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1st Meeting of the Global Coordination Committee on Foot and Mouth Disease (GCC-FMD)

Report of the virtual meeting
22–23 September 2021



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of the Global Coordination Committee on Foot and Mouth Disease (GCC-FMD). This meeting was organised under the umbrella of the Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs) by its FMD Working Group (FMD-WG), with financial support from the United States Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) through Project GCP/GLO/704/USA.

Acronyms

CVO	Chief Veterinary Officer	OIE	World Organisation for Animal Health
EuFMD	European Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (an intergovernmental commission based at FAO)	PCP-FMD	Progressive Control Pathway for Foot and Mouth Disease
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	PPP	Public–private partnership
FMD	Foot and mouth disease	PPR	Peste des petits ruminants
FMD-WG	GF-TADs FMD Working Group	PSO	PCP-FMD Support Officer
GCC-FMD	Global Coordination Committee on Foot and Mouth Disease	PVS	OIE Performance of Veterinary Services Pathway
GF-TADs	Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases	SAT	PCP-FMD Self-Assessment Tool
GS	FAO/OIE Global Foot and Mouth Disease Control Strategy	SWOT	Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats
MC	Management Committee	TADs	Transboundary animal diseases
		WRLFMD	World Reference Laboratory for Foot-and-Mouth Disease, The Pirbright Institute, UK

Report of the meeting

BACKGROUND

The Global Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Control Strategy ([GS](#)) was developed in 2012 under the Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases ([GF-TADs](#)), a joint initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE). The FAO/OIE GS, a 15-year programme, supports FMD-endemic countries to reduce the burden and impact of FMD by building adequate laboratory and surveillance systems, strengthening the capacities of Veterinary Services, supporting quality-controlled vaccination programmes and creating possibilities to control other priority animal diseases through practical and cost-effective combinations of activities. The GS emphasises the importance of a regional approach to exchange information and experiences, coordinate efforts, and develop regional roadmaps that present a country's ambitions and enable regular progress assessment. Coordinated and cohesive efforts at global, regional and national levels are of paramount importance to progress in the control of FMD. As the GS moves forward in its implementation, in order to benefit from, and coordinate with, ongoing regional programmes, FAO and the OIE have established a Global Coordination Committee on FMD (GCC-FMD), composed of representatives of global and regional organisations, technical entities, development partners and other relevant stakeholders involved in implementing FMD control initiatives. The committee's key objectives are to exchange experiences, facilitate the coordination and alignment of regional FMD control initiatives, and develop a harmonised five-year global FMD action plan.

The first meeting of the GCC-FMD was conducted virtually on 22 and 23 September 2021. It was organised within the framework of GF-TADs by its FMD Working Group (FMD-WG), with technical support from the European Commission for the Control of FMD ([EuFMD](#)).

Participants included representatives of 13 GCC-FMD Standing Member organisations, 10 Observer organisations, representatives from FAO and OIE regional offices, representatives from FAO/OIE Reference Centres, and the head of The Pirbright Institute, which is the FAO/OIE World Reference Laboratory for FMD

(WRLFMD). The concept note for the GCC-FMD, meeting agenda and list of participants are provided in this report as [Annex 1](#), [Annex 2](#) and [Annex 3](#), respectively.

The following Standing Members attended the first GCC-FMD meeting (presented in alphabetical order):

1. African Union – Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR)
2. Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD)
3. Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS)
4. Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Regional Animal Health Centre (RAHC)
5. Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC)
6. European Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth-Disease (EuFMD)
7. Global FMD Research Alliance (GFRA)
8. Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Center for Pastoral Areas and Livestock Development (ICPALD)
9. Pan American Center for Foot-and-Mouth Disease and Veterinary Public Health (PANAFTOSA/VPH)
10. South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Secretariat
11. South-East Asia and China Foot and Mouth Disease (SEACFMD) Campaign
12. Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secretariat
13. The Pirbright Institute, WRLFMD.

OBJECTIVES

The specific objectives of the GCC-FMD are described below:

1. Share global/regional/national/organisational initiatives on FMD control, achievements and lessons learnt;
2. Facilitate coordination and alignment of regional and country programmes with the GS to achieve significant impacts for FMD-endemic and FMD-free countries;
3. Review and analyse the progress of the GS and regional programmes to develop a harmonised five-year global FMD action plan;
4. Liaise with development partners for advocacy and resource mobilisation.

OUTCOMES

The first meeting of the GCC-FMD worked towards the following three outcomes:

1. Improve understanding of FMD dynamics and control strategies/initiatives at global, regional and national levels;
2. Enhance coordination and communication among the stakeholders to better implement the GS for significant impact;
3. Perform a strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT) analysis of regional initiatives with regards to the three components of the GS and identification of potential solutions.

Session 1

Opening and welcoming remarks

Dr Madhur Dhingra (Member of the GF-TADs Management Committee [MC] and FMD-WG) welcomed and thanked the official guests Ms Maria Helena Semedo, FAO Deputy Director-General, and Dr Monique Eloit, OIE Director General, for attending the opening session of the first meeting of the newly established GCC-FMD.

