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To: **Participants of the 12th AITVM Conference**
(Montpellier, France 20-22 August, 2007)

Date: 13 November, 2007

Our reference: 07/003

Enclosures: CD

Subject: **Proceedings etc. of the 12th AITVM Conference, 2007, Montpellier**

Dear Colleagues,

It is a pleasure to forward to you, on behalf of the Organising Committee of the 12th AITVM Conference and the AITVM Executive Committee, the full set of documentation of the 12th AITVM Conference, 2007, Montpellier, which was entitled:

‘Does control of animal infectious risks offer a new international perspective?’

On the CD you find the following documents:

- [Introduction, Conclusions and Recommendations AITVM 2007 \(pages 1 -10\)](#)
- [Proceedings 12th AITVM Conference 2007 \(pages 1 - 454\)](#)
- [List of oral presentations AITVM 2007](#)
- [List of poster presentations AITVM 2007](#)
- [List of participants \(e-mail, tel & fax\)](#)
- [Pictures of AITVM 2007](#)
- [Information for new members](#)

Please communicate the recommendations when and where appropriate, with reference to AITVM. The scientific information provided in the proceedings may only be cited with proper citation of the author and AITVM. The details of the participants are for your personal use only, please handle them discretely.

AITVM likes to increase its membership. When your institute is not yet a member you may wish to consider membership (see: Information for new members).

I look forward meeting you and many others during the 13th AITVM Conference in Bangkok in 2010.

Dr. Robert Paling, general secretary, AITVM

**Summary, conclusions and recommendations from the workshops held at the
12th AITVM Conference, Montpellier 20-22 August, 2007
'Does control of animal infectious risks offer a '
new international perspective?'**

Workshop A - Risk Analysis, Surveillance and Epidemiology

By: Dirk Pfeiffer and François Roger

Trends

- HPAI (10), ASF (5), PPR and Vector-Borne diseases (3)
- Africa, Asia, Latin America, Europe
- Risks of introduction, spread and persistence of animal and zoonotic diseases
- Risk assessment: preliminary models
- Modelling of the dynamic
- Risk mapping
- Risk factors
- Genotyping and epidemiology
- Expert opinion elicitation
- and participatory approaches
- Surveillance systems

Recommendations

- DISEASES: More on "neglected" diseases e.g. trypanosomiasis, camels' viral diseases
- DATA
 - Ecological data to be collected: e.g. wild birds, sylvatic cycle, vectors
 - Expert Opinion & Participatory approaches: one of the topics of the next AITVM conference?
 - Strains for genotyping and molecular epidemiology: use of sampling methods and epidemiological study design
- ANALYSIS AND MODELLING
 - Identification of vectors and/or reservoirs
 - e.g. HPAI, ASF, RVF and other Vector-borne Diseases
 - Combination of animal and population-based studies
 - Models should be spatially explicit:
 - E.g. risk mapping for HPAI, RVF, ASF, etc.
 - Integration of dynamic and spatial models
- RISK ANALYSIS and SURVEILLANCE: Integration i.e. Risk-based surveillance

- ❑ ECONOMY: Economical models based on epidemiological and QRA models; evaluation of surveillance systems
- ❑ TRAINING: in risk analysis including risk communication.

Workshop B – New vaccines and consequences of vaccination diagnostic

By: Peter Rottier and Dominique Martinez

14 oral presentations

Economic justification of disease control with special emphasis on vaccination

- Importance of demonstrating benefit of sanitary intervention on livestock for neglected zoonosis (ex : brucellosis, rabies, tuberculosis)
- Approach by modelling disease transmission (science-based) leading to scenarios of impact of interventions followed by cost-benefit analysis
- Assessment must be trans-sectoral (considered at the societal level) and not sectoral (public health or animal health alone...)
- Possible cost-sharing of intervention between the different sectors (according to the % of benefit for each sector)

Field application of vaccines and monitoring

- Difficulty of vaccination campaigns in developing countries
- Need for an organized network of stakeholders at the regional/national level
- Importance of rural communities and paravets for delivery especially for poultry where backyard farming system is very prevalent : need for adapted training at the community level (local language...)
- Critical aspect :
 - multivalent vaccines
 - or vaccine combinations : interference between vaccines, vaccination schedule...
 - thermostability,
 - 1 shot, long term immunity, safe
- Importance of monitoring vaccine efficacy and link with surveillance systems which brings to
 - « concept » of DIVA vaccines (positive or negative tag)
 - accurate laboratory diagnostic (highthroughput for large sample sizes)

New vaccine technology

- For complexe diseases with no vaccine or non efficient vaccines (ex CBPP) empirical approach is irrelevant, development must be based on understanding of :

- immune mechanisms (protective and immunopathology) leading to the development of appropriate antigen screening systems
- pathogen virulence to identify potential target to be evaluated
- Development of vaccines meeting the previous criteria (as much as possible),
 - by Reverse genetics for RNA- viruses (ex PPR)
 - Vector vaccines (recombinant poxvirus : ex Bluetongue)
- Immunoadjuvants leading to an appropriate orientation of protective immune response (Th1 versus Th2) (ex T congolense HSP70)
- Delivery systems targeting the mucosal system (nasal by spray, edible)
- Virus inactivation by RNA interference and « therapeutic vaccine concept » (ex morbillivirus, ASFV)

