



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

XXVII REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 27-28, 2000
BUENOS AIRES - ARGENTINA



**PAN AMERICAN FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE CENTER
PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
Pan American Sanitary Bureau, Regional Office of the
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION**

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

FINAL REPORT

Buenos Aires, Argentina

April 27-28, 2000

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Buenos Aires, Argentina, April 27-28, 2000

FINAL REPORT

The XXVII General Meeting of the South American Commission for the Fight Against Foot-And-Mouth Disease (COSALFA) was held in the city of Buenos Aires, Argentina, on April 27-28, 2000, in response to the call to convene issued by the Secretariat. Dr. José Germán Rodríguez Torres, Director of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center (PANAFTOSA) acted as Secretary of the Meeting.

The Meeting was attended by delegates from the official and private sectors of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Uruguay and Venezuela, as well as from the official sector of Chile and Guyana.

Also present at the Event were observers and representatives of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO), the International Office of Epizootics (OIE), the US Department of Agriculture (USDA/APHIS), the Panama-United States Commission for the Eradication and Prevention of The Screw Worm (COPEG-COPFA), the Government of Panama, the Argentine Rural Society, trade and professional organizations from the industry of animal-origin and biological products. Other attendees were from the media, the ONGs related to the agricultural sector, governmental representatives of the City and Province of Buenos Aires, and representatives from universities of the member countries.

At the opening ceremony, which began with the playing of the National Anthem of Argentina, the following authorities were installed: Dr. Jorge Casanave, Subsecretary of Agriculture, Cattle, Fishing and Food Agriculture Supply of Argentina; Mr. Gustavo Álvarez, representing the Government of the City of Buenos Aires; Dr. Oscar Bruni, President of the Servicio Nacional de Sanidad y Calidad Agroalimentaria de la Subsecretaría de Ganadería, Pesca y Alimentación de la Argentina (SENASA); Dr. Guillermo Guido, Subsecretary of Food and Social Security of the Government of the City of Buenos Aires; Dr. Juan Manuel Sotelo, PAHO/WHO Representative in Argentina; Dr. José G. Rodríguez Torres, Director of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center; Mr. Enrique Crotto, President of the Argentine Rural Society; Eng. Victor Machinea, Vice President of SENASA; Dr. Hamilton Ricardo Farias, Director of Animal Defense of the Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture and Supply.

Dr. Crotto, President of the Argentine Rural Society, then took the floor and welcomed the representatives of the COSALFA member countries. Next, Dr. Farias, as president of the XXVI COSALFA, spoke of the successes recognized by that Meeting. Subsequently Dr. Rodríguez Torres emphasized the progress achieved in the eradication of foot and-mouth disease in South America and especially in Argentina, a country soon to be recognized by the OIE as free of the disease without vaccination. Dr. Sotelo, on behalf of Dr. George Alleyne, Director of the PAHO/WHO, extended a special welcome and wished success to all the persons attending the Meeting.

Dr. Guido then expressed his agreement with the meeting's topics which coincide with the objectives of the Argentine Government's policies related to the quality of foodstuffs consumed both domestically and internationally. Dr. Oscar Bruni stressed to all attendees that the Argentine Government, through a Presidential Special Act, considered COSALFA as a forum of national interest. He likewise emphasized his pleasure at the fact that the week of the Meeting was also the sixth anniversary of the last outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in Argentina. Finally, Dr. Casanave welcomed the delegates on behalf of the Subsecretary of Agriculture, Cattle-raising, Fish and Foodstuffs of Argentina, expressing his agreement with the previous statements, and adding that it is necessary to acknowledge that the official sector created the conditions suitable for the private sector's participation in the fight against FMD in the countries of South America. All of that, he felt, composed the main factor responsible for the progress attained to date.

Dr. Bruni then called the COSALFA Meeting to order, in accordance with the approved agenda, which included the presentation of the ex-officio Secretary who read the Secretariat Report and submitted it to the consideration of the official delegates. The Report was approved and is an integral part of this document.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

1. ANTECEDENTS

THE XXVII REGULAR MEETING of the South American Commission for the Fight Against of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (COSALFA), establishes a new benchmark in the objectives proposed for the eradication of the disease within the framework of the Hemispheric Plan. Argentina, with more than 50 million head of cattle, is due to receive international recognition as free of foot-and-mouth disease, having suspended vaccination in April of 1999 and having met all the requirements established by the International Animal Health Code set by the International Office of Epizootics (OIE). Paraguay followed the same tendency, suspending vaccination in August of the same year and seeking to structure its internal prevention system in order to request that recognition.

In the Andean subregion, Colombia initiated the process for seeking international recognition, identifying the Atlantic Coast zone as the area to be the object of special action for this purpose.

In compliance with the terms of COSALFA XXVI, Guyana sought support among the international organisms, to establish a veterinary attention system in agreement with the international norms, trained its technical personnel and developed a project for international recognition as a country free of foot and mouth disease.

An important achievement was the Brazilian authorities' submittal to the OIE Commission of Foot-and-Mouth Disease and other Epizootics, of the documentation of the proposal for recognition as free with vaccination, of part of the states of the Center West Circuit, which contains a cattle population of approximately 60 million head.

2. ANALYSIS OF THE RESOLUTIONS OF COSALFA XXVI

2.1. Plata Basin Subregional Project (PCP)

In Argentina, the National Surveillance System was consolidated. It comprises a variety of primary sources of information, such as the vaccinators of the brucellosis program, private and official veterinarians, and other actors in the processing sector. This system, which focuses on prevention, was complemented with periodical serological samplings and social communication efforts. On the Argentine-Bolivian border, within the framework of the Basin Project, joint surveillance actions were implemented and vaccine donated by Argentina for Bolivian herds, was administered.

In Bolivia, through the agreement between the Cattlemen's Federations of Santa Cruz de la Sierra and Mato Grosso do Sul, in Brazil, steps were taken to strengthen the surveillance structure. Courses were administered to train 17 veterinarians and 68 rural animal-health agents, with the methodology developed by the National Rural Education Service (SENAR) in Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil, increasing the surveillance by encouraging the participation of the producer community.

The Agriculture and Livestock Service of Chile (SAG) proceeded with the implementation of the FMD Prevention Program, based on the characterization of the risk levels of properties, animal concentrations, border crossing points, ports and airports; periodical monitoring of animals and a national health emergency system. The national policy of border agreements and of coordination with international entities led to an increased surveillance in the country, and to the subsequent detection of illegal entries.

After Paraguay suspended vaccination in August, it strengthened its surveillance system based on its capillary information network, on the inspection of properties or sites considered of high risk, and principally on the sero-epidemiology of animals mobilized for any purpose, including

those suspected at slaughter houses. Also worthy of note is the use of risk analysis in authorizing the mobilization or importation of animals or animal-origin products. Finally, a National Animal Health Emergency System (SINAESA) was set up.

