

REPORT OF THE TENTH
COORDINATION AND EVALUATION
MEETING OF THE PAN-AFRICAN
CAMPAIGN AGAINST BOVINE
RINDERPEST AND CONTAGIOUS
PLEUROPNEUMONIA
(P.A.R.C)

JUNE 4 - 7 , 1996

- DAKAR -

ORGANISATION DE L'UNITE AFRICAINE

(OAU)

Campagne Pan Africaine de l'OUA Contre la Peste Bovine
(PARC/OUA)



ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY

(OAU)

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*Le Coordonnateur Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre
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à*

M Director of OUA/IBAR

P.O Box : 30786 - Nairobi

- KENYA -

It's a real pleasure for me to send you the Report of the tenth Sub-Regional Coordination and Evaluation Meeting of the National Campaigns against Bovine Rinderpest and Contagious Pleuropneumonia held in Dakar (SENEGAL) on June 4 - 7, 1996.

With best wishes.


Dr. Amadou Samba SIDIBE.-

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Dakar, June 1996

REPORT OF THE 10TH COORDINATION AND
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AGAINST BOVINE RINDERPEST AND CONTAGIOUS
PLEUROPNEUMONIA (P.A.R.C.)

The proceedings of the 10th Regional Coordination Meeting of the PARC Project for West and Central Africa were held on June 4 through 7 in the Conference Room of the NOVOTEL Hotel in Dakar, Senegal.

Representatives of the following countries were present at the meeting:

- Benin
- Burkina Faso
- Cameroon
- Central African Republic (C.A.R.)
- Côte d'Ivoire
- Gabon
- Ghana
- Guinee-Bissau
- Guinee-Conakry
- Mali
- Mauritania
- Niger
- Senegal
- Chad

Also attending were representatives of the following inter-governmental and international organizations:

- Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)
- Inter-African Bureau of Animal Resources of the Organization of African Unity (OAU/IBAR/PARC)
- The Delegation of the European Commission in Senegal
- CIRAD-EMVT
- The Inter-State School of Veterinary Sciences and Medicine in Dakar (E.I.S.M.V)
- The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

The opening ceremony of the Meeting was presided over by His Excellency Mr. Alassane Dialy N'DIAYE, Minister in charge of Fisheries and Maritime Transport, substituting for Mr Robert SAGNA, State Minister, Minister of Agriculture of Senegal in the presence of Mr André VANHAEVERBEKE, Chief Delegate of the European Commission, of the Representative of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Senegal and Mr. Mouhamadou Moustapha MBENGUE, Director of Cabinet of the State Minister, Minister of Agriculture

Three speeches were made during the opening ceremony.

Taking first the floor, Dr. MASIGA, OAU/IBAR Director thanked Senegal for hosting this 10th Meeting and for the warm hospitality extended to each delegate. He also thanked the European Union for its support to the PARC Project. The main objective of the PARC Project which is the eradication of Bovine Rinderpest has been reached because for almost 8 years, no outbreak has been reported in West and Central Africa. Consequently, it is necessary that the countries involved be declared provisionally free from this disease following the procedures of the International Office of Epizootic Diseases (OIE). The current meeting will provide an opportunity to discuss this matter and make a recommendation. He concluded his speech by stressing the importance of the Privatization of the Veterinary Profession.

Following the OAU/IBAR Director, the Chief Delegate of the European Commission in Senegal, Mr. André VANHAEVERBEKE, expressed satisfaction over the results obtained by the PARC Project which represents on the side of the Onchocerciasis Program an example of success in Africa. Since the agreement reached between the Organization of African Unity and the European Union in 1986, about 70 billion CFA Francs have been mobilized for the funding of the PARC Project.

The success of this project is related on the one hand to its regional approach and, on the other hand, to the setting up of flexible procedures making possible a direct mobilization of resources at the State level. He reaffirmed the commitment of the European Union to sustain the efforts of countries for a sustainable development of African livestock.

In his speech, Minister Alassane Dialy N'Diaye expressed satisfaction over the efforts made by the PARC Project in the last 10 years in the eradication of Bovine Rinderpest in African Countries. The results are judged today to be very satisfactory because no outbreak of the disease has been reported in West and Central Africa since 1988; this makes it possible to plan a common strategy to let countries declare themselves in the short run free from Rinderpest.

He also expressed satisfaction over the fact that this 10th Meeting discuss other important topics such as control of CBPP and the State of Progress of the Privatization of the Veterinary Profession.

The Minister then thanked the European Union for its constant commitment to African livestock, as well as FAO for its technical support. Finally he concluded his speech by congratulating the OAU/IBAR, the Regional Coordination and all the National Coordinations for the brilliant results obtained.

The session was suspended after this ceremony before resumption of the proceedings of the meeting with the setting up of the bureau composed as follows:

| | | |
|---------------|---|--------------------------------------------|
| Chairman | : | Senegal |
| Vice-Chairman | : | Ghana |
| Rapporteurs | : | Côte-d'Ivoire and Central African Republic |

The PARC-SENEGAL National Coordinator was designated as resource person/

The following draft agenda and work program were adopted.

A G E N D A

1. Fight against Bovine Rinderpest: The Cessation of Vaccination Stage
2. The State of Progress of the Privatization of the Veterinary Profession
3. Fight against Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia: New Developments
4. Starting of the PARC Regional Communication Component
5. Cooperation among African Sub-Regional Organizations.

P R O G R A M

Tuesday June 4, 1996

- 8:00 -9:00 : Welcoming and registration of participants
- 9:00 -10:00 : Official opening ceremony
- Speech delivered by the Director of OAU/IBAR
 - Speech delivered by the Chief Delegate of the E.C. in Senegal
 - Opening address by the State Minister, Minister of Agriculture
- 10:00-10:15 : Coffee break
- 10:15-10:30 : Election of the conference bureau
Adoption of the conference program
- 10:30- 1:00 : Fight against Bovine Rinderpest: The Cessation of Vaccination Stage
- 10:30-11:30: Presentations by the Regional and International Coordinations
- * Situation in West and Central Africa: Dr.Amadou Samba SIDIBE
 - * Situation in East Africa: Dr. THOMSON
 - * Stopping vaccination and conservatory measures: Dr.W. MASIGA
 - * Epidemio-surveillance: Drs.GEIGER & DOMENECH
- 11:30-1:00 : Discussions
- 3:00 - 4:40 : Discussions: country proposals
- 4:30 - 4:45 : Coffee break
- 4:45 -6:00 : Discussions: country proposals
Conclusions and Recommendations

Wednesday June 5, 1996

- 9:00 -10:30 : State of progress of the Privatization of the
Veterinary Profession: Dr. DOMENECH
- Cost recovery
 - Sanitary mandate and its funding
 - Funding of the installation of professionals and
the supply of veterinary drugs
- 10:30-10:45 : Coffee break
- 10:45-1:00 : Discussions - Recommendations
- 3:00 - 4:30 : The Fight against Contagious Bovine
Pleuropneumonia: New Developments: Dr. TULASNE -
CIRAD - EMVT
- Discussions
- 4:30 - 4:45 : Coffee break
- 4:45 - 6:00: : Discussions - Recommendations

Thursday June 6, 1996

- 9:00 -12:30 : Visit to livestock farms
- 3:00 - 4:30 : Starting of PARC Regional Communication
Component
Cooperation among African Sub-regional
Organizations
- 4:30 - 4:45 : Coffee break

Friday June 7, 1996

- 9:00 -11:00 : Adoption of the Conference Report
- 11:00-11:30 : Coffee break
- 12:00-12:30 : Closing ceremony
- Speech delivered by the Director of OAU/IBAR
 - Speech delivered by the Chief Delegate of the
E.C. in Senegal
 - Closing speech by the State Minister, Minister
of Agriculture

I. THE FIGHT AGAINST BOVINE RINDERPEST: THE CESSATION OF VACCINATION STAGE

1.1 In the course of his presentation on the State of Progress of the PARC Project in West and Central Africa, the Regional Coordinator reviewed the main objectives of the PARC Program, namely:

- The fight against Bovine Rinderpest and Contagious Pleuropneumonia
- The rehabilitation of veterinary services
- The promotion of the privatization of the veterinary profession

He pointed out that the objective of controlling Bovine Rinderpest which gave its name to the project may be considered today to have been largely met.

As a matter of fact, no outbreak of Bovine Rinderpest has been reported in West and Central Africa in the course of the past eight years. Certain West African countries have not known any outbreak of bovine rinderpest for over 15 years and for some areas located within certain countries there has not been any report of an outbreak for over 20 years.

The mass vaccination strategy is more and more targeted on young animals and those transhuming along borders. The different research activities on the movement of the bovine rinderpest virus among sheep and goats have shown some low and at times even zero probability of presence of the virus. The increasing role of private veterinarians in the implementation of vaccination campaigns through the provision of the sanitary mandate leads to a higher participation of herders in the costs of operations and greater security in the epidemio-surveillance of the disease.

At the level of the epidemiology of bovine rinderpest, some foci are still persistent in East Africa. The Chadian and Central African veterinary services consider that the **Reinforcement of the Sanitary Cordon** is a priority in the area of animal health. It may thus be said, with reason, that Bovine Rinderpest is under control in West and Central Africa and that any outbreak may but be an isolated case and the risks involved will be rapidly limited.

The strategy used in order to reach this zero outbreak result was to minimize the role of the host in the transmission of the virus through mass vaccination campaigns mobilizing important amounts of money. In the absence of hosts which are receptive to the virus, the latter will disappear naturally.

Of course it has often been demonstrated that intensive vaccination against Bovine Rinderpest may make it possible to reduce to zero the number of outbreaks in a country, but nevertheless the campaigns might rapidly become routine, inefficient and too costly.

As far as strategy is concerned, the control stage must be followed by the eradication phase. The reduction to zero of the number of foci certainly represents only the beginning of the eradication process and it is much more difficult to prove that the virus has been totally eliminated.

Thus, we must now make the "qualitative leap" in order to reach the cessation stage of vaccination and declare countries which so wish Bovine Rinderpest free following the procedure of the International Office of Epizootic Diseases.

Such procedure defined in 1990 by the International Office of Epizootic Diseases is composed of criteria allowing countries which judge that they have eliminated Bovine Rinderpest, and wish to declare it officially, to demonstrate the reality of their situation to their commercial partners. Such approach proposes a demonstration method which ensures complete transparency for verification purposes.

The O.I.E. has defined three technical levels beginning with the absence of clinical cases over 24 consecutive months. When this first objective is fully reached (Country declared provisionally disease free), there follow a series of actions which lead to a second objective (Country confirmed disease free) then a third (infection free). These stages have generally been termed "O.I.E. procedure".

The absolute condition for beginning such procedure is Ceasing Vaccination on the entire territory covered. However, as we pointed out, no outbreak has been reported in West and Central Africa for over 8 years.

Veterinary Service officials are well aware of the risk factor related to Ceasing Vaccinations and know that outbreaks may occur again. They know that such risk is unavoidable but perfectly acceptable in a case of eradication, and that it is in no way inevitable.

Our countries, which are all members of the O.I.E. must engage in the procedure of verification of the absence of the rinderpest virus. This should have been done 2 or 3 years ago, and should be done now if we want to participate in world trade.

Thus, on April 15, 1884 the resolution of the Council of Ministers in charge of Animal Resources requested that countries which had been pest-free for several years and which did not have any risks of reappearance of the disease, engage in the process of declaring themselves free from Bovine Rinderpest, following O.I.E procedures.

It is generally admitted that such countries are those of West Africa as indicated on the Strategic Map for fighting against Bovine Rinderpest, namely Mali, Senegal, Benin, Togo, Ghana, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mauritania and parts of Nigeria and Niger. It must be remembered that the Gambia embarked on this process 4 years ago.

Zero risk not existing, what is involved is management of this risk of renewed outbreaks of Bovine Rinderpest. The officials of Animal Health Services, meeting in Bamako (June 19-21, 1995) as part of the OAU/FAO Seminar for emergency preparedness recommended that the risk of a renewed outbreak of Bovine Rinderpest be eliminated through:

- Early warning systems identifying the presence of the disease as soon as possible;
- Early reaction systems ensuring quick and efficient response against any outbreak of the disease.

It is essential that the risk of disease be eliminated by ensuring a good performance of Veterinary Services through continuous chains of command clearly defined covering simultaneously the Public and Private Sectors of Animal Health services and comprising diagnostic laboratories.

It is therefore essential that Directors of Veterinary Services put in place instruments enabling them to **manage the risks related to ceasing vaccination**. The PARC program has been working to that end in all countries of its area of intervention through institutional rehabilitation programs.

It is therefore appropriate to adopt a **new strategy based on cessation of vaccination** thanks to:

- Sero-surveillance operations.
- Permanent control over cattle movements across borders, a relatively more difficult task.
- An epidemio-surveillance of diseases, notably pest-like ones.
- Indemnification of herders as a means of controlling outbreaks.

-Creation of Regional Vaccine Banks.

-Exchange of zoo-sanitary information among neighbor countries

Of course the vaccination of 100% of the cattle population in the Chad-Central African Republic Sanitary Belt should be maintained.

DISCUSSIONS

Following the presentations made by Dr. Amadou Samba SIDIBE, Regional Coordinator, and Dr. Masiga, Director of OAU/IBAR, the discussions focused on:

-The recall of the PC 15 : the conditions of success and renewed outbreaks of Bovine Rinderpest, because of failure to observe conservatory measures.

-The Situation of Bovine Rinderpest in Southern Sudan and the Reinforcement of the Sanitary Belt.

-The role of wildlife.

-The disease surveillance system, including Herders, Non-Governmental Organizations and Private Veterinarians.

-Clarifications on what has been termed the O.I.E. procedure of declaring countries free from Bovine Rinderpest.

-The reallocation of existing funds in the funding agreements under vaccination campaigns.

-The remuneration of the services of private practitioners after Cessation of vaccination against Bovine Rinderpest.

-Reinforcement of the Regional Coordination for West and Central Africa in the light of the new missions.

-The necessity for OAU/IBAR and the Regional Coordination to undertake explanatory missions at the level of National Authorities, concerning Cessation of Vaccination.

Some satisfactory answers to these discussions points were provided on both sides.

In addition to countries such as LIBERIA, SIERRA LEONE, The GAMBIA, which have not been vaccinating against Bovine Rinderpest, other countries have decided to Cease Vaccinating this year, namely: BURKINA FASO, COTE D'IVOIRE, GHANA, GUINEE BISSAU, GUINEE CONAKRY, and SENEGAL.

1.2 NETWORKS: Dr. DOMENECH

In addition to the general protection needs of the cattle population against all epizootic diseases, two events must lead to an acceleration of the setting up of operational surveillance networks. Those are:

- * Ceasing vaccination against Bovine Rinderpest in West and Central Africa,

- * The necessity to evaluate the specific situation of CBPP, which is gaining ground again in some West African countries, and which has reached much significant scope in East and Southern Africa.

The epidemio-surveillance of diseases presupposes the availability of:

- *Operational field structures in the entire territory.
- *Diagnostic structures capable of rapidly identifying diseases.
- *A unit or service specializing in the management of the surveillance network and capable of operating it efficiently.

The example of the Chad Network of Animal Diseases (REPIMAT) is given because it has been operating for a year and it has made it possible to evaluate the methods and costs of this type of program. Developments of analogous schemes have also been made in several countries (Guinea, Senegal, Burkina Faso, C.A.R.), and the necessary budgets are or will be recorded in a short while in the PARC Projects.

For a Sahelian type country, with a cattle population of 2 to 5 million heads, the number of field positions participating in this active epidemiology was set at 20 to 30 or 35. Such positions must be carefully selected on the basis of the epidemiological criteria but in considering also the available human and material resources.

The Mobile Epidemiological Unit, whose epidemiologist will be the true operator of the network, is most often related to the National Diagnostics Laboratory but will work in close relation with field services. It must have data collection, processing and re-diffusion capacities.

The establishment and animation of epidemio-surveillance networks also requires special training for survey workers. The methods to be used depend on the diseases involved, the list of which will be established on the basis of two priorities: Bovine Rinderpest/pest-like diseases and CBPP. Other diseases such as PPR will be included in the list.

The importance of a network bulletin for the diffusion of field related information, is underlined.

The means to be used have been listed. They are dealing with:

- *The training of agents
- *The functioning of field survey positions
- *Laboratory diagnostics
- *The operation of the Mobile Epidemiological Unit.
- *The processing and diffusion of data.

The approximate cost of such network has been estimated at 100 million CFA Francs per year, of which 60 to 65 were allocated to field services and 35 to 40 were allocated to the Mobile Epidemiological Unit and the Laboratory.

1.3 THE EPIDEMIOLOGY OF BOVINE RINDERPEST: Dr. THOMSON

In his presentation on the epidemiology of Bovine Rinderpest, Dr. THOMSON underlined that the PARC program as a whole has been a success as far as the fight against Bovine Rinderpest in Africa is concerned. In the early 1980's, twenty countries were affected by the disease and in 1995, the disease was reported in only three countries all located in East Africa.

The last outbreak was reported in West and Central Africa in mid-1988, i.e., eight years ago. A certain number of countries are not currently vaccinating, namely Sierra Leone, Liberia, and the Gambia, and the vaccination cover in the other countries is weak, so that if the Bovine Rinderpest virus were present, there would be some outbreaks of the disease.

