



GF-TADs

GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE
PROGRESSIVE CONTROL OF
TRANSBOUNDARY ANIMAL DISEASES



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



18th GF-TADs Management Committee meeting

Videoconference, September 11, 2018

Final report: 11 October 2018

Participants

FAO: Juan Lubroth, Eran Raizman, Ahmed El Idrissi, Zhao Weining

OIE: Jean-Philippe Dop, François Caya and Neo Joel Mapitse

Global Secretariat (GS): Piergiuseppe Facelli

Maame Duah for point 2, Andry Rozstanyy for point 5, Bouna Diop for point 6, Gunel Ismayilova and Mariana Marrana for point 7

1) Approval of the MC17 meeting minutes

Minutes of the 17th MC (MC17) meeting were approved (version circulated on 10 September 2018).

2) 3rd external evaluation of the GF-TADs initiative – Fine-tune of Management Response documents and discussion on Action Plan.

The GS presented 3 documents:

- a draft management response Matrix (MC18 Item 2 - Management Response -3rd GF-TADs external evaluation-Matrix.ocx);
- a draft management response Narrative (MC18 Item 2 - Management Response -3rd GF-TADs external evaluation – Narrative.ocx);
- a table on the next steps (MC18 Item 2 - 3rd GF-TADs external evaluation process).

As regards the first document, Maame Duah, on behalf of FAO OED, provided some suggestions on its presentation. In particular, as for Box 1 (Management response Matrix), OED proposed to modify Column b), indicating “accepted”, “partially accepted” or “rejected” only with reference to the main Recommendation and not to each single Sub-recommendation. Column c) should be adapted accordingly, including a brief ‘narrative’ and a list of actions to be taken.

Then, the MC focused on the content of Column c) to review some of the points.

It was decided to change the text of Recommendation No. 1, option 1 as follows: ‘...The MC strongly supports to put a greater emphasis on global strategies and programs. FMD, PPR and rinderpest post-eradication programs have to run under GF-TADs and be harmonized. The MC agrees with reducing the number of priority TADs at both global and regional levels.’

The text of Sub-recommendation No. 114 (ii) on ‘...the efforts to re-engage with AU-IBAR...’ was revised so as to take into account the meetings with the Director of AU-IBAR held in Brussels during the Global Conference on PPR. The MC intention to propose to AU-IBAR ‘...to give this organization the lead and the responsibility of the Secretariat of the GF-TADs for Africa.’ was confirmed. FAO will contact the Director of AU-IBAR to check his willingness to accept this offer. Afterwards, a formal letter will be sent.

As regards the content of Sub-recommendation No.116 (iii), it was agreed to include the following considerations in the narrative: ‘The rotation of chairs is already applied and taken into account in the Terms of Reference of the Regional Steering Committees, but it should be made in a more strategic manner, especially in Africa. Working groups on specific topics, such as the Standing Group of Experts in Europe, will be encouraged as long as financial and human resources are available.’

In addition, the MC highlighted the following points:

- review of ToR: it was decided to review the Terms of Reference of GSC, MC, GS and RSCs. This task was appointed to the GS with the support of FC for the OIE and AEI for FAO;
- allocation of funding: representatives of FAO explained that, with reference to this aspect, the Director General has to make a decision and not AGAH or AGA;
- Rabies: the MC agreed that GF-TADs should not address such disease. Rabies is well covered under FAO-OIE-WHO Tripartite and MC fully support this arrangement;
- PPR program: the MC suggested that this program be managed under the GF-TADs GS (this issue would need to be further discussed between FAO and OIE).

The MC gave the GS the task of preparing a new Matrix document based on the OED instructions and the debate held.

Moreover, the MC asked the GS to prepare a first draft Action Plan, which will be reviewed with the MC before being submitted to the participants of GSC10.

There were no particular observations on the second document (draft management response Narrative). The narrative was agreeable to OED evaluation as well.

