

EUROPEAN COMMISSION HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Directorate D – Food chain stakeholder and international relations Unit D4: Food safety programme, emergency funding

SANTE-2017--11939

REPORT ON THE

TASK FORCE MEETING OF THE RABIES SUBGROUP

Bucharest, Romania

2 – 4 October 2017

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OBJECTIVES	Assessment of the rabies situation in Romania		
	Recommendations for improvement and future actions		
DATE OF MEETING	2 – 4 October 2017		
LOCATION	Bucharest, Romania		
AGENDA	Annex I		
PARTICIPANTS	Annex II		

The welcome speech was given by Dr. Cristian Duicu, General Director, National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority (NSVFSA).

The introduction of the Task Force, its objectives and composition of the Rabies subgroup was given by the Commission.

After the introduction, the meeting was conducted according to the agenda.

1. Overview report: Rabies eradication in the EU ^[2] (Lena Englund, EC, DG SANTE, Unit F 2 Health and Food Audits and Analyses Directorate)

The Commission services carried out a series of audits to verify the implementation of the EU co-financed rabies eradication programmes. The audits were conducted in the period between April 2012 and May 2016 in Poland, Bulgaria, Romania and Hungary.

Since the rabies eradication programmes of Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Hungary, also include the provisions for conducting oral rabies vaccination campaigns (ORV) in buffer zones in the neighbouring third countries, namely Belarus and Ukraine, fact-finding missions together with experts from Member States were carried out to Ukraine and Belarus, in agreement with the national competent authorities.

The main conclusions were, that rabies eradication works best when the central competent authority:

- is actively involved in promotion and information, throughout the year
- is supported by forestry services, hunters' organisations, and regional/local authorities
- involves competent epidemiologists and wildlife experts in regular evaluations of the results and progress
- has a field organisation seeing their role in rabies eradication as important
- manages to engage the public, hunters and farmers
- is careful and prudent when issuing tenders, signing contracts, and checking the implementation.

Detailed information can be found in the <u>published audit report</u> **O**.

2. <u>Rabies eradication in the EU: future steps</u> (Pedro Rosado Martín, EC, DG SANTE, Unit D4, Food Chain: stakeholders and international relations Directorate)

The Commission representative pointed out that the final objective concerning rabies is to have the disease eradicated form wildlife in 2020.

Concerning the evolution of the EU funded rabies programmes, the Commission is foreseeing a progressive reduction of the vaccination areas in the period 2018-2020. The Commission preferred funding option would be to have from 2020 on:

- A vaccination strip of 70 km wide alongside the EU border (inside the EU) with the Russian Federation, Belarus, Ukraine Moldova and Western Balkans; and
- A buffer vaccination zone inside several areas of Russian Federation, Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova of 50 to 100 km wide.

As regards the EU support in the Western Balkans, the aim is to ensure the continuity of the vaccination campaigns in the area.

3. Legal background of the control of rabies in Romania 🖺

Romanian veterinary authorities have established solid legal framework for the control of rabies in line with international guidelines. In addition, to provide a legal basis for cooperation and implementation of rabies eradication activities in third countries, an amendment to the Law was prepared and is waiting for approval in the Parliament. It is expected to serve as legal ground for implementation of ORV activities in Moldova and Ukraine already in 2018.

4. History and epidemiological evolution of rabies in Romania, present situation 🏝

The information was given on evolution of rabies in Romania from 2011 - 2016. The data and results were gathered in the frame of implementation of rabies eradication programme.

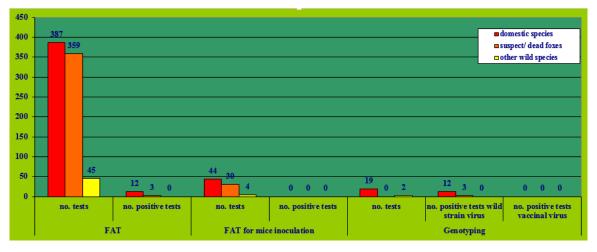
In the period presented, altogether 24.407 samples of foxes were tested for rabies. Out of the total, 971 animals were detected positive and 870 rabies outbreaks were reported and notified. The peak of rabies cases were notified in 2011 - 2013, while a significant decrease in positive cases was recorded in the period of 2014 - 2016.

