



52nd ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SOUTH AMERICAN COMMISSION FOR THE FIGHT AGAINST FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

Georgetown, Guyana | 22 and 23 April 2026

RESOLUTIONS OF THE 52nd COSALFA

Georgetown, Guyana

22 and 23 April 2026

RESOLUTION I**PREVENTION AND PREPAREDNESS FOR FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE EMERGENCIES
IN THE CARIBBEAN REGION****The 52nd Ordinary Meeting of COSALFA,****Whereas:**

- That the Co-operative Republic of Guyana constitutes a strategic nexus between South America and the Caribbean countries;
- That the Caribbean subregion presents distinct geographical, epidemiological, and logistical characteristics that call for differentiated approaches to prevention and response to animal health emergencies;
- The need to strengthen prevention and preparedness capacities in Caribbean countries as an essential component of regional sanitary protection;
- Those Caribbean countries, in coordination with regional bodies such as the Caribbean Animal Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA) and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), have identified the need to strengthen and harmonize their laboratory diagnostic and risk analysis capacities;

It is resolved:

1. Request PANAFTOSA/PAHO to promote technical cooperation between South American and Caribbean countries, fostering the exchange of experiences, best practices, and lessons learned in the prevention of and preparedness for foot-and-mouth disease emergencies, considering the diverse epidemiological contexts of the Region;
2. Urge PANAFTOSA/PAHO to support Caribbean countries, in coordination with subregional organizations, in strengthening their laboratory diagnostic and risk analysis capacities through regional technical cooperation initiatives.

(Approved at the plenary session of
23 April 2026)

RESOLUTION II

HEMISPHERIC PROGRAM FOR THE ERADICATION OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE (PHEFA)

ACTION PLAN 2026–2030

The 52nd Ordinary Meeting of COSALFA,

Whereas:

- The results achieved in the implementation of the 2021–2025 Action Plan, as well as the lessons learned;
- The new 2026–2030 Action Plan, approved by the Hemispheric Committee for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (COHEFA) in December 2025, which establishes strategic priorities, including addressing countries with persistent challenges, strengthening emergency preparedness, and advancing regional integration;
- The recognized importance of promoting awareness and ensuring effective implementation of the 2026–2030 Action Plan at both the strategic level, with ministerial authorities, and the operational level, with livestock producers, to guarantee access to clear and transparent technical information;
- The importance of formal mechanisms to facilitate joint and cross-border actions aimed at advancing the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease in Venezuela;
- That since 2022, the Ministry of Popular Power for Productive Agriculture and Lands (MPPAPT) of Venezuela has been evaluating a proposal for a Technical Cooperation Agreement with PANAFTOSA/PAHO;
- That, following the technical mission conducted by PANAFTOSA/PAHO to Venezuela from 6 to 10 April 2026, the country approved the PROFA 2026–2030 Operational Plan, which was technically validated by MPPAPT-INSAL and FUNVESSA, with the support of the international organization.

It is resolved:

1. Recognize and commend the countries of the Region for the progress achieved under the 2021–2025 Action Plan of the Hemispheric Program for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (PHEFA);

2. Express appreciation to PANAFTOSA/PAHO for the preparation of the 2026–2030 Action Plan, as approved by the Hemispheric Committee for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (COHEFA), which serves as the regional forum for defining strategies and coordinating progress toward eradication;
3. Urge both the public and private sectors of COSALFA Member States to actively disseminate the PHEFA 2026–2030 among key national stakeholders and to incorporate it into their respective national policies and programmes;
4. Request PANAFTOSA/PAHO to support the dissemination of the new Action Plan to ministerial authorities and to conduct periodic monitoring of its indicators at the regional level, reporting on progress at COSALFA meetings;
5. Encourage Brazil, Colombia, and Venezuela to renew formal mechanisms of technical cooperation to advance coordinated actions;
6. Call upon the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to approve the proposed Technical Cooperation Agreement with PANAFTOSA/PAHO;
7. Urge the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to initiate, without delay, the implementation of the PROFA 2026–2030 Operational Plan, with the technical support of PANAFTOSA/PAHO and in accordance with the established timeline.