Ms Semedo welcomed the representatives of the OIE, global and regional organisations, development partners, livestock associations, industry and academia from around the world to the first meeting of the GCC-FMD. Although FAO has been investing in animal health for decades in order to improve livelihoods and food security globally, a great deal of work remains to be done. Transboundary animal diseases (TADs), including FMD, continue to persist and spread, resulting in tangible economic impacts in all Members.¹ The Deputy Director-General emphasised that preparedness, response capacity and the continuous monitoring and risk mitigation of these diseases should remain a priority. The GS was endorsed nine years ago, in 2012, and so is entering the final phase of its implementation. At this stage, it is important to exchange experiences and lessons learnt from recent years and to further coordinate efforts. To this end, FAO and the OIE have established the GCC-FMD within the framework of GF-TADs. Ms Semedo pledged FAO's full support to the GCC-FMD, whose purpose and actions are fully aligned with the FAO's [Strategic Framework 2022–2031](#) and the priority programme area on [One Health](#), which support the Members to achieve the United Nations [Sustainable Development Goals](#).

Dr Eloit, Director General of the OIE, joined the FAO Deputy Director-General in welcoming the participants and stated that the GS is not only aimed at FMD control, but also serves as a mechanism to simultaneously progress in other fields by strengthening the capacities of

Veterinary Services to control priority TADs in a sustainable manner. This should create synergies and cost-effective combinations of activities that will benefit the overall objective of the GF-TADs mechanism. The Director General acknowledged that there are currently 68 countries officially recognised as FMD-free without vaccination, in addition to over 15 Members with FMD-free zones or endorsed official control programmes for FMD (for further information, see the map available [here](#)). The FMD-WG coordinates activities in over 80 FMD-endemic countries; however, it does not cover all regions worldwide. Given this context, she stressed the importance of establishing a body such as the GCC-FMD in order to (a) bring together a wide range of experts involved with FMD control within their respective programmes to exchange information and ideas and replicate successes from one region in another; (b) improve coordination at global, regional and national levels; and (c) contribute to the sustainability of results from FMD control programmes. The Director General encouraged the GCC-FMD to (a) strengthen coordination and communication among the stakeholders implementing the GS, including those from the private sector; and (b) provide guidance to the FMD-WG, taking into consideration the opportunity of developing targeted activities that address key issues in order to meet the GS objectives by 2027.

OBJECTIVES AND ADOPTION OF THE MEETING AGENDA

Dr Néó Mapitse (OIE Co-Chair of the FMD-WG) reviewed the meeting objectives and the agenda, and asked the moderator for a motion to adopt the agenda. The agenda of the first GCC-FMD meeting was adopted unanimously by all the participants. The agenda of the meeting is attached as [Annex 2](#).

¹ In the context of this publication, 'Members' means the countries and territories and organisations that are members of the FAO and/or OIE.



Session 2

Setting the stage for the GCC-FMD

Dr Melissa McLaws (FAO Co-Chair of the FMD-WG) presented the purpose and scope of the GCC-FMD and the expected outcomes. She emphasised that the overall purpose of the GCC-FMD is to facilitate the implementation of the GS; it is also expected to guide the FMD-WG by sharing information and experiences, improving the alignment and coordination of regional initiatives with the GS, and eventually developing a five-year action plan. The objectives of the GCC-FMD have been defined by the GF-TADs MC and are available in [Annex 1](#) to this report.

At the end of her presentation, Dr McLaws opened the nomination process for the GCC-FMD Chair and Co-Chair, and explained the election procedure. The roles and responsibilities of the Chair and Co-Chair were defined ([Annex 4](#)). The Standing Committee members were asked to indicate their willingness to act as the GCC-FMD Chair or Co-Chair or to nominate another Standing Member organisation.



Session 3

Sharing global, regional, national and organisational initiatives on FMD control, achievements and lessons learnt

OVERVIEW: GLOBAL FMD CONTROL STRATEGY, STATE OF PLAY, AND EXPECTED RESULTS FOR EACH COMPONENT

Dr Mapitse described the three key components of the GS, with the Progressive Control Pathway for FMD ([PCP-FMD](#)) serving as the principal tool for Component². He highlighted that the control of FMD is considered a global public good that requires public investments from national governments and the international community, as well as private sector involvement in its control. The tools available to support the implementation and monitoring of the GS, as well as an overview of how countries are progressing along the PCP-FMD, were also described.

The seven Strategic Objectives of the FMD-WG are as follows:

1. promote the adoption and implementation of the PCP-FMD;
2. ensure sufficient and sustainable laboratory competencies;
3. improve epidemiology competencies;
4. enhance vaccine quality and effectiveness;
5. improve the quality of Veterinary Services through the PVS Pathway;
6. create synergies with other TADs control programmes;
7. support sustainability and safeguard the implementation of the GS.

When the GS was established in 2012, 28 Members were identified in PCP-FMD Stage 0, and 3 Members had an OIE-endorsed status. Currently, a total of 81 Members are engaged in the GS, with only 18 Members in PCP-FMD Stage 0 and an evident advancement of Members, particularly towards PCP-FMD Stage 2. Dr Mapitse highlighted that a number of Members are currently in the provisional stages of the PCP-FMD, with some pending an evaluation of their progress in the implementation of their national FMD control strategies. The key challenges encountered since the endorsement of the GS in 2012 were also presented.

During the discussion, the following key points were highlighted by the participants:

- Long-term political commitment is a common challenge and a specific focus should be made on how to address this from the early stages of engagement with regional and national stakeholders. Consistency of control programmes, including vaccination programmes, is essential to progress in control and eradication efforts. The OIE PVS Pathway and related assessments are useful to identify gaps and challenges of national Veterinary Services, but it should be acknowledged that some specific gaps in Veterinary Services are not clearly identified by the PVS Pathway (for instance, capacity for post-vaccination monitoring); this latter issue needs to be addressed.
- In East Africa, there are active Regional Animal Health Networks ([RAHN](#)) with a dedicated subnetwork on FMD control. This is a platform with multi-stakeholder participation and coordination, including the OIE, FAO, and AU-IBAR as the main partners. The RAHN has identified risk communication as a main common gap in the region.
- The challenges related to vaccination strategies include addressing the multiplicity of circulating FMD virus serotypes.
- Specific approaches should be identified to address the challenge of unsustainable political support.

