

# **Recommendations**

**of  
Conferences of OIE Regional Commissions  
organised since 1 June 2010**

**endorsed by the International Committee  
of the OIE on 26 May 2011**

**24th Conference of the  
OIE Regional Commission for Europe**

Astana, Kazakhstan, 20-24 September 2010

[Recommendation No. 1:](#) The dependence of the effective border controls on appropriate resources deployment and enhanced international cooperation, including information exchange.

[Recommendation No. 2:](#) Early detection and contingency plans for African swine fever.

Recommendation No. 1

**The dependence of the effective border controls on appropriate resources deployment and enhanced international cooperation, including information exchange**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. Member Countries should have the necessary legal framework in place to apply the OIE standards and guidelines regarding border control;
2. Member Countries should have an adequate administrative veterinary and judicial capacity and capability in place at central and border post level;
3. Member Countries should provide the necessary infrastructure, human, and financial resources to carry out veterinary border checks on relevant commercial consignments efficiently and effectively;
4. Member Countries, in accordance with the OIE standards and guidelines, should invest in infrastructure for the veterinary border checks on commercial cargo at their national frontiers;
5. Member Countries should pay more attention to establish a system for the veterinary border checks on non commercial cargo, travelling pet animals and food waste from international means of transport to avoid particularly the introduction of disease agents or other biological risks into their territories;
6. Smuggling of live animals, animal product, veterinary biological, as well as pathogens is still an on-going threat to animal health, public health and consumer confidence in all countries;
7. For the purpose of this recommendation “border post” means first point of entry of goods or people in a national territory.

THE OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

RECOMMENDS THAT

1. Member Countries, in particular their Parliaments and Governments, ensure that their legal framework fully take into account the relevant OIE standards and guidelines concerning import, transit and export covering all items of veterinary concern;
2. Member Countries, in particular their Parliaments and Governments ensure that they have an adequate administrative veterinary and judicial capacity and capability in place at central and border post levels to carry out the necessary veterinary checks and controls on both commercial and non-commercial consignments;
3. Member Countries, in particular their Parliaments and Governments, ensure that there is a legal base for providing close cooperation and exchange of information between the competent authorities involved in border controls, in particular Customs administration;

4. Member Countries efforts be directed to provide the necessary infrastructure, human, and financial resources to carry out veterinary border checks on commercial consignments efficiently and effectively, including fast lane procedures for consignments of live animals;
5. Member Countries give emphasis on the investment in infrastructure to enforce veterinary border checks at their frontiers;
6. When Customs' Unions between Member Countries are planned or established, it should also apply to the outer border of the new Union of the Member Countries concerned instead of being at the frontier of the individual members. This also requires a harmonised outer border control system prior to the establishment of the Union;
7. Member Countries apply a strong system for veterinary checks on non-commercial cargo, travelling pet animals, and especially on the control and safe disposal of waste presenting a sanitary risk from international means of transport;
8. Member Countries be encouraged to ensure political commitment, effective legal base and coordination of activities among various government departments, other relevant agencies, industry, transport companies, private practitioners and potential "end-users" to effectively address smuggling;
9. The OIE review its current Codes chapters covering import, transit and export in order to expand them, in particular to include rules on veterinary border checks in areas excluded from customs inspections (such as free zones, free ports, free warehouses, customs warehouses and ship chandlers/caterers with a similar customs status) and on non commercial cargo (such as products in travellers' bags or sent by mail, travelling pet animals and waste from international means of transport presenting a sanitary risk);
10. The OIE, in order to enhance the international cooperation and strengthen the transparency on veterinary border checks and procedures as regards the ever increasing world wide trade in commodities of veterinary concern, study the possibility to provide additional guidance to Member Countries on the whole scope of veterinary border checks and controls.