The General Directorate of Livestock Services (DGSG) of Uruguay continued coordinating the actions of the SINAESA, which complemented the task of prevention based on the control of ports, airports, border crossings, and importations; moreover, it is responsible for the action to eradicate the diseases on List A, none of which is present in the country. Additionally, serological samples were taken for foot-and-mouth disease, confusable diseases and other important diseases.

With the goal of implementing this Resolution within the subregional scope, a simulated outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in a free area was performed November 15-18, 1999, in Ciudad del Este, Paraguay. The 42 participants from all the countries composing the Project took part in the training event. Main emphasis addressed the "importance of strengthening the primary prevention mechanisms and the national animal-health emergency systems".

In this way, the Project follows its Operating Plan, ensuring the absence of FMD in the free countries and zones. Nevertheless, it is necessary for the member countries to ensure their funding on time, in order to be able to conduct the activities approved by the Project Committee.

2.2. Andean Subregional foot-and-mouth disease eradication project

As can be seen in the presentation of the progress achieved by the regional subprojects, Peru reported the presence of foot-and-mouth disease from July on, after 27 months without registering a single cases. The viral agent was introduced from the Northern border, as had happened on previous occasions. The surveillance system continues to note the occurrence of the disease during the year 2000, which led to the belief that SENASA should reorient its activities and strengthen the effort of prevention, and coordinate its actions with the Agriculture and Animal Health Service of Ecuador (SESA).

To this end, several meetings at the ministerial level were held in Lima, Peru, to define the health standards and procedures intended to regulate the binational trade in food products of agricultural and livestock origin. The objectives are to identify possible units that export cattle to Peru and to create health requirements for the importation and exportation of livestock coming in from Ecuador for fattening or slaughtering in Peru. PANAFTOSA submitted a document to the Peruvian authorities containing suggestions for this objective.

Pursuant to the agreement among the Ministers of Agriculture of the Andean Area in 1997, joint efforts must continue to be made to establish the integrated projects in the border area as evaluated by binational joint commissions. To date, the Colombia-Venezuela and Colombia-Ecuador Integrated Border Plans have been implemented.

In Ecuador, the National Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication Commission (CONEFA) organized the III National Convention of Local Committees of FMD Eradication and was able to achieve the passage of the Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication Law in that country, a legal instrument that will facilitate the execution of the project at the national and border levels.

In the Colombia-Ecuador binational agreement, the APHIS/USDA is lending support to the Ecuadorian area to establish a health emergency unit in San Gabriel in the province of Carchi, to set up fixed health-control stations for the mobilization of animals in the city of Mascarilla, Province of Imbabura, and to support the geo-referential survey of farms by means of geographic position systems (GPS).

Likewise, the joint commission for followthrough and evaluation of the Ecuador/Peru/PAHO agreement was named, to formulate and carry out the Integrated Animal Health Plan for the binational border area.

Colombia submitted to the OIE commission on FMD and other epizootics a document stating its interest in having an area on the Atlantic Coast recognized as foot-and-mouth disease-free. However, during the process, the proposal was redrafted and a more significant area included which covers the entire cattle-raising cycle in that region. This new proposal will be submitted in the year 2000.

2.3. Subregional project in the Amazon area and Brazil's non-Amazon area

In response to the request for the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center (PANAFTOSA) to develop an agent-introduction prevention system, a proposal for the creation of a Health Emergency System was sent to the countries for comments; their feedback was included in the new draft that was distributed for discussion at this meeting.

PANAFTOSA provided technical support to Guyana so it could be recognized as a country free of foot-and-mouth disease. However, and in accordance with the OIE's international norms for the recognition of free countries or zones, several unavoidable requirements must be fulfilled. Unfortunately, Guyana does not yet meet them.

The lack of basic information, such as the registry of properties and animal population by locality, has thwarted compliance with the OIE's requirements. PANAFTOSA however, will continue working jointly with the Guyana authorities to meet the aforesaid requirements and improve the country's situation.

On the other hand, PANAFTOSA cooperated with Brazil by providing a statistician to draw up the design of the sampling and upgrading the personnel training, as well as reagents and materials, and training staff to conduct the tests required by the sero-epidemiological sampling of the Central-West circuit.

2.4. Continental epidemiological surveillance and information system

The advances in the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease observed in South America, especially in the Southern Cone, encouraged the countries to request that PANAFTOSA update the focus of the Continental System operating since 1977. They suggested that its application address the need for prevention and emergency, but without compromising its geographic basis and its capability of collecting data at the field level. Thus, a new application was developed for the system triggered by means of "notifications of vesicular events" that will result in the clinical/epidemiological followup and in the identification of the agent by the laboratory.

For this purpose, a new weekly report model was developed. It stresses three moments of information: the initial suspicion with laboratory confirmation (if possible), the confirmation of suspicions in preceding weeks, and summaries of epidemiological occurrences of the month, which will replace the present monthly report. On the other hand, the level of development of the new Continental Surveillance System (SIVCONT) will be presented at this meeting.

Concomitantly with this project, PANAFTOSA continues developing the Animal Health Epidemiological Surveillance Integrated System (SIVESA), both the new model as well as the maintenance of the systems already implemented in the state of Mato Grosso do Sul since 1997, and in 50 municipalities of the state of São Paulo, Brazil, in addition to its installation in five local offices in Colombia. The development of the system seeks to create a more flexible SIVESA, adaptable to the applications of the countries' surveillance and able to be configured according to the species, diseases and productive structure. All of this will facilitate the epidemiological characterization of the national productive spaces.

Another initiative negotiated with the FAO was the integration of the surveillance systems, one coordinated by PANAFTOSA and another developed by that institution under the name EMPRES/TADINFO for use in north Africa. The first contacts were made and cooperation will commence during the year 2000.

2.5. Andean area agreement

At the end of last year, the text of the International Technical Cooperation Agreement was submitted for consideration to the countries' health services; it was to be signed by the PAHO/WHO and the Governments of the Republics of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela, for the control and eradication of foot-and-mouth disease in the Andean area. Unfortunately, the Agreement has not been formalized in the Ministries of Agriculture and Livestock due to problems deriving from the legal, administrative and financial regulations that have their own distinct characteristics in each of the member countries.

Faced with this situation, PANAFTOSA considered it more appropriate to propose that the execution, follow-up and evaluation of the Project be studied within the scope of the Agricultural and Animal Health Technical Commission (COTASA) of the Andean Union, in compliance with

the terms of Decision 255 issued by the Board of the Cartagena Agreement (JUNAC), 1989. COTASA, composed of the Directors of the Agricultural and Animal Health Services, could be an element of alternative, efficient and participatory for the coordination of the execution of the Andean Project.

