



# GF-TADs for Africa

## 10<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee

Nairobi, Kenya (online)

6 – 8 October 2021

**#GFTADsAfrica**

## Minutes and recommendations



The 10th Gf-TAD Regional Steering Committee meeting was held virtually from 6 – 8 October 2021. The meeting was attended by up to 10 out of the 18 voting members, up to 7 out of the 9 non-voting members, along with additional representatives of regional specialised organisations, regional support units, technical and funding partners and the private sector. The list of the participants is appended in annex 1. The meeting was held in 6 sessions which attracted up to 57 participants.



## DAY - 1

### Session 1: Welcoming remarks

The OIE Regional Representative for Africa and Secretary of the GF-TADs for Africa, Dr Karim Tounkara, chairman of the session, welcomed the steering committee and wished for good deliberations. He reminded the audience that the last of such GF-TADs meetings was held in 2014 in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, hence the need for the current meeting. He introduced three key speakers, Dr Nick Nwankpa, the Acting Director/Head of Mission, African Union *Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources* (AU-IBAR) on behalf of Ambassador Josefa Sacko, Commissioner for *Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy, and Sustainable Environment* (ARBE) of the African Union Commission, AUC, Dr Abebe Haile-Gabriel, the Assistant Director-General, Regional Representative for Africa, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and Dr Monique Eloit, Director General, World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE).

In his opening statements, Dr. Nick Nwankpa stressed the weak veterinary infrastructure in Sub-Saharan Africa, and how *transboundary animal diseases* (TADs) and zoonoses have militated against the development of the livestock development. He also emphasized the recent policy documents facilitated by the AU-IBAR, which are aligned to OIE global frameworks that should contribute to the development of livestock sector. He called for a quarterly coordination meeting between the AU-IBAR, the FAO and the OIE, including other strategic continental stakeholders to tackle continental animal health challenges. Dr Haile-Gabriel Abebe concluded that TADs have increased poverty in Africa, and that the meeting is strategic because a more effective control of TADs and priority zoonoses is long overdue. He used the occasion to emphasise the contributions of FAO to animal health and production in Africa, and concluded that the Regional Strategy, 2021 – 2025, is a common vision that should guide important stakeholders in Africa towards the control of priority diseases in the region. Dr Monique Eliot, while thanking all participants, advocated for shared work plans between agencies and organizations, in order to bridge overlapping areas of works in the livestock sector in Africa. She concluded that COVID-19 should be seen as an additional opportunity to leverage on efforts at prevention and control. Finally, she reiterated the commitment of all as important for continued collaboration.

After self-introductions of the participants, it was captured that 57 participants logged in; they included observers, non-voting and 10 voting Members here below:

1. Noursaid Tligui – *African Association of Veterinary Education Establishments* (A2VE2)
2. Nick Nwankpa – AU-IBAR
3. Charles Sanne Bodjo – AU-PANVAC
4. Letlhogile Modisa – OIE Delegate Botswana
5. Honore N’lemba Mabela – OIE Delegate DRC
6. Mbaragou Lo – OIE Delegate Senegal
7. Rose Ademun – OIE Delegate Uganda
8. Yoseph S Mamo – *Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa* (COMESA)
9. Yimashewa Wogayehu – *Eastern Africa Regional Epidemiology Network* (EAREN)
10. Faouzia Chakiri - *Arab Maghreb Union* (UMA)

## Session 2: Governance aspects

### The proposed updated terms of reference (ToR) for the GF-TADs for Africa

Dr. Karim Tounkara, Secretary of the Regional Secretariat of the GF-TADs for Africa and Regional Representative for Africa (Bamako, Mali) presented the proposed Terms of Reference of the Regional Steering Committee of the GF-TADs for Africa for adoption.

### Adoption of the updated ToR and installation of the Bureau for the meeting

Dr. Karim Tounkara, Secretary of the Regional Secretariat of the GF-TADs for Africa, following the adoption of the terms of reference by the voting Members, and as per article 2.1. of the just adopted terms of reference introduced the proposed names and affiliations of the new Bureau of the RSC, consisting of:

- AU : President (IBAR) Nick Nwankpa (Director, AU-IBAR)
- FAO: 1<sup>st</sup> Vice – President (RAF) Charles Bebay (Regional Manager, ECTAD, EA)
- OIE: 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice – President (OIE Council) Roland Xolani Dlamini (African Member of the OIE Council)

Following endorsement of the Bureau, the Secretary of the Regional Secretariat of the GF-TADs for Africa handed over the Chairpersonship to the new Chair of the GF-TADs for Africa, Dr Nick Nwankpa of AU-IBAR.

The agenda of the RSC10 meeting was adopted unanimously with minor modifications (**annex 3**).

### Background to the establishment of the RSC

Dr. Karim Tounkara, Secretary of the Regional Secretariat of the GF-TADs for Africa, was then invited by the Chair to present the background to the Regional Steering Committee, as defined in the 2004 GF-TADs foundational Agreement as “... ensures sub-Regional coordination of the clusters and monitors progress and determines, with the Secretariat, performance indicators for effective field, laboratory, epidemiological evaluation of disease events and control efforts.

*Regional Steering Committees are composed of representatives of Chief Veterinary Officers, representatives of the Regional Specialised Organisations involved with animal health, specific donors, and representatives of centralised and regional structures of the FAO and OIE. The permanent secretariats of the Regional Steering Committees are hosted by the OIE Regional Representations”.*

He also provided an overview of the various Regional Steering Committee meetings held since their inception, in Bamako, 2006 (RSC-01).