(Approved at the plenary session of
23 April 2026)

RESOLUTION III

STRATEGY FOR THE PREVENTION, PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE TO FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE EMERGENCIES

The 52nd Ordinary Meeting of COSALFA,

Whereas:

- The establishment of the FMD Regional Antigen Bank (BANVACO) in August 2025, which constitutes a strategic instrument to ensure the timely availability of antigens and vaccines against foot-and-mouth disease in emergency situations;
- That risk analysis studies are essential to identify vulnerabilities, prioritize interventions, and support technical and policy decision-making at national and regional levels;
- The importance of ensuring that accurate, science-based information reaches all stakeholders involved in the prevention and surveillance of foot-and-mouth disease, particularly rural producers.

It is resolved:

1. Congratulations on the establishment of BANVACO and the progress achieved in its implementation;
2. Request PANAFTOSA/PAHO to continue coordinating and strengthening BANVACO, promoting its dissemination and expansion in membership, including the participation of countries from the Caribbean, Mesoamerica, and North America;
3. Request PANAFTOSA/PAHO to continue supporting countries in the Region in the training and implementation of tools and methodologies for risk assessment and risk communication, tailored to relevant stakeholders;
4. Recommend that Member States develop and strengthen their national capacities in risk assessment and communication to support decision-making related to the prevention, detection, and response to the potential introduction of foot-and-mouth disease.

(Approved at the plenary session of
23 April 2026)

RESOLUTION IV

COSALFA: CONSOLIDATION AND REGIONAL PROJECTION

The 52nd Ordinary Meeting of COSALFA,

Whereas:

- That COSALFA has served as a key regional governance mechanism, enabling South America region to achieve substantial progress in the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease, with more than 99% of herds recognized as FMD disease-free;
- That the countries of the Caribbean and Mesoamerica have remained free of foot-and-mouth disease for several decades;
- That the post-eradication context presents new challenges, and that the countries of the Caribbean and Mesoamerica face circumstances comparable to those of South America in terms of exposure to global risks;
- That it is important to strengthen the participation of other stakeholders in the livestock sector, including private veterinary practitioners and academia, in regional forums related to foot-and-mouth disease.

It is resolved:

1. Request PANAFTOSA/PAHO, in coordination with Member States, to develop a proposal to update the COSALFA model, including a review of its regional scope, participation, periodicity, and meeting format, for consideration at COSALFA 53.

(Approved at the plenary session of
23 April 2026)

RESOLUTION V

APPROVAL OF THE PHEFA BIENNIAL PLAN 2026–2027

The 52nd Ordinary Meeting of COSALFA,

Whereas:

- That the Hemispheric Program for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (PHEFA) constitutes the regional strategic framework for coordinating actions aimed at the eradication of the disease and the sustainability of the sanitary status in the Region;
- That PANAFTOSA/PAHO, in its capacity as ex officio Secretariat of COSALFA, has submitted the 2026–2027 Biennial Plan for consideration by Member States.

It is resolved:

1. Approve the PHEFA 2026–2027 Biennial Plan, recognizing it as an operational framework for the implementation of regional actions within the context of the 2026–2030 Action Plan;
2. Request PANAFTOSA-PAHO to provide technical cooperation to Member States for the implementation of the Biennial Plan;
3. Urge COSALFA Member States, both public and private sectors, to contribute to the mobilization of the resources necessary for the effective implementation of the 2026–2027 Biennial Plan.

(Approved at the plenary session of
23 April 2026)

RESOLUTION VI**RECOGNITION OF THE DIRECTOR OF PANAFTOSA-PAHO**

The 52nd Ordinary Meeting of COSALFA,

Whereas:

- The appointment of the new Director of PANAFTOSA/PAHO at a decisive moment for the Region, characterized by the consolidation of achievements in the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease and the transition toward a scenario of sustainable sanitary status;
- That Dr. Manuel José Sánchez Vázquez brings a solid background in international technical cooperation, as well as extensive prior experience within PANAFTOSA/PAHO, constituting a valuable asset for institutional leadership in this new phase;
- That strengthening regional cooperation, risk-based surveillance, and preparedness for health emergencies requires strong and articulating technical leadership at the regional level.

