



WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH

OIE REGIONAL REPRESENTATION
FOR THE MIDDLE EAST

FMD PCP SUB REGIONAL POOL MEETING (EGYPT, IRAQ, JORDAN, LEBANON AND SYRIA)

BEIRUT - LEBANON
18 DECEMBER 2012



Report of the Seminar on FMD Progressive Control. Pathway

18th December 2012

Beirut, Lebanon

1. Introduction:

- i. The principal aim of the FMD Seminar was to discuss the preparation of national project proposals to get more investment in the control and eradication of FMD in the region. The OIE analysis is that several recent meetings have already addressed the international and regional approaches (among them are the Regional Workshops or International Conferences held in Istanbul, March 2012, Nairobi, March 2012, Dubai April 2012, Bangkok, June 2012, Jerez de la Frontera, Spain, October 2012 and more recently Cairo, 4-5 December 2012).
- ii. There is indeed still a need to continuously revise or update these regional PCP roadmaps but it is thought that the fundamental step for any FMD control and eradication programme either at the regional or global levels starts at the national level and that country activities are a prerequisite starting point. There is a need to see a qualitative upgrading move in certain regions of the world through more national political commitment and country investment to support the fight against FMD.
- i. The Seminar brought together the countries of the Eastern Mediterranean Sub Region of Middle East as defined in the GF TADs FMD PCP in the Middle East already presented during the Dubai FMD Roundtable (April 2012) and the Bangkok International Conference.

2. Objective of the seminar:

The meeting on FMD Progressive Control Pathway was organized by the OIE Regional Representation for Middle East to:

- a. Update country situation and review progress along regional map toward goals of previous related meetings,
- b. Share information on FMD virus circulation between 5 neighboring countries on the east of the Mediterranean and to discuss national FMD control programmes and project proposals.

3. Agenda (Annex 1):

The meeting addressed the following issues:

- i) Presentation by the RO of the aims of the meeting, the Global FMD Control Strategy, the outcomes and follow up of the FAO OIE Second International Conference on FMD Control (Bangkok, June 2012) and the OIE Code Articles related to FMD.

- ii) Regional approach of the FMD in the NENA Region and outcomes of the FAO FMD Regional Workshop held in Cairo (4-5 December 2012), presented by the two FAO representatives.
- iii) presentation by the OIE Regional Representative for the Middle East of the OIE-FAO GF TADs Regional FMD Control Programme,
- iv) FMD vaccines and vaccination by the Dean of the Jordan Veterinary School,
- v) Country reports presented by the representatives of the 5 countries,
- vi) Roundtable for the preparation of national control projects and the way forward.



4. Participants (Annex 2):

The meeting was attended by 20 participants:

- a) Representatives of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria (CVOs of Lebanon, Jordan and Syria, Head of Preventive Medicine Service of Egypt, Head of the Virology Unit of the Bagdad laboratory, Iraq.
- b) Dean and Vice-Dean of the Veterinary School in Jordan, the Director of the Jordan Vaccine Production Company (JOVAC).

- c) Heads of the Lebanese Animal Health Service, the Export Import animal Quarantine Service and the Animal Prevention Department), a representative of the Veterinary Syndicate of Lebanon.
- d) Two representatives of FAO (the Livestock Officer in the FAO Representation for Near East and North Africa-NENA-, Cairo, Egypt and an animal health consultant).
- e) The OIE was represented by the Regional Representative, two support staff from the Beirut Office, a consultant and an expert chargé de mission from Paris HQs.



5. Summary of the background presentations and discussions:

5.1. General presentations of the OIE:

In his first presentation, Dr J. Domenech presented a summary on the International Global FMD Control Strategy Conference held in Bangkok, June 2012 and of its Recommendations... He highlighted that during this conference participants have fully supported the Global Strategy prepared by the OIE-FAO GF TADs and, among others the major components of the Global Strategy, its regional dimensions were considered to be very important including elements such as the establishments of buffer zones, control of regional animal movements, establishment of Regional and Sub Regional networks for laboratory diagnosis and epidemiosurveillance, regional

coordination and monitoring. International support and monitoring of the Global Strategy was also requested.

