



联合国
粮食及
农业组织

Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Organisation des Nations
Unies pour l'alimentation
et l'agriculture

Продовольственная и
сельскохозяйственная организация
Объединенных Наций

Organización de las
Naciones Unidas para la
Alimentación y la Agricultura

منظمة
الأغذية والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

Hundred and Twenty-fifth Session

Rome, 12-16 November 2018

**Report on the outcome of the pledging conference on the eradication of
peste des petits ruminants (PPR)**

Queries on the substantive content of the document may be addressed to:

Mr Berhe Tekola
Director, Animal Production and Health Division
Tel. +39 06570 53371

*This document can be accessed using the Quick Response Code on this page;
an FAO initiative to minimize its environmental impact and promote greener communications.
Other documents can be consulted at www.fao.org*



PC 125

Executive Summary

- Following the endorsement of the PPR Global Control and Eradication Strategy in April 2015 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, FAO and OIE established a Joint PPR Secretariat, in March 2016 in Rome which developed an initial five-year PPR Global Eradication Programme (GEP) for 2017-2021 through an inclusive and peer-reviewed drafting process.
- To further advance towards the eradication of PPR by 2030, FAO and OIE organized in collaboration with EU and African Union Commission a PPR Global Conference on 7 September 2018 in Brussels, which was preceded by a Stakeholder Forum.
- The Conference represented a historic milestone for the collective effort to address one of the root causes of hunger and poverty for 300 million families across the globe.
- Over 280 participants from 45 PPR-infected or at risk countries, international and regional organisations (ACP, AUC, AOAD, CEBEVIRHA, CIHEAM, CILSS), resource partners, non-governmental and civil society organizations, research institutions, non-governmental organisations, and the private sector attended the Conference, including 16 Ministers.
- The Conference adopted a Ministerial Declaration that highlighted the need to fill the USD 340 million funding gap. Several partners committed to supporting the PPR GEP.

Guidance sought from the Programme Committee

The Programme Committee is invited to take note of the progress made and provide any guidance as appropriate.

Background

1. PPR is a highly contagious and devastating disease of small ruminants, caused by a virus. It primarily affects sheep and goats, although cattle, camels, buffaloes and some wild ruminant species can also be infected, indicating spillover from domestic sheep and goats. Morbidity and mortality rates in small ruminants vary, but can be as high as 100% and 90%, respectively in previously unexposed flocks.
2. Since its initial identification in Côte d'Ivoire in 1942, the disease has spread at an alarming rate with now more than 70 countries affected throughout Africa, Asia, Europe and the Middle East. Today, over 80 percent of the world's sheep and goat population are at risk. If left uncontrolled, it will spread even further, causing loss and hardship for millions of farmers and herders – most of whom are women – whose livelihoods depend on sheep and goats.
3. The eradication of PPR will contribute to fighting rural poverty by preserving the income and asset base of farmers, which is fundamental for the economic empowerment of the rural population in Africa, Asia and the Middle East where such empowerment is game changing. In particular women are often responsible for domesticated small ruminants for both providing food and selling the related products in local settings. Sheep and goats are a primary source of food and income for 300 million of rural families throughout the globe. Food (milk and meat) from sheep and goats is an essential part of the daily diet of these communities and contribute to preventing malnutrition. Thus eradicating PPR is an effective tool for tackling food insecurity and malnutrition, resulting in a lasting positive impact on the nutritional status of vulnerable rural populations.
4. FAO has provided assistance to several countries to respond to PPR outbreaks, covering a large range of activities, such as strengthening surveillance and laboratory diagnostic capacities, procurement of certified quality vaccines, capacity building and communication.
5. At its 24th Session, COAG approved the vision of 2030 for Peste des petits ruminants (PPR) global freedom and requested the establishment of the PPR governance with its Advisory Committee and FAO/OIE¹ Joint Secretariat. This was endorsed at the 150th Session of the Council in December 2014. The PPR Global Control and Eradication Strategy (GCES) was endorsed during an international conference on PPR held in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire in April 2015 with the vision of PPR-free world by 2030. Furthermore, the 39th session of the FAO Conference, and OIE confirmed this international consensus and commitment to this initiative.
6. To further advance towards the eradication of PPR by 2030, and building on the efforts of the FAO/OIE Global Framework of the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs), FAO and OIE established the Joint PPR Secretariat in March 2016 to support countries and drive the PPR eradication effort.
7. An initial five-year [PPR Global Eradication Programme](#) (GEP) for 2017-2021 was developed and peer-reviewed through an inclusive process, and launched by FAO and OIE in October 2016.
8. On 10 October 2017, during a high-level meeting between the European Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development and the Directors-General of FAO and OIE, the European Union (EU) confirmed its intention to join FAO and the OIE in the global eradication campaign against PPR. The three organisations agreed to organize the FAO-OIE Global Conference "[Partnering and investing for a PPR-free world](#)," hosted by the European Commission and supported by the African Union Commission, on 6 and 7 September 2018 in Brussels.
9. In addition, Permanent Representatives of the UN Rome-based agencies have established recently a "Group of Permanent Representatives Friends of the PPR GEP", chaired by the Permanent Representative of Côte d'Ivoire, whose objective is to advocate for the importance of PPR GEP and support FAO and OIE and their Joint PPR Secretariat.

