

Report of the Thirty-third Session of the Animal Production and Health Commission for Asia and the Pacific (APHCA)

Phokhara, Nepal, 26 – 28 October 2009



THE EIGHTEEN APHCA MEMBER COUNTRIES

AUSTRALIA

BANGLADESH

BHUTAN

INDIA

INDONESIA

IRAN

DPR KOREA

LAO PDR

MALAYSIA

MONGOLIA

MYANMAR

NEPAL

PAKISTAN

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

PHILIPPINES

SAMOA

SRI LANKA

THAILAND



REPORT OF THE
**THIRTY-THIRD SESSION OF THE
ANIMAL PRODUCTION AND HEALTH
COMMISSION FOR
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
(APHCA)**

Phokhara, 26 - 28 October 2009

**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
Bangkok, 2009**

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Minutes of the 70th Executive Committee Meeting and of the 33rd Session of APHCA

The 70th Executive Committee Meeting

Sunday, 25 October 2009, 17.00-18.00 hours

- The meeting was chaired by Dr. Mike Nunn, Delegate from Australia. Present were:

Dr. Prabhakar Pathak, Delegate from Nepal

Mr. Damdindorj Puntsagdorj, Delegate from Mongolia

Delegates from Lao PDR (last minute cancellation because of natural disaster in Lao), India (late nomination), and Bhutan (flight cancelled enroute) were absent.

- The Chairperson welcomed the members of the APHCA Executive Committee and thanked the Government of Nepal for hosting this meeting.
- The Secretary also welcomed the delegates and expressed his appreciation for their presence. He informed that 14 APHCA member countries will attend the Session
- The Agenda for the Ex-Com was adopted.
- The final Minutes of the 32nd APHCA Session (which includes the 69th Ex-Com) were circulated to all Delegates. As no comments have been received, the Ex-Com suggests to the Session to adopt the Minutes.
- The Democratic People's Republic of Korea has signed the Instrument of Acceptance to become the 18th member of APHCA. However, there will be no delegate attending the Session as the DPRK was not able to finance the second official to accompany its Delegate. The Ex-Com welcomes the application of DPRK and suggests to the Session to endorse it.
- The Secretary gave a brief report on the staffing of the Secretariat and introduced Dr. Vinod Ahuja, the new Livestock Policy Officer. Dr. Vinod Ahuja gave his brief resume.
- The Secretary gave a brief résumé of the activities undertaken by the RAP Livestock Group in 2008-09 by the identified five priority areas of APHCA. More details were given in the Session Report.
 - Control of transboundary animal diseases
 - Small-scale dairy, meat production and processing
 - Food and feed safety
 - Industrialization, poverty reduction and environment

- Joint activities on technical capacity building in APHCA countries through workshops, trainings, meetings (BSE, bluetongue, WTO's SPS Agreement, brucellosis and VPH programme)
- The Ex-Com endorsed for submission to the Session the ten Activity Proposals for 2010 – three of which are carried over from 2009.
- The Secretary presented the financial statement
 - Contributions received in 2008 : US\$ 98 569
 - Accumulated interests earned up to 31 December 2008 : US\$ 87 980
 - Cash balance as per 01 January 2009 : US\$ 309 618
 - Expenditures in 2008 amount to US\$ 136 558. The Ex-Com suggests to the Session to approve the Expenditures.
 - Expenditures up to 30 September 2009 amount to US\$ 63 949 against the approved budget of US\$ 223 000. The under expenditure is explained: the costs of this APHCA Session are not included and three joint activities with OIE Asia-Pacific Office have been deferred to 2010.
 - Expected contributions for 2009 are US\$ 90 488
 - Subject to the approval of the Activities for 2010, the proposed budget is US\$ 247 750

The Ex-Com discussed the issues of arrears and suggests to the Session that countries with three and more years of arrears (who have lost their voting rights according to the Statutes) will be invited to all APHCA activities but will receive no financial support.

The Ex-Com discussed the travel standards for delegates to official APHCA functions (Session, workshops trainings). The Secretariat informed that within FAO travel standards, the most economic solution is sought in order the stretch funds as far as possible. This often requires major additional work for the Secretariat. The Ex-Com fully endorsed this approach by the Secretariat and suggests endorsement by the Session.

- The Secretariat reported on the request by the FAO Headquarters to change Paragraph X of the Statutes and to delete the last sentence stating that “the Secretary of APHCA shall be a veterinarian”. This would allow for a broader choice amongst the candidates for the new Senior Animal Production and Health Officer. The Ex-Com endorses this request and it will be presented to the Session. After endorsement by the Session, the change will be presented to the Council of FAO.
- Details for the 33rd Session were discussed. All Ex-Com members have served for two years and a change is recommended.
- The Delegate from Nepal reported on organizational details for the Session and the Workshop which will proceed as per the agenda. The Opening Session will be

presided over by Dr. Braja Kishor Prasad Shaha, Secretary of MoAC of Nepal and Mr. Arjun Bahadur Bhandari, Regional Administrator, Western Development Region, Nepal.

- The Ex-Com meeting closed at 18.00 hours.

The 33rd APHCA Session

Monday, 26 October 2009

Inaugural Session

The Inaugural Session was presided over by Dr. Braja Kishor Prasad Shaha, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, with the following personalities at the High Table: Mr. Arjun Bahadur Bhandari, Regional Administrator Western Development Region, Dr. Mike Nunn Chairperson of APHCA, Dr. Prabhakar Pathak Director-General, Department of Livestock Services, and Dr. Hans-Gerhard Wagner (representing the FAOR in Nepal).

The Chief Guest lit, according to Nepali tradition, the oil lamp for peace and successful outcomes of the Session and the Workshop. Badges were distributed to the Delegates and Observers.

Dr. Hans-Gerhard Wagner (representing the FAOR in Nepal and the Director-General of FAO) welcomed the participants and guests to the Session and the Workshop. He expressed the deepest sympathies to those populations in the Asia-Pacific Region which were hit by natural disasters such as tsunami, typhoons, flooding, earthquakes and landslides claiming thousands of lives. He stressed that environmental policies are urgently required to increase natural resource use efficiency and to reduce environmental pollution and resource degradation. He informed the Session on the forthcoming FAO World Food Summit, which was triggered by a further increase in the number of hungry people in the world passing 1 billion. APHCA's achievements were briefly highlighted and it was reconfirmed that FAO stands ready to assist countries in the Region

Mr. Arjun Bahadur Bhandari, Regional Administrator, welcomed the delegates and participants to the beautiful city of Pokhara on the foot of the Himalayan mountains. He noted that development in Nepal is now progressing, with a strong focus on livestock. He wished the participants an informative and productive meeting as well as an enjoyable stay in the Pokhara.

Dr. Prabhakar Pathak, Director-General of DLS expressed his appreciation to the delegates and observers for coming to Nepal. He stressed that Nepal - as one of the founding members of APHCA - is proud to host the Session and the Workshop. He gave a short brief on livestock production issues and expressed the hopes that an interesting and informative programme has been developed.

Dr. Braja Kishor Prasad Shaha, Secretary of MoAC welcomed the participants on behalf of the Government of Nepal. For Nepal, agriculture and livestock are key activities from which major parts of the population derive their livelihoods. The threat of devastating transboundary animal diseases is always looming, with the

recent example of HPAI in border provinces that was quickly controlled. Dairy production improvement is an important part of his Ministry's activities. He particularly stressed the rich biodiversity of Nepal, which due to the environmental changes, is under threat. Serious temperature increases have been registered and will lead to melting of glaciers with potentially disastrous effects. He appreciated FAO's assistance and reminded that Nepal is among the six founding members of APHCA. He wished the Session and the workshop fruitful deliberations.