Year	Tested foxes	Positive foxes
2011	1.304	194
2012	1.673	278
2013	2.763	273
2014	1.846	106
2015	8.378	15
2016	8.443	4

In 2016, a total of 16 rabies cases were detected, out of which 4 in foxes, 9 in domestic ruminants, 2 in cats and 1 in dog. Rabies cases in domestic ruminants were notified also in regions, where no rabies cases were detected in foxes.

In 2017, no rabies cases were detected so far.

Figure 1: passive surveillance of rabies in 2016 (total)



5. Organisation and implementation of oral vaccination campaigns in Romania 💾

ORV programme was for the first time prepared in Romania in 2008. Since then, Romania annually submits the programme to the EC for approval and co-financing.

ORV was implemented for the first time in Romania in 2011, in 1/3 of the country. Due to contractual issues the ORV was not implemented in 2012. In 2013, due to the fraud

committed by service provider, the ORV programme was terminated and co-financing by the EU was not executed.

Based on this experience, NSVFSA launched a new tender technical specification book with solid technical requirements. A cross-checking system was developed for detection of any eventual fraud attempt. The central authority is contracted with a consortium of companies to cover the delivery of vaccine baits, the aerial distribution and the GPS planning and controlling of the aerial distribution.

The framework agreement was established for the period 2014 – 2017. Since autumn 2014, ORV has been performed uninterrupted.

For the next period, 2018 – 2020, a new multiannual programme was sent for approval to the EC. The programme also includes ORV to be implemented in buffer zones in Ukraine and Moldova. A new tender for 2018 - 2020 programme is in preparation.

The size of Romania is 238.397 km², out of which 213.375 km² is estimated to be suitable for aerial distribution of rabies vaccine baits. The population of foxes in 2017 in Romania is estimated to 69.488 animals.

Taking into account fox population density and area to be covered by ORV, 5.334.375 vaccine baits are needed per campaign for aerial distribution, with baiting density of 25 baits/km2. In addition, 75.400 baits for manual distribution of baits are needed.

ORV is conducted in two campaigns, spring and autumn. The obligations of the contractor (service provider) for execution of ORV are clearly defined as regards:

- technical parameters of bait distribution:
 - \circ area to be covered 213.375 km²,
 - \circ no. of vaccination campaigns per year 2,
 - bait density 25 baits/km²,
 - o flight patterns parallel flight lines in a distance of 500 m,
 - o maximum altitude of distribution 150 m,
 - o non-flying areas
 - each campaign shall be accomplished within 30 calendar days in case of favourable weather conditions, which can be extended by further 30 days
- technical equipment for ORV
 - minimum 14 aircraft (planes/ helicopters) are required to carry out each vaccination campaign
 - each aircraft must be equipped with an automatic vaccine distribution system complying with the following technical requirements:
 - operate automatically to ensure a uniform distribution of baits with a density of 25 baits / km²;
 - record the place, date, time (hours, minutes and seconds) for each bait distributed;
 - transmit in real time the data recorded to the server provided by the operator to the competent authority (CA); a software installed at the server is compatible with ArcGis version 9.1, and is operated by representatives of NSVFSA for viewing and verification in real-time the recorded dropping data;

Inside each aircraft a camera is installed to record the work on the plane (with date and time). The recordings are kept as a backup evidence of the work performed on local level and consulted in case of problems.

Manual distribution of vaccine baits takes place at the fox dens in the areas around villages, where rabies was detected and in other areas, where aerial distribution of baits is not possible but active fox dens exist (rivers, lakes, public roads...).