With respect to 'Next steps' document, the MC considered more appropriate to send the AP to the GSC members by late October 2018, that is to say a couple of weeks before the meeting.

3) Preparation of the GSC10

The Global Secretariat presented 3 documents:

- a draft save-the-date message
- a draft list of participants
- a draft Agenda

The draft Save-the-date message was approved by MC with some minor modifications.

The draft List of participants was carefully looked at. The MC approved it with few modifications.

The MC discussed the agenda of the Global Steering Committee meeting (GSC10) to be held in Rome on 13-14 November 2018 (see also Item 4 of the Minutes of MC17).

In addition to the Global Secretariat report, the GSC10 agenda will include the reports on the 3 diseases subject to control and eradication plans at global level (FMD, PPR and post-eradication RP), plus a report on ASF. A written report with an update on OFFLU will be circulated.

This Session will be followed by an extensive interactive discussion on the 3rd external evaluation of GF-TADs. In this regard, there will be a presentation on the results and recommendations of the external evaluation and then a teamwork (world-café-style) with a particular focus on the recommendations provided by the Evaluation Team, which also relate to RSCs, and on the draft Action Plan that the MC will propose to the GSC. The meeting will end with the approval of an Action Plan and of specific recommendations for the MC, the GS and the 5 RSCs.

The MC decided that in order not to lose the 5 Regions' reporting on their situation in terms of priority TADs, a dedicated poster session will be organized, particularly dedicated to success stories.

4) Recommendations of GSC9: state of progress

The GS presented a PPT on the state of progress of Recommendations of the GSC9 (Paris, 13 October 2016), which were deeply analysed and the MC provided comments, suggestions and updates on their delivery level (green, yellow and red system).

The points on which there were the most relevant comments and suggestions are listed below:

- a) The state of implementation of Recommendation No. 3 (OIE and FAO, in collaboration with relevant regional and global partners, commit appropriate resources to ensure proper coordination of GF-TADs activities at global and regional level especially in Africa, the Americas, and the Middle East) was confirmed at yellow level. The text is to be revised in order to take into account what will be proposed in the Action Plan.

- b) As for Recommendation No. 7 (Rift Valley Fever awareness and preparedness activities be promoted in Europe, Africa and Middle East, including for the registration of safe and quality vaccine(s) for possible use in endemic and at risk countries), the MC suggested to consider it green and not yellow because an important work has been done in the 3 Regions in terms of awareness and preparedness of this disease.

- c) Regarding Recommendation No. 9 (Specialists in stray dog population control from the OIE Platform on Animal Welfare in Europe, the Global Alliance for Rabies Control (GARC) and other relevant partners in rabies control be invited to share their experiences at the GCS10), the MC expressed the opinion that Rabies should be discussed not under GF-TADs but in more appropriate venue being under the Tripartite actions.

- d) The state of Recommendation No. 11 (The OIE and FAO urge WHO to contribute as soon as possible to the joint proposal of funding for GLEWS+ to ensure this tool remains relevant as a tripartite mechanism for rumour tracking and to provide risk assessment methodologies and support available to all Regions) was confirmed green. Notes: the Tripartite commitment was reconfirmed in May 2017 with the signing of a MoU. Activities are ongoing for rumour tracking and for providing risk assessment methodologies.

- e) With regard to the Recommendation No. 14 (The OIE and FAO explore the possibility to develop publications dedicated to funding opportunities for each of the Global Strategies - e.g. FMD, PPR and Rabies- highlighting, among others, that investing in disease control and eradication also benefits horizontal animal health activities and therefore other livestock disease management), the MC confirmed the yellow level status. Publications dedicated to funding opportunities were developed for PPR. For FMD a concept note is pending, while for Rabies see comments on Recommendation No. 9 (item c).

- f) Regarding Recommendation No. 16 (The implementation of the recommendations of GSC8, that are not yet addressed, be progressed in the coming year and reported at GSC10), the MC decided that it could be considered 'in progress'.

