O.I.E. Regional Commission for Africa

Final Report of the 5th Conference
Nairobi, Kenya, 18-21 January 1983

INTRODUCTION


Sixty-five Delegates and Observers attended the Conference from twenty-two O.I.E. Member Countries, one non-member country and seven International Organisations.

18 January 1983

OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY

In his opening address, the Right Honourable P.J. Ngei, E.G.H., M.P., Minister for Livestock Development, warmly welcomed participants to his Country on behalf of the Government and People of the Republic of Kenya.

Mr. Ngei stressed the timeliness of this particular Conference which was being held at an important juncture when animal diseases were the cause of much anxiety in a number of African countries — in particular Rift Valley fever, rabies, lumpy skin disease and rinderpest.

The Honourable Minister paid tribute to the O.I.E. which, since its creation in 1924 has remained conscious of the need for international cooperation in the control of animal diseases. However, he stated that the Organisation’s recommendations concerning international trade could be used to the detriment of countries in the Third World and said that the advisory role of the O.I.E. should be expanded. He continued by saying that the O.I.E. should be given executive powers with adequate financial backing to assist countries in dealing with disease problems. Mr. Ngei proposed that this be discussed in Item 3 of the Agenda.

The Honourable Minister also expressed the wish that this Conference review the factors limiting livestock development which, if eliminated, could lead to the achievement of the goals set out in the Lagos Plan of Action.
Mr. Ngei recalled the F.A.O./I.B.A.R./O.I.E. Meeting held in Nairobi in November 1981 concerning the eradication of rinderpest and contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP). He stated that it was most gratifying to see that this item was being discussed again and appealed to Conference participants to agree on concrete measures to assist the African region in controlling and eradicating these diseases. Rinderpest and CBPP have continued to spread and hence incur heavy losses since the termination of the JP 15 campaign. Mr. Ngei emphasised the importance of international cooperation in this respect, particularly on account of the livestock production potential of countries in Africa.

The Honourable Minister said he was pleased to see that the Conference Agenda included items dealing with other animal species in addition to cattle. He spoke of the dangers of avian diseases and diseases affecting small ruminants. Both the poultry and small ruminants sectors are major sources of animal protein and efforts should be made to expand these undeveloped areas.

In concluding, Mr. Ngei said that courage and perseverance must be maintained as development projects need much time and preparation before they can become operational; however, the goals established in the Lagos Plan of Action could be achieved provided the necessary national infrastructures were established and existing international cooperation strengthened. Mr. Ngei thanked all those International Organisations and Agencies present for their continued support to livestock development in Africa.

The Honourable Minister then declared the Conference officially open.

Dr. B. Gotta, President of the O.I.E. Regional Commission for Africa thanked the Minister for Livestock Development for officially opening the Conference and expressed his gratitude on behalf of all participants to the Government of Kenya which had kindly accepted to host the 5th Conference of the Regional Commission.

After welcoming the International Organisations present, Dr. Gotta emphasised the need not only for inter-African solidarity but also for the cooperation of other continents towards livestock development in Africa. The first step of this cooperation should be aimed at eradicating rinderpest and CBPP.

The President of the Commission also stated that he was confident that the work of this Conference would contribute significantly to the collective efforts of African countries in the control of animal diseases.

Dr. L. Blajan, Director General of the O.I.E. then thanked the Government of the Republic of Kenya for her generous hospitality and in particular, Dr. W.K. Ngulo, Deputy Director of Veterinary Services, who contributed greatly to the organisation of this Conference.

Dr. Blajan recalled the significant support given to the O.I.E. by Kenya since joining the Organisation in 1964.
In presenting the items of the Conference Agenda, the Director General noted the particular interest in examining the zoo-sanitary situation and international cooperation in Africa. He stressed the importance of implementing the pan-African rinderpest and contagious bovine pleuropneumonia campaign. Problems confronting this project should be overcome and the necessary resources made available to Veterinary Services; otherwise livestock development in Africa would be definitively compromised.

Dr. Blajan also highlighted the importance of Item 2 devoted to avian diseases; the development of traditional poultry farming and the success of intensive poultry projects depend on successful disease control which implies adequate technical infrastructures.

In referring to the next three-year programme of O.I.E. activities commencing in 1985, Dr. Blajan stated that the view of the Conference should be given on the proposals for developing the Organisation’s activities. These proposals will be examined by the International Committee during the 51st General Session in May 1983.

Dr. Blajan closed his address by transmitting the regret of Dr. R.W. Gee, President of the International Committee of the O.I.E. who was unable to attend the Conference and who had sent his best wishes to all participants.

Election of the Chairman of the Conference. Adoption of the Provisional Agenda and Programme.

Participants elected Dr. Ngulo, Deputy Director of Livestock Development, Veterinary Services, Kenya, as Chairman of the Conference. The President of the Commission, Dr. Gotta, was elected Vice-Chairman and Rapporteurs from Kenya and Senegal were nominated for drafting the Final Report.

The Provisional Agenda and Programme were adopted.

Item 1: ZOO-SANITARY SITUATION AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Dr. Gotta summarised reports received from the Cameroons, Ethiopia, the Ivory Coast, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritania, Morocco, Nigeria, Tanzania and Zimbabwe which had been distributed to participants. He did not include details on rinderpest, an item presented separately, or avian diseases which were to be reviewed in Item 2. The conclusion that arose from these reports and from comments made by participants was that on the whole the animal health status was unsatisfactory. Efforts made by Veterinary Services to control epizootics did not appear to have been adequately supported.
Foot and mouth disease (FMD): The disease was enzootic in the Cameroons. Tanzania reported the presence of types A, O, SAT 1 and SAT 2. Most regions of Ethiopia recorded the disease in 1982 with the causal agents identified as A and O. FMD was also reported by Nigeria. Kenya noted that SAT 2 and O viruses had been isolated and that the situation had worsened.

Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP): The Ivory Coast recorded increased incidence of CBPP; in the Northern Cameroons, Ethiopia, Kenya and Nigeria the disease remained a serious problem while Mauritania and Tanzania no longer appeared to be infected.

Lumpy skin disease: Kenya, Madagascar, Tanzania, Mauritania and Ethiopia reported cases of lumpy skin disease in 1982. For Ethiopia, it was the first occurrence of the disease in the Gonder region in the northern part of the country. The disease was epizootic in Tanzania at the beginning of 1982, spreading from the Kadera region to neighbouring areas.

Anthrax and blackleg: In most countries vaccination appeared to have controlled the diseases despite sporadic occurrences in some areas. Anthrax may however spread considerably when routine vaccination is not practised, as happened in Zimbabwe. Blackleg continued to incur heavy losses in Madagascar for the same reasons.

