

FINAL REPORT COSALFA 48



48th ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SOUTH AMERICAN COMMISSION
FOR THE FIGHT AGAINST FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

Virtual Meeting | August 19-20, 2021



PAHO

PANAFTOSA

Pan American Center for Foot-and-Mouth
Disease and Veterinary Public Health

CONTENT

1. OPENING SESSION	2
2. REPORT OF THE EX OFFICIO SECRETARY'S COSALFA 48	4
Other Technical Cooperation activities for Foot-and-Mouth Disease – Countries and Projects	4
Production Laboratory - LPRO	4
Reference Laboratory - LREF	4
3. REPORT ON THE SITUATION OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE ERADICATION NATIONAL PROGRAMS.....	5
Complementation of the countries and approval of the Report	5
4. REPORT OF THE PRE-COSALFA 48 INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR.....	6
5. TOPIC 1: PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES OF THE FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE PROGRAM IN VENEZUELA	7
6. TOPIC 2: PERSPECTIVE OF THE COUNTRIES ABOUT REGIONAL BANK OF ANTIGENS AND VACCINES	9
7. ADDITIONAL TOPICS	11
8. REPORT ON THE REGIONAL ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT THE PHEFA	11
9. PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTIONS OF COSALFA 48	14
10. CLOSING CEREMONY	14
11. PARTICIPANTS	14
ANNEXS	
Annex 1 – Delegates list	15
Annex 2 - Agenda of meeting	18
Annex 2 - Resolutions	20

FINAL REPORT

August 19, 2021

1. OPENING SESSION

Dr. Ottorino Cosivi, ex officio secretary of the South American Commission for the Fight Against Foot-and-Mouth Disease (COSALFA), warmly welcomed all the participants to the virtual meeting and expressed a special appreciation to the government of Paraguay, in the person of Dr. José Carlos Martins Camperchioli, President of the SENACSA, as well as to Dr. Daniel Prieto Davey, President of the FUNDASSA, for their support in the organization of the Forty-Eighth Ordinary Meeting of the COSALFA.

This meeting represents a milestone, the beginning of the third Action Plan 2021-2025 of the Hemispheric Program for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (PHEFA), which commits us to renew our best efforts to attain a continent free from this disease and, in this sense, to contribute to the development and wellbeing of our peoples, a goal we are all fully committed to.

Dr. Carissa Etienne, director of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), welcomes and thanks all the delegates of the public and private sectors that represent the 13 member countries of the COSALFA, 12 countries from South America and Panama, for having contributed with their time and experience to the COSALFA 48. Likewise, we thank the observers and representatives of international organizations and institutions of the public and private sectors, who honor this meeting with their presence.

We particularly acknowledge and thank the host country, Paraguay, mainly the technical team of the SENACSA, led by its president, and the representative of the private sector, who collaborated in the realization of this event. Since the creation of the Pan-American Center for Foot-and-Mouth Disease, PANAFTOSA, exactly 70 years ago, the countries of our region, jointly with our Organization and other international and national organisms, have achieved significant progress toward the eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease in South America, as well as the maintenance of free areas in North America, Central America and the Caribbean. These achievements would not have been possible without the collaboration and contribution of millions of farmers of South America.

The accomplishments made so far represent a significant contribution to the increased income of a relevant number of families of small, medium and large rural producers who have been able to maintain and create new sources of employment along the entire production chain, both in the countryside and the city, thus achieving a significant improvement of conditions and quality of life and a better socio-economic development for the countries of the region. The COSALFA has been and continues to be the most effective space for technical and strategic discussions and to make agreements and commitments, as it was envisaged and established in 1973.

Finally, on behalf of Dr. Étienne, I restate the commitment of the highest authorities of our Organization to achieve a continent free of foot-and-mouth disease.

I wish we have a fructiferous meeting and I remain available for your comments and suggestions, inviting you to maintain and strengthen the spirit of participation, collaboration and solidarity always expressed by the people of our region in the face of these initiatives for the common good, such as the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease from our continent.

After the opening session, Dr. Ximena Melón, national director of animal health of the SENASA, Argentina, and president pro-tempore of the COSALFA, was invited to take the floor. She greeted the participants and thanked PANAFTOSA for the efforts to carry out this meeting. Afterwards, Dr. Daniel Davey, president of the FUNDASSA, Paraguay, on behalf of the private sector, remarked the importance of the partnership with the private sector that, in spite of the difficulties posed by the pandemic, produced positive results. Finally, Dr. José Carlos Martín Camperchioli, president of the SENACSA, Paraguay, on behalf of the public sector and host of this edition, thanked all and remarked the relevant topics addressed in the pre-COSALFA Seminar, the importance of the third version of the Action Plan of the PHEFA in a changing setting of transition to free without vaccination, and the public-private coordination strategy, among other successful developments. He talked about the difficult times of the pandemic, the impact it had on the One Health approach, and the efforts of the agricultural sector in the fight for the economy of the countries.

Subsequently, the appointment of each public and private delegate of the 13 countries of the COSALFA was read, and they were invited to start the works. Annex 3.

Start of the works. Appointment of the president and reading and approval of the Agenda

The working table of the 48th COSALFA is formed, chaired by Dr. Ximena Melón of the SENASA, Argentina, as President Pro tempore of the 47th COSALFA and Dr. Cosivi as ex officio secretary and, by indication of the public sector of Ecuador and by acclamation of the plenary session, Dr. Camperchioli, president of the SENACSA, Paraguay, is appointed president of the COSALFA 48. He thanked the appointment and nominated Dr. Víctor Maldonado as delegate of Paraguay for the meeting.

The president, Dr. Melón, presented the Agenda of the Meeting for consideration and it was approved without modifications. Annex 2.

Following, Dr. José Carlos Martín, as president of the COSALFA 48, invited Dr. Rivera to present the Report of the ex officio Secretariat of the COSALFA 48 in order to start working on the agenda.

2. REPORT OF THE EX OFFICIO SECRETARIAT TO THE COSALFA 48

Alejandro Rivera, area of Foot-and-Mouth Disease, PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO

Resolutions and Technical Cooperation with the countries

Dr. Alejandro Rivera, coordinator of the Area of Foot-and-Mouth Disease, gave an outline of the situation of the actions for the eradication and prevention of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) in the countries of South America and in Panama, together with an evaluation of the degree of accomplishment by the countries and the Pan American Center for Foot-and-Mouth Disease (PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO) of the 4 resolutions adopted at the 47th COSALFA: 1. Program for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease in Venezuela; 2. Transition to the status of free without vaccination; 3. Publication of foot-and-mouth disease records since 1952, and 4. Biennial plan 2020-2021 of the PHEFA. The degree of accomplishment of the Resolutions was based on the information gathered by the ex officio Secretariat within the framework of the commitments made with the Hemispheric Program for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (PHEFA). Resolutions 1, 2 and 3 were partially accomplished due to the COVID-19 pandemic, while number 4 was completely accomplished.