Guidance by the OIE should address:

- Models of appropriate legislation,
- required infrastructure, human and technical resources including equipment for carrying out the checks and operating the border post and certain facilities out with the border post and importation premises,
- the details on the procedures and actions prior to the arrival of consignment and its presentation at the border inspection posts and possible actions necessary following the decisions made at the border inspection posts,
- required equipment for communication, data processing and documentation and,
- establishment of veterinary systems on checks of items of veterinary concern in areas excluded from customs inspections and non commercial cargo.

11. The OIE endeavour to find additional resources in order to enhance the cooperation and transparency between the European Region Member Countries by collecting and disseminating information via its Regional website on certain key information on border posts, contact details, import conditions, certificates and code lists for the identification of commodities of veterinary concern;
  12. The OIE try to provide continued assistance by organising training courses and provision of expertise on veterinary checks and controls, in particular to those countries which appear to be lacking an adequate veterinary border control system;
  13. The OIE develop more provisions in the PVS criteria addressing border controls, including quarantine and resting premises, and veterinary capacities of Member Countries for import and transit controls in general;
  14. The OIE collaborate more with the World Customs Organisation in order to provide a harmonised list of items of veterinary concern.
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(Adopted by the OIE Regional Commission for Europe on 24 September 2010  
and endorsed by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 26 May 2011)

Recommendation No. 2

**Early detection and contingency plans for African swine fever**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. Since the latest infection was notified in Georgia in June 2007, the African swine fever virus has spread through the European Region, currently affecting a number of countries in the Caucasus and Russia;
2. African swine fever is a highly contagious disease affecting both domestic and wild pigs of all ages and, even though it is not a zoonotic disease, it causes major economic losses and threaten food security owing to its ability to spread constantly and to the lack of available vaccines for its control;
3. African Swine Fever has no pathognomonic signs and lesions. The signs observed during acute and peracute infection depend on the virus isolate, the viral dose, the route of infection and these can be confused with other swine diseases presenting haemorrhagic lesions;
4. Early detection as well as accurate laboratory diagnosis are vital for controlling the spread of the virus;
5. The virus enter free zones mainly as a result of illegal movements of live pigs and pig products, and that infection occur either through direct contacts between pigs or by feeding pigs with non-heat-treated food waste prepared by using products from infected pigs;
6. Once the infection has become established in a specific zone, the disease is spread by the movement of carrier animals, contaminated transport vehicles and feeding healthy pigs with contaminated products. Ticks and wild boars can also be involved in the epidemiology of the disease;
7. In the absence of an effective treatment or vaccine, the strategy for preventing the entry of the virus at farm level should be based on good biosecurity practices such as, avoiding contact of domestic pigs with wild boars, banning non proper use of biological waste and feeding pigs with non-heat-treated pig products and tick control.

THE OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

RECOMMENDS THAT

1. Member Countries support information and education programme for veterinarians (private and official) and livestock producers that warns of the risk of infection in the zone and describes the direct and indirect consequences of introducing the disease and that provides the main characteristics of the disease (routes of infection, clinical course, lesions, etc.) and basic biosecurity methods;

