



Gideon Brückner

President: OIE Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases



The view of the OIE on establishing and maintaining FMD free zones with vaccination

Cosalfa meeting: Asunción: 10 May 2012

Key considerations related to the establishment and maintenance of FMD free zones with vaccination

- What is described and required within the OIE *Code* in Chapter 8.5 (FMD chapter) and the *Manual*
- What is described and required in other horizontal chapters of the Code (*Delivery of Veterinary Services, ethics, etc.*)
- What is mandated within national legislation
- What is agreed upon within Regional Organisations (CVP, COSALFA, CAN, etc.)
- What is expected/required by international trade partners
- What is expected by the public/consumers/taxpayers

FMD free zone where vaccination is practised

An FMD free zone where vaccination is practised can be established in either an FMD free country where vaccination is not practised or in a country of which parts are infected. In defining such zones the principles of Chapter 4.3. should be followed. Susceptible animals in the FMD free zone where vaccination is practised should be protected from neighbouring countries or zones if they are of a lesser animal health status by the application of animal health measures that effectively prevent the entry of the virus, taking into consideration physical or geographical barriers. These measures may include a protection zone.

To qualify for inclusion in the list of FMD free zones where vaccination is practised, a Member should:

1. have a record of regular and prompt animal disease reporting;
2. send a declaration to the OIE that within the proposed FMD free zone;
 - a. there has been no outbreak of FMD for the past two years;
 - b. no evidence of FMDV circulation has been found during the past 12 months;
3. supply documented evidence that:
 - a. surveillance for FMD and FMDV infection/circulation in accordance with Articles 8.5.42. to 8.5.47. and Article 8.5.49. is in operation;
 - b. regulatory measures for the early detection, prevention and control of FMD have been implemented;
 - c. routine vaccination is carried out for the purpose of the prevention of FMD;
 - d. the vaccine used complies with the standards described in the Terrestrial Manual;
4. describe in detail and supply documented evidence that these are properly implemented and supervised:
 - a. the boundaries of the proposed FMD free zone;
 - b. the boundaries and measures of a protection zone, if applicable;
 - c. the system for preventing the entry of the virus (including the control of the movement of susceptible animals) into the proposed FMD free zone (in particular if the procedure described in Article 8.5.10. is implemented).

Article 8.5.46.

Members applying for recognition of freedom from FMD for the whole country or a zone where vaccination is practised: additional surveillance procedures

In addition to the general conditions described in the above-mentioned articles, a Member applying for recognition of country or zone freedom from FMD with vaccination should show evidence of an effective surveillance programme planned and implemented according to general conditions and methods in this chapter. Absence of clinical disease in the country or zone for the past two years should be demonstrated. Furthermore, surveillance should demonstrate that FMDV has not been circulating in any susceptible population during the past 12 months. This will require serological surveillance incorporating tests able to detect antibodies to NSPs as described in the Terrestrial Manual. Vaccination to prevent the transmission of FMDV may be part of a disease control programme. The level of herd immunity required to prevent transmission will depend on the size, composition (e.g. species) and density of the susceptible population. It is therefore impossible to be prescriptive. However, the aim should be for at least 80 percent of the animals in each vaccinated population to have protective immunity. The vaccine must comply with the Terrestrial Manual. Based on the epidemiology of FMD in the country or zone, it may be that a decision is reached to vaccinate only certain species or other subsets of the total susceptible population. In that case, the rationale should be contained within the dossier accompanying the application to the OIE for recognition of status.

Evidence to show the effectiveness of the vaccination programme should ~~be~~ provided.

Summary of OIE Chapter 8.5 requirements – FMD zone free with vaccination

- Protect susceptible animals
- Immediate disease reporting of outbreak/suspicion
- No outbreak in 2 years
- No circulating FMDV in 12 months
- Surveillance strategy must aim to detect circulating virus AND vaccine efficiency
- Regulatory measures must be in place
- Vaccine and vaccination – OIE standards - monitoring
- Systems for preventing introduction of FMDV **MUST** be in place = movement control – inspection prior to movement

