Implementation of surveillance, prophylaxis and contingency plans for brucellosis, tuberculosis, rabies, foot and mouth disease and anthrax in CIS countries.

Kiev, Ukraine. March 11-12, 2010

In the framework of the project on the “Implementation of surveillance, prophylaxis and contingency plans for brucellosis, tuberculosis, rabies, foot and mouth disease and anthrax in CIS countries”, the Collaborating Centre for Veterinary Training, Epidemiology, Food Safety and Animal Welfare of the Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale dell’Abruzzo e del Molise “G. Caporale”, under the mandate of the World organisation for animal health (OIE), organised a meeting in Kiev on 11th and 12th of March 2010.

The project general objective is to support participating countries in the planning and implementation of surveillance and control activities of selected priority animal diseases (tuberculosis, brucellosis, FMD, anthrax and rabies).

The purposes of the meeting were:
- to share, analyse and validate information,
- to assess Country priorities,
- to define a proposed workplan,
- to approve a final action plan.

Countries participating to the project:
Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan

OUTCOMES OF THE MEETING

During the meeting the representatives of the Veterinary Services of the countries:
- described the organization of Veterinary and Public Health Services in their country,
- indicated the main priorities in relation to animal diseases and zoonoses,
- specified the main training needs for laboratory personnel and public officers.

The fruitful discussions following each country presentation gave the opportunity to identify additional animal diseases of interest and the main topics for further actions.

The present list of priority diseases is flexible and further arguments may be added in the future. In particular, the following animal diseases have been proposed to be added to the list: African swine fever, Classical swine fever, Bovine leptospirosis.

However, two diseases were clearly and unanimously indicated as priority: brucellosis and rabies.

Training needs on several issues have been expressed by the countries but some topics emerged over the others:
- laboratory personnel training on the most recent diagnostic techniques according to OIE standards,
- criteria and tools for the development of efficient animal identification and registration systems,
- methods for the control of stray dogs population,
- the use of Geographical Information Systems for the surveillance of animal diseases.
RECOMMENDATIONS

Considering that

The group of countries considered that among priority diseases, brucellosis was of particular concern,

There is a need to support countries in designing surveillance and control programmes, including with regards the use of vaccination in accordance with OIE international standards.

The group of countries recommends that

1- The topic of the next seminar be “Surveillance and control of animal brucellosis” where country-specific action plans for the surveillance and control of brucellosis according to the OIE standards should be prepared;

2- All participating countries provide a detailed report on the strategies in place for the surveillance and control of animal brucellosis, the main difficulties experienced and the identified critical points. These reports should serve as the basis for discussing with the representatives of each country about the possible measures and supporting actions to be implemented;

3- During the same seminar a specific session be also dedicated to the “Use of animal identification and registration methods to support animal diseases surveillance”, during which the criteria for a modern animal traceability system and the most advanced available methodologies for animal identification and registration should be discussed;

4- This seminar be organised in Baku, Azerbaijan, at the end of 2010 or early 2011.

Kiev, 12 March 2010