### Adoption of the minutes of the 9th RSC (Ouagadougou, 2014)

Dr. Karim Tounkara then went on to introduce the minutes of the 9<sup>th</sup> RSC, held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso on the 8 and 9 July 2014. Following discussions and minor modifications the minutes were adopted unanimously as proposed by Dr Roland Dlamini (OIE Delegate Eswatini) 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President, and seconded by Dr Noursaid Tligui, Deputy-Chairperson of the *African Association of Veterinary Education Establishments (A2VE2)*. Guidance was obtained on the proposal, emanating from these minutes, to set up an expert panel on CBPP in Africa.

### The third evaluation of the GF-TADs (2017)

Dr. Jean-Philippe Dop, OIE Deputy Director General, on behalf of the GF-TADs Management Committee, presented the outcomes of the third joint FAO/OIE evaluation of the GF-TADs, carried out in 2017 by a team of external and internal reviewers. The members sought clarification on the criteria used to select the countries

during the evaluation. It was indicated that geographical representation was the main basis for the choice of countries.

### **Presentation of the GF-TADs Global Strategy**

Dr. Keith Sumption, FAO Chief Veterinary Officer, on behalf of the GF-TADs Management Committee, presented the (draft) GF-TADs Global Strategy, covering the period 2021-2025. The new strategy was developed on the architecture of theory of change that indicated short term outputs, midterm outcomes and the long-term impacts. The revised continental strategies will eventually have to be aligned to the new global strategy, which will be officially adopted at the beginning of November 2021 (GSC-12).

### **Presentation of the GF-TADs Global website**

Dr. Bouda Ahmadi, Deputy Coordinator of the Global Secretariat GF-TADs, presented the features of the GF-TADs global website, hosted by the FAO, pointing out how and where to find resources and linking to the regional websites. The website is available here : <http://www.gf-tads.org/>



## **DAY - 2**

### **Session 3: Reporting on GF-TADs global disease control and eradication initiatives**

On day two, 53 participants logged in, including observers, non-voting and 10 voting members here below:

1. Noursaid Tligui – *African Association of Veterinary Education Establishments*
2. Nick Nwankpa – AU-IBAR
3. Charles Sanne Bodjo – AU-PANVAC
4. Vivian Iwar – *Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)*
5. Honore N’lemba Mabela – OIE Delegate DRC
6. Mbarjou Lo – OIE Delegate Senegal
7. Rose Ademun – OIE Delegate Uganda
8. Yoseph S Mamo – *Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)*
9. Faouzia Chakiri - *Arab Maghreb Union (UMA)*
10. Philip Kiriro – *Pan African Farmers Organisation (PAFO)*

The acting Director of AU-IBAR and the Chairperson of the GF-TADs for Africa, Dr Nick Nwankpa, welcomed the steering committee to the second day of the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Regional Steering Committee of GF-TADs for Africa. He drew the attention of the audience to the agenda of the day and called on the presentations to begin.

### **Rinderpest (post-eradication activities)**

Dr Samia Metwally, Senior Animal Health Officer at FAO, presented an update on the activities of the *Joint Advisory Committee (JAC)* for the post rinderpest eradication. It was clarified that rinderpest holding facilities (RHF) networks developed and validated non-infectious PCR tests. All RHF including AU-PANVAC have the tests

and participated in the proficiency testing rounds. To date, six laboratories still hold or have the potential to hold the rinderpest virus (Iran, India, Viet Nam, Turkey, South Africa and the Russian Federation).

Dr Hiver Boussini, Senior animal health officer at AU-IBAR, on behalf of the acting Director of AU-IBAR, Dr Nick Nwankpa made a presentation on post-rinderpest eradication activities in Africa, specifically the continental Post Rinderpest Eradication Contingency Plan. It was clarified that the contingency plan document is under preparation with aim to complete it in end of 2021, following which it will be validated in time for presentation to the African Union Heads of States Summit in July 2022.

Dr Charles Bodjo, Director of the AU-PANVAC, made a presentation on the sequestration and destruction of rinderpest-virus containing materials in Africa. It was highlighted that Senegal was assisted by FAO and AU-PANVAC to destroy its rinderpest materials in 2016 and it was noted that some countries have not yet returned rinderpest material to AU-PANVAC for sequestration. The meeting was also informed that the expire date for the current emergency stock of rinderpest vaccine produced in 2011 was extended for three more year (until 20 August 2022).

## **Peste des petits ruminants (PPR)**

Dr Henry Wamwayi, on behalf and as Chair of the *Core Experts Group* (CEG), currently reviewing the PPR *Global Eradication Programme* (GEP), made a presentation on progress made in the PPR GEP review.

Dr Adama Diallo, Chair of the PPR Global Research and Expertise Network (GREN) made a presentation of the revision process of the *PPR Monitoring and Assessment Tool* (PMAT).

In the plenary discussion it was noted that all necessary actions must be undertaken for ensuring the funding of PPR eradication by partners as a priority for the continent. In line with this, the representatives of the European Union (*Directorate-General for International Partnerships*, DG-INTPA) offered to consider priorities brought forward as long as such priorities are backed up with political will. The AU was challenged by the other RSC Members to take lead and galvanize support for priorities in view of the Africa Summit 2022.

Dr Hiver Boussini from AU-IBAR presented the Pan-African PPR Control and Eradication Programme. The presentation highlighted AU-IBAR activities in support of PPR control and eradication in Africa. From the audience a highlight on the need to mobilise local funds within countries for PPR and other TADs control was made.

In the plenary discussion that ensued, reference was made to the support provided (vaccines and ELISA kits) by FAO to Mano river basin member countries (Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone).

