Workshop Validates Strategic Framework for the Progressive Control of Neglected Animal Diseases in Africa, at Arusha, 2nd to 5th February 2015

The validation workshop of the Strategic Framework for the progressive control of neglected animal diseases in Africa (SF-PROCNADA) was held in Arusha, Tanzania from February 2nd to 5th 2015, at Naura Springs Hotel. The participants comprised the Directors of Veterinary Services from Tanzania, Burkina Faso, The Gambia, Chad, Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda, Kenya, Ghana, Namibia, representatives from RECs, namely EAC, IGAD, COMESA, ECOWAS and ECCAS AU-PANVAC, CIRAD, ILRI and FAO and AU-IBAR.

Funded by the SMP-AH and VETGOV programmes of AU-IBAR, the meeting was officially opened by Dr. Abdu Hayghaimo, Director of Veterinary Services of Tanzania representing the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Development of United Republic of Tanzania. EAC, FAO-ECTAD, and AU-IBAR remarks were delivered respectively by Dr. William Olaho Mukani, Dr. Sam Okuthe, and Professor James Wabacha.

The meeting objectives were:
- To validate the Strategic Framework-PROCNADA by member states and RECS;
- To develop a roadmap for the development of regional and national level strategies; and
- To initiate efforts for the development of a funded continental programme for the control of selected high priority neglected diseases.

The outputs of the workshop were that the proposed SF-PROCNADA document was validated with modifications; and a draft continental programme was developed.

Following the fruitful deliberations, the meeting agreed on the following way forward by AU-IBAR, RECs and member states.
AU-IBAR will:

- Assist the RECs to organize similar consultations to identify and select neglected animal diseases (NADs) for action at regional level;
- In collaboration with RECs, FAO, AU-PANVAC, CIRAD, and ILRI, coordinate and harmonize regional strategies for the control of NADs within the validated SF – PROCNADA; and
- Mobilize resources for the Pan African continental programme.

Partners (FAO, OIE, CIRAD, ILRI, AU-PANVAC) will: Support RECs and member states to formulate the Strategic Framework for NADs; assist in mobilization of resources; and provide technical support to member states.

RECs will:

- Coordinate and harmonize national strategies for the control of NADs within the validated SF – PROCNADA;
- Organize regional consultations with MSs to discuss and identify the NADs; and
- Mobilize resources to support the MSS for the control of the selected NADs.

Member States will:

- Use the tool for prioritization and investment in the control of NADs (studies on diseases and their impacts, communication, surveillance, etc.)
- Develop national strategies for the control of NADs within the validated SF – PROCNADA
- Mobilize resources and allocate adequate funds for the control of NADs; and
- Mobilize multi-sectorial stakeholder input and support for the control of NADs as advocated by the one health concept.

The participants expressed their sincere gratitude to the Government and the people of the United Republic of Tanzania for the hospitality accorded to them. They also expressed gratitude to AU-IBAR for organizing the workshop targeting a truly neglected important issue. They also thanked all the technical partners represented by the AU-PANVAC, FAO, CIRAD, ILRI, COMESA, ECOWAS, ECCAS, IGAD, and EAC, for their contribution to the success of this event.

Finally the participants were very grateful to the guidance provided by the consultant throughout the process.
VALIDATION WORKSHOP FOR THE STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR THE PROGRESSIVE CONTROL OF NEGLECTED ANIMAL DISEASES AND ZOONOSIS IN AFRICA (SF-PROCNADA) AT NAURA SPRINGS HOTEL, ARUSHA - TANZANIA 2 - 5 FEBRUARY 2015