



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Organisation
for Animal Health
Founded as OIE

18th meeting of the Rinderpest Joint Advisory Committee

WOAH Headquarter
10–11 January 2023



1. Opening remarks and adoption of the agenda

The 18th meeting of the FAO-WOAH Rinderpest Joint Advisory Committee (JAC) was opened by the Chair of the JAC, Dr Junaidu Maina, who greeted the participants and welcomed Dr Montserrat Arroyo, Deputy Director General - International Standards and Science of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH, founded as OIE).

In her opening remarks, Dr Arroyo expressed her appreciation for the contribution of the Committee members to the maintenance of global freedom from rinderpest over the last 11 years and for WOAH in hosting the first face-to-face JAC meeting in Paris in three years. Dr Arroyo noted that the Management Committee of the Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs) was actively seeking closer participation in the governance of the post-eradication activities. Dr Arroyo further indicated that an update to the Terms of Reference (TOR) of the Rinderpest Secretariat and those of the JAC would be part of this process, as well as a review of the membership of the Committee, all under the oversight of the GFTADs.

On behalf of the JAC, Dr Maina noted the contribution of Dr Alejandro Costa, who left the JAC in January 2022, to the post-eradication activities related to vaccines. Dr Maina also expressed his gratitude for the 10 years of membership of Dr Geneviève Libeau, who left the JAC in November 2022. Dr Maina entrusted the award received from AU-IBAR in March 2022 to the FAO-WOAH Rinderpest Secretariat for safekeeping.

Dr Muhammad Javed Arshed provided opening remarks on behalf of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), noting the remarkable work of his predecessor as Co-Secretariat, Dr Samia Metwally. Dr Arshed emphasised the progress achieved over the previous decade, importance of the work left to be done and keeping the momentum for maintenance of the world free from rinderpest.

The agenda was adopted with minor modifications, as per Appendix I.

The list of participants is included as Appendix II.

The action items from the present meeting are included in this report as Appendix III.

2. Action Items from the 17th meeting of the JAC

Action item	Status
1. The Pirbright Institute (TPI) to send the Rinderpest secretariat a comprehensive incident report.	Done
2. FAO to send JAC the notes of the meeting with TPI.	Done
3. FAO & WOAH to finalize the team, Terms of Reference (TOR) and financing for the RHF site inspection.	Done
4. IZSLT to provide English translated National Contingency Plan (NCP) and Biorisk manual	Done

5. WOAH to share the review of progress and risk assessment reports with FAO and JAC before publishing it.	Done. The new TOR of the Rinderpest Secretariat will include mutual invite to integrate any in rinderpest- related publications
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3. Rinderpest roadmap update

The representatives of FAO and WOAH walked the group through the updates that had been done to the roadmap. These included the rinderpest virus containing material (RVCM) destruction in Vietnam, the inspection of six Rinderpest Holding Facilities (RHF), the publication of the rinderpest book, the completion of the Sequence and Destroy projects at The Pirbright Institute, the United Kingdom (UK) and Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement (CIRAD), France, and the review of RHF applications, among others.

The JAC noted the importance of supporting the development and use of diagnostic tests using non-infectious material. The JAC encouraged the Secretariat to work with a RHF on this endeavour. WOAH happens to have identified funding for The Pirbright Institute to undertake this project. Hence, Pirbright is working on the development of a proposal for a non-infectious cELISA test. This test would be used for population surveillance in the recovery of rinderpest freedom after an outbreak.

The JAC was informed that a PCR test using non-infectious controls was successfully developed by the Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (FADDL), the United States of America (USA), and validated by the members of the RHF Network. The Secretariat has requested FADDL provide more details on the validation process and its outcome to be shared with the JAC.

The Committee was informed that FAO is leading the development of a framework for activation and deployment of the global rinderpest vaccine reserve at the National Institute of Animal Health (NIAH), Japan, under a project funded by Japan.

In addition, there 2-year Rinderpest Secretariat action plan was presented to the JAC. The Committee discussed various options for advocacy with the five countries still holding RVCM outside RHF. It was recommended that either WOAH or FAO initiate a country-specific high-level advocacy to convince those countries to destroy their RVCM or pass these materials to a recognized RHF.

