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WOAH Regional Representative for the Middle East

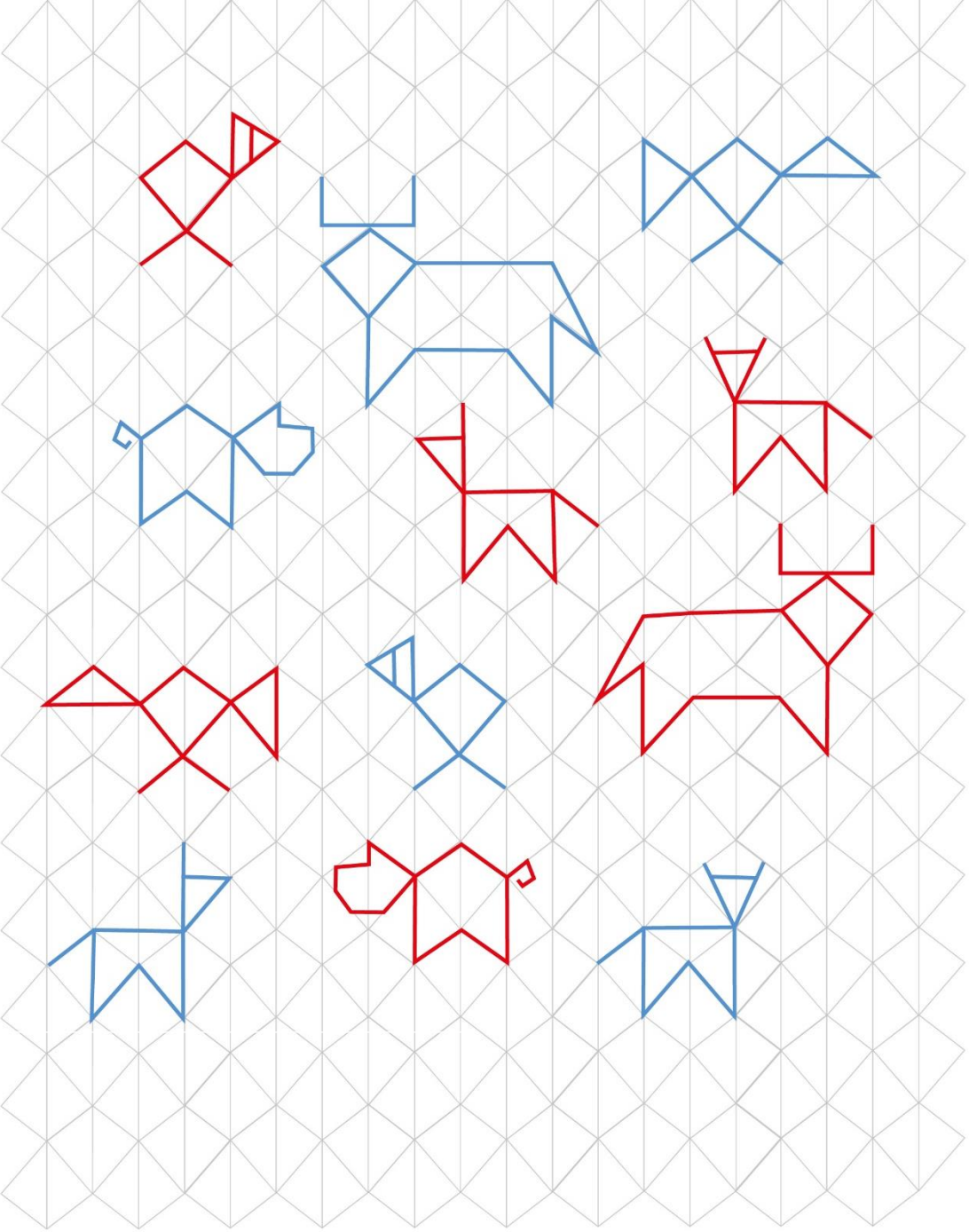
FMD Meeting Outcomes
December 2021



Organisation
Mondiale
de la Santé
Animale

World
Organisation
for Animal
Health

Organización
Mundial
de Sanidad
Animal



Consultative meeting on progress made in FMD/PPR roadmaps in East Mediterranean countries.

