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Promotion of Regional Integration in the SADC Livestock Sector (PRINT) 9 ACP SAD 002



The Livestock sector in the SADC region

Workshop on Veterinary Public Health - Food Safety control in the SADC region (Food originating from Livestock)

Dates: 26th - 28th February 2007

Antananarivo, Madagascar

Venue: Hotel Colbert, Antananarivo



Partners: PRINT project (SADC-FANR), Gaborone Botswana
Ministry of Agriculture Botswana DAH, DAP
MAEP-DASPS Madagascar
MAEP-DIREL Madagascar
University of Antananarivo / CIRAD
CODEX Alimentarius / OIE

Member States:

Angola
Botswana
Lesotho
Madagascar

Malawi
Mauritius
Moçambique
Namibia

République Démocratique du Congo
South Africa
Swaziland
United Republic of Tanzania

Zambia
Zimbabwe

All correspondence should be addressed to the Executive Secretary

The PRINT livestock project – an introduction

The Livestock Sector Unit (LSU) in the Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources (FANR) Directorate of the SADC Secretariat is entrusted to promote regional integration and sustainable livestock development. The EU¹ funded PRINT Livestock Project in FANR became operational in July 2005 and is mandated to support FANR in this endeavour.

PRINT will contribute to the promotion of the Livestock (LS) sector in the region through a variety of activities, namely the establishment of a LIMS (Livestock information management system, i.e. an information system linking member states to the SADC secretariat, with a regional database, and a knowledge centre on the LS sector), the launch of topical studies and consultancies of sub-regional and regional interest, a training component (capacity building of professionals from the public sector), the organisation of LS policy-related workshops and the support of the four ad hoc *sub committees* which are reporting yearly to the Livestock Technical Committee of SADC (LTC).

The collection of reliable information on animal health², animal production, marketing and trade of Livestock products, and the generation of up-to-date analysis will eventually be made available to the partners in the 14 Member States. The SADC secretariat, the LTC, the sub committees and their chairs will be the owners and official custodians of the LIMS.

Background on “Veterinary Public Health & Food safety” in the international community.

Veterinary Public Health was defined by a WHO³ consultation on "future trends in veterinary public health" held in Teramo, Italy in 1999 as "the sum of all contributions to the physical, mental and social well-being of humans through an understanding and application of veterinary science". Zoonoses are the core domain of VPH, but VPH is involved in other topics of public health.

Very recently the **BEIJING DECLARATION on FOOD SAFETY** was adopted by consensus by the High-level International Food Safety Forum - “Enhancing Food Safety in a Global Community” held in Beijing, the People’s Republic of China on 26 and 27 November 2007. If this declaration addresses Food in general (from different origin animal and vegetal), this is of particular interest for the veterinary community and the production sector who deal with food originating from Livestock production.

« In recalling that access to safe food and a nutritionally adequate diet is a right of each individual and in recognition that:

- **Oversight of food safety** is an essential public health function that protects consumers from health risks posed by **biological, chemical and physical** hazards in food as well as by conditions of food;
- **Foodborne risks**, if not controlled, can be major **causes of disease** and premature death as well as lost productivity and **heavy economic burdens**;
- **Equal application of food safety measures between countries** as well as **within countries** can improve global food safety;

¹ European Union

² Cf. Web: <http://www.sadc.int/fanr/print/index.php>

³ source FAO WHO

- **Integrated food safety systems** are best suited to address potential risks across the entire food-chain from **production to consumption**;
- Food safety measures should be based on **sound scientific evidence** and risk analysis principles and should not unnecessarily create barriers to trade;
- Production of safe food is primarily the responsibility of the **food industry**;
- **Education of consumers** is critical in promoting safe food practices in the home; and,
- Interactive **communication with consumers** is important for assuring that **societal values and expectations** are considered in the decision-making process.