Sheep pox and goat pox: Mauritania, Morocco and Kenya reported cases of disease, which was enzootic in the Kajiado and Narok areas of Kenya.

Bluetongue: Bluetongue only received mention in the report from Kenya.

African horse sickness (AHS): The disease was observed in the western regions of Ethiopia where serotypes 1 to 6 were identified as were types 7 and 9 which were isolated at the National Veterinary Institute. A few rare cases of AHS occurred in Zimbabwe where routine vaccination is practised.

African swine fever (ASF): ASF occurred for the first time in the Cameroons in April 1982 in the Littoral Province and spread to neighbouring provinces. In July the Cameroonian Authorities enacted very strict control measures both within the country itself and along national borders. In particular, slaughter of diseased and exposed pigs on infected farms was compulsory. The disease was limited to the southern part of Tanzania.

Enzootic porcine encephalomyelitis (Teschen disease): Madagascar reported the disease as being the most important affecting pigs in the country; 90% of deaths caused by infectious diseases were attributed to enzootic porcine encephalomyelitis.

Newcastle disease: Newcastle disease and other avian diseases reported in some papers were examined in the report presented by Dr. F. Rahal on Item 2.

Rabies: Rabies was a problem of concern for all Directors of Veterinary Services. A marked increase in the incidence of rabies in dogs was reported in Kenya, Tanzania and Zimbabwe.
Bovine brucellosis: Bovine brucellosis received particular attention in the report of the Ivory Coast where increased incidence was reported. The disease was controlled by vaccination in Zimbabwe. Tanzania reported the disease to cause most concern in dairy farming. In the other countries the disease was not routinely screened.

Bovine tuberculosis: Bovine tuberculosis was not generally routinely tested. The disease was reported in the Cameroons, Ethiopia, Morocco and in a communal farming area in Zimbabwe. In Madagascar the disease remained serious with 30% of livestock infected. No case of the disease has ever been detected in Kenya.

Rift Valley fever (RVF): RVF was reported by Zimbabwe where an infected locality remains.

Haemorrhagic septicaemia: Haemorrhagic septicaemia was reported by the Cameroons, Ivory Coast, Ethiopia and Mauritania. The disease was efficiently controlled by vaccination.

Sheep pasteurellosis: Sheep pasteurellosis was reported by the Ivory Coast. Peste des petits ruminants (PPR): PPR was reported by Nigeria. Contagious caprine pleuropneumonia (CCPP): CCPP was reported by Kenya.

Botulism: The disease incurred heavy losses in Mauritania and Zimbabwe.

Infectious bovine rhinotracheitis (IBR): Ethiopia conducted serological surveys for IBR revealing high titres with cases of abortion in some animals, indicating possible presence of the disease.

Trypanosomiasis: The disease received priority in the activities of Zimbabwe’s Veterinary Services. An international tsetse control project has been operating in the Ivory Coast for the past four years. In Kenya, increased tsetse activity was reported in the Lambwe Valley. Papers from the Cameroons, where a special tsetse eradication project is in progress, and from Mauritania, reported on the trypanosomiasis status.

Tick-borne diseases and parasitic diseases: Tick-borne diseases and parasitic diseases, although less spectacular than the major infectious animal diseases, incurred heavy losses of livestock in all African countries. East Coast fever (Theileria parva) continued to incur significant losses in Tanzania and was observed for the first time in south-west Ethiopia in the Ilubabor region. Madagascar recorded heavy losses due to fascioliasis (F. gigantica) and ascariasis which incurred 20% - 30% mortality in calves.

Programmes of international cooperation in the animal health field were presented in the reports of Ethiopia, Madagascar, Mauritania and Nigeria. The Delegate of Nigeria stressed in particular the need for all African countries to pool their resources and to carefully prepare African livestock development programmes in order to convince donor agencies of the usefulness of these programmes.
Additional information to Dr. Gotta’s comprehensive report was given by a number of countries.

Zimbabwe stressed the importance of good infrastructures for animal disease control. Control in the country consisted in weekly dipping of cattle in the summer and fortnightly in winter, thus enabling their inspection at frequent intervals for disease, especially FMD. All cattle are registered at dip tanks and movements only allowed on permit. National Veterinary Services attach great importance to rapid diagnosis which is essential for ensuring efficient disease control. The FMD vaccines used in Zimbabwe are imported from Botswana and have given excellent results. Only SAT types have been recorded in Zimbabwe.

Libya reported the presence of FMD type O in sheep for the first time. Control was by disinfection and control of movement. Bovine brucellosis was being controlled by a programme set up in 1980 based on test and slaughter. Sheep pox and enterotoxaemia were also priority areas for the Veterinary Services.

Niger recalled follow-up measures taken against rinderpest since the JP 15 campaign. FMD was sporadic and did not incur heavy losses. Pasteurellosis, blackleg and anthrax were confined to some areas and vaccinations against these diseases are performed annually. Chemo-prophylaxis of trypanosomiasis is undertaken every year on cattle which move to neighbouring countries particularly in the south. Since 1968 a special tsetse control project has been in operation. Parasitic diseases incurred heavy losses in the country. Research was being conducted in an effort to identify the causal agents of the « peste des petits ruminants » and attempts were being made to produce a suitable vaccine. There was no national scheme for the control of bovine tuberculosis which was detected in abattoirs whereas bovine brucellosis was controlled by screening which covers the entire country. Regular campaigns were conducted against rabies with the disposal of all stray dogs. The population is kept informed of the danger of rabies and of the importance of vaccination. Niger benefited from international aid from the F.A.O., E.D.F., F.A.C., Arab Fund and N.G.O.

Senegal indicated that the sanitary situation was favourable and that rinderpest and CBPP had not been detected for four years. The importance of international cooperation was emphasised with particular mention of cooperation agreements between neighbouring countries. In 1981 Senegal signed an agreement with Mauritania whereby the two countries agreed to exchange zoo-sanitary information and to keep each other mutually informed of their animal disease control programmes.

The Upper Volta noted an improvement in the rinderpest status following the emergency campaign. A single outbreak of CBPP was reported in 1981. Three outbreaks of anthrax were reported in 1980 and resulted in fourteen deaths. Twenty-six outbreaks of haemorrhagic septicaemia were also reported in the same year. The economic impact of parasitic diseases is significant.
Trypanosomiasis affected livestock particularly in the west and south-west regions of the country. The F.A.O., E.D.F., C.E.A.O., G.T.Z. and the Netherlands Cooperation Agency have contributed financially to livestock development programmes with priority being given to disease control.

The Central African Republic reported the presence of FMD but its incidence is not known. Rabies was widespread throughout the country. Bovine tuberculosis was now of great concern with meat condemned in the Bangui abattoir reaching a level of 0.5%. Bovine brucellosis occurred sporadically. CBPP was not present but the country remained threatened by this disease from neighbouring countries where the disease does exist.