Besides, he gave an account of the general technical cooperation activities in the June 2020-June 2021 period, including the results of agreements and projects for technical cooperation in countries such as Paraguay, Colombia and Ecuador, as well as the execution of cooperation activities with Venezuela and Brazil, and interinstitutional and collaboration efforts with other international and regional organizations such as CVP, CAN, OIRSA and OIE. The presentation is available at:

https://www.paho.org/sites/default/files/cosalfa48-presentacion-informesecretaria_0.pdf

Production Laboratory - LPRO

Anna Paula Alvim, PANAFTOSA- PAHO/WHO

Dr. Alvim made a brief account of the technical cooperation activities developed and offered to the countries, including the new blocking ELISA gIII kit, which will replace the competitive ELISA test, and the support given in the period to national laboratories, with the provision of reagents for the diagnosis of vesicular diseases, particularly the production and availability of sets for vesicular stomatitis and vaccine control. The presentation is available at:

https://www.paho.org/sites/default/files/cosalfa48-presentacion-informelaboratorioprod_0.pdf

Reference Laboratory - LREF

Maristela Pituco, PANAFTOSA- PAHO/WHO

The cooperation regarding the activities provided by the Reference Laboratory, both to national laboratories of the countries of the region and to international reference laboratories, was presented by Dr. Maristela Pituco, coordinator of LREF/PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO. The laboratory provided technical cooperation in the areas of reference for diagnosis, not only for foot-and-mouth disease but also for vesicular stomatitis, Seneca virus disease, blue tongue and poxvirus, for strengthening diagnostic capacity and quality, and for vaccine control and research. An important piece of information was the end of the project for the sequencing of historical lineages of the foot-and-mouth disease virus present in the continent from 1950 to 2018, in cooperation with the Canada's National

Center for Foreign Animal Disease, the Federal Laboratory for Agricultural Defense/MAPA and the Biological Institute of São Paulo. The sequencing is available at the GenBank. The presentation is available at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3V-7BcjMjp8>

3. REPORT ON THE SITUATION OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE ERADICATION PROGRAMS IN SOUTH AMERICA AND PANAMA, year 2020

Manuel Sánchez Vázquez, Area of Epidemiology, PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO

Dr. Sánchez presented a report on the health situation of COSALFA member countries, based on the reports sent by the countries to PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO, as well as on the information gathered by the Center as cooperation to the countries, supplemented with the analysis of relevant information published in different media.

The most important points were the consolidation of the public-private initiative in Venezuela, through the creation of the Venezuelan Foundation of Animal Health Services - FUNVESSA, which brings hope that the currently very low vaccine coverage may be improved; the recognition of new zones of Brazil as free without vaccination, which involves 20% of the bovine population of the country; the recognition of a new zone as free with vaccination in Colombia; and the maintenance of the status of the countries of the region based on the strengthening of surveillance, including serological sampling of viral activity and immunity. Another important topic is the progress on internal discussions in the countries to change the strategy to comply with the PHEFA goals of withdrawing the vaccine and seeking recognition. The presentation is available at:

https://www.paho.org/sites/default/files/cosalfa48-presentacion-informesituacionfa_0.pdf

The president submitted the reports for discussion and invited the delegates to provide comments

Complementation of the countries and approval of reports

Dr. Camperchioli opened the room for the delegates and some countries contributed observations and amendments to the reports, which will be later sent to PANAFTOSA for their inclusion in the final report.

The Argentinian delegate updated other actions taken in the country such as the sampling performed to evaluate virus circulation and immunity in free zones with vaccination. Likewise, he mentioned the use of sentinel animals in a risk study not only in the central region but also in the provinces of the North. He asked which free countries continue sampling for virus circulation. Dr. Sánchez informed that Peru and Chile perform sampling on a regular basis.

The Colombian delegate asked about the level of development of the agreement between the private and the public sector in Venezuela, in the light of the creation of the FUNVESSA. Dr. Sánchez informed that it is being discussed with the INSAI and that the topic will be later addressed. He added that the country report does not mention the strengthening of the coordination with the Colombian border police and the INVIMA to improve surveillance and combat smuggling, including the use of unmanned vehicles at borders. The topic will be included in the final version of the report.

The Brazilian delegate greeted the participants and thanked PANAFTOSA's cooperation during the whole process of recognition pursued by the country. Nevertheless, he mentioned certain mistakes in the report and that he will submit the information for inclusion in the final report.

The delegate from Paraguay complemented the information on the plan of the country. The SENACSA conducts serological studies of immunization coverage and virus circulation in the complete herd since 2015. He asked about the low vaccination coverage in Venezuela, which is about 40-50%. What would the prognosis be? The answer was that the proposed structure for the campaign, coordinated by the FUNVESSA, should increase coverage, with PANAFTOSA's support.

A participant in the chat wanted to know in what areas of Bolivia vaccination is still carried out: in Cochabamba and Santa Cruz de la Sierra, including approximately 50% of the herd of each department, while the other 50% remains unvaccinated. Dr. Hernán Daza, delegate of the public sector of Bolivia, added information on the health condition of the country regarding regions where animals are vaccinated and the regions where they are not.

What were the vulnerable points in those countries that lost their free status? Dr. Sánchez replied that the study presented was conducted worldwide, but it is still ongoing. The illegal introduction of animals, however, is an important reason in the process.

Considering the clarifications and inputs to the significant technical content of the report, it is approved with the endorsement of the delegates.

The Situation Report of the Programs for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease in South America and Panama, 2020, is available at: <https://www.paho.org/es/panaftosa/cosalfa/cosalfa-48/documentos-cosalfa-48>

The full report of the ex officio Secretariat of the COSALFA 48 is available at Iris: <https://iris.paho.org/handle/10665.2/54788>

The president continued with the agenda by inviting Dr. Rivera to present the Report of the Pre-COSALFA 48 International Seminar.

4. REPORT OF THE PRE-COSALFA INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR

Alejandro Rivera, area of Foot-and-Mouth Disease, PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO

Dr. Alejandro Rivera presented the report of the Pre-COSALFA 48 Seminar, "Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease: the PHEFA Plan 2021-2025, Preparedness and Transition to the Status of Free Countries/Zones without Vaccination", held on August 17 - 18 through the Zoom platform and PAHO's YouTube channel, available for all countries. The seminar was divided into 5 theme sessions delivered by professionals of the countries and their conclusions were presented. The presentation is available at:

https://www.paho.org/sites/default/files/cosalfa48-panaftosa-informe-seminario_0.pdf

Discussion and approval of the report

The president thanked the Brazilian professionals from the private and public sectors, in the person of Dr. Geraldo Moraes, for the level of cooperation and for the achievements of the program toward the goal of free without vaccination, shown during the Seminar.

The report was subjected to consultation of the delegates and unanimously approved.

The full report of the Pre COSALFA 48 Seminar is available at Iris: <https://iris.paho.org/handle/10665.2/55235>

5. TOPIC 1: ADVANCES AND CHALLENGES OF THE FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE PROGRAM IN VENEZUELA

Introduction to the topic: Rodrigo García, Area of Foot-and-Mouth Disease, PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO

Participants: Wilmer Alcázar, Director of Integral Animal Health; Héctor Conde, foot-and-mouth disease coordinator of the INSAI; Luis Prado Hurtado, President; and Milton Silva Technical Director of the FUNVESSA

The topic was introduced by Dr. Rodrigo García, who invited Dr. Héctor Conde, foot-and-mouth disease coordinator of the INSAI, to talk about the topic on behalf of the public sector. Dr. Conde remarked that the legal framework of the national program for surveillance, prevention, control and eradication of foot-and-mouth disease in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela is Resolution DMN 145 of December 2013, the year when foot-and-mouth disease was recorded for the last time. However, as previously mentioned, the surveillance system and laboratory support have difficulties, which results in a large number of unconfirmed suspected cases to date. He gave an account of the structure of the INSAI both at central and field level, as well as passive surveillance data of vesicular diseases.

In February 2020, the Bolivarian government recognized the country as free with vaccination and provided legal support so that the INSAI can develop a strategy for its attainment, with the OIE. To that end, the challenges of improving vaccination coverage and increasing epidemiological surveillance must be faced. The creation of the FUNVESSA and its recognition by the INSAI in March 2021 brings positive expectations, with PANAFTOSA/PAHO's support. The foundation is already working in the state of Bolívar and establishing the livestock committees, executing arms of the INSAI policies, at national level.