39 recommendations were adopted by the participants: 12 addressed to countries, 7 to regional and technical partners, 15 to OIE and FAO, and 4 for the development partners (website).

- In his 2nd presentation, Dr Domenech reviewed rapidly the process of the official OIE recognition of FMD country status and related control programmes as described in Chapters 1.6 and 8.5 of OIE Terrestrial Code including the new procedure for endorsement of official FMD control programmes.

5.2. FAO presentations:

A report on the FAO Cairo Regional NENA Region and the outcomes of the discussions which took place during this Workshop regarding the NENA Regional PCP Programme was presented by Dr Markos Tibbo from the FAO Cairo Office,

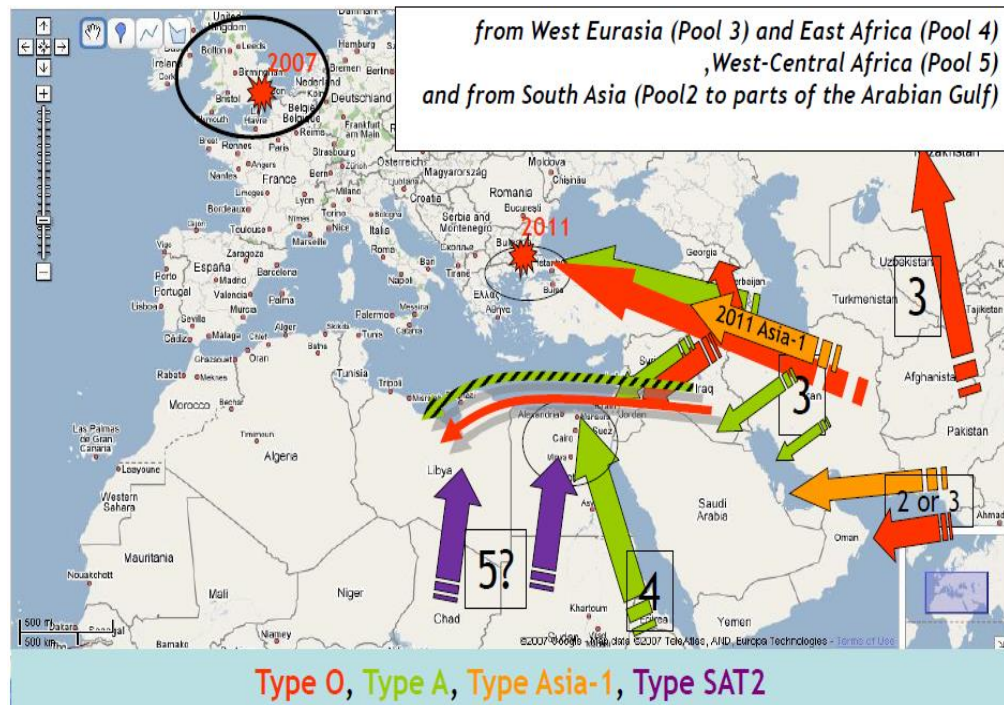
Dr Georges Khoury as an FAO animal health consultant presented a draft proposal for a regional FMD control strategy to be considered by the participants in the preparation of their national programmes.

5.3. Other presentations:

5.3.1. Dr Ghazi Yehia, OIE Regional Representative for the Middle East reviewed with the participants the regional plan adopted by the OIE Regional Commission.

- The PCP FMD in the Middle East programme is divided in two Sub Pools:
 - a- the Gulf Cooperation Council countries (GCC: Kuwait, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Oman, Bahrain, Qatar, United Arab Emirates) +Yemen,
 - b- And the East Mediterranean countries (Cyprus, Iraq, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon).
 - c- Considering its important situation and role on FMD epidemiology and source of spread for the entire Middle East and Northern Africa Regions, particularly regarding the recent SAT2 crises, Egypt is being associated to the Middle East meetings such as this FMD Seminar in Beirut.