Dr. Nar Bahadur Rajwar, Deputy Director-General, DLS, presented a vote of thanks. The APHCA Chairperson, Dr. Mike Nunn, in his closing remarks, reminded the auditorium of the diversity of APHCA countries ranging from Iran in the West to Samoa in the East and from Australia in the South to Mongolia in the North. He thanked the Government of Nepal for hosting the Session and the Workshop, and for the excellent arrangements. He stressed that APHCA has been a partner to the countries, providing assistance and training to livestock development and animal health issues. He also stressed the importance to pay more attention to environmental aspects in our developmental work. In closing the Inaugural Session, he wished the Session and the Workshop fruitful deliberations.

Business Session

The Business Session was convened at 11:00 hours by the Chairperson Dr. Mike Nunn. The Session was attended by delegates from 13 countries.

1. The Agenda of the 33rd APHCA Session was adopted.
2. Election of the Chairperson and the members of the Executive Committee: Iran (proposed by the Philippines), PNG (proposed by Samoa) and Malaysia (proposed by PNG) were elected members of the Executive Committee. Thailand (proposed by Australia) was elected Vice-chair. Nepal was elected Chair and Australia - the immediate past Chairperson - turned to be Ex-officio member.

The new Executive Committee comprises:

Chairperson:	Nepal
Vice-chairperson:	Thailand
Members:	Iran, Malaysia and Papua New Guinea
Ex-officio member:	Australia

3. The Minutes of the 69th Executive Committee Meeting and the 32nd APHCA Session, which were sent to all delegates and with no further comments received, were adopted.
4. a.) The People's Democratic Republic of Korea signed and submitted the Instrument of Acceptance to become the 18th member of APHCA in mid-2009.

The Session followed the recommendation of the Ex-Com endorsed DPRK's membership.

b.) The Chairperson introduced the request by FAO to change the Paragraph X of the APHCA statutes in cancelling the last sentence stating that the Secretary of APHCA shall be a Veterinarian. The Secretary explained that this will allow a broader choice for the new Senior Officer in RAP who will assume the role as APHCA Secretary. He stressed that once this is endorsed by the Session it will have to be approved by the FAO Council. The Delegates, after a short discussion, agreed to this change in the APHCA Statutes.

Before handing to the newly elected Chair – Dr. Prabhakar Pathak from Nepal – the outgoing Chairperson thanked all Delegates for their support over the past two years. He considered that quite important working programmes were delivered to the member countries. He also thanked the Secretariat, who made his tasks rather easy. He wished APHCA every success in the future, under the capable chairmanship of Dr. Pathak.

5. Report of Activities: The Secretary and his colleagues in the APHCA Secretariat presented the activities performed/achieved by the Secretariat and the RAP Livestock Group solely or in support of HQs divisions: AGAP, AGAL, AGAH and projects during 2008-09, irrespective of sources of funding, according to the following APHCA identified priorities:

- **Control of transboundary diseases** (Carolyn Benigno): The activities in 2009 focused on studies on FMD vaccine and vaccination, possible FMD carrier role of the Asian swamp buffaloes and FMD assistance to countries like Bhutan, Bangladesh and DPRK. A TCP on FMD Laboratory Networking for South Asia was also presented for endorsement of the member countries belonging to the SAARC Grouping. The list of new and ongoing projects was presented, notably assistance following the detection of Ebola Reston virus in pigs in the Philippines since June 2009, and the FAO-ADB Phase- 2 Project on TADs control in the Greater Mekong Sub-region which commenced last January 2009.

The FAO/OIE GF-TADs framework for Asia has now started its groundwork by conducting the sub-regional meetings for SAARC, SPC and soon for ASEAN. The Third GF-TADs Regional Steering Committee Meeting for Asia convened last July in Tokyo, Japan, and considered among other matters, coordination better mechanisms to address the sub-regional issues.

- **Small-scale meat, dairy production and processing** (Hans Wagner): Three TCPs on genetic improvement of dairy cattle in Myanmar, Mongolia and Nepal are under implementation and will end in December 2009. For all three countries a short Phase II up to June 2010 to complete some of the work has been approved in principle. A further project for genetic

improvement for Sri Lanka has been approved and will be signed within this year. A six weeks training for experts from APHCA countries was conducted successfully in Chiang Mai, Thailand. A refresher course is suggested for the workplan for 2010.

Further TCPs under implementation are TCP/MON/3105 Improved meat hygiene and commercial meat processing TCP/PHI/3102 Philippines Installing milk payment system, TCP/NEP/3001 Training for the small-scale dairy sector in support of the community livestock development project here in Nepal which will end in December 2009.

The preparation of plans for small-scale slaughterhouses has faced some delays. The Session was presented with some of the outlines, workflow charts and drawings. The final draft is expected in early 2010.

The Secretariat has provided substantial technical assistance on livestock matters to countries which were hit by disasters in the areas of rehabilitation of veterinary services, provision of feed, and livestock re-stocking.

Small-scale dairy - Vinod Ahuja reported on the progress on general activities in livestock policy and the follow-up work on smallholder dairying which has been identified as a priority area in previous APHCA sessions.

He informed the session that a recent independent evaluation of FAO had recommended increased resource allocation to livestock sector work in view of its strategic importance in poverty alleviation. In view of this recommendation, the corporate strategy of FAO has recognized livestock as an important strategic sub-sector and the organization is working towards bringing out a publication "Feeding the World in 2050: What can livestock contribute?"

He then proceeded on to brief the Session on the three proposals on smallholder dairying:

1. A proposal on Smallholder Dairy Development in Bangladesh, Myanmar and Thailand to be supported by CFC - the Common Fund for Commodities.
2. A regional TCP on "Enhancing nutrition and livelihoods through school milk programmes linked to smallholder dairy operations in Bangladesh, Myanmar and Thailand" to be funded by FAO.
3. Dairy Asia network - A proposal to initiate an experience sharing network related to smallholder dairying to be funded by APHCA.

The CFC proposal has three components - (i) Milk production and productivity enhancement, (ii) Milk marketing enhancement, and (iii) Capacity-building and information sharing. The proposal has already been endorsed by the Inter-governmental group on meat and dairying and has been appraised by the project appraisal committee of the CFC.

The regional TCP on school milk aims at establishing pilot school milk programmes in rural areas and to link them to smallholder dairy operations so as to meet the twin objectives of enhancing child nutrition and providing livelihood support.

The Dairy Asia network aims to provide a platform for sharing the lessons and experiences on dairying in Asia and to promote shared interests of dairy producers from the region.

He further informed the session that the proposals are in final stages of preparation and submission and it is expected that both CFC and TCP proposals will be submitted for approval and funding by the end of November 2009.

- **Food and feed safety** (Carolyn Benigno): As possible collaboration with OIE is being explored, the planned feed safety workshop in 2009 will be moved to 2010.
- **Industrialization, poverty reduction and environment** (Hans Wagner/Carolyn Benigno): A GEF/WB supported project on animal waste management is being implemented. An international workshop is planned for 2010 to which countries from South Asia will be invited. In the future workplans, more attention should be paid to environmental and climate change aspects.

A new project, Sub-regional Environmental Animal Health Management Initiative (EAHMI), which is funded through the Italian Trust Fund, was launched in June 2009. EAHMI seeks to assess and understand animal diseases within the context of their environmental setting and production/farming system. As a support to this project and since GIS will be an important tool to analyze EAHM strategies, a QGIS training was conducted in July 2009 with 32 participants from 18 countries attending the course.

- **Joint activities on technical capacity building in APHCA countries** (Vishnu Songkitti): Over the past 10 years, these activities of APHCA have been co-organized with the supports mainly from OIE Asia-Pacific Office and – from time to time – from the Japan Livestock Technology Association (JLTA) and other organizations as well as collaborations from the various host governmental agencies of the APHCA member countries.

The proposed joint activities to be organized in 2010 are as the follows:

1) BSE/Prion diseases – The 4th OIE/FAO-APHCA Regional Workshop and Working Group Meeting on BSE and Other Prion Diseases [in collaboration with National Veterinary Research and Quarantine Service of the Republic of Korea] will be organized in Seoul, between 24 and 26 February 2010. Representative from the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Livestock, who expressed the group's interest on the issue, will be invited to participate.

