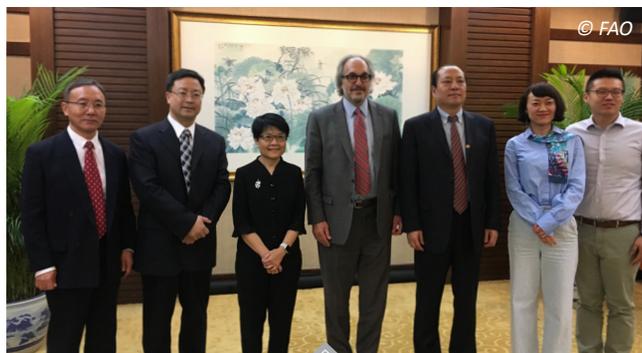




## ▶ FAO Chief Veterinary Officer and ECTAD RAP Regional Manager visit to China



Meeting between FAO and Veterinary Bureau

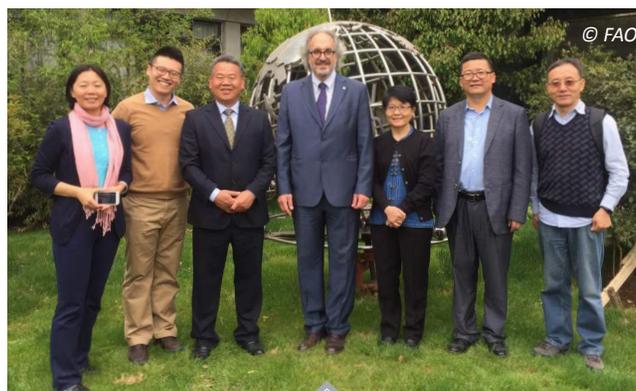
Dr Juan Lubroth, FAO Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO), and Dr Wantanee Kalpravidh, Regional Manager of FAO Emergency Center for Transboundary Animal Diseases (ECTAD) Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (RAP) visited Beijing and Qingdao of China in the last week of April 2017. The key objectives of the visit were to discuss with Chinese authorities on 1) how to strengthen collaborations between FAO and China; and 2) China Animal Health and Epidemiology Center (CAHEC)'s application to be recognized as an FAO Reference Center for Epidemiology.

A meeting was held between FAO and the Veterinary Bureau (VB) of the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) of China on 24 April. Dr Wang Gongmin, Deputy Director General of the VB, and Dr Chen Guosheng, Director of Division of Science, Technology and International Cooperation of the VB met with FAO delegation.

Both sides recognized that the relationship between FAO and VB, MoA has been strengthened and developed in recent years, some joint projects such as China Field Epidemiology Training Program for Veterinarians (CFETPV) is becoming a model of good collaboration between FAO and China. Meanwhile, VB expressed strong interests to deepen cooperation with FAO, and is open-minded to future collaborations in new areas. In this regard, VB will pay a visit to FAO HQ during 4-5 May 2017 with Dr Feng Zhongwu, Director General (DG) of the VB who will lead the Chinese delegation.

Both sides also discussed on issues of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and animal disease control. The VB reiterated its commitment to actively cooperate with international organizations in controlling key animal diseases. The way of sharing information by the Chinese government with international community has been greatly appreciated.

The FAO mission team then travelled to Qingdao to meet with senior management and key experts of the CAHEC and had an in-depth discussion on its application to be recognized as an FAO Reference Center for Epidemiology. CAHEC introduced its mandates, organizational structure and activities to the FAO mission team. Meanwhile, FAO explained to CAHEC the process for being recognized as an FAO reference center. FAO mission team also visited the CAHEC facilities including BSL3 facilities for exotic and zoonotic diseases and Yebio Bioengineer Vaccine Company during their stay in Qingdao.



FAO mission team with senior management of CAHEC

## ▶ Strengthening cooperation in the area of animal health between China and FAO: Veterinary Bureau delegation visits to FAO HQ

To further strengthen cooperation in the area of animal health between China and FAO, a delegation from the Veterinary Bureau (VB), Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) of China, paid a visit to FAO HQ in Rome from 4 to 5 May 2017.