2. Member Countries conduct quick refresher training courses to review the clinical forms of the disease, the principal biosecurity measures for preventing the introduction of African swine fever, the biocontainment measures to be adopted in the event of a suspicion or infection, and the various laboratory diagnostic techniques available;
3. Member Countries implement an epidemiological surveillance plan specific to each country in the zone in which targeted samples should be selected on the basis of each zone's risk;
4. Member Countries reinforce movement controls in the affected zones to prevent the illegal movement of pigs or pig products and at risk materials;
5. Member countries better enforce their certification processes related to the movement of susceptible animals and products to avoid the movement of animals and products at risk;
6. Member Countries impose, at least, the ban of the use of non-heat-treated food wastes for feeding pigs and provide livestock producers with more information on the importance of not feeding their pigs with non-heat-treated food waste;
7. Member Countries ensure they have the reagents and appropriate virological and serological methods to conduct a proper diagnosis of the disease, as well as appropriate relation with OIE Reference Laboratories;
8. Member Countries have an up to date contingency plan and a practical manual of procedures describing the various actions to be taken during a suspected or confirmed outbreak in both commercial and backyard farming. As part of the contingency plan, the Member Countries should provide a contact telephone number that is available around the clock, every day of the year, for reporting any suspicion;
9. Member Countries work collaboratively on the improvement of the knowledge regarding the distribution of wild boar and of soft ticks of the *Ornithodoros* genus, and their epidemiological role in the disease;
10. In order to ensure optimal cooperation with farmers for disease control purposes, Member Countries ensure they have proper contingency funds created by relevant legislation for compensating, on time and at the right value, producers whose pigs are culled as part of a stamping-out policy using culling methods based on OIE relevant standards;
11. Member Countries to notify their epidemiological situation regarding African Swine Fever to the OIE and maintain permanent relations with their neighbouring countries in order to ensure proper actions are taken by all parties;
12. Member Countries ensure that their Veterinary Services encourage establishment of an integrated emergency response structure that takes into account all stakeholders;
13. Member Countries take into consideration the recommendations of the Technical Item 1 of this Conference on border controls;
14. Member Countries support regional workshops on African Swine Fever to help in the implementation of these recommendations.

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(Adopted by the OIE Regional Commission for Europe on 24 September 2010  
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**20th Conference of the  
OIE Regional Commission for the Americas**

Montevideo, Uruguay, 16-19 November 2010

[Recommendation No. 1:](#) Climate change and its link with animal diseases and animal production.

[Recommendation No. 2:](#) OIE strategy for the control and eradication of foot and mouth disease at regional and global levels.

Recommendation No. 1

**Climate change and its link with animal diseases and animal production**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. According to the OIE experts and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), climate and environmental change could be associated with many emerging and re-emerging animal diseases, including zoonoses;
2. Long term climate changes make it difficult to predict the exact distribution and scale of the emergence and re-emergence of many animal diseases in the Region, or the precise impact on terrestrial and aquatic animal production, and public health;
3. The general trend towards the intensification and industrialization of animal production will continue and could increase the likelihood of emerging and re-emerging diseases occurring, including zoonoses;
4. Further scientific information and research are needed urgently in order to assess the real impact of climate change on terrestrial and aquatic animal disease incidence and production and consequently on public health;
5. Other factors, such as globalization, increase the risk of the emergence and re-emergence of diseases;
6. OIE Members are concerned about the likely impact of climate change on emerging and re-emerging animal diseases;
7. One of the OIE's objectives is to contribute to food security for a growing world population;
8. Veterinary Services are responsible for ensuring the early detection and rapid response to emerging and re-emerging animal diseases and must be strengthened entirely to be able to face the new challenges related to globalisation, climate and environmental changes and necessity to increase livestock and aquatic animals production in order to satisfy the worldwide demand in animal proteins;
9. The projection for 2030 indicates that demand for animal proteins (milk, eggs, meat) will increase by 50%. However, the negative public perception of the impact of animal production on climate change could undermine the consumption of animal products.

