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IX INTER-AMERICAN MEETING, AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL,  
ON ANIMAL HEALTH

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

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**FINAL REPORTS OF THE XXI AND XXII REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE  
SOUTH AMERICAN COMMISSION FOR THE CONTROL OF  
FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE (COSALFA)**



COMISION SUDAMERICANA PARA LA LUCHA CONTRA LA FIEBRE AFTOSA

**SOUTH AMERICAN COMISSION FOR THE CONTROL  
OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE**

**XXII Regular Meeting**

**Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, March 9-10, 1995**

**Final Report**

**SECRETARIAT: CENTRO PANAMERICANO DE FIEBRE AFTOSA  
CAIXA POSTAL 589, 20001-970 RIO DE JANEIRO, RJ, BRASIL**

**SOUTH AMERICAN COMISSION FOR THE CONTROL  
OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE**

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**Final Report**

SOUTH AMERICAN COMMISSION FOR THE CONTROL  
OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

XXII REGULAR MEETING

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FINAL REPORT

The XXII Regular Meeting of the South American Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (COSALFA) held in the City of Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, at the headquarters of the International Center for Training for Development of the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation (CIFD/AECI) on March 9-10, 1995, at the invitation of the Secretariat.

The chairmanship, due to be exercised by Ecuador, was graciously transferred to the host nation, Bolivia, in the person of the Subsecretary for Livestock Production, Dr. Carlos Bruckner B.

Dr. Vicente Astudillo, Director of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center (PANAFTOSA), acted as Secretary ex officio.

Official delegates to the Meeting came from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela, while observers were representatives of international agencies for technical and economic cooperation, such as Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Office of Epizootics (OIE), the Inter-American Institute of Cooperation for Agriculture (IICA), the European Union (EU), the Financial Fund for the Development of the Plata River Basin (FONPLATA), the Cartagena Agreement Board (JUNAC), as well as bilateral cooperation agencies such as the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the British Mission in Bolivia and the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation. Other representatives came from the Spanish Ministry of Agriculture, livestock producers from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay and Venezuela, as well as members of the legislative and executive powers of the host nation, professional associations, producers from the pharmaceutical, biological and industrial sectors related to livestock production, and universities and research institutions from the countries in the region (APPENDIX I).

The Regular Meeting included an opening session, four plenary sessions and a closing session (APPENDIX II).

The main officials at the Opening Session were: Mr. Edgardo Talavera Solís, National Secretary for Agriculture and Livestock; Mr. Oswaldo Monasterio, Senator of the Republic; Dr. Julio Leigue, Mayor of the Santa Cruz de la Sierra; Dr. Fernando Sartori, President of the Bolivian Confederation of Livestock Producers (CONGABOL); Mr. Eduardo Araújo, Director of the CIFD/AECI of Spain; Dr. Philippe Lamy, Representative a.i. of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) in Bolivia; Dr. Primo Arambulo III, Coordinator of the PAHO Veterinary Public Health Program; and Dr. Vicente Astudillo, Director of PANAFTOSA.

Dr. Philippe Lamy listed the reasons for the PAHO -an agency devoted to human health- to have a Center within its structure dedicated to foot-and-mouth disease. This is due to the importance that the Organization attaches to this disease because of the damage it causes to the production and productivity of livestock, and consequently to the availability of food. Human health is thus intrinsically connected to social development, which is in turn connected to animal health. Moreover, the important existing structural network of veterinary attention can be used to attend to human-health problems, like vaccination campaigns and distribution of medicine. He mentioned the importance of COSALFA in stimulating technological and methodological advances in national campaigns, like the growing participation of cattle-breeders on committees.

Dr. Fernando Sartori exalted the importance that the XXII COSALFA being held in Santa Cruz de la Sierra has meant for Bolivian livestock production and especially for the Eastern region of the country. He informed the audience that since the 70s several foot-and-mouth disease control programs had been implanted which for different reasons failed to advance significantly. Since 1992 a government decision installed a plan based on shared management of the administrative processes, with strong participation of the livestock-producing sector, thereby creating the CONEFA. He offered his thanks for the important support given by international agencies for technical cooperation and expressed his hopes that the COSALFA might serve as a forum for the evaluation, discussion and recommendation of actions to support implementation of economically and technically feasible plans that are acceptable to the country's livestock-producing sector.

Next, Dr. Vicente Astudillo referred to the growing importance of the COSALFA since its foundation as an eminently technical meeting to its developing into a forum for continental integration. The historic moment exemplified by the progress seen in the control of foot-and-mouth disease, especially in the Southern Cone, offers Bolivia -within the framework of its new institutional organization for the eradication of the disease- an opportunity to move ahead with its national program.

He mentioned that the process of structural modernization of the State has allowed for work to be shared between the public and the private sectors as a form of guaranteeing the program's workability and continuity, with the latter sector assuming the responsibility for conducting the actions. He pointed out that the difficulties faced by national programs are generally of a technical rather than an administrative nature.

He mentioned that the creation and execution of an eradication plan should be based on the technicians' knowledge of the epidemiological situation of the disease and its inter-relationship with the systems of livestock production, and should also enjoy the participation of the community.

The National Secretary for Agriculture and Livestock, Mr. Edgardo Talavera Solis, on behalf of the National Government, expressed his pleasure at the presence of the delegates of the member countries, national production entities, professional associations, and national and international observers at the XXII COSALFA. He stressed that until foot-and-mouth disease is controlled and finally eradicated all over the Continent, livestock producers will be ostracized from

full economic development. The President of the Republic of Bolivia, at the moment of the change of state administration, ordered reforms to lend more agility to the animal-health structure. He mentioned the importance of the support of the international agencies for cooperation to the development of the National Plan for Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease, and especially to the technical administration of PANAFTOSA, not to mention the vital participation of the private sector through the Federation of Livestock Producers. He ended by expressing his thanks that Bolivia should be honored as the venue for the Meeting.

The opening ceremony was closed with the words spoken by Mr. Eduardo Araújo of the CIFD; on behalf of the Spanish Government and as its Ambassador to Bolivia, he welcomed all the participants and underscored the work carried out by the Spanish International Cooperation in developing the region, the country and the Continent. He mentioned the presence of observers from international agencies such as the EU and Spain's Ministry of Agriculture, which aim to re-establish ties between Spain and the EU and the countries of Latin America. He went on to point out that the Casa de España welcomed all the participants of the COSALFA and expressed his hopes for success in the deliberations to be made.

After a short interval, Dr. Vicente Astudillo read the Secretariat's Report, which was approved with slight alterations. The Report follows.

## REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT

### 1. Background to the XXII Regular Meeting

COSALFA has reached its 22nd anniversary with its role strengthened as a forum for discussing questions related to the epidemiological situation of foot-and-mouth disease and the progress made by the control programs in the regions and subregions of the Continent, as well as the consequences on the commercial exchange of products of animal origin between countries. These advances have come about with the participation of both official sectors and representatives of the livestock-producing sector of each country, the reference point being the Hemispheric Program for Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease.

The most significant facts observed in the region during 1994 were as follows:

The Southern Cone - in the Plata River Basin Project, Uruguay completed almost two years as a country free of foot-and-mouth disease through vaccination and suspended it throughout the country as of the month of June, thus lending continuity to the process of control. In the Argentine Mesopotamia, two years were completed without any clinical presence of foot-and-mouth disease and the country registered a 92% decrease in the number of foci recorded. In Brazil, the states of Rio Grande do Sul and Santa Catarina commemorated one year without foci. Paraguay showed a drop of 50% in the disease against the year before.

The geographical coverage of the project grew with the inclusion of the Brazilian states of Paraná and Santa Catarina, the Argentine provinces of Chaco,

Formosa, Santa Fé and the northeastern "partidos" of the province of Buenos Aires, and the western region of Paraguay. To this end, the institutions for technical and financial cooperation are being sounded for resources to continue the second phase of the project.

The Andean Area - the situation was seen to deteriorate, with 1730 foci of vesicular diseases being registered, notably in Colombia (1452 cases). Foci occurred in areas of the northwestern region of the Atlantic Coast, which had recorded nothing for the last few years. No success was met in effectively implementing the regional subprojects to eradicate foot-and-mouth disease in the Andean area. The Urabá Antioqueño and Chocoano regions remained disease-free.

The Amazon Area/Brazil (except Southern Brazil) - a stationary situation persisted, with 2033 foci being registered and the occurrence of 3 in the state of Roraima. On the other hand, the Northeastern region with 1002 foci (48% of the total) and the Southeast with 514 (25%) were the worst affected. The Center-West region witnessed an increase of 10% in the number of foci as compared with the year before.

The areas remaining free from foot-and-mouth disease were Guyana, Suriname and French Guyana, as well as the countries of North America, Mesoamerica and the Caribbean.

In compliance with the regulations of the Commission, the Secretariat convoked the countries' delegates in the form of letters addressed to the Ministers of Agriculture and the respective Directors of Veterinary Services and/or Animal Health. Invitation letters were likewise sent to observers from countries in the Americas, Europe, Japan and the Netherlands, as well as international agencies for technical and financial cooperation such as the FAO, GATT, OIE, OIRSA, EEC, IDB, JUNAC, CAF, CEPAL, IAEA, World Bank and the USDA. Invitations were also sent out to livestock associations, members of the legislative and executive powers, professional groups, producers of pharmaceutical, biological and industrial products, and universities and research institutions in the countries in the region.

## 2. Compliance with the Resolutions of COSALFA XXI

The level of compliance with the Resolutions of COSALFA XXI, by the countries and/or the Secretariat, is discussed below:

### 2.1 Resolution I - Subregional Project for Foot-and-Mouth Disease Control and Eradication in the Plata Basin

With respect to point 2 of said Resolution,

"To urge member countries to proceed in their efforts to consolidate the goals of the Agreement through development of its second stage",

it is reported that:

The member countries of the Plata River Project, in light of the progress made in the epidemiological situation of foot-and-mouth disease, have demonstrated their interest in moving onwards to the second phase of the project. To this end a program was drawn up with the support of PANAFTOSA, approved by the Project's Technical Group at its 3rd Regular Meeting in December 1993, and then forwarded to the FONPLATA for their consideration.

Analysis of the activities undertaken in 1994 points to several important successes. Since only two disbursements of the total resources previously agreed upon between the countries were made during the year, it became necessary to trim the activities scheduled and cancel some of them.

In brief, the countries registered the following changes in the epidemiological situation of the disease: Uruguay, recognized as a country made free by means of vaccination, suspended this nationwide as of June 1994.

Throughout Argentina there was no record of the disease since April 1994, and at year's end the Argentine Mesopotamia completed 24 months without presenting the disease, just like the country's mountain region.

The Brazilian states of Rio Grande do Sul and Santa Catarina completed 12 months disease-free, while Paraguay registered a marked drop in the presence of foot-and-mouth disease.

In Argentina, the provinces of Santa Fé, Chaco and Formosa and "partidos" of the northeast section of the province of Buenos Aires have now been incorporated in the Agreement, just like the Brazilian states of Paraná and Santa Catarina and the western region of Paraguay.

With respect to point 3 of said Resolution,

"To request that PANAFTOSA, in conjunction with the countries, continue to solicit that FONPLATA provide the funding for the second stage of the Agreement",

it is reported that:

After meetings in Rio de Janeiro with the President of the Board, the Executive Secretary and technical staff of the FONPLATA, the first steps were taken towards substantiating the financing of technical cooperation for the second phase of the Plata River Basin Agreement.

It was agreed that the countries, through their representatives on the Executive Board of the FONPLATA, should make the appropriate official request. However, to date there has been no news of any significant progress having been made.

## 2.2 Resolution II - Regional programs in Bolivia and Brazil

With respect to point 1 of said Resolution,



"To support the regionalization efforts of the foot-and-mouth disease control and eradication program of the Federative Republic of Brazil",

it is reported that:

Brazil's Ministry of Agriculture, Supply and Agrarian Reform (MAARA) institutionalized the Regional Projects, with special emphasis on the Project referring to the Center-West circuit covering the states of Mato Grosso, Mato Grosso do Sul, Minas Gerais, São Paulo and Paraná, the latter being a region of high livestock productivity. Activities were developed aiming to bring down the incidence of foot-and-mouth disease, such as increasing vaccination, regulating the oil-adjuvanted vaccine as the official type, and training 149 professionals in field activities.

Three municipalities in the state of São Paulo are developing a computerized system of information and epidemiological surveillance emphasizing the use of information for decision-taking at the local and state levels with the technical support of PANAFTOSA.

With respect to point 2 of said Resolution,

"To support the Bolivian Government so that the integrated action with the livestock-producing community is able to establish the foot-and-mouth disease control and eradicating program in Bolivia",

it is reported that:

The Subsecretariat of Livestock, in coordination with the CONGABOL and the National Service for Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease, Rabies and Brucellosis (SENARB) prepared a project for eradication of foot-and-mouth disease in Bolivia to be presented for external financing, the special feature of which is the coordination between the official service and the livestock-production associations. The economic feasibility of the project was analysed by a PANAFTOSA consultant and the report forwarded to FONPLATA for their analysis. A copy was sent to the official FAO/World Bank mission to help in preparing the draft project to apply for financing.

In order to coordinate future work in organizing local systems of veterinary attention with the participation of livestock producers, PANAFTOSA sent a consultant to the Livestock Producers Associations in the provinces of Warnes and Obispo Santiesteban.

With respect to point 3 of said Resolution,

"To highlight the importance of the foot-and-mouth disease control and eradication program in eastern Bolivia, the departments of Beni and Santa Cruz, which, because of the epidemiological and commercial relations of the livestock-producing community with the Central-Western Region of Brazil, constitute interdependent ecosystems",

it is reported that:

On the initiative of the livestock-producing entities (FEGASACRUZ) and the Subsecretariat of Livestock, the first Provincial Committee for Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (COPEFA) was installed in the department of Santa Cruz in the western region of the country close to the border with the Brazilian states of Mato Grosso and Mato Grosso do Sul, for the purpose of encouraging common activities between the state animal-health entities and MAARA with regard to epidemiological surveillance and control of foot-and-mouth disease in the region.

With respect to point 4 of said Resolution,

"To encourage the PAHO/PANAFTOSA to cooperate in organizing and supporting the aforementioned programs",

it is reported that:

The Center, within the scope of an Agreement of Technical Cooperation signed with the Subsecretary of Livestock, supported the installation of the Provincial Committees and donated 20 thousand doses of vaccine to the Provincial Committee for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease in the province of Angel Sandoval, for vaccination in the areas bordering on Brazil. The Center, along with consultants from the Argentine Mesopotamia program, then lent support to structuring the administrative processes of the Committees.

In answer to the request from the National Committee for Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (CONEFA), a workshop was held in Santa Cruz de la Sierra to reformulate the System of Epidemiological Information and Surveillance of Vesicular Diseases coordinated by the SENARB, with the participation of nine functionaries from the central and provincial levels, in addition to two advisers from the British Mission in Santa Cruz. This workshop led to the regulation of the weekly and monthly flow of information in the country and to the Continental System of Information and Epidemiological Surveillance of Vesicular Diseases.

Three slaughterhouses in the region were visited to study the possibility of including the results of ante- and post-mortem inspection in the information mechanism for the surveillance of vesicular diseases.

### **2.3 Resolution III - Development of pilot areas of foot-and-mouth disease control in the Bolivia-Brazil border strip**

With respect to point 1 of said Resolution,

"To encourage both countries to increase bilateral coordination to define the pilot areas and emphasize joint action on the national, regional and local level, for the development of such action",

it is reported that:

Within the framework of the animal-health border agreement between Bolivia and Brazil, both countries set up local committees to coordinate activities to promote an increase in vaccination coverage and epidemiological surveillance actions.

With respect to point 2 of said Resolution,

"To solicit that the PAHO/WHO, through PANAFTOSA and the Representation in Bolivia, provide the technical cooperation and the coordination of action between both countries, for the development of foot-and-mouth disease control pilot areas as agreed between the two countries",

it is reported that:

The Representation of the PAHO in Bolivia and the PANAFTOSA helped to develop a joint project of the Subsecretariat of Livestock, CONGABOL and FEGASACRUZ on the Bolivian side, and the INDEA-MT and the IAGRO-MS on the Brazilian side, for implementation of common areas showing control activities.

#### 2.4 Resolution IV - Subregional Project of the Andean Area

With respect to point 1 of said Resolution,

"To make the National Sanitary Services responsible for immediately undertaking, in cooperation with PANAFTOSA, revision and updating of the different zonal components of the Andean Subregional Project for Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication",

it is reported that:

Subproject 3 - the Ecuadorian Coast and the Colombian and Peruvian Borders, prepared with the cooperation of PANAFTOSA, was submitted to analysis by the countries, and observations concerning its implementation were gathered by the Colombian Agrolivestock Institute (ICA). This institute concluded the studies for extending the Atlantic Coast Subproject to its eastern region, especially the department of Magdalena, to be carried out in 1995.

With respect to point 2 of said Resolution,

"To encourage the Sanitary Services of the countries, backed by political agreements and decisions taken at the ministerial level, to give priority within the national programs to eliminating foot-and-mouth disease in the border areas",

it is reported that:

On the occasion of the 25th meeting of the Colombian-Ecuadorian Border Agreement, an increase was registered of animal mobilization to the Colombian border as a result of the process of economic opening and a difference in prices that stimulates such transit, including the illegal sort.

The lack of coordination between vaccination activities and deficient actions in epidemiological surveillance due to the scarcity of human resources in the border area of both countries, have contributed to an increase in the occurrence of foci. Agreement was made on a coordinated chronogram of actions related to the control of foot-and-mouth disease, as well as swine cholera,

tuberculosis and brucellosis, which is of interest to the region and the local committees.

Given the intense trading of animals and animal products on the Colombian-Venezuelan border, the official entities have developed actions to control the transit, as discussed in the last meeting of the Agreement, which also dealt with aspects related to the legal norms and procedures accepted within the JUNAC in order to reduce illegal transit in the border zone; elimination of some bureaucratic requirements; and harmonization of control procedures and facilitation of the border technical meetings between professionals of both countries. Unification of the vaccination cycles was also agreed upon.

With the trade opening between the two countries, discussion was continued on the harmonization of standards of production and control of products for veterinary use.

The occurrence and control activities with regard to vesicular stomatitis and Venezuelan equine encephalitis were also discussed.

With respect to point 3 of said Resolution,

"To reiterate to JUNAC and the EEC the need to persist and proceed to seek alternatives intended to render feasible the execution of the Andean Project for Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication",

it is reported that:

The European Community Commission (EEC), following the mission sent to the region in October 1993 to evaluate the needs for technical and economic support, demonstrated interest in sending another mission to update and complete the project. The methodology for cooperation proposed by the first mission was divided into two stages: support for the functional organization of official animal-health services and development of lines of research on the Colombian-Venezuelan plains, with a training group. The second stage would define the financial cooperation that would have most impact on the objectives of eradication of foot-and-mouth disease in the region. The EEC solicited support from PANAFTOSA in defining the project as of March 1995.

## **2.5 Resolution V - Amazon Subregional Project of Foot-and-Mouth Disease Prevention, Control and Eradication**

With respect to point 1 of said Resolution,

"To urge Brazil, Guyana and Venezuela to complete the feasibility studies for the prevention, control and eradication of foot-and-mouth disease in the area composed of the state of Roraima in Brazil, the Cooperative Republic of Guyana and the state of Bolívar, in Venezuela",

it is reported that:

The Center twice sponsored the Animal-Health Border Meeting between the three countries, which did not take place because the representative of one of the

countries was absent. Therefore no follow-up was given to the coordinated activities of control and eradication of foot-and-mouth disease in the region. Three foci were registered in the state of Roraima at the end of the year, and accompanied by the local veterinarians who took control steps to vaccinate susceptible animals with vaccine sent by the PANAFTOSA.

