



proceedings

DECLARATION OF GLOBAL FREEDOM FROM RINDERPEST

Thirty-seventh Session of the FAO Conference
Rome 25 June-2 July 2011



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Recommended citation

FAO. 2013. *Declaration of global freedom from rinderpest – Thirty-seventh Session of the FAO Conference, Rome 25 June-2 July 2011*. FAO Animal Production and Health Proceedings No. 17. FAO, Rome, Italy.

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E-ISBN 978-92-5-107797-9 (PDF)

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Acronyms and abbreviations

aGA	Animal Production and Health Division
AHA	animal health auxiliary
AUC	African Union Commission
AU-IBAR	African Union-Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources
AU-PANVAC	African Union Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Centre
CBPP	Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia
cELISA	competitive enzyme linked immunosorbent assay
CIRAD	<i>Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement</i> (International Cooperation Centre of Agricultural Research for Development)
CVO	chief veterinary officer
DfID	Department for International Development
ECTAD	Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases
EDF	European Development Fund
ELISA	enzyme linked immunosorbent assay
EMPRES	Emergency Prevention System for Transboundary Animal and Plants Pests and Diseases
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FMD	foot-and-mouth disease
GREP	Global Rinderpest Eradication Programme
HPAI	highly pathogenic avian influenza
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IAH	Institute for Animal Health
IBAH	Inter-African Bureau of Animal Health
IBAR	Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
JP15	African Joint Programme 15
OAU	Organization of African Unity
OCE	Office of Corporate Communication and External Relations
OIE	World Organisation for Animal Health
PACE	Pan African Programme for the Control of Epizootics
PANVAC	Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Centre
PARC	Pan-African Rinderpest Campaign
PCR	polymerase chain reaction
PPCB	peripneumonie contagieuse des bovines
PPR	peste des petits ruminants

RVC	Royal Veterinary College
RNA	ribonucleic acid
RP	rinderpest
RVF	Rift Valley fever
SAREC	South Asian Rinderpest Eradication Campaign
SERECU	Somali Ecosystem Rinderpest Eradication Coordination Unit
SIDA	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
TAD	transboundary animal disease
TCES	Technical Cooperation Emergency Operation Service
TCRV	tissue culture rinderpest vaccine
UN	United Nations
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WAREC	West Asia Rinderpest Eradication Campaign
WFP	World Food Programme
WHA	World Health Assembly
WHO	World Health Organization

Acknowledgements

The Animal Production and Health Division (AGA) is indebted to all for the success of the events held to celebrate global freedom from rinderpest. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) wishes to express its appreciation to all of the participants in the 37th FAO Conference for their contributions. Particular gratitude is extended to those individuals who attended through their own support and whose presence contributed to the overall success of the event.

The technical and operational assistance of a number of FAO Departments and Divisions contributed to the smooth running and success of the global freedom from rinderpest events; these included: i) the Office of the Director General for guidance and support toward this major achievement; ii) the Department of Agriculture and Consumer protection; iii) the Animal Production and Health Division (AGA); iv) the Technical Cooperation Emergency Operations Service (TCES); v) the Office of Corporate Communication and External relations (OCE); and vi) the Conference, Council and Protocol Affairs Division.

Members of the Global Rinderpest Eradication Programme (GREP) Secretariat prepared the framework for the implementation of the events and are grateful to member nations, international and regional organizations, facilitators and rapporteurs among others.

The success of these events was possible with the guidance and full support of Juan Lubroth, Chief Veterinary Officer at FAO. The GREP Secretariat was led by Felix Njeumi, Secretary, and Peter Roeder, former GREP Secretary. The other members were: Francesca Ambrosini, MariaPia Blasi, Diana Dennington, Vittoria Di Stefano, Tiziana Farina, Irena Giorgis, Corina Marina, Lucy Mensah, Paul Rossiter and William Taylor.

Executive summary

Detailed evidence has been provided by all countries and territories that the world has attained freedom from rinderpest. This information has been verified by the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and is being conveyed to the Governing Bodies of FAO and OIE by the Joint FAO/OIE Committee on the Global Rinderpest Eradication.

Conditions are therefore met for the Conference to adopt, through a Resolution, a Declaration of Global Freedom from Rinderpest and the Implementation of Follow-up Measures to Maintain World Freedom from Rinderpest. The content of the declaration is similar to a declaration that was adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE held from 22 to 27 May 2011. The Resolution recognizes this outstanding global achievement and stresses the importance of custodianship of the rinderpest virus and vaccines available in laboratories or their safe destruction.

The Conference is invited to:

- Adopt the Resolution containing the Declaration of Global Freedom from Rinderpest and the Implementation of Follow-up Measures to Maintain World Freedom from Rinderpest;
- Request FAO to implement follow-up measures to maintain worldwide freedom from rinderpest;
- Urge the membership to assume its duties and responsibilities to safeguard World Freedom from Rinderpest.

Introduction

Over the last century, the world has sought to eradicate rinderpest through national, regional and international programmes. The eradication of the virus was one of FAO's objectives when it was first established in 1945. At the beginning of the twentieth century, the disease occurred widely on three continents: Africa, Asia and Europe. It was responsible for the death of millions of cattle, buffalo, and other susceptible species and for the loss of people's assets, livelihoods and ability to fend off famines.

The last outbreak of rinderpest was registered in 2001 and the last use of the vaccine was recorded in 2006. Substantial disease search and widespread serological surveillance throughout Asia, Africa and the Middle East was conducted without any evidence of virus circulation. Other components of the surveillance were used to confirm that the disease was not present in cattle and susceptible species in previously uninfected countries.

Based on this evidence, on 15 October 2010, the Director-General of FAO declared the end of field operations of FAO's GREP.

GREP was established in 1994, as the time bound programme with 2010 as the deadline in the context of the Emergency Prevention System for Transboundary Animal and Plant Pests and Diseases (EMPRES).

During the OIE 79th General Session from 22 to 27 May 2011, OIE Delegates adopted Resolution 18/2011 recognizing the world as free from rinderpest and identifying technical follow-up steps of virus sequestration and safe management of remaining virus stocks. The 37th FAO Conference endorsed the Resolution with some adjustments relevant to the FAO context. In order to consolidate this important achievement, FAO continues to host the GREP Secretariat for the implementation of the post-eradication strategy.

Background information

IMPLEMENTATION OF RINDERPEST ERADICATION CAMPAIGNS AND PROGRAMMES

Within a year of its establishment, FAO convened a first international meeting in 1946 on animal health in London, United Kingdom. The aim of the meeting was to explore how FAO could best assist in harmonizing efforts to contain high impact transboundary livestock diseases. Rinderpest was at the top of the list. It has since continued to be a core concern of FAO's activities and programmes.

The disease was largely brought under control through major campaigns in Asia in the 1950s and 1960s and in Africa from 1960 through 1976. However, because of weaknesses in operational and structural follow-up, rinderpest resurged and spread widely in sub-Saharan Africa. Campaigns had to be renewed from 1986 onwards¹. As a result of concerted regional and international efforts, the number of countries claiming freedom from rinderpest increased in the early 1990s.

Since 1946 FAO convened technical meetings at headquarters and in the field, in partnership with other institutions and its members, to discuss strategies to eradicate the disease. These strategies included a need to: i) develop more effective rinderpest vaccines; ii) formulate strategies and guide countries in disease prevention, detection and control; and iii) coordinate regional campaigns against rinderpest for the sustainable control of the disease as opposed to national actions that brought only temporary relief.

During its 83rd Session in June 1983², the FAO Council endorsed a recommendation of the Committee on Agriculture. This regarded the need to formulate and implement national and international strategies of action for animal health, including a strategy to eradicate the rinderpest virus. Particular concern was expressed on the resurgence of this disease in Africa, Asia and the Near East. The Council also requested that FAO provide assistance to African countries to control the disease and to mobilize support for the newly proposed Pan African Rinderpest Campaign (PARC) through the OIE, the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the European Union (EU).

Following PARC, other initiatives were established including the South Asia Rinderpest Eradication Campaign

(SAREC), the West Asia Rinderpest Eradication Campaign (WAREC), the programme for the Pan-African Control of Epizootics (PACE) and the Somali Ecosystem Rinderpest Eradication Coordination Unit (SERECU). During its 107th session, in November 1994, the Council noted the ongoing activities to strengthen FAO support for the global eradication of rinderpest. It also expressed its appreciation for the emergency assistance provided to several countries in Africa linked to risks of serious epidemics of rinderpest³.

GREP was established in 1994 as a global coordinating and partnership arrangement. As part of EMPRES-Livestock, GREP introduced a framework for the progressive, sequenced and time-bound eradication of rinderpest worldwide, with its deadline set in 2010⁴. After more than sixty years of continuous efforts FAO declared in October 2010 at the World Food Summit in Rome that it had ceased its field operations against rinderpest throughout the world.

With the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), FAO formed the Joint Division on Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture, which was instrumental in introducing and expanding diagnostic capabilities in developing countries. FAO-IAEA's initial emphasis was on establishing the appropriate technology both through rinderpest diagnosis and on enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA). The range of diagnostic technology had expanded, in particular into polymerase chain reaction (PCR) techniques for the detection and characterisation of pathogens. GREP closely coordinated the activities of the Joint Division so that the introduction of laboratory diagnostic capability was directly linked to addressing disease control needs⁵.

With the cessation of its direct field operations, GREP's focus was redirected towards maintaining global freedom from rinderpest through post-eradication strategies. These included: i) monitoring, safe custodianship and potential destruction of potential remaining stocks of vaccines or virus samples at research or diagnostic facilities; ii) identifying policy and technical follow-up steps for virus sequestration and for the safe management of remaining virus stocks; and iii) drawing lessons from the successful process of rinderpest eradication in order to address other high impact transboundary animal diseases more effectively like Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR).

¹ CL 85/REP

² CL 83/REP, see, inter alia, paragraphs 98-106. See also CL 84/REP, paragraphs 65-70.

³ CL 107, see paragraphs 105 and 106.

⁴ CL 106, see paragraphs 22, 26 and 41.1.b

⁵ C 2001/INF/23 Evaluation Report on EMPRES see paragraph 24.

GREP SYMPOSIUM

Coinciding with the momentous announcement of the global eradication of rinderpest in October 2010 at the World Food Summit in Rome, a GREP Symposium assimilated the lessons learnt for the control and possible eradication of other diseases. The Symposium recommendations were:

1. To widely publicize the success of the global eradication of rinderpest and include: i) the roles played by all stakeholders including livestock owners; ii) the benefits that eradication has brought and will continue to bring for individuals as well as the economy at large; iii) the lessons learnt during the eradication process and their potential application to other diseases; and iv) the post-eradication strategy including monitoring, the sequestration of all stocks of virus and documenting the process of eradication.
2. For international and regional organizations and all stakeholders to apply the lessons learnt from the eradication of rinderpest to other diseases. Attention should be paid in particular to the progressive control and eventual eradication of PPR. FAO should play a lead role in: i) organizing the preliminary steps necessary for initiating this global initiative; and ii) identifying appropriate partnerships to drive and implement the activities required.

REGIONAL WORKSHOPS LEADING TO THE GLOBAL DECLARATION

Between October 2010 and June 2011, GREP convened a series of meetings to celebrate the eradication of rinderpest and to consolidate the strategy for rinderpest surveillance and management in the post-eradication era.

Three regional workshops for Chief Veterinary Officers were held in Nairobi, Bangkok and Rabat and entitled "The world without rinderpest". Each of these was immediately followed by separate workshops for senior animal health staff responsible for field and laboratory surveillance of rinderpest and entitled "Maintaining vigilance for diseases caused by morbilliviruses". The purpose of the workshops was to consult senior decision makers and senior technical staff in order to gather their thoughts and concerns about the global, regional and national post-eradication strategies for rinderpest. These were subsequently summarized for presentation to the global symposium in June 2011 in Rome.

A number of proposals developed by FAO and its partners [OIE, the African Union InterAfrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) and the African Union Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Centre (AU-PANVAC)] were presented to the workshop participants and discussed in an open

forum. The workshops were held in collaboration with the Joint FAO/IAEA Division, AU-IBAR, AU-PANVAC and OIE. They were hosted by the Departments of Veterinary Services in Kenya, Morocco and Thailand. The workshops were attended by 53 Chief Veterinary Officers (32 in Nairobi, 18 in Bangkok and 3 in Rabat) and 52 investigation officers (30 in Nairobi, 18 in Bangkok and 4 in Rabat) as well as staff from the Arab Maghreb Union, AU-IBAR, AU-PANVAC, FAO Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases (ECTAD) Nairobi, FAO ECTAD Bangkok, FAO Tunis, FAO Headquarters, OIE and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation. The workshop was coordinated and facilitated by Felix Njeumi (GREP Secretary), Peter Roeder (former GREP Secretary), Paul Rossiter (FAO consultant) and William Taylor (FAO consultant).

Presentations in the "The world without rinderpest" workshops reviewed: i) the global rinderpest situation; ii) FAO and OIE's strategic planning for rinderpest in the post-eradication era; iii) information about the sequestration of laboratory-held stocks of virus; iv) the importance of global and national emergency preparedness planning; v) the availability of vaccines and diagnostics for emergency use; vi) Resolution number 18 including its appendix of guidelines for rinderpest virus sequestration passed by the General Assembly of the OIE in May 2010 in Paris; and vii) a proposed new chapter on rinderpest for inclusion in the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code.

The workshops on morbillivirus surveillance reviewed the differential diagnosis and epidemiology of rinderpest. They established how this knowledge can be used to develop a syndrome-based surveillance system capable of detecting many important diseases including rinderpest should it ever re-occur.

The increasingly serious global situation of PPR was also presented and discussed in detail. AU-IBAR and AU-PANVAC presented their proposed continental strategies for emergency preparedness for rinderpest and for the control of PPR in Nairobi. In Bangkok presentations highlighted proposed regional and national programmes for the control and eradication of PPR. In Rabat the host country covered its comprehensive programme that eradicated PPR in 2008.

In Bangkok and Rabat the OIE Representatives also gave presentations on "VET 2011", the celebration of 250 years since the foundation of the first veterinary school in Lyons which coincided with the global eradication of rinderpest.

At both series of workshops representatives of the Royal Veterinary College (RVC)/AusVet Animal Health Services presented their methodology and results to date on risk analysis of the re-emergence of rinderpest. They took advantage of the participants to interact and gather additional information. These presentations and findings were to be published in a peer-reviewed journal as part of the overall report on risk-analysis.

General discussions among the participants and the presenters enriched the workshops. Working group sessions on key points provided consensus on the participants' main concerns, summarized below.

Summary of workshop participants' concerns and proposed solutions

1. Storing rinderpest virus stocks

Most countries do not want to keep stocks of wild virus or vaccine seed. FAO and OIE are requested to provide and assist with implementing guidelines for rinderpest virus destruction. Alternatively, where considered appropriate, they are requested to provide the sanctioned sequestration of viruses in appropriately biosecure facilities. Participants endorsed a suggestion that in order to facilitate tracing the origins of outbreaks, countries wishing to keep virus stocks should be sanctioned to do so only if they provided full genome sequencing data for viruses to a central database operated by FAO/OIE. *This process of virus characterisation implies an additional role for FAO/OIE recognised reference laboratories for morbilliviruses, which will require support.*

2. Maintaining awareness of rinderpest issues

No country has experienced rinderpest over more than a decade. The understanding of the disease amongst farmers and veterinarians is diminishing rapidly. This is linked to a lack of awareness of the significant benefits that have accrued from rinderpest eradication. Countries requested support for veterinary education and communication through provision of a package of training and communication materials together with technical and financial support if this could be made available. *Countries wished to see the FAO and OIE Declaration of Freedom from Rinderpest used as an opportunity to promote the achievements and value of veterinary services. Countries requested FAO to provide educational materials to assist veterinarians, veterinary faculties and other stakeholders.*

3. Rinderpest emergency preparedness planning

Defining and implementing an FAO/OIE Global Strategic Plan to manage rinderpest in the post-eradication era is crucial. A major component of this global strategic plan will be a global emergency preparedness plan and, within this, the global contingency plan for coping with any re-emergence of the disease. These plans are urgently needed to complement and support the development of new regional and national emergency preparedness plans for rinderpest in the post-eradication era. Clear guidelines and standard operating procedures are necessary to investigate dis-

ease outbreaks considered suspicious for rinderpest. The success of emergency preparedness planning against a return of rinderpest by an accidental or malign release of virus is highly dependent on early recognition of the disease, making sustaining awareness a matter of concern. A Rinderpest Advisory Group would be needed to assist in the implementation of the global strategic plan. *FAO with OIE need to finalise the global strategic plan for rinderpest including forming the recommended rinderpest advisory group.*

4. Strategic reserves of rinderpest vaccine

As with virulent rinderpest viruses, most countries wish to destroy stocks of vaccine and virus seed lots provided that there is assured, rapid access to vaccines in an emergency. As part of international emergency preparedness planning there is a need to maintain strategic reserves of rinderpest vaccine. For sub-Saharan Africa it is proposed that this need be met by the AU-PANVAC. For the rest of the world, a number of other regional vaccine banks need to be considered in order to support emergency procedures. *FAO and partners are urged to finalise preparations without delay.*

5. Rinderpest diagnostic preparedness

It was generally agreed that one or two global morbillivirus reference laboratories would be sufficient to ensure laboratory confirmation of rinderpest outbreaks. These reference laboratories would be supported by a small network of regional reference laboratories. The global morbillivirus reference laboratories would be required to: i) maintain expertise and ensure the provision of diagnostic reagents and kits to regional reference laboratories; and ii) provide scientific capacity in the unlikely event of a re-emergence of the virus in the field. The regional reference laboratories would provide diagnostic capacity to countries within their region. Some countries wished to retain a national capacity to help screen rinderpest outbreak suspicions before seeking to transport samples to reference laboratories for examination. Provision of a robust and affordable test would be useful for this primary diagnosis and could be supplied to countries by reference laboratories. Countries also stressed the fact that in the event of an outbreak the affected country would need rapid access to virus detection tests and antibody assays. This would enable countries to control the disease and demonstrate absence of disease in order to regain freedom. The existing processes put in place by FAO to facilitate the appropriate packaging and transit conditions

for materials potentially containing rinderpest virus need to be strengthened and promoted. *FAO and OIE were requested to define the requirements of and recognize and support the functioning of appropriate global and regional laboratories.*

6. Regaining freedom after a rinderpest outbreak

The proposed new chapter for rinderpest in the Terrestrial Animal Health Code gives two options for regaining the status of rinderpest freedom after an outbreak. Both require the slaughter of infected and or vaccinated livestock. Furthermore, if national freedom is not regained within six months of an outbreak occurring then the status of global rinderpest freedom will be lost. There was general concern about these provisions because in many countries it is neither socially acceptable nor affordable to slaughter cattle. Therefore, it is inevitable that if an outbreak occurs in one of these countries, global rinderpest freedom will be lost. *OIE and FAO are requested to explore other possibilities for regaining freedom in a timely manner that does not jeopardize global freedom. It will be essential that all countries comprehensively review and, where necessary, comment upon the proposed rinderpest chapter when it is submitted to them.*

7. The status of official veterinary services

Many countries are concerned that the work done by veterinary services is undervalued. *These countries would like to see international organizations, including FAO, OIE and the African Union, advocating the strengthening of veterinary services to governments at the highest possible levels. This would help to better manage the serious livestock diseases and pests which affect and threaten the livelihoods of their people.*

8. PPR

Participants from all six workshops repeatedly and unanimously voiced their concern at the alarming, growing global impact of PPR. The disease exerts a major negative economic impact on farm households that are economically dependent on small ruminants. There is a growing appreciation that PPR is the most serious and escalating disease constraint on the livelihoods of the poorest farming families

and on food security in the regions covered by the workshops. International funding for PPR control is providing assistance to certain national control programmes, especially in Africa. Whilst providing welcome temporary respite from the impact of the disease, such short-term vaccination projects usually fail to contribute significantly to the overall required goal of progressive control. Many of the factors which marked rinderpest out as suitable for eradication also apply to PPR and the participants considered that a coordinated global eradication effort, built on the lessons learnt from rinderpest eradication, warrants significant investment. *FAO was asked to initiate this, together with international and regional partners without delay before expertise gained during rinderpest eradication is lost.*

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE JOINT FAO/OIE COMMITTEE FOR GLOBAL RINDERPEST ERADICATION

An independent review process was required to unequivocally establish that rinderpest eradication had been achieved. This was similar to the process adopted for the declaration of the eradication of smallpox by the World Health Assembly (WHA) in 1980. FAO and OIE agreed to establish the Joint FAO/OIE Committee on Global Rinderpest Eradication in June 2009. The main function of the Joint FAO/OIE Committee was to provide advice on the evidence available to the Directors-General of FAO and OIE and review and monitor the process of declaring the eradication of rinderpest.