THE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE AMERICAS

RECOMMENDS THAT

1. The OIE continue its support for building the technical management and good governance capacity of Veterinary Services in conjunction with the private sector, in order to help to guarantee that demand for animal protein is met while minimising the negative environmental impact;
2. The countries of the Region be encouraged to share best practices and adopt the concept of building institutional adaptability in order to tackle the new challenges of climate change more effectively;
3. The OIE continue its work in supporting Members by means of programmes such as the evaluation of Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS Tool) for, PVS Gap Analysis and Legislation missions, in order to ensure the early-detection and rapid-response of Veterinary Services for the control of terrestrial and aquatic animal diseases;
4. The OIE, in collaboration with other international organisations, particularly those having expertise in the subject, help veterinary authorities to develop surveillance, modelling, and other decision-making frameworks that take into account new information on the evolving possible association between climate change and emerging and re-emerging animal diseases, and that this approach recognise the need for appropriate policy responses;
5. The Director General of the OIE contact the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) to promote the inclusion of the potential effects of climate change on animal health and animal production in the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report for 2015, considering that the 2007 report made no specific reference to the issue;
6. The OIE support member countries by creating opportunities for training Veterinary Services, emphasising the need to share information and experiences among countries of the Region for the implementation of preventive and adaptation measures against climate change-related emerging diseases;
7. The countries of the Region be encouraged to coordinate and intensify the research on the impact of climate change on emerging and re-emerging diseases and on animal production and public health;
8. The OIE conduct communication and related activities on climate changes aimed at ensuring a balance in the public understanding of the positive and negative impact of livestock production as a basis for its sustainable development, while addressing the demand for animal protein;
9. The development and improvement of linkages between human and animal health and the environment sectors be fostered in a coordinated and consistent manner in the framework of the FAO/OIE/WHO tripartite concept note.

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(Adopted by the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas on 19 November 2010  
and endorsed by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 26 May 2011)

Recommendation No. 2

**OIE strategy for the control and eradication of foot and mouth disease  
at regional and global levels**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. Foot and mouth disease (FMD) has for centuries been known as a serious threat to the health and welfare of the domestic and wild animal ruminant and swine population of the world, with negative impacts on the livelihoods of animal keepers, rural and national economies;
2. Countries infected with FMD are more prone to food insecurity and rural poverty as a result of the impact of FMD at household level and through reduced access to local, national and international markets;
3. The control and eventual eradication of FMD in a country, region or worldwide could only be achieved if the international community recognizes that the control of FMD is a global public good that will benefit all populations and future generations;
4. Sixty six countries in the world and sixteen zones within countries are already officially recognized by the OIE as free from FMD with or without vaccination while more than 100 countries are still either considered as non-officially free and/or are endemically or sporadically infected with the disease;
5. There is a need for a strong commitment of all countries at a high political level to harmonise global, regional and national policies for FMD control;
6. The FMD virus serotypes and strains are distributed into several major virus ecological setting or reservoirs, each containing distinct regional viral strains from which new variants may emerge, which creates a demand for advanced laboratory services and technical advice to select appropriate vaccines;
7. Unprecedented globalization of trade and movement of people and animals opens the door for any virus strain to infect any part of the world;
8. It will be necessary, in a long term approach, to strengthen the efforts and establish regional agreements to address the threats of FMD viruses and animal reservoirs or environmental persistence;
9. There is an OIE proposal for the official recognition of the strategic plans and their continuing implementation by countries to control and eradicate FMD with the eventual aim of obtaining zonal and country freedom from FMD that is an important element in the drive towards the global control of FMD. However, some countries expressed their concern on that respect;
10. Many developing and in transition countries are in need of assistance as they lack the necessary resources and effective veterinary services to initiate, implement or sustain a national disease control program for FMD;

