

# 2012-2013 NIAA Resolutions

## Global Animal Health, Food Security & Trade Council

**Mission:** To enhance and assure the wholesomeness of products derived from livestock and to encourage research to identify, develop and implement management strategies to avoid and eliminate contamination from products derived by livestock.

### **GAHFST1. Zoning and Compartmentalization Cooperative Guidelines**

**BACKGROUND:** The United States (U.S.) needs additional capabilities to implement zoning and compartmentalization relevant to disease status. Should we have a foreign animal disease and/or emerging disease, it would be critical to the economic survival of our livestock and poultry industries to prove we had the disease contained to a specific zone, and just as important, that the remaining zones of the U.S. were free of the particular disease and not at risk for international trade restrictions. Compartmentalization as defined by OIE.

**RESOLUTION:** The National Institute for Animal Agriculture encourages the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Industry stakeholders, and the states to cooperatively develop zoning and compartmentalization guidelines to be adaptable to a foreign or emerging animal disease outbreak in the U.S.

Adopted: 2002 | Amended: 2003 | Amended: 2004 | Amended: 2005 | Amended: 2007 | Amended: 2009

### **GAHFST2. National Animal Health Reporting System (NAHRS)**

**BACKGROUND:** A credible NAHRS is increasingly essential for maintaining and expanding trade in livestock and associated products in the global marketplace.

**RESOLUTION:** The National Institute for Animal Agriculture supports and encourages the United States Department of Agriculture/Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA/APHIS) to strengthen the participation of all states in NAHRS. NAHRS should continue to present the national status of the country's livestock health status without naming infected states or farms, benefiting all states and industries needing USDA support for livestock disease control or endorsement of international health certifications.

Adopted: 2002 | Amended: 2004 | Amended: 2005 | Reaffirmed: 2010

### **GAHFST3. Addressing the Impact of Emerging Diseases in International Trade**

**BACKGROUND:** Currently World Organization of Animal Health (OIE) develops standards for international trade on most known animal diseases, and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) develops regulations and implements import policies related to diseases codified by OIE or caused by other identified agents. However, disease conditions may emerge where the etiologic agent(s) are not identified for some time but a case definition could be established. In addition, while an etiologic agent may be associated with a disease, the disease may have different manifestations or disease severity in various populations. The challenge is how to protect the U.S. animal agriculture industry from these emerging diseases or more severe clinical manifestations of known agents while meeting international trade obligations. There is a need to develop some policy guidelines on how to handle these situations.

**RESOLUTION:** The National Institute for Animal Agriculture encourages USDA to discuss with states, academia, and the industry options to protect U.S. animal populations from emerging diseases while meeting our international trade obligations.

Adopted: 2003 | Amended: 2004 | Amended: 2005 | Reaffirmed: 2010

#### **GAHFST4. Importance of the Eradication of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) in South America**

**BACKGROUND:** The eradication of FMD in South America is an important goal in safeguarding animal health in the United States (U.S.).

**RESOLUTION:** The National Institute for Animal Agriculture encourages the U.S. Department of Agriculture, in partnership with the private sector, to continue to collaborate with U.S. agencies, international organizations and other groups to support, coordinate and enhance the Inter-American Group for the Eradication of Foot and Mouth Disease (GIEFA) hemispheric plan for FMD eradication.

Adopted: 2003 | Amended: 2004 | Amended: 2006 | Amended: 2007 | Reaffirmed: 2012

#### **GAHFST5. Safe Supply of Affordable Food Everywhere (SSAFE)**

**BACKGROUND:** The global food system is vitally important, not only in feeding the world's growing population, but also in sustaining the economies of developed and developing nations alike. Recent events, such as Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy, Foot-and-Mouth Disease and Avian Influenza, have highlighted the vulnerability of the global food supply chain and the apparent misalignment of its regulatory, academic and food system stakeholders. It is clear that the safety of the global food supply chain can be compromised not only by disease, but also by accidents, natural disasters or terrorist action.

A consortium involving food system companies, academic centers and non-governmental organizations recently formed the SSAFE initiative in collaboration with intergovernmental agencies. The vision of SSAFE is focused on protecting animal and public health through global implementation of science-based standards, ensuring an uninterrupted sustainable global supply chain of affordable safe food products to and from all countries and to help developing nations strengthen their infrastructures to

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feed their population, increase stability, promote economic growth and stimulate education. The role of SSAFE is to advise intergovernmental organizations, provide a safe harbor for discussion among global stakeholders, facilitate and enable strengthening of the global food system and to leverage resources through Public-Private Partnerships for collective action.

