

PEPPADEP
DARNDR - IICA

Projet d'Eradication de la Peste Porcine Africaine
et de Développement de l'Elevage Porcin en Haïti

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*10th Coordinating Committee Meeting
held at Peppadep-Delmas
14-16 Nov. 1983*

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The 10th Coordinating Committee Meeting, inaugurated at PEPPADEP Headquarters on Monday, November 14, 1983, was opened by Dr. Francis Mulhern who presided over the Session.

Dr. West, Sub-Director General of IICA, who was participating in the first day's work, was introduced to the assistance and in his speech, mentioned measures taken against the ASF virus when it erupted in Brasil, Cuba, and then the Dominican Republic. Specialists delegated in these areas were seriously studying the animal health problems and developed appropriate programs.

Haiti's program will serve as an example to solve the problems of other countries of the Hemisphere and help those countries progress; IICA has also learnt a lot from such a program. However, the slaughter phase is as important as the repopulation phase and, added Dr. West, we must use the sentinel pigs toward this end.

Dr. West added that he greatly appreciated the way the Haitian team conducted the operations under very difficult conditions to attain such success.

The Agenda was read by Dr. Mulhern, who invited the members of the Coordinating Committee to voice their opinions and inform upon the eventual participation of their governments into the Repopulation Program, as, he noted, we have a challenge to meet: the complete success of the Repopulation Phase.

The Secretary of State for Rural Development of MARNDR, Agr. Luckner St-Dic, announced in his speech the official end of PEPPADEP. He underlined, however the importance of Panamericanism which sacrificed its economy in order to prevent the spreading of the plague throughout the continent. He also pointed out the Haitian People's faith in its Government in accepting such a Project; both of them, the People and its Government, have held their promises and are both emeritus fighters. He also suggested that during this meeting, an evaluation of the Project activities be performed.

Dr. Mulhern approved the Secretary of State's declaration by saying: " I believe that donor countries must respect the Haitian people's contribution during the Eradication of the African Swine Fever".

Dr. Saul Wilson introduced the members of the US Delegation and agreed with the Sub-Director General's speech in regard to using the sentinel pigs for the Repopulation phase and seized the opportunity to offer its help to the PEPPADEP team.

Dr. Benjamin Jara also introduced the members of the Mexican Delegation and voiced its satisfaction on the success obtained by the People and the Government of Haiti in the eradication of the ASF and vividly praised the leading PEPPADEP team over the efforts made through the course of the Project. This is the proof of the willingness of the countries of the hemisphere to develop the Panamerican spirit.

Dr. Ross Reid from Canada congratulated all those who contributed to the success of the Project, but expressed his concern over the transfer of the sentinel pigs to the Repopulation Program and over the feral pigs hunting.

The Haiti FAO Director, Guy Chapon, declared on his part that " no disease knows any frontier and that he is conscious of the efforts which a program of such paramount importance must cost the Haitian people. The FAO has already contributed to the Project and still can bring its support to the Veterinary Services of Haiti".

The BID Representative, Mr. Erick Pierre, considered as an important step the systematic slaughtering operations leading to the eradication of ASF, although his Institution had not been directly involved in PEPPADEP activities and confessed that the people responsible for the Project had accomplished valuable work under difficult conditions.

Estimating that the BID contributions was becoming more and more important in the Repopulation program, and acknowledging the fact that other International organizations like FAO are giving their support, Dr. Francis Mulhern returning to the Agenda proposed that the USAID Program be inserted in it. He also noted that the Animal Health Program is not part of the USAID Project.

Dr. Jara availed himself of such opportunity and solicited that a documentary movie on the Mexican Family Nutrition Program be shown.

PEPPADEP Director General, Dr. Fred Calixte, presented the Project activity Report for the past quarter and ended by thanking the Sub-Director General of IICA, Dr. West, for being present, as well as the Representatives of Donor Countries for their financial and technical help to eradicate ASF in Haiti. He declared that these two years of painful experience (November 16, 1981- November 16, 1983) for the Haitian peasant showed nevertheless that there are in the world experts able to perform valuable deeds. The PEPPADEP General Director underlined his pride of having been able to realize something useful for his country thanks to his profession of Veterinary. He added that " we still have to hope that donor countries will continue to support the Haitian Government effort toward reaching the repopulation stage; the peasant is the only one interested by the Repopulation Project and is already abetted by certain problems. It remains for us to prove that we understood him, to reconstitute him his pig, since he had faith in us doing so. The PEPPADEP Director General hoped also that IICA continues to keep its promises, as problems are only starting for the Haitian persons in charge.

In his report, he mentioned the closing of the Information Division, the PEPPADEP contacts with the Repopulation Committee, the progressive transfer of the sentinel pigs while sentinelization operations are being ended in all the country. He announced measures to be taken concerning stopping the bar put on the importation of swine products, and the worries caused by the Haemophilus cases recorded in the next-to-last shipment of sentinel pigs.

The recommendations of the Haitian, Canadian, American delegates were observed; the recommendations of the Mexican delegation were not remitted to us. However, the Mexican delegate, Dr. Benjamin Jara objected that he had remitted them personally during the last meeting, which Dr. Alexander rightly confirmed.

Dr. Calixte enumerated the measures taken to reduce the salaries, as well as the personnel and the time spent at work, in order to eliminate the "undeterminate" pigs kept on the island of "La Tortue", this, after consulting with the Ministry

of Agriculture, Natural Ressources and Rural Development.

The periodic meeting of the Repopulation Committee have allowed, added the General Director, a flawless planification; however, control and quarantine teams were not formed. The Haitian/Dominican joint Commission which met regularly was unfortunately not able to attend the last Coordination Committee Meeting.

The diagnostic activities indicating the source, the number of positive virus cases in feral pigs have been used as criteria to establish PEPPADÉP's concern over totally eliminating all contamination foyers.

Addressing the media, Dr. Fred Calixte, recalled that ASF could reappear should necessary means to control importation by the technical officials of the Veterinary Services not be taken by the Government. He also did observe that the sentinel pig's role is to help uncover the eventual existence of the ASF, and the laboratory tests have quieted down the worries of most skeptics.

He announced the upcoming building of the Diagnosis Laboratory plant by the chosen firm and offered proof of the efficient control/surveillance operations by the amount of swine products seized in the different parts of the countries. The report on the clean-out operations presents the list of areas searched, the number of feral and domestic pigs found. The clean-out operation must continue during the Repopulation phase, as it was the case in the Dominican Republic.

The clean-out / disinfection operations have taken place in markets and other sites by the technical services which have expressed the desire to keep some equipment in order to prepare the Veterinary Service nucleus organization.

Leaving to the Administration the presentation of its report at a convenient time, PEPPADÉP General Director only pointed out that the 45% rate of personnel reduction is lowering the actual number of Project employees down to 138 members.

Coffee-Break.

The Session resumed at 11:04 am.

Dr. Alexander voiced his satisfaction over the decision of the Government to eliminate all the local pigs from the island of "La Tortue" and that he had no more doubts. The interest is now focused on the clean-out operation and he is waiting the Rural Police chiefs reports to have confirmation that on-the-field operations have ended. He hopes to obtain additional information from the supervisor, Major FAD'H Cydneus. Meanwhile, he invited the two technicians in attendance and responsible for the clean-out operations to provide data confirming the presence of semi-feral pigs at "Belle-Fontaine", Montagne Noire, and in the North, around "Cap-Haitien".

PEPPADEP Co-Director General, Dr. Alexander, confirmed the upcoming building of the Diagnostic Laboratory and announced the availability of an amount of \$400,000.- He thanked the people in charge of contract negotiation evaluation with the various construction firms and congratulated Dr. Gérard Bernard, Hamdy and Millien for the wonderful way the negotiations and proceedings were led.

Speaking of quarantine pigs, he revealed that 60 of same had shown signs of illness upon their arrival. They are Hampshire and Crossbred Hampshire. None of them was lost; however, the requirements set in the vendor contract were not adhered to. A final diagnosis was established to that effect; a tissue specimen was isolated and shipped to the Laboratory of Plum Island.

Only one case of death apparently resulting from lung rupture was recorded. However, the diagnosis revealed an Haemophilus case. Dr. R. Reid, an expert in this field, gave his opinion on the disease, and did not think that such a disease would result in slaughtering all those pigs, as such organism could be lying dormant in all pigs.

Nevertheless, all those pigs were put on quarantine; However, no mycoplasma was ever found in these animals. The Haitian government decision led to using those pigs in the sentinelization process while rejecting them for the repopulation phase. The last shipment of 275 pigs was sent immediately over to "Cayes" under the surveillance of the Technical Services and was led on the field in an efficient manner.

