REPORT OF THE MEETING
OF THE
OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE AMERICAS

Paris, 26 May 2014

The OIE Regional Commission for the Americas met on 26 May 2014 at the Maison de la Chimie, Paris, at 2:00 p.m. The meeting was attended by 97 participants, including Delegates and observers from 20 Members of the Commission and representatives from 5 international or regional organisations:

Members of the Commission: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, France, Guatemala, Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, United States of America and Uruguay.


The meeting was chaired by Dr Guilherme H. Figueiredo Marques, Delegate of Brazil and President of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas, seconded by Dr Luis Osvaldo Barcos, OIE Regional Representative for the Americas, and Dr Carlos Correa Messuti, Delegate of Uruguay and Past President of the World Assembly of OIE Delegates.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The proposal by Dr Francisco Muzio, from Uruguay, to include an item on the use of compartments not practising foot and mouth disease vaccination for sheep was adopted. The Agenda, described in the Appendix, was adopted unanimously.

2. Financial contributions of Members to the OIE

Dr John Clifford, Delegate of the United States of America and member of the OIE Council, described the status of Members’ contributions. He pointed out that, although some Members still had outstanding contributions, there was a continuing trend for countries to upgrade their category of statutory contributions to the OIE, as well as voluntary contributions to the OIE World Animal Health and Welfare Fund. He encouraged countries to keep up this trend.

3. Report on OIE Council meetings

Dr Carlos Correa Messuti, Delegate of Uruguay and Past President of the World Assembly of Delegates, reminded participants that, as members of the OIE Council, he and Dr John Clifford, Delegate of the United States of America, act as the conduit for putting the region’s concerns to the OIE to ensure they are properly addressed, including matters pertaining to the logistics of the current General Session.

47 CVP: Permanent Veterinary Committee of the Southern Cone
48 IICA: Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture
49 OIRSA: Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria
50 PAHO: Pan American Health Organization - PANAFTOSA: Pan American Foot and Mouth Disease Center
He said that the 22nd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas, to be held in Jalisco (Mexico) from 10 to 14 November 2014, would provide the appropriate opportunity to discuss the OIE Sixth Strategic Plan, which had been distributed to Delegates of countries in the region.

He also urged countries to participate actively in the process of standard-setting and adoption of OIE standards by sending their comments on the reports of Specialized Commissions.

Dr Correa and Dr Clifford reminded participants about the elections to be held in May 2015 to select the OIE Director General and members of the Council, Specialized Commissions and Regional Commissions.

4. Report of the President of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas including the discussions at the Regional Commission meeting on Sunday 25 May 2014

Dr Guilherme H. Figueiredo Marques, Delegate of Brazil and President of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas, reported that the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas had met several times in the past year. The meetings had addressed administrative and technical matters. The President of the Regional Commission said that the latest meetings of the Bureau of the Regional Commission had been held in August 2013 and prior to the 82nd General Session of the World Assembly of Delegates. He also mentioned that a videoconferencing system provided by the Regional Representation was being used for technical meetings on specific situations.

The administrative activities discussed by the Bureau of the Commission included the status of Members’ contributions and the organisation of the next Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas in Mexico in November 2014.

On the technical side, Dr Figueiredo Marques said that, in 2014, past and planned meetings in the region included: seminar of the Inter-American Committee on Avian Health (CISA, Cuba); regional seminar for OIE National Focal Points for veterinary products (Canada); and seminar of the Committee of the Americas for Veterinary Medicines (CAMEVET, Canada).

The President described the outcomes of the OIE Global Conference on Veterinary Education and the Role of the Veterinary Statutory Body in Brazil in December 2013.

Dr Figueiredo Marques said that the virtual meeting on porcine epidemic diarrhoea had identified the need for guidelines on measures for the control, surveillance, diagnosis and movement of animals and animal products. He urged countries in the Americas to participate actively in the ongoing discussions.

He also took the opportunity to briefly comment on the discussions at the Regional Commission meeting on Sunday, 25 May 2014, which had covered: the OIE Sixth Strategic Plan; the “high-health, high-performance horse” concept; official recognition for countries free from classical swine fever; criteria for the inclusion of diseases on the OIE list and the region’s position on draft amendments of certain chapters of the Code; the possible establishment of a regional technical committee on bee diseases; the current status of payments to the OIE for the cost of recognising countries as historically free from foot and mouth disease and African horse sickness; and the difficulties faced by some small countries in paying their contribution.
5. **Report on the activities and work programme of the OIE Regional Representation for the Americas and the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for Central America**

Dr Luis O. Barcos, OIE Regional Representative for the Americas, presented a summary of the activities of the Regional Representation (Buenos Aires) and Sub-Regional Representation (Panama).

