



**Second meeting of the GF-TADs Standing Group of Experts on Avian Influenza (SGE-AI)
Mexico City, Mexico, April 19th - 21st, 2023**

Agenda

Background

Since 2004, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH) have cooperated in the Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs) to reduce the threat from transboundary animal diseases (TADs) to food security, livelihoods and safe trade.

On April 2005, WOA and FAOUNES launched the GF-TADs for the Americas, with the participation of international and regional organizations. Since its creation, it has promoted and provided an effective coordination platform.

Regarding latest Avian Influenza outbreaks in the Americas, it is agreed that its prevention and control requires coordination between national veterinary authorities and relevant stakeholders. For that, the first meeting of the *GF-TADs Standing Group of Experts on Avian Influenza (SGE-AI)* was held in December 2022 and produced relevant recommendations for countries and organizations in the region.

Some of its recommendations aim at the interface between domestic and wild birds, including the need of biosecurity measures at high-risk environments, such as the areas of congregation of wild migratory birds. In addition, surveillance as well as disease notification in wildlife is encouraged. Considering the specific approach required for wildlife surveillance and management, this meeting shall provide information on the disease and its impact on wildlife, as well as relevant tools and a platform for sharing success stories and best practices.

Also, the meeting shall provide an approach on trade for wild birds and poultry, as well as the measures to grant its continuity in case of an outbreak, using the WOA Standards as a basis. Other relevant topics shall be presented including the laboratory diagnostic tools for granting an accurate and timely diagnosis, as well as the current discussions on the use of vaccines for the prevention of the disease.

All the previous topics and facilitated discussions with speakers shall provide feedback and guidance for the work carried out by the GF-TADs Standing Group of Experts on Avian Influenza and define future regional actions.

Objectives

Meeting aims to:

- Provide information on existing global and regional platforms, programs, and action plans
- Present the global and regional situation of Avian Influenza
- Discuss national strategies and management options applied in the Americas, focusing on surveillance, prevention, emergency preparedness and response.
- Discuss the safe trade of poultry, wild birds, and their products through the implementation of the WOA standards.
- Identify main topics and priorities for the development of a regional framework for the prevention and control of disease in the Americas.

Approach and expected outputs.

A short briefing on the epidemiological situation shall be presented, focusing on findings in different relevant wildlife animal species. In addition, ongoing initiatives at global and regional level to promote national activities integration in different frameworks will be presented, as well as updated information on laboratories capacities, impact of the disease on trade, and vaccination.



Interactive and group sessions as well as discussions shall provide participants the opportunity to exchange their challenges and positive the national level as well as reach common topics to be part of a regional strategy. Discussions shall also consider the potential synergies for capacity development that would contribute to better preparedness against other priority TADs in the region.

Agenda

DAY 1 - April 19 2023		
Time	Topic	Coordinator / Speaker
14:00-14:10 10 min	Welcome and objective of the meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jack Shere, Regional GF TADs Chairman - Luis Barcos, Andres Gonzales Serrano, Americas GF-TADs Secretariat - FAO National Representative in Mexico - Juan Gay, WOAHA Delegate from Mexico - Francisco Javier Calderón Elizalde, Chief Director, SENASICA Mexico 	
	Current situation, structures and collaborative platforms	
14:10-14:25 15 min	Presentation of GF-TADs: Structure, activities and action plans at the global and regional level. Recommendations of the first meeting of the Standing Group of Experts on avian influenza, held on December 2022	Andrés González Serrano, Livestock Development Officer, FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (RLC)
14:25-14:40 15 min	Update of the Global and regional epidemiological situation of avian influenza outbreaks – trends analysis (Video)	Lina Awada, World Animal Health Information and Analysis Department (WAHIAD), WOAHA Headquarters
14:40-15:00 20 min	Activities of the WOAHA-FAO scientific network on animal influenza (OFFLU). (Video)	Gounalan Pavade, Joint WOAHA-FAO scientific network on animal influenza (OFFLU)
15:00-15:20 20 min	Main outcomes from qualitative risk analysis on avian influenza in the Americas and required actions.	Ismaila Seck, FAO Animal Production and Health Division
15:20-16:00 40 min	Questions and Answers - Open discussion with participants and speakers	Facilitator: Martin Minassian
16:00-16:30 30 min	Coffee Break	



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16:30-16:45 15 min	“One Health” – Challenges and opportunities at global, regional and national level	Dhingra Madhur - FAO
16:45-16:55 10 min	Results of the Regional Consultation on Strengthening Intersectoral Work on the Human-Animal Influenza Interface	Manuel J Sanchez Vazquez, Epidemiology Coordinator, PANAFTOSA OPS/OMS
16:55-17:15 20 min	Main aspects to consider when defining high impact recommendations for HPAI prevention, control and eradication policies.	Jack Shere
17:15-17:45 30 min	Discussion with participants and Speakers	Facilitator: Jack Shere
17:45-18:00 15 min	Recap of the day.	Jack Shere