ELECTION OF A CHAIR AND CO-CHAIR OF GCC-FMD FOR A THREE-YEAR TERM (2021–2023)

Dr Moetapele Letshwenyo (OIE member of the FMD-WG) moderated the session and explained that representatives of the Standing Member organisations will be moved to breakout rooms to complete the election process for the GCC-FMD Chair and Co-Chair. The election modality was explained to the Standing Members using a survey link.

² Component 1: Global FMD control; Component 2: Strengthening Veterinary Services; Component 3: Prevention and control of other major diseases of livestock.

The following candidate organisations were identified during Session 2:

- PANAFTOSA/VPH: self-nomination for Chair or Co-Chair
- SEACFMD: self-nomination for Chair
- ECOWAS RAHC: self-nomination for Chair or Co-Chair
- GFRA: self-nomination for Co-Chair

As a result of the voting process, PANAFTOSA/VPH (represented by Dr Manuel Sánchez) and GFRA (represented by Dr Alejandra Capozzo) were elected as GCC-FMD Chair and Co-Chair, respectively.

SHARING OF ORGANISATIONAL INITIATIVES FOR EACH COMPONENT OF THE GLOBAL STRATEGY AND SWOT ANALYSIS

Dr McLaws moderated the session. She announced the election results and asked Dr Sánchez to chair the session as the newly elected Chair of the GCC-FMD.

The participants were divided into four groups according to region (Africa, Asia, Middle East and West Eurasia, and South America). Dr McLaws presented the breakout group tasks and requested that each group discuss and prepare a report on initiatives for each of the three components of the GS, as follows:

Task 1: Regional initiatives for FMD control

List current initiatives and describe for each:

- What is the objective/scope?
- Who are the participating organisations/stakeholders?
- What is the coordination mechanism?
- What are the successes and challenges of these initiatives (technical and logistical)?
- What are the practical solutions/ways forward to overcome the challenges?
- Are there any information gaps?

Task 2: Regional initiatives for FMD control strengthen Veterinary Services in the region

Discuss how regional initiatives for FMD control can strengthen the Veterinary Services in the region:

- How does the capacity of the Veterinary Services affect FMD control?
- How do current initiatives strengthen Veterinary Services' capacity for FMD control?
- What are the successes and challenges (technical and logistical)?
- What are the practical solutions/ways forward to overcome the challenges?

Task 3: Regional initiatives for FMD control benefit the prevention and control of other livestock diseases

Discuss how regional initiatives for FMD control can be beneficial for the prevention and control of other major diseases of livestock:

- What are the priority livestock diseases in the region?
- How do FMD initiatives address both FMD control and other major diseases?
- What are the successes and challenges of these initiatives (technical and logistical)?
- What are the practical solutions/ways forward to overcome the challenges?

Task 4: SWOT analysis: FMD control in the region

Perform a strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) analysis.

REGIONAL REPORTS FROM BREAKOUT GROUPS

Dr Sánchez (GCC-FMD Chair) chaired the first session of Day 2, while Dr Bolortuya Purevsuren (OIE member of the FMD-WG) moderated the session. The rapporteurs presented a report summarising the discussion in their respective breakout groups, followed by a roundtable discussion. In the breakout rooms, a SWOT analysis of regional initiatives/programmes for the control of FMD was also carried out, while focusing on the three components of the GS. Table 1 outlines the findings of the SWOT analysis.

Table 1: SWOT analysis of regional initiatives/programmes for the control of FMD

REGION	STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES	OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • African Union Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Centre (AU-PANVAC) in harmonising the quality of vaccines • Available viral intelligence/ information about circulating serotypes, lineages and strains • Ongoing efforts to eradicate peste des petits ruminants (PPR) • Regional/subregional laboratories 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weak coordination between regional economic communities and countries • Lack of data on wildlife • Limited resources in general • Pastoralism challenges • Limited availability of vaccines • Don't use appropriate vaccines • Not enough real-time knowledge of circulating strains • Lack of a concerted vaccination programme in many countries; existing efforts focus on emergency response through vaccination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing capacity development initiatives such as In Service Applied Veterinary Epidemiology Training (ISAVET), Virtual Learning Centre (VLC), Laboratory Twinning Programme of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), etc. • Regional Animal Health Networks (RAHN) and their subnetworks • Regional Steering Committee of GF-TADs • Antigen/vaccine banks • PPR control programme • AgResults project • Regional Supporting Laboratories to strengthen capacities of national labs • Capacity building and role of regional supporting labs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political instability, conflicts, transhumance, COVID-19 • Insufficient quantity of vaccines and economic threats • Climate change • Devolution of governments • Variable capacities of Veterinary Services; spillover to other countries • Lack of political will for long-term commitment to foot and mouth disease (FMD) control
Asia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better understanding of FMD transmission and distribution of current strains • Good governance structure: South-East Asia and China Foot and Mouth Disease (SEACFMD) Sub-Commission and National Coordinators, South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO) Forum • Five initiatives: SEACFMD, SAARC, Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Malaysia-Thailand-Myanmar Peninsula initiative, Private Sector Consultative Committee, Upper Mekong Working group • Excellent progress made in some countries • FMD-free countries supporting other countries • Epi and Lab Networks exist • ASEAN and SAARC Laboratory Directors' Forum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited access to quality vaccines • Lack of sustainability of some initiatives • Limited human resource capacity • Lack of political commitment • Epi and Lab Networks not fully functional in SAARC region • Inconsistent coordination between meetings • Regional FMD control strategies are not harmonised and vary among initiatives • Limited coordination with other regions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Synergistic effect of FMD initiatives • Strengthening collaboration and PPPs • Progression of members to next stage of the Progressive Control Pathway for FMD (PCP-FMD) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pandemics such as COVID-19 • Emerging infectious diseases • Global economic crisis

