



COMISION SUDAMERICANA PARA LA LUCHA CONTRA LA FIEBRE AFTOSA

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

VIII Ordinary Meeting

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, March 12-13, 1981

FINAL REPORT

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The VIII Ordinary Meeting of the South American Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (COSALFA) was held on March 12-13, 1981, at the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The meeting was attended by representatives from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay. Observers were also present from Guatemala, the Netherlands and the United States of America, as well as the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture (IICA), the International Office of Epizootics (OIE), the Mexican-American Commission for the Prevention of Foot-and-Mouth Disease, and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) (Appendix I).

In accordance with COSALFA statutes, Dr. Emilio Matto Cardenas, the delegate from Peru, assumed the chairmanship of the meeting. He welcomed the delegates and observers cordially and then expressed his gratitude for having the opportunity to be the meeting chairman. He also expressed his regret that his country had not been represented at the meeting in 1980.

The agenda proposed by the Secretary, based on the recommendations of the COSALFA-VII Meeting was approved without alterations (Appendix II).

Report of the ex-officio Secretary. Dr. Raul Casas Olascoaga, Director of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center (PAFMDC) and ex-officio Secretary of the COSALFA, then read the Secretary's report on the following topics:

- Admission of Guyana to COSALFA (Resolution I of COSALFA-VI).
- Compliance with the Resolutions of COSALFA-VII.
- Other matters.

a) Admission of Guyana to COSALFA. Dr. Casas said that the Secretary's office had received a letter from Doctor Maurice L. King, Permanent Secretary of Guyana's Ministry of Agriculture, formalizing that country's admission to COSALFA.

b) Compliance with the Resolutions of COSALFA-VII:

Resolution I - Regionalization of Foot-and-Mouth Disease. The countries are proceeding with their collecting and analysis of information to define the differentiated strategies for foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) control based on the disease's regional characteristics. Some countries are already in the phase of establishing differentiated strategies with the objective of expanding the free areas.

At their Tri-Nation Meeting held in Rio de Janeiro on December 16-19, 1980, under the auspices of the PAFMDC, Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay formally agreed to conduct coordinated efforts for the control of FMD in the Rio de La Plata Basin area (Appendix III). In principle they defined the Program's scope, objectives, strategy, resources and technical cooperation. The delegates agreed to submit within a short time a more detailed program for joint action.

Resolution II - Course on Animal Health Administration. In compliance with this Resolution and in reply to the requests submitted by many countries, the Center organized a Course on the Development of Animal Health Programs. The course was given from September 1 to November 30, 1980, and was attended by 25 professionals from 15 Latin American and Caribbean countries.

The course covered the following aspects of animal health administration: animal health and economic and social development; statistical methods; the infectious agent and its interactions with the host; epidemiology; disease control planning and administration; practical workshops. Although the countries have asked that the course be repeated, the Center does not have the funds needed to sponsor a similar course during this year.

Resolution III - Creation of the Vaccine Bank. Studies were begun on virus concentration for setting up a vaccine bank. However, the additional funds required to carry through this recommendation are not available. It should be stressed that in 1980 vaccine production was increased to the maximum in order to meet the emergency needs of Bolivia, Brazil (State of Rio Grande do Sul) and Peru, as well as the vaccinations carried out with oil-adjuvanted vaccine in demonstration projects currently in progress.

Resolution IV - Production and Supply of Oil-Adjuvanted Vaccine. The Brazilian Government and the PAFMDC signed a formal agreement in November, 1980, for the production of oil-adjuvanted vaccines at the LANARA Laboratory in Campinas, State of São Paulo. Two technical staff members of the Center began working on this project in January, 1981. Currently, the necessary additional equipment is being installed and the required materials and reactives are being procured and acquired. The building originally designated for several different systems of production is also undergoing remodelling to adapt it for cell cultivation activities.

Resolution V - Latin American-European Economic Community (EEC) Cooperation Project. On September 12, 1980, the Secretary's Office received a telex from Dr. H.J. Bendixen, EEC Division Chief. Concerning what Dr. F. Contardo had stated at COSALFA-VII about the project for cooperation between EEC and some Latin American countries, the telex indicated that a group of EEC veterinary experts would be sent to gather information about FMD control programs. In accordance with Resolution V of COSALFA-VII, the Secretary offered the PAFMDC's full cooperation to make the mission a success. The group of experts visited Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Brazil. The PAFMDC was visited on November 6th as part of the program scheduled by the Brazilian Government. Dr. Bendixen sent a telex on February 24, 1981, to advise that he would be unable to attend the COSALFA-VIII meeting and to inform that the group's report is still in the process of preparation.

Resolution VI - International Seminar on Rural Communication and Sanitary Education in Animal Health. Implementation of the Seminar's recommendations is also pending because of the Center's budgetary cutbacks that have curtailed the contracting of specialized personnel. Another negative aspect was the termination of the UNDP-FAO Cooperative Project (Project RLA/73/023) in November, 1980.