An additional initiative is the design of field seroepidemiological studies for the detection of virus circulation and immunity coverage of livestock, supported by PANAFTOSA/PAHO. Obstacles related to the pandemic have delayed the schedule. The presentation of the INSAI is available at:

https://www.paho.org/sites/default/files/cosalfa48-presentacion-venezuela_0.pdf

Following, engineer Luís Prado, president of the FUNVESSA, on behalf of the private sector of Venezuela, said that this foundation is exclusively private and is aimed at providing health and animal welfare services oriented toward the prevention, diagnosis, control and eradication of animal diseases, framed within the national animal health legislation, not only for foot-and-mouth disease. The functions foreseen go beyond coordinating vaccination and include health education, technological developments, and disease control and prevention. He explained the administrative and financial structure of the foundation as well as the schedule for the entire year, which will end with vaccination at national level in October.

Dr. Milton Silva, technical director of the FUNVESSA, took the floor to present the results of the pilot vaccination plan conducted in the region of Guayana, between April and June 2021. The average coverage was 45.6%.

However, this experience brought positive results regarding the coordination with other actors, highlighting the enthusiasm of livestock farmers for the campaign. Some of the negative issues are the lack of material resources and fuel, the lack of a database to record activities, the low availability of vaccines at the beginning of the cycle and, what seems more important, the lack of a budgetary allocation to maintain the operativity during the cycle.

Discussion

The president opened the session for questions, asking about the reasons for the low coverage of the pilot vaccination plan in Guayana/Bolívar: Is it due to the low penetration of the FUNVESSA? Is it due to the lack of vaccines? Dr. Milton Silva described the size of the state of Bolívar, the difficulties for mobilization due to the pandemic and for the supply of materials, fuel and resources. It should be remembered that this was a pilot plan with a short time for execution. They are still waiting for the signing of a cooperation agreement with the INSAI to receive resources.

The delegate of the Colombian public sector, Dr. Deyanira, restated the concern of the country for the need of devising a working plan to counteract the current low coverage and insufficient level of surveillance. She requests the position of PANAFTOSA/PAHO and all national representatives on this issue to avoid discussions on a new plan for Venezuela in five years from now. Regarding the creation of the FUNVESSA, she requested information about the current level of formalization. Engineer Luís Prado said that they the Foundation is already registered and the APP agreement is ready to be signed by the Minister of Agriculture and Land. This agreement will enable the management of the donations from the production and the official sectors.

Dr. Cristian Zambrano, from Agrocalidad, Ecuador, expressed his concern about external risk factors in this moment of change. He would like to know the diagnostic capacity of the country. What diagnostic tests do they have? Dr. Héctor Conde replied that they use PANAFTOSA/PAHO diagnostic kits and other recommended techniques, but he is unaware of the capacity.

Dr. Ximena Melón, from Argentina, said she was pleased with the efforts made by the public and the private sectors to comply with COSALFA 47 recommendations. However, some of them are still unfinished due to the pandemic, and it was also mentioned that some budgetary restrictions have hampered the execution of some actions that would have an impact on prevention in the region, which underlines the concern of the countries for the achievement of the objectives of the action plan 2021-2025 of the PHEFA. This highlights the need to strengthen international assistance from organisms as well as through bilateral cooperation. Therefore, she raised 4 issues: if the FUNVESSA is set forth in all states, who is in charge of vaccination? Vaccinators or the farmers themselves? Do they have an information system to gather data? Will strategic vaccination be disseminated all over the country? If so, in what time limit? In this sense, Engineer Luís Prado said that national coverage is scheduled for the next campaign, in October and, to that end, the local commission network of the FUNVESSA is being organized. The vaccine was administered by independent veterinarians, who collaborated voluntarily. However, traditional vaccination continued to be carried out with the effort of the livestock sector and assisted vaccination efforts.

Dr. Víctor Maldonado, from Paraguay, mentions that Venezuela's problems are recurrent in every meeting and that, instead of a resolution, a joint working plan from experienced countries is required to support the Venezuelan program. Besides, the problem of insufficient resources requires effective assistance to the country.

The delegate from Colombia, Dr. Deyanira, restates that a resolution is needed but that efforts should be made to comply with it, both regarding the country's duties and PANAFTOSA/PAHO's cooperation. It is frustrating to see always the same figures and partially accomplished resolutions. We are not at ease because the problem is near. What does PANAFTOSA/PAHO think about this?

Dr. Rodrigo García says that PANAFTOSA/PAHO has been supporting Venezuela for a long time and, in spite of the difficulties, great strides have been made. By October 2021 the whole country is expected to be vaccinated by the FUNVESSA. Brazil is going to support this effort, as well as PANAFTOSA/PAHO. Dr. Ottorino Cosivi, ex officio secretary of the COSALFA, adds that he understands that the timelines are not the expected ones, and that some countries have problems in their relationship with the public sector but not with the private sector. The private sectors of other countries are encouraged to join this process to move the Venezuelan program forward. .

6. TOPIC 2: VISION OF THE COUNTRIES ABOUT THE BANVACO

Alejandro Rivera, area of Foot-and-Mouth Disease, PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO

In his introduction, Dr. Rivera says that the BANVACO project was an initiative of the Hemispheric Committee for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease in its 12th Ordinary Meeting, held in Santiago de Chile, in 2012, with the support of regional and European experts. The project, consisting in the articles of agreement and a technical project with an estimated budget, was later approved by the member countries of the COSALFA in 2017. On the occasion, those countries agreed that the management and administration of the BANVACO would be in charge of PANAFTOSA/PAHO. In December 2018, the project, already approved by PAHO, was sent to the 13 countries of the COSALFA, with the peculiarity that, in order to characterize its regional character, at least three countries should adhere.

In 2020, after some meetings, it was clear that all the countries consider that the BANVACO is necessary to address an emergency, both at national and regional level, caused by any of the 17 subtypes present in the world. The BANVACO is not necessarily linked to the process of vaccine withdrawal, and the countries that are still vaccinating are protected since the risk of exogenous strains is a concern for all the countries. Finally, it is important to understand that there is no conflict between national banks and the regional bank, and that they can coexist, as in the case of the bank in North America.

Discussion – Delegates of the public sector of the COSALFA 48

The president of the COSALFA, Dr. José Carlos Martín, before opening the discussions for the delegates of the public sector mentioned the initiative and the adhesion process of Paraguay to the BANVACO. He stated the importance of having a large quantity of vaccines if, for example, Venezuela needed them. However, he showed concern about the funding mechanisms of the bank through loans, and that the countries should seek non-refundable sources to cover its implementation. He hopes some countries join the project after this meeting.

Dr. Geraldo Moraes restated the interest of Brazil to join the BANVACO, which is in the process of approval in the National Congress. Meanwhile, the country is developing a national bank with regional strains. Yet, he said he was worried about exogenous strains, which are being prioritized together with PANAFTOSA/PAHO, as well as about vaccine stock in the case of an emergency, through simulation studies of virus spread, in order to have an overview

of the required amount and to find resources, which will certainly be a lot. We are discussing with the industry how to meet their needs, as well as their participation in the BANVACO. They are also looking for ideas for setting up the bank.

Dr. Dwight Alwrond said that, once again, the topic is being discussed, without coming to a conclusion. Guyana is a free country without vaccination, but it is still at risk and, therefore it has decided to join the BANVACO and hopes all the countries will do the same.

On the other hand, Dr. Ximena Melón restates that preparedness for emergency management is a previous and necessary step and its quality will have an impact on the result. She says that Argentina is a large vaccine manufacturer, with export potential, both for the continent and to other countries. Since 2000, it has its own bank according to a national regulation and is submitted to quality control rounds by the central laboratory; besides, the OIE conducts an annual quality control. Finally, she said that although the creation of the BANVACO is one of the goals of the PHEFA, Argentina is not particularly interested since its own bank has the capacity to attend the country's needs.

The official delegate of Brazil asked if Argentina would be interested in sharing its national bank at regional level. Dr. Melón answered that they have experience in meeting the needs of other countries and that the national vaccine and antigen bank is available for the countries.