With respect to point 2 of said Resolution,

"To urge the countries to proceed with their efforts to upgrade the infrastructure of the veterinary services in the area",

it is reported that:

The Autonomous Service of Livestock Health and the Government of the state of Bolívar in Venezuela began implementing an agreement meant to develop a foot-and-mouth disease program. The main feature of the project is the co-participation of the livestock-producing state entities and the Federation of Veterinary Doctors.

With respect to point 3 of said Resolution,

"To request, as a mechanism of coordination, and with the objective of securing the commitment from each country to execute the program's activities, that the three countries continue to hold without interruption the meetings sponsored by the existing animal-health border agreements. In this regard, the Secretariat is asked to issue an urgent convocation for meetings in 1994",

it is reported that:

As mentioned before, the regular meetings of the Animal-Health Border Agreements between Brazil, Guyana, Venezuela and the PAHO, and those of the Brazil-Colombia-PAHO Agreement were not held because of the impossibility of coordinating timetables for the participation of one of the countries.

With respect to point 4 of said Resolution,

"To request that PANAFTOSA/PAHO continue cooperating with the three countries for the organization of foot-and-mouth disease prevention and eradication activities, with emphasis on epidemiological surveillance, on personnel training and on the dissemination of information among producers in order to obtain their active participation",

it is reported that:

In the Course on Program Development held in the PANAFTOSA, training was given to one professional from the Ministry of Agriculture of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, located in the Rupununi region bordering on the Brazilian state of Roraima, one from Venezuela and one from Colombia.

PANAFTOSA offered technical support to Brazil's Secretariat of Sanitary Defence of MAARA in the effort against the outbreak in Roraima and collaborated

in sending 1,000 doses of double-emulsion vaccine to be used in swine located in the region of the outbreak.

2.6 Resolution VI - Strengthening and improving the continental epidemiological surveillance system

With respect to point 1 of said Resolution,

"To request that PANAFTOSA/PAHO, as quickly as possible, proceed to coordinate jointly with the countries, a review and revision of the system, in order to upgrade it in line with the objectives of the Hemispheric Plan for Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication",

it is reported that:

The analysis made in PANAFTOSA found that the system begun in April 1977 continues to be a simple, quick method for communicating data in the present conditions of animal-health services in Latin America. On the other hand, recognition was made of the usefulness of incorporating other indicators to the feedback to allow for more extensive knowledge of the geographical space where vesicular disease is suspected, to meet the need for information on the part of users of the continental system of epidemiological surveillance.

In this way, communication of alert was promoted as a rapid-notice mechanism to announce the appearance of episodes of vesicular disease in territory near the country's border or when it corresponds to a geographical area which has gone through long periods with no register of the disease. Furthermore, it was established that a weekly summary would be sent by fax to the national services, with information on prevention and control measures taken. The use of an international information network is being studied in order to speed up exchange of epidemiological reports.

It can generally be considered that in 1994 the surveillance system enjoyed some progress, as there was an increase of samples of cases occurring in the border gridsquares and sent to PANAFTOSA by the member countries. Ecuador was the country that sent the greatest number of samples.

With respect to point 2 of said Resolution,

"To encourage the countries to assume greater responsibility with respect to the national epidemiological surveillance and information systems, based on the elements of the system's evaluation conducted during this Meeting and especially the quality of the information",

it is reported that:

After the 31st week an epidemiological surveillance and information system was developed and implanted to meet the new objectives of the Plata Basin Project, featuring exchange, analysis and local-level use of information relating to suspected occurrence of vesicular diseases. To this end, a map of unified geographical coordinates is being used, produced with the help of PANAFTOSA.

## 2.7 Resolution VII - Reference functions of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center

With respect to this Resolution,

"To encourage the countries so that all projects related to the control and eradication of foot-and-mouth disease be conceived, drafted and executed with the technical orientation of PANAFTOSA/PAHO, in order to maintain their uniformity with regard to technical activities and strategies, as established in the Hemispheric Program of Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication",

it is reported that:

The Subsecretariat of Livestock of Bolivia, together with the CONEFA, requested the technical support of PANAFTOSA to carry out a pre-investment study for a national foot-and-mouth disease eradication program to be presented to the IDB for financing. A consulting firm was contracted for this purpose.

The mission to reformulate the Animal-Health Project, made up of professionals from the FAO and the Pirbright Laboratory (United Kingdom) requested support from PANAFTOSA to prepare the above-mentioned project.

## 2.8 Resolution VIII - Strengthening the veterinary services in border areas

With respect to point 1 of said Resolution,

"To urge the countries to strengthen their sanitary services at ports, airports and border areas in each country, with regard to the structural, logistical and economic requirements",

it is reported that:

The Agriculture and Livestock Service (SAG) of Chile has implemented a system to prevent foot-and-mouth disease being introduced via the summer-season fields in the mountains, based on transit control and carried out in coordination with the police force. Activities in the mountains are directed to reduce animal density and promote early detection of the disease in the region; population censuses are conducted and assessment is made of the fields' capacity to support animals. During the official assessment visits the censuses are updated and the animals undergo clinical inspection. VIA tests are run before authorization is given to descend the animals.

Concomitantly, the process is complemented by defining the level of risk and epidemiological surveillance in border areas, carried out in coordination with the Argentine authorities within the framework of the Border Agreement, including visits to epidemiologically important zones in the border provinces. SAG is undertaking the same kind of activity on the borders with Peru and Bolivia.

On the other hand the international sanitary barriers are still in force at ports and airports.

In Uruguay, one of the preventive activities of the second stage of the eradication program is the strengthening of control at borders, ports and airports with regard to importing animals and products that might represent the risk of introducing the agent.

With respect to point 2 of said Resolution,

"To urge bordering countries to undertake integrated animal-health coordination efforts, which necessitates their overcoming geographical and political limitations",

it is reported that:

Within the framework of the animal-health border agreements between Brazil and Bolivia, Colombia and Venezuela and Colombia and Ecuador, local committees were formed to coordinate activities to foster an increase in vaccination coverage and joint epidemiological surveillance actions.

With respect to point 3 of said Resolution,

"To encourage the decentralization of the actions involving border areas, in favor of engaging all the actors that participate in animal-health activities",

it is reported that:

Besides the known experiences in coordinated management of the activities to control foot-and-mouth disease, between the private and the public sector, particularly in the basin area, the Committee to Maintain the Status of Foot-and-Mouth Disease-Free Country was created in Uruguay for the purpose of coordinating the tasks of the second stage of the program; the Committee is composed of representatives of the General Directorate of Livestock Services and associations of livestock producers.

In Bolivia, the creation of the National Council for Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (CONEFA) and its corresponding Departmental and Provincial Committees, which enjoy the active participation of the local livestock producer associations, has improved the administration of control activities and continuity of action.

With respect to point 4 of said Resolution,

"That, based on the experience acquired in the hemispheric struggle against foot-and-mouth disease, the PANAFTOSA be integrated with the other international entities to ensure that trade exchange be agile and free-flowing within the continental scope and when involving other continents",

it is reported that:



The Center coordinated its efforts with the FAO, OIE, EU, OIRSA and other international technical assistance institutions in developing methodologies to facilitate trade relations between the countries within the context of the Inter-Agency Group for Animal Health Cooperation (GICSA). Some examples have been mentioned previously.

**2.9 Resolution IX - Analysis of the sanitary implications of livestock transit in border areas**

With respect to point 1 of said Resolution,

"To urge the various countries to develop and/or implement control processes that lead to better assessment of the international transit of animals and animal products, and to examine the problem of international traffic and contraband of livestock occurring or that may occur in their respective border areas",

it is reported that:

For the purpose of ensuring the progress made by the countries included in the Plata Basin Project, the discussions of the Technical Committee resulted in Sanitary Control Stations being implanted in the region of the Argentine Mesopotamia.

In Brazil, after a meeting with the participation of technicians from the countries and from PANAFTOSA, the movements of animals and the reasons for these movements were described and a strategy drawn up to instal stations in the southern region of the country and in the border region between São Paulo and Mato Grosso do Sul.

In turn, as a preventive measure in the second stage of its plan, Uruguay activated the system of sanitary barriers along its borders and at its ports and airports.

In its condition as a foot-and-mouth-disease-free country, Chile installed a system to prevent introduction of the disease via the summer-season fields in the mountains, as mentioned before.

In Ecuador, the Association of Livestock Producers of the Sierra and the West sponsored a Workshop on Rustling and Animal Health for its members.

With respect to point 2 of said Resolution,

"To include on the Agenda of the next COSALFA Meeting a joint examination of this problem and its impact on the hemispheric eradication of foot-and-mouth disease",

it is reported that:

Bearing in mind the impact of this problem on the epidemiological situation of foot-and-mouth disease, especially in border areas, Dr. Zeilah Carrasco, President of the National Federation of Livestock Producers of Venezuela was

requested to present a report on the problem of contraband in Venezuela and its consequences on animal health in that country and on the region.

**2.10 Resolution X - Proposal for inclusion of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center as Member of the OIE's Commission on Foot-and-Mouth Disease and other Zoonoses**

With respect to this Resolution,

"To submit to the consideration of the OIE a proposal to include the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center in the OIE's Commission on Foot-and-Mouth Disease and Other Zoonoses, and also enable the aforesaid Center to coordinate the activities related to the regionalization and recognition of free areas in South America",

it is reported that:

PANAFTOSA was accepted and invited to take part as member of the meeting held in January of this year. However, for reasons of *force majeure* the Secretary was unable to attend the meeting but communicated his position with regard to the ideas of regionalization and certification of free areas, a matter of vital importance for the country.

The OIE agreed that the Center should prepare a manual which, after approval by the member countries, would constitute a guide to facilitate trade relations between the countries concerning products of animal origin. A draft version will be presented during the 63rd General Session of the OIE.

Following the 63rd Regular Meeting of the OIE next March, the Conference on the Analysis of Risk, Animal Health and Trade will be held. PANAFTOSA has been invited to discuss the ideas related to the analysis of risk of products of animal origin vis-à-vis regionalization and zoning, taking into account the aspects of transparency and equivalence between the sanitary services involved.

**2.11 Resolution XI - International seminar on the animal-health care systems and the changes in the role of the state and of the community**

With respect to point 1 of said Resolution,

"To recommend to the Secretariat, the delegates, producers and representatives of the participating economic and social sectors that they pursue the mechanisms for putting into practice the proposals of a participatory process of coordination of the veterinary-care activities as set forth in the Recommendations",

it is reported that:

The Secretariat supported and announced the idea of shared management in zonal plans in Bolivia and Peru through the technical cooperation offered to the national programs in those countries. In their national programs, Colombia,

Ecuador and Venezuela are developing the system of shared management in the administration of field activities.

In Brazil, foundations have been set up composed of members of the livestock-producing sector, in the states of São Paulo, Goiás and Mato Grosso do Sul, for the purpose of providing resources and stimulating activities towards eradicating foot-and-mouth disease.

With respect to point 3 of said Resolution,

"To request that the PANAFTOSA/PAHO organize, promote and develop, prior to COSALFA XXII, an International Seminar on "Epidemiological Surveillance and Information Systems, from the Viewpoint of Eradication and the New Models of Veterinary Care",

it is reported that:

The Secretariat organized the recommended seminar, which was attended by representatives of the member countries, professional associations of livestock producers and industrialists in the sector, representatives from international agencies for technical and financial cooperation, and representatives from universities. The recommendations will be presented in due time in this plenary for approval and inclusion as a Resolution of the XXII COSALFA (APPENDIX III).

### **3. Present status of the information and surveillance systems in the countries**

During the XXI COSALFA, a discussion was held on the loss of efficacy observed in the last three years with respect to the Continental Vesicular Diseases Information and Surveillance System, in light of the changes in the structure of the national services, which were traditionally responsible for execution of the system. The commitment to use the system as a tool for surveillance was also observed. The countries were urged to introduce the necessary changes to improve the system, as registered in Resolution VI.

Below are described several items relating to the performance of the system during the period:

Generally speaking, there was an observed decrease in the average time for reception of the weekly communications as compared with 1993. Argentina, Ecuador, Peru and Uruguay improved the speed of information. This, however, was due to the constant complaints about delay in correspondence.

Consideration must be given to the fact that difficulties of communication also influence reception at PANAFTOSA, due to problems with telephone lines. With this in mind, and in order to lessen the time of information feedback, in week 37 the Center began to send by fax a weekly summary of vesicular diseases, in addition to the normal summaries, to all the animal-health services in the region. This shortened the interval of information to one day after edition, which means an average of 13 days in the system's feedback, as against 20 days the year before, without counting reception by the user, because of the normal mail services.

This additional report brought the users other qualitative elements on the area of the occurrence, such as the frequency registered during the current year in the notified gridsquares, identification of the affected gridsquares bordering on another country, the first notification of a given gridsquare and the information coverage of the countries.

#### 4. Other matters

Through its Director, PANAFTOSA took part in the discussion and implementation of the new strategies of Uruguay's National Program for Eradication relating to the second stage, which involves suspension of vaccination throughout the national territory.

The Technical Cooperation Agreement was renewed with the IAEA to develop the ELISA test for detection of antibodies. To this end, a work plan was drawn up stating that PANAFTOSA/PAHO would be the coordinating agency for validation of the test, with FAO/IAEA being responsible for economic support for the countries in possession of an investigation contract (Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Paraguay and Venezuela), as well as the Center itself whenever it undertakes activities in the interest of the agreement.

The document relating to the EEC/Plata Basin/PANAFTOSA Project is in the final stage of editing, the objective being to study the correlation of the serological techniques to be used as a substitute for cattle vaccination control tests.

An information and surveillance system for epidemiological diseases, presently covering the municipalities of Avaré, Araçatuba, Andradina and Sorocaba is being developed in cooperation with the Coordination of Integral Technical Assistance (CATI) of the Government of the State of São Paulo and the Foundation for the Development of Livestock Production in São Paulo (FUNDEPEC). This system features a geographical base and software that allow access to several data bases, thereby enabling the user to make a timespace analysis of the occurrences vis-à-vis the area's characteristics of livestock production.

In answer to a request made by the Peruvian Ministry of Health through the PAHO representative, support was given to the creation and development of a geography-based information system for surveillance of cases of bubonic plague in the Chiclayo region.

The Secretariat's participation in international meetings in 1994 is detailed as follows:

- II Meeting of the INPPAZ Council for International Cooperation in Martínez, Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- XII Meeting of the OIE Regional Committee for the Americas. Asunción, Paraguay.
- Visit to the Valdeolmos Center for Animal-Health Investigation to discuss lines of joint research. Madrid, Spain.
- 62nd General Session of the OIE International Committee. Paris, France.

- OIE/FAO Seminar on Harmonization of Diagnostic Techniques. Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- VII Argentine Congress of Veterinary Medicine, presenting the theme: "External View of the Advances made in Argentina towards Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease". Argentina.
- VII International Seminar of Veterinary Specialists in Diagnosis, presenting the theme: "Diagnostic Levels: An Epidemiological Approach". Argentina.
- FAO/IAEA/PAHO Joint Meeting for Validation of the ELISA Test. Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- Visit, together with the Director of the PAHO and the HVC Coordinator, to the General Director of the FAO in Rome, and to the Director of the OIE in Paris to sign animal-health cooperation agreements. Italy and France.
- International Seminar on Alternative Models of Veterinary Care. Acapulco, Mexico.
- International Symposium on Animal-Health Information Systems, at the Pan-American Congress of Veterinary Sciences. Acapulco, Mexico.
- Meetings of the Plata Basin Agreement Committee. Argentina and Brazil.
- XII Intra-Caribbean Veterinary and Public-Health Seminar. Tobago, West Indies.

## 5. Meetings of the Animal-Health Border Agreements

Below is a summary of the agreements and work plans of the border agreements in effect during the period.

### Brazil-Argentina Agreement

In the context of the Agreement and bearing in mind the international trade criteria established by the MERCOSUR Animal-Health Sub-Committee, technicians from both countries met to discuss the sanitary conditions for the exchange of swine and by-products among other livestock products, and establishing sanitary barriers in the region. The outcome was the suggestion that a mission be appointed composed of technicians from both countries to evaluate the abolition of sanitary requirements for such products; this mission visited the region in June. At this meeting, official participation by representatives of the private sector was accepted for the first time.

### Brazil-Bolivia Agreement

In accordance with the provision of the XXI COSALFA, Brazil and Bolivia held their XII Regular Meeting, where they discussed integration of the activities for foot-and-mouth disease control at the border. Progress was observed in the activities after 10 years of work by the Agreement and the formation, in both countries, of local committees to coordinate activities, as well as an increase in vaccination coverage. PANAFTOSA's support was solicited in the installation and administration of the COPEFAs (Provincial Committees for Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease) in Bolivia and in the reformulation of the epidemiological information and surveillance system; this was later satisfied through a visit by a consultant. Nevertheless, a disturbing situation was

registered as regards the occurrence of vesicular disease in the border area of the state of Rondonia, as well as deficiencies in the surveillance system, which covers only 25% of the territory.

#### **Colombia-Ecuador-PAHO Agreement**

This is one of the oldest border agreements. A Meeting -the 25th- was held to register an increase in the movement of animals in the direction of the Colombian border as a result of the process of economic opening and a difference in prices that encourages such transit, including the illegal sort. Concomitantly, the lack of coordination between the vaccination activities carried out by Ecuador and Colombia in the border area, disregarding defined schedules, led to an increase in the occurrence of foci, mainly on the Colombian side. On the other hand, epidemiological surveillance suffers restrictions due to scarcity of human resources, among other factors. Other topics dealt with during the meeting referred to the situation regarding swine cholera, tuberculosis and brucellosis in the region.

The resolutions adopted included promoting the local committees and implanting coordinated anti-foot-and-mouth disease vaccination campaigns in the border areas.

#### **Colombia-Venezuela Agreement**

The IX Regular Meeting of the Colombia-Venezuela Animal-Health Agreement was held in November. Due to the intense trade of animals and animal products along the Colombia-Venezuela border, the official entities discussed the development of actions to control the transit and dealt with the application of standards and procedures within JUNAC to reduce illegal transit in the border zone, eliminate certain bureaucratic requirements, align control procedures, and facilitate technical border meetings between professionals of both countries. Unification of the vaccination timetable was also agreed upon. Vesicular stomatitis and Venezuelan equine encephalitis were also discussed.

With the opening of trade between the two countries, discussion continued concerning harmonizing standards of production and control of products of veterinary use.

#### **Ecuador-Peru-PAHO Agreement**

Beside vesicular diseases, this agreement includes swine cholera. The eighth meeting confirmed that there was a drop in the number of vesicular diseases registered and stressed the importance of epidemiological surveillance in the Tumbes-Piura region due to the influence exerted by the trade of animals between the two countries. A report was made of the vaccination activities carried out along the border, with PANAFTOSA vaccine after 1993. Border transit-control stations were reinforced. Finally, recommendation was made that an analysis be made of the production and commercialization systems in the area, with the help of PANAFTOSA, as well as improving the transit surveillance and control activities, increasing vaccination coverage, forming and activating departmental/local committees for veterinary assistance, and programming training courses for the technical personnel in the region.

### Argentina-Chile Agreement

Due to the occurrence of foot-and-mouth disease in San Carlos de Bariloche, in the province of Río Negro in Argentina, an extraordinary meeting of the Argentina-Chile Technical Commission was convoked in September 1994. The agenda included the above-mentioned outbreak and the eradication and surveillance measures adopted by the Argentinian authorities, as well as the preventive actions carried out by the SAG in the Chilean border region. Other topics discussed included the surveillance of the mountain pasture lands. Agreement was made to stimulate the exchange of professionals in the event of foci appearing, and to sponsor technical border meetings to become familiar with zones of epidemiological interest. It was agreed to arrange a simulated foot-and-mouth disease in the province of Mendoza.