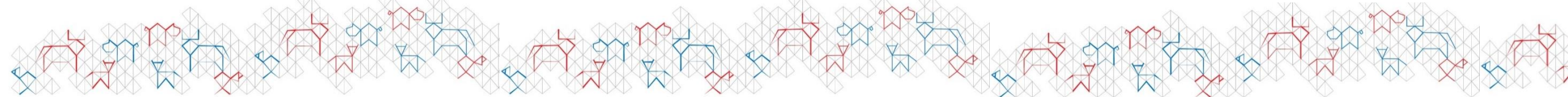
11 – 13 September 2022 Radisson Martinez Beirut Lebanon

Introduction

The first regional epidemiology and laboratory networks meeting for the Middle-East was organized under the umbrella of the GF-TADs in Egypt in 2019

The GF-TADs FMD virtual meeting for the 5th Middle East roadmap and 2nd Epidemiology and Laboratory Network meeting, was held virtually on the 5-9 December 2021

To enforce the regional efforts,
share information,
exchange expertise, and
build the national capacity,



Stage 1 Risk Assessment Plan

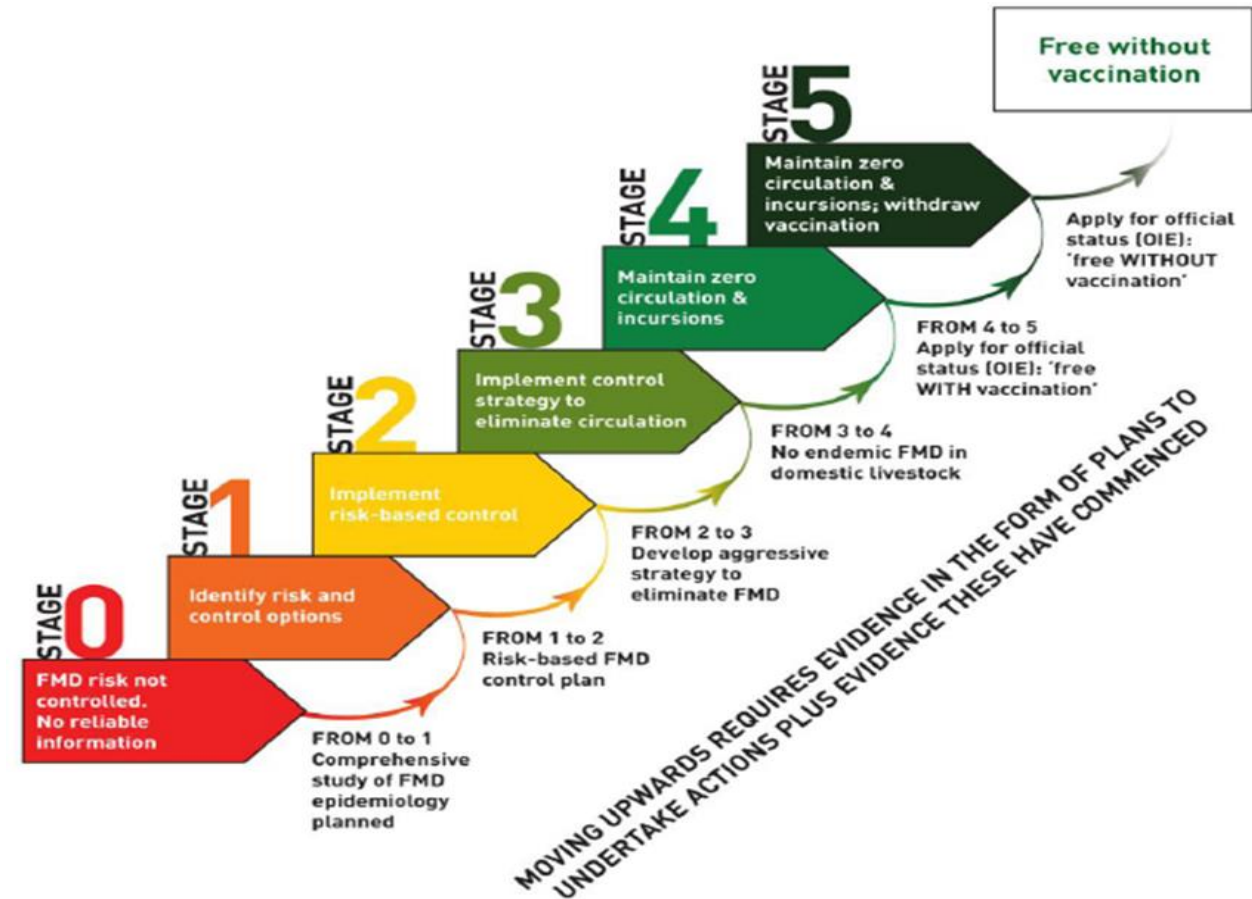
Stage 2 Risk Based Strategic Plan

Stage 3 Official Control Programme

Stage 4 Endorsement of the Official Control Programme by OIE

Status: Recognition of FMD freedom with vaccination

Status: Recognition of FMD freedom without vaccination



December 21 FMD PCP validated stages

Countries	Validated Stages										Expected Stages (not validated)				
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Bahrain	1	2	2	2*	2*	2*	2*	2*	2*	2	2	2	3	3	3
Egypt	1	1	2*	2*	2*	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	4	4
Iraq	2	2	2*	2*	2*	2*	2*	2*	2*	2*	2*	2*	2*	2	3*
Jordan	1	1	2*	2*	2*	2*	2*	2*	2*	2*	2	2	3	3	3
