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## OTHER RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

**Karesh WB.** <sup>1,2,3</sup>

- (1) President, OIE Working Group on Wildlife Diseases, Paris, France,
- (2) Co-Chair, IUCN SSC Wildlife Health Specialist Group, Gland, Switzerland,
- (3) Executive Vice President for Health and Policy, EcoHealth Alliance, 460 West 34th Street, 17th Floor, New York, U.S.A.

While it is clear that in most cases, the most effective approach to preventing and controlling rabies is to reduce the incidence in domestic animals and thus preventing human infection, complete control in many situations still requires efforts targeted at controlling the disease in wildlife. Several international treaties created to protect natural resources in general and threatened, endangered and migratory species in particular may affect rabies management approaches. Most relevant are the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) and the Ramsar Convention. Such treaties may present both benefits and challenges to rabies control programs, especially as several species and species groups considered under the treaties are also susceptible to the rabies virus. By encouraging or mandating the protection of species and habitats, the treaties may limit the harm done otherwise to already-vulnerable species or ecosystems that could result from population eradication rabies control efforts. At the same time, international regulations around the protection of endangered, threatened or migratory species may present impediments for rabies control programs by limiting rabies intervention options, potentially presenting greater opportunity for the spread of the virus in wildlife populations.

Rabies has been increasingly documented in wildlife populations, presenting a serious risk to the management and conservation of affected animals. The rabies virus has been documented in over 120 mammal species. The dynamic epidemiology of the virus and its global presence has made it a growing concern for wildlife managers as well as public health and agriculture authorities, and the general public. Given the added complexity of disease management in wildlife and the additional regulations that govern wildlife and wild lands, solutions for controlling rabies requires the engagement of a broad range of both stakeholders and expertise.