## **Foot and mouth disease (FMD)**

Dr Melissa McLaws, FAO Animal Health Officer, on behalf of the joint FAO/OIE FMD Working Group, presented the activities of the Working Group, the state of play of the Global FMD Control Strategy and the related tools such as the *Progressive Control Pathway* for Foot-and-Mouth Disease (PCP-FMD) and the *Self-Assessment Tool* (SAT).

## **African swine fever (ASF)**

Dr Charles Bebay, Regional Manager, FAO *Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases* (ECTAD) Eastern Africa, on behalf of the GF-TADs Working Group on African swine fever, presented the *Global control of ASF, a GF-TADs initiative*. The presentation highlighted the global control of African swine fever as outlined in the 6-year (2020–2025) strategic plan.

Dr Caitlyn Holley, Regional Project Coordinator at the OIE Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific, on behalf of GF-TADs *Standing Group of Experts* on African swine fever (SGE-ASF) for Asia and the Pacific presented their experiences with the SGE for the Asia region. The presentation highlighted the process of forming an SGE in a region that had little experience in handling African swine fever.

Dr Fredrick Kivaria, Regional Epidemiologist, FAO *Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases* (ECTAD) Eastern Africa, on behalf of FAO-ECTAD and AU-IBAR reported on progress made in reviewing the 2017 ASF Regional (Continental) Control Strategy for Africa. Features of the new and revised strategy were highlighted along with a proposal for review of the action plan borrowing from the step-wise approach framework of the FMD-PCP.

Dr Thomas Dulu, Programme Officer at OIE Sub-Regional Representation for Eastern Africa made a presentation on behalf OIE, FAO and AU-IBAR for the adoption of the terms of reference and installation of the *Standing Group of Experts* (SGE) for ASF for Africa. The presentation made a mention of the need of experts, think-tank and strategies to help contain African swine fever in Africa. In the proposed SGE it was clarified that the 9 founding country members (Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Congo - DRC, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Togo, Uganda and Zimbabwe) were chosen to represent all regions across Africa.

The formal adoption of the said terms of reference was deferred to the next day.

## Session 4: Other GF-TADs 'tools' achievements and One Health in Africa

### Other GF-TADs 'tools' achievements : OFFLU, EIOS and EMS-AH

This session started with the introduction of the speakers, Drs Wiersma, Tizzani and Munstermann.

Dr Lidewij Wiersma, FAO OFFLU focal point, made a presentation on the joint OIE-FAO *Global network of expertise on animal influenzas* (OFFLU), a global, open source network of expertise on animal influenza including zoonotic influenzas.

Dr Paolo Tizzani (OIE, World Animal Health Information and Analysis Department) presented the OIE epidemic intelligence activities and the recently established *Epidemic Intelligence from Open Sources* (EIOS) system that checks any inconsistencies between information officially reported by member countries and information from other sources.

Dr Susanne Munstermann (FAO) presented the FAO *Emergency Management Centre for Animal Health* (EMC – AH), an emergency response mechanism for animal health crises.

### One Health initiatives in Africa

Charles Bebay, on behalf of the Tripartite Regional Coordination Group (Africa) presented on the One Health initiatives in Africa. The Regional Tripartite is constituted of the Regional Directors of the FAO, OIE and WHO in Africa, i.e. the FAO Assistant Director General (RAF, Accra), the OIE Regional Representative (RR/AF, Bamako) and the WHO Regional Director (WHO-AFRO, Brazzaville). FAO currently holds the presidency of the group, both at leadership and at technical secretariat levels, to which the *United Nations Environment Programme* (UNEP) will be added soon). He referred to various programmes of the Regional Tripartite, as developed since its inception in Dakar in 2016 (One Health Conference), such as the *National Bridging Workshops* (NBW), the biannual continental work plan, regional initiatives aimed at implementing the *Tripartite Zoonoses Guide* (TZG) and its associated tools, as well as consecutive joint statements released on the occasion of *World Rabies Day* (WRD). Specifically on *antimicrobial resistance* (AMR), he made reference to the regional joint AMR work plan, the *Multi-Partner Trust Fund* (MPTF) support to the development of *National Action Plans* (NAP), the work surrounding the *World Antimicrobial Awareness Week* (WAAW) and the establishment in 2019 of the African Inter-Agency Coordination Group on AMR and Control, with AU institutions such as the Africa-CDC.

Prof. James Wabacha of AU-IBAR, on behalf of AU-IBAR and Africa-CDC, presented the One Health Initiatives by AU-IBAR and Africa-CDC. The actions of AU-IBAR on One Health and AMR are of great interest particularly noting the policy reviews on AMR and AMU. It was noted that TADs are major drivers of antimicrobial use.

The lively discussion that followed on all of the day's technical topics (GF-TADs global disease control and eradication initiatives, other GF-TADs 'tools' achievements and One Health in Africa), ably chaired by Dr Nick Nwankpa, led to several recommendations which have been compiled in **annex 2** of these minutes.



## Presentation of the GF-TADs Africa website

Dr Patrick Bastiaensen, Programme Officer, OIE Sub-Regional Representation for Eastern Africa presented the GF-TADs Africa website which is hosted on the OIE Africa website ( <https://rr-africa.oie.int/> ) and consists of the main pages (in French and English) along with 7 thematic pages for ASF, CBPP, FMD, PPR and RVF, along with a page on the strengthening of Veterinary Services and the GF-TADs Africa implementing entities (also in both languages). The website is available here : <https://rr-africa.oie.int/en/projects/gf-tads-for-africa/> and here : <https://rr-africa.oie.int/fr/projets/gf-tads-afrique/>



## DAY – 3

### Session 5: GF-TADs for Africa Regional Strategy 2021 - 2025

On day three, 44 participants logged in, including observers, non-voting and only 7 voting members here below, short of a quorum:

1. Noursaid Tligui – *African Association of Veterinary Education Establishments*
2. Nick Nwankpa – AU-IBAR
3. Charles Sanne Bodjo – AU-PANVAC
4. Vivian Iwar – *Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)*
5. Honore N’lemba Mabela – OIE Delegate DRC
6. Mbargou Lo – OIE Delegate Senegal
7. Yoseph S Mamo – *Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)*

### Presentation of the draft Regional Strategy 2021 - 2025

The Chair introduced the GF-TADs Regional Strategy 2021-2025 and then requested Dr Patrick Bastiaensen (OIE, on behalf of the GF-TADs Regional Secretariat) to briefly present the draft strategy. Dr Bastiaensen made a presentation, focusing on objectives, and global priority diseases of regional importance. The priority diseases under GF-TADS of regional importance are as follows:

- Foot and mouth disease
- *Peste des petits ruminants*
- African swine fever
- Rift Valley fever
- Contagious bovine pleuro-pneumonia

### Discussion in break-out rooms (according to language)

The Chair introduced the break-out session into two groups (French speaking and English-speaking group) to brainstorm on two topics; one on the four objectives of GF-TADS Regional Strategy 2021-2025, and another one to critically review the actions plans for PPR, ASF and CBPP.

The break-out session was moderated/facilitated by Drs Rachid Bouguedour (OIE) and Mohammed Bengoumi (FAO) for the French-speaking group and Drs Baba Soumare (FAO) and Samuel Wakhusama (OIE) for the English-speaking group. The break session was meant to be conducted for 60 minutes, but was extended by some 20 minutes.

Overall, 27 participants attended the English-speaking breakout session, while 17 participants attended the French-speaking breakout session.

## Discussion of outcomes of the break-out rooms in plenary. Amendment and adoption (or referral) of the Regional Strategy 2021 – 2025.

The Chair facilitated the discussions from the rapporteurs of both break-out rooms. The groups suggested some changes on the draft strategy and referred them to the secretariat for incorporation in the strategy document.

The Chair then called for the endorsement of the Regional Strategy through voting.

There were only six voting members present in the meeting at this time and this number did not meet the quorum by three votes. The meeting decided that the document will be updated by incorporating the group discussion inputs and will then be submitted for electronic voting.

The same decision was taken for the terms of reference and installation of the *Standing Group of Experts (SGE)* for ASF for Africa<sup>1</sup>.

## Session 6: Adoption of recommendations and closing remarks

### International Agenda and upcoming Global Steering Committee meetings

Dr Alexandre Fediaevsky (OIE, GF-TADs Global Secretariat) presented the international agenda, the next dates of the (12<sup>th</sup>) Global Steering Committee (GSC-12) and GF-TADs activities in other regions. He mentioned that in 2020, despite the attention of the world driven to COVID-19, the control of TADs remained high on the political agenda and GF-TADs was mentioned in several high-level meetings. The presentation highlighted some of the 31 recommendations of the GSC-11 such as the importance of sub-regional and/or regional-level approaches to engage countries in global strategies; encouraging *public-private partnerships* (PPPs) and calls for the revitalisation of the RSC in Africa.

He also highlighted some of the main GF-TADs events conducted virtually such as the PPR *Advisory Committee (AC)* meeting (4 July 2020), the PPR GREN meeting (3 November 2020), the ASF global call for action in October 2020, the “Stop ASF : PPPs for success” event in June 2020, the celebrations of 10 years of rinderpest eradication in June 2021, the first FMD *Global Coordination Committee (GCC)* meeting in September 2021, the monthly *Management Committee (MC)* and TADs Working Group meetings, as well as the various Regional Steering Committee meetings.

### Other RSC meetings in other regions (topics, shared focus countries, prospects for replication of actions)

The main outcomes of the latest RSC of the Americas, Asia and the Pacific, Middle East and Europe were shared by Dr A. Fediaevsky and how Africa can adapt some of the recommendations from other regions to its benefit.

### Discussions and adoption of RSC-10 recommendations, dates and venue/format of the RSC-11

(Refer to the recommendations in **annex 2**)

It was agreed that the agenda of the RSC-11 for Africa should be revised and simplified to allow more time for discussions. The meeting also agreed to organise quarterly meetings between AU-IBAR, OIE and FAO.

The GF-TADs for Africa RSC-10 proposed that the next meeting could be organised back-to-back with the annual AU African CVOs’ meeting in Nairobi (in the course of April 2022). If the sanitary situation allows, a physical meeting will be organised, otherwise it will hold a virtual meeting. The attendance also decided to ask Morocco

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<sup>1</sup> The terms of reference for the *Standing Group of Experts (SGE)* for African Swine Fever (ASF) in Africa, were adopted by electronic voting of 10 Voting Members with 100% approval rate on 15 October 2021. The GF-TADs for Africa Regional Strategy 2021 – 2025 was adopted by electronic voting of 12 Voting Members with 100% approval rate on 28 October 2021.



to host the 12<sup>th</sup> (physical) RSC meeting in 2023 as this country was recommended during the 9<sup>th</sup> RSC meeting to host the 10<sup>th</sup> RSC meeting.

## Closing remarks

Representatives of all the Member organisations and country representatives thanked the Chairperson, Dr Nick Nwankpa, for his excellent chairpersonship and expressed their appreciation at the relaunch of the GF-TADs regional mechanism on the African continent, suspended since 2014.

