Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)
Report N° 7: March 27 to April 16, 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 27 March – 16 April, 2020 through the World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS). The stable situations reported in the **six-monthly reports** by two 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 and second semesters of 2020.

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

Table 1: HPAI outbreaks reported through early warning system during 27 March – 16 April 2020

REGION	COUNTRY	Administrative divisions affected	Subtype(s)		N° Outbreaks	
			Poultry	Non -poultry	Poultry	Non poultry
Asia	Chinese Taipei, India, Vietnam	15	H5N1, H5N2, H5N5, H5N6	H5N1	25	1
America	United States of America	1	H7N3	NA	1	NA
Europe	Bulgaria, Germany, Hungary, Poland	7	H5N8	H5N8	124	19

1. Spatial distribution

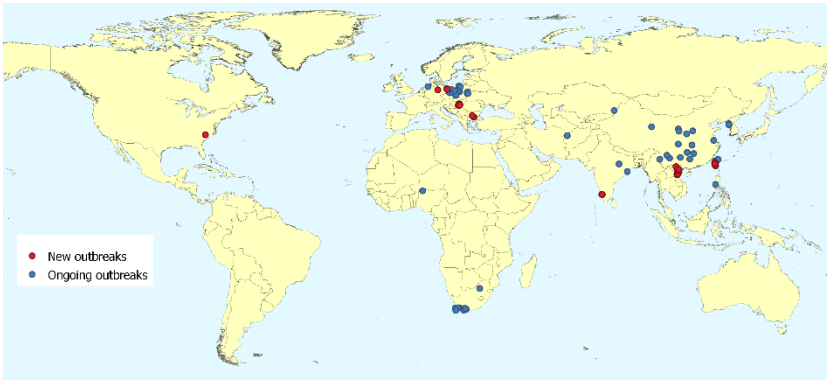

Figure 1. New and ongoing outbreaks in poultry (27 March – 16 April, 2020)

In this period, **150** new outbreaks (red dots on the map) were notified in poultry, in Bulgaria, Chinese Taipei, Germany; Hungary, India, Poland, United States of America, and Vietnam. The total ongoing HPAI outbreaks worldwide is **165** (blue dots on the map). They are distributed as follows: Africa (20), America (1), Asia (105) and Europe (39) (Figure 1).

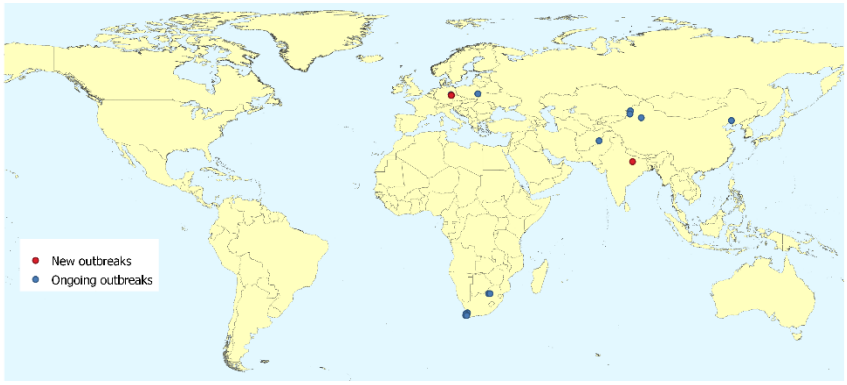

Figure 2. New and ongoing outbreaks in non-poultry, including wild birds (27 March – 16 April, 2020)

In this period, **20 new outbreaks** were notified in non-poultry. The total ongoing HPAI outbreaks (blue dots on the map) in these birds populations is **37.** They are distributed as follows: Africa (11), Asia (5) and Europe (21).

2. Impact of the disease by Region in poultry

During the period, a total of **1,257,724** animals were notified as losses in Asia, America, and Europe in the ongoing and new outbreaks (**143,125*** 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 in poultry and in non-poultry during the period. Ongoing outbreaks are still present in South Africa and Nigeria in both poultry (H5N6 and H5N8) and non-poultry (H5N8).

America

One new outbreak was reported by the United States of America in poultry (H7N3) and is still ongoing.

Asia

Chinese Taipei,India, and Vietnam reported **respectively 8, 2 and 15 new outbreaks** (H5N1, H5N2, H5N5 and H5N6) in poultry.India reported **1 new outbreak** in non-poultry (H5N1). Ongoing outbreaks are still present in Afghanistan, China (People's Rep. of), Chinese Taipei, India, Korea (DPR), Philippines and Vietnam in poultry (subtypes H5, H5N1, H5N2, H5N5, H5N6 and H7N9) and Afghanistan and China (People's Rep. of) in non-poultry (H5, H5N6 and H7N9).

Europe

Bulgaria, Germany, Hungary and Poland reported **124 new outbreaks** in poultry (H5N8). Germany reported **19 new outbreaks** in non-poultry **(**H5N8**).** Ongoing outbreaks are still present in Germany, Hungary and Poland, in poultry and/or non-poultry (H5N8)

Oceania

No new or ongoing outbreaks were reported during the period

Key messages

- In the reporting period, **150 new HPAI outbreaks** were reported in domestic birds across Europe, the Americas and Asia involving 6 different HPAI subtypes namely H5N1, H5N2, H5N5, H5N6, H5N8 and H7N3. The majority of these outbreaks were due to H5N8 reported from few European countries.
- The Asian lineage H5N1 and H5N6 outbreaks reocurred in India and Vietnam respectively.
- In Chinese Taipei, H5N2 outbreaks continue to be reported since the first notification in 2012 and the H5N5 subtype has continued to be reported since September 2019.
- Since the beginning of 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 is contact with wild birds and followed by limited local spread. Germany, Hungary and Poland reported H5N8 outbreaks in this reporting period. H5N8 also continues to be reported in South Africa.
- USA reported an outbreak of HPAI H7N3 which is the first case of HPAI in commercial poultry this year. The premises has an epidemiological link to another premises affected recently by low pathogenic avian influenza (LPAI) H7N3.

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.