



XXIX



SOUTH AMERICAN COMMISSION FOR THE FIGHT AGAINST FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

PAN AMERICAN FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE CENTER

## FINAL REPORT



Veterinary Public Health - PAHO/WHO



## **FINAL REPORT**

**Salvador, Bahia, Brazil**

14 - 15 march 2002



**Veterinary Public Health - PAHO/WHO**

PAN AMERICAN FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE CENTER

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## XXIX ORDINARY MEETING

### FINAL REPORT

The XXIX Ordinary Meeting of the South American Commission for the Fight against Foot-and-Mouth Disease (COSALFA) was held in the city of Salvador, Bahia, Brazil, on March 14-15, 2002, as convened by the Secretariat. Dr. Eduardo Correa Melo, Director of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center (PANAFTOSA) acted as Secretary *ex officio*.

The opening ceremony was presided by the Secretary of Agriculture of the State of Bahia, Dr. Pedro Barbosa de Deus, accompanied by Dr. Denise Euclides Mariano da Costa, Director of the Department of Animal Health of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply – MAPA of Brazil; Dr. Dario Baumgarten, Viceminister of Agriculture of the Republic of Paraguay; Dr. Paulo Roberto Oliveira e Reis, Federal Delegate of Agriculture in the State of Bahia; Dr. Josélio de Andrade Moura, specialist from IICA; Dr. René Dubois, President of the Brazilian Society of Veterinary Medicine; Dr. José Alberto da Silva Lira, General Director of the Agency for Animal Defense and Food Safety of Bahia; Dr. João Martins da Silva Jr., President of the Agriculture Federation of Bahia; Dr. Eduardo Correa Melo, Director of PANAFTOSA and Dr. Albino Belotto, Coordinator of the Public Veterinary Health Program of PAHO/WHO.

The representative of the Agriculture Federation of Bahia spoke of the importance of the joint work developed by the Agency for Agriculture and Livestock Defense of Bahia (ADAB) to obtain recognition of the State as foot-and-mouth disease-free with vaccination.

This disease (FMD) is an obstacle to full external trade and to livestock development. The Director of Animal Health of Brazil spoke of COSALFA as an important forum for debate of sanitary risk situations, with impact in the region due to the transnational character of the disease and traditional trade flux. She reiterated that COSALFA has a transparent coordination scope.

The Coordinator of the Program of Veterinary Public Health of PAHO, on behalf of its General Director, welcomed the official delegates and participants of COSALFA XXIX as well as representatives of various national and international agencies for technical and financial cooperation participating in the Meeting. He stressed the importance of joint efforts between institutions attending human and animal health and production, considering the productive chain as a focal point for technical cooperation.

The President of the Brazilian Society of Veterinary Medicine greeted the participants and especially the professionals who have contributed so much to the development of the profession in Brazil. The

Viceminister of Agriculture of Paraguay mentioned the efforts of the countries in the establishment of their programs, pointing out that with present means of communication, information is published and diffused very quickly, such as the news regarding suspicion of foot-and-mouth disease in the United States, which was analyzed and underrated by the sanitary authorities of the country after epidemiologic research. This was mentioned in detail at COSALFA by Dr. Farouk Hamdy, of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

After the ceremony, the Secretary *ex officio*, Dr. Eduardo Correa, started the meeting with the election of the Chairman and Dr. Denise Euclides Mariano da Costa, Director of DDA/MAPA, was unanimously elected. She then read the agenda of the meeting, which was approved and is included in Appendix 1.

Dr. Eduardo Correa then read the Secretariat's report, referring to the most outstanding activities carried out to comply with Resolutions of COSALFA XXVIII, held in Mariano Roque Alonso, Paraguay, in 2001.

The XXIX General Meeting of the South American Commission for the Fight against Foot-and-Mouth Disease (COSALFA) marks an important moment in the history of its eradication due to the emergency situation suffered since 2000, which continued during 2001 in the Southern Cone region. This caused a radical change in the subregional sanitary situation and the effectiveness of national veterinary services to maintain disease-free status was questioned.

The emergency situation and the need to collaborate for a change in the philosophy of the programs, led to audits to veterinary services of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil (Southern Circuit), Uruguay and Paraguay, in compliance with the mandate given by the Ministers of the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR). The result of the audits was reported in this meeting.

## SECRETARIAT REPORT

The reappearance of endemic foot-and-mouth disease in Argentina, Uruguay and State of Rio Grande do Sul in Brazil, which were recognized as free with and without vaccination, made it clear that, with exceptions, there is no disease-prevention policy in national programs, so the question arises: Is it possible for South American countries to maintain foot-and-mouth disease-free status with and without vaccination?

By the end of 2001, the epidemiologic situation in the continent had not changed, with the exception of the aforementioned epidemic in the Southern Cone. North America, Central America, the Caribbean and Chile maintained their FMD-free status without vaccination, as well as the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, internationally recognized in 2001.

## 1. ANALYSIS OF THE RESOLUTIONS OF COSALFA XXVIII

### 1.1. Subregional River Basin Project (PCP)

The deficiency in prevention systems for reoccurrence of foot-and-mouth disease was acknowledged as the main problem in audits carried out in the Southern Cone during the second semester. This originated the recommendation for restructuration and strenghtening of prevention systems, based on risk analysis and especially at local levels and places of higher-risk. On the other hand, as regards

fulfillment of commitments, non-notification of the risk situation in Argentina contributed to the wide diffusion of the disease in the region.