The Chairperson thanked the Director General of the OIE, the two Vice Presidents of the GF-TADs for Africa RSC, all the attending invited partners, international organizations, regional organisations and countries for seeing the value of this meeting and encouraged them to offer their continued support to the GF-TADs mechanism and activities implemented under this framework. He mentioned that he was happy to reconnect the GF-TADs Africa that will ultimately benefit the people of Africa. He reminded the partner organizations to implement the recommendations. He also mentioned that AU-IBAR and AU-PANVAC will work hard with partners towards effective and efficient collaboration in Africa towards prevention and control of TADs and specifically PPR eradication. Finally, he thanked the interpreters for their effective communication and for the success of the meeting.

## Annex 1: STATE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GF-TADs for Africa RSC-09 RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations: RSC09

Ouagadougou, 9 July 2014 (2nd draft)

### GF-TADs AFRICA 9<sup>th</sup> REGIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING: Recommendations

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#### Considering that:

1. GF-TADs Africa 5-year Action Plan is in line with the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP);
2. GF-TADs for Africa five-year action plan need to be completed with baseline situation on the priority diseases in order to show progress along the relevant indicators to the Global Steering Committee;
3. The Recommendations of the 6<sup>th</sup> GF-TADs Global Steering Committee and the systematization exercise undertaken by the Management Committee to streamline and harmonize the reporting on the performance indicators under the GF-TADs Regional Action Plans;
4. The meetings of the Regional Steering Committee of the GF-TADs for Africa should focus on evolving issues since the previous meeting while allowing quality time for discussions;
5. The current epidemiological situation of TADs and zoonoses in Africa as provided by OIE, AU-IBAR, and FAO using reporting tools (WAHIS and ARIS) and other information supporting tools such as GLEWS, and recognizing the need to improve surveillance systems in order to address the gaps in the epidemiological knowledge of prioritized diseases in Africa;
6. The priority diseases defined in the GF-TADs for Africa 5-year Action Plan and namely Peste des petits ruminants (PPR), Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), Rift Valley Fever (RVF), Rabies, African Swine Fever (ASF), Newcastle disease (ND) and Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia (CBPP);
7. The 2011 declaration of Rinderpest eradication at global level, the ongoing post-eradication phase and the establishment of the FAO/OIE Rinderpest Joint Advisory committee, and the Procedure for the designation of facilities holding Rinderpest virus containing material to maintain global freedom of Rinderpest was recently adopted by the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (2014);
8. The recommendations of the FAO/OIE Global Conference on Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Control held in Bangkok, Thailand in June 2012 especially those referring to the Global FMD Control Strategy and its supporting tools such as the FMD Progressive Control Pathway (PCP), the PVS Pathway and OIE Terrestrial Code chapters particularly regarding the official recognition of country control programme and disease status, and the planning of a third FAO/OIE Global Conference;
9. FMD reoccurred in Tunisia after an absence of 15 years in the Maghreb region and the difficulties that this country is facing to control the disease and considering that FMD remains a concern for several countries in Africa in particular Uganda where the disease is spreading in new region (Karamoja);
10. The ongoing activities and progress made on Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) control by AU-IBAR, FAO, OIE, and other partners, the ongoing work of the GF-TADs Working Group on PPR including the preparation of a PPR global control and eradication strategy and the organisation of an International Conference on PPR in March 2015 in Cote d'Ivoire;
11. The new articles of the OIE Terrestrial Code related to PPR adopted during the OIE General Session of the World Assembly of Delegates in May 2013, which make PPR a new disease with official OIE Status and open the possibility for endorsement of official control programmes for PPR;
12. The recent CBPP situation in West Africa;
13. The need for concrete actions on the "One Health" approach including better information sharing on TADs and zoonoses, especially rabies;
14. The need to consider very carefully the potential for possible negative impact of miscommunication regarding evolving situation related to emerging and re-emerging diseases such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS-CoV), Porcine Epidemic Diarrhoea (PED), and Influenza A H7N9;

15. Donors require appropriate coordination mechanism and strong basis to justify the investment being made in the animal health sectors;
16. RAHCs are appropriate tools at regional level for taking in charge TADs, although uncertainties remain regarding their funding;
17. Veterinary Services are global public good and that reinforcing their governance is crucial for animal health, food safety and food security, while ensuring safer trade in animals and animals products in Africa;
18. The ongoing IRCM initiative led by AU-IBAR and progress made, and the need to report to GF-TADs;
19. The need expressed by participants for a more inclusive membership within the GF-TADs;
20. The uncertainties related to funding of GF-TADs Africa,
21. The GF-TADs for Africa is the animal health component of the ALive platform;
22. The recommendations of the FAO-OIE Inter-Regional Conference on Rift Valley Fever and the establishment of the OIE Ad Hoc Group to review the Terrestrial Code on RVF; and
23. The pending recommendations of the GF-TADs for Africa 8<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee meeting (See Annex).

