



Bulletin on Avian Influenza in Cambodia

UN system in Cambodia

Update on the Avian Influenza Situation
(as of 29th August 2008)

Issue No. 166



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 21 to 28 August 2008, the animal health hotline at the National Veterinary Research Institute (NaVRI) received 11 calls from Phnom Penh, Prey Veng, Kampong Thom and Kampong Chhnang provinces asking information about avian influenza such as: What to do when one or two chickens are sick or die? What are the clinical signs of AI in poultry? What are the prevention measures for AI and other animal diseases?

During the week, NaVRI received 8 samples of different types of sparrows collected by the Wildlife Conservation Society from the Riverside and Wat Phnom resort in Phnom Penh. The laboratory tests are negative for HPAI virus through egg inoculation.

The training of Village Animal Health Workers and Village Chiefs on Avian Influenza control and prevention at the village level continued in Kampong Trabek and Mesang Districts of Prey Veng Province last week with around 300 participants. The training was conducted by FAO with support from USAID and Germany.

The Department of Animal Health and Production and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) conducted two market forums last week in Svay Rieng and Prey Veng. More than 90 poultry vendors, middlemen, butchers and market managers participated in these forums. Supported by USAID and Germany, the market forums are being held in major live bird markets to promote understanding of the importance of practicing biosecurity in the market to protect market traders' source of livelihood, and the health of themselves, their families and their customers from the threat of avian influenza. The forum is encouraging poultry traders to adopt the following behaviors: "Buy and sell only health poultry", "Always keep ducks and chickens separate on the farm, on transport and in the market", "Keep transport cages, egg boxes and

market stalls clean," "Wear gloves and mask when handling and slaughtering poultry," and "Always wash hands with soap and water after touching poultry."

Also last week, the Academy for Educational Development and FAO conducted focus group discussions with farmers in Prey Veng and Svay Rieng last week to pre-test 5 of the 6 posters for outbreak situations. The posters carry the following messages: "Do not slaughter and/or eat any birds from the outbreak village," "Do not move or sell any birds or eggs from the outbreak village," "Report and get assistance from your Village Animal Health Worker or Village Chief," "Keep your birds in cages at all times," Wear a mask or Krama and gloves or plastic bags at all times when handling birds." The results of the pre-test will be used to improve the picture illustrations and make them easily understood by the target audience.

2. Country situation: Human Health

From 22 to 28 August, the Ministry of Health hotline made 32 calls out and received 39 calls from Phnom Penh, Kampong Cham, Kampong Speu, Svay Rieng, Prey Veng, Banteay Meanchey, Kamport, Takeo, Battambang and Stung Treng provinces. 61 callers asked about signs and symptoms of avian influenza in humans and 10 callers asked about the animal health. The caller asked about signs and symptoms of suspected AI, clarified suspected AI patient and reported on sick/death poultry and referred to animal health department.

The AI human suspected pending last week was confirmed negative for H5.

There is no human AI suspected case this week.

II. Upcoming Avian and Pandemic Influenza events in Cambodia

29 August Market Forum on Avian Influenza in Svay Rieng organized by MAFF/FAO

9 September Monthly AHI Partnership meeting at UN conference room, 53 Pasteur Street (gate 1). 14.30-16:00

3 September Market Forum on Avian Influenza organized by MAFF/FAO in Kandal Province

5 September Market Forum on Avian Influenza organized by MAFF/FAO in Phnom Penh

01 -05 September and 08th-12 September, 2008: The Introduction of Veterinary Epidemiology Training Courses for District Veterinarians, organized by DAHP/NaVRI, USDA, CSU and AVEPM in Phnom Penh.

31 October-07 November, 2008: Avian Influenza Epidemiology Training Course, organized by DAHP/NaVRI, USDA, CSU and AVEPM in Sihanouk Ville.

III. Recent news/publications

1. Situation update as of 29 August for HPAI (by FAO) including summaries of confirmed HPAI outbreaks in affected countries (attached as PDF file).

IV. 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://ochaonline.un.org/roap/WhatWeDo/PandemicPreparedness/tabid/4304/Default.aspx>

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

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

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

<http://www.fao.org/avianflu/en/index.html>

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