Nevertheless, it was informed that the Center had prepared an audiovisual program about the test for detecting FMD virus carriers and that it will be useful for the sanitary and animal health education activities.

Resolution VII - Work of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center. In its report to the PAHO directing bodies, the PAFMDC External Evaluation Team designated by the Pan American Sanitary Bureau (PASB) Director indicated that any new funding cutbacks would have serious consequences for the Center. As in 1980, he was therefore wholeheartedly recommending approval of the timely supplementary funds for 1981. Nevertheless, the PAHO Directing Council, according to Resolution XVIII taken at its 27th Meeting, did not approve the funding. Further to the aforesaid resolution, the Executive Committee's 85th Meeting resolved to name a Working Group to participate in the consolidation of the Center's Program and Budget and to decide about the program and budget adjustments required as a consequence of the funding allocated and priorities established by the Directing Council. As a result and in order to offset the US\$ 430,820 deficit forecast for 1981, several professional staff and general services positions were eliminated. The allocations for fellowships, service-related travel, and supplies and materials were also cut back.

c) Other matters

- Chile: Country free of FMD. The ex-officio Secretary said that as PAFMDC Director and on behalf of the PASB Director, he had participated in the official act held on January 16th, at which the Chilean

Government formally declared that country to be free of FMD. He also stressed the importance of Chile's successful efforts within the overall campaign to control the disease on the American Continent.

- Inter-country commerce in breeder bovines. An important commercial interchange of cattle took place in 1980 among several countries of the Region, as follows: from Brazil to Colombia, the United States and Ecuador, and from Uruguay to Ecuador.

The Center is pleased to record this trend, but likewise wishes to underscore that in order to prevent the introduction and spread of diseases among the countries, strict application of the existing animal health sanitary regulations must be enforced and they should be upgraded when required. Concern is especially sharpened by the fact that the commercialization of cattle is not always conducted from the exporting country's quarantine station to the importing country's quarantine station.

- Emergency Animal Diseases Eradication Manual for the Caribbean, with Emphasis on FMD. As a follow-up to the recommendation made by the Foot-and-Mouth Disease Prevention Seminar for the English-speaking countries of the Caribbean, held in Georgetown, Guyana, March 12-16, 1980, a working group composed of veterinarians from Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, the IICA Regional Veterinarian, and PAFMDC specialists, prepared the reference document. It will be delivered at RIMSA-II.

- Letter from Dr. Roger Steele, former United Kingdom representative to COSALFA. Dr. Steele's letter was read to the meeting. He mentioned that he had retired and would therefore be unable to attend the meeting, but wished the Commission continued success in its endeavors.

The Chairman then submitted the ex-officio Secretary's report to the floor for discussion.

The representative from Guatemala requested information on existing legislation regarding the commercialization of semen in the South American countries. He was told that there are COSALFA recommendations and several bilateral agreements that take international laws into consideration. Detailed information is available in Monograph No. 7 entitled "Legislacion sobre Importacion de Animales en America del Sur", by Dr. Nelson Magallanes, PAFMDC.

The delegate from Paraguay suggested a revision of the legislation on the importation of semen from countries having diseases exotic to the region, in the belief that this material is considered to be a vehicle for introducing diseases.

The delegate from Ecuador emphasized that the responsible authorities are often pressured by parties interested in not having strict compliance with the sanitary standards and regulations on importation and

exportation of semen and animals. He therefore suggested that COSALFA issue a statement stressing the importance of full compliance with the sanitary standards in force in the countries.

The delegate from Uruguay pointed out that the implementation of animal health regulations and the quarantine infrastructure had made an important and beneficial commerce in animals and semen possible between disease-free countries and countries with various FMD viruses. Although he acknowledged the progress achieved, the PAFMDC Director nonetheless stressed the importance of strict compliance with the established sanitary measures in order to minimize the risk of introducing disease, especially among countries with different epidemiological situations and with free areas.

The Argentine delegate pointed out that Chile's successful FMD eradication represented an extremely important step forward in the control of animal diseases on the continent. He hoped that this achievement would be an example to be followed by the other South American nations.

He likewise called attention to the PAFMDC's difficult financial situation and stressed that if it continues it will gravely restrict the Center's support to the countries in their efforts to control FMD. He made special mention of the role the Center could perform if the necessary funding were available, in coordinating animal health measures and in diagnosis aimed at reducing the risks of introducing and spreading viral diseases in general, given the trend toward increased interchange of semen and cattle.

The Paraguayan delegate underscored that it was indispensable to strengthen the Center's financial support before asking it to enlarge its scope of activities and responsibilities.