- The Plan is based on the actual situation of FMD in Member Countries and existing virus strains. Also it describes the ways of spread of the virus through trade in animals and animal products from exporting countries.



- The Guidelines of the plan at a regional level consider international support to review national strategies and capacity building for surveillance, control and diagnostic capabilities.
- The speaker highlighted on the coordination time table for the implementation of the plan stages in order to permit countries to present their application dossiers for official recognition of their control programmes by 2017.
- The table below indicates the actual country PCP stages and the progress to be made until 2017.

**Fifth Steering Committee meeting
April 26th 2012, Dubai, United Arab Emirates**

Countries	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Jordan												
Oman												
Kuwait												
Lebanon												
Egypt												
Syria												
Iraq												
KSA												
UAE												
Qatar												
Yemen												
Bahrain												

	Nation	Zone
Level 0		
Level 1		
Level 2		
Level 3		
Level 4		
Level 5		
Other		
No response		

5.3.2. Dr Ahmad Al Majali, Dean of the Jordanian Veterinary School, addressed the participants with a presentation on the General Considerations on FMD Vaccines and Vaccinations.

- He highlighted that the currently used vaccines are killed virus with preparation that are pure, safe and effective.
- There are 7 different strains and more than 60 subtypes of FMD virus.
- Vaccines for FMD must match to the type and subtype present in the infected area.
- He detailed on the antigenic diversity of FMD virus and vaccine matching procedures before concluding on the accurate FMD vaccination strategies.

6. Country presentations:

The five invited countries presented their situation following a harmonised format with a focus on:

- a. the disease situation and epidemiological context,
- b. their PCP stage,
- c. Their main challenges particularly regarding surveillance, vaccination or control of movements,
- d. their on-going control programmes/ projects in the country,
- e. the possibility to prepare a dossier to OIE for endorsement of a national control programme (PCP stage 3) or disease recognition (PCP stage 4),
- f. the possibility and way forward to prepare a FMD control project to be presented by the government to donors,
- g. the expected support from regional and international organisations.

7. Roundtable:

7.1. Objectives

7.1.1 Progress within and the way forward to next PCP stage

7.1.2 Overcome main challenges with the support of international organisations

7.2. Issues being discussed

7.2.1. Objectives of a 5 years programme

7.2.2. Major issues to be addressed in national control plans and priorities for investment:

7.2.3. Major axes and investment priorities:

- Training
- Virus circulation monitoring: need for diagnostic laboratory strengthening
- Vaccination: vaccination strains (vaccine matching), monitoring and post vaccination evaluation, quality control...
- Control of animal movements
- Wildlife surveys

7.2.4. Regional axes:

- Coordination
- Regional leading laboratory
- Vaccine bank
- Control of transboundary animal movements

7.2.5. Cost of the national strategy:

- Use of the PVS Gap Analysis (FMD control has to be mentioned in the Government priorities): already done in Egypt, Lebanon; on-going in Jordan; being considered in Syria.
- Use of the costing exercise done by WB when preparing the Global FMD Control Strategy

7.2.6. Advocacy:

Use of the PVS Evaluation and Follow Up reports...

7.2.7. Format of the national project proposals:

Some format were very briefly presented with a special reference to the “Logical Framework” approach to be used which includes the preparation of a Logframe matrix/table to serve as a tool for planning a logical set of interventions, This type of approach represents a tool for appraising a programme document and it includes a concise summary of the programme (objectives, expected results, activities, assumptions and risks, timetable...), a tool for evaluating impact of Programme outputs, e.g. progress in achieving purpose and goal .(list of relevant objectively verifiable indicators and source and means of verification)...

