Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)
Report N° 5: February 14 to March 5, 2020
World Animal Health Information and Analysis Department

WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH
Protecting animals, preserving our future

HPAI SITUATION – update

The epidemiology of avian influenza (AI) is complex. AI viruses constantly evolve by mutation and re-assortment with the emergence of new subtypes causing significant impact on animal health and production. Some AI subtypes can be zoonotic and therefore pose major threat to human health.

This report presents an overview of HPAI disease events (in poultry and non-poultry including wild birds) reported to the **OIE's early warning system** by its Members, as well as non-Member Countries, during the period February 14 - March 5, 2020 through the World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS). The stable situations reported in the **six-monthly reports** by 2 countries, namely Egypt and Indonesia, are not described in this report as this data for the second semester 2019 will be collected throughout the first semester of 2020.

The HPAI events (new outbreaks) are reported in Table 1.

Table 1: HPAI outbreaks reported through early warning system during February 14 - March 5, 2020

REGION	COUNTRY	Administrative divisions affected	Subtype(s)		N° Outbreaks	
			Poultry	Non -poultry	Poultry	Non poultry
Asia	Chinese Taipei, India, Vietnam	16	H5N1, H5N2, H5N5, H5N6	NA	37	NA
Europe	Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Poland	7	H5N8	NA	13	NA

1. Spatial distribution

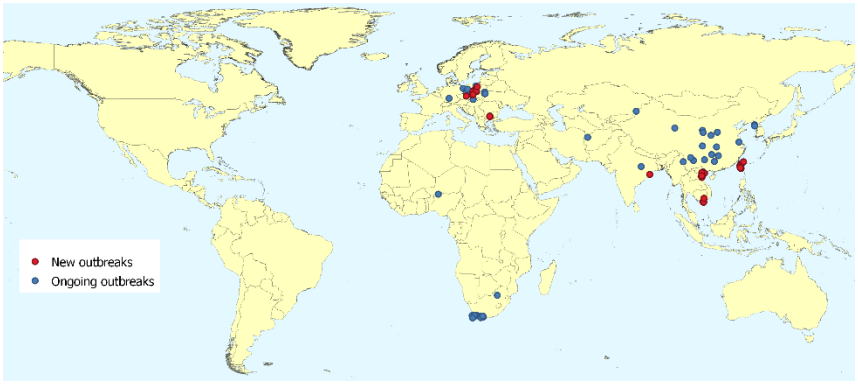

Figure 1. New and ongoing outbreaks in poultry (February 14 - March 5, 2020)

In this period, **50** new outbreaks (red doths in the map) were notified in poultry, in Bulgaria, Chinese Taipei, Czech Republic, India, Poland and Vietnam. The total ongoing HPAI outbreaks worldwide is **175** (blue doths in the map). It is distributed in Africa (19), Asia (118) and Europe (38) (Figure 1).

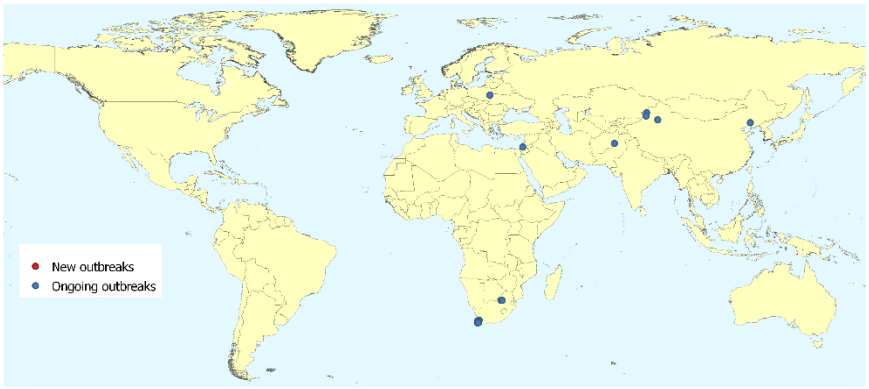

Figure 2. New and ongoing outbreaks in non-poultry, including wild birds (February 14 - March 5, 2020)

In this period, **no new outbreaks** were notified in non-poultry. The total of ongoing HPAI outbreaks (blue doths in the map) in these birds populations is **18,** distributed in the Africa (11), Asia (6) and Europe (1).

2. Impact of the disease by Region in poultry

During the period, a total of **440,095*** animals were notified as losses in Asia and Europe in the ongoing and new outbreaks (**587,029*** losses notified in the previous report).

* The impact of the disease is measured in terms of losses, which are calculated by the sum of dead and culled animals from the infected farm or backyard premises of the reported outbreak. In case of non-poultry the losses correspond to the dead animals reported.

3. Changes in the epidemiological situation

Countries/Territories with new outbreaks during the period.

Africa

No new outbreaks were reported during the period. Ongoing outbreaks are still present in South Africa and Nigeria in both poultry (H5N6, H5N8) and non-poultry (H5N8).

America

No new or ongoing outbreaks were reported during the period.

Asia

Chinese Taipei, India and Vietnam reported **respectively 12, 1 and 24 new outbreaks** (H5N1, H5N2, H5N5 and H5N6) in poultry. Ongoing outbreaks are still present in Afghanistan, China (People's Rep. of), Chinese Taipei, India, Korea (DPR), and Vietnam in poultry (subtypes H5N1, H5N2, H5N5, H5N6, H7N9) and Afghanistan, Israel and China (People's Rep. of) in non-poultry (H5, H5N6, H5N8, H7N9).

Europe

Bulgaria, Czech Republic, and Poland reported respectively **5, 1** and **7 new outbreaks in poultry (H5N8)** Ongoing outbreaks are still present in Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Germany, Poland and Slovakia, in poultry and non-poultry (H5N8)

Oceania

No new or ongoing outbreaks were reported during the period

Key messages

In the reporting period, **50 new HPAI outbreaks** were reported in domestic birds in Asia and Europe, involving 5 different HPAI subtypes namely H5N1, H5N2, H5N5, H5N6 and H5N8.

- The H5N1 and H5N6 subtypes reoccurred in India and Vietnam in the current reporting period and caused losses in poultry. Both the subtypes have been reported in these countries in past years.
- H5N2 outbreaks continue to be reported by Chinese Taipei since the first notification in 2012.
- Since the beginning 2020, outbreaks of H5N8 have been continuously reported in several European countries in poultry and/or wild birds. It is more likely that the source of infection in these outbreaks will be contact with wild birds and followed by limited local spread.

Veterinary Authorities in the affected countries have responded to contain outbreaks in poultry with stamping out measures, heightened surveillance, and recommendations to poultry owners to increase biosecurity.

The OIE Standards, and the transparency of reporting through the OIE's World Animal Health Information System, provide the framework for Veterinary Services to implement effective surveillance, reporting, and controls for avian influenza. Wild bird surveillance can indicate periods of heightened risk, and at these times measures to improve on-farm biosecurity may reduce the likelihood of exposure of poultry.