

## ANNEX XVII

### CRITERIA AND REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTINGENCY PLANS

11. Staff shall be regularly involved in:
  - 11.1. training in clinical signs, epidemiological enquiry and control of epizootic diseases;
  - 11.2. real-time alert exercises, conducted as follows:
    - 11.2.1. two times within a five years period, the first of which should not have started later than 3 years after the approval of the plan, or
    - 11.2.2. during the five years period after an outbreak of a major epizootic disease has been effectively controlled and eradicated, or
    - 11.2.3. one of the two exercises referred to in paragraph 11.2.1 is replaced by a real-time exercise required within the framework of contingency plans for other major epidemic diseases affecting terrestrial animals, or
    - 11.2.4. by way of derogation from paragraph 11.2.1 and subject to appropriate provisions in the contingency plan, Member States with a limited population of animals of susceptible species arrange for the participation in and contribution to real-time exercises carried out in a neighbouring Member States and alarm-drills are carried out as provided for in paragraph (g) (ii) of Annex VII of Directive 2001/89/EC in relation to all animals of species susceptible to foot-and-mouth disease.
  - 11.3. Training in communication skills to provide ongoing disease awareness campaigns for authorities, farmers and veterinarians.