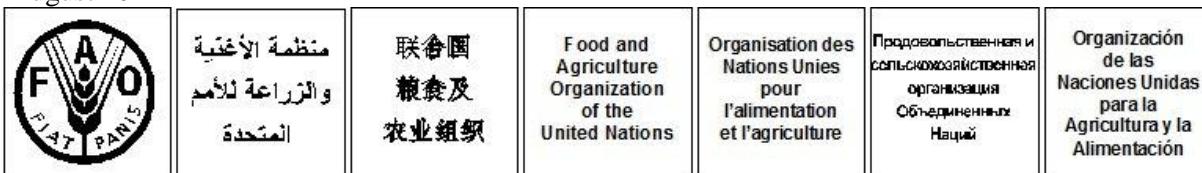


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PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

Hundred and Eighth Session

Rome, 10 - 14 October 2011

Applying lessons learned from Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in the prevention and containment of major animal diseases and related human health risks

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Executive Summary

- As requested by the Programme Committee, this paper provides more information on the Action Plan¹, in particular, on the prioritization and sequence of actions, the funding and the linkages of the Action Plan with the regular animal health programme.
- The focus of the plan is to support the field programme and enhance technical assistance to countries and emergency assistance. The Action Plan sets out four priority areas within which the 37 sequenced actions, contributing to the FAO Organizational Result B2 - *Reduced animal disease and associated human health risks*, were further prioritized within the timeframe according to availability of funds. The Action Plan priority areas comprise (i) Greater emphasis on the long term approach to prevent and contain Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI); (ii) Building disease risk management capacity; (iii) Countering emerging disease pathogens showing up in new areas, new host types or shifting in virulence; and (iv) Ensuring regional and national level capacity development. The Action Plan builds on funding mechanisms put in place to support the Global Programme on HPAI and therefore will constitute a continuum of ongoing and planned HPAI activities while broadening the scope of the programme to other (re)emerging diseases of high impact on public health and people's livelihoods.
- While the Action Plan is supported by human and financial resources of FAO's Regular funding for Strategic Objective B - *Increased sustainable livestock production* both at headquarters and in the regions, funding sources for the required USD 193.8 million over five years depend primarily on mobilizing voluntary contributions. As of July 2011, the existing unspent funds from ongoing projects (2011-2012) amount to USD 38.4 million, of which 15 percent is earmarked for HPAI. Other voluntary contributions amounting USD 27.5 million are in the pipeline for possible funding of specific actions of the Plan, chiefly HPAI

¹ Action Plan: Applying lessons learned from Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in the prevention and containment of major animal diseases and related human health risks

(92 percent). An additional budget of USD 127.9 million will be required to cover all activities of the Action Plan over the projected five-year period.

- To this effect, the Action Plan envisages the activation of the IFA-EMPRES through specific and targeted advocacy initiatives for funding partners as part of the corporate resource mobilization strategy. This will include significant resource mobilization efforts at national and regional levels.

Suggested action by the Programme Committee

- The Committee is invited to take note of the information provided in response to its request at the 106th Session.

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

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INTRODUCTION

1. At its 106th Session in March 2011, the Committee endorsed the Action Plan to extend FAO's six-year response to the H5N1 Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) to other animal and animal-related human health threats, including its focus on the One-Health approach and its sustainable and holistic development orientation. The Committee considered the work covered by the Action Plan as fundamental for FAO's work, but noted that funding sources for the required USD 193.8 million over five years had not yet been identified and would depend primarily on mobilizing voluntary contributions.²

2. This paper responds to the Committee's request to provide more information on:

- a) how the Action Plan would be prioritized and sequenced under the three-pillar system of the FAO integrated budget;
- b) exploring alternative sources for mobilizing resources to promote the Impact Focus Area on transboundary threats to production, health and environment (IFA-EMPRES); and
- c) the linkages of the Action Plan with the regular animal health programme (MTP/PWB).

PRIORITIES

3. The Action Plan proposes a programme in five technical areas of work supported by three functional areas of work with key actions to deliver the expected results. Overall there are 37 actions sequenced over the five-year period of the plan (Annex 1) to support the field programme and technical assistance to countries and emergency assistance. It is noted that there is ongoing work on most of these activities to some limited degree or at small scale. About 55 percent require higher prioritization in terms of initiating action or intensification of action.