At the beginning of the PARC Project in Ethiopia, the disease was widespread; however, with the vaccination and control on a large scale, the disease is limited to two areas. Those are the lowlands in the Afars in the North-East and South-West adjacent to Southern Sudan. These areas are surrounded by sanitary belts and vaccinations have been ceased in the rest of the country. Toward the end of 1994, the cattle displaced from the Afars towards the highlands introduced the disease but a rapid and firm action has made it possible to control it. This demonstrates that with an efficient veterinary service, the disease can be controlled.

Southern Sudan remains a problem. Because of social unrest, vaccination campaigns cannot be carried out properly; however, UNICEF, through NGO's and thanks to the collaboration of Animal Health workers based at the community level and the use of vaccine stable against heat, vaccinated 1.5 million heads in 1993 and 1.8 million in 1994. This has considerably reduced the number of cases of the disease. The rest of Southern Sudan seems free from the disease while it is present in the South-East.

Vaccinations are being carried out in the "transition area", i.e., the area just to the North of the area where there is social unrest. This is part of the sanitary belt. The sanitary belt in C.A.R. and in Chad has been reinforced.

Uganda has been free from the disease since 1994. In Kenya, the disease had appeared in Turkana District adjacent to Southern Sudan by July 1995. It has been controlled.

There was an epidemic among the wildlife in Tsavo National Parc toward the end of 1994. It killed about 50% of the buffalos in the affected areas. No case of the disease has been found in domestic animals.

The virus isolated from a buffalo produced a very benign disease in cattle in laboratory tests. This shows that there is a very benign strain of the virus and an active research will be necessary in order to determine the source. Such research is currently being undertaken.

DISCUSSIONS

The questions related to Dr. THOMSON's presentation "Epidemiology of Bovine Rinderpest" were related to the existence of different types of bovine rinderpest strains, their classification, to the O.I.E. procedure for declaring freedom from Bovine Rinderpest, to the role of wildlife in the transmission of the disease.

Answering the different questions, Dr. THOMSON said that many Bovine Rinderpest virus strains had been identified serially. With the help of dendrograms, he demonstrated the relations among various strains. The strains must be regrouped and this was very useful in the identification of the source of an epidemic.

To the extent that West Africa has been free from the disease for over 7 years and that the sanitary belt has been reinforced, West African countries must consider stopping vaccinations and starting O.I.E. procedures of declaring "freedom from the disease". Chad and C.A.R. and possibly Cameroon should continue vaccination until the disease is controlled in Southern Sudan.

Finally, he stated that while the wildlife was affected by Rinderpest and could spread it, the disease being under control in cattle, it had disappeared in wildlife. Wildlife were not the reservoirs of the disease in the long term. Both the research funded by the PARC Project in Cameroon and in Tanzania and the research funded in Kenya demonstrated that the disease disappeared when it had been controlled in cattle.

II. STATE OF PROGRESS OF THE PRIVATIZATION OF THE VETERINARY PROFESSION; IMPORTANCE OF SANITARY MANDATES

In his presentation, Dr. DOMENECH, PARC Project Adviser in Nairobi pointed out that the PARC Project, since its beginning, had two objectives, namely Improving Animal Health Protection, with two major and complementary objectives: Reinforce the activities of the Public Veterinary Services and Promote the Privatization of the Veterinary Profession.

The stages of the privatization are briefly presented:

- *Modification of the regulatory laws and texts.
- *Privatization of the importance and wholesale distribution of drugs and other livestock inputs.
- *Definition of an adequate scheme for the coaching of the program.
- *Support in the establishment of private clients in the field.
- *Attribution of official Sanitary Mandates to Private Veterinarians, notably for mandatory vaccination campaigns.

The privatization programs are at variable stages depending on countries, based on multiple and varied constraints. The major ones are:

- Difficulties of application of the transfer of activities in the field, because of an opposition, significant at times, of Technical Agents in charge of implementation.
- Hesitation on the part of veterinarians to settle, particularly in Regions of extensive Livestock farming, in regions where financial viability is considered low.
- Difficulties in finding credit at flexible conditions.
- Inadequacy of specific trainings.

However, the overall results are judged to be very positive ones and may be summarized in the following manner:

- Cost recovery of generalized services,
- Livestock Development Fund accepted in their principle and operational in a few countries.
- Importation and distribution of largely privatized drugs.
- Modification of Laws and Regulations almost everywhere.

-Well established private clients in many countries.

-Official sanitary mandates granted in several countries, accepted in many others and having proven their efficiency.

The example of Chad has been developed because the mass vaccinations against Bovine Rinderpest and CBPP have been carried out there by private veterinarians for three years. The results obtained are excellent in terms of technical and economic efficiency, for a lower cost than that of government campaigns.

The Sanitary Mandates turn out to be an essential element in the profitability of rural clients and enable veterinarians to be in direct contact with producers and to become factors of technical progress. Other examples of successful Sanitary Mandates are also cited.

The particular questions which must be studied in more detail were reviewed. They involve:

-The piloting scheme of the privatization program, which must be organized in close partnership with the Administration, Private Operators and Credit Agencies.

-Technical support of private promoters in the area of training, preparation of economic and financial files and close follow-up of clients. Such support is equally proposed to credit agencies which are not familiar with this area of Private Veterinary Medicine, and therefore are hesitant to grant loans.

-The role of Communication - Sensitization

-The extension of private client activities to other activities than the sale of drugs and vaccinations.

In this area, the role of Private Veterinarians in advice-extension must be asserted and must be taken into account by Livestock Development policies and programs.

The profitability of clientele may be much better understood nowadays and it will fall on specialists of Privatization Support Units to estimate them. Such viability is variable according to the case and some aspects are still neglected, including social charges and taxes. One must also take good account of the choices of strategies for controlling major epizootic diseases, which may evolve in time.

As far as the funding of Sanitary Mandates is concerned, a plan must be prepared immediately in each country, taking into account all the criteria intervening in the computation of its cost (veterinarian's rate, herder's rate, length of program). In order to know how to fund the possibly necessary grants, one must start very often by making an assessment of the resources drawn from the livestock sector and make hypotheses on what could be allocated to the funding of the mandates. On a more general ground, such questions about resources to be allocated to animal health protection programs cut across the problem of the creation of a Livestock Development Fund.

Finally, the place and role of Herders' Associations and their auxiliaries in the privatization process must be better defined and supported.

It has been concluded that the Privatization of the Veterinary Profession is at present well advanced and that the hopes it had raised for several years should be turned more and more into concrete results.

III. FIGHT AGAINST CONTAGIOUS BOVINE PLEUROPNEUMONIA: NEW DEVELOPMENTS: Dr. J. TULASNE (CIRAD-EMVT)

1. SITUATION OF CBPP IN AFRICA

This disease has become one of the major threats to cattle farming in Africa.

A clinical and epidemiological recall puts in evidence, particularly the importance of chronic forms and the essential role of cattle movements in the diffusion of the disease.

In West and Central Africa, CBPP is currently enzootic but has become a major constraint in certain countries. It must be controlled.

In East and South-Western Africa, the situation is alarming and is rapidly evolving.

The establishment of control and eradication programs has become an emergency for Sub-saharan Africa. Such programs will comprise mainly controlling cattle movements, vaccination and killing infected animals.

2. CURRENT SITUATION OF VACCINES AGAINST CBPP

After a historical background of the bacteriological characteristics of the T1, T1/44, T1/SR and KH 3J strains and their comparative immunogenicity, an FAO recommendation dated December

19, 95 is presented.

According to this recommendation, the FAO questions the efficiency and identity of the T1-SR strain when dealing with the epidemiological situation of East and Southern Africa; the FAO proposes that the T1/44 strain be considered as the choice vaccinal strain until the real efficiency of the T1-SR strain has been demonstrated on experimental grounds.

An emergency protocol has been proposed by the CIRAD-EMVT, PANVAC, and the OAU/IBAR, with European Union support. The protocol includes:

- Preparation of a T1/44 bank
- Production of a T1/44 experimental vaccine
- A vaccinal protocol/test with the T1 SR and T1/44 strains (Cameroon, Namibia)

3. STATE OF THE RESEARCH ON CBPP

A new research project funded by the European Union (DB VIII) was established at the end of 1994. Its main objective is the eradication of CBPP in Africa. The network comprises

- 11 African and European partners
- It is divided into 4 components:
 - * Development of CBPP vaccines (ISCOM: Immuno stimulation complex)
 - * Improvement of diagnostic tools (ELISA, PCR...)
 - * Immunopathology and Immunology of CBPP (Immunity Cellular Amediation)
 - * Training

The objectives of the project, its organization as well as the results obtained after a full year's activity have not been presented.

IV. STARTING OF THE PARC REGIONAL COMMUNICATION COMPONENT

4.1 COMMUNICATION SUPPORT

The item on the agenda relative to PARC Communication was introduced by Mr. Gianmarco SCUPPA, associate expert of the Regional Communication Unit for West and Central Africa. Mr SCUPPA pointed out that several speakers had invoked, in the course of the previous discussions, the need for communication activities in order to address specific issues such as Privatization, Epidemio-surveillance, etc. and pointed out that most PARC objectives cannot be reached without the necessary input from communication activities.

Mr. SCUPPA THEN INTRODUCED Mr Peter D'HUYS, Project CTP based in Nairobi, who presented the PARC Regional Communication Project.

The PARC COMMUNICATION SUPPORT Project began in early 1996 and has four Communication Advisers, including two for East Africa and the other two for West and Central Africa. For a period of at least three years such teams will help National Projects in their communication activities.

Over the years 1992-94, the previous communication project had aimed at requesting the participation of Governments and Livestock head offices in the fight against Bovine Rinderpest. Many posters, bulletin boards, stamps, and newsletters were produced at that time.

Nowadays the participation and interest of Governments in the PARC Project are well established. Therefore the principal objective of the PARC-Communication Project is the participation of all categories involved in livestock farming (particularly herders, Government Agents and Private Veterinarians) in the different policies, programs and PARC achievements. In providing technical support and training, this project will address each country's new needs.

Mr. D'HUYS therefore explained the importance for the PARC program of the concept of participation. As a matter of fact, the PARC objectives imply changes in policy and consequently in behavior of the different contenders in the Livestock Sector. Thus Veterinary Services must be able to obtain the necessary information in order to get to know the reality where they are going to intervene. They could also have confidence in their ability to meet the PARC challenges: Privatization, Cessation of Vaccination against Bovine Rinderpest, Cost Recovery, Epidemio-Surveillance Network and the ensuing problems.

But many people fear these new challenges and the changes involved in them. In order to reach these objectives, it is therefore necessary that all livestock contenders participate in:

- 1) Decision-making
- 2) Implementation of programs
- 3) Benefits of the economic, political and cultural efforts made.
- 4) Evaluation of activities

A real participation of such categories will make possible:

- 1) A more advanced training on the needs and priorities of target groups.
- 2) A better possibility to foresee the impact of planned actions.
- 3) Better adaptation to local conditions.
- 4) Access to technical innovative ideas.
- 5) Herders' willingness to pay for efficient Veterinary Services.

Mr. D'HUYS therefore exposed the two levels of communication: horizontal and vertical.

Vertical Communication is one which takes place between decision makers, livestock officials, and the categories involved in cattle farming, particularly herders. At this level, the simple diffusion of information from the top down must foster real dialogue among all actors and target groups of the Livestock Service, dialog requiring ideas from the bottom, from the field.

The examples of East Africa concerning Bovine Rinderpest show that the Livestock Services have not yet gotten reliable field information in order to demonstrate the net presence of Bovine Rinderpest, or other disease.

Who is the Livestock Director who can state that he is aware of the attitude of herders about the different PARC programs? What is the opinion of field agents? There must develop a new mentality of dialog and communication within the livestock services.

By drawing on the rich traditional oral culture and from the modern techniques which are less and less expensive over time, the Regional PARC Communication Project proposes the development of discussion tools such as Rural Radios, Traditional Media, Turnkits, discussion manuals, slide projector presentations, and many more.

The Horizontal Communication involves information exchange among the different areas of a country, among different Countries and Regions of Africa. Particularly for the sake of establishment of epidemio-surveillance networks, the exchange of information becomes essential. Informing the neighboring country about the outbreak of a disease will be evidence of the efficiency of National Services. The example of Sudan, as far as Bovine Rinderpest is concerned, demonstrates the necessity of an exchange of specific information.

Mr. D'HUYS therefore proposed some key instructions in order to intervene at these two levels:

A National Communication Unit, which often already exists under one form or another in the Livestock Services. Such unit will normally comprise the Parc Coordinator and a Communication officer. A Rural Radio specialist and a specialist for discussion tools can be employed in the future as the need arises. The PARC Coordinator will remain the person responsible for the objectives or the content of messages. The communication officer will be responsible for "packing" these messages. What media to use? At what price? At what time? In partnership with whom? According to what strategy? The communication officer will not directly carry out the communication activities but he will handle the organization of the production of communication tools (directly realized by his two assistants or by other actors of sensitization, extension, etc.).

The Regional Communication Project will be responsible for the funds for the training of such unit through regional and local trainings. The prototype materials developed in the course of such trainings will help them produce material which is adapted to local conditions.

The assistance of the Regional Communication Project will involve the support for the formation of networks and for the production of local communication materials.

A National Communication Strategy is necessary for the communication activities to have precise objectives and to have a real impact. A strategy will have to include the problems which require a communication intervention and answer these questions; What are the priorities? What will be the communication objectives? What will be the target groups? The types of messages? The media utilized?

In conclusion Mr. D'HUYS reminded people that these efforts will not lead to anything without the sincere readiness of coordinators to integrate communication in the field of PARC regular activities. Such readiness also translates into allocation of an adequate budget for communication activities. Fortunately, most projects have allocated to communication 5 to 15% of their global PARC budget. But such budget will only be efficient in the presence of a communication unit and a coherent communication strategy.

V. COOPERATION AMONG AFRICAN SUB-REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

The ECOWAS representative presented a summary of activities carried out in the area of livestock during the 1995-96 period.

These activities are related to the following projects: reinforcement of four Vaccine Production Veterinary Laboratories, Community Centers for the Production of selected Breeders of the bovine species, economic data bank on Livestock and the adoption of a Transhuming Certificate.

VI. SYNTHESIS OF NATIONAL REPORTS

BENIN

I. FIGHT AGAINST BOVINE RINDERPEST: The Cessation of Vaccination Stage

- 1.1 The report of the last outbreak of Bovine Rinderpest goes back to 1987.
- 1.2 Vaccination efforts against Bovine Rinderpest are continuing over the entire national territory. The serological tests have finally begun this year.
- 1.3. The Directorate of Livestock Services has organized an information and national consultation meeting about the new orientations in the area of controlling the major epizootic diseases continent wide. At the end of the discussions, the said meeting approved the recommendations and resolutions of the OAU/IBAR PARC Project, of the FAO and the OIE, relative to Cessation of vaccination against bovine rinderpest.

Benin is heading toward such cessation. To that end, the participants insisted on the following pre-conditions:

-Information on a large scale of National Authorities and populations in order to sensitize them on this issue.

- The implementation of sero-surveillance.
- The establishment of an early warning and reaction system.
- The establishment of a Livestock Development Fund and the establishment of vaccine security stocks.
- A better control of the inter-state cattle movements.

Thus, all such actions aimed at establishing operational Veterinary Services are already underway but at a level which is still globally inadequate.

II. STATE OF PROGRESS OF THE PRIVATIZATION OF THE VETERINARY PROFESSION

A Ministerial Decree (No. 419/MDR/DC/CC/CP dated August 8th, 1994) made it possible to regularize on that date the situation of 28 unemployed graduates (including 20 veterinary doctors) by authorizing, on provisional grounds (pending the promulgation of the law for which a bill is deposited in Parliament), their activities in private practice. Pending promulgation of the Sanitary Mandate, these agents have been associated on the basis of modalities varying according to the CARDER (Regional Directorate of Rural Development) and the implementation of Vaccination Campaigns.

Given the non realization of funding provided for in the IDA project of restructuring Agricultural Services, the means of action of such operators have often remained inadequate, and they often depend for their medical supplies on provisions given against reimbursement by the CARDER Agents, which limits their freedom of action. Authorizations are delivered upon examination of the applications by the Committee on the Liberalization of the Veterinary Profession.

Authorizations have been delivered for the establishment of Veterinary Pharmacies, in the same provisional framework.

The partial recovery of vaccination costs (50 F per dose against Bovine Rinderpest and Contagious Pleuropneumonia) goes back to 1983. The National Association of Veterinary Doctors, the National Union of Livestock Technicians, Private Operators and Observers of the Donors are closely associated with the process.

III. COMMUNICATION COMPONENT

An important "Communication" component is implemented in relation with the Ministry of Communication and Culture, based on a multi-media approach; Radio campaign, Televised Production, insertion of several articles in Newspapers and Magazines and in the Rural Press, production of communication tools (printed material: posters, picture box, technical forms, memory helper for field agents, booklet for producers in Fula language) on the PARC Project.

Examples of such documents are available for consultation.

