

Annex 8

**Memorandum of Understanding between the
Interamerican Group for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (GIEFA) and the
Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) on
A Plan for the Final Phase of the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) from the
Western Hemisphere**

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
Between
THE INTERAMERICAN GROUP OF ERADICATION OF FOOT AND MOUTH
DISEASE (GIEFA) or COHEFA AND THE PAN AMERICAN
HEALTH ORGANIZATION (PAHO).
ON CONTINENTAL ERADICATION PROGRAM OF FMD.

PREAMBLE.

The continental movement of people, food, animals and agricultural products continues to increase, the food raised on the farm in one country frequently ends up on the table in another, more than in our hemisphere that have the largest bovine herd worldwide.

This movement contribute to the animal diseases dissemination, more than on the FMD for his highly contagious nature, that it caused gravies harm to the livestock production since its introduction to the continent in the late of nineteenth century.

Besides, the FMD in our hemisphere is a constant risk, specially for the countries and zones free of that disease, considered the interchange of animal and animal products, and the increasing of tourism between our countries,

Too is important to mention the significant progress made in the eradication of the Foot and Mouth Disease in the South American countries and in its prevention in the disease free countries on the North American, Central America and the Caribbean, as result of the Hemispheric Program for the Eradication of FMD (PHEFA), developed under the guidance of the Hemispheric Committee for the Eradication of FMD (COHEFA), and implemented by the countries with the cooperation of Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), trough the Pan American FMD Center (PANAFTOSA).

The successes achieved and the availability of technical tools and animal health infrastructure for the control and eradication of FMD in the region, which create an enabling environment for the final phase of FMD eradication.

The creation and the objectives and functions assignee to the Inter American Group for the FMD Eradication (GIEFA), for the HOUSTON DECLARATION, in the Hemispheric Conference on the FMD Eradication, realized in Houston, Texas in March 3 and 4 of 2004, and

WHEREAS

The Pan American Health Organization (hereinafter PAHO), the Regional Office of the World Health Organization (WHO), is an international public health agency with more than 100 years of experience in working to improve health and living standars of the countries of the Americas. It serves as the specialized organization for health of the Inter-American System. As the Regional Office for the Americas of the World Health Organization, PAHO/WHO enjoys international recognition as part of the United Nation system. The

fundamental purpose of PAHO/WHO is to promote and coordinate efforts of the countries of the Western Hemisphere to combat disease, lengthen de life and promote the physical and mental health of the people.

Besides, PAHO/WHO, has since 1948 a Veterinary Public Health Program, and inside this since 1950 exist a Pan-American FMD Center, responsible by the technical cooperation on FMD for the Americas, and is the Reference Center of OIE an FAO for Vesicular Diseases in the Continent.

The Inter-American Group for the FMD Eradication (hereinafter GIEFA), created by the Houston Declaration in the International Conference of Houston, Texas, March 3 ad 4 of 2004, is an inter-institutional Regional Working Group, with public and private participation, which is responsible for the preparing, supervising and executing the Regional Project for the Final Phase of Eradication of Foot and Mouth Disease from the Americas, as part of PHEFA and in support of national FMD prevention and eradication programs. Also GIEFA be responsible for the supervising and implementation of the Project and its reporting to the COHEFA.

PAHO and GIEFA currently collaborate in the development and establishment of the Plan of Action for the Eradication of FMD of the Americas, with the mainly objective of the eradicate the FMD at 2009, considering as essentially the transparency, as well as the scientific and technical criteria.

PURPOSE.

The Purpose of the Memorandum of Understanding is to outline the ways in which PAHO and GIEFA intend to cooperate for the conclusion of Foot and Mouth Disease Eradication in the Western Hemisphere,

To accomplished this, the following guidelines will be established:

- i) PAHO maintain an account in the Foundation PAHO, to received the donations for the purpose mentioned,
- ii) PAHO, will maintain and report to the GIEFA all movement of this found ,following one pre-stablished standard formular,
- iii) PAHO will respect all the technical and management guidelines stablished by GIEFA for every region or country,
- iv) GIEFA applied the resources trough the sign of subcontracts with region, countries or agencies.
- v) GIEFA maintain the following technical, administrative and financial of the plans stablished in the subcontracts.
- vi) GIEFA maintain a system of audits for the application of the Project in the hemisphere.
- vii) The Action Plan approved by GIEFA will be the primary document to management and implement the Project.
- viii) GIEFA has the right to modify or amend the Action Plan at any time, as well as the present document, with the concordance of COHEFA.

ix) This MOU will be reviewed annually.