



Building Bridges, Supporting Livelihoods



**Report of the
Thirty-fifth Session of the
Animal Production and Health
Commission for Asia and the Pacific
(APHCA)**

**2-4 November 2011
Cebu City, Philippines**

THE EIGHTEEN APHCA MEMBER COUNTRIES

AUSTRALIA

BANGLADESH

BHUTAN

INDIA

INDONESIA

IRAN

DPR KOREA

LAO PDR

MALAYSIA

MONGOLIA

MYANMAR

NEPAL

PAKISTAN

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

PHILIPPINES

SAMOA

SRI LANKA

THAILAND



REPORT OF THE
**THIRTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE
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(APHCA)**

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Minutes of the 72nd Executive Committee Meeting

Cebu City, Philippines,

3 November 2011

The 72nd Executive Committee Meeting (ExCom), met on Thursday, 3 November 2011, 1600 – 1700 hours. The APHCA Secretary explained that due to unusual circumstances, the 72nd Executive Committee, which was supposed to be held before the 35th APHCA business session, had to be rescheduled. The meeting was convened after the 35th business session and since a new set of executive members have been elected, the members of the 71st and 72nd Executive Committee came together for the 72nd Executive Committee Meeting.

The meeting was attended by:

- Jeera Sorannuwat, Delegate from Thailand
- Mike Nunn, Delegate from Australia
- Sina Taulealo Moala, Delegate from Samoa
- R.M.R. Ariyadasa, Delegate from Sri Lanka
- V.C. Atienza, Delegate from Philippines
- Ashraf Ali, Delegate from Bangladesh
- L Tu Ming Gawng, Delegate from Myanmar
- Uday Chandra Thakar, Delegate from Nepal

The delegate from Thailand handed the chairmanship to the Philippines. Dr. Victor C. Atienza, Deputy Director of the Bureau of Animal Industry, Philippines, chaired and presided over the meeting, following the agenda:

1. Welcome by the Chair
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Minutes of the 71st APHCA Executive Committee Meeting and the 34th APHCA Session
4. Progress report on approved activities by the APHCA Secretary
5. Financial situation
6. Preparation of the 35th APHCA General Session
7. Other business

1. Welcome by the Chair

The delegate from the Philippines welcomed the members of the Executive Committee Meeting.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

The ExCom reviewed and adopted the agenda of the meeting.

3. Minutes of the 71st Executive Committee Meeting and the 34th APHCA General Session

The ExCom reviewed and adopted the minutes of both the 71st Executive Committee Meeting and the 34th APHCA General Session.

4. Report of the Secretary

The APHCA Secretary reported on the progress of the APHCA activities:

- Staffing arrangement of APHCA Secretariat remains the same with FAO staff from the livestock group allotting time to do APHCA work on top of its regular program responsibilities. APHCA funds are partially paying the services of one IT staff. A new Senior Animal Production and Health Officer (SAPHO) has joined the livestock group and by tradition the SAPHO becomes the APHCA Secretary. It will be the prerogative of the Assistant Director General to appoint the next APHCA Secretary.
- V. Ahuja, APHCA Secretary and Livestock Policy Officer, gave an update on the dairy projects.
- C. Benigno, Animal Health Officer, referred the members to the report on animal health given during the business session.

5. Financial Situation

V. Ahuja reported on the financial situation of APHCA. APHCA has a cash balance of USD244,399 plus accrued interests of USD 90,133. While APHCA's financial situation remains relatively healthy, the high cost of travel is making a dent on APHCA's working budget hence co-sponsorship of activities as well as other sources of funding need to be explored.

Expenditures last year were limited to about USD 75,000, the amount of which covered for activities already committed like the dairy network and workshops on

bluetongue and brucellosis. The APHCA review was funded from this budget and from regular program funds, hence the ExCom noted the considerable investments made by APHCA and FAO on this activity.

The proposed work for 2012 will entail a budget of USD 100,000 to cover activities on the maintenance of the dairy network (USD 30,000), conduct of brucellosis and bluetongue activities (USD 30,000), APHCA promotion (USD 20,000) and conduct of the APHCA strategy workshop (20,000). The ExCom approved the proposed work budget for 2012.

M. Nunn reported that an EU research group is looking into the possibility of funding and conducting research work in Asia and the Pacific region that would focus on endemic diseases, zoonoses, EIDs, etc. M. Nunn will provide details on the research group.

On another matter, V. Ahuja explained that the contract with the hotel required a no-show payment of one day if the participants do not arrive on the agreed day. Since two participants did not arrive on the scheduled day, a penalty fee of USD 200 would have to be paid to the hotel. V. Ahuja requested for approval to pay the penalty from the APHCA fund. The ExCom agreed to this request.