The member countries' late contributions to the Agreement were discussed in an extraordinary meeting of the Project during January 15-16, 2002 in Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil and it was decided that the countries should present a financial proposal for the debts assumed. In the general meeting held last March 12, there was agreement on the contribution amounts and reintegration of previous debts.

Finally, PANAFTOSA's technical cooperation had priority for the Southern Cone region, to support control of the emergency situation through direct technical cooperation in transit control and on debate of prevention programs.

With reference to diagnosis, support was given in the characterization of field samples and in the sequencing of the prevalent virus, in coordination with the World Reference Laboratory at Pirbright, England.

## **1.2 Andean Subregional Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication Project**

Together with the Andean Community of Nations (CAN) and the Official Sanitary Services of the countries, at the time of the XXXIII Subregional Meeting of the Technical Andean Committee for Agriculture and Livestock Health – COTASA, Animal Health Group, held in Lima, Peru, from July 31 to August 3, 2001, analysis was made of the Guide drawn up by PANAFTOSA to prepare the Strategies Plan of Action of PHEFA.

During the XXXIV COTASA Meeting held in Lima during October 29-31, 2001, the Guide of PHEFA was revised and complemented for application in the updating of the Andean Subregional Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication Project. Its operative strategy is based on execution of Zone Subprojects, of which the majority covers international border areas. At the end of the meeting the Guide to prepare Zone Subprojects was approved.

Ecuador and Venezuela have advanced in the preparation of border subprojects. Colombia, Bolivia and Peru have not prepared any.

A joint proposal with the Secretariat of the Andean Community of Nations was made to modify Decision 255, which indicates CAN, the Meeting of COTASA-Animal Health Group and PANAFTOSA as the ambit of integration and institutional coordination to execute the Andean Project of Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease. The Project will be carried out during the period 2002-2009 within the framework of this Decision.

## **1.3. Subregional Project in the Amazon Area and Brazil's non-Amazon Area**

In 2001 the OIE certified the Cooperative Republic of Guyana as foot-and-mouth disease-free without vaccination. However, the protection zone, comprising the states of Bolívar in Venezuela and Roraima in Brazil, did not have the expected follow-up, and no information was received regarding Guyana's production structure or official veterinary attention in the area, which is basic data to prepare a prevention project. The meeting to discuss the subject was postponed for 2002. During the course of this meeting, the interested parties could agree on the respective date.

On the other hand, mention must be made of certification by the OIE of the Eastern Livestock Circuit and the state of Mato Grosso do Sul as free with vaccination. This, together with the zone previously recognized, brings the total of bovines in Brazilian free zones to 126 millions heads.

#### **1.4. Plan of Action of the Hemispheric Plan of Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease – PHEFA**

In accordance with the agreement made during the XXVIII COSALFA, the countries were requested to indicate professionals to participate in the working group to prepare the new Plan of Action. Due to the Southern Cone emergency situation and the mandate for auditing requiring the cooperation of PANAFTOSA, it was decided to further discussions on the Plan of Action outlines with the CAN countries within the framework of COTASA, as already mentioned. A working plan proposal was presented previously for analysis and in the meeting of the subregion countries, held on March 12 at these headquarters, its follow-up was discussed and the countries (Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia) agreed that discussion of the Plan of Action for the subregion will be based on binational meetings at border level to homogenize activities in accordance with the Hemispheric Plan. Subsequently, programs will be presented to COTASA for discussion. As indicated in the agenda, COSALFA's Secretariat presented for debate a proposal for follow-up of the subject with the River Plate Basin countries and with Brazil.

#### **1.5. Continental Emergency System**

This was discussed during COSALFA XXVIII and the base document to establish a supporting group and emergency systems coordination was approved. During COHEFA VIII it was reiterated to set dates to create a special multinational group for attention to foot-and-mouth disease emergencies, as proposed in the base document. It was also agreed that PANAFTOSA should create a working team to prepare a guiding document for the establishment of the aforementioned international body and that countries should comply with some of the points prior to their institutionalization.

Due to the emergency situation, the audits mandate and the resources mobilization from the involved countries caused a reordering of PANAFTOSA's technical cooperation. Auditing results stressed that national emergencies services gave full attention to the situations observed. However, no progress was made in the guide's preparation. This originated two resolutions from COHEFA reiterating the mandate of PANAFTOSA to prepare a proposal for the creation of the regional group and urging countries which are modifying their plans of action to strengthen emergency mechanisms. The pending question in the creation of the group is the financing of activities, which will be debated by the working group.

#### **1.6. Continental System of Epidemiologic Surveillance – SIVCONT**

As requested during the meeting, PANAFTOSA continued preparing a proposal for updating the Information and Surveillance System of Vesicular Diseases. To date, the new system is installed in Colombia, Venezuela and Ecuador and in 2002 installation is programmed for Brazil, Chile and Bolivia. The main problem for installation of the new version is due to veterinary services structure, which includes the capillar net of information and surveillance and laboratory



identification of other disease agents confusable with foot-and-mouth disease. This also requires PANAFTOSA's cooperation to establish routine differential diagnosis capacity and personnel training.