4. The Action Plan sets out the following priorities:

- a) Continuing the combat against HPAI with greater emphasis on a long term approach to disease control in endemic countries by applying risk-reduction measures
- b) Building disease risk management capacity
- c) Countering emerging disease pathogens dynamics and preventing extension into new areas and changes in host populations or shifting in virulence
- d) Ensuring human resources and provisions for surge capacity to support collaborative and coordinated activities at regional and national levels

² PC 106/3 and CL 141/8 paragraphs 10-11

5. Within these priority areas, the 37 actions of the Plan are further prioritized within the timeframe and according to availability of funds (as shown in Annex 1).

FUNDING

6. The Action Plan builds on funding mechanisms put in place to support the HPAI Programme and therefore will constitute a continuum of ongoing and planned HPAI activities while broadening the scope of the programme to other (re)emerging diseases of high impact on public health and people's livelihoods.

7. The Action Plan funding needs are projected over the 5 years (2011-2015) at USD 193.8 million as extrabudgetary contributions, in addition to the allocated resources under the Regular Programme funding for Organizational Results B2 in the PWB 2012-13. The extrabudgetary budget is estimated based on the delivery of the HPAI Programme during the last three years taking into account the expected specific needs at country level to address HPAI and other TADs and zoonoses.

8. While the Action Plan is supported by human and financial resources of FAO's Regular Programme for OR B2 both at headquarters and in the regions, the extrabudgetary voluntary contributions for projects constitute the core funding of the Plan. As of July 2011, the existing unspent project funds amount to USD 38.4 million³, of which 15 percent is earmarked for HPAI. These funds will allow the Action Plan to get underway and ensure continuity of HPAI activities through 2011-2012. Other voluntary contributions amounting USD 27.5 million⁴ (of which 92 percent dedicated for HPAI) are in the pipeline for possible funding of specific actions of the Plan, including HPAI. An additional budget of USD 127.9 million will be required to cover all activities of the Action Plan over the projected five-year period.

Funding of the Action Plan (USD million)

Action Plan	Regular funding (OR BO2)		Total regular funding	Extrabudgetary contributions			Total extra-budgetary contributions
	Funding PWB 2012-13	TCP resources*		Existing funding	Possible funding	Funding requirements	
Technical areas of work	0.5	3.8	4.3	36.8	27.5	104.7	169.0
Functional areas of work	13.0	-	13.0	1.6	0	23.2	24.8
Total	13.5	3.8	17.3	38.4	27.5	127.9	193.8

* This includes available resources (as of July 2011) for TCP projects relevant to the Action Plan and that have a timeframe beyond December 2011.

9. It is estimated that about 70 percent of the resources of the Action Plan will be allocated at the country level and 30 percent for regional and global activities. The most substantial commitment of funds will go to countries in Asia and Africa (65 percent) in view of the presence of the numerous "hotspots" present in those regions. Significant funding (35 percent) will also be allocated to projects in other regions depending on priority diseases in those areas including Middle East, Central Asia, Eastern Europe and Latin America.

³ This includes: a) voluntary contributions (USD 32.2 million) for projects that have a timeframe beyond December 2011 and which are operated by the Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Disease Operations (ECTAD) with TCE as Budget Holder; b) voluntary contributions (USD 6.2 million) for some projects relevant to the Action Plan that have a timeframe beyond December 2011 and operated by regional and subregional officers as budget holder. It will be important in the future to adapt the corporate information systems to facilitate mapping of all projects against the Animal Health Action Plan.

⁴ This only refers to pipeline projects operated by the Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Disease Operations (ECTAD) with TCE as Budget Holder.

10. The Action Plan envisages the activation of the IFA-EMPRES through specific and targeted advocacy initiatives (under preparation) for funding partners as part of the corporate resource mobilization strategy. This will include resource mobilization efforts at national and regional levels.

LINKAGES WITH FAO'S ANIMAL HEALTH PROGRAMME

11. The Action Plan is fully integrated for monitoring and reporting in the Medium Term Plan (2010-2013) and the Programme of Work and Budget. It fully supports the Strategic Objective B -*Increased sustainable livestock production*, with the 37 actions of the Plan critical to achieving the Organizational Result B2 - *Reduced animal disease and associated human health risks*); and contributes to other Organizational Results under SO-B. In addition, many activities of the plan are connected to specific Organizational Results under:

I1 - Countries' vulnerability to crisis, threats and emergencies is reduced through better preparedness and integration of risk prevention and mitigation into policies, programmes and interventions.

I2 - Countries and partners respond more effectively to crises and emergencies with food and agriculture-related interventions.

I3 - Countries and partners have improved transition and linkages between emergency, rehabilitation and development.