### Bolivia-Chile-Peru-PAHO Agreement

Starting this year, the agreement adopted the name "The Bolivia-Chile-Peru Border Agreement for Animal Health and Zoonoses", and the first regular meeting was held in La Paz, Bolivia, in December. Chile was unable to send delegates. This agreement has become the forum for discussion of the intercountry proposals for development of infrastructure and activities concerning animal health and the environment. An analysis was also made of the occurrence of human and animal rabies and the prevalence of cysticercosis and distomatosis in the Bolivia-Peru border area. A project was presented for a Regional Plan for the Control and Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease in the South of Peru. The recommendations included development of the Bolivia-Peru-PANAFTOSA-PAHO joint foot-and-mouth disease control and eradication project in the border region, as well as others related to activities for controlling rabies, distomatosis and cysticercosis in the area covered by the Agreement.

## 6. Technical cooperation with countries in the free area

As the Reference Laboratory for Diagnosis of Vesicular Diseases, the Center processed samples to confirm vesicular diseases sent by Central American countries, due to structural problems being faced by the Central American Laboratory for Diagnosis of Vesicular Diseases (LADIVES).

During the period, PANAFTOSA collaborated, through the Consultant in the Panamanian Representation, in training activities on prevention of foot-and-mouth disease and other exotic diseases in Nicaragua, El Salvador and Guatemala. In the latter it participated in the foot-and-mouth disease simulation, in defining ecosystems applied to activities to control bovine tuberculosis in Honduras and Nicaragua, and in seminars on livestock viral diseases and administration of animal-health programs in Costa Rica. Support was also given to actions to prevent and control rabies in herbivorous species and vesicular diseases on the Panama-Costa Rica border, and prevention of rabies and classic swine fever the Costa Rica-Nicaragua border.

The Consultant participated in representation of PANAFTOSA on the CIRSA Animal-Health Technical Committee in Guatemala.

In coordination with the University of Tuskegee, the Center supported the English-speaking countries of the Caribbean in developing a document on **Analysis of the Risk Associated with Importing Meat and Meat Products from Argentina and Uruguay to CARICOM Countries**, which was submitted to the appreciation of the Caribbean countries during the XII Intra-Caribbean Veterinary and Public Health Seminar, and is now in the final-revision stage.

In answer to a request from the Panamanian Ministry of Agriculture, PANAFTOSA lent its support in preparing an analysis of risk relating to the introduction of foot-and-mouth disease to the Central-American Isthmus due to the opening of a sea route between Cartagena in Colombia and Colón in Panama. After a visit to Colombia by the mission of technicians, the Panamanian Ministry of Agriculture decided to suspend the study, although the movement of vessels continued. Colombia solicited PANAFTOSA's support in developing the study further.

## **7. The role of PANAFTOSA/PAHO in the international and inter-regional trade of animals and animal products**

The year of 1994 was marked by important successes in the trade relations between the countries of the free area and those of the affected area, with regard to progress observed in the sanitary situation of foot-and-mouth disease, particularly in the region of the Plata Basin.

At the same time, both Argentina and Uruguay developed, with PANAFTOSA's cooperation, risk studies associated with exporting meat to the United States. Brazil is seeking international recognition of the favorable sanitary situation that prevails in Santa Catarina and Rio Grande do Sul in order to have access to the free-countries market.

Special importance is attached to the discussion of the concept of regionalization within the OIE, since this would facilitate trade exchange between areas of different sanitary situations. The Secretariat informed the OIE directors of its position on the proposed process to recognize the free areas, which was discussed during the meeting and led to PANAFTOSA being invited to the Conference on Analysis of Risk, Animal Health and Trade to be held in Paris in May.

## **8. Training**

During 1994, besides the International Seminar on the Animal-Health Care Systems and the Changes in the Role of the State and of the Community held before the XXI COSALFA, PANAFTOSA coordinated and participated in courses in the countries and intramurals. Of special importance were the Course to Develop Animal-Health Programs and Services for 28 participants from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela, and the Seminar on Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease Vaccine for 11 professionals from the Southern Cone, Colombia and Venezuela.



The Center participated in and coordinated courses on the System of Field Work for Control of Foot-And-Mouth Disease in Bolivia, one in Santa Cruz de la Sierra with 33 professionals participating and the other in Tarija with 25 participants. In Maracaibo, Venezuela, a course was held on Use of Oil Adjuvanted Vaccine in Foot-and-Mouth Disease Control Programs, with the participation of nine professionals. In addition, the Center sent a consultant to the Forum on Vesicular Diseases: the Status Quo of Control and Future Prospects, with 240 people attending.

With financing by Brazil, four courses were given on Attention to Vesicular Foci, with 149 field veterinarians. In the laboratory area, 28 professionals from Argentina and 13 from other countries were trained in service.

Between 1952 and 1994, PANAFTOSA trained in its headquarters 6180 professionals from countries of the region and other continents, and an even higher number in seminars, courses and workshops carried out in the countries.

#### DEVELOPMENT OF THE MEETING

Dr. José Germán Rodríguez Torres next presented "The Situation of Foot-and-Mouth Disease Programs", and Dr. Narey Cotrina presented "The Continental Information and Surveillance System for Vesicular Diseases", both in PANAFTOSA.

With regard to the latter, the Argentinian representative suggested that the weekly communication should include information about the characteristics of the zone where the occurrence of foci is registered. He also pointed out that the participation of livestock producers in the foot-and-mouth disease program has had a favorable repercussion on the timely attention to foci and consequent improvement of the level of sampling and identification of the causal agent.

Dr. Lennox Applewhaite from Guyana read a report on the activities relating to prevention of foot-and-mouth disease during 1994, and emphasized that despite the presence of foot-and-mouth disease in the state of Roraima, the country is still free of the disease. The veterinarian assigned to the region worked together with his Brazilian counterparts in following up the focus and control actions. He informed the meeting that samples of serum collected in the Rupununi region will presently be sent to the Center. He went on to describe the field structure of the Guyana Ministry of Agriculture and requested the Secretariat for more support in formulating and implementing a national program that will bring the country in the near future to ask the OIE to recognize its situation.

With respect to the operation of the system on the border level, he asked if the Brazilian veterinarian from the Bonfim Region in the state of Roraima could send information on the epidemiological situation of foot-and-mouth disease to Lethen (Guyana). Dr. Astudillo said that the opportunity should be used to send this information also to Santa Elena in Venezuela, thereby closing the circuit of information in the area.

The Delegate from Argentina intervened again to express his concern over the future prospects for the Epidemiological Surveillance System. He suggested that this should adjust to the characteristics of the epidemiological ecosystems

that exist in other countries, basing his presentation on the system operating in Argentina.

After a short interval the meeting re-opened with the presentation "Situation of the Regional, Subregional and Border Agreement Projects". First of all Dr. Francisco Muzio presented the situation of the Agreement on International Technical Cooperation for the Control and Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease in the Plata River Basin, from which the following extracts can be quoted:

The Agreement began its activities in 1989 with Uruguay, Argentina and the Brazilian state of Rio Grande do Sul, with Paraguay joining the group in 1992. The application of a strategy coordinated through the project and executed by the veterinary services of the countries with the technical cooperation of PANAFTOSA, based on the epidemiological definition of the ecosystems existing in the region, managed after the first five years to gradually eliminate the viral endemism and achieve clinical absence of the disease in almost all the initial area of the Agreement.

One of the important points of the strategy has been the active participation of livestock producers and to a lesser extent veterinarians from the private sector, universities and agribusiness in the administration of the program.

As a result of these advances, the OIE recognized Uruguay as a country free from foot-and-mouth disease with vaccination, and the continuity of the Agreement in the second stage (1994-1998) was made feasible with the proposal of consolidating the results in the initial area as programmed and extending it towards new epidemiological frontiers.

The Secretary ex officio then informed the meeting of the antecedents of the Andean Subregional Project, which has zonal projects, chiefly in the border areas of the member countries, indicating that these were prepared by a group of technicians from the countries and the Center.

The Representative from JUNAC informed the participants about the negotiations of the Board with the European Union, which resulted in two missions to assess the project, for which financing of US\$ 12 million has been requested for subregional activities. Information was also given concerning the actions of the Board in the process of consolidating integration supported by Decision 328 on the Andean Animal-Health System and Resolution 347 on Andean Standards for Intraregional Trade of Animal Products and By-products.

The Delegate from Colombia reported on the actions being carried out in the Atlantic Coast Project, which has achieved a free area in the northwestern region reaching as far as the left bank of the Magdalena River, covering a population of approximately 4.5 million cattle.

The Delegate from Venezuela reported on the project being organized in the northwestern region bordering on Colombia which includes the states of Tachira and Zulia, stressing the importance of the regions bordering on Colombia for coordinating border activities.

The Delegate from Ecuador referred to the Ecuador-Colombia Border Project, where the norms for action have been unified and work is being undertaken based on local committees. He also informed the audience about the border project with Peru, where standardization actions have been taken, local committees are active, and a joint seminar was held on epidemiological surveillance. As for the project along the coast, he indicated that the resources for its execution will be obtained through a loan from the IDB and the World Bank, and will be used to set up the Ecuadorian Animal-Health Service.

The Delegate from Peru reported on the activities undertaken on the Bolivia-Chile border within the framework of the tripartite Agreement, and the pilot plans established on the border with Brazil.

The Representative of the Spanish Ministry of Agriculture then made a presentation on the programs carried out in his country towards controlling and eradicating foot-and-mouth disease, equine plague, vesicular swine disease and African swine disease.

To close, the Delegate from Brazil reported on the priority that his Government lends to the project of the territory of Roraima and the actions to be undertaken for foot-and-mouth disease control in the region.

A short break was followed by a communication by Dr. Primo Arámbulo III, Coordinator of the PAHO Veterinary Public-Health Program, referring to the next meetings of the Hemispheric Committee for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (COHEFA) and the Inter-American Meeting, at the Ministerial Level, on Animal Health (RIMSA) to be held at the PAHO headquarters on April 24-27. He requested the Delegates to encourage attendance by the Ministers of Agriculture and representatives of the livestock-producing sector at these important events. With regard to RIMSA, he emphasized the three panels that make up the agenda of the meeting: Food and Nutrition, Agriculture and Health, and Plague and Teniasis-Cysticercosis within the framework of the socioeconomic development of the Americas.

He also reported on the international meeting to be coordinated by FAO/OIE/PAHO/WHO to deal with the prospects of eradication of foot-and-mouth disease in the coming millenium and its impact on the availability of food. The scheduled venue is Brazil.

Dr. Raúl Londoho, Director of the Pan American Institute for the Protection of Food and Zoonosis (INPPAZ) underscored the components of the institution's technical cooperation, especially the support given to sanitary protection of food through setting up ETA-surveillance systems, Sanitary Inspection of Foodstuffs, Analysis of Critical Points of Control and Laboratory Reference. With regard to the control of zoonosis, he mentioned the collaboration in tuberculosis, brucellosis, rabies and recently Peru's support in the antrax outbreak.

Dr. Benjamín Bowles, President of FEGASACRUZ, requested a change in the COSALFA statutes to allow inclusion of livestock producers on the Commission; accordingly, he will present a document attached to this Minute (APPENDIX IV). However, he requested that as of the next meeting a space be reserved for

discussion of technical matters among the livestock producers. The Secretary ex officio read the document referred to, which was unanimously approved by the Delegates. The Delegate from Ecuador asked that an appropriate resolution be written.

Dr. Robert Reichard of the OIE explained that organization's process of declaring countries free of foot-and-mouth disease and the editing of a list of the countries so considered, after they have met with the basic conditions. The countries on this list should apply for evaluation of their sanitary situation. He went on to state that the idea of creating zones free with vaccination in the countries would be discussed during the next general meeting of the OIE. Dr. Dante Geymonat from Uruguay appealed to the countries to participate more actively in the OIE meetings.

Dr. Pedro Pinate, of the Venezuela Federation of Livestock Producers, presented an analysis of the international transit of animals in the region, and an assessment of the vaccination coverage in the countries, which provoked reactions from the delegates present with regard to how to interpret the information presented.

Dr. Antonio Mendes da Silva from PANAFTOSA next presented a summary of the EEC/Plata River Basin/PANAFTOSA Project, stressing the results of the ELISA test in the evaluation made of the behavior of serological tests vis-à-vis the footpad generalization test on cattle in the potency control of foot-and-mouth disease vaccines. These results pointed to the capacity of the serological elements in ELISA in predicting the response of cattle to foot-and-mouth disease virus.

In this sense, the use of the ELISA test was also observed in evaluating the immunity status of bovine populations. On the other hand, the Delegates from Brazil and Argentina manifested that they had already established and defined the plans for control and rules for decision on using the ELISA test in the control of foot-and-mouth disease vaccine.

Mr. Zeilah Carrasco, President of FEDENAGA, proposed (and was supported by the delegates) to draw up a Resolution urging the Venezuela government authorities to support the National Eradication Plan.

The Representatives of Uruguay, Argentina and Brazil exposed the importance of maintaining a single line of support and technical cooperation, referring in this case to the work carried out by PANAFTOSA, and solicited the preparation of a resolution to ratify Resolution VII of COSALFA XXI, which indicates PANAFTOSA's all-important role in actions relating to control and eradication of foot-and-mouth disease on the Continent. Dr. Primo Arámbulo III also spoke on the same topic, drawing attention to the political and technical importance of COSALFA and maintenance of a unified line of action towards eradication of foot-and-mouth disease. He informed the Plenary that he would have such a resolution prepared and forwarded to the highest levels of the institutions for technical and financial cooperation.

Consideration was given to electing a venue for the XXIII COSALFA, with unanimous acceptance of the Republic of Venezuela, in a city to be defined later on.

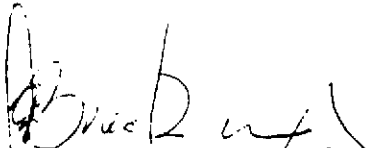
The representatives of the livestock producers' associations present at COSALFA paid tribute to Dr. Vicente Astudillo, presenting him with a plaque in gratitude for his work with the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center.

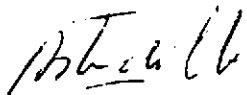
The closing session was presided over by the Subsecretary for Livestock, Dr. Carlos Bruckner; Mr. Eduardo Araújo and the Secretary ex officio also made some statements. The following resolutions were then read and approved:


- I. Subregional Project for the Control and Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease in the Plata River Basin.
- II. Andean Subregional Project.
- III. Subregional Amazon Project for Foot-and-Mouth Disease Prevention, Control and Eradication.
- IV. The orienting role of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center in preparing and executing projects to prevent, control and eradicate the disease.
- V. Request by the livestock-producers sector for incorporation into COSALFA.
- VI. International seminar on epidemiological surveillance and Information systems, from the viewpoint of eradication and the new models of veterinary attention.
- VII. Support of the efforts of the Foot-and-Mouth Disease Control and Eradication Program in Venezuela.
- VIII. Expression of gratitude to the Republic of Bolivia.

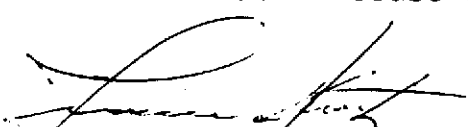
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, The Chairman of the Meeting, Dr. Carlos Bruckner, Under Secretary of Livestock of Bolivia; the Director of Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center, Secretary ex officio of COSALFA; the Delegates of the member countries, sign the present Final Report in the Spanish and English languages, both texts being equally authentic.

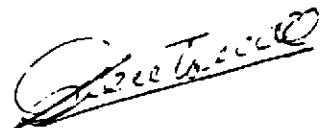
Done in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, on this ten day of March, nineteen and ninety five.


  
 President  
 Under Secretary of Livestock  
 of Bolivia


  
 Secretary ex officio  
 Director of Pan American  
 Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center

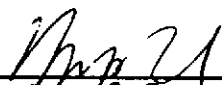
  
 Delegate of Argentina

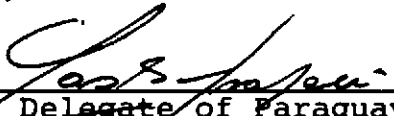
  
 Delegate of Brazil

  
 Delegate of Chile


  
 Delegate of Colombia

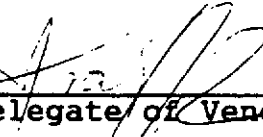
  
 Delegate of Ecuador

  
 Delegate of Guyana

  
 Delegate of Paraguay

  
 Delegate of Peru

  
 Delegate of Uruguay

  
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## RESOLUTION I

*Subregional Project for the Control and Eradication  
of Foot-and-Mouth Disease in the Plata River Basin*

THE XXII REGULAR MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

The results achieved by the Foot-and-Mouth Disease Control and Eradication Project in the Rio de la Plata Basin, which has begun in 1994 its second stage with a striking advance in the regional sanitary situation, wherein outstanding achievements are the cessation of vaccination in Uruguay in its progress and transition to the condition of a foot-and-mouth disease-free country, the Argentine Mesopotamia now recording more than two years without the presence of foot-and-mouth disease, and the states of Rio Grande do Sul and Santa Catarina in Brazil also registering more than a year in the same situation;

The demand for resources needed to carry out the second stage, whose request for funding was submitted to the Financing Fund for the Development of the Plata Basin (FONPLATA);

The necessity to maintain the Project activities while funding is being negotiated, and

That the recognition on the international level of "zones free with vaccination" will stimulate the veterinary administrations and the livestock-producing community to proceed in their joint efforts to pursue the eradication of the disease,

## RESOLVES:

1. To congratulate the member countries of the Agreement for their accomplishments and encourage them to continue in their efforts to consolidate the Agreement's goals, by providing the economic support required to maintain the Project's activities until the said funding has been obtained.
2. To reaffirm its satisfaction for the process of integration being developed among the countries, with the cooperation of PANAFTOSA, which has enabled this Project to attain the important advances within the framework of the Hemispheric Program for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease and stimulate the execution of similar projects in other areas of the Continent.

3. To express its agreement with the admission of Bolivia as an active member of the Agreement within the methodological framework and the sanitary strategies, which with the technical cooperation provided by PANAFTOSA have been successful in the Plata Basin subregion.

4. To encourage the countries to support, at the next General Assembly of the OIE, the inclusion in the International Zoosanitary Code of the requirements for "foot-and-mouth disease free zones with vaccination."

(Approved in the Plenary Session  
on 10 March 1995)

RESOLUTION II  
*Andean Subregional Project*

THE XXII REGULAR MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

That the new epidemiological scenario achieved in South America, as a consequence of the foot-and-mouth disease eradication strategies and policies, has become a benchmark that urgently requires more effective and efficient operations by the Andean Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication Project, and

That the favorable experiences resulting from the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease in important areas and countries of South America, such experiences associated with the application of operational strategies based on the organized integration and coparticipation of the private and public sectors, constitute a referential element to push forward the advance and definitive contribution to the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease on the Continent,

RESOLVES:

1. To encourage the Andean Subregion countries to ratify the political commitment to foster as effectively and efficiently as possible the execution of the Andean Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication Project, based on the administrative, technical and financial comanagement by the public and private sectors, particularly the livestock producers.
2. To develop the execution of the Andean Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication Project based on the implementation of the Zonal Components, conceived as critical nodules that condition the occurrence and spread of the disease in the Subregion.
3. Through the Cartagena Agreement Board's contacts with the European Union, or through other international financial and technical cooperation entities, to persist in or initiate similar initiatives in the processes of soliciting cooperation for the carrying out of the Andean Project as a whole or its Zonal Components in particular, within the framework of the technical guidelines explicitly defined by the countries with the technical advisement from PANAFTOSA/PAHO.
4. To underscore the importance of the Andean Subregional Project as a mechanism for guaranteeing the continuity, coordinated execution and application of the regional approaches, like the experience of the Plata River Basin Subproject which, in this aspect, has been fundamental for the fulfillment of the control and eradication goals.