The delegate from Colombia seconded the remarks made by the Argentine delegate with respect to Chile's successful FMD eradication efforts. He also stressed the Center's outstanding role in enforcing compliance with the regulations on importation and exportation of cattle, especially when the national authorities are subjected to pressure from differing interests. He too underlined the importance of the Center's receiving adequate funding.

The IDB representative expressed that international organization's satisfaction with respect to Chile's success in eradicating FMD. He also asked for information on the coordination mechanisms existing among the veterinary services for the commercialization of semen and cattle among the countries of the region. The delegates from Colombia and Ecuador informed him that official veterinarians from the importing country visit and supervise the quarantines in the exporting country, in order to ensure compliance with the existing animal health and sanitary agreements.

The delegate from Chile expressed his gratitude for the congratulations extended to his country and for the cooperation rendered by the PAFMDC from the very inception of the FMD control and eradication program.

The delegate from Ecuador inquired about the project for creating a Vaccine Bank with EEC support, as requested in section 3 of Resolution III of COSALFA-VII. The Secretary replied that, as had been said, the EEC had not made any statement about the cooperation solicited by various South American countries.

After the discussions, the Chairman submitted the Secretary's report to the Commission's approval; the report was approved.

Situation of the Foot-and-Mouth Disease and Vesicular Diseases Control Program in South America.

The Chairman submitted to discussion the document on this subject prepared by the Center based on the reports sent to COSALFA by each country; the document had been previously distributed among the participants. This document will be presented at RIMSA-II.

The delegate from Paraguay said that despite his country's efforts the IDB had not approved the loan for the Second Stage of the Program to Control Foot-and-Mouth Disease and Other Diseases, as requested in the renewal of loan No. 458/SF/PR. The IDB observer explained the normal procedures followed for loan authorization and stressed that Paraguay's failure to comply with some contractual commitments had determined cancellation of the loan for the Second Stage. At the same time, he highlighted the successes attained by Paraguay's control program and offered to enlarge privately upon the information given to that country's delegate.

The delegate from Colombia made reference to the impetus that the program has received due to a significant upgrading of FMD vaccine quality, the inclusion of regionalization criteria to raise vaccination coverage in high-risk areas and the success that continues to be noted in the border project with Panama in cooperation with the US Department of Agriculture.

The Ecuadorian delegate asked for a clarification about the records of monthly epidemiological reports received by the Center. He was told that some of the countries' reports were delayed in the mails and therefore twice it was not possible to include them in the compiled monthly report.

The IICA/OIE representative suggested that the countries and the Center cooperate in preparing a document on the evolution of the FMD programs over the past ten years and their influence on cattle and live-stock activities in the countries of the region.

The IDB representative agreed with this suggestion and said that the Bank had prepared a document evaluating the FMD control programs in which it had participated financially. He said that the document is available and at the countries' disposal. He also expressed the opinion that in the future it would be desirable for the animal health programs to be more closely linked to the livestock raising development programs.

The delegate from Argentina agreed with the need for preparing such a document as that recommended by the IICA/OIE representative, and asked that the mechanism for carrying out this idea be defined in order to ensure the countries' participation. He likewise indicated that there is a special concern in Argentina with respect to cost-benefit studies, which are considered indispensable for assessing the programs.

Epidemiological Surveillance System.

An explanation was given about the procedure for receiving the epidemiological reports forwarded by the countries to the Center, the computer storage and recovery system and the manner in which the data are utilized for publication of the epidemiological reports that are an integral part of the continental vesicular diseases epidemiological surveillance system. The participants were also shown how the information is used to prepare indicators for characterizing a country's epidemiological situation. This characterization makes it possible in particular to: (1) prepare differentiated control strategies (strategic epidemiological surveillance) and, (2) adopt tactical and operational measures to control potentially dangerous situations (conjunctural epidemiological surveillance).

Foot-and-Mouth Disease Ecosystems in South America.

A brief overview was presented on the characterization of the FMD ecosystems in South America, with special emphasis on the endemic ecosystems and their influence on outbreaks in cattle-fattening and gathering areas. The border area separating Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay, the Pantanal area in Brazil's States of Mato Grosso and Mato Grosso do Sul, and the plains of Colombia and Venezuela were singled out as examples of possible endemic ecosystems.

In response to the Argentine delegate's request for more information on the control measures applicable to each ecosystem, an epidemiologist from the PAFMDC explained, by way of example, the advisability of using oil-adjuvanted vaccine in the endemic ecosystems that generally coincide with marginal agricultural areas where livestock handling is more difficult.

Miscellaneous Matters.

- a) The IICA/OIE representative gave the following information:

- The next meeting of the OIE (International Office of Epizootics) will be held next May 25-30, 1981. He indicated that the OIE membership now total 102 countries and reminded the participants that the OIE was responsible for publishing the International Zoo-Sanitary Code that has proved to be a valuable aid for all the countries. He asked all countries to participate actively at the meeting.