BURKINA FASO

1995/1996 CAMPAIGN

Vaccination operations against epizootic diseases in Burkina Faso were marked in the course of the 1995-96 campaign by a certain number of factors the most important of which are:

- An agro-pastoral deficit campaign leading to early movements of transhumance;

- A satisfactory evolution of the zoo-sanitary situation except for the persistence of a few CBPP foci in the Western Region of the country:

- A much more important contribution of private veterinarians in the activities of prevention against animal diseases;

- An inadequacy of the operational means of field services.

In spite of all this, the campaign, which was conducted from October 1995 to March 1996, recorded satisfactory results.

I. INTERVENTION STRATEGY AND QUANTIFIABLE OBJECTIVES

In the absence of the results of the post-vaccinal serological tests of the 1994/95 campaign the strategy of intervention remained the same as in the preceding campaign.

However, a particular accent was placed on the full 100% vaccination against CBPP of cattle from Regions where the disease was widespread and particularly along the North-West border up until South.

The quantifiable objectives for the vaccinations were as follows:

-1,640,000 heads to vaccinate against Bovine Rinderpest

-1,630,000 heads to vaccinate against Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia.

*Sensitization of Herders

This has been conducted through radio announcements, meetings and debates with herder groups. The technical, administrative and political authorities invested themselves each in their own ways for the success of the campaign.

*Coordination and Harmonization Meetings

-On the national level, a meeting involving all SPRA Chiefs around officers of the Animal Health Directorate, was held at the start of the campaign (12/7/95). On the agenda of that meeting was a discussion of the national strategy and the harmonization of vaccination operations among the different provincial border structures. By the same token the means of operation of the teams and complementary equipments were handed over to provincial officials.

-At the level of borders, apart from the meeting planned with Ghana scheduled to be held at the end of May 1996, no meeting has been held.

II. MEANS USED

The human, material and operational means available were carefully deployed.

Thus, the vaccination operations were carried out by CRPA field structures (SPRA, ZERA). The Private Veterinarians, who numbered 15, intervened in the course of this campaign with their own means and accounted for 16% of the vaccination results.

The vaccinations were carried out in over 4000 centers scattered throughout the national territory.

The SPRA organized themselves on the territory they depended on according to the means available to them.

III. CAMPAIGN RESULTS

They are as follows:

-1,469,495 heads vaccinated against BR, i.e., 89.6% of the target.

-1,422,141 heads against CBPP, i.e., 87.2% of the target.

These results are satisfactory in light of the objectives which had been set. They must be reconciled with the results of the serological tests which are currently underway.

IV. REVITALIZATION OF LIVESTOCK SERVICES

The Revitalization of the Livestock Services in Burkina Faso has really started. After the adoption of texts defining the framework of the evolution of the Veterinary Profession in the country, many other actions have already been implemented or are about to be carried out.

-The reorganization of the agricultural services with the subsequent clear definition at the level of Veterinary Services of the role of public services and that of the private sector.

-A greater involvement of private operators in all veterinary activities.

-The recovery of costs of services to herders is set by the private professionals themselves

-An account of the environmental component in all the development programs. Thus, at the level of the Livestock Support Sectorial Program (LSSP), the following are carried out: action of land management and support for pastoral developments.

V. CONCLUSION

The 1995/1996 sanitary protection campaign was conducted in a relatively difficult context (Cattle Food deficit, inadequate, if not decrepit means of field structure operation, etc.)

Nevertheless, the results obtained are satisfactory.

The Veterinary Services in Burkina plan to improve them with the implementation of the two PARC-III Project Components in the country.

CAMEROON

I. BACKGROUND

1. Composition of the Cattle Population (1993)

| | | | |
|-----------------|---|------------|-------|
| Bovine | : | 5,000,000 | heads |
| Sheep and Goats | : | 6,000,000 | - |
| Pigs | : | 1,000,000 | - |
| Poultry | : | 20,000,000 | - |

As well as other species such as Horses and Donkeys, Rabbits, Dogs and Cats.

2. Technical and Administrative Structures

*10 Provincial Delegations

*47 Departmental Sectors

*106 Departmental and Veterinary Sectors

*60 Sanitary control posts

*14 Sections of development of pasture lands and Pastoral hydraulics

*10 Fisheries Control Posts

*5 Fishing Centers

To this structures, one must add the Agencies and Specialized Missions:

- The Special Mission to Eradicate Glossina (M.S.E.G.)
- The National Veterinary Laboratory at Garoua-Boklé (LANAVET)
- The Livestock and Fisheries Development Funds
- The Animal Production Development Company (SODEPA)
- The Livestock Sector Development Project (P.D.S.E.)

-The Institute of Agricultural and Veterinary Research (IRAV) which is under the umbrella of the Ministry of Scientific and Technical Research (MINREST)

II. THE FIGHT AGAINST BOVINE RINDERPEST AND CONTAGIOUS BOVINE PLEUROPNEUMONIA

1. BOVINE RINDERPEST

As in the past and in spite of a few problems, the cattle population has been vaccinated against bovine rinderpest and contagious bovine pleuropneumonia.

No case of bovine rinderpest has been reported in the national territory since 1986. Cameroon is actively participating in the Pan-African Campaign against Bovine Rinderpest (PARC) at all levels. However, it must be noted regrettably that the Phase II PARC-CAMEROON file has been transmitted to Brussels since April 1994 for a European Union funding, without result so far.

Cameroon is not opposed to Ceasing Vaccination but one necessarily notes that the sudanese outbreak is always present and the sanitary cordon instituted at the level of the Chad-CAR borders is not ready; it is for all these reasons that at the level of Cameroon, people are advocating again vaccination of the cattle population until the situation in Sudan significantly improves.

2. BOVINE CONTAGIOUS PLEUROPNEUMONIA

The vaccination is conducted each year and is coupled with the one against bovine rinderpest. Encouraging results are recorded: no outbreak this year in spite of the persistence of a threat at borders.

The sanitary situation has generally remained satisfactory but fragile because of threats at borders and the limits means of control available. The slow pace observed in the establishment of the PARC-CAMEROON phase II is felt more and more.

III. THE PRIVATIZATION OF THE PRACTICE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

The privatization of the practice of Veterinary Medicine has followed different stages. People have moved from a stage where the State would do absolutely everything and where it provided inputs (drugs, materials and veterinary products) free of charge, to the current stage where almost everything is in the hands of the private sector.

In order to establish such privatization, a legal framework had to be established and certain modifications had to be made to the economic framework. Currently, this is a more liberal law than the previous ones and it makes of the National Order of Veterinarians the body truly charged with the management of the profession. There are currently 35 Veterinary Doctors authorized to do private practice.

FUTURE PERSPECTIVES

-Continuation of the Restructuring of Veterinary Services and seeing to it that the personnel be efficient and well paid so that there would be minimum personnel to handle public veterinary services.

-Continuation of the improvement of the legal and economic framework by granting sanitary mandates to private veterinarians in order to alleviate the burden of the state on the one hand and enable private veterinarians to work in certain domains or areas judged unprofitable at this time.

The privatization of the practice of Veterinary Medicine is henceforth a tangible reality in Cameroon. Some difficulties persist and require that a particular solution be found to them, particularly as regards the credits to finance such privatization at reasonable rates with an adequate guarantee system.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

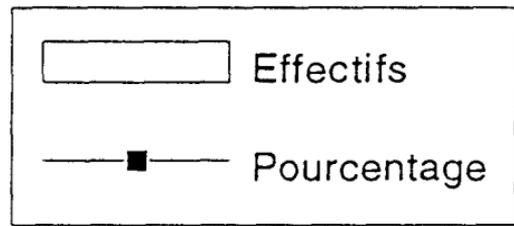
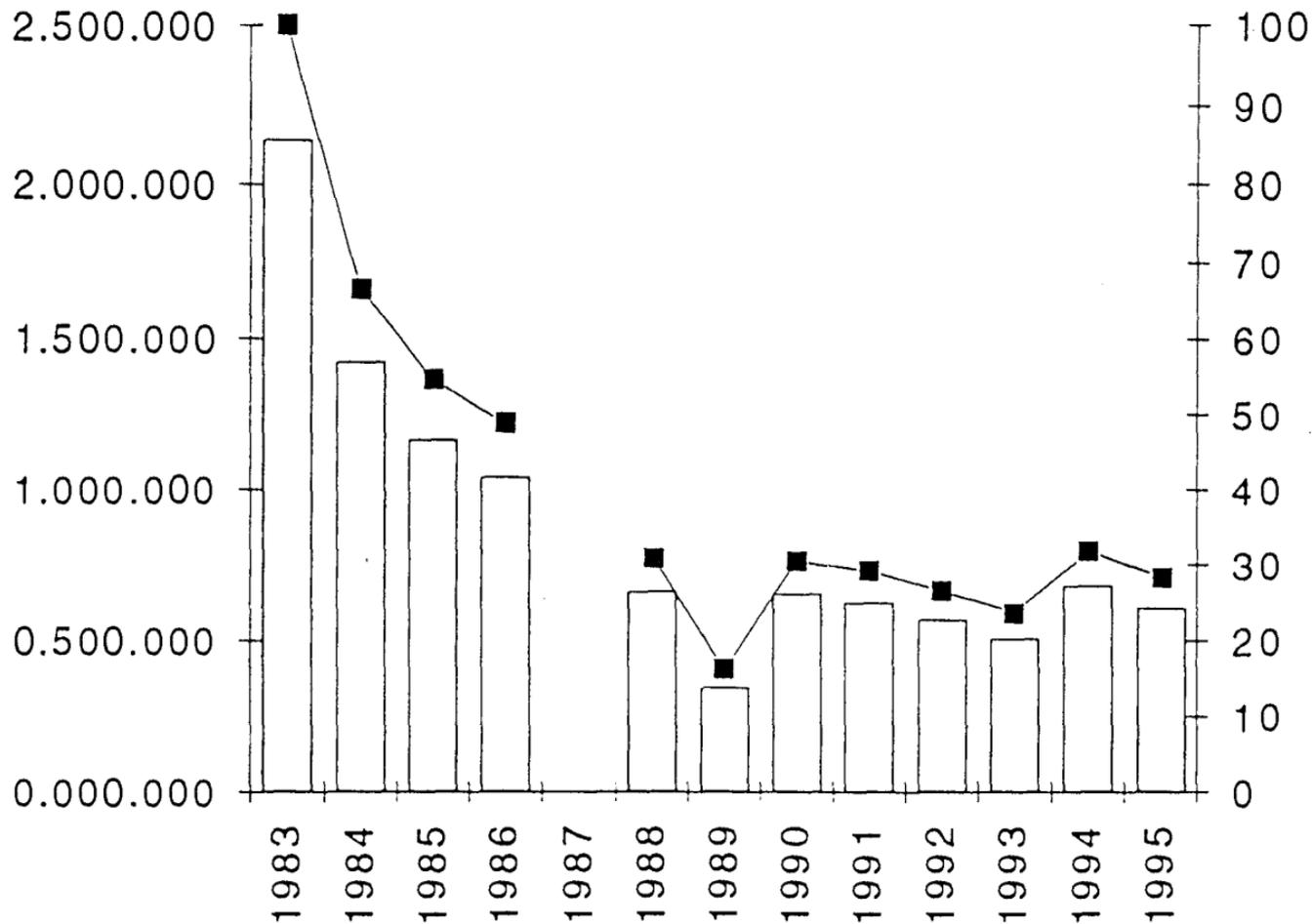
I. RESULTS OF THE VACCINATION CAMPAIGNS

1. Such campaigns have been organized each year in the country, since 1983, which was the year of the first outbreak of the disease.

-Rainy season campaign, for resident cattle farmers

-Dry season campaign, involving transhuming herders coming from Chad and Sudan, as well as trading animals coming from these two countries.

2. The fight against B.R. and that against CBPP are conducted simultaneously.



3. Types of vaccines:

Different types of vaccines have been utilized since 1983:

*Tissupest, monovalent vaccine produced by the Dakar Laboratory (Senegal). This vaccine was used in the Western part of the country in 1983;

*Pestovax, monovalent vaccine produced by the Rhône Mérieux Institute in France, used in the eastern part of the country in 1983 and 1984;

*Bissecc, bivalent vaccine produced by the Farcha Laboratory (Chad), used in 1985;

*Néobissecc, a vaccine produced by the Dakar Laboratory (Senegal) used in the entire national territory in 1986;

*Bivax, bivalent vaccine (Bovine Rinderpest and Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia), produced by the Bokle Laboratory at Garoua (Cameroon) in 1987.

*Bovipestovax, monovalent vaccine used against rinderpest.

4. The vaccines are to be sold. In 1996, the cost to the farmer is 125F CFA per dose. This cost will increase at the rate of 20% per year up until the year 2000.

The real cost of the vaccine would be 300 FCFA in 1996.

5. The G.D. of the ANDE is the chief authority, while the Regional Directorates are the real architects in the success of the campaign.
6. The ANDE and the FNEC are conjugating their efforts for the organization and execution of the campaign.
7. Vaccinated numbers (ref. table)

(put page 26 here)

VACCINATED NUMBERS OVER THE YEARS

| | Numbers | Percent |
|------|-----------|---------|
| 1983 | 2,140,362 | 100 |
| 1984 | 2,425,403 | 66.60 |
| 1985 | 1,168,867 | 54.61 |
| 1986 | 1,044,487 | 48.80 |
| 1987 | | |
| 1988 | 661,646 | 30.91 |
| 1989 | 348,286 | 16.27 |
| 1990 | 654,344 | 30.57 |
| 1991 | 625,268 | 29.21 |
| 1992 | 568,062 | 26.54 |
| 1993 | 507,672 | 23.72 |
| 1994 | 681,145 | 31.82 |
| 1995 | 607,171 | 28.37 |

In relation to the year 1983, when almost the entire cattle population was vaccinated, we can note a significant reduction of numbers over the years. The table shows that only 23.7% of the cattle population had been vaccinated in 1993 compared to 1987; the vaccination campaign had not taken place.

SERO-SURVEILLANCE OF BOVINE RINDERPEST IN THE NORTH OF THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

| YEAR | NUMBERS VACCINATED | SAMPLE | POSITIVE | PREVALENCE |
|------|--------------------|--------|----------|------------|
| 1993 | 60,604 | 1,305 | 774 | 59 |
| 1994 | 30,628 | 1,354 | 746 | 55 |

Compared to the national average of 59% prevalence in 1994, it can be noted that for the same year, the vaccinal cover is weak in the Northern region, which is the point of entry and transit of numerous cattle coming from neighboring Sudan, where Rinderpest is still widespread.

PAN-AFRICAN CAMPAIGN AGAINST BOVINE
RINDERPEST (PARC)

-The Central African Republic has just received its first significant funding from the European Union in the framework of the PARC Project.

-The Funding Agreement was signed in December 1994.

-Effective implementation started with the arrival of the Technical Assistant, Co-Chief of the Service of Epidemio-surveillance, designated PARC Manager.

-The first disbursement took place only in April 1996, on account of the FED procedures for the elaboration of Program Estimate.

-Almost all planned material has been received and distributed in the Regions.

-The 1996 rainy season campaign began in May through sensitization.

-The vaccines were ordered from the National Veterinary Laboratory (LANAVET) in Garoua in Cameroon but have not been received yet.

DIFFICULTIES AND PROPOSALS

-The Institutional Support was not taken in charge in the PARC funding, which jeopardizes the other Animal Health activities, notably Veterinary Public Health.

-The Warning Network is funded for a period of four years, but nothing is planned next, while vaccination should be self-financed in the long run by the recovery of costs.

-The last events in Bangui might compromise the vaccination, because the PARC Manager is repatriated, two vehicles were destroyed, and we don't know at this time the position of the Delegation of the European Union in Bangui as far as the continuation of the funding is concerned.

-Except for supervisory missions, the visit of the Regional Coordinator is desirable, after difficult times, such as those just experienced in the Central African Republic, in order to review the strategy of program activities.

I. INTRODUCTION

The second phase of the PARC-RCI Project is unfolding in an institutional environment characterized by:

-The disengagement of the State from Production and Marketing functions.

-The Restructuring of Agricultural Services which have led to the creation of a single agency of agricultural supervision and the reorganization of External Services of the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources.

-In the area of Animal Health, the policy of disengagement of the State from certain activities expressed itself through reform of the regulatory framework enabling not only the Liberalization of the Veterinary Profession, but also the delegation to Private Veterinarians of certain Administration prerogatives. The recovery of the contribution of herdsmen to the cost of vaccination was instituted over the entire national territory.

The different points discussed in this report address the following issues:

- The Privatization of the Veterinary Profession
- The fight against epizootic diseases: BR, CBPP
- The state of progress of the PARC-CI/Phase II Project

1. THE PRIVATIZATION OF THE VETERINARY PROFESSION

The liberalization of the Veterinary Profession fits into the general policy of progressive disengagement of the State from certain activities, notably Production and Marketing.

Côte-d'Ivoire has adopted a cautious approach characterized by preliminary studies and appropriate accompanying measures with donor support.

The legislative and regulatory texts have been prepared. The legal framework being drawn, the implementation of the privatization is done progressively and harmoniously, even if some corrective measures can be brought about all along.

1.1. The Funding of the Setting up of Professionals and the Supply of Veterinary Drugs

The installation of veterinarians in private practice bears on three (3) sectors of veterinary actions which are:

*The private urban clientele (care for small animals in a veterinary clinic).