2) Bluetongue – OIE/FAO-APHCA Regional Workshop on Bluetongue diagnostic and control. This activity was approved by the 32nd Session in 2008 for organization in 2009. Due to time constraints and pre-occupied duties of both FAO-APHCA and OIE staff, the workshop has been adjourned and tentatively planned to be organized at the National Institute for Veterinary Science, Bogor, Indonesia, in April – May 2010.

3) WTO's SPS – A series of 6 workshops on WTO's SPS were organized between 2001 and 2007. Out of these six, three workshops were organized to support the MPVH programme of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Chiang Mai University (FVM-CMU), Thailand. The approved 7th Workshop to be held in 2009 has been adjourned to be organized, tentatively in August – September 2010. The proposed workshop themes were: 1) emerging animal diseases, 2) feed/food safety, and 3) animal products traceability.

To accommodate a recent request from the ASEAN, OIE may consider “dossier for BSE-free status” or the related issue as the theme of this workshop.

4) Brucellosis – The 1st (demo) and the 2nd (hands-on) workshops on Brucellosis diagnosis and control (with an emphasis on *B. melitensis*) were organized [in collaboration with Thai DLD in October 2008 and in June 2009.

RBT antigens were provided to the 15 participating countries (APHCA covered the costs of the antigens/recipient countries covered shipment costs). In addition, upon emergency request from Fiji (non-APHCA), 12,000 doses of RBT antigens were provided in August-September 2009.

DLD will host the 3rd (advanced) Brucellosis Workshop in Sukhothai and Phitsanuloke Provinces, in the first week of November 2010. This workshop shall be a platform for regional collaboration with the focus on:

- a) quality assurance including standardization of testing procedures and diagnostic reagents (for the future ring test activities); and
- b) strengthening of regional collaboration on diagnosis and control of Brucellosis.

Provisions of RBT antigens produced by the Thai DLD, standard diagnostic manuals and promotion of ring test trials will continue.

5) Veterinary Public Health – The Secretariat collaborates and supports various activities related to Veterinary Public Health of the FVM-CMU, Thailand, over the past decade. These included the Master of Veterinary of Public Health Programme. Three WTO's SPS Workshops (zoonoses, food/feed safety, GIS) and other VPH-related training/workshops were organized to accommodate the Faculty staff members and the MVPH students.

The Faculty together with the Free University of Berlin offer scholarships to students from Asia and the Pacific Region and priority has been given to APHCA member countries.

- **TCDC** – The Secretary informed that the instrument of TCDC is used only to a very limited extent by the member countries. It is still considered an important tool that member countries are encouraged to use.

6. Statement of Accounts:

The Secretary presented the status of APHCA accounts for 2008 and the status of expenditures for 2009 (Appendix -).

- Contributions received in 2008 : US\$ 98 569
- Accumulated interest earned up to 31 December 2008 : US\$ 87 980
- Cash balance as per 01 January 2009 is US\$ 309 618
- Expenditures in 2008 amount to US\$ 136 558. The Ex-Com suggests to the Session to approve the Expenditures
- Expenditures up to 30 September 2009 amount to US\$ 63 949 against an approved budget of US\$ 223 000. The under expenditure is explained: the costs of this APHCA Session are not included and four joint activities with OIE have been deferred to 2010.
- Expected contributions for 2009 are US\$ 90 488
- Subject to the approval of the proposed Activities for 2010, the proposed budget is US\$ 247 750
- Outstanding including arrears amount US\$ 79 901

The Secretary reported that the Ex-Com has discussed the issues of arrears (two countries have major arrears). For this reason, the Ex-Com suggests to the Session that countries with three and more years of arrears (who have lost their voting rights according to the statutes) will be invited to all APHCA activities but will receive no financial support.

The Ex-Chairperson/Ex-officio member reported on the Ex-Com's discussion regarding the travel standards for delegates to official APHCA functions (Session, workshops, trainings, meetings). The Secretariat informed that within FAO Travel standards the most economic solution is sought in order to stretch the APHCA trust funds as far as possible. This often requires major additional work for the Secretariat. The Ex-Com fully endorsed this approach by the Secretariat and suggests endorsement by the Session.

7. Future workplan/activities

The Secretary summarized the proposed Activities for 2010 to be approved by the Session in the final Session on Wednesday. All these proposals have been presented during the presentation of the Activities. Activities 3, 4 and 6

are carried over from last year and are re-submitted. Detailed write-ups for each proposals can be found in the Session documentation:

- a. Dairy Asia Network
- b. BSE/Prion Diseases Workshop/Meeting
- c. Bluetongue Workshop
- d. WTO's SPS Workshop
- e. Brucellosis Workshop
- f. Feed Safety Workshop
- g. Bat Disease Surveillance Workshop
- h. FEPTV Programme
- i. GIS Workshop
- j. Animal Breeding and Genetics Training

The Session was adjourned at 16:00 hours.

(The Workshop on Animal Productivity Enhancement in APHCA Countries was organized full day on Tuesday, 27 and in the morning on 28 October 2009.)

The 33rd APHCA Session (continued):

Wednesday, 28 October 2009

The Session was reconvened on Wednesday, 28 October 2009 at 14:00 hours as the follows:

8. Approval of the budget and the proposed activities for 2010:
The Session approved the budget for 2010 as well as the above 10 proposed activities.
9. Other businesses:
 - The Delegate from Bhutan explored possibility to include HPAI and H1N1 Influenza in the APHCA activity. The Secretary responded that these diseases will be responded by the RAP-ECTAD group. Besides, there is a Sub-regional ECTAD Office, based in the FAO Representative Office in Kathmandu to deal with these issues.
 - The Delegate from Sri Lanka proposed “ Animals and Animal Products Traceability” for consideration by APHCA and OIE Asia-Pacific Office as the theme for the 4th WTO's SPS Workshop.

- The Chairperson seek for endorsement on the conditioned invitation to members countries, who are in arrears for over three years, where APHCA will not cover their travel costs until such arrears are paid. The Session endorsed on this.

10. Venues of the next APHCA Sessions:

- Venue of the next APHCA Session: The Delegate from Malaysia conveyed a message from the Director-General, Department of Veterinary Services of Malaysia, accepting to host the 34th APHCA Session in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia during the last week of October 2010. The proposed Session/workshop theme by the Delegate from Australia is: "Emerging Wildlife Diseases/ Zoonoses", which is supported by Delegate from Papua New Guinea.
- The Delegate from the Philippines offered to host the 35th APHCA Session in Cebu, the Philippines in 2011.

11. Adoption of the Minutes:

The Minutes of the 70th Executive Committee and the 33rd Session were adopted.

12. Closing of the Session:

The Delegate from Pakistan delivered his vote of thanks on behalf of all Delegates and guests for all hospitality provided by the host country and especially the Chairperson and the DLS. He expressed his deep impression on every arrangement and efforts made by the APHCA Secretariat and the DLS team in smoothly organizing this Session and the workshop. He also thanked all the other Delegates and colleagues who participated in the meetings.

At the closing of the Session, the Chairperson thanked all Delegates and guests for their contribution to the meetings. He emphasized that the friendship gained during these few days in Pokhara will be useful for our future collaborations and tasks. He thanked the APHCA Secretariat and the FAO Representative Office in Kathmandu for all the assistance provided towards the successful organization of these events. He wished all overseas guests a safe journey back home.

Tentative Timetable and Agenda

Timetable

Sunday, 25 October 2009

Flight Kathmandu – Pokhara : Arrival of overseas participants and guests at the hotel

17:00-18:30 The 70th APHCA Executive Committee Meeting
(Only for the Executive Committee Members from Australia, Bhutan, India, Mongolia and Nepal)

18:30-20:30 Reception dinner hosted by Sujal Dairy at the Shangrila Hotel

Monday, 26 October 2009

APHCA Session

08:30-09:00 Registration

09:00-10:30 Opening + Coffee/tea break

10:30-12:00 APHCA Business Session

12:00-13:30 Lunch

13:30-17:00 APHCA Business Session (cont.)