- The meeting of the Regional Committee of the OIE for the Americas will be held in Ottawa, Canada, on April 2 and 3, 1981.

- The next Pan-American Congress on Veterinary Medicine, to be held in Caracas in July of this year, has been postponed to August 1-6, 1982. The participants were asked to make this information known and to keep in mind that the Congress will dedicate a special session to Animal Health.

- The financial cooperation of US\$ 23 million offered by Canada, the United States of America and Mexico for the eradication of African swine fever in Haiti is a good example of technical and economic cooperation among countries.

b) The Director of the PAFMDC informed the participants that activities had begun under UNDP project RLA/079/021 related to Epidemiological Surveillance of Vesicular Diseases. This UNDP project will be of considerable significance for the development of the epidemiological surveillance and information systems, as well as for the training of human resources in Central America and Panama.

He also mentioned that the new vesicular diseases laboratory in Panama, with its high safety features, will commence activities in 1981. He reminded the participants that the laboratory grew out of a preliminary project conceived by the Center. The laboratory, originally planned to be erected with UNDP financing, was constructed with funds provided by Panama, United States of America and the OIRSA (International Regional Animal Health Organization). The original preliminary project was reformulated by decision of Panama and the Central American countries and became the Vesicular Diseases Epidemiological Surveillance Project approved by the UNDP and carried out by PASB.

c) The representative of the Mexican-American Commission thanked the COSALFA for the invitation to attend the meeting and took the opportunity to put printed material on vesicular and other exotic diseases at the disposal of the countries and the PAFMDC. The representative from Guatemala also expressed his gratitude for having participated in the meeting, which enabled him to expand his awareness of FMD situation on the Continent.

d) Seminar on FMD Immunization Programs in South America, Rio de Janeiro, March 9-11, 1981.

The conclusions and recommendations proceeding from the seminar were read and after several explanations, were approved and incorporated to COSALFA-VIII (Appendix IV).

e) By request of the delegate from Paraguay, the agenda of the COSALFA-IX meeting will include a review of the COSALFA statutes and the request that those statutes be ratified by the Governments through their Foreign Relation Ministries.

f) The Secretary read Resolutions I to X submitted by the COSALFA-VIII delegates. The Resolutions were approved prior to textual changes (Appendix V).

g) It was agreed to ask PASB to organize through the PAFMDC a pre-COSALFA-IX seminar about areas free from FMD. The delegates, by majority vote, chose this topic in preference to the other possible subject related to epidemiological surveillance and evaluation of border sanitary and animal health agreements.

h) It was agreed that the COSALFA Secretary would ask the Peruvian Government to enable Dr. Emilio Matto Cardenas, as COSALFA's representative, to present the Commission's report at RIMSA-II.

i) Diplomas were awarded to the participants in the Seminar on FMD Immunization Programs.

j) The final COSALFA-VIII report was read and approved.

k) The Meeting ended with final closing remarks by the ex-officio Secretary and the Chairman.

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

VIII ORDINARY MEETING

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 12-13 March, 1981

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

VIII ORDINARY MEETING

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 12-13 March, 1981

PROGRAMThursday, 12

09:00 a.m	Opening Session
09:15	Report by the Secretariat
09:45	Discussion of the report
10:30	Coffee break
11:00	Report of FMD situation in South America. 1980
12:30	Lunch
01:30 p.m	Epidemiological surveillance
02:30	Coffee break
03:00	FMD ecosystems in South America

Friday, 13

09:00 a.m	Several matters
10:30	Coffee break
11:00	General discussion
12:30	Lunch
01:30 p.m	Conclusions and recommendations
03:00	Coffee break
03:30	Final report
04:30	Closure of the meeting

TECHNICAL MEETING ON FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE
ARGENTINA, BRAZIL AND URUGUAY

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 16-19 December, 1980

MINUTES OF MEETING

A Technical Meeting on Foot-and-Mouth Disease was held by Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay, on December 16-19, 1980, at the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; the Meeting was convened to define common policies and strategies for the control of foot-and-mouth disease in the Rio de La Plata region.

The following conclusions and recommendations were approved at the meeting:

WHEREAS:

1. The raising of livestock in the Rio de La Plata region is of importance to the respective countries comprising the region as well as to the international market for animals, meat, milk and related by-products;
2. Foot-and-mouth disease exercises a negative effect on the development of that livestock-raising industry and about all on the international commerce of its products;
3. Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay have acquired experience, particularly in an awareness of the characteristics and behavior of foot-and-mouth disease and in the organization of animal health services, and possess the technical resources that have enabled them to attain significant results in the control of the disease; and
4. The aforesaid experience and the recent technical advances in foot-and-mouth disease controls open the possibility for eradicating the disease.