2.6. International Seminar on Surveillance Aspects Applied to Health Management in Areas with Different Statuses of Foot-and-Mouth Disease

In response to the request expressed in the same Resolution, PANAFTOSA organized and conducted, at COSALFA XXVII, the International Seminar on Social Communication as a Tool to strengthen the Sensorial Mechanisms of the Surveillance and Information Systems. The final report with the studies will be published separately

2.7. Seminar on Vesicular Stomatitis

Resolution VII requested that PANAFTOSA act as coordinator of the International Seminar on Vesicular Stomatitis, which will seek to identify common lines of research into the disease's epidemiology. For reasons beyond control the seminar could not be held during the time proposed and was postponed and finally be held on May 30-June 01, 2000 in Bogota, Colombia, as that country had offered to host the event. In consultation with the Colombian national authorities and with APHIS/USDA, PANAFTOSA developed the agenda that covers the most important aspects to understand the epidemiology of the disease, as well as the existing programs, control measures, and lines of research. The information about the event is available.

2.8. Guarantee of veterinary services

In this sense, with the goal of standardizing the routines for virological and serological diagnosis in the national laboratories, PANAFTOSA developed a series of 18 Reference Laboratory Manuals applicable to the vesicular diseases and confusable diseases (foot-and-mouth disease, vesicular stomatitis, BVD, IBR and blue tongue). The manuals cover the following tests: ELISA, IDGA, VN, PROBANG, immuno-histochemical staining of tissue and PCR/sequencing. Additionally manuals were developed and distributed to the countries, for the potency control of foot-and-mouth disease vaccines and the collecting and sending of samples, with emphasis on biosafety.

2.9. Course on exotic diseases

Resolution XI reflected the delegates' desire to proceed with the process of training their personnel in diseases exotic to the subcontinent; the suggested course was to be conducted at the USDA Plum Island Exotic Diseases Laboratory. Due to the shortage of funding, the course was not held, and this meeting will have the responsibility of discussing the feasibility of continuing to schedule it.

3. BORDER MEETINGS

The following meetings were held in the region included in the Plata Basin Project:

- **XXI Regular Meeting of the Committee of the Plata Basin Agreement, Mariano Roque Alonso, February 9-10, 1999**

The Committee proceeded to adjust the scheduling of activities for 1999, according to the priorities and to the existing funding. It was agreed that the countries, during this meeting, will confirm the dates of the payment of their debts and the contribution of 33% of their corresponding quota for the year 1999. There was unanimous opinion that the Project should continue, bearing in mind the change in the health situation in the region that now directs its actions toward foot-and-mouth disease prevention.

- **XXII General Meeting of the Committee of the Plata Basin Agreement, Buenos Aires, December 15, 1999**

The Committee issued a statement urging the Bolivian Authorities to achieve the approval of the legal norms needed to carry out the foot-and-mouth disease eradication program and the activities considered priority according to the budget existing on that date, to be held in the year 2000.

Because of budgetary restrictions, the Technical Group meetings scheduled for the year were not held.

- **VII Special Meeting of the Committee of the Plata Basin Agreement, at PANAFTOSA, June 15, 1999**

The National Animal Health Service (SENACSA) of Paraguay asked for a discussion of the Agreement's financial situation, revision of the Technical Group's regulations with respect to the number of representatives from each country to be pay by the Agreement, rescheduling of the Technical Group's activities for 1999, and inclusion of Mato Grosso do Sul in the Agreement's area of activity. The official sector of Brazil did not attend.

The following meetings were held in the area of the Andean Regional Subproject:

- Ecuador-Colombia

In compliance of the resolutions of the COSALFA XXIV and the meeting of the Andean countries for the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease, held in 1997, a technical team composed of personnel from the official and private sectors met in the city of Pasto, Colombia, in May 1999, to formulate the subproject for eradication of the disease in the area of the binational border. A joint commission of followup and evaluation of the subproject was named during the Meeting of the Technical Committee of the Agreement, held in the city of Tulcán, Ecuador.

Additionally, a binational work mission was set up, composed of personnel from the Colombian Agricultural and Livestock Institute (ICA) and from the SESA/MAG of Ecuador. Its purpose was to conduct field research about the flows of animal commercialization, especially pigs, coming from Ecuador bound for Colombia, in order to define mechanisms for surveillance and health emergencies.

In coordination with PANAFTOSA, the APHIS/USDA, in the Ecuadorian area under the Agreement, defined cooperative action related to the strengthening of the surveillance systems, control of animal transit, and health administration of animal sales and auctions.

- XXII General Meeting of the Colombian-Venezuelan Agreement

The XIII General Meeting of the Colombian-Venezuelan Border Health Agreement was held in the city of Táchira, Venezuela. The meeting evaluated and established work commitments with respect to the harmonization of health requirements, for the commercialization and international mobilization of animals and animal products, the coordination and upgrading of the FMD vaccination cycles, the exchange of information and experiences about the Computerized Surveillance System, the use of epidemiological indicators related to the attention to outbreaks, the regulations inherent in the application of RB/51 brucellosis vaccine registered and in use in the two countries, as well as the initiatives concerning research projects about vaccination against vesicular stomatitis.

During the meeting, additional topics about rabies and equine encephalitis were submitted and discussed, as well as the prevention and control activities already developed. Finally, a proposal about equine encephalitis was submitted for consideration by the Cooperation Project among Countries (TCC) at the border level; the topics will be taken up again at a future meeting. The meeting ended with the naming of the Commission of Followup and Evaluation of the Agreement, comprising technical personnel from the official health service and delegates of the producers.

- **II Technical Meeting of the Local Committee of the Border Agreement on Animal Health and Zoonosis of Bolivia/ Chile/Peru/PAHO-PANAFTOSA. Ouro, June 10-11, 1999**

The Agreement is very active, and has developed surveillance activities relevant to the three countries. There was unanimous opinion about the need to strengthen the health education activities and seek a more effective participation by the health sector in the activities of the Agreement, because the most important problems in the region are related to public health.

- **XI Meeting of the animal health border agreement involving Brazil/Guyana/Venezuela. Boa Vista, June 29-30, 1999**

The Agreement's activities, which had been interrupted since 1997, were reinitiated. Likewise, the importance was reaffirmed of starting joint action in the region to seek not only the protection of Guyana, but also the formation of a disease-free area that would include the south of Venezuela and Brazil's State of Roraima, in accordance with the guidelines of the Hemispheric Program for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (PHEFA).

- **VII Meeting of the Colombia-Brazil joint commission of the animal health border agreement. Leticia, July 20-22, 1999**

Just like the preceding agreement, the activities, interrupted in 1991, were reinitiated. The region's importance for the international transit of animals and animal-origin products, was also reiterated, with the consequent risk of disseminating the diseases among the countries. The countries requested that Peru be incorporated into the agreement face to the regional socio-economic integration that determines risks for all.

- **Meeting between Brazil and Bolivia about foot-and-mouth disease eradication in the border region. Guajaramirin, September 22, 1999**

Brazil proposed a cooperative work plan for the two countries to implement the vaccination against foot-and-mouth disease in the department of Beni and in the state of Rondonia, with the donation by Brazil of two million doses of vaccine. The vaccination is to be conducted jointly by the health services of the two countries. Its execution is now depending on the approval in Bolivia of the appropriate legal document, which supports the animal health defense action in that country. This will be brought to the attention of the Bolivian authorities at this meeting.