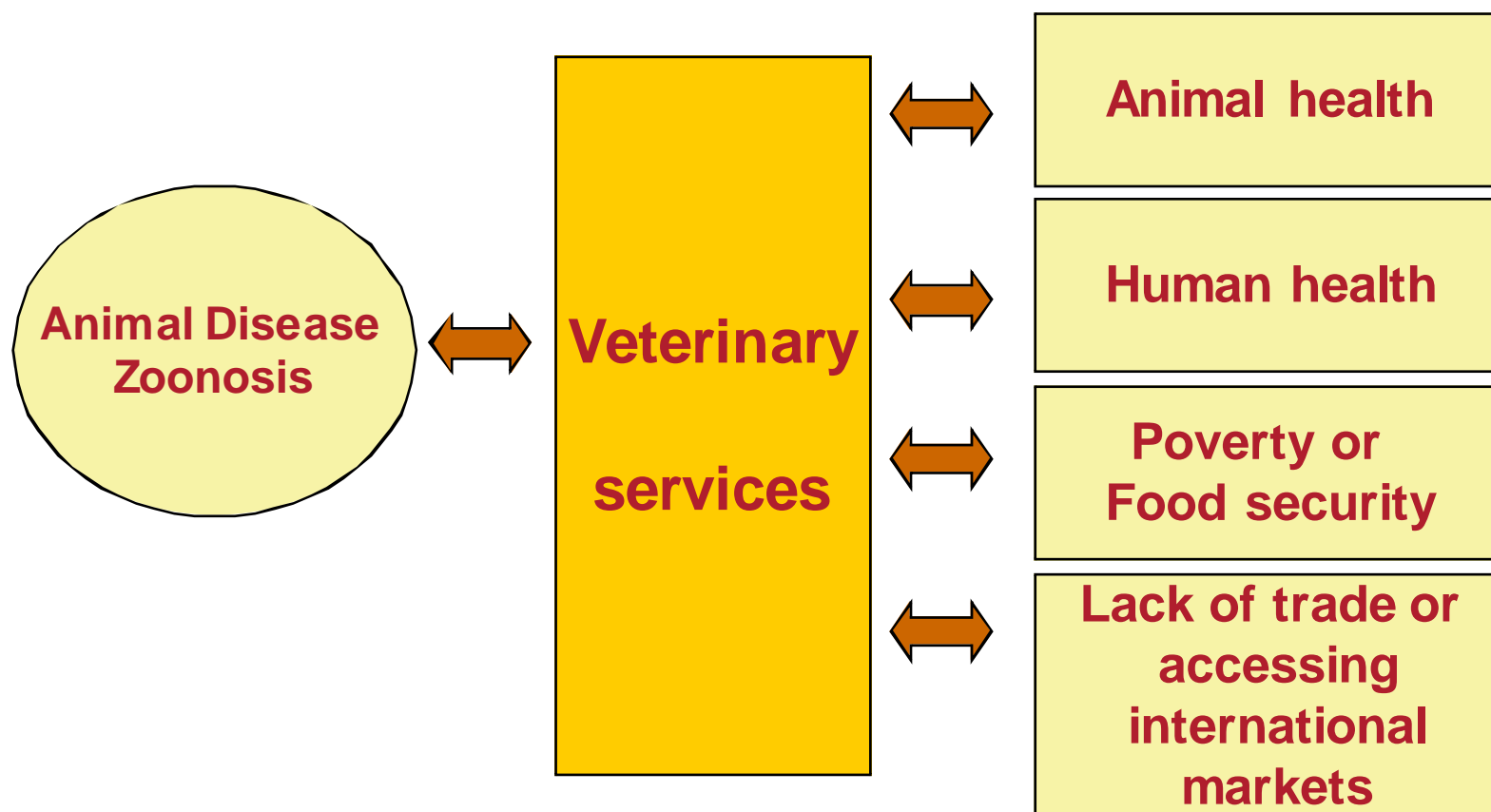


Trade facilitating issues in the OIE Code

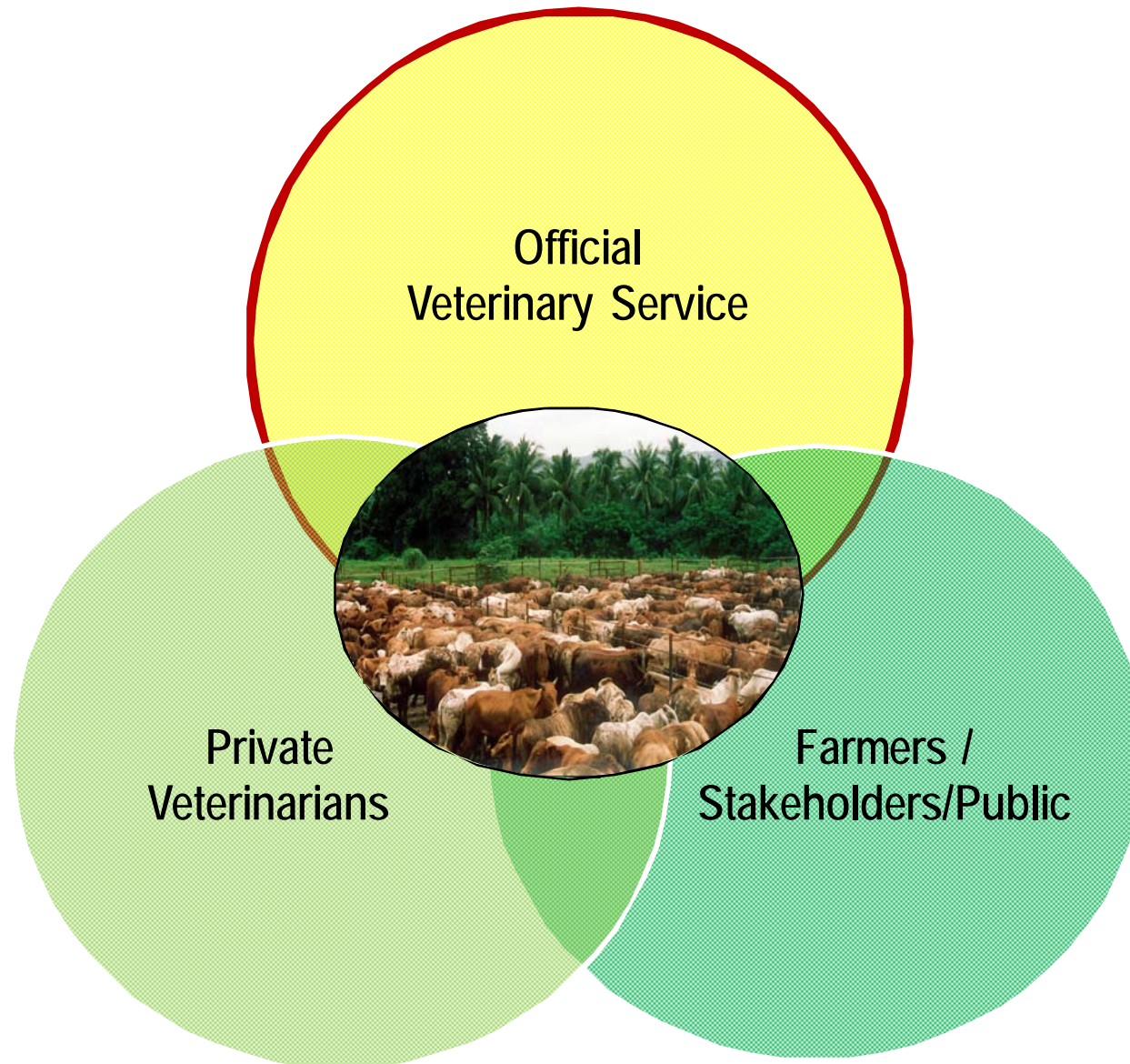
- Country freedom from FMD (con/sin vaccination)
- Zonal freedom from FMD (con/sin vaccination)
- Compartmentalisation
- Establishment of a containment zone in the event of outbreak in free zone – must be done quickly (Colombia)
- Safe commodity trade



