

First PPR Roadmap meeting for Central Asia

Almaty, 23 - 25 February 2016
A regional coordinated approach for the control and eradication of PPR

FINAL COMMUNIQUE

Background

Small ruminants represent a significant part of the world livestock sector, particularly in developing countries, where they play an essential role in livelihood and food security. One of the main factors limiting the growth of sustainable small ruminant production in many parts of the world is the presence of infectious diseases such as peste des petits ruminants (PPR), a disease that causes high morbidity and mortality. In infected countries where the disease is endemic, PPR affects livelihoods, food security and economic activity, including trade, well beyond the people who own and farm sheep and goats. Control and eventually eradication of the disease would bring a major positive impact on improved small ruminant productivity and human livelihoods. In the region, sheep and goat represent respectively 172 Mill and 8,15% of the world (2.1 billion) small ruminant population.

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), in collaboration with the Government of the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire, organised in Abidjan (31 March to 2 April, 2015) an International Conference for the Control and Eradication of PPR. This Conference, which brought together experts, scientists, Ministers, Directors of Veterinary Services and Directors of Veterinary diagnostic laboratories from affected and at risk countries, as well as technical and financial development partners, led to the adoption of the Global Strategy for the Control and Eradication of PPR (GCES).

The Strategy engages countries in the organisation of Regional Roadmap meetings to harmonise and synchronise the implementation of the GCES in all affected Regions. Considering the above, the FAO, OIE and the Government of Kazakhstan combined efforts and organised the first PPR Roadmap Meeting for the Central Asia Region, Almaty, 23 – 25 February 2016. The meeting was attended by Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

The objectives for this 1st PPR Roadmap Meeting for the Central Asia Region were the following:

- Present the PPR Global Control and Eradication Strategy and its tools in a detailed manner as well as the Abidian conference recommendations:
- Conduct a first assessment of countries' situation regarding PPR and the capacity of veterinary services to control it;
- Identify other small ruminant diseases that could be controlled together with PPR;
- Set up the Regional Advisory Group (RAG) on PPR, and
- Use this information to formulate the PPR regional roadmap for the Central Asia region and to obtain countries' agreement to engage in its implementation.

In order to achieve these objectives and to formulate recommendations, the participants in the Roadmap Meeting agreed on the following.

Considering:

- The adoption of the FAO-OIE Global Strategy for the Control and Eradication of PPR (GCES) (Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, April 2015) with its 3 inter-related Components: the control of PPR; the reinforcement of Veterinary Services and the combined control of PPR with other small ruminant diseases;
- The recommendations of the International Abidjan PPR Conference, in particular the organisation of Regional Roadmap meetings under the auspices of the Global Framework for the Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs) as a means to assess country situations and to continuously follow up on the implementation of the GCES at global level;
- The 5-year Strategic Plan (2012 2016) of the GF-TADs for Europe which recommends the preparation of strategic plans to control priority animal diseases in the region including PPR;
- That PPR control and eradication requires regional and sub-regional cooperation and coordination;
- The disease reporting obligation for all OIE member countries;
- That progression along the stepwise PPR control and eradication pathway requires a comprehensive understanding of PPR, including epidemiology, virological and socio-economic aspects, and the practical application of this knowledge to develop control and eradication plans;
- That effective Veterinary Services (VS) are indispensable for the efficient and sustainable control of PPR and that each country's PPR stage assessment includes reference to the relevant Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) criteria (critical competencies) related to the prevention and control of diseases;
- That the implementation of the GCES requires the involvement of all possible actors;
- That regional laboratory and epidemiology networks are major tools for the implementation of the GCES and that they are crucial in terms of information exchange, harmonisation of strategies, resource mobilisation, skills and knowledge pooling at national and regional level;
- Other major sheep and goat diseases prevailing in the Region, for which combined control with PPR could be an asset, for example: brucellosis; sheep and goat pox; foot-and-mouth disease (FMD), contagious caprine pleuropneumonia (CCPP), Bluetongue, Ecthyma contagiosa (Orf), pasteurellosis and gastro-intestinal parasites among others;
- The need to mobilise adequate financial resources for the implementation of the GCES.

