

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

Negombo, Sri Lanka, 20-24 October 2012



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-SIXTH SESSION OF THE ANIMAL PRODUCTION AND HEALTH COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (APHCA)**

Negombo, 20–24 October 2012

**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
Bangkok, 2012**

The designations employed and the presentation of material in this information product do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) nor the Animal Production and Health Commission for Asia and the Pacific (APHCA) concerning the legal or development status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The mention of specific companies or products of manufacturers, whether or not these have been patented, does not imply that these have been endorsed or recommended by FAO in preference to others of a similar nature that are not mentioned. The views expressed in this information product are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of FAO.

ISBN 978-92-5-107419-0

All rights reserved. FAO encourages reproduction and dissemination of material in this information product. Non-commercial uses will be authorized free of charge, upon request. Reproduction for resale or other commercial purposes, including educational purposes, may incur fees. Applications for permission to reproduce or disseminate FAO copyright materials, and all queries concerning rights and licences, should be addressed by e-mail to copyright@fao.org or to the Chief, Publishing Policy and Support Branch, Office of Knowledge Exchange, Research and Extension, FAO, Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy.

© FAO 2012

For a copy of the report and correspondence, please contact:

Senior Animal Production and Health Officer
and Secretary of APHCA
FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (RAP)
39 Maliwan Mansion, Phra Atit Road
Bangkok 10200, THAILAND

E-mail: Joachim.Otte@fao.org
FAO Homepage: <http://www.fao.org>

Table of Contents

	Page
Minutes of the 73rd Executive Committee Meeting and the 36th Session of APHCA	1
The 73rd Executive Committee Meeting	1
The 36th APHCA Session	3
Timetable and Agenda (APHCA 2012/01)	11
Timetable	11
Provisional Agenda	13
Dates and Venues (Host Countries) of APHCA Sessions (APHCA 2012/02)	14
Minutes of the 72nd Executive Committee Meeting and the 35th APHCA Session (APHCA 2012/03)	19
The 72nd Executive Committee Meeting	19
APHCA Business Session	21
Regional Consultation on Livestock Sector Priorities for Asia and the Pacific Region	25
Summary Statement of APHCA Account (APHCA 2012/04)	27
Cash Balance as of 1 January 2012	27
Expenditures in 2011	27
Status of Contributions	28
Approved Budget for 2012 and Expenditures to 31.09.2012	28
Scale of Contributions for 2013	29
Activity Report (APHCA 2012/05)	30
Introduction	30
Personnel (RAP Livestock Group)	30
Field Projects Supported by RAP Livestock Group	30
Meetings, Workshops and Events Organized	32
Congresses, Symposia, Meetings and Workshops Attended	33
APHCA Information Unit	34
Commissioned Studies	35
Work Planned up to End 2012	36
Specific Issues and Proposed Work Plan for 2013 (APHCA 2012/06)	37
Cornerstones of APHCA's Strategic Plan	37

AMU and AMR in the Asia Pacific Region	38
Priority Zoonoses in South, East and Southeast Asia.....	39
National Feed Assessment Systems	40
Establishment of a Livestock Policy Network	42
Proposed APHCA Trust Fund Budget for 2013	44
List of Participants (APHCA 2012/07)	45
Delegates	45
Observers	48
FAO Regional Office (Secretariat).....	48
Speeches.....	49
Welcome Speech by Mr Man Ho So, Deputy Regional Represen-tative, on Behalf of Mr Hiroyuki Konuma, Assistant Director General and Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific.....	49

Minutes of the 73rd Executive Committee Meeting and the 36th Session of APHCA

The 73rd Executive Committee Meeting

Sunday, 21 October 2012, 17:00 to 18:45 hours

- The meeting was chaired by Dr R. Cresencio, delegate from the Philippines, who took over from Dr E. Nuestro upon his change in position. Present were the delegates from Myanmar, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Thailand. The delegate from Bangladesh could not attend as the nomination had been received too late to make travel arrangements. The meeting was furthermore attended by members of the APHCA Secretariat.
- The Chairperson welcomed the delegates, commended APHCA for its steadfastness and instrumental activities in support of member countries and thanked Sri Lanka for hosting the Session.
- The APHCA Secretary welcomed the delegates and expressed his appreciation for their presence. He informed that all APHCA member countries, with the exception of Mongolia, have accepted the invitation, while the delegate from Bangladesh has not been able to finalize travel requirements in time and the delegate from Papua New Guinea had cancelled his travel due visa problems.
- The ExCom reviewed and adopted the agenda of the 36th Session and associated workshop on antimicrobial use (AMU) and resistance (AMR) in the Asia-Pacific Region.
- The ExCom reviewed and approved the minutes of the 72nd Executive Committee Meeting and 35th Session.
- The APHCA Secretary reported on the financial situation of the Commission. At the beginning of 2012 (01.01.2012), the cash balance in the APHCA Trust Fund stood at US\$223,063 plus US\$90,453 of cumulative interest earned. Contributions received for 2012 so far (31.09.2012) amount to US\$54,066.14 (outstanding 2012 contributions total US\$36,475.86). Overall the financial situation of APHCA has remained stable over the past years with the cash balance fluctuating between US\$200,000 and US\$300,000.
- The APHCA secretary requested permission for transfer of APHCA's accumulated interest of US\$90,453 into the disposable cash account.
- The ExCom noted with disappointment that over the years Bangladesh had accumulated arrears of US\$42,294.00 and urged the next Chairperson to take the matter up with the Bangladesh counterpart.

- The APHCA Secretary provided a brief summary of activities carried out since the last meeting in Cebu, Philippines. Activities of FAO-RAP Livestock Group staff encompassed technical support to more than 20 projects, organization of symposia, meetings, workshops and other events as well as representation of FAO and APHCA at events organized by other organizations. The main activities carried out in relation to the APHCA workplan for 2012 are the organization of the APHCA Strategy workshop, continuation of work linked to the smallholder dairy development 'programme' including co-organization of the First Asia Dairy Goat Conference, organization of an Asia Livestock Policy Forum in Bangkok and activities leading to enhance information dissemination and visibility carried out by the Information Unit.
- Given some underspending to be expected in 2012 vis-à-vis the proposed budget, the Secretary requested permission to carry-over unspent funds into 2013 to carry complete 2012 planned activities.
- The APHCA Secretary provided a brief outlook on salient issues APHCA might consider to systematically address in the coming years, following the mission, vision and guiding principles established at the APHCA Strategy Workshop held in March 2012. Thematically, the issues comprise continued attention to smallholder dairy development as an important 'tool' for poverty reduction and rural development. In-depth assessments of the burden and impact of zoonoses, food-borne diseases and antimicrobial resistance, building on intensified collaboration with OIE and WHO, to support decision making on resource allocation of national health systems. Given the rising cost of animal feed, national feed resource assessments would be useful in guiding livestock sector development. Establishment of a common approach for feed resource assessment across interested countries, drawing on national and international expertise, could be an area for APHCA engagement. Finally, the APHCA Secretary proposed improving of APHCA's information dissemination, communication and visibility through more information exchange between member countries and the secretariat and the establishment of a Livestock Policy Network as a two other key areas of investment closely linked to two areas of strategic actions recommended at the APHCA Strategy workshop.
- The proposed APHCA workplan and budget for 2013 amounts to US\$125,000 for five thematic thrusts: (i) smallholder dairy development, to expand into dairy goats – US\$35,000 (ii) zoonoses, food safety and AMR – US\$30,000 (iii) the development of feed assessment systems – US\$20,000 (iv) information dissemination and APHCA positioning, and (v) support to the development of a detailed proposal for a livestock policy network – US\$10,000. FAO's anticipated contributions to the workplan are estimated at US\$165,000.
- The ExCom discussed the issue of National Currency Funds (NCF) which in the past have been very useful for financing in-county activities in support of APHCA activities and suggested that member countries investigate and report on the status of their NCFs at the next Session.
- The Chairperson closed the meeting at 18:45.

The 36th APHCA Session

Monday, 22 October 2012, morning

- Opening: The opening of the 36th APHCA session was presided over by H.E. H.R. Mithrapala, Deputy Minister, and Dr. Thilak Kenderagama, Secretary, Ministry of Livestock and Rural Community Development. The session was attended by delegates from 15 member countries (Australia, Bhutan, India, Indonesia, Iran, Korea DPRK, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Samoa, Sri Lanka, and Thailand) and observers from OIE and ACIAR.

- Adoption of the Agenda: The Agenda was adopted.

- Election of the Chairperson and Members of the Executive Committee: The Executive Committee was elected as follows:

The Executive Committee comprises:

Chairperson: Sri Lanka

Vice-chairperson: Bhutan

Members: Australia, Myanmar and Samoa

Ex-officio member: The Philippines

The outgoing Chairperson, Dr Rubina Cresencio, thanked the delegates for their support and handed over the chairmanship of the Session to Dr de Silva.

- Approval of the Minutes of the 72nd Executive Committee Meeting and the 35th APHCA Session: The Minutes were reviewed and approved by the delegates.

- Statement of Accounts: The Secretary presented the status of the APHCA accounts for 2011 and expenditures for 2012. The approved budget for 2011 was US\$75,000 while the 2011 expenditures amounted to US\$90,098 (APHCA 2012/04). The reason for this overspending have been higher than budgeted travel costs for participants to attend APHCA (co-)sponsored workshops, for example the OIE-APHCA Workshop on bluetongue diagnosis and control held in Indonesia.

Overall, over the past three to four years, APHCA's cash balance has fluctuated between US\$200,000 and US\$300,000. At the beginning of 2012 (01.01.2012), the cash balance in the APHCA Trust Fund stood at US\$223,063 plus US\$90,453 of cumulative interest earned. The Secretary requested consent of the delegates for accumulated interest earned up to 31.12.2011 to be moved into the cash account at disposal for APHCA activities.

The statement of accounts for the year 2011 was approved.

Up to 31.09.2012, contributions received for 2012 amount to US\$54,066.14 (outstanding 2012 contributions total US\$36,475.86). Cumulative outstanding contributions total US\$81,597.06, more than half of which is accounted for by Bangladesh. Expenditures in 2012 are likely to be slightly below the approved budget due to higher than expected co-funding of activities from other sources.

Delegates requested the Chairperson to officially take up the issue of arrears with the counterpart of Bangladesh. Delegates furthermore requested the Chairperson and Secretariat to invite more countries, e.g. Japan, China, Vietnam, Cambodia and Pacific island states to join APHCA.

Prior to issuance of invitations to join, in line with the decision taken at the 34th Session to raise the contributions, the secretariat was requested to review the scale of contributions in accordance with the original criteria used for their establishment, maintaining 3 categories and phasing of the increment over successive years. The proposed scale of contributions would be circulated to the Executive Committee and thereafter to Member countries.

- **Report of Activities:** The Secretary presented the activities conducted by APHCA and the RAP livestock group (RAP-LG) solely or in collaboration with other groups, irrespective of sources of funding and not limited to APHCA Member countries (APHCA 2012/05).