The Joint FAO/OIE Committee concluded that:

- rinderpest as a freely circulating viral disease had been eliminated from the world; and
- the presence of virulent or attenuated rinderpest virus in laboratories constituted a potential threat to the global disease status.

The Joint FAO/OIE Committee drafted recommendations and advised that a resolution be prepared for adoption by the supreme governing bodies of FAO and OIE. In addition, the Joint FAO/OIE Committee formulated guidelines for rinderpest virus sequestration or safe custodianship.

The World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE held from 22 to 27 May 2011 adopted a Declaration of Global Freedom from Rinderpest and the Implementation of Follow-up Measures to Maintain World Freedom from Rinderpest.

PART I

Statements

FAO Headquarters
Saturday, 25 June 2011

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

08.30 hours

1. Statement by the Director-General of FAO
2. Statements by Presidents and Vice-President (Chad, Togo, Gambia)
3. Statement by the Director-General of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)
4. Musical performances by FAO Goodwill Ambassadors Mory Kanté (Africa) and Anggun (Asia)
5. Unveiling of the Commemorative Plaque celebrating Global Freedom from Rinderpest

09.30 hours

Opening of the 37th Session of the FAO Conference (Plenary Hall)

STATEMENT BY THE FAO DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Jacques Diouf



Son Excellence Monsieur Idriss Déby Itno, Président de la République du Tchad,
Son Excellence Monsieur Faure Essozimna Gnassingbé, Président de la République Togolaise,
Son Excellence Madame Aja Dr. Isatou Njie Saidu, Vice-président de la République de Gambie,
Mesdames et Messieurs les Ministres, Ambassadeurs et Représentants permanents,
Dr Bernard Vallat, Directeur général de l'Organisation mondiale de la santé animale,
Monsieur Kofi Annan, Président de l' Alliance pour une Révolution verte en Afrique
Madame Anggun, Ambassadrice de bonne volonté de la FAO de l'Indonésie,
Monsieur Mory Kanté, Ambassadeur de bonne volonté de la FAO de Guinée,

Monsieur Pierre Cardin, Ambassadeur de bonne volonté de la FAO de France,
Excellences, Mesdames et Messieurs,

J'ai l'honneur de vous accueillir pour, marquer cet événement historique qu'est l'éradication mondiale de la peste bovine en dévoilant une plaque commémorative qui ornera le hall de la FAO.

Je voudrais souhaiter la bienvenue à Son Excellence Monsieur Idriss Déby Itno, Président de la République du Tchad, et Son Excellence Monsieur Faure Essozimna Gnassingbé, Président de la République Togolaise, qui ont pris le temps malgré leur calendrier très chargé d'être parmi nous aujourd'hui. J'aimerai aussi remercier Son Excellence Madame Aja Dr. Isatou Njie Saidu, Vice-président de la République de Gambie, pour sa participation à ce moment historique. Je souhaite la bienvenue aux Ministres qui sont venus de loin pour assister à cet événement historique.

Je salue la présence du Dr Bernard Vallat, Directeur général de l'Organisation mondiale de la santé animale, qui a été un proche partenaire dans la lutte mondiale contre la peste bovine. Je remercie enfin les représentants des Organisations ayant leur siège à Rome et d'autres organisations internationales.

Je suis particulièrement heureux que plusieurs Ambassadeurs de bonne volonté de la FAO, représentant des régions où sévissait la peste bovine, aient accepté de participer à cette célébration. Ces personnalités ont su s'engager pour donner de l'énergie à cette campagne en diffusant l'information sur twitter et facebook.

I should also like to welcome my good friend Mr Kofi

Annan, Chairman of AGRA and former United Nations Secretary General, who continues to be strongly committed to global development, particularly in Africa, through his various involvements and engagements with civil society and other institutions.

DISCOURS PRONONCÉ PAR LE DIRECTEUR GÉNÉRAL DE LA FAO

Mesdames et Messieurs,

J'ai le plaisir de vous souhaiter aujourd'hui la bienvenue, au moment où les représentants des États Membres se réunissent pour la trente-septième session de la Conférence de l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture.

Au fil des ans, dans cette même salle, j'ai souvent eu l'occasion de dire que le monde disposait des moyens nécessaires pour éliminer la faim, la malnutrition et la pauvreté extrême.

L'évènement que nous célébrons aujourd'hui nous fait comprendre qu'il est réellement possible de venir à bout d'obstacles à la subsistance et à la sécurité alimentaire des populations, pour peu que nous ayons, collectivement, en tant que communauté internationale, la volonté politique de mettre à profit les outils dont nous disposons.

L'éradication mondiale de la peste bovine — maladie qui décimait les bovins, les buffles et de nombreuses autres espèces, aussi bien domestiques que sauvages — en apporte aujourd'hui la preuve.

L'élimination totale de la peste bovine de son milieu naturel est un événement exceptionnel pour l'humanité. Nous voyons enfin la fin de ce fléau qui, pendant plus de mille ans, s'est propagé à travers le monde, a anéanti des millions d'animaux et prélevé un lourd tribut sur la biodiversité, mettant à mal les conditions de subsistance des personnes et leur sécurité alimentaire.

Dès sa naissance en 1945, en tant qu'institution spécialisée des Nations Unies, la FAO a inscrit la peste bovine parmi ses priorités, compte tenu des effets dévastateurs de cette maladie sur la sécurité alimentaire, la nutrition et le développement agricole.

Depuis 1994, la FAO dirige le Programme mondial d'éradication de la peste bovine, en étroite collaboration avec l'Organisation mondiale de la santé animale (OIE), l'Agence internationale de l'énergie atomique et d'autres partenaires, notamment des gouvernements, des organisations non gouvernementales et des institutions régionales, comme le Bureau interafricain pour les ressources animales.

Le Programme a pu compter également sur les contributions de divers services vétérinaires, laboratoires, chercheurs et donateurs, comme l'Union européenne, dont l'appui a été indispensable.

Comme l'ont confirmé le mois dernier les délégués participant à la session générale de l'OIE à Paris, aucun

nouveau cas de peste bovine n'a été confirmé dans l'environnement naturel ces dix dernières années. Le 28 juin prochain, dans cette même salle, les États Membres de la FAO seront invités à adopter une résolution déclarant officiellement l'éradication mondiale de la peste bovine et à commencer à prendre des mesures de suivi destinées à en empêcher le retour.

Aujourd'hui, alors que la Conférence de la FAO a entamé les travaux de sa trente-septième session, nous tenons à remercier les États Membres, les institutions, les spécialistes et les techniciens qui, par leur collaboration et leur dévouement, ont rendu possible l'éradication mondiale de la peste bovine.

Nous devons aussi reconnaître que le combat mené contre la maladie et l'éradication de celle-ci n'auraient jamais abouti sans la participation d'une multitude de chefs de communautés, d'éleveurs, de petits et de grands exploitants, de bergers et de nombreuses autres personnes vivant d'un élevage qui leur assure revenus, force de trait et alimentation.

Mesdames et Messieurs,

La FAO a compris depuis longtemps qu'il était fondamental de préserver la santé animale pour préserver l'environnement et pour améliorer la vie des hommes, des femmes et des enfants partout dans le monde.

L'éradication mondiale de la peste bovine est la démonstration de ce que nous pouvons accomplir en tant que communauté internationale si nous associons nos compétences techniques, les points forts de nos institutions, notre esprit de coopération à l'échelle mondiale et notre détermination individuelle.

J'ai aujourd'hui l'honneur de dévoiler cette plaque en votre présence, pour rendre hommage aux populations, aux pays et aux précieux partenariats qui ont permis l'éradication de la peste bovine.

Merci

DISCOURS DU PRÉSIDENT DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE DU TCHAD

Son Excellence Monsieur Idriss Déby Itno



Messieurs les *Chefs d'Etat et de Délégations*
 Monsieur le *Directeur Général de la FAO*
 Mesdames et Messieurs

Permettez-moi tout d'abord d'exprimer au maire de Rome, la ville éternelle, nos sincères remerciements et au Directeur Général de la FAO pour l'accueil et pour toutes les marques d'attention dont moi-même et la délégation qui m'accompagne sommes l'objet depuis notre arrivée dans cette belle cité. Qu'il me soit également permis de féliciter l'Organisation des Nations unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture (FAO) et l'Organisation mondiale de la santé animale (OIE) pour tous les efforts consentis afin de parvenir à ce résultat que nous célébrons aujourd'hui. Je saisis cette occasion pour adresser mes vifs remerciements et mes félicitations à Monsieur Jacques Diouf qui quitte ses fonctions de Directeur Général après des années de travail remarquable au service de nos pays. Il peut être assuré que nous garderons de lui, l'image d'un pionnier au service de l'humanité tout entière.

Mesdames, Messieurs

Nous sommes, au Tchad, certainement mieux placés pour apprécier à sa juste valeur cette éradication de la peste bovine. Nous nous réjouissons de l'appui multiforme que nos partenaires nous ont apporté dans notre lutte contre ce fléau qui a détruit une bonne partie de notre cheptel bovin et appauvri nos éleveurs. En effet, le Tchad, pays d'élevage par tradition, a obtenu le statut de pays indemne de la maladie de peste bovine en 2004. Ce statut lui a été accordé par l'organisation mondiale de la santé animale. Ensuite, en mai 2010, lors de sa 78^{ème} session générale, l'organisation mondiale de la santé animale a adopté une résolution portant reconnaissance du Tchad comme pays indemne d'infection de la peste bovine. A cet effet, un certificat officiel nous a été décerné.

Mesdames, Messieurs

Les défis d'une alimentation pour toute l'humanité et le relèvement du niveau de vie du monde rural ont conduit la création de la FAO. Ces défis demeurent et menacent même de dégénérer en crise mondiale, compte tenu de la croissance démographique dans nos sociétés en développement et des spéculations sur les prix des denrées alimentaires. Dans le cas du Tchad, il s'agit de nourrir une population réduite à des techniques ancestrales dans un territoire en grande partie désertique où à pluviométrie très irrégulière. Dans cette quête alimentaire, le soutien de la communauté internationale ne nous a pas fait défaut. Je saisis l'occasion de ma participation à cette cérémonie pour adresser les remerciements du Tchad à la FAO ainsi qu'à nos partenaires, organisations et Etats confondus.

La 37^{ème} session de l'Organisation des Nations unies pour l'Alimentation et l'Agriculture est appuyée par la célébration de l'éradication de la peste bovine. Le Tchad, pays à vocation agropastorale, est particulièrement sensible à ce double événement. Nous disons couramment

que l'Agriculture et l'Élevage sont les deux mamelles de l'économie de notre pays. Ces deux activités qui occupent 80% de la population du Tchad, sont classées en tête des priorités de notre programme politique et parmi les primautés des secteurs prioritaires dans l'affectation de nos revenus additionnels générés par l'exploitation du pétrole. Le quinquennat que nous entamerons à partir du 08 août prochain sera encore placé sous le signe du monde rural. C'est dire combien le Tchad fonde ses attentes sur l'agriculture et l'élevage. Nos objectifs, globalement similaires à ceux qui ont conduit à la création de la FAO visent:

- l'indépendance alimentaire du pays
- l'amélioration du niveau de vie de la population rurale;
- la modernisation de l'agriculture et de l'élevage pour un développement durable;
- la création d'emplois pour les jeunes dans le secteur agricole, pastoral et dans les industrialisations de transformation liées à ces activités.

A titre d'illustration, je cite la construction des abattoirs industriels dans quatre villes du Tchad.

Mesdames, Messieurs

Le Tchad a lancé depuis six ans un programme national de sécurité alimentaire financé sur ses propres ressources avec l'appui de la FAO. Les pays en voie de développement comme le Tchad espèrent bénéficier d'une assistance technique et tirer profit des avancées scientifiques pour vaincre les aléas climatiques et améliorer la productivité de l'agriculture restée au stade traditionnel. Avant la fin de cette année, mon pays, le Tchad compte organiser un Forum sur le développement rural et une table ronde des bailleurs de fonds sur le programme national de sécurité alimentaire afin de donner un nouveau départ à son agriculture et à son élevage. Pour ce faire, nous sollicitons la solidarité et le soutien de nos partenaires traditionnels et de la communauté internationale pour nous appuyer dans nos efforts d'atteindre notre indépendance alimentaire.

Je vous remercie.

DISCOURS DU PRÉSIDENT DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE TOGOLAISE

Son Excellence Monsieur Faure Essozimina Gnassingbé



Mesdames et Messieurs les Chefs d'Etat et de Gouvernement,

Monsieur le Directeur Général de la FAO,

Excellences Mesdames et Messieurs les Ambassadeurs et Chefs de mission diplomatiques,

Honorables invités,

Mesdames et Messieurs,

C'est un réel privilège pour moi et pour la délégation qui m'accompagne de partager avec vous, ce moment historique que constitue la commémoration de l'Éradication de la peste bovine.

Aussi voudrais-je, avant toute chose, exprimer ma profonde gratitude au Directeur général de la FAO, M. Jacques DIOUF, dont l'aimable invitation me donne l'occasion d'être avec vous aujourd'hui. Je tiens à féliciter très chaleureusement M. DIOUF pour les éminents services qu'il a rendus à l'humanité. Durant les deux dernières décennies son action a été décisive pour la promotion effective de la sécurité alimentaire, notamment à travers la lutte contre les maladies animales.

Mesdames et messieurs les Chefs d'Etat et de gouvernement,

Honorables invités

L'éradication de la peste bovine que nous célébrons aujourd'hui est l'aboutissement d'une très longue lutte. C'est une grande victoire pour l'humanité. Le peuple togolais est profondément heureux de pouvoir la célébrer avec vous en ce jour mémorable.

Pendant de longues décennies en effet, ce fléau a constitué une véritable hantise pour toute l'humanité. Nul n'a été épargné. Mon pays le Togo est d'autant plus heureux d'être associé à la cérémonie qui nous rassemble aujourd'hui, qu'il a subi pour la première fois les ravages de la peste bovine il y a tout juste un siècle. C'est en effet en 1911 que cette terreur jusque là inconnue s'est battue sur le Togo, décimant en l'espace de quelques mois seulement, 30% du cheptel bovin.

Nos populations qui sont essentiellement agro-pastorales gardent encore un douloureux souvenir de cet épisode. Depuis lors, la peste bovine était devenue un mal récurrent au Togo, avec des réapparitions dévastatrices entre 1925 et 1952 puis de 1960 à 1963.

Malgré le succès des campagnes de vaccination que nous n'avons cessé d'organiser, notamment avec le soutien des partenaires tels que l'Union européenne, la FAO et l'OMS que je voudrais remercier ici, l'éleveur togolais a toujours vécu dans la peur du retour de ce fléau redoutable. Et c'est cette peur du lendemain que nous sommes heureux de pouvoir surmonter collectivement aujourd'hui grâce à l'éradication mondiale de la peste bovine.

A l'instar de nombreux pays à dominante rurale, le quotidien de l'immense majorité des populations togolaises repose sur l'agriculture et l'élevage qui joue un rôle impor-

tant dans l'alimentation et qui est de ce fait au cœur du commerce et des échanges. C'est pourquoi, nous sommes soulagés que le Togo, tout comme les pays et territoires dont les populations animales sont sensibles à la peste bovine, soit désormais déclaré indemne de cette coûteuse maladie, qui a pesé pendant trop longtemps sur les modestes revenus de nos agriculteurs et profondément affecté les conditions de vie de nos concitoyens dans les milieux ruraux.

Je voudrais à cet égard joindre ma voix à l'hommage unanime et spontané qui est rendu aujourd'hui aux artisans de cette évolution majeure. Nous devons principalement ce succès à la FAO qui a fait de l'éradication de la peste bovine un des axes fondamentaux de sa lutte contre la faim dans le monde. Grâce à sa persévérance, la production animale dans le monde est désormais mieux sécurisée et les moyens de subsistance de millions de foyers à travers le monde sont moins menacés.

Je salue également le travail de l'Organisation mondiale de la santé animale et de toutes les organisations internationales qui se sont mobilisées depuis des décennies pour accompagner et coordonner à l'échelle planétaire les efforts multiformes qui ont permis de venir à bout de ce fléau. Nous leur sommes redevables pour les outils efficaces de diagnostic et de surveillance et les campagnes de vaccination qu'elles ont su mettre en place pour mener à terme le processus d'éradication, notamment dans les pays pauvres.

