



XXXII



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

PAN AMERICAN FOOT-AND-MOUT DISEASE CENTER

FINAL REPORT



Veterinary Public Health Unit - PAHO/WHO



FINAL REPORT

Lima, Peru

March 10-11, 2005



PAN AMERICAN FOOT-AND-MOUT DISEASE CENTER
Veterinary Public Health Unit - PAHO/WHO

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XXXII ORDINARY MEETING

FINAL REPORT

1. OPENING CEREMONY

The main table was formed by the Minister of Agriculture of Peru, Eng. Manuel Manrique Ugarte; Ambassador Héctor Maldonado Lira, representing the Andean Community of Nations – CAN; the Chief of the National Service of Agrarian Health – SENASA/Peru, Dr. Elsa Carbonell; and the Secretary *ex officio* of COSALFA, Dr. Eduardo Correa Melo. Dr. Carbonell welcomed the delegates and participants, acknowledging the presence of the Minister and the Ambassador, and mentioned the recent success of the recognition of Peru as a free zone. She emphasized the presence of the Ambassador of Paraguay in the opening ceremony.

Ambassador Maldonado transmitted greetings from the Secretary General of CAN, Ambassador Allan Wagner, and spoke of the modifications of the last few years in the relations between the countries, due to the global process in the economies, which have reflected on life conditions and development of populations. He mentioned the recent meeting of the Summit of the Presidents of the Countries of the Americas in Cuzco, Peru, and the results to create the framework for negotiations between the countries of the Common Market of the South - MERCOSUR and the Andean Community of Nations - CAN. He referred to the Hemispheric Program for Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (PHEFA) as an example of American integration with advantages for the countries that have become disease-free. CAN and the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center - PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO are working together in the strengthening of their activities in the subregion.

The Secretary *ex officio* transmitted greetings from the Director of PAHO, from the Veterinary Public Health Unit and from PANAFTOSA. He mentioned the advances made during 2004, the problems that still persist and the need to continue the implementation of the plan of action of PHEFA, a result of actions of the Inter-American Group for Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication - GIEFA. He spoke of the initiative of the president of Brazil, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, to request the commitment of the presidents of the region to continue stimulating PHEFA and achieve the elimination of FMD in the proposed date of 2009.

Minister Manrique mentioned the importance for Peru in hosting COSALFA XXXII, indicating the long work carried out in the development of the national Peruvian program to reach the disease-free status, and the benefits foreseen with this status, especially in the camel trade. He welcomed the delegates and participants and declared officially open the XXXII Meeting of COSALFA.

Dr. Elsa Carbonell, Chief of SENASA/Peru, was proposed by the representation of Argentina to preside the meeting, speaking on behalf of CVP, and was elected unanimously. Dr. Rodolfo Tonelli, interim director of SENASAG, and representing the Minister of Agriculture of Bolivia, passed the presidency to Peru.

2. REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

The Secretary *ex officio* read the report which is included as Annex 1. He pointed out the goals reached during the period in the maintenance of the traditionally free regions and of new zones and countries which have been recognized recently. He gave information on the progress of the mission given to GIEFA, as a result of the Houston Conference, to prepare the plan of action for 2005-2009. He then detailed the level of fulfillment of the resolutions of COSALFA XXXI and of previous mandates. He especially spoke about the activities of laboratory reference and the need to count on quality control and biosecurity in the network of laboratories, which is the main reason to stimulate the installation of a security “bubble” at PANAFTOSA. He also mentioned reference activities developed with regard to zoonotic diseases, which are the object of the technical cooperation from PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO.

He informed that after almost three years of negotiations, resources from the Inter- American Development Bank (IDB) had been released for the development of a project to be applied to MERCOSUR enlarged with a strong component for the training of professionals. He explained the need of the countries to plan their requirements of technical support so that they can organize their delivery of technical cooperation and also the delivery of kits for diagnosis.

Observations to the report

The representation of the private sector of Brazil and the official representative of Chile requested information of the real possibility of provision of diagnostic kits used in the processes of liberation of zones. Chile also requested details of the presence of virus C and of the analysis of epidemiologic occurrences during the year, proposing that these should be analyzed independently and with the supervision of PANAFTOSA. In his opinion, this activity will strengthen the leading role of PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO. On the other hand, Dr. Correa when he was commenting on requests of technical cooperation, pointed out that PANAFTOSA depends more on health resources than on agriculture resources. Thus, if it is required to strengthen this function, a specific contribution from the agriculture sector of the member countries must be established to meet this expenditure.