Workshop C - Adoption of food safety standards

By: G. Salvet and Eric Cardinale

Conclusions

- Food safety: recent concern in developing countries
- lack of data
- Practical solutions / pbs faced by stakeholders and consumers
- Need for training and dissemination
- Risk analysis: producers to be involved
- Two food safety levels: exported - Local products / Formal - informal markets
- Resistance to antibiotics: worldwide emerging concern with consequences on animal production and human health

Recommendations

- Urgent need for research ↔ data
- Food safety system should be based on risk assessment by taking into account local situation and traditional practices
- Resistance to drugs: biosecurity improvement - rational drugs use - revisit drugs use system (self medication)
- Training and dissemination - incentive based (test...)

Workshop D - Aquaculture in the South

By: Marc Vandeputte

3 presentations

Conclusions

- Importance of control of transportation and eradication plans to limit the spread of fish diseases
- Need for international control/certification (OIE ?)
- Use international/EU/US regulations as a basis for local regulations building, as a way to ease the compliance to these by local companies wishing to export.
- Very important Topic; there should be more place in the programme for the next meeting

Workshop E - Education and professional development

By: Marcel Wanner and Christophe Dalibard

This workshop was made of 12 oral presentations particularly well focused and in line with the most critical present concerns in this field. As mentioned by Professor Zessin in his oral communication "Calls for substantial change in veterinary medicine education are frequent and clear", but change means not only to change the form of teaching but also the content of the curriculum, so that it meets society's demands.

Two main topics have been developed:

Topic 1: The use of new information and communication tools for undergraduate training and for continuous professional development (6 presentations):

In the Workshop E, there were 6 presentations dealing with the new forms of teaching, mainly the new information and communication tools. Several E-learning programmes have been presented for undergraduate training and also for Continuous Professional Development (CPD).

During the undergraduate training, the use of these E-learning tools is not aimed to replace the lectures, but it generally comes in addition to them, allowing students to learn when they have time and when they are motivated to do so. It gives to the students some autonomy and freedom, and it helps them to further improve their knowledge and abilities.

For the CPD, E-learning is an excellent tool to refresh the knowledge and to introduce new developments, and it can be done in a much easier way than face to face learning.

Nevertheless, among the main constraints are the costs for the development of these new tools and also for their maintenance and sustainability in the long run. This cost makes it mandatory to have collaboration between faculties and other institutions to avoid that each faculty has to develop its own tools. Another constraint is the poor or/and very costly access to these new tools in the developing countries as cheap access to operational updated hardware and software facilities is not yet available in many places.

In the previous AITVM meeting, there were discussions on the usefulness of these new technologies. Today there is no doubt anymore: products are there,

operational, evaluated and it is proven that there are successfully used under very different circumstances; a lot of new products are being developed.

Topic 2: The cooperation and networking between establishments (6 presentations)

The new information and communication tools facilitate the cooperation and networking between establishments of all over the world and also at regional levels. Examples of strong collaboration have been described between North and South as the one between Germany and Thailand (Berlin and Chang Mai Universities delivering a joint degree), the one between Belgium and South Africa (online modules for CPD & MSc programme) and the one between the Netherlands and Thailand. There is also an on-going programme involving the 14 SADC countries to strengthen regional integration in the livestock sector.

The building of these partnerships is often critical in order to raise international funds as those of the EU programme Edulink targeting ACP countries.

As a conclusion, much emphasis has been put on the necessity to evaluate all new programmes (E-learning, collaboration programmes...) to check if they are fulfilling the needs of the users as criticisms help to improve the existing programmes. Furthermore, a better knowledge of the final target's needs is always needed and all programmes should be fitted to the various contexts so that appropriate messages can reach the farmers.

Workshop F - Veterinary Services and globalised scenario

By: V. Bellemain and Jean François Renard

1. **Conclusion:** A better understanding of the livelihood and the motivation of stakeholders is needed to provide efficiently vet services.
Recommendation: A continuous iteration between policies, population (livelihood) and diseases themselves is probably the best way to provide vet services and also for vet researches.
2. **Conclusion:** Field human resources, adapted to the livestockowners, are the key issue for efficient vet services
Recommendation: Efficient field services and data collection (« services in relationship with needs ») need specific capacities
3. **Conclusion:** There is a risk to have separated development between contextualized and globalized research activities.
Recommendation: Research activities have to combine both scales and networking is necessary but not sufficient
4. **Conclusion:** Vet services can not live alone in the field in terms of funding
Recommendation: Cooperation with human health services, other field services (e.g. environmental services) and with other economical activities has to be improved; a balance has to found between independence and funding.
5. **Conclusion:** In remote areas vet problems are only part of the picture
Recommendation: Even if project driven action can develop global awareness on vet preoccupations, it is necessary to have a strong political commitment and support for actions in these areas.