For monitoring of ORV efficiency, according to the EU recommendations, 4 foxes per 100 km² should be hunted. The hunting for this purpose should start not earlier than 45 days after each campaign. Samples of thoracic liquids should be taken for detection of rabies antibodies (post vaccination) and samples of mandibular for determination of bait up-take (detection of biomarker).

All foxes hunted for monitoring purposes are tested also for rabies diagnosis by using the FAT (fluorescent antibody test). This test is carried out in county laboratories. If negative, samples of the mandibula and thoracic liquid are sent to NRL for detection of biomarker and antibody detection. FAT positive samples are also sent to NRL for genotyping and determination of viral strain (field or vaccine).

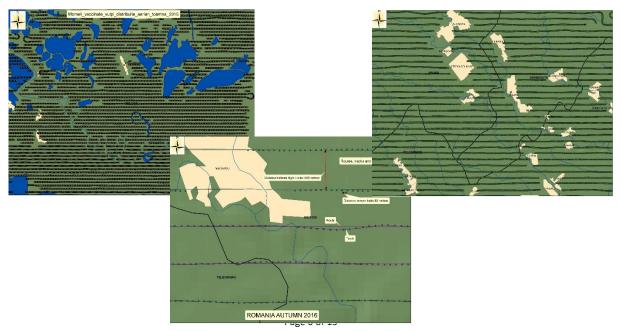
For monitoring purposes, 8.535 foxes should be tested annually according to the above mentioned provisions.

Passive surveillance aims at testing found dead/killed animals and rabies suspected animals. FAT is performed at county laboratories. In case of human exposure, mouse inoculation test (MIT) is performed when FAT is negative. FAT is performed in line with the OIE Manual.

In the frame of passive surveillance it is mandatory to perform clinical examination and observation of animals that have bitten or scratch people or other animals, for 14 days. Animals which have been bitten are kept away from the rest of animals and are subjected to a 30 days period of observation.

Official controls and supervision over the implementation of ORV is conducted at different levels:

- Central NSVFSA
 - real-time monitoring and verification of aerial bait distribution; Technical Commission for verification of ORV; qualitative reception and checking the number of vaccine baits to be distributed by air and manually at the entrance of the storage facilities; preparation and final correction of flight routes; trainings; analyses of bait distribution data - analyzes encrypted and decrypted electronic data from airplane GPS units transmitted by the provider, routes and tracks performed, aircraft distances in the time intervals recorded for each flight; certification reports,...),



- County level – CSVFSD

 daily monitoring of ORV, verify the stock of vaccine baits, identification of aircrafts, collection of ORV data, collection of encrypted GPS data from the memory cards of the airplanes after each working day

Inhabitants are informed about the vaccination campaign by posters and hunters receive training before each campaign. Information materials are provided by the CCA and trainings are held by the local CA.

	2014	2015	2016
No. of ORV campaigns	1	2	2
Vaccination area	213.375	213.375	213.375
No. of baits distributed (aerial)	5.334.375	Spring 5.333.275	Spring 5.323.182
		Autumn 5.333.937	Autumn 5.326.607
Density	25	25	25
Total length of flying tracks (km)	475.322,6	950.000	950.000
Total no. of flying hours (h)	3.120	6.200	6.200
No. of aircrafts used	25	30	30
No. of baits distributed (manual)	75.400	150.800	150.800

Data on implementation of ORV programme 2014 - 2016

6. <u>Surveillance and monitoring of ORV in Romania: organisation, implementation and</u> results

The suspicion of rabies in domestic animals is reported by the owner to the private vet who notifies the suspicion to the official vet. In case of wild animals, the hunter reports the suspicion of rabies to the official vet.

Institute for Diagnosis and Animal Health is the National Reference Laboratory (NRL) for rabies. Rabies diagnosis (FAT) is performed at county level at all 41 county sanitary veterinary laboratories.

The NRL main tasks are developing and improving of diagnostic manual, coordination of the diagnostic methodology, trainings for persons from county laboratories, organizing proficiency test for County laboratories each year (IDAH is accredited according to ISO 17043/2010 as provider of proficiency testing), technical coordination and evaluation of County laboratories, collaboration with the EURL, collaboration with other national reference laboratories, provide technical advice to veterinary authorities, reporting,...).