Mentionning the progress of the sentinelization phase, Dr. Alexander forecast that Region III and V, as well as "La Gonâve" would not end their operations before December 12, 1983, this including Region VI with 40 sites. The budget was then verified in order to find means and necessary personnel for a two-week extension and for the Administration to handle the resulting operations.

Despite budgetary restrictions, PEPPADEP is working in an exemplary manner, concluded Dr. Alexander, and the sentinelization program progresses toward the anticipated termination date.

The Georgia University Experts were invited to present their report.

One of them said that after five or six weeks of intense hunting north of Gonaives, 8 pigs were captured. The peasants had seen others, some traces discovered indicate that some others may still exist. Around Colmini, at "Croix des Bouquets" 25 pigs were hunted down. They noticed some pigs traces around Thomazeau but their number could not be determined; the field was difficult, and helicopters should be used. At "Belle-Fontaine, we sent a new team which cooperated with the Rural Police Chief, but we cannot yet be sure that feral pigs exist in that zone, moreover at "Bois Negèsse", where we were advised that feral pigs had crossed the border.

- A US delegate asked if those were feral pigs. The expert answered that they were feral pigs whose life expectancy was around 6 to 20 years. They are not domestic pigs, and we continue the search at "Belle-Fontaine".

- Agr. Eric Pierre, BID Representative asked: Were these pigs clearly marked? Because, some peasants usually mark their pigs which roam freely in the savana.

- The Georgia University Expert remarked concerning these pigs, that no distinctive marks allowing to clearly identify these animals were recorded.

- Agr. E. Pierre continued by saying that one of the BID concerns is the undefined number of domestic or semi-feral pigs which were not eliminated. An upcoming new slaughtering becomes possible, as one or some of these animals could have the ASF virus.

The BID concern is flagrant, and as long as the Haitian Government has not declared the country free of the ASF virus, no funds will be actually made available. How could such a risk be lessened in a national program, and the important question is to know whether the Georgia Experts will have the time to slaughter that insignificant amount of pigs ?

- The President of the Session, Dr. Francis Mulhern, assured that the Committee members would seriously study this matter before closing the meeting. Such a situation occurred in the Dominican Republic, and even though we find feral pigs, we cannot say that the disease was not eliminated. This Committee must review the matter and receive the opinion of the technical services in order to determine the attitude of PEPPADEP.

- The Georgia University Expert declared that the last positive cases were recorded on August 13 and 15, 1983, and that since then, all slaughtered pigs in that region, were registered as negative.

- Dr. Francis Mulhern reported that in a certain study the existence of some 10 pigs was mentioned and that people had concealed others. The publicity bestowed by such propaganda must strongly interest our Committee.

- Dr. Alexander asked how many feral pigs should be captured in order to be able to declare that ASF does not exist anymore.

- Dr. Mulhern agreed that if test on two 10-month old pigs are positive, it is evident that there has been a virus transfer in those pigs. From such evidences, all a series of hypothesis could be built up.

- The Georgia University Expert answered that these two pigs were from 6 to 8 months old and were of the same breed. They were captured by a Haitian hunter and the accounts on the event were not concurrent, the versions on the source of those pigs being different. At such point, Dr. Calixte intervened who made reference to the comments of the Laboratory Service and FAD'H Major Cydneus. However, he warned the Committee against false reports and propaganda spread by the opponents of the Haitian Government; he recommended that the problems be studied serenely and with much attention.

- Dr. G. Bernard, of the Laboratory, confirmed having found antibodies while searching for ASF in those so-called feral pigs but did not find the ASF virus. It could be said that such animals had been in contact with others suffering from the ASF virus.

- Dr. Mulhern recalled that the Laboratory always tried to realize the tests with the utmost seriousness. All tests were conducted at the Laboratory and all precautionary measures taken to guarantee the validity of the results. The hunting group could not offer any precise information on the identity of the captured pigs. If it concerns pigs living in far away zones, the remark of the Georgia University Expert must retain our attention and quiet us down at the same time. We do not need to worry on the avatars. Let us plant the problem and try to determine the starting period of the Repopulation phase.

- Agronomist Erick Pierre at this point breaks in and says:

" I believe it represents a normal concern of the BID knowing that there still exist free and feral pigs. However, the BID is planting the problem for the future of the Repopulation phase. The kind of domestic pigs which have escaped systematic slaughtering is most worrying to us. The declaration of the country being free of ASF is a responsibility of the Government and it is only after that, that we may be able to think about the above.

- Dr. Fred A. Calixte reminded the participants that the information to be obtained from Major Cydneus will be very useful, and that as far as the present was concerned, the Co-Director of Operations, Dr. Guy Meilleur will be able to provide first hand data. He availed himself of the opportunity to add that the comb-out operation would allow to detect the sites where pigs had been concealed and eliminate any pig which would endanger the future of the Repopulation phase. Only such modus operandi should be of interest to us.

- Dr. Benjamin Jara from Mexico estimates that the Committee must refer to the facts and eliminate all speculations. The program is going well, the slaughtering is finished, the sentinelization is progressing toward its end, and the Committee needs information on the risk to be taken by the team of experts from Georgia University in order to reach a decision based on the real facts.

- Dr. Saul Wilson from USA agrees that at the beginning it was not the intention to eliminate all feral pigs and that only if the virus was detected on these pigs, then the epidemiologist would have to perform a spectacular hunting. However, it would be good to continue our search on the pigs before the end of Phase I, which must reinforce our conscience on the fact that the virus does not exist in these pigs.

- Another member of the American delegation concluded that if the reports from chief of section and from the Georgia Experts do not reveal an important number of pigs, the country can be declared free of the ASF virus; but, if the contrary is proved, the feral pigs hunting should be continued.

- A third member of the US delegation confirmed this position by saying that the reports from the chiefs of section would be arriving the day after, and that if the studies from the Georgia experts did not contain valuable clues justifying that the hunting be continued, the country can be declared free of the ASF.

- Dr. Francis Mulhern asked the Georgia experts to pinpoint the incidences of such hunt on the number of feral pigs and on the probable sites where they could be found in Haiti.

- The Georgia Expert acknowledged that he was not able to determine the exact number of feral pigs near Thomazeau and that reports coming from Belle-Fontaine and the South-East did not reveal any alarming sign. He hoped that the current efforts made in the suspect zones could be continued. The spreading rumors only point out facts which must be verified.

Dr. Mulhern added that they should wait for the chiefs of section reports, and asked the following question:

"Is that true that the people cooperated into capturing the pigs with the Georgia team ?

The answer was affirmative, and Dr. Meilleur declared that the amount of prize monthly awarded to the chiefs of section totalled \$100.00; the Georgia team give other people awards going from \$10 to \$50.00.

- Dr. Max Millien estimated that the reward granted to the other people is derisive compared to the risk to which those people are exposed while hunting feral pigs. He recommended an increase up to \$80.00, as the stake is high and that it is upon fulfilling this condition that the full and entire cooperation of the peasants will be obtained.

-Dr. Alexander objected that by acting this way, they would reward all of those who had not abided by the Project requirements, and also those who had opposed it. The amount of the reward should not be higher than the amount awarded as compensation for slaughtering. He declared that he was satisfied of the efficiency of the chiefs of section who have realized an impressive work. However, it is very difficult to classify all pigs under the label "feral". The problem is to locate the hiding place of those pigs; but the kind of field they are exploring is very difficult.

- The President of the Session, Dr. F. Mulhern, did not abide by the proposal of the Co-Director, Dr. Alexander. He agreed favorably for the elimination of all feral pigs so as not to stop the progress of the project. The objective is clear and precise, he added; we must not consider any emotional approach, and capture all pigs. If nobody is able to capture a pig, the money will stay unused and the objectives could be accomplished in a temporary stage. Consequently, the amount of the reward should be increased in order to reach conclusive results.

- The USA delegate, wishes to see the Committee come to a conclusion according to the reports of chiefs of section and the efforts of the Georgia team. We have already spent 19 millions, he continued, and we do not think that we are failing to perform our task by spending some millions of dollars more for some weeks.

- Dr. Saul Wilson, who presided the US delegation, wanted to set the difference between domestic pigs and feral pigs. The purpose of the sentineli- zation being the contact of sentinel pigs with other pigs, the technical services must continue with their activities toward such purpose.

The Delegate from Canada, seems to believe that the area of Lapierre and Colmini is the hiding place of feral pigs.