Veterinary services – the essential buffer mechanism and guarantee



Key role players in maintenance of FMD free status in zone free with vaccination



Priority concepts for OIE approach to global animal health and disease control



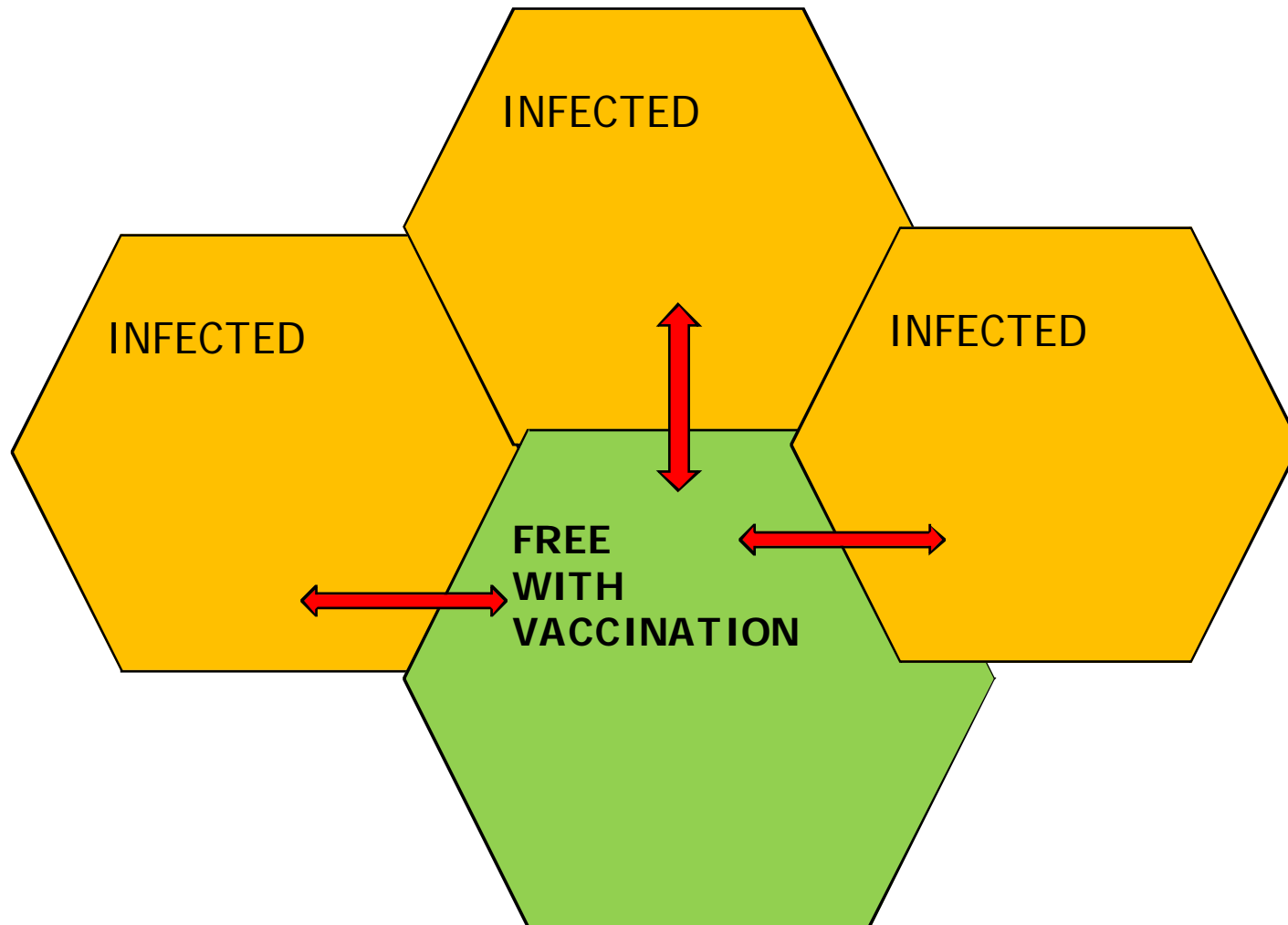
- International Public Good
- Good governance and veterinary legislation
- Well functioning infrastructure and resources of Veterinary Services
- Public/Private partnerships
- Early detection and rapid response
- Surveillance, transparency, pathogen confinement