While he was answering questions, Dr. Correa commented on the need to train groups of epidemiologists to evaluate emergency situations, with costs covered by the countries. He reiterated the need of the countries to implement cleaning procedures of their vaccines, according to norms of OIE. With reference to the occurrence of virus type O, Brazil reiterated its position of not removing the virus from the vaccine, adding information on the strengthening of local structures of veterinary attention, especially in the Amazon, and also explained its hypothesis on the persistence of the virus in that region.

The private sector of Argentina mentioned the inclusion of virus type C in the vaccine produced in the country and requested details of the characterization of the strain of the outbreak in Careiro da

Várzea, Amazon state, which was answered by professionals of PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO regarding work on the biomolecular characterization of the isolated strain.

Ecuador requested technical support for their national program in accordance with the proposal of last year. The private sector of Ecuador noted some positive modifications caused by the intervention of PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO in August 2004 and informed about the preparation of a plan of action with a new strategy based on orientations from PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO. Vaccination coverage has increased. At the international level work is being carried out with Colombia and Peru.

The livestock sector of Venezuela agreed with the report. It mentioned problems of quality control of the vaccine used in the country and the problems that this might bring to the program. To both questions, Dr. Correa spoke of the need to stimulate regional cooperation and the organization of delivery of cooperation by PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO.

The representative of the official sector of Uruguay recognized advances made in the designation of new free areas that merit the organization of surveillance and prevention activities.

Bolivia mentioned advances in its program since COSALFA XXXI due to joint work with the private sector and thanked PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO for its support in maintaining a consultant in the country for six months. During 18 months no outbreaks have been reported. With reference to the vaccine, as an importing country they have met problems due to anaphylactic and reactivity reactions to PNC. They requested to prepare a resolution asking PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO to lead an investigation on the matter.

The public sector of Colombia reiterated the need of a deeper study of the occurrences of last year at the region bordering Venezuela and informed the occurrence of a recent focus in Bogotá in animals vaccinated at the National University. Investigation of the probable source of the focus is in process.

Peru mentioned its concern about the existence of still endemic zones in the countries, which jeopardizes advances made during the period. It requests action from PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO to support these countries in the improvement of their national programs.

The public sector of Argentina referred to the economic importance of sanitary events. It requested that in order to show internal and international transparency, these situations should be evaluated by an independent technical commission.

3. SITUATION OF NATIONAL AND SUBREGIONAL PROGRAMS

Dr. Saraiva presented the preliminary report for information and observation of the delegates, communicating that this is preliminary data and that delegates should inform about any required modification.

Dr. Saraiva referred especially to FMD-free epidemiological regions, according to OIE, as well as their surface distribution covering herds and bovines. He also referred to outbreaks of vesicular diseases according to type of virus reported in South America and in concise form he spoke of the status of the countries. He emphasized that reported suspicions had 93% diagnostic confirmation, which means an improvement in the surveillance of vesicular diseases in the countries and of activity of diagnosis

laboratories of the countries. He presented coverage of FMD programs as well as human, physical and financial resources invested by the countries.

He pointed out FMD suspicions at the borders of Paraguay and Brazil and action taken by the countries and PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO in its condition of coordinator of study groups to evaluate suspicions.

Dr. Saraiva also referred to serologic studies carried out by the countries with the cooperation of PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO, and to the support given to prepare the documents presented to OIE soliciting the status of FMD-free zones or countries.

With regard to the status per country, he mentioned the increase in suspicions of FMD in some countries of the Andean subregion, endemism of the disease in Ecuador and in Venezuela, and described action taken at the time of the outbreak by virus O in Lurín, Peru.

The occurrence of outbreaks by virus O in the state of Pará, Brazil, and later by virus C in the Amazon, were presented in detail due to their impact at the national, regional and world levels.

With regard to resolution of COSALFA XXXI, mention was made of the quality of information sent to PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO on public and private investments in each country. Countries were urged to improve the quality of information.

The official representative of Argentina informed that studies of cost/benefit realized in the country indicated that for an annual expenditure of 50 million dollars there is a return in exports of more than one thousand million.

The official representative of Venezuela presented a historical analysis of the situation of FMD since 2003 and the present endemic situation in the country. He informed they are working with PANAFTOSA to reorient their national program and to strengthen relations at the international border level. He requested support from PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO in the training of personnel.

Interventions of the private sector of Peru and the official sector of Chile pointed to the importance of control at borders to minimize the risk of reintroduction of the disease as the status achieved has to be defended.

There was a discussion on the importance of the active participation of the livestock sector in regional entities and solidarity support was given to small producers. Producers must give permanent support to this objective. The private sector of Brazil expressed its dissatisfaction regarding the modification of the regional instance of the Southern Cone which does not cover the participation of the private sector. It was generally considered that the problem must be treated with the cooperation of all the involved sectors.