Since the last Session, the RAP livestock group has been involved in the implementation of 21 country-specific as well as sub-regional (e.g. SAARC, ASEAN, Greater Mekong Sub-Region) projects with animal health and / or animal production components. About half of the projects are financed by FAO through its Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) while the remaining half receive funding from other national or international agencies through uni- or multilateral donor trust funds.

Partly in conjunction with but also in addition to engagement in project implementation staff of the RAP-LG have organized 19 meetings, workshops and other events. Fifteen workshops were organized as part of the abovementioned projects while the 2nd Global Multi-stakeholder Platform Meeting on the Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock, the APHCA strategy workshop and the Regional Livestock Policy Forum were funded from diverse sources, including the APHCA trust fund. In addition, as part of the smallholder dairy development thrust, RAP-LG co-organized the Thailand Celebration of World Milk Day.

In the reporting period, RAP-LG staff attended 21 congresses, symposia, meetings or workshops to (re)present FAO/APHCA and to provide technical expertise. FAO (RAP and HQ) co-funded and contributed to the organization of the First Asia Dairy Goat Conference held in Malaysia in April 2012.

In line with the Vision of APHCA to establish itself *as a prime source of information, knowledge, expertise and experience on all aspects of livestock sector development in the Asia-Pacific region* formulated at the APHCA Strategy Workshop, the Information Unit has devoted considerable time to improving the APHCA website. Since the Strategy Workshop (March 2012), the home-page was converted to being 'news-based', electronic documents to which FAO has copyrights were uploaded, the net was searched for relevant links (e.g. research institutes, national authorities, open access journals, etc) and these were posted on the website. The changes made

have considerably increased APHCA's web-presence, site visits now reaching more than 10,000 per month.

Finally, RAP-LG have commissioned a number of studies in various countries in the region on topics such as fodder resources, livestock sector developments and food security, livestock and livestock product trade, patterns of livestock product consumption, swine disease emergence etc. Some of these studies are carried out as part of the projects implemented by RAP-LG while others have been commissioned as part of FAO's Regular Programme.

A number of new projects and activities will be initiated before the end of 2012, amongst others comprising a school milk project in Bangladesh funded by Rabobank and a Dairy Symposium held in conjunction with the 15th AAAP in Bangkok.

The Secretary requested permission by the member countries to utilize unspent 2012 funds for implementation / completions of approved activities in 2013.

- **Special Issues:** The Secretary presented a brief overview of special issues (APHCA 2012/06) deemed to require APHCA attention and providing the rationale for the 2013 workplan and budget proposal.

APHCA's Strategic Plan - The first item under this point of the agenda were the 'cornerstones' of APHCA's Strategic Plan as they were elaborated in the Strategy Workshop held in March 2012. The Secretary reiterated that the 'Vision' developed at the workshop was for APHCA to be recognized as a prime source of information, knowledge, expertise and experience on all aspects of livestock sector development in the Asia-Pacific region. In order to realize this vision, APHCA has to develop into a knowledge network requiring enhanced exchange of information and experience between members but also with other institutions. For FAO / RAP-LG one of the prerequisites for contributing to the vision is to improve its analytical power and to enhance its capacity to provide information and communication services.

Antimicrobial Resistance - The second item covered was the growing threat of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) across drug classes and around the world as background and justification for the APHCA workshop on hosting of the international workshop on the use of antimicrobials in livestock production and antimicrobial resistance in the Asia-Pacific region. Given AMR is a transboundary risk, which no country can successfully manage on its own, taking stock of the extent of AMR in the region and initiating collective action for AMR management should become one of APHCA's work areas. FAO-RAP is cofunding the workshop through TCP/RAS/3404 and will be able to provide some funds through the TCP for specific follow-up activities.

Zoonoses - One of the topics covered in depth at the Livestock Policy Forum held in Bangkok in August 2012 was 'human health risks at the animal-human interface'. A review of studies on the burden of human disease attributable to zoonoses suggests that gastrointestinal zoonoses are causing considerable human suffering in South and Southeast Asia while food-borne parasitic diseases are high on the list of priority

zoonoses in East and Southeast Asia. The estimates of the human disease burden associated with leptospirosis and brucellosis are beset with high degrees of uncertainty. Given that gastrointestinal zoonoses are to a large extent caused by agents which are among those developing relatively high levels of AMR, zoonoses, food safety and AMR containment might warrant more attention by APHCA than has hitherto been the case.

Feed Assessment Systems - Population growth, urbanization, and income growth are driving enormous increases in demand for foods of animal origin. The capacities of existing livestock production systems are being stretched due to increasing demands for livestock feeds relative to availabilities. This situation is particularly acute in developing countries. Accurate assessments of current and future supplies and demands for livestock feed are needed for national food security policy and planning, as well as the setting of environmentally sustainable stocking rates. Feed resources should be assessed and monitored to provide information for the development and implementation of policies that will contribute to the sustainable growth of national livestock sectors. Given rising feed costs and likely under-utilization of alternative feed resources, APHCA should consider providing an institutional framework for the establishment of National Feed Assessment Systems in support of sustainable and 'feed secure' livestock production.

Livestock Policy Network - The issues listed above are but a small sample of the challenges posed and confronted by the livestock sector and livestock industries in the Asia-Pacific countries will have to proactively adapt to the emerging social, environmental and economic changes. To best guide livestock sector development, policy-makers need to understand the different options with their pros and cons in a decision-making context strongly influenced by regional and global interdependencies. Economics and ecology are transcending national borders and an understanding of what is happening at the global, regional, national and local levels is critical to relevant and appropriate decision making. Timely access to unbiased and broad-based analysis of issues and information exchange among peers is thus becoming increasingly important, particularly in the context of an over-load of information and increased lobbying by commercial interests. To address the growing information needs of policy makers, the APHCA secretariat proposed the establishment of a highly proactive livestock policy network (LPN). In the first phase, to funded by a regional TCP, a network of specialists would be established, that can quickly generate policy advice as issues emerge. Furthermore, the LPN would work with groups of countries to produce multi-country / sub-regional policy studies to identify approaches and solutions to common problems and challenges. Finally, the LPN will provide training and capacity-building for livestock institutions in the region, particularly national livestock departments. The Secretariat sought feedback on the proposal, which, if initiated through TCP funds, would require countries to request FAO action in this regard.

- **Proposed 2013 Workplan and Budget:** The Secretary presented the proposed workplan and budget for 2013 by five thematic thrusts: (i) smallholder dairy

development, to expand into dairy goats – US\$35,000 (ii) zoonoses, food safety and AMR – US\$30,000 (iii) the development of feed assessment systems – US\$20,000 (iv) information dissemination and APHCA positioning – US\$30,000, and (v) support to the development of a detailed proposal for a livestock policy network – US\$10,000. The total budget requested amounts to US\$125,000. The operational breakdown as well as FAO's anticipated contributions to the workplan, estimated at US\$165,000, are detailed in APHCA 2012/06.

Thailand proposed to host two inter-related brucellosis activities on proficiency testing in 2013, up to US\$30,000 and to be co-funded by OIE-Asia Pacific. Part of the APHCA contributions would derive from unspent 2012 funds earmarked for this activity.

Wednesday, 24 October 2012, morning

- Endorsements: Delegates endorsed the following requests made by the Secretariat on Monday, 22 October:
 - a. Accumulated interest up to 31.12.2011 can be moved into the APHCA cash account at disposal for APHCA activities,
 - b. Unspent 2012 funds can be used in 2013 to complete agreed 2012 activities,
 - c. Brucellosis proficiency testing and related workshop to be conducted drawing on unspent funds from 2012 (app US\$15,000) and additional funding for 2013 (app. US\$15,000) as joint FAO-APHCA/OIE-Asia-Pacific activity in 2013,
 - d. Workplan for 2013 to incorporate brucellosis activities as separate line item bringing total approved budget to US\$140,000;
 - e. Member countries replenish / establish the respective NCFs and report on the status at the next Session.
- Summary and recommendations from the AMU & AMR Workshop: The International Workshop on the Use of Antimicrobials in Livestock Production and the Risks from Antimicrobial Resistance in the Asia–Pacific Region was held in Negombo, Sri Lanka, on 22–23 October 2012 in conjunction with the 36th APHCA Session.

In the first session of the workshop, Dr J. Otte outlined the objectives of workshop and introduced the subject experts who addressed the workshop. Professor J. Wagenaar presented a keynote address on the epidemiology and impact of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and the links between antimicrobial use (AMU) in livestock and AMR in humans.

In the second session, APHCA delegates then presented short country reports on AMU and AMR in their respective countries. In the third session, subject specialists presented a series of five case studies on AMU and AMR in animals (including

livestock and aquatic animals) in the Asia–Pacific region, providing data and information of relevance to APHCA delegates.

In the fourth session, Professor D. Pfeiffer gave a presentation on systems for monitoring and integrated surveillance of AMU and AMR, and Professor Wagenaar then gave a presentation that explored alternatives to antimicrobials (ATA). Dr A. Adara–Kane outlined WHO and FAO initiatives to reduce risks from AMR and Dr T. Myint outlined OIE initiatives to promote the responsible and prudent use of antimicrobials.

In the final session of the workshop, delegates and resource persons split into two working groups, facilitated by APHCA staff, that explored what actions APHCA member countries could take to help reduce the risks from AMR. Each working group reported back to a plenary session and the outputs were synthesised into a common list of potential actions in an approximate order of priority. Delegates acknowledged the importance of AMR and agreed that the international workshop was a useful and timely reminder of the need for animal health authorities in the Asia–Pacific region to give greater attention to AMU and AMR.

Delegates noted that there is a wide variation in the awareness of and capacity to manage the risks from AMR across APHCA member countries. However, they agreed that the case studies presented during the workshop demonstrated both that AMR was a problem in countries in the Asia–Pacific region and that appropriate action could and should be taken to ensure prudent use of antimicrobials in animals to reduce the risks from AMR. Delegates recognised that although AMR is a global problem local action in each APHCA member country was needed to underpin regional and global risk reduction measures.

The synthesis of feasible local actions identified in the workshop is shown in Figure 1. Delegates noted that it was not feasible to undertake all of these quickly but recognised that it was important to undertake a situational analysis to understand the roles and motivations of all stakeholders in antimicrobial value chains in their respective countries. They noted that AMU is not just a technical issue and that addressing it and the risks from AMR also required consideration of social, economic, environmental, ethical and policy factors.

Delegates recognised the need to work to establish, where not already in place in their respective countries, a broadly based multidisciplinary national taskforce on AMU and AMR. They noted that having a broadly based multidisciplinary and cross-sectoral National Taskforce on Antimicrobials would help to facilitate a number of other actions identified (e.g. increasing awareness). They also noted that some support was available from WHO for countries to take action to reduce risks from AMR, and that both FAO and OIE produce useful guidance including a range of standards and guidelines for good practice.

Delegates recognised the need for relevant legislation and regulatory frameworks, including compliance capacity, which they noted was limited in a number of

countries in the Asia–Pacific region. However, they recognised that developing or reviewing legislation was longer-term action that first required broad consensus on national policy. Delegates also recognised the need for capacity-building (of both human resources and laboratory infrastructure) for monitoring AMU and surveillance of AMR, but acknowledged that this was also an action that would require longer-term planning and investment.

