



Bulletin on Avian Influenza in Cambodia

UN system in Cambodia

Update on the Avian Influenza Situation
(as of 9th May 2008)

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The information summarized below is gathered from official and non official sources, which are quoted in the text. This bulletin is prepared by the UN in Cambodia in cooperation with the Royal Government of Cambodia and development partners.

I. Latest information on Avian Influenza in Cambodia

1. Country situation: Animal Health

From 2 to 8 May 2008, the animal health hotline at the National Veterinary Research Institute (NaVRI) received 8 calls, 1 reported about sick and dying poultry in Siem Reap and the rest asked information about avian influenza. The questions were: what are the transmission routes of AI? What are its clinical signs? What are the prevention measures? 1 caller asked about how to cure hemorrhagic septicemia in cattle. NaVRI sent a team of provincial and district vets to the village in Siem Reap. After the investigation, it was decided that avian influenza was not the cause of the illness and death.

During the week, NaVRI received 7 samples of different types of sparrows collected by the Wildlife Conservation Society from the Riverside and Wat Phnom resort in Phnom Penh. Results of laboratory tests for 7 samples will be known later today (Friday, 9 May). The 10 samples tested last week were negative for HPAI through egg inoculation.

The Center for Livestock and Agriculture Development (CelAgrid) has released the preliminary results of a market study commissioned by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. The study identified 75 major poultry markets and trading points in 24 provinces of Cambodia and collected baseline data at these markets through observation and structured interviews with 305 sellers and 75 market managers. High volume of trade in poultry (from 500 birds a day) take place in Phnom Penh markets and along the borders with Thailand (Banteay Meanchey) and Viet Nam (Kampot, Takeo and Svay Rieng).

The study identified 64 per cent official and 36 per cent unofficial sellers (those who sell outside the market and are not paying market fees) who are mostly women. Many women are also involved in slaughtering of poultry while men are mostly engaged in trading. Unofficial sellers bring more live poultry in the market than official sellers. On average, a seller sells 22 slaughtered birds and 15 live birds a day. There are more unofficial sellers in Kampot, Svay Rieng, Kampong Chhnang and Battambang than in other provinces. On average, 91 per cent of sellers sell local chickens and 98 per cent local ducks. Only 7.5 per cent of these sellers separate chickens from ducks. The final results will be completed during the third week of May. A follow up study will be conducted in June to identify more important markets.

2. Country situation: Human Health

During week 19, the MOH hotline made 20 calls out and received 30 calls from Phnom Penh, Kampong Cham, Kampong Chhnang, Svay Rieng, Prey Veng, Kandal, Siem Reap, Banteay Meanchey, and Battambang provinces. 39 callers asked about signs and symptoms of avian influenza in humans and 11 calls involved animal health.

One human AI suspected case admitted to Hope hospital found last week but was negative for H5.

III. Upcoming Avian and Pandemic Influenza events in Cambodia

20 - 21 May	Step 4 supplementary workshops in Siem Reap Multi-Sectoral Pandemic Planning Process (pilot)
27 May	Monthly API Partnership meeting at UN conference room, 53 Pasteur Street (gate 1). 14.30-16.30
2 - 6 June	Step 5 workshops in Siem Reap Multi-Sectoral Pandemic Planning Process (pilot)
30 May	Videoconference on "Pandemic Influenza Preparedness: Partnerships and Continuity Planning for Critical Systems" organized by APEC Emerging Infections Network (EINet)

II. Recent Publications

1. ADB-AHI-NGO-RC/RC Project Quarterly Newsletter: 2nd Issue April 2008
<http://www.adpc.net/communityAHI-Asia/Default.asp>

III. International issues

Click these links for the latest updates of the global situation on Avian Influenza:

<http://www.un-influenza.org>

http://www.hewsworld.org/avian_flu/

<http://ochaonline.un.org/roap>

<http://www.influenza.undg.org>

<http://www.un-pic.org>

http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/en/index.html

<http://www.fao.org/ag/againfo/subjects/en/health/diseases-cards/special-avian.html>

<http://www.hpai-research.net>