Kuwait	2	2	3	3*	3*	3*	3*	3*	3*	3*	3	3	3	3	3
Lebanon	1	1	2*	2*	2*	2*	2*	2*	2*	2*	2	2	3	3	3
Libya										1*	1	2	2	2	3
Oman	2	2	2*							2*	-	-	-	-	-
Palestine			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3
Qatar	2	2	3*	3*						3*	3	3	4	4	WOAH
Saudi Arabia	1	1	2*	2*	2*	2*	2*	2*	2*	2*	2	3	3	3	4
Syria ¹	2	2	2*	2*	2*	2*	2*	2*	2*		-	-	-	-	-
UAE	1	1	2	2*	2*	2*	2*	2*	2*	2*	2	3	3	3	4
Yemen	1	1	1*							0	1	1	2	2	3

The meeting objectives were to:

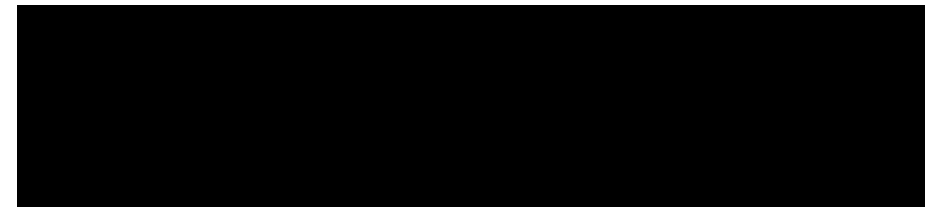
1. Share and review information, about changes in risks related to FMDV circulation within the regional ecosystem,
2. Exchange expertise, and build the national capacity,
3. **Strengthen** the understanding of the PCP-FMD principles, and facilitate the application of the PCP-FMD Toolkit including the PCP-FMD [Self-Assessment Tool \(SAT\)](#), exchange expertise, and build the national capacity.
4. Update the Roadmap for FMD control in the Middle East, using the principles of the PCP-FMD;
5. Encourage discussions to identify regional priorities and key support needed by countries from development partners to control FMD and to strengthen their surveillance systems and laboratory capacity;