¹ World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)

I. Objectives of the PPR Global Conference

10. The FAO/OIE Global Conference “Partnering and investing for a PPR-free world” was organized in collaboration with the European Union and the African Union Commission on 6 and 7 September 2018 in Brussels, Belgium. The objective of the Conference was to advance the PPR Global Control and Eradication Strategy endorsed in 2015 towards the eradication of PPR by 2030. More specifically, the Conference aimed to:

- a) Reaffirm international political commitment to globally eradicate PPR by 2030
- b) Provide a forum for governments to confirm their political and financial commitments to the PPR eradication programme
- c) Obtain commitment and support from resource partners

11. The Conference was preceded on 6 September 2018 by a Stakeholder Forum, which provided the opportunity to exchange views and collect first-hand testimonies on the serious impact of PPR.

II. Stakeholder Forum Discussions

12. The Stakeholder Forum gathered around 250 representatives of farmers’ and pastoralists’ associations, civil society and non-governmental organisations, cross-border traders, research community, and other stakeholders.

13. The Stakeholder Forum covered topics such as: Coping with multiple shocks: the key role of small ruminants in strengthening rural households’ resilience; Livestock development in the Sahel – paths and perspectives; Engaging the private sector veterinary paraprofessionals in partnership with government for the national control of PPR in Afghanistan.

14. FAO, based on analytical work of the Livestock Policy Lab (LPL) within the FAO Livestock Information, Sector Analysis and Policy, presented its analysis showing that strengthening households’ resilience will be fundamental to eradicate poverty and end hunger, and that livestock assets can help to reduce the negative effect of a severe external shock by 25%, and that half of this potential is associated with small-ruminants.

15. Under the topic on “Livestock development in the Sahel, path and perspectives” participants discussed the importance of livestock in the Sahel countries, using data collected from Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger and Senegal. The main challenges and opportunities that the livestock sector is facing in the Sahel remain: population growth, land access, inadequate public funding and transformation of the family farming. The discussion emphasized the need for more inclusive policies taking into consideration smallholders’ needs.

16. “Engaging the private sector veterinary paraprofessionals in partnership with government for the national control of PPR in Afghanistan” showcased a success story where 75% of the rural population rely on livestock and sheep and goats are the predominant form of livestock for both herders and farmers. PPR is endemic in Afghanistan since its first occurrence in 1995, but the country established a mechanism through which the national PPR eradication programme (funded by Japan and implemented by FAO) is being implemented by veterinary paraprofessionals contracted by the government (sanitary mandate) to perform surveillance and disease reporting, extension of activities for PPR awareness and vaccination (12.5 million small ruminants vaccinated since 2015).

17. Participants in the meeting were also provided with detailed information on the newly established Group of FAO Permanent Representatives Friends of the PPR Global Eradication Programme.

18. The outcomes of the Forum were presented the following day at the Ministerial Meeting (*Annex 1*).

III. Ministerial Conference

19. Over 280 participants from 45 PPR-infected or at risk countries, international and regional organisations (ACP, AUC, AOAD, CEDEVIRHA, CIHEAM, CILSS),² resource partners, civil society organisations, research institutions, non-governmental organisations, and the private sector attended the Conference. The Conference was attended by 16 ministers from the following countries: Afghanistan, Albania, Bangladesh, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Egypt, Guinea, Italy, Mongolia, Niger, Senegal, Sudan, and Zambia.