*The Distribution of Veterinary Drugs

*The Rural Private Clientele.

1.1.1. Veterinarians Settling in Urban Practice

Such operation does not benefit from State support.

In 1996, the Côte-d'Ivoire has 5 Veterinarians in private practice in Abidjan. Such establishments in urban practice precede current establishment measures for private veterinarians.

1.1.2 The Distribution of Veterinary Drugs

This sector does not enjoy any State financial support. For the year 1995, twelve (12) importers were registered at the level of the Directorate of Veterinary Services in the framework of the control of Veterinary Drug Imports.

Among those importers, five (5) were wholesalers. The whole sale distribution of drugs was entirely handed over by the State either to Veterinary Doctors or to Private Druggists, or to Professional Organizations in production channels.

1.1.3. Veterinarians Setting Up in Private Rural Practice

This component of the Privatization of veterinary activities is one of the priorities of the country's administration with the support of the PARC-CI Project.

Currently two (2) Veterinary Doctors are installed in private rural practice in Ferkessedougou and Odienné in Northern Côte-d'Ivoire.

In 1996, three (3) loan files have been approved for three (3) Veterinary Doctors settling at Bouna, Korhogo and Boundiali in Northern Côte-d'Ivoire.

The activities carried out by such veterinarians in private rural practice involve the retail distribution of drugs to herdsmen, the management and organizational counselling of herdsmen, the practice of veterinary medicine and surgery in a

diagnostic clinic.

The amount of the loan granted until 1996 has varied from 31 million to 35 million CFA Francs per veterinarian, at a 7% interest rate with a one year grace period and to be reimbursed over a period of 8 years.

The installation of veterinarians on PARC-CI (EDF) funds is done through the following structures:

- *A technical follow-up unit composed of four (4) members;
- *A Veterinarian Order parity committee - Directorate of Veterinary Services.

- *A committee for steering and approving loans and comprising 9 members bringing together the Ministries involved in the policy of privatization.

1.2 The Sanitary Mandate

1.2.1. Regulatory framework

The decree on the Mandate was approved by the Government on July 14, 1995 and recorded under the number 95-536.

Decrees and circular letters for its implementation were elaborated and submitted to the signature of Ministers of Agriculture and Animal Resources and Finance Ministers. Information notes were sent to all prefects, Regional Directors and MINAGRA Departmental Directors concerning the vaccination of cattle against contagious diseases.

1.2.2. Implementation of the Sanitary Mandate

In the course of the year 1995, three (3) Veterinary Doctors established in private practice obtained a Sanitary Mandate (based on a work contract between the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources and the Private Veterinarian).

1.2.3. The Recovery of Vaccine Costs

The remuneration of the Sanitary Mandate (200 F per dose of vaccine) was assured, by the herdsmen on one hand (50 F per dose) and by the State on the other hand up to 150 to 185 FCFA per vaccination, depending on regions.

1.2.4. Results of Vaccinations carried out by Private Mandate Holders

Out of 272,762 heads of cattle visited by private veterinarians, 201,563 were recorded as vaccinated against Bovine Rinderpest, 254,264 as vaccinated against Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia.

As far as small ruminants are concerned, 34,819 had been vaccinated out of 40,827 animals registered.

2. THE FIGHT AGAINST EPIZOOTIC DISEASES

After a year of interruption (1994), it was possible to organize the vaccination against Bovine Rinderpest (B.R.), Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia (CBPP) and Small Ruminants Pest (SRP) in 1995 over the entire national territory.

Unlike what happened in past years, this campaign has been carried out by the External Services of MINAGRA, laid off workers who were had been supervisors in the former SODEPRA and private veterinarians, with a financial contribution from herdsmen and cattle owners.

Thus, the new set up of implementation and funding of Animal Health has had its first application in the collective prophylaxis against major contagious diseases.

2.1. Bovine Rinderpest (B.R.)

No outbreak of Bovine Rinderpest has been reported in Côte-d'Ivoire since 1986. 550,811 heads of cattle have been vaccinated out of 832,146 counted. In accordance with the OIE and OAU/IBAR recommendations, the cessation of vaccination against Bovine Rinderpest is planned in Côte-d'Ivoire from 1996 onwards.

For controlling the sanitary situation, the following measures are planned:

*Establish a zoo-sanitary information network in association with the LANADA through its Regional Animal Pathology Laboratories.

*Endow private veterinarians with an intervention capacity in emergency cases.

*Train Animal Health Technicians of the DRARA and DDARA in the border areas in techniques of intervention in case of outbreak of contagious diseases.

*Constitute security vaccine stocks at the level of the DRARA.

*Establish an emergency fund from the veterinary action funds which are being established.

2.2. Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia (CBPP)

-12 outbreaks of CBPP have been recorded, affecting 945 animals, including 48 dead and 25 slaughtered.

-732,657 heads of cattle have been vaccinated against the disease out of 832,146 counted.

3. STATE OF PROGRESS OF THE PARC-CI/PHASE II PROJECT

The PARC-CI/Phase II Project has entered its real phase of activities. The realization of programs identified in the course of the years 1994 and 1995 has had a positive development in the following domains.

*The equipment of the project in supplies and vaccines by International Calls for Bids or Restricted Consultations.

*The installation of two (2) Veterinary Doctors in rural private practice in 1995 and three (3) installation application files approved in 1996.

*The realization of entry post infrastructures and 23 Livestock Posts and Public Veterinary Clinics.

*The improvement of the regulatory framework

*The disengagement of the State from the importation and distribution of drugs.

*The training of External Services Agents and supervision structures.

*The execution of the budget occurring through Calls for Bids, restricted consultations and direct purchases.

CONCLUSION

The Direction of Veterinary Services, through the PARC-CI Project, assures its role of programming and controlling all veterinary activities in the field.

The contours of the program of Liberalization of the Veterinary Profession have been defined and the ground rules have been laid down with the three structures established. This has made possible the disengagement of the State from the distribution of veterinary products and the installation of veterinarians in the private sector.

3. QUESTIONS

1. In the different speeches, there shows, as far as Stopping Vaccination against Bovine Rinderpest is concerned, a possibility of a gradual stopping of vaccination. I wish that this note be specified.

2. As far as network funding is concerned, it has been indicated that the funding had to be distracted away from vaccination against Bovine Rinderpest, planned in the PARC-II Project in order to ensure funding for the epidemio-surveillance network, or one continues again the other vaccinations: CBPP and SRP. Can we specify the nature of the network funding?

3. How could private veterinarians who participate in the network be paid?

G A B O N

I. INTRODUCTION

Gabon, which is a country free from Rinderpest and Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia, maintains sustained surveillance at the borders given the cattle movements on foot from risk countries (C.A.R., Chad and Cameroon).

Thus, thanks to the acquisition of means provided by the EDF (European Development Fund) we have been able to reinforce and revitalize the actions conducted so far by the Veterinary Service of the Directorate of Livestock and Animal Industries.

The 1995 campaign was marked by the increase of such actions among Herdsmen and by the broadening of areas of action through the four sub-offices corresponding to the four provinces initially targeted for experimentation.

One notes a net progression of the number of herdsmen supervised by the project since the establishment of means in 1994.

The five main species (cattle, Sheep and goats, Pigs, Chickens and Breeding Hens) present a very intensive activity where the number of animals followed up on has increased tenfold for certain species or 30 times, or even 40 times for others in two years.

Such tendency will increase over time with the additional cattle which will be recorded among the livestock which have just enjoyed small promotional credits.

ZOO-SANITARY COVERAGE

The actions conducted during the year 1995 as far as Animal Health is concerned dealt principally with the prophylactic measures aimed at ensuring a sound animal production.

Nevertheless, Gabon had 9 outbreaks of Small Ruminant Pests in Estuaire Province, main entry gate of cattle on foot from Burkina Faso, Chad, and Niger. A total of 325 heads were decimated.

Emergency measures were taken by the Government. Such measures were translated into a large campaign to conduct a census of ruminants in Estuaire province, followed by a vaccination of 2,425 heads.

Such campaign is currently continuing in the Northern province of Gabon (Woleu-Ntem) which also constitutes an entry gate from Cameroon. 13,600 Small Ruminants and 6,000 heads of cattle were counted. The Vaccination Campaign follows its normal course. It must be noted that this campaign will extend into the 7 other remaining provinces.

USING THE CREDIT LINE

We have established a Fund for the Promotion and Development of Farming Livestock (FOPREL). Such fund the management of which has been entrusted to the National Rural Credit Bank (BNCR) makes it possible to grant small credits at very low interest rates, to cattle farmers supervised by the Project, and the inadequate means of which is a brake to the development of their livestock. These are small credits ranging from 500,000 to 2,500,000 FCFA. The reimbursement was made with the product of sale of their production.

Such fund amounted to 27,000,000 FCFA. So far, seven (7) herdsmen have benefitted from it this year. They have used close to 59% of the total amount of the fund.

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE PROJECT

Those are, among others,

- A new dynamic in our Livestock Services
- Efficiency in the actions carried out
- An awareness of the farmer herdsman in his ability to make earnings thanks to his animals.
- Better control of animals at the borders
- A better zoo-sanitary follow-up.

CONCLUSION

If the raison d'être of the PARC Project is the eradication of Bovine Rinderpest, which is a reality today thanks to the large vaccination campaigns undertaken in the countries affected by this epizootic disease, the countries, such as Gabon, which remained free from this epizootic disease are experiencing a new dynamic at the level of the livestock sector thanks to the means provided by the PARC Project. There will undoubtedly be a change for the Farmer-Herder, therefore a real development of the rural world.

GHANA

PARC II Ghana, part of a main project aimed at eradicating rinderpest from the African Continent, has the following three components:

I. Formation of Livestock Farmers Associations (LFAs) and Women Groups (WGs) initially in the three northern regions (Upper East, Upper West and Northern) where the greater percentage of livestock are found.

II. Privatization of Veterinary Practice and

III. Mass vaccination of cattle against rinderpest initially

I. LIVESTOCK FARMERS ASSOCIATIONS (LFAs)
AND WOMEN GROUPS (WGs)

As from 1993, the second year of the project, livestock farmers in the three northern regions of the country were assisted in forming groups/associations in order to improve their lot. Personnel of the Veterinary Services and the Animal Production Departments of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture acted as facilitators in this process up to the end of 1994. In Table I, the numbers of associations and groups formed as of December 31, 1994, are shown.

TABLE I: LIVESTOCK FARMERS ASSOCIATIONS
AND WOMEN GROUPS AT END OF 1994

| YEAR | UPPER WEST REGION | | UPPER EAST REGION | | NORTHERN REGION | |
|----------|-------------------|--------|-------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|
| | LFAs | WGs | LFAs | Gws | LFAs | WGs |
| 1993 | 40 | 5 | 9 | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| 1994 | 11 | 7 | 1 7 | 11 | 14 | 10 |
| DEC.1994 | 51 | 1 2 | 26 | 17 | 14 | 10 |

The period of June 1st 1995 to May 31, 1996 was regarded as an Interim period towards starting off an entirely new project for Livestock Farmers Association and Women Groups. During the Interim period no new associations or groups were to be formed. The existing associations were to be strengthened while infrastructure for the new project were to be put in place (rehabilitate buildings to be used as offices, procure vehicles and motorcycles and set up all the necessary administrative units). The Ministry of Food and Agriculture was to be helped by the Departments of Co-operatives, Community Development and Non-formal Education Unit in the strengthening process. The Department of Community Development would train the associations and groups in the following activities:

- i. Group dynamics
- ii. Group control mechanisms
- iii. Resource mobilization
- iv. Leadership roles
- v. Loans recovery and
- vi. Group discussion methods

Finally, Functional Literacy was to:

- i. enable participants to better meet their personal or social needs through enhancing their activities to deal competently with everyday life in a literate community.
- ii. equip association and group members with knowledge, attitudes and skills that will enable them to raise the quality of life in their communities.
- iii. enable association and group members to improve upon their occupational skills through functional literacy and
- iv. broaden the reading interest of association and group members and establish an attitude of reading for pleasure through the provision of follow-up literacy materials.

II. PRIVATIZATION OF VETERINARY SERVICES

Under this component of the project the Veterinary Services Department was to relinquish the importation of drugs and vaccines to the private sector; veterinary surgeons in government service were to be helped in starting off private practice while the Veterinary Services Department concentrates on regulatory activities. Procurement of drugs and vaccine have been handed over to the private sector. An enabling environment towards the take off of private practice is being created; thus:

1. A Veterinary Surgeons Act has been promulgated
2. The Veterinary Services Department is recovering full cost for all interventions and
3. Finally an acceptable format for the granting of loans by the implementation bank has been developed.

The European Development Fund contribution will be lodged in one of the banks of the European Union countries and shall be used as collateral. Accrued interest would be used to offset part of the interest on loan from the bank to participants. The stage is now set for the first group to be funded.

III. MASS VACCINATION OF CATTLE AGAINST RINDERPEST

The last outbreaks of rinderpest recorded in the country were in 1998. The Veterinary Services Department's strategies in this component of the project initially were thus:

1. Mass vaccinations for the first three(3) years
2. A shift to vaccination of the age group 0-2 years
3. Vaccinations and strict surveillance along our borders and
4. Sero-surveillance annually to determine the effectiveness of the vaccinations.

The first year of field vaccinations under PARC II in Ghana was in 1992. The set vaccination target was 85% coverage. At the end of that year we had succeeded in vaccinating 78.14%. Although that achievement fell short of the target when compared to the 1991 coverage of 50.94%, the 1992 achievement was more than 50% increase over 1991.

That increase was as a result of the provision of most of the needed inputs through the European Commission Grant. In 1994, we could not come close to the set target of 85% coverage as we were short of vaccines.

After return to Ghana at the end of an FAO EMPRESS/OAU IBAR WORKSHOP (Emergency Preparedness and Contingency for Rinderpest and other Epizootic Disease Emergencies) Bamako, Mali, June 19 - 22, 1995, a three-tiered set of meetings were held in Ghana on the cessation of mass vaccination of cattle against rinderpest.

A. A directorate meeting (Director of Veterinary Services and his Deputies at the headquarters);

B. Meetings of the Directorate, Regional Veterinary officers, Principal Veterinary Investigation Officers, and District Veterinary Officers in the three zones involved;

These meetings decided on a new and last mass vaccination campaign in 1995/1996.

Table 2. VACCINATION FIGURES - LAST MASS VACCINATION

| REGION | CATTLE POPULATION | NUMBER VACCINATED | % COVERAGE |
|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------|
| SHANTI | 18,381 | 18,039 | 98.4 |
| LONG AHAFO | 51,461 | 43,482 | 83.39 |
| CENTRAL | 7,973 | 7,324 | 91.86 |
| EASTERN | 50,709 | 43,321 | 85.43 |
| GREATER ACCRA | 72,064 | 72,075 | 100.01 |
| NORTHERN | 357,557 | 303,521 | 84.89 |
| UPPER EAST | 210,823 | 164,545 | 78.05 |
| UPPER WEST | 226,947 | 215,724 | 95.05 |
| DALTA | 113,922 | 75,637 | 66.39 |
| EASTERN | 4,329 | 4,154 | 95.96 |
| GHANA | 1,114,171 | 947,823 | 85.06 |

This is the highest coverage in the last fifteen years.

Sero-monitoring for antibody first and finally for antigen would then continue for a few years.

V. CONCLUSION

Vaccination of cattle against rinderpest is carried out annually in Ghana with varied % coverage. The variation is so great (5.66 to 82.35) that there is the need to acknowledge with thanks at this gathering the European Economic Commission funding of PARC II GHANA. Improved coverage has been due to logistic support.

GUINEE BISSAU

The importance of the Livestock Sector in the development of Agriculture in Guinea Bissau is recognized, and the support for this sector has already been realized through different projects with external, international, bilateral and multilateral funding.

Those were study projects (such as PASA-ELEVAGE Project), of animal traction (PDRI and PDRL), Animal Health (PARC and UNDP) and small ruminants (Fa'Madinga)

It is absolutely necessary to continue to promote the Livestock Sector through reinforcement of public structures (Veterinary Laboratories, Directorate of Livestock Services) in order to continue to train national technical services and enable them to work in a more and more efficient way.

The Phase I PARC Project started in March 1993 and ended in November 1995.

The second Phase of the Project having other objectives, and given the absence of Bovine Rinderpest in Guinea Bissau, is henceforth called "Livestock Sector Support Project".

The new technical assistance arrived on May 12, 1996, after an interim period of 6 months.

Description of the Results in the course of the First Phase

Direct support to the restructuring and reinforcement of the Veterinary and Zoo-technical Services through

*Rehabilitation of certain infrastructures and Equipment in the different Regions. Creation of nine Veterinary Posts, particularly Veterinary Pharmacies. In the high cattle concentration sectors where nothing existed in the past, new buildings comprising dispensary, drug store and storehouses have been built.

*Reinforcement of Technical Equipments: material put at the disposal of Auxiliaries and Veterinary Technicians. Training of local personnel particularly from a practical point of view.

In-service training of a Veterinary Doctor and two Lab technicians sent to spend one month at the Bamako Central Veterinary Laboratory in the areas of Parasitology and Bacteriology.

