

---

## **12th MEETING OF THE HEMISPHERIC COMMITTEE FOR THE ERADICATION OF FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE (COHEFA 12)**

*Santiago, Chile, 24 de julio de 2012*

---

COHEFA 12/INF1 (Eng.)

24 July 2012

ORIGINAL: ESPAÑOL

### **RESOLUTIONS OF THE COHEFA 12**

1. The 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Hemispheric Committee for the Eradication of Food and Mouth Disease was held in Santiago, Chile on 24th of July 2012, convened by the Director of the Pan American Health Organization, and hosted by the Government of Chile.
2. The COHEFA 12 was composed of senior officials of the Ministries of Agriculture and representatives of livestock producer associations of the 6 sub regions: Amazonia, Andean Region, Southern Cone, Caribbean, North America and Mesoamerica. The list of delegates can be found in the appendix.
3. The report of the COHEFA Ex officio Secretary about the compliance of the resolutions of the South American Commission for the Fight Against Foot-and-Mouth Disease (COSALFA 36, 37, 38, 39 and 4<sup>a</sup> Extraordinary) and the COHEFA (11 and 2<sup>a</sup> Extraordinary) was presented and discussed.
4. Two panels of experts made presentations on: Challenges for the compliance of the PHEFA in the Sub regions: North America, Mesoamerica and Caribbean” and Integration of the PHEFA in the Global Plan of the Food and Mouth disease control and the implications for Technical Cooperation.
5. Agreements and resolutions for the countries of the regions were formulated, which are indicated below.

**RESOLUTION No. 1**  
**PHEFA in the framework of the Global Initiative**

The Regular Meeting of the Hemispheric Committee for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease

**CONSIDERING:**

- The importance of the OIE/FAO global control of FMD initiative , contributing to the improvement of the disease situation and to reducing the risk of its introduction and spread;
- The need for the global initiative to be based on existing organizational and functional structures in different regions, taking advantage of their experiences;
- The need for the region to adhere to and actively participate in this initiative;
- The Hemispheric Program for the Eradication of FMD (PHEFA) provides the framework for political, strategic and operational actions to control the disease in the Americas and its goal is to include and integrate national and regional programs on the continent, with the participation of public and private sectors.

**RESOLVES:**

1. To support and congratulate the overall initiative of OIE/FAO;
2. To consider the PHEFA as representing the global initiative on the American continent. The experiences and tools developed as well as the lessons learned during its development are the region's contribution to this initiative;
3. That the governance of PHEFA: COHEFA; COSALFA and GIEFA are the mechanisms leading the implementation in the Americas;
4. To make the cumulative experiences of PHEFA and its governance mechanisms available to the global initiative.

**RESOLUTION No. 2**  
**PHEFA and financing mechanisms of technical cooperation**

The Regular Meeting of the Hemispheric Committee for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease

**CONSIDERING:**

- The need to reinforce the program in the final stage of eradication under the provisions of the PHEFA Action Plan 2011 - 2020, particularly in priority countries and areas;
- A plan has been developed for follow-up and evaluation of the PHEFA and a technical group has been formed for this purpose as mandated by the 38th COSALFA.

**RESOLVES:**

1. To urge countries, organizations and members of the livestock production chain to adhere to the funding mechanisms proposed by PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO, to subscribe to their respective agreements and to contribute as much as possible;
2. To recommend that government sectors consider including sufficient resources in their budgets to satisfy the different funding mechanisms proposed by PANAFTOSA-PAHO /WHO;
3. To activate the monitoring and evaluation group of PHEFA in order to ensure compliance with the targets in the Action Plan and prevent delays in implementation.

### **RESOLUTION No. 3**

#### **Strengthening the mechanisms for prevention in Free Zones without vaccination, in countries of Central America and the Caribbean**

The Regular Meeting of the Hemispheric Committee for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease

#### **CONSIDERING:**

- That countries in Central America and the Caribbean have not recorded the occurrence of FMD, but nevertheless are vulnerable to disease introduction, due to limitations of their veterinary services;
- That there are groups and cooperation organizations in this subregion that are capable of mobilizing resources within and outside the region to strengthen prevention and emergency response plans.

#### **RESOLVES:**

1. To urge countries under the PHEFA framework to review and strengthen surveillance systems for the prevention of foot-and-mouth disease, to prepare contingency plans to minimize and prevent the spread of the disease, by developing training programs in epidemiological surveillance and emergency response, by strengthening risk analysis mechanisms, and by training human resources, as well as through communication and dissemination of information.

**RESOLUTION No. 4**  
**Antigen banks / Regional vaccines**

The Regular Meeting of the Hemispheric Committee for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease

**CONSIDERING:**

- The economic impact that would be caused by the introduction of FMD in countries and regions that are free of FMD;
- The globalization of trade, travel, emergency food supplies, as well as international recreational events all increase the risk of entry of strains of FMD virus into the region;
- The decision of the 28th COSALFA to limit the handling of FMD virus in regional laboratories to endogenous strains, as a measure to reduce the risk to the continent of outbreaks by exotic strains;
- The achievements of the countries in the control and eradication of FMD from the continent;
- That FMD vaccination could become a fundamental tool for control and eradication actions in case of re-introduction of the disease.

**RESOLVES:**

1. To request that COSALFA studies the biosecurity requirements and conditions needed to review the restrictions on handling of FMD virus strains that are exotic to the region;
2. That PANAFTOSA proposes to COSALFA and COHEFA the formation of a working group to prepare a proposal to create a regional antigen and vaccine bank to meet the strategic needs of the countries of the region.