D2 - Institutional, policy and legal framework for food safety/quality management that support an integrated food chain approach.

D3 - National/regional authorities are effectively designing and implementing programmes of food safety and quality management and control, according to international norms.

D4 - New and revised internationally agreed standards and recommendations for food safety and quality that serve as the reference for international harmonization.

D2 - Institutional, policy and legal frameworks for food safety/quality management that support an integrated food chain approach.

C3 - More effective management of marine and inland capture fisheries by FAO Members and other stakeholders has contributed to the improved state of fisheries resources, ecosystems and their sustainable use.

E6 - Environmental values of forests, trees outside forests and forestry are better realised; strategies for conservation of forest biodiversity and genetic resources, climate change mitigation and adaptation, rehabilitation of degraded lands, and water and wildlife management are effectively implemented.

F6 - Improved access to, and sharing of knowledge for natural resource management.

G1- Appropriate analysis, policies and services enable small producers to improve competitiveness, diversify into new enterprises, increase value addition and meet market requirements.

SUGGESTED ACTION BY THE COMMITTEE

12. The Committee is invited to take note of the information provided following in response to its request at the 106th Session.

Annex 1 – Detailed action plan and sequence of actions

No action required

Priority actions which can be supported by existing funds

Priority actions for which further funding is needed within the timeframe as shown in the matrix

Description	Timeframe				
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Action 1.1 - Define eco-epidemiological regions based on agro-ecological settings, pathogen-host-disease complexes and socio-economic analysis					
Action 1.2 - Conduct integrated epidemiological and socio-economic studies, in order to identify and analyze disease drivers and risk factors in main livestock production systems					
Action 1.3 - Conduct and develop capacity to undertake sector and value-chain analysis to identify critical points for disease control and develop appropriate interventions in partnership with those engaged in the sectors and chains					
Action 1.4 - Conduct specific integrated epidemiological studies to gain better understanding of risk factors for HPAI transmission and persistence and their relative importance in particular in production, marketing and ecological contexts					
Action 1.5 - Develop disease information and surveillance systems and management of animal health data and integration with livestock mapping, genetic information on animal pathogens and other relevant agro-ecological information sources at national, regional and global level					
Action 1.6 - Develop risk-based approaches to disease control based on information and knowledge accumulated in identified priority livestock and commodity production chains					

Technical Area of Work 2 - Fostering collaboration between animal, human and environmental health sectors					
Expected outcome: Support provided to countries and regions is based on multisectoral normative standards and field programs to achieve One Health goals.					
Description	Timeframe				
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Action 2.1 - Design a FAO-OIE-WHO Chart of complementarities and synergies to map out each Organization's responsibilities, with respect to its mandate and communicate it widely					
Action 2.2 - Prepare multisectoral protocols for risk assessment, management and communication, including recommendations and guidance for countries on identifying collaboration gaps					
Action 2.3 - Elaborate an OH impact assessment methodology (OH Code of conduct) and include as FAO best practices for project formulation					
Action 2.4 - Develop, implement and promote OH packages with focus on the community level					
Action 2.5 - Support joint analysis of epidemiological data from the animal and public health sectors and promote collaboration between the two surveillance systems					
Action 2.6 - Address gaps and strengthen collaboration in human and animal health laboratories					
Action 2.7 - Achieve alignment and coherence of related global standard setting activities (Codex Alimentarius, OIE and IHR)					

Technical Area of Work 3 - Promoting strategies to preserve and enhance animal health that are socially acceptable and economically viable					
Expected outcome: The veterinary services have the capacity to use socio-economic data to leverage resources and for targeted interventions					
Description	Timeframe				
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Action 3.1 - Assess the impacts of specific diseases on economic growth, trade, food security and the livelihoods of all actors in affected value chains					
Action 3.2 - Develop a framework for priority-setting in disease management					
Action 3.3 - Develop user-friendly tools for the socio-economic impact assessment of diseases					

Technical Area of Work 3 - Promoting strategies to preserve and enhance animal health that are socially acceptable and economically viable					
Description	Timeframe				
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Action 3.4 - Develop, test and disseminate methodologies for cost-effectiveness assessment of disease prevention and control programmes					
Action 3.5 - Develop and pioneer approaches for integrating economic, social and cultural aspects into animal disease control programmes					
Action 3.6 - Develop and test market-based approaches (pilot projects) for disease prevention and control with a focus on small-scale and poor farmers					
Action 3.7 - Advise and assist countries on compensation schemes and contingency funding arrangements for disease control and eradication plans taking into account protection of the livelihoods of the most vulnerable					