4. DEVELOPMENT OF PANAFTOSA'S NEW FUNCTIONS

4.1 Brucellosis and tuberculosis

- Survey about the situation of the national programs of surveillance, control and certification of properties free of tuberculosis and brucellosis, as well as their impact on public health, in 24 countries of the Americas.
- International Meeting of Experts on Vaccines and Vaccination Strategies in the Brucellosis Control and Eradication Programs. Held in Santiago, Chile, November 16-18, 1999, with the presence of 60 participants representing the official and private sectors of the countries of the Americas, Europe, FAO and OIE.
- Characterization of the *B. melitensis* brucellosis production and epidemiological systems in the populations of Northwest Argentina, Bolivia and Paraguay, as a model to generate a methodology to eliminate the disease in the endemic areas of the Americas.
- Cooperation with the study of *B. suis* brucellosis in workers at slaughter houses in Uruguay.
- Review of the brucellosis control and elimination projects in Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela.
- Cooperation in Training Seminars held in Argentina, Peru and Uruguay.

4.2. Rabies

- Cooperation with Mexico, Uruguay and Paraguay in the evaluation of the national programs and especially of the rabies information and surveillance systems.
- A survey was conducted to determine the situation of the laboratories that conform the Diagnosis Consortium and the proposal of the consortiums' managerial model for rabies diagnosis was developed. A mission was formed and conducted an external evaluation of the Rabies Diagnosis Laboratory of the National Institute of Diagnosis and Epidemiological Reference. (SSA INDRE).
- A technical meeting was held in Cuba for the purpose of recognizing the rabies-free municipalities.
- A consultancy about biosafety was conducted at the Central Veterinary Laboratory in the Dominican Republic.
- Support was given to Venezuela in preparing the rabies vaccination campaign in Maracaibo, Zulia.
- PANAFTOSA participated in the following meetings/consultancies: Annual meeting of state coordinators of zoonoses in Brazil; workshop on perfecting the rabies control program in the state of São Paulo, Brazil; International Seminar on Bats and their Importance in the Transmission of Rabies; Workshop on Epidemiological Research and Control of Urban Rabies Foci in Venezuela and International Meeting on the Use of Monoclonal Antibodies for the Characterization of the Rabies Virus, Washington, DC.

5. REPRESENTATION AT INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS

PANAFTOSA was represented at the following international meetings:

1. VII Meeting of the Hemispheric Commission for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (COHEFA), Washington, D.C.
2. XI International Animal Health Meeting at the Ministerial Level (RIMSA), Washington, D.C.
3. Meetings of the Commission on Foot-and-Mouth Disease and other Epizootics (OIE), Paris.
4. 67th General Assembly of the OIE, Paris.
5. International Seminar for the Presentation of the National Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication Program in Bolivia, Santa Cruz de la Sierra.
6. 15th PAHO/WHO Seminar on Inter-Caribbean Veterinary Public Health and 5th PAHO/WHO/IICA Meeting of the Subcommittee of Caribbean Countries Free of Foot-and-Mouth Disease, Georgetown, Guyana.
7. Conference on Zoonosis Emergent, University of Georgia, Atenas, USA.
8. Meeting of the Joint Project FAO/PANAFTOSA/PAHO for Information Systems, FAO, Rome.
9. FAO Workshop to define the continental strategy for the eradication of hog cholera. Santiago, Chile.
10. PAHO/WHO. Technical Consultancy on the use of Monoclonal Antibodies for the Characterization of Rabies Virus and Epidemiological Surveillance in Latin America and the Caribbean. HCV/PAHO/WHO, Washington, USA.
11. International Seminar on Quality Management Systems for the Evaluation of the Veterinary Services, OIE, Buenos Aires, Argentina.
12. 10th Annual Meeting on Virology and 2nd Meeting on Virology of the MERCOSUR, Curitiba, Parana, Brazil.
13. 42nd Annual Meeting of the American Association of Veterinary Diagnosis Laboratories, U.S. Health Association, California, USA.
14. Meeting of the World Association of Veterinary Diagnosis Laboratories, University Station, Texas, USA.
15. Meeting of the Tropical Veterinary Medicine Association, Key West, Florida, USA.
16. Meeting of Evaluation of the National Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication Program of Venezuela. Barinas, Venezuela.

6. RESEARCH AND COOPERATION WITH OTHER INSTITUTIONS

PANAFTOSA got involved with and promoted technical cooperation agreements with the following institutions: Institute of Biochemistry, University of Giessen, Germany; MERIAL Laboratories, Pirbright, England; Botswana Vaccine Institute; Institute of Microbiology, Professor Paulo de Góes, Department of Virology, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Department

of Enterovirus, Oswaldo Cruz Foundation, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; INTERVET Laboratory, Fortaleza, Ceará, Brazil; and EMBRABIO, São Paulo, Brazil.

Technical cooperation was also extended to Colombia and Venezuela, for the change of the methodology of potency control of foot-and-mouth disease vaccines, and to Argentina, for the establishment of the potency test criteria of the vaccines prepared with the 01 Campos, A24 Cruzeiro and C3 Indaial virus strains; PANAFTOSA transferred the ELISA vaccine control technology and established a table of Expected Percentages of Protection (EPP) for the C3 Indaial virus.

With the Plum Island Animal Disease Laboratory, PANAFTOSA established a research proposal concerning antigenic relationships and molecular epidemiology of Vesicular Stomatitis virus strains.

According to the report of the Secretary ex-officio, Dr. Barozzi, the Delegate from Uruguay, affirmed that the occurrence of brucellosis in workers at the slaughter houses in Uruguay was caused by *Brucella suis*, not by *B.melitensis*, as had been mentioned.

Dr. Orlando Aguirre, of Bolivia, officially announced the approval of the Law creating the National Agriculture and Livestock Health Service (SENASAG). Its headquarters will be located in the city of Trinidad, Department of Beni. It will receive foreign funding from the Interamerican Development Bank (IDB). He also commented on the upcoming approval of funding provided through PL-480, for the Beni-Pando foot-and-mouth disease eradication project.

The Venezuelan Delegate, Dr. Heredia, spoke of PANAFTOSA'S Technical Cooperation in setting up the FMD vaccine potency tests, which includes a program for the production of sensitive calves. He also mentioned that the Secretary's report failed to mention the Colombian-Venezuelan Meeting. Dra. Miryam Luz Gallego, from Colombia, referred to the next II International Conference on Vesicular Stomatitis and its Impact on American Livestock, to be held in the city of Bogota from May 30th to June 2nd. It will be organized by the ICA, the USDA and PANAFTOSA, in response to a recommendation by the XXVI General Meeting of COSALFA.

