



Food and Agriculture
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14th Meeting of the Global Steering Committee of the Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs)

Recommendations

30 April, 7 and 27 May 2024



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Considering:

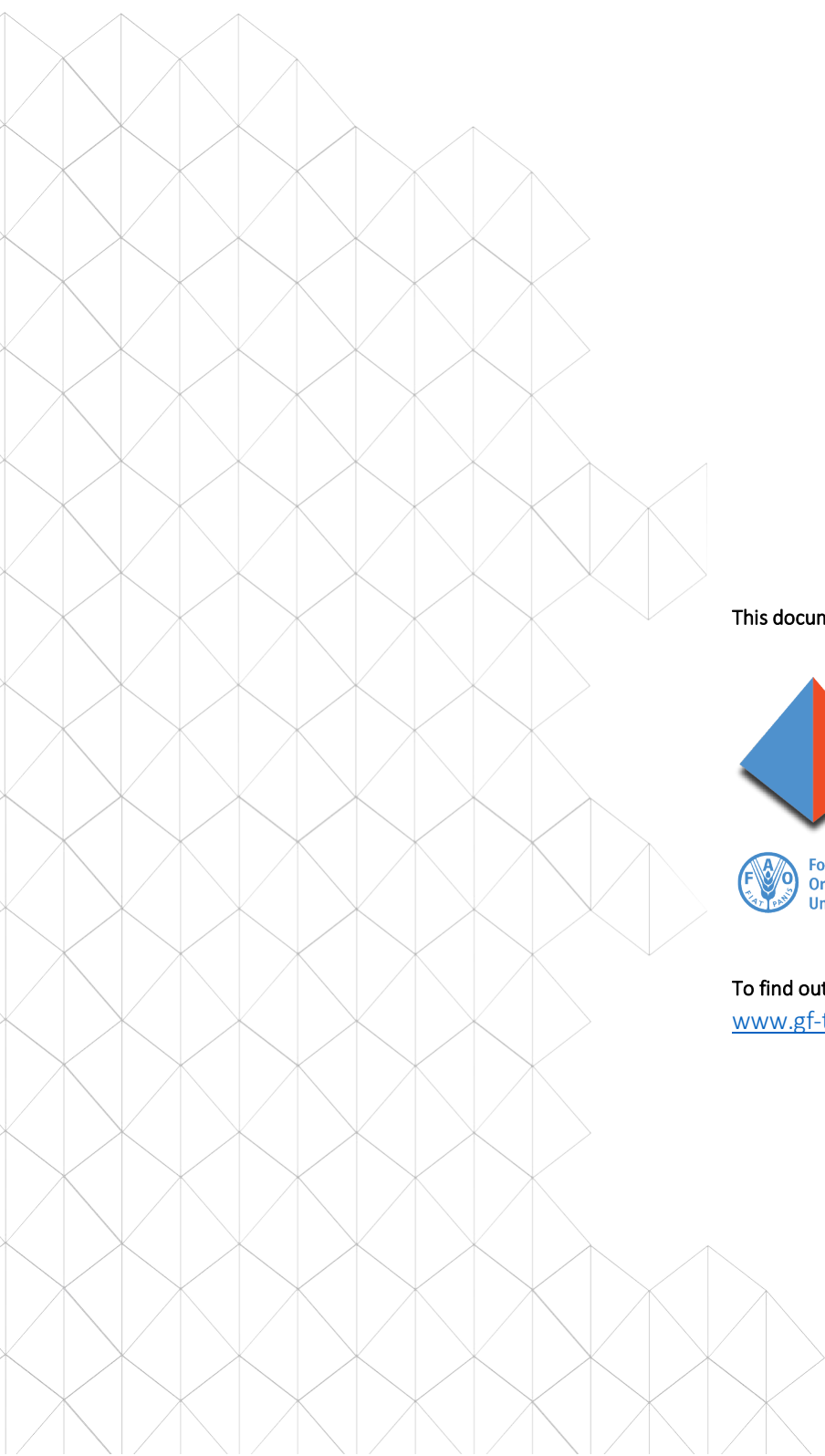
- That the GF-TADs Global Strategy 2021-2025 has an additional year of implementation, and its final assessment must be done after a full period of five years;
- The need to strengthen governance and strategic alignment at global, regional and national levels with FAO and WOAHA strategic goals, to define resource mobilization strategies, consider the Partnership and Financing Panel (PFP) recommendations, that identify funding and partnership opportunities, and improve regional GF-TADs coordination and address regional challenges;
- That implementation of the global disease-specific strategies for foot-and-mouth disease (FMD), peste des petits ruminants (PPR), African swine fever (ASF) and Rinderpest post eradication and regional priorities has progressed but their further advancement faces challenges such as diverse national capacities; limited stakeholders engagement; inconsistent capacity of national veterinary services; uneven legal frameworks; unequal access to affordable quality vaccines, constraints in diagnostics and surveillance; limited collaboration with the private sector; poor biosecurity and management of domestic and wildlife interface; lack of compensation mechanisms; and insufficient animal movement control and border surveillance;
- The development of the GF-TADs Global strategy for the prevention and control of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) for 2024 –2033 and the need to adapt the strategy to specific subregional and regional contexts and its implementation;
- That challenges at the regional level are influenced by socioeconomic factors, agriculture traditions, differences between large commercial and small holders' needs, political and security crises, growing demand for animal protein, climate change;
- That new diseases or variant strains emerge regularly, that endemic diseases like contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP) continue to undermine the health of livestock in particular in Africa; that the risks posed by vector borne diseases continue growing, that antimicrobial resistance continues to be major threat, so that a clear prioritization and evaluation of trade-offs and synergies between competing priorities is required;
- That membership in global and regional GF-TADs committees should be decided to strengthen engagement and coordination between relevant stakeholders while bringing national, subregional and regional realities to inter-regional and global dialogue;
- That the number of members, partners and stakeholders involved in Global Steering Committee (GSC) should be inclusive and balanced for effective interactions;
- The need to better analyse data on disease reservoirs and risk factors, and to fill knowledge gaps to support evidence-based recommendations, proposed activities and hence national capacity building, acknowledging common needs to address different Transboundary Animal Diseases (TADs), such as biosecurity and implementation of surveillance and disease control measures;
- That organisations that contribute to GF-TADs by implementing activities support coordination activities between resource partners and Members to leverage and synergize commitments on investments in the livestock sector and its animal health component;
- The need for more context-specific¹ recommendations from various technical meetings that are aligned with stakeholder priorities and foster synergies across diseases, ensuring a bottom-up approach for priority setting and coordination that engages sub-regions and regions more actively and to better follow up the implementation of specific recommendations at national level;