Delegates agreed that they would each progress a number of local actions identified in the workshop that were relevant to their respective countries, and report progress at the next APHCA meeting. APHCA Secretariat is requested to pursue the issue with the three countries that were not represented at the Session / Workshop.

Delegates noted that some of the local actions identified in the workshop actions would require external funding support, particularly in terms of longer-term actions such as capacity-building. They acknowledged that it would be useful for some priority be given to exploring mechanisms for obtaining external funding to support undertaking some longer-term actions in a number of APHCA member countries.

Delegates agreed that it would be useful for APHCA to facilitate obtaining external funding to support undertaking some longer-term actions in a number of APHCA member countries.

Figure 1: Local in-county actions to reduce risks from AMR (as identified in the workshop)

1. Undertake a *situational analysis* (to improve understanding of what is occurring with AMU and AMR) to understand the roles and motivations of all stakeholders in antimicrobial value chains in their respective countries;
2. Establish a National Task Force on Antimicrobials that is multidisciplinary and cross-sectoral to provide a forum to lead policy development and support action on AMU and AMR;
3. Improve *awareness* at different levels (including farmers and farmer organizations; veterinarians, paraveterinarians, veterinary faculty staff members; policy-makers; consumers and civil society);
4. Develop, review and improve *practical legislation and regulatory frameworks*, including compliance capacity, for AMU and AMR:
 - Develop national policy;
 - Develop guidelines and regulations to encourage responsible and prudent use of antimicrobials (e.g. on prescription for both animal and human AMU).
5. Build *capacity* (of both human resources and laboratory infrastructure) for monitoring AMU and surveillance of AMR:
 - Review current national capacity;
 - Explore options for capacity-building to fill gaps identified.
6. Undertake *monitoring and surveillance* of AMU and AMR:
 - Collect data on AMU (e.g. types and of volume of antimicrobials used, purpose of use);

- Design and undertake targeted surveillance for AMR;
 - Explore options for developing a national programme for monitoring AMU and surveillance of AMR.
7. Promote *alternatives to AMU*, particularly improved infection control, good husbandry practices, and farm biosecurity;
 8. Develop and implement communications and public *awareness* on AMU and AMR.
- Venues and Dates of the 37th and 38th Sessions: As agreed at the 35th Session, the 2013 Session will be held in Punakha or Thimphu, Bhutan, tentatively in the last week of September 2013.
- Government of Myanmar, through its delegate, proposed to host the 38th Session in Myanmar, venue to be confirmed.
- Any Other Business: No other business was raised.
- Adoption of the Minutes of the 73rd Executive Committee Meeting and the 36th APHCA Session: The Minutes and the Session Report were approved.
- Closure: The Chairperson thanked the APHCA Secretariat and all the delegates for their hard work and attendance. The Session was closed at 10:30.

Timetable and Agenda (APHCA 2012/01)

Timetable

Sunday, 21 October

Arrival of guests

The 73rd Executive Committee meeting (for APHCA executive members – The Philippines, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Samoa, Myanmar, and Thailand) – between 17:00 and 18:00 hours.

Free evening

Monday, 22 October

Morning: 36th APHCA Session

08:30 – 09:30	Registration
09:30 – 10:00	Opening ceremony
10:00 – 10:30	Tea / coffee break
10:30 – 12:30	36 th APHCA business session
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch

Afternoon: International workshop on the use of antimicrobials in livestock production and antimicrobial resistance in the Asia-Pacific region

14:00 – 15:00	Workshop opening and introduction
15:00 – 15:30	Tea / coffee break and group photo
15:00 – 16:30	Country reports
16:30 – 16:45	Tea / coffee break
16:45 – 18:15	Country reports cont.

19:00 – 21:00 Welcoming dinner hosted by Government of Sri Lanka

Tuesday, 23 October

Morning: International workshop on the use of antimicrobials in livestock production and antimicrobial resistance in the Asia-Pacific region (cont.)

09:00 – 09:30	An integrated surveillance study of AMR in <i>Salmonella sub-spp</i> , <i>Campylobacter spp</i> , <i>Escherichia coli</i> and <i>Enterococcus spp</i> in poultry in Cambodia
09:30 – 10:00	Monitoring antimicrobial resistance in food borne pathogens from selected species in Sri Lanka
10:00 – 10:30	Relationship between multi-resistance of <i>Campylobacter jejuni</i> isolates and antimicrobial usage in poultry in the Philippines
10:30 – 11:00	Tea / coffee break
11:00 – 11:30	Vancomycin resistant enterococci – Thailand experience
11:30 – 12:00	Antimicrobial resistance at the human-animal interface in Vietnam
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch

Afternoon: International workshop on the use of antimicrobials in livestock production and antimicrobial resistance in the Asia-Pacific region (cont.)

13:30 – 14:15	Systems for monitoring and integrated surveillance of antimicrobial use in livestock and AMR in different parts of the world
14:15 – 15:00	Alternatives to antimicrobials (ATAs) and strategies for minimizing risk of AMR development and spread
15:00 – 15:15	Tea / coffee break
15:15 – 16:00	International initiatives (OIE, WHO, FAO) to reduce risk of AMR development and cornerstones of a 'code for responsible (prudent) use of antimicrobials in livestock production'
16:00 – 16:15	Tea / coffee break
16:15 – 17:15	Facilitated working groups
17:15 – 17:45	Working groups reporting back to plenary
17:45 – 18:15	Wrap-up and closure
19:00 – 21:00	Dinner hosted by FAO-APHCA

Wednesday, 24 October

Morning: 36th APHCA Session (cont.)

08:30 – 09:30	Business session (cont.)
09:30 – 10:00	Tea / coffee break
10:00 – 11:00	Business session (cont.), adoption of session report and closure

Afternoon: Departure of delegates and guests

Provisional Agenda

Monday, 22 October

- 08:30 – 09:30 Registration
- 09:30 – 10:00 Opening Ceremony
- Welcome by Dr de Silva, DG DAPHD
 - Welcome by Dr R. Cresencio, APHCA Chairperson
 - Welcome Address by Dr H. Konuma, ADG FAO
 - Opening Address by Guest of Honour, Dr HR Mithrapala, Deputy Minister Livestock and Rural Community Development
 - Vote of Thanks, Dr J. Otte, APHCA Secretary
- 10:00 – 10:30 Tea / coffee break
- 10:30 – 12:30 Business Session, Provisional Agenda Items
- Election of New Chairperson, Vice-Chair and 3 ExCom Members
 - Adoption of the agenda
 - Minutes of the 35th Session
 - Summary statement of APHCA account
 - Activities performed between Oct. 2011 and Oct 2012
 - Special issues report
 - Proposed work plan and budget

Wednesday, 24 October

- 08:30 – 09:30 Business Session (cont.), Provisional Agenda Items
- Recommendations from AMR workshop
- 09:30 – 10:00 Tea / coffee break
- 10:00 – 11:00 Business Session (cont.)
- Recommendations from AMR workshop
 - Venue and dates for 37th and 38th Sessions
 - Any other business
 - Adoption of the minutes / report of the session
 - Closure

Dates and Venues (Host Countries) of APHCA Sessions (APHCA 2012/02)

First

Bangkok, Thailand, 7-11 June 1976
Chairman: Dr J.C. Madamba (Philippines)
Vice-Chairman: Dr M.N. Menon (India)
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from Malaysia, Sri Lanka and
Thailand

Third

Bangkok, Thailand, 16-21 July 1978
Chairman: Dr S. Thuraisingham (Malaysia)
Vice-Chairman: Dr A. Bandaranayake (Sri
Lanka)
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from Australia, Philippines and
Thailand

Fifth

Bangkok, Thailand, 6-11 October 1980
Chairman: Dr Tim Bhannasiri (Thailand)
Vice-Chairman: Dato' Dr Osman bin Din
(Malaysia)
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from India, Indonesia and Sri Lanka

Seventh

Surabaya, Indonesia, 13-18 December 1982
Chairman: Prof. Dr J.H. Hutasoit (Indonesia)
Vice-Chairman: Dato' Dr Osman bin Din
(Malaysia)
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from India, Philippines and
Thailand

Ninth

New Delhi, In, 8-13 October 1984
Chairman: Dr O.N. Singh (India)
Vice-Chairman: Dr I.G.R. Davis (Australia)
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from Nepal, Singapore and Sri
Lanka

Second

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 22-26 August 1977
Chairman: Dr S. Thuraisingham (Malaysia)
Vice-Chairman: Dr A. Bandaranayake (Sri
Lanka)
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from Australia, Nepal and Thailand

Fourth

Manila, Philippines, 3-7 September 1979
Chairman: Dr S.H. Escudero III (Philippines)
Vice-Chairman: Dr Y. Prased (India)
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from Bangladesh, Malaysia and
Singapore

Sixth

Colombo, Sri Lanka, 10-15 August 1981
Chairman: Dr S.B. Dhanapala (Sri Lanka)
Vice-Chairman: Dr J.H. Hutasoit (Indonesia)
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from Australia, India and Malaysia

Eighth

Bangkok, Thailand, 3-8 October 1983
Chairman: Dato' Dr Osman bin Din (Malaysia)
Vice-Chairman: Dr O.N. Singh (India)
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from Australia, Bangladesh and
Papua New Guinea

Tenth

Melbourne, Australia, 7-13 October 1985
Chairman: Dr R.W. Gee (Australia)
Vice-Chairman: Dr Giam Choo Hoo
(Singapore)
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from Pakistan, Sri Lanka and
Thailand

Eleventh

Bangkok, Thailand, 7-13 October 1986
Chairman: Dr Giam Choo Hoo (Singapore)
Vice-Chairman: Dr J.A. deS. Siriwardene (Sri Lanka)
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from Iran, Malaysia and Philippines

Thirteenth

Bangkok, Thailand, 25-31 October 1988
Chairman: Dr Vitoon Khumnirdetch (Thailand)
Vice-Chairman: Dr Soehadji (Indonesia)
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from India, Malaysia and Sri Lanka

Fifteenth

Bangkok, Thailand 17-22 October 1990
Chairman: Dr A.M.B.H. Babje (Malaysia)
Vice-Chairman: Dr R.N. Alcasid (Philippines)
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from Australia, Iran and Pakistan

Seventeenth

Manila, Philippines, 17-21 November 1992
Chairman: Dr W A. Geering (Australia)
Vice-Chairman: Dr A.A. Motallebi (Iran)
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand

Nineteenth

Tehran, Iran, 20-24 November 1994
Chairman: Dr Wipit Chairsrisongkram (Thailand)
Vice-Chairman: Dr S.K. Shrestha (Nepal)
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from Australia, India and Indonesia

Twelfth

Islamabad, Pakistan, 5-10 October 1987
Chairman: Dr M. Anwar Khan (Pakistan)
Vice-Chairman: Dr A. Mustaffa Babjee (Malaysia)
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from India, Philippines and Thailand

Fourteenth

Jakarta, Indonesia, 30 October - November 1989
Chairman: Dr Soehadji (Indonesia)
Vice-Chairman: Dr A.K. Chatterjee (India)
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from Australia, Philippines and Sri Lanka

