

## RESOLUTION No. 18

### **Declaration of Global Eradication of Rinderpest and Implementation of Follow-up Measures to Maintain World Freedom from Rinderpest**

ACKNOWLEDGING the efforts made by Members, non-Members, OIE, FAO, IAEA, other international organisations, regional organisations, the veterinary profession, the scientific community, donors and other partners to eradicate rinderpest;

CONSIDERING the contributions made by OIE and FAO towards global freedom from rinderpest;

NOTING the conclusions of the Final Report of the Joint FAO/OIE Committee on Global Rinderpest Eradication that rinderpest virus has ceased to circulate in animals;

REITERATING the importance of reducing the number of existing rinderpest virus stocks through the destruction of virus in a safe manner and/or the transfer of virus stocks to internationally recognised reference institutions; and

MINDFUL of the need for the international community and the responsibility of national authorities to take the necessary measures to ensure that the world remains free from rinderpest,

#### THE ASSEMBLY

1. DECLARES solemnly that the world has achieved freedom from rinderpest in its natural setting, one of the most dreadful animal diseases with severe impacts on livelihoods.
2. EXPRESSES its deep gratitude to all nations, organisations and individuals who contributed to the fight against rinderpest and the successful eradication of the disease.
3. UNDERTAKES to reduce, around the world, the number of institutions holding rinderpest virus-containing material other than attenuated vaccines, under approved conditions and according to relevant guidelines.
4. URGES the membership:
  - To maintain, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*, appropriate surveillance systems for rinderpest and immediately notify the OIE of suspect or confirmed cases of rinderpest;
  - To collaborate with OIE and FAO in managing confirmed or suspected outbreaks of rinderpest, through the provision of information, support and facilitation;
  - To put in place and update national contingency plans consistent with international guidance from OIE and FAO;

- To destroy, under the supervision of the Veterinary Authority, rinderpest virus-containing materials or assure the storage or use of these materials in a biosecure facility in their country or, where applicable, assure the safe transfer to an approved laboratory in another country in agreement with the Veterinary Authority of the receiving country and complying with the standards of the OIE *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals* and the Guidelines elaborated by the Joint FAO/OIE Committee on Global Rinderpest Eradication (Appendix);
- To take effective measures to forbid synthesis of rinderpest full-length infectious clones unless approved by the relevant authorities, OIE and FAO;
- To use rinderpest vaccines solely for the emergency management of confirmed rinderpest outbreaks under the authority of the Veterinary Services following international and regional guidelines and not to use rinderpest vaccines to protect animal populations from other morbillivirus infections;
- 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.

5. REQUESTS the Director General:

- To approve, jointly with FAO, facilities in which rinderpest virus-containing material can be held, and conduct regular site visits to those facilities to verify whether their biosafety/biosecurity conditions are adequate;
- To maintain and regularly update, jointly with FAO, an inventory of facilities holding rinderpest virus-containing material;
- To establish, jointly with FAO, an advisory body that assists both Organisations in (i) the approval of facilities for holding rinderpest virus-containing material and of facilities that produce and/or hold rinderpest vaccines, (ii) the approval of requests for research and other manipulations of the rinderpest virus, (iii) reviewing the plans and results of regular site visits of virus repositories, and (iv) planning and implementing other rinderpest-related activities as required;
- To develop and update, in collaboration with FAO, a plan of action for the post-eradication activities at the international level;
- To facilitate and make sustainable, in collaboration with FAO, the provision of technical assistance to OIE Members in the maintenance of adequate surveillance systems and national preparedness, and to facilitate their access to diagnostic reagents or facilities and relevant rinderpest vaccines;
- To ensure that OIE Members are informed of the status of rinderpest virus sequestration and research involving rinderpest virus.

6. REQUESTS the relevant Specialist Commissions to complete the necessary revisions to the relevant chapters of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* and the *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals* as soon as possible.

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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 25 May 2011)