(Approved in the Plenary Session  
on 10 March 1995)

## RESOLUTION III

*Subregional Amazon Project for Foot-and-Mouth Disease  
Prevention, Control and Eradication*

THE XXII REGULAR MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

That the livestock-producing development existing in this Subregion provides conditions for maintaining the endemism of foot-and-mouth disease;

That the existence of vesicular disease in some areas of the Subregion has been informed, and

That the delegations from Brazil, Guyana and Venezuela have informed about the priorities and actions that have been programmed for the Subregion,

## RESOLVES:

1. To reiterate Resolution III of COSALFA XX and Resolution V of COSALFA XXI, about the actions that should be developed in the Subproject area.
2. To recommend the execution of the activities of the existing border agreements, as a means to carry out coordinated actions among the countries.
3. To encourage the countries to promote the participation of the livestock producers and other sectors relate to the programs.

(Approved in the Plenary Session  
on 10 March 1995)

## RESOLUTION IV

*The orienting role of the  
Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center  
in preparing and executing projects to prevent,  
control and eradicate the disease*

THE XXII REGULAR MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

That, in compliance with a mandate from the American countries, the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth-Disease Center (PANAFTOSA/PAHO) acts as a foot-and-mouth disease reference center for the Americas and, by designation of the International Office of Epizootics, exercises the same function;

That PANAFTOSA/PAHO has been carrying out a technical cooperation program to support the countries in the organization, planning and execution of control, eradication and prevention programs which have become national programs in all the countries and subregional projects. The most important advances are the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease in Chile and Uruguay, the significant reduction of outbreaks in Argentina and the southern states of Brazil, the creation of the free area in the northwestern region of Colombia and the maintenance of the free areas in Argentina, Guyana, French Guiana and Suriname;

That through a joint action of PANAFTOSA and the countries, and under the COSALFA Resolutions, a foot-and-mouth disease control methodology has been developed that takes into account the socioeconomic, cultural and commercial interrelationships of the countries themselves, and a group of professionals has been trained to constitute the qualified scientific base entrusted with the responsibility of managing the prevention, control and eradication actions;

That PANAFTOSA's technical cooperation provided to the countries has led to the establishment of an epidemiological surveillance and information system that generates the information necessary for the management of the programs and the definition of regional control ecosystems, the standardization of the foot-and-mouth disease vaccine quality-control and diagnostic methods, and the development of the oil-adjuvanted foot-and-mouth diseases vaccines, and

The desirability for the countries to coordinate and channelize the available bilateral and international financial and technical cooperation, in order to make maximum use of those resources,

## RESOLVES:

1. To reiterate Resolutions V and VII of COSALFA XIX and COSALFA XXI, respectively, so that all the countries elaborate and execute all the projects related to the prevention, control and eradication of foot-and-mouth disease with the participation and orientation, in all phases, of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center, in order to maintain uniformity in the technical activities and strategies, in accordance with the Hemispheric Plan for Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease.

2. To request that the bilateral and international financial and technical cooperation agencies utilize the existing coordination mechanisms to prevent duplications that might affect the suitable organization and execution of the programs, the efficient use of the available resources and the commitment of those resources.

(Approved in the Plenary Session  
on 10 March 1995)

## RESOLUTION V

*Request by the livestock-producers' sector  
for incorporation into COSALFA*

THE XXII REGULAR MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

The statement by the livestock-producers' sector, meeting in Santa Cruz de la Sierra on March 9, 1995, at the time of the COSALFA XXII meeting, pursuant to the Meeting Notes enclosed herewith, and

The unanimous acceptance by all the delegations in favor of the inclusion of the livestock producers' sector into the South American Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (COSALFA),

## RESOLVES:

1. To approve the livestock-producers sector's inclusion into COSALFA.
2. To request that the Secretariat undertake the procedures required for admission.

(Approved in the Plenary Session  
on 10 March 1995)



## RESOLUTION VI

*International seminar on epidemiological surveillance  
and information systems, from the viewpoint of  
eradication and the new models of veterinary attention*

THE XXII REGULAR MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

That Resolution XI of COSALFA XXI requested that PANAFTOSA/PAHO undertake to organize, promote and develop this international seminar, given the progress observed in the foot-and-mouth disease epidemiological situation in certain regions of the Continent and the growing importance of the epidemiological surveillance and information systems and of the development of veterinary attention systems based on shared management by the official sector and the community;

That PANAFTOSA/PAHO, in response to said request, has conducted the above-mentioned seminar with broad participation of official representatives, cattle producers, representatives from the biological products and meat, milk and by-products processing industries, trade and political entities' leaders, university representatives and representatives of international technical and financial organizations, and

That in their recommendations, the seminar's delegates discussed the topic from the viewpoint of promoting, in the countries that are in an advanced process of control and eradication, the reorientation of their surveillance and information systems toward the prevention of the reintroduction and spreading of the agent, utilizing the prevention approach of including risk determination, implementation of differential diagnostic techniques and the execution of quarantine and field activities in coordination with the community,

## RESOLVES:

1. To adopt the recommendations of the International Seminar on Epidemiological Surveillance and Information Systems, from the viewpoint of Eradication and the New Models of Veterinary Attention.
2. To recommend that the Secretariat, the delegates, the producers and representatives of the participating social and economic sectors all support the development and implementation of such systems in the countries or regions of the Continent.

3. To request that the PANAFTOSA/PAHO organize, promote and develop prior to COSALFA XXIII, an International Seminar on "Risk Analysis in Relation to the International Commerce of Animals and Animal-Origin Products", taking into account the globalization of the economy and regionalization in accordance with the countries' epidemiological situation.

(Approved in the Plenary Session  
on 10 March 1995)

## RESOLUTION VII

*Support of the Efforts of the Foot-and-Mouth Disease Control  
and Eradication Program in Venezuela*

THE XXII REGULAR MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering the interest demonstrated by the Delegation from Venezuela (private and public sectors) to strengthen the advance of the foot-and-mouth disease eradication subprojects in that country,

## RESOLVES:

To exhort the authorities of the Government of the Republic of Venezuela to seek ways to accelerate the implementation of the programs required to achieve the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease in Venezuela and to adopt the terms of the statement submitted to this COSALFA meeting.

(Approved in the Plenary Session  
on 10 March 1995)

## RESOLUTION VIII

*Expression of gratitude to the Republic of Bolivia*

THE XXII REGULAR MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

The extraordinary support provided by the Government of the Republic of Bolivia, through the National Secretariat of Agriculture and Livestock, by the Municipal Government of Santa Cruz, the Federation of Livestock Raisers of Santa Cruz, the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation, and the private companies, all of which have contributed to the holding of the XXII Ordinary Meeting of COSALFA, and

The excellent conditions for holding the International Seminar on "Epidemiological Surveillance and Information Systems, from the viewpoint of Eradication and the New Models of Veterinary Attention" which enjoyed the active participation of the official and private sectors, both national and international,

## RESOLVES:

1. To express its gratitude to the Republic of Bolivia, represented by the National Secretariat of Agriculture and Livestock, for its excellent contribution to the holding of the XXII Ordinary Meeting of COSALFA.
2. To thank the Municipal Government of Santa Cruz, the Federation of Livestock Raisers of Santa Cruz, the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation through the International Center for Training for Development, the National Commission of Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication and other official and private entities, for the support and facilities placed at the disposal of the XXII Regular Meeting and of the Seminar held prior to the COSALFA.
3. To thank the livestock producers in the department of Santa Cruz for the hospitality offered to the delegates participating in these events.

(Approved in the Plenary Session  
on 10 March 1995)



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A P P E N D I X I

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FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

XXII REGULAR MEETING

Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, 6-7 March, 1995

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**A P P E N D I X   I I**

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**P R O G R A M**

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SOUTH AMERICAN COMMISSION FOR THE CONTROL OF  
FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

XXII REGULAR MEETING

Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, 9 y 10 de marzo de 1995

P R O G R A M

Thursday, March 9, 1995

- |       |  |
|-------|--|
| 09:00 | Opening Session.   |
| 09:30 | Report of the Secretariat.   |
| 10:00 | Discussion of the Report.  |
| 10:45 | Epidemiological Situation of Foot-and-Mouth Disease Programs in South America.                               |
| 11:30 | Evaluation of the Information and Surveillance System on Vesicular Diseases.                                 |
| 12:30 | Break.   |
| 14:00 | Situation of Regional and Subregional Projects and Border Agreements.  |
| 16:30 | Foot-and-Mouth Disease Programs and the progress of the Subregional Agreements of Animal Health Integration. |

Friday, March 10, 1995

- |       |  |
|-------|--|
| 09:00 | Recommendation for the Seminar on "Epidemiological Surveillance and Information Systems, from the Viewpoint of Eradication and the New Models of Veterinary Care". |
| 10:45 | Other matters.   |
| 12:00 | Break.   |
| 14:00 | Resolutions.   |
| 16:00 | Final Report.  |
| 17:00 | Closing Session.   |



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A P P E N D I X    I I I

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RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON  
EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS,  
FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF ERADICATION AND  
THE NEW MODELS OF VETERINARY CARE

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INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON  
EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS,  
FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF ERADICATION AND  
THE NEW MODELS OF VETERINARY CARE

Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, 6-8 March, 1995

RECOMMENDATION I

Technical and methodological changes required by modifications  
in the foot-and-mouth disease epidemiological situation

THE INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE AND INFORMATION  
SYSTEMS, FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF ERADICATION AND THE NEW MODELS OF VETERINARY CARE,

Considering:

The significant advances noticed in the epidemiological situation of foot-and-mouth disease in South America, principally in the region of the Southern Cone, where the disease in its clinical form has not been registered for the past four years in Uruguay, which is free with vaccination, for two years in the Argentine Mesopotamia and for more than a year in the states of Rio Grande do Sul and Santa Catarina, and free status of Chile and the Argentine Patagonia, all of which now require the adoption of a new strategy that stresses prevention activities, and

The importance of epidemiological surveillance, based on the full awareness and knowledge of the forms of livestock production, for the expansion and maintenance of the region's free areas, and conducted in a coordinated fashion by laboratory and field and applied to the interpretation of the level of vulnerability and receptivity to the foot-and-mouth disease agent in the free areas or in those in the process of eradication,

RECOMMENDS:

1. That the national eradication programs in those countries and/or regions where this process has reached an advanced stage, henceforth take into account the need to adapt the surveillance and information systems to the demands of a process for prevention of agent reintroduction. This should be based on an active surveillance structure and on the capacity to characterize the virus antigenically and immunogenically, plus on the eventual existence of carriers, utilizing the traditional laboratory diagnosis tools and the new virus genome characterization tools.



2. That those traditionally free countries or regions continue conducting the already established preventive surveillance activities and develop a prevention program that includes the characterization of the risks of virus introduction and the mechanisms of quarantine and emergency response to the possible reintroduction of the agent.

3. That this process be supported by a widespread program of training in the diagnostic techniques appropriate for each field epidemiological situation and at the current moment in the process of eradication of the disease, as well as in the structuring of the preventive surveillance and measures to control outbreaks, which allow a perfect laboratory-field interaction in maintaining or improving the sanitary condition acquired by the country.

4. That once the disease-free status has been achieved, the countries should restrict the handling of virus to laboratories of high security or to laboratories that utilize the Regional Reference Center.

#### RECOMMENDATION II Strengthening of the surveillance systems for foot-and-mouth diseases prevention

THE INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS, FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF ERADICATION AND THE NEW MODELS OF VETERINARY CARE,

Considering:

That the world economic order has been changing both qualitatively and quantitatively at a fast pace, with the formation and revision of bilateral agreements and of economic and commercial blocks that require a rationalization and flexibilization of the sanitary requirements and restrictions to promote and facilitate trade and economic integration;

That this same fact, combined with the growth of tourism among regions of varying sanitary levels can increase the risk of disease appearance in the countries where it has been inexistent;

That the characterization and regionalization of the countries' production and commercialization systems have led to notable progress in the foot-and-mouth disease prevention, control and eradication programs in the region;

That the risk evaluation methodologies have increasingly favored trade interchange, and

The need for the countries to maintain transparency and harmony in their activities, in order to attain greater credibility,

## RECOMMENDS:

That the countries, as quickly as possible, implement surveillance systems for the prevention of foot-and-mouth disease and other exotic diseases based on an up-to-date characterization and regionalization of the production and commercialization systems, in order to permit the assessment of risks of disease introduction due to tourism and/or international commerce, with the support and cooperation of PANAFTOSA/PAHO and other international cooperation agencies.

## RECOMMENDATION III

Participation of social and other sectors in  
local surveillance systems

THE INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS, FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF ERADICATION AND THE NEW MODELS OF VETERINARY CARE.

Considering:

The process of restructuration underway among States and Countries, which has been noticed in different countries of South America, has rendered in some cases a reduction in the veterinary attention structures and consequent decentralization and privatization of some technical and administrative activities inherent to veterinary attention;

That the aforesaid process has fostered the integration and participation of the different social sectors in the processes of surveillance of the behavior of animal health and production, to sustain decision-making at the local level;

That in areas where the small-farm livestock-production system is predominant it is necessary to incorporate nonconventional participation mechanisms into the surveillance systems;

The successful experiences of management shared among the official sector, the productive sectors and other social segments, of the national or regional programs, and

The experience of the universities in supporting the foot-and-mouth disease eradication programs, applying epidemiological surveillance instruments at the local level and determining risk levels, based on the methodology of production systems characterization,

## RECOMMENDS:

1. That the countries review and adjust their epidemiological surveillance systems to emphasize the utilization of the information at the local level,

having as its functional mainspring the social participation and interinstitutional and intersectoral integration. To this end, it is necessary to establish a program to train new agents involved in installing and expanding the surveillance systems, with the technical support supplied by PANAFTOSA/PAHO and other international technical cooperation agencies.

2. That the active participation of the universities, of other professional training agencies and related sectors of the society be encouraged to carry out programs for the prevention, control and eradication of foot-and-mouth disease and other economically important diseases, as well as in the development of studies that support the strategic approaches utilized in the programs.

#### RECOMMENDATION IV Computerized support to the surveillance systems at the local level

THE INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS, FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF ERADICATION AND THE NEW MODELS OF VETERINARY CARE,

Considering:

That the foot-and-mouth disease control and eradication programs in South America have had the support of an Epidemiological Surveillance and Information System developed with the technical support of PANAFTOSA/PAHO, utilized in the managing of their activities;

That PANAFTOSA/PAHO is developing a computer program to register, process and utilize the data gathered by the system, at the local level;

That the modular characteristics of the concept of epidemiological analysis of information for this program, collected for decisionmaking, allows a broad spectrum of applications in surveillance at the local level, as well as the intercommunication with other managerial levels of the program, and

That this technology and the computer equipment can be acquired at reasonable cost,

#### RECOMMENDS:

That PANAFTOSA/PAHO proceed with the development of this methodology and its implementation in the demonstration area and, as soon as possible, transfer it to the countries for the automation and enhancement of the programs' local epidemiological surveillance and information systems, and that the countries should assign the funds needed for compatibilization, implementation and future development of the methodology.

## RECOMMENDATION V

## Utilization of the risk approach

THE INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS, FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF ERADICATION AND THE NEW MODELS OF VETERINARY CARE,

Considering:

That the application of the policy of foot-and-mouth disease eradication in the countries of South America has resulted in the configuration of a new epidemiological panorama, within which appear important zones with absence of viral activity, and

That this epidemiological situation may be altered by the reintroduction and spread of virus resulting from the production and commercial interrelationships with other epidemiological ecosystems existing in each country or region,

## RECOMMENDS:

That the countries, within their disease-prevention strategies, develop risk estimates for the protection of free zones in relation with the dynamics and tendencies of the commercial interrelationships, in order to complement epidemiological surveillance and the use of information at the local level.



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INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON  
EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS,  
FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF ERADICATION AND  
THE NEW MODELS OF VETERINARY CARE

Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, 6-8 March, 1995

P R O G R A M

**Monday, March 6**

08:00 a.m. Registration

08:30 a.m. Opening Session

**Part 1: Epidemiological Surveillance and Information Systems**  
Chairman: Dr. Dante Geymonat, Director General de los  
Servicios Ganaderos, Uruguay  
Rapporteurs: Dr. Francisco Muzio, PANAFTOSA  
Dr. Mairo Urbina, ICA-Colombia

09:00 a.m. Coffee break

09:30 a.m. Epidemiological Surveillance and Information Systems facing  
the changes due to the eradication process  
. Dr. Vicente Astudillo, PANAFTOSA

10:30 a.m. Serological and Molecular Biology Tools in Epidemiological  
Surveillance  
. Dr. Victor Saraiva, PANAFTOSA

11:00 a.m. Epidemiological Surveillance and Information Systems for the  
Prevention of Exotic Diseases  
. Dr. J. Fernando Dora, PANAFTOSA  
. Dr. Mairo Urbina, ICA-Colombia

11:30 a.m. Plenary Session: discussion and drafting of recommendations

01:00 p.m. Lunch

**Part 2: Epidemiological Surveillance at Local Level**  
Chairman: Dr. Carlos Bruckner, Undersecretary for Livestock  
of Bolivia  
Rapporteur: Dr. Hugo Tamayo, PANAFTOSA

## Monday, March 6 (cont.)

- 02:30 p.m. Computerized Data Processing and its Application to Epidemiological Surveillance: experience of São Paulo, Brazil  
 . Mr. Antonio Mendes, PANAFTOSA
- 03:00 p.m. Tools for Risk Analysis at the Local Level: the experience of Uruguay  
 . Dr. Luis Eduardo Dias, MGAP-Uruguay
- 03:30 p.m. Models of Epidemiological Surveillance Systems at Local Level: the role of the University  
 . Dr. Daniel Schettino, University of Tadi, Argentina
- 04:30 p.m. Coffee break

## Tuesday, March 7

- Part 3: Participation of the Community in Epidemiological Surveillance Systems  
 Chairman: Dr. Bernardo Casé, President of SENASA-Argentina  
 Rapporteurs: Dr. V. Saraiva, PANAFTOSA  
 Dr. J.F. Dora, PANAFTOSA
- 08:30 a.m. Non-Conventional Methods for Strengthening Local Epidemiological Surveillance Systems Based on Social Participation  
 . Dr. Narey Cotrina, PANAFTOSA
- 09:15 a.m. Surveillance and Information Systems in Public Health: a social approach  
 Dr. Ariel Depetris, PAHO-Perú
- 10:00 a.m. Epidemiological Surveillance Systems with Community Participation in Food-and-Mouth Disease Local Plan  
 . Dr. Ricardo Maresca, SENASA-Argentina
- 11:50 a.m. Plenary session: discussion and recommendations
- 01:00 p.m. Lunch
- 04:00 p.m. Reading of the recommendations
- 06:00 p.m. Closing session

## Wednesday, March 8

Visit of field

A P P E N D I X    I V

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STATEMENT OF THE LIVESTOCK-PRODUCERS' SECTOR  
Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia. March 9, 1995  
(Resolution V of COSALFA XXII)

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## STATEMENT BY THE LIVESTOCK-PRODUCERS' SECTOR

Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia. March 9, 1995

The associations of organized livestock producers of South America, meeting on March 9, 1995, in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, on the occasion of the XXII Regular Meeting of the South American Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (COSALFA),

Considering:

The economic repercussion of foot-and-mouth disease on the development of livestock production in South America, and on the production of meat, milk and by-products required for exportation and local consumption;

That the COSALFA member States have agreed to conduct the Hemispheric Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication Plan which, in reality, has been carried out with striking differences among the countries with respect to the level of vaccination coverage and other concrete actions, thereby jeopardizing their effectiveness, and

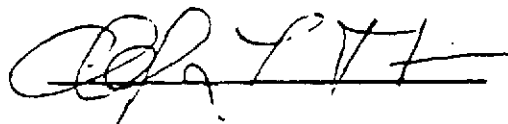
That the regional Livestock Producers Sector has contributed to the carrying out of the different projects under the aforesaid Plan, amounting to 76% of the total expenditures (US\$226 million) in 1994, which is an important percentage by the private sector,

HEREBY AGREE:

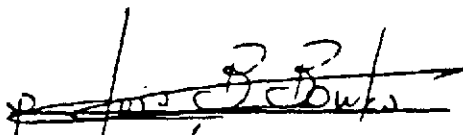
1. Through the XXII Regular Meeting of COSALFA, to exhort the governments of the Member States that are behind in their eradication of foot-and-mouth disease to assume fully their commitment to support the execution of the plan and of the different projects and subprojects.
2. To request that the XXII Regular Meeting of COSALFA undertake action to secure cooperation from the South American countries free of foot-and-mouth disease in sharing their experiences and spreading the application of the eradication measures, particularly among the private and public sectors of the countries still affected.
3. To call for an annual meeting of the livestock producers' organizations and associations in South America, jointly with the annual regular meeting of COSALFA, in order to assess from the viewpoint of the producers, the advances and problems confronted in the eradication of the disease during the year immediately preceding.