MIDDLE EAST ASIA map



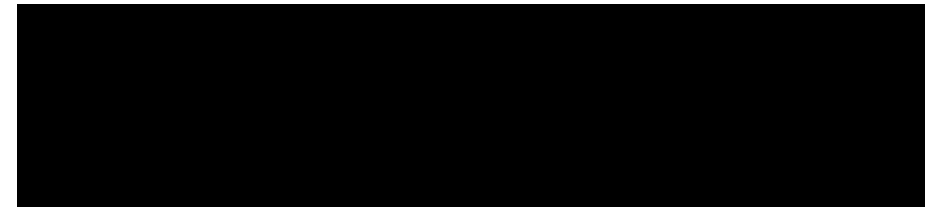
Egypt

- Confirmed outbreaks: 41 in 2019; 9 in 2020; 6 in 2021 (until November)
- Active and passive surveillance of FMD: A/Africa and O/EA3 detected 2021; also SAT2 in 2020;
- **Risk hotspots:** smuggling animals, winter season, livestock markets, vehicles
- Three mass vaccination campaigns per year for large and small ruminants. Vaccination coverage: approx. 50% coverage in large ruminants; 17% in Small Ruminants.
- No PVM studies carried out.
- **Gaps:** (i) complete a study on understanding socio-economic drivers for animal mobility in Egypt and actors involved (EuFMD/CIRAD); (ii) Develop report on feasibility, effectiveness, and efficiency of FMD control measures to be shared with key stakeholders; (iii) assess the identified risk with outcomes of NSP antibody surveys; (iv) measure the effectiveness of regular awareness and communication campaigns.



Egypt

- **The way Forward:**
- Assess the immune level of vaccinated animals (post vaccination monitoring); (ii) Evaluate the cost benefit analysis of the current vaccination strategy; (iii) Enhance the system of the animal movement at the national level
- **SAT in 2021:** 82% of activities completed for Stage 1; 82% of activities completed for Stage 2; 70% of activities completed for Stage 3.



Iraq

- Monitoring of cases of FMD through passive surveillance in cattle, ovine, caprine, buffaloes. Most cases occurring in South of Iraq (Basrah) due to illegal movements.
- Vaccine (A, O, Asia1) used matches with FMDV strain/lineages detected in Iraq in 2013
- large ruminants are vaccinated twice a year while small ruminants are vaccinated once a year
- **Gaps:** Illegal un-controlled movements through long borders with neighbor countries and within the country;
- Hotspots in Kurdistan but due to political issues, 15% of livestock owners refuse to vaccinate pregnant animals;
- Retirees in the VS not replaced and high turnover of staff within the VS;
- lack of cooperation of private sector; lack of biosecurity and biosafety in ruminant farms.
- **SAT in 2021:** 64% of activities completed for Stage 1; 65% of activities completed for Stage 2; 54% of activities completed for Stage 3.



الله أكبر



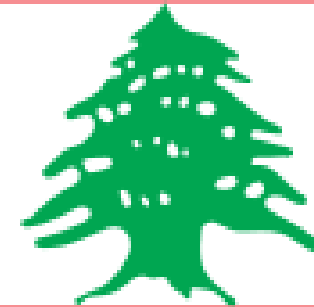
Jordan

- FMD last reported in 2017, **outbreaks in 2021**
- Quarantine of infected flock, ring vaccination 10km radius
- Bivalent vaccines (A,O) used in large and small ruminant populations, free of charge for the owner, in 2022 there will be mass vaccination twice a year (Sept-Nov, repeated in March-May).
- RBSP developed in 2018 and commented by the FMD-WG in 2019, but no updated RBSP received since then
- Hotspots: livestock markets, seasonal movement and common grazing, Local traders, milk transporters, transportation of animal feed between farms and flocks
- **Gap:** no field study to assess the effectiveness of FMD vaccination;
- biosecurity and biosafety only in large ruminant husbandry system, control of seasonal movements very challenging, ring vaccination if outbreaks but otherwise only on request of owner.
- **SAT in 2021:** Output 3 shared with the FMD-WG with prioritization of pending activities.