Swaziland had not recorded any FMD outbreaks since 1979. Strict surveillance was ensured along national borders and was complemented by annual vaccination against SAT 1 and SAT 2 in the « buffer zone » along the borders at risk. Permits are required for any animal movement. Animals in the buffer zone may only be authorised to move to another area of the country after quarantine. The E.D.F. has assisted Swaziland, particularly in purchasing vehicles. Cooperation with neighbouring countries was conducted on a bilateral basis or through meetings with countries in the sub-region.

Egypt, in addition to the report presented and included in the comprehensive review, stated that rinderpest had reoccurred in March 1982 in the Fayoum Province despite the fact that the entire national livestock was vaccinated every two years. The disease spread to the north and south of the country demonstrating the usual clinical symptoms and incurring the death of 3,500 animals. Egypt, which produced six million doses of vaccine per year, increased her production to twelve million at the end of 1982 to cope with this outbreak. Reasons for this disease spread were given as follows: negligence on the part of many livestock owners who had not understood the need for vaccination against rinderpest, since the disease had not been reported in the country since 1963; inadequate storage and transportation and poor application of the vaccine; and importation of slaughter stock and meat without proper compliance with animal health requirements.

Botswana remained free from FMD, rinderpest and CBPP. Rabies was endemic in the north-eastern part of the country. An outbreak in Namibia spread to the north-western part of Botswana. The disease was now confined to jackals and bovines in the Gantsi area bordering Namibia. In 1982 the Botswana Vaccine Institute together with the F.A.O., organised a course on FMD diagnosis and control for veterinarians from Southern African countries (members of the S.A.D.C.C.).

Algeria stated that the animal health status was satisfactory. However, increased cases of sheep pox, enterotoxaemia and rabies have been reported. International cooperation in the field of animal health was conducted through the O.I.E., F.A.O., W.H.O. and I.B.A.R. and also with neighbouring countries.
Somalia noted the presence of CBPP in the south of the country. Routine vaccination campaigns were undertaken for CBPP and rinderpest. Sheep pox occurred sporadically and was controlled by vaccination. Epizootic lymphangitis was reported. Rabies incidence was predominant in the north of the country.

The President of the Regional Commission then drew the attention of participants to the risks which may stem from the importation of uncontrolled veterinary drugs and other pharmaceutical products. As an example he cited the outbreak of African swine fever in the Ivory Coast which occurred at the same time as one of such products was being used. The Ivory Coast now submitted all imports to Veterinary Services for prior approval/certification before use. The President supported the suggestion made by Senegal to draw up a recommendation to Governments stating that adequate resources should be made available to Veterinary Services. The need for international cooperation and the interest in formulating a recommendation in this respect were emphasised.

The Director General of the O.I.E. highlighted the need for precise and reasonable objectives assigned to international cooperation for such cooperation to actually exist and to receive the effective support of all countries.

The F.A.O. indicated the importance of establishing an order of priorities in animal health activities performed on an international level. Priority diseases such as rinderpest should be reported immediately to the O.I.E. and to other International Organisations to which the countries must report.

The I.B.A.R. appealed to countries to report new outbreaks of contagious diseases in the shortest possible time. It was recalled that cooperation had been most successful between the I.B.A.R., F.A.O. and O.I.E. over the past few years, particularly in preparing the pan-African rinderpest campaign.

Morocco drew attention to the advantage of creating sub-regional groups such as those recommended by the 4th Conference of the Regional Commission held in Rabat in October 1980.

Mauritania also emphasised the importance attached to international cooperation.

The C.E.B.V. stated that rinderpest and CBPP were of major concern to the C.E.B.V. It was hoped that international cooperation could be organised at sub-regional levels. In West Africa the C.E.B.V., C.I.L.S.S., C.E.A.O. and E.C.O.W.A.S. had been created; coordination between these Organisations was ensured by E.C.O.W.A.S. During meetings of these Organisations in Monrovia in January 1979 and in Freetown in February 1981, the following priorities were established:

(a) intensification of the control of epizootics;
(b) control of the six major zoonoses: rabies, tuberculosis, anthrax, brucellosis, taeniasis and trypanosomiasis.
According to the C.E.B.V. it was firmly wished that not only regional structures but also those of sub-regional organisations be taken into account when planning disease control activities in Africa.

Item 1 (contd.):

PAN-AFRICAN RINDERPEST CAMPAIGN

Dr. Blajan reported on activities undertaken since the 50th General Session of the O.I.E. during which the Committee adopted a Resolution authorising the Director General of the O.I.E., in cooperation with the O.A.U. and F.A.O. to obtain the financial aid necessary for the organisation of a pan-African campaign against rinderpest. This Resolution also requested Governments of the African countries concerned to give their support to the campaign and to commit themselves to the follow-up of the campaign.

These activities are summarised below:

(a) I.B.A.R. and O.I.E. contact with a certain number of potential donor countries.

(b) Dispatch by the O.I.E. of the Resolution adopted by the Committee to Governments of nineteen O.I.E. Member Countries in Africa concerned by rinderpest. Four Governments replied to this communication confirming their interest in the achievement of the campaign and their willingness to actively contribute thereto.

(c) Participation of Dr. S. Sidibe (Mali) in the 13th Islamic Conference in Niamey (22 - 26 August 1982) where a resolution was passed recommending that Islamic Organisations participate in efforts to obtain the necessary funds to organise the campaign and that Islamic countries and specialist institutions contribute financially to the campaign.

(d) Adoption by the 12th Regional Conference for Africa of the F.A.O. in October 1982 of a Resolution requesting the Director General of the F.A.O. to take the necessary measures to implement the pan-African campaign and to participate in efforts to seek the necessary financial resources.

(e) O.I.E. contact in October with the Directorate General of the E.D.F. in Brussels which suggested that the funding document of the campaign be amended, thereby facilitating its acceptance by the E.E.C. Council of Ministers and other possible donors.

(f) Meeting at the O.I.E. Headquarters on 26 October 1982 with the F.A.O. and E.E.C.

(g) Meeting at the F.A.O. Headquarters on 30 November and 1 December 1982 with the E.E.C., I.B.A.R. and O.I.E. to finalise details of the amended project.

Dr. A. Provost recalled how the disease was introduced and how it had spread in Africa at the end of the 19th century. Rinderpest vaccination only commenced in 1926 with the introduction of the Curasson and Delpy vaccine.
Between 1945 and 1960 the disease was almost controlled. It was then that I.B.A.R. launched JP 15. Although this campaign has not been entirely successful, drought rather than the lack of resources has been the responsible factor. With the E.D.F.-financed and C.E.B.V.-operated survey in 1979, an epizootiological « melting pot » in West Africa came to light. From July 1980 it became possible to forecast the spread of rinderpest from a few latent outbreaks.

