

UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION - 2006

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 37 – 41 Combined APPROVED

SOURCE: COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AND EMERGING ANIMAL DISEASES
COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

SUBJECT MATTER: CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR THE GLOBAL FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE RESEARCH ALLIANCE

DATES: MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, OCTOBER 12-18, 2006

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Global Foot-and-Mouth Disease Research Alliance (GFRA) was launched in 2003 as an international consortium to facilitate strategic research collaboration between five institutions; Institute of Animal Health Laboratory, (UK), Plum Island Animal Disease Center, (USA), National Centre for Foreign Animal Disease (Canada), The Australian Animal Health Laboratory and the International Livestock Research Institute. The goal of GFRA is to respond to the increasing threat and the lack of countermeasures to prevent foot and mouth disease (FMD) and provide alternatives to mass animal destruction through accelerated development of new tools and measures such as innovative vaccines and biotherapeutics specifically designed for control and eradication.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) urges the Secretary of Agriculture to seek the necessary funding for the participation of the United States in the development of new tools for foot and mouth disease (FMD) control and eradication identified by the Global Foot and Mouth Disease Research Alliance (GFRA).

RESPONSE:

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Office Of The Secretary

Thank you for your letter of November 15, 2006, to Secretary Johanns concerning resolutions passed by the United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) at its October 2006 annual meeting.

We welcome USAHA's input, and will take the organization's views under consideration as we address the issues in question. We look forward to further dialogue with USAHA on these and other matters as we move forward with important animal health initiatives.

We value your organization's longstanding collaborative relationship with USDA, and I know that we will continue to work together to advance U.S. animal health.