<b>The Steering Committee of the GF-TADs for Africa recommends that:</b>	<b>Status (2021)</b>
1. The Regional GF-TADs for Africa 5-year Action plan be completed with baseline situation provided by countries, AU-IBAR, FAO, OIE, RECs and other relevant partners for the following diseases: FMD, PPR, CBPP, ASF and RVF; and according to this situation, the update on diseases status be focused on these 5 diseases (OIE as Secretariat, in collaboration with AU-IBAR and FAO);	5-year Action Plan ended in 2016. Draft Regional Strategy will be adopted at the 10 RSC (2021 – 2025)
2. The GF-TADs for Africa Secretariat, in collaboration with the President and Vice-President of the Regional Steering Committee, use the template to be provided by the GF-TADs Global Secretariat for reporting to the Global GF-TADs Steering Committee;	Done
3. The agenda of the next RSC be developed in a way to allow for discussion on issues of importance for the region;	Refer to the agenda in <b>Annex 3</b> , recommendation is still valid
4. The partners of the GF-TADs for Africa share their respective calendar of activities in order to limit overlapping, while supporting the labeling by GF TADS for Africa more systematically and ensuring a better coordination, harmonization and advocacy of the GF-TADs mechanism in Africa;	Not done since 2014, recommendation is still valid
5. The Secretariat of the ALive Executive Committee, supported by key partners of GF-TADs for Africa, ensure a proper advocacy at the highest authority (Ministers/policy makers) to promote ownership of the GF TADs for Africa mechanism and its 5 year Action Plan by the RECs and Members Countries and this be reflected in the ALive revised operational guidelines;	ALive was unofficially abolished in 2014
6. OIE, FAO, AU-IBAR and other institutions involved in the GF-TADs for Africa, support infected countries in their fight against FMD and advocate for more political support and investment from the Governments and economic partners;	Refer to the recently organized FMD GCC (September 2021)
7. This steering committee advocate for a better understanding of the epidemiology of CBPP at sub-regional level through, for example, mapping of slaughterhouses, serological surveillance, animal identification schemes, and registration of pathologies;	Not done since 2014, recommendations are still valid
8. The expert panel on CBPP be revived jointly by AU-IBAR, FAO and OIE;	
9. Any communication related to emerging and re-emerging diseases be based on scientific facts;	Recommendation is still valid (refer to “fake news”)

10. African countries be encouraged to continue their progression in the OIE PVS Pathway, especially by requesting, when relevant, PVS Evaluation Follow-up mission, and taking ownership of the outcomes in order to improve the good governance of their Veterinary Services and to ease access to funding both internally and externally using round tables with donors, while facilitating full access of PVS related information to GF-TADs partners (OIE lead, AU-IBAR, FAO);	Recommendation is still valid
11. The relationship between the RAHCs and the RECs and their related networks be discussed at GF-TADs Management Committee meeting; and	Probably no longer relevant in 2021
12. The implementation of the pending recommendations of the SC8 be continued.	Probably no longer relevant in 2021
<b>In addition, the Steering Committee of the GF-TADs for Africa noted:</b>	
The progress on AU-IBAR's efforts in operationalizing the African initiative for the progressive control of <i>neglected animal diseases</i> (NADs) and activities towards the development of a tool for assessing social and economic costs of NADs to influence and inform livestock policies, strategies and decision making.	Not implemented

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**Pending recommendations from the 8<sup>th</sup> RSC Meeting (June 2013)** (deleted = achieved, implemented)

1. ~~AU-PANVAC and relevant partners continue to ensure implementation of recommendations of the FAO/OIE Rinderpest Joint Advisory Committee;~~
2. ~~AU-IBAR and partners continue advocacy for resources mobilization to address Rinderpest-like syndromes and priority TADs in Africa;~~
3. ~~The GF-TADs Working Group on FMD continue to promote the use of the Progressive Control Pathway and the OIE PVS Pathway as monitoring tools for the progression of the countries towards having their status being recognized by the OIE (Action led by FAO and OIE);~~
4. ~~Ongoing activities related to the assessment of economic impact of high impact diseases be strengthened (Action led by FAO, AU-IBAR and OIE). Comments : Global Burden of Animal Diseases (GBAD) implementation started~~
5. ~~The Regional PPR control strategy for Africa be enhanced taking into consideration latest scientific knowledge, regional and country programmes, and the Global PPR Control Strategy when available (AU-IBAR, FAO, OIE, relevant partner's institutions);~~
6. ~~The Global PPR Control Strategy, currently developed by the FAO/OIE GF-TADs PPR Working Group, consider regional experiences gained by AU-IBAR and the different partners; Comments : Global PPR Control and Eradication strategy (GCES) approved in 2015.~~
7. ~~AU-PANVAC continue to provide required quality certification services for vaccines including PPR, ND and other priority TADs;~~
8. ~~AU-IBAR, FAO and OIE continue to pursue the finalization of CBPP progressive control program and appropriate regional strategies and related funds mobilization (FAO lead). Comments : Recommendation is still valid.~~
9. ~~AU-IBAR, FAO and OIE and other partners continue ongoing efforts in finalizing the development of the ASF control strategy including project formulation and resource mobilization by engaging other relevant partners, Comments : African continental ASF Strategy approved in 2017.~~
10. ~~Greater collaboration with public health authorities to ensure that funding be directed at controlling rabies at its animal source and especially in dog population; Comments : Implemented by the Tripartite + GARC at global and regional levels and by One Health approaches at national and sub-national levels.~~
11. ~~Regional GF-TADs partners ensure synergy when assisting countries to develop appropriate projects or proposals for resources mobilization and particularly to improve ownership of the outcomes of the OIE PVS Pathway; and~~
12. ~~IRCM activities continued to be reported at GF-TADs for Africa in support of GF-TADs efforts in Africa and serve as a mechanism for linkage with RECs and MS and the coordination of interventions; Comments : IRCM no longer relevant in 2021.~~

## ANNEX 2: RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE GF-TADS FOR AFRICA RSC-10

Recommendations: RSC10

Nairobi, 8 October 2021 (zero draft)

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### GF-TADS AFRICA 10<sup>th</sup> REGIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING: RECOMMENDATIONS

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Considering the:

1. GF-TADs as a coordination mechanism (not implementer);
2. existence of the GF-TADs Africa 5-year Regional Strategy (2021 – 2025);
3. long partnership between AU-IBAR, OIE & FAO for the improvement of animal health in Africa;
4. varying capacity of African countries to control animal diseases;
5. functional Working Groups on Rinderpest, FMD, PPR and ASF, under the GF TADs mechanism;
6. current epidemiological situation of TADs and zoonoses in Africa as provided by OIE, AU-IBAR, and FAO using reporting tools (WAHIS and ARIS) and other information supporting tools such as *Global Early Warning System (GLEWS)*, and recognising the need to improve surveillance systems in order to address the gaps in the epidemiological knowledge of prioritised diseases in Africa;
7. priority diseases defined in the GF-TADs Africa 5-year Regional Strategy (2021 – 2025); namely *Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR)*, *Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD)*, *Rift Valley Fever (RVF)*, *African Swine Fever (ASF)*, and *Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia (CBPP)*;
8. 2011 declaration of Rinderpest eradication at global level, the ongoing post-eradication phase and the establishment of the FAO/OIE Rinderpest Joint Advisory committee, and the Procedure for the designation of facilities holding Rinderpest virus containing material to maintain global freedom of Rinderpest recently adopted by the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (2014);
9. ongoing activities and progress made on *Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR)* control by AU-IBAR, FAO, OIE, and other partners, the ongoing work of the GF-TADs Working Group on PPR including the preparation of a PPR global control and eradication strategy and the organisation of an International Conference on PPR in March 2015 in Cote d'Ivoire;
10. need for Financial Partners to have an appropriate coordination mechanism and strong basis to justify the investment being made in the animal health sector;
11. Veterinary Services are global public good and that reinforcing their governance is crucial for animal health, food safety and food security, while ensuring safer trade in animals and animal products in Africa;
12. expected increase in demand for animal and animal products in the wake of the *Africa Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA)*;
13. pending recommendations of the GF-TADs for Africa 9th Regional Steering Committee meeting.

The Regional Steering Committee of the GF-TADs for Africa recommends that:

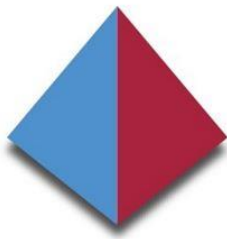
1. advocacy at the highest authority (Ministers/policy makers) be made, to promote ownership of the GF-TADs for Africa mechanism and its 5-year Action Plan by the RECs and Members Countries;
2. advocacy be made by GF-TADS for strengthening of governance of national veterinary services to align them to emerging national governance structures to enhance veterinary services delivery;
3. clear linkages and mechanisms be created for practical connections between the work of GF-TADs and the grassroots levels;
4. support and advocacy be provided by OIE, FAO, AU-IBAR and other institutions involved in the GF-TADs for Africa, to infected countries in their fight against FMD and for more political support and investment from the Governments and economic partners.

5. better coordination, harmonisation and advocacy of the GF-TADs mechanism in Africa be ensured;
6. countries be encouraged to support the global FMD control programme by entering the FMD *Progressive Control Pathway* (PCP), and implementing comprehensive surveillance and use of suitable vaccines;
7. PPR eradication at continental level be urgently prioritized and improved coordination between Member Countries be established and also nomination of “champions” who continuously advocate for its control and eradication be undertaken for intensified resource mobilisation and advocacy at high political level political (especially targeting high livestock density countries);
8. AU-IBAR, FAO and OIE continue to support countries to turn the National Strategic Plan for PPR eradication to investment plans. In this regard, AU-IBAR to convene an urgent meeting of partners to develop a proposal for control and eradication of PPR in the continent and a make a request to the European Union (EU) for financial support;
9. Member Countries use the revised *PPR Monitoring and Assessment Tool* (PMAT) to identify priorities to implement and monitor progression through the established stages for PPR control and eradication;
10. GF-TADs Africa advocates for a better understanding of the epidemiology of CBPP at sub-regional level through, for example, mapping of slaughterhouses, serological surveillance, animal identification schemes, and registration of pathologies;
11. an expert panel on CBPP be established jointly by AU-IBAR, FAO and OIE to support detection, foster and promote regional collaboration on CBPP control;
12. African countries be encouraged to continue their progression in the OIE PVS Pathway, especially by requesting, where relevant, the PPR specific PVS Evaluation mission, and taking ownership of the outcomes in order to improve the good governance of their Veterinary Services and to ease access to funding both internally and externally using round tables with donors, while facilitating full access of PVS related information to GF-TADs partners (OIE lead, AU-IBAR, FAO);
13. AU-IBAR finalise the post-Rinderpest eradication contingency plan for Africa;
14. Member Countries support the Rinderpest post eradication activities, by developing Rinderpest contingency plans aligned to the Continental Contingency plan once finalised and implement the *Global Rinderpest Action Plan* (GRAP) to enhance their readiness;
15. Member Countries send rinderpest containing materials to AU-PANVAC for safe sequestration as requested by Heads of States of AU;
16. Rinderpest Vaccine Reserve be expanded, and Rinderpest diagnostic capacity improved in Africa;
17. AU-IBAR, FAO and OIE, in collaboration with the Africa CDC, continue to support countries to strengthen the institutionalisation, operationalisation and the appropriation of the One health approach at national level and pool resources together to tackle One-health problems collectively (consolidation of initiatives);
18. GF-TADs, the Regional Tripartite, African Union, and member Countries, strengthen collaboration on AMR and zoonotic diseases, under the framework of One-Health;
19. Countries be encouraged to support the Global Control Strategy for ASF;
20. The implementation of the pending recommendations of the RSC-9 be continued.

The RSC11 is proposed to be held in Nairobi, Kenya and hosted by the African Union in May 2022, back-to-back with the annual CVO's meeting.



