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Agricultural Outlook Forum
U.S. Department of Agriculture

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Enhancing International Capacity
To Meet SPS Standards

Mo Salman

Enhancing International Capacity to Meet SPS Standards

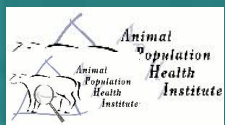
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Threat of pathogens and pests

- There is a need for an articulate justification for establishing a structured strategy for a defense against the introduction of high-risk animal and plant pathogens and pests into the US.
- Sanitary measurement at the US borders is essential for the protection of US agriculture.

Threat of pathogens and pests

- There is a need for collaborative efforts to harmonize exclusion strategies and other safeguarding initiatives for animal and plants and their products before they reach the borders of US.
- This collaboration should be well-planned and is comprehensive in its policy and scientific soundness.

Threat of pathogens and pests

- An International collaboration requires “buy-in” by the partners – not only neighboring countries.
- Trust and transparency are important aspects of this collaboration.

Highly contagious animal diseases – their threat to USA

- The threat of these highly contagious animal diseases still exists.
- The likelihood of introduction and then the spread of these diseases can be high due to the fragility and variations in animal health programs among several neighboring countries.

Highly contagious animal diseases – their threat to USA

- It is necessary to consider a regional and global awareness to harmonize the agriculture quarantine inspection of animals and animal products, surveillance, control measures including monitoring of animal diseases that can be a threat to the US.
- Training and technical support are essential components for building awareness.

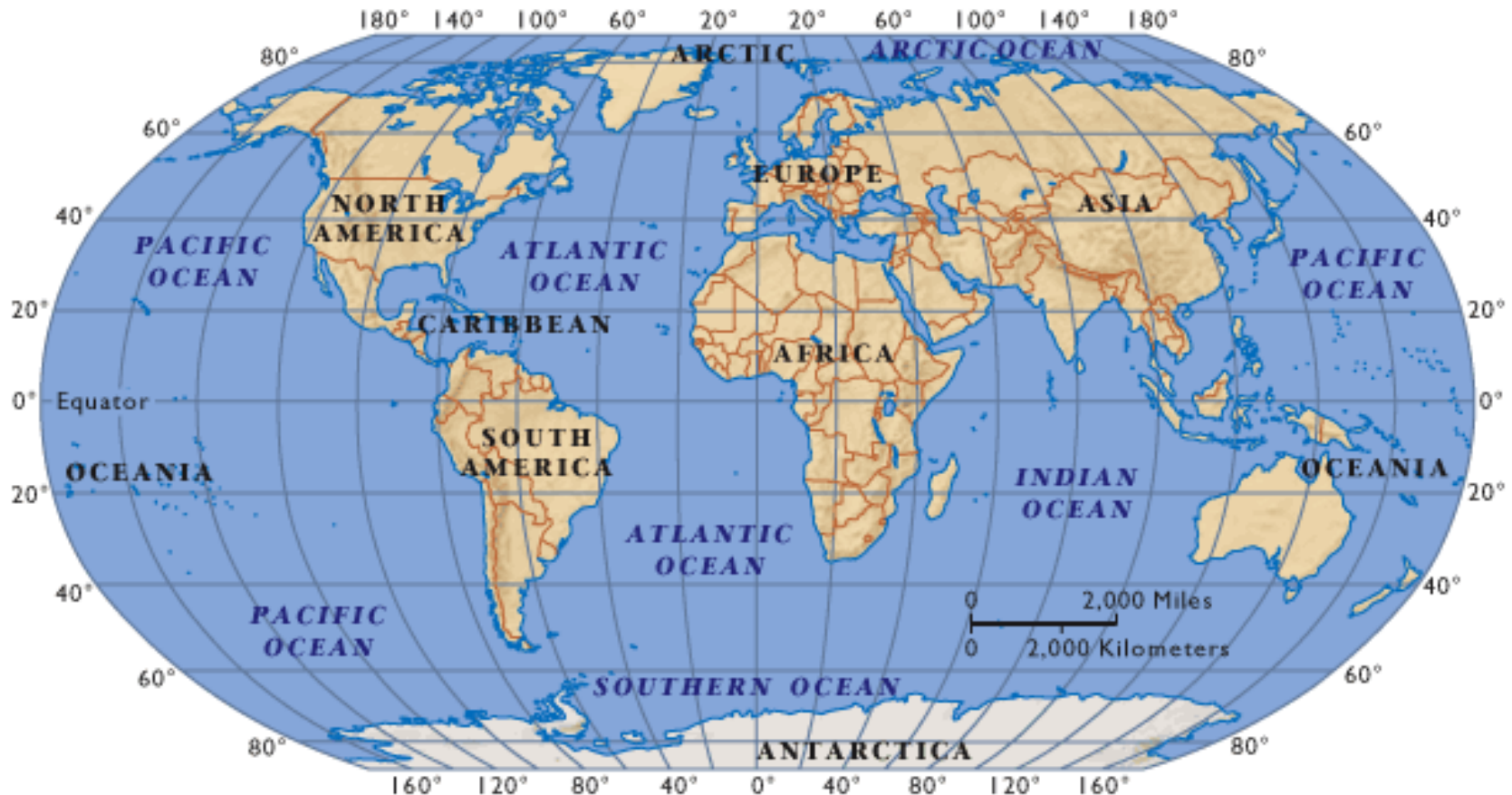


Technical support for Enhancement of National Animal Health Programs

- Technical support for building scientifically based National Animal Health Program (NAHP) components for satisfying the SPS requirements – USDA:FAS
- Several land grant universities and USDA:APHIS have contributed to this initiative.

Technical support for NAHP 2000-2011

The World



Outcomes – NAHP Initiatives

- Establish reliable, trustworthy communications among the professional staff members and USDA teams;
- Promote US agriculture products and USDA activities in the region;
- Enhance collaboration to build consensus in regulations and trade using international organizations (WTO, OIE, WHO, and FAO).

Training – Animal Health

Technical topics

- SPS requires scientific approaches for trade;
- Scientific approaches are new for most animal health services;
- Training should not be another academic course for technical people;
- Training requires interactions and demonstrations of scientific methods.

Training – Animal Health

Technical topics

- Opportunity for development of comprehensive disease management strategies;
- Integration of animal and public health aspects of disease management strategies;
- Economic implication of disease strategy;
- Engagement of wildlife species.

Avian Influenza



(AP PHOTO)



AI and its main activities



Training programs in selected countries



- Aim to build sufficient technical local team to participate in disease investigation and assessing control strategies.
- Collaborative effort of Colorado State University, the Association for Veterinary Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine, USDA:APHIS, USDA:FAS, and the country's MoA



Epidemiology Training Workshops

January 2007 – August 2008

The World



Training in the USA

- Collaboration between USDA:APHIS:VS-Centers for Epidemiology and Animal Health, Colorado State University, AVEPM, and USDA:FAS
- International training course in basic veterinary epidemiology– 2001-2011
- International training course in application of risk assessment methods for animal health topics – 2007-2011



Training in the USA - Outcomes

- More than 600 animal health officers from more than 50 countries have taken the international course - establishing a professional network;
- Several of these trainees are involved in decision-making positions in their countries;
- USDA technical staff members are engaged with bilateral/regional/global projects/tasks with these trainees.



