

REPORT of the 2nd GF- TADs STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING Djibouti - March 27, 2007

During the Opening Session welcome addresses were successively given by D J. Domenech, Chair of the GF-TADs Steering Committee, by Dr B. Vallat, Chair of the Alive Executive Committee and by SE Abdoul Kader Kamil Mohamed, Ministre de l'Agriculture, de l'Elevage et de la Mer, chargé des Ressources Hydrauliques de Djibouti. They insisted on the crucial role of the livestock sector in Africa and particularly in the Horn of Africa Region. The roles of the Alive Platform and the GF-TADs initiative were also highlighted as well as the importance of preventing and controlling animal diseases.

The meeting was attended by the same participants who attended the Alive Executive Committee.

SESSION 1

Horizontal Activities Africa

J. Domenech – Objectives of GF-TADs and follow up of the recommendations of the first Steering Committee

GF-TADs is an FAO-OIE joint initiative. It has worldwide objectives which are to improve the prevention and control of transboundary animal diseases which are at the origin of regional and international crisis. The organization of GF-TADs was recalled as well as the strong interactions with the Alive Initiative and the collaboration with the AU-IBAR.

The GF-TADs Steering Committee is composed of 14 members representatives of FAO, OIE, AU-IBAR, OIE Regional Commission for Africa, Regional Organization and Donors. It meets every year. The first recommendation of the first GF-TADs Steering Committee held in Bamako, 28 April 2006 was to organize these meetings back-to-back with the Alive Executive Committee meetings, which is what was done here in Djibouti. A specific GF-TADs update will also be given to the Alive Steering Committee Meetings which meet every 6 months. GF-TADs can be considered to be the specialized animal health platform of Alive. It gives general guidance to promote programmes in the field of animal health prevention and control and ensure that they are well coordinated with good complementarities and without redundancy. During the GF-TADs Steering Committee meetings an update of the animal situation in Africa is given particularly regarding the main new emergent or re-emergent problems. The response activities to this health events/crisis are exposed with a particular focus on the collaboration between the partners involved. Regarding the precise recommendations of the first Steering Committee, a summary of their implementation was given: rinderpest eradication, avian influenza, establishment of the Regional Animal Health Centres, evaluation of the Veterinary Services with the use of the OIE PVS tool, strengthening of the regional networks of national laboratory and epidemiosurveillance teams.

S. Sidibe-The Regional Animal Health Centres (RAHCs)

The RAHCs are now a reality and that of Bamako has already started working well. Global perspective of the three organizations (OIE/FAO/AU-IBAR) is to develop livestock and improve governance of veterinary services, harmonize strategies and programmes and in so doing improve the prevention and control of transboundary diseases. Six experts are already in place in Bamako. Some of the key activities will be to reinforce diagnostics at laboratory level. Simulation exercises have already been carried out in Dakar with the assistance of USAID. There is the need to improve animal disease surveillance, improve data analysis and assure harmonization of data management systems with that of WAHIS. The RAHCs need equipment, and all three agencies must harmonize cost sharing in maintaining the RAHCs.

In follow up comments, Dr Vallat stated that it was important to adopt a RAHC document within the context of GF-TADs. A draft document has already been prepared to be agreed shortly. The chairman - J. Domenech noted that role of OIE/FAO/AU-IBAR must be clearly spelt out and defined taking into account, synergies and complementarities to so as to avoid confusion. Participants commented that Regional Economic Communities (RECs) must be brought into the organization of the RAHCs, and that the AfDB must be approached so as the develop projects that can integrate the RECs function with that of the RAHCs. The need for an RAHC in Central Africa was tabled by a participant, considering the need for animal health interventions in this part of Africa.

J. Domenech-Networks (Laboratories, Epidemio-surveillance, and Socio-economics)

Networks have provided economy of scale in training, sharing of information and experiences, and creation of regional laboratory expertise. Networks allow improvement of performance of laboratories and epidemiosurveillance teams and provide a basis for the harmonization of methods in HPAI and other transboundary animal diseases. Networks of socio-economics will be established in Bamako and Nairobi.