The Delegate from Guyana then took the floor to reiterate the support that his country has been receiving from PANAFTOSA/PAHO. He then asked that this technical support be continued until the country completes its project of seeking recognition as a country free of foot-and-mouth disease without vaccination.

The Chair proceeded with the agenda, and gave the floor to Dr. Victor Saraiva of the PANAFTOSA. Dr. Saraiva discussed the Continental Vesicular Diseases Surveillance System, which included the report about the progress and development of the new Continental system and its performance during 1999. Dr. Hamilton Farias, the Brazilian delegate, discussed several important lacks of information on his country in the continental system, especially one of the

main indicators of the programs' performance, such as the time lapse between the notification and the visit by the official service. Presently, it is considered to be a signmarked difference in the processes of veterinary attention between the states that have a good structure for their programs and those that don't have it yet. Therefore, taking an average value would not suitably reflect the reality.

The reports of the regional subprojects were then presented by Dr. Victor Saraiva, in a compilation of all the information relative to the presence of the vesicular diseases during the year, for the entire subcontinent. This was followed by an addendum about the Amazon region and non-Amazon Brazil. Dr. Hugo Tamayo then presented the detailed information corresponding to the Andean area, and Dr. F. Muzio, discussed the information about the Plata Basin-Southern Cone area.

Proceeding with the schedule, the ex-officio Secretary informed the delegates that in accordance with the Resolutions of the XXV and XXVI COSALFA Meetings, a draft of the agreement for the Andean Area was prepared. It was similar to the one governing the Plata Basin. The goal is to seek funding in the European Union, and it was circulated among the countries of the area. Initially, they regarded as unfeasible an Agreement with the characteristics of the Plata Basin, and channelled the initiative to the Andean Community, proposing that the scope of negotiation should be handled by the Andean Technical Committee on Animal Health (COTASA).

Dr. Carlos Sperotto, delegate of the private sector of Brazil, spoke of the sanction of a Decree of the Ministry of Agriculture and Supplies of his country, rescinding the foot-and-mouth disease vaccination after May 1st, 2000, in the states of Santa Catarina and Rio Grande do Sul. Dr. Eduardo Correa, delegate from Chile, stressed that the great advances in the FMD programs in South America and the development attained by the Continental Vesicular Diseases Surveillance System doubles the commitment of the PANAFTOSA Technical Cooperation with the countries, with respect to their new efforts in the fields of zoonosis; he asked that COSALFA approve a resolution that would reaffirm that position.

With respect to the working document sent to the countries by PANAFTOSA about the **Health Emergency System for Prevention and Epidemiological Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease**, the document was submitted by the ex-officio secretary of the Meeting. As antecedents he mentioned situations presented in previous meetings of COSALFA and the last situation generated in the Southern Cone region by the suspicion of foot-and-mouth disease in Paraguay in February of this year.

The goal of the discussion was to achieve greater efficiency and speed in solving emergency situations, with joint action between a team from the country –assuming that all the countries have a National Animal Health Emergency System– and a team from PANAFTOSA, and the guarantee for the other countries of a more detailed, timely and precise awareness of the given

situation through that very joint action. The following are summaries of the opinions given about the document submitted:

The official delegate from Ecuador stressed the opinion that each country should have at least one emergency team in each country but, at the same time, he mentioned his concern about the financial aspect and about the amount of money required for such a purpose. Nevertheless, the Director of PANAFTOSA advised that the funding of the emergency team should be included in the budget of each country. The delegate from Colombia, Dr. Abisambra, gave his opinion that the country team should be mobilized first, then the PANAFTOSA team, because of the costs and the transparency of the process. Dr. Jose G. Rodriguez, then explained that the costs of the PANAFTOSA team are absorbed by the institution itself. Dr. A. Pecker, the Argentine delegate, considered the initiative as very important, which he shares it and believes that the problem of funding depends on the priority assigned to the subject in each country. The representative of the private sector in Venezuela considered the proposal excellent, and proposed that the countries study it for 30 days in order to reply to PANAFTOSA.

Dr. Hamilton Farias, the official delegate from Brazil, commented that he had become aware of the proposal and stressed that not all the countries would have the same condition when confronting an emergency. The official delegate from Chile supported the initiative, considering that each country may request PANAFTOSA'S cooperation when it is required. The official delegate from Uruguay, Dr. Julio Barozzi, qualified the proposal as good and flexible; he added that the budgetary aspects would have to be less strict because it could create confusion, and that PANAFTOSA has resources design for action in an emergency. The official delegate from Paraguay, Dr. Luis Acuña, supported the initiative, saying that he had already put it into practice this year due to the occurrence of a suspicion in his country, keeping in mind the transparency of the process that enjoys the participation of PANAFTOSA. The Peruvian delegate considered the proposal feasible and pointed out that each country should set what it considers economically necessary as funding. Finally, he reminded everyone that they have 30 days to send their observations to PANAFTOSA.

Dr. Rodríguez Torres spoke about Argentina's proposal to create a bank of regional foot-and-mouth disease vaccines within the framework of the Plata Basin Project. Dr. Pecker informed that Argentina had already decided to set up a vaccine bank when foot-and-mouth disease vaccination ceased in that country, leaving the cattle population susceptible. This fact, together with the fact that PANAFTOSA no longer produces vaccine, was the decisive element in the idea to create the Bank and to offer the idea of sharing it with the other countries of the Plata Basin Agreement.

In the aforesaid Agreement, it was resolved that a Group of Experts would draft the guidelines to govern a future vaccine bank of a regional nature. He stated that the vaccine bank in Argentina would be based on the antigens of regional and extra-regional virus strains. In response to a question by the Colombian Delegate, Dr. José G. Rodríguez explained that the vaccine bank is for use in emergencies in countries free of foot-and-mouth disease that no longer have vaccine production. Then he mentioned the European experience, wherein the countries of the Region

contribute to maintain frozen antigen in one of the existing vaccine banks. Dr. Julio Barozzi expressed his concern about the eventual commercial production of foot-and-mouth disease vaccines with strains exotic to the Region, and mentioned that Uruguay has an agreement with PANAFTOSA for the supply of vaccines for emergencies.

Dr. Castells, from the private sector in Uruguay, expressed his concern about eventual virus escapes. Other delegates also expressed the possibility of this concern, but that as in the case of Argentina, the bank was set up conforms to required biosafety standards. Dr. Rodriguez Toledo, from Argentina, reviewed the process by which, from 1990, substantial changes with respect to biosafety were made in the region's laboratories and in Argentina in particular. The Delegate from Chile shares Uruguay's position and believes that the Vaccine Bank is a necessity, but is nonetheless concerned about the commercial production. The delegate from the private sector of Colombia is contrary to the continued commercial production of vaccines in Argentina, a country free of foot-and-mouth disease without vaccination.

Finally, it was decided to approve the setting up of a Commission coordinated by PANAFTOSA and composed of professionals from Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Uruguay and Venezuela. The Commission will draft the guidelines that would govern the vaccine bank and present them at the next COSALFA Meeting.

