



**FOLLOW-UP MEETING OF THE SECOND FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE PROGRESSIVE CONTROL PATHWAY ROADMAP
MEETING FOR EAST AFRICA**

PARIS, 26 MAY 2015

1. Introduction

The second Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Progressive Control Pathway (PCP) Roadmap Meeting for Eastern Africa took place in Kigali, Rwanda from 20 to 22 October 2014. The meeting was organised by FAO with the technical support from the European Commission for the Control of FMD (EuFMD) and in collaboration with the government of Rwanda. Due to conflict of dates (all OIE staff was due to attend the Annual Meeting of the OIE Regional and Sub Regional Representations meeting held in OIE Head Quarters in Paris, 21-25 October 2015), the OIE did not participate in and therefore the meeting could not be labelled as a GF-TADs meeting.

The OIE members of the GF-TADs FMD Working Group, with the support of the OIE DG, took the opportunity of the 83rd General Session of the World Assembly of the OIE Delegates held in Paris, 24-29 May 2015) to organize a meeting with the 3 OIE Delegates members of the Regional Advisory Group (RAG) of East Africa to review and possibly support the outcomes and main conclusions of the 2nd FMD PCP Roadmap meeting for Eastern Africa. On 26 of May 2015, the OIE members of the Working Group, met the 3 Delegates members of the RAG with the objective to be briefed on the decision taken during the Kigali meeting, to consider the possibility for OIE to support the conclusions of the Kigali meeting and so doing to reintegrate the East Africa Roadmap in the GF-TADs process. An FAO member of the Working Group and the secretariat of the EuFMD participated in the discussions.

This report describes the main aspects discussed during the meeting in Paris. The intention is to complement and not duplicate the report of the Kigali meeting.

The list of participants who attended the meeting in Paris, can be found in annex 1.

2. Country report

The Chairman of the RAG provided a summary of the main aspects discussed in the meeting and summarised the findings and decisions taken by the RAG on the PCP stage of each of the participant countries.

He appreciated the value of the well-designed assessment questionnaires and the importance of requesting to participant countries to submit the questionnaires prior to the meeting. He reminded that it was the first time that the RAG of Eastern Africa was established, and suggested that specific capacity

building activities on FMD-PCP (including the VS dimension) would benefit both RAG members and countries PCP-FMD contact points.

The secretariat of EuFMD informed that specific e-learning modules were being developed to address the capacity building request. The e-learning modules will be available by the end of July 2015 and could serve as additional resources in complement of face to face capacity building activities.

The Chair of the RAG highlighted the main benefit of the FMD Roadmap meeting that allowed the participating countries to share and discuss the progress made in the region since 2012. The RAG supported the participative process followed for the PCP scoring and would welcome Roadmap meeting for PPR as well.

Then, the RAG reviewed the findings and decisions taken by the RAG on the PCP-FMD stage of each participating country. The RAG emphasised the regional issue linked to cross-border animal movements, in particular in the Akagera region (Rwanda/Tanzania/Uganda) and Serengeti ecosystem (Kenya/Tanzania).

The specific remarks made for each of the participating countries are described below:

2.1 Rwanda

Rwanda has progressed to PCP stage 2 since 2012. The objective will be to consolidate the PCP stage 2 by building capacity, conduct socio-economic studies and identify FMD high risk areas or sectors (hotspots). It was agreed that further understanding of the serotypes and strain circulating with special focus on pastoralism system needs to be sufficiently considered to progress towards stage 3 of the PCP by 2016.

2.2 Burundi

Burundi following the advice of the RAG decided to remain in PCP stage 1 with the objective of progressing to PCP stage 2 by 2017. RAG advice to make an effort to better understand the circulating virus serotypes and strains, their spatial distribution and to properly identify risk hotspots as immediate actions.

2.3. Djibouti

Two different type of livestock population coexist in Djibouti: the resident livestock and those animals intended to be exported mainly through the quarantine system. Incorporating the value chain analysis results into the risk based strategic plan (RBSP) could speed the progress on the PCP.

According to RAG, it was not clear that the particularities of each of the population were included in the RBSP. For this reason it was agreed to advise to remain in PCP stage 1 envisaging progressing to stage 2 by 2017.

2.4 DR Congo

DR Congo will remain in PCP stage 1. It was agreed that it will need more time to improve and to implement some key aspects to progress to the next stage which may not happen before 2018.

It was noticed that the chart in the presentation provided by RAG needs to be amended as it indicated that DR Congo is in Stage 2.

2.5 Eritrea

The FMD control programme of Eritrea only targets pigs and cattle. According to RAG the information provided by Eritrea during the Kigali meeting did not clarify the FMD situation in the country.

Eritrea needs to strengthen its Veterinary Services and find the support of stakeholders in order to progress with guarantees to the next stage of the PCP. It is not expected to progress towards PCP stage 2 until 2018.

2.6 Kenya

Kenya provided a well; detailed RBSP and results of serosurveys to the RAG. The initial plan before the Kigali meeting was to gain the stage 2 of the PCP.