REGION	STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES	OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
Middle East & West Eurasia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programmes delivered over multiple years • Regular cycle activities to assess capacities (e.g. proficiency testing schemes) • Existing coordination mechanisms • Tools developed for preparedness, prevention and control • Training and cascade training mechanisms • International surveillance network (Reference Laboratory network) • Stepwise approach allows for the identification of intermediate and achievable objectives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited commitment to and sustainability of Lab and Epi networks • Limited access to quality vaccines • Need for improvements in national capacities in strategic planning, resource mobilisation and advocacy, monitoring and evaluation • Need for improvements to surveillance system implementation and use of resources • Large time gap between OIE PVS Pathway assessments • Gaps between evidence of achievements versus results of PCP-FMD Self-Assessment Tool (SAT) • Limited sharing of risk information • Lack of sustainability: activities often rely on project funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use/adapt tools, methodologies, trainings, systems (e.g. PCP-FMD Support Officers) for multiple diseases • Further develop mechanism for improving capacities and skills • Promote multi-stakeholder platforms and PPPs • Share experiences/ best practices among organisations • Create new partnerships • Improve use of the Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) Pathway at national level to mobilise resources • Foster an enabling environment for veterinary paraprofessionals and community animal health workers (skills and business opportunities) • Create corridors for legal and safer trade to combat illegal trade 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of political commitment • Lack of transparency of countries (e.g. SAT compilation) • Limited availability of national/international resources • Insufficient national capacity to build on regional initiatives
South America	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong regional coordination and collaboration for regional FMD control (built overtime) • Sustainable PPP initiatives, such as South American Commission for the fight Against Foot-and-Mouth Disease (COSALFA) with multi-stakeholder representation and decision-making ability • Transparency and information sharing • Benchmarking and enthusiastic collaboration towards common objective • Achievements are source of political pride • Producer/farmer associations have direct representation in regional institutions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong dependence on vaccination programme implementation/funding • Lack of maintenance and continued progress in financial independence of control programmes • Countries' limited level of Veterinary Services delivery (planning, resourcing), especially emergency response and preparedness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase integration of the research community in decision-making process and in PPP mechanisms (e.g. research and development of new tools) • Foster PPPs as an opportunity for official national activities and for international cooperation • Mapping of potential resource partners • Increase connection and integration of surveillance, prevention and control activities for FMD and other priority diseases • Increase trading opportunities and market access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resistance to change by some regional stakeholders • Risk perception and resistance to stop vaccination among some stakeholders • Funding insecurity for ensuring freedom and control once specific FMD programmes are concluded (opportunity for integration with other disease control programmes) • Changing status to 'without vaccination' will impact key stakeholders (i.e. vaccine producers) • Lack of understanding about the risk of other FMD serotypes • Consumer perceptions against beef consumption and the negative environmental impact of livestock

Session 4

GF-TADs Strategy, theory of change and alignment with the regional roadmaps and the global/regional FMD control initiatives

OVERVIEW OF THE GF-TADS STRATEGY (PRIORITIES, CAPACITIES, PARTNERSHIPS) LINKING TO THE GLOBAL FMD CONTROL STRATEGY AND THEORY OF CHANGE

Dr Bouda Vosough Ahmadi, Deputy Coordinator of the GF-TADs Global Secretariat, presented the GF-TADs Strategy for 2021–2025, which was later launched at the 12th Meeting of the GF-TADs Global Steering Committee in December 2021. He explained that GF-TADs is a coordination mechanism and a joint initiative between FAO and the OIE that combines the strengths of both international organisations at global and regional levels. Its aim is to limit the impact of TADs on livelihoods and international trade through the improved prevention, detection and control of animal diseases, as well as through the strengthening of capacities of local and national animal health systems. An overview of the GF-TADs governance model and its global priority diseases was also provided. Dr Ahmadi reported that the strategy had been developed using a ‘theory of change’ model and was structured around a series of objectives. The strategy also includes chapters on its management mechanisms, resource mobilisation and a monitoring and evaluation framework with clear indicators. The three spheres of the ‘theory of change’ – namely, the sphere of control (outputs), sphere of influence (objectives) and sphere of interest (impact) – were also defined with examples of activities.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

The roundtable discussion was moderated by Dr Dhingra. The key discussion points revolved around the following themes: the GF-TADs mechanism and financing issues, FMD control, and the role of the GCC-FMD.

GF-TADs mechanism and financing issues

The GF-TADs Strategy for 2021–2025 was developed to achieve the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals while supporting the disease-specific control strategies that had been previously established. The strategy lays emphasis on advocacy and communication

and supports the development of mechanisms that foster multi-stakeholder partnerships. Following its adoption in November 2021, it will be used to coordinate the development of regional strategies.

Political engagement and buy-in are essential to provide the necessary long-term commitment and resources to GF-TADs, and are required before any follow-up actions can be defined.

