

# **Standard Methods and Rules (SMR)**

**A Plan for  
Coordinated Prevention and Control  
of Trade-Related  
Transboundary Animal Diseases (TADs)**

**Harmonized, coordinated  
animal health programs,  
among multiple nations,  
designed for trade-  
related transboundary  
animal diseases**

**Is**

**this**

**possible???**

**YES,**

**IT IS!**

**So .....like.....**

**How???**

**A disease control program that is:**

**An umbrella design;**

**Agreed upon by both exporting and  
importing nations;**

**Subscribed to by all concerned parties;**

**Focused on trade-related TADs;**

**Executed in good faith.**

***“Executed in good  
faith”***

**What does that mean?**

**Transparency,  
accountability,  
communication,  
confidence**

# What does the SMR concept do?

1. Begins with reality of present situation
2. Accepts what is currently being done as baseline
3. Can be built upon as needs arise
4. Can be designed to deal specifically with any relevant disease
5. Addresses both live animals and animal products



# What does the SMR concept do?

6. Addresses both breeding and slaughter livestock
7. Flexible - can meet changing realities and new developments
8. Coordinates region-wide animal health activities
9. Enhances negotiation between trading partners, using OIE recommendations as basis for discussion  
(Refer to OIE Code Chapter 5.3, SPS & JoE)

# SMR Harmonization of Animal Health Programs

1. Regional coordination in disease control program design - national DVSs work with same program

2. Cooperation/coordination for disease control field operations planning and implementation

3. Allowance for different approaches to the same disease control goal as per OIE Terrestrial Code Chapter 5.3.  
SPS/JoE

4. SPS basis for trading bloc negotiations

(Refer to OIE Code Chapter 5.3. SPS & JoE)

**OIE Terrestrial Animal Code Recommendations for Trade  
Chapter 5.3.1-8 A structure for trade negotiations**

**Safe Trade with Appropriate Level of Protection  
for importing nation - Judgment of Equivalence**

SMR - Framework for uniform surveillance, prevention, disease control, and laboratory procedures

SMR - Works within OIE recommendations

SMR - Flexible

Tailored to relevant TAD diseases;

Can be changed to fit changing situations,  
scientific advances, disease dynamics

Can accept different approaches by different DVSSs

# The SMR concept:

1. Region-wide disease control plan
1. Multiple nations cooperate for uniformity
1. Trade-related TAD control - targeted diseases
1. Facilitates trade in livestock and livestock products
1. Use for local, intra-regional, inter-regional, and intercontinental trade

**Question --**

**“So how can I be so  
sure that this idea  
works???”**

**Answer --**

**Because I've worked  
within a similar  
system for more than  
20 years.**

# Full Stop!!

\*What are the advantages of this approach??

\*\*What are the DIS-advantages of this approach??

\*\*\*What is good about this approach?

\*\*\*\*What is bad about this approach??

Take two minutes and talk with the person next to you.

Write down your ideas

## Components of SMR Program

### A. Authority to implement SMR program

CVO must have legal authority

### B. Diseases: select which TADs are most relevant - let's vote on it

(remember - this is a TRADE-RELATED disease control program)

1. Rift Valley Fever
2. Foot & Mouth Disease  
Pleuropneumonia
3. Peste des Petits Ruminants
4. Brucellosis (abortus, melitensis)
5. Rinderpest
6. Sheep & Goat Pox, Camel Pox. LSD
7. Contagious Bovine
8. Contagious Caprine Pleuropneumonia
9. Other(s)?