It was agreed between the JAC and the Secretariat that the ‘Rinderpest eradication day’ will be celebrated by the two organisations annually on the 28th. June to avoid overlapping with WOAH’s General Session.

Action item 1 – WOAH to support The Pirbright Institute in submitting a proposal for the development of a cELISA test using non-infectious material during Q1 of 2023.

Action item 2 – Rinderpest Secretariat to request FADDL provide more details on the validation process of the non-infectious PCR test and its outcomes and share the information with the JAC.

4. JAC TOR and membership

WOAH led the discussion on the review of the TOR and membership of the JAC. Dr Mariana Marrana reminded the members of the JAC and the secretariat that the inception of the JAC had been called for

through WOA [Resolution 18/2011 and FAO Resolution 4/2011](#), and that the TOR of the Committee are part of the 2012 agreement between FAO and WOA on actions to keep the world free from rinderpest. Dr Marrana noted the longstanding contribution of the five JAC members who remained part of the Committee between 2012 and 2022. It was observed that the JAC members' mandate was renewed for consecutive periods in 2015, 2017 and 2020 and that the process to select and evaluate the members of the JAC had, so far, been relatively informal. Since the present mandate ended in December 2022, the Committee's current TOR and membership would be reviewed with the support of the GF-TADs Membership Committee in 2023.

Dr Marrana explained that the membership of the JAC would be reviewed in 2023 using a mechanism based on the *WOAH Specialist Commission Performance Management Framework*. Once the retained members were identified, the Rinderpest Secretariat would take note of the areas of expertise that are lacking coverage and would suggest names of experts to join the Committee and determine its ideal size. The nomination/invites of the experts would have to be reviewed and endorsed by the GF-TADs Management Committee. The JAC noted that the departure of Dr Geneviève Libeau left the JAC without a Morbillivirus expert and that this situation should be rectified. No further action was considered until further communication with GF-TADs management committee.

The revised draft TOR of the Rinderpest Secretariat was also presented to the Committee. The JAC commended the new TOR and suggested to include 'research' in the joint activities section. ¹

Action item 3 – Rinderpest Secretariat to finalise its TOR and obtain approval of the GF-TADs Management Committee

Action item 4 – Rinderpest Secretariat to work with FAO and WOA's management to conduct the review of the JAC's size and membership.

5. Future of RHF and Reference Laboratories – "phase 2 of the post-eradication era"

Dr Mo Salman led the discussion on the future of RHF in the second phase of the post-eradication era. Dr Salman started by describing the contribution of the JAC to the post-eradication activities led by FAO and WOA, and by acknowledging the progress achieved in sequestration and destruction of RVC between 2011 and 2022. Dr Salman pointed out that, in his opinion, RHF served as an important intermediary step on the way to complete the global elimination of RVC and that, at the moment, there were too many RHF, and more countries had expressed interest in applying. Dr Salman defended that a timeframe for global destruction of all RVC should be determined by FAO and WOA. However, the timeframe was not specified given concerns from WOA and from some members of the JAC.

Action item 5 – FAO and WOA to consult the respective membership on amending current policy towards total elimination of RVC.

The following were the priorities identified by Dr Salman and agreed by the Committee for the second phase of the post-eradication period:

- Require commitment of new applicants to RHF Category A designation and extension to develop and present a plan for RVC stock reduction ahead of (re-)designation.

¹ As of March 2023, the revised TOR of the FAO-WOA Rinderpest Secretariat have been approved by the GFTADs Management Committee. This document is appended to the present report (Appendix IV)

- Energization the activities of the RHF network, including involvement in research projects (sequence and destroy and development of non-infectious ELISA), sharing of relevant Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), and sharing of best practices for biological risk management.
- Ensure the availability of reliable diagnostic tests using non-infectious controls. The Secretariat should accelerate the development of a research proposal for a non-infectious cELISA by The Pirbright Institute.
- Contribute to global preparedness through the replenishment of the vaccine reserves at Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Centre of African Union (AU-PANVAC), Ethiopia and Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale del Lazio e Toscana (IZSLT), Italy, once approved.
- Encourage research into the feasibility of nucleic acid vaccines to provide emergency capacity in the event of an outbreak.

