



**Pan American
Health
Organization**



**World
Health Organization**
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE
Americas

**13th MEETING OF THE HEMISPHERIC COMMITTEE FOR THE ERADICATION
OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE (COHEFA 13)**

COHEFA 13 (Eng)
July 19 2016
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

COHEFA 13 RECOMMENDATIONS

Asunción, Paraguay

July 19, 2016

RECOMMENDATION I

Antigen/Vaccine Bank and Management of Exogenous Viral Strains

The 13th Ordinary Meeting of COHEFA,

CONSIDERING:

- The accomplishments achieved by South American countries in controlling and eradicating foot-and-mouth disease from the continent;
- That following Resolution 4 of COHEFA 12 and Resolution I of the 41st COSALFA, PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO elaborated documents with the Minimum requirements for biosafety and biological risk management for foot-and-mouth laboratories and the Evaluation mechanism; and that a group of specialists from the countries' public and private sectors defined the regulatory and operational aspects to apply the aforementioned, which gives way to propose COSALFA to review the restrictions that were imposed for the management of foot-and-mouth disease viral strains exogenous to the region;
- That in following Resolution 4 of COHEFA 12 and Resolution I of the 40th COSALFA, PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO and a technical group prepared a Project for the creation of the Regional Antigen and Vaccine Bank for COSALFA (from here on called BANVACO) and that the 42nd COSAFA saw it necessary to have and supranational authority to administrate BANVACO and decided to grant PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO the responsibility of managing and administrating BANVACO;
- That PANAFTOSA informed that the BANVACO Project and the Constituent Agreement were under an internal review process for approval by the PAHO Director;
- That it is critical, during the final phase of the PHEFA, to have strategic reserves of antigens/vaccines to quickly address eventual emergency situations in countries.

RECOMMENDS:

1. To thank PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO and the group of experts for the work done in reviewing the restrictions for the management of exogenous viral strains of foot-and-mouth disease and request PANAFTOSA that the conclusions and recommendations be sent to the COSALFA member countries as soon as possible, for their consideration and resolution.
2. To thank PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO and the group of experts for the elaboration of a Project to create BANVACO and to back up the COSALFA 42 decision, of granting PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO the management and administration of BANVACO.
3. To Request the Director of the PAHO/WHO approve the project's constituent agreement for the management and administration of BANVACO, within the framework of its rules and procedures, due to it being of high regional interest in the final preparations of the PHEFA.

(Approved in plenary session
on Jul 19, 2016)

RECOMMENDATION II

Strengthening surveillance and preparation for emergencies in disease-free countries without vaccination in the Central American and Caribbean Sub Regions

The 13th Ordinary Meeting of COHEFA,

CONSIDERING:

- That the sub regions of Central America and the Caribbean are free of foot-and-mouth disease and require a strengthening of their veterinary assistance systems to support continuous surveillance;
- That to maintain response capabilities to confront emergencies, veterinary services must update their contingency plans and prepare professional teams to respond to sanitary emergencies;
- That countries in Central America with OIRSA collaboration, are conducting studies of risk evaluation on the introduction of the foot-and-mouth disease virus;
- That the technical cooperation may move resources to strengthen the diagnostic capabilities to support surveillance.

RECOMMENDS:

1. Urge Central American and Caribbean countries to strengthen, within the PHEFA framework, surveillance systems for a timely detection of foot-and-mouth disease, through surveillance training and the establishment of agreements with reference laboratories to insure quick access to vesicular disease diagnostic services, and to update contingency plans and preparations for sanitary emergencies.
2. That PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO and OIRSA, in coordination with intra and extra regional agencies of technical cooperation, move resources to strengthen preventative actions, surveillance and emergency preparedness.

(Approved in plenary session
on Jul 19, 2016)

RECOMMENDATION III

Final Stage of the Hemispheric Foot-and-mouth Disease Eradication Program (PHEFA)

The 13th Ordinary Meeting of COHEFA,

CONSIDERING:

- The significant advances in eradicating foot-and-mouth disease found in the sub regions of South America in the past four years, where 85% of the territory has obtained a “free of foot-and-mouth disease” status from the OIE, with and without vaccination;
- The elaboration, within the framework of COSALFA, of a Technical Work Guide with technical-epidemiological and methodology guidelines to confront the main challenges, at national and sub-regional levels, in the final stage of PHEFA;
- The presentation of a proposal with strategies for the final stage of the PHEFA, based on the Technical Work Guide taking into account the epidemiologic situation of each sub region of South America.