B. Vallat-Food Safety:

Dr Vallat informed the meeting that the OIE made a survey on market access through funding from the STDF/WTO mechanism on how to adapt Veterinary services to be ready to certify for external markets. FAO implements the OIE STDF/WTO projec. Food safety issues are very important and require the ability of producers to improve their livelihoods. Francois Le Gall of the World Bank stated that the Bank will support initiatives in this regard. Sawadodogo/ECOWAS proposed that those who attend meetings of WTO should better know what is happening on the ground.

H. Nuru-Post PACE:

Dr Nuru stated that the Pan African Control of Epizootics (PACE) formally ended in February 2007. The project which had duration of a total of 7 years, was the largest project ever undertaken by AU-IBAR. It was funded by the EC for an amount of €77million. Some of the greatest achievements of the project were; i) improvements in domestic animal disease surveillance; ii) surveillance of wild life diseases; iii) establishment of animal disease data management systems-ARIS and iv) increased trade in livestock and livestock products resulting from improvements in management of transboundary animal diseases and v) networking. Critical concern in the post-PACE era, was to sustain the achievements of PACE. Therefore in partnership with OIE, FAO and the EC, IBAR will continue to implement projects designed to consolidate the achievements of PACE. Engagement at the highest political level to further sustain gains of PACE will be an important undertaking. Efforts will be made by AU-IBAR to link up with non PACE countries in animal disease data management systems. Most of these countries had animal disease reporting systems in place

and these will be harmonized with the ARIS of AU-IBAR, WAHIS of OIE and TADinfo of FAO. SERECU project was provided with bridging funds of US\$ 85 000. A new project (SERECU Phase II) amounting to € 4million, has been submitted to EC for funding. Lessons learnt in terms of technical and administrative management of PACE, have been documented to serve as a basis to guide future project implementation.

S. Sidibe-Activities of the OIE-Regional Programme for Africa.

The main activities of the OIE Representation in Africa have been i) to assist countries to improve capacities of veterinary services, so as to comply with OIE standards; ii) improve the visibility of the organization; iii) continue to improve relations with FAO and WHO and other partners. Assistance to countries so that they can effectively participate in WTO meetings is also a priority. A workshop on RVF is planned to take place in Egypt from 13 – 15 June, 2007 in collaboration with FAO and IBAR. The OIE Africa Commission plans to hold a meeting on Livestock trade in SADC in Lesotho. The date is yet to be decided. Another workshop on Veterinary medicines in Africa is to be held in conjunction with the Dakar Veterinary School. A meeting with ECOWAS on reinforcement of animal disease surveillance within the sub region is foreseen.

H. Nuru-Activities of AU-IBAR.

The principal activities of IBAR involve animal health, animal production, and livestock trade. Routine activities include collation and analysis of animal disease reports, and facilitation of the implementation of the Regional Animal Health Centres. According to Dr Nuru, it is foreseen to transfer the activities of ALive to AU-IBAR and that activities associated with this should be put in place. Project activities include support animal and human influenza (AHI) prevention and preparedness planning by facilitating the utilization of emergency funds provided by the AfDB. Eleven countries have so far accessed these emergency funds. Harmonization and standardization of training in HPAI and avoidance of repeated training of certain individuals is to be ensured. Currently, AU-IBAR is looking at clusters of infected countries (Nigeria and Egypt) and at countries at risk with the main objective of analysis of present HPAI situation to identify implementation gaps so as to provide the basis for control of HPAI in Nigeria and Egypt and prevention of spread to neighbouring countries. Consolidation of action plans of phase II of SERECU project is to be carried out.