During the meeting Kenya recognised its strategic plan does not address appropriately nomadic population (ie Massai herds bordering with Tanzania). The final decision of RAG and agreed by Kenya was to consolidate stage 1 by better considering hotspots before progressing to the next step.

RAG was reminded that not targeting all hotspots does not preclude the country to gain stage 2 of the PCP. RAG agreed that Kenya FMD control programme is more advanced than other countries with similar PCP stage.

2.7 Somalia

RAG recognised a significant improvement in the FMD situation in Somalia. However, the disease control plan did not match the requirements to progress towards PCP stage 2 as programmed in the 2012 roadmap.

One of the main constrains of Somalia is that there are territories that are not accessible for the veterinary services due to security reasons and therefore, not possible to include them in the RBSP. Somalia planned to progress to the next step by 2018.

It was reminded to RAG that progressing to stage 2 does not necessarily involved that the whole territory is included in the RBSP. It will be sufficient including certain well-described risk hotspots.

2.8 South Sudan

The FMD situation in Sudan is not clear. The most immediate action was to develop a comprehensive plan with the support of other partners, including international organisations, to encourage the country to move to PCP Stage 1.

It was decided that this plan should be developed by the end of 2015.

2.9 Sudan

Sudan identified three livestock population strata: resident livestock, livestock intended for exportation, livestock in bordering areas.

Sudan's RBSP was submitted to GF-TADS but has not been formally assessed. It was developed in 2012 not following the current template. Nevertheless, considering the information available RAG agreed to provisionally recognise PCP Stage 2.

It was decided that GF-TADS and RAG will revise the RBSP and provide appropriated and informed feedback.

2.10 Tanzania

Tanzania remained in PCP Stage 1. It is expecting to move to stage 2 by 2016 when the hotspots will be duly identified and the cost-benefit analysis became available.

2.11 Uganda

Uganda is committed to progress in the control and eradication of FMD. RAG advised that the RBSP need to be updated including the recommendations of the last CMC mission.

3. Follow-up actions:

- By the end of Summer 2015: the GF-TADs Working Group should assess and provide feedback on the 2012 Sudan FMD control plan already submitted to allow Sudan to confirm its PCP Stage 2 by providing a revised control plan by the end of 2015
- Acknowledging that the PCP Stage 1 of South Sudan was conditional to the submission of an assessment plan, the OIE proposed to establish a deadline (end of 2015) in order to be able to provide feedback to South Sudan before the 3rd Roadmap meeting for East Africa.
- Ethiopia did not participate in the meeting despite being an important livestock producer country. Its participation should be encouraged in future occasions.
- Finalise and release the report of the second FMD PCP Roadmap Meeting for Eastern Africa (FAO); OIE will provide an addendum to state that it officially endorses the conclusions of the Kigali meeting, so that the conclusions can become GF-TADS conclusions.
- From the discussions, it appeared that Eastern African countries were keen to follow a progressive approach and consolidate their situation before claiming an upper stage. They also ensure that the progression would be sub-regional. Noting that several countries did not plan to start controlling FMD in the next 3 years – notably South Sudan (provisionally at stage 1) who did not plan to progress to Stage 2 before 2022 -, the OIE

members of the working group consider that these countries are putting the other ones at risk and recommend the sub-region to support them in developing and implementing an Assessment Plan ASAP (duration to Stage 1 should not be longer than 2 years).

- Follow up the development of the EuFMD e-learning PCP modules.
- The methodology used for the prospective Roadmap (discussed during the interview) is valuable and may be implemented in other Roadmap meetings (West Eurasia notably).
- The FMD WG should actively finalize the Assessment and Risk-based Control Plans Templates (including Comp 2 and 3 of the Global FMD Strategy) to provide countries with the best possible guidance.

4. Conclusions

- The OIE members of the Working Group acknowledge with appreciation the excellent work done by the FAO members of this Working Group and by the EuFMD experts and the commitment of the RAG and its responsibility and ownership of the decisions taken during the 2014 Roadmap meeting. The OIE members of the Working Group support the findings and conclusion of the 2nd FMD PCP Roadmap meeting in Kigali and agree with their GF-TADs labelling
- One of the main purposes of the Roadmap meeting is to persuade countries to progress towards PCP to reduce regional risk of transmission and reintroduction. Thus, countries should be encouraged to make efforts to timely progress toward the next stage of the PCP while ensuring all key elements of each of the stages are present.
- The need of building capacity on PCP-FMD (including the VS dimension) to increase the technical expertise of national contact points and RAG members was recognized and options will be explored.
- It seemed to all participants of the meeting in Paris that the evaluation in Kigali was more severe during the 2014 Road Map meeting than in the 2012 and to some extent rather harsh with some countries. This could be due to a better understanding of the process and increase commitment by participant countries.

Annex 1

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

OIE Delegates, members of the Regional Advisory Group for Eastern Africa

Theogen Rutagwenda (Rwanda)

N' Lemba Mabela Honore (DR Congo)

Abdu Hayghaimo (Tanzania)

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Paris, 26 May 2015

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