Therefore, all countries are urged to:

- **Establish competent food safety authorities** as independent and trusted public health bodies within a comprehensive production-to-consumption **legislative framework**;
- Develop transparent **regulation and other measures based on risk analysis** to ensure safety of the food supply from production to consumption, harmonized with the guidance of the **Codex Alimentarius Commission** and other relevant international **standards-setting** bodies;
- Ensure adequate and effective enforcement of food safety legislation using risk-based methods, such as the **Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point system**, where possible;
- Establish food and total diet monitoring programmes with linkages to **human and food-animal disease surveillance systems** to obtain rapid and reliable information on **prevalence and emergence of foodborne diseases** and hazards in the food supply;
- Establish procedures, including tracing and recall systems in conjunction with industry, to rapidly identify, **investigate and control food safety incidents** and to advise WHO of those that fall under the International Health Regulations (IHR) (2005) through the International Food Safety Authorities Network (INFOSAN) and the National IHR Focal Point;
- **Communicate and consult effectively** with consumers, the food industry, and other stakeholders in developing, implementing and reviewing food safety policies and priorities, including education and other matters of concern; and,
- Expedite the **strengthening of food safety capacities** through effective cooperation between developing and developed countries as well as among developing countries, thus promoting safer food for all.”

Background on the collaboration between PRINT livestock project and other institutions involved in the Livestock sector in the SADC region

Collaboration with the SADC livestock technical committee LTC and its four sub-committees

PRINT livestock project works directly with the Livestock Technical Committee LTC, which last met in April 2007 in Lesotho, and its four sub-committees. These sub-committees have been established as important thematic task forces in the following areas:

- Epidemiology and Informatics sub-committee chaired by Namibia
- Veterinary Laboratory Diagnostic sub-committee, chaired by Zimbabwe
- Animal Production & Veld (Rangeland) and Marketing sub-committee, chaired by South Africa
- Veterinary Public Health & Food safety sub-committee, chaired by Botswana

Objectives of the workshop

After a series of short presentations, made by key experts in the domain, in order to keep the audience abreast of new development and knowledge, the agenda prepared will allow to debate various aspects of VPH and FS.

It will be the first meeting of the **Sub committee on Veterinary public health – Food safety**, now chaired by Botswana. This group represents which an ad hoc task force, should now meet at least once a year, propose and plan activities of regional dimension and present his report to the LTC of SADC (presented by the chair). On the occasion of its first meeting, the *modus operandi* of the sub committee and its original ToR's (terms of reference) will be re-examined.

In order to prevent foodborne diseases and reduce economic losses associated to food safety issues and mitigate foodstuff quality problems, different mechanisms are put in places by Member states (MS) at various stages of the food chain (Production, Storage, Processing, Marketing and Consumption of Livestock products), in various commodity chains (meat, dairy, eggs..) and in contrasted marketing and trading contexts (export market or domestic urban and rural retailing markets). Therefore the meeting will have for first objective to allow presentation of the inventory of institutional and technical measures put in place by MS.

Another objective of this meeting is also, thanks to cross fertilisation & expert presentations, to revisit the strategies established on VPH-FS at national and regional level. It will be possible to assess the performance of national food safety systems by comparing the situation across the region using three major frameworks covering the topic:

- The legal framework: official standards, regulations & laws (acts)..
- The institutional framework : mandate of public institutions & authorities, legal share of responsibilities regarding control of food products of animal origin between different ministries, private and public bodies (laboratories), financial and human resources in place, level of awareness of policy makers, level of support and promotion of standards in private forums (consultation mechanisms and partnership between the public sector, the commodity associations and the industry)
- The technical and organizational framework: laboratory analytical capacity (public, private), status of certification of food laboratories, certification and agreement of processing infrastructures like abattoirs, dairy plants, use of traceability systems for products and their labeling, skills and capacity of control organizations, risk assessment methods used, processing facilities in the industry and specific risks, level of achievement of the reporting system (data, information, intelligence)...

Therefore national presentations will be made by SADC MS, hence presenting a vast variety of socio-economic, geographical and epidemiological contexts which the audience will learn lessons from.

As similar VPH-FS issues should also be addressed at regional level, some working groups will be organized on hot topics, with facilitators and “rapporteurs” in order to seek ways of coordinating, harmonizing and improving approaches between the various stakeholders involved (e.g. Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Health, Ministry of trade and Industry) and towards:

1. the improvement of the legislation and the reinforcement of VPH-FS-related public services, with capacity building
2. the improvement of operational prevention and control measures taken at national level to implement the surveillance of food chains, including the involvement of the private sector,