J. Domenech - Activities of FAO.

FAO has intensified activities in the area of socio-economic impacts of HPAI disease, in relation to farming systems. FAO animal health service has committed almost 90% of its resources and activities in preventing and controlling HPAI. Pledging conference is planned to take place in India in December, 2007. A number of strategy documents on HPAI prevention and control have been prepared by FAO either singly or in partnership with the OIE. The Strategy for the prevention and control of HPAI in Africa was prepared, endorsed by OIE and IBAR and served as the basis for the preparation of the HPAI Alive document presented during the Bamako Conference. Surveys of HPAI in wild fauna have been carried out by FAO in Africa under contractual arrangements with expert institutions such as CIRAD and Wetlands International. Epidemiological studies have been carried out in a number of countries. FAO will continue to provide assistance to member countries, to support the Regional Animal Health Centres and support improvement of Veterinary Services. FAO responded to the RVF outbreaks in Kenya and Tanzania and proposes to develop a surveillance and response system for Eastern Africa (see below). An expert consultation on CBPP was held in Rome in 2006. As a result of the tripartite (FAO/OIE/WHO) meeting in Rome in February 2007, FAO has been charged with organizing a global forum for FMD

control which is planned to take place in April 2007 in Rome. In addition to animal health activities, FAO has continued its programmes in the field of environment (LEAD).

Dr Vallat commented on collaboration within the Alive platform. He stated that a good seminar was held in N'Djamena on Animal Health Policies by the OIE in collaboration with FAO and AU-IBAR. A good compromise was reached with respect to Para veterinarians and Community Based Animal Health Workers. Bamako conference was an excellent achievement under ALive, which presented a common platform and document to donors. He disagreed with IBAR harmonizing training activities on HPAI. Vallat mentioned that FAO collaborated in the evaluation of the Veterinary Services of Liberia and Sierra Leone. He further stated that in his view, avian influenza outbreaks were decreasing globally and that many countries can now act better in controlling outbreaks. Regarding the Alive Secretariat, he reminded the participants that a survey is currently underway and that its outcomes will be discussed during the next EC. Priority strategies of the OIE were to i) improve governance; ii) provide countries with appropriate support to act in preventing and controlling animal diseases using countries' own legislative instruments; iii) ensure an effective national chain of command; iv) advocate for appropriate public budgets; good alliances and transparency. On vaccination against HPAI, he said that in countries that are not able to control the disease through pure stamping out and movement control strategies vaccination becomes a very efficient tool to prevent disease spread. PANVAC should be used in quality control for HPAI vaccines.

Some participants expressed concern on the relationship between ALive and GF-TADs. Dr Domenech responded that GF-TADs should be considered to be the animal health specialized platform of Alive.

SESSION 2:

Overview on current Transboundary Animal Diseases in Africa

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)

Dr Domenech – CVO of FAO, presented an update of the situation of HPAI and a synthesis of major transboundary animal disease issues as follows:

- The world situation of HPAI disease is still serious and worrisome ;
- The mobilisation of all concerned actors has allowed a quick and efficient response which has permitted outbreaks control in most of the countries ;
- In two countries, i.e. Egypt and Indonesia, the situation is still critical due to certain delays in operational actions. In Nigeria, current evolution seems to be favourable for outbreaks control ;
- The virus continues to circulate in several regions in the world and this is the cause of permanent risk of introduction or re-introduction of the virus in non-infected countries;
- Wild birds appeared to be able to transport the virus through long distance immigration although they do not seem to constitute a reservoir but rather indicators of outbreaks for domestic animals. This hypothesis is needs to be confirmed by research studies.

Control strategies by Dr B. Vallat, OIE Director.

Reports indicate that the disease incidence is decreasing. This situation seems to be influenced by climatic conditions (mild winter which is less favourable to virus survival in the

environment). Control measures adopted by countries aspiring disease eradication revealed to be effective. The good technical governance, training of personnel, budget allocations for specific actions, public-private sector alliances, epidemio-surveillance and laboratory networks, bio-security measures for production, rapid and adapted compensation measures, vaccination in the case of outbreak spread, the creation of virtual vaccine banks by OIE/AU-IBAR represent a package of solutions which have allow the disease to decline.

Comments from participants

The first point raised was to not limit actions to the most affected countries but rather to support also neighbouring countries, as well as traditional poultry production units despite difficulties that this type of support may bring along. The EC financial contribution to the Alive platform will allow to create efficient control tools/mechanisms. These generated mechanisms are also useful to control other transboundary animal diseases and the improvement of the veterinary services will constitute a real advancement/contribution for poverty reduction.