Action item 6 – Rinderpest Secretariat to work with the RHF Network to develop a new work plan, an agenda, and dates for the next face-to-face meeting of the network (WOAH to fund).

6. Review of the reports of the Rinderpest Holding Facilities' inspection

Ms Catherine Robertson presented a summary of the findings and recommendations of the five RHF inspections conducted in 2022 in four countries, of which she was the lead inspector on all occasions. Ms Robertson explained that all inspections were based on the 2015 inspection reports and that the inspection process included a follow-up on the 2015 recommendations/corrective actions, interviews with staff, review of documentation, and a physical inspection of the facilities which had any involvement with rinderpest safekeeping and/or work with rinderpest virus and rinderpest vaccine. All countries were asked to include a reference to the Global Rinderpest Action Plan (GRAP) in their national contingency plans for rinderpest. Another common theme between inspections was the potential to tap into the RHF Network as a source of expertise, training and information, which should be better used. The decision on whether to recommend each facility for RHF designation was made by the Committee based on their evaluation of the site inspection reports against the adopted mandate for RHF. The Committee's recommendation would be taken forward by FAO and WOAHA to the WOAHA General Assembly of WOAHA Delegates where the designation would be put up for decision through the adoption of a Resolution.

The Pirbright Institute, United Kingdom

The Pirbright Institute was first designated as a RHF Category A in 2015. Based on the site inspection report, the Committee recommended the extension of Pirbright's designation as a RHF Category A for a 3-year period. The Committee also recommended a specific risk assessment on rinderpest virus work, including decontamination and inactivation processes to be submitted with any future proposals utilising RVCM and that an extensive decontamination process is conducted before and after RPV work.

Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Centre of the African Union (AU-PANVAC), Ethiopia

The Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Centre of the African Union (AU-PANVAC) was first designated as a RHF Categories A and B in 2015. The Committee agreed with the conclusions of the site inspection report and recommended extension of the designation of AU-PANVAC as a RHF Categories A and B. The Committee also recommended that staff who would be involved in vaccine quality control work be given rinderpest awareness training in advance. It should be noted that,

due to unforeseen circumstances, the FAO Observer could not accompany the inspection of AU-PANVAC. Dr Arshed confirmed that FAO was willing to accept and support the inspection report given the participation of the WOAHA Observer as a representative of the Joint Rinderpest Secretariat.

Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (FADDL), United States of America

FADDL was first designated as a RHF Category A in 2015. Based on the site inspection report, the Committee recommended the extension of FADDL's designation as a RHF Category A for a 3-year period. The Committee made an additional recommendation concerning the inspection and designation of the new facility before the relocation of the laboratory. The Committee also advised that rinderpest awareness training is given to staff once the scientists who will do the sequence and destroy project are identified, and that detailed information on the shipment to the new facility is provided to the Rinderpest Secretariat as soon as shipment details are known.

National Institute of Animal Health (NIAH), Japan

The NIAH hosts two FAO-WOAH RHFs, first designated in 2015. NIAH Kodaira, Category A, and NIAH Tsukuba Category B.

High Containment Facilities of Exotic Diseases Research Station, NIAH, (Kodaira facility)

The Committee reviewed the site inspection report for Kodaira facility and recommended the extension of the designation as a RHF Category A for a 3-year period. The Committee also made recommendations concerning: the automation of the temperature recording/alarm in freezers and the autoclave standard temperature and validation needs.

Building for Safety Evaluation Research, Production Center for Biologicals; Building for Biologicals, Research and Development (storage), NIAH (Tsukuba facility).

The Committee agreed with the conclusion of the site inspection report that the designation of NIAH Tsukuba should be extended for a further 3-year period, noting the corrective actions mentioned in the report, which must be addressed within 12 months. The Committee also suggested that NIAH should seek assistance of an expert in biological risk management to provide training and assist with risk assessments and implementation of biosecurity practices.