Technical Area of Work 4 - Strengthening the capacity of animal health systems for policy and strategy formulation to address existing diseases and respond to unpredictable health risks					
Expected outcome: Countries have institutional capacities to develop and implement national policies and strategies in animal health					
Description	Timeframe				
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Action 4.1 - Provide support to the countries to enhance institutional capacity for animal health policy and strategies and legislation formulation and implementation					
Action 4.2 - Support public-private partnerships in planning and implementing animal health and disease control programmes					
Action 4.3 - Strengthen the management abilities of public veterinary services to better plan, manage and implement effective animal health programmes for the benefit of communities					
Action 4.4 - Provide support to countries in developing and implementing an investment plan for animal health systems based on OIE PVS/GAP analysis and FAO country programme frameworks					
Action 4.5 - Support mechanisms of regional integration and harmonisation in the field of animal health policies and disease management capacities					

Technical Area of Work 5 - Developing core technical capacities to deal with animal diseases at national, regional and global levels Expected outcome: Countries and regions are better prepared for prevention and control of specific diseases of international, regional or national priority					
Description	Timeframe				
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Action 5.1 - Conduct country assessments to appraise preparedness and response plans and identify gaps or resource needs to emerging threats					
Action 5.2 - Provide assistance, training and advice to partner countries to develop and test national preparedness and response plans through desktop exercises or outbreak simulations					
Action 5.3 - Provide training and secure resources to partner countries to ensure rapid response to any reported outbreaks of high impact diseases and zoonoses					
Action 5.4 - Revise existing / develop new strategic tools for animal disease surveillance, building from the HPAI outputs and adapted to each eco-epidemio region					
Action 5.5 - Upgrade laboratory functions including appropriate levels of biocontainment to support diagnostic activities for known and unknown pathogens					
Action 5.6 - Establish/strengthen linkages between national laboratories and OFFLU and other global laboratory reference networks for diagnostic, reference and verification support when necessary					
Action 5.7 - Develop and adopt replicable models on surveillance and alternative early warning systems and provide advice, training and assistance to establish surveillance systems					
Action 5.8 - Reinforce/expand the epidemiology and laboratory networks in target regions and implement regular exchange of information and coordinated activities					
Action 5.9 - Assist national governments and regional partners in developing and implementing technically sound plans for progressive control of specific diseases of international, regional or national priority					
Action 5.10 - Assist endemic and at-risk countries in identifying needs and pursuing improved control efforts for HPAI					
Action 5.11 - Develop and test best biosecurity and hygiene practices in small- and medium-sized commercial farming sectors and along the livestock production and the food market chains					
Action 5.12 - Develop communication capacity and assist countries in the formulation and implementation of risk communication strategies					

Functional Area of Work A - Ensuring the adequate human force to implement the Action Plan Expected outcome: The plan is implemented effectively at the national, regional and global levels					
Description	Timeframe				
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Action A.1 - Ensure the appropriate staffing at HQ level, in particular in epidemiology, public private partnership and Socioeconomics					
Action A.2 - Allocate sufficient human resources in the Decentralized Offices and ECTAD units (where they exist), including provisions for surge capacity to support collaborative and coordinated activities at regional and national levels					
Action A.3 - Adopt a more in-house cohesive multidisciplinary approach to all FAO activities related to animal health					
Action A.4 - Reactive existing and/or new consortium to support development and application of strategic research to inform improved disease prevention and control strategies					

Functional Area of Work B – Communicating the Action Plan appropriately Expected outcome: The Action Plan is effectively communicated to all partners and relevant stakeholders					
Description	Timeframe				
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Action B.1 - Develop a communication strategy and advocacy initiatives to sustain the Action Plan					
Action B.2 - Communicate on a regular basis the progress of the Action Plan highlighting the impact of key interventions, and lessons learned, good practices, case studies, as policy/advocacy materials					
Action B.3 - Develop in-house communication channels on the Action Plan progress within HQ and with the regions					

Functional Area of Work C - Setting up a strong and reliable M&E system					
Description	Timeframe				
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Action C.1 - Establish a feed-back and reporting system on the results from the field					
Action C.2 - Use the results of the feed-back system to update the technical material as appropriate					
Action C.3 - Develop a strong M&E system to measure the impact of the Action Plan					
Action C.4 - Develop frameworks to monitor and report on FAO's support to national strategies and programmes					