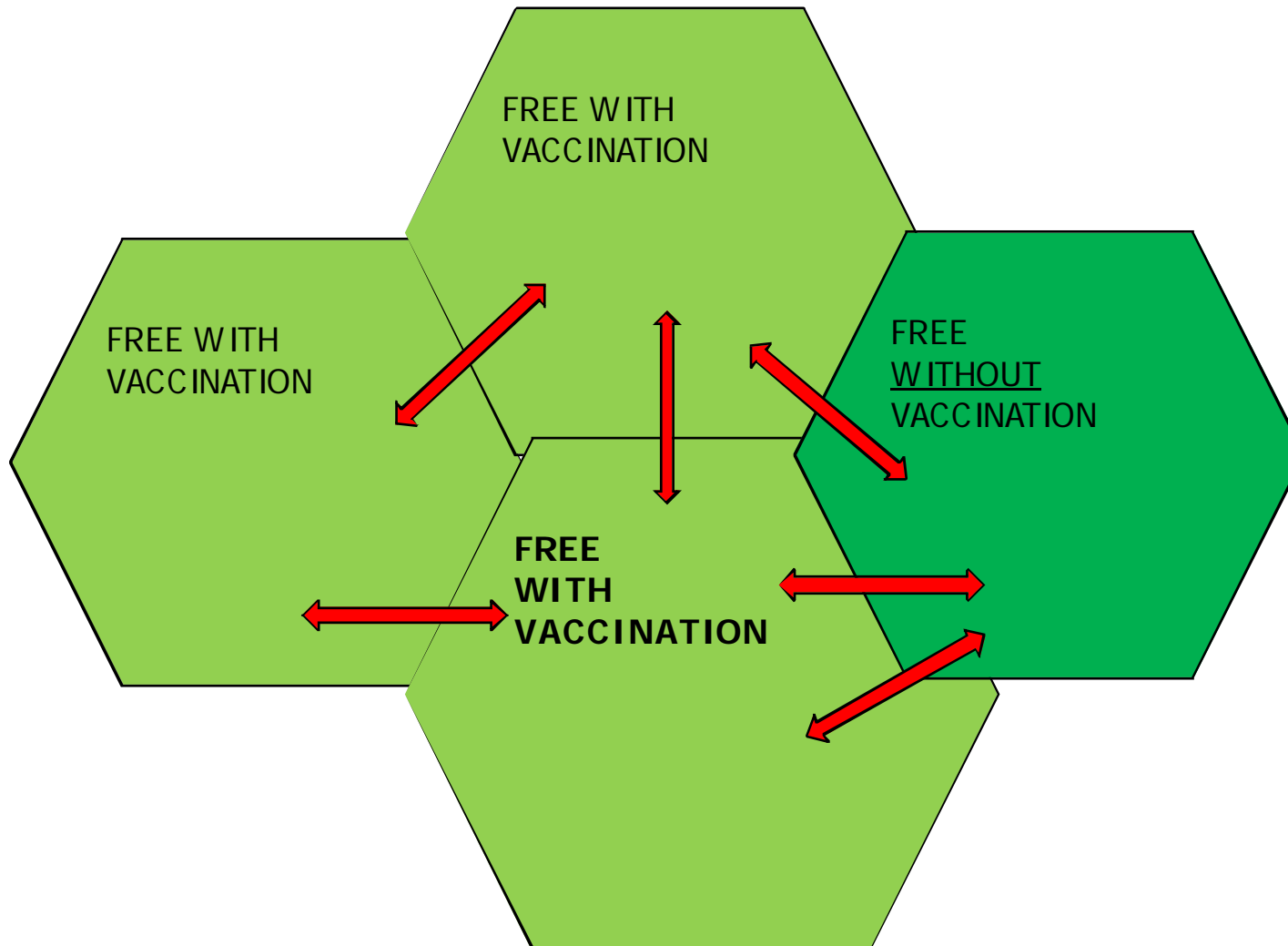
**Key principle for disease control
aimed at the international trade in
animals and animal products**

***The acceptance of the sanitary
guarantees of the **exporting country**
and how closely it satisfies the
desired level of protection for human
and animal health and zoonosis of the
importing country***

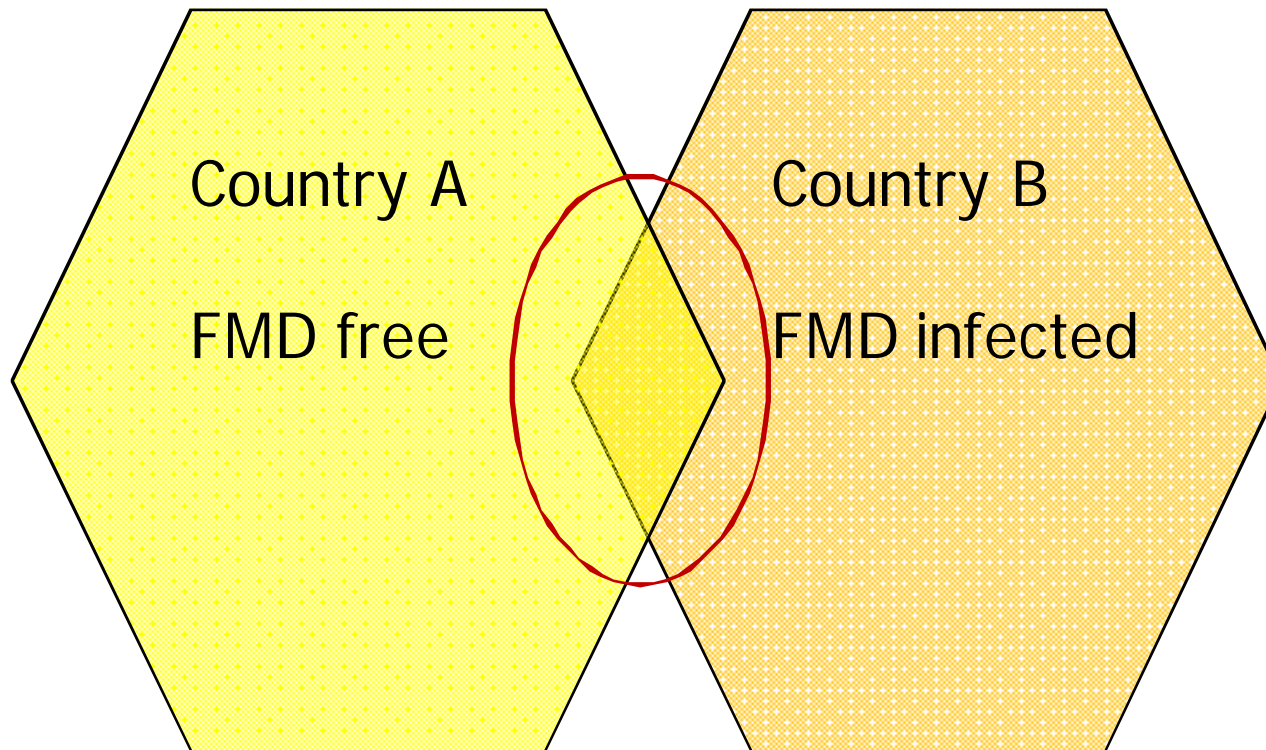
Zoning – schematic representation of essential elements