Comme vous le savez, le manque d'infrastructures adéquates dans les pays économiquement vulnérables a fait que jusqu'ici, la lutte contre la peste bovine s'y apparentait à un éternel recommencement. En effet après chaque épidémie dévastatrice, une seule question était dans les esprits: à quand la prochaine épidémie?

Les craintes de réapparition de la maladie seront désormais surmontées et nous devons pour cela rendre hommage aux millions de vétérinaires anonymes qui ont bravé à travers les campagnes et les hameaux les plus reculés de notre planète, les intempéries et les reliefs les plus accidentés, pour assurer dans des conditions éprouvantes, le succès des campagnes de vaccination contre la peste bovine.

Mesdames et messieurs les Chefs d'Etat et de gouvernement

Mesdames et messieurs,

Honorables invités

Nous commémorons aujourd'hui dans la joie partagée un succès exceptionnel. Mais ce qui le rend encore plus exceptionnel c'est son caractère collectif. Depuis l'éradication de la variole, aucune cause de santé publique n'a suscité un engouement aussi général et structuré que la lutte contre la peste bovine. Le combat historique contre la peste bovine est en somme une victoire de la coopération internationale.

Je voudrais à cet égard vous réaffirmer la détermination

du Togo à s'engager dans un partenariat constructif renforcé, dans la droite ligne de la réforme que notre organisation commune la FAO appelle de tous ses vœux. Le Plan cadre de priorités à moyen termes élaboré de concert avec la Représentation permanente de la FAO au Togo prend en compte cette nouvelle dynamique, axée sur l'harmonisation de ses actions avec les interventions des autres partenaires techniques et financiers.

Le Programme national d'investissement agricole et de sécurité alimentaire conçu grâce à l'appui conjugué de la CEDEAO et de la FAO est l'un des exemples les plus édifiants de cette nouvelle approche de la coopération. Nous comptons donc intensifier nos efforts pour approfondir ce nouveau type de partenariat.

C'est pourquoi dans un esprit de réciprocité constructive, mon Gouvernement a décidé d'établir ici même à Rome une Représentation permanente qui contribuera à faciliter le suivi et la mise en œuvre de projets concrets sur le terrain. C'est notre souhait le plus ardent que ce rapprochement puisse contribuer à insuffler une énergie renouvelée à notre relation avec la FAO dont l'appui a été décisif dans le succès de la lutte contre la peste bovine au Togo.

Mesdames et messieurs les Chefs d'Etat et de Gouvernement.

Mesdames et messieurs,

Chers invités

Le succès que nous célébrons ce jour est en tout état de cause porteur d'espoir car il nous rappelle une fois de plus, qu'avec la volonté politique et la détermination des uns et des autres nous sommes en mesure d'engranger des succès inespérés.

Nous devons cependant nous rendre à l'évidence que ce succès est aussi un défi. L'éradication de la peste bovine nous impose en effet de rester mobilisés et persévérants pour relever d'autres défis non moins importants pour la santé humaine et animale.

La récente épidémie de fièvre aphteuse au Royaume-Uni, la contamination d'origine bactérienne récemment rapportée sur certains aliments crus en Allemagne, la grippe aviaire, la fièvre charbonneuse, la peste porcine africaine, la rage, la péripneumonie contagieuse bovine sont autant de maux qui nous rappellent sans cesse que la santé publique est un bien particulièrement fragile.

Nous sommes donc contraints de considérer la gestion intégrée de la santé animale comme un des grands défis pour les années à venir.

Je voudrais à cet égard lancer un appel à une plus grande mobilisation pour le développement et la vulgarisation de la recherche scientifique afin de permettre aux régions défavorisées telles que l'Afrique de ne plus être les maillons faibles des luttes internationales pour la préservation et la maîtrise de la santé des animaux. L'Afrique doit être mieux soutenue dans ses efforts qui se situent dans

le droit fil de la lutte pour la sécurité alimentaire dans le contexte d'une agriculture durable.

Mais le défi plus immédiat, le défi qui doit nous mobiliser sans délai à l'issue de la cérémonie commémorative de ce jour, c'est la bonne gestion de la phase post-éradication de la peste bovine.

Nous devons être en mesure de dire dans les prochaines années que l'éradication de la peste bovine est un acquis définitif. Pour y parvenir il faudra investir nos énergies dans la dynamisation des Centres Régionaux de Santé Animale qui sont le fer de lance pour la lutte contre toutes les maladies animales.

Le meilleur moyen d'assurer des avancées irréversibles, c'est d'anticiper et d'innover constamment pour nous mettre à l'abri de l'apparition de nouvelles infections animales dont le diagnostic et le traitement sont presque toujours coûteux en temps, en énergie et bien souvent en vies humaines, retardant ainsi le développement économique et social.

Puisse l'humanité se tournera durant les prochaines décennies vers l'éradication des autres maladies qui limitent encore la productivité animale et retardent notre capacité à assurer la sécurité alimentaire. Et vivement souhaité que nos prochaines luttes communes soient empreintes du même élan de solidarité et qu'elles connaissent le même succès que la lutte contre la peste bovine.

Je vous remercie.

STATEMENT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT AND MINISTER OF WOMEN'S AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA

The Honourable (Mrs) Isatou Njie-Saidy



Mr. President

Director General Food and Agriculture Organization

Ministers in Charge of Agriculture and Livestock

Representatives of International and Regional Organizations

Directors of Veterinary Services

Representatives of Member States

Representatives of the Private Sector and Non-Governmental Organization

*Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen
All other Protocols observed*

Good morning

It is my honour and privilege to read out this statement on behalf of The President of The Republic of The Gambia Sheikh Professor Dr. Alhaji Yahya A.J.J.Jammeh, to this august body on the Global declaration on the eradication of Rinderpest Disease. This is a welcome initiative marking another milestone in disease eradication this time by the Veterinary Medicine. The Gambia joins other Members in applauding this noble achievement!

Mr. Chairman,

In the Gambia, Agriculture contributes 24% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) with livestock contributing about 8.6%. It also plays a key role in meeting domestic demand in meat, milk, power and manure for cropping. A recent head count of livestock shows: the cattle population is estimated at 300,000. The small ruminant population estimated at 200,000 sheep and 374,000 goats, and the chicken population at 720,000. Livestock rearing is an important economic activity in The Gambia. Whilst 46% of rural households own one or more head of cattle, 89% of rural households raise at least one sheep or goat; women manage 74% of the goats and 47% of the sheep. Almost all rural households keep poultry and women own and manage 90% of the birds. The income derived from livestock and their products can be responsible for 10 to 15% of the household income.

High incidence of infectious animal diseases is one of the most important constraints limiting livestock production and productivity in the Gambia. Diseases generate a major impact on public health, national economy, household livelihoods. In addition to the endemic diseases such as Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) in small ruminants, Black Quarter Disease and Hemorrhagic Septicemia in cattle and New Castle Disease in poultry, the country in recent years has seen the introduction of trans-boundary diseases like Lumpy Skin Diseases (LSD), African Swine Fever (ASF), African Horse Sickness (AHS) and Rift Valley Fever. The emergence of these diseases is often triggered by multiple, interrelated factors such as human and animal demographics, increased mobility and globalization, climate change, urbanization, land degradation and mass animal rearing. The current approaches to animal disease prevention and control based on the disruption of disease transmission have proved effective in both short – and long – term disease control programmes, such as the global rinderpest eradication, they seemed to have been less successful in some instances, as shown by the current persistence of H5N1 Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, despite significant national and international efforts. This in our view is because most current approaches apply strong veterinary science and medicine disciplines in isolation from other

relevant disciplines, such as economics, sociology, communication and land management. The Veterinary services now need to expand into an integrated approach to control diseases better and this means focusing on identification of the drivers of diseases flare – ups and adopt a multi-sectoral, multi-disciplinary approach to addressing the increasing disease threats.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Rinderpest disease was first recognized countrywide in The Gambia in the early 1930s during which time it significantly decimated the evolving national herd of cattle. It was during that period that official Veterinary Services was for the first time established in the country in order to effectively combat the plague. Based on annual mass vaccination campaigns using different strategies ranging from centralized vaccination centres to village-to-village, herd-to-herd vaccinations, the disease was eventually brought under control. Since 1965 no outbreaks of the disease was reported in the country. Vaccination against rinderpest ceased in The Gambia in 1987 and the country declared provisional freedom from rinderpest in 1988. The declaration of provisional freedom from Rinderpest status for The Gambia in 1988 was a cumulative effect of years of successful and painstaking annual country-wide mass rinderpest vaccination campaigns. This led to the evolution of the national herd population from 50,000 heads in the early 1930s to over 300,000 heads in 2011. Sero-surveillance exercises conducted under Pan African Rinderpest Control (PARC) and Pan African Programme for the Control of Epizootics (PACE) revealed no evidence of any foci of circulating Rinderpest in The Gambia.

The successful control and eradication of rinderpest in The Gambia is also a cumulative effect of years of hard work, dedication and sacrifice as well as commitment to national duty by the veterinary services of The Gambia with support and cooperation from regional and international organizations.

The history of the eradication of rinderpest in The Gambia will be incomplete without mentioning the rinderpest control projects such as Joint Project-15 (JP-15) which was a collaboration between U.S.A.I.D, OAU/IBAR from 1965-1968, PARC and PACE which were both EDF Funded-OAU/IBAR programmes, all 3 of which registered incredible success. JP-15 concentrated basically on control and prevention of rinderpest through annual countrywide rinderpest mass vaccination campaigns. PARC, in addition to vaccination had a sero-monitoring component and later a sero-surveillance component. PACE was geared to the control of epizootic, Sero-surveillance and the strengthening of institutional capabilities. In a similar vein, it is proper to mention the FAO Global Rinderpest Eradication Programme (GREP) for the support it provided to The Gambia in the fulfillment of the World Organization of Animal Health (OIE)

pathway for freedom from rinderpest. A Certificate to this effect was received by The Gambia during the 79th Session of the World Animal Health Conference on 25th May 2011 in Paris, France.

As we gather here today to celebrate the global eradication of rinderpest, we must never lose focus. We should remain focus and continue to work together to ensure that rinderpest will never again surface on the face of the earth. The post rinderpest era calls for collective responsibility on all of us at all levels in different ways. The Government of the Gambia is fully committed to meeting its obligations in this regard. We would like to use this opportunity to call on FAO and other relevant partners to continue working together on global strategies in close collaboration with all countries and relevant institutions such as research laboratories and veterinary schools to help ensure the full implementation of the global strategies. This is the only sustainable way to keep the rinderpest virus away forever.

Mr. Chairman,

We in The Gambia consider the global eradication of rinderpest as success story and a very dear victory for international cooperation. We believe that the global alliance of farmers, governments, international organizations, donors, partners and stakeholders that worked together over the years in close partnership to successfully conquer cattle plague, can also with renewed global commitment confront and subdue small ruminant plague (Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) which today is ravaging across the African Continent causing significant morbidity and mortality to the small ruminants population thereby disrupting the lives of millions of poor and vulnerable farmer population. In recent years, PPR is gaining more grounds and rapidly spreading to more countries in Africa. We believe PPR should be halted. It deserves to be given more international attention.

In conclusion Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Guests,

I would like to use this opportunity to express the sincere gratitude of The Government and people of The Gambia to all our partners who have played significant roles in the eradication of rinderpest in The Gambia, the list include but not limited to AU-IBAR, FAO, OIE, EU and USAID. We would also like to express our gratitude to veterinarians, paraveterinarians and all those who were in the fore front throughout the world in the fight against rinderpest.

We salute the veterinary profession in its 250th year anniversary in 2011.

Thank you All for your kind attention!!!!

ALLOCUTION DU DIRECTEUR GÉNÉRAL DE L'ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTÉ ANIMALE (OIE)

Bernard Vallat



Messieurs les Présidents,

Mesdames et Messieurs les Ministres et Secrétaires généraux,

Monsieur le Directeur général de la FAO

Honorables Participants,

Chers Collègues

Mesdames et Messieurs,

Je remercie le Directeur général de la FAO de m'avoir invité à cette cérémonie historique qui fait la grande fierté de tous ceux qui ont contribué à éradiquer de la planète le fléau de la peste bovine qui a ruiné pendant des siècles des économies rurales dans le monde entier.

Je voudrais saluer pour cela la FAO, l'AIEA, les bailleurs de fonds, les gouvernements de toute la communauté mondiale, les éleveurs ainsi que tous les scientifiques et mes prédécesseurs à l'OIE qui ont aussi œuvré pendant des dizaines d'année pour arriver à ce résultat.

Je ferai une mention spéciale à la profession vétérinaire qui remporte ainsi une grande victoire contre une épizootie redoutable qu'elle combat depuis des siècles et qui de plus se célèbre à l'occasion du 250ème anniversaire de sa création à Lyon en France.

Après la variole éradiquée par nos collègues médecins il y a 31 ans c'est au tour des vétérinaires de rayer de la carte pour la première fois une épizootie. Les Délégués nationaux des Pays Membres de l'OIE ont voté le 25 mai 2011 la Résolution n°15 qui reconnaît indemnes de peste bovine les 198 pays qui hébergent des animaux sensibles à cette maladie ainsi que la Résolution n°18 portant sur la déclaration de l'éradication mondiale de la peste bovine et la mise en œuvre de mesures de suivi visant à maintenir l'absence de cette maladie dans le monde. Ils nous ont à cette occasion demandé aussi de continuer à travailler avec la FAO pour amener nos Pays Membres à prendre toutes les mesures appropriées pour prévenir la résurgence de virus encore détenus dans quelques laboratoires.

Mais d'autres chantiers similaires nous attendent. Nous devons redoubler d'efforts pour contrôler d'autres maladies redoutables comme la fièvre aphteuse, la peste des petits ruminants ou la rage qui pour sa part tue encore 50 000 personnes par an dans le monde.

Nous devons pour cela convaincre tous les décideurs que ces actions ne relèvent pas des concepts de bien agricole ou de bien marchand mais de celui de Bien Public Mondial car elles profitent à tous les peuples, toutes les générations et contribuent à la réduction de la pauvreté, à la santé publique, à la sécurité alimentaire, à l'accès aux marchés pour tous ainsi qu'au bien-être animal.

C'est une tâche exaltante pour nos Organisations, pour les Services vétérinaires et pour tous les Gouvernements et les bailleurs de fonds, tant les bénéfices attendus pour tous sont considérables.

Alors n'attendons plus.

Je vous remercie pour votre attention

INTRODUCTION OF THE GOOD WILL AMBASSADORS BY THE FAO DIRECTOR GENERAL

Anggun Cipta Sasmi

Anggun made history for being the first Asian artist to break into the international music scene by releasing her first international album "Snow on the Sahara" in Europe, Asia and America. This album produced her biggest worldwide hit single today.

To date, Anggun has sold approximately 3 million copies of records worldwide and has become the most successful

Asian artist outside Asia. Her success has spread throughout Europe as well as several parts of the Asian region. She has given encouragement to Asian women through her career as an Asian singer with international success. Salutations by Anggun and musical performance.

Mory Kanté

Mory Kanté is the heir of the griots, the "djéli" the Mande, a caste of poets and singers of the Mandinka culture. This legendary artist has changed the history of African music. Its international success is due to the harmonization of the traditional African sounds with pop sounds of Western culture, magical fusion of Mande and electronic styles.

There is a social commitment behind the music of this great artist who has implemented a series of cultural and social initiatives in Africa.

Salutations by Kanté and musical performance.

Pierre Cardin

Two days before the ceremony, Pierre Cardin held a fashion show at the Villa Medici in Rome to raise funds to support community projects of FAO, especially in the Horn of Africa, which we know is a region that has been affected by rinderpest.

UNVEILING OF THE COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE CELEBRATING GLOBAL FREEDOM FROM RINDERPEST

FAO Director-General declares that Global Freedom from Rinderpest has been fully achieved for all.



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PART II

Statements

FAO Headquarters
Monday 27 June 2011

STATEMENT BY THE FAO ASSISTANT DIRECTOR-GENERAL, AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION DEPARTMENT

Modibo Traoré



*Excellences, Mesdames, Messieurs les Ministres;
Excellences Mesdames et Ministres les Ambassadeurs et les Représentants Permanents;
Monsieur le Secrétaire Général de la Convention sur les termes biologiques;
Monsieur le Directeur Général Adjoint de l'OIE;
Monsieur le Directeur Général Adjoint de l'AIEA;
Monsieur le Directeur du BIRA/UA;
Mesdames, Messieurs du Comité Conjoint FAO/OIE sur l'Eradication de la Peste bovine;
Messieurs les Anciens Coordinateurs des Campagnes PARC, SAREC, WAREC et PACE;
Mesdames et Messieurs les Directeurs des Services Vétérinaires des Pays membres de la FAO;
Chers Amis, Chers Collègues;*

Je voudrais tout d'abord vous souhaiter à tous au nom du Directeur général, le Dr Jacques Diouf, une chaleureuse bienvenue à la FAO et à Rome. Le Directeur général avait souhaité être des nôtres ce matin, malheureusement il se trouve en ce moment même en train de faire rapport à la Conférence Générale, l'organe de Gouvernance Suprême de la FAO. Il m'a donc chargé de vous féliciter pour le succès éclatant remporté sur la Peste Bovine et de vous dire merci au nom des éleveurs et des petites exploitants agricoles des 192 Pays membres de la FAO.

Merci pour le travail exemplaire abattu par les Services vétérinaires de vos pays respectifs dans le cadre de la lutte contre le fléau de la Peste bovine.

Merci à tous ceux qui ont accepté de quitter le confort d'une retraite paisible pour reprendre du service et partager leur expérience de lutte contre la Peste Bovine avec les nouvelles générations.

Je voudrais enfin vous dire merci au nom de tous ceux qui n'auront pas vécu assez longtemps pour voir ce jour, mais qui auront toute leur vie durant travaillé sans relâche pour que ce jour soit. Il n'y a pas de lieu plus approprié pour rendre hommage à leur sacrifice et rappeler la mémoire des milliers de professionnels de l'Élevage et de la Santé animale dont les noms et l'écho des exploits scientifiques et technologiques ont traversé les siècles pour inspirer aux générations actuelles les valeurs de rigueur dans le travail, de solidarité et de partenariat qui ont rendu possible la victoire sur le virus de la Peste bovine. Nous leur devons une reconnaissance éternelle!