In East Africa vaccination cover after JP 15 was inadequate in the border areas between Ethiopia and the Sudan. From 1977 further disease spread was anticipated.

From Ethiopia the disease spread to Somalia then to Uganda in 1979. From Somalia the disease spread to Kenya probably through game. Kenya reported serological evidence of infection in young buffaloes in 1980 and 1981.

Between 1981 and 1982 significant death rates were reported in the Serengeti National Park in Tanzania, along the Kenyan border. In July 1982 rinderpest was diagnosed and a vaccination campaign launched to prevent further spread towards the south.

The disease also spread from Ethiopia towards the west. At this point Dr. Provost indicated the significant livestock trade movements from Ethiopia westwards to Nigeria.

Rinderpest was controlled east of the Blue Nile in the Sudan but spread to the provinces of Kordofan and Darfour where many outbreaks were reported in October.

Chad which had been at high risk since October was infected in December. Veterinary Services were only informed in January which left the disease spreading for one month throughout the territory where vaccinal cover was almost non-existent.

Nigeria was thus affected from the east; the western region of Sokoto was also affected, through livestock trade. All states in the north and west of the country were currently affected by rinderpest. A deterioration of the situation could be anticipated on account of livestock movements in the east.

The Central African Republic was among rinderpest-free countries but remained the most threatened by the disease.

Dr. P. Atang recalled the request made to the I.B.A.R. during the November 1981 meeting, to prepare a technical and financial document on the pan-African campaign against rinderpest and CBPP. This document was presented to donor agencies during the February 1982 Meeting in Paris. However, the content of this document did not provide for follow-up measures, an omission which was reiterated in many subsequent meetings with donor agencies, particularly in November 1982 in Rome.
The new document jointly prepared by the F.A.O., I.B.A.R. and O.I.E. with the assistance of the E.E.C. and taking the above observations into account was presented by Dr. Atang. The objectives of the project remained rinderpest and CBPP eradication. In this light, three phases were planned: a preparatory phase lasting one year; a second phase of intensive activities lasting four years, including vaccination against both diseases; and a third and final consolidation phase lasting five to six years, during which follow-up and consolidation measures would be implemented.

The project was sub-divided into zones of intensive action and buffer zones. These intensive zones were concentrated in the disease « melting pots » and the buffer zones were situated between infected and free zones. Vaccination based on this sub-division will be performed according to the incidence and evolution of rinderpest.

Dr. Atang also drew attention to the measures planned for implementing this project. These are based on the installation of coordination personnel, allowance payments to vaccination teams, purchase of logistic resources and equipment, freezer facilities as well as vaccine supplies.

Dr. Atang appealed to countries which had not yet submitted an official request to the E.E.C. to do so as this procedure is essential for this Organisation. Dr. Atang pointed out that only thirteen countries had submitted this request. This position can only hinder the release of funds allocated by the E.E.C.

Dr. Atang concluded his presentation of the document by stressing that the project would not be financed by the E.E.C. alone due to the size of the operation. Consequently, contact should be made with other sources and donor agencies should be approached (European countries and agencies, Arab Fund etc.).

**Niger** emphasised the need for solid cooperation and follow-up action between countries, particularly during the period preceding the pan-African campaign.

The **C.E.B.V.** noted the importance it attached to the project and proposed that the capacity of laboratories producing vaccines be increased to meet the needs of each region. In this way, the need to import the requisite vaccines from distant countries could be avoided; a situation which had occurred previously, for example the Upper Volta importing the necessary vaccines from Ethiopia. The position adopted by the last two meetings of the C.E.B.V. Council of Ministers held in September 1981 and 1982 was given and action undertaken by the Executive Secretary to ensure that C.E.B.V. Member States support the request submitted to the E.D.F. by O.A.U./ I.B.A.R. was noted.

The **F.A.O.** noted that all international programmes needed time before they could be implemented. This was also true of the pan-African campaign. On account of the threat imposed by rinderpest, funds should be obtained rapidly. Furthermore, the F.A.O. was prepared to offer assistance for specific and emergency activities of low cost.
The Central African Republic was anxious about the threat of rinderpest to the country and suggested that the Conference recommend emergency action within ten days.

Mali reported six outbreaks of rinderpest in 1982. The need to rapidly obtain the necessary funds to implement the project was stressed. A committee could be established in this respect, comprising sub-regional bodies. Suggestion was also made for contact with other funding agencies such as the Arab countries and the World Bank.

Morocco congratulated Dr. Atang on his presentation and on the work accomplished. The economic aspects of the project had omitted certain factors such as the anticipated effects of the project. Morocco asked whether it would be necessary to create a structure of several sub-regional and international bodies which might assist the I.B.A.R. in implementing the project.

The Director General recalled that the document prepared by the F.A.O., I.B.A.R. and O.I.E. had been presented to donor agencies in February 1982. This preliminary document had been submitted in due time to countries. Agreement in principle was given by the E.E.C., France and Italy. Reserve had been expressed, particularly concerning follow-up and consolidation measures and the criterion that African countries concerned should be convinced of the usefulness of the project. Dr. Blajan also reiterated that only thirteen countries had submitted requests to the E.D.F. Requests from the other countries should now also be submitted. He insisted on the need to recontact all potential donor agencies and stated that the requested funds would be in the form of a grant and not as a loan to countries. Dr. Blajan informed participants that the next meeting of donor agencies would be held in Brussels in April and said that the document presented by the I.B.A.R. was possibly going to be amended in line with the choice and options of the donor agencies. He emphasised the importance of the adoption of the I.B.A.R. document by the Conference in the light of its anticipated submission to donor agencies in due course.

The Chairman stated that all countries were conscious of the work accomplished by the I.B.A.R. and O.I.E., their only concern was the acceptance of the project by the donor agencies.

Dr. Atang then answered questions which had been asked. Firstly, he reminded participants of the firm intention of the E.E.C., France and Italy to finance the project. As soon as the funds were obtained the project would be altered where necessary. Dr. Atang clarified the position concerning compensation to stock-owners, remuneration of National Authorities and the implementation of consolidation measures. The economic justification of the project was obviously most important but played a secondary role in the funding document. Dr. Atang also noted that the only difference between the present and preliminary documents was the inclusion of follow-up and consolidation measures in the latter. Countries should therefore anticipate the establishment of a consolidation fund. Emphasis was given to the role sub-regional organisations could play, especially in the seeking of funds for the campaign.
Dr. Blajan furthered this point by indicating that the inclusion of sub-regional organisations in the structure could possibly be arranged after the Brussels meeting.

The Cameroons highlighted the need for some countries to immediately commence activities such as vaccine supplies. Difficulties were described when posting out staff, even on a part-time basis.