Dr Barcos reported that the Regional Representation would continue to coordinate regular meetings of the Bureau of the Regional Commission to follow up on: the conclusions of the regional conference in Barbados in 2012; progress with organising the next regional conference to be held in Mexico from 10 to 14 November 2014; and the work programme for the Americas.

He said that the participation of Member Countries in the updating of OIE standards would be promoted by: building the capacity of Veterinary Services, including in the area of aquatic animal health; holding seminars for Delegates and National Focal Points; and promoting the implementation of the OIE PVS Pathway, including building the capacity of the region’s laboratories. He reported that experts from Member Countries of the Permanent Veterinary Committee of the Southern Cone (CVP) would be trained to enable PVS Evaluation missions to be conducted in CVP member countries every two years. He also pointed to interest among Central American countries in OIE missions to evaluate their aquatic animal health services.

He described activities to ensure OIE membership for countries in the Caribbean Sub-Region that are not yet OIE Members.

He discussed activities to ensure the effective implementation of OIE standards on foot and mouth disease (FMD), including: an agreement between the OIE and the Andean Community (CAN) to implement actions at borders; interaction with regional and international organisations based on the FAO/OIE Global Strategy for the control of FMD; and expert field missions.

He reported on meetings and coordination activities with international organisations in connection with the Regional Steering Committee for the Americas of the Global Framework for Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs).

He also described actions for implementing the recommendations of the OIE Global Conference on Veterinary Education and the Role of the Veterinary Statutory Body held in December 2013.

He added that the behaviour of diseases of interest to the region is being kept under constant surveillance, including porcine epidemic diarrhoea and shrimp early mortality syndrome.

Dr Barcos explained that it is imperative for Delegates to become involved in providing information to help ascertain how much progress countries of the region have made in disseminating and implementing the Regional Animal Welfare Strategy for the Americas. He also pointed to the need for Member Countries’ support in providing and maintaining information to run the web application on the capabilities of national laboratories in the region. He added that a survey of National Focal Points had been conducted to assess the impact of capacity-building activities.

He concluded by detailing planned activities to be carried out in the current year, thanking Member Countries that are providing financial support.
6. **Selection of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be proposed for inclusion in the agenda of the 84th General Session of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates to be held in May 2016**

The Regional Commission proposed the following technical item (with a questionnaire to Members) for inclusion in the agenda of the 84th General Session:

– “Modelling tools for the simulation and early warning of foreign animal diseases (FAD) and emerging threats”

7. **Selection of Technical Item II (without questionnaire) to be included in the agenda of the 22nd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas**

The Regional Commission proposed the following technical item (without questionnaire) for inclusion in the agenda of the 22nd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas:

– “Implementation of the compartmentalisation concept: practical experience and perspectives”

8. **Organisation of the 22nd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas to be held in Jalisco (Mexico) from 10 to 14 November 2014**

Dr Joaquín Braulio Delgadillo Álvarez, Delegate of Mexico, officially confirmed his country’s commitment to organising the next Conference, to be held in the city of Guadalajara, Jalisco, and reported on progress with its organisation.

9. **Election of the Secretary General of the Bureau of the Regional Commission**

Dr Carlos Correa, Delegate of Uruguay and Past President of the World Assembly of Delegates, informed participants that the Delegate of Peru had stepped down, leaving vacant the position of Secretary General of the Regional Commission, which requires an election to be held.

Dr Martine Dubuc, Delegate of Canada, was unanimously elected as Secretary General of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas.

The membership of the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas until 2015 is as follows:

- President: Dr Guilherme H. Figueiredo Marques (Brazil)
- Vice-President: Dr Miguel Angel Azañón Robles (Guatemala)
- Vice-President: Dr Mark Trotman (Barbados)
- Secretary General: Dr Martine Dubuc (Canada)

This proposal will have to be confirmed by the World Assembly.

