Results of Roundtable Discussions

The regional roundtable discussions identified key challenges and opportunities for expanding poultry meat export markets across Eastern, Southern, Western and Northern Africa. Participants highlighted constraints related to animal health, veterinary services, certification, surveillance capacity, financing and market access, while identifying priority growth drivers such as stronger veterinary systems, regulatory harmonisation, digital certification, public-private partnerships and regional collaboration. The table below summarises the main findings to support safe international poultry meat trade in line with WOAH standards.

Strategic Pillar	Eastern Africa	Southern Africa	Northern Africa	Western Africa
1. Primary Market Access Barriers *(Challenges limiting safe & sustainable international poultry trade)*	- High poultry disease burden and weak surveillance - Limited veterinary, laboratory, zoning and compartmentalization capacity - Poor feed quality and biosecurity -Weak institutional support and political commitment - Low poultry commercialization and investment	- Limited adoption of harmonized standards, zoning and compartmentalization - Weak veterinary, surveillance and laboratory systems - Insufficient funding, infrastructure and technical capacity - Trade barriers, protectionism and differing disease statuses - Weak biosecurity and widespread backyard poultry production	- Frequent outbreaks of HPAI, ND and other poultry diseases - Emerging and zoonotic disease threats - Antibiotic and pesticide residue challenges - Mycotoxin contamination in feed and poultry products - Lack of harmonized food safety and residue standards	- Weak disease surveillance and cross-border disease control - Limited veterinary service capacity - Inadequate financing and infrastructure for zoning and compartmentalization - Poor compliance and transparency in trade procedures - Limited market access and competitiveness
2. Joint Priority Interventions *(Practical actions for Veterinary Services & the Private Sector)*	- Strengthen regional integration and EAC market opportunities - Commercialize backyard poultry enterprises - Improve transparency among member states - Enhance surveillance and traceability systems - Expand capacity building and supportive poultry policies	- Harmonize veterinary legal and regulatory frameworks with WOAH standards - Strengthen zoning, compartmentalization, traceability and sanitary systems - Improve laboratory capacity, surveillance and research - Enhance private sector engagement, investment and backyard poultry regulation - Expand training, awareness and veterinary public health capacity building	- Strengthen veterinary services through PVS and gap analysis - Rehabilitate and modernize laboratory infrastructure - Enhance regional cooperation and trade coordination - Promote e-certification for import and export processes - Provide targeted technical support and capacity building	- Promote an enabling trade environment through e-certification and single-window systems - Improve access to affordable finance through public-private partnerships - Strengthen control and eradication of priority poultry diseases - Build veterinary workforce capacity through recruitment and training - Enhance private sector compliance, transparency and information sharing

3. Strategic Support & Opportunities *(Regional/international aid & 5-year growth drivers)*	- Increase poultry trade awareness and market development - Strengthen regional regulatory harmonization and collaboration - Deliver targeted capacity-building and technical assistance - Expand regional and international support programmes - Leverage growing consumer demand for poultry products	- Strengthen veterinary services, laboratories and e-certification systems - Promote public-private partnerships and investment - Develop and implement regional standards and regulatory frameworks - Expand training, awareness and capacity building on WOAH standards and compartmentalization - Leverage niche export markets and growing consumer demand	- Strengthen public-private partnerships and investment - Accelerate adoption of digital certification systems - Enhance regional collaboration and market integration - Expand access to international export markets - Leverage regional and international technical support	- Promote compartmentalization and zoning for export market access - Accelerate trade facilitation through e-certification and single-window systems - Develop niche market opportunities - Strengthen public-private partnerships and investment - Leverage regional integration and export growth opportunities