Sixteenth

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 7-12 October 1991
Chairman: Dr R.N. Alcasid (Philippines)
Vice-Chairman: Dr W.A. Geering (Australia)
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from Iran, Myanmar and Thailand

Eighteenth

Darwin, Australia, 17-20 August 1993
Chairman: Dr A.A. Motallebi (Iran)
Vice-Chairman: Dr Wipit Chairsrisongkram (Thailand)
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from Nepal, Philippines and Singapore

Twentieth

Bangkok, Thailand, 30 August-2 September 1995
Chairman: Dr S.K. Shrestha (Nepal)
Vice-Chairman: Mr K. Rajan (India)
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from Australia, Malaysia and Sri Lanka

Twenty-First

Kathmandu, Nepal, 3-6 March 1997
Chairman: Mr G.R. Patwardhan (India)
Vice-Chairman: Dr A.S. Abeyratne (Sri Lanka)
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from Australia, Indonesia and the
Philippines

Twenty-Third

Kochi (Cochin), India, 4-6 September 1999
Chairman: Dr V.K. Taneja (India)
Vice-Chairman: Dr T.A. Abilay (Philippines)
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from Nepal, Papua New Guinea
and Thailand

Twenty-Fifth

Manila, Philippines, 24-26 September 2001
Chairman: Dr J.Q. Molina (Philippines)
Vice-Chairman: Dr Mohd Nordin Mohd Nor
(Malaysia)
Member of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from Australia, Bhutan, and
Thailand

Twenty-Seventh

Lahore, Pakistan, 25-29 August 2003
Chairperson: Dr Razaqat H. Raja (Pakistan)
Vice-Chairperson: Delegate from Indonesia
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from India, Nepal and Thailand
Ex-Officio Member: Delegate from the
Philippines

Twenty-Ninth

Bali, Indonesia, 26-29 September 2005
Chairperson: Dr Mathur Raidy (Indonesia)
Vice-Chairperson: Delegate from Thailand
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from India, Myanmar and Sri Lanka
Ex-Officio Member: Delegate from Pakistan

Twenty-Second

Bangkok, Thailand, 22-24 June 1998
Chairman: Dr S.S.E. Ranawans (Sri Lanka)
Vice-Chairman: Mr G.R. Patwardhan (India)
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from Laos, Myanmar and Thailand

Twenty-Forth

Dhaka, Bangladesh, 6-9 November 2000
Chairman: Dr V.K. Taneja (India)
Vice-Chairman: Dr T. A. Abilay (Philippines)
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from Bangladesh, Papua New
Guinea and Nepal

Twenty-Sixth

Subang Jaya, Malaysia, 24-26 August 2002
Chairperson: Dr J.Q. Molina (Philippines)
Vice-Chairperson: Dato' Dr Mohd. Nordin Haji
Mohd. Nor (Malaysia)
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from Bhutan, Pakistan and
Thailand
Ex-Officio Member: Delegate from India

Twenty-Eight

Chiang Mai, Thailand, 27 September - 1
October 2004
Chairperson: Dr Razaqat H. Raja/Dr M. Afzal
(Pakistan)
Vice-Chairperson: Delegate from Indonesia
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from India, Nepal and Thailand

Thirtieth

Luang Prabang, Lao PDR, 22-26 October 2006
Chairperson: Dr Bounkhouang
Khambounheuang (Lao PDR)
Vice-Chairperson: Delegate from Sri Lanka
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from India, Myanmar and Thailand
Ex-Officio Member: Delegate from the
Indonesia

Thirty-First

Chiang Mai, Thailand, 29 October – 1
November 2007
Chairperson: Dr M.J. Nunn (Australia)
Vice-Chairperson: Delegate from Nepal
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from Bhutan, India and Mongolia
Ex-Officio Member: Delegate from Lao PDR

Thirty-Third

Pokhara, Nepal, 26-28 October 2009
Chairperson: Dr Prabhakar Pathak (Nepal)
Vice-Chairperson: Delegate from Thailand
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from Iran, Malaysia and PNG
Ex-Officio Member: Delegate from Australia

Thirty-Fifth

Cebu, Philippines, 2-4 November 2011
Chairperson: Delegate from the Philippines
Vice-Chairperson: Delegate from Sri Lanka
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from Bangladesh, Myanmar and
Samoa
Ex-Officio Member: Delegate from Thailand

Thirty-Second

Bangkok, Thailand, 27-30 October, 2008
Chairperson: Dr M.J. Nunn (Australia)
Vice-Chairperson: Delegate from Nepal
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from Bhutan, India and Mongolia

Thirty-Forth

Phuket, Thailand, 25-27 October 2010
Chairperson: Mr P Somboonprasert (Thailand)
Vice-Chairperson: Delegate from the
Philippines
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from Australia, Samoa and Sri
Lanka
Ex-Officio Member: Delegate from Nepal

Thirty-Sixth

Negombo, Sri Lanka, 21-24 October 2012
Chairperson: Sri Lanka
Vice-Chairperson: Delegate from Bhutan
Members of the Executive Committee:
Delegates from Australia, Myanmar and
Samoa
Ex-Officio Member: Delegate from the
Philippines

List of APHCA Chairpersons by Country (as of 2011)

Australia	4	Lao PDR	1	Philippines	5
Bangladesh	0	Malaysia	5	Samoa	0
Bhutan	0	Mongolia	0	Singapore	1
India	4	Myanmar	0	Sri Lanka	2
Indonesia	3	Nepal	2	Thailand	4
Iran	1	Pakistan	3		
Korea DPR	0	PNG	0		

List of APHCA Executive Committee Members by Country (as of 2011)

Australia	11	Lao PDR	1	Philippines	8
Bangladesh	3	Malaysia	7	Samoa	2
Bhutan	4	Mongolia	2	Singapore	3
India	10	Myanmar	5	Sri Lanka	11
Indonesia	4	Nepal	7	Thailand	16
Iran	4	Pakistan	4		
Korea DPR	0	PNG	3		

Minutes of the 72nd Executive Committee Meeting and the 35th APHCA Session (APHCA 2012/03)

The 72nd Executive Committee Meeting

The 72nd Executive Committee Meeting (ExCom) was held on Thursday, 3 November 2011, 16:00 – 17:00 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 Sornnuwat, 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 US\$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 US\$100,000 to cover activities on the maintenance of the dairy network (US\$30,000), conduct of brucellosis and bluetongue activities (US\$30,000), APHCA promotion (US\$20,000) and conduct of the APHCA strategy workshop (US\$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 US\$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 17:00 hours.

APHCA Business Session

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. Simuangngam). The regular program also has close links with the ECTAD RAP.

Financial Situation

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

As of October 2011, an amount of US\$57,190.28 has been received and an outstanding payment of US\$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 of the report.

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 of the report.

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 US\$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.

Item	Budget (US\$)
Maintenance of the Asia Dairy Network	30,000
Brucellosis / bluetongue work & PRRS workshop (both with OIE)	30,000
APHCA Promotion, Branding	20,000
APHCA 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 12:00 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 of the report.

- 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.

Summary Statement of APHCA Account (APHCA 2012/04)

Cash Balance as of 1 January 2012

TRUST FUND No. 9167.00 - MTF/INT/005/MUL

Funds received up to 31.12.2010	US\$
3051 Contributions received	2,345,873
3052 Cumulative interest earned***	90,133
Total	2,436,006
Funds received in 2011	
3051 Contributions received	68,762
3052 Interest earned in 2011*****	320
Total	69,080
Funds received up to 31.12.2011	
3051 Contributions received	2,414,635
3052 Cumulative interest earned***	90,453
Total	2,505,088
Expenditures	
Expenditures up to 31.12.2010	2,101,474
Expenditures in 2011 (Jan. to Dec.)	90,098
Total	2,191,572
Effective cash balance (without interest earned) as of 01.01.2012	223,063

*** N.B. Interests, although received into the account, **cannot** be spent without approval of APHCA members. Therefore the effective cash balance is calculated on the contributions received (without interest) minus expenditures.

Expenditures in 2011

Budget line	US\$
5012 Salaries General Service	23,166
5013 Consultants	31,586
5014 Contracts	0
5020 Locally Contracted Labour	-34
5021 Travel	35,045
5023 Training	-340
5028 General Operating Expenses	675
Total Expenditure	90,098

Status of Contributions

Oracle Activity: TF RAPXD TFAA97AA89142, Status as of 31.09.2012

Member Country	Outstanding 31/12/2011	Contribution due for 2012	Contributions received 2012	Outstanding contributions
Australia	0.00	10,724.00	10,724.00	0.00
Bangladesh	35,792.00	6,502.00		42,294.00
Bhutan	0.00	2,128.00		2,128.00
India	323.05	10,724.00		11,047.05
Indonesia	0.00	6,502.00	6,502.00	0.00
Iran	6502.00	6,502.00	6,502.00	6,502.00
Korea DPR	0.00	2,128.00		2,128.00
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	2,128.00	0.00
Myanmar	0.00	2,128.00		2,128.00
Nepal	(2,128.00)	2,128.00		0.00
Pakistan	6,593.15	6,502.00		13,095.15
PNG	(2,119.00)	2,128.00		9.00
Philippines	0.00	6,502.00	6,502.00	0.00
Samoa	133.00	2,182.00	2,202.14	112.86
Sri Lanka	25.00	6,502.00	6,502.00	25.00
Thailand	0.00	6,502.00	6,502.00	0.00
Total	45,121.20*	90,542.00	54,066.14	81,597.06

*Note: Outstanding up to 31.12.2010: US\$23,173.48, outstanding for 2011: US\$21,947.72

Approved Budget for 2012 and Expenditures to 31.09.2012

Budget line	Approved budget	Expended on 30.09.2012	Balance
5011 Salaries Prof.	0	0	0
5012 Salaries GS	20,000	4,827	15,173
5013 Consultants	21,000	52	20,948
5014 Contracts	13,000	0	13,000
5020 Locally Contracted Labour	2,000	-163	2,163
5021 Travel	35,000	11,857	23,143
5023 Training	0	-14	14
5024 Expendable Procurement	2,000	453	1,547
5025 Non-expendable Procurement	2,000	0	2,000
5026 Hospitality	1,500	1,155	345
5028 General Operating Expenses	3,500	1,911	1,589
Total	100,000	20,078	79,922

Scale of Contributions for 2013

Member Country	Amount (US\$)*
Australia	10,724.00
Bangladesh	6,502.00
Bhutan	2,128.00
India	10,724.00
Indonesia	6,502.00
Iran	6,502.00
Korea DPR**	2,128.00
Lao PDR	2,128.00
Malaysia	6,502.00
Mongolia	2,128.00
Myanmar	2,128.00
Nepal	2,128.00
Pakistan	6,502.00
PNG	2,128.00
Philippines	6,502.00
Samoa	2,128.00
Sri Lanka	6,502.00
Thailand	6,502.00
TOTAL	90,488.00

* Note: This scale of contributions has been in effect since 2003

** Note: Korea DPR became a member of APHCA effective 2010

Activity Report (APHCA 2012/05)

Introduction

The following is a general overview of the activities carried out by the RAP livestock group in the livestock sector in the APHCA region – i.e. not limited to APHCA member countries - since the last Session in Cebu, 2-4 November 2011. The activities are funded from a variety of sources, such as the APHCA trust fund, FAO's regular programme (RP), FAO's technical cooperation programme (TCP) as well as unilateral and multilateral donor trust funds. The RAP Livestock group supports and is supported by colleagues from RAP ECTAD and FAO HQ and also greatly benefits from support and links provided by the FAO in countries representations.