The establishment of a dedicated panel to provide guidance on promoting financing and partnerships, including public–private partnerships (PPPs), has been discussed by the GF-TADs MC. Through this mechanism, GF-TADs will enable the coordination of sustainable partnerships and engagement with the private sector through PPPs.

The European Union supported GF-TADs in the organisation of meetings, identification of experts and financing of expert field visits to provide technical advice on targeted outcomes. A similar mechanism could be used to organise GF-TADs meetings at the regional level.

The GF-TADs mechanism can support advocacy for investment in FMD control by highlighting the financial benefits of controlling the disease through socio-economic impact studies, and subsequently communicating the findings to the relevant authorities. A related study is currently being conducted under a project funded by the United States Defense Threat Reduction Agency.

To stimulate funding, a swift and flexible agreement mechanism should be developed with development partners.

FMD control

The challenges of controlling FMD are very similar across regions. For example, in the West Africa subregion, FMD is endemic and seriously threatening the economic potential of livestock production. There is a generally low level of reporting of suspected FMD cases for laboratory confirmation and a low level of submission of samples to reference laboratories, which are used to fully characterise circulating serotypes to find appropriate vaccine strains. Most countries do not have a control programme for FMD.

The disease also continues to spread through uncontrolled livestock movements.

The PCP-FMD goals may push resource-constrained countries towards unrealistic control plans. There is thus a need to promote best practices and advocate for commitment and funding. Where this is not possible, a different type of guidance and focus is needed, with more emphasis on enabling farmers and private stakeholders.

Initiatives that may be useful in this context include a pre-qualification system for vaccines (EuFMD), AU-PANVAC quality control, and public-private platforms with manufacturers that focus on quality, vaccine demand forecasting, and an enabling environment for the last mile delivery of vaccines. In addition, the Prioritization of Antigen Management with International Surveillance (PRAGMATIST) tool has been developed for vaccine/strain selection.

From an industry perspective, conditions for delivering high-quality vaccines to certain regions include the following: (a) availability of field strains at WRLFMD for vaccine matching; (b) clear Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing to allow research, development and commercialisation of new local/regional strains; (c) pre-qualification of providers to regional programmes to ensure quality; (d) commitment to volumes to dedicate/invest in manufacturing capacity; and (e) clear market access mechanisms/regulatory pathways that are aligned across the region.

The role of the GCC-FMD

The role of the GCC-FMD includes the promotion of regional disease control initiatives, the development of a harmonised action plan, advocacy, and resource mobilisation. Overarching themes may be identified to guide the work plan of the GCC-FMD, such as the provision of good quality vaccines, improved disease surveillance systems, development of common platform for dissemination of data and information sharing, improved coordination among regions and global/regional initiatives, and PPPs.

The constraints that the Nagoya Protocol places on FMD research and vaccine development could be addressed through a strong statement from the GCC-FMD and with potential onward links to seek agreement from national authorities via the OIE and FAO. Furthermore, the GCC-FMD could be an excellent place to start reconciling the disconnect between the commercial development of vaccines and the diagnostic use of field strains.

Going forward, each region could identify one or two success stories at country/regional level and share this information with others at a future seminar. In addition, a mapping of development partners should be undertaken

and invitations to future meetings of the GCC-FMD extended to these potential partners accordingly.

CLOSING REMARKS

Dr Mapitse delivered the closing remarks on behalf of Dr Jean-Philippe Dop, Deputy Director General of the OIE, Institutional Affairs and Regional Activities, and OIE Co-Chair of the GF-TADs MC. He congratulated those present for the successful launch of the GCC-FMD, organised under the umbrella of GF-TADs. He highlighted that GF-TADs is a coordination mechanism and emphasised that a great deal could be achieved by strengthening coordination. This is especially relevant during the ongoing final phase of the GS, during which greater coordination is needed in order to reach the goal of global FMD control. The governance of GF-TADs follows a well-defined structure, with the Global Steering Committee providing strategic planning and general oversight of GF-TADs and the MC monitoring implementation in close collaboration with the Global Secretariat. In the regions, the OIE and FAO regional offices and representations provide advice and recommendations for the implementation of regional and national programmes, and develop project proposals in close collaboration with the specialised regional organisations that have participated in this meeting and have agreed to be Standing Members of the GCC-FMD. All were thanked for their acceptance to participate in this important committee.