3. the dissemination and the improvement of methods to assess hazards in the food chains,
4. the improvement of the information system, the linking of national systems to regional and to international efforts, the promotion of systems that should be adopted to properly report on occurrence of foodborne diseases, on zoonotic diseases, to report on activities of inspection, prevention and control in the dairy and meat industrial premises (agro industry), in the small scale and local processing plants, in retailing markets, outlets and shops, and in consuming public places (e.g. restaurants, hospital & school cafeterias..)
5. the clarification of the respective roles and responsibilities of the stakeholders involved at national level: laboratories (public and private), the private production sector (producers, processors, wholesalers, transporters..), in managing hygienic measures and adopting prevention & control mechanisms particularly in two commodity chains: the dairy industry and the meat industry
6. the best bet structure and means of collaboration for managing VPH-FS issues at regional level, facilitated by SADC through the PRINT project
 - e.g. the respective role of the SADC/LTC sub-committees
 - and any other mean to facilitate this process

Methodology of the workshop

The workshop will adopt an interactive process, with key introductory presentations. Discussions will be organized as thematic working groups under the guidance of facilitators and outputs will be documented by *rapporteurs*. Recommendations will be elaborated to provide guidance for the future activities of the sub committee members in 2008-09 and to be presented by the chair at the next LTC meeting to be held in Gaborone, Botswana from 22-24th April 2008.

There will be also a presentation of products from the private sector (products of animal origin in Madagascar).

Key documents will also be made available as hard copies in order for participants to be able to refer to key literature during the working groups sessions.

Provisional time plan

General daily timetable:

Start of Morning Sessions:	8.30
Coffee beak:	10.30
Lunch Break:	13.00
Start of Afternoon Session	14.00
Coffee beak:	15.30
End of Session	18.00

Venue and Accommodation:

Hotel Le Colbert, 29 Rue PRINCE RATSIMAMANGA, Tananarive Madagascar, BP 341, TEL : 261 20 22 202-02, FAX : 261 20 22 340-12 ou 22 254-97, WEB : www.colbert-hotel.com, www.hotel-luxe-madagascar.com, E-mail : colbert@simicro.mg, colbert@wanadoo.mg

Attendance and Costs:

PRINT has limited funds available to support the participation of selected representatives of Member States. A selection of delegates will be supported with PTA air-tickets and Per Diems (EDF rates applying to Madagascar). The project will prepay some expenses that will

be deducted from per diem in order to facilitate booking of accommodation and meals. In order to facilitate interactive sessions, the number of participants will be reduced to a minimum, though we will keep the principle of sponsoring a mix of institutions (Bureau of standards, Ministry of Health, VPH-FS sections of Ministry of Agriculture, representatives of the private sector and of the service providers (laboratory)).

Governmental institutions will have to nominate their representatives which activity relates to the particular topic. PRINT will also consult with the Farmers unions and the Industry in order to offer them a significant representation. Selected local participants from the hosting country (Madagascar) will be allowed to attend as observers or active participants.

Translation service:

Though the presentations will be held in English, one of the three official languages of SADC, a translation service from French to English (and English to French) will be offered to facilitate interventions from the local participants.

Time Plan

Registration will start upon arrival the days before, i.e. on Monday 25th February and Sunday 24th

DAY ONE Tuesday 26th February 2008

MORNING SESSION

8.00 hrs: arrival of delegates

Final registrations

8.30 hrs: opening ceremony

9.00 hrs national anthem

- Welcoming address: *Director of Animal health and Phytosanitary (DSAPS-MAEP, Madagascar), Dr Josoa L.H. RAKOTOSAMIMANANA*
- Opening remarks from SADC - FANR *Dr. Beedee Hulmann, Senior Program manager Livestock FANR SADC,*
- Introductory speech *from his Excellency the Head of Delegation of the European Union (ambassador of EU in Madagascar), Mr Jean-Claude BOIDIN*
- Welcoming address and official opening: *His Excellency the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAEP, Madagascar) Mr Marius RATOLOJANAHARY*

10.00 hrs: Coffee break (15 mn)

10.15 hrs

- Introduction to the meeting, *Dr. Pascal Bonnet Chief Technical Advisor CTA PRINT*
- Introduction to SADC FANR and to PRINT livestock project *Dr. Beedee Hulmann, Senior Program manager Livestock FANR SADC Dr. Welbourne Madzima, project coordinator,*

Technical session: Short presentations (10 to 20 minutes), followed by a brief discussion (5-10 minutes) (i.e. maximum 30 mn per topic), Chairperson: *Dr. Beedee Hulmann FANR LSU*

10.30 hrs:

- Presentation by CODEX: “Emerging issues in VPH and food safety », CODEX⁴ representative, *Dr Claude J. S. Mosha Chair person CODEX alimentarius Commission, Chief Standards Officer (Food Safety & Quality) Head, Agriculture and Food Section Tanzania Bureau of Standards*

11.00 hrs

- Presentation of the proposed ToR's of the VPH FS sub committee, by the Chair of the sub committee (Botswana), *Dr Fanikiso Head of DAH Botswana, represented by Dr Kerapetse*

11.20 hrs

- Collaborative work on VPH related issues Research at the University of Antananarivo, Food control improvements: strengthening good hygienic practices by *Samira Sarter, CIRAD researcher - University of Antananarivo Qualisud*

⁴ Codex Alimentarius Commission, a body set up under the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme to develop food standards, guidelines, codes of practice and related texts. EFSA supports the European Commission in relation to such scientific discussions.

11.40 hrs

- The perspective of OIE regarding VPH: evolution of the rules tools and standards regarding VPH and FS: Legislation on drug use (antibiotics, Dakar meeting in March) Health code, PVS, Twinning. *by OIE SRO, Dr Mtei Regional representative and Dr. P. Bastiaensen, Programme officer(to be confirmed)*

12.00 hrs

- Training of professionals staff on Meat inspection and hygiene of Meat products, the main National and Regional stakes *by Dr A. Aganga Director MITC Botswana (to be confirmed)*

12.20 hrs

- Lessons to learn from Research on the use of Antibiotics in the Aquaculture sector: Antibiotic resistance, its significance and its impacts on health management, *by Samira Sarter, CIRAD researcher - University of Antananarivo Qualisud*

12.40 hrs

- A few Information about New Food Safety-related projects at SADC : MRL minimum residue levels project (EU funded) *by Dr Pascal Bonnet PRINT*



Lunch break 13.00 hrs

AFTERNOON SESSION

Presentation of National Reports on VPH FS from the 14 Member States on VPH- Food safety status of art, and national strategy, activities and stakes. The national reports can be also reflected into contents of posters if MS would like to bring some to be presented during the breaks (template A0 maximum size).

Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Short presentations (10 to 20 minutes), followed by a brief discussion (10 minutes) (i.e. maximum 30 mn per topic), Chairperson: *Dr Claude J. S. Moshia CODEX*

14.00 hrs:

- Presentation from Angola

14.30 hrs:

- Presentation from Botswana

15.00 hrs:

- Presentation from Democratic Republic of Congo

15.30 coffee break

16.00 hrs **Working groups**

Introduction to the working group sessions by *Dr. Pascal Bonnet*

Six (6) topics / questions for working groups will be proposed for the afternoon sessions for day 1 and 2. They are listed in the annex; a selection will be made before the event according to time and interest. There will be a split of the audience into working groups of about 5-10 people, with rapporteurs.

First Session with working groups: *objective: promote an interactive debate and seek for improvements and solutions, (some guidelines and supporting document for discussion will be distributed)*

17.30 hrs Plenary session: First Presentation from rapporteurs of working groups, 10 minutes each (maximum three working groups reporting)
15 minutes discussion

18.00 hrs end

DAY TWO Thursday 27th February

Early visits in one retailing urban market place of the city

MORNING SESSION

Continuation of Presentation of National Reports on VPH FS from the 14 Member States on VPH-Food safety status of art, and strategy activities and stakes.

Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe

National Presentations

Chair; Dr A. Aganga

8.15 A brief Introduction: Importance of the Regional reporting system at SADC

- Regional reporting : a stake for LIMS Livestock information Management system towards better Livestock policy: Documenting key features related to VPH FS action plans in the SADC LIMS, e.g. capacity of laboratories in the control of microbiological and chemical hazards in Food stuffs, condemnation rates in abattoirs, mapping of major food processing infrastructures and assessment of risks: *by Dr Pascal Bonnet PRINT*
 - some attempts by PRINT within the LIMS system: presentation of harmonized meat inspection templates, laboratory characteristics into LIMS, selection of Infrastructures to be documented at SADC level, manual and templates for disease reporting at SADC