Given in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, on nine March 1995.

Manuel Aviani, Representative  
ARGENTINE RURAL CONFEDERATIONS



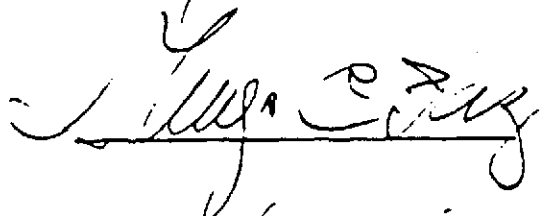
Fernando Sattori, President  
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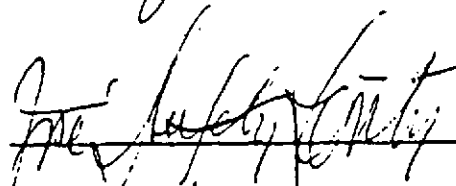
Luis Benjamín Bowles, President  
LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS FEDERATION  
OF SANTA CRUZ, BOLIVIA, FEGASACRUZ



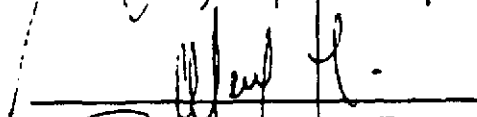
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José de Angelis Cortes, Representative  
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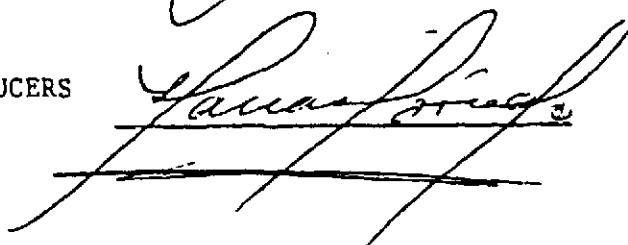
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March 1995



COMISION SUDAMERICANA PARA LA LUCHA CONTRA LA FIEBRE AFTOSA

**SOUTH AMERICAN COMMISSION FOR THE CONTROL OF  
FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE**

**XXI ORDINARY MEETING**

**Lima, Peru, April 14-15, 1994**

**FINAL REPORT**

**SOUTH AMERICAN COMMISSION FOR THE CONTROL OF  
FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE**

**XXI ORDINARY MEETING**

**Lima, Peru, April 14-15, 1994**

**FINAL REPORT**



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SOUTH AMERICAN COMMISSION FOR THE CONTROL OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE  
XXI ORDINARY MEETING

Lima, Peru, April 14-15, 1994

FINAL REPORT

The XXI Ordinary Meeting of the South American Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (COSALFA) was held in the City of Lima, Peru, at the headquarters of the Cartagena Agreement Board (JUNAC), on April 14 and 15, 1994, at the invitation of the Secretariat.

The chairmanship, due to be exercised by Ecuador, was graciously transferred to the host nation, Peru, in the person of the Vice Minister of Agriculture, Eng. Rodolfo Masuda M.

Dr. Vicente Astudillo, Director of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Control Center, acted as Secretary *ex officio*.

Official delegates to the Meeting came from: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela, while observers were: the Director of Animal Health of Panama; the Head of the Epizootiology Division of the Institute of Veterinary Medicine of Cuba; official advisers; livestock producers from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela. Observers were also present from: the Mexico-USA Commission for the Prevention of Foot-and-Mouth Disease and other Exotic Diseases; the Inter-American Institute of Cooperation for Agriculture (IICA); the Cartagena Agreement Board (JUNAC); the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO); the British Mission in Peru and Bolivia; the Legislative Branch of Bolivia; the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO); the industry of products of animal origin and biological products for veterinary use in Argentina, Colombia, Peru; and representatives of Universities and veterinary medicine-related organizations from several countries. The list of participants is given in (APPENDIX I).

The General Meeting included an opening session, four plenary sessions and a closing session (APPENDIX II).

The main officials of the Opening Session were: Eng. Absalon Vasquez V., Minister of Agriculture of Peru; Ambassador Manuel Jose Cardenas, JUNAC General Secretary; Dr. Patricio Hevia, PAHO Representative in Peru; Dr. Vicente Astudillo, Secretary *ex officio* of COSALFA; Dr. Primo Arambulo III, Head of the PAHO Veterinary Public Health Program; and Eng. Luis Paz Silva, Director of the JUNAC Agriculture and Livestock Division.

Ambassador Cardenas took the floor to express his pleasure at welcoming the representatives of the COSALFA member countries and to mention the importance of the joint efforts put forth by JUNAC and the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center/Pan American Health Organization (PANAFTOSA/PAHO), regarding the implementation of the Andean Regional Subproject for Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication. He also mentioned the



achievements of the Board in harmonization of health, customs and commercial criteria among the countries of the region with particular respect to forthcoming business opportunities and the growing importance of agricultural and livestock products in intrasubregional commerce.

Dr. Patricio Hevia then welcomed those present in the name of the PAHO Director, Dr. Carlyle Guerra de Macedo, and discussed the creation and evolution of the COSALFA, and the achievements reached on the Continent, mainly since the signing of the Hemispheric Plan for Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication.

Dr. Vicente Astudillo, the Secretary *ex officio*, remarked upon the changes in participation and perspective that COSALFA has undergone since its founding. He urged the countries to make use of this moment of change and jointly restructure the veterinary-care services with the help of the broad intersectorial participation in the process.

Eng. Absalon Vasquez V., Minister of Agriculture, officially announced the opening of the XXIst COSALFA Meeting, in the name of the Peruvian Government. He then urged a discussion of the true role of the State, mentioning as an example the Governments' activities during the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in Peru and the private sector's minor participation.

The Meeting Chairman then gave the floor to the *ex officio* Secretary, who read the Secretariat's Report which was approved with slight alterations. The Report follows.

## REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT

### 1. Background to the XXI General Meeting

COSALFA has reached its 21st anniversary, having fulfilled an important coordinating role in the national efforts in the fight against foot-and-mouth disease; it has been a vital component in the changes noticed in the epidemiological situation of the vesicular diseases in the regions and countries, and has served as a forum for the discussion of international working agreements.

In 1993 there was an insignificant increase in the number of recorded foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) foci, and occurrence was noted in regions where for some time the disease had been absent. The virus type O was, in particular, the most frequent and most widely distributed.

The countries reports confirm the loss of cohesion in the national epidemiological surveillance and information systems in those countries where there has been a deterioration of the animal health services deriving from the changes in the administrative structures of delivery of services that have affected the national programs in recent years. However, in most of them, the timeliness of information, as well as its use, has been adversely affected.

On the other hand it is important to note that almost a year ago Uruguay was considered, by the International Office of Epizootics (OIE), as a country free of foot-and-mouth disease with vaccination, and has reached 44 months without any clinical record of the disease. Likewise, the Argentine Mesopotamia and the southern section of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, have not recorded any outbreaks of the disease for more than 12 months.

In compliance of the countries with the Commissions regulations, the Secretariat has sent an invitation to the countries' delegates in the form of letters addressed to the Ministers of Agriculture and to the respective directors of Veterinary Services and/or Animal Health Services. Letters of invitation have likewise been sent to observers from countries in the Americas, Europe, Japan, Netherlands, and to organizations of international technical and financial cooperation such as the FAO, GATT, OIE, IICA, OIRSA, EEC, IDB, JUNAC, CEPAL, IAEA, World Bank, and to the US Department of Agriculture (USDA). Invitations have also been directed to livestock associations, producers of pharmaceuticals, biologicals and industrial products used in the agricultural and livestock-raising sectors of the countries of the region.

## 2. Compliance with the Resolutions of COSALFA XX

The level of compliance with the resolutions of COSALFA XX, by the Countries and/or the Secretariat, is discussed below.

### 2.1 Resolution I - Subregional Project of Control and Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease in the Plata River Basin

With respect to point 2 of said Resolution:

"Encourage the member countries to dedicate efforts towards the necessary consolidation of the goals defined in the Agreement",

it is reported that:

The Subregional Project of Foot-and-Mouth Disease Control and Eradication in the Rio de la Plata Basin has reached the close of its first phase after five years of coordinated work. Progress has been made in the epidemiological situation, characterized by the declaration of Uruguay as a disease-free country with vaccination, and by border areas that have not had any record of the disease in the last 12 months, with the exception of the foci observed in the area of Colonia in the Brazilian state of Rio Grande do Sul, epidemiologically independent. Likewise, viral endemism has been eliminated in important primary endemic areas, demonstrated by the break in the seasonality and historical cycles of diseases occurrence.

Concomitantly, the epidemiological surveillance and information system was made commensurate with the area's objectives; strategies and procedures were unified with respect to the vaccination schemes and attention to foci; a significant number of personnel assigned to technical activities in the Agreements area were trained; the area under cover was enlarged and Paraguay included as a member country, with Bolivia and Chile as observers.

The situation of biosafety of the official control and producing laboratories was analyzed through the Biosafety Subgroup of the Plata Basin Project, which set forth guidelines for monitoring and supervision and also recommended actions to improve biosafety conditions in the region.

For execution of the Second Stage of the Project, 1994-98, a group of technical personnel from the countries involved in the Agreement drafted a document of proposal that was submitted for approval to the Plata Basin Committee. The proposed strategies are part of the framework of the national programs scheduled for the area, acknowledging the different ecosystems represented in the region, consolidating the management between the private and public sectors in conducting the field activities, and adding the Brazilian states of Santa Catarina and Parana to the pioneer area; as well as the western region of Paraguay; and parts in the north of the Province of Buenos Aires and the provinces of Santa Fe, Chaco and Formosa, Argentina. The general objective of the second stage is the consolidation of the situation reached in the pioneer area and the attainment of conditions for the creation of new free areas by 1998, to ensure foot-and-mouth disease eradication in the area under the Agreement.

With respect to point 3 of said Resolution:

"Request PANAFTOSA to continue its efforts with FONPLATA to obtain funding for the Second Stage of the Agreement",

it is reported that:

With the office of the Secretariat acting as intermediary, an Agreement has been proposed involving PAHO/PANAFTOSA-FONPLATA to serve as the framework for the loan provided by the Fund for the second stage of the Plata Basin Agreement.

With respect to point 4 of said Resolution:

"Express its satisfaction for the process of integration developed within the countries, with the technical cooperation of PANAFTOSA, concerning the Subregional Project of the Hemispheric Program for Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease, and to encourage the execution of similar projects in other areas of the Continent",

it is reported that:

Paraguay joined the Agreement during the period, while Bolivia and Chile participated as observers. The provinces of Chaco and Formosa, Argentina, were integrated and, in Brazil, the inclusion of the state of Santa Catarina was initiated. All of this transpired with the participation of the producers, universities, and meat industry, plus the suppliers of biological products and other sectors related to livestock production.

2.2 Resolution II - Andean Subregional Project of Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication

With respect to point 1 of the Resolution:

"To request the countries to proceed urgently, with the technical cooperation of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) through PANAFTOSA, to the revision and reformulation of the Andean Subregional Project for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease, so that they may incorporate into their policies and strategies for action, the new productive commercial and epidemiologic interrelationships emerging in the subregion",

it is reported that:

PANAFTOSA/PAHO will cooperate with the National Secretariat of Agriculture and Livestock Production of Bolivia through a technical cooperation agreement in the development of a foot-and-mouth disease control and eradication project that takes into account the economic and productive relationships of the sector and includes the livestock producers' sector in the process.

Likewise, support will be given to the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Production of Ecuador in strengthening the National Foot-and-Mouth Disease Control and Eradication Plan through the organization of processes to co-manage the field activities, with the active participation of the livestock producers, the purpose of which is to set up a network of local veterinary attention units.

In Venezuela, PANAFTOSA/PAHO will support the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Production to strengthen the foot-and-mouth disease control and eradication program in the country, with the participation of FEDENAGA.

With respect to point 2 of said Resolution:

"That in the context of the Andean Subregional Project, emphasis be placed, as a Zonal Subproject, on the Ecuadorian Coastal Area in its continuity with binational frontier zones with Colombia and Peru, given the need to counter their condition as a determinant factor of the generation and diffusion of foot-and-mouth disease in the subregion",

it is reported that:

The proposal of Subproject 3 - Ecuadorian Coast, Colombian and Peruvian Borders, was drafted with the support of PANAFTOSA/PAHO and will be submitted by the Ecuadorian delegates during the XXI Meeting. The proposal embraces the new methodological experiences of comanagement, takes into account the new socio-economic relationships in the sector, and registers the modification of the profile of the State as the sole provider of animal health actions and the regional influences that it shares with Colombia and Peru regarding the introduction of foot-and-mouth disease.

With respect to point 3 of said Resolution:

"That the above-mentioned project should emphasize the efforts of the Government of Peru towards reaching the condition of foot-and-mouth disease free area in the departments of Tacna, Moquegua and Arequipa, as well as the initiatives of the Government of Bolivia in relation to the program for the control of foot-and-mouth disease in the departments of Beni and Santa Cruz. These projects should be sustained operationally in the establishment of local systems for veterinary attention, based on the joint management of official and private sectors",

it is reported that:

In support of previous resolutions taken by COSALFA, PANAFTOSA/PAHO has supported the Peruvian Ministry of Agriculture in drafting a project for declaring as a disease-free area the departamentos of Tacna, Moquegua and Arequipa. Unfortunately, the intensification of the intrasubregional commerce of animals and the shortcomings of the control and surveillance structures in some regions have facilitated the entry of foot-and-mouth disease type O into Peru. The virus type was introduced via the northern border, spread southward and affected almost all the nation's departamentos. This has delayed the plans for freeing the region of the disease and suggests the need for Peru to implement a field structure that promote control and surveillance action.

In Bolivia, as was previously stated, contacts have been initiated with FEGASACRUZ, FEGASABENI and the National Secretariat of Agriculture and Livestock Raising, for implementation of a process of comanagement of the foot-and-mouth-disease control activities in the region, with the active participation of the livestock-producing sector.

With respect to point 4 of said Resolution:

"Invite JUNAC and EEC to intensify their actions and commitments inherent to the institutionalization and viability of the Andean Subregional Project for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease and to PANAFTOSA, concerning the foreseen technical cooperation",

it is reported that:

The EEC, in response to requests from JUNAC and PANAFTOSA/PAHO, has sent a technical mission to define financial cooperation priorities and alternatives related to the regional subprojects of foot-and-mouth disease eradication in the Andean countries.

The aforesaid mission observed the importance of PANAFTOSA/PAHO as a support institution for the countries in carrying out the national eradication policies and in the functioning of the surveillance systems and the control and diagnostic laboratories. The mission also noted the process of administrative reform underway in various countries of the subregion, its impact on the coverage of animal health services and the development of shared management models like those implemented in regions of Colombia and Venezuela,

based on local committees, as attempts to stem the lessening presence of the state in the sector.

The mission proposed a policy of cooperation divided into two stages: the first would support the functional organization of the official animal-health services within the context of the Subregional Project, i.e., support for a program of training, communication and cooperation in the development of lines of investigation concerning the Colombian-Venezuelan plains (llanos). The second stage would be concerned with defining the financial cooperation of major impact on the efforts to eradicate foot-and-mouth disease in the subregion. The mission concluded by recommending that PANAFTOSA/PAHO maintain contact with JUNAC for the purpose of follow-through on the actions ensuing from the visit.

With respect to point 5 of said Resolution:

"That, the proposals for restructuring animal health services, contemplate ongoing programs for control/eradication of foot-and-mouth disease, to guarantee their continuity, consolidate the achievements attained, and to fulfill engagements acquired within the Hemispheric Program for Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease",

it is reported that:

The veterinary services of Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela are currently undergoing a process of restructuring. Although the orientations of the processes differ, a common factor observed is a reduction of the official activities executed by the central levels, whether through privatization or the transfer to departamental or municipal levels of the responsibilities for foot-and-mouth disease control actions. However, the Colombian model shows that the public entity is divided into an official one and a second with the orientation of commercial services. A result has been the strengthening of the structure dedicated to animal health and a tendency to restructure the surveillance system, incorporating new actors. Owing to administrative and economic problems in Peru, a structure to replace the State's presence has not yet been implemented, a situation that merits special attention.

### 2.3 Resolution III - Amazon Subregional Project for Prevention, Control and Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth-Disease

With respect to point 1 of said Resolution:

"Encourage Brazil, Guyana and Venezuela to complete the basic infrastructure of animal health in the bordering area of the three countries and to strengthen the activities of prevention, control and eradication of foot-and-mouth disease",

it is reported that:

The seroepidemiological survey in the Roraima-Guyana border region has been completed, designed with the support of PANAFTOSA/PAHO. No reactors were

identified, thereby enabling the execution of the prevention measures for the region.

A project for creating disease-free areas has been drafted for the Venezuelan state of Bolivar, to be executed through an agreement with the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Production and the respective government entities.

With respect to point 2 of said Resolution:

"Reinforce the activities of the border Agreements between Brazil and Colombia, incorporating Peru",

it is reported that:

Due to administrative problems in both countries, the ordinary meeting of the Brazil-Colombia Border Agreement was not held during the year in review. Nevertheless, some 4500 animals have been vaccinated on the Colombian side during the year.

With respect to point 3 of said Resolution:

"Request PANAFTOSA to continue collaborating towards the strengthening of programs in this subregion",

it is reported that:

As stated above, PANAFTOSA/PAHO aided Brazil and Guyana in drafting and conducting, a seroepidemiological survey, and in analyzing the sera collected in the Rupununi border area, in order to evaluate viral activity in the area.

#### 2.4 Resolution IV - System for Information and Epidemiological Surveillance

With respect to points 1-2 of said Resolution:

"That the countries promote the participation of the private sector in the systems for information and epidemiological surveillance of vesicular diseases, to improve their coverage of the process of notification, collection of information and investigation of samples, both in national laboratories and in the Continental Reference Center.

That, on this basis, the official veterinary service, acting as a normative and directive agency at the national level, monitor the development and evaluate permanently the management and execution of said process",

it is reported that:

The process of reforming the State's role, currently underway in several of the countries, led to difficulties in maintaining the surveillance and

information structures initially set up. Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador and Bolivia have begun to draft up working guidelines that include the participation of the peripheral official sectors plus private sector representatives such as cattlemen's associations, as suppliers and users of the animal health information. Paraguay has started action to integrate the producers sector into the programs through Zonal, Regional and Local Commissions.

It is important to note that in the Plata Basin Agreement area a decentralized surveillance and information system has been developed, adapted to the needs of an eradication program. Another characteristic is the efficient manner in which it functions horizontally among field units in border areas.

With respect to activities at the PANAFTOSA/PAHO Reference Diagnostic Laboratory, 539 samples sent in by six countries were received for analysis during the year in review. Following the required special viral studies, the following field samples were added to the PANAFTOSA/PAHO continental virus lab reference strains, due to their epidemiological importance: virus A<sub>24</sub> from Roraima, Brazil, and virus C<sub>3</sub> from Villegas, Argentina.