RECOMMENDS:

1. Urge COSALFA countries with territories that do not have an OIE foot-and-mouth disease status recognition, to give priority to the necessary action to achieve a “free of foot-and-mouth disease” sanitary status recognition within the PHEFA timeframe.
2. Request PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO to continue technical cooperation with countries and areas without sanitary status recognition, with priority in Venezuela, as well as promote the mobilization of resources and the development of capabilities that lead towards eradication and that will mitigate the risks that these countries present to the sub region.
3. That countries, with the technical cooperation of PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO, implement in each sub region of South America the proposed strategies to confront the final PHEFA stage, so as to evaluate the conditions that allow the beginning of a transition to a free of disease without vaccination sanitary status.

(Approved in plenary session
on Jul 19, 2016)

RECOMMENDATION IV

PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO Technical Cooperation

The 13th Ordinary Meeting of COHEFA,

CONSIDERING:

- The significant advances in the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease in the South American countries and in the prevention in Central American, North American and Caribbean, as a result of the application of the Hemispheric Foot-and-mouth Disease Eradication Program– PHEFA;
- The crucial role that technical cooperation led by PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO has played with the contribution of other international organizations, in supporting the control and eradication of foot-and-mouth disease in countries, as well as in the following of PHEFA action plans;
- The importance of the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease in the American continent, with represents benefits for the economy and social development of countries, with a positive impact for producer, industries and people of the region;
- That approaching the final stage of PHEFA represents a significant change in sanitary management of veterinary services and it requires appropriate strategies and decisions based on risk evaluation, supported by prevention, surveillance and response systems, that will guarantee countries that the process of sanitary status transition do not become a setback to progress made.

RECOMMENDS:

1. That PAHO/WHO, through PANAFTOSA, continues with Technical Cooperation for foot-ad-mouth disease programs in countries of the region, promoting the mobilization of resources to strengthen sanitary management, as well as incorporating and developing capabilities in new approaches, tools and methods for the consolidation and projection of the advances achieved by the PHEFA.

(Approved in plenary session
on Jul 19, 2016)

RECOMMENDATION V

The Program for the Eradication of Foot-and-mouth Disease in Colombia

The 13th Ordinary Meeting of COHEFA,

CONSIDERING:

- The statement submitted by the COHEFA Delegate of the Andes Sub Region Private Sector and the Colombian Cattle Rancher Federation's President –FEDEGAN, which informs about the changes introduced by the Colombian Government in the management of the foot-and-mouth disease vaccination campaign;
- The concerns expressed by the delegates of the region's ranching private sector, based on the described situation, regarding the public-private relationship of Colombia in its Foot-and-mouth eradication program, considering the sub regional risks;
- The information provided by Colombia's official sector, which emphasized that all foot-and-mouth disease program actions guarantee that the disease free status in Colombia will be maintained and points out the predisposition to provide COHEFA all required information.

RECOMMENDS:

1. Respectfully request the authorities of the Colombian Ministry of Agriculture to authorize a technical mission composed by representatives from COHEFA, GIEFA and PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO as soon as possible, to receive information about the current management of the different tasks of the Foot-and-mouth disease Program and of the private-public inter-sector actions.
2. The technical mission will elaborate a report for COSALFA's consideration.

(Approved in plenary session
on Jul 19, 2016)

RECOMMENDATION VI

Acknowledgements

The 13th Ordinary Meeting of COHEFA,

CONSIDERING:

- The support of the Government of the Republic of Paraguay in hosting COHEFA 13, as well as the cordiality, hospitality and attention provided to all delegates and participants of this meeting.

