Resolutions

adopted at the XXVIIIth General Conference of the Committee of the « Office International des Epizooties »
Paris, 9-14 May 1960

I

EPIZOOTIOLOGY AND CONTROL OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE ON A REGIONAL AND WORLD BASIS.

The O.I.E. proposes the following, based on the Reports on the Prophylaxis of Foot-and-Mouth Disease:

1. Attention is again drawn to the necessity of applying strict measures which must include control of the movement of animals. The policy recommended is « Stamping out » with all that this Policy implies, or extensive vaccination combined or not with slaughter of infected and contaminated animals.

2. The O.I.E. will recommend to all Governments that they should immediately authorize the Directors of Veterinary Services to apply on their own initiative the « Stamping out » Policy to any centre of infection due to a virus type which has not previously been detected in their Country.

This authorization should cover the period of time necessary for the production and application of an appropriate vaccine.

3. The rapid determination of the types of virus responsible for outbreaks is obviously of the greatest importance. The governmental Laboratories in the different Countries should maintain eternal vigilance so that the early detection of an exotic type will be ensured.
4. The Research Institute, Pirbright (Great Britain), is designated the World Reference Laboratory for Foot-and-Mouth Disease for the determination of the types of the virus and for the maintenance of classified strains.

It is recommended that types of virus which are suspected to be other than O, A or C or are difficult to classify should be sent immediately to the W.R.L. at Pirbright.

However, Countries in the Americas should continue to send virus material for examination to the Pan American Center for Foot-and-Mouth Disease in Rio de Janeiro. This Center will be in constant relationship with the W.R.L. at Pirbright.

5. It is recommended that studies on live attenuated strains vaccines should be pursued.

Having regard to the present state of knowledge of such live modified strains vaccines, it does not seem that their use in the field can be recommended unless there are special circumstances which would justify such use.

6. The appearance in the European Continent of an « exotic » type of virus would make it necessary to arrange for a Conference of the Directors of Veterinary Services and of Institutes preparing Foot-and-Mouth Disease vaccines designated by their Governments to investigate and discuss the situation.

This Conference is to take place at the O.I.E., Headquarters, Paris and will be convened by the O.I.E.

This procedure is recommended to other Countries the geographical position of which justify combined action.

7. It is desirable that reserve stocks of appropriate vaccines, specific for the exotic types of the virus should be prepared for use in the first period of an emergency. Dispositions should be taken to ensure that the procedures adopted for the preparation of such stocks should not imperil Europe.

8. This is a clear indication that the number of Laboratories in Countries in Africa and Asia for investigations on Foot-and-Mouth Disease should be increased and that facilities should be provided so that young research workers in these Countries may visit and spend some time in the several Institutes devoted to the study of the Disease.

9. It is recommended that the different Countries should arrange for bilateral Agreements with neighbouring Coun-
tries for the coordination of methods of attacking and controlling the disease.

It is requested that O.I.E. should be informed of such Agreements as soon as they are drawn up.

II

RAPID DETECTION OF A CONTAGIOUS DISEASE IN A COUNTRY WHERE IT HAS NOT YET BEEN RECOGNISED.

1. In view of the danger of transference of disease which attaches to the international traffic in livestock and livestock products, because disease may be transferred in spite of precautions and because diseases may exist unidentified or masked by other diseases, O.I.E. has given some attention to the « rapid detection of a contagious disease in a Country where it has not yet been recognised ».

2. It is assumed that by legislation any Country will endeavour to set up precautions against the introduction of disease by imports, and in order to do so satisfactorily, it must study the disease position in those countries with which it has trade or other contacts. Full use should be made of the F.A.O./O.I.E. Animal Health Yearbook and of the O.I.E. Monthly Bulletins on Epizootics and O.I.E. Emergency Notifications of outbreaks in this connection, but consultation with the authorities in the exporting countries is necessary before arrangements for importation are made.

3. So that an exotic or hitherto unidentified disease may be detected as early as possible, veterinarians should be so located that all parts of the country, as far as possible, are covered.