Excellences, Mesdames et Messieurs

Avec l'éradication globale de la Peste Bovine, une étape décisive vient d'être franchie dans la quête de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale. Il ne s'agit pas simplement de l'impact direct et multiforme de l'éradication sur la production et la productivité agricole, ou sur les revenus des producteurs mais aussi des connaissances inestimables accumulées tout au long de la lutte et grâce auxquelles nous sommes à présent mieux outillés pour faire face à la menace que représentent les maladies animales transfrontières pour la sécurité alimentaire mondiale.

Qu'il s'agisse des outils de diagnostic ou de la production de vaccins adaptés, de l'organisation et de la coordination à tous les niveaux des campagnes de lutte, de la mise en réseau des laboratoires et des équipes d'experts, du Partenariat entre les Organisations internationales concernées ou de la mobilisation des ressources indispensables aux différentes opérations, nous disposons aujourd'hui de référentiels éprouvés qui ne demandent qu'à être adaptés et appliqués pour contrôler voire éradiquer d'autres épizooties dévastatrices à travers le monde. Nous nous devons d'analyser les différents éléments de ce nouveau paradigme, en étudier les facteurs du succès et les conditions de leur pérennisation.

Souvenons-nous des leçons du PC15 et de la résurgence des foyers qui s'en est suivie!

Certes des pays isolés ou des régions entières peuvent parvenir par leur propres efforts à s'affranchir de l'impact direct des maladies animales transfrontières en s'abritant

derrière des forteresses plus ou moins étanches qui les protègent mais qui maintiennent le virus chez les voisins. L'Histoire enseigne qu'une forteresse assiégée de tous côtés finit toujours par s'écrouler. C'est pourquoi nous devons continuer à œuvrer ensemble pour rendre nos acquis d'aujourd'hui irréversibles. Car si le virus de la Peste bovine a effectivement été vaincu sur les champs de bataille, il n'a pas pour autant cessé d'exister!

Le lourd tribut payé à cette épizootie et l'étendue de notre victoire d'aujourd'hui nous font obligation de continuer à travailler ensemble pour la sécurisation du Cheptel mondial. A cet égard les stocks existants du virus doivent être mis sous bonne garde dans les laboratoires où leur présence ne remet pas en cause le nouveau statut épidémiologique de la Planète. C'est pourquoi, mes chers collègues, nous vous exhortons à mener ce combat dans vos Pays respectifs; à vous assurer que les stocks échappant à votre contrôle direct n'échappent pas au contrôle de la Convention sur les Armes biologiques.

C'est une nouvelle étape de notre aventure collective qui commence. Nous n'avons d'autres choix que de la réussir.

Je vous remercie.

OBJECTIVE OF THE SYMPOSIUM

Juan Lubroth (CVO)



Deputy Director General of the World Health Organization for Animal Health, Kazuaki Miyagishima

Assistant General Director – Agriculture and Consumer Protection Department, Modibo Traoré

Director of the Animal Production and Health Division of FAO, Samuel Jutzi

Chair of the Joint FAO/OIE Committee on Rinderpest, Bill Taylor

GREP Secretary, Felix Njeumi

Colleagues and friends,

Tomorrow many, if not all of us will witness history. The Membership of the States of the responsible body of the United Nations at the Ministerial level will recognize the world to be free of rinderpest, just as their chief veterinary officers did one month ago at the OIE General Session,

attended by many of you. This GREP symposium is being held as part of the 37th FAO Conference, where yesterday Graziano da Silva has been elected as the next Director General in leading this organization in feeding the hungry and the alleviation of poverty; the importance of animal health and the work of veterinarians have a large role to play.

As we savour this moment – or rinderpest eradication; please do visit the exhibits in the David Lubin Memorial Library or the Flag Room (both on the ground floor near the Atrium); enjoy the Eternal City that is Rome with friends and colleagues - there is room for reflection. This achievement comes with responsibility. Today we are hosting a GREP Symposium to air what is needed to keep the world safe or safer from rinderpest re-occurrence, what are the risks, and how should we approach these challenges.

I would like to recognize the work of the GREP Secretariat; and that of its first and last Secretary, Peter Roeder and Felix Njeumi (please stand) and all those of the Animal Health Service who work with countries to improve animal health nationally and globally. Animal health serves to the success to our colleagues across the hall in the production and animal genetic resource groups, and work with those responsible for providing policy, economic, and vision and trends in the livestock sector. The eradication of rinderpest should be studied and lessons extracted for our future interventions to feed a growing population that each day is demanding quality nutrition afforded by animals and animal products.

This is certainly an accolade for veterinary medicine and the partnership of numerous institutions – both technical and financial. I also want to recognize Professor Peter Doherty, who graces us with his presence along with his wife Penny Doherty. Professor Doherty shared the Nobel Prize in Medicine in 1996 with Swiss colleague Rolf Zinkernagel, for their discovery of how the immune system recognises virus-infected cells. He is the first person veterinarian (the only) to win a Nobel Prize and will be addressing the Plenary session tomorrow morning on this historic occasion.

I also want to acknowledge my predecessors, Yosh Ozawa, who held the position I now have and was a visionary in that rinderpest could be eradicated with the right instruments on hand, including the work of the OIE in the status of countries; and, Mark Rweyemamu, long-time head of EMPRES, where the Global Rinderpest Eradication Programme was situated.

One of the risks is the retention of rinderpest virus containing materials. Many of you filled a questionnaire sent by FAO and OIE in 2010; and while the results and analyses are interesting, I am bothered (and worried) of what the questionnaires do not tell me – incomplete information from all potential institutes, research facilities or veterinary faculties. We are still awaiting replies from some countries where rinderpest was known to circulate and this informa-

tion is important to determine what this means to a World Free from Rinderpest.

In this regard FAO has commissioned a more robust risk analysis effort and a joint letter signed by DG OIE and myself some four weeks ago to the CVOs of 198 countries and territories, recognizing that research facilities or vaccine producers will need to be targeted. Please help us with this effort.

- Regional concerns in managing rinderpest in the post-eradication era – synopsis of the concerns at regional level where rinderpest was a problem.
- The socio-economic impact and cost benefit of rinderpest eradication – methodologies.
- Risk analysis of rinderpest re-emergence - commissioned by FAO.
- Obligations of member countries and institutions to safeguard global rinderpest freedom.
- Virus sequestration and OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code: rinderpest chapter (OIE).
- Lessons from smallpox post-eradication Pathogen and risk for world security (R. Lennane, Biological Weapons Convention).
- The challenges to be faced in the post-eradication era (W. Taylor).
- Contingency and Emergency plans (FAO).

There will be room for discussion, and rest assured that FAO will not close down the GREP Secretariat as there is much to be done, and the Joint FAO/OIE Committee on Declaration of Rinderpest Eradication has made some important recommendations, and in fact, imposing responsibilities to the FAO and OIE which will require investment of resources, personnel, and the development of strategies. One of the recommendations is to set up an advisory body that serves FAO and OIE. This advisory body cannot be ceremonial and would need to guide and advise the organizations.

We hope to hear and invite Ministers of Livestock to make statements on achievement and commitment for the post eradication era.

Lastly, FAO wishes to give a tribute in the form of FAO-GREP awards to individuals, institutions and agencies for recognising their outstanding contributions to global freedom from rinderpest.

The comments and recommendations from this Symposium can feed into ways and mechanisms for a stronger partnership between FAO, OIE, regional organizations through a rinderpest advisory board.

This is a welcoming and a review of the Objectives. Do, however, enjoy each other's company and the Eternal City. There may be some interviews that will be conducted by journalists and personnel of the Communications department, please give them your valuable time.

Thank you

MESSAGE OF THE MINISTER FOR LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

The Honourable Abdul Latif Biswas



I express my deepest sense of regret for my inability to join the Symposium on Rinderpest Eradication: Achievement and obligations owing to my unavoidable preoccupations in my country. I share the common pride with the world community for the landmark achievement of defeating a formidable enemy of the humanity. I recall the wonderful moment when 79th Annual General Session declared the world free from Rinderpest in a unanimously adopted resolution. I feel proud as a witness of such a magnificent moment of the world history.

Rinderpest had been a nightmare for the humanity for centuries. Commitment from national governments and international organizations made it possible to defeat this dreadful disease which caused famine, death, starvation and social disturbance for centuries. Bangladesh as a part of the world community had always been active in the noble efforts to eradicate the disease.

During the eradication efforts, the capacity of veterinary services in research, disease investigation, disease diagnosis and field services has been enhanced. Successful eradication campaigns have instilled a sense of confidence which will be an invaluable instrument in taming other animal diseases. Achievements have also been made in our efforts to control other disease like Avian Influenza, FMD, PPR, Newcastle but we have not yet been able to wipe them out.

Animal disease threatens food security, nutrition, employment, poverty reduction and public health. Bangladesh is fully committed to support any global and regional initiatives to curb animal diseases. We are committed to Global Frame Work for Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs) and we have been actively participating in any initiative undertaken under the frame work. However, we want to see further dynamism and momentum in GF-TADs activities.

Along with high impact animal diseases we have to give attention to emerging and reemerging zoonotic diseases and

a multidisciplinary and multisectoral one health approach. Furthermore, we have to improve and enhance the information sharing and technical cooperation bilaterally and multilaterally.

In the post eradication era of Rinderpest we should be remain vigilant to prevent any chance of reemergence of the disease and we should use the experienced gathered during eradication to control and finally eradicate high impact animal and zoonotic diseases . I reiterate the commitment of Bangladesh to be with world community in their effort to control and eradicate transboundary animal diseases.

I once again express my gratitude to the Director General of FAO for inviting the Honourable Prime Minister and me to attend the conference. Honourable Prime Minister has also expressed her regret for her inability to join the conference.

I wish a very successful conference and good health of everybody attending the conference. Though I am not physically with you, my heart is with you and your endeavor to make a hunger free world.

Joy Bangla

Joy Bongobondhu

REMARK BY THE MINISTER FOR LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA

The Honourable Mohamed Kuti



Kenya has a large livestock resource base comprising of over 14 million indigenous cattle, 3.4 million exotic cattle and 45 million sheep and goats.

The country's livestock industry contributes 12% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) while it makes up 40% of the agricultural GDP. It employs at least 50% of the agricultural labour force.

Growth in the livestock industry has been impressive. The country is currently exporting milk, meat, hides, skins and semi-processed leather as well as live animals.

About 60% of Kenya's livestock herd is found in the arid and semi-arid lands (ASALs), which constitute about 80% of the country. It is estimated that 10 million Kenyans living

in the ASALs derive their livelihood largely from livestock.

As it is with other sub-Saharan countries of Africa, transboundary animal diseases continue to be a hindrance towards the growth of our livestock industry.

Kenya played a key role in the development and testing of rinderpest vaccines from the early 1900's. We consider the Live Tissue culture attenuated vaccine (TCRV) to be Kenya's major contribution towards the fight against rinderpest. It was developed by Plowright and Ferris who adapted the Kabete-O vaccine strain to grow in primary bovine calf kidney cell monolayers. TCRV was used extensively all over Africa and contributed greatly towards the eventual eradication of the disease.

Although we have eradicated rinderpest the threat of occurrence of other transboundary diseases including emerging and re-emerging livestock diseases continues to limit the realization of full benefits to our livestock producers. Some of these diseases are zoonotic in nature and pose a big threat to human life.

Studies evaluating the benefits of the investment made in rinderpest eradication show a positive socio-economic impact.

The capacities built and the lessons learnt from combating rinderpest have been extremely useful to Kenya as the country continues its fight against other emerging and re-emerging disease threats.

The government of Kenya now has a strengthened epidemio-surveillance system comprising of both passive and active monitoring and surveillance components. These are being applied successfully in detecting any incursion of new diseases as well as to determine the prevalence levels of priority endemic diseases.

Syndromic surveillance, a tool that was introduced during the final years of eradication of rinderpest is currently being applied to search for priority diseases such as PPR, RVF, Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP) and HPAI.

Linkages with other partners such as the Kenya Wildlife Service and the Ministry of Public Health and Sanitation have been strengthened with the realization that a multi-sectoral approach to surveillance and reporting of common diseases is the way forward. One health approach to tackling zoonotic diseases is being applied.

Laboratory diagnostic capacities have been strengthened to internationally acceptable standards with the Central Veterinary Laboratory being currently upgraded through the construction of a BSL 3 laboratory.

Decades of combating rinderpest through vaccinations have resulted in improved capacities for vaccine production and delivery. As an example, from the time when PPR was identified in Kenya in April 2006, the country was able to carry out massive vaccinations to bring the outbreak under control.

Strategies for combating FMD, CBPP, BSE, RVF and CBPP are currently under review and rezoning has been carried out for the latter.

Kenya recognizes the importance of a regional approach to combating transboundary diseases where diseases are being addressed as a cross-border problem requiring regional solutions.

The vanquishing of rinderpest from Kenya is a culmination of over fifty years of concerted efforts by the government of Kenya in partnership with several development partners as well as international organizations that deal with animal health.

The government of Kenya wishes to recognize the invaluable contributions of the European Union, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, the African Union among others, towards the control and eradication of Rinderpest.

It goes without saying that the eradication of rinderpest from its last known foci in the world, also referred to as the horn of Africa, could not have been achieved without a regional approach involving all the member countries of this region. It is my sincere hope that this regional as well as international cooperation will continue with the aim of eventually eradicating the remaining transboundary diseases such as PPR that pose a threat to the livestock industries of individual member states. Surveillance should also continue to manage the risk of rinderpest re-emergence in the post-eradication era.

Thank you

ALLOCUTION DU MINISTRE DE L'ÉLEVAGE ET DE LA PÊCHE DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE DU MALI

Son Excellence Monsieur Bokary Treta

Mesdames et Messieurs les Ministres en charge de l'Agriculture, de l'Élevage et de la Pêche,

Monsieur le Directeur Général de l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'Alimentation et l'Agriculture (FAO);

Monsieur le Directeur Général de l'Organisation Mondiale de la Santé Animale (OIE);

Madame la Directrice Générale de ("Organisation Mondiale de la Santé (OMS);

Mesdames et Messieurs les invités d'honneur à la Trente Septième session de la conférence de la FAO;

Mesdames et Messieurs les représentants des organisations internationales ;

Distingués Invités ;

Mesdames et Messieurs,

L'occasion est agréable pour m'adresser à vous, au nom de Son Excellence Monsieur Amadou Toumani TOURE, Président de la République du Mali, en cette journée historique de Commémoration de l'Éradication de la Peste Bovine dans le monde.

Permettez-moi en cette circonstance, de remercier très sincèrement Monsieur le Directeur General et l'ensemble des responsables de la FAO pour les efforts déployés en

vue de la tenue de la 376^{me} Session de la Conférence de notre Organisation, et singulièrement la Commémoration de l'Éradication de la Peste Bovine dans le monde.

La République du Mali se réjouit tout particulièrement de l'honneur qui lui a été fait par la FAO en invitant personnellement Son Excellence Monsieur Amadou Toumani TOURE, Président de la République à prendre part à la présente cérémonie. Malheureusement, Son Excellence Monsieur le Président, en raison des engagements pris antérieurement, n'a pu personnellement prendre part à cette importante rencontre. C'est pourquoi, j'ai reçu l'insigne honneur et la mission, en ma qualité de Ministre de l'Élevage et de la Pêche, de venir parler en son nom et de vous transmettre ses salutations, ses félicitations et ses vœux de plein succès à la présente Conférence.

Excellence Monsieur le Directeur General, Mesdames et Messieurs,

Mon pays, le Mali a une vocation agropastorale avérée. L'élevage y joue un rôle très important dans la réalisation de la sécurité alimentaire et la lutte contre la pauvreté. Il constitue une source de création de richesses pour une partie très importante de notre population en général et des communautés d'éleveurs en particulier.

Les effectifs du cheptel ont été estimés en 2010 à 9.160.000 bovins, 11.865.000 ovins, 16.500.000 caprins, 922.000 camelins, 75.000 porcins et 36.000.000 volailles (source, DNPIA). Ce qui fait du Mali l'un des plus grands pays d'élevage de l'Afrique subsaharienne. Cet élevage, tributaire des conditions climatiques, est essentiellement de type extensif bien qu'on assiste ces dernières années à l'émergence d'un élevage semi intensif autour des centres urbains.

Malgré le potentiel existant et les marges possibles d'amélioration et de valorisation des productions animales, des efforts importants restent à faire pour que l'élevage malien parvienne à satisfaire en quantité et en qualité les besoins alimentaires des populations en produits animaux notamment: le lait et les produits laitiers.

Excellence Monsieur le Directeur General,

Mesdames et Messieurs,

La Politique Nationale de Développement de l'Élevage, adoptée par le Gouvernement du Mali en 2004, vise à assurer le développement du sous-secteur en vue d'assurer une croissance économique durable, de garantir la sécurité alimentaire et de réduire la pauvreté. Celle-ci accorde une place de choix à l'exécution des programmes de lutte contre les maladies animales.

Conscientes que la levée des contraintes sanitaires est indispensable pour l'amélioration des productions animales, Les Plus Hautes Autorités du Mali se sont très fortement impliquées dans la conduite des actions de santé animale. En témoigne le lancement des campagnes nationales annuelles de vaccination du cheptel contre les maladies

animales par le Président de la République en personne, qui par ailleurs, est le Président d'honneur de l' Association Vétérinaire Africaine (AVA).

*Excellence Monsieur le Directeur General,
Mesdames et Messieurs,*

L'éradication de la peste bovine dans le monde est l' aboutissement des efforts conjugués des responsables politiques, administratifs, techniques et des communautés des éleveurs pendant des décennies. En effet, les Etats africains, avec l' accompagnement de notre Organisation continentale, l' Union Africaine (UA) et à travers son Bureau Interafricain des Ressources Animales (UA-BIRA), ont organisé deux campagnes de lutte majeures contre la peste bovine. Il s' agit de la Campagne Conjointe ou PC 15 et de la Campagne Panafricaine de Lutte contre la Peste Bovine ou PARC.

La Campagne Conjointe s' est déroulée en 6 phases, entre 1962 et 1976, avec le concours financier de la Communauté Economique Européenne (CEE) et a concerné 22 pays Africains. Elle a couté 70 millions de dollars US. Cet effort financier important a permis de contrôler le fléau qui désormais était resté retranché entre la Mauritanie et le Mali en Afrique de l' Ouest et dans le massif Ethiopien en Afrique de l' Est.