10. **Sixth OIE Strategic Plan – Regional perspectives**

Dr Carlos Correa Messuti, Delegate of Uruguay and Past President of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates, gave the Commission a brief presentation on preparations for the OIE Sixth Strategic Plan for the 2016-2020 period. He informed Delegates that a preliminary version of the OIE Sixth Strategic Plan had been drafted on the basis of discussions at the previous Council meetings (October 2013 and February 2014).

He reminded participants that the draft had been forwarded to all OIE Delegates in early May 2014 to enable them to submit comments and observations to Council Members in their region.
Dr Correa Messuti emphasised that the aim of his presentation was to summarise the key information regarding the OIE Sixth Strategic Plan in order to start discussions among Delegates with the aim of finalising the Strategic Plan over forthcoming Council meetings. He said that the final text would be circulated among Member Countries for comments in March 2015 with a view to its adoption at the 83th General Session in May 2015.

He reiterated that the OIE Council considered that the OIE Sixth Strategic Plan should:

- contain a revised consolidated statement of OIE's strategic vision and its global goals;
- take into account current and anticipated global trends and challenges affecting OIE's operating environment;
- incorporate important cross-cutting issues;
- be ambitious but not necessarily expansive;
- be high-level, flexible and enabling rather than prescriptive, and allow for optional approaches in order to be responsive and facilitate implementation; and
- be developed with the engagement of all Members of the OIE.

Dr Correa Messuti explained that this topic would be included in the agenda of all OIE Council meetings and OIE Regional Conferences to be held over the coming year.

Dr Correa Messuti reported that, in October 2013, the OIE Council had reviewed the Strategic Objectives and discussed factors expected to impact on the operating environment during the 2016-2020 period, as well as organisational dynamics and institutional arrangements, including the duties and relevance of the current Specialist Commissions and Working Groups, the operation of Regional and Sub Regional Representations, and relationships and synergies with other international organisations. He said that the OIE Council would also be establishing a flexible five-year strategic human resources plan for the recruitment, retention and development of OIE staff.

Dr Correa Messuti concluded by inviting Delegates to provide their thoughts and comments on the initial framework and directions for the OIE Sixth Strategic Plan. He emphasised that Members' comments were most welcome and highly valued and said that Members could provide their input to the OIE Director General and to OIE Council members representing the Americas region.

11. **OIE procedure for official recognition of classical swine fever status**

Dr Laure Weber-Vintzel, Officer in charge of the recognition of countries' animal disease status, OIE Scientific and Technical Department, gave an overview of the OIE procedure for official recognition of classical swine fever status. She explained that an initial assessment of applications from Member Countries wishing to receive OIE official recognition of freedom from classical swine fever would be made in the course of 2014, with a view to the first applications being approved at the 83rd General Session in May 2015.

She added that a series of workshops would be held in all five regions to inform Members more fully about the procedure for OIE official recognition of animal disease status. A first pilot workshop in the Americas region is planned for March 2015.
12. Report on the OIE high-health, high-performance horse (HHP) concept

Dr Susanne Münstermann, Project Officer, OIE Scientific and Technical Department, began her presentation by referring to the significant worldwide growth of the sport horse industry, bringing with it measurable and significant socio-economic benefits to the respective national economies.

She explained that the OIE has engaged, for the past two years, in the development of the high health, high performance horse (HHP) concept to facilitate the safe international movement of horses to compete at international equestrian events. She noted that the concept excludes international movement for the purpose of breeding.

She noted that the concept is based on principles that are already well established in the Terrestrial Animal Health Code, with special reference to the Chapters on: (i) identification and traceability; (ii) zoning and compartmentalisation; (iii) model passport for competition horses; (iv) certification procedures; and, (v) transport by air, land and sea. Furthermore, comprehensive biosecurity guidelines for HHP horses at their home stable, during transport and at the venue are being developed.

Dr Münstermann then informed participants that the OIE has laid down these general overarching principles for the HHP concept in a new Code chapter, in line with the approach that had been previously taken when introducing Animal Welfare chapters into the Code.

Dr Münstermann added that acceptance of these general principles by OIE Member Countries would provide the OIE Ad hoc Group with a clear vision to propose the tools necessary to build the framework for the HHP concept, e.g. additional guidelines.

Dr Münstermann concluded by stating that a regional workshop was organised in Panama December 2012 to present the HHP concept and to analyse the currently existing import regulations for horses into countries of the region. She mentioned that the analysis revealed a wide diversity of regulations and that some 25 diseases are regulated for the importation of horses.

