

# **Summary Report**

## **Workshop on animal health and incl. regional policies to support trade**

**AGR 45933**

organised in co-operation with  
DG Health and Consumers of the European Commission,  
European External Action service (EEAS)  
and the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)

### **Venue:**

Thon City Hotel  
Avenue du Boulevard 17,  
BE- 1210 Brussels

**8-9 September 2011**

To download the agenda, a list of participants and all presentations of this event,  
please go to: <http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/taieux>.

The workshop was organized and financed by the TAIEX financial instrument of the European Commission, in close cooperation with DG SANCO, EFSA and EEAS.

The audience consisted of approximately 25 representatives from the competent veterinary authorities of Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Israel, Palestine, Jordan and Lebanon. OIE (headquarters and regional office) and FAO (regional office) were represented, as well as the EU-FMD Commission.

A detailed agenda and a list of participants are attached to this report. All presentations are available through TAIEX.

The objective of the workshop was (1) to take stock of ongoing and planned activities in animal disease management in the Southern Mediterranean region (2) to provide an opportunity to strengthen collaboration between the different veterinary services and organisations and (3) to identify proposals that can guide future programming under the EU Neighbourhood Policy.

The workshop met all expectations. Discussions and interactions were animated and informative. Many contacts were made between participants and a follow-up was considered highly desirable in many contributions.

The following recommendations were made:

### **Working group on cross-border cooperation for animal health**

- Agree to share all PVS Reports and Gap Analyses conducted through OIE and enable their evaluation on a regional scale. Such an exercise could greatly help programming on a risk basis.
- Exchange information on Animal Identification Systems in each country. Build systems adapted to the needs in all countries of the region, keeping in mind the goal of linking id and health status (e.g. vaccination), especially for the animals traded.
- Use geospatial information to identify main routes of animal transport, places of border crossing, and major watering and grazing places in the region to help focus surveillance.
- Work towards harmonisation of control strategies for FMD, Rift Valley Fever and PPR, which are considered top priority;



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- Develop harmonised vaccination protocols;
- Establish regional vaccine or antigen stocks/bank or emergency intervention stocks;
- Organise annual regional meetings on the three diseases, following the example of the REMESA-CPC activity, or of FMD in Eastern Europe, in order to exchange and adapt the strategies.

### **Working group on Diagnostic Capacity**

- Twinning projects with laboratories have proven very successful. Support should continue.
- Sharing of PVS Reports and Gap Analyses and the evaluation on a regional scale will foster collaboration and help to create synergies.
- Focal points for laboratories should be formally nominated in each country through the respective OIE Delegate. This will greatly facilitate the dissemination of information.
- Through such a network of focal points, annual seminars can be organised on selected topics.

### **Working group on Trade**

- The TRACES system should be implemented throughout the region for EU imports of products of animal origin. Applications may be made to use TRACES for imports in the countries of the region and for intra-regional trade.
- Contingency plans should be established for priority diseases in order to minimise effects of disease outbreaks on regional trade.
- Guidelines and procedures should be developed in order to implement international SPS standards.

*PVS reports already publicly available (see OIE website <http://www.oie.int/support-to-oie-members/pvs-evaluations/oie-pvs-evaluation-reports/>,)*

*Only Syria is fully public, the others only to the partner organisations, e.g. the Commission, but on request.*

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## **Aim of the meeting**

This workshop is organized and financed by the TAIEX financial instrument of the European Commission, in close cooperation with DG SANCO, EFSA and EEAS.

The objective of the workshop is to take stock of ongoing and planned activities in animal disease management that are aimed at expanding trade in products of animal origin in the Southern Mediterranean region. The workshop will provide an opportunity to strengthen collaboration between the different veterinary services and organisations and to identify shared priorities that can guide future programming under the EU Neighbourhood Policy.

The audience will consist of approximately 25 representatives from the competent veterinary authorities in the 10 Mediterranean Neighbourhood countries.

The Mediterranean ENP countries are invited to inform about their ongoing programs for animal disease control, and to identify their priority issues in domestic production, export and import. Speakers from OIE and FAO will present their ongoing programs and activities in animal health control in the Southern Mediterranean Region, including the relevant programs under the Global Framework for the progressive control of Trans-boundary Animal Diseases (GF-TAD). DG SANCO will explain the legal aspects of animal health control measures relevant for EU market access and EFSA will present its mechanisms on risk assessment and communication.