Dr. Provost confirmed the concern of the Cameroons and noted that emergency funds did exist, from the F.A.O. and E.D.F. in particular.

The F.A.O. confirmed that an emergency fund was available at the F.A.O. Countries could appeal for aid therefrom through the local F.A.O. Representative.

Mauritania agreed that the document be transmitted to donor agencies immediately.

Senegal supported this and proposed that the commitments of countries during the consolidation phase should appear in the financial conventions.

The C.E.B.V. asked for precision on the amounts of contributions provided by the E.D.F., F.A.O., France and Italy.

The C.I.L.S.S. indicated possible C.I.L.S.S. participation in the seeking of funds.

Dr. Atang stated that it was not possible at this stage to define the funds made available by the E.D.F., F.A.O., France and Italy. In addition, he thanked the C.I.L.S.S. for the assistance offered.

The Conference designated Zimbabwe and Niger to draft Recommendation No. 1 on the first part of Item 1 concerning the reinforcement of veterinary services at national and international levels for the control of epizootic diseases. For the second part of Item 1 concerning the pan-African rinderpest campaign, the Conference designated Mali and Uganda to draft Recommendation No. 2.

In the evening the Government of the Republic of Kenya gave a reception at the Pan Afric Hotel for participants and their wives. The guests were received by the Right Honourable P.J. Ngei, Minister for Livestock Development.

19 January 1983

Item 2:
AVIAN DISEASES: MAJOR DISEASES IN AFRICA.
Inventory of diagnostic laboratories for avian diseases and vaccine supply possibilities

In introducing his report on Item 2 which was drawn up mainly from replies from seventeen countries to the questionnaire sent to O.I.E. Member Countries in Africa, Dr. F. Rahal emphasised the importance of poultry pro-
duction in meeting the needs for animal proteins, on account of the short production cycle and the fairly low investment required.

Avian pathology is changing very rapidly particularly due to breeding conditions and to treatments applied. The conclusions of the comprehensive report show the major avian diseases as being:

(a) **Bacterial diseases**: a first group comprising salmonellosis, colibacillosis and mycoplasmosis; a second group comprising avian cholera, pullorum disease and infectious coryza; and a third group comprising bacterial enteritis and staphylococcosis.

(b) **Viral diseases**: Newcastle disease, fowl pox and Gumboro disease.

(c) **Parasitic diseases**: coccidioses, helminths and external parasites.

Besides infectious diseases, nutritional diseases are also of great significance.

The following thirteen countries replied to the *questionnaire on diagnostic laboratories*: Algeria, Chad, Ethiopia, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Madagascar, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Somalia, Tanzania and Zimbabwe. Replies showed that the services of these laboratories were not fully used and that resources were most inadequate, both from a financial point of view and in regard to equipment and manpower.

The same conclusions were made on replies received on *research laboratories* in the following eleven countries: Algeria, Chad, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Morocco, Nigeria, Senegal, Somalia, Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

The *Ivory Coast* produced vaccines against Newcastle disease and fowl pox; *Ethiopia* against Newcastle disease; *Kenya* against Newcastle disease, fowl pox and fowl typhoid; *Madagascar* against Newcastle disease, fowl pox and fowl cholera; *Nigeria* against Newcastle disease, fowl pox, Gumboro disease and fowl typhoid; and *Senegal* against Newcastle disease. A number of laboratories planned the production of new vaccines. *Kenya* exported vaccine against fowl typhoid, Newcastle disease and fowl pox. *Senegal* exported vaccine against Newcastle disease.

Dr. Rahal also presented a list of laboratory construction projects envisaged by various countries.

In conclusion, the development of the poultry industry in Africa, as was the case for all animal production, suffered from inadequacies in manpower, namely an inadequate number of veterinarians and technicians at all levels, as well as an insufficient number of laboratories.

Additional information to Dr. Rahal’s report was given by a number of participants.

*Niger* reported the existence of a research laboratory in the country but stated that it was not in operation. Furthermore, it was noted that excellent
relations were held with other countries in regard to vaccine supplies. Niger also stressed the need and importance that should be accorded to training.

**Egypt** reported new avian diseases, introduced with the import of day-old chicks (Gumboro disease, chronic respiratory disease). Among endemic diseases, the major concern was Newcastle disease which was almost under control. Fowl pox affects poultry throughout the year. Salmonellosis was a problem in rural areas and incurred significant losses. Fowl cholera affected the poultry industry incurring an 80% mortality rate. Spirochaetosis was reported in autumn and led to a drop in egg production. Specific vaccines against these diseases were available in Egypt. The country has diagnostic units throughout the territory as well as production laboratories which do not meet national needs. Vaccine imports were therefore necessary.

The **Ivory Coast** reported production of La Sota and Hitchner B1 vaccines against Newcastle disease. Emphasis was placed on the need to have adequately equipped laboratories, especially with dry-freezing facilities. Generally speaking, existing laboratories should be reorganised with a view to harmonisation and to respond to the needs of the sub-region. This reorganisation could lead to the specialisation of laboratories.

The **I.B.A.R.** recalled recommendations formulated during a recent meeting. It was recommended that the importation of biological products and equipment be facilitated from a customs point of view.

**Senegal** noted the position of the production of the Triavia vaccine, the use of which had been suspended following reactions after vaccination. It was wished that Senegal could be supplied from Nigeria with vaccine against Gumboro disease.

**Angola** reported the presence of leukosis among avian diseases present in the country. The country has a diagnostic laboratory and a vaccine production laboratory. Training of professionals was performed by a national institute.

The **C.E.B.V.** congratulated Dr. Rahal on his presentation and spoke of the interest this had on the poultry sector. The C.E.B.V. also asked for precision concerning statistics announced by Dr. Rahal (year of production, supply possibilities to other countries). He greatly regretted that Senegal was unable to train specialists.

The **F.A.O.** indicated that diagnosis became difficult once several diseases were involved in the same flock. The establishment in Africa of a reference laboratory devoted to diagnostic problems concerning avian diseases would therefore be desirable.

**Dr. Provost** distinguished between local and imported disease problems, such as Gumboro disease which had already been diagnosed, leukosis and other diseases which had not yet been identified but which probably existed. According to Dr. Provost spirochaetosis was probably present everywhere
and therefore deserved particular attention. Dr. Provost clarified information on the Triavia which is a live vaccine used on local poultry; it is freeze-dried and should be preserved cold. Dr. Provost supported the proposal for the specialisation of laboratories.

**Kenya** stated that her vaccine exports were destined to East African countries. In response to a question, Kenya confirmed the higher quality of local poultry compared to imported stock.