It is resolved:

1. Welcome and express its recognition to Dr. Manuel José Sánchez Vázquez on his appointment as Director of PANAFTOSA/PAHO;
2. Express its confidence that, under his leadership, PANAFTOSA/PAHO will continue to effectively support Member States in consolidating the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease and in strengthening capacities for prevention, surveillance, and response.

(Approved at the plenary session of
23 April 2026)

RESOLUTION VII

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The 52nd Ordinary Meeting of COSALFA,

Whereas:

- The excellent organizational arrangements, hospitality, and support provided by the Government of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana for the holding of the 52nd Ordinary Meeting of COSALFA in Georgetown, as well as the virtual Pre-COSALFA International Seminar;
- The commitment and political support demonstrated by the national authorities of Guyana in strengthening regional cooperation for the prevention, preparedness, and rapid response to foot-and-mouth disease;
- The notable participation and contributions of both the public and private sectors of Guyana, which enabled the effective conduct of the technical sessions and exchanges among countries;
- The efficient coordination and logistical support provided by national institutions and the organizing team, which facilitated the successful implementation of COSALFA 52 activities.

It is resolved:

1. Express its gratitude to the Co-operative Republic of Guyana, through its governmental authorities—particularly the Ministry of Agriculture and the Guyana Livestock Development Authority (GLDA)—for the political, technical, and organizational support provided for the convening of the 52nd Ordinary Meeting of COSALFA;
2. Express its appreciation to the President Pro Tempore of COSALFA 52, Dr. Dwight Osbourne Adebayo Walrond, for his leadership in guiding the proceedings and facilitating dialogue and decision-making processes during the meeting;
3. Extend its thanks to the institutions, professionals, and technical personnel of Guyana, as well as to representatives of the private sector, for their commitment, hospitality, and valuable contributions to the success of the events;
4. Recognize with appreciation the support provided by the PAHO Country Office in Guyana and by PANAFTOSA/PAHO, in its capacity as ex officio Secretariat, for the technical and organizational

coordination of COSALFA 52. Welcome and express its recognition to Dr. Manuel José Sánchez Vázquez on his appointment as Director of PANAFTOSA/PAHO;

5. Express its confidence that, under his leadership, PANAFTOSA/PAHO will continue to effectively support Member States in consolidating the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease and in strengthening capacities for prevention, surveillance, and response.

(Approved at the plenary session of
23 April 2026)

Español:

EN FE DE LO CUAL, el Presidente de la Reunión, Dr. Dwight Osbourne Adebayo Walrond, Director Ejecutivo de la Autoridad de Desarrollo Ganadero de Guyana (GLDA) del Ministerio de Agricultura, el Director del Centro Panamericano de Fiebre Aftosa (PANAFTOSA-OPS/OMS), Secretario *ex officio* de la COSALFA, Dr. Manuel José Sánchez Vázquez y los delegados del sector público y del sector privado de los países miembros de la COSALFA firman la lista de presencia a la 52ª. Reunión Ordinaria de la COSALFA, realizada en Georgetown, Guyana, los días 22 y 23 de abril del año dos mil y veinte seis.

Português:

EM FE DO QUAL, o Presidente da Reunião, Dr. Dwight Osbourne Adebayo Walrond, Diretor Executivo da Autoridade de Desenvolvimento Pecuário de Guiana (GLDA) do Ministério de Agricultura, o Diretor do Centro Pan-Americano de Febre Aftosa (PANAFTOSA-OPAS/OMS), Secretário *ex officio* da COSALFA, Dr. Manuel José Sánchez Vázquez e os delegados do setor público e do setor privado dos países membros da COSALFA assinam a lista de presença da 52ª Reunião Ordinária da COSALFA, realizada em Georgetown, Guiana, nos dias 22 e 23 de abril do ano dois mil e vinte e seis.