- The Georgia Expert did not confirm this declaration to the full extent, as, he said, only some 20 pigs were expected to be found in such area. However, only 7 were captured among which 6 were sampled as adult and negative.

- Dr. Mulhern concluded that if the Chief of Rural Police declare that there is no more pigs, the country must be declared free of ASF after the results of the Georgia team studies.

- At such point, Dr. Calixte intervened, and solicited the approval of the Committee to give a televised interview on November 16 (Wednesday), at 9:00 am on "Television Nationale d'Haiti".

- Dr. Alexander asked Dr. Calixte to explain to each member of the Coordinating Committee the reasons behind this interview and promised, on behalf of the Committee attend such televised session if it takes place on said time.

Dinner Break

The Session is resumed at 2:00 pm.

Upon resuming the Session, Dr. G. Meilleur explained that the sentinelization will not terminate before the end of December. He mentioned the origin of the pigs, their number, the reception centers and the date upon which each arrival was placed. He spoke of the progressive transfer of responsibilities in each region to the Haitian Government until the end of the sentinelization operations. The international veterinarians continue their supervision of region five operations after departure of Dr. Amelingmeier.

While recalling the BID Representative concern over capturing all feral pigs, there remains the question to determine who will be in charge of sentinel pigs until the end of sentinelization operations.

- The reply was provided by Dr. Calixte, PEPPADEP General Director,

who will request that MARNDR take charge of the sentinel pigs all the while operations are being ended in each region. Nevertheless, The ministry pretends that the sentinel pigs were abandoned by PEPPADEP; we know however that those pigs need constant care, and that a negative result can be obtained if we entrust those pigs to the peasants in such unsafe conditions. This is the reason why vehicles were loaned to Damien to help the new Repopulation team into taking in charge the sentinel pigs.

- An American Delegate asked the Project Director if all the sentinel pigs old enough to farrow at the moment, have undergone such.

- Dr. Calixte answered negatively.

- Dr. Mulhern assumed that the criterias established by the technical services have been respected and approached the sentinelization evaluation, which must be used as the basis to declare the country free of ASF.

- Dr. Meilleur said that despite the reduction of personnel which caused certain laxity, the majority of our pigs were well cared for. A certain lack of water occurred in some regions, however, the foreign pigs have adapted well until now to local conditions; They have somewhat lost weight, but they are in healthy conditions. We had however, logistic problems which belated activities; however, we were able to overcome those difficulties, and have controlled the general situation. Therefore, we will be able to terminate the sentinelization on December 15, 1983.

- Dr. Mulhern returns to the matter of declaring the country free from ASF, which depends of the clean-out operations. What should be the Committee's position concerning this matter?

- Dr. Meilleur observed that concerning the hidden pigs the clean-out program progressed normally with the chiefs of section, who have our full confidence. It has been reported that to hold on to their position, they must fulfill their tasks with competence, and celerity; However, we have noticed that they have been very honest. They always want to verify all the numbers before giving their opinion. We have already captured 341 pigs. This constitutes for us a big success and constitutes a relatively honest figure; It would

be too early to declare the country free of ASF before the end of January 1984. The Veterinary Service must be responsible of such task on behalf of PEPPADEP which close definitely on December 15, 1983. Therefore, a competent team must be formed.

- Dr. Fred A. Calixte continued by saying that there is no reason to rush since it was decided that such declaration be made in February 1984. An observation period is required; IICA must play its part in the transition phase and must not leave this meeting; It must establish adequate and increased surveillance.

- Dr. Calixte recalled his various proceedings to the General Supervisor of the Militia to request that the militia troops be adjoined to the Chiefs of Section for the clean-out operation and mentioned MARNDR communiqués on importation of swine meat and other pigs products. He said that he did not forget the answers of Dr. Ross as well as those of the suppliers on the Haemophilus cases.

- Dr. Mulhern did not record any reactions after PEPPADEP General Director intervention, and added that the committee is concerned by the feral pigs and that upon the end of next month, he will be able to make a decision. But, the General Director requested that IICA develops a similar operation in order to help the country to eradicate the virus. The Committee will therefore have to consider the possibility of the reappearance of the disease by the contacts between feral and domestic pigs. What do you think ?

- The delegate of Canada, proposed an emergency plan in order to prevent such occurrence.

- Dr. Calixte declared that the Technical Services have already set the basis of a quick intervention and we must discuss and consider the possibility of establishing eventual preventive measures. Now, all past efforts must be guaranteed and the means to declare the country free of ASF found. Important quantities of swine meat coming from Canada and other countries were seized.

- Dr. Mulhern thought that the Technical Services had already prepared such a document.

- Dr. Benedicto Negrón declared that he had already transmitted such document to Dr. Toussaint to be translated. Some modifications must be made so the final document be ready.

- Will there be enough time for us to receive this document so we may discuss it tomorrow? asked Dr. Mulhern.

- Dr. Alexander pointed out that this matter is part of the Agenda. The emergency plan will be discussed on a basis level and some field exercises not too sophisticated will be set up to establish those possibilities of intervention. This would constitute the basis of development of the action which the Joint Haitian/Dominican Commission would be designated to accomplish.

- Dr. Toussaint declared that we have prepared this document which should be studied more extensively by the competent services. Costs will not be adjusted before acceptance of the plan which comprises 4 points.

The animal quarantine, and the surveillance constitute a prophylaxy or a preventive measure.

The third and fourth constitutes a preventive action.

The structures put into place by PEPPADEP deserve to be standardized for other more functional actions. We already established the list of necessary material to be kept for Quarantine.

The surveillance of the territory should be performed in ports, airports and borders.

- A communiqué from the Ministry of Commerce established a new procedure by which the merchandises be carried via air and sea, while awaiting for more functional customs measures at the Haitian/Dominican border to be established.

On the other hand, since quarantine will be both animal and vegetal, it will provide a a very large view on surveillance. There is inside the territory a grouping of agricultural districts: 10 instead of 20 districts, without, however, disturb the crossing system adopted by the Ministry of Planification in his organization of National Regionalisation.

A permanent Committee will comprise the Head of Ministries; another will comprise the heads of interested Services; a third will be constituted by heads of the Veterinary Service and the Breeding section. The organization chart defines the attributions and duties of each sector: A guide prepared in case any disease should appear on the national territory was also elaborated and it was also suggested a communication program between the different levels in case of emergency.

- Dr. Mulhern would like to know whether those proposals were part of the request submitted to BID.
- Dr. Toussaint said that the document was not yet transmitted to the BID administrators, but that a copy had been sent to the Repopulation Director.
- Dr. G. Bernard thought that we were entering at full stride into Animal Health and that those proposals should be part of the request to be submitted on the Animal Health Services structure.
- Dr. Mulhern avails himself of the intervention of Dr. G. Bernard, FAO Representative to present a request for information of activities which will be led by his institution.
- Dr. G. Bernard confirms that if the requested funding is accepted, FAO will be able to offer its help to the Veterinary Services.
- Dr. Mulhern reacted by asking another question concerning what will happen in January and what will be the possibility of FAO intervening in case of emergency ?
- Dr. Toussaint intervened to say that he had worked with BID Representative who are ready to finance part of the program, excluding the personnel.
- Dr. G. Bernard continued by confirming that as of next year, FAO will help forming and train Veterinarian personnel and participate in Serological and epidemiological surveys.
- Dr. Calixte invited the President of the Committee to seriate the problems and plan an immediate action as well as future actions. The material with which the project was started is damaged; however, projects must be submitted to FAO. Was something planned at Repopulation level toward such end? He asked Dr. Toussaint who worked with the Repopulation team some informations to that respect.

- Dr. Meilleur rephrase the question as such : If I understand well your question, within three to four weeks, the Project will end. The pigs are on the field and are in need of caring. What are the forecast actions and what dispositions taken ? However, when the Veterinary Service Laboratory personnel received their advance notice valid until November 30. Most of them were on MARNDR Budget and their salary will be reduced with the end of the Project. Could we request from them an efficient service with such a reduced salary?

The second category has been fired and will be out of work. Marndr however, is not able to offer higher salary. It is therefore, a disquieting situation at the Laboratory.

- Dr. Mulhern estimate that the presence of feral pigs reinforces the necessity to maintain a surveillance nucleus until 1984. What can be done after January 1984 must be evaluated, since BID funding will not be available until the summer of 1984.

We must therefore try to have a participation into the interim phase. What will be the contributions of the donor countries toward such end ?

- The US Delegate promises to ask the US Ministry in which terms can help be set up to fight an epidemy.