20. A total of 27 interventions were made by ministers and government officials, high-level representatives of international and regional organisations, resource partners, as well as civil society organizations, covering the two major themes of the Conference: (i) progress on PPR control and eradication, and investment priorities going forward; and (ii) why investing in PPR eradication.

21. The Ministers renewed their commitment to eradicate the disease by 2030 and adopted the Ministerial Declaration (*Annex 2*).

22. The Conference outcomes included, *inter alia*:

- a) The strategic importance of small ruminants, as a fundamental livelihood source for more than 300 million poor families in emerging economies [sheep and goats provide an essential part of people's diets, especially for children (e.g. milk)] where often small ruminants are the only available assets for the poorest of the poor, especially in the Sahel, and failure to eradicate PPR would have as a direct consequence the exacerbation of poverty and hunger.
- b) PPR can also trigger distress migration, as people may lose their livelihoods because of this disease, hence, eradicating PPR is also part of the response to tackle distress migration and create more jobs for youth, especially in Africa.
- c) Critical elements needed to achieve PPR eradication include: (i) long-term political commitment; (ii) engagement of local authorities and communities for operationalizing PPR Control and Eradication strategies; and (iii) cooperation, coordination and partnerships.
- d) The key role played by women in rural communities as care-takers, livestock-keepers, etc., and how PPR eradication can contribute to alleviating poverty and hunger.
- e) The importance of partnerships and coordination; international collaboration to support the achievement of PPR eradication; and the need for all partners to commit to a long-term vision and plan of action, as well as the need for international guidance and enhanced regional coordination.
- f) The need to modernize veterinary services to significantly improve animal health.
- g) While cognizant of the need to be realistic, given that the disease is still spreading at an alarming rate, that PPR eradication by 2030 was achievable, with renewed collective efforts and adequate resources to reverse the trend.

Resource mobilization

23. Over 60% of the targeted resources for the 5-year PPR Global Eradication Programme has already been mobilized, but USD 340 million are still needed in order to reach the USD 1 billion goal. The Conference urged resource partners and the development community to contribute to bridging the funding gap.

24. Ministers from PPR-infected and at risk countries confirmed that the disease remains a major concern in their respective countries, and indicated that resources had been mobilized at national level.

² African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP); African Union Commission (AUC); Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD); Economic Commission on Cattle, Meat and Fish Resources in the Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEDEVIRHA); International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM); Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS)

25. ACP (African, Caribbean, and Pacific Group of States) representative indicated that recommendation will be made to the ACP Committee of Ambassadors to focus on PPR eradication as a priority, and that as much as possible intra-ACP funding should be allocated to the programme.
26. The EU has provided over 300 million EUR over the past three years for livestock development and animal health actions, and an overview of ongoing projects and new projects under preparation indicated a total envelope of EUR 37 million.
27. The Agriculture, Millennium Challenge Corporation (United States of America) informed of their support to Niger to eradicate PPR and highlighted the need to adopt more sustainable approaches at country level. PPR remains a major key priority for Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) according to his representative. The Foundation considered that the achievements of the public private partnership supported by FAO in Afghanistan have shown that PPR control is achievable even in protracted crisis countries. For the PPR global eradication, some emerging science topics such as PPR in wildlife and thermos-tolerant vaccine need to be considered.
28. Support and commitment to PPR GEP were also expressed by the representatives of France, Germany and the World Bank.