Tsetse and trypanosomiasis

Dr Mattioli - FAO, presented an exhaustive report on the work conducted by the Programme against African Trypanosomiasis (PAAT) and its allied organizations. His presentation also illustrated the impact of the diseases on poverty in sub-Saharan Africa. The magnitude of the PAAT work needs to be further valued, in particular by PATTEC which needs to exploit the knowledge and experience acquired during decades of actions in the field by scientists and experts associated with PAAT. The participants further highlighted the fact that the already reached achievements should allow to integrate efficient solutions with a view to manage and properly utilize land freed from the disease and creating means which will allow the generation of resources for sustainability of tsetse control actions.

Participants insisted on the fact that donors must fund studies in areas that up to now, have been excluded from actions against the disease due to civil disturbance. The realisation of these studies will permit the strengthen solidarity of intervention(s) against the disease.

Donors' representatives took note of this comment, but underpinned the necessity of the national policy decision makers to provide requests in order to mobilise available funds. Similarly, the World Bank recalled that it is absolutely necessary for PATTEC to consult and involve PAAT expertise in order to prepare project proposals.

Rift Valley Fever

Dr Amanfu of FAO, gave a detailed technical presentation on this disease, underlining the main symptoms in animals as well in humans. He recalled the influence of climatic factors on the disease aetiology, in particular vector proliferation and effect of rainfall patterns on reproductive cycle of different species of mosquitoes. The presentation highlighted the prediction characteristics of this zoonosis, but he also mentioned the low level of surveillance due to the long interval (5 – 20 years) between upsurge of outbreaks. He mentioned the activity of FAO in the field of surveillance, warning and response to the last outbreaks which occurred in the Horn of Africa. He also presented the FAO proposal to establish a specific surveillance network in East Africa. Vaccination is an issue which merits harmonization; particularly regarding vaccination protocol on type of vaccine to be used (inactivated or attenuated). ALive must play a key role in debating about proposals for the set up of control

measures against this disease. The organization of an OIE-FAO workshop on RVF in Eastern Africa and Middle East was announced.

Rinderpest

Dr A. Nuru of AU/IBAR, gave a presentation on history of projects which have contributed to the present situation which allows foreseeing rinderpest eradication by the year 2010. The PACE programme, funded by EU, has largely contributed to this success story in Africa and the SERECU project Phase 2 should achieve this objective. While waiting the foreseen financial contribution in the next few weeks, FAO provided bridging funding in order to avoid technical vacuum in the field. The project concerns three countries, i.e. Kenya, Somaliland and Ethiopia. Presently, six countries freed from the disease have not yet presented their request of certification to OIE. The conflicts in Somalia pose evident problems and it is, therefore, important to be vigilant with a view to achieve the objective of eradication of the disease.

Dr Vallat announced that during the next OIE Session in Paris, a new and simplified procedure for acquiring certification of the status of country freed from rinderpest should be ready. The countries must, however, present a demand in this regard. Dr Domenech recalled that the success regarding this disease in Africa and other parts of the World has been possible with the sustained and efficient action of GREP and that GREP will be involved in the SERECU project Phase 2 as well.

FMD

Dr Amanfu rapidly recalled actions and the present situation of this disease in Africa. A seminar was organized in Nairobi in 2006 by FAO in collaboration with IBAR and OIE to address the new FMD upsurge in the Great Lakes Region. The main affected countries in the Great Lakes Region and East African countries attended the forum, Countries included Uganda, Kenya, Burundi, Rwanda, Congo Brazzaville and DRC. The meeting emphasised the necessity to set up policy and technical measures by the affected countries for FMD control.

SESSION III

Regional Organizations and Donors

African Development Bank (AfDB)

The AfDB Representative Dr Tawah endorsed the proposal of the ALive Programme Manager (Francois Le Gall) to establish an ALive platform dealing with the tsetse and trypanosomiasis (T&T) problem. At the same time, it was important to ensure sustainability of funding for T&T intervention(s). Dr Vallat mentioned this point has been taken into consideration and a recommendation regarding the Tsetse & Trypanosomiasis (T&T) issue within ALive has been prepared. Dr Tawah elaborated further on the following points:

- The Bank wishes to strengthen the epidemiosurveillance of TADs. In this regard AfDB is funding a network based on the SADC model and has invited the other RECs to produce project proposals/concept notes for TADs epidemiosurveillance in their various RECs.