The delegation was composed of Dr Feng Zhongwu, DG of the VB; Dr Chen Guosheng, Director, Division of Science, Technology and International Cooperation, VB and Dr Zhang Xiuying, Deputy Head of Technology Management Division, China Institute of Drug Control. FAO Animal Production and Health Division hosted the visit and organized several meetings. Dr Wantanee Kalpravidh, Regional Manager of FAO ECTAD RAP also joined the meetings and facilitated some discussion sessions.

The visit was built on the outcomes of the Chinese MoA delegation's visit to Rome in 2012. Several meetings were organized with FAO HQ senior staff, including Dr Ren Wang, Assistant Director General, Agriculture and Consumer Protection Department and Dr Berhe Tekola, Director, Animal Production and Health Division.

The visit has achieved good results and signed a meeting minutes in the following priority areas to promote cooperation on the prevention and control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (TADs) and Emerging Infectious Diseases (EIDs), and Antimicrobial Resistance intervention:

1. Management of Disease Control and Prevention Programmes;
2. Capacity Development and Network Building;
3. Antimicrobial Resistance Intervention;
4. Knowledge and Information Sharing;
5. Resource Mobilization;
6. Bilateral and Multi-lateral Communication and Collaboration.

Based on the above agreed scopes of cooperation, the VB and FAO also agreed to hold annual collaborative planning workshops to develop the collaborative plan of actions.



Meeting at FAO headquarters in Rome

## Advocacy to senior veterinary officials on applying epidemiology into disease control strategies - The 5<sup>th</sup> Veterinary Epidemiology for Executive (FETPV-E) workshop successfully held in Hangzhou



A participant was presenting the discussion results © FAO

Under the framework of the China Field Epidemiology Training Program for Veterinarians (CFETPV), the 5<sup>th</sup> Veterinary Epidemiology for Executive (FETPV-E) workshop, with a theme of 'epidemiology and disease control strategies' was successfully held in Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province of China from 18 to 19 May 2017.

The key objectives of the workshop were to enhance senior government officials' understanding of the application of veterinary epidemiology in disease control strategy planning and implementation by introducing relevant approaches together with practical examples, and to facilitate application of the principles of veterinary epidemiology in China by focusing on Avian Influenza (AI), brucellosis and Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) control.

The workshop was jointly organized by the Veterinary Bureau (VB) of the MoA, China Animal Health and Epidemiology Center (CAHEC), and FAO China ECTAD Office. Over 50 participants, including senior officials from the national, provincial and municipal veterinary authorities in China attended the workshop.

In order to let participants experience a participatory training approach, the workshop combined several brief presentations with participatory sessions. A post-survey indicated that 95% of the participants' understanding of epidemiology had been improved, and 83% of the participants' understanding of the application of veterinary epidemiology in disease control strategy planning and implementation had been improved. 62% of the participants thought more practical applications as the highest priority for strengthening the application of epidemiological principles in animal disease control in China.

Dr Zhao Xiaodan, Deputy Director, Division of Science, Technology & International Cooperation, VB, MoA, and Mr Zhang Zhongjun, Assistant FAO Representative (Programme) in China opened the workshop by giving their speeches respectively. The workshop was delivered by international and national trainers from the Murdoch University; City University of Hong Kong; Friedrich-Loeffler-Institute (FLI), Germany; the Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI), New Zealand; CAHEC, and facilitated by CFETPV Chinese trainers. The event was co-funded by FAO and its Chinese partners. In addition, it leveraged trainer resources from other countries, such as New Zealand and Germany. Through bilateral cooperation and resource mobilization effort, MPI and FLI supported trainers to attend the workshop.

On 18<sup>th</sup> May, the VB announced the appointment of 15 Chinese trainers for the CFETPV, most of them were graduates of the regional FETPV or CFETPV. This was a significant step for improving program sustainability and building CFETPV network.

### Upcoming activity

To follow-up with the outcomes of Veterinary Bureau delegation's visit to FAO HQ, FAO China ECTAD Office will work with the VB and other key stakeholders to develop a collaborative plan of actions for next year.



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