6. Preparation for the 35th APHCA session

Since the ExCom meeting was held after the 35th business session, this agenda item was rendered moot.

The ExCom noted the election of new ExCom members. Philippines assumes the new chair, Sri Lanka vice chair and countries Bangladesh, Nepal, Myanmar become members of the ExCom. Thailand being last year's chair becomes an *ex-officio* member of the ExCom.

V. Ahuja expressed his appreciation to the tremendous contribution of Thailand to APHCA.

Possible hosts of the next APHCA sessions were discussed. Sri Lanka has confirmed hosting the 36th APHCA session in 2012. Bhutan will confirm hosting the 2013 session.

7. Other business

No other business was discussed. The meeting adjourned at 1700 hours.

35th Session of the Animal Production and Health Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Cebu City, Philippines, 2 and 4 November 2011

Opening Ceremony

The 35th APHCA session was opened by V. Ahuja on behalf of the FAO RAP, E. Nuestro, Director of the Bureau of Animal Industry and D. Catbagan, Assistant Secretary for Livestock of the Philippines Department of Agriculture.

Representatives from 14 member countries (Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Thailand) attended the session.

V. Ahuja, APHCA Secretary, welcomed the delegates and expressed his appreciation for their presence.

The minutes of the 34th APHCA Session were circulated to all delegates. As no comments were made, the Session adopted the minutes.

The Agenda of the 35th APHCA Session was adopted.

The session elected the following members to the Executive Committee.

Chairperson:	Philippines
Vice-Chairperson:	Sri Lanka
Members:	Bangladesh, Samoa, Myanmar
Ex-officio member:	Thailand

The Chair, assisted by the APHCA secretary, presided over the business session.

The APHCA Secretary gave a report of APHCA activities and a report on the financial situation.

The session was informed that a new Senior Animal Production and Health Officer (SAPHO) has joined the livestock group and by tradition, the SAPHO becomes the APHCA Secretary unless the FAO management appoints otherwise.

For the past year, the APHCA Secretariat was run by FAO regular program staff of the livestock group, namely: the Livestock Policy Officer (V. Ahuja) serving as APHCA Secretary, the Animal Health Officer (C. Benigno), the Liaison Officer (V. Songkitti) and the IT clerk (Y. Simuangam). The regular program also has close links with the ECTAD RAP.

Financial Situation

As of January 2011, APHCA cash balance stands at USD 244,399 plus USD 90,133 of accrued interests.

As of October 2011, an amount of USD 57,190.28 has been received and an outstanding payment of USD 27,048.28 is awaited from other countries

APHCA has been undergoing a declining cash balance from 2007 primarily because of an increase in activities of APHCA and also due to rising travel costs.

The full financial report including statement of expenditure appears as Annex 1.

Report of Activities

V. Ahuja reported on the progress of the smallholder dairy development program. There are three projects currently being implemented. These are (i) the smallholder dairy development project covering in Bangladesh, Myanmar and Thailand; (ii) enhancing milk consumption and livelihoods through school milk programs and (iii) the Asia Dairy Network. The general project components include milk production enhancement, milk marketing enhancement, capacity building and information dissemination, project management and monitoring.

Other country TCPs in the pipeline are the cattle and buffalo breeding TCP in Sri Lanka, the Thailand TCP on traceability, and DPRK TCP on integrated crop and pig production.

C. Benigno reported on the activities conducted under the animal health component. The presentation focused on the regional and country projects funded through different funding mechanisms. Some of the beneficiary countries are also members of APHCA.

Regional projects include a regional TCP on assistance to countries for the diagnosis and management of PRRS and other swine diseases, an environmental animal health management initiative to enhance smallholder production in SEA funded by the Italian government and the TADs control for poverty reduction in the GMS countries. Country projects focused on disease specific issues such as FMD, rabies and ERV. The regular program activities also have links with ECTAD RAP projects hence synergizing activities with regards to HPAI and other HPEDs.

APHCA co-funded specific activities on brucellosis and bluetongue. The NIAH, Thailand, is under a brucellosis laboratory twinning program with the OIE reference laboratory in France. A bluetongue diagnosis workshop was also conducted in collaboration with OIE.

The full presentations appear in Annex 2.

The delegate from Malaysia commented that the projects do not cover the geographic areas like the Pacific and that this should perhaps be considered in future planning of activities.

V. Ahuja informed the session, FAO is now working with the sub-regional office located in Samoa and there is some work to be done in Samoa, Solomon Islands and Fiji. Projects however are developed if there are country requests on specific issues.

