



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

SECRETARIA: CENTRO PANAMERICANO DE FIEBRE AFTOSA
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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 Epizooties (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 departments 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 departments. 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 A₂₄ from Roraima, Brazil, and virus C₃ 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 A₂₄ 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: O₁ Campos, O₁ Caseros, A₂₄ Cruzeiro, A79 Arg/79, A81 Arg/87, C₃ Indaial, C₃ Resende and C₃ 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 PANAFTOSA/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 C₃ 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.

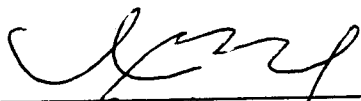
Dr. Jaime Freundt Thurner, Minister of Foreign Relations and Health of Peru presided over the closing session. Resolutions about the following aspects were read and approved:

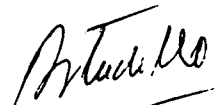
- I. Subregional Project for Foot-and-Mouth Disease Control and Eradication in the Plata Basin.
- II. Regional Programs in Bolivia and Brazil.
- III. Development of Pilot Areas of Foot-and-Mouth Disease Control in the Bolivia-Brazil Border Strip.
- IV. Subregional Project of the Andean Area.
- V. Amazon 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

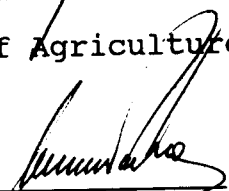
- VIII. Strengthening the Veterinary Services in Border Areas.
- IX. Analysis of the Sanitary Implications of Livestock Transit in Border Areas.
- X. Proposal for Inclusion of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center as Member of the OIE Commission on Foot-and-Mouth Disease and other Zoonoses.
- 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.

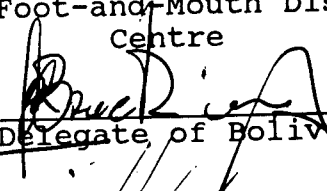
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, The Chairman of the Meeting, the Vice Minister of Agriculture of Peru; the Director of Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center, Secretary *ex officio* of COSALFA; the Delegates of the member countries, sign the present Final Report in the Spanish and English languages, both texts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

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


 President
 Vice Minister of Agriculture
 of Peru


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

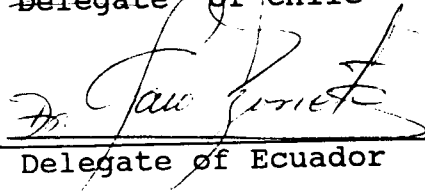

 Delegate of Argentina

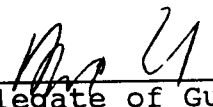

 Delegate of Bolivia

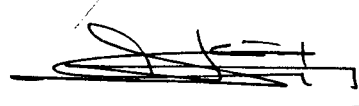

 Delegate of Brasil

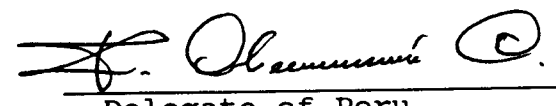

 Delegate of Chile


 Delegate of Colombia

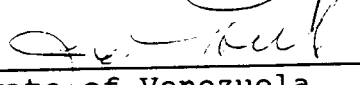

 Delegate of Ecuador


 Delegate of Guyana


 Delegate of Paraguay


 Delegate of Peru


 Delegate of Uruguay


 Delegate of Venezuela

R E S O L U T I O N S

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 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.

(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. ~~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.
2. ~~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.
3. ~~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.

(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 VI**STRENGTHENING 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 VII**REFERENCE 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 VIII**STRENGTHENING 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 IX**ANALYSIS 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 ZOONOSSES

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)

APPENDIX I

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SOUTH AMERICAN COMMISSION FOR THE CONTROL OF
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XXI COSALFA ORDINARY MEETING

Lima, Peru, April 14-15, 1994

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APPENDIX II

P R O G R A M

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

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"

**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.

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 13**09:00 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

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 Olascoaga
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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