The observation of the official sector of Paraguay over the importance of counting on early information for the taking of decisions was discussed in various interventions on the brevity of information of suspicions by the countries and rapid attention to them. It was informed that the system in use not only covers annual information but also permits instant knowledge of the sanitary situation of member countries through the site of PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO in the scope of SIVCONT. Taking in consideration the still reduced number of member countries which send information through the new protocol, it was requested that countries which have not entered the new system, do so as soon as possible.

4. REPORT ON GIEFA

The secretary *ex officio* reported on activities developed by GIEFA since its creation in March 2004; he described the composition of the group and the representation of public and private sectors in the 6 regions of PHEFA. This members list could be modified at the next meeting of COHEFA. He mentioned the creation of a virtual forum for discussion of the new version of the Plan of Action and the contribution of the countries. The group met 5 times during the year and the I Extraordinary Meeting of COHEFA was held in December 2004 in Brasilia, DF. He further informed that previous to this COSALFA, there was a meeting of GIEFA when final adjustments to the project were proposed prior to its distribution to members of GIEFA and discussion at COHEFA 10 next April in Mexico City. He pointed out that donations and contributions made by the countries to adjust the Project will be available for consideration of all at a virtual forum.

The proposal covers intervention in problem areas, risk border areas, prevention system, protection of free areas, laboratories for diagnosis and vaccine control, production of vaccines in biosecurity conditions, audits, systems of information and epidemiologic surveillance, local strengthening, training and social communication. He mentioned the form of commitment between GIEFA and the countries which will include contracts and subcontracts for the use of resources. Priority regions and countries as well as the other areas, should contribute with the required counterpart resources. Management would be effected through a group working at PANAFTOSA but related to GIEFA. The representative of the private sector of Brazil characterized the orientation of resources towards priority regions and the interest of the sector to participate in training and audits of programs as well as industries of biologics production.

Discussion of the report

The public sector of Uruguay suggested the need of emergency auditing in problem countries to evaluate the situation of the programs and to propose a line of action. Chile requested that countries considered as priorities (Ecuador, Bolivia and Venezuela) divulge the contents of their national programs before their access to resources. Brazil mentioned there is a mandate from the ministers for PANAFTOSA to coordinate actions for emergencies and auditing. Chile stated that the countries need technical support of the highest quality, which can be or cannot be in PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO. Dr. Correa answered and stressed that delegates have the authority to choose another institution to support the activity in which the leading role of PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO as an international reference is important.

Dr. Correa mentioned the initiative of FAO with the GF-TADs project as a joining element of technical cooperation and PANAFTOSA is part of its managing group in the region.

5. REPORT OF THE LABORATORY

Dr. Bergmann reported on the activities of the laboratory including characterization of several samples from outbreaks occurring in South America and strains for the production of vaccines; development of a protocol for systems of quality control and biosecurity at the unit in PANAFTOSA-

PAHO/WHO. The kit from PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO was used in models of other regions and other types of virus and also in comparative tests with other available commercial and “in house” kits, organized jointly with the European Union, in which the excellent performance of the PANAFTOSA kit was ratified. Differences were verified in comparative performances of the different evaluated kits. In addition, she communicated the conclusions and recommendations of the seminar of laboratory specialists in vesicular diseases in which, among others, the subject of vaccine control was highlighted and proposal was made of preparation of projects to evaluate the presence of NCP in Argentina and Colombia, similar to the project carried out with Brazil in commercial vaccines, with the purpose of reducing nonspecific reactions due to vaccines which are not purified. Models have been developed for diagnosis of NCP for other species and rapid diagnostic tests and their validation. She mentioned the proposal to be developed by PANAFTOSA - PAHO/WHO and discussion during this COSALFA for the establishment of a South American samples bank and preparation of guidelines for the participation of PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO in international projects requiring biologic material of the region. A line of action is proposed for these project.

Discussion

Chile would like to know if the level of diagnostic capacity in the region is considered satisfactory and if it is periodically checked, which was answered positively by Dr. Bergmann who mentioned that in some cases it is very necessary to optimize infrastructure and materials.

Another subject was the production of vaccine by the Frenkel method. Dr. Bergmann explained that OIE does not recognize it but she knows that several laboratories in South America use it, as in the case of Argentina which expressed its concern. It was proposed to create a working group to discuss the subject within a regional context due to the difficulties in its use and the dangers it may represent. The representative of the official sector of Paraguay mentioned that at the time of requesting recognition as FMD-free country with vaccination, the matter was consulted and that since 1997 this method has been removed from the manual of standards. The country supports the creation of a scientific study of the subject.

6. REPORT ON PRECOSALFA SEMINAR

Conclusions and recommendations of the international seminar on the obtaining and recovery of sanitary status as disease-free, conceptual scope and experiences, were then read. Considerations were made on the inclusion of COPEA within the surveillance activity of EEB and the creation of a regional committee for avian health of the Americas.