Action item 7 - Rinderpest Secretariat to draft joint letters to all RHFs to inform them of the JAC's recommendation to FAO and WOAHA. The RHF Mandate that will be annexed to the 2023 Resolution will be appended to the joint letters.

7. Update on the extension of IVDC, China and CIRAD, France

Dr Marrana and Dr Arshed described a process to extend the designation of the RHFs at the Institute of Veterinary Drug Control (IVDC), China and CIRAD, France. Both facilities were designated in 2019 and were subject to a site inspection prior to designation. In 2021, these RHFs were exceptionally extended for a 1-year period so that all seven RHFs were in the same 'designation cycle', which eases the administrative burden for WOAHA and FAO. The Committee agreed with the Secretariat's proposal to base the 2023 extension on the 2021 3-year report and the 2022 annual report. The institutes will receive a joint letter from FAO and WOAHA to inform them of the possibility of a 3-year extension conditional on accepting to receive a site inspection during the year 2024. Once confirmation is received, the designation letter and resolution would be prepared by the Rinderpest Secretariat.

Action item 8 – Rinderpest Secretariat to draft joint letters to IVDC and CIRAD. The RHF Mandate that will be annexed to the 2023 Resolution will be appended to the joint letters.

8. Update on the site inspections of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), India, and IZSLT, Italy

Dr Arshed informed the Committee that the discussion with India for the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) to become an RHF had been delayed by the change in Delegate. A revised proposal should have been submitted in October 2022. Once the dossier is completed, the Rinderpest Secretariat will organise a site inspection.

With regards to IZLT's application, FAO is currently waiting for information from IZSLT regarding the date of the site inspection.

Action item 9 – Rinderpest Secretariat to work towards progressing the status of ICAR, India and IZSLT Italy applications.

9. Review of research proposals and the research application form

Dr Gerrit Viljoen presented the Sequence & Destroy (S&D) research applications from FADDL, USA, and IVDC, China. The Committee recommended that FAO and WOAHA approved FADDL's project proposal noting that the FAO-WOAHA Rinderpest Secretariat should be informed of the expected start date and six-month progress reports should be submitted, and included the list sequenced and destroyed RVCM.

The Committee recommended that FAO and WOAHA approved IVDC's project proposal noting that the FAO-WOAHA Rinderpest Secretariat should be informed of the expected start date six-month progress reports should be submitted and included the list sequenced and destroyed RVCM.

In addition, the research application form was reviewed by the JAC and revised with their recommendations during the meeting (Appendix V).

Action item 10 – Rinderpest Secretariat to inform FADDL and IVDC of the outcomes of JAC's review of the S&D proposals.

Action item 11 – Rinderpest Secretariat to share the updated research application form with the RHF network.

10. Review of the report of the National Veterinary Institute (NVI), Ethiopia vaccine production inspection

Following the attribution of tender award by the African Union Commission, the National Veterinary Institute (NVI), Ethiopia, applied to exceptionally produce rinderpest vaccine to replenish the rinderpest vaccine reserve at AU-PANVAC. The site inspection aimed to determine if NVI could comply with the requirements and recommendations of the FAO-WOAHA *Criteria for Rinderpest Vaccine Manufacturers*. The Committee reviewed the inspection report and agreed with the recommendations of the inspectors. The Committee recommended that a number of corrective actions be implemented before NVI can produce rinderpest vaccine. The Committee also recommended that verification of corrective actions by independent experts be carried out prior to the start of rinderpest vaccine

production. The Rinderpest Secretariat will inform NVI of the outcome of the JAC meeting and request a timeline for completion of the corrective actions.

The Committee also discussed the current requirement of the FAO-WOAH *Criteria for Rinderpest Vaccine Manufacturers* that includes compliance with GMP under PIC/S. It was decided that the wording would be changed from 'compliance' to 'having processes similar or equivalent'. The current requirements for vaccine production facilities for TADs should be consulted as basis for modifications of this requirement.

Action item 12 – Rinderpest Secretariat to inform NVI of the outcome of the JAC meeting and request a timeline for completion of the corrective actions.

Action item 13 – Rinderpest Secretariat to update the wording of the *Criteria for Rinderpest Vaccine Manufacturers* so that "compliance with GMP under PIC/S" is no longer required, and rather having processes equivalent or similar to GMP as defined by PIC/S is preferred. NVI and NIAH should be informed of this change.