Dr. Alejandro Rivera added that each country would have its stock in the bank, according to their needs. However, the risk in the continent is regional and having a regional bank covering a wide range of the strains present in the world is smarter than several national banks.

Dr. Geraldo Moraes believes that the topic will be further discussed. Does PANAFTOSA have a record of the countries that have shown interest? From the countries surveyed, only Panama and Colombia showed no interest in joining the bank so far. Each country has its administrative peculiarities that should be complied to sign the agreement.

Regarding the analysis of future fixed costs, this will be defined by the participating countries, when each individual needs are described as well as the necessary structure to comply with them.

Dr. Diego de Freitas announced Uruguay's agreement to join the BANVACO. However, the service has recently undergone some changes, and the decision on how they will participate is not made yet. There was a change of authorities and the decision on their participation is still pending.

Dr. Hernán Daza, from Bolivia, was positive about joining the bank, and said that they are now developing their five-year plan and making the arrangements to adhere and search funds.

Dr. Cristian Zambrano, from Agrocalidad, Ecuador, like Bolivia, declared his interest to join the bank and explain that they are also undergoing administrative changes that delay the process. He mentioned the possibility that the bank can also collaborate with Venezuela.

Dr. Mantilla, from the public sector of Peru, is also waiting for a governmental definition due to the recent change of authorities and they are also looking for resources. In the case of virus introduction, Peru will use the vaccination strategy and, to that end, it has an agreement with the manufacturing industry for the supply of vaccines in case of emergency.

Dr. Cosivi thinks Argentina has great capacity in this case and added that, although the bank is regional, the countries own the antigens and the bank is just an administrator. An international tender would be done for the

joint purchase of strains. He thanked Guyana, Peru and Bolivia for their interest, and a follow-up of adhesion processes will be conducted.

7. ADDITIONAL TOPICS PRESENTED BY THE DELEGATES

The room was opened for general considerations. Dr. Zambrano, on behalf of the Ecuadorian delegation, offers the country to be the host of the 49th COSALFA, and submits the proposal for consideration. Uruguay supports the offers and it is accepted by all the delegates.

The Paraguayan delegate suggests to pay a tribute to Engineer Antonio Vasconsellos, for his 50 years of commitment and as a recognition to his work for animal health in Paraguay and the region, which was approved by all the delegates of the COSALFA 48. Dr. Vasconsellos is currently in charge of the FUNDASSA, a successful public-private coordination experience for the fight against foot-and-mouth disease. The tribute motion was welcomed by everyone at the meeting.

8. REPORT ON THE REGIONAL ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT THE PHEFA

Moderator: Rodrigo García, Area of Foot-and-Mouth Disease, PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO

Dr. Rodrigo García asked the representatives of international and regional organisms to present the cooperation activities related to the PHEFA carried out during 2020.

APHIS/USDA - Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service - César Orozco, veterinary doctor of the APHIS/USDA

The actions developed by the APHIS/USDA were directed to ease the trade with the USA. On the other hand, training programs of technical counterparts of the countries in topics related with epidemiological surveillance, attention to emergencies and support to laboratories, particularly for transboundary diseases, are being developed together with LANAGRO and PANAFTOSA. This is framed within the process of safeguarding animal and plant health in the region. The structure has representatives in six countries that cover all South America. The presentation is available at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0F9yCdYDb8o>

CAN - Andean Community - Diego Caicedo, director of the General Secretariat of the CAN

Dr. Diego Caicedo, director general of the CAN, described the technical cooperation activities within the setting of the Andean Community, highlighted the Andean Subregional Initiative for the Strengthening of Foot and Mouth Disease Prevention and Control Capacity, in support of the Plan of Action 2021-2025 of the PHEFA. He remarked that the member countries of the community are free with or without vaccination, but that the health situation of Venezuela puts this status at risk. For this reason, the Andean Technical Committee of Animal Health (COTASA) created an initiative for strengthening surveillance in the northern border, between Colombia and Venezuela, as well as for collaborating with other member countries regarding surveillance, prevention, and elaboration of contingency plans. Such plan is in the

process of funding by the CAN. He thanked PANAFTOSA/PAHO for the support in the elaboration of the plan. Another initiative was the standardization of the Andean standards on foot-and-mouth disease, based upon the PHEFA. The presentation is available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E2-1yN02ayE>

CVP - Permanent Veterinarian Committee of the Southern Cone - *Edgardo Vitale, technical secretary of the CVP*

Dr. Vitale detailed the actions carried out by the CVP, particularly regarding the Plan of Action 2021-2025 of the PHEFA, as a result of a workshop of focal points of the Committee and the development of a workshop of the public and private sectors to evaluate the cost-benefit relationship of withdrawing the vaccine, with the support of the IICA. At the end of 2020, a resolution was issued for the elaboration of a new foot-and-mouth disease project for the region, considering active and passive surveillance, control at borders, and emergency response. PANAFTOSA/PAHO should be involved in this project. He mentioned the achievements made by the countries in 2020 and the scheduling of videoconferences on relevant animal diseases in the region. The presentation is available at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HgL4IDFQ4fA>

FAO - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations - *Andrés González, Officer of Livestock and Animal Health of FAO/RLAC*

FAO's line of work was focused on virtual training processes for professionals regarding key elements of good emergency management practices for 1500 subscribed participants of official services and the academia. The material used can be consulted at the e-learning library of the FAO. Besides, a self-evaluation tool on emergency response capacity – Progressive pathway for emergency preparedness, PPEP–, based on FAO and OIE manuals was developed and will be implemented in October 2021. Such tool helps in the development of policies and technical documents for the process of emergency preparedness. Finally, he mentions the learning course on foot-and-mouth disease, foreseen for September this year, developed together with PANAFTOSA/PAHO, to support early detection of the disease and prevention of animal health crises due to the occurrence of foot-and-mouth disease. The presentation is available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zstGtWgW74>

IICA - Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture - *Jaime Romero, Specialist in Agricultural Health and Food Safety of the IICA*

The IICA has been developing an interinstitutional work in the region jointly with PANAFTOSA/PAHO, CAN, CVP, OIE, among others. Specifically, the discussion meetings of the OIE Code are developed together with the APHIS and contain code regulations for both terrestrial and aquatic animals, encouraging the discussion between the countries. They include, among others, articles related to the trade of safe goods and the zoning and subdivision regarding foot-and-mouth disease. They have developed workshops with the CVP to discuss the process of decision-making, with an economic approach, by the OVSs in case of an emergency, and on the cost-benefit of withdrawing the vaccine, the progress of the program of vaccination suspension, and the maintenance of status, according to the situation in each country. These workshops made possible to conclude that each reality is different from the past and that each country

has its own reality. However, due to the risk and the uncertainty, a regional approach is required as well as an analysis oriented to benefits rather than to costs. The presentation is available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jYQtmTiZeyc>

OIE - World Organisation for Animal Health - *Martín Minassian, Technical Assistant of the Regional Representation of the OIE for the Americas*

The OIE has a key role in the region and has been focused on the development of the GF-TADS, an initiative to create a worldwide framework for the progressive control of transboundary diseases, such as foot-and-mouth disease, aligning global and regional strategies. The PHEFA is the equivalent strategy in the Americas. The main activities of the OIE are the review of the Terrestrial Code and the process of recognizing the health status and control programs, with an impact on international trade processes. In 2020, chapter 8.8 was revised, with the recognition of free zones without vaccination in Brazil and an expanded free zone with vaccination in Colombia. The presentation is available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iW6Ucf00NJw>

OIRSA - International Regional Organization for Plant and Animal Health - *Marcela Marchelli de Peraza, Technical Assistant of the Regional Direction of Animal Health of the OIRSA*