## 2.5 Resolution V - Project for the Master Plan of Brazil

With respect to point 1 of said Resolution:

"To support the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil in the adoption of all measures for the endowment of the necessary technical-administrative structure of state and federal agencies, so as to ensure continuity of activities to attain the goal of eradication in those regions of the country. Develop these activities together with the decisive participation of the livestock breeding community, expressed by the leaders of the different producer entities",

it is reported that:

The states of Rio Grande do Sul, Santa Catarina, Paraná, São Paulo, Mato Grosso do Sul, Goiás and Minas Gerais have adopted the Master Plan to their respective state conditions and have begun to develop it.

With respect to point 2 of said Resolution:

"To encourage PANAFTOSA/PAHO to assign priority in their direct technical cooperation to the activities of the Master Plan for Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease from Brazil, and to the development of actions leading to its integration with the subprojects of the Hemispheric Plan for Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease in South America",



it is reported that:

PANAFTOSA/PAHO has cooperated in designing the control and eradication strategies developed by the States and in conducting the personnel training processes in the states of São Paulo, Goiás, Rio Grande do Sul and Mato Grosso. The Center has likewise cooperated in the diagnostic and vaccine control activities executed by the Animal Defense Secretariat of Brazil.

The Center has also been named a member of the National Council of Animal Sanitary Defense and of the Foot-and-Mouth Disease Consulting Council of the Forum of Secretaries of Agriculture of Brazil.

## 2.6 Resolution VI - Representation at International Meetings

With respect to point 1 of said Resolution:

"Request OIE to invite COSALFA to participate in the General Assembly and special meetings on foot-and-mouth disease to inform on the progress of the Hemispheric Program for Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease",

it is reported that:

The OIE has acknowledged COSALFA and PANAFTOSA/PAHO as its Secretariat and has sent express recognition of such; it has also invited the *ex officio* Secretary of COSALFA to participate in the 62d General Session of the OIE next May.

With respect to point 2 of said Resolution:

"To commission the Secretariat to represent COSALFA at international meetings such as OIE, FAO, IAEA and others",

it is reported that:

In accordance with this mandate, the Secretariat of COSALFA has participated in the following international meetings:

- Seminar on the Registration of Veterinary Products, OIE/ICA, Colombia
- Meeting with Dr. J.P. Bourjac, of the EEC, in Rio de Janeiro;
- OIE/PANAFTOSA/PAHO Mission to Uruguay, to evaluate the epidemiological situation prior to its designation as a disease-free country with vaccination;
- 61st General Session of the International Committee of the OIE;
- Visit to the Institute of Virology and Immunoprophylaxis in Mittelhäusern, Berne, Switzerland, regarding collaboration in foot-and-mouth disease activities;

- Visit to the EEC headquarters to discuss the Community support for foot-and-mouth disease subregional programs in South America;
- Visit to INIA/ICI to discuss join cooperation programs.
- Visit to PANAFTOSA/PAHO by Dr. H. Batho of the EEC.
- Participation in the First FAO Expert Consultation on the Needs for Information Systems to Strengthen Veterinary Services in Developing Countries.
- Participation in the IAEA/FAO Expert Committee for Rinderpest seroepidemiological surveillance systems;
- Participation in the 97th Annual Meeting of the United States Health Association, and presentation of the topic: The Continental Vesicular Disease Surveillance and Information System.

## 2.7 Resolution VII - Central Cordillera Project

"To request the countries involved to agree on accelerating the process for initiating the specific activities",

it is reported that:

The ordinary meetings of the Argentina-Chile Central Technical Commissions were held to coordinate the execution of joint actions. In view of the outbreak of FMD in the Argentine border region a special meeting was held in Mendoza, Argentina. Moreover, technical personnel from the Agriculture and Livestock Service (SAG) and from PANAFTOSA/PAHO monitored in loco the measures adopted by the Argentine sanitary officials during the outbreak in San Carlos de Bariloche.

## 2.8 Resolution VIII - International Seminar on the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease, its Technical-Administrative Bases and its Consequences in the Commerce of Animals, their Products and By-products

With respect to this Resolution:

1. "To adopt as its own recommendations of the International Seminar on the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease, its Technical-Administrative Bases and its Consequences in the Commerce of Animal, their Products and By-products".

2. "To recommend the Secretariat, delegates, producers and representatives of the social sectors which participate in foot-and-mouth disease programs to assume the recommendations of the Seminar and to try to apply them in activities for control and eradication of foot-and-mouth disease. Similarly, that they use

them in transactions with official and commercial sectors of importing countries, to achieve international recognition of their epidemiologic situations".

3. "To request PANAFTOSA/PAHO to organize, promote and develop, prior to the XXI COSALFA, an International Seminar on "Animal health programs and changes in the role of the state and the community",

it is reported that:

The period in review has been marked by a lessening of the capacity of attention of the animal-health attention services, mainly as a result of the processes of administrative reform underway in some countries, which deserve even more the modification of the centralist strategy of managing the programs, giving way to a participatory model. The Secretariat has continued supporting the development of the national or subregional projects between the countries through direct technical cooperation mechanisms; emphasis has been placed on implementation of the processes leading to co-management and on promotion of the active participation of the social actors in the coordination of the activities.

On the other hand, in compliance with the mandate granted by the same Seminar, the Secretariat has supported the countries of the region in their official contacts to secure recognition of their epidemiological status in order to achieve new markets for their products. Support has also been directed to the development of new methodologies of analysis applicable to the identification of the risks related to the introduction of animal products.

However we have not conducted the research required to identify the economic, financial, cultural and social mechanisms that interfere in the participation of the various sectors involved in the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease.

Finally, item 3 of the said Resolution has been fulfilled with the execution of the International Seminar on the Animal-Health Attention and the Changes in the Role of the State and of the Community held on 11-13 April 1994. Its Recommendations will be discussed during the plenary sessions of this COSALFA Meeting.

### 3. Other Topics

#### 3.1 Present status of the surveillance and information systems in the countries

Ever since COSALFA's first meeting in 1973, consideration has always been focused on the need to strengthen continually the epidemiological surveillance and information system compatible with the needs of the national programs, a process coordinated through PANAFTOSA. The XVI, XIX and XX Meetings of COSALFA have reiterated the need to adjust the systems to render

them adaptable to the new needs of the national program in the light of the changes observed in their operating structures.

Analysis of the functioning of the Continental Epidemiological Surveillance and Information System in South America especially recognizes that with respect to the geographical coverage, the flow, the timeliness, the quality and finally the applicability of the information, problems exist in the national systems, which have become more acute in the last three years.

### 3.2 Development and applications of the EITB test

The enzyme-linked immunoelectrotransfer blot test (EITB) has been developed by PANAFTOSA/PAHO to meet the requirements of one of the guidelines of the Hemispheric Eradication Plan: the identification, expansion and preservation of free areas, with respect to identification of viral activity in the field. The test is based on the detection, in infected animal sera, of antibodies against antigens that participate in the virus replication - such animals being differentiated from vaccinated animals .

In order to assess the behavior of the test in the field, sera from animals from various ecosystems and having different status have been monitored: animals from persistently infected areas; vaccinated animals, according to the type of vaccine and vaccination scheme; and animals not exposed to the virus.

The results indicated that the test's sensitivity allows for monitoring of the residual level of antibodies in endemic areas; of special interest are those areas in the process of eradication. The test enables personnel to detect antibodies as long as three years after the episode and eliminates the false positives detected by the IDAG. Moreover, it is applicable to populations vaccinated systematically, existent in areas where foot-and-mouth disease occurrence is recorded. The test also provides for observation of the gradual reduction of the antibodies, corroborating data obtained from experimentally infected animals.

### 3.3 Situation of the ELISA test in South America

The ELISA liquid-phase test was developed to identify antibodies to foot-and-mouth disease or vesicular stomatitis in animal sera. Usage revealed that the test demonstrated validity and repeatability for the identification of FMD or anti-VIA antigen. In the latter application, the type of antigen utilized (not purified) may also reveal false positives in vaccinated animals. When applied with respect to vesicular stomatitis, it demonstrated sensitivity equal to the virus neutralization test and greater specificity.

The ELISA test is being utilized as a replacement for the virus neutralization test in the selection of cattle to be used in PGP tests, and its correlation to the PGP test is under study for the evaluation of foot-and-mouth disease vaccines.

The same technique has been adapted for diagnosis of Blue Tongue and Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis, the latter still in the development stage.

Both utilize monoclonal antibodies; the test for Blue Tongue has demonstrated validity and repeatability.

An indirect "sandwich" ELISA test has been developed to allow for quick typing of the most prevalent vesicular diseases in the region; in addition to its greater sensitivity it has the additional advantage that the reagents can be stored for up to 24 months under the proper temperature conditions.

Technical personnel from the national diagnostic laboratories in the region, with the exception of Bolivia, have been trained in the technique. Thus, with the exception of the ICA/USDA laboratory in Colombia and the IIV laboratory in Venezuela, which do not have the necessary equipment, all the laboratories can routinely conduct the testing.

### 3.4 EEC/PLATA BASIN/PANAFTOSA/PAHO Project

PANAFTOSA/PAHO, with financial support from the EEC, continued its coordination of the research project to substitute the FMD-vaccine potency control tests, that utilize cattle, by serological tests. At the same time, the performance of the official laboratories in the Plata Basin countries is going to be assessed - GELAB/Argentina, LARA/ Brazil, DILAVE/Uruguay - with regard to conducting the said tests.

For the development of the project, 200 sera from cattle vaccinated and tested by valency in official potency control tests by PGP, have been selected.

A battery of serological tests has been selected, including: mouse protection test; virus neutralization in monolayer microtechnique and in suspension, both using IBRS-2 cells; liquid-phase ELISA with monoclonal detector and with polyclonal detector.

The experimental designs for test correlations and for laboratory comparisons have been prepared and a control plan has been drawn up for future discussion with the countries participating in the project.

### 3.5 Other Laboratory Activities

#### 3.5.1 Virus Detection

Work has continued on optimization of the PCR reactions for specific expansion of undefined genomic fragments; use of specific initiators and reaction conditions. Although the preliminary results are of interest, the technique is still far from being utilized as a routine tool in epidemiological studies.

#### 3.5.2 Virus Characterization

Work proceeded on the molecular studies of field strains and of those strains utilized in formulating vaccines through fingerprinting techniques and sequencing of the main immunogenic protein (VP1); the genetic heterogeneity existing among the foot-and-mouth disease virus strains subtype A<sub>24</sub> utilized

in vaccine formulations was studied and a bank of molecular data of the strains selected for vaccine production in South America was set up: O<sub>1</sub> Campos, O<sub>1</sub> Caseros, A<sub>24</sub> Cruzeiro, A79 Arg/79, A81 Arg/87, C<sub>3</sub> Indaial, C<sub>3</sub> Resende and C<sub>3</sub> Arg/85. The purpose was to provide a basis for comparison with eventual emergency strains, plus for the control of vaccine strains.

### 3.6 Meetings of the Animal Health Border Agreements

Several border agreement meetings were not held during the period in review, due mainly to administrative problems in the countries. This has adversely affected the coordination of common actions within the scope of the subprojects of the Hemispheric Plan.

#### Bolivia-Paraguay Agreement

The existing agreement was enlarged to include other diseases.

#### Brazil-Bolivia Agreement

Two ordinary meetings were held during the past year one in Guayaramerin and a second in San Matías. The recommendations included: to encourage the countries to equip the border offices with personnel, infrastructure and equipment and to process the authorizations through the Foreign Ministries to facilitate the entry of official vehicles on both sides of the border, thus facilitating surveillance. It was also recommended that the governments formalize their cooperation plans to expand the border demonstration areas (San Matías-Cáceres and Guayaramerin-Guajaramirin). The PAHO/WHO was also asked to cooperate in organizing training programs and updating courses in animal health aspects and control of zoonoses for the border technical personnel.

#### Brazil-Colombia Agreement

No meetings were held during the year.

#### Colombia-Ecuador-PAHO Agreement

During the year, an ordinary meeting of the Technical Committee of the Agreement was held in Quito, with the participation of PANAFITSA/PAHO professional staff. Among the most important results, proposals were submitted for the establishment of local veterinary attention systems in the area of the Agreement, and a binational workshop seminar for the exchange of experience on this type of event with the participation of technical personnel and livestock producers was organized. Two binational courses were held, one on surveillance at the local level and another on the epidemiology of tuberculosis and brucellosis.

#### Colombia-Venezuela Agreement

No meetings were held during the period in review.

### Ecuador-Peru-PAHO Agreement

With PANAFTOSA/PAHO participation, the ordinary meeting of the Steering Committee of the Binational Sanitary Agreement was held in the city of Machala, in Ecuador. Efforts centered on making the epidemiological surveillance system suitable for its utilization at the local level. Prior to the meeting a seminar-workshop on epidemiological surveillance at the local level was organized.

### Argentina-Chile Agreement

The Argentine-Chilean Central Technical Commissions held their ordinary meetings to exchange information and to agree on the implementation of future joint action.

### Bolivia-Chile-Peru-PAHO Agreement

A special meeting of the Agreement participants was held in Tacna to discuss the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease that occurred in Peru.

With the purpose of making the Agreement more efficient, the countries have proposed amending it to include Bolivia. The first meeting of the Agreement, in its new form, will be held at the end of 1994.

### Brazil-Guyana-Venezuela Agreement

No meetings were held during the period

## 3.7 Technical Cooperation with countries of the free area

Cooperation with the English-speaking countries of the Caribbean continued, with the intention of developing a methodology of quantitative risk analysis, in conjunction with Tuskegee University.

PANAFTOSA/PAHO has lent support to the Veterinary Medicines Production Company of Cuba in the development of vaccine production technology, by providing consultants and laboratory materials; it has likewise trained a fellow for 4 months in Molecular Biology and has developed the first Seminar-Workshop on Animal Health Management Programs at the Local Level.

## 3.8 Role of PANAFTOSA/PAHO in international and interregional trade of animals and their products

The increase in regional and international trade of animals and animal products gives new importance to the coordinating role of the COSALFA Secretariat in terms of preserving the sanitary conditions of the areas and/or countries on the subcontinent.

Recent commercial processes have highlighted the difficulty of compliance with the animal health agreements assumed, leading to potential dangers in the spread of foot-and-mouth disease to countries or areas that enjoy a privileged epidemiological situation.

It is a function of PANAFTOSA/PAHO not only to render technical support to the negotiations among countries in drawing up the sanitary conditions for commercial exchange, but also to support the operation if the countries involved so request. In this sense, in relation to foot-and-mouth disease, a protocol with the University of Tuskegee has been signed to develop quantitative risk analysis to make more objective the evaluation of trade in animals and animal products among areas having varying sanitary "status." It is therefore proposed that the countries more actively utilize PANAFTOSA/PAHO in their commercial exchange efforts.

#### 4. Training

During 1993, in addition to organizing the "International Seminar on Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication, its Technical and Administrative Bases and its Consequences on the Commercialization of Animals and their Products and By-products" held prior to COSALFA XX, PANAFTOSA/PAHO has conducted an in-service training program for professionals, in both the private and public sectors, from: Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Mozambique, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay, in accordance with the Intramural Training Calendar. Programs were held in the areas of: vesicular diseases diagnosis (13), oil-adjuvanted vaccine production (19), production of monoclonal antibodies (4), molecular biology techniques (4), computers applied to the surveillance systems (11), care and handling of laboratory animals (1), biosafety and epidemiological surveillance, as well as other programs held at decentralized levels. Nine fellows engaged in training programs for animal health professionals at universities in the region also received support.

#### 5. Development of the meeting

After the presentation of the Secretariat Report by Dr. Vicente Astudillo, Director of PANAFTOSA/PAHO, Dr. José Germán Rodríguez Torres closed the morning session with his presentation of the Situation of the Foot-and-Mouth Disease Control Programs. He discussed the sanitary occurrences in comparison with previous years and commented on the development of the programs.

During the discussion, some delegates expressed opinions on matters related to the co-management processes in their respective countries, plus the evolution of the epidemiological situation and progress in research relating to the reduction of virus handling in free areas.

The delegates remarked on some points of the Report and added data related to the development of their activities. Dr. Carlos Valdovinos, the delegate from Chile, Dr. Alberto Pecker, from Argentina, and Eng. Fernando Chavarria, from Peru, made a special point of commenting on the excellent coordinating and support role exercised by PANAFTOSA through personnel and material furnished during the occurrence of foot-and-mouth disease in Peru and in Argentina. Thanks to the Center's action, Chile was able to implement immediate prevention measures. The delegate from Argentina discussed the



outbreak in San Carlos de Bariloche and the need to reevaluate its surveillance systems in the light of the event.

The delegate from Colombia stated that the process of restructuring the ICA will enhance the carrying out of the activities jointly with the private sector.

Uruguay explained that the C<sub>3</sub> Resende virus strain is being used in that country in the production of FMD vaccines.

The delegate from Ecuador suggested that owing to the growing participation of the private sector in the vesicular diseases control activities, the report on the situation in the countries should include that information together with the public sector's work force.

Dr. Jairo Arias, from Colombia, stressed that the increased subregional trade in animals and products brought to light the need to strengthen the national structures in order to offer health guarantees to the importing countries and which, in his opinion, need "strong veterinary services" supported by "suitable laboratories" that make this activity possible.

The afternoon session started with the presentation of the Analysis of the Continental Epidemiological Surveillance and Information System, by Dr. Victor Saraiva. He discussed the origins of the system and its development; but he likewise mentioned the decreased efficiency of the System in the last three years, which compromises its use as a surveillance tool. He urged the delegates to undertake the changes needed to improve the system. The delegates from Argentina, Paraguay, Uruguay and Colombia expressed their concern with the status of the System and recommended measures and commitments required so that the System could quickly operate according to the necessary standards.

After a short break, the delegates took up the topic of Regional Subprojects and Border Agreements, starting off with the discussion by Dr. Francisco Muzio of the Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication in the Plata Basin Project. He discussed the advances realized at the end of the first stage of the project, i.e., the reduction of the disease's presence in both absolute numbers and geographic area affected. He also described the plans involving new areas during the Plan's second stage and commented on the special foci control measures taken on the occasion of the recent occurrence of the disease in the pre-Patagonia region of Argentina.

In the context of the Andean Area, the Ecuadorian delegate, Dr. Galo Izurieta, took the floor to discuss that country's interest in implementing the Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication Project on the Ecuadorian Coast and Colombia-Peru Border Areas. Dr. Hugo Tamayo then submitted the project and the Meeting recommended that it be sent to the countries for their appreciation.

The Delegate from Guyana, Dr. Lennox Applewaithe, expressed his pleasure at participating in the Meeting and requested the Secretariat support in obtaining the OIE free area characterization. Dr. Astudillo, at the same time that he put the Center's support at Guyana's disposal, observed that the free-area characterization process involves Guyana's inclusion in a regional

project that provides guarantees for protecting such areas through the required epidemiological surveillance activities.

Dr. Mark Rweyemamu, of the FAO, submitted aspects of how he conceived the eradication of diseases. With regard to foot-and-mouth disease, he mentioned that the purpose should be eradication, not control, as presumably had been thought. The *ex officio* Secretary intervened to explain and emphasize that eradication is the goal sought by the Hemispheric Plan for Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease in the Americas.

On April 15th the Meeting began with Dr. Alex Nuñez, the Panamanian representative, who took the floor to discuss the policies applied in the region of Darién, in the light of national decrees that create a protection zone without animals and another with limited animal population. With respect to the activities of the LADIVES Laboratory, he mentioned that diagnosis is taking up to 15 days and that the number of samples does not match the number of episodes. Discussion also included the topic of Canada's refusal to buy meat products from Panama owing to the proximity of Colombia and the quality of the exotic diseases surveillance system, that does not possess a good level of operation in the field with satisfactory laboratory support and methodology for analysis of the risks of exotic disease introduction and spread. It was mentioned that one of the priorities of the work plan of the new PANAFTOSA/PAHO consultant in the region is precisely that matter. Additionally, however, it would be advisable to undertake a coordinated effort involving other agencies like OIRSA, IICA and FAO, to discuss and organize surveillance and information systems for the region.