She added that a more comprehensive presentation on the concept and its accompanying tools will be given at the Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas to be held in Mexico in November 2014.

Discussion

Dr Alex Thiermann, President of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission, congratulated Dr Münstermann on the Ad hoc Group's progress and reiterated that the draft was confined strictly to the HHP concept, confirming that Delegates would have an opportunity to raise any questions and concerns during the General Session or later throughout the OIE standard-setting process.

He explained that details on such matters as the description of sub-populations, certification, diagnosis, transport and others, would be part of an international biosecurity plan to be prepared by the private sector, in consultation with Members, which would be based on the OIE's biosecurity guidelines.
It was unanimously agreed that the Delegate of Brazil would make a statement at the respective plenary session on behalf of all countries in the region to express their support for the HHP concept.

13. World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS) – Status of notification by Members in the Americas

Dr Paula Cáceres-Soto, Acting Head, OIE Animal Health Information Department, gave a brief update of the most relevant topics on animal disease notification concerning the Region.

She started by emphasizing the importance of timely disease reporting through WAHIS by the countries/territories, and of the provision of other epidemiological information on disease prevention and control, to maintain transparency, to enhance trade and to contribute to the global early warning. She then went on to provide relevant information on compliance with reporting for 2013 in the Americas.

Dr Cáceres-Soto also showed the evolution of the number of countries from the Region submitting reports to the OIE since 2005 as well as the evolution of submission time since 2005, separately for terrestrial and aquatic animal diseases.

Finally, Dr Cáceres-Soto presented the recent exceptional events of porcine epidemic diarrhoea in the Americas.

Discussion

In this regard, Dr Delgadillo Álvarez, Delegate of Mexico, highlighted the need for a harmonised case definition of porcine epidemic diarrhoea.

On the subject of failure to report aquatic animal diseases, Dr Max Millien, Delegate of Haiti, said that this was due to lack of trained personnel. In this regard, Dr Joaquín Delgadillo, Delegate of Mexico, and Dr Alicia Gallardo, Delegate of Chile, offered their countries’ support in providing such training.

For his part, Dr Figueiredo Marques stressed the importance for countries to comply with their obligation to report animal diseases within the established time frame.

14. Proposals for designation of new OIE Collaborating Centres

Proposals by the United States of Americas

Dr John Clifford, Delegate of the United States of America, presented the Commission with two applications for new Collaborating Centres. The first was for the OIE to consider Sandia National Laboratories, International Biological Threat Program (SNL/IBTR) as an OIE Collaborating Centre for “Laboratory Biorisk Management”.

The second application was for the OIE to consider the National Center for Foreign Animal and Zoonotic Disease Defense (FAZD) as an OIE Collaborating Centre for “Biological Threat Reduction”.

Dr Clifford provided a brief review of the centres and their activities, adding that further details could be found in the working document of the meeting.

The Commission approved the proposals by the United States, which will be presented for endorsement by the OIE World Assembly of Delegates.
Proposal by Brazil

Dr Guilherme H. Figueiredo Marques, Delegate of Brazil, presented the Commission with an application for the OIE to consider the Pan American Foot and Mouth Disease Center of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO-PANAFTOSA) as an OIE Collaborating Centre for “Veterinary Public Health”.

Dr Figueiredo Marques provided a brief review of the centre and its activities, adding that further details could be found in the working document of the meeting.

The Commission approved the proposal by Brazil, which will be presented for endorsement by the World Assembly of Delegates.

15. Presentations from Organisations that have concluded an official agreement with the OIE

- **Pan American Foot and Mouth Disease Center of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO-PANAFTOSA)**

  Dr Ottorino Cosivi, Coordinator, Veterinary Public Health Project and Director of the World Health Organization’s Pan American Center for Foot and Mouth Disease (PAHO-PANAFTOSA), detailed the organisation’s activities over the past year under the “One Health” concept, in particular the sixteenth Inter-American Meeting, at the Ministerial Level, on Animal Health (RIMSA 16) and the veterinary public health programme. Activities included the surveillance, prevention and control of zoonoses and emerging infectious diseases and actions relating to the safety of food for human consumption and the prevention of foodborne disease.

