Prevention and Control of HPAI in Africa
Lessons learnt and the way forward

Update 2007

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Introduction

Presentation Outline

- Update on the epidemiological situation of HPAI in Africa
- Highlighting the achievements of the past year
- African initiatives to address the pressing needs
- The way forward
Epidemiological Situation

HPAI Outbreaks in Africa

- Nigeria (8th Feb 06)
- Egypt (17th Feb 06)
- Niger (27th Feb 06)
- Cameroon (11th Mar 06)
- Burkina (4th Apr 06)
- Sudan (2nd May 06)
- Ivory Coast (5th May 06)
- Djibouti (11th May 06)
- Ghana (14th April 07)
- Togo (6th June 07)

Morbidity: 38 cases
Mortality: 15 cases

Nigeria & Egypt: Multiple outbreaks 2007
Epidemiological Situation

Is HPAI under control in Africa?

- Specificities of production systems
- Bird migration patterns over the continent
- Uncontrolled trade of poultry
- Limited intervention capacity of technical services
About IBAR

The Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (IBAR) is:

- A specialized technical office of the African Union
- Mandated to animal resources development in Africa
  - Animal Health
  - Animal Production
  - Trade and Marketing
Progress and Achievements

Role of AU/IBAR and contributions from partners

- **AfDB** through AU/IBAR provided US$ 6.5 million for emergency financial assistance to 13 countries for response activities
  
  (US$ 300,000 for animal sector and US$ 200,000 for human sector through WHO/AFRO)

- **Joint GTZ-IBAR-ILRI courses** for veterinary and medical laboratory staff
  
  (80 people from 37 African countries)

- **FAO Regional cooperation**: 3 TCP Technical Cooperation Projects on HPAI supported in Western/Central, Eastern and Southern Africa

- **ALive platform**: an assessment of financial needs and gaps carried out and updated
The update establishes that Africa is
- an integral part in the global fight against AHI
- and the least supported link

Three components aim to boost
- Operational capacity for HPAI prevention and control
- Human influenza pandemic preparedness
- Coordination of communications strategy
Progress and Achievements

Role of AU/IBAR and contributions from partners

- **AI Vaccine Bank**: AU/IBAR in collaboration with OIE established a virtual AI vaccine bank

- **Chinese cooperation**: five experts availed for experience sharing training and diagnostics

- **Thailand cooperation**: Training of African experts (1 veterinary and 1 human from each infected country) with financial support of the French Cooperation and UNDP

- **SPINAP**: Support Programme to Integrated National Action Plans
Progress and Achievements

SPINAP-AHI

**Purpose:** IBAR recently started with the roll-out of this program that is designed to support the implementation of Integrated National Action Plans in Africa over a period of 36 months

**Structure:** The program constitutes a major commitment of the European Commission towards 47 ACP countries in the area of HPAI crisis management. It collaborates with the ALive platform which supports rapid assessment of veterinary services and RAHCs

**Deliverables:**
- Capacity for prevention and control of AHI strengthened at national level
- Enhancing information and communication for awareness
- Supporting coordination for INAPs
Progress and Achievements

HPAI

- Awareness creation
- Integration of human and animal health services / epidemi-surveillance
- Enhanced coordination at sub-regional level (RAHCs)
- Provision of consultation platform for technical and financial partners (SPINAP)
Success stories

- An epidemi-surveillance network set up by the PACE programme in 30 sub-Saharan countries – adapted to take on board HPAI

- National governments responded positively in developing and implementing emergency preparedness plans (INAPs)

- Experience of Regional Animal Health Centres set up by IBAR, OIE and FAO to better coordinate and harmonise their activities in Africa
African Initiatives

About the Regional Animal Health Centres

- RAHCs are a joint initiative of IBAR, OIE and FAO
- RAHCs aim to harmonize actions to control HPAI and other transboundary animal diseases
- RAHCs were planned to be installed in:
  - Bamako/Mali
  - Gaborone/Botswana
  - Nairobi/Kenya
  - Tunis/Tunisia
The Way Forward

Africa needs additional funds

- to change from ad-hoc measures to a sustainable approach by strengthening existing institutions at national, sub-regional and regional levels

- to maintain consultative mechanisms created in the initial emergency phase and raise them to a higher level of institutionalization (formalization)
  - political level – inter-ministerial committee / national task force
  - technical level – integrated surveillance network

- to make RAHCs more functional in the area of HPAI
  - close partnership with the RECs
  - joint programming of the three partner organisations
  - strengthening of the sub-regional epidemi-surveillance networks
  - establishing sub-regional reference laboratories
Let us strengthen African institutions, so they can play their role!

THANK YOU