11. Review and update of RHF inspection/designation SOPs

Dr David Ulaeto led a discussion about the process to inspect and designate RHF. Being a part of the WHO Advisory Committee on Variola Virus Research, Dr Ulaeto outlined the process followed by WHO to inspect the laboratories selected as global repositories. Items such as prioritisation of findings, reference to an international standard, absence of a designation period, and publication of the reports, were deemed interesting differences from the RHF process. The WHO verification process of poliovirus-essential facilities was also discussed, as polio vaccine has more similarities to rinderpest vaccine than the vaccinia virus used for smallpox vaccination.

FAO and WOAHA representatives informed the committee that a review of the RHF designation and inspection process was going to take place in 2023. A workshop for comparison of SOPs with WHO (Smallpox and Polio) and FAO (the European Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease: EuFMD) will be organised in Q2 2023. The draft SOPs reflecting the current process will be shared with the JAC after the meeting.

Action item 14 – WOAHA to share the draft SOPs for the RHF inspection process with FAO and the JAC.

Action item 15 – WOAHA to lead the organisation of a workshop with FAO and WHO to discuss the inspection process of Rinderpest, Smallpox and Polio holding facilities, learn best practices and adapt procedures where needed.

12. Meeting summary and dates of next meeting

FAO and WOAHA thanked the JAC for their advice and guidance over the previous eleven years, appreciating their continuous contribution towards maintaining global freedom from rinderpest. The members of the JAC and FAO thanked WOAHA for hosting the meeting.

The 19th meeting of the JAC will be held at the FAO Headquarters, Rome on request of the Secretariat but date for this meeting was assigned.

Appendix I

18TH MEETING OF THE RINDERPEST JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Paris, 10-11 January 2023

Agenda

Tuesday, 10 th January	Item	Speaker/Chair
9h30 – 10h00	Opening remarks and adoption of the agenda	WOAH DDG M Javed Arshed (FAO) J Maina
10h00 – 11h00	Update of the Rinderpest Roadmap	FAO/WOAH
11h00 – 11h15	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11h15 – 12h00	JAC Membership, Terms of Reference, and Mandate	FAO/WOAH
12h00 – 13h00	Discussion on the future of RHF and Reference Laboratories – “phase 2 of the post-eradication era”	M Salman
13h00 – 14h00	<i>Lunch</i>	
14h00 – 17h00	Review of the reports of the Rinderpest Holding Facilities’ inspection: <ul style="list-style-type: none">– UK– PANVAC– USA– Japan Update on the extension of China and France	C Robertson FAO/WOAH
17h00 – 17h30	Update on the site inspections of ICAR, India, and IZSLT, Italy	FAO/WOAH
17h30 – 18h45	Review of research proposals: <ul style="list-style-type: none">– S&D FADDL, USA– S&D IVDC, China Review and update of research proposal template	G. Viljoen
19h15	Dinner (<i>Atelier du Marche</i>)	

Wednesday, 11 th January	Item	Speaker/Chair
9h00 – 10h00	Review of the report of the NVI vaccine production inspection	B Dungu (Zoom)
10h00-10h15	<i>Coffee break</i>	
10h15 – 12h30	Review and update of RHF inspection/designation SOPs and 2013 inspection checklist (prep. for discussion with Smallpox secretariat)	D Ulaeto
12h30 – 13h00	Meeting summary and dates of next meeting	J Maina

Appendix II

18TH MEETING OF THE RINDERPEST JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Paris, 10-11 January 2023

List of participants

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Appendix III

18TH MEETING OF THE RINDERPEST JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Paris, 10-11 January 2023