They should be made aware of the importance of consulting the official veterinary service or a laboratory for assistance in diagnosis when they encounter a disease condition outside their previous experience. They should be kept informed by all available means of the symptoms which would lead to a suspicion of the existence of the more important exotic diseases.

4. A laboratory within the country or the region should be designated as the diagnostic Center when exotic disease is suspected. If necessary this laboratory should send material
to a laboratory abroad where it has been agreed that facilities for diagnosis will be provided: every opportunity should be given to the laboratory workers to become familiar with up-to-date diagnostic methods. This may be done through the scientific literature and by discussions with experts at home and abroad.

5. Pending the diagnosis of a suspected case of an exotic or hitherto unidentified infectious or contagious disease, precautions to prevent the spread of infection should be imposed.

III

Diseases caused by Anaerobes.

A. — Epidemiology and pathogenesis must receive consideration in order fully to understand the whole subject of Anaerobic infections.

B. — The Office International des Epizooties is of opinion that it is necessary to carry out more thorough studies of the pathology of the diseases which may be of importance in human and veterinary medicine, caused by the toxins of anaerobes as well as by the micro-organisms themselves.

I. — It is desirable that all the laboratories working on anaerobes should use modern techniques based on the antigenic structure of the micro-organisms concerned.

With this in view, the O.I.E. has designated the Anaerobic Laboratory of the Institute of Hygiene of the Belgrade Veterinary Faculty to undertake the necessary studies to attain this objective.

II. — Because generally accepted methods for titrating the potency of certain antiserums and vaccines used against anaerobic infections have not yet been established, it would be desirable to entrust to the principal worker on anaerobes at the Wellcome Research Laboratories, Great Britain, studies on methods of titration of β (Beta), ε (Epsilon) and κ (Kappa) antitoxins of Clostridium welchii and consideration of the possibilities of standardisation and methods of preparation of vaccines containing the respective antigens.
III. — Because antibiotic therapy may have a very important place in the control of diseases caused by anaerobes, it is recommended that the Director of the National Institute for Veterinary Research, Moscow, be requested kindly to give consideration to having research work on the subject carried out.

IV. — It would be desirable for the laboratories designated for the above-mentioned researches to prepare a Report for each meeting of the O.I.E. Permanent Committee on Anaerobes which should be held at the Bureau of the O.I.E., Paris, prior to the ordinary Sessions of the O.I.E., and that the Chairman of this Permanent Committee should be in charge of preparations for these meetings.

V. — In order to maintain the necessary coordination and especially to avoid duplication of work on standardisation by the O.I.E. Permanent Committee on Anaerobes and the O.I.E. Permanent Committee on the Use and Application of Biological Products in the Control of Animal Diseases, a member of the latter Committee should be nominated to take part in the work of the O.I.E. Permanent Committee on Anaerobes.

IV

Diseases of Fish.

The O.I.E. having considered the discussion which arose from the presentation of papers by the delegates from the U.S.S.R., Yugoslavia and Japan, recommends that the following steps should be taken to initiate action in the field of diseases of fish, other marine and fresh-water creatures and various fish products.

1. O.I.E. should forthwith establish a Commission of Experts to provide advice to member Countries through such means as holding Training Centres and Symposia and should also initiate the compilation of a compendium of existing knowledge on the pathology of fresh-water and marine creatures as a preliminary step to the formulation of specific advice to member Governments concerning the lines along which research might most usefully proceed;
2. Those bodies interested in veterinary education should be encouraged by O.I.E. to examine the desirability of including the study of such diseases in under or post-graduate veterinary curricula. Veterinary Colleges and Research Departments should be in a position to give advice on the diseases of fish and to make recommendations to veterinary and public health services regarding the inspection of fisheries for chemical or radio-active contamination;

3. O.I.E. should establish and maintain close liaison with the Animal Production and Health Division and the Fisheries Division of F.A.O. on this matter, especially in relation to the work of the F.A.O./W.H.O. International Panel on Veterinary Education shortly to be formed.

V

Sanitary Regulations on Importation and Exportation of Animals and Animal Products.