THEREFORE, the Three Countries, convinced that the struggle against foot-and-mouth disease should be undertaken from an overall, comprehensive scope within a homogeneous socioeconomic and epidemiological framework in conformity with the Resolution of the XIth Meeting of Chancellors of the Rio de La Plata Basin countries,

DO HEREBY AGREE:

First

Implement the efforts required to perfect the national foot-and-mouth disease control programs and to coordinate those programs in the area, with the following objectives in mind and by means of the following procedures:

Scope

The provinces of Misiones, Corrientes and Entre Rios in the Republic of Argentina; the state of Rio Grande do Sul in the Federative Republic of Brazil and the Republic of Uruguay.

Objectives

- Eradication of the disease in the region by means of applying successive stages without prejudice to the independence of the sanitary progress achieved by each of the countries.
- Organization of a coordinated program, starting from the border area common to the three countries.

Strategy

- Reinvigorate and expand the sanitary agreements among the countries involved that enable more effective measures to be applied.
- Identify the programs and the requirements to carry forward and support the activities scheduled.
- For the border zone common to the three countries, mechanisms will be studied that tend to intensify epidemiological surveillance and information systems, increase the immune coverage of the bovine and ovine populations, prevent the appearance of secondary foci by

means of a rapidly applied effective system of eliminating the primary episodes, and reduce to a minimum the risk of susceptible animals and sources of infection leaving the area.

Resources and technical cooperation

This Program will be developed with the financial and technical resources provided by the countries themselves, and technical cooperation will be fomented among them.

Nevertheless, the Program may receive technical and financial cooperation from other countries and from interested national and international organizations.

Implementation

- The organization, execution and evaluation of the Regional Foot-and-Mouth Disease Control Program in the Rio de La Plata Basin will be effected by the Directors of the Veterinary Services of Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay, or by their designees, with the cooperation and coordination of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center.
- The working meetings scheduled by these authorities will coincide with the meetings of the joint commissions established by the respective countries' bilateral animal health agreements.

Second

The possibility is left open of incorporating into this Program other areas of the three countries, as well as other countries of the Rio de La Plata Basin.

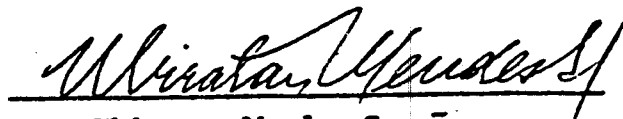
Third

To thank the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center for arranging this Meeting and lending it support; the PAFMDC is furthermore asked to proceed with the arrangements required for the approval thereof by the Governments of Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay, as well as to give priority attention to this Program within the future activities carried out by the PAFMDC.

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, December 19, 1980



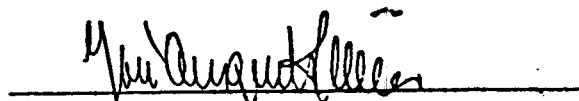
Dr. Emilio Juan Gimeno
Director General
Servicio de Sanidad Animal
Secretaría de Estado de
Agricultura y Ganadería
ARGENTINA



Dr. Ubiratan Mendes Serrão
Secretario Nacional
Secretaria Nacional de Defesa
Agropecuaria
Ministério da Agricultura
BRASIL



Dr. Nelson Magallanes
Director General de los
Servicios Veterinarios
Ministerio de Agricultura
y Pesca
URUGUAY



Dr. José Augusto Miller
Director de Produção Animal
Secretaria da Agricultura
Rio Grande do Sul
BRASIL



Dr. Raúl Casas Olascoaga
Director
Centro Panamericano de Fiebre Aftosa
Organización Panamericana de la Salud

SEMINAR ON FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE IMMUNIZATION PROGRAMS
IN SOUTH AMERICA

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. March 9-11, 1981

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A. CREATION OF A FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE VACCINE BANK

WHEREAS:

It is necessary to have readily available supplies of vaccine to resolve emergency situations in the foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) control and eradication programs;

The Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center is equipped with a limited-capacity pilot plant for the production of high immunogenic quality antigens and vaccines and is developing antigen concentration process and physicochemical methods for ensuring the quality thereof,

IT IS RECOMMENDED:

1. That the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center, in cooperation with the countries, conduct a study to establish and maintain an inactivated and concentrated-antigen bank for preparation of high immunogenic power vaccines for confronting emergency situations that may occur in the Region.
2. That said study indicate the costs of organizing and maintaining this bank, and determine the ways and amounts to be contributed by the Governments or users for the development of this service.

B. USE OF OIL-ADJUVANTED FMD VACCINE

WHEREAS:

The field experiments using oil-adjuvanted FMD vaccine in a high number of bovines in large demonstration areas of several countries have proven the excellent protection conferred upon the bovines, therefore enabling it to be included in the FMD control programs;

Although the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center is providing the technology so that official institutions can produce and control this vaccine, a sufficient quantity is not yet available for its general use in the national programs,

IT IS RECOMMENDED:

That the application of oil-adjuvanted FMD vaccine be utilized in areas considered as priority or of major epidemiological importance, in accordance with previously established immunization plans.