Personnel (RAP Livestock Group)

- Joachim Otte, Senior Animal Production and Health Officer and Secretary of APHCA
- Carolyn Benigno, Animal Health Officer
- Vinod Ahuja, Livestock Policy Officer
- Vishnu Songkitti, APHCA Liaison Officer
- Yupaporn Simuangngam, APHCA IT Clerk
- Tuanchai Laisakun, Support Staff

Field Projects Supported by RAP Livestock Group

FAO Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP)

- TCP/SRL/3204 - Dairy and Cattle Breeding and Genetic Improvement in Sri Lanka. (Operationally closed December 2011)
- TCP/IND/3302 & UTF/IND/185 - A Strategy and an Action Plan for an Animal Identification and Traceability System for India
- TCP/IND/3301 - India Pro-Poor Livestock Policy Programme
- TCP/BGD/3302 - Establishment of Livestock Health Care System at Kotalipara and Tungipara Upazilas in the Gopalganj District
- TCP/INS/3302 - Enhanced Coordination of Control Efforts, Capacity Building, Awareness Raising and Rapid Outbreak Response to Control Rabies in Bali, Indonesia
- TCP/THA/3306 - Emergency Assistance to Support the Recovery of Agriculture-based Livelihoods Systems of Flood-affected Farmers (operationally closed September 2012)

- TCP/MYA/3402 - Formulation of Project Proposal: Improved Farmer Livelihoods through Improved Livestock Disease Control and Supply Chains
- TCP/RAS/3215 - Assistance on Diagnosis and Management of PRRS and other Swine Diseases to Improve Swine Health Status in Selected Countries (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam) (operationally closed in December 2011)
- TCP/RAS/3309 - Enhancing Milk Consumption and Livelihoods through School Milk Programmes (Bangladesh, Myanmar and Thailand)
- TCP/RAS/3401 - Enhancing Regional Coordination of FMD Control (SAARC and ASEAN)
- TCP/RAS/3404 - Livestock Production and Antimicrobial Resistance in Asia with an Emphasis on the SAARC Sub-Region

Bi-lateral and Multi-lateral Donor Funding

- MTF/IND/183/FFD & GCP/RAS/252/IFA - South-Asia Pro-Poor Livestock Policy Programme (SA-PPLPP), India, Bangladesh & Bhutan (operationally closed July 2012)
- GCP/CMB/039/EC - Micro and Small Enterprise Development to Achieve Food Security, Food Safety and Self-Reliance for Urban Poor in Phnom Penh
- OSRO/CMB/101/EC - Improving Food Security and Market Linkages for Smallholders in Otdar Meanchey and Preah Vihear Provinces in Cambodia
- UTF/MON/009/MON - Mongolia: Integrated Livestock-based Livelihoods Support Programme (ILBLSP)
- UTF/LAO/018/LAO - Technical Assistance for the Development of the SPS-related Legal Framework in the Lao People's Democratic Republic
- UNTS/THA/033/UNO - United Nations Joint Programme on Integrated Highland Livelihood Development in Mae Hong Son Province
- MTF/RAS/CFC/259 - Improving the Bargaining Power and Sustainable Livelihoods through the Enhancement of Productivity and Market Access in Dairy (Bangladesh, Myanmar and Thailand)
- GCP/RAS/244/ITA - Sub-regional Environmental Animal Health Management Initiative for smallholder production in Southeast Asia, Phase 3 (Jan 2012 – June 2013)
- GCP/RAS/283/ROK - FMD Control in Southeast Asia (Cambodia, Lao PDR and Vietnam) through Application of the Progressive Control Pathway (June 2012 – 2015)
- OSRO/GLO/102/AUL - Partnership on Global Animal Health and Biosecurity Initiatives (Bangladesh, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam)

Meetings, Workshops and Events Organized

- 16-19 November 2011, Cambodia, Phnom Penh, Workshop on Reporting Key Indicators / Parameters on Animal Production and Health, GCP/RAS/244/ITA
- 29-30 November 2011, Thailand, Pattaya, Regional Workshop on the prototype demonstration of the Animal ID and Traceability System in Southeast Asia (TCP/RAS/3215)
- 1-2 December 2011, Thailand, Pattaya, Closing Workshop of TCP/RAS/3215
- 1-4 December 2011, Thailand, Phuket, 2nd Global Multi-stakeholder Platform Meeting on Global Agenda of Action for Sustainable Livestock
- 17-20 December 2011, Sri Lanka, Peradeniya, Closing Workshop of TCP/SRL/3204
- 20-24 February 2012, Myanmar, Naypyitaw and Vietnam, Hanoi, Review Meeting of GCP/RAS/244/ITA
- 8-9 March 2012, Thailand, Bangkok, APHCA Strategy Workshop
- 23-27 April 2012, Cambodia, Phnom Penh, Technical Working Group Strategic Planning Workshop for Standardizing Animal Health and Production Reporting Forms, GCP/RAS/244/ITA
- 1 June 2012, Thailand, Bangkok, FAO World Milk Day, Thailand Celebration
- 18-19 June 2012, Philippines, Tagaytay, Bat Surveillance Workshop, OSRO/GLO/102/AUL
- 7-8 August 2012, Lao PDR, Vientiane Lao PDR, FMD National Consultation Workshop, GCP/RAS/283/ROK
- 16-17 August 2012, Thailand, Bangkok, Regional Livestock Policy Forum
- 20-21 August 2012, Vietnam, Ho Chi Minh City, FMD National Consultation Workshop, GCP/RAS/283/ROK
- 22-24 August 2012, Vietnam, Ho Chi Minh City, Regional Workshop on Swine Health Management in East and Southeast, OSRO/RAS/901/EC and RP funds
- 3-4 September 2012, Philippines, Manila, Workshop on the Pre-testing of the FMD Training Module for FMD-free Countries and Free Zones, TCP/RAS/3401
- 4-5 October 2012, Lao PDR, Vientiane, Consultation Workshop on National Animal Health Legislation in Lao PDR, UTF/LAO/018/LAO
- 19 September 2012, Cambodia, Phnom Penh, Assessment Workshop on the Pilot Programme on Standardizing Animal Health and Production Reporting forms, GCP/RAS/244/ITA,
- 29 September 2012, Myanmar, Naypyitaw, Inception Workshop, GCP/RAS/244/ITA
- 2-3 October 2012, Lao PDR, Vientiane, Workshop on Identification of Key Indicators / Parameters on Animal Production and Health, GCP/RAS/244/ITA

- 21-24 October 2012, Sri Lanka, Negombo, 36th APHCA Session and International Workshop on The Use of Antimicrobials in Livestock Production and Antimicrobial Resistance in the Asia-Pacific Region

Congresses, Symposia, Meetings and Workshops Attended

- 22-29 October 2011, China, Chengdu and Beijing, International Symposium on Major Emergent Animal Diseases, Public Health and Food Safety and International Symposium: New Approaches to Animal Diseases, Food Safety and Public Health for the Future, presentation of paper on Global Trends in Livestock Production and Effects on Pathogen Evolution
- 16-18 January 2012, Thailand, Chiang Mai, FAO/OIE/WHO Second Regional Workshop on Collaboration between Animal and Human Health on Zoonosis Prevention and Control
- 19- 20 January 2012, Thailand, Chiang Mai, ASEAN/FAO/OIE/WHO Rabies Workshop
- 29 Jan–1 Feb 2012, Malaysia, Penang, Malaysia-Thailand-Myanmar Tristate Commission Meeting on FMD, presentation on FAO Initiatives on FMD Control in the Region
- 8 February 2012, India, New Delhi, A Strategy and an Action Plan for an Animal Identification and Traceability System for India
- 6-10 February Myanmar, Naypyitaw, Tenth Meeting of the OIE Working Group on Zoning for Foot and Mouth Disease and Animal Movement Management in the Upper Mekong Region
- 12-16 February, India, New Delhi, International Conference on Scientific Developments and Technical Challenges in the Progressive Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease in South Asia, presented paper on Structure and Trends of India's Livestock Sector and Implications for FMD Control
- 3-7 March 2012, China, Lijiang, OIE SEACFMD Steering Committee Meeting and the 18th OIE SEACFMD Meeting
- 13 March, Vietnam, Hanoi, Asia Pacific Regional Conference of, presentation of paper on Sustainable Intensification and Diversification of Crops and Agriculture Towards Food and Nutrition Security
- 9-11 April 2012, Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, First Asia Dairy Goat Conference, presentation of paper on Linking Smallholders to Markets, Opportunities and Challenges
- 24-27 April, Korea, Seoul, Thematic Workshop on Reduced Discharge Under the Auspices of the Global Agenda of Action for Sustainable Livestock
- 14-16 May 2012, Thailand, Bangkok, Second FAO/WB Expert Meeting on Investing in Agriculture and Natural Resources Management in the Context of Climate Change in

East Asia and the Pacific Region, presentation of paper on Asian Livestock Sector Development and Climate Change

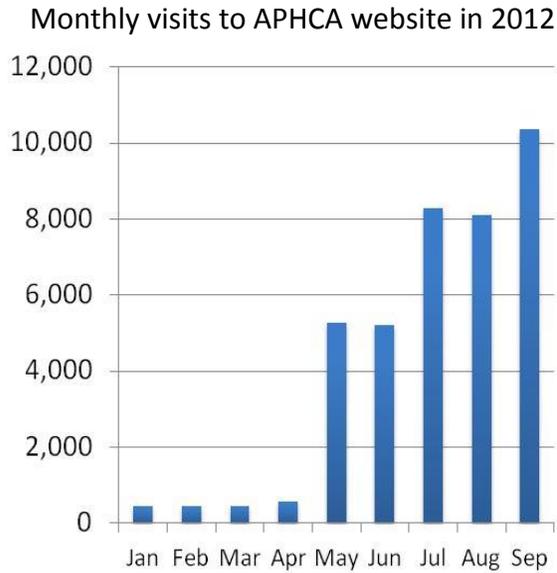
- 14-17 May 2012, Bhutan, Timpu, First Livestock Policy Formulation Workshop
- 11-15 June, Bhutan, Timpu, Second Livestock Policy Formulation Workshop
- 27-29 June 2012, Thailand, Bangkok, FAO/OIE Global Conference on FMD Control
- 10-12 July 2012, Philippines, Manila, Second Meeting of the WHO Technical Advisory Group on the Asia Pacific Strategy for Emerging Diseases, presentation of the FAO initiatives in support of the Asia Pacific Strategy on Emerging Infectious Diseases
- 16 July, Thailand, Bangkok, 2nd FAO/OIE/WHO EU-HPED Steering Committee Meeting
- 17-19 July 2012, Thailand, Bangkok, 6th FAO/OIE Regional Steering Committee Meeting on GF-TADs for Asia and the Pacific
- 5-6 September 2012, Thailand, Bangkok, Workshop on Harmonization of Approaches to Determine the Impacts of Foot-and-Mouth Disease
- 9-10 September, 2012, Samoa, Apia, Livestock Sector Challenges and Opportunities in the Pacific
- 21-22 September 2012, Malaysia, Putra Jaya, 2nd OIE Veterinary Education Workshop

APHCA Information Unit

In line with the Vision of APHCA to establish itself *as a prime source of information, knowledge, expertise and experience on all aspects of livestock sector development in the Asia-Pacific region* formulated at the APHCA Strategy Workshop, the Information Unit has devoted considerable time to improving the APHCA website. Since the Strategy Workshop (March 2012), the home-page was converted to being 'news-based', electronic documents to which FAO has copyrights were uploaded, the net was searched for relevant links (e.g. research institutes, national authorities, open access journals, etc) and these were posted on the website. The current 'content' of the APHCA web-site is summarized in the table below.

