



## Presentation

Dear Readers,

The decentralization of Veterinary Public Health and the transfer of Innocuousness of Food from the Pan American Institute for Food Protection and Zoonoses (INPPAZ) to the installations of PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, created suitable conditions for more effective coordination and for the strengthening of technical cooperation in veterinary public health. An outstanding event was the inauguration of the new building of the Center for Training and Management of Sanitary Emergencies (CTGES). It offers space, facilities and technologic equipment at PANAFTOSA, which will enlarge the training of human resources of the countries in veterinary public health and will support the scheduling and carrying out of coordinated action to face sanitary emergencies. In this issue of VPH News you will find news on the inauguration, which was attended by Dr. Mirta Roses, director of PAHO, and on the courses sponsored by PANAFTOSA.

VPH News

## Events

### COMMEMORATION

## PANAFTOSA - PAHO/WHO INAUGURATES CTGES

With the increasing number of occurrences of emerging diseases which are more resistant to medicaments, and the re-emerging diseases which besides this resistance also challenge public health organizations working for the welfare of the population, the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center (PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO) is developing efforts to strengthen the capacity of professionals in the area through the CENTER FOR TRAINING AND MANAGEMENT OF SANITARY EMERGENCIES (CTGES).

The Center for Training was inaugurated on 15 September and will be the main location for courses and simulations of emergency situations where Brazilian professionals and from other nationalities will have the opportunity to train in the challenging of these occurrences and will improve their capacity to respond during the whole process of detection, diagnosis, information processing and adequate risk communication.

The inauguration of the Center was attended by authorities from human and animal health institutions, such as the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (FIOCRUZ) and the Agency of Health Surveillance (ANVISA), and by the director of the Pan American Health Organization, Dr. Mirta Roses Periago, among other outstanding personalities.



*Dr. Mirta Roses and Dr. Pedro Cabral, representing the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock of Brasil, inaugurating CTGES*

To the director of PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO, Dr. Albino Belotto, the CTGES is an event in the history of health. It is the result of intense work and of a series of cooperation activities between surveillance, prevention and control organizations at the occurrence of diseases in the public health area. And Brazil will be the focal point for the interchange of information and the use of training technology in the area.

Please access the web page of PANAFTOSA to see photos of the inauguration of the CTGES (<http://www.panaftosa.org.br>).

## MAPA - PAHO/WHO AGREEMENT

### Training of professionals in the animal health area

To promote the strengthening of animal health programs in Brazil, the agreement of technical cooperation between the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply of Brazil (MAPA) and PAHO/WHO is being carried out by PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO. The Center for Training and Management of Sanitary Emergencies (CTGES) is one of the localities where these professionals are trained.

**GEOPROCESSING COURSE APPLIED TO ANIMAL HEALTH DEFENSE** – Professionals in animal health services of MAPA and of executing organisms from the official veterinary services, were trained in the handling of free softwares such as Terraview and Calc and their application in their routine activities. A total of 27 participants were trained, of which 23 were from various Brazilian states. This course was held at the installations of CTGES during 29 September-3 October.

**AIR TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS PRODUCTS: BIOLOGIC MATERIALS MODULE** - Professionals of PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO and MAPA working directly or indirectly in preparing biologic material for shipment attended this training course. On 2-3 October in Rio de Janeiro, 15 professionals of MAPA and 3 from PANAFTOSA were trained in the preparation and shipment of this type of material in accordance with regulations in force.

The course is a requirement in the curriculum of at least one staff member working in a group handling or preparing infectious substances at firms. Of the participants, 94% were approved with classification equal to or higher than eight at evaluations and they will receive a certificate from the National Agency of Civil Aviation (ANAC).