Proposed Work Plan for 2012

Expenditure using APHCA funds will be limited to USD 100,000. The activities are mainly APHCA commitments already made such as the dairy network. Considerable investments have been made into brucellosis work hence support for this activity will benefit APHCA member countries in the future. APHCA promotion will focus on positioning and branding of APHCA for greater visibility amongst members and future members and donors.

The proposed work plan was submitted and approved by the general session.

Maintenance of the Asia Dairy Network	USD 30,000
Brucellosis/Bluetongue work (with OIE)	
PRRS workshop (with OIE)	30,000
APHCA Promotion, Branding	20,000
Strategy Workshop	20,000
Total	100,000

Review of APHCA Directions and Activities 2003 – 2011

During the 71st APHCA Executive Committee Meeting, a decision was made to assess the impact of APHCA activities, conduct a needs assessment and develop a strategy for APHCA. Dirk Van Aken, contracted to do a review of APHCA gave a comprehensive report during the business session.

Notable points of the review are as follows:

- The APHCA region is home to 2/3 of world's livestock population.
- APHCA's reach and influence goes beyond the direct outputs of activities organized with direct APHCA funding
- APHCA facilitates direct cooperation between countries

- APHCA uses its capacity, influence and credibility under the FAO umbrella to link members to donor agencies
- APHCA's stated functions remain very relevant with highest relevance reflected in joint actions and assistance and information and coordination
- APHCA has the ability to work with other organizations at regional and national level and to leverage input to projects and training workshops
- From country consultations, there is high appreciation of APHCA past and present work

A proposed strategic framework was also presented with the overall objective to contribute to ensuring food and nutrition security in the Asia Pacific region.

The way forward is for APHCA to finalize the identification of priority areas pending the adoption of a longer term strategy. A workshop to develop the APHCA strategy plan is recommended for this purpose.

The consultant presented the following recommendations:

FAORAP Livestock Section:

Involve APHCA in a steering or coordinating role in the design of new projects and use the APHCA label as an argument of credibility and legitimacy in proposing new projects for funding

APHCA Secretariat

Publish APHCA session's decisions and recommendations
Solicit donor funding
Enhance APHCA visibility
Assessment/evaluation of APHCA trainings/workshops
Safeguard institutional memory
Align with request from FAORAP publications committee

APHCA General Session

Agree on selection of priority areas for activities in the coming year, pending adoption of a longer term strategy
Workshops to develop APHCA strategic plan
Discuss enlargement of APHCA membership
Discuss possibility for sending additional participants to trainings
Publishing of inventory of animal production and health services in the region
Propose strengthening secretariat human resource base

The business session adjourned at 1200 hours, 2 November 2011.

Regional Consultation on Livestock Sector Priorities for Asia and the Pacific Region

A Regional Consultation meeting was organized in conjunction with the 35th APHCA session. The purpose of the consultation meeting was to brainstorm and outline elements of a response that can address the challenges faced by livestock sector taking into account the region's socio-economic and cultural dimensions. The meeting comprised leading presentations/lectures on three major themes (i) changing character of Asian food economy and the emerging role of livestock, (ii) emerging structure of livestock production and implications for management of natural resources and the environment, and (iii) complexities of animal-human-ecosystems interface in Asia and the Pacific and the way forward. These presentations were followed by moderated discussions to arrive at a common understanding and appreciation of critical issues. The key recommendations that emerged from this meeting are given below and the presentations are made available in the Annex. 2.

- Asian smallholders have largely been by-passed by the development opportunities created through the rapid expansion in demand for livestock products in the region. The Commission therefore recommends to examine the approaches of national governments, private, civil and international organizations to livestock sector development and to formulate policies and devise strategies that better integrate the smallholder rural majority into national agri-food supply chains.
- The co-existence of traditional and modern livestock production and marketing systems, increasing travel and trade, changing ecologies, and climate change have increased health risks for both animals and humans. The commission welcomed the One Health approach and recommended that regional veterinary laboratory networks establish closer links to global diagnostic networks and that the link between animal and human health laboratory systems be strengthened.
- The dynamics of the Asian food economy is heavily influenced by the emergence of a middle class in China (and to a lesser extent India) exerting immense demands on regional agricultural resources. This development will create new challenges, particularly for smaller countries, but can potentially also make a significant contribution to regional growth and poverty alleviation. In order to capitalize on the foreseeable dynamics of Asian agri-food demand the Commission recommends the promotion of more inclusive regional trade policies.
- As demand growth for livestock products in Asia is likely to be sustained and may even accelerate, the Commission recommends renewed attention to sustainable increases in livestock productivity as otherwise rising food prices may threaten livelihoods across the region. Increasing productivity will require enhanced investment in technical domains of livestock production such as improved feeding, breeding and disease control, in improved systems for technology development and transfer, improved input supply and service provision, as well

as investment in resilience against natural disasters (e.g. floods and drought) and rehabilitation of degraded lands.

