



**The 2nd CAMENET consultative meeting 13-14 November 2017,
Al Ain, United Arab Emirates**



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The CAMENET meeting was held at Danat Al Ain Resort Hotel in November 13-14, 2017 and attended by officials from OIE, IZS (Teramo, Palermo, Brescia), Italy, UAE, KSA and Jordan to discuss the plan for CAMENET according to the following main agenda items:

1. Objective of CAMENET.
2. Recommendation of the OIE Ad hoc group on camel diseases (list of bacterial diseases, viral diseases and parasitic diseases).
3. Role of the delegate, husbandry, epidemiologist and laboratory persons for sampling logistic.
4. Epidemiology/surveillance/risk analysis/data analysis/statistical analysis.
5. CAMENET website.
6. Countries' action plan proposals for sampling.
7. Discussion of plan for Collection, preservation and transport of specimen.
8. Conclusion and closing remarks

DAY-1: Monday 13 November 2017:

Dr. Ghazi Yehia, OIE Regional Representative for the Middle East highlighted the purpose of this CAMENET meeting and gave a summary of the outcome of the previous meetings. In the 2nd presentation Dr. Mehdi El Harrak, Head of the OIE *ad hoc* group on camelids discussed the recommendations of the OIE ad hoc group on camelids diseases and listed the important bacterial, viral and parasitic diseases that affect the dromedary camels. In the 3rd presentation, Dr. El Harrak, described the role of the country delegates, husbandry, epidemiologist and laboratory persons for sampling logistics.

In his presentation, Dr. Giovanni Savinni, IZS (Italy) spoke about epidemiology, surveillance, risk analysis, data analysis and statistical analysis. Dr. Giorgio Varisco, IZS (Italy) gave a presentation on shipping biological material according to international regulations and rules. Dr Caracappa and Dr Loria from IZS of Sicily introduced good practices related to the importance of vector-borne diseases: trapping of most at risk parasites (ticks, mosquitos, sandflies), morphological and molecular identification of the involved parasites.

Dr. Salama Al Muhairi, Director of veterinary laboratories at ADFCA talked about the CAMENET website emphasizing on the need to improve the website by adding data on camel production and health for each participating country as well as an active participation in the CAMENET forum. Mrs. Asma Abdi, ADFCA gave a brief account on ADFCA's endeavors to publish an Atlas on the pathology of camel diseases.

DAY 2: Tuesday 14 November 2017:

Dr. Ahmed Zahir from MoCCE presented a UAE report on the total number and distribution of camels in the country and activities of the Animal Health Department with respect to camel diseases. Dr. Ali Al Diwairig from the Ministry of Agriculture, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia talked about the camel population in KSA and reviewed the efforts of the ministry towards improving the health status of the camels. As indicated by Dr. Al Diwairig, the Ministry of Agriculture, KSA is currently conducting a large-scale epidemiological survey for diseases of livestock, including active survey for prevalent diseases and a

serological survey. Currently the Ministry is analyzing the results before the publication of the findings. The survey included several camel sera to be tested for more than 10 diseases. According to Dr. Ali the results of the survey can be shared with CAMENET.

Dr. Fatima Khalaf from the Ministry of Agriculture, Jordan after describing the status of camel health in the country stated that Jordan has already performed an active survey for the major diseases affecting camels. According to Dr. Fatima, lack of training and financial support are the main obstacles facing camel production in Jordan.

Conclusions and report of actions to be taken:

- Three participating countries (UAE, KSA and Jordan) have already conducted active and passive serological surveys on camel diseases and willing to share the results when ready. The rest of the participating countries will be asked to share surveillance data if available.
- There is a need to clearly define the objectives, standardize the epidemiological protocol, the diagnostic and serological tests and harmonize the procedures, therefore, one priority disease will be identified and a whole list of protocols will be established as a model for all other diseases. It is suggested to be during the workshop planned in Abu Dhabi in November 2018 for epidemiology and laboratory focal points.
- Member countries to send country data on camel population, the most common camel diseases and other related information to be uploaded on the CAMENET website.
- The meeting valued the initiative of ADFCA in publishing an Atlas on camel pathological conditions. ADFCA will be grateful if participating countries can add chapters and send pictures of camel diseases encountered in their pathology laboratories.