



REPORT

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

GF TADs SGE LSD6

Wednesday, 23 May 2018, 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 number 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 2018 using homologous vaccines

- Vaccination has already started or is in progress in most countries of SE Europe (the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo*, Montenegro, Serbia, Bulgaria, Greece) and in some of them is already complete or closing to completion
- Vaccination in Albania, is planned to start in July 2018
- The majority of these countries use vaccines donated from the EU LSD vaccine bank along with vaccines in stock from the previous year
- In the remaining countries supply of vaccines is complete or in progress through national procurement (Serbia, Greece) or a combination of national procurement and transfer from other countries (Bulgaria)

*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

- In Bosnia & Herzegovina vaccines in stock from the previous year will be used in 2018

Countries that implement LSD vaccination in 2018 using heterologous (sheep pox) vaccines

Turkey: vaccination planned or in progress in the entire country for 2018. Plan announced for the use of 5X sheep dose per bovine in Anatolia and use of homologous vaccine in European Turkey.

Countries not affected by LSD, that implemented preventive vaccination in previous years

Croatia stopped vaccination as of 2018, after 2 consecutive years of national vaccination of all cattle (2016-2017). Bosnia and Herzegovina will repeat vaccination in 2018 in areas along its southern border.

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

Austria and Hungary maintain their national vaccine stocks (national purchase) of LSD homologous vaccines. Slovenia also maintains access to the vaccines of Austria, thanks to a protocol between the two countries. Vaccines from Austria, closing expiry, are also transferred to Bulgaria to be used in their 2018 vaccination campaign (subject to EU reimbursement). No plans for vaccination or vaccine procurement in Romania.

Epidemiological situation of LSD in 2018

South East Europe: Only 2 LSD outbreaks reported in Turkey in 2018.

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. Small scale voluntary vaccination in place, vaccines in stock for emergency use if needed.

UPDATE FROM THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION (EC)

EU LSD vaccine bank

- 2018 grants: the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (230.000 doses, February), Kosovo*(170.000 doses, March), Montenegro (95.000 doses, May), Albania (81.000, planned in near future).
- Current capacity: 379.000 doses in stock + 1.560.000 doses available for order upon request.
- Additional tender for 1,8 million to be launched soon.

EU Support for LSD vaccination in 2018 (EU Member States + non-EU Member Countries in South East Europe)

- Cost-free donations from the EU LSD vaccine bank have already been provided in 2018 to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo* and Montenegro. These vaccines, together with vaccines in stock from the previous year in these countries, should cover the needs of their 2018 vaccination campaign. One additional shipment, planned for Albania will supplement their stock of vaccines from the previous year and equally cover the needs of their 2018 vaccination campaign.

Vaccine donations to other countries will also be considered following receipts of any relevant requests.

- For the rest of the countries of South East Europe there are plans for reimbursement for the cost of vaccines purchased by national funds or donated from stocks of other countries and used in 2018; procedures were explained and discussed with all countries involved after the meeting.

CLOSING REMARKS – FUTURE STEPS

- Epidemiological situation of LSD in South East Europe has further improved this year following the harmonised vaccination campaigns of all affected countries in 2016-2017.
- All countries should maintain high level of vigilance, in case LSD makes any unexpected recurrence in the following months
- Next meeting of the GF TADs SGE LSD should be expected in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (October 2018) where discussions are planned for an LSD “exit strategy” (relevant EC mandate already sent to EFSA)

ANNEX

Participating/Invited Organisations

GF TADs Chair (Bernard Van Goethem)

OIE / GF TADs Secretary (Nadège Leboucq)

EC (Andrea Gavinelli, Francisco Reviriego-Gordejo, Nicolas Krieger, Dimitrios Dilaveris)

FAO

Participating/Invited Countries

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