



# GF-TADS

GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE  
PROGRESSIVE CONTROL OF  
TRANSBOUNDARY ANIMAL DISEASES



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



## **GF-TADS for Europe Eighth Meeting of the Regional Steering Committee (RSC8)**

Tbilisi, 19 September 2018

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### Recommendation No.1

### **Governance Mechanism of GF-TADS for Europe**

#### CONSIDERING

- The importance of animal health on food safety and food security;
- The impact of Transboundary Animal Diseases (TADs) on animal and public health, the agricultural sector, trade and the means of existence of small breeders and farmers, stressing the need to combine efforts to combat the diseases at national, regional and global levels involving all relevant stakeholders;
- The Cooperation Agreement for the promotion of the joint FAO-OIE initiative “Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases” (GF-TADS) signed in 24 May 2004, establishing a facilitating mechanism to empower regional alliances in the fight against TADs, providing capacity building and assisting in specific control of certain TADs based on regional priorities;
- The set up in October 2005 of the Regional Steering Committee (RSC) of the GF-TADS for Europe (and its Secretariat) in order to ensure regional coordination and monitor progress for field interventions, laboratory strategic support, and epidemiological evaluation of disease events and control efforts; the RSC and regional Secretariat operate in accordance to their Terms of Reference (ToRs) endorsed during the RSC3 (February 2010);
- According to the abovementioned ToRs, the Regional Steering Committee of the GF-TADS for Europe is composed of the Chief Veterinary Officers from two non-EU countries and two EU Member States, the members of the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe, representatives of WHO as well as of the central and regional structures of the FAO and OIE, specific donors, and representatives of the Regional Specialised Organisations (RSOs) involved with animal health;
- The outcomes of the previous meetings of the GF-TADS for Europe Steering Committee, notably of the 7<sup>th</sup> meeting (RSC7) held in Brussels in October 2017 during which two recommendations were adopted and serve as regional guidance for the prevention and control of priority diseases in Europe;
- The FAO Regional Offices in Europe (Budapest and Ankara), the OIE Regional and sub-Regional Representations in Europe (Moscow, Brussels, Astana) have the mandate of promoting political will and commitment of the relevant Ministries of the countries that they oversee. As with the OIE Regional Commission for Europe, the FAO and the OIE representations are critical to participate in overseeing implementation of the GF-TADS objectives and developing additional financial support;

- The numerous initiatives on the prevention and control of animal diseases in Europe, in particular the Standing Groups of Experts on African Swine Fever and on Lumpy Skin Disease under the GF-TADs for Europe umbrella; the Regional Support Units (RSUs) and the need for institutional and financial arrangements to provide sustainability to such initiatives;
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> Global GF-TADs evaluation whose conclusions will be presented at the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the GF-TADs Global Steering Committee (GSC10) in Rome in November 2018;
- The establishment in 2016 of the Regional Core Group of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe, whose objective is to encourage OIE Member Countries of Europe to a greater involvement in the OIE regional activities in Europe, including GF-TADs;

#### THE GF-TADS FOR EUROPE STEERING COMMITTEE DECIDES

1. To endorse the amended composition of the GF-TADs for Europe Steering Committee (list of members in *Annex 1*), with (i) the transfer of appointment from the former to the new Chief Veterinary Officer of Russia (as a non-EU member representative); (ii) the appointment of the Chief Veterinary Officer of Switzerland as a donor; (iii) the appointment of the Chief Veterinary Officer of The Netherlands who is European member of the OIE Council (as an EU member representative); (iv) the update of the representatives of the FAO at the central and regional level;
2. To confirm Dr B. Van Goethem (EC/DG SANTE) as Chairman and the Chief Veterinary Officer of Austria as vice-Chairman, and to endorse the new Chief Veterinary Officer of Russia as vice-Chairman of the GF-TADs for Europe Steering Committee;

#### THE GF-TADS FOR EUROPE STEERING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THAT

1. The Terms of Reference of the Regional Steering Committee and Secretariat of the GF-TADs for Europe be revised in the light of the recommendations of the 3<sup>rd</sup> GF-TADS evaluation, taking into account the needs expressed in the Recommendation No. 1 of the RSC7 of October 2017;
2. The first GF-TADs for Europe Action Plan 2012-2016 continue to be implemented until the second Action Plan (2019-2023) is prepared by the Secretariat and presented for adoption at the RSC9 in September/October 2019;
3. The GF-TADs for Europe be allocated with sufficient resources (financial and human) to implement a growing regional agenda;
4. Stakeholders in Europe continue to make use of GF-TADs as the main mechanism of coordination and collaboration for transboundary animal disease prevention and control activities at regional and sub-regional level, including by making use of the GF-TADs labelisation procedure for regional events, thus ensuring greater visibility of the GF-TADs and consistency with regional strategies and policies;
5. GF-TADs Europe strengthen its collaboration with REMESA on priority diseases common to its members, in particular on FMD and PPR prevention and control activities.

*Annex 1* – Composition of the GF-TADs Steering Committee (RSC8, 2018)

<b>Name</b>	<b>Serving in the RSC in the quality of (see ToRs)</b>	<b>Responsibility in the RSC</b>	<b>Country/Organisation</b>
Lasha Avaliani	Chief Veterinary Officer (non EU)		Georgia
Nicolay Vlasov*	Chief Veterinary Officer (non EU)	Vice Chairman	Russia
Jean-François Heymans	Chief Veterinary Officer (EU)		Belgium
Christiane Brusckhe*	Chief Veterinary Officer (EU)		The Netherlands
Maris Balodis	Bureau of OIE Regional Commission for Europe (President)		Latvia
Ulrich Herzog	Bureau of OIE Regional Commission for Europe (Vice-President)	Vice Chairman	Austria
Budimir Plavsic	Bureau of OIE Regional Commission for Europe (Vice-President)		Serbia
<b>[vacant]</b>	Bureau of OIE Regional Commission for Europe (Secretary General)		
François Caya	OIE HQ (Head of RAD Department)		OIE
Ahmed El Idrissi*	FAO HQ (acting Head of EMPRES)		FAO
Kazimieras Lukauskas	OIE Regional Representative		OIE
Eran Raizman*	FAO Regional Representative		FAO
<b>[vacant]</b>	WHO Representative		WHO
Sylvio Borello	Donor		Italy
Loïc Evain	Donor		France
Hans Wyss	Donor		Switzerland
Bernard Van Goethem	Regional Specialised Organisation (RSO)	Chairman	European Commission
Jean-Luc Angot	Regional Specialized Organisation (RSO)		EuFMD

\* New members appointed at RSC8 (September 2018)