

**Thailand's Statement
for**

On animal control, the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperative is the core agency. Avian Influenza Control Operating Center was set up to closely monitor the disease. Pre-emptive culling of poultry within 5 kilometer radius from the infected farm, surveillance of the area within 50 kilometers during the outbreak, movement control of avian species as well as public awareness campaign were among the priorities of the operations implemented. Moreover, the bio-security system is in place in which compartmentalization of poultry farms has been implemented in order to ensure that poultry in Thailand are disease-free and that the origins of all poultry products from Thailand can be identified.

On human aspects, the Ministry of Public Health has activated the Ministry's Operation Center to closely monitor each patient who is diagnosed as having a possibility of being infected with avian flu. Surveillance Rapid Response Team (SRRT) and local volunteers have been deployed in each village throughout the affected areas to provide any possible assistance and adequate information on the best practices.

To prevent further outbreak in the long run, networking for the disease-monitoring system with WHO and many countries in the region in accordance to the International Health Regulations (IRH) has been strengthened. International support in terms of technical assistance from FAO, OIE and WHO was significance in helping Thailand's combating avian influenza. Collaboration for public health laboratory, training exercise for controlling the outbreak at community level, relevant personnel training, improvement of necessary medical equipments and capacity building for research and development were among the focuses of the Ministry of Public Health's long term strategy.

International Cooperation

The Thai Government is determined to work with international partners to stem the outbreak. Since the first case was confirmed early last year, Thailand has hosted and actively participated in a series of multilateral and bilateral meetings to encourage international cooperation. For example, Thailand hosted a Health Ministers' Meeting of ASEAN+3 Countries on Avian Flu in November 2004 and an ASEAN Parliamentarians Seminar on the Spread of the Avian Influenza in April 2005. Thailand has also been appointed as the focal point for Southeast Asia under the FAO project on the regional network for avian influenza investigation and surveillance. We have also contributed significantly to the ASEAN Animal Health Trust Fund.

Thailand also values the importance of providing technical assistance for those countries which may lack necessary resources. We have