C. PROGRAMS FOR FMD VACCINATION IN PIGS

WHEREAS:

Recent advances in the field of immunoprophylaxis have led to FMD protection for pigs;

The disease's epidemiological characteristics in this species, as well as pig-raising and production patterns characterized by very short cycles, do not enable fixed vaccination timespans to be established,

IT IS RECOMMENDED:

That the vaccination of pigs be restricted to those properties exposed to major risk, thus avoiding the systematic, massive vaccination of this species.

D. VACCINE QUALITY CONTROL

WHEREAS:

The control of FMD vaccine quality is an essential element in attaining the success envisioned in the FMD control programs;

An adequate vaccine quality-control technology is presently available; and

In view of the recommendations set forth at the III International Seminar on Production and Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease Vaccines, held in Bogota, Colombia, November 3-14, 1980,

IT IS RECOMMENDED:

1. That the veterinary services be strongly urged to incorporate the recommendations set forth at the III International Seminar on Production and Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease Vaccines, held in Bogota, Colombia, November 3-14, 1980.
2. That the official veterinary services be requested to have the quality controls of the finished FMD vaccine (physicochemical, sterility, innocuity, tolerance and immunogenicity) conducted by services depending on the Ministries of Agriculture, which have the appropriate functioning structure, hierarchy and authority that enable them to comply effectively with the demands of such functions.
3. That the countries seek to incorporate statistical techniques in the analysis of vaccine quality control as a means of rationalizing the decisions' making process for the adaptation or rejection of vaccines.
4. That the countries importing FMD vaccine require as a prerequisite that the lots of vaccines to be acquired provide the satisfactory quality assurance certificate issued by the official veterinary services in the exporting country.

E. NEW ACTIVITIES IN THE FMD CONTROL PROGRAMS

WHEREAS:

The countries of the South American continent have attained evident progress in their programs for FMD control and prevention;

The epidemiological studies on FMD conducted in various countries during recent years have led to the identification of specific characteristics in the disease's behavior according to the geographic environment, the social and economic conditions, the types of production, the live-stock density and transit/movement patterns;

These differentiating characteristics enable distinct epidemiological regions to be identified in each country,

IT IS RECOMMENDED:

That when the national sanitary authorities set the FMD vaccination cycles to be followed in their FMD control programs, they should use these epidemiological studies to determine the control and vaccination policy and methodology for each of the country's regions, whether for enzootic or emergency situations.

F. EVALUATION OF THE IMMUNIZATION PROGRAMS

WHEREAS:

The stage of development attained by the epidemiological surveillance and information systems of the national FMD control programs has enabled regional models of this disease's behavior to be identified;

Vast epidemiological information has been acquired, the rational utilization of which will enable the programs' effectiveness to be increased and differential control strategies to be adopted;

The immune level of the livestock populations is a necessary element in the systematic evaluation of the status changes in FMD ecosystems;

That control strategy modifications must be accompanied by the corresponding adjustment in epidemiological surveillance, which will require the systematic estimating of several indicators, particularly serological indicators,

IT IS RECOMMENDED:

1. To intensify the training of personnel for the epidemiological research of FMD outbreaks in order to improve the estimating of the corresponding attack rates.
2. To improve, update and maintain updated the records of livestock populations and vaccinations, with the purpose of estimating indicators for the timely and evaluation of the FMD immunization programs.

3. To develop techniques and procedures for evaluating the immune status of the livestock populations when and where required by epidemiological surveillance.

4. To ensure the representativity of serological surveys, utilizing probabilistic sampling methods and employing serological tests adaptable to screening procedures that permit their utilization on a large scale.

G. COLD CHAIN

WHEREAS:

The existence of an adequate cold chain and the correct operation thereof is a fundamental factor that the countries must take into consideration to ensure that vaccine is delivered at the proper time and at the correct temperature,

IT IS RECOMMENDED:

1. That the countries, with the cooperation of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center, study and assess the status of the cold chain utilized in the national FMD programs, considering the availability, type, capacity and state of the equipment for vaccine storage and distribution.

2. That the programs include: (a) the training of the technical and paratechnical personnel who participate in the execution of the FMD control programs, (b) information and instructions on the use and maintenance of the various equipment and (c) means utilized to preserve and transport the vaccine.

3. The adequate cooling chests for transporting FMD vaccines be adopted, as well as practical, simple refrigerators for the distribution of vaccines in locations where the electric power supply is deficient, in order to cover larger geographic areas.

4. That the cold chain method be studied in those countries where it is used in expanded human immunization programs, in order to determine its utilization for field storage of vaccine.

5. That proper cold chain standards be established by those governments which have not yet done so; such standards should include information on cooling chests, cooling materials, and cold rooms for FMD vaccine storage.