### **1.7. Mandate for auditing by PANAFTOSA**

Also during this meeting a report will be presented on auditing cycles carried out in 2001 in the River Plate Basin, with exception of Chile. A chronogram will be presented for execution of a second round of audits in the same subregion, as discussed at the PCP meeting. The feasibility of extending this activity to other countries is up for discussion. PANAFTOSA also developed and presented for discussion with the River Plate Basin countries a regulation to carry out these audits, taking into account comments made by the countries regarding integration of the group, the mechanics of the process and confidentiality. A manual on auditing procedures is being prepared for discussion with the countries.

### **1.8. Regional Vaccines Bank**

The epidemic suffered by the Southern Cone region has shown the need to face emergencies through more agile means, which should be less subject to political-economic interferences than the existing vaccine banks in other regions. Considering that South America has a vaccine-producing net of laboratories in full activity to attend systematic and massive vaccination of national sanitary programs, PANAFTOSA started by identifying safe immunogen sources to create a "Strategic Vaccine Reserve". PANAFTOSA then consulted all laboratories regarding their disposition to maintain, at no cost, a permanent stock of 500.000 doses of vaccine with its routine formulation, to face emergency situations caused by regional strains. This was accepted by laboratories in Brazil, Colombia and Argentina and means a total of 1.5 million available doses. Integration of the working group for further discussion and with PANAFTOSA's coordination, will be implemented in the current year.

### **1.9. Introduction of exotic viral strains into the Region**

PANAFTOSA has sent correspondence to all animal health services requesting the destruction of exotic strains in the region which they may have.

There is still the need of a consensual definition of the term "exotic". PANAFTOSA's proposal is that viral strains not isolated from field outbreaks in South America should be considered exotic. This would not include inactivated antigens imported to create vaccine banks, which have been previously certified as innocuous by official organizations of the country of origin, without detriment to other complementary safety measures that might be adopted by the countries.

Risk characterization in the handling of exotic strains in the region depends on technical auditing of vaccine-producing laboratories, which should be qualified as biosafe in accordance with international recommendations. PANAFTOSA will present during this COSALFA meeting a chronogram and tentative budget to create a Biosafety Commission, with professionals from official sanitary services in Argentina, Brazil, Colombia and Venezuela, with PANAFTOSA's coordination.

### 1.10. Bank of Viral Genetic Data

Within the framework of this project, activities during 2000 were centered on biomolecular characterization of active viral strains in the Southern Cone subregion: O<sub>1</sub> serotype isolated in Joia, Rio Grande do Sul and Navirai, Mato Grosso do Sul, in Brazil; Artigas, in Uruguay and Corrientes, Argentina. During 2001, type A genomic sequence and phylogenetic association among 20 isolates from outbreaks in Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay were established. Likewise, the strain of the same type isolated in August, 2000 in Formosa was characterized. Results point to homology greater than 96% between type A strains isolated in 2001 and a difference of 11% between them and the one isolated in 2000.

### 1.11. International Seminar

At the request of participants of the Seminar that took place during the XXVIII COSALFA, the International Seminar on Risk Analysis: its utilization in the regionalization of programs and in external trade was programmed and held. It made the following recommendations:

1. It was acknowledged that Risk Analysis (RA) is a useful tool for the taking of decisions on specific problems such as program regionalization and animal byproducts trade. However, for the effective use it is necessary for the group to be formed by official service personnel and be supported by actors of the productive chain, working within the commitments of international regulations and methodology.

The group must be backed by legal administrative rule which will give autonomy for the taking of decisions.

2. Taking in consideration the present state of development of the subject and after mediation of some international technical cooperation organizations, it was suggested that PANAFTOSA should act in coordination with them and support national groups for development of Risk Analysis (RA) when required.

## 2. PLENARY SESSION

### 2.1. Auditing

Dr. Francisco Muzio reported on auditing activities in foot-and-mouth disease combat programs in the countries and the River Plate Basin Project areas, as well as their main conclusions. Dr. Muzio pointed out the initial objective of the audits was detecting the reasons how virus re-entry occurred. Main conclusions at the subregional level regarding services structures and veterinary attention were presented. The need for strengthening prevention strategies to attend to maintenance of eradication programs was evident.

The Venezuelan delegation suggested that auditing methodologic guides be distributed to all the South American countries and ways should be studied for a more dynamic input of the resulting information.

## **2.2. Report on development of the Continental Epidemiological Surveillance and Information System for Animal Diseases – SIVCONT**

Lic. Antonio Mendes presented a historical synthesis of PANAFTOSA's contribution to the development of national and continental epidemiologic surveillance systems. He reported that in compliance with one of the resolutions of the previous COSALFA meeting, the present proposal regarding information and surveillance of vesicular disease, nervous system disease and haemorrhagic swine disease has been implemented in three of the four pilot countries: Venezuela, Colombia and Ecuador. Subsequently to this testing phase, the system will be implemented in the basic SIVCONT module in all countries of the region during 2002. There was concern about PANAFTOSA's strategy to accelerate implementation and Lic. Mendes suggested convocation of a working group with a representative from each country to coordinate activities. Likewise, he explained that SIVCONT has potential capacity to integrate information through geographic square grids and political-administrative units. He stressed the importance of fitting services structure to meet SIVCONT's establishment and functioning requirements.

## **2.3. Situation of national and subregional programs**

Dr. Victor Saraiva presented a synthesis of vesicular diseases and foot-and-mouth disease occurrence in the three subregions of South America within the context of the Hemispheric Plan of Eradication of the disease. He emphasized the foot-and-mouth disease epidemic in Argentina, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil and Uruguay and the apparent tranquil situation found in the countries of the Andean region and especially in Brazil and the Amazon area.