- Concerning avian influenza (AI), the Bank is funding activities covering 13 countries, including Egypt, Djibouti, Sudan, Mali and Cote d'Ivoire.
- About the issue of project delivery, the AfDB Representative mentioned the slowness of the process to the beneficiaries.

European Union

Dr Philippe Steinmetz stated that the Agenda of the next meeting of GF-TADs should be better conceived in order to give enough time to touch and discuss important issues. He stressed the following issues:

- Clarification on specific functions and tasks of GF-TADs and the ALive Platform.
- Concerning the technical presentations regarding specific diseases: it was important to create international entente/cooperation within ALive and the Programme against African Trypanosomiasis (PAAT) was mentioned as one example.
- In relation to the project proposal SERECU (Rinderpest Eradication): although the project document has been approved, the document has to follow the internal EC procedures for the final decision of fund disbursement. This decision is expected to be taken at the next EDF meeting foreseen in July-August 2007.

UEMOA

The Representative of UEMOA Dr Issoufou Daré also evoked the need to better elaborate and define the roles, functions and governance of GF-TADs and ALive. This should include further coordination of activities of different initiatives within GF-TADs and ALive. He stressed the need to include and/or link legislations on zoo-sanitary policies within the programme, mandate and activities of GF-TADs.

CEMAC

The role of GF-TADs and ALive in support of animal health in Africa was acknowledged. The CEMAC Representative, Dr Fio Ngaindiro requested clarification of the role of the RA HCs in relation to the Regional OIE Representative and the functions and links of GF-TADs with these two structures/institutions.

In comments after these presentations, Dr Domenech acknowledged that there is a need to better define the roles and functions of the two platforms as well as to better organize the agenda of the Steering Committee meetings. GF-TADs should be considered to be the specialized animal health platform of ALive. Dr Vallat insisted on the necessary integration of tasks and respective TORs of GF-TADs and ALive.

France

The agenda of the GF-TADs Steering Committee meeting should be better articulated and integrated with that of the ALive Executive Committee meetings, Dr Jean-Luc Francois stated. More time was needed to discuss technical matters related to disease issues such as HPAI in Nigeria, RVF and FMD outbreaks in Africa. In addition, CBPP was not included in the GF-TADs agenda. A question was raised as to whether it was appropriate to include food safety within the subjects dealt by GF-TADs and the ALive platforms. Dr Vallat commented that the time devoted to discuss animal health and disease occurrence in Africa at global level, was often too short. Nevertheless, GF-TADs SC and ALive EC meetings provided the

relevant fora to discuss issues concerning specific disease concerns in Africa. Also, food safety had profound implications for trade related issues.

World Bank

Dr Francois Le Gall stated that in the past years, GF-TADs and ALive produced positive results: ALive platform is mainly focused on policy and planning animal health matters while GF-TADs is particularly concerned by coordination activity. The Representative of the WB agreed with previous comments concerning the short time devoted to technical matters and/or specific disease issues.

- Dr Vallat requested GF-TADs Secretariat to prepare a keynote paper to clarify the position, role and governance of GF-TADs and ALive.

UGANDA CVO

The importance of animal health in relation to food safety, food security and trade was highlighted by Dr William Olaho-Mukani of Uganda. There was a need to review, revise or harmonize national laws so as not to have different and various National Ministries dealing with animal health, food safety, food security and trade. This revision process of the law, rules and regulation should reflect international concerns of safe products.

OIE Commission for Africa (CVOs of Swaziland, Uganda and Guinea)

Participants in general expressed satisfaction with GF-TADs, ALive and supportive organizations and institutions.