Zoning – schematic representation of essential elements



ADJOINING COUNTRY REALITIES – CROSS-BORDER RELATIONS



OIE/CVP Agreement - 2007



Other potential/supportive strategies for regional cooperation in South America

- OIE/CVP Agreement (2007) did result in a positive attitude to regional FMD control in MERCOSUR
- Recent OIE/FAO/PANAFTOSA/CAN visits to Andean region also offer high potential for regional approach
- Encouraging cross-country support already in place
- Accept differences between participating organisations/countries – good for science as it stimulates debate and reaching the best decision – for South America
- South America success quoted on many conferences/seminars across the Globe
- Differences must result in complimenting and not dividing – endpoint is in sight! – 2017??

Main purpose of the missions: January and May 2012

- To assess the methods of disease control in Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela to:
 - *Move towards and /or maintain a free status for FMD*
 - *Prevent the introduction of FMDV*
 - *Harmonise cross-border control*
 - *Assess possible sources/maintenance of FMDV circulation in the region*
 - *To identify critical areas/countries for more specific help to move towards regional freedom*
- To assess the need and potential for a regional approach and agreement on the control of FMD
- To assess the potential for eradicating the disease in the countries still experiencing outbreaks
- The purpose of the visits was not to duplicate or apply the actions taken in the MERCOSUR but to further develop the regional strategy in accordance with the needs and FMD situation in ANDEAN region



Main criteria for assessment

- Surveillance – clinical and serological
- Diagnostics
- Vaccination: status, strategies, programs, species vaccinated, application and monitoring
- Vaccine production: potency, purity, etc.
- Movement control – on borders and within and between countries
- Administration and enforcement of movement control
- Farm/establishment identification /geo-referencing and animal identification systems
- Current cooperation activities/agreements with neighbouring countries
- Involvement of private sector/farmer associations
- Farmer/political perception and support

General observations

- Encouraging political commitment and government support
- Marked decline in FMD cases with strong emphasis on achieving high percentage of vaccinated bovine population
- Momentum has been achieved – must be sustained – and expedited if target date (2017) for country freedom with vaccination is to be reached
- Support of small farmers to enhance FMD control is excellent and an example for not only Americas region but also globally
- Financial support very good compared with most other countries
- High visibility of veterinary services
- Professional conduct of officials
- Openness in sharing information

Wish/vision of the OIE for FMD freedom for entire South America

- Acknowledge that already well-advanced above rest of world in global strategy – regional initiatives already in place
- Key factor is the quality of the Veterinary Services
- Veterinary Services must function with independent authority – not be solely dependent on private sector
- Must respect OIE Resolution XXII of 76th General Session – maintain integrity of adjoining zones – even if of same status
- Apply concept of *containment zone* with limited outbreaks of FMD to ensure continuous trade in rest of free zone – must react quickly!
- Good to focus on international trade but primary responsibility is to protect and maintain good animal health status in own country
- Regional cooperation is essential but in the end – the national veterinary services are the key principals to move towards national and eventual regional and global disease freedom.





Muchas Gracias!