Sessions started again in the afternoon with the report on development of the Continental Surveillance and Information System of Animal Diseases – SIVCONT, presented by Lic. A. Mendes from PANAFTOSA. He mentioned that the objective of the proposal is to offer more depth and precision to the information of the System to strengthen prevention activities. He briefly outlined the origin of the continental system 30 years ago, which started with foot-and-mouth disease and later incorporated Classical Swine Fever and Equine Encephalitis. He commented that since its beginning the System was ruled by geographic square grids distribution, stressing that national maps of South American countries total 12.700 square grids. He explained that SIVCONT is a data-managing software at each country's level. As a first step since the previous meeting of COSALFA, PANAFTOSA has given direct assistance to Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela, to implement the system, which proved to be a good experience due to the difficulties encountered, caused by veterinary services structural conditions. He informed that PANAFTOSA's goal for 2002 is the installation of the basic SIVCONT module in all the countries, and he understood it was necessary for them to assume the commitment to adequate conditions of the veterinary services, especially communication structures. There were several interventions on the subject, strengthening the need to continue implementation of the system.

Dr. V. Saraiva, of PANAFTOSA, then referred to the situation of the Subregional Programs, Andean Area, Southern Cone – River Plate Basin, Amazon Area and Brazil. Of the first one he emphasized the high vesicular stomatitis incidence contrasting with the lower foot-and-mouth disease frequency. With reference to the Southern Cone – River Plate Basin, he commented that the emergency situation caused by reintroduction of the disease in the subregion had been overcome. That situation pointed

out failures in prevention activities and he considered that since 2001 public and private resources of programs, which had been drastically reduced since 1997, had a substantial increase due to the reoccurrence of the problem. Regarding Brazil and the Amazon area, Dr. Saraiva mentioned the lower incidence of the disease, considering that the Brazilian area in this macroregion recorded only 7 outbreaks during the year.

The Argentine official sector delegate, Dr. A. Combessies, referred to the situation suffered by his country in the recent foot-and-mouth disease epidemic and mentioned there was a weakening of the Surveillance System during 1999-2000 when the private sector discontinued participation in Foundations after massive vaccination was interrupted. The new management recognized the existence of the disease in the country since 2000 and Dr. Combessies informed that antecedents are in the judicial sphere. The new SENASA authorities established a new Plan of Eradication 2001-2004, with new regionalization of the country, reinstalling internal sanitary barriers, and restarted massive vaccination with more than 300 sanitary groups integrated by producers. Afterwards, the representative of the Livestock Sector of Argentina, Mr. D. Chiessa, took the floor and mentioned that several associations of the sector had notified sanitary authorities at the end of 2000 and beginning of 2001 about the existence of the disease, and claimed its recognition and modification of strategies. He stressed the large economic losses suffered by the country and the region as a consequence of the situation. After these mediations there were several reports regarding the private sector's participation in programs, with consensus on the importance of maintaining joint activities with the official sector to achieve and consolidate disease eradication.

#### **2.4. Status of PHEFA's Plan of Action Development**

Dr. V. Saraiva spoke of advances made in the Andean Area within COTASA and CAN, and the River Plate Basin Committee's programming, which approved a meeting in April of the Working Group at PANAFTOSA with participation of a professional per country to materialize the document.

#### **2.5. Permanent Epidemiologic Analysis Group**

Afterwards, the Director of PANAFTOSA, Dr. Correa, proposed to COSALFA the establishment of the Permanent Epidemiologic Analysis Group, stressing its importance for PANAFTOSA to become a reference center of OIE in this area. This permanent epidemiologists committee would have as one of its main objectives the continuation and revision of foot-and-mouth disease ecosystems characterization in South America, in continuation of the work started by PANAFTOSA three decades ago. After discussion, the proposal was unanimously approved by COSALFA members.

#### **2.6. Permanent Veterinary Committee**

On March 15, the official delegate of Uruguay, Dr. R. Ugarte, proposed a motion on behalf of the Committee of the River Plate Basin – Southern Cone Subregion, to create a Permanent Veterinary Committee in South American countries, with initial framework within COSALFA, whose juridical statute foresees the creation of this type of organism. After emphasizing the need of an organism with these

characteristics at the South American level - with reference to what the European Union had achieved on the subject – the matter was widely debated and it was decided it should continue within the scope of the Southern Cone and later could be presented again.

## **2.7. Agribusiness: a new model of economic development**

Dr. João Carlos de Souza Meirelles, Secretary of Agriculture of the State of Sao Paulo, in reply to an invitation from the Secretary *ex officio* of COSALFA and from ADAB, presented the topic Agribusiness: a new model of economic development. He commented on the importance of foot-and-mouth disease eradication and on the quality of products when looking for international markets. He also remarked on the impact of subsidies paid by first-world countries for animal origin products when disputing those markets.

Dr. José Alberto da Silva Lira, General Director, then spoke about the spirit, lines of work, reach and advances of the State Agency of Agriculture and Livestock Health of Bahia.

## **3. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTIONS**

The proposed Resolutions of the Meeting were corrected and approved by the plenary session. The final version is attached to these Minutes.

## **4. CLOSING SESSION**

The Meeting was closed with the presence of the Secretary of Agriculture of the State of Bahia, Dr. Pedro Barbosa de Deus, accompanied by Dr. Denise Euclides Mariano da Costa, Director of the Department of Animal Health of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply – MAPA of Brazil, and the Director of PANAFTOSA, Dr. Eduardo Correa. The Secretary expressed his satisfaction at the success of the meeting and the scope of resolutions approved by the member countries and also at the resultant guidelines from the International Seminar on Risk Analysis: its utilization in the Regionalization of Programs and External Trade.