The OIRSA is responsible for directing technical cooperation on transboundary diseases in Central America. The LADIVES laboratory, located in Panama, supports the surveillance of vesicular diseases in the region. The laboratory received 91 samples from 65 properties in 2020, all of them negative for foot-and-mouth disease. Besides the training program for the staff of the 9 member countries, the OIRSA developed regional manuals of good management practices for disease emergencies and natural disasters, based upon the GEMP Manual of the FAO, as well as other operative manuals on the actions in the context of managing health emergencies. Other operative manuals were developed for their use in mobile applications (App - OIRSA Library). Finally, still regarding education, they are working jointly with IICA, FAO, APHIS and COPEG on an interinstitutional training and follow-up strategy for the management of emergency response in Latin America and the Caribbean. The presentation is available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c2lef0vz1Jw>

Discussion

The moderator opened the session with a question to the OIE regarding the potential relocation of the ASF among the priorities of the GF-TADS for the region, in view of its recent reintroduction in the American continent. Dr. Minassian, from the OIE, said that the list of current diseases considers that the fight against it is more efficient within a context of interinstitutional cooperation. The list is not fixed, and the emergence of ASF is prioritized in the meetings with the ministries of Haiti and the Dominican Republic, which share the island. There are parallel plans in place for the management of other diseases.

9. PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF COSALFA 48 RESOLUTIONS

Dr. Cosivi presented the topic, and asked Dr. Rivera to read the following Resolutions for their analysis by the delegates:

1. National Plan for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease of Venezuela;
2. Regional Antigen/Vaccine Bank for Foot-and-Mouth Disease -BANVACO;
3. Acknowledgement to Engineer Antonio Vasconsellos Porta;
4. Acknowledgements;
5. Designation of COSALFA 49 host country, and
6. Acknowledgement to Dr. Alejandro M. Rivera.

During the presentation, the delegates made comments and suggested changes that were introduced and approved in the plenary session. Annex 1 includes the final version of the Resolutions of the COSALFA 48, signed by the delegates

10. CLOSING CEREMONY

El Dr. Ottorino Cosivi underlined the importance of the works developed by the countries and PANAFTOSA/PAHO during 2020, in spite of the difficulties presented by the pandemic. He explained the relevance of the resolutions of this 48th COSALFA for the continuity of the PHEFA. He thanked the team of the SENACSA, PANAFTOSA/PAHO and Washington, for their efforts in the realization of this meeting. Also, the president thanked all the delegates, participants and teams that organized the meeting. He underscored the commitment to keep on working for the improvement of the health situation in Paraguay. Lastly, he invited, once more, other countries to join the BANVACO due to its relevance in these times of change.

11. PARTICIPANTS

COSALFA 48 was held on August 19 and 20, 2021, via virtual mode on the Zoom Platform and on the PAHO YouTube Channel. The meeting was attended by about 337 participants via Zoom from 21 countries, and 392 entries on the YouTube channel.

The full 48th Ordinary Meeting of the COSALFA is available at PAHO's YouTube channel:

- COSALFA 48: <https://www.paho.org/es/panaftosa/cosalfa/cosalfa-48>
- YouTube – Channel PAHOTV:
1st day <https://youtu.be/1DwbA9ZrXBU>
2nd day https://youtu.be/vWq_oj9NqvE

ANNEXS

ANNEX 1 – DELEGATES

ARGENTINA /Public Sector

XIMENA MELÓN
 Directora Nacional de Sanidad Animal
 Servicio Nacional de Sanidad y Calidad
 Agroalimentaria – SENASA
 Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería y Pesca - MAGP
 Av. Paseo Colon 367, Piso 9 - Buenos Aires, Argentina
 Tel.: + 54 11 4121.5402/5401
 E-mail: xmelon@senasa.gob.ar

ARGENTINA /Sector Privado

SANTIAGO TAPIA
 Presidente del Comité de Sanidad
 Sociedad Rural Argentina - SRA
 Florida 460 - Buenos Aires, Argentina
 Tel.: +54 9 11 5247-3800
 E-mail: santiagotapia@estanciarepublica.com

BOLIVIA / Public Sector

PATRICK RENÁN NOGALES MEJÍA
 Director General Ejecutivo
 Servicio Nacional de Sanidad Agropecuaria e Inocuidad
 Alimentaria – SENASAG
 Ministerio de Desarrollo Rural y Tierras – MDRyT
 Av. José Natusch Velasco Nº 122 - Trinidad Beni, Bolivia
 Tel.: +591 3462.8105
 E-mail: pnogales@senasag.gob.bo

BOLIVIA /Sector Privado

ALEJANDRO DÍAS SALEK
 Presidente
 Confederación de Ganaderos de Bolivia - CONGABOL
 Calle Soliz de Olguín esq. Av. Ejercicio Nacional
 Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia
 Tel.: +591 7763.9158
 E-mail: secretaria@fegasacruz.org

BRASIL / Public Sector

GERALDO MARCOS DE MORAES
 Diretor do Departamento de Saúde Animal - DSA
 Ministério da Agricultura, Pecuária e Abastecimento
 - MAPA
 Esplanada dos Ministérios, Bloco D, Anexo A, 3º And
 Brasília, DF, Brasil
 Tel.: +55 61 3218.2701
 E-mail: geraldo.moraes@agricultura.gov.br;
 dsa.gab@agricultura.gov.br;

BRASIL /Sector Privado

MAURICIO SAITO
 Coordenador do Grupo de Trabalho de Sanidade Animal
 Confederação da Agricultura e Pecuária do Brasil - CNA
 SGAN 601, Módulo K – Edif. CNA - Brasília, DF, Brasil
 Tel.: +55 61 2109.1400
 E-mail: mauricio@famasul.com.br

CHILE / Public Sector

OSCAR EDUARDO VIDELA PÉREZ
 Jefe de la División de Protección Pecuaria
 Servicio Agrícola y Ganadero – SAG
 Ministerio de Agricultura
 Paseo Presidente Bulnes 140, Piso 7 - Santiago, Chile
 Tel.: +562 2345.1401
 E-mail: oscar.videla@sag.gob.cl

CHILE /Sector Privado

RAFAEL LECAROS VAN DER GOES
 Delegado Gremial
 Sociedad Nacional de Agricultura (SNA)
 Tenderini, 187 - Santiago, Chile
 Tel.: +56 9 8230-7809
 E-mail: rlecaros@faenacar.cl

COLOMBIA / PublicSector

DEYANIRA BARRERO LEÓN
Gerente General
Instituto Colombiano Agropecuario – ICA
Ministerio de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural
Av. Calle 26 No. 85b – 09
Bogotá, Colombia
E-mail: deyanira.barrero@ica.gov.co

COLOMBIA /Sector Privado

JOSÉ FÉLIX LAFAURIE RIVERA
Presidente Ejecutivo
Federación Colombiana de Ganaderos – FEDEGAN
Calle 37 No. 14-31
Bogotá, Colombia
Tel.: +571 578.2020
E-mail: jflafaurie@yahoo.com

ECUADOR / PublicSector

CHRISTIAN ANTONIO ZAMBRANO PESANTEZ
Coordinador General de Sanidad Animal
Agencia de Regulación y Control Fito y Zoonosanitario –
AGROCALIDAD
Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería – MAG
Av. Interoceánica Km.14 ½ - La Granja
Tumbaco, Ecuador
Tel.: +593 2237.0528 ext 225
E-mail: christian.zambrano@agrocalidad.gob.ec

ECUADOR /Sector Privado

ENRIQUE BAQUERIZO
Secretario Ejecutivo
Federación de Ganaderos del Ecuador - FEDEGAN
Cda. Vernaza Norte - Solar 14 - Manzana 11
Guayas, Ecuador
E-mail: gerencia@aglyg.com

