RESOLUTION No. 33

African swine fever: new challenges and measures to prevent its spread

CONSIDERING THAT

1. African swine fever is a transboundary disease endemic in some African countries which was introduced into parts of Europe in 2007, with recent further spread,
2. African swine fever is a disease of global significance that poses a current threat for porcine health and international trade,
3. OIE Member Countries are obliged to notify outbreaks of the disease to the OIE,
4. The current absence of any effective vaccine or treatment seriously limits control of the disease,
5. Past experience in a number of countries demonstrates that the disease can be eradicated through collaboration and joint efforts by the different sectors involved applying strict biosecurity and elimination of sick and carrier animals and their contaminated products,
6. Early detection of the African swine fever virus is essential to enable rapid response and limit serious consequences,
7. Wild Suidae (including wild boars and feral pigs) can play an important and potentially complex role in the epidemiology and spread of African swine fever,
8. There is an urgent need to raise the awareness of hunters, others related to game and wildlife management, through their national and international organisations,
9. Effective Veterinary Services are fundamental to any African swine fever control strategy, including in promoting crucial biosecurity measures,
10. The OIE Reference Laboratories for African swine fever lead and coordinate international research and diagnostic activities, together with twinning with candidate laboratories,
11. There is extensive knowledge of the disease, which, when combined with the data gathered from various risk analyses and the appropriate diagnostic techniques available, constitutes major assets for controlling African swine fever,

THE ASSEMBLY

RECOMMENDS THAT

1. The OIE Member Countries respect their obligations of reporting African swine fever outbreaks including findings in wildlife to OIE in a timely and transparent manner using the WAHIS system.
2. The OIE Member Countries base their early detection and rapid response strategies on the results of a comprehensive risk assessment.
3. The OIE Member Countries engage in controlling African swine fever through the application of biosecurity measures, development of contingency plans and by control programmes in endemic zones and the creation of disease-free zones.

4. The OIE Member Countries base their requirements for safe trade of live animals and commodities on the relevant science-based international standards adopted by the OIE.

5. The OIE Member Countries establish and enhance official cooperation, including through agreements, between Veterinary Services and national bodies and international organisations responsible for hunting and wildlife management in all activities aimed at, surveillance, prevention, early detection, control and eradication of African swine fever and other important diseases.

6. Member Countries with the scientific support of the OIE promote awareness programmes for veterinarians and organise awareness and training programmes for hunters and farmers in the field of early detection of key infectious diseases, carcass inspection and viscera disposal when relevant.

7. The OIE cooperate with international organisations for hunting and wildlife management to raise awareness on African swine fever and other relevant diseases for hunters and other persons related with game and wildlife management and to establish models of agreements with Veterinary Services.

8. The International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC) continue its efforts to establish a training centre on wildlife diseases for hunters to be managed by CIC with scientific support from the OIE.

9. The OIE continue to support Member Countries to follow the OIE PVS pathway including the OIE Veterinary Legislation Support Programme enhancing their efforts of detecting, controlling and eradicating African swine fever.

10. The OIE Reference Laboratories continue research into the epidemiology of African swine fever in different scenarios; the development of non-invasive sampling methods for wild Suidae; the distribution and epidemiological role of ticks of the *Ornithodoros* genus in newly infected zones; the role of wild Suidae and feral pigs in high and low density populations; and the development of vaccines to combat African swine fever.

(Adopted by the World Assembly of OIE Delegates on 29 May 2014)