OIE STRATEGY FOR VETERINARY PRODUCTS

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Recognising the significance of veterinary products as key elements that enable the early detection, efficient prevention and control of animal diseases, the OIE has developed specific activities in the area of veterinary drugs, vaccines and diagnostics. OIE Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres are strongly involved in these activities and support the OIE in its effort to fulfil its mandate “to improve animal health worldwide”.

At the 77th OIE General Session, OIE Members adopted Resolution No. 25, which recommended enhancing OIE activities related to veterinary products, including legislation and control. The Resolution reflects the aim of promoting a coherent strategy and strengthening OIE involvement in this field.

These involvements are based on several complementary approaches, such as:

- the development and regular updating of international standards and guidelines;
- the provision of permanent support to Veterinary Services and laboratories to enable OIE Members to implement the published standards;
- the modernisation or updating of national legislation for marketing approval and control of veterinary products;
- the OIE procedure for the validation of diagnostic assays;
- collaboration with relevant international organisations;
- capacity building.

To enhance awareness and strengthen the link between OIE and its 176 Members, the OIE is currently organising training workshops for OIE National Focal Points on veterinary products who were designated by the OIE Delegates. Their tasks, conducted under the authority of the OIE Delegate, include communication and establishment of networks with authorities and experts on veterinary products; monitoring of legislation for and control of veterinary products; and consultation and preparation of comments on draft texts of standards, guidelines and recommendations proposed by the OIE.

All OIE activities related to veterinary products are included and will be strengthened within the coming Fifth Strategic Plan of the OIE.