



**16th Meeting of the Upper Mekong Working Group
on Foot and Mouth Disease Zoning and Animal Movement Management Back-
to-back Private Sector Consultative Committee meeting
7-10 April 2026, Chiang Rai, Thailand**

DRAFT MEETING RECOMMENDATIONS



The 16th Meeting of the Upper Mekong Working Group on Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Zoning and Animal Movement Management, held back-to-back with the Private Sector Consultative Committee (PSCC) meeting, in Chiang Rai, Thailand, from 7 to 10 April 2026.

The meeting was attended by members of the Upper Mekong Working Group, including SEACFMD National Coordinators, representatives of Veterinary Services, and private sector representatives from the Upper Mekong Zone (China, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam). This event was also attended by the Observers from Malaysia and Indonesia.

Considering:

- the global and regional Foot-and-Mouth Disease situation, including the risk of incursions such as O/ME-SA/SA-2018 escaping from South Asia has spread westward into Middle East, and emerging and spread of serotypes SAT1 and SAT2 from Africa to the Middle East, West Asia and in Asia.
- the development and endorsement of the SEACFMD Roadmap 2026-2030 including monitoring and evaluation (M&E) Framework for this new roadmap;

- the various cross border initiatives to control FMD and to facilitate safe trade in Upper Mekong Region, including recognition of FMD control zones and disease-free farms for trade purposes, based on bilateral agreements among Upper Mekong countries;
- the outcomes and recommendations that emerged from the successive Upper Mekong Working Group and PSCC Meetings;
- the PPP initiatives that were undertaken and implemented in the Upper Mekong region and other neighbouring countries;
- the availability of global tools (WOAH PPP Guideline for the Veterinary Domain) and relevant provisions of WOA standards for FMD prevention and control;
- the bilateral agreements signed among the Members in UMZ to enhance FMD/TADs control and to facilitate safe trade;
- the importance of regional coordination and cluster-based approach for those countries with geographical proximity and trade dynamics to enhance disease control and facilitate safe trade;
- the importance of understanding animal movement pathways, value chains and disease hot spots and the ongoing animal movement study in South-East Asia;

The 16th Meeting of UMWG on FMD Zoning and animal movement management; and PSCC Meeting made the following recommendations to enhance FMD control in the Upper Mekong Zone and other areas; and to facilitate safe trade:

1. **Strengthen alertness and preparedness** including laboratory capacity to mitigate the risk of incursions of emerging FMD virus strains (e.g. O/ME-SA/SA-2018, SAT1, and SAT2) into the region.
2. **Revisit and refine the geographical scope** of FMD control and buffer zones based on evolving risk assessments, while aligning control measures with the objective of facilitating safe trade in animals and animal products.
3. **Promote a cluster-based approach** by grouping countries with geographic proximity, similar FMD/TAD epidemiological patterns, and trade dynamics, to develop tailored and coordinated control strategies.
4. **Encourage Members to strengthen bilateral cooperation**, including the establishment of formal agreements and regular bilateral meetings to address FMD/TAD-related issues and support safe trade.
5. **Share best practices** that is being currently implemented to facilitate safe trade through establishing FMD/TAD control zones and disease-free farms, based on bilateral or sub-regional agreements among Upper Mekong countries.
6. **Assess and strengthen existing surveillance systems** (both active and passive) within the Upper Mekong Zone (UMZ) to ensure early detection and rapid response.

7. **Ensure timely reporting and information sharing** of disease outbreaks through agreed platforms among neighbouring countries and UMZ Members.
8. **Promote synchronized FMD vaccination** along border areas within the UMZ, ensuring the use of quality-assured vaccines.
9. **Enhance stakeholder engagement and public–private partnerships (PPPs)** to support FMD/TAD control efforts and facilitate safe livestock trade within the UMZ.
10. **Strengthen PPPs in the veterinary domain**, guided by the World Organisation for Animal Health PPP Handbook, to foster effective collaboration between public and private sectors.
11. **Ensure PSCC continues to focus on stakeholders group** by tailoring future meetings to each event’s needs, involving trader networks for cross-border trade discussions and vaccine manufacturers and other relevant stakeholders for FMD vaccination.
12. **Facilitate the sharing of best practices** and lessons learned from PPP initiatives across the region. Furthermore, Members agree to submit the case studies to WOAHPPP database.
13. Members to further improve the draft proposal on PPP business cases to improve FMD prevention and control and share it to WOAHPPP.
14. **REQUEST Government of Vietnam** to host 17th Meeting of the Upper Mekong Working Group on Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Zoning and Animal Movement Management
15. **THANK the Department of Livestock Development**, Government of Thailand for successfully hosting the UMWG on FMD control and animal movement management; and PSCC Meeting;
16. **THANK the Governments of the People’s Republic of China** for their continuous financial support to the SEACFMD campaign including the 16th Meeting of UMWG on FMD Zoning and animal movement management back-to-back with PSCC Meeting;
17. **THANK all participants** from Upper Mekong Zone and Observers for their active participation in the 16th Meeting of UMWG on FMD Zoning and animal movement management back-to-back with PSCC Meeting.