*Launching a Sanitary Protection Program

Establishment of a Supply Center for Drugs and other Veterinary inputs in Bissau and of a distribution network in the field. The veterinary products are sold with a profit margin of at least 25% in the field. The payment of veterinary drugs and vaccines has been made in cash since January 1994. The travel allowances for field agents have been suppressed and replaced by a profit on the sale of the products to herdsman. The returns are deposited into a revolving fund "Pharmacy" which makes possible the renewal of stocks.

To summarize, the results of this first phase of the PARC/Guinee Bissau Project have been mainly the partial rehabilitation of Veterinary Services, the establishment of the Central Pharmacy for Veterinary products and inputs in Bissau and a distribution network in the field covering the majority of countries.

MAIN PROPOSALS FOR THE PROJECT'S FUTURE

This project is going to make possible a continuation of the institutional reinforcement efforts (Laboratories, Directorate of livestock Services) in the area of Livestock: Promotion, Training, Organization of Herdsmen's Associations, Reinforcement of the Training of Technicians in the Livestock Sector, introduction of new technologies (notably fodder reserves) leading to an impact on animal productivity and family economy.

1. Cattle Sanitary Protection

Continuation of vaccinations against bacterial and symptomatic anthrax, vaccination against Small Ruminants Pest, vaccination against Newcastle's poultry disease.

Improvement of epizootic information. Efforts must be made from the standpoint of Public Health thanks to the organization of an efficient veterinary inspection of animal foods and in the fight against diseases transmissible to man.

Data information concerning the use of veterinary inputs and pathologies met.

Improvement of parasitological and bacteriological diagnostic possibilities.

Close cooperation with the Fa'Mandinga Parasitology Laboratory which is currently conducting work with the ITC in Banjul (The Gambia).

It is therefore necessary that the Diagnostic Laboratories and the Coordination at the level of the Directorate of Livestock Services make possible a good backing of the Project Technical Assistants.

2. Establishment of Herders' Associations

This point is essential because it will make possible a planning of Vaccination Campaigns of the different animal species, and promote better knowledge of the existing pathologies thanks to the support of the Bissau and Fa'Mandinga Laboratories.

Radio programs, about herdsmen talking to herdsmen, would facilitate the realization or the reinforcement of Associations.

Such herdsmen's associations should facilitate all other objectives.

3. Improvement of Dry Season Food and Drinks for Cattle

The lack of drinking water points for cattle in certain places of the country, particularly in the dry season, constitutes an obstacle to the development of livestock in Guinee-Bissau; the lack of fodder in the dry season is also a problem which should be dealt with particularly by the Fa-Mandinga Center.

4. Cattle Marketing

Herdsmen's Associations would permit a rationalization of cattle marketing, thus responding to the needs of the population. The commercialization should also go hand in hand with the sanitary improvement of the cattle population. The preparation of drinking troughs and the supply of fodder in markets would permit better keeping conditions for animals, particularly after tiring transport. Besides, animal carriages should be subjected to stricter regulations. A listing of information concerning cattle movements at market level should be made.

5. The Privatization of Veterinary Medicine in Guinea Bissau

This component is part of the terms of reference of the second phase. It is for us a "thorny" subject. Thus, during the first phase, an attempt had already been made at Privatizing "motivated" Livestock Auxiliary Services. In the middle of the year 1994, about twenty motorbikes were put at the disposal of such people with a "loan-purchase contract". Some reimbursements have been collected in the course of the last six months of this year, and then nothing has been reimbursed any more.

To my knowledge, a "feasibility" study on privatization has not been conducted: a study shedding light on the possible revenues of veterinary agents, notably by rationalizing their movements.

Without the efficient support of the National Diagnostic Laboratories, it seems premature to us to launch veterinarians in the private sector. This would look like jeopardizing their credibility.

Finally, it seems essential to us prior, to reaching privatization to establish a code of conduct defining with precision the responsibilities of Veterinary Surgeons, Veterinary Technicians, Livestock Auxiliaries. Without this, confusion and conflicts might rapidly settle in. It would also be necessary to protect such professions at the governmental level.

GUINEE - CONAKRY

I. THE CESSATION OF VACCINATION AGAINST BOVINE RINDERPEST

The absence of the disease in the country being effective since 1967, the Veterinary Services stopped conducting massive vaccinations in 1971 and vaccination along the border with Mali and Senegal in 1994. Thus, Guinea meets the requirements for making a provisional declaration of freedom from Bovine Rinderpest following the O.I.E. procedure.

Efforts are currently focused on the establishment of an epidemio-surveillance network.

II. SITUATION OF CONTAGIOUS BOVINE PLEUROPNEUMONIA

Forty eight (48) outbreaks were reported in 1995, with 122 sick animals and 79 cases of death.

The important event of the year has been the appearance of three (3) foci of this disease in the area of the sanitary belt considered so far as external to the endemicity region.

The analysis of 768 sera collected in this area gave three (3) positive in the sites which were relatively close to the reported foci.

Observations made at the level of a few slaughterhouses in the endemicity area have shown the presence of lesions in 8% of the animals slaughtered.

The global serological prevalence observed in the endemicity zone appears relatively weak (0.8%). However, the values recorded in a few prefectures are sufficiently revealing. They confirm the latent presence of contaminated animals outside the clinical foci likely to maintain the disease.

III. VACCINATION CAMPAIGN

The Vaccination campaign against the main diseases known had a difficult start in 1995 for financial reasons. However, it gave a globally positive result with 410,000 vaccinations against CBPP.

The participation of herdsmen in the cost of vaccination has been initiated. The results obtained are very encouraging but the level still remains weak (100 GNF).

The sanitary mandates are not always initiated, the private practitioners have rather participated in the campaign as vaccinators in order to grasp the organizational and technical difficulties involved in field operations.

The first mandates will be implemented in 1996-97 (4 authorized agents).

IV. PRIVATIZATION OF THE VETERINARY PROFESSION

Following the disengagement of the State from production and marketing activities, a certain number of technical, legal and financial measures have been taken in order to create favorable conditions for the promotion of the Privatization of the Veterinary Profession.

On the legal ground, the Livestock and Animal Products Code and the Pastoral Code have been adopted. The Code of Conduct and six draft regulatory legislations are being developed and are dealing with:

- The organization of the Order of Veterinarians
- The private and public practice of the Veterinary Profession
- The Veterinary Pharmacy.

On the Institutional level: in order to ensure the private practice of the Veterinary Profession the National Order of Veterinary Doctors and the Association of Private Veterinarians of Guinea have been granted official status.

On the financial level: in the framework of the PRSE (Livestock Services Restructuring Project) a credit line has been established in the amount of 150,000 SDR for the benefit of Herdsmen and Sub-Sector Operators. This has made it possible to finance 36 Livestock Projects and Food Manufacture in the amount of 162,767,370 GNF.

Such funding has not been used by veterinarians because of the excessively high interest rates (27 - 30%).

However, the National Directorate of Livestock Services has, in a first stage, supported the installation of Veterinarians in Association with the Pharmacies (APV) through the making available of a stock of veterinary drugs with CAVET (Central d'Approvisionnement Vétérinaire) assistance.

The results have been satisfactory: this has led to some veterinarians dissociating themselves and settling in private practice on their own behalf. Out of the 16 APV, 6 have become Autonomous Veterinary Clinics.

There are today 18 Veterinarians in private practice including a wholesale distributor in the entire country.

*Some of them have enjoyed the reception of public clinics (6) and the support of certain NGOs or projects with an Animal Health Component.

In the area of the PARC Project, there are seven (7) Private Veterinarians.

V. EVOLUTION OF THE PARC-GUINEE PROJECT

The Phase I Funding Agreement of the PARC-GUINEE was signed in May 1995 for the amount of 4,800,000 Crowns. Technical assistance was established in February 1996.

The national structure of the project has just been constituted with the appointment of a National Coordinator and of Officers for the three essential components (Animal Health, Privatization and Association of Herdsmen).

The program component is developed and is currently being submitted to the approval of the European Union.

I. VACCINATION CAMPAIGN

From January to December 1995, the result of the vaccination campaign gave 1,517,668 vaccinations against Bovine Rinderpest and 1,517,668 vaccinations against Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia. From January to March 1996, 955,349 heads of cattle were vaccinated against each of these two diseases. These figures are by far less than those of the first years of mass vaccination campaigns which attest that for 2 to 3 years, our strategy has mostly been targeting young animals and those which are transhuming along borders. Based on contracts and in mixed teams, the private sector people have participated in the Vaccination Campaign against Bovine Rinderpest and Contagious Pleuropneumonia. The general evidence is that the sero-surveillance program indicates a significant improvement of the immunity cover of the Malian herd.

In 1989, the Vaccination Campaign had led to a proportion of about 50% seropositive. After eight successive annual campaigns and more than 12 million vaccinations against Bovine Rinderpest and as many others against CBPP, we find ourselves with an immunity cover rate in the order of 77.3% for youth.

At the epidemiological level, we note that no outbreak of Bovine Rinderpest has been recorded in Mali since 1986; we may therefore rightly say that rinderpest is under control and that any possible outbreak can only be an isolated incident and rapidly brought under control. There is ground therefore to moving to the following stage, i.e., Ceasing the Vaccination, and declaring the country provisionally free from the disease and without vaccination. This is all the more important that the new funding established in the framework of the PARC-MALI III takes into account the reestablishment of the efficiency of the sanitary supervision and its self-funding.

The decision to stop the vaccination against Bovine Rinderpest is unavoidable if we want to face our responsibilities of Animal Health Protection for the benefit of African and World Trade and finally for greater participation of livestock to the national economy.

As far as Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia is concerned, it remains a serious animal health threat and constitutes one of the main constraints to the Development of Livestock in Mali, regarding the direct and indirect losses it provokes:

- High mortality rate,
- Constraint to exporting animals

There were 11 foci recorded in 1995 for 695 sick and 294 dead animals.

The disease is spread in the Regions of Kayes, Koulikoro, Sikasso, Segou and Mopti and to a lesser extent in the regions of Timbuktu and the Bamako District. The Regions of Gao and Kidal have not recorded cases of the disease for over 6 years.

The epidemiological situation relative to CBPP is far from being well understood. The only epidemiological parameters available have been established after the interventions in declared and confirmed foci.

It must be underlined that the control of cattle movements, which is essential for the prophylaxis of Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia is a difficult task and emergency information systems have not always had the desired effects.

It must also be noted that the actions to control CBPP have essentially been limited to systematic and mandatory annual vaccinations for cattle. The Sanitary Police provisions which consist in fire marking those animals which are found to be ill with the letter P prior to slaughtering them are applied with numerous difficulties. Now we want a regional strategy with a particular accent on focus prone areas of the Regions already mentioned where the disease is widespread.

For each area, we must:

- take into account the specific epidemiologies;
- proceed on to sensitize herdsmen;
- detect and follow on all foci:
- vaccinate around foci with a PANVAC quality control vaccine.
- motivate herdsmen to observe the implementation of sanitary police measures in order to make some profit by bringing the sick animals to the slaughterhouse.
- the training and upgrading of Agents (Public and Private sectors):
- the supply of material and equipment.

II. THE STATE OF PROGRESS OF PRIVATIZATION IN MALI

Initiated since 1986 in the framework of a large economic reform program, the process of Privatization of Animal Health has truly evolved since 1991.

As an indication, as of today, the number of private practitioners installed is 15; there are 20 stores and 134 Veterinary Drugs storage areas. Such installations have generated 462 jobs for young graduates. Among such 154 private practitioners, 51 veterinary units have been created with a credit: "Privatization PARC/PME-PMI Project" (Health care Clinic and Pharmaceutical storage area.)

In 1990, there was only one private practitioner regularly installed.

Currently, the development of the Privatization of Veterinary Medicine in Mali runs against a certain number of problems. The different evaluations conducted to-date have all shown that the Private Veterinarians in regular practice are facing difficulties related, among other factors, to:

The relative saturation of Southern Regions where we have the largest number of authorized practitioners;

The installation, anarchical at times, of deposits of veterinary products on capital funding of the promoters and without prior information or required advice of the Order of the Veterinary Profession and the National Directorate of Livestock Services;

The increase in drug prices after the devaluation of the CFA Franc.

The illegal practice of the Veterinary Profession and fraud on drug imports and distribution.

To these problems are added a series of relatively new events which are related to the definition of the policy of attending privatization, an absolutely necessary modification of the credit conditions because of the evolution of the PME-PMI Project in banking structure with other requirements. The legislation on Veterinary Drugs, the Sanitary Police and all the provisions were revised or will be revised in the coming months. This will make it possible to find responses to the above listed difficulties and notably better understand the distributions of veterinary products and the practice of the profession by only those who are entitled to do so. The first legislations have made it possible to manage the transitional period. As far as final texts are concerned, they take into account the Sanitary Mandate and the Distribution of Veterinary Drugs by wholesalers, units and depots.

Thus, the implementation of the privatization system turns out to be long and tedious, although the prospects remain encouraging. With the granting of the Sanitary Mandate to private veterinarians, we are certain to make a very important leap in the privatization process. All conditions being met and the supporting measures taken, the process is going to move forward very rapidly.

M A U R I T A N I A

I. FIGHT AGAINST BOVINE RINDERPEST

The 1995-96 prophylaxis campaign was only partially carried out by the PARC/OAU Project whose Mauritanian component will be truly operational only in 1996-97.

The vaccination of the cattle population against Bovine Rinderpest and Contagious Pleuropneumonia has been mandatory all over Mauritanian territory since 1969 (Decree No.69132/PR/MP/DR/EL). In application of this provision, prevention is the object of annual prophylaxis campaigns. A bivalent vaccine is generally used.

Although there has not been any outbreak of Rinderpest since 1986, the results provided by the sero-surveillance impose keeping the vaccination. Those are particularly upsetting, notably among young ones. A very weak percentage of animals is protected: 11.5% in 1992/93, 7% in 1993/94 and 27% in 1994/95.

The following table summarizes the number of Bissecc vaccinated animals according to the latest reports of Regional Delegations reaching the DRAP to-date:

| WILAYA | NUMBER OF VACCINATED ANIMALS | | |
|---------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------|
| | PARC Emergency Operation | Classical campaign/Regional Delegations | TOTALS |
| Hodh Chargui | 24,364 | 98,722 | 123,086 |
| Hodh Gharbi | 26,420 | 145,437 | 171,857 |
| Assaba | 40,180 | 131,598 | 171,778 |
| Trarza | 8,551 | 35,823 | 44,374 |
| Brakna | 8,218 | 41,782 | 50,000 |
| Gorgol | 11,491 | 16,954 | 28,445 |
| Guidimakha | 17,762 | 39,000 | 56,762 |
| TOTALS | 136,986 | 509,316 | 646,302 |

II. THE FIGHT AGAINST CONTAGIOUS BOVINE PLEUROPNEUMONIA

While no case of CBPP had been reported since 1983, the existence of the disease was confirmed in October 1995 by the National Laboratory (CNERV) and the French Laboratory of the Center for International Cooperation in Agronomic Research for Development (CIRAD/EMVT).

The joint Rinderpest/CBPP annual vaccination campaign started on October 15, 1995, prior to starting the national component of the PARC Project. The reporting of outbreaks of Contagious Pleuropneumonia, in the course of this campaign, led us to ask for emergency European Union assistance. Such assistance has been obtained and the PARC Project realized a joint Rinderpest/CBPP operation January 1st to February 29. CBPP outbreaks could presuppose that there was only an immunity break. As a matter of fact, the situation is much more disturbing.

Thus, only 22% of the total were immunized in the course of the 94/95 campaign (271,058 heads vaccinated for a total estimated at 1,200,000). Several motives could be found at the origin of such weak performance: (1) the absence, for 13 years, of cases of Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia in Mauritania and (2) the institution of payments for vaccinal doses, have led to some disaffection of herdsmen with these preventive interventions (3) the recent restructuring of the Ministry, suppressing the

centralized command of operations, coupled with (4) the establishment of an agricultural services project (PSA) using all the specialized personnel for polyvalent extension tasks have intensified herdsmen's demobilization; (5) the outdated character of the material available to decentralized structures (vehicles and cold chain equipment essentially) which had been partially renewed back in 1992.

The rumor of the presence of the disease has totally changed herdsmen's attitudes. They are now on the demand side and are in a hurry to vaccinate: 646,302 heads were immunized in 1995/1996 (i.e., over 60% of the national total). The mobilization of EFD emergency assistance drawn from the PARC program, has contributed 21% of this result. But such contribution has not permitted to equip the central and decentralized structures with vehicles, personnel and light veterinary material and with cold chain equipment in order to respond to herdsmen's demand.

However, such structures are the only sustainable ones and have realized, in spite of the inadequate means, 79% of the total vaccination figures. The information collected by the joint DRAP/CNERV lead to believe that the disease is present at the entire country level and that it possibly comes from neighboring countries. Given the movements of cattle, which are very difficult to control, we think that the entire sub-region is affected or is threatened to be. In the face of such situation and on account of the risks faced by the entire sub-regional cattle population, it is desirable to act rapidly from the foci and in a concerted manner over the entire sub-region.

We believe that in order to succeed in eradicating CBPP, special complementary measures over those planned by the PARC Project for the prevention of Rinderpest, must be taken. The great mobility of the animals from one country to another imposes that such measures be simultaneously applied in the neighboring countries.