7. REPORT FROM SENASA/PERU ON RECOGNITION AS DISEASE-FREE ZONE WITHOUT VACCINATION

Dr. Carbonell made a presentation on the history of the fight against FMD in Peru and the process of epidemiologic regionalization, which orientated the national program and the preparation of a request for recognition of free zone without vaccination in the south of the country. Bolivia, Chile and Ecuador mentioned the success of the program and the disposition to strengthen links at the border level to protect the country.

8. GLOBAL PROJECT FOR THE PROGRESSIVE CONTROL OF TRANSBORDER DISEASES OF ANIMALS

Dr. Juan Lubroth, Animal Health Officer of FAO, said that the Project is an initiative of FAO and OIE, which was created three years ago, and basically its objective is the development and improvement of food safety in developing countries and the safeguarding of food industries at the world level.

The purpose is to count at the international level on a system of information and surveillance for transborder diseases, for world checking of the status of free from rinderpest; the epidemiologic characterization of the distribution of diseases at world level; the strategies of control developed with the interested sectors; the capacity of response at the international and regional level and the promotion of research.

Immediate regional objectives: creation of regional nodes for early detection; rationalization of veterinary services; national and regional training for diagnosis and surveillance; search for and description of primary endemic areas; networks of laboratories, and the development of pilot programs of control.

The structural elements of the project are the Directive Committee; management committee and regional committees. FAO is in charge of the secretariat together with OIE and the cooperation of WHO.

9. APPROVAL OF THE RESOLUTIONS

The plenary session considered the resolutions suggested during the meeting, which were approved after discussion and incorporation of pertinent modifications. The eleven approved resolutions are herewith enclosed.

10. NEW HOST CITY

The secretary *ex officio* informed that with regard to the proposals for host city of the XXXIII Ordinary Meeting of COSALFA, the Constitutional President of the Republic of Ecuador expressed his interest that Ecuador be considered. The plenary session, considering the importance of the country within the context of the Plan of Action, unanimously accepted his offer.

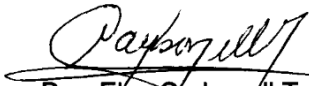
11. CLOSING CEREMONY

The closing ceremony was conducted by Dr. Elsa Carbonell, president of the meeting, and included the participation of Dr. Eduardo Correa, Secretary *ex officio*, and Dr. Albino Belotto, Chief of the Veterinary Public Health Unit of PAHO.

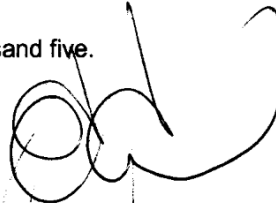
Dr. Carbonell offered Dr. Correa an acknowledgement plaque for the support offered by PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO to the process of recognition of the southern zone of Peru as disease-free without vaccination. Dr. Correa expressed his gratitude and added that he is retiring from the direction of PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO this year and is grateful for the collaboration received from all during the time he has been leading the institution. Dr. Belotto considered that the meeting was productive and interventions demonstrated the strength of national programs and the determined participation of the private sector in their leadership, besides the deficiencies which will be corrected in the future. There were no other subjects for discussion and Dr. Carbonell adjourned the meeting.

IN WITNESS WHERE OF, the Chairman of the Meeting, Dra. Elsa Carbonell Torres, Chief of the National Service of Agricultural Sanity – SENASA, the Director of the Pan-American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center – PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO, 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 Spanish, Portuguese and English, all texts being equality authentic.

Done in Lima, Peru, in the eleven day of March, two thousand five.



Dra. Elsa Carbonell Torres
 President of the Meeting
 Chief of the National Service of Agricultural
 Sanity – SENASA – Peru



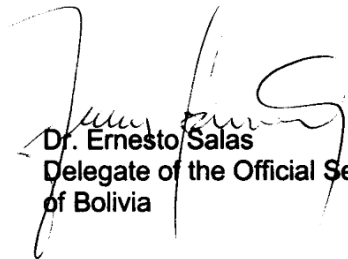
Dr. Eduardo Correa Melo
 Secretary *ex officio*
 Director of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth
 Disease Center - PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO



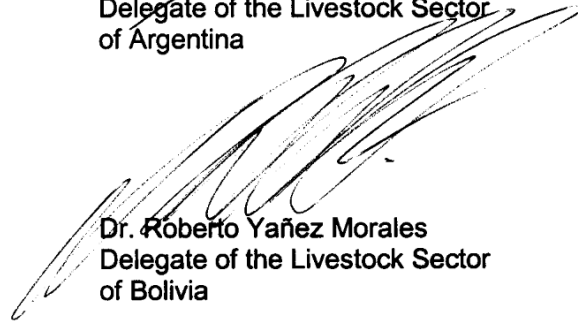
Dr. Jorge Néstor Araya
 Delegate of the Official Sector
 of Argentina