Lebanon

- Have conducted a risk-based NSP serosurvey in winter 2020-2021 in
- Large ruminants, Small ruminants (resident and transhumant herds), total 18.2% positive.
- Targeted FMD vaccination of Cattle and small ruminants, 2021 FMD vaccination campaign funded by the French Embassy with trivalent vaccine O, A, Asia1; 2022 vaccination campaign will be funded by the World Bank;
- **Gaps and challenges:** lack of national funds; economic situation and currency deterioration; outdated legislations affecting the ability of veterinary service (update ongoing within EU-twinning project); shortage in VS personnel and experience in epidemiology; cooperation between Ministry of Agriculture and other ministries concerning the zoonosis/food safety of animal products; engagement with stakeholders (PPP); underreporting from private and governmental laboratories;



Lebanon

- **Needs and priorities:** Infrastructure rehabilitation of the ARD laboratory; establishment of epidemiological units (center and regions); training on outbreak investigation; planning of animal movement control; strengthen surveillance and data collection ; development of a response plan of FMD outbreak; workshop on designing of surveillance, data analysis, risk assessment vaccination strategy and Vaccine matching; Improving laboratory capacity and laboratory training; develop awareness campaigns of farmers to enhance passive surveillance-importance of reporting.
- **SAT in 2021:** 45% of activities completed for Stage 1; 21% of activities completed for Stage 2; 16% of activities completed for Stage 3.



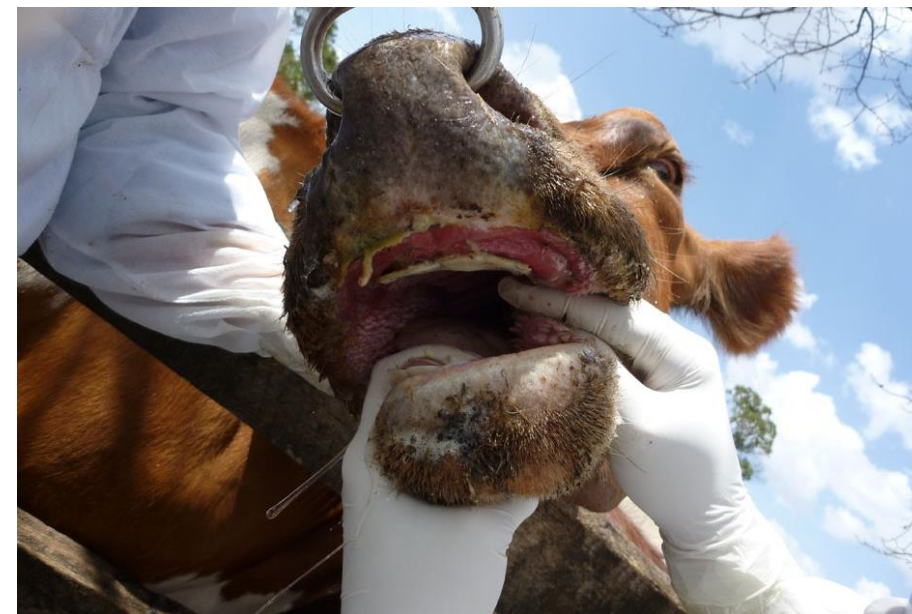
Conclusion: Recommendation from the RAG in 2021

For Egypt

- Confirmed in PCP-FMD Stage 2,
- Monitoring and Evaluation of the current RBSP is encouraged. Acknowledged that activities currently carried out are towards Stage 3, and development of an OCP is encouraged

For Iraq:

- VS to familiarize with the PCP-FMD principles through training opportunities offered by FAO and EuFMD.
- Request an WOAHPVS assessment.