- It was again reiterated to clarify and better define the roles of GF-TADs and ALive and highlight complementarities. It was repeated that ALive is mainly concerned with livestock sector policy issues while GF-TADs should have an overall coordination and guidance coordination role for animal health prevention and control programmes.
- The importance to highlight the linkages and complementarities between FAO, AU/IBAR and OIE and the harmonization of their respective roles within GF-TADs, ALive platform and RAHCs, was stressed.
- These three organizations (FAO, AU/IBAR and OIE) should make clear what their position is on the ground about HPAI and follow up actions after an outbreak of the disease in a country.

EISMV-Dakar

Prof. Louis-Joseph Pangui of EISMV noted the absence of discussions on human resource development/capacity building for TADs prevention and control. In this regard, the EIMVT can assist and can be proposed to act and serve as a frontline school for training of technicians and also of livestock owners. Dr Vallat requested the EISMV Representative to formulate a concept note in this respect.

GUINEA CVO

Dr Bangoura expressed concern again about the need to clarify the mandates of GF-TADs and ALive.

- It was recommended to timely communicate the dates of the meeting and to timely provide participants with working documents which should include information on what has been done since the last meeting and what will be done. This organizational procedure will allow a more active participation of invited personalities in the work of the GF-TADs and its Committee meetings.

CEMAC

In his further intervention, the CEMAC Representative, Fio Ngaindiro requested information on the participation of USAID in the work of GF-TADs and ALive. Dr Vallat informed the audience that he personally visited USAID HQs in Washington D.C. During that visit, USAID did not show a positive interest in participating in GF-TADs and ALive activities.

CEDEAO/ECOWAS

The representative of ECOWAS Dr Aubin Sawadogo insisted on the preoccupation on avian influenza among CEDEAO/ECOWAS Members in Africa. A detailed, updated report on the African AI situation has been prepared and brought to the attention of the Heads of State and Government during the Summit held 19 January 2007, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. AfDB has been contacted in order to explore support to intervention against AI.

FAO

Concerning CBPP, Dr Amanfu reported that an FAO-OIE-AU/IBAR-IAEA technical consultation meeting was held at FAO HQs in November 2006. The meeting addressed the question on the use or none use of antibiotics in the control of CBPP. The main conclusion of this consultation was that although a lot of research has been done on *in vitro* studies of antimicrobial efficacy on MmmSC, information on *in vivo* efficacy was inadequate to merit a change in the current OIE Terrestrial Code on the use of antibiotics in the control of CBPP. A Letter of Agreement has been established between FAO and *Laboratoire Central Vétérinaire* (LCV) of Bamako, Mali on the role of antibiotics or antibiotic treatments on the pathogenesis of CBPP. A similar activity is envisaged in Tanzania.

SESSION IV

A draft recommendation was tabled for discussion. Queries were raised as to the status of draft recommendations presented by GF-TADs Steering Committee vis-à-vis ALive resolution. The main observation was whether GF-TADs was embedded within the ALive mechanism. After a series of comments and discussions, it was suggested to amend the relevant portions of the proposed recommendations (ex recommendation no. 1) and to come back during the following ALive Executive Committee Meeting to propose a new version. This was done (see ALive SC report and resolutions) and the GF-TADs meeting agreed that its recommendations will be addressed to the ALive Executive Committee for further endorsement.

The recommendations adopted during the meeting are attached as Annex I.
See also Annex 2 - Agenda

Annex 1

Second Meeting of the Regional Steering Committee of the FAO/OIE GF-TADs for Africa

Djibouti 27 March 2007

Recommendations to the Executive Committee of ALive (African Livestock)

Support to Regional Animal Health Activities under the GF-TADs (Global Framework for the control of Transboundary Animal Diseases) Mechanism

CONSIDERING

The impact of transboundary animal disease crises on public health, the agricultural sector, trade and the means of existence of small breeders and most needy peasants;

The necessity for animal disease control to be supported by Veterinary Services that comply with OIE international standards and in a broader sense by effective systems of animal health;

The necessity to develop a public-private partnership in the prevention and control of animal diseases;

The need for countries to ensure that their motivation in convincing donors for financial and technical assistance for the prevention and control of animal diseases is sustained;