1. It is realized that O.I.E. has no authority to impose contractual obligations on its members with respect to the sanitary regulations governing the import of livestock and livestock products, nevertheless the O.I.E. as an International Agency dealing with Veterinary matters is fully qualified to examine this problem.

2. In view of this it recommended that:

A. — A permanent Commission be established to collect and examine the principles of livestock and livestock products import and export regulations of member countries prepared to co-operate.

B. — To lay the basis for a better understanding of these regulations, a number of countries be invited at the General Meeting each year to present for examination and appraisal a full statement of their sanitary regulations applying to import of livestock and livestock products.
VI

PERSISTENCE OF VIRUSES OF ANIMAL DISEASES IN CARCASS MEAT.


These reports were placed before the Sub-Committee appointed for the purpose and it was resolved:

I. — That the diseases of importance in this study were as follows: Rinderpest, Foot-and-Mouth Disease, European Swine Fever and African Swine Fever, Newcastle Disease, Lumpy Skin Disease, Blue Tongue, Teschen and Talfan disease.

II. — That the considerable documentation on these diseases made available by the rapporteurs is worthy of close examination by a small Group of Experts to be nominated, to consider this group of diseases as a whole and to indicate the special lines of research required to complete the information sought.

III. — That in view of the special urgency in the case of Rinderpest, priority should be given to examination of the protocols of experiments designed to complete the information sought on this disease and for which experiments funds have already been offered.

The protocols which will receive full distribution, should receive the approval of all international bodies concerned before experimentation is commenced and some international supervision is desirable.

IV. — That continuing executive action should be prosecuted by the Director of O.I.E. and the Director of I.B.A.H.P. in collaboration.

V. — That a report on the progress achieved should be submitted to the O.I.E. General Conference of 1961.
REGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN SOUTH AMERICA

In accordance with the wish expressed by the Representatives of South America, the Office International des Epizooties recommends:

1. That the Panamerican Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center should periodically publish the results of the experiments for diagnosis it carries out on the samples received.

2. That the Office International des Epizooties should organize from time to time, under its own aegis, Regional Conferences in Latin America where the problems deriving from the epizootic and parasitic diseases on this Continent, would be considered. To this end, O.I.E. will take steps in order to secure the cooperation of Experts, according to the Agenda.

The priority which should be given to the following matters, is reaffirmed:

A) Brucelloses;
B) Leptospiroses;
C) Prevention of diseases caused by Hematozoa;
D) Tuberculosis;
E) Parasitic Diseases.
F) Paralysing Rabies;
G) Measures of prevention against the introduction of Exotic Diseases into the Latin-American countries.

3. That, considering the great interest of the relations between O.I.E. and the Panamerican Center on Foot-and-Mouth Disease and the Panamerican Center on Zoonoses, these Centers should be considered as permanent Associates in all the Conferences organized by O.I.E. in Latin America.

4. That O.I.E. should take into consideration the efficient work of these Centers, particularly in the field of research, training of the staff and establishment of regional prophylaxis programmes; and congratulate the Panamerican Sanitary Bureau for the remarkable work carried out.

CONCLUSIONS OF THE IXth MEETING OF THE O.I.E. PERMANENT COMMITTEE ON FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

The IXth Meeting of the O.I.E. Permanent Committee on Foot-and-Mouth Disease was held in Paris on 2-5 May,
1960, when there were present 81 Delegates from 35 countries and Representatives from the following International Organizations — the European Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease, The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center (Rio de Janeiro), the Interafriean Bureau for Animal Health South of the Sahara, and the United States Mission in Europe.

Numerous Reports were presented, on details of technical aspects of the control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease. The following is a summary of the discussions. This summary represents the conclusions formulated from the discussions and does not include recommendations.

I. — No new method of the production of Foot-and-Mouth Disease vaccine was mentioned.

II. — Vaccines whose production is based on the Vallée-Schmidt-Waldmann method, tested during the past several years have not been found markedly better immunising agents than those formerly used. The duration of immunity conferred by these vaccines seems to require further study because it appears to be relatively shorter.

