

**Global Conference**  
**“Partnering and investing for a PPR-free world”. Brussels,**  
**Belgium Conclusions of the Stakeholder Forum**  
6 September 2018

**We**, the Representatives of farmers’ and pastoralists’ associations, civil society and non-governmental organisations, cross-border traders, research community, and other stakeholders, are committed to protecting small ruminants as an essential component of the livelihood of hundreds of millions of the poor families around the world; recognising the crucial role these animals play in local economies; aware that these animals are threatened by a highly contagious and devastating disease, the *Peste des petits ruminants* (PPR), now present in more than 70 countries throughout Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe and the Middle East; taking into consideration that there is a strong and long-lasting international consensus aimed at eradicating PPR by 2030; knowing that FAO and OIE, according to the mandate they receive from their respective Membership, are fully involved in coordinating the fight against the disease at global level, hand-in-hand with the Regional Economic Communities, AU-IBAR and the countries, including through the PPR Global Eradication Programme; underlining that there is an effective and affordable vaccine, and that one single injection protects the animal during its lifetime; encouraging transboundary and sub-regional coordination between countries; acknowledging the particular challenges faced by countries and regions facing conflict, poverty or weaknesses in regulation; reinforcing the need to establish financial economic sustainability through cooperation between national governments and development financing mechanisms; noting the potential impact and role of wildlife in PPR and the importance of wildlife populations to biodiversity and national conservation efforts; understanding that the global PPR eradication programme delivers opportunities to control other important small ruminant diseases; emphasising the link between PPR eradication with other major global challenges such as food and nutrition security, poverty alleviation, strengthening resilience and migration control, and beyond that with the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);

Gathered for a Stakeholder Forum, facilitated by FAO, OIE and the European Union, in Brussels on 6 September 2018, with the view to report our conclusions to the high-level global conference “*Partnering and investing for a PPR-free world*”, scheduled for tomorrow;

Having heard some keynote speakers, and having conducted an open, rich and in-depth exchange of views;

We adopt the following main conclusions:

- We are convinced that PPR must be combated by any means in order to achieve its eradication by 2030, and we join the international consensus built by FAO, OIE and countries’ political will and coordination in this objective;
- We underline that farmers, traders and pastoralists, primarily women and youth, are at the heart of the process by contributing to prevention, surveillance and control measures, including targeted and massive vaccination, depending upon the status of the country, aimed at eradicating the disease within their own flocks;

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- We believe planning and implementation of regional and national strategies must be fully informed by and in compliance with the rights and needs of mobile pastoral communities;
  - We commit ourselves to supporting, at the field level, the public and private veterinarians, veterinary paraprofessionals and other technical, scientific and administrative personnel involved in this eradication process (including at border inspection posts), such as through the development of systematic capacity building programmes with the support of research and training institutions;
  - We understand the role of the private sector in the global eradication programme and their need to anticipate vaccine demand to ensure adequate and timely quantity and quality;
  - We are ready to advocate and to raise awareness in our respective communities, in order to convey key messages, useful information and best practices at all levels;
  - We stress that the cost / benefit ratio of vaccination against PPR alone is a very strong argument in favour of the control measures, as the value of an animal represents more than a hundred times the cost of its vaccination;
  - We commit to accountability and transparency, and reinforce the need to establish the means to measure progress towards the goal of global eradication to justify public and private funding;
  - We ask that countries, Regional Economic Communities and AU-IBAR to maintain the political will and institutional momentum towards PPR eradication by keeping the topic at the top of their agendas and by consistently looking for support in this regard, including through national and regional budgets and means;
  - We urge the donor community, the development partners, the philanthropic foundations, the financial institutions and all entities involved in assisting the poor people to strengthen their resilience, to mobilise their resources and to join forces with countries, sub-regional, regional and international organisations in order to bring together any technical and financial means necessary for the implementation of the PPR Global Eradication Programme launched by FAO and OIE, with a long-term view to sustainable financing;
  - We request the opportunity for the stakeholder forum to reconvene at a future date to review progress.