

RECOMMENDATIONS

**OIE – CIC Joint International Meeting on early detection and prevention of
African swine fever and other animal health issues
at the wildlife-livestock-human interface
Paris, 30 June – 1 July 2014**

CONSIDERING THAT:

1. African swine fever has spread through parts of Eastern Europe since it was introduced in the Transcaucasia region in 2007 and the disease is now considered as being endemic in wild boars in some areas,
2. African swine fever poses a significant threat for porcine health in general and potentially impacts biodiversity and wild boar management over parts of Europe,
3. Many wild animal species play an important role in the epidemiology and spread of disease pathogens, including zoonoses,
4. Strong interaction, between veterinarians on one part and hunters and other persons involved in game and wildlife management on the other part, is crucial for the early detection and surveillance of African swine fever and other wildlife diseases,
5. Awareness and preparedness of all stakeholders and persons involved in game and wildlife management must be maintained and promoted,
6. Wildlife population and wildlife disease dynamics including the consequences of depopulation measures are often complex and need to be better understood,
7. Communication and collaboration at the multi-sectorial and the inter-governmental level are indispensable to detect, control and eradicate diseases at the wildlife-livestock-human interface,
8. The elements of hunting, such as hunting systems and organization, climate conditions, diseases and levels of communication between hunters and different authorities of Veterinary Services differ considerably.
9. The OIE Reference Laboratories and OIE Collaborating Centres lead international research, coordinate diagnostic activities and provide scientific support and expertise,

THE PARTICIPANTS RECOMMEND THAT:

1. Veterinary Services and national bodies and organisations responsible for hunting and wildlife management agree upon and enhance official cooperation in all activities related to the detection, surveillance, control and eradication of African swine fever and other specified wildlife diseases.
2. Awareness and training programmes for hunters and other persons related to game and wildlife management be organised at the national level with the support of Veterinary Services in the field of early detection of specified infectious diseases, carcass inspection and

viscera disposal.

3. The CIC and the OIE, with the support of the OIE Working Group on Wildlife jointly develop and publish a practical fact sheet on African swine fever for hunters and other persons involved in game and wildlife management.
 4. Rules on crucial biosecurity measures in relation to the handling of samples, carcasses, viscera and other infectious material be implemented by the responsible national body and strictly observed by the stakeholders involved.
 5. The CIC continue its efforts to conclude negotiations to establish a training centre on wildlife diseases for hunters to be managed by CIC with scientific support on the part of the OIE.
 6. Participants take note of recommendations arising from other meetings and conferences related to disease management and the OIE organise further international meetings on African swine fever and other trans-boundary wildlife diseases in order to improve inter-governmental communication and cooperation in the European region.
 7. The OIE with the support of the OIE Working Group on Wildlife continue to improve current standards and guidelines on African swine fever and other wildlife diseases.
 8. Veterinary Services and hunters agree on national or regional surveillance programs which include communication plans between authorities and hunters, identification of the role of the hunters, continuing education of representatives for hunters and eventually the establishment of a network among hunters for communication, reporting of observations and submitting material to veterinary laboratories.
 9. Prior to consideration of undertaking complete depopulation of wild boar as a disease management strategy, a comprehensive risk assessment should be carried out to fully recognize any potentially negative impact.
 10. The OIE Reference Laboratories and OIE Collaborating Centers continue research into the dynamics of wildlife populations and diseases; the development of non-invasive sampling methods for wild pigs; the role of wild pigs in disease transmission in high and low density populations; the role of ticks in the transmission of infectious agents to both wildlife and humans and the development of a potential vaccine and anti-viral drugs to combat African swine fever.
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