Content of APHCA website as of 30.09.2012

Item	Count
Uploaded documents	146
News items posted	87
Links to institutional web-sites	142
Back-links	59
Downloads	28,714
Visits	39,222



The changes to the website have considerably increased the number of visits as depicted in the graph. Prior to March / April visits to the site were in the order 300 to 400 per month, a figure that has increased to more than 10,000 in September 2012. Total visits as of 30.09.2012 was 39,222.

Hardcopies and CD-ROMS of FAO and APHCA publications are distributed upon request and in conjunction with workshops and meetings. Two pilot issues of an APHCA e-newsletter have been circulated through to APHCA delegates and focal points.

Submission of studies and other documents by member countries and establishment of links from their institutional web-sites is solicited.

Commissioned Studies

- Cambodia Fodder Resources, CELAGRID, Cambodia (final report)
- Trends in the Emergence of Swine Pathogens, Royal Veterinary College (final draft)
- Long-term Food Security in Developing Asia, University of California, Berkeley (final draft)
- A Study of Patterns and Trends of Regional Trade in Live Animals, Livestock Products and Animal Feed (Ingredients) in the GMS Countries and their Implications for Regional Food Security, Chiang Mai University (interim report)
- Changing Consumption Patterns of Livestock Products, Amithab Kundu (first draft)
- Cambodian Livestock Breeds and Guidelines on Management of Animal Genetic Resources, Royal University of Agriculture, Cambodia (ongoing)
- Study of Animal Protein Consumption Patterns in Rural and Urban Areas of Cambodia to Develop a Predictive Model of Future Demand, Royal University of Agriculture, Cambodia (ongoing)
- Market Supply Chain Survey in Selected Provinces: Quang Ninh, Hai Duong, Quang Nam and Dong Thap, Vietnam, Research Development Center for Agro-forestry and Fisheries, Vietnam (ongoing)
- National Survey of Veterinary Check Points, Infrastructure and Disease-Free Farm Locations in Vietnam, Department of Animal Health, Vietnam (ongoing)

- Desk study Review of Culled Animal Disposal Regulations and Practices in Vietnam, Hanoi University of Agriculture, Vietnam (ongoing)
- Mapping and Description of Duck Markets and Duck Market Dynamics in Seven Provinces of Cambodia, National Veterinary Research Institute, Cambodia (ongoing)

Work Planned up to End 2012

- Continuation of on-going projects / activities, e.g. Smallholder Dairy Development, specifically supporting intervention '*Asia Dairy Network - the way forward*' – funded by APHCA
- Finalization of the Proceedings from the Regional Livestock Policy Forum
- Inception of the project on Improving Food Security of Women and Children by Enhancing Backyard and Small-Scale Poultry Production in the Southern Delta Region of Bangladesh (UTF/BGD/040/BGD)
- Initiation of the project on Linking School Milk With Smallholder Dairy Development in Tala, Satkhira, Bangladesh (funded by Rabobank)
- Co-organization of the Dairy Symposium in November 2012 held in conjunction with the 15th AAAP, 26-30 November, Bangkok, Thailand
- Dairy Sector Profiling to Determine Criteria for Dairy Production Sites and Assess Needs For Dairy Production in Myanmar, Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, Myanmar (to start)
- Establishment of a Roster of Experts in various domains of livestock sector development for posting on the APHCA web-site

Specific Issues and Proposed Work Plan for 2013 (APHCA 2012/06)

Cornerstones of APHCA's Strategic Plan

For information

Mission

APHCA's mission is to enhance the level of nutrition and standard of living of livestock keepers, especially smallholders, livestock value-chain actors, and communities at large through equitable, sustainable and safe livestock sector development. This is achieved by promoting information-generation and exchange, providing normative guidance and coordinating joint action among members countries and other stakeholders.

Vision

APHCA is recognized as a prime source of information, knowledge, expertise and experience on all aspects of livestock sector development in the Asia-Pacific region.

Guiding Principles

- Apply ecosystem, livelihoods and value chain perspective to animal health and production (inter-disciplinarity);
- Establish linkages between local, national, sub-regional and regional levels;
- Promote gender equity and safeguard 'rights' of disadvantaged groups;
- Link to ongoing national, regional and global policy / development processes;
- Build on the strengths of being a membership organization under FAO's broader umbrella;
- Apply a programme approach to livestock sector development based on collective self-reliance and mutual assistance.

Strategic Actions

- Increase APHCA's membership and resource base;
- Forge strategic alliances and build networks with regional partners and within these assume a catalytic role;
- Align FAO's programme of work and budget with APHCA's needs and priorities;
- Develop analytical capacity to inform policies and practices towards disaster risk reduction and management through enhancing resilience of production and marketing systems (for biological hazards this means application of the One Health), and
- Improve the Secretariat's capacity to provide high quality information and communication services to APHCA members and other stakeholders.

AMU and AMR in the Asia Pacific Region

For information

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is a growing global threat across drug classes and around the world. Although much of the evolving AMR can be attributed to (mis-)use of antimicrobials in humans, research by international scientific bodies supports the conclusion that the overuse of drugs in food animal production - in high-income countries, more than 80% of all antimicrobials produced are used in farm animals – is a threat for continued availability of effective treatment of human diseases.

Resource-constrained countries are particularly vulnerable to AMR as they bear 95% of the global infectious disease burden and rely on effective antimicrobial medicines to treat these diseases. Little quantitative information is available about antimicrobial use (AMU) in rapidly growing livestock sectors of Asia-Pacific countries but research conducted in Asia clearly demonstrates that resistance to a range of compounds is fairly common in micro-organisms isolated from livestock and livestock products.

Many previously easily curable infectious diseases are becoming increasingly difficult and costly to treat as single and multi-drug resistance grows. Turning the clock back to the days before penicillin will leave many lives at risk. In addition to the human cost, the health care bill for antibiotic resistance is staggering. One study estimated that antibiotic-resistant infections annually cost US hospitals alone more than \$20 billion. Again, little quantitative information on the human health cost of AMR in Asia has been generated. It is no exaggeration that we are at risk of losing one of the most important curative and preventive tools for human and animal disease management. And this happens at a time when animal and human population densities continue to increase overall, but to complicate things further in a highly clustered fashion, which results in increased risk of transmission, which allows pathogens to spread and mutate ever more quickly.

Society can no longer rely mainly on the expectation that a continuous stream of new antimicrobials will come onto the market, as pharmaceutical companies find it increasingly difficult justify the investment into research and development in this area in an extremely competitive global market. AMR is a complex problem and the contributing factors to its emergence and spread are diverse and multifaceted. Numerous stakeholders from across multiple sectors have a role to play in AMR containment. Unfortunately, coordinated containment activities have been lacking, especially at the national and regional level.

Microbes do not respect borders and no individual country or country group can contain AMR on its own. Strategic coalitions and partnerships are required to advance sustained AMR advocacy and containment at the regional, country, and local levels. Therefore, the Animal Production and Health Commission for Asia and the Pacific (APHCA) is combining its 36th Annual Session with an International Workshop on 'Antimicrobial Use and Resistance in Livestock Production in the Asia-Pacific Region' to be held in Negombo, Sri Lanka.

Delegates from more than 15 countries will present and review the extent of antimicrobial use in livestock production and AMR in micro-organisms isolated from livestock and livestock products in the Asia-Pacific region. Workshop participants will furthermore discuss systems for monitoring and integrated surveillance of antimicrobial use in livestock and AMR in different parts of the world, alternatives to antimicrobials and strategies for minimizing risk of AMR development and spread. It is envisaged that the delegates will agree on important steps to be taken at national and regional level to contain the threat to animal and human health and welfare posed by the proliferation of AMR in the Asia-Pacific region.

Priority Zoonoses in South, East and Southeast Asia

For information

Over the next decades global food production has to grow significantly to feed the growing and more affluent human population. Producing more food will require expansion of agricultural areas and intensification of agricultural production. Both expansion of agricultural areas and intensification of food production are associated with changing risks to human health from microorganisms harbored by wildlife and / or domesticated animals. With a focus on South, East and Southeast Asia, we reviewed the risks to human health and socio-economic impacts of 'novel' pathogens, which emerge as a result of changes in agricultural landscapes, the burden posed by 'established' zoonoses and their likely trends under agricultural intensification and climate change, and the prevalence and patterns of antimicrobial resistance in zoonotic pathogens.

The tremendous downturn in economic activity and shock to livelihoods associated with the emergence of zoonotic pathogens and the relatively high ratio of livestock, particularly pigs, to humans in East and Southeast Asia, with pigs regarded as ideal 'mixing vessels' for pathogens and adaptation to humans warrant major efforts, national and international, to minimize risks of disease emergence and to implement surveillance systems, in humans and livestock, to identify emerging pathogens before they spread widely.

With respect to 'established' zoonoses, food borne bacterial diseases are responsible for high disease burdens across South, East and Southeast Asia with Japanese encephalitis and rabies also causing high disease burdens in South Asia while parasitic food borne diseases are of particular concern in East and Southeast Asia. Estimates of the human disease burden caused by leptospirosis, brucellosis and zoonotic tuberculosis are beset with great uncertainty but leptospirosis is likely to be of considerable importance in Southeast Asia while brucellosis incidence appears to be relatively high in South Asia. Crude estimates of the burden – expressed as disability adjusted life years (DALYs) – occasioned by various 'endemic' zoonotic diseases in South, East and Southeast Asia are presented in the table below.