Action Items from the 18th Meeting

No	Item	Responsible party	Deadline
1	Support the Pirbright Institute in submitting a proposal for the development and validation of non-infectious cELISA test using non-infectious material during Q1 of 2023.	WOAH	Q2 2023
2	Rinderpest Secretariat to request FADDL more details on the validation process of the non-infectious PCR test and its outcomes and share the information with the JAC.	FAO and WOAHA	DONE
3	Rinderpest Secretariat to finalise its TOR and obtain approval of the GFTADs Management Committee.	FAO and WOAHA	DONE
4	Work with FAO and WOAHA's management to conduct the review of the JAC's size and membership.	FAO and WOAHA	Q3 2023
5	Consult the respective membership on amending current policy towards total elimination of RVCM.	FAO and WOAHA	WOAHA GS 2023
6	Work with RHF Network to develop a new work plan, an agenda, and dates for the next face-to-face meeting of the group (WOAHA to fund).	FAO and WOAHA	Q4 2023
7	Draft joint letters to all RHFs to inform them of the JAC's recommendation to FAO and WOAHA. The RHF Mandate that will be annexed to the 2023 Resolution will be appended to the joint letters.	Led by WOAHA	asap
8	Draft joint letters to IVDC and CIRAD. The RHF Mandate that will be annexed to the 2023 Resolution will be appended to the joint letters.	Led by WOAHA	asap
9	Work towards progressing the status of India and Italy's applications	Led by FAO	asap
10	Inform FADDL and IVDC of the outcomes of JAC's review of the S&D proposals	Led by FAO	asap
11	Rinderpest Secretariat to share the updated research application form with the RHF network	Led by FAO	Q4 2023
12	Inform NVI of the outcome of JAC's review of the inspection report and enquire about timeline for completion of the corrective actions.	Led by WOAHA	asap
13	Update Criteria Vaccine Manufacturers. NVI and NIAH should be informed of the change.	Led by WOAHA	Q2 2023
14	Share draft SOPs for the RHF inspection process with FAO and JAC	WOAHA	DONE
15	Organise workshop with WHO to discuss inspection SOPs	Led by WOAHA	Q2 2023

Terms of Reference of the FAO-WOAH Rinderpest Secretariat

The FAO-WOAH Rinderpest Secretariat under the FAO/WOAH Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs) (hereby referred to as “the group”) is a high-level technical implementation body, the members of which are formally appointed by the GF-TADs Management Committee, in which the two leading organisations work together.

Terms of reference

Purpose

The purpose of the group is to initiate, coordinate, monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Rinderpest post eradication strategy (hereby referred to as “the strategy”), to cooperate with other GF-TADs disease groups and to contribute to the development and support of disease control strategies at the global and regional levels and contribute to the Global GF-TADs strategy.

Rinderpest post-eradication priorities

- Sequestering or destroying rinderpest virus containing materials (RVCM) held outside of Rinderpest Holding Facilities (RHF) and limit the RVCM stocks in RHF to vaccines and materials indispensable for the diagnostic activities of WOA Reference Laboratories.
- Maintaining diagnostic capacity in WOA Reference Laboratories using non-infectious materials whenever possible.
- Planning towards the availability of vaccines and vaccine seed that can be shipped to any country wishing to respond to a rinderpest outbreak with vaccination.
- Ensuring continued Rinderpest awareness of Veterinary Services, farmers, policy makers and veterinary students.

Mission and responsibilities according to the disease specific strategy

1. Promote the implementation of the strategy through advocacy and the provision of technical support.
2. Review and maintain the two-year Operational Plan.
3. Update the annual GFTADs progress report.
4. Publish an annual report which includes the RHF Network activities and outputs.
5. Monitor progress on the implementation of the strategy (using a spreadsheet monitoring tool) and identify risks and constraints to activities under the strategy, as well as recommend and implement actions to address such constraints.
6. Support resource mobilisation for the implementation of the strategy.
7. Support and dynamize the Network of Rinderpest Holding Facilities.
8. Organise and participate in meetings of the FAO-WOAH Joint Advisory Committee for Rinderpest (JAC) and follow the implementation of their recommendations.
9. Liaise with the GF-TADs Global Secretariat and report to the GF-TADs Management Committee and GF-TADs Steering Committees as required.

10. Ensure all resources produced through the implementation of the strategy are readily accessible on the GF-TADs SharePoint, including plans and progress reports.
11. Complete the present generic terms of reference with any details deemed necessary to ensure good coordination and progress upon the specific activities of the strategy.

