

**Regional Cooperation Programme on
Highly Pathogenic and Emerging and Re-emerging Diseases (HPED) in Asia**

**Second Meeting of the HPED Steering Committee
Tokyo, Japan, 20 July 2011**

Draft Conclusions and Recommendations

Recognising:

1. Institutional framework as mentioned in the conclusions and recommendations of the First Steering Committee Meeting;
2. Progress in implementing of activities by the three organizations (FAO, OIE and WHO) and partners;
3. Conclusions and recommendations of the EU mid-term evaluation on HPED program (July 2011);
4. Significant experience on global rinderpest eradication and control of HPAI, Tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS;
5. Needs to balance the systematic and the disease-specific approach;
6. Experience gained at the country levels on the control of specific diseases may provide useful insight;
7. Importance of:
 - a. Tripartite collaboration among the three organizations as published in Tripartite Concept Note
 - b. Multisectoral collaboration and coordination at regional and country levels
 - c. Strengthening of capacities for each sector at national level
 - d. Engagement of Regional Specialized Organizations in particular ASEAN and SAARC
 - e. Utilizing existing coordination mechanisms and platforms (GF-TADs, APSED, SEACFMD, the forth-coming ASEAN Regional Coordination Mechanism), tools (OIE PVS Pathway), projects (STANDZ, STRIVE, IDENTIFY) and strategies (ASEAN HPAI Prevention, Control and Eradication Roadmap)
 - f. Engaging of regional resource – regional collaborating centres and reference laboratories and alumni of graduates from various trainings.
 - g. Developing and sustaining regional coordination mechanisms;
8. Concerns about:
 - a. Sustainability of the national capacity initiatives on animal health and public health beyond the project period of EU HPED program
 - b. Different mandates, objectives and comparative advantages of implementing organizations
 - c. Low visibility of the EU HPED program.

The HPED Steering Committee recommends the implementing organizations to:

1. Continue to:
 - a. Closely engage ASEAN and SAARC secretariats and member states
 - b. Encourage ASEAN and SAARC to develop regional animal health strategy taking into consideration regional/sub-regional analysis of PVS country reports and/or country PVS Gap Analysis documents available for distribution to donors/cooperation partners
 - c. Promote multisectoral and multidisciplinary collaboration at international, regional and national levels
 - d. Utilize existing platforms, projects and strategies under the umbrellas of GF-TADs and APSED, with the understanding that WHO is an important collaborating member of GF-TADs;
2. Demonstrate the collaboration and coordination at the country level whereby:
 - a. Developing Strategic and Collaborative Framework for systems and selected diseases in compliance with international standard
 - b. Promoting multidisciplinary approach using the existing models consisting of components that relate to coordination, applied research, improving country-to-country engagement through networking, development of strategies that consider socio-economic realities and needs
 - c. Defining clearer roles and responsibilities of partners taking into consideration comparative advantage of each partner;
3. Address sustainability with a longer-term vision of the outcomes of EU HPED program by:
 - a. Engaging ASEAN and SAARC secretariats and member states to ascertain political commitment and ownership
 - b. Capitalizing on existing platforms/frameworks (e.g. GF-TADs, APSED, SEACFMD, etc.) which have been endorsed by member states of the two subregions instead of creating new ones
 - c. Defining and documenting key activities and deliverables with stepwise approach
 - d. Advocating stakeholders on the benefits gained from the program
 - e. Continuing to support the Regional Organizations to progressively build their capacities and internal regional coordination mechanism to enable smooth transition and greater ownership;
4. Follow-up on activities to ensure the outcomes of the trainings, workshops and other capacity building programs and implement relevant recommendations. For instance, the implementing organizations are encouraged to take the opportunity of in-country programs or visits to promote in-country coordination of existing regional capacity building activities;
5. Accommodate the following conclusions and recommendations from the EU evaluation report:
 - a. Involvement and consultation of the ASEAN and SAARC secretariats

- b. Involvement of country offices in implementation, supervision, in-country communication and follow-up, but also in planning
 - c. Effective coordination with the secretariats, partners, and governments
 - d. Detailed updates on changes in implementation of activities as well as the expenditure
 - e. Communication with ministries in the countries
 - f. Setting up an monitoring and evaluation system for each component and the overall program;
6. Make greater effort to increase visibility and recognition of the EU HPED program at all levels;
 7. Encourage collaboration among FAO, OIE and WHO for joint training of public health and animal health professionals under HPED program and other projects in terms of curriculum development, cost and expertise sharing;
 8. Consider zoonotic diseases, other TADs, food safety, and antimicrobial resistance in the context of promoting “One Health” (OH) approach;
 9. Consider rabies and FMD as potential examples of operationalizing OH concept and system strengthening at regional and country levels since the diseases have been recognized by both regional organizations as priority diseases;
 10. Make best use of regional vaccine banks to manage priority diseases;
 11. Emphasize at the 3rd Meeting of the HPED Steering Committee be on reporting and discussing on the progress and achievement using appropriate case examples.

The HPED Steering Committee compliments:

1. The WHO for sending representatives from HQs, SEARO and WPRO
2. The EU for their vision on the HPED and urges the international agencies to work with other donors and partners to ensure synergies among the existing projects, activities and platforms;
3. The Government of Japan and the OIE Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific for their support in organizing this meeting.

The HPED Steering Committee agrees that dates and venue for the next meeting is 27-29 July 2012 in Bangkok, pending confirmation.