*The Geoprocessing course was the first training carried out at CTGES after its inauguration*

#### METHODOLOGIES AND TOOLS FOR MANAGEMENT OF GOVERNMENTAL PROGRAMS

This course held as a workshop with the exposition of material related to the subject of the modules, with group activities for practical application, is part of the National Program of Aviculture Health (PNSA, in portuguese), developed and promoted by PANAFTOSA - PAHO/WHO, and 30 veterinarians from various states of Brazil were participants. The public of this course was integrated by professional state coordinators of the program, from the Ministry of Agriculture of Brazil and official state organisms of Animal Defense. There was also the participation of the responsible authorities of the programa

the program at the federal level. The main objective of this course was the training in Management of Governmental Programs with the development of management ability and the use of methodologies to plan, supervise and control programs, besides teamwork. In the same format, on 3-7 November the first course on Methodologies and Tools for Management of Governmental Programs for the National Program of Swine Health, PNSA, was held. A group of 31 veterinarians responsible for the coordination of the program at the state and federal levels, had the opportunity to enlarge their management capacity and to harmonize concepts and tools for the planning, execution and supervision of PNSA in their states.

## CRICS - RIO DE JANEIRO

### PAHO/WHO stand is a great success at CRICS

On 16-19 September, Rio de Janeiro hosted the 8th Regional Congress on Information of Health Sciences (CRICS 8), an internationally known event organized by the Latin American and Caribbean Center on Health Sciences Information (BIREME/PAHO/WHO) and it reflects the advances and challenges that countries in development confront in the operation of products and information services through cooperative networks involving institutions such as the Virtual Library on Health (BVS) and the Electronic Library on On-line Scientific Information (SciELO).

PANAFTOSA participated in the event at the stand of PAHO/WHO, which offered several mini-courses on SciELO and the BVS, which filled the place during the whole event.

## RIMSA

### Council of PAHO/WHO approved resolution of RIMSA 15

The resolutions and considerations of the RIMSA 15 report, which was held last June at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, were analyzed during the 48th meeting of the Directing Council of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO), 60th Session of the Regional Committee of WHO, in Washington, DC.

The document with the resolution of the Directing Council on this analysis is available at the web page of PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO (<http://www.panaftosa.org.br>).

## TECHNICAL COOPERATION

### Representatives of FAO visit Panaftosa - PAHO/WHO

The representatives of the Organization of the United Nations for Agriculture and Food (FAO) – Mr. José María Sumpsi, assistant to the general director and director of the Technical Cooperation Department (FAO ROME) and Mr. José Tubino, representative of FAO in Brazil, visited the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center (PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO) on 29 September. During their visit they were shown technical cooperation activities, which are a result of the FAO-PANAFTOSA association in the areas of Foot-and-Mouth Disease, Zoonoses, Innocuousness of Food, Avian Influenza and GFTADs (an initiative of FAO and OIE against trans-border diseases), and at the Reference Laboratory.

Mr. Sumpsi also mentioned the action of FAO on technical cooperation activities and afterwards accompanied Dr. Albino Belotto, director of PANAFTOSA, during a visit to the installations of the Center.

## PAHO/WHO

### Panaftosa welcomes assistant director of PAHO/WHO



*Dr. Cristina Beato and Dr. Catherine Cocco with Dr. Albino Belotto during their visit to PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO*

In September PANAFTOSA welcomed the visit of Dr. Cristina Beato, assistant director of the Pan American Health Organization, and Dr. Catherine Cocco, chief of the directing office of PAHO/WHO. Together with the director of PANAFTOSA, Dr. Albino Belotto, they visited its installations and the work carried out in the area of Veterinary Public Health. In April 2007, Dr. Beato became assistant director of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO). She was previously interim secretary of health of the Department of Health and Social Services of the United States and general sub-director of health. She was born in Cuba, grew up in Panama and later traveled to the United States. She became a licentiate in chemistry and biology and graduated as a doctor at the University of New Mexico. As assistant director of PAHO, she guides general policy and the strategic direction of PAHO together with the director, Dr. Mirta Roses Periago. She also supervises key programs such as Preparation for Emergency Situations and Help in Cases of Disaster; Governing, Policies and Associations; Planning, Budget for Programs and Support to Projects, and Juridical Matters. She is also responsible for relations between PAHO and the governments of Canada, the United States and Puerto Rico.