Such measures must be integrated into a regional program, designed and implemented for all the countries involved. They would notably include prevention through using a monovalent vaccine, and the establishment of a rapid warning system and harmonization of legislations.

Current Stage of Privatization in Mauritania

Four phases may be distinguished in the implementation of the process of privatization of livestock inputs and animal health care in our country.

-The first stage was the establishment by the "Livestock II" Project of the first purchasing group: the Bureau des Intrants d'Elevage (B.I.E.) - Office of Veterinary Inputs- and the granting of revolving funds to Pastoral Associations (P.A.) enabling the setting up of decentralized drug depots.

-The second involved access to the free sale of products by livestock professionals and the authorization for veterinarians to do private practice. In 1994, 15 authorizations were granted for various sales establishments: Veterinary drugstores, Veterinary Drug Depots and Village Pharmacies.

-A third stage was crossed in December 1994 with the beginning of privatization of the Office of Livestock Inputs. The Inputs Office, which had been established by the "Livestock II" Project, has been changed into a joint development company, in which the AP are shareholders and which along with the buy-ins by the AP's of the shares held by the State must pass permanently under the sole control of the Associations. The new company, the Livestock Input Purchasing Group (CAIE) had signed in 1995 seventy one contracts of private agents, scattered around the country. The beneficiaries of such contracts were of two types: on the one hand, Private practitioners (15 Veterinary Doctors and 15 Non-professional private practitioners); on the other hand, 41 civil servants (1 Livestock Engineer, 29 Assistants, 7 nurses and 4 vaccination agents).

-Currently the fourth is underway. It involves the delivery of the Sanitary Mandate to Private Veterinarians in order to enable them to make interventions which had so far been the exclusive domain of the public service: legal vaccinations and inspection of animal food stuff.

3.2 The recovery of costs/

Vaccines and drugs are currently bought by herdsmen. Only the public service documents remain free of charge. The costs of vaccines which they incurred in the course of the past campaign are summarized in the following table, and such costs represent about 40% of real costs:

| TYPE OF VACCINE | NUMBER VACCINATED | UNIT/DOSE PRICE | TOTAL COSTS |
|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Bissec | 646,302 | 25 UM | 16,157,550 UM |
| Anabot | 79,280 | 44 UM | 3,448,320 UM |
| Carbosympto | 15,381 | 20 UM | 316,620 UM |
| Carbovin | 500 | 20 UM | 10,000 UM |
| Pasteurellox | 3,080 | 40 UM | 123,200 UM |
| Small Ruminant Pest | 3,066 | 25 UM | 73,650 UM |
| TOTAL | | | 20,172,340 UM |

3.3 The Sanitary Mandate and its Funding

The public services intend to:

1. Keep all their prerogatives in all the areas where the study will indicate that the setting up of a private consultancy is not financially viable.
2. Subcontract, everywhere else, part of their prerogatives in the area of protection of the cattle population for the benefit of newly established veterinarians. They will be granted, against a specifications booklet stipulating their obligations to herdsmen and to the administration, a sanitary mandate authorizing them to carry out certain legal tasks including mandatory vaccinations and inspection of meats and cattle markets in their locality.

The role of veterinarians in the civil service, stationed in the prefectures where the privatization will take place, will be concentrated on the smooth functioning of the early warning system and the implementation of special measures in the fight against Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia.

In the absence of outbreaks of epizootic diseases, it will be limited to the control of the sound execution of regalian tasks entrusted by the State to the Private sector (upholding specifications), to arbitration of possible conflicts between the herdsmen and their veterinarians, to confirmations of the requests for diagnostics. In case of a report of epizootic diseases, he will call on the central emergency intervention brigade.

A draft decree specifying organization of the Veterinary Profession was prepared in order to make possible the granting of the Sanitary Mandate.

The Sanitary Mandate, which is important in order to enable private practitioners to find their profitability in livestock conditions where no medication is being used, imposes on the administration in the establishment of first installation credit to strive to negotiate interest rates at mild conditions.

N I G E R

A. REPORT ON THE ZOO-SANITARY SITUATION IN NIGER IN 1995

In Niger the zoo-sanitary situation in the course of the year 1995 has been characterized by the following elements:

1. For the O.I.E. List A Diseases:

In 1995, the following was noted:

- Renewed outbreaks of foot-and-mouth (106 outbreaks against 11 in 1994).

-Outbreaks of Small Ruminant Pest.

-Non appearance of cases of nodular skin disease.

-Reduction of outbreaks of CBPP (3 outbreaks against 8 in 1994).

-Reduction of outbreaks of sheep-pox (9 outbreaks against 27 in 1994).

-Not a single outbreak of Bovine Rinderpest since 1985.

2. For the O.I.E. List B Diseases

The diseases on this list, notably those commonly called pseudo-telluric, occupy the first stage among pathologies recorded in 1995. Among those symptomatic and bacterial anthracoses have caused enormous losses to livestock.

*NB: There are other diseases, but their distribution and frequency are not well understood. Those are for the most part certain parasitical diseases which cause several partial retentions of body parts in slaughterhouses: those are flukes, echinococcoses, cysticercoses, and tuberculoses.

B. EVALUATION OF THE IMMUNITY TO BOVINE RINDERPEST OF THE CATTLE POPULATION IN NIGER IN 1995 (SERO-SURVEILLANCE)

In the framework of the sero-surveillance of bovine rinderpest antibodies after the 1995 vaccination campaign (where 344,313 heads of cattle and 211,352 small ruminants were vaccinated), 5,228 cattle sera were collected during the months of June-July 1995 throughout the country among 138 herds.

Out of the 5,228 samples collected, 5,167 could be tested. The global immune cover of animals is 52% against 57% in 1994 and 4% in 1993.

*Seropositivity: in marked animals the rate is 64% against 39% in animals which have presumably not been vaccinated.

*Depending on age: it is 41% for the 1 year age group, 39% for the 1-2 year age group, 53% for the 2-3 year group, and 62% for the over 3 years group.

*Depending on the sex of the animal, the seropositivity rate is 53% in females and 48% in males.

*The results in the immunity classes of herds show that only 4 herds are found in the range of 90-95%, followed by 72 herds in the range of 50-80%, and 55 herds in the range of 0-50%, out of a total of 138 herds.

*The results for departments located in the western part of the country (Dosso-Tillabéri) are respectively 63% and 62% seropositive against those of departments located in the eastern part of the country, namely Diffa, 39% , Zinder, 48% and Tahoua, 43%.

In Conclusion: If the overall rate of 52% of immune cover in 1995 has been going down compared with the 1994 rate, the essential reason is the fall of the vaccination figures by nearly one half in 1995 (344,313 heads of cattle against 634,659 in 1994). The 1995 results also prove that the immunity cover of the cattle population in Niger is relatively weaker in the east than it is in the west and this confirms the strategy of the PARC Project to include this part of the country among the areas which must continue to vaccinate continent wide.

C. SITUATION OF THE VACCINATION CAMPAIGN AS OF MAY 30, 1996, AND TEST OPERATION OF SANITARY MANDATES.

The 95/95 vaccination campaign was officially launched on January 5, 1996. However, the start of vaccination operations took place almost everywhere toward the second half of January 1996 with the establishment of a test operation of sanitary mandates entrusted to four private veterinarians, having intervened at the level of six sub-districts (arrondissements). The provisional result of vaccinations as of May 30, is as follows:

| | | |
|------------------|---|--------------------|
| -Cattle | : | 616 204 vaccinated |
| -Small ruminants | : | 318 867 vaccinated |

Out of this vaccinated total, 187,948 heads of cattle were vaccinated as part of the sanitary mandates, i.e., an achievement rate of 30%. This low rate is due to the novel character of the operation. As far as the complete assessment of the vaccination campaign is concerned, it will not be made without the evaluation meeting with the different department Heads to be held toward the first half of the month of June.

D. COMMENTS ON STOPPING VACCINATION AGAINST BOVINE RINDERPEST IN NIGER

As for ceasing vaccination against Bovine Rinderpest in Niger on account of 1995 sero-surveillance results, only the eastern and northern parts of Niger may be said to be pest free zones, with Cessation of Vaccination.

As far as the western and southern parts of the country are concerned, albeit pest free since 1985, the vaccinations must continue until Bovine Rinderpest in the Sudan is totally controlled.

SENEGAL

I. ZOOSANITARY SITUATION

1.1. BOVINE RINDERPEST

Senegal continues to experience a favorable situation because no outbreak of Bovine Rinderpest has been reported since 1968.

Following a strategy adopted since 1993, vaccination against Bovine Rinderpest targets essentially young animals.

Thus, during the past campaign, 596,424 heads of cattle were vaccinated out of a total population of 626,000, hence a success rate of 95%.

A serological survey is currently underway in order to assess the level of the immunity cover of the cattle population with respect to Bovine Rinderpest. The results of this survey will be made available to all regions during the coming month of July.

If such results confirm the trends observed these past years, i.e., a relatively good immunization rate, Senegal will cease vaccination against Bovine Rinderpest this same year and will then register in the process of declaring the country pest free.

The vaccination against Bovine Rinderpest, since its practice began in a country like Senegal, has ended up becoming a kind of tradition if not a strong moment for Livestock Agents and Herdsmen. Also, it is necessary to undertake an information and sensitization campaign on the reasons which have led today to Ceasing Vaccination.

However the persistence of outbreaks of rinderpest in certain countries in East Africa makes a threat hover over the rest of the continent. As a result, when ceasing vaccination, it becomes absolutely necessary to establish serological and clinical surveillance in order to arrive at an early warning system should the disease reappear.

Of course Senegal, because of its geographic situation, is less exposed than other countries, but this does not make epidemiological surveillance any less indispensable.

The constitution of one or several stocks of security vaccines remains a matter of great interest.

Shouldn't we restore PANVAC at Dakar as a quality control and storage structure for security vaccines in the Sub-Region?

1.2 CONTAGIOUS BOVINE PLEUROPNEUMONIA

No outbreak has been reported in the country but Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia remains a threat to the cattle population in Senegal.

In the course of the last vaccination campaign, 997,129 heads of cattle were vaccinated out of a total of 1,238,000 subjects.

It must be recognized that the epizootiological situation of CBPP is not well known. A study is planned on the subject as early as this year.

As far as this disease is concerned, vaccination against it will continue.

1.3. THE OTHER PATHOLOGIES

Small Ruminants' Pest (SRP), Equine Pest and Newcastle's Disease continue to be widespread. Vaccination against SRP and Newcastle's Disease has been rendered mandatory and has been the object of a mass vaccination campaign since this year. This also holds true for Bovine Pasteurellosis (hemorrhagic septicemia), Symptomatic and Bacterial Anthracoses, Botulism and Parasitoses.

No sheep-pox or Rift Valley Fever outbreaks although for this latter case, one can note a very weak sero-conversion rate in the sentry herds, which makes hover a threat in case of circulation of the virus.

II. PRIVATIZATION OF THE VETERINARY PROFESSION

2.1. Cost Recovery

In the course of the last Vaccination campaign, the share of herdsmen in the costs of vaccination was raised from 30 to 50 FCFA per head vaccinated.

Currently, most veterinary care is assured by private practitioners and is paid by the herdsmen (most often also with the price of drugs).

2.2. The Sanitary Mandate and Its Funding

Two texts have been prepared:

* Decree no. 95-645 dated July 6, 1995 relative to the institution of the Sanitary Mandate in Senegal.

* Ministerial Decree no. 11047 dated December 4, 1995, relative to the modes of exercise of the Sanitary Mandate in Senegal.

The Sanitary Mandate has not yet become operational for vaccination against Bovine Rinderpest and Contagious Pleuropneumonia; however, it should be on the occasion of the next campaign (which will involve only CBPP).

A study is underway to determine the cost of the Vaccination Campaign as far as bovines are concerned. The funding of the Sanitary Mandate will be assured for the first two years with the resources of the PARC Project pending the creation of a sanitary protection fund.

2.3. The Funding of Veterinary Practitioners

The funding of private veterinary practitioners seems to be moving into a cruising speed. A security fund and a personal investment fund placed in Senegal's Caisse Nationale de Crédit Agricole help private promoters access a bank loan at an special rate.

Currently, 19 promoters have been funded and 11 others have had their files accepted and are awaiting funding.

A total of 62 Veterinary Doctors have been authorized to do private practice; there are 35 livestock Engineers and 88 Technicians and Livestock Nurses.

C H A D

I. INTRODUCTION

Livestock farming occupies a very important position in the national economy and contributes up to 19% of the GDP. More than 40% of the rural population practices livestock farming, which accounts for 30% of exports.

The livestock system is dominated by transhumance; the Chad livestock is composed of the following:

4,500,000 bovines
5,000,000 sheep-goats
600,000 camels
400,000 horses
200,000 donkeys

II. SANITARY SITUATION

The sanitary situation of Chadian livestock is generally satisfactory and it should be reported that Chad has not had any outbreak of bovine rinderpest since 1983. No outbreak of small ruminant pest has been noted since 1992.

However, it must be pointed out that as far as telluric diseases such as bacterial anthrax and symptomatic anthrax are concerned, they were recorded in a certain number of veterinary sectors and adequate measures have been taken in order to limit the scope of outbreaks thanks to annual vaccinations. Some outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease have been noted in certain veterinary sectors. Vaccination against the latter disease has not been practiced so far in Chad.

III. RESULTS OF THE 94/95 VACCINATION CAMPAIGN

a) 94/95 Campaign

The campaign against B.R. and CBPP has undergone the same strategy (mass campaign) with a plan of action taking into account the participation of the State (State Team) and that of sanitary private veterinarians.

1. Some Elements of Appreciation

- Early establishment of vaccine and dilutant:
- Pre-financing of part of the campaign through the National Livestock Project and financing most of the campaign of private mandated veterinarians through the said project.
- Herdsmen's participation in the cost from 25 FCFA to 50 FCFA per animal vaccinated;
- At the level of the State Teams, early start of the vaccination in certain areas and ceasing action for certain teams by reason of the installation of new veterinarians in private practice;

- Granting sanitary mandates to 20 private veterinarians;
- Late implementation of the campaign through mandated veterinarians;
- Late funding of this campaign.

2. Execution of the Campaign

In the context of the operation, the territory is divided into two zones:

- The sanitary belt and the Veterinary Sectors of Bol and Mao for State Services;
- The Western part of the belt (Center-West Division, South-West, a portion of the North-West and South-East Division) for private veterinarians.

Depending on the importance of certain sectors in terms of size or cattle, two or three veterinarians share the activities: this is the case of the Sectors of Bokoro (2 mandates), N'Djamena-Rural (2 mandates), Pala (2 mandates), Massenya (3 mandates). The campaign strategy has been followed (sensitization, contribution of the rural radio, field trips, Interior Ministry support):

On the objectives of the campaign: that of the State has been overestimated (2,000,000); that of mandated individuals has been touched on (2,000,000);

State vaccination figures: 732,784 animals vaccinated and 435,086 animals marked, i.e., 37% of the vaccination objective and 60% of the marking objective;

Total vaccination: 2,458,179 animals vaccinated, 1,808,267 animals marked, i.e., 60% of the overall objective and 73% of the marking objective.

Given the previous vaccination figures, the area of mandated people contains a number of animals significantly higher than the area referred to as cordon area. The improvement of vaccination figures has been obtained in all divisions.

In spite of the persistence of some hotbeds of conflict in the areas where private agents and State agents live side by side, the level of collaboration increases.

IV. SERO-SURVEILLANCE

The serological rate of the 1993/94 campaign is 48% for the State and 70% for the Sanitary Mandate. For the 1994/95 and 1995/96 campaign the sera have been collected and the results are underway.

V. EPIDEMIO-SURVEILLANCE

At the Farcha laboratory a Sanitary Surveillance Network for Animal Pathologies (REPIMAT) has been established.

***Its Objectives**

-Define the dominant animal pathologies in the country according to the natural areas;

-Watch the appearance or increase of the incidence of a pathology with the essential objective of surveillance of bovine rinderpest;

-Provide reliable and regular epidemiological information to services in charge of coordinating field interventions.

***The Advantages of the Network**

-For the Directorate of Livestock Services, a sanitary surveillance network is a source of epidemiological information on which it is possible to build concrete actions in the field;

-For research purposes, this is a means to study the priority diseases of the Chadian herd by collecting streamlined field information which may serve as basis for the elaboration of a research protocol;

-The establishment and maintenance of the dynamism of the network through upgrading the skills of field agents which could only be beneficial to their motivation.

-The creation of this communication network on the principal contagious diseases will facilitate early warning in case of reappearance of a List A pathology such as Bovine Rinderpest.

Actions Undertaken

-Training of Agents of the Directorate of Livestock Services for the REPIMAT and Evaluation of these Agents in the field;

-Initial training of Private Veterinarians at the REPIMAT (from December 5 through 10, 1995, in N'Djamena).

-Next upgrading training for REPIMAT field Agents (from March 12 through 16, 1996, in N'Djamena).

VI. STATE OF PROGRESS OF 1995/1996 CAMPAIGN

It enjoys PARC-II Project funding. To that effect, an interim estimate has been produced. The execution of the campaign has undergone a certain number of problems, namely the delay experienced in the granting of the Sanitary Mandate in the sanitary belt, and the sensitization of herdsmen on the increase of the cost of vaccinal doses from 50 FCFA to 75 FCFA.

