



ORGANIZATION OF
AFRICAN UNITY

Secretariat
P. O. Box 3243

منظمة الوحدة الأفريقية
السكرتارية
ص. ب. ٣٢٤٣

ORGANISATION DE L'UNITE
AFRICAINNE

Secretariat
B. P. 3243

اديس ابابا * Addis Ababa

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
THIRTY-SEVENTH ORDINARY SESSION
Nairobi, Kenya
June 15-21, 1981

CM/1147(XXXVII)
Original: English

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON ANIMAL RESOURCES -
DISEASES, CONTROL AND DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA



CM-1147

MICROFICHE

ANIMAL RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICAIntroduction:

The Animal Resources activities of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) are undertaken by the Scientific Technical and Research Commission (STRC) Office of Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (IBAR). During the period under review the activities of this Bureau have again suffered due to insufficient staff. Some Senior Staff posts that became vacant over 3 years ago, due to resignations remain unfilled. The remaining Staff continue to over stretch themselves to try and cover the normal activities of the Bureau. It is increasingly becoming clear that staff cannot be over stretched for too long a period, because there are now signs of deterioration of the standard of the work and even a decrease in its volume of output. Apart from this, adequate facilities for the performance of the activities of this Bureau have become insufficient due to limitation of funds as a result of ever escalating inflation. It is therefore hoped that in the near future this will improve and maximum results will be obtained from IBAR.

Field Activities:(i) Rinderpest Control - J.P. 15

IBAR continues to ensure that African Governments carry out the execution of Rinderpest Follow-up Measures. This had been difficult for some countries due to limited funds. As a result of this there has been, recently, a deterioration of the Rinderpest situation with a few countries in West Africa reporting an increasing number of out breaks. Urgent action had to be

taken to arrest the situation. So an emergency meeting was called in Paris in December, 1980 and hosted by the "Office International des Epizooties"(OIE). Participants came from the majority of the West African Governments, the principal International Organisations interested in Livestock Diseases and from some Donor Agencies.

The meeting agreed that immediate urgent action must be taken to wipe out the new outbreaks. It further directed that both Directors of IBAR and the OIE should contact the European Economic Community (EEC) to negotiate for funds for this action. After two visits to Brussels the sum of 1,000,000 -EUA- was successfully got. The field operations started early January, 1981 and are expected to end by May or June, 1981. It is therefore hoped that this disease will be finally put under control again in this region of Africa.

(ii) Control of Epizootic Diseases

Following a request to the EEC, funds were obtained and an Epizootiological survey of some countries of West Africa was undertaken. The survey showed clearly that Rinderpest, and Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia (CBPP) and Trypanosomiasis remain the major livestock diseases in this region.

Taking into consideration the direction of movement of livestock in Africa, it is important that a similar survey is also undertaken to cover the Eastern Region of Africa. The OAU then took the initiative and made contacts with the countries concerned and also the EEC. Negotiation for funds to undertake this work is far advanced.

After this has been completed it is hoped that a Pan African action will be undertaken for the control of these three major livestock diseases in Africa. Again the EEC and other donors will be approached for assistance.

(iii) Research and Control of Tsetse and African Trypanosomiasis

(a) During the period under review, the OAU/International Scientific Council for Trypanosomiasis Research and Control (ISCTRC) Executive Committee met in Nairobi in November, 1980. It recommended sending out of questionnaires to the 35 OAU Member States affected by this disease so as to obtain information for updating of the "Tsetse Distribution Map of Africa" published over 5 years ago by the OAU/STRC.

The Committee also studied the report "Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis Control: A strategy for the future" that was prepared by a group of Experts and financed by the United States Aid for International Development (USAID) with the assistance of IBAR, and finally produced a list of order of priorities of the important recommendations that were passed.

Finally, the Committee recommended that the OAU should get in touch with the USAID to provide funds for implementing at least recommendation No.15 which calls for strengthening IBAR to be better able to undertake its various functions in Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis control.

(b) Following an invitation from the President of the Republic of the Gambia Sir Dawda Jawara IBAR participated in a top level Expert panel meeting to discuss the possibilities

and usefulness of a centre for research and training in Trypanotolerant Livestock in Africa.

It is well known that every effort must be made to alleviate the present and predicted increase in food shortage in Africa. One of the major constraints to correcting this situation is the exclusion of domestic livestock from vast areas of Africa by tsetse. It is widely recommended that the exploitation of trypanotolerant livestock such as N'Dama, constitute a major possibility for reversing this critical situation.

The panel recommended that this Research and Training Institute or Centre be set up in the Gambia to develop the knowledge and means for rational exploitation of Trypanotolerant Livestock and also train personnel who will best handle these animals. Details on the starting and future running of this Centre will be discussed in the next few months.

Prospects for funding this Centre appear to be good and so far the EEC, the Swiss Government, the British Government and the Rockefeller Foundation have shown considerable interest.

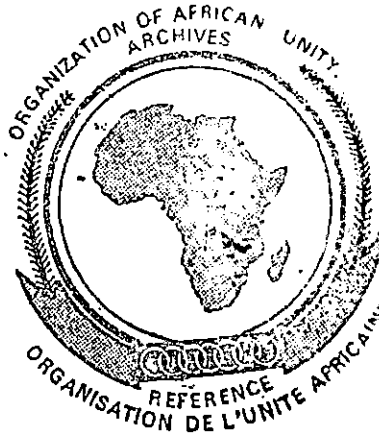
The OAU is expected to play a major role in this Centre as recommended at an FAO Workshop held in Lome in December, 1980 on the Breeding of Trypanotolerant livestock. The workshop encouraged the OAU to establish the centre by all possible means and ensure that its facilities are made available to all African Countries.

(iv) Livestock Maps of Africa

It will be recalled that in 1975, the IBAR Office succeeded in producing the first Cattle Distribution Map of Africa.

Since then this map has been revised and a second edition produced in 1980.

In March, 1981, the Bureau has again succeeded in producing for the first time maps showing the distribution of Sheep and Goats in Africa. These maps are in the process of being distributed to all the OAU Member States and other interested persons and Organisations. They will go a long way in assisting OAU Member States in planning their research and development strategies.



AFRICAN UNION UNION AFRICAINE

African Union Common Repository

<http://archives.au.int>

Organs

Council of Ministers & Executive Council Collection

1981-06

Report of the Secretary-General on Animal Resources -Diseases, Control and Development in Africa

Organization of African Unity

Organization of African Unity

<https://archives.au.int/handle/123456789/10137>

Downloaded from African Union Common Repository