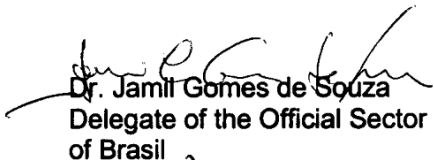
Dr. Salvador Larocca
 Delegate of the Livestock Sector
 of Argentina



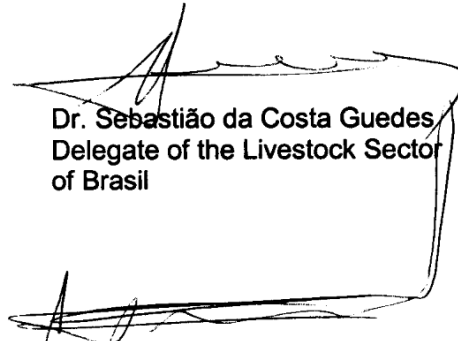
Dr. Ernesto Salas
 Delegate of the Official Sector
 of Bolivia



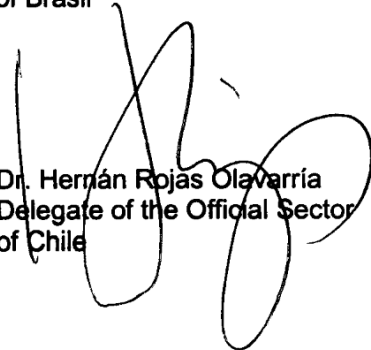
Dr. Roberto Yañez Morales
 Delegate of the Livestock Sector
 of Bolivia



Dr. Jamil Gomes de Souza
 Delegate of the Official Sector
 of Brasil



Dr. Sebastião da Costa Guedes
 Delegate of the Livestock Sector
 of Brasil



Dr. Hernán Rojas Olavarría
 Delegate of the Official Sector
 of Chile

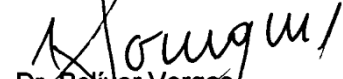
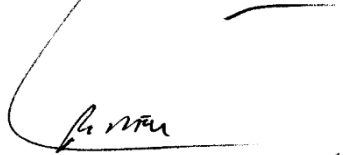


Dr. Patricio Vigneaux Simpson
 Delegate of the Livestock Sector
 of Chile



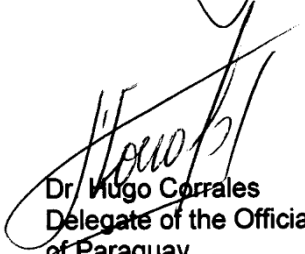
Dr. Darío Alejandro Cedeño Quevedo
Delegate of the Official Sector
of Colombia

Dr. José Felix Lafaurie Rivera
Delegate of the Livestock Sector
of Colombia

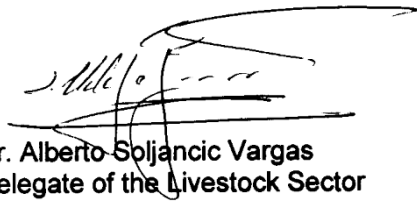


Dr. Bolívar Vargas
Delegate of the Official Sector
of Ecuador

Dr. Jorge Delgado Tello
Delegate of the Livestock Sector
of Ecuador



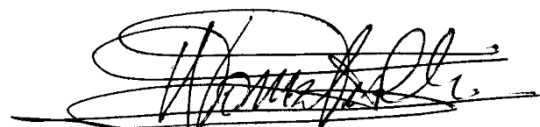
Dr. Hugo Corrales
Delegate of the Official Sector
of Paraguay



Dr. Alberto Soljancic Vargas
Delegate of the Livestock Sector
of Paraguay



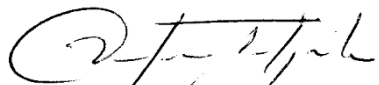
Dr. Oscar Miguel Domínguez Falcón
Delegate of the Official Sector
of Perú



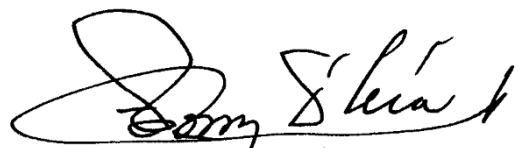
Dr. Guillermo Tomatis Chiappe
Delegate of the Livestock Sector
of Perú