Estimates of human disease burden for selected zoonoses in Asian sub-regions (DALYs / 100,000 people)

	South Asia	East Asia	Southeast Asia
Gastro-intestinal disease (total)	1,680	261	644
GI disease (33% zoonotic)	560	87	215
GI disease (10% zoonotic)	168	26	64
TB (10% zoonotic)	22	8	27
TB (5% zoonotic)	11	4	13
Japanese encephalitis	82	9	22
Rabies	47	5	3
Alveolar echinococcosis	0	46 ¹	0
Cystic echinococcosis	2	9	0
Foodborne trematodiasis	0	34	33
Leptospirosis ²	1 – 30	< 3	>10
Brucellosis ³	2 – 40	2 – 4	2 – 4

¹Approximately 1/3 foodborne; ²Based on incidence range in Victoriano et al. (2009) for South and Southeast Asian countries and 0.7 / 100,000 (Zhang et al., 2011) for China and attributing 1 and 3 DALYs per case; ³Assuming 1 to 10 cases / 100,000 for South Asia and 1 case / 100,000 for East and Southeast Asia and attributing 2 and 4 DALYs per case

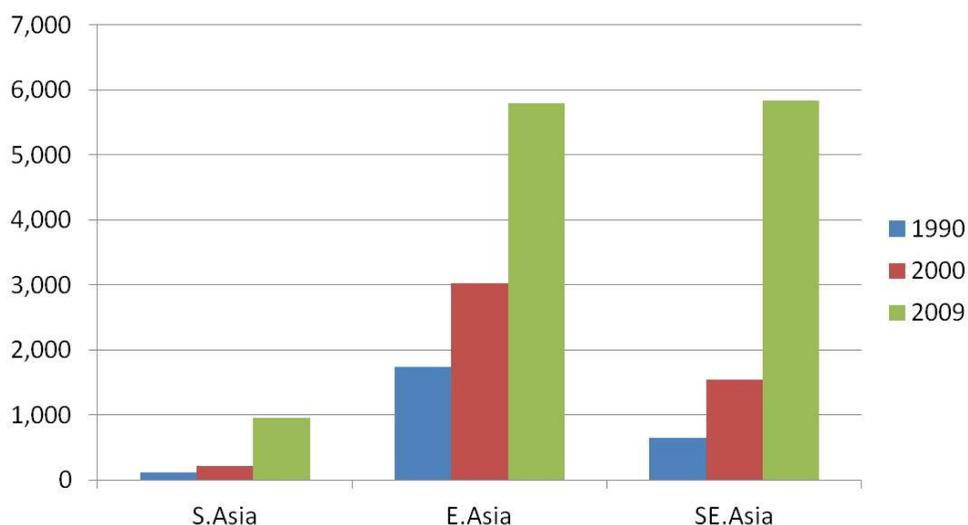
Few systematic national efforts exist to monitor and report antimicrobial use in animal production and the prevalence of antimicrobial resistance in animal pathogens. Studies published in the scientific literature however indicate that in Southeast Asia antimicrobial resistance to a wide range of compounds is already widespread in food-borne pathogens, which, given the importance of bacterial infections gastro-intestinal infections, is particularly alarming.

The far-reaching and costly externalities of disease and disease risk warrant major public sector involvement and international cooperation and coordination in disease risk management. Public policy and international funding agencies should promote a more holistic, multidisciplinary and proactive approach to agriculture and health research and risk management that addresses the root causes of disease burdens and risk.

National Feed Assessment Systems

For information

Population growth, urbanization, and income growth are driving enormous increases in demand for foods of animal origin. The capacities of existing livestock production systems are being stretched due to increasing demands for livestock feeds relative to availabilities. This situation is particularly acute in developing countries, which are increasingly relying on imported feed products and ingredients. The following figure displays the dramatic increase in foreign exchange used for feed imports in three Asian sub-regions, more than doubling between 2000 and 2009.



Value of net feed imports (US\$million) in South, East and Southeast Asia in 1990, 2000 and 2009

Accurate assessments of current and future supplies and demands for livestock feed are needed for national food security policy and planning, as well as the setting of environmentally sustainable stocking rates. Feed resources should be assessed and monitored to provide information for the development and implementation of policies that will contribute to the sustainable growth of national livestock sectors.

Systematic approaches for accurately assessing livestock feed supplies are relatively undeveloped compared with long-standing programmes that inventory agricultural productivity. Furthermore, the quantification of livestock feeds has proved to be more challenging than the quantification of total crop production for a number of reasons. Data needs and complexities increase with the addition of another trophic level. Data are needed for the production of numerous derived feedstuffs and the availabilities of forage for livestock. Many crop residues and by products used for forage are not quantified because they have no direct market value. Many additional, but poorly quantified factors, constrain access to forage in spatially extensive rangelands and grasslands.

Feed resources, especially those which will support the rapidly growing, intensive production systems of the developing world, must be assessed and monitored to provide information that is useful for the development and implementation of appropriate policies that will contribute to the sustainable growth of the global livestock sector. Assessments will provide information on feed resource availabilities that will enable optimal policy decisions regarding the use of these resources. The assessments should enhance the development of optimal feeding strategies and thus food security, the ability to cope with emergency feed shortage situations, the ability to provide input

data into country level food input-output analyses, and the capability to assess environmental impacts of livestock.

In support of the above goal, FAO suggests the development of National Feed Assessment Systems (NFASs). The NFASs must include people with a wide variety of relevant subject matter expertise regarding livestock production systems in a broad range of environments and settings, as well as people with expertise on the procedural and organizational aspects of implementing national scale database systems. In order to strengthen the NFASs and benefit from regional collaboration and synergies, an institutional framework must be created. It is suggested that APHCA and FAO-RAP, with support from FAO-HQ, explore the interest and possible institutional arrangements for the establishment of National Feed Assessment Systems in APHCA member countries.

Establishment of a Livestock Policy Network

For information and action

Background and Justification

Livestock provide substantial benefits to their keepers and society at large, including food, income, soil nutrients, employment, a means of insurance and risk spreading, traction, and clothing. In the process, livestock use a large amount of natural resources. In the Asia-Pacific region for example, livestock exploit 1.2 billion ha of rangeland, corresponding to nearly 70% of all 'agricultural' land in the region and, globally, livestock account for 8% of the total use of fresh water. Furthermore, livestock are responsible for nearly half of the global non-CO₂ GHG emissions (methane and nitrous oxide) directly attributable to agriculture and constitute a human health risk through existing and emerging zoonotic pathogens. On the other hand, the Asia-Pacific region is home to more than 500 million poor (<\$2/day) (250 million very poor (<1\$/day)) livestock keepers, for whom livestock represent a multifunctional asset reducing vulnerability and representing a foothold for participation in the market economy.

The demand for livestock products in developing countries will nearly double by 2050 as a result of human population increases and growing incomes. How can future demand for livestock products be met in a sustainable way, and will future livestock production have poverty alleviation benefits? Many tradeoffs exist, competing demands for natural resources will intensify, and it will be a challenge to balance livestock production, livelihoods, and environmental protection.

Livestock industries in the Asia-Pacific countries will have to proactively adapt to these emerging social, environmental and economic changes and policy-makers need to understand the different options with their pros and cons in a decision-making context strongly influenced by regional and global interdependencies. Economics and ecology are transcending national borders and an understanding of what is happening at the global, regional, national and local levels is critical to relevant and appropriate decision making. Timely access to unbiased and broad-based analysis of issues and information

exchange among peers is thus becoming increasingly important, particularly in the context of an over-load of information and increased lobbying by commercial interests.

The critical gap the livestock policy network (LPN) will fill is for a dedicated Asia-Pacific institution to develop (sub-)region-specific perspectives and solutions to livestock policy challenges. The proposed project will build livestock policy expertise that is not otherwise available in recipient countries to address the multiple livestock policy challenges and develop country capacities integrating the diverse streams of knowledge.

The LPN will better harness the wealth of ideas, knowledge, experience, expertise, and intellectual capital that is available throughout the region into a mechanism that allows policy-makers to more efficiently tap into the right people and wells of knowledge and experience, to ensure that the best information and advice is used to formulate and develop policy solutions. It will capture efficiencies and synergies to save time and energy – while also delivering better outcomes.

Proposed Outcome

Strengthened national livestock policy-making capacities in the developing countries of the Asia-Pacific Region including development of a stronger and unique Asia-Pacific voice and perspective in international livestock policy making arenas. This enhanced capacity will better channel livestock sector growth and development to capitalize on opportunities for poverty reduction and contributing to resilience of agricultural systems while mitigating environmental and public health risks.

Expected Outputs

- (i) An established structure for the LPN with designated policy experts and a clear modus operandi established for normative and on-demand work.
- (ii) Regional policy studies to clearly establish LPN's presence and credentials in the region's institutional environment.
- (iii) Livestock policy training courses to build policy analysis capacities in the region and assist in establishing LPN's credentials.
- (iv) Authoritative publications, policy briefs, website presence (APHCA website) and networking mechanisms, synthesizing available knowledge and making it easily accessible to various stakeholders.
- (v) Established partnerships with other regional institutions (e.g. ASEAN livestock working group) and a pipeline work programme to ensure future sustainability of LPN activities.

Activities and Approaches

The proposed project will establish a highly proactive network of specialists that can quickly generate policy advice as issues emerge and, in fact, can be ahead of the curve to identify and usher in emerging issues by helping to shape debate and dialogue. The LPN will develop capacity to work with individual countries to develop solutions to specific livestock policy challenges. It will work with groups of countries to produce

multi-country / sub-regional policy studies to identify approaches and solutions to common problems and challenges. Finally, the LPN will provide training and capacity-building for livestock institutions in the region, particularly national livestock departments.

Beneficiaries

Directly – National policy-making agencies; indirectly – all livestock sector stakeholders

Suggested Action

Countries prepare requests for a Regional (Asia) TCP to develop foundations and working model for a livestock policy network

Proposed APHCA Trust Fund Budget for 2013

For information and decision

Operational Budget, APHCA TF and Estimated Contribution of FAO-RAP

Budget line	APHCA TF	FAO's	
		Estimated Contributions	Total
5011 Salaries Prof.	0	75,000	75,000
5012 Salaries GS	25,000	25,000	50,000
5013 Consultants	26,000	30,000	56,000
5014 Contracts	30,000	25,000	55,000
5020 Locally Contracted Labour	1,000	0	1,000
5021 Travel	36,000	10,000	46,000
5023 Training	0	0	0
5024 Expendable Procurement	1,000	0	1,000
5025 Non-expendable Procurement	0	0	0
5026 Hospitality	2,000	0	2,000
5028 General Operating Expenses	4,000	0	4,000
Total	125,000	165,000	290,000

Functional Budget, APHCA TF

Activity / Thematic Area	Amount (US\$)
Smallholder Dairy Development	25,000
Asia Dairy Goat Network	10,000
Zoonoses, Food Safety and Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)	30,000
Feed Assessment Systems	20,000
Information Dissemination and APHCA Positioning	30,000
Livestock Policy Network	10,000
Total	125,000

List of Participants (APHCA 2012/07)

Delegates

AUSTRALIA

Dr Mark Schipp

Chief Veterinary Officer
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and
Forestry
GPO Box 858
Canberra ACT 2601
Tel.: +61-(2) 6272 4644
Mobile: +61-439 605 503
Fax: +61-(2) 6272 3150
E-mail: Mark.Schipp@daff.gov.au

AUSTRALIA

Dr Mike J. Nunn

Research Program Manager, Animal Health
Australian Centre for International
Agricultural Research
38 Thynne St, Bruce, ACT 2617, Australia
GPO Box 1571, Canberra, ACT 2601, Australia
Tel.: +61-(2) 6217 0540
Mobile: +61-409 650 546
E-mail: mike.nunn@aciarc.gov.au