RESOLUTION I

FINANCIAL STATUS OF THE PAN AMERICAN FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE CENTER

WHEREAS:

The countries of the region need to continue receiving technical cooperation from the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center in order to achieve the goals proposed in their foot-and-mouth disease control programs;

The Center has in recent years been subject to increasingly larger budgetary cutbacks that reflect upon and restrict its operational capability to offer field and laboratory services and conduct indispensable applied research;

COSALFA is aware that the PAFMDC External Evaluation Group recommended that the Directing Bodies of the Pan American Health Organization allocate supplementary funds in 1981 to maintain the Center at a level equal to the 1980 level;

The Pan American Health Organization Directing Bodies did not approve those recommended funds, which fact led to the elimination of various professional staff positions, curtailment of general services and reduction of funds for grants, service-related duty travel, supplies and materials;

Despite the foregoing, the Center has continued to render technical cooperation to the countries in the most critical areas of the foot-and-mouth disease control efforts;

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

RESOLVES:

1. To recommend that the Ministers of Agriculture of the Countries in the Region assign extrabudgetary support quotas to the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center and approve special direct-aid funds for specific projects;

2. To recommend that the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, during the RIMSA-II to be held in Washington, D.C., on March 30-31, 1981, present concrete proposals for additional funding for the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center drawn from other sources, including international entities such as the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture (IICA), the United Nations Organization for Food and Agriculture (FAO) and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP);

3. Acknowledge its gratitude to the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center, through its Director, for the efforts expended to continue rendering technical cooperation services to the countries despite the foregoing budget restrictions.

(Approved at the VIIIth Ordinary
Meeting held on 13 March 1981)

RESOLUTION II

INTERNATIONAL COMMERCE OF BOVINES AND OTHER PRODUCTS
FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY

WHEREAS:

There is a need among several countries to import breeder animals, semen and other biological materials to improve and upgrade the production and yield of their livestock industries;

There is a growing commercial exchange of such products among South American countries with differing foot-and-mouth disease epidemiological statuses, as well as between such countries and countries in the disease-free areas;

The foregoing tendencies imply greater risk of the introduction and spreading of foot-and-mouth disease and other diseases within the importing countries;

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

RESOLVES:

1. To recommend that the countries revise and upgrade their legislation and methods for sanitary control of the international transit of animals and animal by-products;
2. To encourage strict compliance with the sanitary measures in force.

(Approved at the VIIIth Ordinary
Meeting held on 13 March 1981)

RESOLUTION III

REGIONAL LABORATORY FOR VIRAL DISEASE IN ANIMALS

WHEREAS:

The commercial exchange between the Countries of the Region has in recent years intensified with respect to breeder livestock, semen and other biological products intended to improve and upgrade the livestock industry;

This trend is accompanied by a greater risk of introducing and spreading animal diseases, particularly diseases of viral origin;

There is consequently a need for a regional reference virology laboratory;

The Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center has sufficient experience and human resources as required to meet this need at reasonable costs;

The foregoing responsibility will consequently require increasing the Center's capability to act and strengthening its financial resources;

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

RESOLVES:

1. To recommend at RIMSA-II that the Directing Bodies of the Pan American Health Organization be requested to enlarge the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center's scope of functions so that it may act as the Regional Laboratory for viral diseases in animals;
2. That for this reason the Ministers of Agriculture agree to make available, when necessary, extraordinary funds based on a project prepared by the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center in consultation with the Countries.

(Approved at the VIIIth Ordinary
Meeting held on 13 March 1981)

RESOLUCION IV

DOCUMENT ON "FACTS AND PROGRESS IN THE FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE
PROGRAMS IN THE TEN-YEAR PERIOD 1971 - 1980"

WHEREAS:

The last ten year period has witnessed a substantial progress in the programming, execution, and evaluation of foot-and-mouth disease control programs;

Important advances and successes have been achieved in implementing laboratory facilities and equipment;

Advances have also been made in sanitary education methods, communications services and information systems utilized;

These advances have engendered a significant improvement in protection afforded to livestock on the Continent, thus facilitating and fostering the commercialization of breeder bovines, semen and other biological products among the countries with differing foot-and-mouth disease epidemiological situations;

The technical cooperation extended to the countries by the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center has been a fundamental element in the attainment of these advances;

The financial assistance received from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) has also constituted an important contribution to foot-and-mouth disease control efforts;

It is desirable to compile and analyze existing information about the advances achieved in controlling and eradicating the disease from the Continent;

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

RESOLVES:

1. To recommend that the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center, in cooperation with the countries, prepare a document on "Facts and Progress in Foot-and-Mouth Disease Control in South America during the Ten-Year Period 1971-1980".
2. To require that the aforesaid document be submitted to COSALFA-IX and, when approved, be published and distributed under the auspices thereof.