The Recommendations of the International Seminar on the Animal Health Attention Systems and the Changes in the Role of the State and of the Community were submitted for approval by the Plenary; they were approved with changes in the wording (APPENDIX III).

The session had a short break, then began again with Miscellaneous Topics. The delegate from Colombia took up the matter of international trade in animals and their products, remarking on the great effort in favor of harmonizing interests among the countries on the Continent and elsewhere; he mentioned examples like the Uruguay Round of GATT and the ensuing agreements, the negotiations involving MERCOSUR and the Andean Pact. In the light of problems that occurred during the execution of recent cattle export sanitary agreements, Brazil was urged to take the measures necessary to speed up the process. He concluded by proposing that PANAFTOSA have a greater participation in the process of negotiating and executing the region's sanitary agreements.

The Secretary *ex officio* explained that the Center has met the requests of the countries regarding this matter, and mentioned as an example the process that led to Uruguay's free status declaration, the support to the health situation evaluation missions assessing the possibility of exporting animal products, and that, in this sense, an agreement is underway with Tuskegee University to draft up a proposal for quantitative risk analysis that could facilitate regional trade in animal products.

With regard to the countries' forwarding of foot-and-mouth disease virus strains for epidemiological follow-up at the World Reference Laboratory, the countries have not adhered to strict compliance with Resolutions V and X of COSALFA XIX concerning PANAFTOSA's role and the channels to be utilized.

The Secretary *ex officio* then discussed the topic of biosafety and the concern noticed in the area of the Plata Basin Agreement about the handling of virus, which has been the object of studies by a commission of experts who proposed other measures, such as the characterization of the strains handled by laboratories in the region. The delegate from Brazil stated that that concern had motivated the creation of a commission composed of private production laboratories, the control officials and PANAFTOSA, to study the problem in the country.

Finally, Dr. Astudillo mentioned the good results achieved with the EITB test, and stressed the carefulness with which the Center tested it prior to offering it to the countries. The test has been "fine tuned" with regard to its interpretation and sera from animals with different immune statuses have been tested, from various ecosystems in Uruguay, Argentina and Colombia. It is oriented to support the efforts of identification and maintenance of free areas. Copies of the Center's publication on the topic were distributed.

The choice of the site of the XXII COSALFA was then opened for discussion, and the Meeting participants were reminded that the previous general meeting had decided that Chile would be the host nation. The delegate from that nation then took the floor to relinquish that option and the meeting was opened to suggestions for a host site. Ecuador, Venezuela and Bolivia offered to host the Meeting, but a secret vote decided in favor of Bolivia. Therefore, Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, will be the site of the next COSALFA general meeting.


Dr. Jaime Freundt Thurner, Minister of Foreign Relations and Health of Peru presided over the closing session. Resolutions about the following aspects were read and approved:


- I. Subregional Project for Foot-and-Mouth Disease Control and Eradication in the Plata Basin.
- II. Regional Programs in Bolivia and Brazil.
- III. Development of Pilot Areas of Foot-and-Mouth Disease Control in the Bolivia-Brazil Border Strip.
- IV. Subregional Project of the Andean Area.
- V. Amazon Subregional Project of Foot-and-Mouth Disease Prevention, Control and Eradication.
- VI. Strengthening and Improving the Continental Epidemiological Surveillance System.
- VII. Reference Functions of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center


- VIII. Strengthening the Veterinary Services in Border Areas.
- IX. Analysis of the Sanitary Implications of Livestock Transit in Border Areas.
- X. Proposal for Inclusion of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center as Member of the OIE Commission on Foot-and-Mouth Disease and other Zoonoses.
- XI. International Seminar on the Animal-Health Attention Systems and the Changes in the Role of the State and of the Community, and topic of the next Seminar.
- XII. Expression of Appreciation to the Republic of Peru and to the Cartagena Agreement Board.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, The Chairman of the Meeting, the Vice Minister of Agriculture of Peru; the Director of Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center, Secretary *ex officio* of COSALFA; the Delegates of the member countries, sign the present Final Report in the Spanish and English languages, both texts being equally authentic.

Done in Lima, Peru, on this fifteen day of April, nineteen and ninety four.

  
 President  
 Vice Minister of Agriculture  
 of Peru


  
 Delegate of Argentina

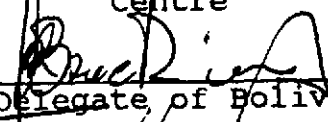
  
 Delegate of Brasil


  
 Delegate of Colombia

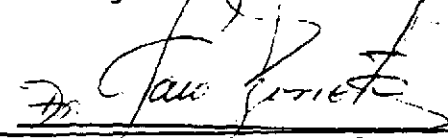
  
 Delegate of Guyana


  
 Delegate of Peru

  
 Secretary *ex-officio*  
 Director of Pan American  
 Foot-and-Mouth Disease  
 Centre

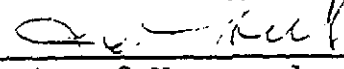
  
 Delegate of Bolivia

  
 Delegate of Chile

  
 Delegate of Ecuador

  
 Delegate of Paraguay

  
 Delegate of Uruguay

  
 Delegate of Venezuela

**R E S O L U T I O N S**



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RESOLUTION ISUBREGIONAL PROJECT FOR FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE  
CONTROL AND ERADICATION IN THE PLATA BASIN

THE XXI ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

The progress achieved by the first stage (1988-1993) of the project for the control and eradication of foot-and-mouth disease in the Plata River Basin, especially the absence of foot-and-mouth disease and the elimination of viral endemism in the entire initial area, the international recognition of Uruguay as a country free of foot-and-mouth disease with vaccination, the need to consolidate the situation in the pioneer area of the agreement, and the technical and political desirability of expanding its geographical area, and

The demand for funding needed to carry out the Agreement's Phase Two (1994-1998), whose technical bases have already been approved by the Committee and the contacts initiated by the PANAFTOSA with the Financing Fund for the Development of the Plata Basin (FONPLATA) for the purpose of ensuring its funding,

## RESOLVES:

1. To congratulate the member countries of the Agreement for the results achieved in the first stage, in pursuit of foot-and-mouth disease eradication.
2. To urge member countries to proceed in their efforts to consolidate the goals of the Agreement through development of its second stage.
3. To request that PANAFTOSA, in conjunction with the countries, continue to solicit that FONPLATA provide the funding for the second stage of the Agreement.
4. To express its satisfaction for the process of integration that is being developed among the countries, with technical cooperation provided by PANAFTOSA, and which has made possible the achievement of important advances by this subregional project within the framework of the Hemispheric Plan for Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication, and to stimulate the execution of similar projects in other areas of the continent.

(Approved in the plenary session  
on 15 April 1994)



RESOLUTION II

## REGIONAL PROGRAMS IN BOLIVIA AND BRAZIL

THE XXI ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

The gradual and integrated development of the Hemispheric Plan for Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease in the Americas;

The substantial progress attained in the Subregional Project of the Plata River Basin, which has recently included the States of Santa Catarina and Parana;

The plans for regionalization of the campaign against foot-and-mouth disease in the Federal Republic of Brazil, with the creation of commissions and coordinating groups for the regions of the Central West, South, East, North and Northeast.

That the Program Region in the Central West of Brazil, composed of São Paulo, Goiás, Tocantins, Minas Gerais, Mato Grosso do Sul and Mato Grosso, constitute an integrated system of livestock production, especially beef and dairy animals, which is continually growing and offers great potential for domestic consumption and generation of surplus for export purposes;

That programs exist in the different states of Brazil which compose the aforesaid subregion and which are equipped with an important animal health infrastructure, but which require an intensive integration and mutual collaboration in order to proceed with greater effectiveness in the control of foot-and-mouth disease, and

That interest has been shown by the Government of Bolivia and the community of rural producers to develop a foot-and-mouth disease control program in Bolivia and particularly in the regions of Beni and Santa Cruz, which are epidemiologically and commercially interdependent with Brazil's-Central Western area,

## RESOLVES:

1. To support the regionalization efforts of the foot-and-mouth disease control and eradication program in the Federal Republic of Brazil.
2. To support the Bolivian Government so that the integrated action with the livestock-producing community is able to establish the foot-and-mouth disease control and eradication program in Bolivia.

3. To highlight the importance of the foot-and-mouth disease control and eradication programs in eastern Bolivia, the departments of Beni and Santa Cruz, which, because of the epidemiological and commercial relations of the livestock-producing community with the Central-Western Region of Brazil, constitute interdependent ecosystems.

4. To encourage the PAHO/PANAFTOSA to cooperate in organizing and supporting the aforementioned programs.

(Approved in the plenary session  
on 15 April 1994)

RESOLUTION IIIDEVELOPMENT OF PILOT AREAS OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE  
CONTROL IN THE BOLIVIA-BRAZIL BORDER STRIP

THE XXI ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

That frequent transit of cattle in both directions has been observed in the Bolivia-Brazil border zone;

That it behoves those nations to characterize the magnitude of such cattle transit and the main areas of passage;

That coordinated action on both sides of the border is required for the effective control of foot-and-mouth disease in the border zone, and

That bilateral contacts between the two countries have been initiated with the intention of developing a foot-and-mouth disease control pilot area,

RESOLVES:

1. To encourage both countries to increase bilateral coordination to define the pilot areas and emphasize joint action on the national, regional and local level, for the development of such action.
2. To solicit that the PAHO/WHO, through PANAFOTSA and the Representation in Bolivia, provide the technical cooperation and the coordination of action between both countries, for the development of foot-and-mouth disease control pilot areas as agreed between the two countries.

(Approved in the plenary session  
on 15 April 1994)

RESOLUTION IV

## SUBREGIONAL PROJECT OF THE ANDEAN AREA

THE XXI ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

That it is necessary to revise the zonal components of the Andean Subregional Project for Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication, with a view to redefining the functions of the State and therefore the attributes of the National Sanitary Services exercised during recent years, and

That it is necessary to include in the Andean Project an operating strategy that gives priority to social participation with the intention of achieving exceptional results such as those attained in similar projects existing in South America,

## RESOLVES:

1. Make the National Sanitary Services responsible for immediately undertaking, in cooperation with PANAFTOSA, revision and updating of the different zonal components of the Andean Subregional Project for Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication.
2. Encourage the Sanitary Services of the countries, backed by political agreements and decisions taken at the ministerial level, to give priority within the national programs to eliminating foot-and-mouth disease in the border areas.
3. Reiterate to JUNAC and the EEC the need to persist and proceed to seek alternatives intended to render feasible the execution of the Andean Project for Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication.

(Approved in the plenary session  
on 15 April 1994)

RESOLUTION VAMAZON SUBREGIONAL PROJECT OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH  
DISEASE PREVENTION, CONTROL AND ERADICATION

THE XXI ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

That the results of epidemiological studies with samples from Rupununi in the border area between Guyana and Brazil have indicated the absence of foot-and-mouth disease viral activity;

That there is an urgent need to equip the subregion with sanitary infrastructure to ensure the prevention and control activities required to prevent the introduction of the foot-and-mouth disease virus, and

That the Cooperative Republic of Guyana has expressed interest in obtaining the international recognition as a country free of foot-and-mouth disease,

## RESOLVES:

1. To urge Brazil, Guyana and Venezuela to complete the feasibility studies for the prevention, control and eradication of foot-and-mouth disease in the area composed of the state of Roraima in Brazil, the Cooperative Republic of Guyana and the state of Bolivar, in Venezuela.
2. To urge the countries to proceed with their efforts to upgrade the infrastructure of the veterinary services in this area.
3. To request, as a mechanism of coordination, and with the objective of securing the commitment from each country to execute the program's activities, that the three countries continue to hold without interruption the meetings sponsored by the existing animal health border agreements. In this regard, the Secretariat is asked to issue an urgent convocation for meetings in 1994.
4. To request that PANAFTOSA/PAHO continue cooperating with the three countries for the organization of the foot-and-mouth disease prevention and eradication activities, with emphasis on epidemiological surveillance, on personnel training and on the dissemination of information among producers in order to obtain their active participation.

(Approved in the plenary session  
on 15 April 1994)

RESOLUTION VISTRENGTHENING AND IMPROVING THE  
CONTINENTAL EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM

THE XXI ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

That the Continental Epidemiological Surveillance and Information System is one of the basic instruments of the foot-and-mouth disease eradication programs;

That in some countries the system has, in recent years, suffered from a progressive weakening in its operation and information usage;

That such weakening has worsened in some cases due to the structural changes underway in the sanitary services, and

That it is necessary to identify the critical points that are affecting the system, upgrade it within the current context in which the veterinary attention services are operating, and render it commensurate with the progress attained in some areas of the Continent,

## RESOLVES:

1. To request that PANAFTOSA/PAHO, as quickly as possible, proceed to coordinate jointly with the countries, a review and revision of the system, in order to upgrade it in line with the objectives of the Hemispheric Plan for Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication.

2. To encourage the countries to assume greater responsibility with respect to the national epidemiological surveillance and information systems, based on the elements of the system's evaluation conducted during this Meeting and especially the quality of the information.

(Approved in the plenary session  
on 15 April 1994)

RESOLUTION VIIREFERENCE FUNCTIONS OF THE PAN AMERICAN  
FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE CENTER

THE XXI ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

The role that COSALFA, under the Secretariat of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center (PANAFTOSA/PAHO), has played in coordinating the national and regional efforts in the process of eradicating foot-and-mouth disease on the American Continent, and

The COSALFA member countries' recognition of PANAFTOSA/PAHO as the Reference Center for Foot-and-Mouth Disease for the continent, due to its history and professional and technical-scientific structure,

## RESOLVES:

To encourage the countries so that all projects related to the control and eradication of foot-and-mouth disease be conceived, drafted and executed with the technical orientation of PANAFTOSA/PAHO, in order to maintain their uniformity with regard to technical activities and strategies, as established in the Hemispheric Program of Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication.

(Approved in the plenary session  
on 15 April 1994)

RESOLUTION VIIISTRENGTHENING THE VETERINARY SERVICES  
IN BORDER AREAS

THE XXI ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

That the economic aperture is an irreversible policy that tends to commit our countries with commercial agreements not only within the region but also internationally with other countries;

That the international integration and the global economic aperture may increase the veterinary services;

That the national policies have established changes in the structures of the veterinary services, and

That the disappearance of customs barriers should not be replaced by the creation of sanitary barriers that thwart the free exchange of products,

## RESOLVES:

1. To urge the countries to strengthen their sanitary services at ports, airports and border areas in each country, with regard to the structural, logistical and economic requirements.
2. To urge bordering countries to undertake integrated animal health coordination efforts, which necessitates their overcoming geographical and political limitations.
3. To encourage the decentralization of the actions involving border areas, in favor of engaging all the actors that participate in animal health activities.
4. That, based on the experience acquired in the hemispheric struggle against foot-and-mouth disease, the PANAFTOSA be integrated with the other international entities to ensure that trade exchange be agile and free-flowing within the continental scope and when involving other continents.

(Approved in the plenary session  
on 15 April 1994)



RESOLUTION IXANALYSIS OF THE SANITARY IMPLICATIONS  
OF LIVESTOCK TRANSIT IN BORDER AREAS

THE XXI ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

That the statistics available on importation and exportation of livestock among the South American countries do not accurately reflect the reality of the flows of livestock exchange, thereby thwarting the assessment of their impact on the foot-and-mouth disease eradication activities described in the Hemispheric Plan of Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication, and

That livestock contraband and undocumented livestock trade among the various South American countries may jeopardize or compromise the progress achieved and to be achieved in the struggle against foot-and-mouth disease,

## RESOLVES:

1. To urge the various countries to develop and/or implement control processes that lead to better assessment of the international transit of animals and animal products, and to examine the problem of international traffic and contraband of livestock occurring or that may occur in their respective border areas.
2. To include on the Agenda of the next COSALFA Meeting a joint examination of this problem and its impact on the hemispheric eradication of foot-and-mouth disease.

(Approved in the plenary session  
on 15 April 1994)

RESOLUTION XPROPOSAL FOR INCLUSION OF THE PAN AMERICAN FOOT-AND-MOUTH  
DISEASE CENTER AS MEMBER OF THE OIE COMMISSION ON  
FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE AND OTHER ZOONOSES

THE XXI ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

That the Second Special Meeting of COSALFA, held in Rio de Janeiro in 1975, recommended that "the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center define the epidemiological situations, the requirements and the tests that would be necessary to confirm the absence of a type of FMD virus in a country or in a region of a country";

That the COSALFA X Meeting, held in 1983, approved the "Manual of Procedures to Preserve, Expand and Achieve Foot-and-Mouth Disease-Free Areas in South America," drafted by the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center in consultation with the countries;

That one of the strategies of the Hemispheric Plan for Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease is the protection and expansion of such disease-free areas, and

That a mutual cooperation agreement has already been signed by the OIE and the PAHO,

RESOLVES:

Submit to the consideration of the OIE a proposal to include the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center in the OIE's Commission on Foot-and-Mouth Disease and Other Zoonoses, and also enable the aforesaid Center to coordinate the activities related to the regionalization and recognition of free areas in South America.

(Approved in the plenary session  
on 15 April 1994)

RESOLUTION XIINTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON THE ANIMAL HEALTH CARE  
SYSTEMS AND THE CHANGES IN THE ROLE OF THE  
STATE AND OF THE COMMUNITY

THE XXI ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

The request expressed in Resolution VIII of the XXth Ordinary Meeting of COSALFA so that PANAFTOSA/PAHO would be responsible for organizing, promoting and developing this International Seminar, because of the importance that the topic has assumed in the light of the changes noticed in the structures of the national programs;

That in accord with that request PANAFTOSA/PAHO held the Seminar with broad participation of official representatives, livestock producers, representatives of various related industries such as dairy, animal byproducts, meat-processing and biological products companies, plus political and trade organization leaders, university officials, rural workers organizations, and representatives from international technical and commercial cooperation organizations, and

That, among its recommendations, the Seminar discussed the topic within the scope of a proposal of change based on co-management and broad intersectorial participation in the field of veterinary attention,

## RESOLVES:

1. To adopt the recommendations of International Seminar on the Animal-Health Attention Systems and the Changes in the Role of the State and of the Community.
2. To recommend to the Secretariat, the delegates, producers and representatives of the participating economic and social sectors that they pursue the mechanisms for putting into practice the proposals of a participatory process of coordination of the veterinary care activities as set forth in the Recommendations.
3. To request that the PANAFTOSA/PAHO organize, promote and develop, prior to COSALFA XXII, an International Seminar on "Epidemiological Surveillance and Information Systems, from the Viewpoint of Eradication and the New Models of Veterinary Care".

(Approved in the plenary session  
on 15 April 1994)

RESOLUTION XIIEXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION TO THE REPUBLIC OF PERU  
AND TO THE CARTAGENA AGREEMENT BOARD

THE XXI ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

The extraordinary support rendered by the Government of the Republic of Peru, through the Ministry of Agriculture, by the Cartagena Agreement Board, by the private companies, by the National University of San Marcos, especially the School of Veterinary Medicine and by the National Agrarian University of Molina, for the holding of the XXI Ordinary Meeting of the COSALFA, and

The excellent conditions made available for holding the International Seminar on "The Animal-Health Attention Systems and the Changes in the Role of the State and of the Community," held with expressive participation of broad official and private sectors, both national and international,

## RESOLVES:

1. To express its appreciation to the Republic of Peru, especially to the Ministry of Agriculture and to the Universities mentioned above, for their magnificent contribution to the holding of the XXI Ordinary Meeting of COSALFA.
2. To thank the Cartagena Agreement Board and the national industry for the support and facilities placed at the disposal of the XXI Ordinary Meeting and of the Seminar held prior to the Meeting.