In fact, 10 out of 13 Recommendations of GSC8 can be considered fully implemented. One out of the remaining three (Rec. No. 9: FAO and OIE strengthen efforts for the submission of TADs agent isolates to reference centres and make information available to the research and international community) can be considered 'in progress' because it is implemented at least for FMD and Avian Influenza. The other two: Rec. No. 8 (FAO and OIE should make efforts to capture information regarding FMD virus and PPR virus and vaccine holdings in a living database) and Rec. No. 7 (FAO and OIE promote RVF vaccine registration for countries at risk and the efforts to establish a regional vaccine bank set up by OIE with donors support) are to be regarded as red level (not yet started).

5) Update on GF-TADs FMD working group activities

Andry Rozstalnyy provided an update on the FMD working group activities. In short:

- A second version of Progress control pathway (PCP) guidelines has been finalized and will be translated in the official languages.
- A PCP roadmap meeting took place for Eastern Africa in July 2018 and the 1st PCP for Central Africa will be held on 25-27 September 2018.
- The EuFMD proposed a PCP Support Officer (PSO) system to the FAO/OIE FMD Working Group which was agreed by both OIE and FAO in May 2018. Following a letter of introduction sent to the OIE delegates by the FMD WG, PSOs have started to provide follow-up to individual countries. PSOs provide support to countries assigned provisional PCP stages with occasional exceptions when the RAG or Working Group deems such support particularly important. Currently six PSOs are assigned from the group of EuFMD technical consultants. However, further training and recruitment of PSOs is envisaged in particular to support the emerging needs of Central and West Africa but also to transfer PCP expertise to other regions.
- There was a progress with GF-TADs website timely updates.
- FMD WG works on a concrete action plan for the 2019-2020 activities. Andry Rozstalnyy mentioned the need of resources (human and financial) to support the FMD WG activities, in particular the follow up to the activities after the Roadmaps.
- There were several changes in FMD WG membership: from FAO's side Mr Eran Raizman and Mrs Silvia Kreindel were replaced by Mr Andriy Rozstalnyy and Mr

Bouna Diop and from the OIE's side Mrs Laure Weber-Vintzel was replaced by Mr Neo Joel Mapitse.

6) Update on PPR activities

Bouna Diop provided an update on the PPR GEP activities since the last MC17 (23 July 2018) meeting.

The main focus in this period was the preparation of the FAO/OIE Global Conference "Partnering and investing for a PPR-free world" which was organized in collaboration with the European Union on 7 September 2018 in Brussels, Belgium. The objective of the conference was to advance PPR Global Control and Eradication Strategy endorsed in 2015 towards the eradication of PPR by 2030. The Conference was preceded by the Stakeholder Forum on 06 September afternoon.

More than 280 participants including 17 ministers (Afghanistan, Albania, Bangladesh, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Egypt, Georgia, Guinea, Italy, Mongolia, Niger, Senegal, Sudan, Zambia) and representatives of 28 other PPR-infected countries as well as high-level representatives from international and regional organisations (ACP, AUC, AOAD, CIHAEM, CILSS, CEDEVIRHA) and nearly 50 resource partners attended the Conference. The opening session was addressed by Mr. Neven Mimica, EU Commissioner International Cooperation and Development, Dr José Graziano da Silva, FAO Director General and Dr Monique Eloit, OIE Director General.

The Stakeholder Forum provided the opportunity to exchange views and to collect first-hand testimonies on the serious impact of PPR.

Ministers from PPR-infected and at risk countries confirmed that the disease remains a major concern in their respective countries. They indicated that they have already mobilized resources at national level and urged resource partners and the development community to contribute in bridging the PPR GEP's \$340 million funding gap. They renewed their commitment to eradicate the disease by 2030 and adopted a Ministerial Declaration.

Bouna Diop also informed the MC about the planned meetings:

- A PPR side event during the Committee on Agriculture (1-5 October 2018) to update on PPR GEP implementation and the PPR Global Conference outcomes.
- 2nd PPR Advisory Committee Meeting, 4 – 5 October 2018 in Rome (during CoAG week).
- 2nd Roadmap meeting for North Africa scheduled to be held in Nouakchott, 4 – 6 November 2018.