En l' absence de mesures conservatoires, ces foyers résiduels en Afrique de l' Ouest et en Afrique de l' Est s' étaient propagés à nouveau pour engendrer une nouvelle flambée de la pandémie à partir de 1978. C' est donc en raison de cette recrudescence de la peste bovine que l' UA-BIRA a conçu une deuxième campagne panafricaine de lutte contre la peste bovine sous les auspices de la FAO et de l' OIE, avec le concours financier massif de la CEE, porté à 165 millions de dollars US.

Il convient aussi de signaler et de saluer l' apport financier de donateurs comme les Gouvernements italien, japonais, nigérian et anglais, les organismes comme la FAO, l' USAID et l' AIEA.

Excellence Monsieur le Directeur General, Mesdames et Messieurs,

L' événement qui nous réunit aujourd' hui participe de cela, car il s' agit de célébrer la victoire du monde entier sur ce fléau ravageur qu' a été la peste bovine. C' est aussi la deuxième fois, après une première victoire mondiale sur la variole humaine, que des efforts synergiques de l' ensemble de notre communauté viennent à bout d' une maladie. Dans l' effort mondial pour vaincre le fléau de peste bovine, l' Etat malien, à travers ses services de santé animale a joué sa partition. En effet, depuis 1962, le Mali a assuré avec une certaine Constance la surveillance épidémiologique de la peste bovine.

Si en 1980, la maladie de la peste bovine fut enregistrée dans 26 localités du Mali avec 584 cas de maladies et 350 cas de morts, en 1986 déjà la maladie n' a été enregistrée

que dans 2 localités (Koulikoro et Gao) totalisant 21 cas de maladies et 17 cas de décès. Depuis, l' année 1986 aucun cas de peste bovine n' a été suspecté.

Le Mali, en plus de l' aide internationale, a régulièrement inscrit dans son budget d' Etat des dotations pour assurer l' équipement des services vétérinaires et la production de vaccins. Rien que pour la phase d' éradication de la peste bovine, l' Etat malien a mobilisé plus de 800 millions de FCFA pour la surveillance épidémiologique de la peste bovine.

*Excellence Monsieur le Directeur General,
Mesdames et messieurs,*

Notre pays, le Mali a officiellement arrêté les vaccinations contre la peste bovine à partir de Décembre 1997. Cette décision fut notifiée à l' époque aux pays voisins et aux organisations sous régionales, continentales et internationales telles que la CEDEAO, l' UA-BIRA, l' OIE et la FAO, en même temps que sa déclaration de pays provisoirement indemne de peste bovine. Le Mali a été officiellement déclaré indemne de peste bovine, le 23 mai 2003. Trois années plus tard, le 26 mai 2006, il a été déclaré indemne d' infection de peste bovine.

Aussi, depuis l' adhésion du Mali au Programme mondial d' éradication de la peste bovine (GREP), qui reste encore aujourd' hui un élément fondamental du mécanisme de coordination internationale en vue de promouvoir l' éradication de la peste bovine, et à la procédure OIE d' éradication de la peste bovine (procédure OIE), notre pays a mis en place son réseau national d' epidemio-surveillance EPIVET - Mali.

Grâce au réseau EPIVET-Mali, les services vétérinaires du Mali sont parvenus non sans difficultés à contrôler les maladies prioritaires et à mener avec succès les dernières étapes de la procédure d' éradication de la peste bovine. Ce réseau, aujourd' hui finance exclusivement par le budget national du Mali, pourrait mériter l' attention des partenaires bi et multilatéraux.

Excellence Monsieur le Directeur General, Mesdames et Messieurs,

Je peux vous affirmer sans risque de me tromper que l' éradication de la peste bovine a été déterminante dans l' augmentation des effectifs du cheptel bovin au Mali. En effet, depuis le recensement du dernier cas de peste bovine au Mali en 1986, les effectifs des bovins ont évolué de 4 475 000 têtes à 8 600 000 têtes en 2009, soit une augmentation de près de 100%. Ceci a eu sans nul doute pour conséquence l' augmentation de la production des produits animaux et l' amélioration des revenus des maliens, qui pratiquent l' élevage à plus de 80% en milieu rural.

Monsieur le Directeur General de la FAO ; Mesdames et Messieurs,

Je ne saurais terminer mes propos, sans adresser au nom du Chef de l' Etat du Mali, Son Excellence Monsieur Ama-

dou Toumani TOURE, ma reconnaissance aux partenaires techniques et financiers qui ont contribué favorablement à rendre efficaces et efficients les efforts du Gouvernement du Mali dans la lutte contre la peste bovine. Il s'agit notamment de l'Union Européenne, de la FAO, de l'OIE et de l'UA-BIRA.

Je voudrais aussi saisir l'occasion qui m'est offerte pour saluer et apporter un soutien appuyé à la Commémoration durant la présente session de notre organisation de la très grande victoire de la communauté internationale sur la peste bovine par :

- La lecture solennelle d'une Déclaration d'éradication mondiale de la peste bovine;
- Le dévoilement d'une plaque commémorant «l'éradication mondiale de la peste bovine» ; et
- La tenue du «Colloque sur l'éradication de la peste bovine: réalisations et obligations».

Je voudrais enfin rassurer que le Gouvernement de la République du Mali ne ménagera aucun effort pour se conformer aux résolutions de la 796^{me} session Générale de l'Assemblée Mondiale Annuelle des délégués nationaux de l'OIE, relative à la mise en œuvre des mesures de suivi visant à maintenir l'absence de la peste bovine dans le monde.

Je vous remercie de votre aimable attention.

ALLOCUTION DU MINISTRE DE L'ÉLEVAGE DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE DU NIGER

Monsieur le Directeur Général de la FAO

Monsieur le Directeur Général de l'Organisation Mondiale de la Santé Animale (OIE)

Messieurs les Représentants des organisations Internationales de Coopération

Honorables invités

A vos titres grades et qualités

C'est avec un réel plaisir que je prends la parole à l'occasion du Symposium GREP sur l'éradication de peste bovine dans le Monde.

J'apprécie à sa juste valeur l'honneur et le privilège que vous faites à mon pays en l'invitant à prononcer une allocution devant cette auguste assemblée.

Il s'agit là d'une marque de considération pour notre pays qui, comme vous le savez vient de parachever le processus démocratique ayant conduit à l'organisation des élections démocratiques libres et transparentes qui ont consacré l'élection de SEM Issoufou Mahamadou, Président de la République, Chef de l'Etat.

A cet effet, il me plaît de vous rappeler que le Président de la République, conscient du potentiel que représente l'élevage a pris le ferme engagement de lui insuffler une nouvelle dynamique avec la création d'un département approprié.

Du reste dans l'initiative «3N», c'est-à-dire les Nigériens Nourissent les Nigériens, l'accent sera mis sur :

- la promotion des systèmes de productions performants et la valorisation des productions animales,
- le renforcement des capacités d'intervention des services vétérinaires,
- la Modernisation de l'Élevage et sécurisation des systèmes pastoraux et agropastoraux,
- la maîtrise des conditions sanitaires des animaux terrestres et aquatiques, ainsi que la sécurité sanitaire des aliments,

Aussi voudrai je remercier une fois de plus la FAO et l'OIE pour la tenue de cet important Symposium qui nous permettra sans nul doute de tirer les leçons de la lutte contre la peste bovine et de dégager des stratégies qui nous permettront de lutter résolument contre les autres maladies prioritaires du bétail et en particulier la peste des petits ruminants.

Mesdames et messieurs

Honorables invités

Notre cheptel évalué à l'occasion du dernier recensement réalisé en 2005 et dont je salue au passage l'expertise de la FAO est composé de : 9 millions de bovins ; 24 millions de petits ruminants, 1,5 millions de camelins, 1,5 millions d'ânes et 600.000 équins.

Il contribue à 14% à la formation du PIB et constitue la deuxième source de richesse après les ressources minières.

L'élevage emploie plus 87% de la population active et se déploie sur près de 62 millions d'hectares.

Cependant cet élevage paie un lourd tribut aux sécheresses récurrentes et aux maladies.

En effet, avant et au lendemain de l'Indépendance les problèmes de l'élevage au Niger étaient essentiellement d'ordre sanitaire avec des foyers répétitifs de maladies contagieuses meurtrières dont notamment la peste bovine, la péripneumonie contagieuse des bovidés, les charbons symptomatique et bactérien, les pasteurelloses bovines et ovines etc.

De toutes ces maladies, la peste bovine est la plus redoutable et c'est cette maladie qui a causé le plus de dégâts au cheptel nigérien : Le Niger a connu sa première épizootie de peste bovine en 1865, puis d'autres vagues en 1890, 1895, 1915 ; pendant ces 4 vagues 80 à 90% du cheptel nigérien fut détruit ; et depuis la peste bovine est restée endémique au Niger avec diminution des incidences meurtrières.

En effet, l'exceptionnelle gravité de la maladie a fait que les pouvoirs publics au Niger depuis la première République (1960-1974) jusqu'au début de la 5^{ème} République (1999), le Niger a régulièrement organisé des campagnes systématiques de vaccination gratuite et obligatoire contre la peste bovine sur l'ensemble du territoire national.

Ceci a permis de faire baisser dans un premier temps la fréquence des foyers pour finalement les faire disparaître ; le dernier foyer de peste bovine au Niger a été enregistré

en 1986 mais les vaccinations ont néanmoins continué jusqu'en 1999.

A partir de cette date le Niger en même temps que les autres pays du monde et sous l'égide de l'Organisation Mondiale de la Santé Animale (OIE) s'était engagé dans la «Procédure OIE» pour l'éradication de cette maladie.

Ce qui a valu à notre pays d'obtenir le certificat de reconnaissance de pays indemne de peste bovine en mai 2010 par l'OIE.

Mesdames et messieurs

Honorables invités

La peste bovine, fléau qui a longtemps décimé des cheptels, va officiellement être déclarée totalement éradiquée le 28 juin 2011, comme l'avait été la variole en ce qui concerne les maladies humaines.

C'est un moment solennel pour l'humanité car au terme d'une lutte qui a duré plusieurs décennies, une maladie animale est éradiquée dans le monde.

Cette victoire, nous la devons à plusieurs années de lutte menées par les pouvoirs publics avec la participation des autorités administratives et coutumières, des services vétérinaires, des éleveurs et organisations d'éleveurs et de l'appui des partenaires techniques et financiers.

Je voudrai également saluer les institutions de recherche vétérinaire qui nous permis de disposer des vaccins efficaces.

Cependant, pour déclarer une maladie complètement éradiquée, nous devrions être certains que le virus ne circule plus dans aucun pays au monde. Comme pour la variole, le virus pourrait toutefois être conservé dans quelques laboratoires de haute sécurité, afin de servir à fabriquer rapidement des vaccins en cas.

Au niveau de notre continent, toutes les dispositions sont prises pour séquestrer ce virus au niveau PANVAC conformément à la résolution de la 8eme Conférence des Ministres en charge des Ressources Animales de l'Afrique tenue en Mai 2010 à Entebbe en Ouganda.

Il a été ainsi recommandé à tous les Etats Membres de l'Union Africaine de détruire toutes les souches du virus de la peste bovine existantes en Afrique et de transmettre l'UA/PANVAC tous les autres produits biologiques contenant le virus de la peste pour une conservation dans un environnement de haute sécurité biologique.

Cette résolution fut endossée par le Comité Exécutif et les Chefs d'Etat durant le sommet annuel de Janvier 2011 de l'Union Africaine.

Mesdames et messieurs

Honorables invités

Avant de terminer mon allocution, permettez moi une fois de plus d'exprimer notre reconnaissance à la FAO, à l'OIE, à l'Union Européenne, aux partenaires bilatéraux et multilatéraux, à la communauté scientifique dont l'engagement et le dévouement et leur contribution maté-

rielle, technique et financière à nos services vétérinaires pendant plusieurs décennies, ont permis d'éradiquer la peste bovine au Niger et dans tout le continent.

Je voudrai également saluer la coordination continentale sous l'égide de lu Bureau Inter Africain des Ressources Animales qui nous a permis de transcender nos frontières et harmoniser nos méthodes de lutte.

Du reste, les expériences ainsi que les stratégies mises en œuvre dans le cadre de la lutte contre la peste bovine doivent être utilisées pour éradiquer d'autres maladies en particulier la Péri Pneumonie Contagieuse des bovidés, la Peste des Petits des Petits Ruminants, la trypanosomiase.

Aussi, la Peste des Petits Ruminants ne sera-t-elle pas la prochaine maladie candidate à l'éradication?

En effet, la recrudescence de la peste des petits ruminants dans le monde, particulièrement en Afrique de l'Ouest et au Niger mérite une attention soutenue et une conjugaison des efforts et synergies au niveau régional et international.

C'est vous dire que nous aurons aujourd'hui plus qu'hier besoin de votre compréhension et de votre solidarité afin qu'une stratégie mondiale puisse être élaborée en utilisant les méthodes et outils qui ont permis aujourd'hui de bouter le virus de la peste bovine hors de la planète.

Enfin, une communication et un dialogue permanent doit être instauré entre les différents acteurs afin d'une part de partager dans la joie cette victoire sur le virus de la peste bovine et d'autre part de renforcer la surveillance générale des maladies.

Je vous souhaite une bonne délibération.

DISCOURS DU MINISTRE DES RESSOURCES ANIMALES ET HALIEUTIQUES DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Son Excellence Monsieur Kouassi Adjoumani Kobenani



*Monsieur le Directeur Général de la FAO,
Monsieur le Représentant du Directeur Général de l'Organisation Mondiale de la Santé Animale (OIE),
Monsieur le Chef de Délégation de la Communauté européenne,*

*Chers collègues Ministres chargés des Ressources Animales dans vos pays respectifs,
Mesdames et Messieurs les Délégués des pays membres de l'OIE,
Mesdames et Messieurs les Représentants d'Institutions et Organismes partenaires au développement,
Mesdames et Messieurs,*

Au nom de son excellence, Docteur Alassane OUATARA, Président de la République de Côte d'Ivoire, je voudrais avant tout propos, remercier l'OIE et la FAO pour l'organisation du présent symposium auquel nous sommes conviés.

Le sujet de ce jour est de première importance car il s'agit de la peste bovine, maladie redoutable ayant sévi dans le monde depuis 3000 ans avant notre ère.

Si cette épizootie a pu être éradiquée rapidement en Europe, elle a occasionné des ravages en Afrique avec pour corolaire, l'insécurité alimentaire et les pertes de devises, toute chose aggravant la pauvreté et singulièrement en milieu rural.

Mon pays la Côte d'Ivoire, à l'instar des pays frères d'Afrique, a souffert de ce fléau jusqu'en 1986 puis le statut de pays provisoirement indemne de peste bovine lui a été conféré en 1997.

C'est le lieu de reconnaître solennellement l'appui technique et financier de l'Union Européenne (EU), la FAO, l'OIE, l'AIEA à travers différents programmes exécutés en trois (03) périodes pour aboutir à la déclaration officielle de pays «indemne d'infection de peste bovine» par l'OIE, au cours de sa 74ème Session Générale en Mai 2006.

Ces actions qui ont mis en synergie les ressources humaines, techniques et financières nationales et extérieures ont indéniablement engendré d'importants acquis au plan institutionnel qui demandent non seulement à être renforcés mais à se pérenniser.

Aussi, qu'il me soit permis, en cet instant solennel et historique d'émettre le souhait que cette solidarité internationale, ces dynamiques panafricaines et nationales puissent se développer contre d'autres maladies infectieuses comme la Péripleurite Contagieuse Bovine (PPCB), la Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR), la Fièvre Aphteuse, le charbon bactérien, etc.

Il faudrait également agir contre les pathologies invalidantes comme la trypanosomose animale africaine et les maladies à tiques. Ceci permettra de soutenir efficacement et durablement la stratégie mondiale de sécurité alimentaire et de lutte contre la pauvreté en vue de la réalisation des objectifs du millénaire pour le développement.

Pour terminer mon propos, je voudrais remercier encore une fois l'OIE, la FAO, l'Union Européenne, l'Union Africaine en particulier son Bureau en charge des Ressources Animales et tous les partenaires techniques et financiers qui ont permis l'éradication de la peste bovine.

C'est un grand bonheur et un soulagement pour l'humanité puis une victoire de la solidarité internationale.

Vive la coopération internationale.

Je vous remercie.

STATEMENT BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH OF THE REPUBLIC OF ITALY

His Excellency Ferruccio Fazio



Mr. Chairman,

As it is well known, when in the XVIII century Europe was constantly infected with rinderpest, where the cattle plague caused widespread economic and political damage, it was Dr. Giovanni Maria Lancisi, from Rome, who suggested the control methods that are still valid today.

Nevertheless, Italy has experienced devastating rinderpest outbreaks in the XIX and the beginning of the XX century, then it has been essentially free of the disease except for minor rapidly controlled outbreak in 1949, that took place in Rome zoo, due to the introduction of wild ungulates from Somalia.

Indeed, Italy has committed itself to the Global rinderpest eradication, for a secure world without rinderpest.

At the same time Italy has cooperated and collaborated with FAO, OIE and different countries in the fight against rinderpest.

Responding to a request from the Director General of FAO, Italy has contributed financially to cover part of the cost of this International symposium, the reprinting of the book "De bovilla peste" of Lancisi and the realization of a Monument.

Thoroughly and transparent cooperation and collaboration among countries, with free exchange of know-how and expertise, without barriers has been fundamental in the fight against rinderpest to achieve the goal of a global rinderpest eradication.

Italy welcomes the success of the global rinderpest eradication and congratulates FAO, OIE and all the other actors who made possible this very important achievement, the first animal disease to be eradicated and the second disease in the history of humankind after smallpox, and

a step forward to eradicate other diseases, starting from "Peste des Petits Ruminants".

STATEMENT OF THE AFRICAN UNION

Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture



*Excellencies,
Honorable Ministers,
Distinguished participants,
Ladies and gentlemen,*

H.E. Dr. Jean Ping The Chairperson of African Union Commission and H.E. Madam Tumusiime Rhoda Peace, Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture of the

African Union Commission (AUC) thank FAO for the invitation extended to them. As you all know AU Head of States summit is currently taking place in Malabo Equatorial Guinea and for this reason they are not today with us.

On behalf of the African Union represented here by the Inter African Bureau for Animal Resources and the Pan African Veterinary Vaccines Centre I wish to most sincerely thank FAO for organizing this very important event.

Indeed The eradication of rinderpest is an essential milestone in African Union fight against poverty and therefore this success is highly appreciated.

I congratulated all, who participated in the Global Eradication of Rinderpest.

The African Union Commission will continue to provide its technical offices IBAR and PANVAC with all the necessary means to maintain the status of Rinderpest freedom in Africa.

