



Organisation
Mondiale
de la Santé
Animale

World
Organisation
for Animal
Health

Organización
Mundial
de Sanidad
Animal

Original: English
July 2006

**REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE BUREAU
OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMISSION FOR ANIMAL DISEASES
Paris, 3-4 July 2006**

A meeting of the Bureau of the OIE Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases (SCAD) (hereafter referred to as the Bureau) was held at the OIE Headquarters in Paris, France, from 3 to 4 July. Dr Bernard Vallat, the Director General of the OIE welcomed the participants and especially the members newly elected to the Commission. He urged the SCAD for setting up a program of activities for the next three years and acknowledged the need to have coordination among the OIE Specialist Commissions. For this purpose a coordination meeting is being planned in October 2006 between the Central Bureau and the Presidents of the respective Commissions. Prof. Vincenzo Caporale, President of the Commission presided as Chairman and Dr Preben Willeberg as rapporteur. Prof. Caporale noted that several scientific activities of the OIE are carried out by other Specialist commissions without the Scientific Commission being consulted even though such consultations are one of the principles included in the Commission's Terms of Reference. The Director General informed the Bureau of the Commission that the Members of the Commission would be invited to represent the OIE at specific scientific events. He informed the Bureau that due to the upcoming activities on country status recognition, the Central Bureau will appoint additional personal to facilitate the expected increase in country applications for BSE status recognition while also managing other diseases. He also indicated that the Commission will be consulted on the nomination of new members selected to serve on *ad hoc* Groups and that the Commission can ask for convening an *ad hoc* Group when it feels necessary.

The Agenda and List of participants are presented at [Appendices I and II](#).

1. Review of the work plan and activities for the period 2006 to 2008

The Bureau evaluated the activities of the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases (Scientific Commission) in line with the work plan that was agreed for 2004 – 2006 noting that the plan was formulated in accordance with directives of the International Committee and approved Terms of Reference of the Commission. The Report of the President of the Scientific Commission to the 74th General Session was reviewed and the following issues were identified for further discussion:

- **OIE official country status recognition:** Following the information from the Director General of the OIE on the appointment of additional personnel at the Central Bureau to assist in the processing of country applications, the Commission recommended that to enable consistency in decision-making to rather increase the number of experts for a given disease, than to create more than one *ad hoc* Group for a given disease.

Based on past experience, the Commission recommended to analyse country dossiers, based on the information provided by the Member Country concerned, and to collect ancillary information from other investigative missions carried out by national or international bodies which might be utilised in evaluating the dossiers from applicant countries, since it was not feasible to have a general policy of OIE inspection teams being sent out to applicant countries. This option may be reserved for situations where specific and important issues might be the subject of discussion between the parties involved in the evaluation or if the available information is non-consistent.

The Commission recommended that the Central Bureau prepare a letter to all Member Countries informing them about the time schedule for official recognition of country status presentations, including the questionnaires to be used for the preparation of the country applications.

- **OIE/FAO Network of FMD reference laboratories:** The Commission recommended that the OIE/FAO network of FMD reference laboratories should be firmly associated with the work of the Commission and be re-structured to better carry out its tasks and promote open and transparent exchange of information among the participants and with external stakeholders, in order to better serve to the interest of Member Countries and the OIE.
- **Emerging zoonosis:** The Commission took note of the report of the meeting of the *ad hoc* Group on Emerging Zoonosis held in Atlanta from 21 to 22 March 2006. Due to the fact that the majority of the zoonotic diseases are not covered by the Emerging Zoonosis *ad hoc* Group, the Commission recommended reviewing the Terms of Reference of the *ad hoc* Group relative to the mandate of the Commission. The report was not adopted and will be itemised for discussion on the agenda of the next meeting of the Commission in September 2006.
- **General Guidelines for Animal Health Surveillance:** The Commission recommended contacting the relevant OIE Collaborating Centres to initiate work for the preparation of a Manual on Surveillance according to the new *Terrestrial Code* Chapter 3.8.1.

The Commission also acknowledged the need for the preparation of a background paper on wildlife surveillance to form a baseline for discussions on a Chapter on General surveillance for wildlife diseases. The Epidemiology *ad hoc* Group should be enlarged with three wildlife experts for this purpose.

The Commission will invite the Chairman of the Wildlife Working Group to be present at the next Commission meeting to discuss the strategic and priority issues to be addressed by the Working Group.

- **FMD zoning and regionalisation:** In accordance with the request of the International Committee by Resolution No. XXX from the 74th General Session, related to FMD status following outbreaks in zones need clarification. The need for additional discussions was identified for the concept of “buffer zones” and the length of the waiting period to regain freedom. The Commission proposed that during its September 2006 meeting, the SCAD discuss the necessary changes needed to adapt Chapter 2.2.10, and related chapters (zoning and regionalisation and FMD surveillance 3.8.7). These changes should expedite the process in the case of an outbreak in a zone or country and also address the situation on the occurrence of an outbreak in a situation of sequential zoning. The *ad hoc* Group on Epidemiology and experts on FMD will be consulted on the subject to provide a draft proposal for the September meeting of the SCAD.
- **Surveillance guidelines for vector-borne diseases:** The Commission concluded that the formation of an *ad hoc* Group to address this issue will be postponed until completion of the work on West Nile fever and African horse sickness to determine if aspects emanating from surveillance guidelines for these two diseases could be used to formulate a common approach for surveillance of vector-borne diseases.