Dr. Beato considers that PAHO plays an important role in the challenges of the health area in the region. "PAHO has a fundamental function to participate, to reach the public, to promote, to contribute and help in every possible way. It needs to create alliances, to organize collaboration and to be a visible participant. It is not only the ministers of health. Communities and directly concerned people are also involved. We can associate with universities, NGOs and foundations which participate in health activities. I defend associations between the public and the private sectors. There are very specific functions carried out very well by the governments, and other functions, which organizations and private corporations fulfill summarily well. Both can get together to create a team with a great capacity for work. There is no doubt that thanks to corporative associations we can add millions of dollars in 365 days if we show we can be flexible and adaptable, if we guarantee transparency and responsibility, and if we get results. The problem is not money. We have to get organized and work together as a team and declare that this is important for us. This is the world we are living in now. We have a debt with the past, with the present and with the future generations of the Americas".

Extracted from an interview in PAHO Today, December 2007.

## COOPERATION

### Dr. Guibovich in Panaftosa – PAHO/WHO



*Dr. Guibovich visited PANAFTOSA to learn about its strategies for cooperation and action in various areas of animal health*

In September, Dr. Guillermo Guibovich, epidemiologist of PAHO/WHO, visited PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO during a working mission. His objective was to get acquainted with cooperation strategies in the areas of innocuousness of food, zoonoses and foot-and-mouth disease. Dr. Guibovich acts as a focal point of the Veterinary Public Health Program and, at the initial stage, information collected at PANAFTOSA will help to revise the cooperation program of PAHO/WHO in these areas.

**FOODSTUFFS** – With Dr. Genaro García, regional adviser on Innocuousness of Food, Dr. Guibovich revised the scheduled activities for strategic objectives 05 and 09, and emphasis was made on the importance of continuing with cooperation activities in the areas of handling materials and of risk communication of biological contaminants and chemicals. It was indicated to implement the "5 Keys of WHO in primary schools", which is a successful program coordinated by the Food Hygiene Sector of the Ministry of Health of Venezuela. This program has expanded to all the states and was tested in indigenous populations of the western region of the country.

**VESICULAR DISEASES** – Dr. Guibovich revised guidelines presented during a recent mission to Venezuela by a group of representatives of OIE, FAO, IICA and FED-EGAN with the supervision of PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO, to strengthen the coordination of resources for control activities in priority areas.

## ZOOSE

### Amazonic meeting on Neotropical Echinococcosis

The 5th Meeting of the Project for Prevention and Surveillance of Cystic Echinococcosis in the Southern Cone, held during 12-13 November, was successfully closed in Coyhaique, Chile. The Meeting was attended by official delegates from Chile, Argentina and Uruguay and was coordinated by the focal point in Hydatidosis, Roberto Salvatella, of the PAHO/WHO representation in Uruguay. The surveillance status and progress in the control of the disease reached through national programs were updated, as well as epidemiological news on the zoonosis, which is a disease transmitted through foodstuffs.

As a resolution of discussions, recommendations and conclusions were issued on efforts for the prevention and control of the disease. The 6th Meeting will be held in December 2009 in Colonia, Uruguay, together with the World Hydatidology Congress.

## CEDOC - PAHO/WHO

### Panaftosa welcomes representatives of CECOC - PAHO/WHO



The group was welcomed by the director of PANAFTOSA, Dr. Albino Belotto

On 19 September, a group with more than 20 professionals of the Documentation Center of PAHO/WHO had a break in the agenda of CRICs to visit and learn about the work developed at PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO. At the auditorium, Dr. Albino Belotto welcomed the visitors who attended talks on BVS Innocuousness of Food and BVS Veterinary Public Health.