8. Comments:

8.1. The situation in each of the 5 countries is very well known and national control programmes exist and are being implemented:

- All countries are facing the same challenges, with different degrees of difficulties such as financial resources, specialized human resources particularly in laboratory diagnostic and epidemiology, control of animal movements particularly regarding the trans-border movements, vaccination (in most of but not all the countries), poorly understanding of the wildlife role in FMD epidemiology.
- All countries agreed that the FMD control project proposals should be 5-year programmes.
- The countries are today in a PCP stage 1 (Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon) or 2 (Syria, Iraq) but all have the same vision and goal which is to reach the PCP Stage 3 at the end of the 5-year period of time and to be able to present their national control plan to the OIE for their official endorsement.

All countries agreed that the Project proposals should be prepared and presented to the Ministers in charge of animal health of each country and to their economical partners (donors) in a harmonised manner, which means that a similar format could be used. More work will be done in the following weeks to discuss the most appropriate format for the preparation of the national project proposals.

8.2. Regarding the priorities for investment, most of the countries mentioned, with different degree of priority, axes such as:

8.2.1. training/capacity building, vaccination (including the quality control and strain matching of the vaccines, and the monitoring/evaluation of the results of the vaccination campaigns, identification and compulsory vaccination of animals coming from infected countries/zones when appropriate and before they enter in a neighbouring country, laboratory diagnostic.

8.2.2. The investment prioritisation exercise can benefit from various exercises already carried out in certain countries such as the PVS Gap Analysis missions (done in Egypt and Lebanon, on-going in Jordan, to be proposed in Iraq), the WB costing of the Global FMD Control Strategy and other national already collected data.

8.3. Regarding the regional dimensions to be considered in national project proposals, and without prejudice of possible preparation of specific regional project proposals, all countries insisted on the need to include regular regional meetings, particularly the Regional GF TADs Steering Committee Meetings and their specific FMD sessions (or back-to back or GF TADs related roundtables) to:

- Share information and discuss the achievements of the implementation of the national control programmes,
- Organise regional trainings sessions (economies of scale),
- Support the emergence of a leading regional diagnostic laboratory with a vision to eventually become an OIE Reference Laboratory (twinning project to be considered in this case), regional monitoring of the virus strain circulation and full characterisation including vaccine matching, vaccine quality controlled vaccines availability.

8.4. All countries expect from the International Organisations (and their Regional Offices) several types of support such as the follow up of the regional and country situations, advice and guidance with regard to the national control plans and to the evaluation of the results of the control programme implementation.

They also ask that OIE (and FAO) promote investment on FMD control (advocacy regarding governments, donors and other stakeholders, use of PVS Evaluation and Follow Up mission conclusions, support to the preparation of the national programmes and of project proposals), continue to animate the coordination and other regional exchanges between neighbouring countries including joint trainings and PVS Pathway missions.

9. Conclusion and follow-up:

9.1. Conclusion:

- The country situation was updated and major challenges were listed.
- Control programmes, project proposals and investment priorities were discussed.
- Regional coordination is considered to be indispensable.
- Coordination with FAO regarding the outcomes of the FAO Regional Workshop held in Cairo 5-6 December 2012 and the preparation by FAO of a regional strategy for the NENA Region should take place soon.

9.2. Follow up activities include further work to propose a harmonised format to prepare national project proposals and to plan future meetings such as the GF TADs Regional Steering Committee meetings and their FMD roundtables, specific Sub Regional meetings and specific country missions when appropriate: Several issues will have to be addressed such as:

- **Project proposal format to be agreed**
- **Next Sub Regional meeting in 6 months to be organized if needed**

- Support to countries to prepare the project proposals
- Support for monitoring of the national programme's implementation and advice/guidance
- Discussions between OIE and FAO of the NENA Regional FMD Control programme which as been presented during the recent Regional Workshop in Cairo.

10. Documents made available to the participants:

The report of the Seminar on FMD Progressive Control pathway is posted on the OIE Middle East website and the interested readers of this report will be able to find more details on the discussions and outcomes of the meeting as well as all the PPT presentations. This material and some background documents were distributed to all participants, either in hard copies or in electronic version (CD).

11. ANNEXES:

Agenda

List of participants

Presentations (available on www.rr-middleeast.oie.int)