2. **Terrestrial Code Chapters that need revision**

The Commission reviewed the items listed in the agenda that need further attention:

- **Newcastle disease:** The Commission recommended to establish a new *ad hoc* Group of experts to revise the Chapter and to develop specific surveillance guidelines.
- **African horse sickness:** An *ad hoc* Group under the jurisdiction of the Commission should be constituted for the revision of the Chapter and to develop specific surveillance guidelines.
- **Brucellosis:** The Brucellosis *ad hoc* Group should be reconvened to revise the Chapter on sheep and goat brucellosis, and to consider the comments received from Member countries on the proposed bovine brucellosis Chapter,
- **Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP):** The Commission recommended to convene an *ad hoc* Group on CBPP to revise the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* Chapter and the corresponding surveillance guidelines and questionnaire for evaluation of country status.
- **Classical swine fever (CSF):** The *ad hoc* Group on CSF should be convened to consider the comments on the Chapter and surveillance guidelines received from Member countries and to include the concept of compartmentalisation as discussed during the 74th General Session. The same *ad hoc* Group should after completion of this assignment develop a revised *Terrestrial Code* chapter on African swine fever for consideration by the Code Commission.
- **Aujeszky's disease:** The Commission proposed that Dr P. Willeberg be chairman of the *ad hoc* Group on Aujeszky's disease Surveillance and to consider possible enlargement of the Group for the revision of the Chapter to incorporate the concept of compartmentalisation.
- **West Nile fever:** The Commission recommended a new *ad hoc* Group to be formed to develop a draft chapter and surveillance guidelines for the *Terrestrial Code* on this newly OIE listed disease.
- **Tuberculosis:** The Commission recommended that the *ad hoc* Group on Tuberculosis be requested to review the entire *Terrestrial Code* Chapter on tuberculosis to incorporate also the relevance of the disease in species other than cattle.
- **Chronic wasting disease:** Following the request from a Member Country, the Commission took note of the need to develop a Chapter for the *Terrestrial Code*. The formation of an *ad hoc* Group will be scheduled within the working program of the Commission for 2007.

3. **Working Plan of the Commission for the next 3 years**

The Bureau of the Commission reviewed the Plan of action of the Commission for the next 3 years, and concluded on the priorities to be addressed. However there are other items that need to be addressed as required by the Terms of Reference, which would require further discussion with the Director General and with the full Commission.

4. **Dates of the SCAD meetings**

The Commission confirmed the dates of its next meetings for 19 to 22 September 2006 and 27 February to 2 March 2007, and for the Bureau of the Commission to meet on 30 January to 2 February 2007, and 28 to 29 May 2007.

.../Appendices

**REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE BUREAU
OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMISSION FOR ANIMAL DISEASES
Paris, 3-4 July 2006**

Agenda

1. Review of the work plan and activities for the period 2006 to 2008
 2. *Terrestrial Code* Chapters that need revision
 3. Working Plan of the Commission for the next 3 years
 4. Dates of the SCAD meetings
-

**REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE BUREAU
OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMISSION FOR ANIMAL DISEASES
Paris, 3-4 July 2006**

List of participants

MEMBERS

Prof. Vincenzo Caporale (*President*)
Director
Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale
dell'Abruzzo e del Molise 'G. Caporale'
Via Campo Boario
64100 Teramo
ITALY
Tel: (39.0861) 33 22 33
Fax: (39.0861) 33 22 51
E-mail: direttore@izs.it

Dr Alejandro Schudel (*Vice-President*)
Chorlo 290 (Esq. Paraiso)
(7167) Carilo
Partido de Pinamar
Provincia de Buenos Aires
ARGENTINA
Tel/Fax: (54 2254) 572747
E-mail: alejandro.schudel@gmail.com,
incoalex@hotmail.com

Dr Preben Willeberg (*Secretary General*)
Danish Veterinary and Food Administration
Mørkhøj Bygade 19
DK-2860 Søborg
DANEMARK
Tel.: (45) 3395 6000
Fax: (45) 3967 5248
E-mail: pw@fvst.dk

OIE CENTRAL BUREAU

Dr Bernard Vallat
Director General
12 rue de Prony
75017 Paris
FRANCE
Tel: 33 - (0)1 44 15 18 88
Fax: 33 - (0)1 42 67 09 87
E-mail: oie@oie.int

Dr Gideon Brückner
Head, Scientific and Technical Department
E-mail: g.bruckner@oie.int

Dr Elisabeth Erlacher-Vindel
Deputy Head, Scientific and Technical Department
E-mail: e.erlacher-vindel@oie.int