11. Initiating an FMD control program with limited financial resources requires targeted technical support and guidance to optimize the strategy and actions to achieve rapid gains on the investment, that could stimulate further cost effective public and private expenditures;
12. Realising an ideal of global control of FMD will be a costly and long-term process relying heavily on the sustainable availability of sufficient public and private financial resources from Governments, producers and market chain actors, and the international donor community;
13. Good veterinary governance is an essential pre-requisite to ensure the efficient implementation of national programs and to encourage the establishment of sustainable public-private partnerships and international support for the control of FMD on a national, regional and global level;
14. There is an urgent need for research in vaccines that will improve the access of countries to good quality vaccines that are fit for purpose against the prevailing field strains of the FMD virus in each virus reservoir, in each relevant species, and which can be cost effective and used in challenging environmental conditions;
15. Good examples of successful regionally co-ordinated approaches that have delivered freedom from FMD in part or whole of the areas involved are seen in the European region, in South-East Asia and South America. These long term regional programs can provide important templates for formulating co-ordinated regional and national FMD control strategies in the other affected regions of the world;
16. Due to the concerted efforts of the countries participating with the help of the private sector in the Hemispheric Foot-and-Mouth Disease Plan (PHEFA), 85% of the 350 million head of bovine and buffaloes are now living in zones free with and without vaccination in South America thereby contributing to the major share of beef and pork from these countries in the global market, also these achievements being due to the huge contribution of national Veterinary services as well as to global and regional organisations, particularly the PANAFTOSA center, donors, and strategic alliances with the private sector;
17. Following the Agreement between the CVP and the OIE to establish a regional control program for FMD on the mutual borders between Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia and Paraguay, successive control measures were instituted and implemented with no recorded outbreaks of the FMD in that zone since the signing of the Agreement in 2007;
18. There is a need for all countries currently affected by FMD to be able to enter into a regional co-ordinated program against FMD through a progressive control pathway towards FMD freedom with or without vaccination as endorsed by the OIE to progressively advance towards official recognition of FMD freedom of zones and countries;
19. Countries and zones already free of the disease and able to support global control of FMD can contribute to a win-win situation resulting in reduced poverty in infected countries and a reduced the risk to their own territory from virus reintroductions;

20. International standards of the OIE for good veterinary governance, the control methods for FMD, the production and use of vaccines, the trade in and movement of animals and animal products and the diagnosis of the disease are integral in formulating a strategy for the global control of FMD;
21. The OIE and FAO through the GF-TADs coordinating mechanism, reference laboratories, collaborating and reference centers, will provide an important support mechanism to ensure a sustainable global control program for FMD.

#### THE OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE AMERICAS

##### RECOMMENDS THAT

1. The OIE and FAO together with the world political fora (G8 and G20, etc), the governments, producers and other international, regional and national role players and stakeholders must reaffirm and communicate the economic and social justification for recognizing officially the global control and eventual eradication of FMD as a global public good for the benefit of all populations and future generations;
2. A strategy for the global control of FMD should be regarded as an international priority and should be managed and coordinated jointly by the OIE and FAO under the GF-TADs platform, in consultation with the relevant international, regional and national stakeholders and donor community;
3. The global program for the control and eradication of FMD must take into account the interests of countries already FMD free and must propose training and surveillance programs aiming that objective;
4. The OIE, FAO and other international and regional organizations concerned with FMD control develop a strategic communication and advocacy plan to convince the high level policy makers in infected countries to consider FMD control as a priority to contribute to global food security and socio-economic prosperity;
5. The OIE with the support of its Members and FAO pursue and further intensify its efforts to establish the application of good veterinary governance in developing and in transition countries to pave the way for sustainable public-private partnerships and involvement of the international donor community in support of a global strategy for the control of FMD;
6. A strategy for the global control for FMD should incorporate and acknowledge existing and ongoing national and regional mechanisms that have already achieved progress in moving towards the regional control of FMD such as those of the Hemispheric FMD Eradication Plan (PHEFA), the technical and practical support brought by COSALFA, the technical support brought by PANAF-TOSA to this plan, the border agreements between countries, the CVP/MERCOSUR, SEAFMD, European Union and the EUFMD;
7. The Hemispheric FMD Eradication Plan for South America be reviewed to focus specifically on the needs of the remaining endemic FMD countries and zones which pose a risk to those countries and zones already free from disease;