English:

IN WITNESS WHERE OF, the Chairman of the Meeting, Dr. Dwight Osbourne Adebayo Walrond, Chief Executive Officer of the Guyana Livestock Development Authority (GLDA) of the Ministry of Agriculture, the Director of the Pan-American Center for Foot-and-Mouth Disease (PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO), Secretary *ex officio* of COSALFA, Dr. Manuel José Sánchez Vázquez and the delegates of the public and private sectors of the member countries, have signed the present list of participants at the 52nd COSALFA Ordinary Meeting, held in Georgetown, Guyana, on 22 and 23 April 2026.



Dwight Osbourne Adebayo Walrond
Presidente de la COSALFA 52
Director Ejecutivo
Autoridad de Desarrollo Ganadero de Guyana (GLDA)



Manuel José Sánchez Vázquez
Secretario ex officio
Director del Centro Panamericano de
Fiebre Aftosa (PANAFTOSA-OPS/OMS)



Daniel Alejandro Caria
Delegado del Sector Público de Argentina

Delegado del Sector Privado de Argentina

Delegado del Sector Público de Bolivia

Delegado del Sector Privado de Bolivia



Marcelo de Andrade Mota
Delegado del Sector Público de Brasil



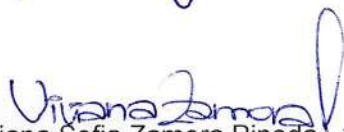
Cyro Ferreira Penna Junior
Delegado del Sector Privado de Brasil



Carlos Hernan Orellana Vaquero
Delegado del Sector Público de Chile



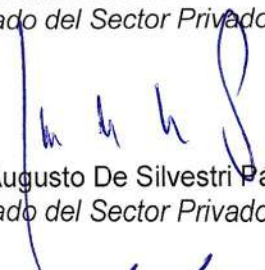
Rafael Arturo Lecaros van der Goes
Delegado del Sector Privado de Chile



Viviana Sofia Zamora Pineda
Delegado del Sector Público de Colombia



Gabriel Alejandro Andino Sanabria
Delegado del Sector Público de Ecuador



José Augusto De Silvestri Pájaro
Delegado del Sector Privado de Colombia



Víctor Miguel López Castillo
Delegado del Sector Privado de Ecuador



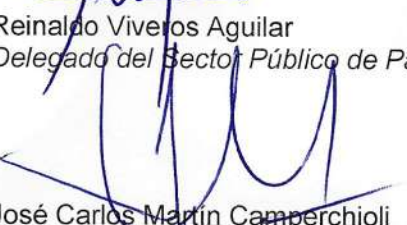
Praimnauth Tihul
Delegado del Sector Público de Guyana



Nardeo Bassodeo
Delegado del Sector Privado de Guyana



Reinaldo Viveros Aguilar
Delegado del Sector Público de Panamá



José Carlos Martín Camperchioli
Delegado del Sector Público de Paraguay

Delegado del Sector Privado de Panamá



Gordon Daniel Prieto Davey
Delegado del Sector Privado de Paraguay

Delegado del Sector Público de Perú

Delegado del Sector Privado de Perú

Delegado del Sector Público de Surinam

Delegado del Sector Privado de Surinam



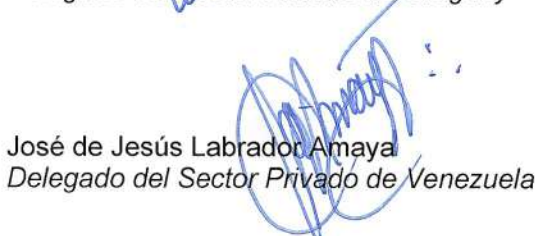
Marcelo Daniel Rodríguez Irazoqui
Delegado del Sector Público de Uruguay



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Delegado del Sector Privado de Uruguay



Wilmer José Alcázar Guerra
Delegado del Sector Público de Venezuela



José de Jesús Labrador Amaya
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