Dr. Correa then reiterated his satisfaction at the results and ratified favorable perspectives for the region, since the meeting of COSALFA and the International Seminar were characterized by mutual respect, transparency, credibility and proposals committing the countries to joint activities. He expressed his gratefulness to the Secretariat of Agriculture of the State of Bahia; to ADAB/Bahia; Association of Livestock Producers of Bahia; and, especially, to the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply- MAPA/Brazil and other public and private institutions which collaborated towards the success of the two international events.

Finally, the Federal Delegate of MAPA took the floor and expressed on behalf of the Minister, her pleasure for the results of the two events and at the joint participation of the official and private sectors, which was characterized by proposals and working commitments to guarantee success when facing foot-and-mouth disease-related problems, especially their economic, political and social impact. He mentioned that he hopes and trusts the fulfillment of the Resolutions approved in the Meeting and

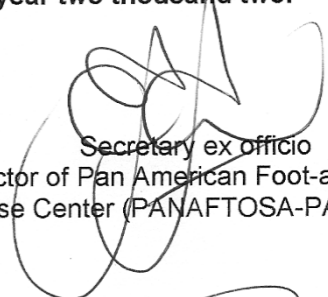
International Seminar. He closed the Meeting congratulating the sanitary services representatives and delegates of producers' organizations of the countries, as well as representatives from different international organizations.

IN WITNESS WHERE OF, the President of the Meeting, Dr. Denise Euclides Mariano da Costa, the Director of the Pan-American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center (PANAFTOSA), Secretary ex officio of COSALFA and the Delegates of the official and livestock sectors of the member countries have signed the present Final Report in Portuguese, Spanish and English, all texts being equally authentic.

Done in Salvador, Bahia, Brasil, on March fifteen of the year two thousand two.



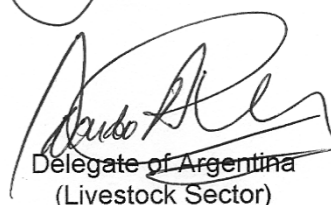
President



Secretary ex officio  
Director of Pan American Foot-and-Mouth  
Disease Center (PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO)



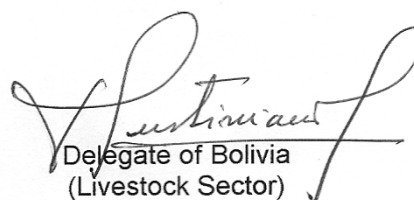
Delegate of Argentina  
(Official Sector)



Delegate of Argentina  
(Livestock Sector)



Delegate of Bolivia  
(Official Sector)



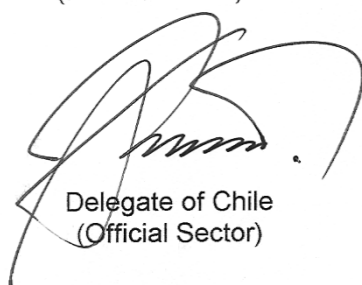
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(Livestock Sector)



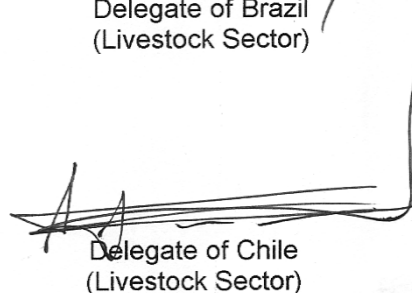
Delegate of Brazil  
(Official Sector)



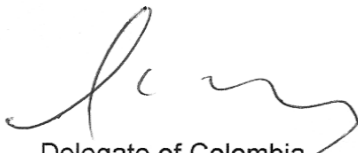
Delegate of Brazil  
(Livestock Sector)



Delegate of Chile  
(Official Sector)



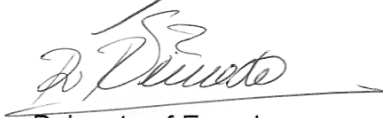
Delegate of Chile  
(Livestock Sector)



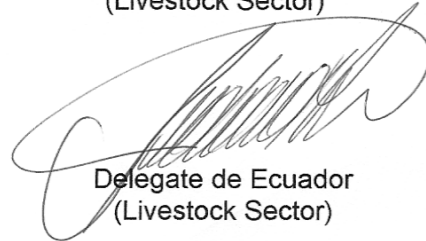
Delegate of Colombia  
(Official Sector)



Delegate of Colombia  
(Livestock Sector)



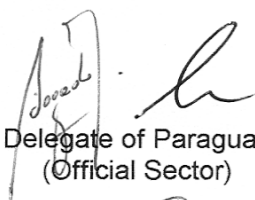
Delegate of Ecuador  
(Official Sector)



Delegate de Ecuador  
(Livestock Sector)



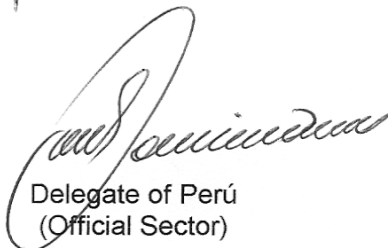
Delegate of Guyana  
(Official Sector)