8. The CVP, within the framework of the agreement with the OIE, continue to maintain the vigilance in terms of disease control and disease surveillance to maintain the free status of FMD on the borders of the countries party to the Agreement;
9. OIE standards regarding quality of vaccines must be strictly respected by all countries worldwide, and mechanisms for quality assurance observed;
10. Further research on the development of effective and quality vaccines in compliance with OIE standards and the availability of vaccines at diminished cost for all prevailing field strains of the FMD virus for all susceptible domestic animals be encouraged and expedited with the emphasis on the availability, cost-effectiveness and safe use under challenging environmental conditions;
11. The OIE with the support of FAO and in collaboration with the international donor community, consider the establishment of vaccine banks for FMD vaccines in strategic locations and in support of regional FMD control programs and define the processes and strategies for its use;
12. The establishment of and access to diagnostic facilities for the quick and efficient diagnosis of FMD be further enhanced through initiatives such as the OIE laboratory twinning program, OIE focal points and the network of national laboratories in the region and the FAO laboratories network development program. Diagnostic tests must comply with standards of the OIE Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals and their inscription, when appropriate, into the OIE register of diagnostic tests is promoted;
13. The OIE continue to update existing international standards for FMD and encourage the official recognition of the countries and zones listed free from the disease as well as the official recognition of free countries or zones with or without vaccination;
14. That the recognition of the strategic plans of countries and their continuing implementation to control and eradicate FMD, as proposed by the OIE, be clarified with more details;
15. In the updating of international standards the OIE should encourage further research to allow the safe trade in animal products without unjustified barriers to trade while recognizing the needs of developing and in transition countries which are still progressing along the pathway towards the progressive control or eradication of foot and mouth disease;
16. The OIE strengthen its relations with the Andean Community (CAN) and the other countries from the Andean region in order to provide help in the control of FMD;
17. OIE and FAO organise a global pledging conference with free and infected countries, and relevant organisations and donors, to support a global control program.

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(Adopted by the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas on 19 November 2010  
and endorsed by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 26 May 2011)

**19th Conference of the  
OIE Regional Commission for Africa**

Kigali, Rwanda, 14-18 February 2011

[Recommendation No. 1:](#) Livestock census in Africa as a vital tool for livestock diseases surveillance and control.

[Recommendation No. 2:](#) Main pathologies of camels, breeding of camels, constraints, benefits and perspectives

Recommendation No. 1

**Livestock census in Africa as a vital tool for livestock diseases  
surveillance and control**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. Obtaining accurate and updated livestock census data is a critical component of any disease surveillance and control programs;
2. A good knowledge of livestock production data, including livestock population, is important for assessing the status of national, regional, and continental food security;
3. The OIE standards on “General Principles on Identification and Traceability of Live Animals” relate to the development of identification and traceability systems;
4. The OIE annual publication “World Animal Health” includes raw data on livestock from all OIE Member Countries;
5. The OIE is actively promoting the strengthening of Veterinary Services in Africa through the implementation of the PVS Pathway to address, among others, the capacity of veterinary services to comply with OIE standards;
6. Implementing appropriate livestock census legislation and methodologies facilitates the Veterinary Services and other competent authorities to carry out their mandates and responsibilities;
7. Public and private veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals represent a significant proportion of the veterinary services, provide great support to farming systems in Africa, and are the main actors in livestock diseases surveillance and disease control;
8. Many countries in Africa are experiencing numerous cultural, logistical, infrastructural and resources limitations to effectively conduct livestock census and are in need of strong political commitment to establish good veterinary governance to move towards appropriate and regular livestock census; and
9. Efforts have already been carried out in collaboration with other international and regional organisations in supporting Members with the development of agricultural census guidelines and national livestock census activities.

