

## International mobilization

One hundred countries, in addition to international human and animal health organizations (including the FAO (1), OIE (2), and WHO (3)), meeting at a conference in Beijing (China) in January 2006, decided to donate 1.9 billion US dollars for the prevention of a potential human avian flu pandemic. The World Bank, Europe, and the United States respectively are supposed to provide 500, 121, and 334 million US dollars to fight avian influenza. The participants emphasized the necessity of coordinating activities to consolidate the global system for disease control and diagnosis.

This system is organized on three levels:

A world forum defining veterinary policies, alliances between international organizations, the private sector, and consumers, and the establishment of coordinated communication policies for the management of risk related to animal diseases;

A regional coordination of efforts in partnership with the appropriate competent organizations, the FAO, and the OIE to facilitate the implementation of regional policies and provides necessary technical support through evaluations of veterinary services, reinforcement of skills, and the provision of expertise to countries who request assistance;

At the national level, an evaluation of veterinary services in order to prepare the investments required for the prevention and control of avian influenza and other emerging diseases. It also facilitates an evaluation of a country's skills capacities and the constitution of alliances between official veterinary services and the private sector (including farmers), for example in the implementation of national compensation mechanisms for poultry farmers during culling campaigns following disease outbreaks.

*(1) FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations*

*(2) OIE: World Organization for Animal Health*

*(3) WHO: World Health Organization*

### Sanitary restrictions on imports

To avoid introducing avian influenza into a disease-free zone, all imports of birds or bird products must be inspected by the veterinary services of the country of origin and destination. The importer must present an international veterinary certificate which attests that strict and specific conditions were met for the departure of the animals or their products. Depending on the case, these conditions may relate to the health of the animals, the vaccines used, the nature and cleanliness of the packaging, the disinfection measures taken, etc. A precise definition of the norms is given in an international zoo-sanitary code available on the Internet at the following address : <http://www.oie.int>

The certificate is verified at the frontier by border inspection posts that are entitled to make additional inspections, ask for complementary analyses, or even consign or destroy the shipment if there are doubts concerning the documents or if a health problem is noted upon arrival.

#### Indispensable references

- The training guide for veterinary auxiliary workers in Vietnam «Prevention and control of avian flu in small scale poultry » a 40 page guide illustrated with 14 figures prepared by AVSF (Agronomes et Vétérinaires sans Frontières / Agronomists and Veterinarians without Borders), 50 000 copies published.

<http://www.livestockworkinggroup.org>

- The documents prepared by the OIE, FAO and AU-IBAR, for information and training purposes, provides general information on avian influenza, the species infected, transmission among birds and between birds and man, farm bio-security, risky practices, communication, transfer of information, the measures to adopt in case of suspect and confirmed outbreaks, drawing samples, avifauna, reference laboratories, culling of poultry and the destruction of cadavers, disinfection of sites, vaccination, preparing the management of health crises, sample documents for the report of suspect outbreaks of HPAI, assistance in deciding on sanitary culling, attestations for the culling and the destruction of poultry, poultry vaccines.

[http://www.oie.int/eng/avian\\_influenza/disease.htm](http://www.oie.int/eng/avian_influenza/disease.htm)

- The teaching kit prepared by the EISMV (Ecole inter-états des sciences et de médecine vétérinaires / Interstate School of Science and Veterinary Medicine) of Dakar (Senegal) includes an illustrated handbook, pedagogical tools to lead meetings, a posters guide, prepared responses to frequently asked questions, monographs on the disease, slides on a CD-ROM, role play audio messages, and theatrically inspired video spots.

<http://www.refer.sn/eismv>