First meeting (SGE1) of the Standing Group of Experts on African swine fever in the Baltic and Eastern Europe region

Minsk, Belarus, December 1-2 2014

OIE – CIC Joint International Meeting on early detection and prevention of African Swine Fever and other animal health issues at the wildlife-livestock-human interface

OIE, Paris 30 June -1 July 2014

Dr Nadège Leboucq
OIE sub-regional Representative in Brussels
OIE – CIC Joint International Meeting on early detection and prevention of African Swine Fever and other animal health issues at the wildlife-livestock-human interface

OIE, Paris 30 June -1 July 2014

Global Context

- Globalisation
  - Unprecedented movements of commodities and people, used by pathogens to colonise the planet
  - Climate changes and human behaviour allow colonisation of new territories by vectors and pathogens

- The 5 Ts
  - Trade
  - Travel
  - Transport
  - Tourism
  - Terrestrial

Paris, July 1st 2014 - Last June 30th and July 1st, the Director General of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), Dr Bernard Vallat, and the President of the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation, Mr Bernard Lozé, have participated in Paris in the Joint International Meeting on early detection and prevention of African Swine Fever (ASF) and other animal health issues at the wildlife-livestock-human interface.

Pathogens which affect humans are of animal origin; this is also the case for three-quarters of new diseases appearing for the first time. On average a new disease appears every year, most of which and can affect humans.

Professionals of the aquatic and terrestrial protected areas, hunters, and other wildlife management professionals of the aquatic and terrestrial wildlife. However, this essential function is not always organized and formalized in the world. Detection...
Objectives

- Analyse current ASF situation
- Provide an update on ASF detection and diagnosis, epidemiology, impact and measures (with emphasis on wild boars)
- Facilitate harmonized implementation of measures, based on OIE standards, particularly in wild boars
- Improve communication and mutual understanding and cooperation between national VS and all Bodies / organisations related with hunting and protected areas / forests
- On the basis of existing success stories, discuss how VS, hunters and managers of protections areas together can install or improve sustainable mechanisms for surveillance and early detection for wildlife diseases
Participating in the OIE – CIC Joint International Meeting on early detection and prevention of African Swine Fever and other animal health issues at the wildlife-livestock-human interface are:

- OIE NFPs on wildlife and other governement representatives
- Scientists from relevant OIE RL, CCs and members of the OIE WG on wildlife
- International and national representatives related to hunting and wildlife management and conservation
- Individual experts and participants (EC, organisations with an Agreement with OIE, etc)
Outcomes:
10 recommendations

CONSIDERING THAT:

1. African swine fever has spread through parts of Eastern Europe since it was introduced in the Transvaal region in 2007 and the disease is now considered as being endemic in wild boars in some areas.

2. African swine fever poses a significant threat to porcine health in general and potentially impacts biodiversity and wild boar management over parts of Europe.

3. Many wild animal species play an important role in the epidemiology and spread of disease pathogens, including swine.

4. Strong interaction between veterinarians on one part and hunters and other persons involved in game and wildlife management on the other part is crucial for the early detection and surveillance of African swine fever and other wildlife diseases.

5. Awareness and preparedness of all stakeholders and persons involved in game and wildlife management must be maintained and promoted.

6. Wildlife population and wildlife disease dynamics including the consequences of depopulation measures are often complex and need to be better understood.

7. Communication and collaboration at the multisectoral and international governmental level are indispensable to detect, control and eradicate diseases at the wildlife-livestock-human interface.

8. The elements of hunting, such as hunting systems and organization, climate conditions, diseases and levels of communication between hunters and different authorities of Veterinary Services differ considerably.