18:30- 20:30 Reception dinner hosted by DLS/GON at Hanging Garden, The Fulbari Hotel.

Tuesday, 27 October 2009

Field Programme

08.00-09.00 Briefing at Model Dairy

09.00-09.30 Arrival at Hemja

09.30-11.00 Briefing at Hemja (Livestock Programme run by women group)

11.00-11.20 Arrival at Lumle

11.20-12.00 Briefing at Lumle

12.00-13.00 Lunch (Nepali traditional field lunch - served by NARC)

Workshop on Animal Productivity Enhancement in APHCA countries

- 13.00-16.00 # Small-scale Dairying
- Small-scale Dairy in Nepal – Results from the TCP
(National Project Focal Point)
 - CLDP and Considerations for the Revision for the Dairy Strategy for Nepal *(Surya Singh)*
 - CFC Project / Dairy Asia / School Milk TCP *(Vinod Ahuja)*
- 16.00-17.00 Back to Hotel
- 18:00-21:00 Dinner at Lake side (hosted by the Heifer International Nepal)

Wednesday, 28 October 2009

Workshop (cont.)

- 08:30-10:00 # Breeding and Genetic Improvement (Chair to be confirmed)
- Results from TCP/NEP/3105 – Lessons Learnt and Problems Encountered *(Bola Shrestha)*
 - Experience from the Implementation of Three TCPs on Genetic Improvement *(Hans Wagner)*
- 10:00-10:30 Coffee/tea break
- 10:30-12:00 # Breeding and genetic Improvement (cont.)
- Economics of Genetic Improvement – Why Should Countries Invest in Genetic Improvement Programmes? *(Leo Dempfle)*
 - Round Table with the DGs (Representatives) from Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal and Sri Lanka on Sustainability Issues for Genetic Improvement Programmes
- 12:00-14:00 Lunch break

APHCA Business Session (cont)

- 14:00-17:00
- Finalization of Programme of Work and Budget,
 - Venue of the next Session,
 - Other Business,
 - Conclusion and Closing of the APHCA Session

(Coffee/tea break when appropriate)

18:30-20:30 Farewell Dinner *(hosted by FAO-APHCA - venue to be confirmed)*

Thursday, 29 October 2009

Morning *Flight – Pokhara – Kathmandu : Returning of overseas participants and guests*

Tentative Agenda of the APHCA Business Session

26 and 28 October 2009

(After inaugural of the Session)

1. Out-going Chair conduct election of new Chair, Vice-Chair and 3 Ex-Com members
2. New Chair conducting the session – Adoption of Agenda
3. Minutes of the 32nd APHCA Session (which includes the 69th Ex-Com)
4. New countries joining APHCA – DPR Korea
5. Progress report on approved activities (Secretary)
6. Financial statement (Secretary)
7. Reports on the completed and proposed APHCA activities (APHCA Secretariat)
8. Finalization of the Programme of Work and Budget
9. Venue of the next Session
10. Other business
11. Adoption of the Session Report and Closing

Minutes of the 32nd APHCA Session

1. Due to last minute complications, the venue for the 32nd APHCA Session and the 69th APHCA Executive Committee Meeting was changed from Sydney, Australia to Bangkok, Thailand. While it was not upon government invitation, the Secretariat benefited from the change of venue to facilitate APHCA members' participation in the technical sessions and symposia of the 15th Congress of the Federation of Asian Veterinary Associations (FAVA), between 27 and 29 October 2008.
2. Normally, the APHCA business meeting is preceded by a meeting of the Executive Committee (Ex-Com). The Ex-Com members for 2007 – 2008 comprised:
 - Chairperson: Australia
 - Vice-chairperson: Nepal
 - Members: Mongolia, Bhutan, India
 - Ex-officio member: Lao PDR
3. However, the lack of a quorum at the Ex-Com Meeting on 26 October (only 2 Ex-Com members: Australia and India arrived at the meeting place, while the members from Bhutan, Mongolia and Nepal arrived later) meant that the designation of the new Ex-Com would need to be finalized on 30 October (the last day of the Session). The meeting on 26 October turned to be a pre-session discussion. By 30 October, the delegates were requested to nominate candidates for positions of Chair, Vice-chair and 3 new members of the Ex-Com. The Secretary reminded that Ex-Com members, as per APHCA's constitution, have to be elected annually. Delegates may consider as suggested in a previous session that – in order to guarantee some continuity – the Ex-Com should continue for two years. It was noted that the selection of venue could, if approved by members, alternate every other year between member countries and Thailand.
4. The 32nd APHCA Session was organized at the Rama Gardens Hotel, subsequent to the Registration and Opening of the 15th FAVA Congress which was held at the Sofitel Centara Hotel.

After being welcomed by Dr Mike Nunn, the APHCA Chairperson, the Session was formally opened by Dr He Changchui, Assistant Director-General and FAO Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific. Dr He indicated that the Session was timely in the context of numerous challenges facing the livestock sector in Asia, particularly issues related to ensure food safety along the value chain. He challenged APHCA to enhance its reputation in the region as an advocacy body for regional livestock policy makers/industry stakeholders,

particularly in the areas of animal health and disease control, enhancing food safety of livestock products and supporting overall development of the sector. *(Dr He's opening speech appears in Annex a.)*

5. After opening the Session, the Chairperson presented the agenda, requesting endorsement by APHCA delegates. There was no objection; and thus, the agenda was adopted. *(The Agenda appears as Annex b.)* There were 11 delegates (from Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Sri Lanka and Thailand) participating the Session on 27 October, while the delegates from Mongolia and Nepal arrived later. *(The list of participants appears as Annex c.)*
6. The Minutes of the 31st Session *(Annex d)* were presented and the delegates were reminded that the minutes had been reviewed and approved at the last meeting. There was no further discussion on the Minutes.
7. The Secretary initiated his review of APHCA activities with summary of the staffing situation for APHCA and the Livestock Group at FAO RAP. He provided a comprehensive overview of FAO and APHCA activities over the past year. These activities range from animal disease control – to support for food safety through enhanced abattoirs and meat inspection – to smallholder dairy development. The participants were informed that under the FAO Avian Influenza programme currently US\$140.8 million has been spent in the region and US\$42 million is currently in the pipeline. FAO has also provided support on disease control related to FMD, PRRS, and Bluetongue (more detailed information was provided by technical staff). New FAO-financed TCP projects have been initiated in dairy cattle improvement (2) and improved meat hygiene (1). *(A more detailed summary of activities can be found in Annex e.)*
8. The Secretary presented an overview of APHCA's financial situation. A detailed review of the budget and a copy of the financial statement is included in the *Annex f* of the minutes of the Session. Currently, APHCA has a cash balance of US\$374,000, not including the US\$24,403 of arrears paid by Iran in early October 2008. *(Details can be found in Annex f.)* Members were informed that considerable amount of interest has been generated; however, these funds can only be used for specific activities approved by the Ex-Com. They have only been used once before and countries are urged to submit ideas on using these funds. The financial report for 2007 was approved by the delegates. The Status of Contributions was reviewed and the Secretary noted that Iran had paid its arrears only last week. Bangladesh and the Philippines had the highest arrears. The scale of contributions was reviewed, with contributions ranging from US\$10,724 to minimum payment of US\$2,181 the total annual contribution amount to US\$ 88,000.
9. Countries were reminded about the opportunity to use the TCDC programme. The Chairperson encouraged members to submit ideas to benefit from this

facilitate and the Group was informed about technical expertise in the Philippines to provide regional training in humane slaughter and small-scale meat processing.