(Approved at the VIIIth Ordinary
Meeting held on 13 March 1981)

RESOLUTION V

STRATEGIES FOR THE CONTROL OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE
IN THE TEN-YEAR PERIOD 1981 - 1990

WHEREAS:

Important progress has been made in recent years with respect to an understanding and awareness of epidemiology and methods and procedures of foot-and-mouth disease control in the South American countries;

This experience should be utilized to upgrade the national foot-and-mouth disease control programs over the next ten years;

The national programs should be formulated on common bases so that they may be mutually supporting and to enable objectives and strategies to be defined on the continental level;

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

RESOLVES:

1. That the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center in cooperation with the countries, should draw up a document on "Guidelines for Formulating Foot-and-Mouth Disease Control Goals and Strategies for the 1981-1990 Ten-Year Period", which document shall be analyzed at COSALFA-IX;
2. That the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center update the methodological guide and send it out to the countries so they can provide up-dated information for the preparation of the aforesaid document;
3. That the countries return the information solicited to the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center within ninety (90) days of receiving the Methodological Guide;
4. That the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center, based on the information supplied by the countries, should draw up a rough working draft of the document and forward it to the countries for analysis;
5. That the countries should return their pertinent comments and remarks to the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center at least ninety (90) days prior to the COSALFA-IX meeting.

(Approved at the VIIIth Ordinary
Meeting held on 13 March 1981)

RESOLUTION VI

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL INFORMATION ON AFRICAN SWINE FEVER
AND HOG CHOLERA

WHEREAS:

Timely epidemiological information on African Swine Fever and Hog Cholera is necessary to enable the member countries to adopt adequate and timely measures to prevent the introduction or spreading of such diseases within their territories;

The Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center possesses an efficient vesicular diseases information system;

That system could be used to furnish information on other diseases;

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

RESOLVES:

1. To recommend that the Pan American Sanitary Bureau (PASB) and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture (IICA) carry out a joint study to enlarge the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center's vesicular diseases information system with the goal of covering African Swine Fever and Hog Cholera.
2. To recommend that the epidemiological reports including information on African Swine Fever and Hog Cholera be regularly forwarded to the countries.

(Approved at the VIIIth Ordinary
Meeting held on 13 March 1981)

RESOLUTION VII

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE
IMMUNIZATION PROGRAMS

WHEREAS:

The International Seminar on Foot-and-Mouth Disease Immunization Programs was held successfully at the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center on March 9-11, 1981;

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

RESOLVES:

1. To approve and incorporate the conclusions and recommendations of said seminar and urge the national and international organizations to support its adoption in foot-and-mouth disease control programs;
2. To express thanks to the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and in particular to the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center for organizing and developing the International Seminar on Foot-and-Mouth Disease Immunization Programs;
3. To request the Pan American Health Organization, through the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center, to organize a Seminar on Areas Free of Foot-and-Mouth Disease to be held in 1982.

(Approved at the VIIIth Ordinary
Meeting held on 13 March 1981)

RESOLUTION VIII

SPECIAL RECOGNITION ACCORDED TO DRS. ROBERTO GOIC AND RUBEN LOMBARDO,
FORMER EMPLOYEES OF THE PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION

WHEREAS:

Drs. Roberto Goic and Ruben Lombardo, as employees of the Pan American Health Organization, have rendered invaluable services to the countries of the Continent;

These two gentlemen have retired from the Pan American Health Organization staff;

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

RESOLVES:

To accord this special recognition to Drs. Roberto Goic and Ruben Lombardo for the relevant services they have rendered on behalf of the countries of the Continent as employees of the Pan American Health Organization, specifically in the field of veterinary sciences applied to public health and agriculture.

(Approved at the VIIIth Ordinary
Meeting held on 13 March 1981)

RESOLUTION IX

RECOGNITION ACCORDED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE FOR THE
ERADICATION OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

WHEREAS:

The Government of Chile has successfully achieved the control and eradication of foot-and-mouth disease in the Republic of Chile;

The invaluable contributions made by the Chilean veterinary medical profession and the support of the international technical and financial organizations merit special acknowledgement;

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

RESOLVES:

To acknowledge this important achievement and extend the warmest congratulations to the Government of Chile, the Chilean veterinary profession, the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center and the Inter-American Development Bank.

(Approved at the VIIIth Ordinary
Meeting held on 13 March 1981)

RESOLUTION X

REGISTER THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT ACCORDED TO THE
PAN AMERICAN FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE CENTER BY THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE

WHEREAS:

On January 16, 1981, the Republic of Chile attained the condition of a nation free of foot-and-mouth disease;

The Pan American Sanitary Bureau exercised an active part in that accomplishment through technical cooperation extended by the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center;

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

RESOLVES:

To register the Government of Chile's acknowledgement of the permanent technical support rendered by the Pan American Sanitary Bureau through the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center.

(Approved at the VIIIth Ordinary
Meeting held on 13 March 1981)