Workshop on "Approaches to harmonize prophylactic plans for prevention and control of major poultry diseases (Newcastle disease and Gumboro disease) **in West and Central Africa".**

Planned from August 12-14, 2013 in Lome – Togo.

Terms of reference

July, 2013

Context

The poultry sector is booming with a growth rate of around 8% per year in West Africa. However, the sector faces numerous problems; including inadequate management of production conditions and significant shortfalls due to significant diseases, among which Newcastle, Gumboro diseases are playing the major roles.

Newcastle disease (NCD)

Newcastle Disease is caused by a paramyxovirus which mostly affects fowl, pigeons and wild birds such as cormorants. It is highly contagious and causes dramatic mortality among unvaccinated birds. It is a major constraint to the development of village poultry production and limits the performance poultry industry in Africa. The disease alone is responsible for over 70% of deaths of poultry in rural areas. A study of the epidemiology of the NCD in rural Mali has established an average prevalence rate of 32.9%.

NCD is controlled through the vaccination. However, the effectiveness of this vaccination strategy is limited by the failures in the implementation process. A proper vaccination would not only control the disease, but will also help to maximize the epidemiological surveillance of other avian diseases including Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI). The Regional network of national epidemiosurveillance systems for HPAI and other priority animal diseases «RESEPI » of West Africa has identified NCD as one of the top priority diseases for the sub-region.

Infectious Bursal Disease (IBD), or Gumboro Disease

Gumboro Disease is a viral disease, caused by an *Avibirnavirus (Birnaviridae)* affecting young chickens with a worldwide prevalence. The target organ of the virus is the Bursa of Fabricius, an important organ in the young chickens developing immune system resulting in immunosuppression. The economic impact is due to the mortality that can reach levels in excess of 40%, and secondary infections, due to a suboptimal immune system. Two distinct serotypes of infectious bursal disease virus (IBDV) are known to exist. Serotype 1 virus causes clinical disease in chickens younger than 10 weeks. Older chickens usually show no clinical signs. There are no reports of clinical disease caused by infection with Serotype 2 virus. IBDV can be successfully controlled by vaccination and implementing sound biosecurity principles.

It is recognized that to ensure a better control of Gumboro and NCD, vaccination of birds

	should be done at least twice, before 3 and 5 weeks of age and accompanied with strong bio-security measures on poultry farms. However, in many countries, there is no harmonization of prophylactic plans to address NCD and IBD vaccination in local poultry industry. Thus, various plans are proposed by poultry input suppliers (veterinarians, hatcheries,..) and no official control is done by Veterinary Services to verify their efficiency in order to secure poultry growers. An international electronic conference on Africa poultry industry (July 3 to 11, 2008) organized by the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation ACP-EC (CTA), recommended the harmonization of prevention and control programs for at least Newcastle and Gumboro diseases.
Objectives:	The workshop aims to review the epidemiology and control methods of Newcastle and Gumboro diseases and to propose indicative prophylactic plans to help harmonize prevention and control methods in West and Central Africa.
Expected results	- Newcastle and Gumboro diseases' epidemiology and control methods are reviewed - Vaccines and vaccination protocols and biosecurity measures are reviewed and discussed - Countries experience, OIE vaccination standards, as well as regional communities' animal health programs are presented and discussed - Indicative vaccination protocols and biosecurity measures to control IBD and NCD are proposed
Program content:	The content of the workshop includes: **Presentations** - Update on the epidemiology and prevention and control methods of NCD and IBD. - Vaccines and vaccination protocols and biosecurity measures - Countries experience (Update on NCD and IBD epidemiology in the country and Vaccines and vaccination protocols implemented) - Animal health aspects regarding Regulation N° 0072007/CM/WAEMU - ECOWAS animal health plan. **Working group sessions** - Discussion and proposal of indicative prophylactic plans for the harmonization of prevention and control methods for NCD and IBD.
Participants	17-20 participants will attend the workshop. Animal health officers and private veterinarians working in the poultry Industry from: Cameroon, Ghana, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Nigeria (2 per country) and Togo (5). APHIS, USAID, regional institutions will be invited (FAO-ECTAD, OIE Africa, ECOWAS, WAEMU….).
Organizers	- USDA-APHIS.IS Dakar Office - MOA of Togo - Pr. A. Akakpo (Interstate School of Veterinary Science and Medicine of Dakar) - Dr. N. Nwankpa (PANVAC)
Location	Lome (Togo)
Duration	3 days. August 12-14, 2013

Agenda

	12-Aug	13-Aug	14-Aug
08.30 – 10.00	- Registration of participants - Opening ceremony - Presentation of the agenda and the objectives of the training	*Summary of Day 1 (30mn)* **Field visit session**	*Summary of Day 2 (30mn)* Working groups presentations
10.00 - 10.30	**Coffee break**		**Coffee break**
10.30 – 13.00	**Update on NCD & IBD** (*Pr. Akakpo, EISMV)* - Epidemiology - Economic importance - Clinical signs - Diagnostic - Control methods and Biosecurity measures.	Visit of a poultry farm (Outskirt of Lome) Review of a practical examples of prophylactic plans.	Discussion and adoption of models of prophylactic plans Perspectives of implementation. Evaluation of the workshop and Final communique Closing ceremony
13.00 – 14.30	**Lunch break**		
14.30 – 16.00	NCD and IBD Vaccines and vaccination protocols and efficiency on the field. *(Dr N. Nwankpa, PANVAC).*	**Working group sessions** WG1: Newcastle disease WG2: Gumboro disease	
16.00 – 16.15	**Coffee break**		
16.15 – 17.15	**Country experiences**. (by the participants) Content : - Epidemiology of NCD and IBD - Types of prophylactic plans implemented to control NCD and IBD - Results and constraints - Regulatory aspects	**Working group sessions** (to be continued)	