Modus operandi

The group will:

- be guided by the recommendations of the GF-TADs Global Steering Committee, TAD global advisory bodies and decisions of the GF-TADs Management Committee;
- organise a virtual group meeting on a monthly basis;
- report regularly to the GF-TADs Management Committee;
- make decisions on technical matters but consult the GF-TADs Management Committee (through the GF-TADs Global Secretariat) on strategic decisions;
- organise specific technical meetings with *ad hoc* configuration;
- ensure that each member can access shared folders on the GF-TADs SharePoint.

Membership and governance

- The group is composed of two main focal points, one from each organisation, and additional members from each organisation appointed by the GF-TADs Management Committee.
- The two focal points act as the Joint Secretariat to the JAC. The Terms of Reference of the JAC are included as Appendix I of this document.
- The GF-TADs Global Secretariat is a permanent observer of the group.
- The group reports to the GF-TADs Management Committee.

FAO Priority actions

- Assist countries with the sequestration, destruction or transfer of rinderpest virus containing materials.
- Oversee the rinderpest vaccine seed repositories established under the governance of FAO.
- Archive and share historical information.
- Seek resources for the implementation of the strategy.

WOAH Priority actions

- Ensure that the WOAH Terrestrial Code and Manual chapters on rinderpest are up to date.
- Implement an annual survey on RVCM held by WOAH Members.
- Act as administrator of the web-based platform with the global inventory of RVCM.
- Ask for the annual report of RHF to be submitted through the web-based platform.
- Archive and share historical information.
- Seek resources for the implementation of the strategy.

Joint actions

- Keep the Global Rinderpest Action Plan (GRAP) and other relevant SOPs and Guidelines up to date.
- Organise the JAC annual meetings, alternately held in Paris and in Rome or, if need be, virtually. Organize additional JAC meetings flexibly as needed.
- Advocate for the global reduction of RVCM holdings.

- Support RHF Category B to maintain vaccines for the global preparedness.
- Support the maintenance of diagnostic capacity.
- Supervise the RHF activities – annual reporting, designation, extension, suspension and removal of the designation, inspections, research proposals, etc.
- Supervise all research activities using RVCM.
- Inform and invite the other organisation to integrate rinderpest-related publications.
- Co-brand rinderpest communication materials.
- Remind Veterinary Services, farmers, policy makers and veterinary students of Rinderpest – anniversary event/e-card, development of online materials and webpages-strengthening the surveillance capacities.
- Organise simulation exercises (including RHF).
- Create and archive SOPs for the main activities of the secretariat.

APPLICATION FORM for Research Involving Rinderpest

1 Project information

2 Executive Summary

3 Research Plan

4 Budget

5 Risk Assessment

6 Curriculum Vitae of research staff
involved in project

1

Project information

Title of proposal:

Start date:

Duration of project:

Name of principle investigator:

Title:

Affiliation:

Position at institute:

Mailing Address:

Telephone:

Email:

Details of any collaborating institutes (name, address, contact etc.):

2

Executive Summary

(Maximum 250 words)

Objectives:**Background:**

(Brief description)

Justification for the research and relationship with prior studies (including references):**Experimental Design and Methods:**

(Specify if live rinderpest virus will be used and the type of reagents. If live animals will be used specify measures taken to ensure welfare of these animals)

Statement of Work (describe each activity with timeline of completion in chronological order):**Source of rinderpest virus containing material and strain of virus:****Location where research will be undertaken:**

(Approved facility for holding rinderpest? If any rinderpest virus containing material is to be shipped from /or to another institute, details must be given)

Description of necessary physical resources at the Institute(s) where work will be conducted e.g. animal rooms, laboratory equipment vital for the research, etc:**References**

4

Budget (A funding source should be established before submitting an application to FAO and WOAH)

5

Risk Assessment for the proposed research

Specific detailed risk assessment:

Measures taken to ensure adequate biosecurity and biosafety at the laboratory where work will be conducted:

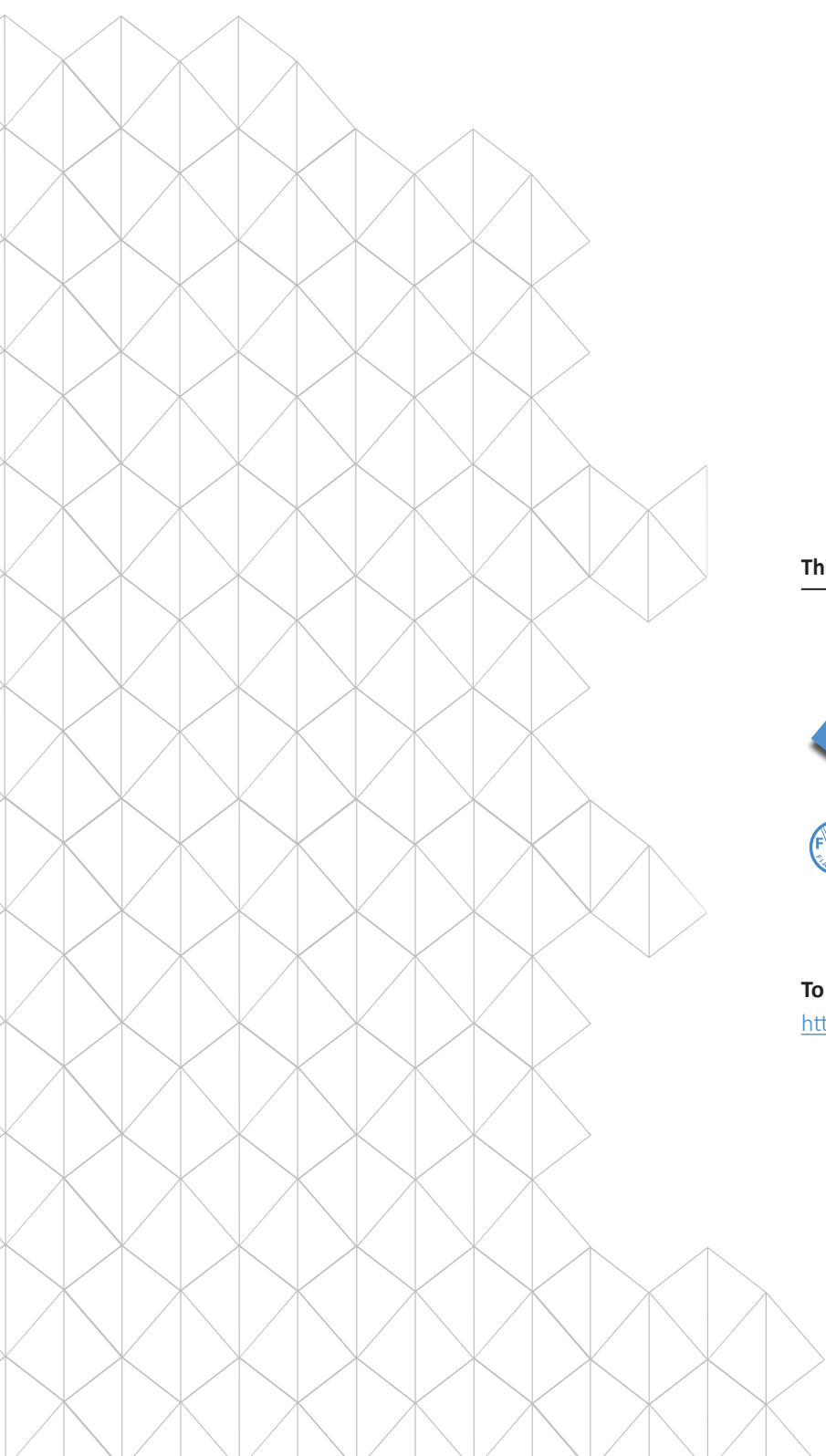
(Including physical biosecurity/biocontainment of facility; methods of disposal of infective material and contaminated equipment; details about cleaning and disinfection; destruction and disposal of infected animals)

Potential for research findings to be applied to malicious use (dual use) and measures to minimise these risks:

Name and contact details of biosafety officer at institute:



Curriculum Vitae of research staff involved in project



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