BHUTAN

Dr Naiten Wangchuk

Chief Livestock Officer
Department of Livestock
Livestock Production Division
Ministry of Agriculture and Forest
PO Box 113, Thimpu
Tel.: +975-(2) 335401
Mobile: +975-17666061
Fax: +975-(2) 322401
E-mail: naienw@yahoo.com

INDIA

Dr Kaithathara Vijayakumar

Joint Commissioner (LH)
Dpt. Animal Husbandry, Dairying and
Fisheries
Room No. 29C, Krishi Bhawan
Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi
Tel.: +91-(11) 2338419
Fax: +91-(11) 23384190
E-mail: vijikumar@yahoo.com; jclh-dadf@nic.in

INDONESIA

Dr Imron Suandy

Quality Control Laboratory for Livestock
Products, JL Pemuda
No 29A Tanas Sareal
Bogor, West Java, 16161
Tel.: +62-8568987687
Fax: +62-(251) 8353712
E-mail: imron_az@yahoo.com

INDONESIA

Dr Suparno

Quality Control Laboratory for Livestock
Products, JL Pemuda
No 29A Tanas Sareal
Bogor, West Java, 16161
Tel.: +62-[xxxxx]
Fax: +62-(251) 8353712
E-mail:

Delegates

IRAN

Dr Seyed M. Azizian

Director General
Bureau of Pharmaceutical, Therapy and
Laboratories

Tel.:

Fax:

E-mail: seyedmostafaazizian@yahoo.com;
ivoquarantine@ivo.org.ir

KOREA DPR

Dr Li H. Nam

Director
Animal Production Department
MOA

Songyo-i dong, Songyo District
Pyongyang

Tel.: +8-(502) 3818278

E-mail: prkwang@yahoo.com

KOREA DPR

Mr Jo K. Guk

Head
Epidemiological Surveillance Branch
MOA

Songyo-i dong, Songyo District
Pyongyang

Tel.: +8-(502) 3818278

E-mail: prkwang@yahoo.com

LAO PDR

Dr Thongphun Theungphachan

Head
Livestock & Fisheries Products Quality
Assurance Unit

NAHC, DLF

Tel.: +856-(20) 22287121

Fax: +856-(21) 244476

Email: Theungphachan@yahoo.com

MALAYSIA

Dr Akma Ngah Hamid

Director
Central Region Veterinary Laboratory (CRVL)
Department of Veterinary Service

Jalan Nilai-Banting, Bandar Baru Salak Tinggi
43900 Sepang, Selangor Darul Ehsan

Tel.: +603-8706 3810 (Dir)

Tel.: +603 8706 8681/3811 (Gen)

Fax :+603 8706 8675

E-mail: akmahaq@dvs.gov.my

MYANMAR

Dr Pyi Sone

General Manager
Livestock, Feedstuff and Milk Products
Enterprise

Station Rd., Insein Township
Yangon

Tel.: +95-(01) 640488

Fax: +95 (01) 503024

E-mail: winmarlay2009@gmail.com

NEPAL

Dr. Ram K. Khatiwada

Deputy Director General
Department of Livestock Services
Maritlar Bhawon, Lalitpur

Tel.: +977-(1) 5542644

Mobile: +977-9851093956

Fax: +977-(1) 5542915

E-mail: ramkrishnakhatiwada@ymail.com

PAKISTAN

Dr Muhammad A. Javaid

Senior Officer
Ministry of National Food Security
Pak Secretariat

Islamabad

Tel.: +925-19208360

Fax:

E-mail: majs2310@gmail.com

Delegates

PHILIPPINES

Dr Rubina O. Cresencio

Director
Bureau of Animal Industry
Visayas Avenue, Diliman
Quezon City 1100
Tel.: +63-(2) 926 6883 / 925 9228
Fax: +63-(2) 927 0971
E-mail: BAI_Dir@yahoo.com

SRI LANKA

Dr Weligodage K. de Silva

Director General
Department of Animal Production & Health
Peradeniya 20400
Tel.: +94-(081) 2388 195
Fax: +94-(081) 2388 619
E-mail: dgdaph@sltnet.lk

THAILAND

Dr Pennapa Matayompong

Veterinary Expert (Animal Products
Inspection & Certification)
Bureau of Livestock Standards & Certification
Department of Livestock Development
Phaya Thai Road, Bangkok 10400
Tel.: +66-(2) 653 4444 ext 3151
Fax: +66-(2) 653 4932
E-mail: p_matayompong@yahoo.com,
pennapam@dld.go.th

SAMOA

Dr Tony Aiolupo

Senior Meat Inspector
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
PO Box 1874
Apia
Tel.: +685 21052
Fax: +685 26532
E-mail: tony.aiolupo@maf.gov.ws

SRI LANKA

Dr Tikiri Wijayathilaka

Assistant Director (Veterinary Public Health)
Animal Health Division
Department of Animal Production & Health
Peradeniya 20400
Tel.: +94-(081) 2386 270
Fax: +94-(081) 2388 619
E-mail: tikiripriyantha@hotmail.co.uk

THAILAND

Dr Sasi Jaroenpoj

Senior Veterinary Officer
Bureau of Livestock Standards & Certification
Department of Livestock Development
Phaya Thai Road, Bangkok 10400
Tel.: +66-(2) 653 4444 ext 3145
Fax: +66-(2) 653 4917
E-mail: sasijaroenpoj@yahoo.com

Observers

OIE

Dr Kenji Sakurai

Deputy Regional Representative
OIE Asia Pacific Office
Food Science Building 5F
The University of Tokyo
1-1-1 Yayoi
Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-8657
JAPAN
Tel.: +81-(3) 5805 1931
Fax: +81-(3) 5805 1934
E-mail: k.sakurai@oie.int

SRI LANKA

Dr R.M. Ariyadasa - Provincial Director (Uva Province), Department of Animal Production and Health

Dr P.S. Fernando – Head, Bacteriology Division, Veterinary Research Institute

Dr A. Sivasothy - Director Animal Health, Dept of Animal Production and Health

Dr W.A.J .Subasinghe - Deputy Provincial Director (North-western), Dept of Animal Production and Health

Dr (Ms) A. Tiskumara - Animal Feed Registrar of the Department of Animal Production and Health

FAO Regional Office (Secretariat)

Dr Vinod Ahuja

Livestock Policy Officer
FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
Tel.: +66-(2) 6974308
Fax: +66-(2) 6974445
E-mail: vinod.ahuja@fao.org

Dr Carolyn Benigno

Animal Health Officer
FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
Tel.: +66-(2) 6974330
Fax: +66-(2) 6974445
E-mail: carolyn.benigno@fao.org

Dr Joachim Otte

Senior Animal Health and Production Officer
FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
Tel.: +66-(2) 6974326
Fax: +66-(2) 6974445
E-mail: joachim.otte@fao.org

Dr Vishnu Songkitti

Liaison Officer for APHCA
FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
Tel.: +66-(2) 6974256
Fax: +66-(2) 6974445
E-mail: vishnu.songkitti@fao.org

Ms Yupaporn Simuangngam

APHCA IT-Clerk
FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
Tel.: +66-(2) 6974368
Fax: +66-(2) 6974445 / 4433
E-mail: yupaporn.simuangngam@fao.org

Speeches

Welcome Speech by Mr Man Ho So, Deputy Regional Representative, on Behalf of Mr Hiroyuki Konuma, Assistant Director General and Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific

Honourable Chief Guest, Honourable H.R. Mithrapala, Deputy Minister Livestock and Rural Community Development, Dr K.M.T. Kendaragama, Secretary, Ministry Livestock and Rural Community Development, Dr W.K. de Silva, Director General, Dr R. Cresencio, Chairperson, Dr Joachim Otte, Secretary APHCA,

Participants and guests,

Ladies and gentlemen

On behalf of Assistant Director-General and Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific, Mr. Hiroyuki Konuma, and on my own behalf, I have great pleasure in welcoming you to the 36th Session of the Animal Production and Health Commission for Asia and the Pacific - APHCA.

This Commission, initiated by 5 founding Asian nations at the 5th FAO Regional Conference on Animal Production in 1974, established under international law with formal governance system in 1975, is one of the most 'senior' commissions hosted by FAO, yet its mandate is as relevant, or perhaps even more relevant, than ever. Despite the exceptional economic growth of Asian nations, the region still is home to more than half of the World's poor. The same holds true with respect to livestock keepers – FAO has recently estimated that 2 out of 3 poor livestock keepers live in the Asia-Pacific region. APHCA's mission "to enhance the level of nutrition and standard of living of livestock keepers - especially smallholders, livestock value-chain actors and communities at large - through equitable, sustainable and safe livestock sector development" thus remains pertinent today.

In addition to its pertinent mission, APHCA can proudly look back on a long-standing history and continuity of activities. As documented in the background material for this Session, since 1976 the Commission has met every year, with the exception of 1996, to pursue its endeavours with utmost dedication. One of the Commission's most notable endeavours was its relentless facilitation of collective action towards the goal of rinderpest eradication from the region. In Sri Lanka the last cases of this most feared disease were recorded in 1994 while no case has been recorded in entire the region since 2000. Although the control of contagious livestock diseases undoubtedly is of extreme importance for safeguarding livestock-based livelihoods and securing international trade, this is not the only area to which the Commission has paid attention. APHCA work has encompassed the areas of animal breeding, feeding,

processing, etc and its smallholder dairy development thrust is evidence for the Commission's broader development approach. An area that is likely to require heightened attention in the future is improving animal nutrition without competing for human-edible grain through more efficient use of agricultural by-products and better pasture and forage management.

I also take this opportunity to recall to your attention one of the central principles of APHCA's actions, namely "to promote collective self-reliance and mutual assistance." This model, devised by the founding fathers of APHCA, was ahead of its time and attributed FAO the role it best plays, namely that of providing a forum in which countries can meet to discuss problems and to find solutions they can apply. Besides the annual membership fees, APHCA National Currency Funds earmarked by Member governments to support of APHCA work, although not established by all member countries, are an important element of this approach.

Ladies and gentlemen,

With the progressive decentralization of FAO, its bi-annual Regional Conference will become more and more important in shaping FAO's Regional Agenda. This development provides further weight to the regional commissions as fora for identifying, discussing and suggesting actions to address critical issues faced by Asia-Pacific nations and to expose these to high-level government officials through international mechanisms. As a result, APHCA and FAO work thrusts should closely align.

With regard to the technical theme of this 36th Session, I am very pleased that delegates and renowned experts will present and review the extent of antimicrobial use in livestock production and antimicrobial resistance in micro-organisms isolated from livestock and livestock products. Antimicrobial resistance is a growing global threat across drug classes and around the world. Resource-constrained countries are particularly vulnerable to antimicrobial resistance as they bear 95% of the global infectious disease burden and rely on effective antimicrobial medicines to treat these diseases. It is thus very timely that APHCA has selected this topic to be discussed at the international workshop associated with the Session. I am confident that your deliberations will be very fruitful and the Commission will chart a way forward for the region to move towards the prudent use of antimicrobials in farm animal production.

Welcome once again to this beautiful island. I wish you all success in the deliberations and a pleasant stay in Sri Lanka.

Thank you.

ISBN 978-92-5-107419-0



9 789251 074190

I3130E/1/11.12