



Concept Note

Rationale/background

Peste des petits ruminants (PPR) is a widespread, virulent, and devastating disease of small ruminants with significant economic, food security and livelihood impacts. The disease is caused by a morbillivirus closely related to the rinderpest virus (globally eradicated in 2011). PPR is considered as one of the top most damaging animal diseases in Africa, the Middle East and Asia. PPR is also one of the priority diseases indicated in the FAO-OIE Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs) Global level 5 Year Action Plan¹ (2013-2017)

The aim of the conference is in line with the recommendation made during the GF-TADs Global Steering Committee (GSC) held in Paris, October 2012, requesting that the Global GF-TADs Working Group activities be extended to Peste des Petits Ruminants with the task of developing a FAO-OIE PPR Global Control and Eradication Strategy and organizing an international conference to launch the PPR control and eradication programme. This recommendation is further supported by the Resolution of the OIE World Assembly of National Delegates adopted in May 2014 and by the recommendations of the 24th Session of FAO Committee on Agriculture (COAG) and subsequently endorsed by the 150th Council of FAO, in October and December 2014, respectively.

The eradication of PPR will have a major positive impact, not only on the livelihoods of poor farmers, but also on the Post-2015 Development Goals and the UN's Zero Hunger Challenge. It will also highlight the role played by the veterinary profession in poverty alleviation and food security.

Overall objective of the Conference

The conference objectives are to present the global control and eradication strategy prepared by the GF-TADs Working Group on PPR.

Expected outcomes

1. The FAO-OIE Global PPR Control and Eradication Strategy, including timelines and a roadmap toward global eradication be supported by the participants representing select countries and Regional Organizations, specialized researchers groups, international organizations and donor agencies, private sector, pharmaceutical companies and other relevant stakeholders.
2. Commitment of member countries, donors and other to support the FAO-OIE Global PPR Control and Eradication Strategy implementation at country, regional and global levels.

¹ The Global Action Plan is based on the recommendations of the meetings of the GSC, and the Regional Steering Committees (RSCs) and the five GF-TADs Regional Action Plans

Venue and period: the conference will take place in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire (Hotel Ivoire), from 31 March to 2 April, 2015.

Agenda:

The agenda of the FAO-OIE Conference on PPR will be posted shortly. It will have several scientific and technical sessions, panel and open discussions, followed by a High Level Meeting and an opportunity to showcase national and international solidarity and commitment through a special session inviting investments into the control and eradication of PPR and improvement of small ruminant health worldwide.

Participants:

Ministers and OIE National Delegates from infected and at-risk countries, donors, regional economic communities of infected and at risk regions, researchers and academics, socio-economists, representatives of stakeholder communities (Non-Governmental Organizations, private sector, development partners, etc.) with an interest in PPR and other small ruminant diseases control and small ruminant production development.

It is anticipated that the participation will exceed 400 persons.