- Le Dr. Hamdy who participated into the elaboration of the emergency plan, said everything was consigned with reference to the proposals. With reference to Repopulation, the interim progra, it is the responsibility of the Haitian Government to forecast adequate measures.

- A participant declared that USAID arrangements do not concern Animal Health.

- The USA Delegate believe that the document he had on hand does not contain the discussed proposals.

- Dr. Toussaint face the Committee with two problems:

- 1.- The Project is closing its doors and the pigs are going to be abandoned; to the peasants. No high level technicians; no middle level technicians. Discussions are being held to re-hire those technicians. We count on

on the vehicles which will be left by the Project, added he, and we have started studying our approaches.

- Dr. Mulhern recognize that a minimal participation must be reached in order to help to face emergency situations before obtaining BID funding. We must have, he said, some brigades perfectly knowing the country and able to counter any eventual epidemy. I therefore propose that we have a certain plan of preparation.

- Dr. Hamdy confirms that all had been anticipated and all these concerns are also covered.

- Dr. Mulhern would like to know if the Haitian Government is ready to give a contribution toward solving this problem and how the MARNDR will react in such event ?

- Dr. Calixte announces the appointment of some new veterinarians by the Haitian Government. It constitutes a first step, and if the Government has no available and adequate funding, the importance of the efforts made cannot be denied. BID knows that a MARNDR financing cannot be counted upon. That's the reason why the financial support of USAID has been requested. I can commit myself "a priori" said Dr. Calixte, but the encounter with the MARNDR leaders will determine the promises.

- Dr. Alexander thinks that the entire Committee must recognize the need for a interim program having as basis the MARNDR personnel. Drs. Calixte, Toussaint and Millien can be met in order to find a suitable and satisfactory proposal.

The Session is resumed in the afternoon to hear the BID Representative.

Agronomist Erick Pierre from BID explains:

BID is going to finance the Repopulation and Sanitary Surveillance programs in order to embetter the economic condition of the small peasant, by establishing nucleus of swine reproductors and sell them at an accessible price.

The analysis Mission worked for 15 days on the Project documents and on November 18, the results of such mission will be remitted to the Executive Council of BID for the necessary follow-up and according to the required norms of each party concerned.

One of the primary requisites to the first disbursement of fund will be the declaration that the country is free from ASF. Others, such as the forming of the committee will be required. The amount of such program will reach about 20 millions which can be reimbursed in 40 years.

The local counterpart will be provided by the Haitian Government. The structure of the Project is as indicated by Agr. Ligondé 2 reproduction centers, 4 multiplication centers and 9 demonstration centers. The project will involve 20 agricultural districts. Slaughter houses will be build on the site of big rural market of the country. Despite the delays witnessed, things have gone quickly enough and we hope that in the month of June and July 1984, everything will be ready. The Project duration will probably be of 6 years.

- The Mexican delegation would like to know much more on the sanitary surveillance.
- Agronomist E. Pierre underlined that cases of outbreak of ASF or appearance of other eventual diseases have been anticipated so as to guarantee Animal Health.
- Dr. Mulhern would like to know whether scholarships have been planned for haitian veterinarians; Confirmation of such was given by BID Representative.
- Dr. Calixte wanted also to know whether a MARNDR request concerning the formation of Veterinary doctors for a 6 year period would be well accepted by the BID.
- Agr. E. Pierre pointed out that it is rather a matter of punctual training.
- The Mexican delegation insist on the need to reinforce the vigilance, the control and the incineration of garbage so as to guarantee animal health.
- The Agronomist explains that such point is included and that the documents will be submitted to the appreciation of MARNDR before signature of contract.
- Agronomist Ligondé, from the Breeding Service, underlined that the Scholarship project for Veterinary doctors is very important and that discussions have started with international organizations in order to appoint a veterinary doctor to each geographical department.

Other requests have been presented so as to cover our four (4) principal regions with veterinary doctors at a first stage.

- Dr. Mulhern followed with interest the BID program and think that the datas provided by the interim program from the parameters of production will be of some use to this Bank. He promises to put such datas to BID disposal.

- A US Delegate desired to know the policy followed by the Haitian Government as to the invitation of people interested to the Repopulation.

- Agr. Ligondé answered that the Government want to establish a control control of all initiative coming from private individuals desiring to undertake breeding, and this, according the legal norms.

- The Haitian Government Representative, Agronome André Jean-Louis, supported the Exposé and declaration of Agronomist Ligondé; then made it known that the principal mission of MARNDR is the production and this Ministry is solely responsible of control. The two available banking institutions are IDAI and BCA which are at the disposal of possible breeders.

- The US Delegate intervned to underline the importance of this control to avoid problems caused by importation of pigs by private enterprises.

- Agr. E. Pierre from BID said that the small breeder will receive a set of pigs inasmuch he is part of an association within the boundaries of IDAI which just receive a substantial loan covering this type of activities.

- Dr. Mulhern returns to the point of the Agenda after having talked about eradication, interim and loan from BID being materialized. He invited the Project Administration to supply its report.

-Ms. Susanna Dancourt underlined that the Project already spent \$932.000.; a sufficient balance is available to end the operations on December 1983. Salaries of retained personnel will be paid with the Project available funds. Administratives will be extended and a small number of Personnel will remain on it in order to adhere to our restrictions. Available funds amounting to \$231.120.00 will cover the salaries the Administration took all necessary measures in order to end the Project on December 15. Heads of Services were already advised to store the files in boxes and the Administration is already on the verge of transferring the material as soon as the request is made.

- The US Delegate congratulated the Administrator for such an exact and pointly report, the first of its kind to be presented to the Committee.

- Dr. Calixte officially announced Mrs. Claude Nemorin's resignation from PEPPADEP co-Administrator position, and added that Mrs. Susana Dancourt will continue to assure the strict surveillance of the budget.

- The President of the Session asked what will become of the Laboratory after December 15.

- Dr. Calixte informed that the building should be freed on December 15; however, we must continue working until December 30. The Repopulation Direction had already requested the Lab. employee list for taking them in charge.

- Agronomist Arnoux thinks that the Repopulation Director will submit his request to the breeding Division for necessary follow-up.

- Dr. Bernard underlined the situation of two female veterinary technicians integrated into Damien and also mentioned orders already placed.

SECOND DAY

The Session is resumed at 8:30 am.

The Laboratory Director asks the exact starting date of the interim period which has already begun according to Dr. Mulhern; he thought that there would be a preliminary stage to this interim phase.

- Dr. Mulhern informed that there had no planned funds for animal health. There is a reproduction center available, and bids have already been made; no projects on animal health have been elaborated.

- Dr. Alexander said that the reports mention such considerations, but that a concrete proposal should be presented; however, he would like to know the terms and conditions of the National counterpart participation.

- The delegate for USA asks if there is any representative from this interim project attending the Committee's meeting.

The matter is under study and Dr. Toussaint voiced the uneasiness prevailing under such situation. The interim program has been set up without the participation of the Haitian veterinarians. The Veterinary Service was not consulted and a whole series of measures were considered without the concerned Veterinary Service.

- Dr. Calixte expressed the desire to be informed by Dr. G. Bernard of FAO on the situation.

Coffee Break

Resuming of Session with Agr. Ligondé.

Upon resuming the Session, the President invited Agr. Ligondé to provide information on the Repopulation Direction:

A whole series of measures were taken which entail the creation of the Repopulation Direction; they are:

- 1- The taking in charge of sentinel pigs;
- 2- The interim phase;
- 3- The BID Project
- 4- This Direction is responsible for the sentinelization follow-up with the same peasant -hosts who have been grouped into associations.

The appointment of agronomist who will take the sentinel pigs in charge.

This Direction solicits from PEPPADEP logistic means (jeep etc...) and a certain amount is made available for such responsibility. Everything is ready at the moment and using BCA credit is considered. A post-eradication program is covered by the Animal Health program financed by the Haitian, or another integrated organism.

As to the interim Project, it is signed by IICA and USAID. It consists in the placement at Tamarinier and Hampco farms a lot of 450 pigs which will be later sent to the multiplication centers, and then distributed to the peasants. IICA is handling the management of the Project and the technical aspects are handled by the Haitian Government.

As to the BID Project, the analysis mission worked on the matter and within 6 months positive results will come out. The Repopulation Project is a project of the MARNDR Breeding Direction. The Development of swine breeding is an activity of breeding production of this Direction. This project will depend from it while having an administrative autonomy and will take its directives from this Direction which in turn reports to MARNDR.