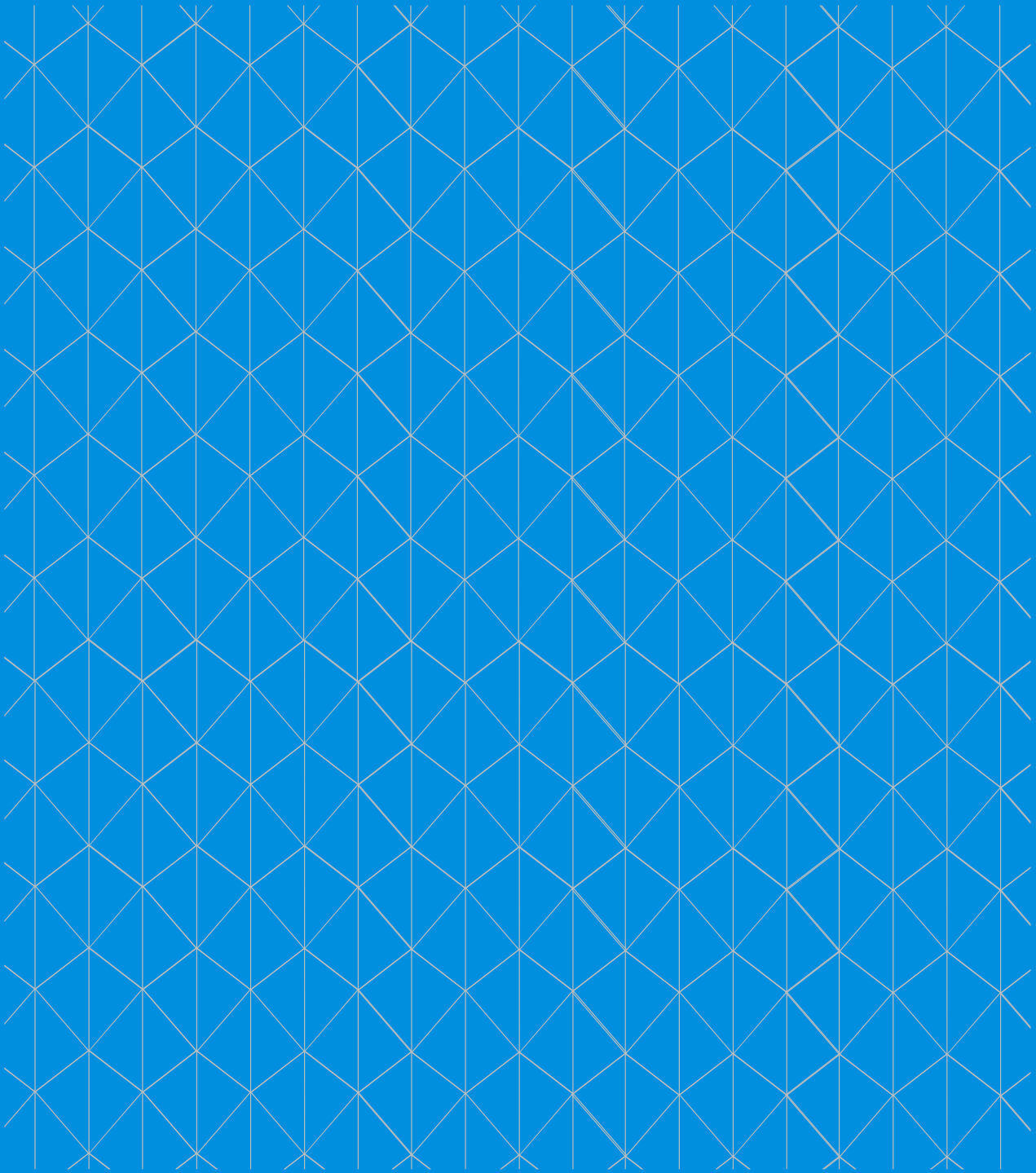
Within this context, the GCC-FMD will be part of a well-established GF-TADs governance structure. The Standing Member organisations have elected a Chair and Co-Chair to lead the GCC-FMD. The committee is aware of the challenges ahead, based on the information presented by the FMD-WG during the meeting and the reports received from the regions. This is valuable information that should lay the foundation for the next steps of the GCC-FMD. The GF-TADs MC confirmed its commitment to support FMD prevention and control efforts at all levels and to support the GCC-FMD in its roles and responsibilities. Furthermore, to help ensure its efficiency and effectiveness, the GF-TADs MC has agreed that the GCC-FMD will be supported by the FMD-WG as its Secretariat. Dr Mapitse indicated that the GF-TADs MC looks forward to receiving regular reports from the GCC-FMD. Finally, he thanked the FMD-WG for organising and facilitating the successful launch meeting and thanked all the participants for their valuable contributions and active participation throughout the meeting.

Dr Dhingra gave the closing remarks on behalf of Dr Keith Sumption (OIE Co-Chair of the GF-TADs MC and FAO Chief Veterinary Officer). He congratulated the participants for the success of the first virtual meeting of

the GCC-FMD, which achieved its proposed objectives. It was acknowledged that all participants had learnt a great deal during the meeting; in addition to obtaining a better understanding of various global and regional initiatives on FMD prevention and control, they had also identified strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats, along with related challenges and potential solutions that would

be helpful in developing a global FMD action plan for the next phase of the GS. Dr Dhingra emphasised that there is a need to have more frequent exchanges of experiences and best practices in FMD prevention and control, in order to achieve the goals of the GS; it is with these objectives in mind that the GCC-FMD has been established under the umbrella of GF-TADs.

Annexes



Annex 1

Concept Note for the Global Coordination Committee on Foot and Mouth Disease (GCC-FMD)

I. BACKGROUND

The Global Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Control Strategy was developed in 2012 under the Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs), a joint initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE). The FAO/OIE Global FMD Control Strategy, a 15-year programme, supports FMD-endemic countries to reduce the burden and impact of FMD by building adequate laboratory and surveillance systems, strengthening Veterinary Services' capacities, supporting quality-controlled vaccination programmes, and creating possibilities to control other priority animal diseases through practical and cost-effective combinations of activities. The Global FMD Control Strategy emphasises the importance of a regional approach to exchange information and experiences, coordinate efforts, and develop regional roadmaps that present countries' ambitions and enable regular progress assessment. The participation of regional organisations/partners in the Global Coordination Committee on FMD (GCC-FMD) will make it possible to replicate successes from one region in another through the exchange of ideas, strategies and resources. Therefore, to progress on FMD control, coordinated and cohesive efforts at global, regional and national levels are of paramount importance. To facilitate the implementation of the FAO/OIE Global FMD Control Strategy, the establishment of a GCC-FMD is proposed with the following objectives:

II. OBJECTIVES

1. Share global/regional/national/organisational initiatives on FMD control, achievements and lessons learnt.
2. Facilitate coordination and alignment of the regional and country programmes with the Global FMD Control Strategy to achieve significant impacts for FMD-endemic and FMD-free countries.
3. Review and analyse the progress of the Global Strategy and regional programmes to develop a harmonised five-year action plan.
4. Provide regular updates on the progress of FMD control initiatives and prompt the strategy among the relevant stakeholders.
5. Provide a platform to liaise with development partners for advocacy and resource mobilisation.
6. Provide a platform for the exchange of information and needs related to FMD.

