

ANNEX

Response of the Competent Authorities of Botswana to the recommendations of Report ref. DG(SANCO)/2013-6792-MR of an audit carried out from 04 to 11 March 2013 in order to evaluate the animal health control system in place, in particular in relation to controls on foot-and mouth disease

Action plan – received on 29 May 2013

N°.	Recommendation	Action Proposed by the Competent Authority
1	To ensure that accurate, complete, and where necessary, rapid information is supplied to the OIE and/or the Commission services on the existence of infectious diseases, and on the rules for prevention of diseases (including regionalisation)(Article 8(1)(h) of Council Directive 2002/99/EC).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Timeous notifications to OIE WAHID will be in accordance with OIE requirements, as well as to European Commission on occurrence of infectious diseases such FMD b. Focal Point for OIE on notification has been appointed by the OIE delegate and will update WAHID regularly.
2	To ensure that the competent authorities have at their disposal adequate means to identify the areas and register the holdings on their territories to be affected by any official control related to regionalisation and FMD surveillance or control;(Article 8(1)(b) of Council Directive 2002/99/EC).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Areas affected by official controls for regionalization and FMD surveillance are identified for production of district maps which are to be issued to DVOs by end of August 2013. b. Registered holdings to be indicated in district and extension maps to be issued by end of August 2013 c. The CCA will update the entire geospatial information database to be used in continuous production of district maps within 12 months.
3	To develop and implement rules, protocols and evaluation of resources needed in case of ingress of – possibly FMD carriers – roaming buffaloes in the free zone.(Article 8(1)(i) of Directive 2002/99/EC, with equivalence to Annexes XVII and XVIII to Council Directive 2003/85/EC).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Continue implementation of FMD contingency plan and review it as necessary by end of 2014 b. Develop and implement SOPs for management of incursions by possible FMD carriers such as buffalo into free zone by July 2013 c. Upgrade and maintain cordon fences (zone 4a game reserve fence) to prevent incursion of possible FMD carriers such as buffaloes into free zones by end of September 2013 d. Upgrade and maintain cordon fences (zone 6 protection zone) to strengthen FMD controls with neighbouring country by September 2013.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> e. Implement audit schedule for cordon fences issued from July 2013 by Compliance office. f. Review immediately, the attestation on the import permit for FMD susceptible animals to allow for FMD controls before importation
4	<p>To establish an effective system preventing the export of meat produced from cattle originating from holdings within 10 km of a place where an FMD outbreak was identified in the previous 12 months.(Point II.2.3.(b) of BOV certificate from Commission Regulation (EC) No 206/2010).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Review immediately an SOP on issuance of certificates for export of meat to EU, where meat from cattle originating from areas with animal health restriction, is excluded. b. Review SOP on Issuance of permit-the movement for EU slaughter animals originating from holdings within 10km to an area where FMD outbreak has occurred in the previous 12 months immediately. c. Review and implement movement protocol to prevent movement of animals originating from holdings within 10km radius where FMD was identified within the previous 12 months. d. Enforce up/down load of extension officer field computer monthly
5	<p>To ensure that certification of point II.2.5. of BOV certificate from Commission Regulation (EC) No 206/2010 is, when relevant, performed on the basis of a monitoring programme or effective epidemiological surveillance system. (Article 3(4)(b) of Council Directive 96/93/EEC).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Implement surveillance programmes for specific diseases such as Rinderpest, and FMD, according to surveillance plan issued from time to time. b. Review SOP on issuance of movement permit and SOP on issuance of export health certificates to respect results of epidemiological surveillance system
6	<p>To ensure that the rules for prevention and control of FMD are effectively implemented, in particular for the maintenance of the fences, the rules applying to the 10 km intensive surveillance zone.(Article 8(1)(d) of Council Directive 2002/99/EC).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Enforce Stock regulation on prohibition of animal movements in areas where animal health restrictions applying to the 10 km intensive surveillance immediately. b. Develop and implement fence maintenance plan by end of July

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N°.	Recommendation	Action Proposed by the Competent Authority
		<p>2013</p> <p>c. Implement schedule of audits issued by Compliance Office on supervision of FMD controls including condition of fences, and movement controls in the 10km intensive surveillance</p>
7	<p>To ensure that all laboratories performing official FMD tests achieve internationally recognised accreditation of their ability to consistently deliver valid results, ensuring the accuracy of the information regarding the existence this disease.(Article 8(1)(h) of Council Directive 2002/99/EC, with equivalence to Article 12 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004).</p>	<p>a. BNVL plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Non Structural Protein test for FMD will be validated by end of March 2014 ii) Accreditation assessment will be by end of August 2014 <p>b. BVI plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Consultants engage to prepare Laboratory for Accreditation assessment by May 2013 ii) Implement corrective actions to findings made by the CCA audit of BVI laboratory by end of August 2013. iii) Applying for ISO 17025 accreditation assessment by end of September 2013. <p>c. Implement audits according to a schedule issued by the CCA, to evaluate performance of official controls in laboratories performing testing for FMD.</p>
8	<p>To review the quality standard requirements, their demonstration and documentation, for the vaccines used for the control of FMD.(Article 8(1)(i) of Council Directive 2002/99/EC).</p>	<p>a. Develop procedures for monitoring the quality, safety and efficacy (including vaccine and field strain matching during outbreaks) of FMD vaccines used for the control of FMD by end of September 2013.</p> <p>b. Evaluate audit reports by Certification bodies on vaccine manufacturers supplying FMD vaccines used for the control of FMD on annual basis.</p>