The diagnostic tests for rabies in the frame of passive surveillance, used by the NRL are FAT, MIT, FAVN test, virus isolation and PCR/sequencing. Laboratory techniques, used by county laboratories for passive surveillance are FAT and MIT.

According to national legislation, a hunting quota of foxes to be shot during the next hunting season is determined each year. There is no specific hunting season for foxes, they can be shot anytime throughout the year.

Tests for monitoring of ORV (FAT, ELISA antibody, detection of tetracycline, age determination) are performed in NRL and 2 county laboratories (and additional 2 in preparation).

All methods for rabies diagnostics in NRL and county laboratories are accredited to standard ISO 17025:2005.

The number of samples is increasing every year.

Monitoring of ORV

	2014		2015			2016			
	Tested	Positive	%	Tested	Positive	%	Tested	Positive	%
Determination of biomarker (TTC)	5.385	2.978	55,31	7.482	5.558	74,29	7.924	5.211	65,77
Detection of antibodies	5.048	1.574	31,19	6.418	1.816	28,30	7.192	2.106	29,29

7. <u>Quality controls on the delivery and handling of vaccines and on the implementation of the oral vaccine distribution</u>

The vaccine, used for ORV in Romania, has a market authorisation, contains a live attenuated rabies virus vaccine strain, is harmless to target species and is intended for immunisation of red foxes and racoon dogs. Until their distribution in the field, the vaccine baits must be kept at -20°C.

For each campaign, vaccine baits are transported directly from the manufacturer to the airport of distribution in refrigerated trucks. For the time of vaccination the vaccines are kept in the truck. The vaccine stock necessary for distribution from one airport is kept in one truck.

Service provider is responsible for providing the premises, equipment and facilities necessary to maintain the cold chain (- 20°C) until the distribution takes place.

Each batch of rabies vaccine must be accompanied with analysis certificate issued by manufacturer, batch release certificate issued by manufacturer, official batch release certificate issued by CA and certificate of testing of viral titre stability in field conditions.

Upon arrival of the vaccines to the airport, the storage/transport conditions are checked: thermogram – to verify the maintenance of cold chain during the transport, signed documents to verify the date and time of departure of the truck from manufacturer and the conditions of freezing of baits and the data on the primary packaging.

The initial check (qualitative reception and verification of the number of baits) is carried out by representative of Technical Commission for the verification of rabies vaccination campaign. The technical commission fills in a report that is signed by all parties involved. This report is part of supporting documentation for executing the payment.

The Technical Commission also collects samples of all vaccine batches that are intended for ORV. Bait titration of all batches is performed by the Institute for Control of biological products and veterinary drugs (ICBPVM). From each batch, three baits are taken of which one will be tested. One batch is tested once, however it could be used in more airfields.

If an increase in storage temperature above 0°C is detected, the representative of CSVFSD checks the storage conditions, e. g. the shell, the content of the blister,... if the vaccine is unfrozen, the distribution of baits is stopped and random samples are taken to check the vaccine titre. Official investigation is conducted to find the cause of the incident, the time period of inconsistency and temperature regime in the referred time frame. The distribution will be continued if the laboratory results would be satisfactory.

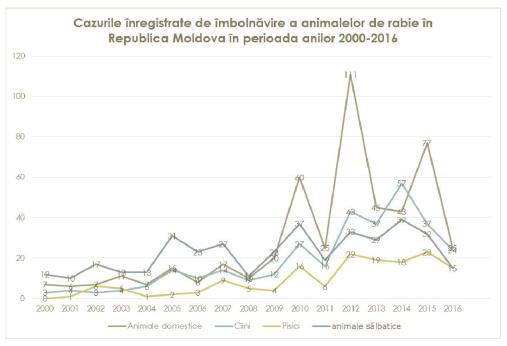
All incidents are immediately notified to the NSVFSA. In the period of 2014 – 2017 two such incidents were notified (electricity problem, aircraft technical problem). Distribution of baits was terminated, samples taken. All results were favourable and distribution of baits continued.

