



The 3rd Pacific Avian and Pandemic Influenza Task Force (PAPITaF)
Meeting Recommendations

The 3rd Pacific Avian and Pandemic Influenza Task Force (PAPITaF) meeting recommends that:

1. the activities nominated by Pacific Island country and territory (PICT) representatives during the PAPITaF meeting provide the basis for planning activities for the extension of the Pacific Regional Influenza Pandemic Preparedness Project (PRIPPP) to December 2010 (see Attachment 1). Activities should prioritise further strengthening of the capacity of the animal health sector in PICTs.
2. the concept of a regional EpiNet team continue to be pursued through the Pacific Public Health Surveillance Network (PPHSN) and other technical and regional stakeholder mechanisms.
3. consideration be given to development of a revolving response fund to support a regional EpiNet response.
4. veterinary expertise be included in regional EpiNet arrangements with close communication and links to the existing Pacific Heads of Veterinary and Animal Production Services (PHOVAPS) mechanism.
5. a locally based (regional) higher level training course in animal health be developed and implemented. The course should lead to a recognised tertiary qualification.
6. continued emphasis on animal disease surveillance and rapid reporting be maintained with a possible successor programme to strengthen community-based training in surveillance.
7. continued emphasis on strengthening capacity in data management (collection, analysis and archiving) be maintained.
8. SPC work with French Polynesia to assist in clarifying the relationship of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), the French government and French overseas territories.
9. SPC provide stronger representation at OIE to ensure that information collection and standards development are more appropriately tailored to the Pacific context.

10. mechanisms for ongoing training in field epidemiology for animal and human health sectors be explored (with strategies for provision of training at sub-national levels).
11. technical and development partners continue efforts to coordinate specimen shipping and logistics (animal and human health) and to provide cost support.
12. further collaboration and cooperation in laboratory functions for the animal and human health sectors be pursued.
13. the regional disease outbreak response mechanisms from SPC and the World Health Organization (WHO) be endorsed and circulated to PICTs.
14. clarification of the roles and responsibilities of the tri-agency communication initiative for access to information, education and communication templates and materials be provided to PICTs.
15. a regional conference on zoonotic diseases be sponsored to highlight issues of awareness, incidence, losses from consequent poor health, the importance of animal and human health system interfaces and prevention measures.
16. the One World/One Health approach be strengthened at national and regional levels through incorporating human and animal health policies in relevant sectors for improved health outcomes.

Attachment 1

Priorities nominated by PICT PAPITaF representatives for PRIPPP extension (July–Dec. 2010)

- Complete final paravet training in Papua New Guinea (PNG) and Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) and conduct final paravet assessments for course participants in Niue, Nauru and Kiribati. (17)
- Complete Data for Decision Making (DDM) training in Fiji Islands. (17)
- Support to selected PICTs for in-country workshops to adapt and contextualise template communication materials and develop action plan for dissemination. (10)
- Final draft Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) completed for animal health lab biosecurity and biosafety. (9)
- Audit of procedures used by PICTs to manage influenza stockpiles (personal protective equipment, antivirals, avian influenza rapid test kits and post-mortem kits) and to manage and replenish stocks. (9)
- Report on evaluation of all activities undertaken under Small Grant Schemes (SGS) (including documentation of acquittal of all funds). (9)
- Pre-placement procurement for Fiji Islands animal health lab. (8)
- Procurement for Guam animal health lab. (8)
- Assistance to develop action plans for revision of hospital emergency management (surge capacity) plans where requested. (6)
- Training in animal disease surveillance in selected PICTs. (5)
- For animal health, review of continuing capacity gaps via the PRIPPP checklist for each PICT. (5)
- Support to selected PICTs for review and revision of National Influenza Pandemic Preparedness Plan (NIPPP) (using lessons of 2009 H1N1). (4)
- Report on review of the impact of PRIPPP infection control activities submitted to the technical working group of the Pacific Human Resources for Health Alliance, PPHSN (PICNet). (3)
- Development of draft Pacific Influenza Clinical Management Guidelines. (2)
- Audit of whether/how PICTs have used PRIPPP legal framework guidelines to assess their legislative gaps. (2)
- Support to selected PICTs (via tripartite mechanism) for radio and newspaper spots on influenza risk mitigation. (1)
- Further assistance in adapting animal health protocols where required. (1)
- Where this has not already been done, integration of NIPPP action plans with Asia Pacific Strategy for Emerging Diseases (APSED) action plans, where requested. (1)
- Finalisation of regional response principles with WHO, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)/OIE within PPHSN and PHOVAPS frameworks and disseminate to PICTs. (1)
- Small research project on economic modelling of pandemic influenza effects for selected PICTs. (1)

- Research project in gender equality in pandemic preparedness. (1)
- Analysis of PICT preparedness using a comparison of the PRIPPP baseline data and 2010 status and information from H1N1 country consultations and the PRIPPP impact survey. (0)
- Assistance to develop action plans for the above countries to integrate NIPPPs into national emergency plans or local multi-hazard approaches. (0)

Other priorities

- Conduct research in such a way that results translate to real behaviour change in the community with regard to prevention of [influenza] transmission.
- Preparation of overall Emerging Infectious Diseases (EID) plan distinguishing between severe and less severe forms [of influenza].
- International Air Transport Association (IATA) certificate training (DGR packing training).
- 'Dealing with the media' training.
- Regional financial support for purchase of antibacterial gel and paper towels (for times of emergency).
- paravet training in French territories (or alternatively, completion of the French version website).
- Development of an emergency H5N1 vaccine supply (for animals) that would be quickly available to PICTs.
- Assistance to French Polynesia with further development of an animal health laboratory strategic and operational plan.