The purpose of this Project is to increase swine productivity and reinforce the economy of the small peasant; its objectives are clear.

1. Reinforced structure of the Ministry;
2. Support from concerned organizations;
3. Control of private concerns.

The actions will be supported by research, commercialization, etc...

The project has 2 production centers, with 232 sows each, one located at Tamarinier, the other at HAMPCO; 4 multiplication centers and many demonstration centers with the participation of non-profit organizations, religious and peasant associations.

Inexpensive feeding stations will be available to the breeders, and IDAI will offer easy ways to a credit system. An action plan will be started by the Veterinary Service and an initiation to marketing of veterinary products will be undertaken.

- The President of the Session opened the discussions on Agr. Ligondé's exposé and voiced the willingness of the Committee to help the Haitian Government; but PEPPADEP is soon closing its doors.

- Agr. Ligondé agreed that certain circumstances had prevented the immediate taking in charge of sentinel pigs, as reports reach us stating the bad care inflicted upon those pigs by PEPPADEP. But MARNDR has already made available to the Repopulation Direction a certain amount so as to realize the correct handling of those pigs.

- A US Delegate thought that Agr. Ligondé was talking of the unhealthy condition of the pigs, and requested an explanation.

- Agr. Ligondé invited Agr. Arnoux to provide explanations on the bad treatment inflicted to the pigs, and their health condition.

- Agr. Arnoux explained that he had visited the North sites and noted that those sites were organized according to the directives received. However, the specifications provided by PEPPADEP do not adhere to MARNDR recommendations.

Despite the good will of the peasants, the sanitary condition of certain sites leaves much to be desired; the sites control is neglected; the pigs being in full growing period, supplementary feeding was necessary; however, the people responsible for the sites spent sometimes 15 to 21 days without receiving any feeding from PEPPADEP.

- The US Delegate recalled that during the 2 last meetings, the sentinel pigs had to be crossbred, and that no request for funds was made. The pigs have gone beyond the crossing period, which reduced production output. The objective of sentinelization has been deviated from its course, and he expects to hear that they have finally started the crossbreeding.

- Dr. Mulhern promises to catch up with the delay.

- Dr. Mulhern insists on the need to have a well planned Animal Health Unit which will help the Repopulation Program. He asked the PEPPADEP Direction to study the situation with the Ministry of Agriculture in order to know to what extent cooperation will be possible.

-Dr. Alexander proposed that the nationals discuss the matter with the Ministry.

- Dr. Mulhern would be happy to obtain these reports so as to kindle the interest of donor countries to extend any help. He is willing to know the available means of the Haitian Government so that the delegates may inform their respective government.

- A US Delegate request an exact date to start crossbreeding of sentinel pigs, but Agr. Ligondé answers that MARNDR has not yet taken the eventual dispositions.

- A Representative of the Canadian Swine Producers observed that production output of a pig constitutes a problem as of 250 Lbs; the sentinel pigs have already gone beyond the required weight and height.

The Interim program has 3 levels:

Production centers;

Distribution of offspring to multiplication centers, and,

Distribution of pigs to associated group of farmers.

The program also forecast training for farmers, and sets the conditions of feeding provisions, as well as assistance in farmer training. The project must reach a certain number of pigs so as to fill the needs and will last 24 months. The responsible people are aware of the problems and difficulties awaiting us; however, they will try to solve them.

- The IICA Representative informs that the sows will be crossbred Hampshire and the boars are Duroc and Hampshire. Their color is black, which is most preferred in Haiti, but the Duroc are more resistant.

- The Canadian Delegate requires data on the age and height of the pigs which will be used.

- IICA representative answers : 3 to 5 months to be closer to reproduction period.

- BID Representative objects that pigs will be brought to Haiti before the declaration is made.

- IICA Representative agrees that the declaration can be possibly made in December but that a delay may be granted in case no declaration has been made.

- USAID Representative did not correct anterior exposes, however he pointed out the delay in the project execution.

Several bids have been received and IICA/Washington is studying them. Several American Congressman are waiting to approve the Project, and speed is a necessary objective in that case.

- Dr. Mulhern points out that IICA Office in Washington is interested in USAID activities, but that Haiti Repopulation will not be accomplished with 500 pigs. He appreciates, however, USAID efforts, even though the project suffers from some limitations.

- The American Delegate shares USAID satisfaction of participating into the project and the Haitian Delegate underlines that the Agreement to the Interim Phase Project is tripartite : IICA/USAID/GOH.

Lunch Brank.

The Session resumes at 4:30 pm.

- Dr. G. Bernard underlines that human and material structure of the premises are under way. Proposals are being studied and are progressing well. The transfer of Laboratory International Personnel is forecast, but not the transfer of the Haitian personnel. Recycling training for samples preparation and serologic and epidemiologic campaigns are also forecast for 1984, as well as more other ambitious stages.

- Dr. Simons added that the Veterinary Service is not well structured: some disease exist in the country and we are trying, he said, to formulate an adequate policy for the government, which can be used for:

Deciding what must be done, and,
Lay the basis of a veterinary service, and then,
Look for necessary funding.

We will not have the possibility to take with us the adequate personnel to train other personnel.

- Concerning previous bids, and discussions, a decision has been made, answered Dr. Mulhern, to build the Laboratory with \$400.000.- The Lab. will be built with such funds which are available at the US Ministry of Agriculture since last week.

- Dr. Saul Wilson added that he had talked to Dr. Goff, who indicated the Laboratory cost of \$400.000 had been accepted.

- Dr. Mulhern, the President of the Session, seized the opportunity to congratulate Dr. Millien, the Laboratory Director, who was jubilant after having fought so much to obtain the Laboratory upon which rests the future of the national livestock.

- The US Delegate press things on by saying that he has a draft and that within some weeks, work could start; but Dr. Hamdy forecast the contract signature to take place before end of December.

- Then intervenes IICA General Sub-Director, Dr. West, who is authorized to immediately disburse the funds if the documents are ready; however, Dr. Saul Wilson suggests that the Ministry of Agriculture be previously advised.

- Dr. Millien promises to see it with MARNDR to speed the process on while appreciating the speed with which IICA General Sub-Director wishes to solve the problem.

A telex was sent to know the official position of the US Ministry and Dr. Mulhern expresses the wish to have such decision during the course of the meeting.

- A US Delegate would like to assess the possible contributions of the Haitian Government.

- Dr. Millien points out that the Veterinarians are not able to reveal to what extent MARNDR can contribute, and Dr. Calixte is sorry that the Repopulation Director be absent from that meeting.

- Dr. Millien goes on saying that the success of any project lays in the the motivation and sensibilization of the personnel. International organisms always provide material and neglect salaries of personnel. However, the situation at the laboratory is very critical. On the other hand, he commits himself to hand over to MARNDR the list of personnel to be hired, despite such flagrant uncertainty.

- Dr. Calixte asks Dr. Saul Wilson to use some muscle on the US side in order to obtain the Veterinary Personnel structuration.

- Dr. Mulhern clear these points which have been discussed during Dr. Wilson absence for sometime in the morning; so as to enable him to provide an answer.

- Dr. S. Wilson says that Dr. West has already defined the US Delegation position, and that he has no objections.

- Dr. Millien returns to the matter by asking to establish the line of construction of the laboratory and the possibility of having the available small laboratory facing an eventual epidemy, if MARNDR cannot offer salaries proportionate to the work required from a personnel which must provide an efficient job.

Too much talk has been done on construction while 2 requests still remain pending.

One concerns the equipment, and the other, the Laboratory organization along with the high and middle level personnel program.

Once the availability of funds is ascertained, the ball will be rolling in FAO's camp and this organization must favorably answer. However, Dr. Mulhern expresses the desire that once the Laboratory is rebuilt, an adequate personnel will staff it.

- Dr. G. Bernard, at his turn, informs the attendants of the meeting on the following:

Funding is available for 1984, and he hopes that before the end of this meeting he will be able to introduce a FAO representative for more information. Financing was presented in Rome, and the national side must commit itself to train personnel.

- Dr. Saul Wilson asked Dr. Calixte to say what should be said on both counts, so that there would be no discussion. Veterinarians need must be defined. Have 2000 pigs in the country and no competent technicians. We must he said, see clearly before intervening.

- Dr. Mulhern thinks that options must be presented and wanted to know to what extent the delegates would be able to contribute.

- A US Delegate found that the aspect of such matter is very important and would like to know what the Haitian Government will contribute.