10. Updates on the progressed activities and technical presentations by FAO technical staff:

- The delegates were informed about activities supporting smallholder dairy development undertaken over the past year. The presentation by the Livestock Policy Officer indicated that the regional dairy development strategy, supported by funding from APHCA, is attracting country level and donor interest from around the region. Delegates are encouraged to have their Ministries submit letters of endorsement. Participants were informed that an informal technical meeting focused on designing dairy development strategies will be held in November 2008. In addition, delegates noted with interest that the CFC has informally committed itself to the funding of a regional dairy project. (*Annex g (i).*)
- Other sector specific activities undertaken over the past year include the development of a conceptual framework for assessing the competitiveness of hog sectors around the region. This framework was circulated to delegates and they were informed that joint funding from USAID/FAO/EU were used to implement a case study in Cambodia which assessed issues affecting overall competitiveness of sector's around the region. It is expected that more case studies will be undertaken in 2009. (*Annex g (ii).*)
- An update on the status of activities relating to slaughterhouse design and meat inspection was presented. In follow-up to the regional abattoir study undertaken in 2007, the Group was informed that the designs for small- and medium-sized abattoirs were being contracted and that they would be available for APHCA countries interested in using the designs for abattoir construction. While APHCA does not have the funds to support construction of abattoirs, countries are encouraged to fund them out of existing projects, such as the ADB project in Nepal. Delegates were also informed that a case study on meat inspection in Thailand was funded. Next year, more country studies on this topic will be undertaken with the objective of following this up with a regional workshop, possibly with the support of the STDF (Standard and Trade Development) Facility. Participants were reminded that a 2002 FAO publication on meat inspection received the highest number of internet hits on the FAO website. (*Annex g (iii).*)
- GF-TADs activities on FMD, CSF and PRRS (*Annex h (i).*) FMD activities are now focused on looking at the persistence of the FMD virus in the Asian swamp buffaloes and the role of FMD vaccination in the Lower Mekong. These activities are studies aimed at improving intervention strategies in the control of FMD in Southeast Asia. Other TCP activities were also reported in support to FMD control in the Philippines, Bangladesh, Cambodia and DPR Korea.

- A Workshop on CSF Regional Control Strategy for Southeast Asia was held in July 2008. The workshop which is a joint activity between FAO and OIE resulted in a draft outline to develop a regional strategy for CSF control which included a three-phased approach to eradicating CSF by 2020. The said strategy will be further developed into a strategy document that will be presented in the next ASEAN Working Group on Livestock.
- An emergency workshop on PRRS attended by Lao PDR, Vietnam, Cambodia, Myanmar, Philippines and the FAO Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) of China was held last year to discuss the epidemiology of PRRS, Control measures and the next steps for PRRS control. A regional TCP has been developed after this workshop and is now in the pipeline awaiting endorsement from at least three countries to get approval.
- The update on the work on FMD vaccine supply was reported. During the last APHCA session, the working group on FMD Vaccine Supply came up with three options, namely: establish an antigen bank with FMD types O, A and Asia-1, option 2 is to purchase FMD vaccines and option 3 is to make an arrangement with vaccine companies to make available FMD vaccines for use by countries during emergencies. Two vaccine companies provided proposals for a rolling stock of vaccines for consideration of the APHCA session. It was agreed then that a further meeting of the working group is required to develop a business plan which should be presented at the next. (*Annex h (ii).*)
- The session was reminded that there is a facility for member countries to avail of the Disease Emergency Assistance Fund. When countries are faced with a disease emergency a request for funds can be forwarded to the Secretariat. The fund can be used for outbreak investigation expenses, sample testing, purchase of supplies, etc. (*Annex h (iii).*)
- The Environmental Animal Health Management Initiative (EAHMI) which was implemented in the Philippines to explore and advocate alternative innovative approaches to animal disease management for smallholders, in a similar manner to that of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for crop farmers jointly with FAO-APHCA conducted a workshop on GIS applications on animal health and production last March 2008. The workshop was attended by senior officers from 14 member countries. The recommendations focused on regional capacity building, institutional collaboration and further detailed training on GIS as applied to animal health. For next year, a proposed workshop on GIS for animal health is proposed to be held with a manual to be developed after the workshop to provide a reference guide for other users in the region. (*Annex h (iv).*)
- Status of avian influenza in the region (*Annex i*): – Dr Laurence Gleeson, outgoing Regional Manager for Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases (ECTAD) in Asia-Pacific, presented a brief overview of the evolution of the disease in the region, discussed FAO's responses, and provided some interesting analysis on the epidemiology of the disease. Participants were informed that countries around the region had enhanced their capacity to manage the disease; however, increased vigilance needs to be placed on the

- cross-border movements of the virus. Country delegates expressed their appreciation of Dr. Gleeson's work, recognizing that he will soon be retiring.
- APHCA Joint Activities with OIE Asia-Pacific Office on Technical Capacity Building in Member Countries (*Annex j (i)*):
 - Activity on BSE and Other Prion Diseases: – The 3rd OIE/FAO-APHCA Regional Workshop and Working Group Meeting on BSE and Other Prion Diseases were held in Qingdao, PR China, between 23 and 25 September 2008. Eight working group members and 35 local observers participated in the Workshop. Proposal for APHCA TCDC fund of US\$5,000 was made to cover incurred expenditures and travel costs for 5 participants from APHCA member countries (the Working Group members) to participate in the 4th OIE/FAO-APHCA Regional Workshop and Working Group Meeting on BSE and Other Prion Diseases to be organized in Anyang, Rep. of Korea, in March 2010. (*Minutes of the 3rd Working Group meeting and the proposal for funding are attached as Annex j (ii)*);
 - FAO-APHCA/OIE Regional Workshop on WTO's SPS Agreement (in collaboration with the DLD and FVM-CMU: – Delegates were briefed on the series on the Workshops on WTO's SPS Agreement, which were organized between 2001 and 2007. Proposal for the 7th joint Workshop with OIE Asia-Pacific Office, DLD and FVM-CMU in August – September 2009 was made. The OIE Asia-Pacific Office confirmed its co-sponsorship and cooperation. The main theme/topic of this workshop shall be confirmed, in agreement with the OIE (*Annex j*);
 - FAO-APHCA/OIE Regional Workshop on Brucellosis Control and Diagnosis (with an emphasis on *B. melitensis*) was successfully organized between 20 and 23 October 2008. It is proposed that a follow-up workshop shall be organized in Khon Kaen, Thailand, tentatively in June – July 2009. Technical backstopping/supervision will be provided by the OIE/FAO Reference Laboratory for Brucellosis in France (c/o Dr Bruno Garin-Bastuji). The OIE Asia-Pacific Office confirmed its co-sponsoring in this Workshop while DLD confirmed its collaboration. A proposal was made for US\$15,000 from APHCA Trust Fund for the Workshop as well as an addition fund of US\$5,000 to cover the costs of: i) production of laboratory manuals for use as reference by member countries (on routine tests, i.e., RBT, CFT and iELISA – c/o Dr. Bruno Garin-Bastuji) and ii) RBT antigen (production costs to be covered by APHCA and the antigen to be produced by DLD). The antigen (*B. melitensis*) shall be provided to member countries and the delivery costs to be covered by the recipient countries (*Annex j*). (*The Conclusion and Recommendations from the Workshop are attached as Annex j (iii)*.);
 - OIE/FAO-APHCA Regional Workshop on Bluetongue Diagnosis and Control – The original request to organize this workshop was made by delegates from India and Iran at the 31st APHCA Session in 2007. Proposal for US\$15,000 for organization of the Workshop to be held in Bogor, Indonesia, between April and May 2009 was made. OIE Asia-Pacific Office agreed to co-sponsor. Technical and local collaborations

shall be confirmed by the delegate from Australia (to provide an expert/invited speaker) and the DGLS/Government of Indonesia (to host the workshop) (*Annex j*);

- Veterinary Public Health: – Delegates were informed about the on-going activities on the joint MVPH courses (2 years' curriculum) at the FVM-CMU/the Free University of Berlin and the call for applications for scholarships by the DAAD (Germany) and the Royal Thai Government (4th batch students). Priority for these scholarships shall be given to applicants from the APHCA countries (*Annex j*).

