



Geneva, Switzerland

Subject: IABS Meeting on High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza
Vaccination Strategies to prevent and control HPAI:
Removing unnecessary barriers for usage

Venue: OIE Headquarter, Paris

Date: October 25-26, 2022

Format: on-site meeting

Dear Mr Hunault,

Since October 2020, H5Nx 2.3.4.4b lineage of HPAI has spread across Europe, Middle East, Africa and Asia and is a threat to spread into North America. The uncontrolled spread of these viruses through wild aquatic bird migration is of utmost concern and ongoing climate changes contribute to a wider seasonal migration pattern. In addition, the keeping of poultry in free range systems has reduced physical separation of poultry and wild birds increasing risk of HPAI introduction into poultry. Thus, maintaining avian influenza freedom in poultry and preventing zoonotic infections are an increase challenge.

Vaccination can be a useful tool for prevention and control, but its use is prohibited or severely restricted in many countries worldwide. Wider use of avian influenza vaccination would increase sustainable poultry production, improve animal welfare, reduce economic damage, reduce human infections, and contribute to consumers and animal welfare acceptance of control programs.

A harmonized vaccination strategy with updated vaccine strains and innovative vaccine technologies, combined with appropriate diagnostics, surveillance, and disease management, can offer a better approach than stamping-out alone.

This workshop is intended to discuss how to reduce barriers for broader use of vaccination in avian influenza prevention and control strategy.

The workshop will be an open-discussion forum with on-site participation by a wide variety of stakeholders (OIE, WHO, OFFLU, FAO, WTO, governments, breeding companies, animal welfare, human health, consumers, retailers, scientists, etc).

In order to ensure full participation of members from governmental agencies and academia, we have kept the registration fees as reasonable as possible. In addition, we plan to invite a number of Chief Veterinary Officers (CVOs). But we are only able to do so through financial support from industry. The

strong support from industry for IABS meetings in the past contributed to the success of the meetings for which we are truly grateful. Given the importance of this topic, we are seeking support in the form of financial sponsorship. These funds will be used for the organization of the conference.

As a key partner in the field of Vaccines and Diagnostics for HPAI, may we kindly ask the DIAGNOSTIC FOR ANIMALS to support us by sharing this letter with your members.

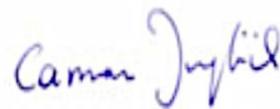
We sincerely hope that this request will be considered positively by Diagnostic for Animals and are at your disposal should you have any question or need further information.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

With best regards,



Rick Hill
Vice-President of IABS



Carmen Jungbäck
Secretary of IABS