8. <u>Information/update by Moldova on their rabies situation and the surveillance and</u> eradication activities

Fox population in Moldova is estimated at 5.355 foxes and 11.293 active fox dens. The process of purchasing GPS to census the fox dens is ongoing.

Rabies is present throughout the country. The majority of rabies cases are detected in domestic animals. The number of rabies cases increased during the time.

Only manual ORV is performed, on limited areas. Vaccination of foxes depends on available money.



Graf 2: Animalrabies in Moldova (2000 – 2016)

Annual vaccination of dogs is compulsory. Vaccination is paid by State, if funds available. Stray dogs remain a problem. Vaccination coverage established in the dog population is not high enough to break the transmission cycle of rabies.

Only FAT test for rabies diagnostics is performed in Moldova.

The main shortcomings in Moldova as regards rabies control programme are lack of financial sources, inadequate coordination between involved departments due to unclearly defined responsibilities, deficiency in public education.

9. Information/update by Ukraine on their rabies situation and the surveillance and eradication activities

Compulsory vaccination of farm animals and pets is in force. Annually all dogs have to be vaccinated against rabies. Cats must be vaccinated against rabies only in permanently infected areas and farm animals in case of an outbreak or at infected areas before going to pasture.

Annually, ca. 2,8 million dogs are vaccinated against rabies. Vaccination performed in State institutions is free of charge.

In the first half of 2017, a total of 660 rabies cases were reported in Ukraine, 423 domestic and 237 in wildlife.

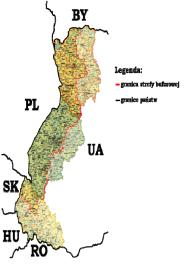


Oral vaccination of wild carnivores against rabies in Ukraine was conducted by the representatives of local and central authorities. Oral rabies vaccine V-RG type is used, produced by Ukrainian manufacturer.

In 2017, ORV is conducted based on the agreement with Poland (60% already implemented) and Hungary (100% already implemented).

Monitoring of ORV efficiency is performed by detection of biomarker and by determination of antibodies. Results of biomarker detection were 65 % and virus neutralizing antibodies presence level was 38 %.

For 2018 – 2020, a part of Ukrainian territory will be included in the Romanian EU co-funded rabies programme for implementation of ORV. A buffer zone in Ukraine along the Romanian border still needs to be determined.



The major problematic issue is low level of financing of measures and long term procedures for internal approval of international agreement as well as the lack of prepayment in the frame of agreements.

Conclusions and recommendations by the TF Subgroup for rabies

After the presentations and discussion, the TF made several conclusions and proposed recommendations for improvement of rabies eradication programme in Romania.