Summary of trainings/workshops which were held and will be held towards the end of 2008

Dairy Strategy Workshop	Chiang Mai, Thailand	27-29 February 2008
GIS Application in Animal Production and Health	Quezon city, Philippines	3-7 March 2008
Workshop and Working Group Meeting on BSE and Other Prion Diseases	Qingdao, PR China	23-25 September 2008
Brucellosis Diagnosis and Control	Chiang Mai and Lampang, Thailand	20-23 October 2008
Dairy Policy Workshop	Bangkok, Thailand	17-20 November 2008

11. Dr Aung Gyi, the delegate from Myanmar, provided a detailed overview of the impact of the cyclone Nargis on the livestock sector in Myanmar. He identified the major areas of impact and provided an assessment on the animal losses in cyclone hit areas. He reviewed the response of LBVD, various NGOs, and donors to the emergency. In particular he highlighted the concerns about animal disease outbreaks, specifically FMD, and conveyed strong thanks to the Department of Livestock Development (DLD) in Thailand who responded to the emergency by supplying 50,000 doses each of FMD and HS vaccines as well as 3,000 liters of disinfectant supplies. APHCA expressed thanks and appreciation to DLD of Thailand for the generous support. (*Dr Aung Gyi's presentation appears as Annex k.*)
12. The Secretary provided the final presentation of the day, providing an overview of proposed activities for 2009 (*Annex e*). Seven new activities are proposed and three activities are continued (already approved from last year). However, they will all have to be approved again for the 2009 budget for formal reasons. The total amount proposed to support these activities is US\$186,000.
13. The Chairperson concluded by requesting participants to review the proposed activities over the next few days. He also indicated that participants should review on-going activities are of interest to delegates. He cited the example of the Manpower Needs Assessment project which is being implemented in the

South Pacific. Its objective is to identify gaps in animal health capacity in the region and to identify creative solutions to fill this gap.

14. The APHCA Business Session was adjourned at 5 p.m. to allow delegates to participate in the reception of the 15th FAVA Congress.

The Session was reconvened for Thursday 30 October 2008 at 9 a.m. with the following agenda items:

- Election of Ex-Com
- Approval of programme of work and budget for 2009
- Venue for the next Session
- Other business

15. The business session resumed on 30 October at 9 a.m. It was preceded by the 69th Ex-Com Meeting (*details appear in Annex l*).

The APHCA statutes require that the Ex-Com be elected every year. Already in previous sessions, it was suggested that – in order to provide continuity – the Ex-Com should serve for 2 terms. For this reason, it was proposed to the Session to re-elect the Ex-Com. This was endorsed by all delegates. As there was no further intervention, the members of the Executive Committee were considered re-elected as the follows:

- Chairperson: Australia
- Vice-chairperson: Nepal
- Members: Bhutan, India and Mongolia

16. The Secretary briefly presented again the proposed activities for 2009. (*Details of the proposed activities and budgets are shown in Annex m.*) The delegates approved the programme of work and the budget of US\$223,000 for 2009 as per the *Annex f*.

17. Other business: Dr Swarna Herath, delegate from Sri Lanka requested that a presentation on Study on Migratory Birds in Relation to Spread of Avian Influenza (by Scott Newman – FAO-AGAH) be made in Sri Lanka. The Secretariat informed her to send an official request to AGAH to provide the speaker.

18. Dr. Purushottam Mainali, delegate from Nepal proposed to host the 33rd APHCA Session in Pokahara, Nepal, where there are on-going TCP activities for field visits, tentatively in the last week of October 2009.

19. The Session was concluded by the Chairperson, who thanked all delegates and the APHCA Secretariat for their contributions to the Session. He particularly thanked Ms. Nancy Morgan, Livestock Policy Officer, who during her almost two years in RAP, has contributed to APHCA in the various initiatives and activities.

Activity Proposals for APHCA 2010

Proposal 1

Title	Setting up of Asia Dairy Network as a precursor to Dairy Asia	
Background	Although Asia contributes more than one third of global milk production and this share is expected to increase steadily in the foreseeable future, there is no formal platform for experience sharing and promoting the interests of Asian milk producers, processors and traders. As a follow-up to Smallholder Dairy Development Strategy, of which APHCA was an important active partner, it is proposed to begin formation of Asian Dairy Association as a network of stakeholders and shape the network into a more formal Association that will represent Asian dairy interests. This was already endorsed by APHCA EC in its 32 nd meeting in Bangkok as part of FAO-CFC initiative on smallholder dairy.	
Activity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organize a two day brainstorming cum inception workshop in February-March 2010 on designing and launching the network of dairy industry professionals, policy makers and practitioners 2. Develop a website/portal for 'Dairy Asia' 	
Funding proposal	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organization of brainstorming cum inception workshop including participant travel and DSA 2. Preparation and dissemination of inception workshop report, consultant (two months) to prepare content for the website, hiring of web-designer for building, maintenance and updating of Dairy Asia website 3. Miscellaneous 4. Total 	<p>US\$15,000</p> <p>US\$8,000</p> <p>US\$2,000</p> <p>US\$25,000</p>

Proposal 2

Title	The 4th Regional Workshop and Working Group Meeting on BSE and Other Prion Diseases (with OIE)	
Background	To pursue with the activities on BSE/Prion diseases, which have been jointly organized by APHCA and OIE Asia-Pacific Office since 2001, the above activities shall be conducted. The BSE working group would be strengthened with the participation of the representative(s) from the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Livestock (ASWGL)*.	
Activity	A 3-day regional workshop and working group meeting on BSE and Other Prion Diseases, to be organized in Seoul, Rep. of Korea, 24-26 February 2010. The workshop will be jointly co-organized by the OIE Asia-Pacific Office (in collaboration with the NVRQS, Rep. of Korea). 8 technical (veterinary) laboratory staff/members of the BSE working group from selected APHCA and OIE member countries, and a number of international and local experts will be invited.	
Funding proposal	Participants (5) Airline ticket costs only	US\$4,000
	Miscellaneous	US\$1,000
	Total	US\$5,000
Co-sponsoring	OIE Asia-Pacific Office will cover all costs of the other 3 participants, OIE invited speakers/experts as well as allowance and terminal expenses of the 5 participants, whose airline ticket costs are covered by APHCA. NVRQS shall provide additional expert(s), logistic and secretarial supports as well as local transports.	

Note: * The discussion of ASEAN Member States (AMs) on BSE Surveillance and Prevention was made at the 17th Meeting of ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Livestock (ASWGL), 6-8 May 2009, Yogyakarta.

At the Meeting, AMs agreed to further enhance studies and regional collaboration in addition to information sharing with the view to obtain and declare a BSE-free status in a long-term. Representatives from FAO and OIE informed that trainings on BSE diagnosis and risk assessment have been conducted over the past several years to assist countries in these risk assessment activities with regards to BSE. AMs requested FAO and OIE to seek possibility whether the training scheme can be extended into a workshop that would discuss plan on how ASEAN can be considered as a region where BSE is of negligible risk.

Proposal 3

Title	Workshop on Bluetongue diagnostic and control (with OIE)	
Background	<p>Bluetongue is an important arbo-borne viral disease in ruminants. The pathogenic sero-varies of bluetongue virus can cause major economic loss and public health hazard.</p> <p>Institutional strengthening and capacity building activities on the disease are of interest to APHCA members. Thus, a regional workshop on bluetongue diagnosis and control is proposed for funding.</p>	
Activity	<p>A 4-day regional workshop on Bluetongue diagnosis and control is proposed to be organized at the National Institute for Veterinary Science, Bogor, Indonesia, tentatively in April – May 2010.</p> <p>The workshop will be jointly co-organized and co-sponsored by the OIE Asia-Pacific Office (in collaboration with the Directorate General of Livestock Service/Government of Indonesia).</p> <p>Technical (veterinary) laboratory staff from selected APHCA and OIE member countries will be invited.</p>	
Funding proposal	Participants (10) Travel and DSA	US\$15,000
	Resource person (co-shared with OIE Asia-Pacific Office)	US\$2,000
	Lab. chemicals/reagents and equipment	US\$2,000
	Miscellaneous	US\$1,000
	Total	US\$20,000
Co-sponsoring	<p>Co-shared with OIE Asia-Pacific Office.</p> <p>DGLS shall provide local expert(s) to assist in the workshop, logistic and secretarial supports as well as local transports.</p>	

