



# UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

2013 RESOLUTION

117<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

OCTOBER 17-23, 2013 ~ SAN DIEGO, CA

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**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 25 - APPROVED**

**SOURCE: COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AND EMERGING DISEASES**

**SUBJECT MATTER: ERADICATION OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE FROM THE AMERICAS**

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Although vaccines have been instrumental in eliminating foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) from most South American countries, viral circulation still persists in some countries. The current Pan American Foot and Mouth Disease Center (PANAFTOSA) Plan of Action 2011–2020 for the elimination of FMD is based on the experience acquired by the countries and PANAFTOSA over the past 60 years. While several challenges need to be overcome, there is increasing confidence that FMD can be eradicated from the Americas by 2020.

**RESOLUTION:**

The United States Animal Health Association requests that the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service support the completion of the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease from the Americas by 2020 as outlined in the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center action plan.

**INTERIM RESPONSE:**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services recognizes the concerns of the U.S. Animal Health Association and appreciates the opportunity to respond. APHIS supports the goal of eradication of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) from the Americas by 2020. APHIS supports the current Pan American Foot and Mouth Disease Center action plan as resources allow. APHIS also recognizes that the eradication plan may need to be modified (as determined by situation, new technologies, additional challenges) between now and 2020. It is also important to note that FMD also exists in other parts of the world, so the risk of FMD introduction into the Americas poses an ongoing challenge for preparedness and eradication.