Conclusions

- 1. Romanian veterinary authorities have established solid legal framework for the control of rabies in line with international guidelines. In addition, to provide a legal basis for cooperation and implementation of rabies eradication activities in non-EU bordering countries, an amendment to the Law was prepared and is waiting for approval in the Parliament. It is expected to serve as legal ground for implementation of ORV activities in Moldova and Ukraine from 2018 on.
- 2. The activities are planned through a multi-annual programme (2018 -2020). However, the legal basis has not been adopted yet for the relevant period and tendering procedure has not been launched yet.
- 3. A Technical Commission for the verification of the rabies vaccination campaign was established by Romanian authorities. It is comprised by the representatives from the central level, Control of biological products and veterinary drugs Institute which is responsible for vaccine titre control, and persons from the local level (official vets from the County Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Directorate CSVFSD).
- 4. ORV is well organised and in line with the international guidelines and recommendations. There is good collaboration between central and regional authorities. Official supervision during planning, implementation and evaluation of ORV campaigns is well organised as regards aerial distribution. Manual distribution is implemented in an overall area of 3.000km², around settlements with epidemiological indications and restricted areas (e.g. area around nuclear power plant). A provision is made for stopping of aerial distribution 500 m before settlements that could lead to larger areas not covered by vaccine baits.
- 5. Rabies passive surveillance is insufficient. The pressure of rabies surveillance should be improved in all counties as the country is in a step of rabies elimination.
- 6. The number of samples taken for monitoring of ORV campaigns seem to be sufficient and in line with the international guidelines. In some regions, mainly in the southern part of the country, the monitoring results are very poor and the reason for that was not identified. The reason for low seroconversion rates should be further investigated.
- 7. Epidemiological analyses of surveillance and monitoring data together with aerial/manual vaccine distribution data and quality control data is performed but should be further developed in order to allow for proper and regular assessment of efficiency of ORV programme and identification of shortcomings and reasons for them.
- 8. Rabies awareness should be improved for the general public and also for all actors involved in the eradication programme to improve and maintain a proper level of passive surveillance.
- 9. The NRL for Rabies has established WHO/OIE recommended standard laboratory techniques for rabies surveillance. The NRL participates in the annual proficiency tests of the EURL. It also meets the ISO/IEC 17043 standards for implementation of rabies diagnosis proficiency testing for the county laboratories.
- 10. Routine rabies diagnostics is performed in all 41 regional laboratories by using the FAT and the MIT. They all meet the ISO/IEC 17025 and participate in national proficiency testing. Although performing accredited methods, in the case of rabies suspicion, all rabies samples tested positive in the regional laboratories, are sent for confirmation with the same test (FAT) to the NRL. This is not the case for negative results from suspect cases (animals with clinical signs of rabies, incontact animals). It happened in some cases, that the samples found positive in the regional laboratory were later found negative in the NRL.

- 11. Vaccine bait titration is conducted in laboratory for control of biological products and veterinary drugs. The results of vaccine titration are available only few days after the beginning of the vaccination. It has been noticed that the overall contract provides for immediate corrective actions by operator at their own expense in case titration results are not adequate.
- 12. The observation period for animals that have been bitten is 30 days. Experience shows that this observation period is not always enough.

Recommendations

- 1. The CA should do the necessary actions to enforce the legal framework in timely manner as well as tendering procedure so the ORV activities would not be jeopardised in 2018.
- 2. To improve the aerial distribution of baits a provision of stopping distribution 500 m before the settlements should be reduced to the minimum possible, based on the decision and experience of the pilot.
- 3. The responsibility of the NRL to ensure that regional laboratories have sufficient expertise for the rabies eradication programme would be more manageable if the number of regional labs dealing with rabies diagnostics could be reduced.
- 4. At the last stages of eradication of the disease, the risk of false negative results should be minimised. The CA should define the strategy to tackle the issue.
- 5. FAT should be harmonised in all laboratories to ensure that results (in terms of specificity and sensitivity) are comparable. To ensure this, it would be useful if the tenders meet the same specifications and all the reagents and kits in use are the same in all laboratories and meet the best quality standards.
- 6. The achieved immunity in foxes is probably underestimated. The reason could be found in selecting a lower threshold of positivity of the ELISA test currently used as recommended by the EURL.
- 7. Relevant stakeholders as e.g. hunter's organisations, wildlife biologists should be fully involved in the rabies eradication programme to improve planning and implementation, especially as regards rabies surveillance.
- 8. Rabies surveillance is the key index for evaluation of ORV success, therefore the Romanian authorities should increase efforts to enhance rabies surveillance by focusing on indicator animals (suspect animals, road-kills, found-dead) across the country.
- 9. In order to substantiate the positive trend of the disease, passive surveillance must be improved. CA should take all effort to raise disease awareness. The awareness campaign should reach all stakeholders and focus on the clinical signs and reporting of the suspicion of the disease (mass media, leaflets, homepage).
- 10. The observation period for any animal bitten by another animal (suspicious, not available for diagnostics, rabid), should be reconsidered and adapted from the current observation period of 30 days. Experience shows that an observation period of three months is enough as in most cases cases the clinical signs of the disease will have occurred even in those vaccinated animals that could have an insufficient immunity (young animals for example) at the moment of the contamination.

