

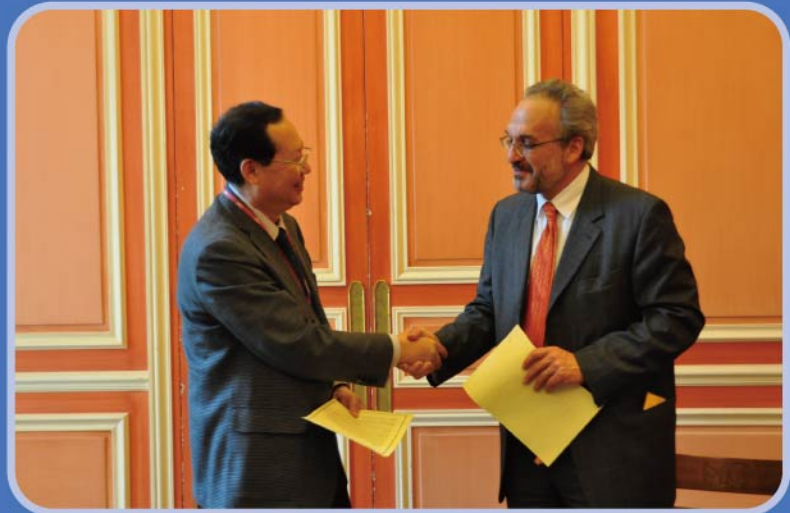
FAO-China MoA signed a MoU to Strengthen Bilateral Cooperation on Animal Health Issues

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on prevention and control of transboundary animal diseases (TADs) and emerging infectious diseases (EIDs) was signed between the Veterinary Bureau, Ministry of Agriculture of China and the Animal Health and Production Division (AGA) of FAO on 28 May 2013. This MoU was proposed following the successful visit of a China MoA Delegation and FAO ECTAD China Office to FAO Headquarters in Rome in May 2012.

The MoU is a subsidiary agreement under the overarching MoU between FAO and the Ministry of Agriculture of China that was concluded on 2 October 2012 in Beijing during the visit of the FAO's Director-General (DG).

The signed MoU focuses on five priority areas:

- emergency response and management of disease control programs
- capacity development and network building
- knowledge and information sharing
- resource mobilization
- bilateral and multi-lateral communication and collaboration



▲ Dr. Zhang Zhongqiu, DG of VB and Dr. Juan Lubroth, CVO of FAO exchanging copies of the signed MOU

The signing of this very important document demonstrates the high-level commitment for bilateral cooperation on animal health issues and is the result of high-level visits by both parties. Both agree to continue such meetings and plan activity jointly.

There has been a high level of achievement of planned activities since the meeting in May 2012 and the highlights have been good progress with China Field Epidemiology Training Program for Veterinarians (FETPV), collaboration with neighboring countries, application of One Health approaches, training of Good Emergency Management Practice (GEMP), the recognition of the Animal Influenza Laboratory (AIL), Harbin Veterinary Research Institute as a FAO Reference Center for Animal Influenza and the conduct of the emerging pandemic threat plus (EPT+) project.

The next meeting to review annual plan is scheduled to be held later this year.

China FETPV 8th Steering Committee Meeting held in Beijing Review Action Plan 2013 and Plan for 2014

The 8th Steering Committee of China FETPV was held on 21 June in FAO ECTAD China Office in Beijing. Dr. Song Junxia, Acting Director of the Science, Technology and International Cooperation, Veterinary Bureau, Ms. Kang Jingli, Vice Division Director of China Animal Health and Epidemiology Center (CAHEC), Dr. Javier Buchard, EU-China Trade Project Phase II, Dr. George Conway from the US Center for Disease Control and Prevention (USCDC) and other members were invited to attend the meeting.

The progress of past half year was reviewed by the Steering Committee members. Activities had been accomplished according to the annual Action Plan and members are happy to see ongoing activities on the right track. The Action Plan for the second half year of 2013 was also reviewed and finalized. In the meeting, the proposed activities and new initiatives for 2014 were also discussed.



▲ Discussion on Action Plan for China FETPV in 2014

The members reached agreement on put an emphasis on sustainability for the China FETPV program as well as epidemiology capacity development in the coming year, e.g. roll out at provincial level and university engagement. CAHEC will take the lead on designing the Action Plan for 2014.

Upcoming Activities:

1. Module 2 of the China FETPV 2nd Cohort will be held in Qingdao and Beijing from 1 to 27 July 2013.
2. Discussion with the Veterinary Bureau and Guangzhou local partners will be held in July for further improving biosecurity levels of live birds markets (LBMs).
3. An Event on "Sharing Experiences on the Application of One Health Approaches in China" will be organized on 8-9 August 2013 in Beijing.