



REPORT

Standing Group of Experts on Lumpy Skin Disease in South-East Europe under the GF-TADs **GF TADs SGE LSD4**

Wednesday, 24 May 2017, 13:00-14:30 CET (Paris, Maison De la Chimie).

PARTICIPANTS

Representatives of the OIE, the EC and FAO, together with national delegates of the participating countries (see ANNEX at the end of the report and Excel File attached hereto).

The meeting was also attended by numerous delegates of observer countries following an open invitation from the GF-TADs chair.

UPDATES FROM THE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

Updates were provided by the participating countries in relation to Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) on the progress of their vaccination campaigns, their national procedures for the purchase of vaccines and their epidemiological situation.

Vaccination and vaccine supply

Countries that implement LSD vaccination in 2017 using homologous vaccines

- A small number of countries have already completed their procedures for national procurement of the full quantity of LSD vaccines needed for 2017 and have already started or are about to start vaccination (Croatia, Serbia).
- Other countries have already started or will soon start vaccination using vaccines provided from the EU LSD vaccine bank (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro) or available from last year's stock (Albania, Greece) or available through a combination of sources (e.g. Bulgaria using vaccines from of last years' stock + EU LSD vaccine bank + vaccines provided by Hungary on the basis of bilateral agreement).
- In all countries in South East Europe that use homologous vaccines public procurement procedures are in progress or close to completion with the perceived supply time ranging from June to July. Difficulties/complications may still occur resulting in further delay in the vaccine procurement.

- Bosnia & Herzegovina in 2017 became the second country in South East Europe, after Croatia, to launch a preventive vaccination campaign.

Countries that implement LSD vaccination in 2017 using heterologous (sheep pox) vaccines

Vaccination planned or in progress in the entire country (e.g. Turkey) or in and around high risk areas (e.g. Russia). Vaccine dose ranges from 3X sheep dose per bovine (Turkey) to 10X sheep dose per bovine (Russia, Georgia), the latter quoted as more effective by these countries.

Countries at risk for LSD (neither affected nor implementing vaccination)

Austria and Hungary will soon create their own national vaccine stocks (national purchase) of LSD homologous vaccines while Slovenia intends to do the same in the direct future. Romania will consider vaccination only if disease approaches their border.

Epidemiological situation of LSD in 2017

South East Europe: Sporadic cases in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Greece and Albania. Some LSD outbreaks reported in Turkey.

West Eurasia: No new outbreaks reported until May 2017.

Israel: No new outbreaks since 2013 after about 2-3 years of mandatory vaccination, using homologous vaccines in place of the heterologous ones that were previously in use.

UPDATE FROM THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION (EC)

EU LSD vaccine bank

- Latest grants (April 2017): 100.000 doses to Bosnia and Herzegovina + 45.000 doses to Montenegro.
- Current capacity: 180.000 doses in stock + 175.000 doses available within relatively short time upon request.
- Ongoing tender for 2,34 million doses in progress, due for completion within June/early July.

EU Support for LSD vaccination in 2017 (EU Member States + non-EU Member Countries in South East Europe)

- Reimbursement for the cost of vaccines purchased by national funds and used in 2017 is planned for this year; procedures were explained and discussed with the countries involved after the meeting.
- Additional cost-free donations from the EU LSD vaccine bank to be considered only after completion of the latest tender in order to secure a constant safety stock.

CLOSING REMARKS – FUTURE STEPS

- Epidemiological situation of LSD in South East Europe has clearly improved this year following the harmonised vaccination campaigns of all affected countries in 2016.
- Nevertheless the sporadic outbreaks reported clearly indicate that the virus is still present and vaccination against LSD should remain a priority in 2017.
- Unless a 2nd teleconference is organised in the meantime, next meeting of the GF TADs SGE LSD should be expected in Montenegro (probably in October 2017).
- Vaccine grants from the EU LSD vaccine bank to be prioritised after the meeting to cover the most urgent needs of certain countries (Greece, Albania, Kosovo).
- All countries are encouraged to promptly report any LSD outbreaks they may have via OIE's WAHIS and, for those countries that have access to it, the EU's ADNS system.

ANNEX

Participating Organisations

GF TADs Chair (Bernard Van Goethem)
GF-TADs Secretary (Nadège Leboucq)
EC (Andrea Gavinelli, Francisco Reviriego-Gordejo, Christophe Bertrand, Dimitrios Dilaveris)
OIE (Gregorio Torres)
FAO (Juan Lubroth)

Participating Countries

1. **Albania**
2. **Austria**
3. **Bosnia and Herzegovina**
4. **Bulgaria**
5. **Croatia**
6. **Cyprus**
7. **Greece**
8. **Hungary**
9. **Israel**
10. **Kosovo***
11. **Montenegro**
12. **Romania**
13. **Russia**
14. **Serbia**
15. **Slovenia**
16. **The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia**
17. **Turkey**
18. **Ukraine**