CONCLUSIONS

On 10 and 11 December 2015, experts, donors, and veterinary and public health officials gathered in Geneva to adopt a plan of action towards the global elimination of dog-mediated human rabies worldwide.

The OIE Director General, Dr. Vallat, closed the event by sharing the main outcomes of this global conference with the participants. These key elements and statements, listed below, will drive OIE’s future work.

1.- The OIE and WHO strongly supported by FAO and GARC sustain their commitment to the elimination of dog mediated human rabies as a priority in the public interest and their collective efforts to foster political will and facilitate capacity building through existing and future programmes;

2.- The proof of concept of the combination of mass dog vaccination, to achieve 70% coverage of targeted populations, responsible dog ownership and dog population control in accordance with OIE intergovernmental standards, education for dog bite prevention and treatment and appropriate use of human post exposure prophylaxis is recognized as the foundation for guidance to countries wishing to pursue elimination of dog mediated human rabies;

3.- The joint OIE/WHO mechanism for regional vaccine banks be promoted and supported to ensure the timely provision of quality vaccines to support the implementation of regional/national programs;

4.- Regional strategies be developed or refined and validated in order to allow individual countries to adapt their approaches and investments to their local circumstances based on best practices in the establishment of national control programmes;

5.- Countries are encouraged to support the establishment of good governance frameworks, including appropriate legislation, Veterinary Services supervision, community engagement and the implementation of local initiatives to demonstrate early success in order to leverage broader support and scale up their efforts;

6.- All participants and other interested parties consider the global framework as refined and adopted at the conclusion of the Conference as the most effective means to achieve the elimination of dog mediated human rabies for participating countries by 2030.