8.30 hrs

- Presentation from Lesotho

9.00 hrs

- Presentation from Madagascar

9.30 hrs

- Presentation from Malawi

10.00 hrs

- Presentation from Mauritius

10.30 hrs coffee break

11.00

- Presentation from Mozambique

11.30

- Presentation from Namibia

12.00

- Presentation from South Africa

12.30

- Presentation from Swaziland



Lunch break 13.00 hrs

AFTERNOON SESSION

National Presentations

Chair; Dr W. Madzima

14.00 hrs

- Presentation from Tanzania

14.30 hrs

- Presentation from Zambia

15.00 hrs

- Presentation from Zimbabwe

15.30 hrs coffee break

16.00 hrs

Second Session with working groups: *objective: promote an interactive debate and seek for improvements and solutions, (some guidelines and supporting document for discussion will be distributed)*

17.30 hrs Plenary session: First Presentation from rapporteurs of working groups, 10 minutes each (maximum three working groups reporting), 15 minutes discussion

18.00 hrs end

DAY THREE Thursday 28th February

Early visits in retailing urban market places of the capital

MORNING SESSION

Chair; Dr Kerapetse

08.30 hrs

Continuation of working groups sessions

Plenary session: Presentation from rapporteurs, 10 minutes each (maximum three working groups reporting)

15 minutes discussion

09.30 hrs

- Discussion of the overall conclusions of working sessions to the plenary session, (with rapporteurs of each group)

10.30: break

11.00

- Drafting of recommendations (Formulation and presentation): Chair (Botswana), chairmen of sessions, plus rapporteurs of working groups, plus PRINT /and co-organizers (Madagascar delegate)

12.00 hrs

- Presentation of recommendations – resolutions and plan of action for 2008-2009 and Closure
Chair of the sub committee (Botswana), Dr. Beedee Hulmann FANR LSU, Dr. Welbourne Madzima and Dr Pascal Bonnet PRINT,

12.30 hrs: Lunch break

AFTERNOON SESSION

13.00 hrs

- Tour of the city

Venue:

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Annexe

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Invited Organisations

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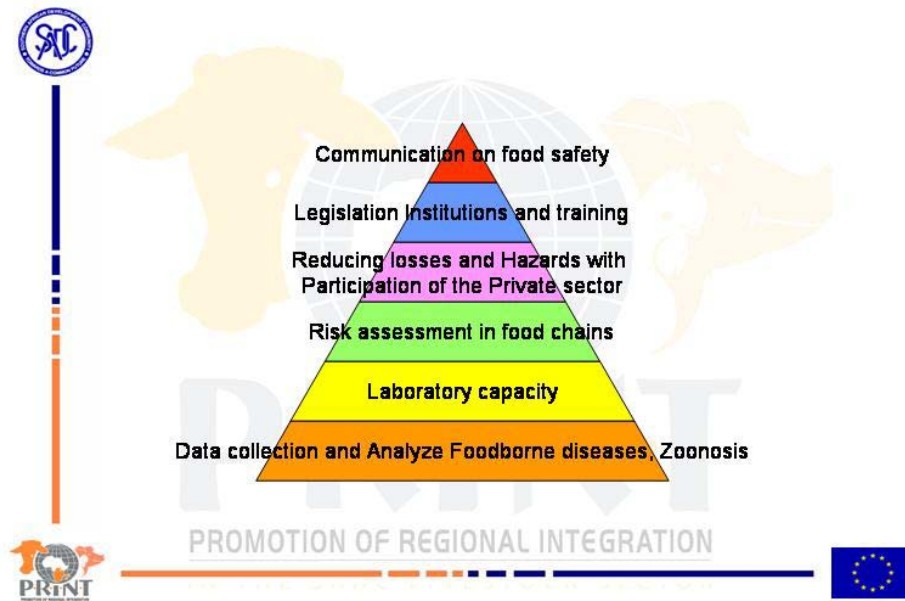
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OIE SRO Gaborone Botswana

Proposed topics for working groups: 6 topics



Topic 1a: Establishing the food borne disease and zoonosis situation in the region: a situation analysis

- Listing main public health priorities by reporting on for food borne and zoonotic diseases in the region
 - a SWOT analysis: who is doing what and where? when?: e.g. control, surveillance.. SWOT strength, weaknesses, Opportunities, threats
 - compare organizational charts of Ministry of agriculture (and its section on VPH FS) and the Ministry of health (and its section on the role and place of health inspectors), role of trade and industry (BoS)
 - Listing main pathologic agents to be looked at, and try to find a consensus on priorities across the countries
 - Listing main residues to be looked at, given farming practices on antibiotics
 - Use various expertise and Reports from MoH and MoA combined: towards a better understanding of the regional situation (MS should be prepared to bring their data cf. national reports)
 - What are the Situations (in the context of food chain , food processing, animal production) likely to contribute to outbreaks of foodborne disease , likely to sustain zoonosis in the region (refer to supporting material provided tables cf. WHO sources)
 - National Reporting systems in place for Zoonosis and Foodborne Disease (investigation reports, notification systems), what is the best bet?
 - Cf. SADC information system with EIS sub committee on Epidemiology