9 Private Veterinarians have been granted a Sanitary Mandate; the latest one to have such mandate obtained it in February.

800,000 doses of vaccines were purchased at the LANAVET at GAROUA by the Animal Health Development Fund. An order for an additional 1,500,000 doses has been launched with the same institution.

Vaccination figures are provisional

| | |
|------------------|----------------------------|
| State | 200,000 Heads vaccinated |
| Sanitary Mandate | 2,000,000 Heads vaccinated |

EVOLUTION OF THE PRIVATIZATION

a) Granting of Sanitary Mandates

| | | |
|-----------|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1993/1994 | = | 8 Sanitary Mandates |
| 1994/1995 | = | 12 Sanitary Mandates |
| 1995/1996 | = | 9 Sanitary Mandates |
| TOTAL | = | 29 Sanitary Mandates including 7 Mandates at the Sanitary Belt |

b) Participation of the Herdsman in the Costs of Vaccination: 25 F, 50 F, 75 F/ animal vaccinated (cost recovery).

c) Seminar on Privatization

June 19 - 21, 1995: "Discussion of Veterinary Inputs in the Framework of Privatization in Chad."

July 10 - 12, 1995: "Future of the Livestock Services in the Framework of Privatization".

*Creation of a Committee to Follow up on the Policy of Privatization of Veterinary Services: Decree No.45/MEH/95 dated September 16, 1995, Ministry of Livestock and Hydraulics.

VII. CONSTRAINTS

-Outdated nature and lack of means of intervention by the State, implementation equipment sometimes inadequate with mandated individuals;

-Reticence of herdsmen to agree to an increase of the cost of vaccination and the exertion of animals to be marked;

-Difficult access to certain zones following the insecurity or impracticability of places;

-Conflicts among State Agents, Mandate holders and a few herdsmen;

-Inadequate intervention personnel on the side of the State and certain mandate holders;

-Absence of several mandate holders from their professional home after the Vaccination Campaign.

PERSPECTIVES

-Reinforcement of the logistics (vehicle, technical material);

-Perfect the overall intervention strategy by taking into account the number of Sanitary Mandates to be granted;

-Grant new Sanitary Mandates.

PROPOSAL: STEPS FOR STOPPING BOVINE RINDERPEST

- 1) Countries which have not practiced vaccination for several years and which have not had any cases of Bovine Rinderpest may declare themselves pest free (for example the Gambia).
- 2) Countries which have not had Bovine Rinderpest for a long time but which are currently vaccinating may progressively proceed on to Stopping Vaccination in certain areas or throughout the country.

3) Countries where Sanitary Belts are established.

Questions: What is the Exact Epidemiological Situation South of the Sudan?

Chad occupies a strategic position in the fight against Bovine Rinderpest in Africa. This translates into the establishment of a sanitary belt between Chad, the Sudan and the C.A.R.; the belt is 2000 km long and 400 km wide inside the country. The stopping of the vaccination campaign in Chad is therefore closely related to the epidemiological situation in Southern Sudan and in East Africa in general.

As far as the network is concerned, this is an activity which might well keep the Public Services busy in case of Cessation of the Vaccination.

The REPIMAT, Animal Pathology Network in Chad and the epidemiological surveillance system in general require permanent human investment; there must also be a limited number of priority diseases.

Generally speaking, REPIMAT works well enough in spite of some difficulties recorded.

T O G O

Togo is favorable to cessation of vaccination and recommends that this be done gradually from a targeted area on the basis of reliable scientific data in order to move forward toward other examples from West Africa towards East Africa.

Of course, Togo has ceased vaccinating since 1990 but this has not come about as a result of a voluntary decision but by the force of things. There is a dire need of material and financial means in order to ensure an efficient epidemio-surveillance which would allow to handle any possible reappearance of the disease at the right time.

THE PRIVATIZATION OF THE VETERINARY PROFESSION

The PARC Project has provided for about 5,000,000 FCFA support prior to the devaluation of the CFA Franc per veterinarian to settle in private practice. For the moment the PARC Project has not been implemented.

Nevertheless, out of sheer necessity, about 20 veterinarians have been granted authorization to settle in private practice without any financial support.

After the liquidation of the National Agricultural Credit Fund (CNCA) (1987-1990) there arises the problem of credit at the level of the entire sub-sector.

In the framework of the privatization, the Caisse Française de Développement has been contacted; there remains the problem of collateral.

As for herdsmen, the National Small Livestock Program has an in-kind credit line which is due to start soon.

In the framework of the last vaccination campaign against SRP and Newcastle's disease, four sanitary mandates have been granted. But it is still too early to assess this new form of collaboration with the private sector.

The National Agricultural Services Support Program (PNASA), which is a restructuring program of the Ministry of Rural Development, has planned in its implementation a credit line which is still under analysis, unfortunately. This type of credit does not take into account the livestock sub-sector.

LIVESTOCK AUXILIARIES

It is absolutely necessary to look for a match between the auxiliaries to be trained and the private veterinarian installed, his field of action and his real need of such relay agent.

RECOMMENDATION ON THE CONTINUED PRIVATIZATION
OF THE VETERINARY PROFESSION

THE MEETING, CONSIDERING:

- the results already achieved in the area of the privatization of the veterinary profession,
- the importance of the sanitary mandates granted to private veterinarians for mass vaccinations which:
 - *make possible excellent technical and economic achievements and are an essential element in the profitability of private clienteles, on the one hand;
 - *make possible for the veterinarians to be in direct contact with producers and become vectors of technical progress, on the other hand,
- the great variability of progress stages of privatization programs according to countries, based on circumstances and constraints as numerous as varied,
- the necessity to pursue the redefining of the respective roles of the public and private sectors and to translate them into precise laws and regulations,
- the necessity to develop privatization programs in a context of partnership between the administration, the private operators and credit agencies,
- the future role which must be played by private veterinary doctors in the area of extension and guidance in the area of improvement of livestock farming techniques,
- the necessity to establish funding schemes for the animal health protection and livestock development programs, notably through the precise evaluation of samples taken and possibly through the animal production sub-sector,
- the necessity to define the role of livestock farmers' associations and their ancillaries in the privatization process,
- the specific training needs in the area of establishment of private veterinarians,
- the communication efforts which remain to be accomplished in order to better explain the policies of privatization,

RECOMMENDS THAT

- 1 - The privatization programs continue to benefit from Government support and development partnership assistance, the first and foremost of whom is the European Community, and that they be implemented in close partnership involving administration, private operators and credit agencies.
- 2 - The provisions for sanitary mandates be generalized to all cases where they are deemed appropriate, and that their implementation be extended to other areas pertaining to the competencies of Veterinary Doctors,
- 3 - The future role of private veterinarians in the area of extension and guidance in livestock farming be recognized and taken into account in livestock development policies,
- 4 - The redefining of the roles of the public and private sectors be continued and that the laws and regulations still necessary be finalized,
- 5 - Funding schemes for animal health protection programs, particularly the sanitary mandates, and livestock development, be established,
- 6 - Training and communication programs specific to privatization be established,
- 7 - The place and role of livestock farmers' associations and their ancillaries in the privatization process be defined and supported.

Made in Dakar on June 7, 1996

The Meeting

RECOMMENDATION RELATIVE TO THE CONTROL AND ERADICATION OF CBPP IN AFRICA

Considering the renewed outbreak of CBPP in Africa,

Considering the prevalence and economic impact of this disease in the countries affected,

Considering the briefness of the immunity secured from vaccines used in the field,

In consideration of the doubt which currently hovers on the identity or the immunogeneity of the T1 SR strain,

In consideration of the absence of simple, fast and reliable diagnostic testing for this disease,

The 10th PARC sub-regional meeting for West and Central Africa

RECOMMENDS

1. The immediate establishment of the Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia control and eradication program in all concerned African countries.
2. The extension to West Africa of the research network funded by the European Union, the urgent establishment by that same network of a study protocol on the comparative efficiency of the T1 SR and T1/44 strains and the development of new generations of quality vaccines.
3. The development through the network of new diagnostic tools and approaches, notably as far as chronic CBPP carriers are concerned.
4. The intensification of the training and upgrading of the technical personnel involved.

Dakar, June 7, 1996

The Meeting

DAKAR DECLARATION

The 10th Sub-Regional Coordination and Evaluation Meeting of the National Campaigns against Bovine Rinderpest and Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia in West and Central Africa (PARC), held in Dakar on June 4 through 7, 1996, after having examined the situation in the countries concerned, in the light of presentations by the Regional and International Coordinations, declares:

The PARC program in West and Central Africa has been remarkably successful through its contribution to the eradication since 1988 of Bovine Rinderpest outbreaks thanks to:

-The rehabilitation of Veterinary Services capable henceforth of assuming its missions;

-The promotion of the private sector in Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy;

-The exchange of zoo-sanitary information and cross-border and regional cooperation among the Veterinary Services of countries in the Sub-Region.

Deriving strength from this success and results achieved, the 10th PARC Coordination and Evaluation Meeting:

*Expresses gratitude to donors, particularly the European Union for its constant financial and technical support and unrelenting solicitude;

*Requests that OAU/IBAR and the PARC Sub-Regional Coordination start the necessary processes with the Governments of the countries involved so as to report about their mission after 10 years of activities and in order to explain the necessity for stopping vaccination against Bovine Rinderpest;

*Encourages the countries which have not recorded any outbreaks of Bovine Rinderpest since 1988, to resolutely engage in the process of declaring themselves Bovine Rinderpest free in accordance with OIE provisions and to reinforce their epidemio-surveillance networks;

*Solicits the financial and technical support of the European Union to the OAU/IBAR, the Sub-Regional Coordination for West and Central Africa and all African countries concerned in order to fight efficiently against emerging cattle diseases (CBPP, PPR, Foot-and-Mouth) and promote the process of Privatization of the Veterinary Profession.

DAKAR, June 7, 1996

The Meeting

FINAL COMMUNIQUE

On June 4 through 7, 1996, the Regional Coordination for West and Central Africa of the Pan-African Campaign against bovine Rinderpest - PARC, held in the conference rooms of the Novotel Hotel in Dakar, the 10th coordination and evaluation meeting of the national campaigns against bovine rinderpest and contagious bovine pleuropneumonia.

The following countries were represented at the meeting: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Chad and Togo. Representatives of the Inter-African Bureau of Animal Resources (OAU/IBAR), of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), of the Inter-State School of Veterinary Sciences and Medicine in Dakar, of Vétérinaires Sans Frontières, of the World Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), of the National Veterinary Associations and private sector operators, also attended the meeting.

The opening ceremony was presided over by his Excellency Mr Alassane Dialy NDIAYE, Minister of Fisheries and Sea Transports, substituting for Mr Robert SAGNA, State Minister, Minister of Agriculture of the Government of Senegal, in the presence of Mr André VANHAEVERBEKE, Chief Delegate of the European Commission, of the Representative of the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) in Senegal and Mr Mouhamadou Moustapha MBENGUE Director of Cabinet of the State Minister, Minister of Agriculture.

Three speeches were delivered on that opening ceremony.

The first speech was delivered by Dr. MASIGA, OAU/IBAR Director, who specially thanked Senegal for hosting this 10th Meeting and for the special hospitality which was extended to each delegate. He also thanked the European Union for its support of the PARC Project. The main objective of the PARC which is the eradication of bovine rinderpest has been achieved because for a period of almost 8 years, no outbreak has been reported in West and Central Africa. As a result, it is necessary that the countries involved be able to declare immunity from such disease in accordance with procedures of the International Office of Epizootic

Diseases (OIE). The current meeting will provide an opportunity to discuss this matter and make a resultant recommendation. He concluded his speech by addressing the importance of privatizing the veterinary profession.

The second speech was that of the Chief Delegate of the European Commission in Senegal, Mr André VANHAEVERBEKE, who expressed satisfaction over the results achieved by the PARC which represents by the side of the Onchocerciasis program a success model in Africa. Since the signature of an agreement between the Organization of African Unity and the European Union in 1986, almost 70 billion CFA Francs have been mobilized for the funding of the PARC Project.

The success of this project is related on the one hand to its regional approach and on the other hand to the establishment of flexible procedures for the direct mobilization of resources at the level of the States. He also reiterated the commitment of the European Union to supporting States' efforts for a sustainable development of african livestock farming.

In his speech, Minister Alassane Dialy NDIAYE expressed satisfaction over the efforts which have been accomplished for 10 years by the PARC Project for the eradication of bovine rinderpest from African countries. The results are considered very satisfactory to-date because the disease has not been reported in West and Central Africa since 1988; this warrants the planning of a common strategy in order to allow countries to declare themselves pest-free in the short term.

He also expressed satisfaction over this 10th meeting addressing over important matters such as control of CBPP and the state of progress of the privatization of the veterinary profession.

Then the Minister thanked the European Union for its constant commitment to African livestock farming as well as FAO for its technical support. Finally he concluded his speech by congratulating the OAU/IBAR, the Regional Coordination and all national coordinations for the brilliant results achieved.

This opening ceremony was followed by a pause and the meeting resumed its proceedings with the election of the following bureau composed as follows:

| | | |
|---------------|---|--------------------------------------------|
| Chairman | : | Senegal |
| Vice-Chairman | : | Ghana |
| Rapporteurs | : | Côte d'Ivoire and Central African Republic |

The National Coordinator of the PARC-SENEGAL Project was designated as resource person.

Then the following agenda was adopted:

1. Control of bovine rinderpest: the vaccination stopping stage,
2. The state of progress of the privatization of the veterinary profession,
3. Control of contagious bovine pleuropneumonia: new developments,
4. Start-up of the PARC regional communication component,
5. Cooperation among African sub-regional organizations.

Addressing the first item on the agenda, the following presentations were successively made to the participants:

*by Dr Samba SIDIBE, Regional Coordinator, on the situation in West and Central Africa,

*by Dr THOMSON, Adviser at OAU/IBAR, on the situation in East Africa,

*by Dr MASIGA, OAU/IBAR Director, on the conservatory measures concerning a stop to vaccination,

*and by Drs. GEIGER of the FAO/AIEA Division and DOMENECH, Adviser at OAU/IBAR on epidemio-surveillance.

These presentations were enriched by different comments and observations from delegates.

It can be concluded from these discussions that:

*No single outbreak of bovine rinderpest has been recorded in West and Central Africa since 1988;

*Serological tests, in those countries where they were made, show that the immune protection against this disease is real;

*Pest foci still persist in East Africa;

*The situation in East Africa makes necessary the keeping of the sanitary cordon in Central Africa (Chad and CAR);

*Countries such as Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau and Senegal, which have not yet recorded bovine rinderpest outbreaks since 1988, have pledged to declare themselves provisionally free and to proceed on to stopping vaccination;

*The establishment of efficient epidemio-surveillance and alert networks through appropriate training and adequate means should be reinforced;

*The cooperation among countries notably through the exchange of zoo-sanitary information and meetings among cross-border veterinary services must be developed and reinforced;

*The stopping of vaccination against bovine rinderpest would contribute to the transfer of resources toward other areas of concern, including new cattle disease outbreaks (CBPP, PPR, Foot-and-Mouth, etc...);

*The reinforcement of the PARC regional coordination for West and Central Africa in Bamako turns out to be necessary in order to take charge of the new developments of the zoo-sanitary situation.

This item on the agenda is at the origin of the statement named Dakar Declaration.

The second item on the agenda bearing on the state of progress of the privatization of the veterinary profession was introduced by Dr DOMENECH. His presentation focused on a review of the objectives and principal stages of privatization with a comparative study on the results in different countries.

There was a stress on the determining role of the sanitary mandate as a means of reinforcing privatization.

The discussions which followed made possible to draw the following conclusions:

*The privatization option appears as a political will on the part of African Countries even though the procedure followed in its implementation has been variable from one state to another;

*The clarification of the role of the State and private veterinarians in the process of privatization is indispensable as well as the place of ancillaries;

*The necessity to put in place, in relation to banking institutions, favorable conditions for the funding of private practitioners;

*The creation and reinforcement of livestock development funds as a support for the funding of activities in the sector;

*The necessity to develop and grant sanitary mandates to private veterinarians for relaying or completing the action of public services in the zoo-sanitary domain;

*The recovery of costs which contributes to the financial security of the veterinarian in private practice must be extended to all countries involved, if need be, after going through an initial evaluation stage;

*Private veterinarians have an important role to play in the area of sensitization and guidance in livestock farming;

*The training of veterinarians is always necessary for the needs of the State and for consolidating the privatization process.

As far as new developments in the area of the fight against contagious bovine pleuropneumonia, a theme which was introduced by Dr TULASNE of CIRAD/EMVT, the meeting concluded:

*this disease is one of the main threats to African livestock farming;

*the epidemiology of CBPP demonstrates the importance of chronic forms and the essential role of cattle movements in the diffusion of the disease;

*in West and Central Africa, CBPP is currently enzootic but constitutes a constraint for the other parts of Africa;

*the efficiency and identity of the T1-SR vaccine strain have been questioned by the FAO which recommends using the T1-44 strain.