With respect to the Andean Area, the delegate from the private sector of Venezuela proposed that producers should be members of COTASA and that PANAFTOSA should draft with them an annual operating plan and follow through on it. He made a motion for a recognition of Dr. José G. Rodríguez' efforts as PANAFTOSA's Director. The motion was seconded and approved for a coming resolution.

On the other hand, the official Brazilian delegate expressed his concern about the eventual withdrawal of virus type C from the foot-and-mouth disease vaccines, a measure about to be submitted for study in a seminar to be coordinated by PANAFTOSA. The seminar will take up several matters related to the production and control of vaccines. He added that his country will participate actively in an in-depth study to resolve the subject and will decide about it in terms of its sovereignty. The delegate added that he does not agree with the position of simply adding the zoonotic diseases to the technical cooperation of PANAFTOSA. The Chilean delegate, Dr. Correa, explained to him that the Centers' new functions had already been decided at RIMS. Dr. Medardo Lasso, of the private sector in Ecuador, made a motion to include field visits in the program of the next COSALFA. Finally, Dr. Acuña, on behalf of Paraguay, offered his country to host the next COSALFA Meeting.


The Meeting was closed with a reading of the proposed Resolutions, which were corrected and approved by the delegates; the final version is attached to these Minutes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Chairman of the Meeting, Dr. Oscar A. Bruni, President of the National Animal Service Health and Food Quality Service (SENASA), 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 Spanish and English, both texts being equality authentic.

Done in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in the twenty-eight day of April, two thousand.



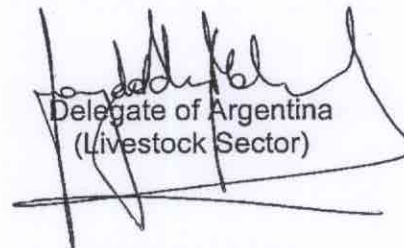
President
National Animal
Health and Food Quality
Service (SENASA)



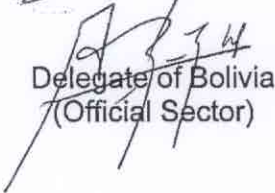
Secretary ex officio
Director of the Pan American
Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center
PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO



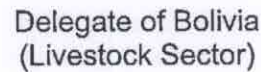
Delegate of Argentina
(Official Sector)



Delegate of Argentina
(Livestock Sector)



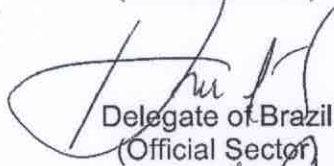
Delegate of Bolivia
(Official Sector)



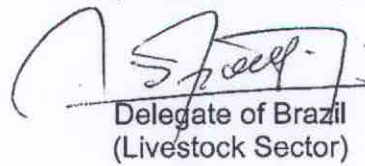
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(Livestock Sector)

Delegate of Bolivia
(Official Sector)

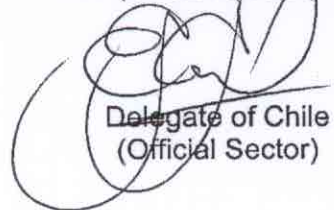
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(Livestock Sector)



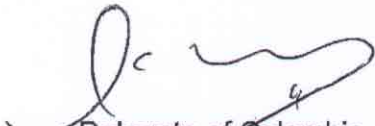
Delegate of Brazil
(Official Sector)



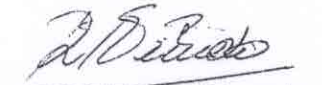
Delegate of Brazil
(Livestock Sector)




Delegate of Chile
(Official Sector)



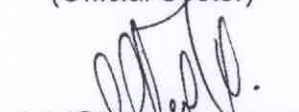
Delegate of Colombia
(Official Sector)



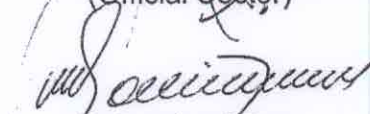
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(Official Sector)



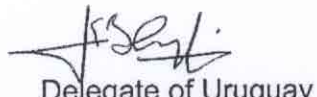
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(Official Sector)



Delegate of Paraguay
(Official Sector)



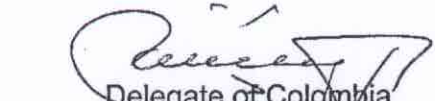
Delegate of Peru
(Official Sector)




Delegate of Uruguay
(Official Sector)



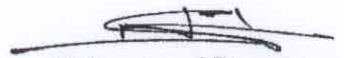
Delegate of Venezuela
(Official Sector)




Delegate of Colombia
(Livestock Sector)




Delegate of Ecuador
(Livestock Sector)



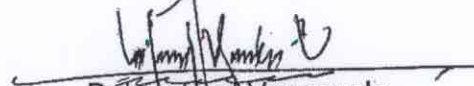
Delegate of Paraguay
(Livestock Sector)



Delegate of Peru
(Livestock Sector)



Delegate of Uruguay
(Livestock Sector)



Delegate of Venezuela
(Livestock Sector)



RESOLUTIONS

BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA
April 27-28, 2000

RESOLUTION I
Plata Basin Subregional Project

THE XXVII REGULAR MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

The preservation of the excellent animal-health situation attained in the area of the Plata Basin Subregional Project, which means that the entire territory of the Southern Cone continues to be free of the disease;

That Argentina is preparing to receive international recognition as a country free of the disease without vaccination, at the 68th Regular General Meeting of the OIE;

That Paraguay officially has cease foot-and-mouth disease vaccination throughout the country beginning August 1, 1999;

That Brazil officially announced that foot-and-mouth disease vaccination decided to cease in the states of Rio Grande do Sul and Santa Catarina since May 1, 2000, and

That Bolivia communicated the recent approval of legislation that creates the National Service of Agriculture, Animal Health and Foodstuffs Inocuity (SENASAG),

RESOLVES:

1. To congratulate the member countries of the International Technical Cooperation Agreement for the Control and Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease in the Plata River Basin, for maintaining the excellent successes achieved, and to highlight the advances made by Argentina, Paraguay and the Brazilian states of Santa Catarina and Rio Grande do Sul, with the objective of their international recognition as free of foot-and-mouth disease without vaccination.
2. To applaud the approval of the Law that created the SENASAG, and to urge the Bolivian Government to persevere in its efforts to implement, in the short term, the National Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication Program (PRONEFA).