7) Update on Rinderpest (RP) post-eradication activities

Gunel Ismayilova (FAO) and Mariana Marrana (OIE) provided an update on post-eradication RP activities. In brief:

- The Global Rinderpest Action Plan (GRAP) will be published by the end of 2018. The GRAP is the plan that defines the operational frameworks for rinderpest emergency management and assigns stakeholders with roles and responsibilities. It also includes provisions for the management and deployment of the Rinderpest Vaccine Reserve.
- Two tablet of exercises in Africa and Asia were carried out in November 2017 and March 2018 to assess the status of preparedness and response to a potential re-emergence of rinderpest, and also to test the GRAP and collect feedback to further improve it. The FAO-OIE Conference on Global Rinderpest Action Plan and Stakeholder Commitment was held in March 2018, in Rome, to mark the official launch of the GRAP and to seek stakeholder endorsement.
- Currently there are two rinderpest vaccine reserves AU-PANVAC for Africa and NIAH-Japan for Asia. LoA between FAO and NIAH to expand vaccine reserve for Asia is under development. There are plans to establish FAO Global Rinderpest Vaccine Reserve.
- A web-based database system (“Rinderpest Virus Tracking System”) for Rinderpest Holding Facilities (RHF) to manage their inventories in real time and for OIE Members to report annually on their holdings of RVCMM has been developed. It will be used for the first time in November 2018 for the OIE annual survey on Rinderpest Virus Containing Materials (RVCMM) According to last year’s data, the number of countries holding RVCMM outside of RHF decreased to 12, from 23 in 2013. In 2013 there were 28 institutes holding RVCMM, while today there are 12 (plus five RHF).
- A comprehensive set of educational/advocacy tools was developed, and a communication campaign aimed at veterinary schools, veterinary practitioners and laboratories was initiated by the OIE in 2017. A global challenge for veterinary students that will raise awareness on RP through a serious game will be launched by the OIE on October 4th 2018. The FAO Communication for Development (Com Dev) project for raising awareness amongst lay people in five target countries in Africa and Middle East was completed in March 2018. The awareness raising activities, including development of tools and strategies, will be continued on additional levels, targeting laypeople, veterinary professionals and academia in targeted beneficiary countries and worldwide. The FAO e-learning on Rinderpest post-eradication for academia and veterinary services will be developed in 2019.

On this last item FAO and OIE shared the opinion that there should be more joint activities, together with PPR Secretariat and FMD WG under GF-TADs, mainly on communication. A recommendation on this should be proposed at the next GSC meeting.

8) Others

At the request of the OIE, FAO reported on the meeting held in Bangkok on 5-7 September 2018 entitled “Emergency Regional Consultation on African Swine Fever on Risk Reduction and Preparedness” with the overall objectives to review the ASF situation in China and risks to the rest of China and the region and to develop a regional approach for ASF risk reduction, preparedness and response.

Action	Responsible	Deadline
To undertake actions in order to use key performance indicators	MC in collaboration with Irina Curca	Pending Waiting new GF-TADs Action Plan
To draft a new management response Matrix	GS with support of FC and AEI	End of December 2018
To draft an Action Plan	GS with support of FC and AEI	End of October 2018
To contact the Director of AU-IBAR to check his willingness to accept the offer to lead on the Secretariat of the GF-TADs for Africa	FAO - JL	As soon as possible
To collect information from the Regions on analysis and mapping of small ruminant trade and movement patterns	GS by means of Joint PPR Secretariat	Next GSC meeting
To require PPR Secretariat to put in place a specific section of the GF-TADs website containing information on the most important events	GS by means of Joint PPR Secretariat	Next MC meeting
To review the Terms of Reference of GSC, MC, GS and RSCs	GS with support of FC and AEI	Next GSC meeting