DAY 2 – April 20, 2023		
Time	Topic	Coordinator / speaker
	Session on wildlife	
08:30-08:40 10 min	Introduction and objective for the day 2	Jack Shere
08:40-08:55 15 min	Presentation of relevant and strategic wildlife activities in the Americas	Danilo Leandro, Wildlife Focal Point, Costa Rica
08:55-09:10 15 min	How to implement wildlife surveillance, involving other authorities and agencies as well as the private sector	Marcela Uhart, Wildlife Health Center, University of California, Davis
09:10-09:40 30 min	Discussion with participants	Facilitator: Marcela Uhart
	Session on poultry	
09:40-10:00 20 min	Commercial poultry: Relevant actions and implementation of surveillance, biosecurity, carcass disposal, compensation, Public–Private Partnerships (PPP), and notification. How can the industry be prepared for HPAI.	Koren Custer, USDA
10:00-10:20 20 min	Backyard poultry: Relevant actions for surveillance, biosecurity, carcass disposal, compensation, PPP and notification.	Roberto Navarro López, Director, Mexico-USA Commission for the Prevention of FMD and other Exotic Diseases
10:20-10:50 30 min	Discussion	Facilitator: Victor Gongora
10:50-11:10 20 min	Coffee Break	



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	Session on laboratory capacities and networks	
11:10-11:50 40 min	The Avian Influenza laboratories network. Regional and international coordination and the role of Reference Laboratories – regional needs and actions	Mia Kim Torchetti, Expert, WOAH Avian Influenza Reference Laboratory, USA Dilmara Reischak, Expert, WOAH Avian Influenza Reference Laboratory, Brazil Carla Bravo de Rueda, Joint FAO/IAEA Centre of Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture Mayra Motta, Universidad de San Carlos, Guatemala Lic. Anarvik Sánchez, LADIVES Panamá
11:50-12:35 45 min	Discussion	Facilitator: Mayra Motta
12:35-14:00 85 min	Lunch	
	Session on current situation, experiences and challenges related to Avian Influenza vaccination	
14:00-14:20 20 min	Vaccine usage to control Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in poultry and other domestic birds: Setting the scene.	David Swayne, AI Expert, United States of America
14:20-14:40 20 min	Vaccines Industry perspective: Main technical recommendations for available vaccines and future developments	Facilitator: David Swayne Carel du Marchie Sarvaas, Health for Animals Oliver Espeisse, IABS, Chair of Avian Influenzas Vaccine Committee
14:40-14:55 15 min	Regulatory aspects for Avian Influenza vaccines registration, including emergency authorizations.	Maria Elena Gonzalez Ruiz, Director of Livestock Services and Certification, SENASICA Mexico
14:55-15:15 20 min	Panel discussion: National experience in HPAI vaccination: - Mexico - Guatemala - Colombia - Ecuador	Country representatives (TBC) Facilitator: David Swayne
15:15-16:00 45 min	Discussion with participants	Facilitator: David Swayne
16:00-16:15 15 min	Coffee break	



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Session on WOAHS Standards, trade and business continuity.		
16:15-16:45 30 min	WOAH standards and their impact on poultry trade. Specific contents related to avian influenza, zoning, compartments, safe commodities, and measures to grant trade continuity.	Gaston Funes, Vice-President, WOAHS Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission
16:45-17:15 30 min	The industry perspective: United States of America and Brazil	John Clifford, USA Poultry and Egg Export Council Sullivan Pereira Alves, Technical Director, Brazilian Animal Protein Association - ABPA
17:15-17:35 20 min	Wildlife trade and its relevance. A risk-based approach.	Kirk Douglas, Director, Centre for Biosecurity Studies, University of the West Indies
17:35-18:05 30 min	Open discussion and round table: Main needs for granting trade. Experiences from participants.	Facilitator: Gaston Funes, Vice-President, WOAHS Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission
18:05-18:15 10 min	Recap of day 2	Jack Shere

DAY 3 – April 21, 2023		
Time	Topic	Coordinator / Speaker
08:20-08:30 10 min	Introduction and objectives of the day 3	Jack Shere
08:30-08:45 15 min	High impact recommendations and strategic actions for the Americas: Introduction and work modalities	Andres Gonzalez Serrano
08:45-10:35 110 min	Groups activity to discuss and define high impact recommendations for HPAI prevention, control and eradication policies.	(TBC) Facilitators
10:35-10:50 15 min	Coffee break	
10:50-12:20 90 min	Presentation from each group	Rapporteurs from groups
12:20-12:40 20 min	Final discussion and comments from participants	Facilitators: Luis Barcos Andres Gonzalez Serrano
12:40-12:50 10 min	Closing of the Meeting	Juan Gay Gutiérrez Jack Shere
12:50	Lunch	