- **Permanent Veterinary Committee of the Southern Cone (CVP)**

  Dr Julio Urzúa, CVP Acting Technical Secretary, gave a brief summary of CVP’s main activities, emphasising those under the MERCOSUR Foot and Mouth Disease-free Action Plan (PAMA) and announcing that Paraguay had recovered its status as an FMD-free country practising vaccination. He pointed out that PAMA was nearing completion and, in view of its success, the CVP had begun working with PANAFTOSA to undertake stage two.

  Dr Urzúa mentioned that PAMA activities had included four visits to border areas that were former high surveillance zones in order to continue the technical missions recommended by the OIE and the activities to which countries had committed, with the participation of field and laboratory technicians from CVP member countries.

  He reported that the CVP had conducted visits to support sero-epidemiological sampling in two countries in the region with the aim of providing technical cooperation and enabling the countries to participate in the CVP as observers. He then reviewed the follow-up of regional assistance plans based on the results and agreements of previous missions.

  He said that, in addition to the recent OIE PVS evaluation follow-up missions to Brazil and Uruguay, and the forthcoming one to Bolivia, as well as the OIE PVS evaluation mission to be carried out in Argentina, CVP activities to strengthen official Veterinary Services comprise two basic components: a mechanism for the systematic evaluation of official Veterinary Services and the training of a team of qualified professionals to implement the evaluation mechanism. To train an evaluation team, Dr Urzúa explained that the OIE would deliver a course to train CVP professionals in the use of the OIE PVS tool.
As regards activities to strengthen official Veterinary Services, Dr Urzúa reported that 16 professionals from the CVP’s six official Veterinary Services had taken part in a risk communication course delivered by the IICA in 2013.

He reported that, since the last OIE General Session, meetings of two CVP ad hoc groups had been held: one on food safety (GIdeA) and one on avian influenza (GIA).

Dr Urzúa concluded by saying that an international seminar had been held to commemorate the CVP’s tenth anniversary, which had featured distinguished speakers, including from the OIE.

- **Andean Community (CAN)**

In the absence of the CAN representative, it was agreed to include the summary sent by the organisation.

The activities conducted by the Andean Technical Committee on Agricultural and Livestock Health (COTASA), which stem from Decision 515 of the Andean Community Commission, form the basis for the Andean Agricultural Health System (SASA), the establishment of sanitary and phytosanitary measures and joint action programmes.

CAN harmonisation and standard-setting activities include decisions on: veterinary products; community risk analysis; quarantine control; measures for the prevention, control and eradication of foot and mouth disease; movement of livestock commodities and disease reporting.

Lastly, the activities of joint action programmes include coordination with the OIE and other international organisations.

- **Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)**

Dr Robert G. Ahern, Head of Agricultural Health and Food Safety at the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), presented IICA’s animal health activities over the past year. He detailed its hemispheric activities and projects, including: collaboration in the organisation of a seminar to disseminate OIE standards (at the consultation stage); draft good farming practices; and harmonisation of regulations on products intended for animal feed, in collaboration with the Latin American Feed Industry Association (Feedlatina).

He described regional activities and projects relating to: the research and innovation network for animal health– brucellosis and tuberculosis; the regional project CARIFORUM-European Community Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) (to support the Caribbean Forum in implementing commitments under the EPA in the area of sanitary and phytosanitary measures); and support for the Standing Veterinary Committee of the Southern Cone (CVP).

He concluded by detailing national activities and projects conducted in Bolivia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay and Venezuela.

- **International Regional Organization for Plant Protection and Animal Health (OIRSA)**

Dr Luis Alberto Espinoza Rodezno, Disease Control Coordinator of the OIRSA Animal Health Regional Coordination Office, reported on the main activities conducted in 2013, highlighting the following.

1. Coordination of an online course on transboundary animal diseases with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and with the Institute for International Cooperation in Animal Biologics (IICAB) and Iowa State University in the United States;

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2. Regional project to improve veterinary legislation in OIRSA member countries (STDF/PG/358) of the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF), with support from the OIE and FAO;

3. Completion of prevalence studies of bovine brucellosis and tuberculosis in Central America; a study on the socioeconomic cost of brucellosis in countries conducted jointly with FAO; finalisation of several proposals, including the regional programme for the control and eradication of bovine brucellosis from OIRSA member countries;

4. Funding and technical monitoring of classical swine fever; establishment of the control phase in Guatemala; financial support for epidemiological surveillance in self-declared free countries;

5. Desk-top simulation of acute hepatopancreatic necrosis syndrome (AHPNS) in Honduras and a field simulation exercise in Nicaragua; preparation of a manual on epidemiological surveillance and an emergency plan for control and eradication;