(Approved by the plenary session
on April 28, 2000)

RESOLUTION II
Andean subregional project for foot-and-mouth disease eradication

THE XXVII REGULAR MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

That the national foot-and-mouth disease eradication projects, based on a model of joint management by the public and private sectors, exhibit advances tending toward the attainment of the final objective related to the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease in the Andean Subregion;

That it has become necessary to speed up the development of the zonal projects that compose the subregional project to fight foot-and-mouth disease, in the Andean countries;

That political support of the highest level is needed for the continuity and strengthening of the national health strategies and actions, within their scope of regional impact;

That the national actions and efforts increasingly denote the need to strengthen the levels of technical coordination, within the framework of the commitments and goals foreseen in the Andean Subregional Project for Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication;

That the Agriculture and Animal-Health Technical Commission (COTASA) of the Andean Community of Nations (CAN) constitutes an alternative space for coordination, in the matters relating to the policies of agricultural and livestock growth and of animal health in particular, and

That the Republic of Ecuador has passed a law that declares that the fight to eradicate foot-and-mouth disease is a matter of mandatory and national interest throughout the nation,

RESOLVES:

1. To recognize the efforts put forth by the National Programs for Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication in the Andean Subregion, and to urge the sector's authorities to provide the backing and political support unquestionably needed to ensure the eradication of the disease.
2. To request that the Andean Community of Nations, within the spirit of Decision 255 issued by the Board of the Cartagena Agreement, promote PANAFTOSA's participation within the Technical Committee of Agricultural and Livestock Health (COTASA), for suitable technical coordination and mobilization of resources needed to execute the final phase of the Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication Projects in the subregion.

(Approved by the plenary session
on April 28, 2000)

RESOLUTION III
***Subregional Project for eradication of foot-and-mouth disease
in the Amazon Basin***

THE XXVII REGULAR MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

That one of the objectives of the Hemispheric Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication Plan (PHEFA) concerns the recognition and preservation of foot-and-mouth disease-free areas;

That the Cooperative Republic of Guyana has not recorded any occurrence of Foot-and-Mouth Disease for more than two decades, and

That the border corridor between Brazil and Venezuela forms a geographic space whose health conditions prevent the introduction of disease into Guyana,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the Republic of Guyana to submit a request for recognition as a FMD disease-free country, to the Foot-and-Mouth Disease Commission of the International Office of Epizootics (OIE).
2. To request that PANAFTOSA, as an Organ of Technical Cooperation, continue supporting Guyana in achieving this project.
3. To urge the Governments of Brazil, Guyana, Venezuela and Colombia to speed up their submittal, to the OIE, of their compliance with the requirements of the Zoosanitary Code, so that the States of Bolivar and Amazonas in Venezuela, the department of Amazonas in Colombia and the State of Roraima in Brazil, can all be declared areas free of foot-and-mouth disease.

(Approved in the plenary session
on April 28, 2000)

RESOLUTION IV
Continental Surveillance and Information System

THE XXVII REGULAR MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

The system's applicability the current surveillance needs of the free areas or countries either free of the disease or in the process of earning that status;

The advance observed in the PANAFTOSA's development of the new proposal for the Continental Surveillance and Information System, in compliance with the resolutions of COSALFA XXVI, and

The need to continue developing the entire chain of information, including the protocols and formats for all the levels of the system,

RESOLVES:

1. To request that PANAFTOSA continue developing the system in its application at the continental level and cooperate with the official services of the member countries for its implementation.

(Approved by the plenary session
on April 28, 2000)

RESOLUTION V
Foot-and-Mouth disease vaccine bank

THE XXVII REGULAR MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

That the countries have expressed their interest in considering the possibility of having access to a Regional Vaccine Bank for countries free of foot-and-mouth disease, and

That a vaccine bank of that kind demands specific standards and requirements,

RESOLVES:

1. To ask PANAFTOSA to organize a working group under its coordination, composed of representatives from Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Uruguay and Venezuela, to prepare a proposal of technical guidelines and standards that should rule the Foot-and-Mouth Disease Vaccine Bank.
2. To submit the document for its consideration at the XXVII COSALFA.

(Approved by the plenary session
on April 28, 2000)

RESOLUTION VI
Zoonosis

THE XXVII REGULAR MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

The accomplishments achieved by the foot-and-mouth disease programs in the majority of the countries of South America, with the technical cooperation provided by PANAFTOSA;

The development achieved by the Continental Vesicular Diseases Surveillance System that is monitored by PANAFTOSA, and

The need for a full, integral view of the production chain and the zoonotic diseases' impact on it,

RESOLVES:

1. To request that the PAHO give PANAFTOSA with the financial resources needed to strengthen that Center's activities of technical cooperation in the area of the zoonosis, according to the needs of the countries.
2. To ask PANAFTOSA to include the diseases considered as quickly as possible in the Continental Surveillance System.

(Approved by the plenary session
on April 28, 2000)

RESOLUTION VII
International Seminar

THE XXVII REGULAR MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

The results of the International Seminar on Social Communication as a Tool to Strengthen the Sensorial Mechanisms of the Epidemiological Surveillance and Information Systems, which presented successful experiences in the use of social communication as an instrument to increase surveillance and community participation in the national programs to control and eradicate diseases that affect the human and animal populations, and

The importance of having a social communication component in the national programs to control and eradicate diseases that leads to the establishment of effective channels of communication that permit a knowledge of the responses to the stimuli,

RESOLVES:

1. To encourage PAHO to include Social Communication as a topic at the next RIMSA Meeting, with the intention of increasing its use.
2. To request PANAFTOSA to promote the execution of a training project in Social Communication for the countries of the region.
3. To request that PANAFTOSA organize and coordinate a seminar on Quality Management of the Veterinary Attention Services prior to COSALFA XXVIII.

(Approved by the plenary session
on April 28, 2000)

RESOLUTION VIII
Advance in fulfilling the mission of the
Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center, in attention to other zoonoses

THE XXVII REGULAR MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

The great advances achieved in the Control and Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease in the countries of the Region;

The technical and coordinating capability developed by PANAFTOSA, as demonstrated by the progress achieved in the Hemispheric Plan for Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease;

The need of the countries of the area to have a referent in relation to other zoonoses, in addition to foot-and-mouth disease, and to have a forum similar to this Meeting in order to discuss, learn and become aware of each country's advances and experiences as related to said topics, and to approve procedures, and

The recent mandates entrusted to PANAFTOSA, related to the Technical Cooperation in Rabies, Tuberculosis, Brucellosis and Equine Encephalitis,

RESOLVES:

1. To support and urge PANAFTOSA to achieve a rapid advance in the approach to other zoonoses beyond foot-and-mouth disease, in consideration of the priorities defined by the countries of the area, considering and utilizing for that purpose the installed capacity and the experience available about the various zoonoses in the countries of the Region, the technical and coordinating capability attained by PANAFTOSA and, likewise, the consolidation attained by the vesicular diseases Surveillance System and its possible expansion to include other diseases, and the future implementation of other forums like this one, related to other zoonoses that may be considered as priorities for the area.

(Approved by the plenary session
on April 28, 2000)

RESOLUTION IX
Recognition of Dr. José Germán Rodríguez Torres

THE XXVII REGULAR MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering:

The coming departure of Dr. José Germán Rodríguez Torres as Director of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center (PANAFTOSA),

RESOLVES:

To express our recognition of his important labor and accomplishments as Director of PANAFTOSA, during a period of great significance in the fight against foot-and-mouth disease on the continental level.