RECOMMENDS:

1. Expressing its most sincere gratitude to the authorities of the Government of the Republic of Paraguay for the organization and the attention received by the delegates and participants of this meeting.
2. Extend its appreciation to all private and public institutions, as well as their staff, for their great performance, human qualities and support given during this meeting.

(Approved in plenary session
on Jul 19, 2016)

Español:

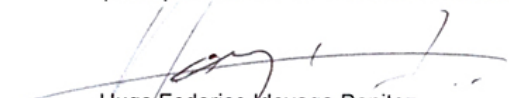
EN FE DE LO CUAL, el Presidente de la Reunión, Dr. Hugo Federico Idoyaga Benitez, Presidente del Servicio Nacional de Calidad y Salud Animal de Paraguay (SENACSA); el Director del Centro Panamericano de Fiebre Aftosa – PANAFTOSA-OPS/OMS, Dr. Ottorino Cosivi y los representantes del más alto nivel del sector público y privado de las seis subregiones que integran el Comité: Amazónica, Andina, Caribe, Cono Sur, Mesoamérica y Norteamérica, firman la lista de presencia en la 13ª Reunión Ordinaria del COHEFA, realizada en la ciudad de Asunción, Paraguay, el día 19 de julio del 2016.

Português:

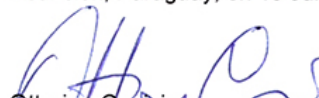
EM FE DO QUAL, o Presidente da Reunião, Dr. Hugo Federico Idoyaga Benitez, Presidente do Serviço Nacional de Qualidade e Saúde Animal do Paraguai; o Diretor do Centro Pan-Americano de Febre Aftosa – PANAFTOSA-OPAS/OMS, Dr. Ottorino Cosivi e os representantes do mais alto nível do setor público e privado das seis sub-regiões que integram o Comitê: Amazônica, Andina, Caribe, Cone Sul, Centro América e Norte América, assinam a lista de presença na 13ª. Reunião Ordinária do COHEFA, realizada na cidade de Assunção, Paraguai, no dia 19 de julho de 2016.

English:

IN WITNESS WHERE OF, the Chairman of the Meeting, Dr. Hugo Federico Idoyaga Benitez, President of Paraguay's National Animal Quality and Health Service (SENACSA); and the Director of the Pan-American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center - PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO, Dr. Ottorino Cosivi and the public and the private sector high-level representatives, from the six sub regions that compose the Committee: Amazon, Andean, Caribbean, Southern Cone, Central American, and North American, have signed the present list of participants at the 13th COHEFA Ordinary Meeting, held in Asuncion, Paraguay, on 19 July 2016.




Hugo Federico Idoyaga Benitez
Presidente del COHEFA 13
Presidente del Servicio Nacional de Calidad y Salud
Animal de Paraguay



Ottorino Cosivi
Secretario Ex Officio
Director del Centro Panamericano de
Fiebre Aftosa – PANAFTOSA-OPS/OMS



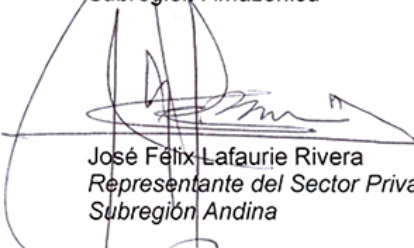
Guilherme Henrique Figueiredo Marques
Representante del Sector Publico de la
Subregión Amazónica




Décio Coutinho
Representante del Sector Privado de la
Subregión Amazónica




Javier Vicente Vargas Estrella
Representante del Sector Publico de la
Subregión Andina



José Félix Lafaurie Rivera
Representante del Sector Privado de la
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Nimia Lissette Gómez Rodríguez
Representante del Sector Publico de la
Subregión del Caribe



Harripersaud Ramsewack
Representante del Sector Privado de la
Subregión del Caribe



Primo Ricardo Feltes
*Representante del Sector Publico de la
Subregión del Cono Sur*



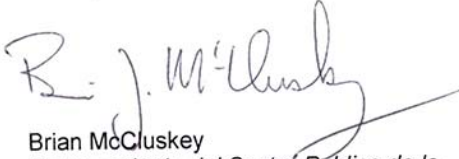
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