The support of the initiatives, structures and mechanisms at international level such as the Global Early Warning System (GLEWS) Platform managed by the FAO, OIE and the WHO and the FAO-OIE Crisis Management Centre (CMC);

The support of the international community to the control of animal diseases such as avian influenza and the commitment of international organisations such as FAO, OIE as well as Regional African Organisations and donors;

The efforts being made in the establishment of Regional Animal Health Centres of FAO, OIE and AU-IBAR;

The importance of regional networks as tools to improve surveillance, diagnosis, transparency of animal disease information, rapid response as well as the potential use of this network approach in studies related to socio-economic surveys and applicable to livestock systems;

The role of livestock trade notably that carried out illegally and the importance of small village farms in the epidemiology of important transboundary animal diseases;

The importance of systems of compensation/providing incentives within the framework of compulsory sanitary stamping out of animals;

The importance of local domestic animal breeds and the risk of extinction of this animal biodiversity especially in view of the evolving livestock and disease systems;

The necessity to complete the global eradication of rinderpest (GREP);

The evolution of the avian influenza crisis in the world, particularly in Africa;

The importance of climate change and globalisation on the emergence, re-emergence and spread of diseases;

The re-emergence of Rift Valley fever in certain African regions and the negative impact of that disease on human and animal health as well as on regional trade of livestock and livestock products;

The impact of the Tsetse fly (glossina) and Trypanosomosis (T&T) on poverty and food security in Sub-Saharan Africa, as well as their medical, veterinary, agricultural and socio-economic implications;

The existence of the Programme Against African Trypanosomosis (PAAT) the secretariat of which is hosted by FAO and the inter-institutional nature of the programme, its mandate having a close link with ALive;

The existence of the Pan African Programme PATTEC (Pan African Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis Eradication Campaign);

The permanent existence of major transboundary animal diseases such as foot and mouth disease and contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP);

The importance of animal health on food safety and food security;

The recommendations of the 17th Regional Conference of the OIE held in Asmara, Eritrea;

THE SECOND MEETING OF THE REGIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE GF-TADS FOR AFRICA

RECOMMENDS THAT

1. Veterinary Services (VS) be reinforced preferably after an evaluation using the OIE Performance, Vision and Strategy (PVS) tool followed by identification of investment projects and training programmes to ensure that VS are brought in conformity with OIE standards;
2. The public-private partnership further develop to create systems of animal health and food safety in which livestock breeders, traders and other stakeholders will be more closely involved;

3. The Regional Animal Health Centres already created or to be created by OIE, FAO and AU-IBAR with the support of Regional Economic Communities benefit from the financial and institutional support in order to make them functional as soon as possible;
4. International organisations such as FAO and OIE, AU-IBAR and other Regional Economic Organisations as well as donors pursue and reinforce their support to programmes aimed at the prevention and control of major animal diseases;
5. Countries continue their commitment towards projects regarding the prevention and control of animal diseases and ensure that they are implemented according to agreed objectives and time frames set out.
6. The mechanisms and structures for the coordination of and support to animal disease control at international level such as the GLEWS and the CMC reinforce their assistance to regional structures and organisations as well as to individual countries;
7. The regional networks of laboratories and epidemiological surveillance teams set up particularly within the framework of the PACE Programme be strengthened and that this network approach be extended to studies and follow ups on socio-economic surveys and systems of livestock production;
8. The role played particularly by the FAO in the establishment of regional networks on avian influenza and socio-economic studies and by AU-IBAR in the eradication of rinderpest within the PACE Programme, be continued and extended in a sustainable manner to other transboundary animal diseases;
9. The role of trade especially that carried out illegally on the epidemiology of disease be better evaluated and controlled;
10. The systems of compensation during compulsory slaughter in case of disease outbreaks be made more operational and the financial sustainability guaranteed;
11. The role of small village farms in the epidemiology of each major animal disease be better studied and that the participatory disease approach involving community animal health workers be more developed within the animal health policies of Governments under the authority of Veterinary Services;
12. The genetic resistance of local animal breeds to diseases be further investigated and the specific genetic resources which often face extinction, be subject to conservation programmes in order to specifically protect them against major animal diseases;
13. Countries pursue their commitment towards the Global Rinderpest Eradication Programme (GREP) in their efforts to seek the free rinderpest status in accordance with the OIE Pathway with the support of AU-IBAR and FAO. IBAR should within the GREP Programme and with the support of FAO, IAEA, OIE and other technical and financial partners, strengthen its Coordination Unit on the Eradication of Rinderpest in the Somali Ecosystem (SERECU);
14. Programmes relative to the prevention and control of avian influenza be reinforced and vaccination be applied in specific instances as described in the recommendations and strategies of FAO, OIE and IBAR and included in emergency plans. The programmes of