6. Financial support for the animal health emergency programme to tackle the emergence of Aethina tumida in El Salvador;

7. Preparation of an H7N3 highly pathogenic influenza virus prevention plan for Central America; updating of the emergency plan and support for surveillance in Belize and Guatemala;

8. Training on good animal welfare practices during transport and slaughter.

9. Practical guide to best practice in the use of veterinary medicines and a manual on withdrawal periods for antiparasitic agents;

10. Coordination with Mexico in preparing the action plan for the Central American Laboratory Network.

- **Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)**

Dr Tito Díaz, Senior Livestock Development Officer at the FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, said the world is experiencing severe pressure on natural resources and agriculture as a result of globalisation, climate change and population growth, in turn increasing the risk of emergence or re-emergence of animal diseases, which have a serious impact on animal production and productivity, trade and public health.

He added that, in the Americas, diseases such as foot and mouth disease, classical swine fever and New World screwworm have been prioritised under GF TADs, and that FAO, together with Veterinary Services in the region, has implemented a comprehensive control strategy to cope with disease threats, chiefly at the animal–human–ecosystems interface. This approach has been used to strengthen national control and eradication programmes, integrating animal health education as a key component of these programmes.

He said that, using this comprehensive strategic approach, FAO is working to facilitate synergy among the animal health, public health, environmental and rural development sectors, and is helping to establish public-private partnerships to reduce animal health risks and their impact on the economy.

He concluded by saying that FAO and its partners have understood that the time is right to move towards a truly global approach to animal health that takes into account regional differences, and to strive for dynamic linking of health, institutional strengthening and governance to ensure sustainable development and food and nutrition security.
16. Other matters

Chapter 8.X. (Infection with *Brucella abortus, melitensis and suis*) and Chapter 6.9. (Responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents in veterinary medicine)

The Delegate of the United States of America proposed minor changes to amended Chapters 8.X. and 6.9., which will be proposed for adoption at the current General Session. The proposed changes were endorsed by the Members and it was agreed that the Delegate of the United States of America would submit them on behalf of the countries of the Americas.

Movement of animals from FMD-free zones practising vaccination to free zones not practising vaccination

The Members of the Americas endorsed the amendments to Chapter 8.6.13 on the movement of animals from FMD-free zones practising vaccination to free zones not practising vaccination. The Delegate of Mexico stressed the need to include the requirement that animals should not have been vaccinated within 12 months of being moved. It was decided that the Delegate of Mexico would submit the proposal to the Assembly on behalf of the countries of the Americas.

Use of compartments not practising foot and mouth disease vaccination for sheep

Dr Francisco Muzio said that Uruguay has FMD-free status with vaccination for cattle, but without vaccination for sheep. He reported that, as a result of public-private partnership, a compartment of around 300 hectares of free-range grazing for 1,500 unvaccinated sheep had been defined and organised. He offered to share the outcomes of this experience with other countries, pointing out that this was the very first compartmentalisation system for sheep.

The meeting officially ended at 6:30 p.m.

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Appendix

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Paris, 26 May 2014

Agenda

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Financial contributions of Members to the OIE
3. Report on OIE Council meetings
4. Report of the President of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas including the discussions of the Regional Commission meeting on Sunday 25 May 2014
5. Report on the activities and work programme of the OIE Regional Representation for the Americas and the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for Central America
6. Selection of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be proposed for inclusion in the agenda of the 84th General Session of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates to be held in May 2016
7. Selection of Technical Item II (without questionnaire) to be included in the agenda of the 22nd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas
8. Organisation of the 22nd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas to be held in Jalisco (Mexico) from 10 to 14 November 2014
9. Election of the Secretary General of the Bureau of the Regional Commission
10. Sixth OIE Strategic Plan – Regional perspectives
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12. Report on the OIE high-health, high-performance horse (HHP) concept
13. World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS) – Status of notifications by Members in the Americas
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15. Presentations from organisations that have concluded an official agreement with the OIE
   • Pan American Foot and Mouth Disease Center of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO-PANAPTOSA)
   • Permanent Veterinary Committee of the Southern Cone (CVP)
   • Andean Community of Nations (CAN)
   • Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)
   • International Regional Organization for Plant Protection and Animal Health (OIRSA)
   • Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
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