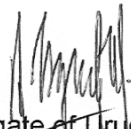
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(Official Sector)



Delegado de Paraguay  
(Livestock Sector)



Delegate of Perú  
(Official Sector)



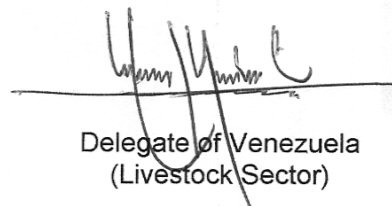
Delegate of Uruguay  
(Official Sector)



Delegate of Uruguay  
(Livestock Sector)



Delegate of Venezuela  
(Official Sector)



Delegate of Venezuela  
(Livestock Sector)



# **XXIX COSALFA**

**Salvador, Bahia, Brazil**

14 - 15 march de 2002

## **RESOLUTIONS**

## RESOLUTION I

### River Plate Basin Subregional Project of Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication

THE XXIX ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

That the occurrence of foot-and-mouth disease in the Southern Cone subregion countries, after several years without the disease, was of great impact on the economies of the affected countries;

That coordinated efforts of the public and private sectors to attend the emergency were adequate, so that the problem was controlled in a short time, and

That audits and evaluations carried out in the countries concluded it was necessary to strengthen the subregion's prevention activities, stressing the fitting of veterinary services structure and veterinary attention process to consolidate eradication strategies,

### RESOLVES:

1. To urge the countries of the subregion to continue efforts to consolidate eradication strategies, with emphasis on foot-and-mouth disease prevention and surveillance, and at the same time to continue with auditing cycles and programs evaluation within the scope of the River Plate Basin agreement.

2. To recommend to the member countries of the River Plate Basin whole fulfillment of commitments.

3. To recommend to the countries to apply their efforts towards establishing a subregional coordination and regulatory entity, recommending PANAFTOSA to follow-up the Permanent Veterinary Committee agreement for the subregion, as indicated in the Minutes of the River Plate Basin Meeting held on March 13-15, 2002.

(Approved by the plenary session  
on March 15, 2002)

## RESOLUTION II

### Andean Subregional Project for Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication

THE XXIX ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

The joint efforts applied by the Andean Community of Nations and the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center, within the framework of the meetings of the Andean Agriculture and Animal Health Technical Committee -Animal Health Group (COTASA), regarding revision and updating of the Subregional Project of Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication;

The Commitments made during the XXXIII and XXXIV Meetings of COTASA, regarding methodology, scope and instruments for revision and preparation of Zone Components for Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication, which were planned as strategic elements of the Subregional Project, and

The agreements regarding continuity of activities for preparation of the Subregional Project, which were established during the meeting of Animal Health Services Directors and representatives of livestock producers' organizations of the Andean countries, held during their participation in the International Seminar and COSALFA XXIX,

### RESOLVES:

1. To adopt the Working Plan and activities chronogram prepared by Animal Health Directors and representatives of livestock producers' organizations of member countries and to commit PANAFTOSA's technical cooperation for their execution.

2. To recommend to PANAFTOSA, the General Secretariat of the Andean Community and Animal Health Services of Member Countries, to promote within the framework of the Decision to be approved by the Cartagena Agreement Commission, and in COTASA meetings, the required action for programming, execution, follow-up and evaluation of the Subregional Project.

(Approved by the plenary session  
on March 15, 2002)

## **RESOLUTION III**

### **Subregional Project for Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease in the Amazon Basin**

THE XXIX ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

The status of foot-and-mouth disease-free without vaccination obtained by the Cooperative Republic of Guyana in 2001;

Trade relations between the States of Bolívar in Venezuela, Roraima in Brazil and the Cooperative Republic of Guyana and the occurrence of foot-and-mouth disease in both states during 2001, and

The need to strengthen activities to prevent entry of foot-and-mouth disease in Guyana,

### **RESOLVES:**

1. To request PANAFTOSA, in its position as technical secretariat of the Tripartite Brazil/Guyana/Venezuela Agreement, to convoke members to a meeting of the aforementioned Agreement, tentatively in July 2002, when the prevention project of the Brazil/Guyana/Venezuela border will be discussed.
2. To request PANAFTOSA to resume action towards preparation of the aforementioned project.

(Approved by the plenary session  
on March 15, 2002)

## RESOLUTION IV

### Continental Surveillance and Information System

THE XXIX ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

That in compliance with Resolution VI of the XXVIII Ordinary Meeting of COSALFA, the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center developed activities to test the functioning of the Continental System (SIVCONT) support software;

That the dimension of critical points in the implementation of modifications that must be made in Weekly Communications, from local to central level of national systems, compromise the start of operation of the Continental System, and

Other computational needs of countries related to execution of epidemiologic surveillance, as well as the convenience to enlarge SIVCONT's data basis to attend to specific demands in each country,

### RESOLVES:

1. To recommend to PANAFTOSA to organize and hold a working meeting with staff responsible for the Information System of each country, with the object of determining and establishing the time when countries must implement the required modifications in the Weekly Communications format of their information systems, as a first step towards SIVCONT's installation.

2. To recommend to PANAFTOSA to incorporate functions and/or increase the Data Basis of SIVCONT, at the countries' request.

3. To thank Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela for their cooperation in the testing phase of SIVCONT.

