

# S2.1

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## FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE SITUATION AND CONTROL STRATEGIES IN EUROPE – THE CURRENT SITUATION

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Europe was historically an endemic region for FMD, with frequent transboundary epidemics that resulted in hundreds of thousands of outbreaks. The resident pool of FMDV has been eliminated in recent times, through co-ordinated mass vaccination programmes in mainland Europe (within some countries a stamping-out policy); the European genotypes of A and O viruses are now found only in South America. Since 1992, the EU member countries, plus almost all neighbouring European with the exception of Turkey, have followed a non-vaccination policy, and maintained FMD freedom by sanitary controls. Several incursions into EU and neighbouring (Euro-Mediterranean) countries have occurred in the past 16 years, most with extremely high economic impact; these FMDV originated from East Asian, South Asian, West-Eurasian, West African and East African FMDV virus pools, and involved O, A (as multiple antigenic strains), Asia-1, and Sat-2 viruses. The most frequent incursions have been from West Eurasia, through Turkey into south-east Europe through Turkish Thrace. The policy of the EuFMD Commission, working with the support of the European Commission (Brussels), is to monitor the threat of emergent viruses in neighbouring regions, to support Turkey to control FMD on its territory through a mass vaccination programme, and to reduce the risk to Turkey/South East Europe through support to national efforts in the eastern neighbours of Turkey (TransCaucasus republics, Iran, Syria and Iraq). Recognising that West Eurasia has a unique pool of resident O, A and Asia-1 virus types, and new FMDV emerge from this pool every 3-5 years, a Long Term Regional Roadmap for the progressive Control of FMD in West Eurasia by 2020 was developed at a regional meeting of 15 countries, in 2008, encompassing the area from Pakistan in the east, Russian Federation in the north to Turkey in the west. The Regional Roadmap has the vision of freedom from clinical disease by 2020, through a progressive control pathway (PCP) approach. This paper describes the expected progression of countries, the support measures that will be required, the risks to progress, the partnerships involved and initial progress expected in the first 4 years (2009-13)