## 8 September 2011

**Chair: Mr Etienne BONBON, DG SANCO**

<b>09.00 – 09.15</b>	Registration
<b>09.15 – 09.25</b>	<b>Introduction</b> by the chair
<b>09.25 – 09.40</b>	<b>TAIEX instrument of the European Commission</b> <i>Ms. Elisabeth BEDERT - DG Enlargement , European Commission</i>
<b>09.40 – 10.40</b>	<b>How to export to the European Union</b> <i>Ms. Ines ESCUDERO SANCHEZ- DG TRADE, European Commission</i> <b>Animal Health as a prerequisite for trade in products of animal origin and regulatory aspects for EU market access</b> <i>Mr. Wolf MAIER - DG SANCO G7, European Commission</i>
<b>10.40 – 11.00</b>	Coffee break
<b>11.00 – 11.30</b>	<b>EFSA risk assessment work on animal health and products of animal origin – recent examples</b> <i>Mr. Franck BERTHE -Animal Health and Welfare Unit, EFSA</i>
<b>11.30 - 12.00</b>	<b>EFSA risk assessment work on animal welfare and scientific cooperation</b> <i>Mr. Franck BERTHE -Animal Health and Welfare Unit, EFSA</i>
<b>12.00 – 12.45</b>	<b>Animal identification and certification systems (TRACES) to support animal health control</b> <i>Mr. Kaido KROON - SANCO G2, European Commission</i>
<b>12.45 – 13.00</b>	<b>Questions and brief discussion</b>
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch
<b>14.00 – 14.45</b>	<b>Stocktaking of ongoing and planned activities</b> State of works with OIE PVS Pathway, next steps. Other activities in animal health control <i>Dr Alain DEHOVE - OIE Paris</i>
<b>14.45 – 15.15</b>	<b>Activities in animal health control (Cross-border cooperation, REMESA)</b> <i>Prof Mohammed BENGOUNI, Sub-regional Office for North Africa, FAO</i>
<b>15.15 – 15.30</b>	Coffee break
<b>15.30 – 16.15</b>	<b>Ongoing and planned activities: EuFMD Commission and support for FMD control in the Eastern and Southern Mediterranean region</b> <i>Mr. Keith SUMPTION, Secretary, EUFMD Commission, FAO</i>
<b>16.40 – 17.00</b>	<b>Presentation of TWINNING instrument: ongoing &amp; planned</b>

	<b>activities</b> <i>Ms. Maria ROCA DEL MAR -DG DEVCO, European Commission</i>
<b>17.00– 17.30</b>	<b>Questions and brief discussion preparing the working groups for day 2</b>
<b>17.30</b>	End of day 1

## 9 September 2011

**Chair: Mr Finn SHEYE, EFSA**

<b>08.30 - 08.45</b>	Registration
<b>08.45 -09.00</b>	Introduction day 2 by chair
<b>09.00 – 11.00</b>	<p><b>Discussion Parallel Working groups</b></p> <p><b>1/ Cross border cooperation for animal health</b> – (PPR and Food and mouth disease) –Chair Mohammed Bengoumi FAO Regional Office Tunis.</p> <p><b>2/ Diagnostic capacity in the region</b> – current situation and opportunities for regional cooperation – Chair Moritz Klemm, Sanco G2</p> <p><b>3/ Trade</b> – current situation import / export of live animals and animal products, opportunities and certification – Chair Ghazi Yehia, OIE Regional Representative.</p> <p><i>The discussion should identify priorities to further support domestic production, export and import.</i></p>
<b>11.00 – 11.30</b>	Coffee break
<b>11.30 – 12.00</b>	<b>Presentation to the plenary of working groups - 10 min each</b>
<b>12.00 – 12.45</b>	<p><b>Panel Discussion with inclusion of the audience</b></p> <p>Panel: SANCO, EFSA, OIE, FAO</p> <p>Identification of priorities</p>
<b>12.45 – 13.00</b>	<p><b>Final Conclusions</b></p> <p>by DG SANCO</p>
<b>13.00</b>	<b>End of the workshop</b>