**Dr. Blajan** emphasised the importance and role of local breeds in the development of the poultry industry.

**Mali** gave further information on the future of poultry development. It was hoped that names, positions and addresses of African specialists be given with a view to exchanging information.

In concluding, **Dr. Rahal** thanked all participants who had contributed to the discussion in particular those who had offered additional information. As Nigeria had not given any information on the Gumboro disease vaccine produced in that country, it would be advisable that contact be made with the veterinary department concerned for any possible purchase of vaccine from Nigeria. Dr. Rahal added that statistics given in the report dated from 1981. Emphasis was placed on the predominant role of specialist training in the development of the poultry sector.

The Conference designated Kenya and Mali to prepare Recommendation No. 3 on Item 2 concerning the importance of poultry development.

**Item 3 :**

**DEVELOPMENT OF THE O.I.E. ACTIVITIES**

**« OUTLOOK BEYOND 1984 »**

**Dr. Blajan** reviewed progress achieved in the zoo-sanitary information system of the O.I.E. He recalled that in May 1980 the International Committee adopted a programme for the establishment of an epizootiological data base and for the improvement in the dissemination of animal disease information. The establishment of this data base implied the adoption of automatic data processing (ADP) and the voluntary contributions of some Member Countries; it would only be feasible in several months' time.

However, many changes were already being made to the current zoo-sanitary information system. Having noted that this system provided for both emergency and periodical reporting, the Director General explained amendments made by the Committee in May 1981. The amendments concerned the new Articles 1.2.0.2. and 1.2.0.3. of the International Zoo-sanitary Code which were presented by the Director General.

Three reporting forms used by twelve volunteer Member Countries were also presented by Dr. Blajan, as follows:
A.H.S.R.-1: emergency notification by telex or telegram of new outbreaks of List A diseases occurring in a country or part of the territory of that country which was previously free from the disease.

A.H.S.R.-2: weekly reports to be sent as a follow-up to A.H.S.R.-1.

A.H.S.R.-3: monthly reports, showing the evolution of List A diseases.

Dr. Blajan continued by informing the Conference of the forthcoming O.I.E. Symposium of the use of Anabolics in Animal Production which was being organised in accordance with the decision of the Committee during the 50th General Session. This Symposium which was also being sponsored by the I.I.C.A. and W.V.A. would receive the assistance of the F.A.O. and W.H.O. Forty rapporteurs would be presenting items on the different aspects concerning the use of anabolics. Although this Symposium had not been advertised because it was for the information of CVO’s, it now appeared that the meeting would have a large audience.

The Director General presented the document entitled « Office International des Épizooties — Outlook beyond 1984 » which was distributed to Delegates at the 50th General Session of the Committee in May 1982. This document which is to be reviewed by the Administrative Commission in February 1983 and by the Committee during the forthcoming 51st General Session, should serve as a basis for preparing the three-year programme of O.I.E. activities commencing in 1985. This document includes a reminder of the functions of the Organisation and describes O.I.E. activities since 1924 (creation of the O.I.E.) to 1982. The international functions assigned to the O.I.E. by the International Agreement of 1924 are identical to those which were at the origin of the creation of national Veterinary Services, namely the control of contagious animal diseases.

Dr. Blajan said that the role of national Veterinary Services had developed considerably in past years and further expansion was now required given the new problems associated with changes in animal production systems as well as ecological and humanitarian tendencies. It therefore seemed logical that, within the framework of the principal function of the O.I.E. which is information, the Organisation extends activities to all fields generally covered by national Veterinary Services:

(a) food hygiene,

(b) veterinary drugs,

(c) protection of animals/environment,

(d) veterinary administrations.

The growth of O.I.E. activities should be accompanied by a reinforcement of usual activities, namely:

(i) animal health information,

(ii) coordination of studies and research on the control of animal diseases,

(iii) animal health regulations and standardisation.

Morocco did not make any comment on the content of the document but considered that this particular item should not be discussed during the Confe-
rence for official reasons. Mali was of a different opinion and stated that the Regional Commission could validly discuss the working document. This point of view was supported by Dr. Gotta who added that discussion on this item would enable the Commission to define its position before the forthcoming General Session. Senegal and Mauritania supported the view of Dr. Gotta. The Cameroons suggested that the essence of discussion on this item be reserved for the Regional Commission Meeting during the 51st General Session.

Dr. Gotta thanked Dr. Blajan for his introduction. He then remarked on certain Commissions referred to in this document but which no longer existed. Mention was made of possibly using the S.T.R.C. of the O.A.U. for research. Dr. Gotta did not consider it of use to proceed with the strengthening of information units. There was no point in a special unit being added to the O.I.E. International Zoo-sanitary Code Commission.

Senegal congratulated Dr. Blajan and approved the outlines of the project. It was suggested that in addition, the O.I.E. should assist African countries with limited resources to control certain diseases. It was also wished that the O.I.E. develop its activities in the field of animal production.

Algeria supported the proposals made by Senegal and proposed a change in the name of the O.I.E.

Mauritania considered that the improvement in techniques for controlling parasites was not a priority aspect. However, the control of deficiency and nutritional diseases should be strengthened. Research should be financed by international bodies.

Dr. Provost proposed the creation of a research network on tropical animal diseases.

Dr. Blajan stated that planned activities had taken into account the financial possibilities of the O.I.E. together with possible voluntary subsidies.

Mali stressed the need for animal health/production integration. Emphasis was made on the importance of animal husbandry in the Sahel. Mali also proposed that assistance be given to African countries for equipment of laboratories dealing with food technology.

In the evening the Wellcome Trust gave a reception at the Silver Springs Hotel for Delegates and their wives. Guests were welcomed by the General Manager, Mr. R. Martin and his wife.

20 January 1983

FIELD STUDY TOUR

The day was devoted to a study tour of the Veterinary Research Laboratory, the Central Artificial Insemination Station in Kabete and the Animal Husbandry Research Station in Naivasha.
On arrival at the Veterinary Research Laboratory, Delegates were welcome by Dr. Kariuki who gave a brief history of the laboratory and showed them the virus vaccine production unit.

Delegates then visited the Central Artificial Insemination Station before proceeding to Naivasha some 80 km from Nairobi. The Naivasha Animal Husbandry Research Station is carrying out work in dairy cattle, sheep, goats, poultry and pigs. At the Station Delegates were able to visit the Livestock Recording Centre, the Dairy Training School and the National Sahiwal Stud.

In the evening the O.I.E. gave a reception at the Serena Hotel for Delegates and their wives. The guests were received by Dr. B. Gotta, President of the Regional Commission and Dr. L. Blajan, Director General of the O.I.E.