- Dr. Saul Wilson returns to the matter of declaring the country free of ASF and thinks that the recognition that a country is free of any disease must be done upon the recommendations of a biologist who will verify such declaration and only when other countries have, in turn accepted such recognition- as each country has its own rules on the matter.- That is the reason why I recognize the need to have a laboratory.

- The US Delegate hopes that the investigations and studies of the Georgia Team on the declaration matter will continue. Meanwhile a survey is therefore necessary before proceeding with same.

- Dr. Mulhern suggests that the Haitian Government requests information from the Committee selected by IICA toward such end, and each country will provide their observations. However, the last decision making will belong to the Haitian Government and we are studying all the reports on feral pigs so as to submit the necessary recommendations.

- The Canadian Delegate appreciates the efforts made to capture all feral pigs; if all of them cannot be captured, the Georgia University team recommendations should have to be followed before any declaration can be made. Importations must adhere to the lines of the imperatives of these dispositions.

- Dr. Mulhern objects that the Dominican Republic had not waited too long to make such declaration and did it after having ascertained that the captured feral pigs were tested negatively.

- Dr. Saul Wilson revealed that 300.000 pigs currently exist in the Dominican Republic and that slaughtering has ended since 1981.

- Dr. Mulhern requests necessary time to study the matter and decide, while Dr. S. Wilson recognizes that the Dominican Republic had proceeded in another manner. The Port au Prince area is not yet sentinelized; you will not be able to declare that the country is free of ASF.

- The President of the Session submit the proposition of the US Delegation to discussion.

- The Canadian Delegate wants to know if sentinel pigs can be placed in the zone where feral pigs were traced. He suggests that tests be realized with the sentinel pigs of that region to attract feral pigs.

- The American Delegate asks that the matter be studied and thought over and discussed again the day after. He proposes however, that other reports be verified before any declaration can be made.

The Session included the showing of the documentary movie on the Mexican Family Nutrition Program, which was very interesting, and the participants viewed the projection during 30 minutes.

Immediately after the agenda was resumed and the date of Joint Haitian/Dominican Commission meeting was under consideration. Such meeting would take place in January in order to set up a surveillance system for the two countries. However, there is a financial problem concerning the Haitians travel. The dominican veterinarians will stay until the end of November and it would be better if the meeting could take place at the end of December. The President of the Session requests the opinions and suggestions of the Committee to organize such meeting.

- The Canadian Delegate would like that the Joint Haitian/Dominican Commission continue to function to the interest of the entire island.

- The US Delegate agrees with the Canadian proposal for an extension of the Committee's functions over a period of 2 years.

- Dr. G. Bernard promises on behalf of FAO to take over the expenditures of the Delegates in December 83 and January 84.

- Agr. M. A. Ligondé, head of the Breeding Service of MARNDR is in favor of maintaining the joint commission.

- The Mexican Delegation ratifies the canadian proposal and Dr. Guy Meilleur comes back to the financial problem after the unanimous decision of maintaining the commission alive.

- The President of the Session obtains from Dr. B. Negrón information on the facts in the Dominican Republic.

- Dr. Negrón says the problem of feral pigs had not been too much discussed; domestic pigs totalling 100 have been found and killed. The feral pigs population at the border is much reduced and the results of the tests performed on the killed pigs along the border have been negative.

- Dr. Calixte then, asked the Haitian Delegation to define its position on the matter of the declaration that the country is free of ASF.

Coffee Break

The Session resumes at 1:30.-

- Dr. West, who must leave for Washington gives his last recommendations. He says that there is sufficient material to proceed with the Repopulation and the major part will be kept at IICA to reinforce its structure. He has examined the numerous preoccupations brought by the end of the Project; he promises to do his best within the PL to find the necessary funding in order to face the problems. He recommends to discuss with the Lab. contractor before signing any contract.

- Dr. Bernard is happy to learn that the contract is going to be signed. FAO promises to contribute with part of the equipment, but that the United Nations Fund will handle the question of material. Within 3 years, the Lab. will be operative with no outside help, and he also has a follow-up project.

- Dr. Alexander recognizes that field of thoughts concerning the setting up of a system of Animal Health has been widened. From different requests, efforts will be made to provide a technician, and veterinarian expert able to handle the various laboratory operations:

A technical assistance will be granted for the clean-out operation, surveillance and feral pigs hunting. Vaccination program and others will benefit from the services of these technicians.

The other donor countries will send technicians to help Haitian Government.

- Dr. Bernard thinks that this is a duplication.

- Dr. Alexander thinks that the FAO Project was not early.

- Dr. G. Bernard declares that the equipment funds will be available in 1984 and 1985. FAO is ready to propose an assistance in products, training and then in research in serology and epidemiology.

- Dr. Alexander thought that FAO was going to try to find financial help which was not yet available, as " our Project is to try to implant staff at the early stages.

- Dr. Bernard agrees that if we can find funds to finance the building of the new Laboratory, FAO will soon use them for emergency actions as well as of transition. These emergency actions will occur in 1984: Technical assistance to the Laboratory, products, and veterinary structuration.

- Dr. Millien is willing to know what has been proposed by FAO in a specific way, and if there will be an extension in 1984.

- Dr. G. Bernard confirms those facts.

- Dr. Mulhern asks the question again : "What will happen on December 16 at the Laboratory ?

- Dr. Bernard declares that the budget of FAO covers January 84 and that a budget proposal is under way for the new FISCAL YEAR January 84-January 85.

- The US Delegate asks if the expert mentioned by Dr. Alexander will be a technician versed in ASF.

- Dr. G. Bernard repeat that all this will be insured only if we obtain funding.

- Dr. Mulhern proposes that the document distributed by PEPPADEP Co-Director General be analyzed.

- Dr. Alexander understood that the FAO Representative did not think of fulfilling in the near future all the needs in animal protection field.

- Dr. Francis Mulhern approaches the matter of the Project ending.

- Dr. Alexander proposes to set up a procedure consisting of gradually transferring the material.

- The US Delegate declares that he is confused over his inability to be sure of what will happen after December 15, 1983.

Dr. Mulhern asked the Donor Countries if there has been any help proposal, or a form of participation to the Repopulation Project. What will happen after December 15, after PEPPADEP ?

Discussions led to the acceptance by donor countries of pursuing the clean up operations, feral pigs hunting and Lab. technical assistance.

- Agr. Ligondé declared that MARNDR would not retain only one agency to handle the Repopulation program. All donor countries are welcome should they want to offer their help, as they had done for the eradication phase. MARNDR, said Agr. Ligondé, is open to all organisms which would like to really help.

- Dr. Handy answers saying that FAO proposed a program based on a request from the Haitian Government, but does not have a Project involving such organism into an animal health system.

- Dr. G. Bernard repeat that FAO will be able to continue its technical assistance and helping to perform preparatory actions toward a veterinary structuration.

- Dr. Mulhern intervened to say that there had been no conflict between those two proposals. The Haitian Government would decide.

- Dr. Calixte sums up the situation. PEPPADEP is closing its doors, but the Veterinary Service still exist at the Ministry to face any contingency. The presence in the country of some veterinarians is reasonable. It is evident and nobody can deny it. If the donor countries could leave us for sometime with a veterinary doctor in each one of the four (4) principal areas of the country, this would ve very appreciated and reasonable. PEPPADEP was nothing but a program.

- Dr. Mulhern want to present the problem in a more concise manner. There will always be problems. In emergency cases, what will the Veterinary Service do ? The Committee must also evaluate MARNDR actions and possibilities and it can offer to solve problems should they occur.

Agr. Ligondé repeats that MARNDR have to face all the problems which could occur, but will accept willingly all help proposed.

- Dr. Mulhern asks M. B. Johns a description of the contents of the document he distributed concerning the inventory.

- Mr. B. Johns recognizes that there has been changes due to ulterior needs and reads on supporting pieces authorizing inventories in regions where PEPPADEP owned movables in the provinces, at Headquarters and at the garage. He prepared a transfer system with the location of each material, the name of the user, its current and future destinations; he also points out the list of material to be remitted to the Haitian Government in the near future and after.

- Dr. Mulhern appreciated the presentation of the inventory service and asked whether the Committee had any objections.

- Dr. Alexander speaks immediately of the request received from Damien concerning help to be given to the Veterinary Service.

- Agr. Ligondé objects that the necessary material shall be entrusted by MARNDR to the Veterinary Service from the material received. The mentioned Service will only have to present its request.

- Dr. Calixte mentions the PEPPADEP needs until its termination, and asks the Technical Services and Operations to verify whether the list suits their needs.

- Mrs. Susana Dancourt speaks right on of the problem of the generator, to be transferred to Damien.

