



**EU FMD**

EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR THE CONTROL OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE



**eofmd**  
e-Learning



**III**  
3 PILLARS of  
the EU FMD



# **Item 13. Standing and Special Committees**



# The proposed revision of the Terms of Reference (2019) of the STC :

1. **To maintain an overview of the risks of FMD and similar transboundary diseases** (“FAST diseases”, as defined below) that are not normally present in the majority of member states, for European livestock (large and small ruminants, pigs and wildlife), and **advise the Executive Committee** on appropriate policies or programmes that the Commission should consider provide on the basis of an in depth understanding of the risks of entry and the options available and practicable for veterinary authorities, and the likely consequences of any actions proposed.
2. **To maintain an overview** of relevant initiatives related to international surveillance and risk assessment **and provide guidance** on how the EuFMD programme can add –value or synergise with such initiatives.
3. **To keep in close communication with the work of the Special Committees**, referring such matters to the Committees as are consistent with their TORs and with the feasibility that they can provide a well- considered scientific opinion, **and ensuring the resultant opinions are communicated to the Executive.**



# Procedure for future election of STC members (GS44, 2021)

**The proposal is to continue the current (2017-19) number of members (6) but with a revision in the procedures to be followed before each General Session:**

- At least three months In advance of the Session, the Secretariat **ensures the member states are aware of the vacancies** to be filled;
- The current practice of the outgoing Chairperson and Officers preparing the list for proposal is continued;
- That **three of the six members would normally stand-down** at each Session
- That members of the STC would not normally continue for more than two Sessions (4 years), without a break;
- That a geographic and political balance is maintained between members of EU and non-EU, such that non-EU countries and those from most immediately at risk of FAST diseases are represented.
- At the Session, the Commission's Rules of Procedure (ROP) are to be followed, and the election process is supervised by the FAO Department that will ensure alignment with standard FAO Governance procedures.



**PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE FOR SURVEILLANCE AND APPLIED RESEARCH (SCSAR)**  
**IN**  
**REPLACEMENT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE FOR RESEARCH AND PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT (SCRPD)**

The new TORs will reflect the needs for:

1. Guidance to the STC and Secretariat on surveillance and applied research priorities for FMD and similar TADS (FAST diseases)
2. Reference Centre and other technical expertise to guide the programme, the training to be developed
3. Technical expertise to provide specific assistance to NRLs in the neighbourhood to undertake laboratory confirmation or specialised studies
4. A network of expertise to assist in scaling up support on FAST diseases according to risk.
5. Expertise to review proposals for applied research projects



## *Competences needed in the Special Committee*

**Specific technical expertise recognized at European /Global level on epidemiology and surveillance for one or more FAST diseases. Centres – or Experts would have one or more competence from the following**

1. Expertise in the epidemiology and laboratory diagnosis of schedule 1 or 2 FAST diseases and strong working connections with EU-RL or competent laboratories to support activities.
2. Expertise in potential vaccines for assessment of their potential use against FAST in Europe, and/or studies on the performance of vaccines against one or more FAST diseases.
3. Expertise in specialised disciplines that are considered critical for planning or response to FAST diseases, such as surveillance and control in wildlife.

**Assumed these Centres/experts have a working knowledge of contingency plans and control measures applicable in the EU for the disease specialisation, and are engaged in relevant research and therefore have a very good understanding of the research gaps and priorities.**



## *Membership - Special Committee*

1. **Maximum of 20 members : from EuFMD MS**
2. **Proposal that the name of the Centre providing the expertise is endorsed - by Default the name of the Technical Director**
3. **FMD: all of the current FAO, OIE and EU-RL**
4. **FAST diseases: additional Centres of expertise that include the OIE/FAO/EU-RLs for PPR, capripox viruses and such additional centres as are needed for expertise on Category 2 risks (RVF, BEF and emerging diseases in the neighbourhood).**

### **Additional expertise - a FAST Network**

**Annex 1 : a proposal for funding (200,000€) of the FAST Network. This proposal should “bridge” between EuFMD –SCSAR and expertise from REMESA /neighbourhood**