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	منظمة الأغذية والزراعة للأمم المتحدة	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	Продовольствен ная и сельскохозяйств енная организация Объединенных Наций	Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Agricultura y la Alimentación
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CONFERENCE

Thirty-seventh Session

Rome, 25 June - 2 July 2011

Declaration of Global Freedom from Rinderpest and Implementation of Follow-up Measures to Maintain World Freedom from Rinderpest (Draft Resolution)

Resolution __/2011

Declaration of Global Freedom from Rinderpest and Implementation of Follow-up Measures to Maintain World Freedom from Rinderpest

THE CONFERENCE,

Mindful of the devastation caused by rinderpest, a viral disease of cattle, buffalo and many wildlife species that led to famines, demise of livelihoods in Africa, Asia and Europe, and loss of animal genetic resources over centuries and of the crucial importance that its global eradication is widely acknowledged and the world protected from its re-occurrence;

Acknowledging the successful collaboration of FAO with many Governments, international and regional organizations, the veterinary profession and the scientific community to achieve this ambitious goal, *recalling* its vision of a world free from hunger and malnutrition, where the food and agriculture sectors contribute to improving the living standards of all in an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable manner, and *reiterating* the global goals set out by the FAO Members to foster the achievement of this vision as formulated in the Organization's Strategic Framework 2010-19;

Recalling the establishment of the Emergency Prevention System for Transboundary Animal and Plant Pests and Diseases (EMPRES) in 1994, in particular its Global Rinderpest Eradication Programme, including a goal for worldwide eradication by 2010;

Considering the announcement of the Director-General in October 2010 that the Organization had ended all its field operations after having obtained reliable and conclusive evidence that all countries were free from rinderpest and that the disease had been eradicated in its natural setting;

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Noting the conclusions reached by the Joint FAO/OIE Committee on Global Rinderpest Eradication and the adoption of Resolution 18/2011 by the 79th General Session of May 2011 of the World Assembly of Delegates of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE);

Noting further the technical findings of FAO, OIE and IAEA concerning the evidence of rinderpest eradication;

Acknowledging the responsibility of Governments to reduce the number of existing rinderpest virus stocks through their safe destruction, or through their transfer to internationally recognised reference institutions;

- 1) Declares solemnly that the world has achieved freedom from rinderpest in its natural setting;
- 2) Expresses its deep gratitude to all nations, organizations and individuals who contributed to the fight against rinderpest and the successful eradication of the disease;
- 3) Calls upon FAO to assume its responsibility for undertaking the measures to maintain worldwide freedom from rinderpest, as recommended by the Joint FAO/OIE Committee on Global Rinderpest Eradication;
- 4) Encourages FAO to take full advantage of the rinderpest eradication achievement and apply the lessons learned to prevent and control other diseases impacting food security, public health, the sustainability of agriculture systems and rural development; and,
- 5) Urges all Members of FAO:
 - i) to maintain, in accordance with the relevant provisions of OIE's Terrestrial Animal Health Code, appropriate surveillance systems for rinderpest and immediately notify the OIE and the FAO/OIE/WHO Global Early Warning System of suspect or confirmed cases of rinderpest;
 - ii) to put in place and update national contingency plans consistent with FAO and OIE global guidance;
 - iii) to destroy, under the supervision of the Veterinary Authority, rinderpest virus-containing materials or assure the storage of these materials in a biosecure facility in their country or, where applicable, assure their safe transfer to an approved laboratory in another country in agreement with the Veterinary Authority;
 - iv) to ensure that rinderpest occupies an appropriate place in veterinary education curricula and training programmes to maintain professional knowledge and adequate diagnostic capabilities at national levels; and,
 - v) to support all technical measures required to minimize the risk of rinderpest re-emergence, or its synthetic manufacture.

(Adopted on 2011)