Dr. Francisco Muzio
Delegate of the Official Sector
of Uruguay



Dra. Betzaida Viafara Rey
Delegate of the Official Sector
of Venezuela



Dr. Tony D'Elia
Delegate of the Livestock Sector
of Venezuela

XXXII COSALFA

Lima, Peru

March 10-11, 2005

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION I

Plan of action of PHEFA 2005-2009

THE XXXII ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

The work that the Inter American Group for Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication (GIEFA) has developed within the scope of the Hemispheric Conference for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (COHEFA), held in Houston, Texas, USA, and its importance to promote the Hemispheric Program for Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (PHEFA), which has materialized in the Document of the Plan of Action of PHEFA 2005-2009, and

The resolutions of the I Extraordinary Meeting of COHEFA held in Brasília, Brazil, December 2004, and the meeting of GIEFA of 4-5 March 2005,

RESOLVES:

1. To recognize the work of GIEFA and stimulate the Group to continue its contribution to the Program of Eradication.
2. To second the resolutions of the I Extraordinary COHEFA Meeting.
3. To request the countries to forward their observations to the Plan of Action of 2005-2009 at the latest on 16 March. They will be made available at the electronic site of GIEFA at PANAF-TOSA. The Group and the Technical Secretariat will then prepare the final edition of the Plan of Action to be sent to the Ministers of Agriculture, who will discuss it at the next COHEFA and RIMSA. The proposals must be written in such a way that they can be introduced directly into the document, indicating the place of insertion, and if this implies costs they must be quantified, indicating the basis for estimates and communicating it to the Technical Secretary.
4. To reiterate the importance of coordination between the public and private sectors in the realization of the objectives of PHEFA.

(Approved by the plenary session
on 11 March 2005)

RESOLUTION II

Situation of national programs for eradication of foot-and-mouth

THE XXXII ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

The success of foot-and-mouth eradication in the countries of the subregion of the River Plate Basin, Amazon subregion and Andean subregion, with recognition of new zones and countries as FMD-free with and without vaccination;

The persistence of the disease in other countries which continue representing a regional risk;

The present status of foot-and-mouth disease and eradication programs in Bolivia, Ecuador and Venezuela;

The occurrence of foot-and-mouth disease in the Amazon subregion;

The political commitment expressed by the governments of the region in the Declaration of Houston at the I Extraordinary COHEFA, to fulfill the goals of PHEFA;

The need to attend to the objectives of the Plan of Action of PHEFA 2005-2009, and

The need for PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO to make available to the countries the analysis and technical studies of epidemiological events which have occurred in the region,

RESOLVES:

1. To approve the report on the situation of national programs for the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease.
2. To request the countries to mobilize the necessary resources for the strengthening and implementation of their national programs in the framework of the Plan of Action 2005-2009 of PHEFA.
3. To stimulate horizontal cooperation between the countries with advanced programs and those in development, and to request the governments of Ecuador and Venezuela to effect the political commitment that was expressed.
4. To recognize the advance reached by Bolivia in the development of the national program, and to request the government of the country to maintain the technical and political commitment.
5. To request the countries that share the Amazon subregion to strengthen actions for surveillance and control of vesicular diseases within the scope of the programs for the region.
6. That PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO continue supporting the countries in the development of their programs.
7. That the countries comply with the obligation to provide the necessary information to PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO on epidemiologic events representing risk to the countries, to obtain technical studies.
8. That PANAFTOSA give technical backing to the reports of those events, with timely information to the countries, and incorporate a detailed epidemiologic analysis in the annual report of the status of foot-and-mouth disease programs.

(Approved by the plenary session
on 11 March 2005)

RESOLUTION III

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP OF LABORATORY SPECIALISTS IN VESICULAR DISEASES

THE XXXII ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

The advances achieved in the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease in South America which require the scientific and technical support of laboratories of diagnosis and control of biologics, to sustain the objective information of the sanitary situation reached in the region;

The modifications in international regulations of foot-and-mouth disease, which require updating of serologic and virological techniques to sustain new requirements;

The need to maintain and strengthen the strategic vision of regional fight to facilitate:

- a) The updating and validation of tests of serologic and virological diagnosis used in epidemiologic surveillance, which require joint efforts to obtain a considerable number of samples reflecting epidemiologic situations;
- b) The harmonization of the different quality levels in the laboratories of the region, which requires an integrated approach of diagnostic laboratories;
- c) The harmonization, equivalence and transparency of the use of diagnostic instruments, and

The conclusions and recommendations of the International Workshop of Laboratory Specialists in Vesicular Diseases, PANAFTOSA, 14-16 December 2004,

RESOLVES:

1. To give official endorsement to the recommendations of the International Workshop of Laboratory Specialists in Vesicular Diseases held at PANAFTOSA on 14-16 December 2004, particularly to:

- a) The formation of an *ad hoc* Group to study problems related to the production and control of vaccines and to issue recommendations,
- b) That PANAFTOSA obtain and inform the countries with regard to the scientific-technical antecedents which supported the exclusion of the Frenkel method of vaccine production from the Manual of Standards of OIE.
- c) That the countries forward to PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO, during the first semester of 2005, the strains of production of vaccines against foot-and-mouth disease for genetic characterization and by monoclonal antibodies.
- d) That the countries send suitable samples to PANAFTOSA to validate PCR for application in emergency diagnosis.
- e) That field services of the countries collect appropriate samples for differential diagnosis, according to recommendations of the Manual of PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO for collection and forwarding of samples to the laboratory.
- f) That PANAFTOSA apply efforts for the availability of an emergency stock of I-ELISA/EITB kits, equivalent to 20% of its annual production,
- g) That PANAFTOSA evaluate scientifically and technically the possibility of reincorporation of ELISA CFL as a test prescribed for the movement of animals, in the Manual of Standards of OIE.

(Approved by the plenary session
on 11 March 2005)

RESOLUTION IV

Regional Cooperative Bank of samples for the study of foot-and-mouth disease and projects of cooperation with extraregional institutions

THE XXXII ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

The importance of projects of research and technologic development which contribute to the support of advances of PHEFA and to the scientific backing of positions regarding international organisms;

The functioning of PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO as Center of Reference for the Region with regard to OIE and FAO;

The need to validate developments following requirements internationally recognized, which requires samples with a known epidemiologic history and which are representative of our region;

The increasing demand from intra and extra-regional institutions to participate in projects requiring access to biologic material of the region, especially South America, without a clear definition of the regional impact/benefit, and

Regulations on defense of genetic patrimony and its byproducts, and limitation of access to specimens for study, valid in some of our countries, which establish limitations and conditions,

RESOLVES:

1. To create a Regional Cooperative Bank of Samples for the Study of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (RCBSSFMD) with the purpose of support scientific research, technologic development and the validation of methodologies applied to the diagnosis of foot-and-mouth disease.

2. To request PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO to coordinate the formation and functioning of a Regional Technical Committee (RTC) which will:

a) Maintain the functioning of the RCBSSFMD,

b) Prepare guidelines for the evaluation of proposals, agreements and projects of PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO, in its condition of Organism of Regional Reference, with extra-regional institutions.

3. That within 60 days the countries provide information on the following documents:

a) Basis for the participation of PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO in cooperation projects with extra South American institutions when they require access to biologic material, and

b) Regional Cooperative Bank of Samples for the Study of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (RCBSSFMD).

(Approved by the plenary session
on 11 March 2005)

RESOLUTION V

Biosecurity Laboratory at PANAFTOSA

THE XXXII ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

The relevance for the Region of a Regional Reference Laboratory OIE-FAO;

The absence of a 3A Biosecurity Laboratory at PANAFTOSA, which limits technical cooperation offered by PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO to the countries, and

International biosecurity demands, specifically for reference laboratories,

RESOLVES:

1. That PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO carry out as soon as possible commitments for the construction of the 3A Biosecurity Laboratory, according to the Plan of Action 2005-2009 of PHEFA.

(Approved by the plenary session
on 11 March 2005)

RESOLUTION VI

Potential interference of vaccines in tests based on detection of antibodies against noncapsidal proteins

THE XXXII ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

The need to eliminate levels of reactivity observed in serological surveys in vaccination areas, and

That the experience in the region shows there are products that based on the conventional purification of their vaccine antigens do not present reactivity of antibodies against noncapsid proteins (NCP) in the tests used, including conditions of multiple vaccination.

RESOLVES:

1. That PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO collaborate with the countries of the region in the evaluation of results of I-ELISA 3ABC/EITB for the evaluation of potential interference of tests based on the detection of NCP in the surveillance of foot-and-mouth disease, to establish norms of control of vaccine in this subject.

2. That PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO make available to the countries the methodology for the evaluation of NCP in viral suspensions destined to the production of vaccine, preparing a proposal of agreement similar to the project PANAFTOSA-DDA-SINDAN (Brazil), for the other countries producers of vaccine that show interest in the subject.

(Approved by the plenary session
on 11 March 2005)

RESOLUTION VII

Seminar on processes to obtain and recover the sanitary status of disease-free: conceptual scope and experiences

THE XXXII ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

The importance of the disease-free sanitary status in agrodevelopment, for the availability of animal-origin products for internal consumption and for export, and

The need of counting on a surveillance system to support the fight against diseases of economic importance and with impact on public health,

RESOLVES:

1. To second the recommendations issued from the Seminar and to request PANAFTOSA to proceed with their fulfillment.
2. To request PANAFTOSA to continue supporting efforts of the countries in processes to obtain and/or recover status of zones free of foot-and-mouth disease.