21 January 1983

Item 4:
REVIEW OF MEASURES TAKEN BY MEMBER COUNTRIES to implement recommendations adopted by the 4th Conference of the Regional Commission held in Rabat from 7-10 October 1980

Dr. Blajan read the recommendation of the Rabat Conference concerning the importance of small ruminants in production programmes in African countries. He then read the report of Mauritania concerning the development programme in that country.

(a) Senegal noted the concern of her Government in regard to the sheep sector. A project was in progress with assistance from the F.A.C. Senegal had a significant small ruminant population with 3 million head, of which two-thirds were sheep. Parasitic diseases and the « peste des petits ruminants » (PPR) were the major causes of concern for Veterinary Services.

(b) The Ivory Coast indicated that the small ruminant population in the country was estimated at 1 million sheep and 800,000 goats. A National Centre was responsible for developing this sector which included regional units for the support of stock-owners.

(c) Niger also noted the existence of a zoo-technical centre for goats in Maradi. In regard to sheep, a zoo-technical centre had been created and financial assistance (subject to certain conditions) was offered to stock-owners.

(d) Nigeria gave an outline of the livestock development policy in the country and mentioned that the system for the collection of veterinary data had improved.
(e) Mali thanked those countries and organisations which had contributed to the development of the small ruminants sector (United States and France). The population of this sector was estimated at between 11-12 million head. Trade was conducted with Libya. Animal health relations with Algeria were also mentioned.

(f) Uganda had a population of 2 million goats and 1 million sheep. Goats were hardy animals and prolific, bearing litters of 2-3 kids.

(g) The Upper Volta indicated that a project financed by the E.D.F. for the development of the Bali-Bali breed was implemented in the north of the country. A research centre also existed.

(h) Somalia had a livestock population of 16 million goats and 9 million sheep. These animals lived in arid areas, hence posing food problems.

(i) Libya reported the implementation of a project for the development of the sheep sector including a vaccination and control programme against parasites. Libya imported a significant number of sheep from Australia and Romania and small quantities of meat from Mali.

(j) Angola had a very active genetic centre for sheep before independence. After independence the activity of this centre decreased but a conservation policy for Karakul sheep was implemented in accordance with the Rabat recommendation. The Government proceeded with further efforts to improve the sheep sector in regard to the production of both meat and wool. The goat population was close to 2 million head. International aid was sought for the re-development of the small ruminants sector.

(k) Algeria had established an Institute responsible for the development of the sheep industry, with the High Commissioner for pastoralism responsible for food and water problems. A development project for the sheep sector was prepared with the assistance of Australia. The sheep population was estimated at 11-12 million head.

(l) The Central African Republic had made efforts to register small ruminants.

(m) The Cameroons created a National Office for the development of the small ruminants sector in 1981. The population was estimated at 2.5 million sheep and 1.5 million goats.

Dr. Gotta pointed out that with the exception of Mauritania, no countries had sent reports on Item 4. The Central Bureau was therefore unable to present a comprehensive report on this Item. The President appealed to countries to send their reports on each Item of the Agenda to the O.I.E. in good time to enable the success of work of the Commission.

Dr. Blajan then noted the Rabat recommendation relating to the strategy for the control of epizootic diseases, particularly the establishment of national information systems. After defining the characteristics of these systems, Dr. Blajan suggested that this be re-examined during the Niamey Seminar.
Niger reported that an alert system had been established in the country, giving better knowledge of the health status every day.

Dr. Blajan then presented the Rabat recommendation concerning regional cooperation and noted that the division into sub-regional groups had been established, with the assistance of I.B.A.R. He considered that the initiative of convening meetings of these groups should be incumbent on those countries which form these groups.

(a) The Cameroons stated that it was the Director General of the O.I.E. who should convene these meetings in the case of the absence of a group president.

(b) Botswana indicated that sub-regional meetings were already existent, and were most often convened under the aegis of other bodies.

(c) Senegal suggested that an appeal should be made to existing sub-regional bodies such as the C.E.B.V., C.I.L.S.S. and C.E.A.O.

(d) Mali expressed the opinion that the initiative to convene meetings should be incumbent on the O.I.E. Regional Commission. Furthermore, Mali pointed out that many meetings were held each year in West Africa and supported the suggestion made by Senegal.

(e) Dr. Blajan suggested that sub-regional organisations send the O.I.E. their calendars of meetings. This would enable the Regional Commission to account therefor when organising sub-regional meetings.

(f) Botswana supported the suggestion of the Director General of the O.I.E. and recalled the existence of many regional sub-groups in Southern Africa.

(g) The Chairman stated that in East Africa inter-ministerial committees exist which enable cooperation between countries in the sub-region.

(h) The I.L.C.A. recalled that the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa had sub-regional bodies in North, Southern and East Africa, the collaboration of which could be sought.

(i) The O.A.U. stated that meetings were held by O.A.U. sub-regional groups. The sub-regional groups of the O.I.E. could perhaps meet on these occasions.

The Director General of the O.I.E. then recalled the recommendation concerning the establishment of an African Fund for the development of animal production. After establishing various contacts, the Director General concluded that such steps only had a chance of success when made on the highest possible political levels.

Item 5:

ITEMS FOR THE AGENDA OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSION MEETING TO BE HELD DURING THE 51st GENERAL SESSION

It was decided that the following items would be placed on the Agenda of the Regional Commission Meeting to be held during the forthcoming General Session of the Committee in May 1983:
1. Adoption of the Final Report of the 5th Conference of the Regional Commission and review of recommendations adopted during this Conference with a view to their submission to the Committee.


4. Regional cooperation.

5. Proposals for items to include in the Agenda of the 52nd General Session in May 1984.

African countries were invited to send their proposals on Item 5 above to the President of the Regional Commission, as well as all suggestions concerning the Agenda.

**Item 6:**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**Date and venue of the 6th Conference of the Regional Commission.**

Zimbabwe proposed hosting the next Conference in 1985; the Delegate of Zimbabwe would confirm this proposal next May.

**Adoption of Recommendations.**

The Conference adopted Recommendations Nos. 1, 2 and 3 (see Appendix 2) and voted a motion of thanks to the Government of the Republic of Kenya which had enabled the 5th Conference of the O.I.E. Regional Commission to be held.

**CLOSING CEREMONY**

Following the comments on the Meeting by the Director General of the O.I.E., Dr. Gotta, President of the Regional Commission delivered the closing address. Dr. Gotta expressed the gratitude of the Regional Commission to the People, Government and to the eminent President of the Republic of Kenya. Warm thanks were extended to Dr. Ngulo and to his colleagues for the considerable task they had accomplished in ensuring the success of the Conference and in making the time spent in Nairobi particularly enjoyable for all participants.

Dr. Gotta especially addressed the Delegate of Uganda in warmly welcoming the adherence of his country to the O.I.E., and the Representative of Burundi in expressing the wish that his country soon joins the O.I.E. He then evaluated the achievements of the Conference and expressed his appreciation.
of the record participation in comparison to previous conferences, of the quality of reports presented and of the consensus obtained on the pan-African rinderpest campaign.