IV. Key Messages from the Ministerial Declaration

29. Ministers and high representatives from PPR-infected and at risk countries:
- a) Strongly reaffirmed their political commitment in combatting PPR, towards its global eradication, as this animal disease directly threatens the livelihoods of the poorest people of our countries with significant losses in our local economies;
 - b) Confirmed that they are fully part of the international consensus aiming at PPR eradication by 2030, according to the PPR Global Control and Eradication Strategy adopted in Abidjan in April 2015, during the PPR Ministerial Conference;
 - c) Commended FAO and OIE for joining their forces in implementing this strategy, in collaboration with the European Union, African Union Commission, African, Asian and Middle East Regional Economic Communities, PPR infected and at risk countries and scientific, technical and financial partners, including civil society, non-governmental organizations and the private sector;
 - d) Emphasized that, considering the risks to their livestock, countries had already mobilized human and financial resources at national level. They called for strong coordination with the African Union Commission, the African, Asian and the Middle East Regional Economic Communities, and congratulated them for this close collaboration;
 - e) Supported the conclusion of the Stakeholder Forum on PPR held on 6 September 2018, recalling that pastoralists and farmers are at the frontline of the fight against the disease. In addition they underlined that the veterinary services, including public and private veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals are at the heart of disease eradication and should receive all the means of intervention.
 - f) Urged resource partners and the development community in general to join their efforts to fill the critical funding gaps to effectively eradicate PPR. They recalled that while the majority of the allocated resources – 61% - have been provided by affected and at risk countries, there is still a gap of USD 340 million to preserve critical investments and eradicate a pest that is causing more than USD 2.1 billion in economic losses per year. They strongly encouraged resource partners to step-up their support to contribute to the eradication of PPR within the expected time limit.

V. Follow-up actions

30. As follow-up of the PPR Global Conference, FAO intends to:
- a) Elaborate, jointly with OIE, an action plan and road map outlining the necessary steps to take in order to keep up the positive momentum and engagement from Members to move forward on the agenda to eradicate PPR by 2030. This should include measures to be implemented on the ground such as the needs related to the necessary structures, laboratories and local vaccine production capacities.
 - b) Liaise with resource partners including visits to selected capitals. In particular with EU, that made statement with indicative budgets, usual process for project development, funding agreements and operationalization will be initiated. FAO will provide additional information if needed to BMGF, Germany, France and the Agriculture Millennium Challenge Corporation (US) and contact/visit other potentially interested partners.
 - c) Develop in collaboration with OIE a resource mobilization plan to fill the financial gap identified.
 - d) Increase advocacy on the PPR GEP in particular to communicate about the USD 340 million funding gaps.
 - e) Conduct a mapping of reliable partners on the ground, which could contribute to the eradication of PPR based on lessons learnt from rinderpest eradication.
 - f) Support the expansion of the network of the Group of FAO Permanent Representatives “Friends of PPR-GEP” to all Ministers who attended the Conference in Brussels and beyond.

Global Conference
“Partnering and investing for a PPR-free world”. Brussels,
Belgium Conclusions of the Stakeholder Forum
6 September 2018

We, the Representatives of farmers’ and pastoralists’ associations, civil society and non-governmental organisations, cross-border traders, research community, and other stakeholders, are committed to protecting small ruminants as an essential component of the livelihood of hundreds of millions of the poor families around the world; recognising the crucial role these animals play in local economies; aware that these animals are threatened by a highly contagious and devastating disease, the *Peste des petits ruminants* (PPR), now present in more than 70 countries throughout Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe and the Middle East; taking into consideration that there is a strong and long-lasting international consensus aimed at eradicating PPR by 2030; knowing that FAO and OIE, according to the mandate they receive from their respective Membership, are fully involved in coordinating the fight against the disease at global level, hand-in-hand with the Regional Economic Communities, AU-IBAR and the countries, including through the PPR Global Eradication Programme; underlining that there is an effective and affordable vaccine, and that one single injection protects the animal during its lifetime; encouraging transboundary and sub-regional coordination between countries; acknowledging the particular challenges faced by countries and regions facing conflict, poverty or weaknesses in regulation; reinforcing the need to establish financial economic sustainability through cooperation between national governments and development financing mechanisms; noting the potential impact and role of wildlife in PPR and the importance of wildlife populations to biodiversity and national conservation efforts; understanding that the global PPR eradication programme delivers opportunities to control other important small ruminant diseases; emphasising the link between PPR eradication with other major global challenges such as food and nutrition security, poverty alleviation, strengthening resilience and migration control, and beyond that with the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);

Gathered for a Stakeholder Forum, facilitated by FAO, OIE and the European Union, in Brussels on 6 September 2018, with the view to report our conclusions to the high-level global conference “*Partnering and investing for a PPR-free world*”, scheduled for tomorrow;

Having heard some keynote speakers, and having conducted an open, rich and in-depth exchange of views;

We adopt the following main conclusions:

- We are convinced that PPR must be combated by any means in order to achieve its eradication by 2030, and we join the international consensus built by FAO, OIE and countries’ political will and coordination in this objective;
- We underline that farmers, traders and pastoralists, primarily women and youth, are at the heart of the process by contributing to prevention, surveillance and control measures, including targeted and massive vaccination, depending upon the status of the country, aimed at eradicating the disease within their own flocks;

-
- We believe planning and implementation of regional and national strategies must be fully informed by and in compliance with the rights and needs of mobile pastoral communities;
 - We commit ourselves to supporting, at the field level, the public and private veterinarians, veterinary paraprofessionals and other technical, scientific and administrative personnel involved in this eradication process (including at border inspection posts), such as through the development of systematic capacity building programmes with the support of research and training institutions;
 - We understand the role of the private sector in the global eradication programme and their need to anticipate vaccine demand to ensure adequate and timely quantity and quality;
 - We are ready to advocate and to raise awareness in our respective communities, in order to convey key messages, useful information and best practices at all levels;
 - We stress that the cost / benefit ratio of vaccination against PPR alone is a very strong argument in favour of the control measures, as the value of an animal represents more than a hundred times the cost of its vaccination;
 - We commit to accountability and transparency, and reinforce the need to establish the means to measure progress towards the goal of global eradication to justify public and private funding;
 - We ask that countries, Regional Economic Communities and AU-IBAR to maintain the political will and institutional momentum towards PPR eradication by keeping the topic at the top of their agendas and by consistently looking for support in this regard, including through national and regional budgets and means;
 - We urge the donor community, the development partners, the philanthropic foundations, the financial institutions and all entities involved in assisting the poor people to strengthen their resilience, to mobilise their resources and to join forces with countries, sub-regional, regional and international organisations in order to bring together any technical and financial means necessary for the implementation of the PPR Global Eradication Programme launched by FAO and OIE, with a long-term view to sustainable financing;
 - We request the opportunity for the stakeholder forum to reconvene at a future date to review progress.

Global Conference: “Partnering and investing for a PPR-free world” Brussels, Belgium, - 7 September 2018
Ministerial Declaration

We, the Ministers in charge of livestock, animal production and health of Afghanistan, Albania, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Bulgaria, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Egypt, Georgia, Guinea, Italy, Mongolia, Niger, Senegal, Sudan, Zambia, together with the high level representatives from 28 PPR-infected and at risk countries, gathered in Brussels upon invitation by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), in collaboration with the European Union (EU), the African Union Commission and in the presence of representatives of the African, Asian and Middle East Regional Economic Communities, resource partners, private sector, civil society and non-governmental organizations;

- 1- **Strongly reaffirm** our political commitment in combatting the *Peste des petits ruminants* (PPR), towards its global eradication, as this animal disease directly threatens the livelihoods of the poorest people of our countries with significant losses in our local economies;
- 2- **Confirm** that we are fully part of the international consensus aiming at PPR eradication by 2030, according to the PPR Global Control and Eradication Strategy adopted in Abidjan in April 2015, during the PPR Ministerial Conference;
- 3- **Commend** FAO and OIE for joining their forces in implementing this strategy, in collaboration with the European Union, African Union Commission, African, Asian and Middle East Regional Economic Communities, PPR infected and at risk countries and scientific, technical and financial partners, including civil society, non-governmental organizations and the private sector;
- 4- **Emphasize** that, considering the risks to our livestock, we have already mobilized our human and financial resources at national level, as much as possible. As the spread of the disease does not respect borders, we are working in coordination with the African Union Commission, the African, Asian and the Middle East Regional

Economic Communities, and we congratulate them for this close collaboration;

- 5- Support the conclusion of the Stakeholder Forum on PPR held on 6 September 2018 and we underline that pastoralists and farmers are at the frontline of the fight against the disease. They are the sentinels of PPR outbreaks and will be the first beneficiaries of PPR eradication. In this regard, the veterinary services, including public and private veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals, are at the heart of disease eradication and will receive all the means of intervention that we could bring together.

- 6- Urge resource partners and the development community in general to join our efforts to fill the critical funding gaps to effectively eradicate PPR. While the majority of the allocated resources – 61% - have been provided by affected and at risk countries, there is still a gap of USD 340 million to preserve critical investments and eradicate a pest that is causing more than USD 2.1 billion in economic losses per year. Therefore, we strongly encourage resource partners to walk with us the last mile to definitively eradicate PPR within the expected time limit.