I take this opportunity to thank all the donors, technical partners for the support given to the African Union during the process of Rinderpest Eradication.

I thank you.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE SYMPOSIUM ON RINDERPEST ERADICATION

Achievements and obligations

CONGRATULATING the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations and its international and national partners for the outstanding achievement in the global eradication of rinderpest;

RECOGNIZING the continuing risk posed by laboratory stocks of rinderpest virus and the need to safeguard the world's cattle population against the rinderpest virus;

NOTING the binding commitments by the membership of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Organisation for Animal Health, and States Parties and signatories to the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention in the safeguarding of pathogens, including rinderpest virus;

AWARE

- of the recommendations of the Food and Agriculture Organization's Global Rinderpest Eradication Programme Symposium held in Rome, Italy, in October 2010 "*Lessons learned from the eradication of rinderpest and their possible application to other diseases*";

- that *peste des petits ruminants* virus continues to increase its geographical range with severe effects on farmer livelihoods and food security;
- that this disease, with its similarities to rinderpest, has been identified as an appropriate disease for future global control and eradication;
- that where other high impact animal diseases are considered a regional priority, they too require concerted action to reduce their negative impact on animal health, food security, nutrition and communities' livelihoods;

THE SYMPOSIUM urges FAO

- to continue to support the Global Rinderpest Eradication Programme (or its future equivalent)⁶ and the activities planned to implement the post-eradication strategy;
- to initiate, in collaboration with global, regional and national partners, appropriate programmes for the control and eradication of peste des petits ruminants within the framework of improved ruminant health; and,
- to strengthen existing or new programmes aimed at minimizing the effect of high impact diseases and promote efficiency in animal production.

⁶ For example, Global Rinderpest Prevention Programme "GRPP"



PART III

Statements

FAO Headquarters
Tuesday, 28 June 2011

09.30 am

Speech of the Director General of FAO

09.40 am

Speeches - P. Doherty. Nobel Laureate 1989

09.52 am

Statement by the Italian Ministry of Health
F. Fazio

09.54 am

Statement by the DDG OIE - K. Miyagishima

09.56 am

- Introduction to the Resolution (M Traoré)

- Discussion and approval of Draft Resolution
(Members)

10.30 am

Closing

DISCOURS DU DIRECTEUR GÉNÉRAL DE LA FAO

Jacques Diouf



*Madam / Mr. Chairperson of the Conference,
Mr. Independent Chairperson of the Council,
Distinguished Ministers,
Honourable Ambassadors and Permanent Representatives,
Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,*

Depuis sa fondation en 1945, la FAO porte une attention particulière aux zones rurales des pays en développement, où vivent actuellement 70 % des hommes, des femmes et des enfants victimes de la pauvreté et de la faim dans le monde.

Dans ce contexte, l'Organisation mondiale de la santé animale (OIE), l'Agence internationale de l'énergie atomique, l'Union africaine et d'autres acteurs s'emploient, en étroite collaboration avec la FAO, à protéger la santé animale et à favoriser l'élaboration de stratégies de lutte contre les maladies animales à fort impact comme la peste bovine.

Cette maladie était depuis notre fondation, au cœur de nos préoccupations, compte tenu des séquelles durables qu'elle a laissées dans une grande partie du monde. La maladie a sévi pendant des millénaires en Asie et en Europe et a fait son apparition plus récemment sur le continent africain, où les pertes massives qu'ont subies les élevages et les populations sauvages ont eu des retombées catastrophiques sur les moyens d'existence et la sécurité alimentaire des populations, compromettant directement les approvisionnements en lait et en viande.

La FAO, en partenariat avec d'autres organisations et les pays touchés ou menacés par la maladie, a toujours encouragé la mise en œuvre d'une série de programmes régionaux coordonnés.

Le Programme mondial d'éradication de la peste bovine (GREP), que la FAO a lancé en 1994, a permis de pérenniser les acquis des projets antérieurs et de renforcer l'efficacité des programmes internationaux d'éradication en rassemblant des individus, des pays, des institutions et des bailleurs de fonds autour d'un même objectif.

Le 25 mai 2011, au Siège de l'OIE à Paris, les derniers États et territoires du monde ont été officiellement déclarés exempts de la maladie.

Ce même jour, le Comité conjoint FAO/OIE pour l'éradication de la peste bovine, créé en juin 2009, a soumis aux deux organisations un rapport concluant que:

- A.** le virus de la peste bovine ne circulait plus chez les animaux et avait été éliminé de la surface de la terre;
- B.** les souches virulentes ou atténuées du virus de la peste bovine conservées dans les laboratoires constituaient une menace potentielle susceptible de remettre en question le statut de la maladie.

Le Comité a par ailleurs formulé des lignes directrices sur

le confinement des échantillons de laboratoire axées sur la séquestration de virus et la sécurité biologique.

À l'issue des travaux du Comité, une résolution a été élaborée et présentée aux délégués de vos pays respectifs à l'OIE. Elle a été adoptée techniquement dans son intégralité et la FAO vous la soumet pour approbation politique.

Mesdames et Messieurs;

Selon une étude récente de la FAO, le coût total des activités d'éradication menées depuis les années 50 aurait été inférieur à 5 milliards de dollars. Dans le même temps, nos estimations indiquent qu'entre 1965 et 1998, la lutte contre cette maladie a conduit à une augmentation de la production animale mondiale de 289 milliards de dollars.

L'une des leçons essentielles tirées de cette expérience concerne l'importance du soutien politique et financier. L'Union européenne a investi plus de 250 millions d'euros en plus des contributions des pays infectés et à risque. Un grand nombre, voire l'ensemble, des personnes réunies ici aujourd'hui, conviendront que les services vétérinaires constituent un bien public qu'il convient de doter de financement et de moyens adéquats et de gérer en toute transparence.

Mesdames et Messieurs;

Nous ne devons pas laisser s'essouffler la dynamique née de l'éradication de la peste bovine.

Maintenant que pourrait être adoptée la résolution sur la peste bovine intitulée *Déclaration d'éradication mondiale de la peste bovine et de mise en œuvre des mesures de suivi nécessaires au maintien de l'éradication dans le monde*, elle sera ainsi la première maladie animale à être éradiquée par l'homme, et la deuxième maladie en général après la variole.

Nous devons aussi porter notre attention sur les mesures à prendre pour que cette éradication soit durablement bénéfique, dans l'intérêt des générations à venir.

Ceci passe la mise en œuvre d'une stratégie post-éradication qui aura pour objet de prévenir toute réapparition de la maladie.

Nous espérons aussi pouvoir mettre à profit les avancées scientifiques et les partenariats nés, pour nous attaquer à d'autres maladies animales notamment la peste des petits ruminants, la fièvre aphteuse et les zoonoses telles que la brucellose et la rage.

Alors que nous célébrons l'un des plus grands succès de la FAO et de ses partenaires, je me dois de rappeler que la réussite extraordinaire de ce programme aurait été inconcevable sans les efforts concertés et l'engagement résolu des gouvernements et des principales organisations d'Afrique, d'Asie et d'Europe, et sans le soutien constant des bailleurs de fonds.

Enfin, je voudrais également saisir cette occasion pour remercier tous ceux qui ont consacré leur temps et leur carrière à cette noble entreprise. Certains qui se sont dis-

tingués, avaient reçu hier des **Médailles d'Honneur de la FAO**: 6 bailleurs de fond, 11 institutions et 51 individus (donc 11 à titre posthume).

Je vous remercie de votre attention.

STATEMENT BY THE NOBEL LAUREATE FOR MEDICINE

Peter Doherty



*A great achievement and the road ahead
Your Excellencies, friends and colleagues,*

My role in this assembly is, I believe, to speak as a scientist and to convey the congratulations of the broader scientific community. Congratulations to the key policy makers and facilitators of the FAO and the OIE, congratulations to the political leaders and administrators in the various Nation States and, above all, congratulations to the people on the ground, the veterinary scientists, the laboratory workers, the field officers, the communicators, the farmers and the cattle herders who brought the scourge of rinderpest to an end.

Then, as a research scientist who has spent a long career working on animal virus infections and immunity, it may be appropriate for me to say a little about the issues that remain as we seek to deal with other problematic virus diseases. Modern molecular science is immensely powerful though, to tell the truth, it played little part in the eradication of rinderpest.

Nowhere is the "one world" concept of veterinary and human medicine more relevant than in the area of microbial disease. That's true of the zoonoses like, for example, ebola, rabies, SARS and Nipah virus, all bat-borne infections that transmit to us, often via a domestic animal "amplifier". Then, there's the issue of nutritional deficit in a world that FAO estimates has in excess of a billion people in hunger. When it comes to countering inadequate micronutrient, calorie and high value protein intake, alleviating the toll of infectious disease in both animals and people has to be a major priority.

Though not a zoonosis in the conventional sense, contemporary molecular genetic approaches suggest that rin-

derpest virus and human measles virus evolved from a common ancestor some 10 to 12 centuries back. Now, as we celebrate the eradication of rinderpest its sibling, measles, is still with us. As a one-host pathogen of humans, it should also be possible to eliminate measles from the planet. The problem is the anti-vaccination movements in the advanced countries. Many young parents in Europe, the USA and so forth have never seen the common diseases of childhood and, though they may be well educated in the liberal arts sense, know little of pathology and do not accept that vaccination is a collective responsibility.

We should also say a little of the scientific background to the eradication of rinderpest. The vaccine used was developed decades back by World Food Prize Laureate, the late Walter Plowright, who built on earlier experiments by scientists like JT Edwards at what is now the Indian Veterinary Research Institute. In fact, the history of trying to deal with rinderpest by some form of controlled infection goes back to times before Louis Pasteur and Robert Koch established the germ theory of infectious disease in the mid to late 19th century.

The same is true for smallpox, the only other virus that has ever been eliminated. Way back in 1796, Edward Jenner took his original vaccinia virus from the teat of an infected cow. Meeting in Rome we recall that "Vacca" is the latin word for cow, so vaccination itself has a bovine origin. By the 1920's, following the broad principle of attenuation discovered for fowl cholera (the second ever vaccine) by Louis Pasteur, Edwards used 600 serial transfers through goats to establish a less virulent strain of rinderpest virus. Then the safer and cheaper Plowright vaccine was developed much later by passage through tissue culture.

Scientifically at least, the eradication of rinderpest reflects approaches based in long-established quarantine and test and slaughter policies, and what might be described as "steam" virology. Given the resources and the political will, it is clearly feasible to think in terms of controlling some other major infections of domestic animals in this way. Obvious candidates are the rinderpest-like PPR and, perhaps, Newcastle disease and foot and mouth disease.

Other infections, like African Swine fever look almost as difficult as human HIV/AIDS. Despite spending hundreds of millions of dollars and applying every relevant advance in molecular technology, AIDS remains refractory when it comes to vaccine development. Though the chemists and pharmacologist have done well, drug therapy has little relevance to infections of domestic animals. We can't give up on AIDS vaccines, but it is important to ask the question whether vaccination is the way to go when it comes to all veterinary infectious diseases.

Some infections, like avian influenza, will always be with us. A broad spectrum of influenza A viruses is maintained

in nature by a diversity of wild water fowl. There is thus no obvious way that these viruses could ever be eliminated from the planet. Vaccination has only been partially effective in controlling the continuing, high-path H5N1 epidemic, which has, to date, led to the loss of some 500 million to a billion domestic chickens. That represents an enormous loss, both of high value protein and in economic terms.

What may well be feasible with a rapidly reproducing species like the domestic chicken is to use contemporary molecular science to establish genetically-modified birds that resist infection with all influenza A viruses. Apart from the benefits to producers and consumers, removing the mutant virus incubators that large chicken houses represent should also serve to minimize the emergence of novel pandemic viruses that infect humans and/or other domestic animal species. Early experiments look encouraging, but a major issue here is the acceptability of such GM birds for human consumption.

Science continues to offer extraordinary possibilities for the control of animal disease. There is no lack of talent in the veterinary research community, which functions as part of the "one world" of modern molecular technology and medicine. What is essential is to maintain the necessary funding and, when innovative solutions are reached, to ensure that novel strategies for disease control are socially acceptable. Clearly, we need continued leadership and coordination from the FAO and the OIE, working in concert with other International Agencies and the various Nation States. Sustaining animal agriculture and strong veterinary services must continue to be a major, global priority as we seek to feed all the human family.

STATEMENT BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH OF THE REPUBLIC OF ITALY

His Excellency Minister Ferruccio Fazio



*Mr chairman,
Mr director general,
Distinguished ministers,
Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,*

Today is a memorable day for the people of all the

world. We witness a historical event and we are here to celebrate the global eradication of rinderpest, a devastating cattle disease, viciously contagious and often fatal, that has been a curse for farmers throughout the ages, often contributing to famines that in turn have fuelled turbulence and war.

Recurrent rinderpest outbreaks in some parts of Africa and Europe led, in 1924, to the creation of the Office International des Epizooties (OIE), by 28 founding member countries, among which Italy. Rinderpest has also been a significant catalyst for the birth and development of modern veterinary science and its eradication is a monumental victory for the discipline.

It is a great honour for me and my country, where Lancia, born in Rome, began fighting against rinderpest in early 18th century, to host in Rome the 192 member countries of FAO who adopt a resolution to formally recognize this outstanding global achievement, made possible under FAO's Global Rinderpest Eradication Programme. This is a result of the successful collaboration of a multitude of governments, international and regional organizations, the veterinary profession, and the scientific community.

Italy has committed itself to the global rinderpest eradication, for a secure world without rinderpest.

Responding to a request of the Director General of FAO, Dr. Jacques Diouf, Italy contributed financially to cover part of the cost of the three activities envisaged by this celebration of the global rinderpest eradication:

- The international symposium held yesterday, dedicated to the accomplishment of rinderpest eradication and the obligations of the membership to ensure that the virus is properly safeguarded or destroyed following FAO/OIE guidelines
- The reprinting of the book "de bovilla peste" of Lancia and
- The realization of a monument dedicated to the eradication of rinderpest, to be unveiled in October 2011.

I believe that the celebration of the global rinderpest eradication, the first animal disease to be eradicated in the world and the second disease in the history of humankind after smallpox, will be also a move forward to eradicate other diseases, starting from "peste des petits ruminants" that is causing significant economic impact on Africa's people by constraining the livelihoods and endangering the food security of the poor and marginalized members of society, who rely on small ruminants for food and income.

My country is committed to give a technical contribution in this fight.

Together we have defeated rinderpest, together we can defeat other diseases, together we can beat hunger and poverty.

Thank you.

DÉCLARATION DE L'ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTÉ ANIMALE (OIE)

Kazuaki Miyagishima, Directeur général adjoint



Monsieur le Président,
Mesdames et Messieurs les Ministres,
Monsieur le Directeur général de la FAO
Honorables Délégués,
Mesdames et Messieurs,

C'est avec un grand plaisir et un grand honneur que l'OIE (Organisation mondiale de la santé animale) participe à cette conférence et s'associe à la FAO, à l'occasion de la conclusion d'un long processus d'éradication de la peste bovine, une longue marche que nous avons entamée il y a fort longtemps.

Au nom du Directeur général de l'OIE, Bernard Vallat, je salue la FAO, l'AIEA, les bailleurs de fonds, les organisations régionales, les gouvernements de toute la communauté internationale, pour avoir contribué à éradiquer la peste bovine et à libérer l'humanité de ce fléau qui a ruiné pendant des siècles des économies rurales dans une bonne partie du globe.

Durant ces dernières décennies d'efforts de l'éradication de cette maladie, l'OIE et la FAO ont joué des rôles complémentaires et synergiques. Alors que la FAO a piloté nombre de projets de vaccination et de surveillance sur le terrain, l'OIE a mis en place un système de reconnaissance de statut sanitaire des pays, en vérifiant et certifiant l'élimination de l'infection, pays par pays. Ce tandem OIE-FAO s'est avéré fonctionnel et efficace, et peut être cité parmi les meilleurs exemples de collaboration entre-agences. Ce modèle de coopération pourra être appliqué dans la lutte contre d'autres maladies animales dans le futur, en nous basant sur des expériences du passé, comme nous ont encouragé à le faire les ministres de l'Agriculture réunis récemment à Paris pour un G20 sur les questions agricoles et la sécurité alimentaire.

Ceci dit, nous ne sommes pas tout-à-fait arrivés au bout de nos actions. Il y a de nombreuses activités que nous devons entreprendre aux niveaux national, régional et international pour assurer que le monde reste indemne de



26 November 2010, Meru - President of Kenya Mwai Kibaki (R) listening to Kenya Department of Veterinary Services' Peter Ithondeka (L) explain the unveiled statue of a buffalo at the Meru National Park where the last known outbreak of rinderpest amongst the local buffalo population was recorded almost a decade ago. Rinderpest, a disease afflicting mainly cloven-hooved animals, is only the second disease to be successfully wiped out globally, after smallpox, through human efforts. It is seen as a significant step in the fight against poverty and hunger, especially in communities that depend on agriculture and livestock for their livelihoods.

la peste bovine, en réduisant le risque de réémergence de la maladie, quelle que soit sa cause. Dans certains domaines, l'investissement devrait être renforcé au lieu d'être réduit. C'est un travail de longue haleine, comme le témoigne le débat continu, même aujourd'hui, au sein de l'Organisation mondiale de la santé, plus de trente ans après l'éradication de la variole.

Devant ce défi majeur, l'OIE souhaite exprimer sa disponibilité et son engagement de continuer à travailler avec la FAO, et fournir un cadre international nécessaire dans la période post-éradication, au service de nos Etats membres et leurs Services vétérinaires.

Merci, Monsieur le Président.

37TH FAO CONFERENCE C2011

AGENDA ITEM 14, DOCUMENT C 2011/15 DECLARATION ON RINDERPEST ERADICATION

Introduction by the ADG, Agriculture and Consumer Protection Department

Modibo Traoré

Thank you Chair,

Mme Chairperson, Excellencies, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

Within a year from its establishment, FAO convened a first international meeting (1946) on animal health in London, with the aim of exploring how the Organization could best assist in the harmonization of efforts to contain high impact livestock diseases, in particular those that were transboundary in nature. Rinderpest was at the top of the list and ever since there has been a continuous effort to address and prevent animal disease threats from crippling people's health and livelihoods.

Major campaigns in Asia throughout the 1950s and 1960s and in Africa, from 1960 through 1976, brought the disease largely under control. However, because of weaknesses in operational and structural follow-up, rinderpest resurged in the 1980s and spread widely in sub-Saharan Africa, Central and South Asia.