prevention and control should be subject of a major political commitment of Governments and their financial partners. The FAO and OIE as well as WHO should continue their active support in the prevention of transmission of the infection to humans and the risk of a human pandemic. Special attention should be given to the situations in Egypt and Nigeria as well as on transparency of animal disease information;

15. Rift Valley fever be the subject of preparations of emergency plans and that studies on preventive measures notably vaccination be intensified. The feasibility study on surveillance, alert and rapid response systems should be undertaken. OIE will co-organise with FAO and AU-IBAR, a seminar on that disease for countries of the Horn of Africa and importing countries of the Middle East and the Indian Ocean;
16. Matters relating to T&T and discussed within the framework of ALive and GF-TADs be referred to PAAT which will define appropriate policies and scientific and technical strategies;
17. Control of other animal diseases that give rise to regional or international crises such as foot and mouth disease and CBPP be supported and the validity and feasibility of specific programmes proposed by regional and international technical agencies studied;
18. ALive pursue the preparation of policies relating to market access and that the GF-TADs undertake the coordination of actions in the field;
19. The OIE organise an African continental conference on the quality of veterinary biological products with the support of AU-IBAR and the FAO;

Second GF-TADs Steering Committee for Africa
Djibouti, 27 March 2007

DRAFT AGENDA

08:00	Registration	
09:00	Welcome Addresses	President Executive Committee Alive President Steering Committee GF TADs Minister Agriculture
09:15	Agenda Overview	President Steering Committee (SC)
09:20	<u>SESSION 1</u> – Chair Dr. Thwala <u>Objectives of GF-TADS and Implementation of the 1st SC Recommendations</u>	Rapporteur: W. Amanfu J. Domenech
09:30	<u>Horizontal activities, International level:</u> • Information, Warning, Response to crisis (GLEWS, CMC...)	J. Domenech, B. Vallat
09:40	<u>Horizontal activities, Africa:</u> • Regional Animal Health Centres • Networks (Laboratories, epidemiosurveillance teams, socio-economics) • Health – Food Safety/Trade • Post PACE Coffee Break	S. Sidibe J. Domenech, A. Diop Participants Dr. Nuru
10:20	Coffee break	
10:50	• Activities of OIE • Activities of IBAR • Activities of FAO	S. Sidibe/B. Vallat Dr. Nuru J. Domenech
11:20	<u>SESSION 2</u> – Chair: Dr. Nuru <u>Avian Influenza*</u> • Update on the situation, epidemiology, main trends • Strategies for prevention and control	Rapporteur: J-J. Delatte J. Domenech B. Vallat
11:50	Tse-tse and Trypanosomiasis/PAAT	Raffaele Mattioli
12:20	Rift Valley Fever	W. Amanfu
12:45	Lunch	
14:15	Rinderpest	Dr Nuru and Dr. Amanfu
14:30	FMD	Dr. Amanfu
14:45	Other diseases	Participants
15:00	<u>SESSION 3</u> – Chair: B. Vallat Open discussions	Rapporteur: R. Mattioli
15:45	Regional Organization interventions & donors	
16:45	Coffee break	
17:15	<u>SESSION 4</u> – Chair: J. Domenech Recommendations of the 2 nd GF-TADs SC Discussions – Adoption	Rapporteur: D. Sibartie
18:00	Closing Remarks	J. Domenech
18:10	End of the meeting	

*The financial and project implementation of HPAI activities will be addressed by the ALIVE Steering Committee, as well as the PVS/evaluation of Veterinary Services issue