OIE STANDARDS IN TERRESTRIAL AND AQUATIC ANIMALS AND OIE LIST OF ANTIMICROBIALS OF VETERINARY IMPORTANCE

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The presentation will explain the OIE standard setting process and describe the international standards dealing with antimicrobials in terrestrial and aquatic animals, which have been adopted by the World Assembly of OIE Delegates.

Currently, the OIE *Terrestrial and Aquatic Codes* have several standards on the control of antimicrobial resistance; harmonisation of national activities towards this control; on monitoring the quantities of usage of antimicrobials in food producing animals; as well as on recommendations on responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents in veterinary medicine.

The OIE also provides recommendations on the risk assessment for antimicrobial resistance arising from the use of antimicrobials in animals. The standard setting process is active and continues. Expert groups are regularly convened to update and develop new science-based recommendations on the topic, which will then be drafted in the form of standards by Specialised Commissions and presented for consideration and eventual adoption by the 178 OIE Delegates. The World Assembly of OIE Delegates has also adopted a List of Antimicrobials of Veterinary Importance, which complements the list of critically important antimicrobials in human medicine.

Antimicrobial agents are essential tools for protecting animal health and welfare, as well as public health. They also contribute to responding to the increased demand for safe and sustainable food of animal origin. The efficacy and safety of antimicrobial agents must be preserved through a responsible and prudent use. Therefore, the OIE will continue collaborate with the Codex Alimentarius and pursue its effort in providing sound and most updated science-based recommendations for a safe and prudent use of antimicrobial agents in animals. Participants will be encouraged to become more familiar with the process and contribute to the global improvement of animal health and welfare through the use of safe and efficacious disease control measures, including antimicrobial agents.