SSAFE is entering into Memorandum of Understandings with the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) and the Food and Agriculture Organization and is engaged in ongoing dialogue with the World Health Organization and the World Bank among other institutions, including national government agencies. The National Institute for Animal Agriculture (NIAA) can support the SSAFE initiative, without financial commitments, through acknowledgement of the critical importance of the SSAFE initiative as outlined in the above vision and mission.

**RESOLUTION:** The NIAA supports the SSAFE initiative to strengthen the global food system through public-private partnerships. SSAFE is currently focused on veterinary public health capacity building in developing countries. NIAA urges its members and member organizations to cooperate in this endeavor where appropriate.

Adopted: 2007 | Reaffirmed: 2012

#### **GAHFST6. Animal Welfare Research**

**BACKGROUND:** Scientific research on animal welfare is needed in North America to help guide the establishment of animal welfare standards as they are being adopted by the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), private entities, associations and national governments. Because much of the current animal welfare research is being conducted in Europe, North American animal agriculture runs the risk of in the future having to follow standards developed under conditions not found in North America. Research based on North American food production systems will help to ensure the establishment of more balanced animal welfare standards in the future.

**RESOLUTION:** The National Institute for Animal Agriculture supports the need for an expansion of animal welfare research conducted on North American animal production systems. The NIAA encourages the United States Department of Agriculture and private industry to provide additional resources for the funding of peer-reviewed animal welfare research.

Adopted: 2008

#### **GAHFST7. Irradiation Technology**

**RESOLUTION:** The National Institute for Animal Agriculture urges irradiation to enhance food safety and quality. Further, the appropriate educational materials regarding the benefits of irradiation should be developed and distributed by relevant governmental agencies such as Health and Human Services and the United States Department of Agriculture, as well as industry organizations.

Adopted: 2000 | Amended: 2001 | Amended: 2009

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**GAHFST8. Farm-to-Fork Food Safety**

RESOLUTION: The National Institute for Animal Agriculture supports the continued implementation of risk analysis, quality assurance and best management principles from “farm to fork”. These concepts should be applied to all food production systems.

Adopted: 2000 | Amended: 2002 | Amended: 2003 | Amended: 2005 | Reaffirmed: 2010

**GAHFST9. National On-farm Food Safety Policies and Programs**

BACKGROUND: The National Institute for Animal Agriculture (NIAA) believes that food safety requires a cooperative interdisciplinary approach. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and state animal and public health agencies have existing infrastructures capable of supporting investigations, research, studies and education concerning food safety issues.

RESOLUTION: The NIAA urges Health and Human Services, USDA, Department of Defense, Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Homeland Security to sustain and build food safety cooperative initiatives, to maintain, support and utilize the veterinary infrastructure existing within USDA and state animal and public health agencies, and to further enhance partnerships with producers, academia and private sector.

Adopted: 2000 | Amended: 2001 | Amended: 2003 | Amended: 2009

**GAHFST10. Availability of New Antimicrobials for Farm Animals**

BACKGROUND: Prudent and judicious therapeutic antimicrobial use within a veterinarian-client-patient relationship, with strict observance of withdrawal times, is essential to support the health and welfare of United States livestock populations, including minor species, and delivery of a safe, wholesome, affordable food supply.

RESOLUTION: The National Institute for Animal Agriculture (NIAA) encourages the Food and Drug Administration Center for Veterinary Medicine (FDA-CVM) to approve new antimicrobial drugs with guidelines to assure prudent therapeutic use of antimicrobials in food animals. NIAA encourages the objective prospective monitoring of antimicrobial resistance in both animals and public health medicine.

Furthermore, the FDA-CVM must base any new or additional restrictions or prohibitions of currently approved or new antimicrobials on sound peer-reviewed scientific evidence and risk assessment developed in an open public process demonstrating a significant impact on public health. The public and private sector should continue to promote educational programs for agriculture producers and the veterinary profession to assure prudent and judicious use of antimicrobial agents.

Adopted: 2000 | Amended: 2002 | Amended: 2003 | Reaffirmed: 2009

**GAHFST11. Direct Funding for Food System Emergency Preparedness**

**BACKGROUND:** The National Institute for Animal Agriculture (NIAA) supports Homeland Security Presidential Directives #7 and #9, which direct coordination for homeland security among federal agencies and recognize food and agriculture as a critical infrastructure.

**RESOLUTION:** The NIAA urges Health and Human Services (HHS), Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to implement a more streamlined direct funding structure for the entire food system including production agriculture to implement risk assessment, risk management, education and training programs at the local and state level with integration of emergency management preparedness and response with industry.

Adopted: 2005 | Reaffirmed: 2010