III. EXPECTED OUTCOMES

1. Improved understanding of FMD dynamics and control strategies/initiatives at global, regional and national levels.
2. Enhanced coordination and communication among the stakeholders to implement the Global FMD Control Strategy for significant impact.
3. Harmonised action plan for next phase of the Global FMD Control Strategy.
4. Resources mobilised for implementation of the Global Strategy through engagement and advocacy with development partners and stakeholders.

IV. COMPOSITION OF THE GCC-FMD

The GCC-FMD shall be composed of representatives of the following organisations/ institutions/programmes:

Standing Committee Members

1. African Union – Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR)
2. Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD)
3. Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Secretariat
4. Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS)
5. ECOWAS Regional Animal Health Centre (RAHC)
6. Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC)
7. Global FMD Research Alliance (GFRA)
8. Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)
9. Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center (PANAFTOSA)

10. South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Secretariat
11. South-East Asia and China Foot and Mouth Disease (SEACFMD) Campaign
12. Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secretariat
13. The European Commission for the Control of FMD (EuFMD)
14. The Pirbright Institute, World Reference Laboratory (WRL) for FMD

Guests/Observers

- Economic Commission on Cattle, Meat and Fish Resources (CEBEVIRHA)
- International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)
- OIE Working Group on Wildlife
- Secretariat General of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)
- Livestock production associations
- Private sector – vaccine and diagnostics industry representatives
- Academia
- Development partners/donors

V. GOVERNANCE

1. Each organisation shall designate one representative for a three-year term. It is preferred that an animal health project officer is nominated as a member. An organisation may change its representative by communicating with the GCC-FMD Secretariat.
2. The committee members shall nominate a Chair and Co-Chair for the three-year term.
3. The Co-Chairs of the GF-TADs FMD Working Group will act as the Secretariat of the GCC-FMD.
4. The GCC-FMD members shall meet semi-annually or more frequently, if required, at FAO Headquarters or virtually.
5. The Chair and Co-Chair of the GCC-FMD will meet with the Secretariat on a quarterly basis or more frequently, if required, to share information and prepare for the GCC-FMD meetings.
6. The Secretariat shall organise the GCC-FMD meetings and prepare the invitations, agenda and meeting report.
7. The Secretariat shall share meeting reports with the members of GCC-FMD and follow up on the decisions/recommendations of the meetings.

Annex 2

Agenda

DAY 1			
22 SEPTEMBER 2021			
Time (CEST)	Topics	Speakers	Moderator
12:00–12:30	Session 1: Opening remarks and meeting agenda Opening remarks Introduction of the participating organisations Objectives and adoption of the meeting agenda	FAO (DDG), OIE (DG) M. Dhingra (FAO) N. Mapitse (OIE Co-chair WG)	M. Dhingra (FAO)
12:30–12:45	Session 2: Setting the stage for the GCC-FMD Purpose and scope of the GCC-FMD and role of chairpersons [10 min. PPT]	M. McLaws (FAO Co-Chair WG)	M. Letshwenyo (OIE)
12:45–13:05	Session 3: Share global/regional/national/ organisational initiatives on FMD control, achievements and lessons learned Overview: Global FMD Control Strategy, state of play, expected results for each Component	N. Mapitse (OIE Co-Chair WG)	M. Dhingra (FAO)
13:05–13:30	Introduction to election modality Election of a Chair and Co-Chair of GCC-FMD for three-year term (2021–2023)	M. McLaws (FAO Co-Chair WG)	M. Letshwenyo (OIE)
13:30–13:40	Virtual coffee break		
13:40–14:40	Session 3 (continued): Share global/regional/national/ organisational initiatives on FMD control, achievements and lessons learned Introduction to breakout rooms Breakout groups by region: Discuss and prepare report on initiatives for each component of global strategy – successes and challenges	Breakout rooms: – Africa – Asia – Middle East & West Eurasia – South America	Chair: GCC Chairperson WG facilitator: M. McLaws (FAO Co-Chair WG)
14:40–15:00	Wrap-up Day 1 (summary)	N. Mapitse (OIE Co-Chair WG)	
DAY 2			
23 SEPTEMBER 2021			
Time CEST	Topics	Speakers	Moderator
12:00–12:40	Session 3 (continued): Share global/regional/ organisational initiatives on FMD control, achievements and lessons learned Regional presentation by Rapporteur 10 min. (max) per region (report from breakout rooms) – Africa – Asia – Middle East & West Eurasia – South America	Presenters nominated from breakout groups	Chair: GCC Chair/Co-Chair WG Facilitator: B. Purevsuren
12:40–13:20	– Roundtable discussion	All participants	
13:20–13:30	Coffee break		
13:30–14:00	Session 4: GF-TADs Strategy, theory of change and alignment with the regional roadmaps and the global/ regional FMD control initiatives Overview of GF-TADs Strategy (priorities, capacities, partnerships) Linking to the Global FMD Control Strategy and theory of change	B.V. Ahmadi (GF-TADs GS)	Chair: GCC Chair/Co-Chairperson WG Facilitator: M. Dhingra
14:00–14:40	Roundtable discussion	All participants	
14:40–14:50	Conclusions and next steps	Chair/Co-Chair GCC-FMD	
14:50–15:00	Closing remarks	FAO/OIE	

