Role of OIE Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centers in Developing and Updating OIE Standards

Beverly Schmitt, DVM, MS
Vice-President
OIE Biological Standards Commission
OIE International Standards

• Terrestrial Animal Health Code
  • mammals, birds and bees

• Aquatic Animal Health Code
  • fish, molluscs and crustaceans

• Manual of Standards for Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals

• Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals
Reference Lab Mandate

• function as centers of expertise and standardization for other laboratories and the OIE
• develop and distribute reference reagents
• respond to emerging diseases
• develop / validate new diagnostic tests
• coordinate scientific / technical studies
• provide scientific and technical training
• help prepare OIE technical publications
• prepare and distribute proficiency tests
Collaborating Center Mandate

- OIE Collaborating Centers are centers of expertise, standardization and dissemination of techniques their sphere of competence.
- Propose or develop any procedure that will facilitate harmonization of international regulations applicable to the surveillance and control of animal diseases.
- Place expert consultants at the disposal of OIE.
- Several Collaborating Centers can provide specific disease expertise to the BSC.
What is Standardization?

- Harmonization of diagnostic testing and vaccine production by use of:
  - standard methods
  - OIE Reference Laboratories / Collaborating Centers, disease experts
  - international reference reagents
  - quality assurance guidelines
- Supports laboratories in Member Countries → reliable results, protective vaccines
Updating international standards

COMMITTEE, COMMISSIONS, DELEGATES

OIE INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

PROBLEM

Specialist Commission

Review

Advice of experts or other Specialist Commissions

Draft text

COMMITTEE

1

2

DELEGATES

Adoption

Comments
Updating international standards

OIE INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

COMMITTEE, COMMISSIONS, DELEGATES

PROBLEM

Specialist Commission

Review

Advice of experts or other Specialist Commissions

Draft text

1

Comments

DELEGATES

COMMITTEE

Adoption

2

COMMITTEE, COMMISSIONS, DELEGATES
PROBLEM
Specialist Commission
Review
Advice of experts or other Specialist Commissions
Draft text
1
COMMITTEE
Adoption
2
COMMITTEE, COMMISSIONS, DELEGATES

Comments
OIE INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

Updating international standards
OIE Standardization Activities

• 2009 – Reference Laboratories
  • International harmonization/standardization of methods – 68%
  • Preparation and supply of international reference standards – 49%

• Collaborating Centers
  • Activities as a center of research, expertise, standardization and dissemination of techniques – 88%
• Many chapter authors and reviewers are from OIE Reference Laboratories/Collaborating Centers
• Some chapters have required additional review/discussion from OIE Ref Lab experts
• May be involved in rapid update of chapter subsequent to disease event
  • Will be posted at www.oie.int
International Standards - Reagents

- HPAI- AGID reference serum
- EBL – reference serum
- Caprine/ovine/porcine brucellosis – reference sera for several assays
- FMD – serum panel for NSP tests
Networks, working, ad hoc groups

- OFFLU - OIE Reference Laboratories are international labs for network (avian and equine influenza); generation of reference reagents

- Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Center experts participate in ad hoc and working groups
OIE Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centers have mandates to assist the OIE in developing international standards.

The OIE is very dependent on and appreciative of the expertise at the OIE Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centers to accomplish its mission of improving animal health worldwide.
World organisation for animal health

12 rue de Prony
75017 Paris, France
Tel: 33 (0)1 44 15 18 88
Fax: 33 (0)1 42 67 09 87
Email: oie@oie.int
http://www.oie.int