Rapporteur:

Beijing declaration, items referring to the topic

- **Foodborne risks**, if not controlled, can be major **causes of disease** and premature death as well as lost productivity and **heavy economic burdens**;
- Establish food and total diet monitoring programmes with linkages to **human and food-animal disease surveillance systems** to obtain rapid and reliable information on **prevalence and emergence of foodborne diseases** and hazards in the food supply;
- Establish procedures, including tracing and recall systems in conjunction with industry, to rapidly identify, **investigate and control food safety incidents** and to advise WHO of those that fall under the International Health Regulations (IHR) (2005) through the International Food Safety Authorities Network (INFOSAN) and the National IHR Focal Point;

Topic 2: Establishing the risk assessment mechanisms and modus operandi of controls, as used in the region and at all stages of the” food chain., How to assure the proper assessment and management of the risk in food chains, given the situation in the region.

**Comparing the assessment methods, management and control options used in the SADC region (methods, technologies used and programs put in place), in their different context (MS have various industry environment, using various processing methods). a SWOT analysis: who is doing what and where? when?: e.g. control, surveillance.. SWOT strength, weaknesses, Opportunities, threats
Then compare the means to control food safety in the food chains**

- The models of Production to consumption chains:
 - Two models: traditional food chains and modern food chains, how to address both?
 - Two examples of commodity chains: the dairy and the meat (use models provided)
- Methodologies and processing technologies used in SADC to process food and indirectly to control / mitigate the risk in the commodity processing chains (e.g. pasteurization of milk, deboning of meat): an inventory. Try to priorities the technologies that are safe and theses which still pose problems
 - Traditional techniques (meat maturation, heat processing / dairy pasteurization, drying etc..)
 - modern technologies (irradiation Ultra filtration etc..) what is used in SADC,
- Addressing the advantages and disadvantages of the various forms of assessment, management of risk
- Listing and prioritizing the current methodologies to assess the risk in such circumstances:
 - Risk assessment principles and tools used in the region, or recommendable
 - Tools : HACCP
 - Commodity chains charts / stakeholders mapping
 - Geographical maps
 - others
 - control / surveillance interventions put in place in MS, in accordance with preliminary assessment

Rapporteur : Dr Andrew Aganga

Beijing declaration, items referring to the topic

Integrated food safety systems are best suited to address potential risks across the entire food-chain from **production to consumption**;

- Production of safe food is primarily the responsibility of the **food industry**;
- Develop transparent **regulation and other measures based on risk analysis** to ensure safety of the food supply from production to consumption, harmonized with the guidance of the **Codex Alimentarius Commission** and other relevant international **standards-setting** bodies;
- Ensure adequate and effective enforcement of food safety legislation using risk-based methods, such as the **Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point system**, where possible;

Suggestions: one sub group on Dairy / one sub group on Meat Cattle and small ruminants/ Poultry / Game

Topic 3: Socio-Economics of VPH & FS : envisaging the economic losses and vulnerability of the production sector against VPH FS crisis, better collaboration with the private sector towards better VPH FS surveillance and control

- Establishing the situation of economic losses due to product condemnation , or due to human disease burden in the region: a situation analysis
 - Listing main economic priorities related to high level (%) of condemnation of meat and dairy products in the region (and to link to animal diseases status)
 - E.g. Listing main pathologic agents to be looked at, from economical perspective and try to find a consensus on priorities across the countries
 - meat sector: what are the main causalities for condemnation of meat and condemnation rates, what is the economic importance of losses
 - lesions to be looked at an abattoir level: industrial abattoirs, municipal abattoirs and slaughter slabs
 - dairy sector: what are the main reasons (and agents) for condemning products, to be looked at (e.g. quality SCC, TB, Q fever..)
 - other products
 - Listing main residues to be looked at given farming practices, health care, feeding practices , growth promoters, GMO use etc..
- Collaboration with the private sector: how can the private sector play a more significant role in the surveillance scheme upstream
 - Vision on the role of the Private sector (industry): towards an integrated operational management of hygiene and safety in the agro industry
 - Surveillance through private vets versus by public personel, role of butcheries and abattoirs, of communities of farmers, NGO's
 - Influence of vertical integration in the industry, market standards, role of supermarkets
 - Listing main industries to foster collaboration with: industries involved in food production
 - Can / should the local / domestic / marketing chains be treated the same way as the export marketing chains