Proposal 4

Title	Regional workshop on WTO's SPS agreement (with OIE) One topic to be selected from: - emerging animal diseases, feed/food safety, animals and animal products traceability.								
Background	To pursue APHCA's joint activities with OIE Asia-Pacific Office on technical capacity building in member countries in the areas of WTO's SPS agreement, a regional workshop on WTO's SPS agreement (on one of the above tentative subjects by the APHCA Secretariat and the OIE Asia-Pacific Office). The topic/subject for the workshop will be selected in agreement with the OIE Asia-Pacific Office.								
Activity	A 4-day regional workshop will be jointly co-organized and co-sponsored by the OIE Asia-Pacific Office [in collaboration with the Thai Department of Livestock Development (DLD) and the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Chiang Mai University (FVM-CMU)], in Chiang Mai, Thailand, tentatively in August – September 2010. 20 veterinary officers (preferably at policy level) from APHCA and OIE member countries in Asia-Pacific region will be invited.								
Funding proposal	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Participants (10) Travel and DSA</td> <td>US\$12,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Resource person (co-shared with OIE Asia-Pacific Office)</td> <td>US\$2,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Miscellaneous</td> <td>US\$1,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>US\$15,000</td> </tr> </table>	Participants (10) Travel and DSA	US\$12,000	Resource person (co-shared with OIE Asia-Pacific Office)	US\$2,000	Miscellaneous	US\$1,000	Total	US\$15,000
Participants (10) Travel and DSA	US\$12,000								
Resource person (co-shared with OIE Asia-Pacific Office)	US\$2,000								
Miscellaneous	US\$1,000								
Total	US\$15,000								
Co-sponsoring	Co-shared with OIE Asia-Pacific Office. DLD and FVM-CMU shall provide local logistic and secretarial supports.								

Proposal 5

Title	3rd Regional workshop on Brucellosis diagnosis and control (with OIE) (Follow-up programme from the 2 nd regional workshop in June 2009)	
Background	This will be a follow-up on institutional strengthening, technical capacity building and push forward the regional collaboration on the disease diagnosis, control and eradication.	
Activity	<p>A 4-day regional workshop will be organized in collaboration with Thai Department of Livestock Development (DLD) in Phitsanuloke and Sukhothai Provinces, Thailand, in November 2010.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The workshop will be jointly co-organized and co-sponsored by the OIE Asia-Pacific Office (in collaboration with DLD/using facilities of the DLD's NIAH laboratory for brucellosis in Phitsanuloke, where its BSL3 module is fully functional and could be used appropriately for Brucella isolation demonstration). 2. Technical backstopping and assistance will be provided by the OIE/FAO Reference Laboratory for Brucellosis in France (c/o Dr. Bruno Garin-Bastuji). 3. The proposed 3rd Workshop shall focus on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) quality assurance including standardization of testing procedures and diagnostic reagents (for the ring tests), and d) strengthening of regional collaboration on diagnosis and control of Brucellosis. 	
Funding proposal	Participants (10) Travel and DSA	US\$12,000
	Resource person (co-shared with OIE Asia-Pacific Office)	US\$2,000
	Miscellaneous	US\$1,000
	Total	US\$15,000
Co-sponsoring	<p>Co-shared with OIE Asia-Pacific Office.</p> <p>DLD shall provide local expert(s) to assist in the workshop, logistic and secretarial supports as well as covering local transports.</p>	

Proposal 6

Title	Brucellosis diagnosis – Provision of antigen, manuals and ring test trials (Follow-up activity from the regional workshop in June 2009)
Background	This proposed activity is to strengthen diagnosis capability on the disease.
Activity	To promote Brucella diagnosis activities amongst member countries in the Region through provisions of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) RBT antigen from DLD-Thailand where the antigen production cost shall be covered by APHCA and delivery costs by the recipient countries, pending antigen verification by OIE/FAO Reference Laboratory for Brucellosis in France, and ii) Reference manuals for standard Brucella tests (the manuscript shall be provided by Dr. Bruno Garin-Bastuji, OIE/FAO Reference Laboratory for Brucellosis in France; and iii) Costs to cover the ring test trials in collaboration with the NIAH-DLD-Thailand and the OIE/FAO Reference Laboratory for Brucellosis in France.
Funding proposal	US\$5,000



Proposal 7

Title	Regional Feed Safety Workshop (from 2009)	
Background	Public concern about the safety of foods of animal origin has recently heightened due to problems that have arisen with bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), dioxin contamination, outbreaks of foodborne bacterial infections, as well as growing concern about veterinary drug residues and microbial resistance to antibiotics. These problems have drawn attention to feeding practices within the livestock industry and have prompted health professionals and the feed industry to closely scrutinize food quality .	
Objective	To identify feed safety issues in the region To develop a plan of action on feed safety	
Activity	1. Survey on feed safety and its issues among APHCA member countries. 2. Conduct of a 3 day workshop for representatives from APHCA countries that would cover the feed industry in Asia, introduction to feed safety, implementation of safe animal feeding standards and Good Production Practices for the livestock industry, feed safety issues, and identification of priority feed safety issues.	
Funding proposal	Participants (17) Travel and DSA	US\$ 25 000
	Resource persons/Contracts	US\$ 10 000
	Miscellaneous	US\$ 1 000
	Total	US\$ 36 000
Co-sponsoring	Regular Program (10,000); APHCA (26,000)	

Proposal 8

Title	Bat Disease Surveillance Workshop for selected countries								
Background	<p>Ebola Reston, Nipah, & Hendra viruses in the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia and Bangladesh are important diseases from a human, wildlife and livestock interface perspective. These are emerging or re-emerging pathogens occurring in ecological hot spots where the potential for disease surveillance, detection, response, control and prevention are somewhat limited due to infrastructure, limited trained personnel, and most importantly, because limited information exists about the ecology of these diseases including biodiversity of pathogens and hosts, risk factors and drivers of emergence.</p> <p>To understand the epidemiology of bat-borne viruses we need to understand the behavioural ecology of their wildlife reservoirs to assist in identifying where the risk of disease transfer across species is most likely. A thorough study of the wildlife species' role in the spread and maintenance of an infectious agent is critical for any complete epidemiologic investigation to be completed. It will also provide a basis for countries to develop policies on livestock industry restructuring focused on promoting good livestock production practices.</p>								
Objective	<p><i>General Objective: To understand the epidemiology and disease ecology of bat-borne viral infections and the role bats play in the current detection of Ebola-Reston and other diseases while developing capacity within and engaging Philippine wildlife officials in the investigation of bat viral diseases.</i></p> <p><i>Specific Objectives: Improve disease monitoring capacity of wildlife and veterinary officers through improved surveillance and diagnostic capability on monitoring bat-borne zoonotic diseases</i></p>								
Activity	Conduct a workshop for wildlife officers and veterinarians on bat disease surveillance including the capture, handling, sampling, diagnostics and epidemiology.								
Funding proposal	<table> <tr> <td>Participants Travel and DSA</td> <td>US\$ 10 000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Resource persons/Contracts</td> <td>US\$ 15 000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Miscellaneous</td> <td>US\$ 5 000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>US\$ 30 000</td> </tr> </table>	Participants Travel and DSA	US\$ 10 000	Resource persons/Contracts	US\$ 15 000	Miscellaneous	US\$ 5 000	Total	US\$ 30 000
Participants Travel and DSA	US\$ 10 000								
Resource persons/Contracts	US\$ 15 000								
Miscellaneous	US\$ 5 000								
Total	US\$ 30 000								
Co-	APHCA (25,000). Other sources (5,000)								