(Approved by the plenary session  
on March 15, 2002)

## RESOLUTION V

### Importation of Animals and By-products from Countries with Exotic Diseases to the Continent

THE XXIX ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

Advances in foot-and-mouth disease eradication projects in South American countries;

That the American continent is free of foot-and-mouth disease types SAT<sub>1</sub>, SAT<sub>2</sub>, SAT<sub>3</sub> and Asia<sub>1</sub> and other diseases existing in other continents, such as rinderpest and Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE), among others;

That in the past, importation of animals not covered by the present sanitary legislation has generated the introduction of diseases which are exotic in the American continent, with negative repercussions to animal health and the economy of the countries;

That the Andean Community (CAN) maintains the validity of the Basic Catalogue of Plagues and Exotic Diseases in the Andean Region territory as well as Resolution 449 which establishes requirements for the importation of animals and their products from third countries;

That the official animal health services of the importing countries are authorized institutions to evaluate and establish sanitary conditions for imports of animals and by-products, and

Knowing that interested sectors in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela intend to import a large quantity of buffaloes from India, where diseases which are exotic in the American continent are registered,

## RESOLVES

1. To urge the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to apply the Andean community regulation which prohibits entry of animals from countries with record of exotic diseases in the American continent.
2. To request the *ex officio Secretariat of COSALFA to forward copy of this Resolution* to Ministers of Agriculture of COSALFA's member countries.

(Approved by the plenary session  
on March 15, 2002)

## RESOLUTION VI

### Diagnostic kits

THE XXIX ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

The importance of seroepidemiologic studies for the taking of decisions in the region;

The need to rely on diagnostic instruments for serologic sampling based on ELISA 3ABC/EITB with defined quality control to guarantee reliability of results as well as harmony of performance, and

The need to use diagnostic instruments validated by the Region,

### RESOLVES:

1. To urge member countries to use complete kits based on the I-ELISA 3ABC/EITB system.
2. To request the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center to identify sources to guarantee the supply and quality of kits.

(Approved by the Plenary Session  
on March 15, 2002)

## **RESOLUTION VII**

### **Permanent Epidemiologic Committee**

THE XXIX ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

That the sanitary situation of the continent points to the existence of distinct diseases where the need for regional accord is highly convenient, either for primary prevention or eradication, making it necessary to increase the number of occasions for discussion and meetings of the technicians in charge of epidemiologic analysis in the various national veterinary services, and

That there are various situations when it is desirable to obtain ample agreement over technical bases that justify international regulations or equivalent procedures.

### **RESOLVES:**

1. To create a Permanent Epidemiologic Committee which, coordinated by PANAFTOSA, will assemble officials in charge of epidemiologic analysis sectors at national level together with other specialists of the area in the American continent.

2. This Committee will have an exclusively technical character and one of its commitments will be the discussion of global or punctual aspects of diseases of common interest to the countries, either by the convenience of discussing technical support bases of international regulations or common procedures harmonization at national level.

To request PANAFTOSA to send within the next 90 days to Official Services and Private Sector Delegates of each country, a proposal for integration and functioning of the aforementioned Committee.

(Approved by the Plenary Session  
on March 15, 2002)



## **RESOLUTION VIII**

### **International Seminar**

THE XXIX ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

The results of the International Seminar on “Risk Analysis: its utilization in the regionalization of programs and external trade”, held prior to XXIX COSALFA; and

That general suggestions were presented after discussion of the Seminar’s working groups, indicating the necessity of the working group on Risk Analysis of the OIE in the Americas to strengthen its activities and tend to the development of that instrument in the countries; and

That as a result of survey among participants of the Seminar, priority was given to the subject Epidemiologic Surveillance of Emerging Diseases,

### **RESOLVES:**

1. To request PANAFTOSA to increase its participation in the Risk Analysis study group of the International Office of Epizootics (OIE) for the Americas, with the purpose of developing models; to coordinate national Risk Analysis groups in accordance with requirements of binational or regional studies, and also to allow greater diffusion of the technical group in member countries.

2. To request that joint training programs at the regional level be developed by the group and PANAFTOSA.

3. To request PANAFTOSA to propose that “Epidemiologic Surveillance of Emerging Diseases” be the subject of the next Seminar of the XXX COSALFA.

(Approved by the plenary session  
on March 15, 2002)

## RESOLUTION IX

### Acknowledgements

THE XXIX ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering the excellent conditions provided by the State Agency of Agriculture and Livestock Defense of Bahia – ADAB, by the Secretariat of Agriculture, Irrigation and Agrarian Reform - SEAGRI and the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply – MAPA, for hosting this XXIX COSALFA Meeting,

#### RESOLVES:

To thank the State Agency of Agriculture and Livestock Defense of Bahia – ADAB, in the name of Dr. Jose Alberto da Silva Lira; the Secretariat of Agriculture, Irrigation and Agrarian Reform, in the name of Dr. Pedro Barbosa de Deus; and the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply, in the name of Dr. Paulo Roberto de Oliveira Reis, for their effort and care and all the success achieved.

(Approved by the plenary session  
on March 15, 2002)

## **RESOLUTION X**

### **Designation of the host city of COSALFA XXX**

THE XXIX ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering the offer made by the Delegate of Chile for the country to host the next Regular Meeting of the South American Commission for the Fight against Foot-and-Mouth Disease (COSALFA),

#### **RESOLVES;**

To designate the city of Santiago de Chile as the host city of the XXX Ordinary Meeting of COSALFA.