(Approved by the plenary session
on April 28, 2000)

RESOLUTION X
Acknowledgements

THE XXVII REGULAR MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering the excellent conditions provided by the Rural Society of Argentina and the National Service of Health and Agricultural and Food Quality (SENASA) of the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Foodstuffs, for hosting this XXVII COSALFA Meeting, and the support received by the Organizing Commission,

RESOLVES:

To thank the Rural Society of Argentina and the National Service of Health and Agriculture and Food Quality, in the name of Dr. Oscar A. Bruni and the event's organizing commission, for their effort and care, and all the success achieved.

(Approved by the plenary session
on April 28, 2000)

RESOLUTION XI
Designation of the host city of COSALFA XXVIII

THE XXVII REGULAR MEETING OF COSALFA,

Considering the offer made by Dr Luis Vicente Acuña on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Paraguay, to host the next General Meeting of COSALFA,

RESOLVES:

To designate the city of Asuncion, Paraguay, as the host city of the XXVIII General Meeting of COSALFA.

(Approved by the plenary session
on April 28, 2000)

XXVII



APPENDICES

BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA
April 27-28, 2000

**SOUTH AMERICAN COMMISSION FOR THE FIGHT AGAINST FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE
XXVII REGULAR MEETING**

Buenos Aires, Argentina, April 27-28, 2000

AGENDA

Thursday, April 27

- 09:00 Opening
- 09:30 Secretary's report
- 10:30 Discussion of the Report
- 11:00 Coffee break
- 11:15 New continental vesicular diseases surveillance and information system – present status of development.
- 12:00 Discussion
- 12:30 Lunch
- 14:00 Situation of the national and subregional programs
 - Plata River Basin
 - Andean Area
 - Amazon area and Brazil
- 16:00 Discussion
- 16:30 Coffee break
- 17:00 Advances in the Andean Area Agreement

Friday, April 28

- 09:00 System of identification of animals & its importance in animal health
- 09:30 Vaccine banks in the Plata Basin subregion
- 10:30 Coffee break
- 11:00 Continental surveillance system and emergency
- 11:30 Other items
- 12:30 Lunch
- 14:00 Presentation and discussion of the Resolutions
- 16:00 Closing

Other topics

1. Vesicular stomatitis meeting in Colombia
2. IICA Basin initiative
3. Present status of the move of PANAFTOSA
4. The PANAFTOSA Reference Laboratory
5. Situation of the production of reagents by PANAFTOSA

PARTICIPANTS

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

Buenos Aires, Argentina, April 27-28, 2000

DELEGATES OF THE COUNTRIES

ARGENTINA FULL NAME	FUNCTION	INSTITUTION	DIRECTION	TELEPHONE	FACSIMILE	E-MAIL
Official sector: Oscar Alejandro Bruni	Presidente	Servicio Nacional de Sanidad y Calidad Agroalimentaria (SENASA) Secretaría de Agricultura, Ganadería, Pesca y Alimentación	Paseo Colón 367, 9o. Piso Buenos Aires 1063	(5411)43423231	(5411)43421628	
Productive sector: Gonzalo Alvarez Maldonado	Vocal Consejo de Administración	Consejo de Administración del Servicio Nacional de Sanidad y Calidad Agroalimentaria ((SENASA)	Paseo Colón 367, Piso 9 Buenos Aires 1063	(5411)43429234	(5411)43429234	consejo@inea.com.ar
BOLIVIA Official sector: Orlando Aguirre Banzer	Director Nacional de Sanidad Animal	Secretaría Nacional de Agricultura y Ganadería (SNAG)	Av. Camacho, 1471, La Paz	(5912)379057	(5912)369403/359480	saludamin@mail.zu.per.net.bo
Productive sector: Rubén Costas Aguilera	Presidente	Federación de Ganaderos de Santa Cruz de la Sierra (FEGASACRUZ)	Avda. Ejército esq. Soliz de Olguin Santa Cruz de la Sierra	(5913)351144/327	(5913)352117	fegapresi@infonet.com.bo
BRAZIL Official sector: Hamilton Ricardo Farias	Diretor	Departamento de Defesa Animal/ Ministério da Agricultura e do	Esplanada dos Ministérios, Bloco D, Anexo A, Sala 305	(5561)2182726	(5561)3235936	
Productive sector: Manuel Henrique Farias Ramos	Presidente	Conselho Nacional da Pecuária de Corte (CNPCC)	Rua Sílvia, 110, 10º andar, Bela Vista São Paulo, SP 01331-010	(5511)2513231	(5511)2515420	cnpc@diadata.com.br
CHILE Official sector: Eduardo Correa Melo	Jefe Depto. Protección Pecuaria	Servicio Agrícola y Ganadero (SAG)	Avenida Bulnes 140, Piso 7, Santiago	(562)6886183	(562)6716184	ecorreata@sag.mina.gri.gob.cl
COLOMBIA Official sector: Alvaro J. Abisambra Abisambra	Gerente General	Instituto Colombiano Agropecuario (ICA)	Calle 37 No. 8-43, Oficina 501 Santa Fé de Bogotá	(571)2877110	(571)2884169	gereica@impsat.net.co
Productive sector: Ismael Zuriga Arce	Profesional Área Técnica	Fondo del Ganado (FEDEGAN)	Carrera 14 No. 36-65, Bogotá	(571)5701072	(571)5701073	

ECUADOR FULL NAME	FUNCTION	INSTITUTION	DIRECTION	TELEPHONE	FACSIMILE	E-MAIL
Official sector: Rubén Vinuesa Andrade	Director General	Servicio Ecuatoriano de Sanidad Agropecuaria (SESA) Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería	Avda. Eloy Alfaro y Amazonas, esq. Quito	(5932)543319	(5932)228448	
Productive sector: Medardo Lasso Pedrosó	Director Ejecutivo	Comisión Nacional de Erradicación de la Fiebre Aftosa en el Ecuador (CONEFA)	Km 4.5 Via Daule, Guayaquil 09012156 Urdessa	(5934)201799	(5934)207753	comefa@gve.satnet.net
GUYANA Official sector: Steve Surujbally	Veterinarian/Technical Advisor	Minister of Fisheries, Crops and Livestock	Regent & Vlissengen Roads P.O. Box 1001, Georgetown	(5922)75049	(5922)72978	nisa@sdnp.org.gy
PARAGUAY Official sector: Luis Vicente Acuña	Presidente	Servicio Nacional de Salud Animal (SENACSA)	Km. 10 1/2 Ruta Mcal. Estigarribia San Lorenzo, Asunción	(59521)574501	(59521)507863	senacsa@uninet.com.py
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ARGENTINA

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FULL NAME	FUNCTION	INSTITUTION	DIRECTION	TELEPHONE	FACSIMILE	E-MAIL
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BRAZIL

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