



## **SADC LIVESTOCK TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING (LTCM)**

**Gaborone, Botswana**

**22 - 24 APRIL, 2008**

### Draft resolutions

#### **1. LTC Meetings**

It was resolved that LTC should hold meetings to follow progress of activities. Follow up meetings on topical issues can be sponsored and consideration can be given for them to be held in any MS.

*LTC Sub-Committees* : Animal Production, Veld and Marketing Sub-committee

The LTC resolved that South Africa continues to chair the sub-committee on APVM subcommittee with Zambia as the vice Chair. However, the LTC strongly emphasises the need for continuity with regard to the leadership of the sub-committee.

Similarly, the LTC resolved that the other sub-committees and workgroups operate on the same principle.

#### **2 Avian Influenza (for noting)**

The Secretariat, in collaboration with the Regional Animal Health Centre, has secured funds to undertake the activities. USAID, Centre for Disease Control, GTZ, WHO and AU-IBAR have been approached to provide technical and financial assistance for the above activities.

The sub-regional office of the OIE in Gaborone has agreed to fund the next meeting of the JTC, while WHO has agreed to assist in the organisation of another meeting. USAID and GTZ are likely to sponsor some of the above activities.

#### **3 Private Sector Participation at the LTC**

Stakeholder participation in LTC meetings to be encouraged where appropriate (details to be worked out)

#### **4 Aquatic Animal Diseases**

LTC noted that the OIE has scheduled a workshop on aquatic diseases to be held in Mozambique. There is need to build professional capacity in recognition of aquatic animal diseases and diagnostics.

South Africa is already developing veterinary capacity in handling aquatic diseases which could be extended to other member countries

#### **5 Digital Pen Technology of Data Capture**

LTC recommends the adoption of DPT provided there is interoperability with LIMS and/or other local information systems

#### **6 SADC Farm Animal Genetic Resources Project**

RSA will prepare the final regional report by end of July 2008. A meeting of the national coordinators will take place in Pretoria to finalise the regional report and to comment on the FAO terminal report. At the same meeting the second phase of the project will be updated for eventual submission to donors. RSA will also make available the database and reports of breed surveys and breed performances.

#### **7. Trans-frontier conservation areas (TFCAs)**

The threat to transboundary animal disease (TAD) control posed by the creation of TFCAs is recognized by the LTC. However, the TFCA movement is a reality and ways need to be found to accommodate the conflicting objectives of more effective TAD control on the one hand and the TFCA movement on the other.

To assist in this process the SADC FMD Project will organize a workshop in October 2008 aimed at finding ways to address this conundrum. The workshop will include both public and private sectors of animal health and conservation/bio-diversity interest groups in the SADC Region.

#### **8 Regional and International Trade in Livestock and Livestock Products**

The commodity and value chain focus to regional and international trade in livestock and livestock products is recognised as an option for livestock development. The LTC recommends that MS promote debate on this approach to foster its adoption by relevant international standard setting bodies eg OIE.

#### **9. Foot and mouth disease situation in the SADC Region**

The LTC noted with concern that the SAT2 component of the FMD vaccine currently in use in the SADC Region appears to be insufficiently protective. An immediate solution to this problem is therefore imperative. The LTC, therefore, requests the SADC Secretariat, BVI and the FMD Project to undertake a scientific investigation of the problem and to assist in arriving at a solution as expeditiously as possible. To this end MS are requested to supply BVI and the SADC FMD Project with all relevant information at their disposal with immediate effect.

LTC resolves that all MS undertake continuous sero-monitoring to pre-empt problems.

## **10 Coordination with ILRI**

The LTC resolves that all sub-committees and their working groups should incorporate livestock research items (animal production and health) in order to advise on regional livestock research agendas. ILRI together with SADC to continue the process of developing the livestock research agenda for the region

## **11. PATTEC**

The LTC recommends the adoption of a common policy aimed at making the SADC region a tsetse and trypanosomiasis-free zone in the shortest time possible

The LTC noted the presentation by PATTEC suggesting the need to establish a PATTEC Coordination Office at the SADC Secretariat for the coordination of the tsetse and trypanosomiasis eradication campaign in the region and the establishment of a regional PATTEC Fund, based at the SADC Secretariat to finance tsetse and trypanosomiasis activities.

## **12 PRINT Livestock Project and SADC FMD Project**

The LTC noted the satisfactory progress achieved by the PRINT and SADC FMD projects. The LTC endorses the recommendation of the subcommittees regarding the adoption of LIMS reporting templates and resolves that LIMS application be installed in MS in order to operationalise the SADC regional information system on livestock

In order to ensure continuity and sustainability of the newly established LIMS, as part of AIMS, the LTC appeals to the Secretariat through the Director FANR to strengthen personnel capacity of the livestock unit.

**13. The LTC acknowledges the support of the RAHC (OIE, FAO AU-IBAR) to the SADC livestock unit for its animal health programme.**

## **14 Food Safety and Residue Control in the SADC Region**

The LTC noted and fully endorses the recommendations of the OIE Conference on Veterinary Medicinal Products in Africa held in Dakar and recommends that the '*Food safety capacity building on residue control*' project implements the activities as per its workplan

The LTC therefore resolved the commissioning of a consultancy towards the establishment or identification of a SADC centre(s) of excellence for registration, quality control and safe disposal of veterinary drugs, biologicals and chemicals, with a view to harmonisation and regional recognition, and that SADC should look for funding.

## **15 Changes to the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code**

The LTC recommends that Dr Hargreaves presents to the Regional Commission for Africa meeting during the 76<sup>th</sup> General Session of the OIE in Paris, issues that are occurring in TAH Code that may influence trade in animal and animal products from Africa

The LTC recommends that the 30 month age limit of bovines specified for the safety of deboned muscle meat for freedom from the BSE agent be reconsidered by the OIE Scientific Commission and be removed as this age limit is not based on science.

The LTC recommends that the OIE Scientific Commission reconsiders the freedom from FMD of deboned beef derived from animals that have undergone ante and post mortem inspection, the carcasses matured at +2 to 4 degrees C for a minimum of 24 hours to insure that the pH of the meat is 6 and below, and the removal of the major lymph nodes

**16 The LTC noted the resolutions and adopted the recommendations of the sub-committees as presented by the Chair of each sub-committee** (documents attached)

### **17. Vaccine bank**

The LTC resolves that there is a need for SADC to develop a vaccine bank for strategic diseases

### **18. RVF.**

The LTC notes with concern the introduction of RVF in some MS and recommends that:

1. Scientific enquiry by RSA on different aspects of the epidemiology and control of the disease in the region. The outcome should be circulated to the MS.
2. Establish a vaccine bank in the region for strategic diseases.