

**FIFTH MEETING
CARICOM CHIEF VETERINARY OFFICERS, CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL
HEALTH OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF VETERINARY PUBLIC
HEALTH**

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Urge CaribVET to prepare and circulate surveillance protocols by May 31, 2006.
2. Support the conduct of the sub-regional simulation exercise in June 2006, and at least one national simulation exercise in each country, taking into consideration the effectiveness of the entire cycle of sample collection, transport (e.g. airline carriers), diagnostic testing and reporting by end 2006.
3. Develop common performance indicators to evaluate and strengthen active and passive surveillance systems on disease status (sample size, communication network, database appropriateness and analysis, sentinel sites).
4. Provide assistance to countries on matters related to procurement of field kits, sample collection and protective gears.
5. Provide assistance to strengthen legislation and institutional infrastructure.
6. Conduct training in:
 - a. Clinical and pathological diagnosis
 - b. Laboratory diagnostic techniques
 - c. Qualitative risk analysis
 - d. Epidemiology
 - e. Biosecurity
 - f. Communication
 - g. Disease investigation and traceability
7. By the end of September 2006, conduct an evaluation of the Veterinary Services and veterinary laboratories to determine their state of preparedness to deal with animal disease emergencies (e.g. AI).
8. Support the development of harmonized protocols, quality assurance, and routine proficiency testing in veterinary laboratories in the sub-region by the end of 2006.
9. Provide support for development of a system for farmer registration and registration of captive birds by the end of October 2006.

10. Provide assistance by the end of for development and delivery of messages to target audiences:
 - a. Handlers of live birds (farm workers; transport persons; workers at zoos, pet shops, pluck shops and restaurants; other poultry processors; wildlife workers and custom officers).
 - b. Policy officials (veterinarians, sanitation workers, Environmental Health Officers, police/army, health care providers).
 - c. Consumers (householders; school children; NGO's, churches, etc).
 - d. Media (government, private, talk shows, drama groups).
11. Formulate a working group to complete a model CARICOM Compensation Plan by end July 2006 (seek support of CPA for development of a payment and financing schedule).
12. Promote the establishment of National Animal Disease Emergency Compensation Plans by November 2006.
13. Review, update/enact and implement legislation for compensation in disease control programs by end 2006.
14. Urge national governments to facilitate access to soft loans from Lending Institutions viz. World Bank, IDB as per GF-TAD recommendations.
15. Sensitize Banking Institutions through the Central Banks of the need for availability of funds and for extensions/special repayment arrangements for loans in times of disaster (AI/END).
16. Seek support for a compensation expert to review and advise on proposed Caribbean compensation models by end September, 2006.