Rapporteur:

Topic 4: Risk communication and safety of food from livestock origin: Promotion of best hygienic practices in the manufacturing sector, addressing distribution network and the consumer's communities, taking stock of what is done in MS: communication between Private sector and governmental bodies MoH, MoA

- Collaboration within the consumers, Reinforcing the dialogue between the public and private sectors at national level , promoting a better inter ministerial collaboration
 - how to persuade the consumer and the private sector (all stakeholders) to play a significant role in the promotion of surveillance of foodborne diseases
- how to improve communication on reasonable risk, hygienic practices
- targeting the messages to vulnerable groups , to industries at risks
- Tools (leaflets, adverts..) and Principles of risk communication & hygiene promotion: changing perceptions towards a better preparedness of all stakeholders,

Risk communication (sourceFAO)

Risk communication was defined by the March 1995 Consultation on the Application of Risk Analysis to Food Safety Issues as "an interactive process of exchange of information and opinion on risk among risk assessors, risk managers, and other interested parties". The practical application of risk communication in relation to food safety involves all aspects of communications among risk assessors, risk managers and the public. This includes the mechanisms of delivery; message content; timeliness of the communication; the availability and use of supporting materials and information; and the purpose, credibility and meaningfulness of the communication.

With increased public concern regarding food safety, greater demands are placed on risk communicators to involve the public and other interested parties in an interactive dialogue and to explain the magnitude and severity of risks associated with foodborne hazards in clear and comprehensible terms that convey credibility and trustworthiness. This requires communicators to recognize and overcome

gaps in knowledge as well as obstacles inherent in the uncertainties of scientific risk assessment.

e.g. The media

The media are usually very interested in foodborne outbreak reports and may devote considerable resources to detecting and reporting them. A local journalist may be the first to report an outbreak of which the community has known for some time. Public health authorities may first learn of a possible outbreak through media reports. Journalists may detect outbreaks that have been hidden from the health authorities because of their sensitive nature or because of legal consequences. Internet editions of regional or national newspapers and web-based discussion groups may provide a timely and accurate picture of ongoing outbreaks throughout the country or the region. However, media reports will inevitably be inaccurate at times and should always be followed up and verified. This will also help public health authorities in controlling public anxiety caused by outbreak rumours in the media.

Rapporteur :

Beijing declaration, items referring to the topic

- **Education of consumers** is critical in promoting safe food practices in the home;
- Interactive **communication with consumers** is important for assuring that **societal values and expectations** are considered in the decision-making process.
- **Communicate and consult effectively** with consumers, the food industry, and other stakeholders in developing, implementing and reviewing food safety policies and priorities, including education and other matters of concern; and,

Topic 5: Legal and Institutional Tools, for fair and safe trade, networking activities for improving collaboration on surveillance and control of VPH FS in the SADC region

- Regional institutions and forums: SADC sub committee
- International institutions and tools: GLEWS CODEX, FAO, OIE SPS annexes SADC
Technical references
- Training needs and capacity building, building a roadmap
 - status of current skills in the region, knowledge and reference centers available
 - Rapporteur:

Beijing declaration, items referring to the topic

- **Equal application of food safety measures between countries** as well as **within countries** can improve global food safety;
- Food safety measures should be based on **sound scientific evidence** and risk analysis principles and should not unnecessarily create barriers to trade;
- **Establish competent food safety authorities** as independent and trusted public health bodies within a comprehensive production-to-consumption **legislative framework**;
- Expedite the **strengthening of food safety capacities** through effective cooperation between developing and developed countries as well as among developing countries, thus promoting safer food for all.”

Topic 6: Improving data analysis and laboratory capacity in the region

- Current capacity of Regional institutions and labs: role of SADC sub committees
 - A series of tables will be dispatched to look at
- How to reinforce and what and when to reinforce : regional cooperation, referral system, new investments (equipments), new techniques
 - Regional tools: taking advantage of new projects at SADC: MRL, need for a specific Protocol at SADC?

rapporteur