Annex 1: Financial Report 2011

Statement of APHCA Account

<u>Funds received</u>	Amount in US dollars
3051 Prior years Contribution Received (up to 31/12/09)	2,218,704
3052 Prior years Interests earned ***	89,450
Total	2,308,154

<u>Sums received from member countries during January 2010 – December 2010</u>	
3051 Contributions received in 2010	127,169
3052 Interests earned in 2010***	683
Total	127,852

Accumulated interest received since APHCA started till 31 Dec. 2010:	89,450	
	683	<i>plus</i>
Total	90,133	

***N.B. Interest, although received into account, CANNOT be spent without approval of members.

Therefore, the project's effective CASH BALANCE is calculated on the contributions
(WITHOUT INTEREST) minus Expenditures.

<u>Expenditures (January - December 2010)</u>	
5011 – Salaries professionals	0
5012 – Salaries GS	12,645
5013 – Consultants	21,751
5014 – Contracts	0
5020 – Locally contracted labour	64
5021 - Travel	93,167
5023 – Training	1,907
5024 – Expendable procurement	12,096
5025 – Non-expendable procurement	0
5026 – Hospitality (at the workshop/training)	0
5028 – General operating expenses	46,247
5040 – General overhead expenses	
Total	187,878

<u>Cash balance as of 1 January 2011</u>		
Prior years - <i>contributions</i> up to end 2009 (without interest)	2,218,704	
Year 2010 - <i>contributions</i> (without interest)	127,169	
Prior years - <i>expenditures</i> up to end 2009	1,913,596	<i>(minus)</i>
Year 2010 - <i>expenditures</i> up to end 2010	187,878	<i>(minus)</i>
Cash balance: 1 January 2011	244,399	

**Status of Contributions
(As at 30 September 2011)**

(Expressed in US\$)

Member	Outstanding at	Contribution	Received up to	Outstanding at
Governments	31/12/2010	due for	30/09/2011	30/09/2011
Australia	0.00	10,724.00	10,724.00	0.00
Bangladesh	29290	6,502.00		35,792.00
Bhutan	-2128	2,128.00		0.00
India	9.33	10,724.00	10,410.28	323.05
Indonesia	0.00	6,502.00	6,502.00	0.00
Iran	0.00	6,502.00		6,502.00
Korea DPR a/	2128.00	2,128.00		4,256.00
Laos	0.00	2,128.00		2,128.00
Malaysia	0.00	6,502.00	6,502.00	0.00
Mongolia	0.00	2,128.00	0.00	2,128.00
Myanmar	0.00	2,128.00	2,128.00	0.00
Nepal	-2128	2,128.00	2,128.00	-2128
Pakistan	91.15	6,502.00		6,593.15
Papua New Guinea	-4247	2,128.00		-2119
Philippines	0.00	6,502.00	3,610.00	2,892.00
Samoa	0.00	2,128.00	2,182.00	-54
Sri Lanka	25.00	6,502.00	6,502.00	25.00
Thailand	0.00	6,502.00	6,502.00	0.00

Totals	23,040.48	90,488.00	57,190.28	56,338.20**
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* NOTE: Scale of Contributions for 2011 was approved at the 34th APHCA Session Meeting, held in Phuket, Thailand, from 25-27/10/2010

** A Journal Voucher, raised to post \$167.59 for 2008 bank charges adjustment is not yet posted in the GL; once approved, the Total Contribution Received will be US\$ 57,357.87 (i.e. US\$57,190.28 + US\$167.59)

a/ Korea DPR became a member of APHCA effective 2010

Scale of Contributions for 2012*/**(Expressed in US\$)**

Country	Amount
Australia	10,724
Bangladesh	6,502
Bhutan	2,128
India	10,724
Indonesia	6,502
Iran	6,502
Korea DPR **	2,128
Laos	2,128
Malaysia	6,502
Mongolia	2,128
Myanmar	2,128
Nepal	2,128
Pakistan	6,502
Papua New Guinea	2,128
Philippines	6,502
Samoa	2,128
Sri Lanka	6,502
Thailand	6,502
Total	90,488

*Note: * This scale of contributions has been effective since 2003.
 ** Korea DPR became a member of APHCA effective 2010*