- Dr. Alexander advises everybody that all has been forecast with care and also that all contingencies were anticipated.

- Dr. Saul Wilson congratules Mr. B. John for the inventory accuracy. He must review with General Director and with the President of the Session the material to be transferred.

- Another delegate from the USA requests the evaluation of the material.

M. B. Johns declares that it is difficult to establish an estimate of cost according to the use and deterioration of the material, but the total cost of the 2.244 items reaches the sum of \$1,558.776.20.

- Dr. Calixte intervenes saying that IICA had prepared this material transfer with the Haitian Government. This agreement had taken place undoubtedly during the Jamaican meeting.

- Dr. Wilson thinks that in order to adhere by the Project objectives, nothing can be taken out since this could compromise the technical capacities of the Project before its termination.

- Dr. Benjamin Jara from Mexico appreciates the US Delegate's declaration concerning contingencies.

- Dr. Alexander noted then the difficulties to carry the big pigs in trucks.

- Dr. Wilson desired to be insured that the Project had all the necessary resources to continue its activities until the termination.

- Dr. Alexander requested the agreement of the Committee before granting Dr. West request, concerning the immediate transfer of certain material to MARNDR.

- Dr. Toussaint points out his surprise when he first saw the material transfer document at noticing that no requests from the Technical Services had been acknowledged.

- Dr. Alexander said that only the necessary material was kept and that the submitted list by the Technical Services will be remitted to MARNDR.

- M. B. Johns adds that the material transfer will be done without repair at the project expense.

- Agr. Ligondé sees no inconvenience since MARNDR is prepared to take all steps in order to have the material transported.

- Dr. Alexander recalls that the agreement between IICA and GOH must be submitted to Donor Countries.

- Dr. S. Wilson adds that the agreement which will end on March 30, 1984, provides the opportunity to continue cooperating, but not the opportunity of providing funds.

Coffee Break

The Session resumes at 4:30.

- Dr. Mulhern asks to Major Damaxe Cydneus from FAD'H some information on the clean out operations.

- Major Cydneus reports that in the North, North-West, and North-East, 110 pigs were captured.

In the Artibonite and the Center, 125 pigs were captured;

In Grande Anse and south, 66;

In the West, South West, the operations are still taking place.

He underlines however, rumors according to which pigs would have been seen near the Minoterie, at Source Matelas.

- Dr. Alexander said to the Major that they did not think that all those pigs were going to be captured.

- Major Cydneus believe that they had been right, since despite all efforts made by the chiefs of section, nobody can confirm with certainty that no pigs exist anymore. The peasants are always able to outwit the vigilance of chiefs of section who are unwilling sometimes to confirm some rumors, for instance, at Source Matelas.

- The American delegate congratulates Major Cydneus and the Haitian Government on the means used to find the concealed pigs, and asks whether nationals could be used for the clean-out operation.

- The Georgia University Expert says that in some regions people help the team, but that all depends on the reward. They are requesting increase

of salary everyday. There is no spontaneous help.

- Dr. Millien recalls that he had proposed yesterday an increase of the reward allocated to peasants capturing free pigs. Taking risks of provoking the wrath of the owner, of being attacked by feral pigs, and by being hurt by wild bushes; the price of all those risks must be considered since the discipline is different from the one shown by civilians. He suggests that the reward be increased.

- Major Cydneus ratifies the proposal of Dr. Millien.

- The Georgia expert says that people will not be able to seize all free pigs, whatever the reasons supporting the increase of the reward.

- Dr. Mulhern asks Major Cydneus why some chiefs of section have refused to sign. These pigs are domestic pigs yes or no? How can the sum to be offered be appreciated according to the Georgia expert?

- Major Cydneus answers that he thought that the Georgia team had brought new techniques.

- Dr. Mulhern said that a \$100,00 for each feral pig had to be considered. The more one can be sure of reducing the feral pig population, the more the reward can be increased. If the Georgia team is sure of the peasant cooperation, then the reward can be increased, as they are helpful in finding feral pigs traces.

- Dr. Millien underlined the part played by the peasants as well as the one played by the Georgia team according to the topography of the area. The team has the technique, but the peasant cooperation is a major point. And what is offered to him?

- The Georgia Expert reveals that he had some difficulties in the large grazing land of Thomazeau; He suggests to go back to Gonaives and hire 100 persons and pay them \$2.00 a day each.

Dr. Millien increases the reward up to \$ 4.00 a day so as to allow the suspect zone to be covered.

- Concerning the matter of stopping disbursing the funds allocated to the Chiefs of Section, Dr. Millien promises to pay the soonest possible so as to avoid the recurrence of such fact as it happened in the past.

- Major Cydnéus mentions that the rural sections number 556 and that 45 are not yet inspected, due to delays in paying the rewards.

- The President of the Session asks the Committee to express its faith in the techniques used by the Georgia team and the Chiefs of Section and this recommendation will be remitted to each delegate.

- The Canadian delegate agrees that the Committee must wait that all efforts have been evaluated before taking any decision.

- Dr. Bernard underlines that a positive serology has been noted since August 1983, but not the existence of any ASF virus.

- Dr. Hamdy added that viruses and antibodies have not been detected since the month of August.

- Dr. Alexander observed that the Repopulation Program depends on such declaration. The Committee has no doubt now; the donor countries just have to support the proceedings of the Haitian Government.

- A document was distributed to the Committee containing a declaration procedure that a country is free of ASF. One of the conditions was that such declaration is possible 6 months after the last positive case has been noted.

- But Dr. Hamdy thinks that those 6 months have already been elapsed.

- Dr. Alexander proposes not to take the declaration into account; The Committee cannot for the time being make any decisions, since some data are still incomplete. Adequate measures have been taken, and recommendations to MARNDR must be made toward that end.

- Dr. Mulhern proposes that the international zootechnic code be followed.

- Drs. Alexander and Bernard support this motion and request that the international sanitary zootechnic code be applied to Haiti.

All opinions refer to such code and Agr. Arnoux defines MARNDR position on this declaration. He proposes to observe the Sanitary Zootechnic Code prescriptions, but to submit recommendations to his Ministry.

The President of the session considers the last point on the Agenda of the meeting: The recommendations of the different delegations.

The Session ended at 6:40 pm.

Third Day.-

An outstanding event highlighted the morning. It was the televised interview on Television Nationale d'Haiti at 9:00 am whereby the Committee discussed the Project with a team from the Ministry of Information and Public Relations.

The Committee went then to Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development where the contract for the construction of the Diagnostic Laboratory was signed between IICA and the Firm Vorbes & Fils.

At 12:00, the donor country delegations were greeted by the Secretary of State of Rural Development, Agr. Luckner St-Dic, who underlined the results of international cooperation and mainly the result of the Panamericanism in the struggle against the natural plagues capable of endangering the economies of the Hemisphere.

The Secretary of State renewed to the donor countries the thanks of the Haitian Government and hoped that the painful sacrifices of the Haitian People would be taken into most consideration by the International Organizations of the friendly countries.

Back to the Project Headquarters, around 2:30, the work of the last meeting was closed. However, it is to be noted that the IICA Representation had offered a reception of the donor countries delegations and the PEPPADEP and IICA Personnel in Haiti, at Hotel Montana, on Monday November 14, 1983, at 7:00 pm.

S I G N A T U R E S

CANADA

HAITI

U.S.A.

MEXICO

CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE

X COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING

Recommendations of the Canadian Delegation (Dr. Ross Reid)

1. We are pleased to record the excellent progress of sentinellization and the ability of the Project to conclude activities satisfactorily by the middle of December.
2. The presence of wild pigs is noted. We recommend that some measures of sentinellization may be appropriate in the area where the two pigs were found with positive serology.
3. We wish to record our pleasure that the IDB loan may be made available much sooner than expected and with it, therefore, the commencement of the Bepopulation Program.
4. We are pleased also with the Interim Program developed between USAID, IICA, and the Government of Haiti.
5. We endorse all attempts for increased budgetary and laboratory support as indicated by FAO.
6. We endorse the recommendation for an adequate measure of surveillance and animal health support to be provided.
7. Canada extends its congratulations to PEPPADEP for its success and is hopeful it will not be long before the threat of African Swine Fever is completely eliminated.

Mr. Howard Malcolm - Representative of Pork Producers

We express our regret that Canada was unable to contribute more substantially to the Project. But our attempts were unsuccessful to reverse a previous decision. We are gratified by the role played by Canadians throughout, and we extend our thanks to those personnel.

