

International Forum on Pandemic Influenza 2010

With the aims of reviewing and sharing the strategic and operational experience in the fight against the pandemic influenza A (H1N1) virus in 2009, and discussing the counter-measures to influenza A (H1N1) virus in future from the strategic and operational aspects, Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention (China CDC), in joint efforts with WHO, US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Elsevier hosted the International Forum on Pandemic Influenza 2010 from 24th to 25th July in Qingdao.

Representatives from WHO, European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), USCDC, China CDC, clinical and public-health specialists, researchers, policymakers explored a variety of topics ranging from response strategy and pandemic surveillance to the latest scientific development on pandemic 2009 H1N1 virus, the disease burden of pandemic and seasonal influenza, and one work, one health-Human and animal interface.

The forum was opened by the Director-General of Office of Disease Control and Emergency Response at China CDC. FAO Technical Adviser Dr. Guo Fusheng and Programme and Operation Officer Dr. Du Yuexin



▲ Dr Guo presenting at International Forum on Pandemic Influenza

attended the forum. Dr. Guo gave a presentation on the role of live bird markets on HPAI H5N1 risk in southern China. More than five hundred participants attended the forum.

Progress with Live Bird Market Survey in 3 provinces of Southern China in 2010

Under the technical supervision and coordination of the FAO ECTAD China office and the overall coordination of the MoA, Hunan, Guangxi and Chongqing Provincial Centres for Animal Disease Control and Prevention have actively participated in the 2010 FAO Live Bird Markets surveillance program for the monitoring of avian influenza viruses throughout the winter period from January to May 2010. During this survey implemented in the 3 of our project provinces, a total of 3020

swab samples (both trachea and cloacal), 900 environmental samples and 908 serum samples have been collected from Jan 2010 to May 2010. In some places, Re-5 vaccine protection against H5N1 HPAI was noticed to be low (31.8%- 52%) in chicken and ducks. Avian influenza Type A viruses were detected from swab samples and has been submitted to Harbin National Reference Laboratory for confirmation. At the same time, Harbin has also started the sequencing of the virological samples collected during the 2009 LBM study.



▲ Guangxi CADC staff sampling procedure in Nanning LBM.



▲ Poultry dressing practice of vendors in Changsha LBM

Visit of the regional FETPV program: Curriculum and Program Developing Activities for China FETPV

To get a better understanding of the conceptual and logistic framework of the regional FETPV Program in Thailand, Jia Beibei national veterinary epidemiologist from ECTAD China team, visited Thailand during July 10th-25th 2010 and participated in the activities and workshops organized in the framework of the regional FETPV program. All this knowledge and experience will be highly valuable for developing the China FETPV.

Upcoming activities

The FAO laboratory expert, Professor MD Rafiqul Islam will visit China and China Animal Health and Epidemiology Center (CAHEC) from 10th to 13th August to provide a seminar to CAHEC on identification of new pathogens in wildlife and domestic animals.