(Approved by the plenary session
on 11 March 2005)

RESOLUTION VIII

System of information and surveillance

THE XXXII ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA ,

Considering:

The need to count with timely updated and detailed information on the sanitary situation of foot-and-mouth disease to optimize the of decisions making process of veterinary services, cattlemen and agents of the livestock sector chain, and also to contribute to the transparency of sanitary events and actions in the sanitary fight against the disease between the countries;

The existence since the decade of 1970 of the continental system of information and surveillance of vesicular diseases, and that since the beginning of 2004 an electronic version of the system based on WEB, called SIVCONT, has been developed and made available to the countries, which is being used by some of the countries of the region, and

That PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO, in the fulfillment of mandates of XXX COSALFA, has developed efforts to promote the use of this instrument through training seminars in the Southern Cone as well as in the Andean community, and that the remaining countries have not yet integrated to the system,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the countries to use the WEB version of the System of Information and Surveillance (SIVCONT), to optimize actions in the fight against the disease and to contribute to the transparency of its various sanitary situations.
2. To request PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO to continue applying efforts of support and technical cooperation to the countries for the use as soon as possible of this instrument, and to continue the required development to complement SIVCONT with other modules to handle information that may be necessary and useful to the countries.
3. That PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO establish inter-phases of connection to share information with regional organisms, such as the Andean Community and OIRSA, and integrate SIVCONT to world systems of information such as to those of OIE and FAO.

(Approved by the plenary session
on 11 March 2005)

RESOLUTION IX

Strengthening of PANAFTOSA as regional center of reference

THE XXXII ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

The need to strengthen actions of technical cooperation of the Regional Center of Reference of PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO for a stronger response to requirements of the countries in the final stage of eradication of foot-and-mouth disease from the continent,

RESOLVES:

1. That PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO, together with the countries and organisms of the sub-region, establish within the maximum time of 6 months, a procedure to effect specific contributions to strengthen the response capacity of the Regional Center of Reference, to be presented at RIMSA.

(Approved by the plenary session
on 11 March 2005)

RESOLUTION X

Designation of the host city of COSALFA XXXIII

THE XXXII ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

That the president of the Republic of Ecuador has presented his offer for the country to host the XXXIII Ordinary Meeting of COSALFA,

RESOLVES:

To designate the city of Quito, Ecuador, as the host city of the XXXIII Ordinary Meeting of COSALFA in March 2006, on a date to be established.

(Approved by the plenary session
on 11 March 2005)

RESOLUTION XI

Acknowledgements

THE XXXII ORDINARY MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

The excellent conditions provided by the official authorities and by the representatives of the private sector of Peru, especially the attention given by the staff of the National Service of Agrarian Health – SENASA, for the holding of the XXXII Ordinary Meeting of COSALFA,

RESOLVES:

To thank the Republic of Peru through Engineer Manuel Manrique Ugarte, Minister of Agriculture; SENASA-Peru, through Dr. Elsa Carbonell and all its staff, as well as the representative of the livestock sector of Peru, for the kind hospitality and warmth that they received in the city of Lima.

(Approved by the plenary session
on 11 March 2005)

XXXII COSALFA

Lima, Peru

March 10-11, 2005

ANNEXES

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

Lima, Per
April 10-11, 2005

AGENDA

THURSDAY, March 10

- 09:00 Opening of the meeting
- 09:30 Report of the Secretariat
- 10:30 Discussion of the report
- 11:00 Break
- 11:15 Situation of national and sub regional programs
- River Plate Basin
 - Andean Area
 - Amazon Area and Brazil
- 12:00 Discussion
- 12:30 Lunch
- 14:00 Report about the activities of GIEFA/COHEFA and proposal of changes in the Plan of Action 2005-2009.
- 15:30 Discussion
- 16:00 Report on the International Workshop of Vesicular Diseases Laboratory Specialists, and other matters
- 16:40 Discussion
- 17:00 Break
- 17:15 Report on Pre-COSALFA Seminar
- 17:30 Discussion
- 17:45 Report of SENASA/Peru about the recognizing of free zone without vaccination
- 18:30 Discussion

FRIDAY, March 11

- 09:00 Report of the advance of the GF-TADs Project of FAO
- 09:30 Discussion
- 09:45 Epidemiological report about other diseases.
- 10:30 Break
- 11:00 Perspectives of the South American Integration
- 11:30 Other matters
- 12:30 Lunch
- 14:30 Presentation and discussion of Resolutions
- 16:30 Closing of the Meeting

XXXII COSALFA

Lima, Peru - March, 10 -11 2005

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