GUYANA / PublicSector

DWIGHT WALROND
Project Director
Guyana Livestock Development Authority (GLDA)
Track GLDA, Agriculture Road, Mon Repos, E.C.D
Georgetown, Guyana
Tel.: + 592 220.6557/56
E-mail: tshaka1977@gmail.com

GUYANA /Sector Privado

PATRICIA MCPHERSON-LEUE
Co-Founder & Chief Operating Officer
Phoray Cattle Ranch & Stables
Golddigging Ranchlands, Blairmont
West Bank Berbice, Guyana
Tel.: + 592 328.8191
E-mail: pmcphersonleue@gmail.com

PANAMA / PublicSector

CONCEPCIÓN SANTOS SANJUR
Director Nacional de Salud Animal
Ministerio de Desarrollo Agropecuario - MIDA
Rio Tapía, Tocumen
Ciudad de Panamá, Panamá
Tel.: +507 524.2212
E-mail: csantos@mida.gob.pa; cssanjur@gmail.com

PANAMA /Sector Privado

GERARDO ENRIQUE GONZÁLEZ SANDOVAL
Presidente
Asociación Nacional de Ganaderos – ANAGAN
Llanos de Curundu
Ciudad de Panamá, Panamá
Tel.: +507 314.0633
E-mail: g17gonzalez@hotmail.com

PARAGUAY / PublicSector

JOSÉ CARLOS MARTÍN CAMPERCHIOLI
 Presidente
 Servicio Nacional de Salud Animal – SENACSA
 Ciencias Veterinarias N°265 - Casi Ruta Mariscal –
 Estigarribia Km 10.5
 San Lorenzo, Paraguay
 Tel.: +595 21 576.435
 E-mail: jmartin@senacsa.gov.py

PARAGUAY /Sector Privado

DANIEL PRIETO DAVEY
 Presidente
 Fundación Servicio de Salud Animal (FUNDASSA)
 Ruta Transchaco KM 14
 Mariano Roque Alonso, Paraguay
 Tel.: +595 2128.0605
 E-mail: gordonprieto@hotmail.com

PERU / PublicSector

JORGE MANTILLASALAZAR
 Director (e) Subdirección de Control y Erradicación
 de Enfermedades
 Servicio Nacional de Sanidad Agraria – SENASA
 Ministerio de Agricultura y Riego
 Avenida La Molina, 1915 - La Molina
 Lima, Perú
 Tel.: +511 313.3300
 E-mail: jmantilla@senasa.gob.pe

PERU / Sector Privado

CARLOS LOZADA GARCÍA
 Directivo
 Asociación de Ganaderos Lecheros del Perú –
 AGALEP
 Jr. Pumacahua, 877 Of. 306 - Jesús María
 Lima, Perú
 Tel: +519 5960.2848
 E-mail: clozadag@gmail.com

SURINAM / PublicSector

FAIZEL WILNIS
 Chief Veterinary Officer
 Animal Production and Health Veterinary Service - APHVS
 Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries
 Letitia Vriesdelaan 8-10 - Paramaribo, Suriname
 Tel.: +597 887-7942
 E-mail: faizel8wilnis86@gmail.com

SURINAM / Sector Privado

RENE GOSEN
 Managing Director
 Surebeef NV
 Vangbalstraat 1 Oud Bethesda
 Paramaribo, Suriname
 Tel.: +597 860.5034
 E-mail: directie.surebeef@gmail.com

URUGUAY / PublicSector

ENRIQUE DIEGO DE FREITAS NETTO
 Director
 Dirección General de Servicios Ganaderos
 Ministerio de Ganadería, Agricultura y Pesca – MGAP
 Ruta Nacional N°8 – Brigadier Gral. Juan A. Lavalleja
 – Km. 18
 Montevideo, Uruguay
 Tel.: + 598 2220.4000
 E-mail: ddefreitas@mgap.gub.uy;
 ganaderos@mgap.gub.uy; dgsg@mgap.gub.uy;

URUGUAY /Sector Privado

JORGE BONINO MORLAN
 Dirigente
 Asociación Rural del Uruguay – ARU
 Av. Uruguay, 864
 Montevideo, Uruguay
 Tel.: +598 99 698 378
 E-mail: jbm@adinet.com.uy

ANNEX 2 - AGENDA

THURSDAY, 19 August 2021 10:00 A.M. - 03:30 P.M. (Brasilia time, Brazil)	
09:15 - 10:00	Practical session for COSALFA 48 delegates and panelists: Sound and video test 07:30 a.m.: COL - ECU - PE - PAN 08:30 a.m.: BOL - CHI - PRY - VEN - GUY 09:30 a.m.: BRA - ARG - URU - SUR
10:00 - 10:30	Opening Session – 48th COSALFA Meeting Director of PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO, <i>Ottorino Cosivi</i> President Pro Tempore of COSALFA 47, <i>Ximena Melón</i> President of the Animal Health Services Foundation (FUNDASSA), <i>Daniel Prieto Davey</i> President of the National Service for Quality and Animal Health (SENACSA), <i>José Carlos Martin Camperchioli</i>
10:30 - 10:45	Start of Work: Election of the President; Reading and Approval of the Agenda <i>Ottorino Cosivi</i> , ex officio Secretary of COSALFA
10:45 - 11:35	ex officio Secretary's Report Introduction: <i>Alejandro Rivera</i> , Foot-and-Mouth Disease Area, PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO - Resolutions and Technical Cooperation with countries, <i>Alejandro Rivera</i> , PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO - Production Laboratory, <i>Anna Paula Alvim</i> , PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO - Reference Laboratory, <i>Maristela Pituco</i> , PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO
11:35 - 11:50	Status Report on the Programs for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease, in South America and Panama <i>Manuel Sánchez Vazquez</i> , Epidemiology Area, PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO
11:50 - 12:05	Complementation of the countries and approval of the Report
12:05 - 12:20	International Seminar Report – Pre-COSALFA 48 <i>Alejandro Rivera</i> , Foot-and-Mouth Disease Area, PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO
12:20 - 12:35	Discussion and Approval of the Report
12:35 - 13:35	Official photo - Break
13:35 - 14:15	THEME 1: Progress and challenges of the Foot-and-Mouth Disease Program in Venezuela Introduction: <i>Rodrigo García</i> , Foot-and-Mouth Disease Area, PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO ▪ <i>Wilmer Alcázar</i> , Director of Animal Health, INSAI ▪ <i>Luis Prado Hurtado</i> , President of the Venezuelan Foundation of Animal Health Services, FUNVESSA <i>Milton Silva</i> , Technical Director of the Venezuelan Foundation of Animal Health Services, FUNVESSA
14:15 - 14:30	Plenary Discussion
14:30 - 15:00	THEME 2: Perspective of the countries about Regional Bank of Antigens and Vaccines Moderator: <i>Alejandro Rivera</i> , Foot-and-Mouth Disease Area, PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO ▪ Delegates of the Public Sector of COSALFA
15:00 - 15:30	Discussion
15:30	End of the first day of the Meeting

FRIDAY, 20 August 2021 10:00 A.M. – 01:30 P.M. (Brasilia time, Brazil)	
09:30 - 10:00	Practical session for COSALFA 48 delegates and panelists: Sound and video test 07:30 a.m.: COL - ECU - PE - PAN 08:30 a.m.: BOL - CHI - PRY - VEN - GUY 09:30 a.m.: BRA - ARG - URU - SUR
10:00 - 10:15	Other matters raised by the Delegates
10:00 - 11:30	<p>Regional activities in support of PHEFA</p> <p>Moderator: <i>Rodrigo Garcia</i>, Foot-and-Mouth Disease Area, PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO</p> <p>Representatives of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service/ United States Department of Agriculture (APHIS/USDA) <i>Cesar Orozco</i>, Agricultural Scientist - Andean Community (CAN) <i>Diego Caicedo</i>, Director of the General Secretariat - Permanent Veterinary Committee of the Southern Cone (PVC) <i>Edgardo Vitale</i>, CVP Technical Secretary - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) <i>Andrés González</i>, Livestock Officer and Animal Health - Inter-American Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture (IICA) <i>Jaime Romero</i>, Specialist in Agricultural Health and Food Safety - World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) <i>Martín Minassian</i>, Technical Assistant of the OIE Regional Representative for the Americas - International Regional Organization for Agricultural Health (OIRSA) <i>Marcela Marchelli de Peraza</i>, Regional Technical Assistant of Animal Health
11:30 - 11:45	Plenary Discussion
11:45 - 13:30	Presentation, discussion and approval of resolutions of COSALFA 48
13:30	Closing Ceremony