Conclusion: Recommendation from the RAG in 2021

For Jordan:

- Re-submission an updated RBSP taking into consideration the technical comments from the FMD-WG.

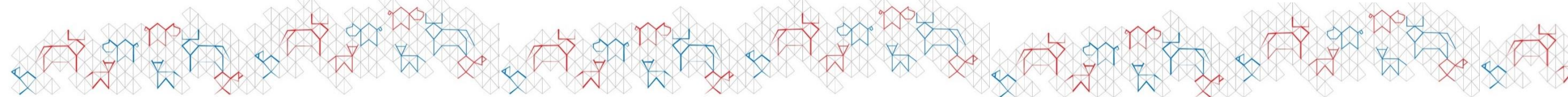
Jordan is encouraged to use the experience gained and the lessons learnt from the current FMD situation to focus their RBSP and subsequent control strategy on key priority areas.

For Lebanon:

Lebanon to submit an updated RBSP with the support of the appointed PSO.

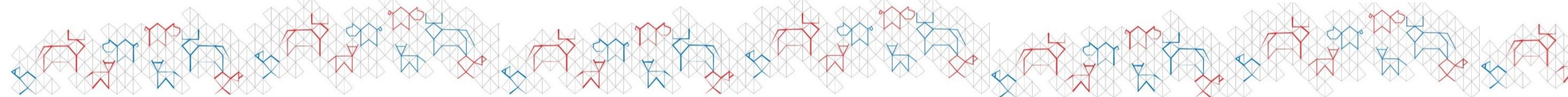
Request of a WOAHPVS mission on Veterinary legislation





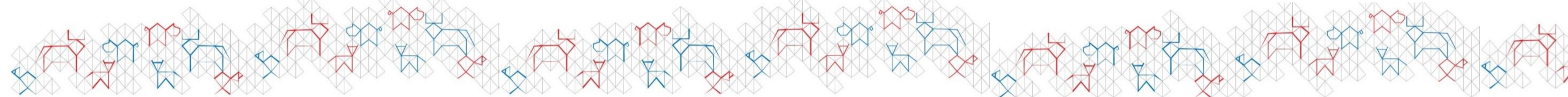
General Conclusion

- a. Strong commitment and political will to ensure a proper legal framework and resources to support the activities of the VS in their workplan.**
- b. Better involvement of all concerned stakeholders to limit the socio-economic impact of FMD and similar TADs, and to stimulate investment in the control of these diseases,**
- c. The reinforcement of the VS capacity especially in providing a clear, transparent and well founded national strategic plan based on risk assessment and management,**
- d. Improving the diagnostic capacity of the national laboratories, with possible support from world reference laboratories and collaborating centers,**
- e. VS to use the FMD PCP mechanism and the related Self-Assessment Tool (SAT) and PSO system, to move and progress adequately in the control of the disease,**



General conclusion

- a. Harmonizing the cross-border movement of animals control and timely exchange of information between neighboring countries,**
- b. Establish the regional epidemiology and laboratory networks with active engagement into activities of support to the implementation of the control strategies,**
- c. Enhance, in regard of the FMD circulating specific strains in the region, the work on a unified regional approach to vaccines and vaccination strategy, especially to control FMD in endemic areas, using OIE standards and appropriate vaccines to ensure sustainability of the control programs,**
- d. The International and regional organisations, FAO, OIE, AOAD, EUFMD, and others, will continue the assistance in supporting member countries, in organizing scientific meetings, networking and training through relevant workshops, virtual seminars and e-learning courses, in order to be always side by side with the regional countries to achieve successfully the control of priority diseases.**



**Thank you for
your attention!**

*My most sincere acknowledgements to all the RR
ME Team at the OIE HQ office in Paris, as well as to
our partner organisations.*



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