

ACTIVITIES OF MEMBERS

Communication by Paraguay

The following communication, received on 12 June 2009, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Paraguay.

I. GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE

1. Paraguay's National Animal Quality and Health Service (SENACSA), the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) have jointly organized the Global Conference on Foot and Mouth Disease currently being held (24 – 26 June) in Asunción (Paraguay).

2. The Conference will assess the current situation of FMD in the world with specific reference to global efforts aimed at controlling the disease. Updated control methods, status of research and application of surveillance methodologies, application, development and use of vaccines, and constraints and availability of diagnostic methods in susceptible species will all be assessed and evaluated against any needs and constraints.

3. More than 500 delegates, directors of private veterinary services, scientists, researchers, producers and other national and international players from all member countries have registered to date.

4. The deliberations will include recommendations for adoption by the delegates to mobilize international organizations, donors, governments, the international veterinary community and all stakeholders towards a joint commitment to control FMD worldwide.

II. MANGOES FOR EXPORT TO REGIONAL MARKETS

5. The National Plant and Seed Quality and Health Service (SENAVE), the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, the REDIEX Board for the Fruit and Vegetable Sector, the Paraguayan Central Federation of Cooperatives (CEPACOOOP) and the Cordillera authorities have jointly launched a pilot project to export mangoes for regional markets. The project is in the producer identification and registration phase, including the number of plants per unit area and the fruit varieties involved.

6. Another important activity due to begin in July is the monitoring of fruit flies in order to identify the species affecting this product.

7. A study is also being conducted with a view to deciding where to set up the hydrothermal mango treatment plant, which should be located in a strategic area accessible to farm-to-plant transport.
 8. This plan covers the horticultural area par excellence of the department of Cordillera.
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