### C. Reporting of disease status - transparency

OIE listed diseases must be reported

### D. Authorization of program personnel - responsibility

Anyone working on SMR must be authorized by CVO



## Components of SMR Program, continued (2)

### **E. Laboratories authorized to perform SMR testing**

All labs must be authorized by CVO and use OIE approved tests

### **F. Animal disease surveillance and reporting system**

Surveillance and reporting system suitable for OIE recommendation standards

### **G. Disease control measures in response to positive surveillance testing**

Quarantine and/or other movement restrictions

Testing procedures

Vaccination and/or other interventions

### **H. Risk assessment procedures in response to active disease outbreak**

risk assessment - quantitative and/or qualitative

risk analysis

risk management

risk communication

## **Components of SMR Program, continued (3)**

### **I. Period of quarantine/separation/isolation prior to exportation**

Science-based decision making, specific to each disease

Time in market corridor considered

Ownership identification of animals while in quarantine

### **J. Quarantine station testing regimen - uniformity**

Issues of identification of tested animals

Screening (presumptive) testing

OIE recommended testing protocols

Response to test positive individual

Response to positive test cohort group

Supplemental (confirmation) testing

OIE recommended testing protocols

Disposal of positive test individual

Disposal of cohort group

Protocol for contact animals in quarantine station

## Components of SMR Program, continued (4)

### **K. Identification of animals and certification of health status**

Requirements of importing nation

Needs of exporting nation DVS for tracing and epidemiology

Individual and/or group identification

Certification and documentation

Efficiency and affordability of certification system

### **L. Animal welfare concerns**

Adequate feed, water, rest, space

Humane handling in markets, quarantine stations, transport

## Specific Livestock Diseases Elements of Surveillance, Testing, Control

### Protocols

Each disease has specific program, dependent on disease dynamics & negotiations between trading partners.

1. Use of predictive tools - for example, satellite imagery for RVF

2. Surveillance and diagnosis

Continuous surveillance and reporting by field personnel

Syndromic Surveillance potential

Stomatitis/enteritis complex (RP, FMD, PPR)

Pneumonia complex (CCCP, CBPP)

Abortion complex (Brucellosis, RVF)

Pox complex (SGP, CP, LSD)

Suspicious cases isolated

Diagnostic tests undertaken

3. Epidemiological investigation of positive diagnosis

Stop movement and/or quarantine orders

Epidemiological tracing and appropriate testing for source and exposure

## Specific Livestock Diseases

### Elements of Surveillance, Testing, Control Protocols (2)

#### 4. Risk assessment

Risk assessment/analysis to determine boundaries of outbreak

Risk management plan

Stop export from infected/exposed area

#### 5. Disease control - interventions appropriate to the disease at hand

Mass/ring vaccination

Testing, isolation, quarantine

Continued surveillance and monitoring of outbreak

#### 6. Quarantine and movement control

Depending on disease, appropriate measures applied

#### 7. Identification of involved animals

Animals subjected to interventions or vaccinations marked/identified

#### 8. Other concerns specific to the particular disease

## **Closing Notes:**

*This entire document is draft and its ideas are subject to discussion, negotiation, and revision. It is intended as a framework to be tailored to the needs of the primary users - Chief Veterinary Officers of both exporting and importing nations - and is entirely open to change.*

*The ideas here are a beginning for work toward harmonization of disease control protocols and coordination on a regional basis, aimed at Safe Trade with Appropriate Level of Protection for the importing nation.*

*This approach to livestock disease control is able to form the foundation of the livestock health & disease control program upon which the Livestock Health Certification program can be based.*

**OK - great!! We understand.**

**So now - - - - -**

**What will kill  
this idea????**

**The most significant danger to this approach is that importing nations make their import rules too complex and impossible to fulfill.**

**As discussion and negotiation take place, it is important that making the SMR system:**

***\* overly complex;***

***\*\* difficult to accomplish; and,***

***\*\*\* too expensive to operate  
will destroy it.***

**The most streamlined, cost effective, and useable design will work better than one that is not achievable.**



**If the system fails, trade will go on regardless, as it always has, but with higher risk to the importer.**  
**idea of this approach, as specified in the OIE Principle of Equivalence, is *Protection of the importer.***

**But the importer can also make it useless if too much is demanded.**

**Many thanks for your attention.**

***Let's stand up and stretch.***

**Questions?**

**Discussion??**