels, 16 – 17 October 2017

Recommendation No. 2

Enhancing prevention and control of priority diseases in Europe

CONSIDERING

- The list of priority diseases established by the GF-TADs Steering Committee for Europe in 2005, as amended at the RSC4 (January 2012) and the epidemiological situation that prevails in Europe in 2017 and its evolution since the RSC6; in particular, ASF, LSD and HPAI remain major concerns in the region;
- The specific recommendations adopted during the previous meetings of the GF-TADs for Europe Steering Committee on the priority diseases, and their implementation;
- The GF-TADs for Europe 5-year Action Plan endorsed during the RSC4, and its implementation; notably, the GF-TADs labelled events conducted in the region in the past 2 years and their recommendations;
- The 2 Standing Groups of Experts, respectively on ASF and LSD, established under the GF-TADs for Europe, that create an optimal arena for the harmonisation of control measures;
- The respective portfolio of various stakeholders that have been implemented in the region over the past 2 years with regards to the prevention and control of TADs and the reinforcement of Veterinary Services through the OIE PVS Pathway;
- The FAO-OIE Global Strategy for the Control of FMD endorsed during the FAO-OIE Global Conference on the control of FMD, held in Bangkok (Thailand) in June 2012;
- The OIE-FAO Global Strategy for the control and eradication of PPR endorsed during the FAO-OIE Global Conference on the control and eradication of PPR (Abidjan / Côte d'Ivoire in April 2015), and companion Global Action Plan (GEP) adopted in 2016;
- The OIE-WHO Global Strategy in collaboration with FAO And GARC, for the elimination of dog mediated rabies (Geneva / Switzerland in December 2016) and companion Global Framework adopted in December 2016;
- The revision in May 2013 (81st OIE General Session) of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code chapters on Procedures for self-declaration and for official recognition by the OIE (Chapter 1.6), Infection with peste des petits ruminants virus (Chapter 14.8) and classical swine fever (Chapter 15.2) to provide for official disease status recognition, as well as for, in the case of PPR, FMD and CSF, the OIE endorsement of national official control programmes;
- The 27th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe held in Lisbon (Portugal) in September 2016;

- The need for continuous intra- and inter-regional and cross-border collaboration and concerted action for preventing and controlling diseases having a major social, economic or public health impact and posing a threat to European countries;
- The on-going renovation of WAHIS (to become WAHIS+) that will facilitate epidemiological data collection and sharing;

THE GF-TADS FOR EUROPE STEERING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THAT THE FIRST GF-TADS 5-YEAR ACTION PLAN (2012-2016) BE IMPLEMENTED; IN PARTICULAR THAT:

General

1. The list of priority disease of the GF-TADs for Europe remain unchanged, with however the inclusion of Rift Valley Fever for some awareness activities; CSF remain in the list but as 'dormant' given the current favourable situation prevailing in Europe, and be easily 'reactivable' in case the situation suddenly worsens;
2. Countries dedicate specific efforts to ensure full transparency of their national animal health situation, for all diseases, especially the GF-TADS priority diseases; notably that Members need to continue to notify¹ through OIE-WAHIS platform the animal disease situation in their countries in a timely manner and with highly quality of information;
3. Special emphasis be put on diseases that are considered by Veterinary Authorities as "sufficiently stable" and are notified through the six-monthly reports. It is recognized that this way of reporting is transparent and compliant with the OIE Terrestrial and Aquatic Animal Health Codes. However, the possibility to inform the outbreaks close to the border at an early stage is desirable by the Members, to enhance neighbouring countries' preparedness. It is recommended that the new version of WAHIS (WAHIS+) consider this flexibility for the "sufficiently stable" diseases;
4. WAHIS and ADNS be fully connected through the ADIS platform as a way to facilitate the reporting through the Members;
5. Countries reinforce their national capacity for surveillance, early detection and warning systems for all diseases, to ensure a thorough understanding of their national epidemiological situation;
6. GF-TADs partners strive to coordinate their capacity building efforts, to avoid duplication of efforts, using notably the GF-TADs labelization process.