## COORDINATION HSD-VP

### Integration of work in Health Emergencies



Dr. Ximena Aguilera and Dr. Jarbas Barbosa at the meeting to discuss work in health emergencies

A meeting was held at the CTGES, PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO, on 19 September, with the participation of Dr. Jarbas Barbosa, director of Surveillance of Health, Prevention and Control of Diseases of PAHO, Dr. Ximena Aguilera, manager of the sector of Prevention and Control of Transmissible Diseases, and Dr. Marlon Libel, adviser of Transmissible Diseases of PAHO, Washington, DC. The objective of the meeting was to integrate work in the sanitary emergencies area.

## OFFICIAL VISIT

### Chinese mission at Panaftosa - PAHO/WHO



The mission was integrated by professionals of the Official Veterinary Service of China and was accompanied by veterinarians of the Ministry of Agriculture of Brazil

On 22 October, the group of participants of the Chinese Mission (Dr. You Xuan, Dr. Chen Guizhong, Dr. Wang Wei, Dr. Xin Zhenyu, Dr. Lin Feng, Dr. Zhu Chang-ging and Dr. Li Jianhua), accompanied by veterinarians of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply of Brazil, MAPA, (Dr. Guilherme Marques, Dr. Rodrigo do Espírito Santo, Dr. Ricardo Ossamu Maehara and Dr. Alberto Gomes Junior) visited PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO. This was part of a 10-day visit of the Official Veterinary Service of China to Brazil. The objective of the mission was to evaluate the surveillance system and animal health defense.

## FIGHT AGAINST FOOD-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

### Members of GIEFA discuss the official mission results at Panaftosa - PAHO/WHO



To discuss activities of GIEFA (Inter-American Group for Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication) in priority areas, on 6-7 November PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO welcomed the president of the group, Phil Bradshaw, and Drs. Jorge León and César Orosco.

The results of the mission of GIEFA to Ecuador and Venezuela and the BID report on the mission to Bolivia were discussed at the meeting, as well as the work developed with APHIS/USDA in Venezuela and Bolivia.

## Panaftosa - PAHO/WHO at Conbravet 2008

**BRAZILIAN CONGRESS OF VETERINARY MEDICINE  
OCTOBER 19 - 22, GRAMADO, RIO GRANDE DO SUL, BRAZIL**



## AVIAN INFLUENZA

### Emergency simulation of Avian Influenza at CTGES



*Professionals of PANAFTOSA, IICA, Ministry of Agriculture of Brazil and veterinary services of the Southern Cone countries participated in this simulation*

On 3-7 November there was a Regional Simulation of Avian Influenza (AI) at the Center for Training and Management in Sanitary Emergencies (CTGES) at PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO.

It was organized by the Inter American Institute of Cooperation to Agriculture (IICA) jointly with the Permanent Veterinary Committee of the Southern Cone (CPV, in Spanish) and PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO. This project, at regional and local level for the prevention and control of Avian Influenza of High Pathogenicity, assembled representatives of the Southern Cone countries, among them chiefs and/or professionals from the sectors of Animal Health and Epidemiologic Surveillance and Aviculture. This simulation is part of the Avian Influenza Project and other Transborder Diseases – CAS/CVP-IICA – BM, which is a donation managed by the World Bank and implemented by IICA.



Technical meeting on Production of Monoclonal Antibodies for Rabies at the CTGES. Besides the technical staff of PANAFTOSA there was also the participation of Silvana Favoretto from the University of São Paulo (USP) and Sheila Matoso Xavier and Mauricio Baltazar de Carvalho Filho from the General Coordination of Laboratory Support of the Ministry of Agriculture of Brazil (CGAL/MAPA).



Marcelo D'Agostino (regional adviser on Diffusion of Information, IKM-KO), Charles Godue (chief of Development of Human Resources), both from PAHO/WHO, Washington, DC, and José F. Cordero, from the Graduation School in Public Health of the University of Puerto Rico.



Biology graduation students from the Educational Foundation of Duque de Caxias, FEUDUC.



Jorge Alberto Rodríguez Toledo and Abraham Falczuck from the National Service of Health and Agroalimentary Quality, SENASA-Argentina.



Dr. Raimundo Nelson Souza da Silva, executive director, Fund for Development of Livestock of the State of Pará, FUNDEPEC

## Production

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