In recalling the scientific and technical achievements of Kenya which the Commission had been able to appreciate during the visit to Naivasha, Dr. Gotta expressed confidence that Africa should shortly be in a position to compete in international scientific exchanges.

After thanking participants and rapporteurs for their contribution to this meeting, Dr. Ngulo declared the 5th Conference of the O.I.E. Regional Commission for Africa officially closed.

* * *
**Appendix 1**

**LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS REPORT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C.E.A.O.</td>
<td>Communauté Économique de l’Afrique de l’Ouest. (West African Economic Community.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.E.B.V.</td>
<td>Communauté Économique du Bétail et de la Viande. (Livestock and Meat Economic Community.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.I.L.S.S.</td>
<td>Comité permanent Inter-états de Lutte contre la Sécheresse dans le Sahel. (Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>E.D.F.</td>
<td>European Development Fund.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.E.C.</td>
<td>European Economic Community.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F.A.C.</td>
<td>Fonds d’Aide et de Coopération (France). (Aid and Cooperation Fund (France).)</td>
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<tr>
<td>F.A.O.</td>
<td>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>G.T.Z.</td>
<td>Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit. (German Agency for Technical Cooperation.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>I.B.A.R.</td>
<td>Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources.</td>
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<tr>
<td>I.L.C.A.</td>
<td>International Livestock Centre for Africa.</td>
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<td>JP 15</td>
<td>Joint Project against Rinderpest in Africa.</td>
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<tr>
<td>N.G.O.</td>
<td>Non-governmental organisations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>O.I.E.</td>
<td>Office International des Epizooties. (International Office of Epizootics.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S.A.D.C.C.</td>
<td>Southern African Development Coordinating Conference.</td>
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<tr>
<td>W.H.O.</td>
<td>World Health Organization.</td>
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<td>W.V.A.</td>
<td>World Veterinary Association.</td>
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RECOMMENDATIONS
OF THE 5th REGIONAL CONFERENCE*

I
REINFORCEMENT OF VETERINARY SERVICES AT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS FOR THE CONTROL OF EPIZOOTIC DISEASES

RECOGNISING THAT

livestock are of extremely important socio-economic consequence to the welfare of the people of Africa as a source of food and energy;

infectious diseases, particularly rinderpest and contagious bovine pleuropneumonia which are spreading rapidly in a number of countries, can devastate livestock populations or dramatically reduce production;

infectious diseases do not recognise international boundaries, particularly when there is uncontrolled movement of stock;

there is insufficient dissemination of information on animal health between countries, even neighbouring countries;

the best way to control these diseases is to have an efficient national Veterinary Service adequately funded and staffed with the necessary infrastructure and good communication with neighbouring countries;

sufficient funds are not always made available to national Veterinary Services to control animal diseases,

THE CONFERENCE RECOMMENDS

that Member Countries provide financial, logistic and legislative support to ensure that the national Veterinary Services are in a position to cope with epizootic diseases and to promote liaison and cooperation between neighbouring countries, with the support of international and regional organisations dealing with animal health.

* Adopted by the International Committee of the O.I.E. on 25 May 1983.
II
PAN-AFRICAN RINDERPEST CAMPAIGN

WHEREAS Resolution No. XVII concerning the eradication campaign against rinderpest, adopted by the International Committee of the O.I.E. on 29 May 1982,


THE CONFERENCE


2. Empowers the Director of I.B.A.R./O.A.U. to present the said document to donor agencies to obtain the necessary funds for the implementation of the campaign.

3. Strongly appeals for international solidarity so that the funding of the campaign is ensured as rapidly as possible.

4. Requests the I.B.A.R. with the support of the O.I.E. and F.A.O. to ensure the establishment of a reference laboratory which will be responsible for quality control of rinderpest and contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP) vaccines to be used during the campaign.

5. Authorises the Director of I.B.A.R./O.A.U. to assist threatened countries in negotiating urgently required funds for emergency operations.

6. Advises all African Member Countries which have not yet submitted an official request for E.E.C. funds for the proposed campaign to do so as soon as possible.

7. Requests the Governments of African Member Countries to strengthen national laboratories producing rinderpest and CBPP vaccines, with a view to increasing their production capacity and to improving the quality of these vaccines.

III
IMPORTANCE OF POULTRY DEVELOPMENT

HAVING HEARD the Report on poultry diseases in Africa,

RECOGNISING the food situation in African countries which is characterised by almost permanent deficiencies in animal proteins,
NOTING the importance of the avian sector in rural areas and around urban areas,

CONSIDERING the significant economic losses caused by poultry diseases,

CONSIDERING the need for centres specialised in avian diseases and in vaccine production,

THE CONFERENCE

RECOMMENDS

1. That countries in Africa do all possible to improve poultry production and take into account the genetic potential of the indigenous poultry.

2. That close collaboration be established between existing laboratories ensuring the regular exchange of information and technical data thereby giving a better understanding of problems concerning avian diseases.

3. That those African countries equipped with research laboratories do all possible to ensure that findings in research are applied to enhance the development of the poultry sector.

4. That the International Committee of the O.I.E., jointly with the F.A.O., study the possibility of creating regional reference laboratories for avian diseases.
Appendix 3

RECOMMENDATION
OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSION
at its Meeting in Paris on 24 May 1983*

ACTIONS TAKEN TO IMPLEMENT
THE PAN-AFRICAN RINDERPEST CAMPAIGN

WHEREAS Resolution No. XVII adopted by the 50th General Session on
the rinderpest eradication campaign,

HAVING HEARD the report by the Director General of the O.I.E. on
actions taken to implement the Pan-African Rinderpest Campaign,

THE O.I.E. REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

at its Meeting at the O.I.E. Headquarters in Paris on 24 May 1983

1. Expresses thanks to the E.E.C., F.A.O. and O.I.E. for their significant
contribution to the preparation of the document entitled: « Pan-African
Rinderpest Campaign. Project Operation and Funding Document, December
1982 ».

2. Expresses thanks to Dr. L. Blajan, Director General of the O.I.E., Dr.
A. Provost, Director General of the I.E.M.V.T., Dr. P. Atang, Director of
I.B.A.R./O.A.U. for their outstanding contribution to the preparation of
the Pan-African Rinderpest Campaign.

3. Expresses gratitude to O.I.E. Member Countries and to those Interna­tional Organisations which accepted to support this Campaign.

4. Expresses the wish that the O.I.E., within the framework of its inform­ation role, continue to offer assistance for the epidemiological surveillance
of the Campaign.

* Adopted by the International Committee of the O.I.E. on 25 May 1983.