Specific

African Swine Fever (ASF)

7. The standing Group of Experts on ASF for Eastern Europe and Baltic region (SGE ASF) continue to support affected and at risk countries through regular technical meetings, expert missions, technical handbook and tailored capacity building activities;
8. The recommendations provided by the SGE ASF and made available on the GF-TADs webpage be used by all non-infected countries of Europe to enhance their ASF preparedness.

Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD)

9. EuFMD continue to support countries of Europe and neighboring regions using the GF-TADs framework as appropriate to enhance prevention and control capacities of the Veterinary Services;
10. Russia consider becoming a full member of EuFMD;
11. The European countries of the REMESA and the EU continue to support the establishment of a regional FMD vaccine bank for Northern Africa, notably taking into account the outcomes of the OIE vaccine bank Think Tank to be held in Paris in November 2017.

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)

¹ The different mechanisms provided by the OIE terrestrial and Aquatic Animal Health Codes to accomplish this obligation (early warning system: through the immediate notification and follow-up reports and the monitoring system: through the six-monthly reports) were highlighted.

12. The countries of Europe be actively involved in the revision of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code Chapter on infection with avian influenza viruses;
13. The countries of Europe consider the conclusions made on HPAI (and PPR) during the G7 CVO Second Forum held in Rome / Italy on 5 October 2017.

Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR)

14. Countries of Europe consider participating in the Pledging Conference to be held in Brussels in the first semester 2018, either as donor or beneficiary countries.
15. A technical side event under the GF-TADs for Europe be held in the margins of the PPR Pledging Conference in order to ensure the full commitment of the European countries to the PPR eradication 2030 deadline, whether they are infected or not.

Rabies

16. The GF-TADs for Europe explore the possible establishment of a Standing Group of Experts on rabies for Europe, both for stray dogs and wild life, provided that sufficient resources are made available and secured in the long run;
17. A regional high level / ministerial meeting (half-day) on rabies awareness under the GF-TADs be organized on the occasion of 2018 World Rabies Day. This proposal could be discussed in the margins of the 86th OIE General Session in May 2018 and presented during the 28th Conference of the Regional Conference for Europe (September 2018, Georgia) for full country engagement;
18. The FAO Step-wise rabies elimination tool (SARE) be promoted to enhance countries' capacity in stray-dog mediated rabies to control and eliminate rabies in dogs, in line with the OIE-WHO Global Framework for the elimination of dog-mediated rabies.

Brucellosis

19. (same as the RSC6)

Rift Valley Fever (RVF)

20. Countries consider the conclusions of the EFSA Scientific opinions on RVF (2013) and on vector-borne diseases (2017) to start putting the disease on their 'radar screen' and raise their preparedness level;
21. EFSA consider reviewing their work on RVF in light of the latest development in Europe and neighbouring regions, and update their conclusions as necessary.

Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD)

22. The standing Group of Experts on LSD for South East Europe (SGE LSD) continue to support affected and at risk countries through regular technical meetings and tailored capacity building activities, first and foremost aiming at harmonizing across the region national vaccination campaigns to be held annually;
23. The recommendations provided by the SGE LSD and made available on the GF-TADs webpage be used by all non-infected countries of Europe to enhance their LSD preparedness;
24. Countries share their LSD data for research purposes.

Reinforcement of Veterinary Services

25. Countries consider taking advantage of the new PVS Pathway evolution options to renew or start their engagement in the OIE PVS Pathway;
26. Countries ensure the active participation of the animal health sector in all One Health relevant activities undertaken by WHO under the International Health Regulations Monitoring and Evaluation Framework;
27. Countries consider requesting to OIE and WHO the holding of IHR/PVS National Bridging Workshops as a tool to improve intersectoral collaboration on zoonotic priority diseases of the GF-TADs for Europe;
28. Representatives from Regional Organisations be involved in PVS Pathway mission as Observers, as possible and relevant.