**ANNEX 3: PROVISIONAL AGENDA RSC-10**



**GF-TADs**

GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE  
PROGRESSIVE CONTROL OF  
TRANSBOUNDARY ANIMAL DISEASES

*Africa*



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



**10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Regional Steering Committee (RSC10)  
of the GF-TADs for Africa**

Online (times in GMT) | 6 – 8 October 2021

Wednesday 6 October 2021		
08:00 – 09:00	Registration of participants and briefing	
Session 1. Welcoming remarks		
09:00 – 09.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>African Union</li> <li>Food and Agriculture Organisation</li> <li>World Organisation for Animal Health</li> </ul>	Josefa Sacko Haile Gabriel Abebe Monique Eloit
Session 2. Governance aspects		
09.30 – 09.50	The proposed updated terms of reference for the GF-TADs for Africa	Karim Tounkara (GF-TADs Regional Secretariat)
09.50 – 10.10	Adoption of the updated terms of reference and installation of the Bureau for the meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AU : President (AU-IBAR)</li> <li>FAO : 1<sup>st</sup> Vice – President (RAF)</li> <li>OIE : 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice – President (OIE Council)</li> </ul>	Karim Tounkara (GF-TADs Regional Secretariat)  Nick Nwankpa Charles Bebay Roland Dlamini
10.10 – 10.20	Adoption of the agenda	New Chair : Nick Nwankpa

10.20 – 10.30	Background to the establishment of the RSC	Karim Tounkara (GF-TADs Regional Secretariat)
10.30 – 10.50	Adoption of the minutes of the 9 <sup>th</sup> RSC (Ouagadougou, 2014)	
10.50 – 11.10	The third evaluation of the GF-TADs (2017)	Jean Philippe Dop (OIE, GF-TADs MC)
11.10 – 11.30	Presentation of the GF-TADs Global Strategy	Keith Sumption (FAO, GF-TADs MC)
11.30 – 11.40	Presentation of the GF-TADs global website	Bouda Ahmadi (FAO, GF-TADs Global Secretariat)

## Thursday 7 October 2021



### Session 3. Reporting on GF-TADs global disease control and eradication initiatives

09.00 – 09.10	Post-rinderpest eradication activities (JAC)	Samia Metwally (FAO)
09.10 – 09.20	Post-rinderpest eradication activities in Africa: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continental Post Rinderpest Eradication Contingency Plan</li> <li>Sequestration and destruction of rinderpest-virus containing materials in Africa</li> </ul>	Nick Nwankpa (AU-IBAR) Charles Bodjo (AU-PANVAC)
09.20 – 09.40	Global Eradication Programme PPR, PMAT, RAGs and Roadmaps  Pan-African PPR Control and Eradication programme	Henry Wamwayi (Core Experts Team, PPR GEP revision) Adama Diallo (PPR GREN <sup>2</sup> ) Hiver Boussini (AU-IBAR)
09.40 – 10.00	Progressive Control Programme FMD, RAGs and Roadmaps	Melissa McLaws (FAO, FMD Working Group)
10.00 – 10.10	Global control of ASF (a GF-TADs initiative)	Charles Bebay (FAO, ASF Working Group)
10.10 – 10.20	Global control of ASF (a GF-TADs initiative), experience with SGE for the Asia region  ASF Regional Control Strategy for Africa (2017) - Update	Caitlyn Holley (OIE, SGE ASF, Asia and Pacific) Hiver Boussini (AU-IBAR) & Fredrick Kivaria (FAO)
10.20 – 10.40	Presentation of the terms of reference, adoption and installation of the Standing Group of Experts for ASF for Africa	Thomas Dulu (OIE) Nick Nwankpa (Chair)

<sup>2</sup> PPR Global Research and Expertise Network



#### Session 4. Other GF-TADs 'tools' achievements and One Health in Africa

10.40 – 10.55	OFFLU (zoonotic influenzas) Use of tools for epidemic intelligence EMC – AH (emergency response)	Lidewij Wiersma (FAO) Paolo Tizzani (OIE) S. Münstermann (FAO)
10.55 – 11.10	One Health initiatives in Africa  One Health Initiatives by AU-IBAR and Africa CDC	Charles Bebay, on behalf of the Tripartite Regional Coordination Group  James Wabacha (AU- IBAR)
11.10 – 11.30	Discussion and formulation of recommendations	Nick Nwankpa (Chair) with the support of the GF-TADs Regional Secretariat
11.30 – 11.40	Presentation of the GF-TADs Africa website	P. Bastiaensen (OIE)

### Friday 8 October 2021



#### Session 5. GF-TADs for Africa Regional Strategy 2021 - 2025

09.00 – 09.20	Presentation of the draft Regional Strategy 2021 - 2025	Nick Nwankpa (Chair) with the support of the GF-TADS Regional Secretariat
09.20 – 10.20	Discussion in break-out rooms (2) French, English  Moderators: OIE <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• R. Bouguedour (French)</li><li>• S. Wakhusama (English)</li></ul>	Moderators: FAO <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• M. Bengoumi (French)</li><li>• B. Soumaré (English)</li></ul>
10.20 – 10.40	Discussion of outcomes of the break-out rooms in plenary. Amendment and adoption, or referral, of the Regional Strategy 2021 - 2025	Nick Nwankpa (Chair)



#### Session 6. Adoption of recommendations and closing remarks

10.40 – 10.50	International agenda and Global Steering Committee	Alexandre Fediaevsky (GF-TADs Global Secretariat)
10.50 – 11.00	Other RSC meetings in other regions (topics, shared focus countries, prospects for replication of actions)	
11.00 – 11.20	Discussions and adoption of RSC10 recommendations Dates and venue / format of RSC11	Nick Nwankpa (Chair)
11.20 – 11.30	Closing Remarks	Nick Nwankpa (Chair)

# 10th Regional Steering Committee (RSC-10)



*Africa*



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



**6 - 8 October 2021 (online)  
List of attending participants**

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