THE OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

RECOMMENDS THAT

1. The OIE continue to provide support to all its Members, and particularly African countries, in strengthening their Veterinary Services through the implementation of the OIE PVS Pathway;
2. OIE Member Countries be encouraged to implement OIE guidelines on identification and traceability of live animals for the indirect or direct benefit of livestock census, diseases surveillance, prevention and control;
3. Member Countries dedicate more efforts to enact legislative and regulatory texts to support livestock census activities;
4. Animal population information be annually provided to OIE by its Member Countries using the WAHIS Annual Report and this information be disseminated in the annual OIE publication “World Animal Health”;
5. Veterinary Services of Member Countries collaborate with their central statistics authorities to plan and execute national livestock census exercises;
6. OIE Member Countries be encouraged to use technical staff with knowledge on animal health and animal production in the development of livestock census programs;
7. In collaboration with FAO and AU-IBAR, the OIE promote the technical support of the Veterinary Services, the increased awareness of African Governments, and the advocacy for donors to support national livestock census and related activities;
8. OIE member countries ensure the planning and the conduct of livestock census, including camelids, and that the process be harmonised at national and at Regional Economic Community’s levels;
9. The OIE Member Countries, in collaboration with the central statistics authorities be encouraged to promote the development of appropriate methods and tools for the census of livestock; and
10. The OIE develop guidelines related to the livestock census that include, among others, a definition of “census” and making this term explicit.

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(Adopted by the OIE Regional Commission for Africa on 18 February 2011  
and endorsed by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 26 May 2011)

Recommendation No. 2

**Main pathologies of camels, breeding of camels, constraints, benefits and perspectives**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. Camels have a significant positive socioeconomic impact on people living in arid and semi-arid regions of Africa as they provide important sources of incomes and proteins, and serve as beast of burden for traction and transport;
2. A thorough knowledge of domestic camelids populations would provide a better understanding of the realities, needs and constraints of this type of production;
3. The demand from many countries for live camels and camels products and by-products, especially milk and meat, is increasing;
4. An export industry is being developed in some areas leading to an evolution in camel production systems with an increase of camel movements;
5. The risk of transmission of transboundary diseases of camelids could be increased with the development of international exchanges;
6. The knowledge of camel diseases currently requires improvement and more scientific research and experience sharing are needed to elucidate the role of many pathogens involved in the pathogenesis and epidemiology of camel diseases; and
7. The number of specialized professionals with expertise in camelids has to be improved.

THE OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

RECOMMENDS THAT

1. The OIE continue to support its Member Countries in strengthening their Veterinary Services through the use of the OIE PVS Pathway in order to help them strengthen their expertise in diseases of camelids;
2. The OIE Member Countries rearing camelids develop their diagnostic and research capacities and submit, when appropriate, more applications for the designation of their national laboratories for camelid diseases as an OIE Reference Laboratories or Collaborating Centre;
3. The OIE support Twinning projects between OIE Reference Laboratories and national laboratories from camelid-rearing countries with the objective of supporting the other national laboratories in their region;
4. The OIE encourage collaboration and networking between national laboratories from camelid-rearing countries with the aim of exchanging information, validating diagnostic tests currently used in other species, and developing specific diagnostic tests for camels;

5. The OIE Member Countries rearing camels facilitate the shipment of samples from their national laboratories to OIE Reference Laboratories for the validation of diagnostic assays, for surveillance programmes, or when outbreaks occur;
6. The OIE Member Countries rearing camelids ensure that existing vaccines and veterinary products used in camels be validated and if necessary new vaccines and veterinary products be developed;
7. The OIE Member Countries rearing camelids encourage epidemiological studies and disease surveillance systems by developing and harmonising surveillance procedures and by facilitating data collection and analysis related to diseases of camelids;
8. The OIE Member Countries rearing camelids promote applied research on camelid diseases by stimulating comprehensive knowledge of the clinical and pathological aspects of camel diseases;
9. The OIE Member Countries in collaboration with international and regional organisations, donors and other stakeholders, elaborate and finance regional research and development programmes based on priority diseases of camelids;
10. The OIE develop specific standards and guidelines for international trade of camelids and their products, with the support of its Members; and
11. Member Countries, in collaboration with the OIE, ensure that the veterinary education curriculum include relevant information related to the production systems and diseases of camelids.

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(Adopted by the OIE Regional Commission for Africa on 18 February 2011  
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