

FMD Industry Coordination Council (ICC) Progress Update

6 February 2026

The situation on the ground continues to escalate. This update sets out the latest confirmed developments and the actions planned for the coming week.

The ICC attended the media briefing at the ARC–Onderstepoort Veterinary Research facility today where the finalisation of the first batch of locally produced FMD vaccines was presented.

This is an important long-term milestone in the fight against FMD. It does not, however, address the immediate realities facing farmers and the value chain.

The immediate reality is that there is an active outbreak, spreading rapidly. Time is not on our side. Vaccines need to be administered urgently, but in a responsible and cost-effective way, without being held back by structures or institutional boundaries.

The confirmation today of positive Foot-and-Mouth Disease cases in the Mbekweni area between Wellington and Paarl shows how rapidly the situation on the ground can change. The Western Cape was not included in the current response plan, which now needs to adapt before it has even been fully implemented.

The ICC requires shared authority and combined decision-making with the MTT and the Department for non-statutory, outcome-based decisions so that faster, coordinated action can take place to keep farmers on their farms and the value chain operational.

The ICC will meet with the Ministerial Task Team (MTT) and the Department of Agriculture on Monday 9 February 2026, followed by a meeting with the Minister of Agriculture on Wednesday 11 February 2026 to agree on this approach.

Stakeholders are encouraged to remain informed and raise implementation issues through their representatives. The ICC will continue to provide regular updates and practical guidance as the rollout progresses.