sponsoring	
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Proposal 9

Title	International Field Epidemiology Training Programme for Veterinarians (FETPV)						
Background	<p>The emergence and persistence of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) H5N1 subtype in Asia currently highlights shortcomings in veterinary infrastructure to deal with emerging infectious diseases (EID) in the region of Asia and the Pacific. Early detection of animal diseases relies upon the availability of competent veterinary field epidemiologists and laboratory diagnostic services.</p> <p>In 2008, the FETPV was developed in concert with the well established Thailand FETP that was initiated in 1980. FETPV promotes “training through service” the guiding principle of all FETP programs (TEPHINET Continuous Quality Improvement Handbook, Version 1.0, 2005). The collaboration between public health and animal health agencies in Thailand supports the first cohort of FETPV trainees in June 2009 including three international participants.</p> <p>A training needs assessment conducted during 2008 from 10 countries in Asia and the Pacific indicates a universal need and preference by governments for an applied field epidemiology training model such as FETPV for veterinarians at the sub-national level. Critical areas for epidemiology training identified in the needs assessment include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn and apply basic epidemiological concepts • Conduct animal disease surveillance • Conduct animal disease outbreak investigation • Apply principles of risk communication <p>FETPV was initiated through a one month pre-requisite short course in February 2009 entitled “<i>Veterinary Field Epidemiology in Action</i>” from which candidates were selected for the full two-year FETPV. Existing funding for the short course in 2010 is currently lacking to support participation of trainees from countries that do not have existing external funding sources.</p>						
Activities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support travel, course tuition, accommodation, meals, field exercises, honoraria, lab fees for trainees. 2. Conduct a 5 day regional short course on data analysis 						
Funding proposal	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">Airfare and DSA</td> <td style="text-align: right;">US\$ 5,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Course Tuition (including materials)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">US\$ 14,750</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td style="text-align: right;">US\$ 19,750</td> </tr> </table>	Airfare and DSA	US\$ 5,000	Course Tuition (including materials)	US\$ 14,750	Total	US\$ 19,750
Airfare and DSA	US\$ 5,000						
Course Tuition (including materials)	US\$ 14,750						
Total	US\$ 19,750						

Co-sponsoring	USAID-US\$ 100,000; US CDC- two-year FETPV @ US\$ 116,000
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Proposal 10

Title	GIS Training for Environmental Animal Health Management (Advanced Course on Quantum GIS)	
Background	<p>Geographical Information Systems (GIS) have become an essential tool in the understanding and management of animal diseases. They can provide valuable assistance in a range of tasks, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mapping the distribution and abundance of potential susceptible animals; • mapping the reported incidence and distribution of disease occurrence; • assessing the geographical coverage of control programs and identifying gaps; • identify zones for disease control; • examining spatially-linked risk factors; • modeling “what if” scenarios; and • managing animal health emergencies. <p>The previous Quantum GIS course conducted in 2009 exposed participants to the use of GIS for common tasks in animal health management, such as software installation and configuration, basic disease mapping and map manipulation, and generating map outputs for display or inclusion in reports. The proposed advanced GIS training course will enable participants to import and use external data to create new map layers and prepare maps of relevant epidemiological factors and interpret these for environmental animal health management. The use of GIS is the basic tool used under the Environmental Animal Health Management Initiative. The participants will be exposed to analyzing data from various sources allowing them to produce interdisciplinary studies of smallholder livestock production and environmental animal health. Knowledge and experience of GIS will strengthen the capacity of animal production and veterinary services to analyze data from various sources and provide an overall, holistic view of production systems and disease determinants.</p>	
Activity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Preparation of training materials (map files, data sets, software sets) 2. Conduct of a 4 day training for representatives (preferably same participants in GIS I) from APHCA countries on the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Review of GIS I; ○ Using external data to create new map layers; ○ Epidemiological mapping; ○ Working with Vector and Raster data; ○ Working with map files; ○ Integration of data for analysis. <p>Demonstration of applications</p>	
Funding proposal	Participants (16) Travel and DSA	US\$ 25 000
	Resource persons/Contracts	US\$ 15 000
	Supplies and Materials	US\$ 5 000

	Total	US\$ 45 000
Co-sponsoring	EAHMI (USD 10 000), APHCA (25,000) other projects, Regular Program, OIE SEAFMD - to be confirmed (20,000)	

Proposal 11

Title	Training in animal breeding and genetic analysis
Background	<p>In many of the developing countries of Asia Pacific countries there is no sustainable breeding programme ongoing for a longer period of time. It can also be said that there are only few quantitative geneticist in the countries which could provide quality support to genetic improvement programmes in these countries.</p> <p>FAO has supported 3 TCPS in Mongolia, Myanmar and Nepal, to establish genetic improvement programmes for dairy cattle. These projects come to an end in 12 .2009. A further project for Sri Lanka is under approval.</p> <p>The suggested proposal is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. to provide further support to these countries to consolidate the achievements. 2. to assist other countries to train staff in genetic analytical methods countries. <p>Provision is made for a 3 weeks training course and for some shot country visits by the key consultant genetics.</p> <p>Co -funding will be obtained from FAO RP through a Letter of Agreement with the World Association for Animal Production (WAAP)</p>
Activity	3 weeks training for experts from APHCA member countries In the first half of 2010
Funding proposal	US\$ 20 000
Co-sponsors	Regular Programme

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Opening Address

Secretary of APHCA

Dear APHCA Chairperson Mike Nunn,

Dear Delegates,

It is my great honor and privilege to welcome you to the 33rd Session of APHCA here in Pokhara on behalf of Mrs Bui Lan, the FAO Representative, who due to other commitments cannot participate in the Session. Mrs Lan transmits her best wishes to a successful session and workshop.

The year 2009 was again a very eventful year. On 11 June 2009, WHO raised the level of influenza alert from 5 to 6 and declared that the world is at the start of a pandemic. Our deepest sympathies are with the populations of Bangladesh, Bhutan, Indonesia, Laos, the Philippines and Samoa which were hit by serious natural disasters Tsunami, Typhoon or earthquakes claiming the lives of thousands of people. The landslides and the destruction of agriculture land clearly demonstrates that the exploitation of planet earth cannot continue and that urgently environmental policies are required to increase natural resource use efficiency and to reduce environmental pollution and resource degradation.

The global food insecurity situation has worsened and continues to represent a serious threat for humanity. With food prices remaining stubbornly high in developing countries, the number of people suffering from hunger has been growing relentlessly in recent years. The global economic crisis is aggravating the situation by affecting jobs and deepening poverty. FAO estimates that the number of hungry people could increase by a further 100 million in 2009 and pass the one billion mark. What is more: world population is projected to reach 9 billion before levelling off around 2050.

FAO Director-General Jacques Diouf proposed a World Summit on Food Security later this year to agree key actions to tackle this crisis. He comments:

“The silent hunger crisis — affecting one sixth of all of humanity — poses a serious risk for world peace and security. We urgently need to forge a broad consensus on the total and rapid eradication of hunger in the world.”

The moment is ripe in another sense, too. Never before has there been such broad international consensus and support for agriculture and for the improvement of food security in poor countries. Members of the G8 issued a statement on food

security at L'Aquila in July, and backed it up with financial pledges. Public interest in food security is at an all-time high.

APHCA has also made great progress in 2008. We are glad to propose to the Session its 18th member. The People's Democratic Republic of Korea has signed the Instrument of Acceptance to become member of APHCA.

Animal health issues, because of the size of the portfolios still dominate the activities; the pandemic fear has alerted donors and considerable funds have been received. But, the livelihood support function of livestock, specially that of smallholder dairying, has also received due impetus and recognition in APHCA portfolio. We have continued to strengthen our partnership with potential donors in promoting smallholder dairy development in the region.

From this short account of some of the issues occurring in the Asia Pacific countries during the past year it can be concluded that APHCA member countries will continue to face numerous challenges in the future. Please be assured that FAO will provide the necessary assistance wherever possible.

Before closing these opening remarks I wish to thank and express my appreciation to Dr Pathak, Director General of the Department of Livestock Services and his team for the support in organizing the Session and the workshop here in Pokhara.

Thank you very much for your kind attention and I wish you interesting and fruit full deliberations.