The participants in the PPR Roadmap meeting recommend:

To countries:

- 1. To commit to the PPR control and eradication stepwise approach at national level and subsequent regional PPR Roadmap process.
- 2. To make sure that vaccines to be used are of quality consistent with the OIE Manual standards and certified by an independent FAO/OIE recognized laboratory;
- 3. To ensure consistency and alignment of their national strategies with the GCES, which serves as the reference document;
- 4. To carry out surveillance / investigation (active, particularly syndromic, and passive surveillance) and to report any findings to the national authorities, and if confirmed PPR, to the OIE.
- 5. To organise refresher training of veterinary staff to review clinical recognition of PPR and its differential diagnosis and to extend the training also to sample collection, shipping and laboratory diagnosis.
- 6. When a targeted small ruminant population has been identified for vaccination based on risk analysis during stage 1, then at least 70% of this targeted population will be vaccinated to insure appropriate herd immunity and protection.
- 7. To assess effectiveness of vaccination by post vaccination evaluation (PVE) and, if needed, request for appropriate training to properly conduct the PVE;
- 8. To consider requesting an OIE PVS follow up mission to have an updated understanding of their VS capacity and address the gaps relevant to the PPR Roadmap Stage they are in;

- 9. To effectively address Component 3 of GCES by engaging with stakeholders, especially livestock owners, using participatory approaches to better identify and understand the priority small ruminant diseases, their importance and suitability for combination with PPR control;
- 10. Assign a responsible point of contact to follow up on the national implementation of the PPR Roadmap.

To regional Level

- 1. Explore possibilities to use the services offered by the Kazakhstan Scientific Research Institute (KazSRI) and others to serve regional needs
- 2. Strengthen the laboratory and epidemiological networks (WELnet and EPInet).

To regional Organisations

- 1. Countries confirmed the need for a regional vaccine quality control centre and suggested that ECO investigates possibilities to support the establishment of such a centre;
- 2. Regional organisations, such as ECO, should support the regional approach and collaboration for the control and eradication of PPR;
- 3. To ensure consistency and alignment of the future regional strategy/roadmap for countries of Central Asia with the GCES which serves as the reference document;
- 4. To promote the resource mobilisation for the implementation of the GCES in the region.

To FAO and OIE

- 1. Reach out to the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) to seek their support for their members and the implementation of these recommendations;
- 2. Together, with regional partners and countries, to ensure the proper financial resource mobilisation necessary for the implementation of the GCES at national, regional and global levels;
- 3. To provide further guidance on the identification of small ruminant diseases suitable for combined control with PPR (COMP 3) and to support countries in the engagement with stakeholders
- 4. To provide the necessary training support to countries on PVE; disease recognition, laboratory diagnostic methodologies and other relevant areas as requested by the countries;
- 5. Translate all relevant documents in Russian notably the GCES.

The Participants of the PPR Roadmap meeting agreed:

- 1. The attached provisional PPR Stage Progression 2015-2030 as the regional Roadmap of Central Asia to achieve eradication of PPR by 2030 (see Annex); The PPR Stages agreed for 2015 shall serve as the provisional baseline situation.
- 2. To establish a Regional Advisory Group (RAG) as follows:
 - the following CVOs/Delegates have been <u>tentatively</u> proposed: Iran (President), Georgia (Vice President), Kyrgyzstan (Vice President)
 - regional Organisations: ECO
 - other names to be added (to have the whole composition of the RAG, including non-voting Members).

Acknowledgement

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First PPR Roadmap meeting for Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) Region

23 - 25 February 2016, Almaty, Kazakhstan

Provisional roadmap for 2016-2030, based on self-assessment questionnaires

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Armenia	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	4	4	Status Free			
Azerbaijan	1	1	1	1	2	2	3	3	3	4	4	Status Free				
Georgia	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	4	4	Status Free				
Iran	1	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	4	4	Status Free				
Kazakhstan	3	3	3	4	4	Status Free										
Kyrgyzstan	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	4	4	Status Free		
Tadjikistan	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	4	4	4	Status Free		
Turkey (Anatolia)	2			3	3	3	4	4	Status Free							
Turkey (Thrace)	3		4	Status Free												
Turkmenistan	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	4	4	Status Free		
Uzbekistan	1			3	3	3	3	4	4	Status Free						

Comments:

- the PPR stage indicated for 2015 is the one estimated during the meeting in Almaty
- The Global Strategy indicates an average length for each PPR stage (in the table below) but the country may decide to move faster or slower (argument to provide)

Average lenght of	Stage 1 :	Stage 2 :	Stage 3 :	Stage 4 :
stages	12 months - 3 years	3 years (2 - 5 years)	3 years (2 - 5 years)	24 months - 3 years

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