

WOAH Sub-Regional Workshop on Emergency Management

14-16 August 2024

Bangkok, Thailand

Action plan/Recommendations

- Recommendations for Members:

- 1. Elevate regional cooperation and coordination** to effectively prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from future animal health emergencies. This could include information sharing on animal health risks and hazards thereby enhancing situational awareness, cross-border cooperation, and strengthening the early warning system.
- 2. Improve data sharing and utilisation** within the region including **World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS)** reporting and follow-up and leverage other data to strengthen early warning systems for animal health emergencies including natural disasters.
- 3. Establish a Community of Practice** (individuals or organisations that share a common interest or expertise) **across the subregion with a focus on sharing best practices, improving preparedness and response to agricultural emergencies.**
- 4. Build relationships** between **Veterinary Authorities and National Emergency Management agencies**, including **disaster management, law enforcement and the private sector**, to **enhance efficiencies** of emergency responses and **ensure animal health considerations are integrated into broader emergency plans.**
- 5. Develop competencies of the workforce in emergency management through capacity building programmes; national and regional training programmes** including e-learning; national and regional simulation exercises; joint risk assessments; Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) evaluations; workshops on emergency management; and using other relevant tools and digital platforms applicable to the local context.
- 6. Boost public awareness through risk communication and community engagement** to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of preventing, preparing for, and responding to animal health emergencies.

7. Enhance advocacy for emergency preparedness and response to assist veterinary authorities securing funding and strengthening overall emergency management efforts.

- **Agreed to be taken action points:**

8. Map out stakeholders to understand their roles in emergency management and gain an understanding of their involvement and activities in the region.

9. Review and update emergency management practices with new technologies, concepts, and strategies to address emerging challenges like misinformation, disinformation, and cybersecurity risks.

- **Recommendations for World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH):**

10. Liaise with ASEAN bodies such as the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Animal Health and Zoonoses (ACCAHZ), the ASEAN Centre for Public Health Emergencies and Emerging Diseases (ACHPEED), the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB), and the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre); to facilitate cooperation among ASEAN Member States and speed up regional coordination for the prevention and control of zoonotic and transboundary animal diseases (TADs).

11. Provide technical support to Members to develop or revise and apply standards, guidelines and tools on Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR).

12. Engage closely with Special Senior Official Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (SOM-AMAF) and AMAF to advocate for policies, resources and cooperation to strengthen overall emergency preparedness and response capabilities to tackle animal health emergencies.

- **Acknowledgement**

13. Thank all the Members, Partners and Experts for their participation in the workshop.

14. Thank Department of Livestock Development (DLD), Government of Thailand for hosting the workshop in Bangkok.

15. Thank Department of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Forestry (DAFF), Government of Australia for their financial support to the workshop through capacity building Project.