*a research network involving European and African laboratories is working on an emergency protocol proposed by CIRAD-EMVT, PANVAC and OAU/IBAR with European Union funding in order to prepare a T-44 bank, the production of an T1-44 experimental vaccine and a vaccinal protocol per test with the T1-SR and T1-44 strains.

The last item on the agenda dealt with the PARC regional communication and the cooperation among African sub-regional organizations.

The proceedings were held in a climate of mutual understanding and determination to better harmonize activities in the framework

of the PARC.

A minute of silence was observed in memory of Dr Mahamat Hassan AWADALLAH of Chad, mandated veterinarian who had died in a traffic accident while in service.

The meeting congratulated the OAU/IBAR Director and the Regional Coordinator for West and Central Africa for the unrelenting efforts they have been deploying for the success of the project. It then paid an outstanding tribute to Dr DOMENECH, Technical Advisor for the OAU/IBAR, who has been called on to other responsibilities by his country.

The participants made a field trip to a poultry farm, the SEDIMA and a dairy farm.

It was proposed that the next meeting of the PARC be held in N'Djamena, Chad, at a date to be set later on.

At the end of the proceedings, two recommendations were made and a motion of thanks was addressed to Senegal.

Dakar, June 7, 1996

The Meeting

MOTION OF THANKS

We, the Delegates of Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Chad, Togo, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Inter African Bureau of Animal Resources of the OAU and the Regional Coordination of the PARC Project for West and Central Africa, who have participated in the 10th Sub-Regional Evaluation and Coordination Meeting of National Campaigns against Bovine Rinderpest, extend our warmest and most sincere thanks to his Excellency Abdou DIOUF, President of the Republic of Senegal, to the Prime Minister, the Government and the People of Senegal for the warm and brotherly welcome extended to us and for all the facilities made available to us during our stay in Dakar.

Dakar, June 7, 1996

The Meeting

Your Excellencies,

The Minister,

The Head of Delegation of the European Union,

The Resident Representative of the FAO

Dear guests,

Ladies and gentlemen, dear colleagues,

It is always a pleasure for me to come back to Dakar, the capital city of a hospitable country with traditions much appreciated throughout Africa. But for PARC, Dakar is also the place where important, even essential, issues are discussed.

Indeed, it is here that we were gathered in the eighties to draw the attention of the world community to the resurgence of Rinderpest in West and Central Africa and its consequences for the livestock services as well as for the non-tariff commercial barriers.

It was after many years that our voices were heard and this resulted in agreements signed between the OAU and the European Community in 1986, leading to the funding of the PARC project. It is 10 years now that we have been focusing on this disease in 35 countries of the OAU. During the discussions with the European Union the major constraints identified were the lack of financial resources, logistics enabling the livestock services to pursue their traditional mandate(s), as well as the clear division between the role of the private and governmental sectors. This identification of constraints enabled the PARC-project to focus on:

- the eradication of Rinderpest, and subsequently CBPP;
- the revitalisation of the livestock services;
- and, the promotion of the privatisation of the veterinary profession.

Each year, we assess the achievements and encountered difficulties in order to adjust our future strategies.

As far as our primary goal is concerned - the eradication of Rinderpest , which gave the project its name - we can say that we have today achieved our objective. Indeed, since 1988, no outbreaks of Rinderpest have been reported in West and Central Africa.

The strategy to obtain this result has been to minimize the role of the transmission of the virus through mass vaccination campaigns and this needed important funding.

We should remember that the veterinary medicine, as opposite to the human medicine, is basically an economic matter. In order to participate in the international market, within the framework of the WTO, it will be imperative that by the year 2000 - hence very soon - our countries - all member of the OIE - accept to apply the sanitary procedures of the OIE aimed at the eradication of Rinderpest.

This procedure of the OIE starts with the cessation of vaccinations and goes through important stages of provisional freedom from disease, freedom from disease, and finally, freedom from the infection. All these stages take 7 years to accomplish. But to be confident, Heads of Livestock Services gathered here, will need to put in place an epidemiosurveillance system that will enable you to assess the presence of a disease as soon as it is suspected, you will need emergency funds to ensure the deployment of a

rapid and efficient intervention of the livestock services and, on the overall, you will have to establish in your countries emergency preparedness systems.

This 10th PARC-meeting will have to produce an important recommendation with regard to this issue, and Dakar will be again in the forefront of the fight against Rinderpest in West and Central Africa and indeed in Africa as a whole.

I will not dwell too long on the other objectives as the rehabilitation of the livestock services and the promotion of the private sector in our region. We are proud of the achievements because, in our opinion, it is the revitalisation of the livestock services and the clear division between the government and private sector, that have led to this success. Additionally, I would wish to commend efforts made in this region as the crossborder cooperation and the solidarity among the livestock services which has been pivotal in the successful implementation.

But, the financial and technical assistance for this cooperation, the backbone for our fight, was made possible through the European Union and the FAO. Hence, this is the opportunity and place to thank these organisations and I hope they will continue to assist us in achieving our new objectives in rural development, to the benefit of the agro-pastoral communities.

I thank you.

10° CONFERENCE REGIONALE DU PROJET PARC
NOVOTEL DAKAR du 4 au 7 juin 1996

Cérémonie d'ouverture prévue à 9 heures

**DISCOURS PRONONCE PAR LE CHEF DE DELEGATION
DE LA CE AU SENEGAL**

Monsieur le Ministre,

Monsieur le Représentant résident de la FAO

Monsieur le Directeur de l'OUA/IBAR,

Messieurs les Délégués,

Mesdames, Messieurs,

Depuis 1986, la Commission Européenne appuie les Etats africains au sud du Sahara dans la mise en oeuvre du Projet PARC (Campagne panafricaine de lutte contre la peste bovine).

Les financements accordés jusqu'en 1990 atteignent un montant global évalué à 57,5 millions d'Ecus soit environ 35 milliards de FCFA actuels.

La phase actuelle du projet porte sur un montant de 46,5 millions d'Ecus soit 28 milliards de FCFA et intéresse pour le moment 11 pays et l'unité de coordination au niveau de l'OUA/IBAR.

Comme vous le savez, le premier objectif visé par le Projet PARC est le contrôle voire l'éradication sur le continent africain de cette épizootie qui chaque fois qu'elle s'est signalée a entraîné des pertes considérables au niveau du cheptel et donc de l'économie.

Les résultats obtenus dans vos différents pays montrent que cet objectif est pratiquement atteint en dehors de la Corne de l'Afrique où des efforts supplémentaires sont nécessaires pour juguler complètement ce fléau.

Ici au Sénégal, aucun foyer de peste bovine n'a été signalé depuis plus d'une quinzaine d'années.

Les derniers évènements survenus en Europe avec l'Encéphalopathie spongiforme bovine ou « maladie de la vache folle » montre l'importance de veiller à la santé animale.

Les autres objectifs poursuivis par le projet ne sont pas moins importants car il s'agit d'encourager des politiques d'élevages susceptibles de stimuler les activités de production, d'améliorer le fonctionnement des services de l'élevage et leurs capacités d'assurer leur propre financement et d'accorder une attention aux relations entre l'environnement et l'élevage.

La Commission a toujours suscité un dialogue sur ces points pour que des solutions appropriées soient recherchées au niveau de chaque pays. Il faut rappeler que les points de dialogue les plus constants sont liés :

- au principe du recouvrement des coûts des services rendus.
- à la possibilité de générer des ressources à affecter au fonctionnement des services de l'élevage à partir des activités du secteur.

- à la privatisation de la profession vétérinaire.

L'objectif final est qu'il convient de veiller à ce que le secteur génère des revenus et soit une activité rentable pour réduire voire supprimer les importations de viande, lait etc...

Pour ces différents points de dialogue, il est intéressant de constater qu'un processus a été enclenché dans la plupart de vos pays, qui se consolide de jour en jour avec les expériences que vous partagez à l'occasion de telles rencontres.

Il est nécessaire que la réflexion se poursuive sur ces sujets et sur d'autres en particulier dans le cadre de l'évaluation du Projet PARC qu'il est prévu de démarrer à l'occasion de votre présente conférence.

La Commission Européenne par ma voix vous transmet ses félicitations pour les résultats obtenus et vous exhorte à poursuivre vos efforts pour un développement durable de l'élevage africain.

Je souhaite pleins succès à vos assises.

**PROJET DE DISCOURS DE MONSIEUR LE MINISTRE D'ETAT,
MINISTRE DE L'AGRICULTURE A LA CEREMONIE
D'OUVERTURE DE LA 10° CONFERENCE
REGIONALE DU PROJET PARC**

*Monsieur le Chef de Délégation de la Commission
Européenne,*

Monsieur le Représentant résident de la FAO,

Monsieur le Directeur de l'OUA/IBAR,

Honorables Délégués,

Mesdames, Messieurs les Invités,

C'est un grand honneur pour notre pays que d'accueillir la 10° conférence régionale du Projet Campagne Panafricaine de lutte contre la peste bovine « PARC » pour les pays de l'Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre.

En effet depuis 1986, le Projet PARC consacre ses efforts dans une trentaine de pays africains à l'éradication de la peste bovine, cette épizootie majeure responsable par le passé de pertes considérables.

Aujourd'hui, on peut considérer que ce but a été atteint en Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre si l'on considère que les derniers foyers de peste bovine signalés remontent à plus de 7 ans. Certains pays, vous le savez, n'ont pas déclaré de foyers de peste bovine depuis plus de 15 ans.

Cette situation favorable devra cependant être entretenue par la mise en oeuvre d'une surveillance épidémiologique appropriée pour prévenir toute autre émergence de ce fléau redoutable.

Je suis heureux de constater que votre conférence va aborder cette question dans ses différents aspects et arrêter une stratégie commune pour permettre à nos pays de se déclarer, à brève échéance, indemnes de la peste bovine.

Votre conférence va également se pencher sur la lutte contre la péripneumonie contagieuse bovine (PPCB) et sur l'état d'avancement de la privatisation de la profession vétérinaire, autres thèmes qui illustrent l'étendue des préoccupations du Projet PARC.

En effet, la péripneumonie contagieuse bovine continue de sévir dans bon nombre de nos pays entraînant des mortalités importantes. Il est donc nécessaire de poursuivre les efforts dans ce domaine afin d'assurer une couverture vaccinale à même de permettre un meilleur contrôle de cette maladie.

S'agissant de la privatisation de la profession vétérinaire, elle a déjà donné l'occasion à d'intenses réflexions dans le cadre des politiques en matière d'élevage à présent mises en oeuvre..

Ces politiques qui s'insèrent dans un processus de l'ajustement global de nos économies visent entre autres à désengager l'Etat des actions marchandes, à faire jouer au secteur privé un rôle moteur dans le développement et à recentrer les activités de l'Etat autour des missions de service public.

Je dois rappeler que dans ce contexte, nos états ont plus que jamais besoin de services vétérinaires réhabilités et fonctionnels à même d'impulser et d'accompagner le processus de développement de l'élevage africain avec ses acteurs que sont les opérateurs professionnels privés et les éleveurs.

Dans cette perspective et en partenariat avec les institutions bancaires, le Projet PARC participe déjà au financement du secteur privé notamment des jeunes vétérinaires nouvellement diplômés. Cette politique de privatisation est une bonne option et doit être par conséquent poursuivie.

D'autre part, il est primordial que les éleveurs africains prennent une part encore plus active au processus de développement économique et social. Cela demande qu'ils soient davantage formés et mieux structurés. Il est heureux de constater que le Projet PARC prend en compte cette question.

Notre pays qui a bénéficié en mai 1995 d'un second financement de l'Union Européenne d'un montant de 3 600 000 Ecus soit environ 2,3 milliards de FCFA demeure résolument engagé à poursuivre ses efforts pour atteindre les objectifs du PARC.

Suivant une stratégie définie depuis 1992, la vaccination contre la peste bovine devrait être arrêtée cette année et le Sénégal déclaré provisoirement indemne.

Une cinquantaine de praticiens vétérinaires sont installés en privé et exercent avec bonheur leur art. Plus de la moitié de ceux-ci ont déjà bénéficié d'un financement du Projet PARC.

Une réglementation existe qui sécurise autant que faire se peut l'exercice de la profession vétérinaire à titre privé. Le mandat sanitaire institué depuis juillet 1995 devrait entrer en application cette année.

Ces mesures associées à beaucoup d'autres encore devront permettre une relance des principales filières de productions animales et favoriser ainsi un meilleur attèlement des pasteurs à la mouvance des circuits nationaux d'échanges de biens et de services..

On ne peut parler du Projet PARC sans évoquer l'appui important et constant de l'Union Européenne qui depuis 1986 est en première ligne dans le financement de ce projet.

Je voudrais saisir cette occasion pour remercier une fois de plus l'Union Européenne pour son engagement aux côtés de l'élevage africain.

Mes remerciements vont également à l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'Alimentation et l'Agriculture (FAO) ainsi qu'aux différentes organisations internationales de la sous-région qui appuient le programme.

Je ne saurais terminer sans féliciter le Directeur de l'OUA/IBAR, la Coordination régionale et l'ensemble des coordinations nationales du projet pour les brillants résultats obtenus.

Honorables délégués,

Je puis vous assurer que tout sera mis en oeuvre pour que les recommandations qui seront issues de vos travaux soient judicieusement exploitées afin de donner un essor à notre élevage en proie à des mutations profondes.

En souhaitant un plein succès à vos travaux et un agréable séjour à Dakar à chacun d'entre vous, je déclare ouverte la 10^e conférence régionale de la Campagne panafricaine de lutte contre la peste bovine pour les pays de l'Afrique de l'ouest et du centre.

Je vous remercie de votre attention.

**DISCOURS DE CLOTURE DE LA 10^e CONFERENCE
REGIONALE DU PROJET PARC DE MONSIEUR LE DIRECTEUR
DE CABINET DU MINISTRE DE L'AGRICULTURE**

*Monsieur le Chef de Délégation de la Commission
Européenne,*

Monsieur le Représentant résident de la FAO,

Monsieur le Coordonnateur Régional du PARC,

Honorables Délégués,

Mesdames, Messieurs,

Vous venez après quatre jours d'intenses réflexions de faire le point sur la situation du Projet Campagne Panafricaine de lutte contre la peste bovine « PARC » pour les pays de l'Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre.

C'est un honneur pour moi que de présider cette cérémonie de clôture au nom de Monsieur Robert SAGNA, Ministre d'Etat, Ministre de l'Agriculture.

Vos travaux ont abordé successivement les points suivants:

- le stade de l'arrêt de la vaccination contre la peste bovine,
- l'état d'avancement de la privatisation de la profession vétérinaire,
- les nouveaux développements de la lutte contre la péripneumonie contagieuse bovine,

- le volet communication et la coopération entre les organisations sous-régionales en matière zoosanitaire.

Pour chacun de ces thèmes, vos réflexions ont abouti à des recommandations pertinentes dont la mise en oeuvre permettra à nos Etats de relancer l'élevage africain.

Concernant particulièrement la situation de la peste bovine, il est heureux de constater que votre conférence va prendre date avec la **Déclaration de Dakar** qui affirme le succès du PARC en Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre et qui en conséquence invite les pays n'ayant pas enregistré de foyers de peste bovine depuis 1988 à s'engager résolument dans le processus de déclaration de pays indemnes conformément aux dispositions de l'Office International des Epizooties (OIE).

Certains pays ont d'ailleurs exprimé à l'occasion de votre conférence leur décision de procéder à un arrêt de la vaccination contre la peste bovine dès cette année.

C'est un événement majeur pour notre élevage et nous devons en être fiers.

Je note par ailleurs que vous n'avez pas perdu de vue l'importance de la surveillance épidémiologique qu'il faut nécessairement renforcer pour préserver ces acquis importants.

La situation en matière de péripneumonie contagieuse bovine (PPCB) exige encore beaucoup plus de vigilance de notre part et je suis sûr qu'en restant engagés autant que devant la peste bovine, nous arriverons rapidement à mieux contrôler cette redoutable épizootie.

J'évoquerai la privatisation de profession vétérinaire pour réaffirmer d'abord que c'est une option de nos Etats. C'est pourquoi nous nous félicitons de savoir qu'en dépit de la variabilité des expériences acquises dans ce domaine, le processus avance et se consolide.

Vous le savez, si nous avons obtenu de tels résultats, nous le devons essentiellement à l'engagement à nos côtés de notre principal partenaire qui est l'Union Européenne. Aussi, c'est avec plaisir que je vous renouvelle, Monsieur le Chef de Délégation, les remerciements des peuples et des gouvernements africains pour votre soutien constant et important.

Je remercie également l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'Alimentation et l'Agriculture (FAO) et les organisations sous-régionales africaines qui appuient le programme.

Je termine en renouvelant nos félicitations à l'endroit de l'OUA/IBAR (son Directeur et ses Conseillers), la Coordination régionale et l'ensemble des coordinations nationales du projet pour les résultats obtenus.

Honorables délégués,

En vous souhaitant un bon retour dans vos familles, je déclare, au nom de Monsieur Robert SAGNA, Ministre d'Etat, Ministre de l'Agriculture, close la 10^e conférence régionale de la Campagne

DIXIEME REUNION SOUS-REGIONALE DE LUTTE CONTRE LA PESTE ET LA PERIPNEUMONIE CONTAGIEUSE BOVINES EN AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST ET DU CENTRE

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