(Approved by the plenary session  
on March 15, 2002)

# **XXIX COSALFA**

**Salvador, Bahia, Brazil**

14 -15 march 2002

## **APPENDIX**

**SOUTH AMERICAN COMMISSION FOR THE FIGHT AGAINST FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE  
XXVIII ORDINARY MEETING**

Mariano Roque Alonso, Paraguay, March 15-16, 2001

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**AGENDA**

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**THURSDAY, March 15**

- 09:00 Opening Ceremony
- 09:30 Secretariat Report
- 10:30 Discussion of the Report
  
- 11:00 Recess
  
- 11:15 Discussion of PHEFA's Plan of Action
- 12:00 Discussion
  
- 12:30 Lunch
  
- 14:00 Situation of national and subregional programs
  - River Plate Basin
  - Andean Area
  - Amazon Area and Brazil
  
- 16:00 Discussion
  
- 16:30 Recess
  
- 17:00 River Plate Basin Audit Report

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**FRIDAY, March 16**

- 09:00 Implementation of the Continental Surveillance and Information System of Vesicular Diseases
  
- 10:00 Recess
  
- 10:30 Emergency Continental System
- 11:30 Other subjects
  
- 12:30 Lunch
  
- 14:00 Presentation and discussion of Resolutions
- 16:00 Closing Ceremony

**OTHER SUBJECTS**

1. Vesicular Stomatitis Meeting in Colombia
2. Status of transfer of PANAFTOSA
3. PANAFTOSA's Reference Laboratory
4. Peru's request regarding Virus C in vaccines
5. Proposal of modification of the Zoosanitary Code – Dr. Gimeno



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Haroldo Matos de Almeida	Coordenador Regional	Agência Estadual de Defesa Agropecuária - ADAB	Rua José do Patrocínio, 370 Centro, Teixeira de Freitas, BA	2912762		
Hélio Vilela Barbosa Jr.	Professor Médico Veterinário	Universidade Federal da Bahia	Av. Ademar da Barros, 500 Ondina - Salvador, BA	2476150		helio@ufba.br
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Iram da Silva Ferrão	Médico Veterinário	Agência Estadual de Defesa Agropecuária - ADAB	Itapetinga, BA			
Irineu Barbieri	Presidente	IDARON - Agência de Defesa Sanitária Agrocilvopastorial do Estado de Rondônia	R. Padre Angelo Cerri S/Nº. Esplanada das Secretarias - Pedrinhas Porto Velho, RO- 78900-000	2296707	2232282	idaro@enter-net.com.br
Isa Maria Sousa Trindade	Médico Veterinário Técnico Defesa Sanitária Animal	Agência Estadual de Defesa Agropecuária - ADAB	Cons. Vale dos Lagos, Rua G, Bl. 331 Apto. 301 - Salvador, BA- 41250-430	2138768		
Itamar Garrido de Souza Pinto	Gerente de Saúde Animal	Agência Estadual de Defesa Agropecuária da Bahia - ADAB	Av. Ademar de Barros, 967 - Ondina Salvador, BA- 40170-110	3752999	3752999	itamargarrito@hotmail.com
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<b>BRASIL</b>						
Jorge Xavier Sampaio	Médico Veterinário	Agência Estadual de Defesa Agropecuária da Bahia - ADAB	Rua Barreto Pedroso, 28 Pituçu Salvador, BA- 41740-170	3634174		
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José Carlos Pinho Morgado	Gerente Técnico Biológicos Grandes Animais	Merial Saúde Animal Ltda.	Av. Carlos Grimaldi, 1701 - 4º. And. Fax. São Quirino - Campinas, SP 13091-000	37075031	37075104	jose.morgado@merial.com
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José Gregório Mendes Santos Nascimento	Médico Veterinário	Secretaria de Agricultura	R. Santa Catarina, Vila Militar do 2º. BEC - Teresina, PI- 64000-000	2239660		
José Gregório Nepomuceno	Engenheiro Agrônomo	Agência Estadual de Defesa Agropecuária - ADAB	Rua Mário Campo, S/Nº - Sto. Ma. Vitória, BA- 47640-000	4833471	4833471	
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Juarez Arnaut da Cruz		Agência Estadual de Defesa Agropecuária - ADAB	Condomínio Pedra da Gávea, Casa 01 Stella Maris - Salvador, BA - 41600-490	3745561		
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Neilton Sergio Rotandano	Coordenador Regional	Agência Estadual de Defesa Agropecuária - ADAB	Praça Coronel João Borges, S/Nº. Salvador, BA - 45200-000	5251431	5251431	
Nelson Matias da Silva	Coordenador Regional	Agência Estadual de Defesa Agropecuária - ADAB	Rua Helio Borges, S/Nº. - Itaberaba BA - 46880-000	2513161	2511626	
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Nilton Bastos de Carvalho Filho	Médico Veterinário	Agência Estadual de Defesa Agropecuária da Bahia - ADB/SEAGRI	Rua Rio Suboé, 30 - Monte Serrat Salvador, BA - 40425-090	312.5066		
Nilton DORTAS Montargil	Gerente Técnico	Agência Estadual de Defesa Agropecuária - ADAB	Rua 31 de Março, 799 - Ilhéus, BA 45650-000	2311564		
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Paulo Roberto de Oliveira Reis e Souza	Delegado Federal	Delegacia Federal de Agricultura	Largo dos Afritos, S/No. - Ed. CERES Salvador, BA- 40030-060	3207436	3207440	dfa-ba@agricultura.gov.br
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<b>BRASIL</b>						
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