(Approved in the plenary session  
on 15 April 1994)



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APPENDIX I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS



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COMISION SUDAMERICANA PARA LA LUCHA CONTRA LA FIEBRE AFTOSA

SOUTH AMERICAN COMMISSION FOR THE CONTROL OF  
FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

XXI COSALFA ORDINARY MEETING

Lima, Peru, April 14-15, 1994

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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APPENDIX II

P R O G R A M





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SOUTH AMERICAN COMMISSION  
FOR THE CONTROL OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE  
XXI ORDINARY MEETING

Lima, Peru, April 14-15, 1994

P R O G R A M

Thursday, April 14

09:00 Opening Session

09:30 A. Report of the Secretariat  
Director of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease  
Center (FMD)

10:00 B. Discussion of the Report

10:30 Break

10:45 C. Epidemiological Situation of Foot-and-Mouth Disease and of the  
Programs, in South America.  
Jose German Rodriguez-Torres

11:30 D. Evaluation of the Vesicular Diseases Surveillance and  
Information System.  
Victor Saraiva

12:30 Break

14:00 E. Situation of the Regional and Subregional Projects and of  
the Border Agreements.

Friday, April 15

09:00 F. Information on the Situation of the Darien Region in Panama

09:10 G. Recommendations of the Seminar on: "The Animal-Health Attention  
Systems and the Changes in the Role of the State and of the  
Community".

10:30 Break

10:45 H. Miscellaneous Matters  
   . Trade Relations - Livestock: Brazil/Colombia Meat: CARICOM  
   . Remittance of Strains to the Reference Laboratory  
   . Handling of Virus: Biosafety  
   . Characterization of Strains  
   . EITB

12:15 Break

14:00 H. Resolutions  
Final Report

16:00 Closing Session



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APPENDIX III

RECOMMENDATIONS OF "THE INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR  
ON THE ANIMAL-HEALTH ATTENTION SYSTEMS AND CHANGES IN  
THE ROLE OF THE STATE AND OF THE COMMUNITY"



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INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON "THE ANIMAL-HEALTH ATTENTION SYSTEMS AND  
THE CHANGES IN THE ROLE OF THE STATE AND OF THE COMMUNITY"

Lima, Peru, April 11-13, 1994

ANALYSIS OF THE FUNCTIONS OF THE OFFICIAL  
ANIMAL HEALTH SERVICES

RECOMMENDATION I

CONSIDERING:

That the Region is undergoing a process of transformation of the State and a review of its roles and responsibilities;

That said process requires of the public and private sectors a reorganization of their missions and functions;

That the veterinary attention system receives the influence of such changes, which demands greater efficiency of its actions through a growing interaction with the community and decentralization of the delegatable functions;

That the development of this process requires the maintenance of ongoing training and research programs;

That the veterinary attention activities are intended to promote and protect the quality of life of the human beings;

That the public sector possesses undelegatable functions that should be strengthened in order to ensure continuity in the tasks needed to achieve the animal-health objectives established in each country, and

That it is desirable to establish those functions of the official services more emphatically,

THE SEMINAR THEREFORE RECOMMENDS:

That the countries commit to strengthening and rendering more efficient the following functions inherent in the official services:

1. Sanitary legislation and standards.
2. Registration and control of products of veterinary use.
3. Inspection and health certification for international trade.

4. Identification and declaration of disease presence or absence.
5. Attention to sanitary emergencies.
6. Laboratory diagnosis.
7. Determination of functions delegatable to the private sector.
8. Establishment of international cooperation agreements.
9. Coordination of the epidemiological surveillance and information systems.
10. Exercise of the functions of sanitary police.

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON "THE ANIMAL-HEALTH ATTENTION SYSTEMS AND  
THE CHANGES IN THE ROLE OF THE STATE AND OF THE COMMUNITY"

Lima, Peru, April 11-13, 1994

PARTICIPATION AND CO-RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR

RECOMMENDATION II

CONSIDERING:

That the participation of all the social sectors involved in the livestock industry is necessary for the success of the animal-health programs;

That all the sectors involved should have co-responsibility in the development of the animal health programs;

That the participation of the private sector in general does not mean to intend to substitute the basic functions of the State which are nondelegatable;

That there are striking differences in the development of the animal-health programs in the different countries, which make it difficult to propose uniform schemes of veterinary care;

That different degrees of organization are observed in the various participating sectors (trade associations and groups) that impede the harmonious development of the activities of the different programs, and

That the local commissions are the basic units of any program in the attainment of the results expected from animal health actions,

THE SEMINAR THEREFORE RECOMMENDS:

1. To encourage the broadest possible participation of all the actors involved in the livestock industry on the basis of fulfillment of the nondelegatable functions of the State within the framework of the animal health Programs.

2. To encourage the creation and the development of organized forms of participation in the different strata representative of the livestock industry.



3. The private sector should require the implementation of clear sanitary policies by the official animal health services, given their absence in some countries, on behalf of the national livestock industry and public health.

4. To implement and develop co-participatory animal health programs that maintain their continuity, despite the political changes that might occur, so that the proposed objectives are met.

5. To implement the local, regional and national animal health commissions in the countries devoid of them, considering the advances achieved by those countries that have adopted such commissions as strategy in the health activities.

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON "THE ANIMAL-HEALTH ATTENTION SYSTEMS AND  
THE CHANGES IN THE ROLE OF THE STATE AND OF THE COMMUNITY"

Lima, Peru, April 11-13, 1994

ORGANIZATION, MOBILIZATION OF RESOURCES AND FINANCING OF THE  
VETERINARY ATTENTION SYSTEMS, INTERSECTORIAL PARTICIPATION,  
DEFINITION AND IMPLEMENTATION AT THE REGIONAL,  
CENTRAL AND LOCAL LEVELS OF ACTION-PRIVATE AND  
SEMI-PRIVATE SYSTEMS

RECOMMENDATION III

CONSIDERING:

That the local veterinary attention, through the participation of all the sectors involved in the identified subject, makes up the basis of the sanitary system, and that, by agreement, the actions, adjusted to their level, are therein implemented under the strategies and activities coordinated by regional commissions within the framework determined by the control plans directed by national commissions;

The need to adjust the animal-health attention systems to the current challenges confronting the programs and to the availability of State resources, which makes it indispensable to redefine the responsibilities and roles of the State itself and of each segment of the community in the task of veterinary attention, and

That the models of veterinary attention, with participation of the sectors, and developed in various countries with important advances, should be borne in mind when orienting the organization of the services of other countries, of course with the necessary adaptations,

THE SEMINAR THEREFORE RECOMMENDS:

1. That the animal health systems be organized with the integral and firm participation of all the sectors involved in livestock production and utilization which will require careful identification of the actors and encouragement of their participation.
2. That the State should maintain and strengthen the official veterinary services so that the State can develop fully the activities for which it is responsible, especially the regulatory, inspection and training aspects, and epidemiological surveillance, all of which should have adequate funding; with

assistance of PANAFTOSA and the cooperation of other international agencies in the processes of training and exchange. Bilateral and multilateral cooperation should also be encouraged.

3. That the organizations of integrated services should seek additional resources from the state budget to carry out the corresponding sanitary actions. The resources provided by the private sector should include funding administered thereby within the scope where the sanitary actions are developed.

4. The implementation of the standards of the national control programs should be defined and made commensurate with the reality of each country, and according to clearly differentiated levels (local or departamental, - regional or provincial and national or central).

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON "THE ANIMAL-HEALTH ATTENTION SYSTEMS AND  
THE CHANGES IN THE ROLE OF THE STATE AND OF THE COMMUNITY"

Lima, Peru, April 11-13, 1994

ORGANIZATION, MOBILIZATION OF RESOURCES AND FINANCING OF THE  
VETERINARY ATTENTION SYSTEMS, INTERSECTORIAL  
PARTICIPATION, DEFINITION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REGIONAL,  
CENTRAL AND LOCAL LEVELS - RURAL PRODUCER SYSTEMS

RECOMMENDATION IV

CONSIDERING:

That in Latin America the majority of the owners of cattle and livestock are small producers, and that in the Andean Subregion those producers make up two thirds of the rural population, wherein the participation of women in the productive process is especially important;

That their production is principally bound for the producers' own consumption and to meet the needs of the domestic market;

That the one-way animal health programs fail if they are not conceived within the political, cultural and socio-economic context, and more so if they exclude the viewpoints and suggestions of those producers when solutions to problems are proposed;

That in the areas of small producers, foot-and-mouth disease forms part of a complex of product-related sanitary problems;

That the proposed eradication of foot-and-mouth disease on the Continent requires a strengthening of the epidemiological control and surveillance in areas of small producers, and

That the Official Sanitary Services have proven to be less than efficient in responding to the problems; on the contrary, they have been characterized by the mechanical transposing of technologies and procedures generated for other situations,

THE SEMINAR THEREFORE RECOMMENDS:

1. That the Sanitary Services and the private sector of the countries commit efforts to perform the characterization, with the purpose of developing integral local programs that involve the participation of the small producers.

2. That to foster the execution of these actions, it is suggested that the PAHO/WHO, through PANAFTOSA and as a contribution to the advance of the Hemispheric Plan for Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication, make a priority of technical cooperation in areas of small producers, so as to fortify the epidemiological surveillance systems, equally progressive development, and the promotion of the quality of life of such producers.

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON "THE ANIMAL-HEALTH ATTENTION SYSTEMS AND  
THE CHANGES IN THE ROLE OF THE STATE AND OF THE COMMUNITY"

Lima, Peru, April 11-13, 1994

THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTOR TO  
THE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM

RECOMMENDATION V

CONSIDERING:

The need for greater integration within the Epidemiological Surveillance activities, by the different segments of the society involved in the productive system;

The role that each one of the actors should perform for the implementation of the informative, decision-making and action-taking processes, and

That training is a decisive factor for efficacy in the development of these processes,

THE SEMINAR THEREFORE RECOMMENDS:

1. That the official Veterinary Services seek and promote greater integration into the surveillance system by the different segments of the private sector, identifying the cooperation that each segment may provide to perfecting the system so as to optimize its operational viability and make Epidemiological Surveillance more effective.
2. That the private and public sectors act jointly to:
  - a) at the local level to promote better generation and use of information to adopt "in situ" preventive and training measures;
  - b) at the regional level to carry out integrated planning for the execution of the program promotion and dissemination activities;
  - c) at the central level to devise strategic planning, assigning to the public sector the responsibility for the structure, maintenance and evaluation of the official information system with the coparticipation of the private sector.
3. Encourage the Universities, teaching and research institutes to take an active part in the process of Epidemiological Surveillance and training of the levels involved, and to give preference to funding provided by the sector to be benefitted.



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INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON "THE ANIMAL-HEALTH ATTENTION SYSTEMS AND  
THE CHANGES IN THE ROLE OF THE STATE AND OF THE COMMUNITY"

Lima, Peru, April 11-13, 1994

Objective: To analyze alternative models of Animal-Health attention.

P R O G R A M

Monday, April 11

08:30 Registration

09:15 Theme 1:

Introduction to the Seminar "Retrospective Analysis of the  
Animal-Health Attention Systems."

Presentation: Dr. Vicente Astudillo

10:30 Break

11:00 Theme 2:

"Adjustment to the Crisis and the Structures of the State."

Presentation: guest speaker

12:45 Break

14:30 Round Table:

"Changes in the Role of the State and of the Community: Administrative  
Decentralization and Social Participation."

Presentation: Dr. Jose German Rodriguez, Lic. Anibal Zottele, and  
Representatives of the Private and Public Sectors.

16:00 Break

16:30 Theme 3:

"Analysis of the Animal-Health Services of the Countries of  
the South Cone and Brazil."

Representatives of the Official Services, of the Private Sector, and  
Veterinary Medical Organizations.

Tuesday, April 12

09:00 Theme 4:

"Analysis of the Animal-Health Services of the Andean Area Countries."  
Representatives of the Official Services, of the Private Sector, and  
of Veterinary Medical Organizations.

10:30 Break



Tuesday, April 12 (Cont.)11:00 Theme 5:

"Analysis and division of the animal-health services of the countries of South America."

Representatives of the Official Services, of the Private Sector, and of Veterinary Medical Organizations.

12:45 Break

14:30 Round Table:

"Repercussions of the Changes in the Role of the State on Veterinary Attention at the Local Level."

Presentation: Drs. Victor Saraiva, Hugo Tamayo, Narey Cotrina and Representatives of the Private and Public Sectors.

Wednesday, April 1309:00 Group Assignments

- Analysis of the State's basic and undelegatable functions.
- Epidemiological Surveillance: Financing and uses at the local level and at the central level.
- Community participation and co-responsibility.
- Animal-health public services at the local level.

13:15 Break

16:00 Conclusions and Recommendations

18:00 Closing Session

APPENDIX IV

COSALFA MEETINGS



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COSALFA REGULAR MEETINGS

1. COSALFA I, 26-28 February 1973 - Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
Dr. Ubiratan Mendes Serrão (Brazil)  
Secretary ex officio: Dr. Mário Vasco Fernândes
2. COSALFA II, 11-13 March 1974 - Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
Dr. Osvaldo Ibarra (Argentina)  
Secretary ex officio: Dr. Mário Vasco Fernândes
3. COSALFA III, 1-2 April 1976 - Caracas, Venezuela  
Dr. Humberto Olmos Colmenares (Venezuela)  
Secretary ex officio: Dr. Roberto Goic
4. COSALFA IV, 10-11 February 1977 - Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
Dr. Isaac Eck Degen (Chile)  
Secretary ex officio: Dr. Raúl Casas Olascoaga
5. COSALFA V, 30-31 March 1978 - Brazil  
Dr. Manuel M. Moscoso Condor (Ecuador)  
Secretary ex officio: Dr. Raúl Casas Olascoaga
6. COSALFA VI, 15-16 March 1979 - Brazil  
Dr. Juan Pablo Romero (Paraguay)  
Secretary ex officio: Dr. Raúl Casas Olascoaga
7. COSALFA VII, 20-21 March 1980 - Brazil  
Dr. Artigas Figares Lockhart (Uruguay)  
Secretary ex officio: Dr. Raúl Casas Olascoaga
8. COSALFA VIII, 12-13 March 1981 - Brazil  
Dr. Emilio Matto Cárdenas (Peru)  
Secretary ex officio: Dr. Raúl Casas Olascoaga
9. COSALFA IX, 11-12 March 1982 - Brazil  
Dr. Gustavo Manrique Londoño (Colombia)  
Secretary ex officio: Dr. Raúl Casas Olascoaga
10. COSALFA X, 10-11 March 1983 - Asunción, Paraguay  
Dr. Juan Pablo Romero (Paraguay)  
Secretary ex officio: Dr. Raúl Casas Olascoaga
11. COSALFA XI, 10-11 May 1984 - Brazil  
Dr. Patrick L. McKenzie (Guyana)  
Secretary ex officio: Dr. Raúl Casas Olascoaga
12. COSALFA XII, 21-22 March 1985 - Brazil  
Dr. Celso Grimaldo Duran (Bolivia)  
Secretary ex officio: Dr. Raúl Casas Olascoaga

13. COSALFA XIII, 20-21 March 1986 - Santiago, Chile  
Dr. Jorge Rafael Benavides Muñoz (Chile)  
Secretary ex officio: Dr. Raúl Casas Olascoaga
14. COSALFA XIV, 19-20 March 1987 - Brazil  
Dr. Oscar Alejandro Bruni (Argentina)  
Secretary ex officio: Dr. Raúl Casas Olascoaga
15. COSALFA XV, 24-25 March 1988 - Brazil  
Dr. Silvino Carlos Horn (Brazil)  
Secretary ex officio: Dr. Raúl Casas Olascoaga
16. COSALFA XVI, 30-31 March 1989 - Bogotá, Colombia  
Dr. Miguel Reyes (Colombia)  
Secretary ex officio: Dr. Raúl Casas Olascoaga
17. COSALFA XVII, 22-23 March 1990 - Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
Dr. José Alexis Roca Simón (Bolivia)  
Secretary ex officio: Dr. Raúl Casas Olascoaga
18. COSALFA XVIII, 21-22 March 1991 - Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
Dr. Rafael Fuentes Marins (Venezuela)  
Secretary ex officio: Dr. Raúl Casas Olasgoaga
19. COSALFA XIX, 2-3 April 1992 - Buenos Aires, Argentina  
Dr. Bernardo Cané (Argentina)  
Secretary ex officio: Dr. Vicente Astudillo
20. COSALFA XX, 25-26 March 1993 - Montevideo, Uruguay  
Dr. Dante H. Geymonat (Uruguay)  
Secretary ex officio: Dr. Vicente Astudillo
21. COSALFA XXI, 14-15 April 1994 - Lima, Peru  
Eng. Rodolfo Masuda M. (Peru)  
Secretary ex officio: Dr. Vicente Astudillo

Of the 21 Regular Meetings held to date, 11 were held at the headquarters of the Secretariat (PANAFTOSA), three in other Brazilian cities (one in Goiania and two in the city of Rio de Janeiro, out of PANAFTOSA headquarters) and seven in other countries (Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay y Venezuela).

Since 1973 The Commission has uninterruptedly held annual meetings. In 1981, issued specific recommendations on the regional coordination and its importance for the success of the programs for the control of foot-and-mouth disease, through the document "Policy and strategies for the combat of foot-and-mouth disease in South America for the 1981-1990 decade".

### EXTRAORDINARY MEETINGS OF COSALFA

1. COSALFA I - Extraordinary, 20-21 July 1973  
Bogotá, Colombia  
Dr. Ubiratan Mendes Serrão (Brazil)  
Secretary ex officio: Dr. Mario Vasco Fernández
2. COSALFA II - Extraordinary, 4-5 March 1975  
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
Dr. José Pedro Gonzales (Brazil )  
Secretary ex officio: Dr. Mario Vasco Fernández

The Extraordinary Meeting in Rio de Janeiro was held at the Center's headquarters.

### PRESIDENCY OF COSALFA IN ITS REGULAR MEETINGS

Argentina	1974; 1987; 1992
Bolivia	1985; 1990
Brazil	1973; 1975; 1988
Chile	1977; 1986
Colombia	1982; 1989
Guyana	1984
Ecuador	1978
Paraguay	1979; 1983
Peru	1981; 1994
Uruguay	1980; 1993
Venezuela	1976; 1991

Proposed site for the Presidency approved at the XXI COSALFA:

1995 - Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia

INTERNATIONAL SEMINARS HELD PREVIOUS TO  
REGULAR MEETINGS OF COSALFA

1.	Evaluation of programs for the combat against foot-and-mouth disease .....	1977
2.	Administration of programs for the control of foot-and-mouth disease and animal health .....	1978
3.	Regional strategies for the combat against foot-and-mouth disease .....	1979
4.	Communication and education in animal health ....	1980
5.	Foot-and-mouth disease immunization programs in South America .....	1981
6.	Creation of foot-and-mouth disease free areas South America .....	1982
7.	Information systems and epidemiological surveillance of vesicular diseases .....	1983
8.	Evaluation of the use of oil-adjuvanted vaccine in foot-and-mouth disease-control programs in South America.....	1984
9.	Planning, execution and evaluation of regional action for foot-and-mouth disease eradication .....	1985
10.	Economic and financial aspects of the foot-and-mouth disease control and eradication programs in South America .....	1986
11.	Administrative-institutional analysis of the animal health programs in South America .....	1987
12.	Endemic areas: identification, classification and treatment .....	1988
13.	Foot-and-mouth disease endemic areas .....	1989
14.	Ways to integrate sectors involved in foot-and-mouth disease control and eradication programs .....	1990
15.	Epidemiological surveillance systems with special reference to exotic diseases prevention .	1991

16. Local and zonal plans with mobilization of resources and community participation for the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease ..... 1992
  17. Foot-and-mouth disease eradication, its technical and administrative bases and its consequences on the commercialization of animals and their products and by-products ..... 1993
  18. The animal-health attention systems and the changes in the role of the state and of the community ..... 1994
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