ANNEX 3 – RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION I

NACIONAL PLAN FOR THE ERADICATION OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE IN VENEZUELA

The 48th Ordinary Meeting of COSALFA

Whereas:

- The efforts and the importance of the Venezuelan private sector for the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease are acknowledged, as well as the relevance of the Venezuelan Foundation of Animal Health Services [*Fundación Venezolana de Servicios de Salud Animal*] (FUNVESSA) as a tool to support the actions of the Institute of Integral Agricultural Health [*Instituto Nacional de Salud Agrícola Integral*] (INSAI), leading to the possibility of adding to the experience of the private sector of COSALFA member countries, under PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO coordination;
- The INSAI is the only official authority set up to coordinate national animal health policies and to run the National Plan for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease in Venezuela;
- The Ministry of Popular Power for Agriculture and Land of the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela is committed to delegate the competence to the FUNVESSA for the operational management of the foot-and-mouth disease vaccination program in Venezuela, even though it is not in effect yet;
- The INSAI and the FUNVESSA are acknowledged for their transparency to provide information on the program to COSALFA's delegate and their will to accept technical cooperation from PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO and other parties interested in eradicating foot-and-mouth disease from the American continent;
- So far, it has not been possible to conduct the foot-and-mouth disease vaccination cycles consistent with the purpose of eradicating the disease from the country, or the serological studies to detect viral transmission and evaluate population immunity. Likewise, an appropriate surveillance level has not been entirely achieved to reflect the situation of foot-and-mouth disease and the progress of the program;
- There is significant concern about the delay of the commitments made for the effective eradication of foot-and-mouth disease in its territory, which affects the advance of the PHEFA as a whole, since the country is still considered affected by the disease in the American continent.

It is resolved:

1. To request PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO to continue providing the necessary technical cooperation to Venezuela, in coordination with COSALFA countries and to consider sending technical missions with experts of the region to recognize the state of affairs both on field and in the laboratory and make a follow up of the recommendations. Also, to request PANAFTOSA the elaboration of regular reports to keep COSALFA members informed about the advance of the program.
2. To urge the INSAI to adopt all the procedures and necessary resources for the integral execution of the National Plan for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease, particularly the activities recommended by Resolution I of COSALFA 47 that have been postponed.
3. To ask the Ministry of Popular Power for Agriculture and Land of the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to complete the recognition of the FUNVESSA, and with PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO, before the next foot-and-mouth disease vaccination cycle in order to comply with the schedule for the international recognition as foot-and-mouth disease-free country by the OIE.
4. To urge the FUNVESSA to make all the efforts to comply with the vaccination program in the entire national territory during this year.
5. To request the public and private sectors of COSALFA countries to support the FUNVESSA to comply with its mandate of being responsible for executing the vaccination cycles in the country.

(Approved in the virtual plenary
session of 20 August, 2021)

RESOLUTION II

REGIONAL ANTIGEN/VACCINE BANK FOR FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE - BANVACO

The 48th Ordinary Meeting of COSALFA

Whereas:

- All the foot-and-mouth disease-free countries, with or without vaccination, face a similar external threat, although the likelihood of reoccurrence of a foot-and-mouth disease outbreak is very low;
- Emergency vaccination is currently a universally accepted measure for foot-and-mouth disease outbreak control because it reduces physical and economic losses and is better accepted socially as a health measure for reasons of animal welfare;
- An antigen/vaccine bank is a strategic reserve of frozen concentrated viral antigen of specific viral serotypes that a laboratory can rapidly formulate into a vaccine in case of an outbreak of the disease;
- The COHEFA 12 requested PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO to elaborate a project to establish an antigen and vaccine reserve bank and, in 2018, the project for the creation of the BANVACO was given to COSALFA members;
- The Republic of Paraguay is the first country to formalize its adherence to BANVACO's Articles of Agreement;
- In order to start with the activities stated in the BANVACO project, the adherence of at least 3 member countries is necessary.

It is resolved:

1. To recognize the importance of the decision of the Government of Paraguay to sign its adherence to the BANVACO on 21 July, 2021.
2. To urge PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO to make a follow up of the expressions of intent for the establishment of a Regional Antigen/Vaccine Bank articulated by delegates of the public sector of Brazil, Bolivia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru and Uruguay, convening their representatives to a meeting to explore the operational conditions for the functioning of the BANVACO.

(Approved in the virtual plenary session
of 20 August, 2021)

RESOLUTION III

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO THE AGRICULTURAL ENGINEER ANTONIO VASCONCELLOS PORTA

The 48th Ordinary Meeting of COSALFA

Whereas:

- The presentation made by the Paraguayan Delegation is acknowledged regarding the background and professional commitment of Mr. Antonio Vasconcellos Portas within the scope of the private sector for the participative creation of initiatives and projects for the control and eradication of foot-and-mouth disease with a national, regional and continental impact;
- The importance of his leadership as President of the Inter-American Group for the Eradication of Foot-and Mouth Disease [*Grupo Interamericano para Erradicación de la Fiebre Aftosa*] (GIEFA), as a representative in the South American Commission for the Fight Against Foot-and-Mouth Disease [*Comisión Sudamericana de Lucha Contra la Fiebre Aftosa*] (COSALFA), and in the animal health commission of the Permanent Veterinary Committee of the Southern Cone [*Comité Veterinario Permanente del Cono Sur*] (CVP), examples of the support and commitment of the private sector in the fight against foot-and-mouth disease for our Region;
- The contribution of Mr. Antonio Vasconcellos Portas for the realization and continuation of the provision of resources by the private sector of Paraguay to the Trust Fund of the Hemispheric Program for the Eradication of Foot and Mouth Disease [*Programa Hemisférico de Erradicación de la Fiebre Aftosa*] (PHEFA) of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) is a historical fact derived from a decisive political and financial support of Paraguay for the technical cooperation of PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO in the fight against foot-and-mouth disease for the countries of the Americas.

It is resolved:

1. To acknowledge and thank Mr. Antonio Vasconcellos Porta for his prolific contribution for the creation, development and strengthening of the programs for the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease at national, regional and continental level, and his support to the Hemispheric Program for the Eradication of Foot and Mouth Disease (PHEFA).
2. To wish Mr. Antonio Vasconcellos Porta all the success in the continuity of his professional practice and acknowledge his perseverance in the pursuit of complying with the objectives of the final stage of eradicating foot-and-mouth disease at continental level.

(Approved in the virtual plenary session
of 20 August, 2021)

RESOLUTION IV

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The 48th Ordinary Meeting of COSALFA

Whereas:

- The COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting public health restrictions prevented the celebration of the 48th COSALFA in Paraguay, in its traditional format;
- The Director of the Pan-American Center for Foot and Mouth Disease of the Pan-American Health Organization (PANAFTOSA/PAHO), Dr. Ottorino Cosivi, and the President of the National Service of Quality and Animal Health [*Servicio Nacional de Calidad y Salud Animal*] (SENACSA) of Paraguay, Dr. José Carlos Martín, as the host country for the meeting, gathered and made the decision to convene the 48th Ordinary Meeting of COSALFA and the Pre-COSALFA International Seminar.