The FAO Council at its 83rd Session, in June 1983, endorsed a recommendation of the Committee on Agriculture regarding the need to formulate and implement national and international strategies for animal health, including the action to control rinderpest. Particular concern was expressed on the resurgence of this disease in Africa, Near East and Asia. The Council also requested FAO to provide assistance to countries to control the disease and to mobilize support for the Pan African Rinderpest Campaign (PARC), the South Asia Rinderpest Eradication Campaign (SAREC), the West Asia Rinderpest Eradication Campaign (WAREC) and subsequent programmes.

The Global Rinderpest Eradication Programme (GREP) was established in 1994 as a global coordinating and partnership arrangement. GREP, as part of EMPRES (Emergency Prevention System for Transboundary Animal and Plant Pests and Diseases), introduced a framework for the progressive, sequenced, and time-bound eradication of rinderpest worldwide. GREP considered the year 2010 as the projected deadline for global rinderpest eradication. The FAO-IAEA Joint Division on Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture has been instrumental in introducing new diagnostic tools and building laboratory capacities and capabilities in developing countries. The World Organisation for Animal Health (the acronym OIE is better known and stands for Office International des Epizooties) developed guidelines with inputs from FAO experts, several other institutions and reference laboratories.

The last reported outbreak of rinderpest was in 2001 (in Kenyan wildlife) and the last known use of vaccine was in 2006 in Central Asia.

At its 107th session, in November 1994, the Council noted the ongoing activities to strengthen FAO support to global rinderpest eradication and expressed its appreciation of the emergency assistance provided to several countries linked to risks of serious epidemics of rinderpest.

An independent review process was required to unequivocally establish that rinderpest eradication had been achieved, in a manner akin to the process adopted to declare smallpox eradication by the World Health Assembly (WHA) in 1980. FAO and OIE agreed to establish a Joint FAO/OIE Committee on Global Rinderpest Eradication in June 2009. The main function of the Joint FAO/OIE Committee was to provide advice on the evidence available to the Directors-General of FAO and OIE, and review and monitor the process of declaring the eradication of rinderpest.

The Joint FAO/OIE Committee came to two major conclusions:

- rinderpest as a freely circulating viral disease had been eliminated from the world; and,
- the presence of virulent or attenuated rinderpest virus in laboratories constitute a potential threat to the global disease status.

The Joint FAO/OIE Committee proposed several recommendations that include safeguarding or destroying existing rinderpest virus strains and the safe keeping of vaccines. In addition, the Joint FAO/OIE Committee formulated guidelines for rinderpest virus sequestration or safe custodianship.

The World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE (mainly Chief Veterinary Officers) held from 22 to 27 May 2011, recognized 198 countries and territories of the world as free from rinderpest.

Based on this internationally and scientifically certified body of evidence, the Conference is invited to:

1. adopt the Resolution containing the Declaration on Global Freedom from Rinderpest and on the Implementation of Follow-up Measures to Maintain World Freedom from Rinderpest;
2. request FAO to implement follow-up measures to maintain worldwide freedom from rinderpest;
3. urge the membership to assume its duties and responsibilities to safeguard World Freedom from Rinderpest, as recommended by the Joint FAO/OIE Committee on Global Rinderpest Eradication.

Chairperson,

I thank you for giving me the floor.

Statement on behalf of the European Union and its Member States

Item 14: Declaration on Rinderpest Eradication

Mrs/Mr. Chairperson,

1. I am speaking on behalf of the European Union and its 27 Member States. The candidate countries to the EU, Croatia, Montenegro, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey associate themselves with this statement.
2. The EU congratulates all nations and territories that have, under the guidance of FAO and OIE made important efforts and joined forces for this achievement.
3. The EU welcomes the resolution 18/2011 of the 79th session of the World Assembly of delegates for animal health (OIE) on the Declaration, of Global Eradication of rinderpest.
4. The EU has been from the outset, that is the Joint Programme 15 (JP15- 1961-1976), a main partner and donor of the Global Rinderpest Eradication Campaign and is now contributing also to the very last phase, the post eradication. The Union contributed approximately 390 million € to Rinderpest control and subsequently eradication over the last 50 years, helping building sustainable capacity in animal health, for livestock and wildlife of partner countries.
5. Rinderpest eradication starting from Giovanni Maria Lancisi's recommendations has been not only about fighting the disease but has provided donors, development practitioners and veterinarians with new experiences and new tools to improve animal health services -including for marginalised communities-, disease surveillance and control techniques at national and regional level. It has also been an opportunity to strengthen regional cooperation and regional institutions, like for instance the AU-IBAR in Africa.
6. Focusing constantly on long-term capacity building, on a broad institutional reinforcement of services, on multisectoral and comprehensive approaches, on the sub-regional and regional convergence of standards, the EU has been a driving force towards achieving an international common goal in animal diseases control.
7. This great achievement shows that disease control needs cross-border coordination and cooperation and that disease eradication is possible at global level, and, moreover, that it can be used to aggregate energies and resources on structural improvements.

Thank You, Mrs/Mr. Chairperson.

DECLARATION ON RINDERPEST ERADICATION

The Conference adopted the following Resolution: Resolution 14/2011 "Declaration on Global Freedom from Rinderpest and on the Implementation of Follow-up Measures to Maintain World Freedom from Rinderpest "

Mindful of the devastation caused by rinderpest, a viral disease of cattle, buffalo and many wildlife species that led to famines, demise of livelihoods in Africa, Asia and Europe, and loss of animal genetic resources over centuries and of the crucial importance that its global eradication is widely acknowledged and the world protected from its re-occurrence;

Acknowledging the successful collaboration of FAO with many Governments, international and regional organizations, the veterinary profession and the scientific community to achieve this ambitious goal, recalling its vision of a world free from hunger and malnutrition, where the food and agriculture sectors contribute to improving the living standards of all in an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable manner, and reiterating the global goals set out by the FAO Members to foster the achievement of this vision as formulated in the Organization's Strategic Framework 2010-19;

Recalling the establishment of the Emergency Prevention System for Transboundary Animal and Plant Pests and Diseases (EMPRES) in 1994, in particular its Global Rinderpest Eradication Programme, including a goal for worldwide eradication by 2010;

Considering the announcement of the Director-General in October 2010 that the Organization had ended all its field operations after having obtained reliable and conclusive evidence that all countries were free from rinderpest and that the disease had been eradicated in its natural setting;

Noting the conclusions reached by the Joint FAO/OIE Committee on Global Rinderpest Eradication and the adoption of Resolution 18/2011 by the 79th General Session of May 2011 of the World Assembly of Delegates of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE);
Noting further the technical findings of FAO, OIE and IAEA concerning the evidence of rinderpest eradication;

Acknowledging the responsibility of Governments to reduce the number of existing rinderpest virus stocks through their safe destruction, or through their transfer to internationally recognised reference institutions;

1. **Declares** solemnly that the world has achieved freedom from rinderpest in its natural setting;
2. **Expresses** its deep gratitude to all nations, organizations and individuals who contributed to the

fight against rinderpest and the successful eradication of the disease;

3. **Calls** upon FAO to assume its responsibility for undertaking the measures to maintain worldwide freedom from rinderpest, as recommended by the Joint FAO/OIE Committee on Global Rinderpest Eradication;
4. **Encourages** FAO to take full advantage of the rinderpest eradication achievement and apply the lessons learned to prevent and control other diseases impacting food security, public health, the sustainability of agriculture systems and rural development; and,
5. **Urges** all Members of FAO:
 - i. to maintain, in accordance with the relevant provisions of OIE's Terrestrial Animal Health Code, appropriate surveillance systems for rinderpest and immediately notify the OIE and the FAO/OIE/WHO Global Early Warning System of suspect or confirmed cases of rinderpest;
 - ii. to put in place and update national contingency plans consistent with FAO and OIE global guidance;
 - iii. to destroy, under the supervision of the Veterinary Authority, rinderpest virus-containing materials or assure the storage of these materials in a biosecure facility in their country or, where applicable, assure their safe transfer to an approved laboratory in another country in agreement with the Veterinary Authority;
 - iv. to ensure that rinderpest occupies an appropriate place in veterinary education curricula and training programmes to maintain professional knowledge and adequate diagnostic capabilities at national levels; and,
 - v. to support all technical measures required to minimize the risk of rinderpest re-emergence, or its synthetic manufacture.

(Adopted on 2 July 2011)

The Conference also took note of the statements made by the Director-General of FAO, the Deputy Director-General of the World Organisation for Animal Health, the Minister of Health of Italy, the Nobel Prize laureate P. Doherty and the Assistant Director-General, Agriculture and Consumer Protection Department, as well as the statements made by the European Union and by Brazil.

References: C 2011/15; C2011/LIM/12; C 2011//PV/2; C 2011//PV/5; C2011/PV/11.

Joint FAO/OIE Committee on Global Rinderpest Eradication

Final Report

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) have been engaged in a process aiming to achieve certified global freedom from rinderpest, with an initial target in the year 2010. The task of both organizations was to ensure that every country with susceptible animal populations in the world be listed, by way of self-certification and finally by OIE official recognition of rinderpest infection-free status, on a global rinderpest-free database.

The agreement between FAO and OIE establishing the Joint FAO/OIE Committee on Global Rinderpest Eradication (Joint Committee) was concluded in June 2009. The main function of the Joint Committee was to provide a report of its findings to the Directors General of FAO and OIE, stating whether they are confident that the world can be declared free of rinderpest and/or recommend the actions to be taken for this achievement to be settled. More concretely, the Joint Committee was to: 1) advise the Directors General of FAO and OIE on potential gaps and risks of the proof of rinderpest freedom efforts to allow a firm statement declaring the end of rinderpest virus circulation in the world; 2) draft a joint FAO-OIE text for the global declaration of rinderpest freedom in mid-2011; and 3) draft an international agreement outlining principles and responsibilities for oversight and regulatory actions to ensure rinderpest freedom in the post-eradication era.

The Joint Committee held four meetings: (i) 3 December 2009, FAO headquarters, Rome, (ii) 13-14 April 2009, OIE Headquarters, Paris, (iii) 15-16 July, Joint FAO/IAEA Division, IAEA Headquarters, Vienna, and (iv) 13-14 January 2011, OIE Headquarters, Paris.

The work of the Joint Committee benefited by it attending the FAO workshop on post-eradication activities with participation of OIE, held on 12 October 2010 at FAO headquarters.

In the light of the findings above, the Joint Committee concluded that:

- » Rinderpest as a freely circulating viral disease has been eliminated from the world; and
- » The presence of virulent or attenuated rinderpest virus in laboratories constitutes a potential threat to global biosecurity.

Recommendations

- A resolution should be taken forward by FAO and OIE, for adoption by their governing bodies, declaring global rinderpest eradication and implementing subsequent necessary measures;
- Guidelines on rinderpest virus sequestration as agreed by the Joint Committee in consultation with the OIE Biological Standards Commission should be implemented by national veterinary authorities, OIE and FAO;
- FAO and OIE should, as a matter of urgency, continue to work in close collaboration on the following:
 - » Develop a strategic plan to guide the post-eradication activities at international level;
 - » Complete an analysis of the risks of re-emergence of rinderpest virus, and its consequences;
 - » Prepare an international contingency plan based on the risk analysis;
 - » Set up a joint FAO/OIE Advisory Body on rinderpest, defining terms of reference and membership; this Advisory Body may set up subcommittees, for example to monitor rinderpest research activities;
- National veterinary authorities should update national contingency plans in line with the guidelines for rinderpest virus sequestration and the international contingency plan;
- FAO and OIE should establish an appropriately funded mechanism for oversight and approval of facilities holding rinderpest virus containing material, in conjunction with national regulatory authorities and, where appropriate, with other international organizations;
- FAO and OIE should maintain archives of existing documents (including country dossiers); digitization of files should be considered where possible, as well as identification of documentation that should be made publicly accessible;
- FAO and OIE should find and collate suitable education and training materials, particularly films of rinderpest disease, and package them in a way that is accessible to as wide an audience as possible, through official websites and other publicly accessible file depositories on Internet;
- National authorities should ensure that:

- » Rinderpest remains a notifiable disease;
- » A surveillance system (including rumour tracking and early detection) be maintained to detect disease events;
- » Suspect cases, including undiagnosed die-offs, be rapidly investigated (using existing mechanisms or, where appropriate, the FAO/OIE Crisis Management Centre-Animal Health) and necessary actions be promptly taken;
- On-going support for FAO/OIE rinderpest reference laboratories should include adequate funding for maintenance of diagnostic capability;
- FAO/OIE rinderpest reference laboratories should ensure inter-collaboration;
- The use of rinderpest vaccines should be forbidden except for emergency use in the case of a rinderpest outbreak;
- FAO and OIE should provide guidelines on control procedures, including the use of emergency vaccination;
- Research on historical strains of rinderpest should continue, given that full sequencing promotes greater understanding of Morbillivirus evolution and full sequence data reduce the need to retain live virus stocks;
- Re-creation of rinderpest virus from full genome sequences should be forbidden except in an authorized biosecure facility on approval by FAO and OIE;
- An international Morbillivirus discovery and monitoring programme should be promoted and knowledge gained in rinderpest eradication should be transferred to potential control programmes for other Morbillivirus infections;
- The need for possible novel (e.g. differentiating infected from vaccinated animals) vaccines and diagnostic tests should be determined by the Advisory Body in the light of the risk analysis;
- Vaccines (including related equipment) should be manufactured in accordance with the OIE Terrestrial Manual and held in sustainably-funded vaccine repositories (vaccine banks), coordinated by FAO and/or other appropriate bodies and in liaison with manufacturers; minimum number of repositories should be determined by the Advisory Body in the light of the risk analysis;
- FAO and OIE should vigorously pursue the publication of experiences on rinderpest control and eradication in a book;
- International standards and guidelines on rinderpest, including the OIE Terrestrial Code, OIE Terrestrial Manual, and FAO Manuals, should be updated in the light of global eradication; and
- A specialist rinderpest secretariat should be maintained by FAO and OIE with adequate resources to deliver the rest of these recommendations, including the support to activities of the FAO/OIE Advisory Body.

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The Secretariat of the Joint FAO/OIE Committee was assured by Kazuaki Miyagishima (OIE) and Felix Njeumi (FAO).

GUIDELINES FOR RINDERPEST VIRUS SEQUESTRATION

Endorsed with amendments on 28 January 2010 by the Biological Standards Commission of the OIE

Endorsed with amendments on 14 April 2010 by the Joint FAO/OIE Committee on Global Rinderpest Eradication

Introduction

The global eradication of rinderpest creates a duty for the international community to prevent the re-emergence of the disease through release of virus from laboratory sources. To this end FAO and OIE shall establish the principle of international oversight and regulation of facilities holding rinderpest virus containing material. The objective of the present guidelines is to ensure secure handling and sequestration of rinderpest virus in the post-eradication era. FAO and OIE and Member states undertake to reduce the number of virus repositories in order to minimise the risk of accidental release.

FAO and OIE, in collaboration with Member states, will put in place global contingency plans and will ensure approval of a minimum number of repositories and Reference Centres/Reference Laboratories necessary to maintain preparedness against releases of the virus into the environment. These plans will include, amongst others, vaccine production, vaccine banks and deployment of vaccines in case of emergency. Vaccines should be available to countries for immediate dissemination in case of emergency. The following guidelines deal with biosafety and bio-containment measures to be observed in laboratories and other facilities holding rinderpest virus containing material.

Definitions

For the purpose of these guidelines the following definitions apply:

An *approved BSL3 facility* means a facility that is jointly approved by FAO and OIE and subject to joint regular inspection. The facility meets BSL3 standards as defined in chapter 1.1.2 of the *OIE Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals*, is certified by the Veterinary Authority, and in addition has mandatory shower out for staff and either an exclusion zone or a restricted movement zone for rinderpest-susceptible species around the facility. Staff are subject to restriction on contact with susceptible species (e.g. on farms, in zoos)⁷.

Rinderpest virus-containing material means field and laboratory strains of rinderpest virus; vaccine strains of rinderpest virus including valid and expired vaccine stocks; tissues, sera and other clinical material from infected or suspect animals; and diagnostic material containing or encoding live virus. Recombinant morbilliviruses (segmented or non-segmented) containing unique rinderpest virus nucleic acid or amino acid sequences are considered to be rinder-

pest virus. Full length genomic material including virus RNA and cDNA copies of virus RNA is considered to be rinderpest *virus-containing material*. Sub-genomic fragments of morbillivirus nucleic acid that are not capable of being incorporated in a replicating morbillivirus or morbillivirus-like virus are not considered as *rinderpest virus-containing material*.

Veterinary Authority means the Governmental Authority of an OIE/FAO Member, comprising veterinarians, other professionals and para-professionals, having the responsibility and competence for ensuring or supervising the implementation of animal health and welfare measures, international veterinary certification and other standards and recommendations in the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code in the whole territory.

Guidelines for rinderpest virus sequestration

1. All manipulation of *rinderpest virus-containing materials*, including vaccine production, shall be forbidden unless approved the Veterinary Authority and by FAO and OIE. An advisory body, jointly established by FAO and OIE, shall be tasked to approve in advance and monitor any activities involving the use of *rinderpest virus-containing material*.
2. All countries shall either destroy or transparently audit and manage all remaining rinderpest virus-containing material under biologically secure conditions. The *Veterinary Authority* shall be kept aware of and be held responsible for any activity involving *rinderpest virus-containing material*.
3. *Rinderpest virus-containing material*, with the exception of stocks of packaged, manufactured vaccines, must only be kept, and can only be manipulated, in an *approved BSL3 facility*.
4. Master seed stocks must be maintained in, and tested by, the *approved BSL3 facilities* designated by FAO and OIE. Stocks of packaged, manufactured vaccines, as covered under *rinderpest virus-containing material*, shall only be kept in FAO and OIE approved facilities which are subject to joint regular inspection. Any expired vaccine stocks shall be destroyed by a validated process.
5. *Rinderpest virus-containing material* that is not in an *approved BSL3 facility* shall be destroyed by a

⁷ A detailed protocol on the approval and inspection process for BSL3 facility will be jointly developed by FAO and OIE.



©FAO/TONY KARUMBA

23 November 2010, Nairobi - A laboratory technician working at the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI) where a vaccine for Rinderpest, a disease afflicting cloven-hooved domestic and wild animals, was developed by researchers. Rinderpest, a disease afflicting mainly cloven-hooved animals, is only the second disease to be successfully wiped out globally, after smallpox, through human efforts. It is seen as a significant step in the fight against poverty and hunger, especially in communities that depend on agriculture and livestock for their livelihoods.