From DG SANTE side, it was stressed the importance of improving the monitoring and surveillance **now**. If the epidemiological trend continues as it is, the Romanian authorities should start thinking in stopping vaccination in several areas of the country in the mid-term. To do that, surveillance and monitoring should be scaled up immediately to better inform the decision on the areas to be vaccinated in the future.

ANNEX I. AGENDA

Task Force: Rabies Subgroup meeting 2-4 October 2017, Bucharest AGENDA

Day 1 – 2 October 2017	Strada(Street) Piata Presei nr.1, Corp(Entrance) D1, Sector 1, Postal Code 013701, Telefon: 0213124987, Fax:021.312.49.67, Bucharest. NSVFSA office.	Speakers
10:00-10:15	Welcome by the host Country Short introduction -	RO/COM
10:15-11:00	Overview report: Rabies eradication in the EU	СОМ
11:00-11:15	Coffee break	
11:15-1:30	Legal background of the control of rabies in Romania	RO
11:30-12:00	History and epidemiological evolution of rabies in Romania, present situation	RO
12:00-12:30	Organisation and implementation of oral vaccination campaigns in Romania	RO
12:30-14:00	Lunch break	
14:00-14:45	Surveillance and monitoring of ORV in Romania, organisation, implementation and results	RO
14:45-15:15	Quality controls on the delivery and handling of vaccines and on the implementation of oral vaccine distribution.	RO
15:15-15:45	Rabies eradication in the EU: future steps	СОМ
15:45-16:00	Coffee break	
16:00-16:30	Rabies eradication in RO: future steps	RO
16:30-18:00	Observations concerning presentations of day 1, general discussion, preliminary recommendations and conclusions	Task force members
18:00	End of day 1	

Day 2 – 3 October 2017	Ilfov county, Clinceni military aerodrome	Speakers
10:00-16:00	Field visit	
Day 3 – 4 October 2017	Strada(Street) Piata Presei nr.1, Corp(Entrance) D1, Sector 1, Postal Code 013701, Telefon: 0213124987, Fax:021.312.49.67, Bucharest. NSVFSA office.	Speakers
10:00-10:30	Information/update by Moldova on their rabies situation and the surveillance and eradication activities	MD
10:30-11:00	Information/update by Ukraine on their rabies situation and the surveillance and eradication activities	UA
11:00-11:15	Coffee break	
11:15-13:00	Conclusions and recommendations of TF group on the Romanian rabies programme. Discussion.	Task force members and RO
12:30-14:00	Lunch	
14:00-14:20	Information on EU funding of buffer zones in neighbouring third countries. State of play.	СОМ
14:20-15:00	Tour de table: coordination activities with neighbouring countries as regards rabies eradication programmes: lessons learnt, weak points and further needs	RO/UA/MD
15:00	End of meeting	

ANNEX II. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

NAME	COUNTRY-ORGANISATION
	Commission-DG SANTE
Rosado Martín, Pedro	Commission-DG SANTE
Englund, Lena	Commission-DG SANTE
Niin, Enel	Member of the Task Force
Cliquet, Florence	Member of the Task Force
Kocsis, Melinda	Member of the Task Force
Smreczak, Marcin	Member of the Task Force
Maurer, Jedrt	Chair of the Task Force
Csutak Nagi, Laszlo	Vice-President National Sanitary Veterinary and Food
	Safety Authority (ANSA).
Duicu, Cristian	General Director (ANSA)
Grigore, Marius	ANSA
Vasilescu, Clara	ANSA
Sevastru, Andreea	ANSA
Vuta, Vlad	Romanian National Reference Laboratory for rabies
Siposean, Cristian	ANSA
Sonko, Mykola	Veterinary services-Ukraine
Stryga, Olena	Veterinary services-Ukraine
Sirbu, Maxim	Veterinary services-Moldova
Caraus, Vitalie	Veterinary services-Moldova