It is resolved:

1. To thank the Government of the Republic of Paraguay, through the National Service of Quality and Animal Health (SENACSA), for the political support and endorsement to the 48th Ordinary Meeting of COSALFA and the Pre COSALFA International Seminar.
2. To express our gratitude to all the technical staff of the SENACSA, in the person of its president, Dr. José Carlos Martín, who contributed to the organization of the events.
3. To thank the Private Sector of Paraguay, in the person of the president of the FUNDASSA, Dr. Daniel Prieto and, through him, the entire private sector of Paraguay, for the support to the virtual realization of the events.
4. Likewise, to thank the president of the COSALFA 48, Dr. José Carlos Martín, for the excellent organization of the meeting.

(Approved in the virtual plenary session
of 20 August, 2021)

RESOLUTION V

DESIGNATION OF THE HOST COUNTRY FOR COSALFA 49

The 48th Ordinary Meeting of COSALFA

Whereas:

- The delegation of Ecuador submitted for consideration the offer to be the host country of the 49th Ordinary Meeting of the COSALFA;
- The delegations expressed their support to the offer from Ecuador.

It is resolved:

1. To thank the offer and nominate Ecuador as the host country for the 49th Ordinary Meeting of the COSALFA, in the city of Quito in 2022, in a date to be defined.

(Approved in the virtual plenary
session of 20 August, 2021)

RESOLUTION VI

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO DR. ALEJANDRO M. RIVERA

The 48th Ordinary Meeting of COSALFA

Whereas:

- Dr. Alejandro M. Rivera will leave the Pan-American Center for Foot-and-Mouth Disease in the occasion of his retirement;
- Dr. Rivera's commitment, his professionalism and academic vocation for the training of human resources for the technical cooperation pursuing the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease in the American Continent.

It is resolved:

1. To thank Dr. Rivera for the dedication shown through his work as coordinator of the area of vesicular diseases at PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO.
2. Acknowledge Dr. Rivera's technical and scientific support to the Hemispheric Program for the Eradication of Foot and Mouth Disease (PHEFA).
3. To wish him that health and wellness have a privileged place in this new stage of his life.

(Approved in the virtual plenary session of
20 August, 2021)

Español:

EN FE DE LO CUAL, el Presidente de la Reunión, Dr. José Carlos Martín Camperchioli, Presidente del Servicio Nacional de Calidad y Salud Animal (SENACSA), el Director del Centro Panamericano de Fiebre Aftosa – PANAFTOSA-OPS/OMS, Secretario *ex officio* de la COSALFA, Dr. Ottorino Cosivi y los delegados del sector público y del sector privado de los países miembros de la COSALFA firman la lista de presencia a la 48°. Reunión Ordinaria de la COSALFA, realizada de manera virtual a través de Plataforma Zoom, los días 19 y 20 de agosto del año dos mil y veinte uno.

Português:

EM FE DO QUAL, o Presidente da Reunião, Dr. José Carlos Martín Camperchioli, Presidente do Serviço Nacional de Qualidade e Saúde Animal (SENACSA), o Diretor do Centro Pan-Americano de Febre Aftosa – PANAFTOSA-OPAS/OMS, Secretário *ex officio* da COSALFA, Dr. Ottorino Cosivi e os delegados do setor público e do setor privado dos países membros da COSALFA assinam a lista de presença da 48ª Reunião Ordinária da COSALFA, realizada de forma virtual através da Plataforma Zoom, nos dias 19 e 20 de agosto do ano de dois mil e vinte e um.

English:

IN WITNESS WHERE OF, the Chairman of the Meeting Dr. José Carlos Martín Camperchioli, President of the National Service for Quality and Animal Health (SENACSA), the Director of the Pan-American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center - PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO, Secretary *ex officio* of COSALFA, Dr. Ottorino Cosivi and the Delegates of the public and private sectors of the member countries, have signed the present list of participants at the 48th COSALFA Ordinary Meeting, held in a virtual format through Zoom Platform, on 19 and 20 August 2021.

DocuSigned by:

José Carlos Martín Camperchioli

832E6EBA121643C...

José Carlos Martín Camperchioli
Presidente de la COSALFA 48
Presidente de Servicio Nacional de Calidad y
Salud Animal (SENACSA)

DocuSigned by:

Ottorino Cosivi

1418AEA4DF764ED...

Ottorino Cosivi
Secretario *ex officio*
Director del Centro Panamericano de
Fiebre Aftosa – PANAFTOSA-OPS/OMS

DocuSigned by:

Ximena Melón

CF508746AAD84B0...

Ximena Melón
Delegado del Sector Público de Argentina

DocuSigned by:

Santiago Tapia

15F617305322494...

Santiago Tapia
Delegado del Sector Privado de Argentina

DocuSigned by:

Patrick Renán Nogales Mejía

AD4C12F68C2E40B...

Patrick Renán Nogales Mejía
Delegado del Sector Público de Bolivia

DocuSigned by:

Alejandro Días Salek

FD659FB1AA61484...

Alejandro Días Salek
Delegado del Sector Privado de Bolivia

DocuSigned by:

Geraldo Marcos de Moraes

012E2991D5F0486...

Geraldo Marcos de Moraes
Delegado del Sector Público de Brasil

DocuSigned by:

Mauricio Saito

F5F58FB0368846A...


Mauricio Saito
Delegado del Sector Privado de Brasil

DocuSigned by:



F0AAC10898F64F4...

Oscar Eduardo Videla Pérez
Delegado del Sector Público de Chile



Deyanira Barrero León
Delegado del Sector Público de Colombia

DocuSigned by:



24D3611112C44F8...

Christian Antonio Zambrano Pesantez
Delegado del Sector Público de Ecuador

DocuSigned by:



6EAA8D0F4491456...

Dwight Walrond
Delegado del Sector Público de Guyana

DocuSigned by:



DC7F198B2CCC4C7...

Concepción Santos Sanjur
Delegado del Sector Público de Panamá

DocuSigned by:



591133939F8D4FE...

Víctor Maldonado
Delegado del Sector Público de Paraguay

DocuSigned by:



AA26D5DE0FA245A...

Jorge Mantilla Salazar
Delegado del Sector Público de Perú

DocuSigned by:



841AED0E856641B...

Faizel Wilnis
Delegado del Sector Público de Surinam

DocuSigned by:



6F9700F3D3F64D1...

Enrique Diego de Freitas Netto
Delegado del Sector Público de Uruguay

DocuSigned by:



849ED9EF61E6484...

Wilmer José Alcázar Guerra
Delegado del Sector Público de Venezuela

DocuSigned by:



1AC44529C1D548B...

Rafael Lecaros van der Goes
Delegado del Sector Privado de Chile

DocuSigned by:



17E74B37D5434B0...

José Félix Lafaurie Rivera
Delegado del Sector Privado de Colombia

DocuSigned by:



1824C78DCA9C4AB...

Enrique Baquerizo
Delegado del Sector Privado de Ecuador

DocuSigned by:



ABE80916DAD240E...

Patricia McPherson-Leue
Delegado del Sector Privado de Guyana

DocuSigned by:



9783DE2D432E458...

Gerardo Enrique González Sandoval
Delegado del Sector Privado de Panamá

DocuSigned by:



488D7119D0C8472...

Daniel Prieto Davey
Delegado del Sector Privado de Paraguay

DocuSigned by:



4C6250FCA6DF4D8...

Carlos Lozada García
Delegado del Sector Privado de Perú

DocuSigned by:



A007F5A02A99473...

Rene Gosen
Delegado del Sector Privado de Surinam

DocuSigned by:



ED05E2B0D6CE4D2...

Jorge Bonino Morlan
Delegado del Sector Privado de Uruguay

DocuSigned by:



B71A73FAB46B4C7...

Luis Prado Hurtado
Delegado del Sector Privado de Venezuela