***Training course 7: Risk assessment for animal health***

The aim of the first session is to introduce participants to the risk analysis concept and risk assessment frameworks. The goals and components of each step will be presented, and concepts will be illustrated with real life examples and risk questions. The role of international regulatory agencies and international risk assessment guidelines will be presented and discussed.

In the hazard identification session, the participants will be introduced to the process of hazard and risk identification, and the role of risk managers in this process will be covered. Examples of animal health problems and applied risk assessments, as well as their results and potential health impact, will be presented.

The course will end with group presentations of the case studies and developed risk assessments

including discussions on risk management options and relevant risk communication issues.

The theoretical component of the course will cover the following topics:

Introduction to risk assessment in the field of animal health

Introduction to import risk assessment

Data requirements for import risk assessment;

The different steps in import risk assessment (IRA)

Identification of appropriate risk management options.

At the end of the course, participants will:

Be familiar with the concepts of risk analysis i.e. risk assessment, risk management and risk

communication;

Be familiar with the legal framework and the role of international regulatory agencies in animal

health risk assessment;

Understand and be able to describe the four steps of animal health risk assessment i.e. hazard

identification, hazard characterisation, exposure assessment and risk characterisation;

Be familiar with the applications of risk assessment in animal health and trade

Have a basic understanding of the concepts, terminologies and methods used in animal health

risk assessment, their utility, data requirements, similarities, and differences;

Be able to construct an event tree pathway related to a risk problem

Become familiar with probability theory and basic knowledge on probability distributions

Be able to perform a qualitative and quantitative deterministic risk assessment for specific

animal health problems and trans-boundary animal diseases.

Understand the difference between variability and uncertainty and how to deal with these.

Know where and how to obtain data to implement a risk assessment

Be able to understand tools for risk-benefit analysis

Have a basic understanding of the importance of appropriate communication of risk assessment

results and risk management decisions.