

الهيئة العامة للخدمات البيطرية



**Free Self-declaration for Equine  
Diseases  
Egypt Experiences**



General Organization for Veterinary Services

# Introduction

- **Equids in Egypt are of high economic importance.**
- **Arabian horses have a good international reputation and exported to many countries.**
- **Breeding of Arabian horses undergone for keeping pure hereditary characters and considered as an important sector of the High Health High Performance (HHP) horse subpopulation of Egypt.**
- **Competition and racing horses are also considered as HHP and participate in international competition events within and outside the country.**
- **Working equids play an important role in tourism activities and are used as a mean of transportation for humans and goods in villages and countryside.**
- **The exportation of Egyptian horses to the European Union member states has been banned by 2010.**

## **Planning to resume exporting**

- **According to the EU decision, It was necessary to work hardly to improve the performance of the veterinary services to regain confidence to export Egyptian equines again to EU member states.**
- **GOVS has committed to achieve compliance with OIE standards to evaluate and upgrade its capacity to ensure that it is capable to manage and respond to any disease outbreaks in Equids.**
- **Road map had been developed in 2010 and concrete actions have been identified.**
- **GOVS had drawn up, improved and implement a strategies to prevent and control most important animal diseases including equids diseases according to the recommended international standards.**

# **Planning for improvement of equine industry**

- **Many Ministerial decrees have been issued to strengthen VS capacity**
- **New veterinary law had been developed tacking into consideration mechanisms to update national legislation to reflect emerging issues related to veterinary concern:**
  - **animal health and welfare with clear reference to the control of animal movements;**
  - **emerging and re-emerging diseases listing;**
  - **animal disease control and reporting systems;**
  - **epidemiological surveillance and communication of epidemiological information;**
  - **animal transport.**
- **The Law is now at the final stage for endorsment by the Egyptian Parliament.**

**All undertaken various measures and activities  
has resulted in  
resuming export horses to the EU member states by  
2016 and up till now**

# Pillars of Action Plan

## Development of the early warning system

- \*Epidemiological database
- \*Early Response teams
- \*Electronic networking

## Understand epidemiological situation

- \*Development disease specific case definition
- \*\*Surveillance systems

## Improve diagnosis

- \*Clinic and Lab
- \*\*Providing reagent & kits
- \*\*\*Lab ISO Accreditation

## Update

### Legal Framework

- \*Update health related regulations

## Raising awareness

- \*Massive extension campaigns for animal breeders and keepers
- \*\*Training different levels of vets using specific case definition
- 

## Cooperation with stakeholders

### coordination with:

- \*Egyptian Equestrian Racing Organization
- \*Egyptian Equestrian Federation
- \*Egyptian Agricultural Organization
- \*Veterinary Services in Military force and Police Equestrian
- \*Horse Breeders Association.

# **Application for Self-Declaration for freedom from equids diseases to the OIE**

- **Egypt has self-declared historical freedom from:**
  - **Glanders, 2021.**
  - **Dourine, 2021.**
  - **EIA, 2022**
- **Should have active surveillance for last .... Years & passive ones**
- **Testing samples in a competent laboratory (ISO17025 Accredited) according to OIE standards**
- **Include acceptable health measures for importation & exportation, and promoted notification**
- **Preparation of files was in compliance with the OIE standards.**
- **The required information and data were collected to prove freedom status according to the diseases' relevant OIE articles. Official documents were attached to self-declaration files as a proof for each activity information.**
- **Information about policy and strategy, for each disease preventive and control measures, were included.**
- **The time frame for collection, writing and reviewing each file was around 3 months.**

# **File form for Self-Declaration for freedom from equids diseases to the OIE**

- **The required data have been compiled from the different national databases. The data included:**
  - **Passive surveillance data:**
    - **Regular reporting at veterinary clinics.**
    - **Notification through Hotline.**
    - **CAHO (community based animal health outreach).**
  - **Active surveillance data:**
    - **Sero-surveillance.**
    - **Clinical surveillance.**
  - **Lab results and laboratory capacity in compliance with the OIE health manual.**
  - **Training of technical personnel.**
  - **Animal census.**
  - **Epidemiological investigation related data.**
  - **Animal health measures for equine exportation and importation focusing on proving the compliance of these measures with the relevant Animal Health Code articles.**
  - **Legal framework for all aforementioned activities.**



# **Main benefits for publication**

- **As a part of the OIE-PVS critical competency to improve the level of the country transparency.**
- **Share the epidemiological situation in Egypt**
- **From the economic point of view, it will facilitate and support equine movement, exporting and encourage participation of Egyptian racing horses in the international competition.**
- **Enhance the opportunity to host international sports events and reinforce the sports tourism.**
- **Get technical experiences on preparation and application of technical dossier for the OIE official endorsement for the important diseases.**
- **Raise awareness, experiences & more understanding among staff for the international regulation.**

# Challenges & Solutions

<b>Challenges</b>	<b>How to overcome</b>
<p><b>Lack of financial support:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Expensive diagnostic kits</b></li> <li>• <b>Cost for maintenance of the electronic networking</b></li> <li>• <b>Cost of active surveillance implementation</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Working step by step according to available resources with prioritization of the most important step to start in order</li> <li>- Minimize sample size to the acceptable levels of confidences</li> </ul>
<p><b>Covid 19 crises &amp; restriction of movement</b></p>	<p>Zoom meetings have been relied upon. Withdrawing samples by doctors at village and directorate levels</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Lack of awareness among household animal keepers and small scale producers</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Reluctance to participate</b></li> </ul>	<p>Increase extension campaign through CAHO team and improve communication through Mosques and Churches</p>
<p><b>Lack of coordination with other stakeholders</b></p>	<p>Coordination has improved through active meeting &amp; dialogue with all concerned stakeholders in a clear message toward achieving a common goal</p>

123RF



123RF



123RF



123RF

123RF



123RF



123RF



123RF



thank  
you