- validated process or transferred to an *approved BSL3 facility*. Its relocation or destruction shall be supervised and documented by the *Veterinary Authority* and be notified to FAO and OIE.
6. Transfers of *rinderpest virus-containing material* to an *approved BSL3 facility* located in another country must be notified to FAO and OIE; such material may remain the property of the country of origin.
 7. Transport (intra and inter-country) arrangements for *rinderpest virus-containing material* shall be agreed by the relevant *Veterinary Authorities* in advance and in accordance with chapter 1.1.1 of the *OIE Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals*.
 8. FAO and OIE shall establish and maintain a single global inventory on all existing *rinderpest virus-containing materials*, including vaccine stocks and the facilities holding such stocks and any movement of such materials. The global database shall be kept up-to-date on a permanent basis.
 9. FAO and OIE shall develop a mechanism to facilitate and standardise reporting of *rinderpest virus-containing material* by *Veterinary Authorities* to update the global database.
 10. FAO and OIE shall widely publicise the availability of internationally accessible rinderpest vaccine stocks to assist in convincing national authorities that they do not need to continue holding *rinderpest virus-containing material*.
 11. FAO and OIE shall develop a set of guidelines and standard operating procedures to govern the maintenance of rinderpest vaccine stocks and their use for emergency purposes.
 12. FAO and OIE, through their Reference Centres and Reference Laboratories, (including the laboratory of the Joint FAO/IAEA division) shall advise regional, national and international partners on laboratory-related issues having to do with rinderpest virus, including virus sequestration, destruction and disinfection protocols and diagnostic quality control.
 13. FAO and OIE shall oversee the development of diagnostic kits that do not require the use of live virus within the kit itself or during the manufacture of the kit.

Annexes

ANNEX 1

Sample invitation letters

HEAD OF STATE INVITATION LETTER

C/X/DG-180

16 May 2011

.....,

I have the honour to refer to the important process of moving towards a declaration of global freedom from rinderpest. It will be the first time in the history of humanity that an animal disease will have been declared globally eradicated, and only the second disease for which this has been achieved after smallpox was declared eradicated by the World Health Organization (WHO) in 1980.

In view of the significance of this outstanding success of the international community, it is proposed to assemble and celebrate this achievement through a commemorative event for the unveiling of a plaque celebrating "Global Freedom from Rinderpest".

In this regard, I have the honour to invite you to FAO Headquarters in Rome to participate in this ceremony, which is scheduled to be held on 25 June 2011. Your presence at the commemorative event would, no doubt, confirm the importance that you and your country attach to our common goal of eradicating hunger from the world and would highlight how a complex and difficult initiative such as rinderpest eradication can succeed when the main stakeholders unite their efforts.

As you know, the Global Rinderpest Eradication Programme (GREP) was, and still is, a key element within the FAO Emergency Prevention System for Transboundary Animal and Plant Pests and Diseases (EMPRES), established in 1994. GREP was conceived as an international coordination mechanism to promote the global eradication of rinderpest and verification of rinderpest freedom, while providing technical guidance to achieve these goals. From the outset, the GREP was a time-bound programme, due to declare rinderpest freedom by 2010.

The disease has remained at an almost undetectable level for the last 16 years and, since 2001, there have been no outbreaks of the disease anywhere.

FAO, as well as its partners and donors, have been successful in achieving the goal set in 1994, of eradicating this devastating livestock disease. An official declaration on global rinderpest eradication, prepared jointly by FAO and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), will be tabled for adoption at the 37th FAO Conference (25 June to 2 July 2011) in Rome.

I hope you will be able to participate in this commemorative event.

Accept,, the assurance of my highest consideration.

Jacques Diouf
Director-General

MINISTER OF LIVESTOCK INVITATION LETTER

C/X/DG-180(a)

.....,

I have the honour to refer to the important process of moving towards a declaration of global freedom from rinderpest. It will be the first time in the history of humanity that an animal disease will have been declared globally eradicated, and only the second disease for which this has been achieved after smallpox was declared eradicated by the World Health Organization (WHO) in 1980.

In view of the significance of this outstanding success of the international community, it is proposed to assemble and celebrate this achievement through a series of commemorative events to be held during the 37th FAO Conference (25 June to 2 July 2011) in Rome.

The first of these events is the unveiling of a plaque celebrating "Global Freedom from Rinderpest", which is scheduled to be held on 25 June 2011, and to which your Head of State has been invited separately.

The second event is the "Symposium on Rinderpest Eradication: Achievements and Obligations" to be held on 27 June 2011. This is a technical meeting for all Chief Veterinary Officers and special guests to both celebrate rinderpest eradication and to consider responsibilities and activities that national authorities and international agencies need to undertake to safeguard global freedom from rinderpest.

During the Conference, on 28 June 2011, the dignitaries will witness the adoption of a Global Declaration of Freedom from Rinderpest.

Your presence at the events of 27 and 28 June 2011 would, no doubt, confirm the importance that you and your country attach to our common goal of eradicating hunger from the world and would highlight how a complex and difficult initiative such as rinderpest eradication can succeed when the main stakeholders unite their efforts.

As you know, the Global Rinderpest Eradication Programme (GREP) was, and still is, a key element within the FAO Emergency Prevention System for Transboundary Animal and Plant Pests and Diseases (EMPRES), established in 1994. GREP was conceived as an international coordination mechanism to promote the global eradication of rinderpest and verification of rinderpest freedom, while providing technical guidance to achieve these goals. From the outset, the GREP was a time-bound programme, due to declare rinderpest freedom by 2010.

The disease has remained at an almost undetectable level for the last 16 years and, since 2001, there have been no outbreaks of the disease anywhere.

FAO, as well as its partners and donors, have been successful in achieving the goal set in 1994, of eradicating this devastating livestock disease.

I hope you will be able to participate in this commemorative event.

Accept,, the assurance of my highest consideration.

Jacques Diouf

ANNEX 2

Awards

Special significant inputs into the eradication of rinderpest

Participants were selected on the basis of their significant contributions to the eradication of rinderpest. In some cases these contributions were seminal to increasing epidemiological understanding and developing diagnostic tools, vaccines and surveillance methodology. In others, they helped develop and promote the concepts of rinderpest eradication in order to implement control/eradication programmes and ensure international coordination.

Name	Justification	Institution or Country
J.T. Edwards	Passed a bovine strain of rinderpest virus serially through goats to "fix" it and, fortuitously, produced a stable goat-adapted virus 1926.	United Kingdom
T. Barrett	WRL; vaccine development.	United Kingdom
J. Nakamura	Lapinised avianised rinderpest strains that were used extensively as vaccine in highly susceptible cattle of eastern Asia, including Japan, China and Korea (late 1920's).	Japan
Y. Cheneau	For services to PARC, both in persuading the major donor to underwrite another vaccine-based rinderpest eradication project and in the setting up and monitoring of national projects in keeping with Jan Mulder's five dialogue points.	France
W.G. Beaton	First Director of IBAH to have marshalled international support for rinderpest coordinated control from Tropical Africa, under JP-15.	United Kingdom
T. Lwebandiza	Elimination of rinderpest from Tanzania by mid-1960's, being the first country in East Africa.	United Republic of Tanzania
W. Plowright	RP cell culture, virus characterisation and development of cell culture adapted and attenuated virus that became universally employed for regional control of RP in Africa, West Asia and South Asia + epidemiological work.	United Kingdom
A. Provost	Author of the report titled "Global Eradication of Rinderpest", FAO June 1992.	France
G. Scott	Author of the report titled "Global Eradication of Rinderpest", FAO June 1992.	United Kingdom
I.M. MacFarlane	For running the eastern African leg of JP15.	United Kingdom
H. Lepissier	For running the West African leg of JP15 and understanding the need for zoosanitary controls as well as vaccination.	France
R. Geiger	QA; EQC; Caucuses and Central Asia; capacity building; performance elements.	Germany
J. Anderson	WRL; reference diagnostics; cELISA; technology transfer.	United Kingdom
P.G. Atang	Director of IBAH (later IBAR) who continued to provide leadership to JP-15. His joint paper with Plowright drew attention to the risk of mild rinderpest to rinderpest control in Eastern Africa.	Cameroon
S.P. Anbumani	Director of Veterinary Services, Tamil Nadu, responsible for focusing intensive vaccination in 1995/6 on Districts still retaining endemic rinderpest, thereby eradicating the virus from India.	India
B. Admassu	Masterminding the attack of rinderpest last focus in Ethiopia in the Affar in 1995.	Ethiopia
J. Crowther	Analytical and diagnostic technology transfer and capacity building; especially ELISA technology and surveillance for thousand of samples.	United Kingdom
M. Hussain	National Project Coordinator responsible for completion of large scale serological surveillance and PDS-oriented clinical surveillance; Coordinator in Central Asia.	Pakistan
A. James	Socio-economic models and understanding of market chains and the herd as a reservoir rather than the individual.	United Kingdom
M. Jeggo	International coordination of sero-surveillance; development of performance indicators for the rinderpest eradication programme; quality control; training.	United Kingdom
G.A. Kiani	Control of rinderpest incursions into Iran from Iraq and services to GREP in clarification of rinderpest epidemiology in Iran, central Asia, Afghanistan and Pakistan during the 1990s.	Iran (Islamic Republic of)
R. Kock	Wildlife investigations and the role of wildlife in epidemiology and as indicator species	United Kingdom

(cont.)

Name	Justification	Institution or Country
T. Leyland	Building community-based animal health worker programmes in Sudan, Uganda and Kenya; Participatory epidemiology for targeting vaccinations and clinical surveillance in remote areas in Africa	United Kingdom
J. Mariner	Thermostable vaccine; vaccination strategies; participatory epidemiology; rinderpest modelling	United States of America
W. Masiga	Regional Coordination; Director AU-IBAR	Kenya
S. Masood	Rinderpest Monitoring Officer, Strengthening Livestock Services Project for services in the clinical and serological investigation of non-specific ELISA positive samples through back-tracing.	Pakistan
J.N. Mollel	OIC VIC Arusha when rinderpest invaded Tanzania in 1997; responsible for maintaining a veterinary investigation ethic in the face of severe resource constraints and of organising immunosterilisation of affected Districts.	United Republic of Tanzania
D.R.Nawathe	For drawing attention to the deteriorating situation in Nigeria in 1980-1982 and showing that two lineages of the virus were present at the same time, that from Sudan being more virulent than that from Mali.	Nigeria
F. Njeumi	GREP Secretary; devotion to ensure that the last 58 countries or so submitted acceptable dossiers to the OIE following OIE Pathway. Coordination and scientific support to last ecosystems (SERECU); strategic thinker as well as conceiving all the steps toward declaring global freedom and drafting the resolution.	Cameroon
S.T. Pandya	Rinderpest Eradication Officer, Gujarat. Pandya charted and reported the spread of the last major outbreak of rinderpest in India in 1986/7 which showed the failure of the previous 30 years rinderpest control measures and prompted the Gol to launch its task force Review.	India
Y. Ozawa	Laboratory support to Near East Campaign and later as FAO Chief Animal Health Service masterminded the drive towards the acceptance of the concept of global rinderpest eradication by FAO and OIE; Masterminded the development of the OIE Pathway by calling an expert consultation in Paris that laid out the need to stop vaccinating and then undertake surveillance within a time-bound framework. This was the tool that forced the risk-taking step of ending vaccination which was pivotal to success.	Japan
R. Raja	As Animal husbandry Commissioner accepted that on-going vaccination served no point and recommended State Directors to stop vaccinating allowing Pakistan to declare provisional freedom.	Pakistan
M. Rajasekhar	Set up the NPRES ELISA Training and Data Management Centre; introduced the ELISA technique to India; developed serosurveillance protocols.	India
P. Roeder	Secretary GREP – coordination and scientific support to national and regional programmes; work in southern and eastern Africa, Central Asia, Pakistan; Strategic thinker.	United Kingdom
L. Rowe	For serological work in JP15 showing that a third round of vaccination failed to improve immunity prevalence levels; for services to ODA in support of rinderpest vaccine manufacture in Bangladesh; for services to ODA in support of vaccine manufacture for the Yemen, for assisting FAO in vaccine training and for isolating a number of virus strains.	United Kingdom
M. Rweyemamu	Head EMPRES and scientific oversight of GREP; PANVAC Director; Strategic thinker	United Republic of Tanzania
D. Sylla	Championing efforts and engaging African vaccine manufacturers and persuading them to submit samples for international scrutiny (FAO-IAH) and showing the need for supranational quality assurance, hence PANVAC. Director PANVAC.	Mali

(cont.)

Name	Justification	Institution or Country
William Taylor	Application of laboratory to field conditions; understanding ecology of rinderpest; investigator and strategists in numerous countries and regional programmes; USSR, Pakistan, Eastern and Western Africa; Muguga, Vom, IAH, PARC, India.	United Kingdom
O. Möller		Denmark
N. Taylor	Rinderpest clinical surveillance.	United Kingdom
E. Twinamisko	How to undertake seromonitoring in the face of civil conflict.	Uganda
L. Tyler	For developing a strong FAO involvement in rinderpest epidemiology during the PARC programme.	United Kingdom
G. van't Klooster	Guiding Ethiopia to the successful eradication of rinderpest; major contribution to PARC and PACE regional programme.	Netherlands
H. Wamwayi	First demonstration of RP virus lineages; Pathogenicity of Lineage-2 RP; later coordination of RP surveillance in Somalia.	Kenya
B. Diop		Senegal
B. Vallat	OIE	France
A.S. Sidibe	PARC/PACE Coordinator for West and Central Africa	Mali
S.H. Mariam	PARC Coordinator for east Africa	Ethiopia
R. Bessin	PACE Coordinator	Burkina Faso
K. Wague		Mali
D. Kariuki		Kenya
Institutional Partners		
World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)		France
Joint FAO/IAEA Division of Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture (IAEA-AGE)		Austria
Center for International Cooperation in Agronomic Research for Development (CIRAD)		France
European Union/European Commission		Belgium
African Union - Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR)		Kenya
Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Centre (PANVAC)		Ethiopia
Veterinary Research Centre, Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (Muguga)		Kenya
Indian Veterinary Research Institute (Mukteswar)		India
Institute for Animal Health Pirbright Laboratory (IAH-Pirbright)		United Kingdom
Funding partners		
United States Agency for International Development (USAID)		The United States of America
Department for International Development (DfID)		United Kingdom
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)		Sweden
Italian Cooperation		Italy
Republic of Ireland		Ireland
Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)		Japan

The FAO/GREP Medals Committee consisted of Y. Ozawa, W. Taylor, P. Roeder, M. Jeggo, M. Rweyemamu, and S. Jutzi (PACE Conseil considered on their own merit by FAO).

Annex 3

Event photos

FAO Director-General Jacques Diouf greeting President of the Republic of Togo H.E. Faure Essozimna Gnassingbe as he arrives for the 37th Session of the FAO Conference, the meeting of the highest governing body of the Organization



FAO Director-General Jacques Diouf greeting former Secretary-General of the United Nations H.E. Kofi Annan as he arrives for the 37th Session of the FAO Conference, the meeting of the highest governing body of the Organization



FAO Director-General Jacques Diouf greeting President of the Republic of Chad H.E. Idriss Déby Itno as he arrives for the 37th Session of the FAO Conference, the meeting of the highest governing body of the Organization



General view of the Plenary at the unveiling of a commemorative plaque to celebrate global freedom from rinderpest, or cattle plague, one of history's deadliest animal diseases and a longtime threat to human livelihoods and food security



The unveiling ceremony. The commemoration took place in the presence of high-level representatives of member countries, partner agencies, former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, Nobel Prize-winner Peter Doherty and FAO Goodwill Ambassadors.



FAO Goodwill Ambassador Anggun singing at the unveiling of a plaque to celebrate global freedom from rinderpest, or cattle plague, one of history's deadliest animal diseases and a longtime threat to human livelihoods and food security



FAO Goodwill Ambassador Pierre Cardin attending the unveiling of a plaque to celebrate global freedom from rinderpest, or cattle plague.



28 June 2011, Rome - Commemorative Ceremony for the Adoption of FAO Declaration on Global Freedom from Rinderpest.

Musical performance by FAO Goodwill Ambassador Mory Kanté during the Global Freedom from Rinderpest - Commemorative Ceremony



Rinderpest Eradication Plaque. Commemorative Ceremony for the Adoption of FAO Declaration on Global Freedom from Rinderpest.



A view of a manuscript in Lancisi' studio at S. Spirito Hospital Complex. In 1715 Giovanni Maria Lancisi produced a groundbreaking book-length manuscript in which he made several recommendations on how to deter the spread of the devastating cattle plague.



A painting depicting Giovanni Maria Lancisi displayed at Lancisi' studio at S. Spirito Hospital Complex. In 1715 Giovanni Maria Lancisi produced a groundbreaking book-length manuscript in which he made several recommendations on how to deter the spread of the devastating cattle plague.



World Free From Rinderpest keychains at the Symposium on Rinderpest Eradication: achievements and obligations.



Rinderpest Eradication Exhibition



Rinderpest Eradication Exhibition



Rinderpest Eradication Exhibition



Rinderpest Eradication Exhibition



During the second world war American and Canadian scientists discovered that by growing the virus inside hen eggs, speedy mass production of rinderpest vaccine is possible. Here, an FAO technician is seen harvesting egg membranes, rich in rinderpest virus



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11. Successes and failures with animal nutrition practices and technologies in developing countries, 2011 (E)
12. Rift Valley fever vaccine development, progress and constraints, 2011 (E)
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14. Challenges of animal health information systems and surveillance for animal diseases and zoonoses, 2011 (E)
15. Lessons learned from the eradication of rinderpest for controlling other transboundary animal diseases, 2012 (E^e)
16. Optimization of feed use efficiency in ruminant production systems, 2013 (E^e)
17. Declaration of global freedom from rinderpest – Thirty-seventh Session of the FAO Conference, Rome 25 June-2 July 2011, 2013 (E^e)

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Two years ago on 28 June 2011 during the 37th FAO Conference, a Resolution was adopted declaring Global Freedom from Rinderpest and the Implementation of Follow-up Measures to Maintain World Freedom from Rinderpest.

The Resolution recognized this outstanding global achievement which has shown what is possible when nations work together to make the world a safer place. The Resolution also called FAO to use lessons learned from the eradication to prevent and control other devastating transboundary animal diseases like *peste des petits ruminants* (PPR).

FAO, the World Organisation for Animal Health and partners are now formulating a global PPR control strategy.

The publication of the proceedings of the events leading to the global declaration serves to commemorate the second anniversary of rinderpest.