Annex 3

List of participants

NAME	ORGANISATION	GCC-FMD ROLE	BREAKOUT ROOM
Melissa McLaws	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	GF-TADs Foot and Mouth Disease Working Group (FMD-WG)	South America
Madhur Dhingra	FAO	GF-TADs FMD-WG	Asia
Muhammad Javed Arshed	FAO	GF-TADs FMD-WG	Asia
Néo Mapitse	World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)	GF-TADs FMD-WG	Middle East (ME) and West Eurasia (WEA)
Moetapele Letshwenyo	OIE	GF-TADs FMD-WG	Africa
Bolortuya Purevsuren	OIE	GF-TADs FMD-WG	Asia
Fabrizio Rosso	European Commission for the Control of Foot-And-Mouth Disease (EuFMD)	GF-TADs FMD-WG	ME and WEA
Paolo Motta	EuFMD	GF-TADs FMD-WG	Africa
Tiziano Federici	EuFMD	WG Support Unit	-
Enrico Mezzacapo	EuFMD	WG Support Unit	-
Hiver Boussini	African Union – Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR)	Standing Member	Africa
Mahmoud Alhanatleh	Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD)	Standing Member	ME and WEA
Baschirou Moussa Demsa	Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS)	Standing Member	Africa
Dia Mamadou Lamine	ECOWAS Regional Animal Health Centre (RAHC)	Standing Member	Africa
Alejandra Capozzo	Global FMD Research Alliance (GFRA)	Standing Member	South America
Wamalwa Kinyanjui	IGAD Centre for Pastoral Areas and Livestock Development (ICPALD)	Standing Member	Africa
Manuel Sánchez Vazquez	Pan American Center for Foot-and-Mouth Disease (PANAFMOSA)	Standing Member	South America
Ashis Kumar Samanta	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Secretariat	Standing Member	Asia
Ronello Abila	South-East Asia and China Foot and Mouth Disease (SEACFMD) Campaign	Standing Member	Asia
Gaolathe Thobokwe	Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secretariat	Standing Member	Africa
Donald King	The Pirbright Institute, World Reference Laboratory (WRL) for FMD	Standing Member	Asia
Theo Knight-Jones	International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)	Observer	Africa
Markus Hofmeyr	OIE Working Group on Wildlife	Observer	
Jaime Romero	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)	Observer	South America
Nigel Swift	Health For Animals	Observer	South America
Rahamatou Cisse Boukary	African Union Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Centre (AU-PANVAC)	Observer	Africa
Francesco Berlingieri	European Commission, Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE)	Observer	ME and WEA
Darsema G. Huluka	World Veterinary Association	Observer	Asia
Jef Hammond	Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines (GALVmed)	Observer	Africa
Victor Mbao	International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada	Observer	ME and WEA

(Cont.)

NAME	ORGANISATION	GCC-FMD ROLE	BREAKOUT ROOM
Budimir Plavsic	OIE		ME and WEA
Baba Soumare	FAO		Africa
Bouda Vosough Ahmadi	FAO		Asia
Carsten Poetzsch	EuFMD		ME and WEA
Cecilia Murguia	FAO		-
Charles Bebay	FAO		Africa
Claudia Ciarlantini	FAO		-
Daniel Beltranalcrudo	FAO		ME and WEA
David Paton	EuFMD	PCP-FMD Support Officer (PSO)	Asia
Ghazi Yehia	OIE		ME and WEA
Giancarlo Ferrari	FAO	PSO	Me and WEA
Hendrik Jan Ormel	FAO		Africa
Hirofumi Kugita	OIE		Asia
Joseph Awuni	FAO		Africa
Karma Rinzin	OIE		Asia
Kees van Maanen	EuFMD		Africa
Lassina Doumbia	FAO	PSO	Africa
Lassina Ouattara	FAO		Africa
Lionel Gbaguidi	FAO		Africa
Luis Barcos	OIE		South America
Maria Helena Semedo	FAO		-
Markos Tibbo	FAO		ME and WEA
Marthe Ndenge	FAO		Africa
Martin Minassian	OIE		South America
Mohamed Ali Alhosani	OIE		ME and WEA
Mohammed Bengoumi	FAO		ME and WEA
Monique Eloit	OIE		-
Patrick Bastiaensen	OIE		Africa
Samuel Wakhusama	OIE		Africa
Shahin Baiomy	EuFMD		ME and WEA
Tariq Taha	OIE		ME and WEA
Thomas Dulu	OIE		Africa

Annex 4

Roles and responsibilities of the Chair and Co-Chair

1. Guide and oversee the progress of the Global Coordination Committee on Foot and Mouth Disease (GCC-FMD) towards achieving its objectives and expected outcomes.
2. Keep under review, and update as necessary, the composition, activities, deliverables, timelines and responsibilities of the members of GCC-FMD.
3. Prepare for and attend all meetings unless there is a notified and valid reason not to do so, and actively participate and contribute during meetings.
4. Meet with the GCC-FMD secretariat on a quarterly basis or more frequently (if required), remotely by teleconferencing, to consult on action items and to prepare for GCC-FMD meetings.
5. Contribute to the review and finalisation of meeting reports.
6. Follow-up the decisions/recommendations of the meetings in coordination with the GCC-FMD secretariat.



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