

UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION - 2005

RESOLUTION: 37 APPROVED

SOURCE: COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AND EMERGING ANIMAL DISEASES

SUBJECT MATTER: NATIONAL COORDINATED CLEARING HOUSE OF INFORMATION

DATES: Hershey, Pennsylvania – November 3-9, 2005

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) have been funding initiatives to develop programs, courses, and products relating to foreign and emerging animal diseases (FEDs) and animal emergency preparedness in an effort to improve the nation's response to an adverse agricultural event. The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) recognizes the value of these activities for veterinarians, educators, state officials, and animal health industry stakeholders. A tool that would prevent unnecessary duplication, allow for synergistic expansion, and allow for broader, nationwide use of the projects would be of great benefit.

Towards this end, The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) proposes that USDA and DHS work together to develop a central, coordinated clearinghouse of programs, courses, information, and products relating to FEDs and animal emergency preparedness.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) urges the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Science and Technology Directorate (STD) to develop a central, coordinated clearinghouse of programs, courses, information, and products relating to foreign and emerging diseases (FEDs) and animal emergency preparedness;

- a. that the acquired details and particulars not be limited to projects funded by USDA or DHS; however all projects funded by these organizations should be included;
- b. that the clearinghouse information be stratified in such a way for easy access; for example, stratified by targeted audience, species, type of program, etc.;
- c. that the clearinghouse be in a format amenable to the sharing of the information and products among stakeholders, such as federal and state regulators, funding organizations, and educators involved in FEDs and animal emergencies.

RESPONSE:

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE, VETERINARY SERVICES (APHIS-VS)

The Animal and Plant Inspection Service supports the concept of an information clearinghouse for funded initiatives supported by the United States Department of Agriculture and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). We look forward to working with USAHA to explore options to accomplishing this goal including defining more specifically the objectives and other aspects of collaborating with DHS.