9. The OIE Reference Laboratories and OIE Collaborating Centres lead international research, coordinate diagnostic activities and provide scientific support and expertise.
Rec 1 - Veterinary Services and national bodies and organisations responsible for hunting and wildlife management agree upon and enhance official cooperation in all activities related to the detection, surveillance, control and eradication of African swine fever and other specified wildlife diseases.
Rec 2 - Awareness and training programmes for hunters and other persons related to game and wildlife management be organised at the national level with the support of Veterinary Services in the field of early detection of specified infectious diseases, carcass inspection and viscera disposal.
Rec 3 - The CIC and the OIE, with the support of the OIE Working Group on Wildlife jointly develop and publish a practical fact sheet on African swine fever for hunters and other persons involved in game and wildlife management.
Rec 4 - Rules on crucial biosecurity measures in relation to the handling of samples, carcasses, viscera and other infectious material be implemented by the responsible national body and strictly observed by the stakeholders involved.
Rec 5 - The CIC continue its efforts to conclude negotiations to establish a training centre on wildlife diseases for hunters to be managed by CIC with scientific support on the part of the OIE.
Rec 6 - Participants take note of recommendations arising from other meetings and conferences related to disease management and the OIE organise further international meetings on African swine fever and other trans-boundary wildlife diseases in order to improve intergovernmental communication and cooperation in the European region.
Rec 7 - The OIE with the support of the OIE Working Group on Wildlife continue to improve current standards and guidelines on African swine fever and other wildlife diseases.
Rec 8 - Veterinary Services and hunters agree on national or regional surveillance programs which include communication plans between authorities and hunters, identification of the role of the hunters, continuing education of representatives for hunters and eventually the establishment of a network among hunters for communication, reporting of observations and submitting material to veterinary laboratories.
Rec 9 - Prior to consideration of undertaking complete depopulation of wild boar as a disease management strategy, a comprehensive risk assessment should be carried out to fully recognize any potentially negative impact.
Rec 10 - The OIE Reference Laboratories and OIE collaborating Centers continue research into the dynamics of wildlife populations and diseases; the development of non-invasive sampling methods for wild pigs; the role of wild pigs in disease transmission in high and low density populations; the role of ticks in the transmission of infectious agents to both wildlife and humans and the development of a potential vaccine and anti-viral drugs to combat ASF
## Recommendations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OIE General presentation and objectives</td>
<td>Bernard Vallat, Director General, OIE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OIE General presentation and objectives</td>
<td>Tamás Marghescu, Director-General, CIC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Programme

#### I. ASF Situation, Impact and measures

- **ASF – Disease characteristics and epidemiology**
  - José Manuel Sánchez-Vizcaíno, OIE Reference Laboratory Madrid, Spain
- **Surveillance and early detection in wildlife followed by dissemination of information through WAHIS**
  - Paula Cañero, Head, OIE Animal Health Information Department
- **ASF – OIE International**
  - Standards Dietrich Reissow, OIE Scientific and Technical Department
- **FAO activities on ASF – focus on wild boar**
  - Sergei Khomenko, Animal Production and Health Division, FAO
- **ASF in Europe: Situation in the Russian Federation and consequences**
  - Evgeny Napoltchikov, CVO Russia, OIE Delegate
- **ASF in Europe: Situation in the Caucasus and other Eastern European countries**
  - Kazimieras Lukauskas, OIE Regional Representative in Moscow
- **ASF in Europe: Situation in the EU and EU measures incl. Guidelines on surveillance and control of ASF in feral pigs**
  - Francesco Berlingieri, Unit for Animal Health – DG Health and Consumers, EC
- **Experience on wildlife role on ASF in Africa**
  - Mary Louise Perrich, Department of Veterinary Tropical Diseases, University of Pretoria, South Africa

#### II. Surveillance and other animal health issues at the wildlife-livestock-human interface

- Presentation of a film on "Diseases of large game"
- **ASF and wildlife from a European perspective**
  - Yves Leroy, Senior Policy Advisor, Federation of Associations for Hunting & Conservation of the EU (FACE)
Elaboration of an e-depository on ASF under the GF-TADs

1- ASF Outbreak map (2014 / WAHIS) and ASF Distribution map (2014 / WAHIS) in Europe
2- ASF Technical Card and Summary (OIE)
3- OIE International Standard on ASF
4- ASF Diagnosis:
5- ASF Contingency Plans
6. ASF Control Strategy
7- ASF simulation exercises (reported to OIE)
8 ASF Recommendations (GF-TADs events; OIE events)
9- ASF Scientific and Technical Papers (EFSA; FAO; etc)
10- ASF projects in Europe
11- CMC-AH Missions on ASF
12- ASF Tools
13- ASF websites
14- OIE Reference Experts and Laboratories on ASF (and annual reports)
Thank you