III. — Encouraging results can be recorded in the production of attenuated virus vaccines by passage of the virus in naturally non susceptible hosts — avianised and lapinised vaccines. As things stand at present, however, it does not seem that the field use of these vaccines should be recommended except in new special circumstances which would merit the considerable risks with which their application would be associated.

IV. — Vaccines prepared from virus derived from kidney cell cultures have given very encouraging results but not in so far as duration of immunity is concerned. Research on this aspect is strongly recommended.

V. — Several reports were presented on the control of vaccines. Although some of the new methods, which are still under experimental study, are already proving valuable of immunity conferred by vaccine, it seems that none of them are yet capable of being applied practically; nor can they be recommended to replace the methods of control now in use. Special mention may be made of serum neutra-
lisation and vaccine quantitative tests in guinea pigs, mice and cattle concerning which new and interesting techniques are being now developed.

VI. — Vaccination of pigs against Foot-and-Mouth Disease which is still uncertain in the laboratory, seems sometimes to be highly effective in the field. Research on techniques, designed to clear up this discrepancy, is in progress and there is hope that favorable results may be expected either from a modification of the vaccine itself or from a change in the method of administering the vaccine.

VII. — The greatest possible attention should be given to preventing the introduction into a country of types of the virus the previous presence of which has been entirely unknown. This is a very complex problem and is to a large extent, outside the scope of this Permanent Committee. The technical aspects of the subject were referred to in several of the reports. Their detailed study seems to be necessary in order to bring into operation police sanitary measures or measures in keeping with economy.

VIII. — Results of laboratory work, confirmed by observations in the field show that the complement fixation test does not detect small antigenic differences between strains of virus, these differences playing an important part in the use of vaccine for preventive purpose. In this connection, serum-neutralisation can be a valuable technique and its use is recommended.

IX. — A sufficiently good explanation has not yet been found for the occurrence of sporadic Foot-and-Mouth Disease in countries free of the disease: the number of observations have been too small.

X. — At present, formalin at a sufficient concentration (1 per cent of formaldehyde — at least 2.5 per cent commercial formol) seems to be the most practical disinfectant and of an acceptable effectiveness if used with a detergent for ensuring disinfection of transport vehicles for cattle (wagons, trucks, aeroplanes), without causing damage to them. The subject should have further research carried out on it.

XI. — On some of the reports and during the discussion new details concerning the nature and characters of the
O.I.E. PERMANENT COMMITTEE
ON ECHINOCOCCOsis-HYDATIDOSIS

Having heard the Report of the O.I.E. Permanent Committee on Echinococcosis-Hydatidosis, the following Resolution was adopted at the Session:

The Office International des Epizooties again draws the immediate attention of the Member Countries to the importance of Echinococcosis-Hydatidosis because of its serious effects on human health and on animal economy.

It is strongly recommended that National Committees be established, under the aegis of the Veterinary and Medical Services, to study and control this serious disease.

The attention of Member Countries is drawn to the recommendations already made on the subject and especially to those adopted at the XXVth Session of O.I.E. in 1957.

O.I.E. PERMANENT COMMITTEE
ON APICULTURAL PATHOLOGY

Following upon the Report of the O.I.E. Permanent Committee on Apicultural Pathology, the following conclusions of the Committee were adopted:

1. Laboratories which specialize in the subject should give particular attention to the study of the biology of Acarioses of bees: one such laboratory, for example, the Liebfeld Laboratory at Berne, Switzerland, should be requested to undertake coordination of this work.

2. All countries should be requested to forward to O.I.E. the Apicultural Sanitary regulations now in force: their
receipt would enable the O.I.E. Permanent Committee to study more completely an acceptable international plan.

3. The next meeting of the Committee should be held on a date different from that of the General Conference of O.I.E.: the date of the meeting would depend upon that of the International Apiculture Congress to be held in Madrid in 1961. This arrangement would enable all Members of the O.I.E. Permanent Committee to attend the meeting of the Permanent Committee and to be present immediately before or after, at the Congress in Madrid.