



**Special Session of the Regional Expert Group Meeting
(REG) on Foot and Mouth Disease
18 June 2026 (virtual online)**

**Collective priorities by ASEAN MS and Regional
FMD Initiatives**

**- AMS technical needs and opportunities for
regional collaboration and resource
mobilisation to support FMD SAT 1 prevention
and preparedness**

Presented by: ACCAHZ



ASEAN Member States technical needs and opportunities for regional collaboration and resource mobilisation to support FMD SAT 1 prevention and preparedness



Country Requirements and Preparedness Status

The different country requirements and preparedness status reported by ASEAN Member States in relation to FMDV SAT 1 and SAT 2:-

1) The Philippines expressed concern regarding the need to preserve its FMD-free status without vaccination and informed the Meeting that a bilateral vaccine agreement with a manufacturer is already in place to support emergency access, if required.

Country Requirements and Preparedness Status

The different country requirements and preparedness status reported by ASEAN Member States in relation to FMDV SAT 1 and SAT 2:-

2) Thailand informed that an internal risk assessment discussion had been conducted and that two vaccine scenarios had been identified, namely emergency vaccine use for containment, where rapid access is critical, and scaled production or importation if containment is not successful. Thailand also emphasized the importance of clinical observation for early detection of unfamiliar FMD virus strains.

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3) Malaysia requested clarity on delivery mechanisms for primers and probes and highlighted the need for proficiency testing support. Malaysia also emphasized the importance of cross border simulation exercises and rapid sharing of epidemiological information among countries.

Country Requirements and Preparedness Status

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4) Myanmar informed that surveillance has been strengthened in high-risk areas. ACCAHZ noted that the LBVD laboratory in Myanmar has ELISA antigen capacity but requires positive control materials for SAT 1 validation, and that Myanmar has requested technical support from Pakchong, the ASEAN Reference Laboratory for FMD.

Regional Coordination Approach

- *Based on the country updates and partner presentations, the AMS REQUESTED ACCAHZ, with support from ASEAN RSU, to facilitate coordination with WOAH and FAO to consolidate country needs, identify priority technical gaps, and support the development of a coordinated regional preparedness and response framework for FMDV SAT 1 and SAT 2.*
- *The AMS EMPHASIZED that regional coordination should build on existing mechanisms, including ALDF, ASEAN Lab-TAG, SEACFMD, and relevant ASEAN technical platforms, rather than establishing parallel structures. This approach will help ensure complementarity, avoid duplication, and strengthen alignment between ASEAN priorities and existing regional FMD initiatives.*

Regional Coordination Approach

- *The AMS ACKNOWLEDGED the role of ACCAHZ as a regional coordination platform for ASEAN to help ensure that support from FAO, WOA, and other relevant partners is aligned with ASEAN priorities, responsive to country needs, and complementary to existing regional initiatives.*
- *The AMS ENCOURAGED the engagement of the Regional FMD Expert Group (REG-FMD), through the relevant regional mechanism and in coordination with SEACFMD, WOA lab network, ALDF, ASEAN Lab TAG, AVEG, and other appropriate platforms, to provide technical guidance on risk assessment, surveillance, diagnostics, vaccine-related considerations, preparedness planning, and response options for emerging FMD virus serotypes.*

Regional Coordination Approach

- *The AMS EMPHASIZED the importance of strengthening the role of Pakchong as the ASEAN Reference Laboratory for FMD and REQUESTED partners, including FAO, WOA, Pirbright, and other relevant technical partners, to provide necessary technical and resource support to enable the regional reference laboratory to respond to the needs of ASEAN Member States.*

Proposed Regional Preparedness Framework

- 1) *The AMS SUPPORTED the development of a regional preparedness and response framework structured around three key areas:-*
 - i) **Preparedness:** *risk assessment, surveillance strengthening, early warning, clinical observation capacity, and preparedness planning;*
 - ii) **Coordination:** *cross border communication, timely epidemiological data sharing, alignment with country focal points, and simulation exercises; and*
 - iii) **Capacity building:** *laboratory diagnostics, emergency response readiness, proficiency testing, technical guidance, and simulation based learning*

Proposed Regional Preparedness Framework

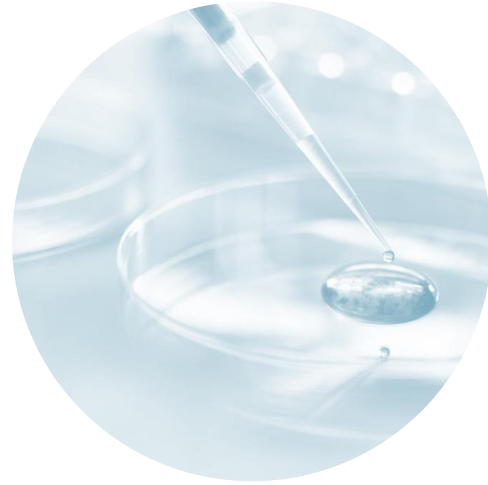
2) *The AMS EMPHASIZED that country support should be tailored to national contexts, recognizing the different needs of FMD-free countries, FMD-endemic countries, and countries at higher risk of introduction. Interventions should therefore be guided by country disease status, exposure risk, laboratory capacity, surveillance systems, animal movement patterns, and preparedness priorities*

Proposed Action Items and Follow-Up

- 1) ACCAHZ, through the Interim ACCAHZ Coordinating Officer and with support from ASEAN RSU, to consolidate the discussion outcomes and coordinate with WOAHA and FAO to prepare a draft regional preparedness and response mechanism addressing country requirements.
- 2) FAO to follow up on its emergency funding proposal with FAO headquarters and continue developing communication and awareness materials on rapid recognition and detection of SAT 1, together with a policy brief to support decision-making and preparedness planning.

Proposed Action Items and Follow-Up

- 3) *FAO and WOAHA, in coordination with ACCAHZ, to convene technical discussions through the Regional FMD Expert Group, ALDF, ASEAN Lab TAG, or other appropriate mechanisms on diagnostic support, including primers and probes, positive controls, proficiency testing, and vaccine quality considerations.*
- 4) *FAO to coordinate with ACCAHZ, ASEAN RSU, Pakchong, and Pirbright on diagnostic support and the possible establishment of primer and probe stockpiles under the ASEAN Lab TAG mechanism for the benefit of ASEAN Member States.*
- 5) *ASEAN Member States to engage their SEACFMD National Coordinators as national FMD technical contact points for national coordination.*



THANK YOU



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