- That partner organisations are accountable for the support provided to Members, while Members have direct responsibility on meeting key performance indicators to support progress measurement at national levels and addressing data collection needs for the national context;
- That for various disease-specific meetings and events at regional and global levels, there is a need to ensure joint activities and synergies based on lessons learned, which directly contribute to national needs, and are aligned in respective concept notes or project plans;
- The need expressed by the PFP to address the challenges faced by non-veterinary partners and organizations in order to consider them as part of larger systems-based solutions and to promote investment in livestock sector by public and private sectors; and
- The urgent to increase transparency and access to planned activities and results of these activities in a user-friendly manner;

The Global Steering Committee recommends:

1. Management Committee (MC) to extend the period of implementation of the GF-TADs Global Strategy 2021-2025 to the end of 2026 to allow for priority gaps to be identified and addressed, annual progress reports and final assessment made, and high-level management of FAO and WOA to re-align the next GF-TADs strategy with FAO and WOA visions.
2. MC and Regional Steering Committees (RSC) to provide guidance to review representation, roles, and engagement of the different groups/bodies in GF-TADs, including the PFP, and suggest necessary revisions to their terms of references (TORs), by the next GSC meeting, aiming at enhanced coordination, simplification and increased efficiency of governing bodies with a focus on holistic and systems-based approaches rather than disease by disease.
3. RSC, disease working groups and standing group of experts to regularly identify and report specific national needs and to formulate actionable cross-cutting or disease-specific SMART recommendations.
4. Global secretariat (GS), disease working groups and regional secretariats (RS), under the supervision of MC, informs stakeholders on the implementation of recommendations, using key performance indicators, evolution of TADs situation and associated risks to inform on planned activities and outcomes.
5. MC, with the support of the GS and guidance from the PFP, to produce an advocacy document to foster necessary political engagement to tackle TADs, emphasizing global public health and socioeconomic benefits of TADs control, within one year.
6. MC and RSCs to enhance global and regional GF-TADs coordination through targeted, region-specific and disease groups/secretariats evaluation and feedback and considering alternative ways to participate in governing bodies, and by considering available resources, by the end of the current Global Strategy 2021-2025.
7. GS, with the guidance of the MC and PFP, to support harmonization of the risk communication for risk mitigation measures across regions, and to propose regionally adapted mechanisms to: provide technical, and when possible, logistical support for the implementation of recommendations on risk assessments; early warning systems in TADs-free and endemic countries; and development of strategies for priority TADs in infected countries to be completed by the end of the current Global Strategy 2021-2025.
8. MC and RSC, considering the guidance from the PFP, to report by the end of the current Global Strategy 2021-2025 on their support for activities to:

- a. facilitate development and access to affordable diagnostic field tests including DIVA diagnostic tests, facilitate development and access to quality vaccines, including thermo-tolerant vaccines for PPR, and facilitate development of guidance and implementation of post vaccination monitoring;
 - b. promote and facilitate relevant TADs prevention and control activities, epidemiologic system characterisations and cross-border coordination among Members, and to report on specific technical and logistic support provided to countries whose endorsed official programmes or disease-free status are endangered;
 - c. Enhance political support for the Rinderpest post-eradication secretariat by developing and implementing a strategy to enforce WOAHP Resolution 18/2011, reduce the holdings of Rinderpest virus-containing materials held globally, ensure the availability of an emergency supply of vaccines, and maintain diagnostic and surveillance capacity.
- 9. GF-TADs partners, to develop by the end of the current Global Strategy 2021-2025, an approach to provide data for the indicators on efficiency of the coordination mechanism, in particular making links between national needs identified and the activities proposed, indicating activities' outreach, cost and investments.
- 10. Disease working groups, using existing Joint Workplan, to connect activities such as Roadmap meetings and Regional Advisory Groups (RAG) to RSCs and PFP to ensure cohesive action plans to progress with TADs prevention and control and when relevant, to reach disease official free status or disease freedom self-declaration.
- 11. MC, with the support of the GS and the RSs, to report annually on organization, cost, and feedback/outcomes of multi-disease meetings.
- 12. MC is tasked with establishing a coordination mechanism to monitor and facilitate the implementation of the HPAI strategy, as well as ensuring that the strategy's implementation roadmap is communicated by the time of the next Global Steering Committee meeting at the latest.
- 13. The HPAI taskforce and RSCs, supported by the GS and RSs, to initiate dialogues in the regions on implementation of the HPAI strategy at national, subregional and global levels to fit the specific needs and priorities of the Members.



This document has been produced under the umbrella of



GF-TADs

GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE
PROGRESSIVE CONTROL OF
TRANSBOUNDARY ANIMAL DISEASES



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To find out more:

www.gf-tads.org