We regret that the second shipment of pigs was not as good as the first. We will make sure that the problem does not occur again. On our return to Canada, we

will explore these possibilities.

We extend our congratulations to the Chairman and commend his remarkable patience and expertise.

X COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE AMERICAN DELEGATION (Dr. Saul Wilson)

On this occasion, it has been unfortunate that I have been unable to attend all sessions at hitherto. Dr. West and I have been called upon to visit with USAID and IDB on some of the needs concerning continuation of Project activities and to advise on procedures to do with signing for the construction of the veterinary laboratory.

I wish to endorse the establishment of an Animal Health Project and to commend the FAO for their efforts to supplement and support such projects. We recommend the transfer of equipment as outlined and to endorse that the needs of PEPPADEP are first satisfied and the necessary equipment be provided for the Interim Phase Project and the Animal Health Support Project.

We recommend the continuation of weekly reports on all sentinel and wild pigs, and that all samples obtained from swine be sent to the Laboratory.

Dr. DON VAN HOWELING- REPRESENTATIVE OF PORK PRODUCERS

The United States Delegation wishes to reiterate all that Canada has said.

It is most interesting that the first meeting of the Committee was held two years ago. In that time, I wish to record that this Budgetary Report by Administration has been the best received by this Committee. I wish also to commend the Committee for transfer of equipment and especially the presentation made by Mr. Johns.

We recommend continued field operations especially by the University of Georgia technicians and the follow-up to the Section Chiefs to obtain all reports and eliminate the presence of all indigenous pigs.

We are concerned at the failure to use the sentinel swine to begin repopulation as rapidly as possible. We are equally concerned whether the necessary organization will be in place to respond to emergency disease.

We wish to extend our appreciation to USAID for their program, while working with competent people and church organizations of getting pigs back to the peasants.

We endorse the resolution to the Chairman for his initiative, his perseverance, and his patience.

X COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING

Recommendations of the Mexican Delegation

As a result of the discussions and presentations made during the X Technical Coordinating Committee Meeting, we wish to outline the following points:

1. Position of the Technical Coordinating Committee on the Free Country Declaration.

It is our opinion that the Technical Coordinating Committee is not in a position to be able to declare the country free of ASF for the following reasons:

- The sentinellization phase needs to be concluded;
- The final reports of the evidence of wild pigs need to be completed.

For this reason, we are supporting the proposal of the USA Delegate in the sense that we should give a vote of confidence to the Directors so that, at the end of the sentinellization phase and having analysed all the information--if they find that all the necessary conditions are given to declare the country free--to expedite the recommendation to the Government of Haiti in the name of the Technical Committee.

On the other hand, the Mexican Delegation extends its recognition to the Directorship of Technical Services and Field Operations who did all that was technically possible during the eradication of the ASF, and the activities carried out have been efficiently executed. This recognition is also extended to the University of Georgia whose work has been extraordinary.

2. Continuation of the Program of Epidemiological Vigilance

We are worried about the lack of clarity on the manner in which the continuation of the following activities are going to be resolved:

.../...

- Inspection and vigilance in the port and airport to avoid illegal introduction of pork products;
- Installation of an incinerator for the destruction of confiscations;
- Functioning of the Laboratory;
- Survey activities for the detection of unknown domestic and wild pigs;
- Notification and epidemiological vigilance in the field;
- Emergency preparedness to eradicate an eventual appearance of ASF.

Considering that all these activities are indispensable for maintaining the country free, guaranteeing inversions for repopulation and protecting the efforts made by Haiti and the donor countries, we recommend:

- That the continuation of the activities already established by PEPPADEP be clearly stated through an animal health program, and those activities which are lacking be defined, and that their urgent financing be sought for their implementation.

3. Utilization of the Sentinels for Repopulation

We are sorry that the genetic resource signified by the pigs surviving sentinellization would be lost as an option of repopulation. For this reason we are recommending:

- Given that the main objective of the sentinels was to demonstrate the absence of the ASF virus and that until now this objective has been perfectly fulfilled, that the immediate intention be made of taking advantage of them as reproducers for repopulation.

X. COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING

Recommendations of the Haitian Delegation (Agr. Serge Arnoux)

I regret the absence, at this time, of Agronomist Ligondé. Authorization for this role was not given to me.

I wish to address the question of declaration of freedom from African Swine Fever. Effectively, Repopulation Program will not begin before the country is free.

No importation will be allowed before the country is declared free.

Delegates, we believe that, as pointed out by Dr. Mulhern, it would be best to get in touch with the Ministry of Agriculture Re the position that the HAMPCO area is free etc. as has been discussed.

ANNEX I

PARTICIPANTS

Dr. Francis Mulhern	IICA-DIRECTOR ANIMAL HEALTH PROGRAM; CHAIRMAN
Dr. Quentin M. West	IICA- Deputy Director General
Dr. Percy Aitken-Soux	IICA- Director in Haiti
Agr. André Jean-Louis	Delegate of Haiti
Agr. Michel-Ange Ligondé	Representative of Haiti
Agr. Serge Arnoux	MARNDR Representative
Col. Fritz Antoine	Military Liaison-Haiti
Dr. Saul Wilson	Delegate of USA
Dr. C.D. Van Howeling	Pork Producers Association (USA)
Dr. James A. Downard	USDA - Representative
Dr. Ross Reid	Delegate of Canada
M. Howard Malcolm	Pork Producers Association (CANADA)
Dr. Benjamin Jara Guilléen	Delegate of Mexico
Dr. Sanchez	Representative of Mexico
M. Guy Chapond	FAO-Director in Haiti
Dr. George Bernard	FAO-Representative
Dr. Fred A. Calixte	Project Director
Dr. Franz C. Alexander	Co-Project Director
Mr. John Lewis	USAID Representative
Mr. Erick Pierre	IDB Representative

STAFF

GENERAL DIRECTORSHIP

Dr. Fred Calixte	Director
Dr. Franz Alexander	Co-Director

ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

Ms. Susana Dancourt	Co-Administrator
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TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION

Dr. Jh. Jolivert Toussaint	Director
Dr. Benedicto Négron	Co-Director
Dr. Raymond Leclerc	Chief/Epidemiology Section
Dr. William Parham	Responsible for Quarantine

OPERATIONS DIVISION

Dr. Robert Joseph	Director
Dr. Guy Meilleur	Co-Director

LABORATORY DIVISION

Dr. Max Millien	Director
Dr. Gérard Bernard	Co-Director
Dr. Farouk Hamdy	Technical Advisor

ORDRE DU JOUR PROVISOIRE

(14-15-16 Novembre 1983)

Lundi, 14/11/83

- 8.00 a.m. : Bienvenue - Représentant de l'IICA en Haiti
- 8.15 : Propos d'ouverture - Président
- 8.30 : Ouverture de la séance par le Ministre de l'Agriculture ou son Représentant.
- 8.45 : Approbation de l'ordre du jour.
- 9.00 : Rapport de statut du Projet - Direction du Projet
-Opérations d'abattage
-Opérations de râtissage et porcs libres
-Nettoyage et Désinfection
-Contrôle et surveillance
-Programme de Latrinisation
-Programme de sentinellisation
- 10.00 : Pause-Café
- 10.15 : Discussion des points du rapport de Statut
- 12.30 : Déjeuner
- 2.00 p.m. : Rapports - Division des Opérations
- Services Techniques
- Laboratoire
- Administration (Budget)
- 3.00 : Café
- 3.15 : Commission mixte Haitiano-Dominicaine
- 4.15 : Préparatifs d'urgence en cas de maladie
- 5.00 : Ajournement

Mardi, 15/11/83

- 8.00 a.m. : Statut du Repeuplement - DARNDR
- 10.00 : Pause-Café
- 10.15 : Statut du Programme de Transition - USAID -
DARNDR - IICA
- : Statut du Projet d'emprunt de la BID
- : Discussion
- 12.30 : Déjeuner
- 2.00 p.m. : Fermeture du Projet
- : Personnel
- 3.15 : Pause-Café
- 3.30 : Inventaire - Utilisation de l'équipement
- : Accords: IICA/DARNDR/Pays Donateurs
- : Discussion
- 5:00 : Ajournement

Mercredi, 16/11/83

- 8.00 a.m. : Discussion; Direction du Projet et Directeurs de
Division; Questions/Réponses
- 10.00 : Pause-Café
- 10.15 : Remarques des délégués
- : Discussion
- 12.00 : Déjeuner
- 1.30 p.m. : Réunion avec le Ministre de l'Agriculture
- 4.00 : Remarques de clôture

