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Feeding the world better by controlling animal diseases

The recent food riots in several developing countries serve as a painful reminder of current problems in matching food supply and demand worldwide.

Competition for the use of agricultural land and forests is increasing in pace with the growth in the world’s human population: 7 billion today, 9 billion by 2050. Agricultural land and forests are threatened by urbanisation and public facilities such as roads and recreational parks, as well as by non-food crops used for biofuels or to produce textiles such as linen, cotton and jute, the latter competing with synthetic textiles that are often derived from petrochemicals.

With regard to livestock production, world demand for animal protein (milk, eggs, meat) is expected to rise by 50% by 2020, even if the economic growth of recent years is now stabilising. In addition to the increase in the world’s human population (principally in developing countries), this growing demand will come from hundreds of millions of poor households in emerging countries joining the middle classes.

These households are changing their dietary habits and will in future be eating three meals a day, with far more milk, eggs and meat than was previously the case.

The only way to meet this enormous worldwide demand for animal protein is by intensifying livestock production. This will lead to increased sanitary and environmental risks, which cannot be effectively controlled without increasingly strict regulations and Veterinary Services that have the power to enforce them within their field of competencies.

It should also be noted that more than a billion people around the world currently meeting the criteria for poverty have an economic activity involving livestock. Animals provide them with food protein but they also provide work power (traction, ploughing, irrigation), a cash income and precious natural fertiliser.

Animal diseases cost all these social groups dearly. Few studies are available, but it can be estimated that, at the worldwide level, average losses due to animal diseases are more than 20%.

Reducing the incidence of these diseases is therefore one of the priorities to be considered in order to feed the world. This requires a clear political will, which the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and its partners such as Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and World Health Organization (WHO) must encourage at a worldwide level. Indeed, access to an adequate supply of good quality food is not just an agricultural problem: it is also a worldwide public health problem and must also be approached from this point of view.

Since providing everyone with access to animal protein could be greatly facilitated by reducing the losses caused by animal diseases, it is important to ensure that countries have good quality Veterinary Services capable of enforcing sanitary legislation in collaboration with livestock producers. For their part, producers must be covered by fast and equitable compensation mechanisms in the event of their animals having to be slaughtered for sanitary reasons, and they should receive appropriate training in animal disease control systems and be fully informed of the need to work hand in hand with veterinarians. To this effect the OIE has adopted standards on the quality and effectiveness of Veterinary Services.

It should also be noted that in most countries sanitary controls on food products of animal origin and the prevention of related biological hazards (bacteria, viruses, parasites, toxins) are largely under the responsibility of the Veterinary Services. A document prepared in collaboration with the other international organisations involved in this field was presented to, and adopted by, the national Delegates of OIE Member Countries and Territories during the General Assembly in May 2008 (‘The role of Veterinary Services in Food Safety’).
While it is true that we already have effective control methods to deal with a number of animal pathogens, there is still much work to be done if we are to achieve a significant reduction in current animal production losses, notably by developing new vaccines, medicines and diagnostic tests.

It is quite clear that public-private partnerships are indispensible in order to speed up research programmes to develop the tools needed to reduce losses from the various animal diseases, including those transmissible to humans. This research is in fact so expensive that even multinationals are unwilling to embark on developing the products we need. Public sector involvement in this field is both necessary and desirable, since this action clearly fall within the concept of a global public good.

...providing everyone with access to animal protein could be greatly facilitated by reducing the losses caused by animal diseases

The OIE has a duty to support and even to promote these changes, but they will be greatly facilitated if - unencumbered by taboos, but with the appropriate precautions - they can take advantage of the incredible potential that biotechnologies have to offer, notably in the field of vaccinology. The OIE has already begun to address these topics, and right now our experts are drawing up the first recommendations for submission to our organisation’s Specialist Commissions and the General Assembly of national Delegates to the OIE.

Given the importance of this topic, I shall of course be keeping you updated on progress made in the field.

Dr Bernard Vallat
Director General, OIE
Aetiology
The aetiological agent of PRRS is an RNA virus of the order Nidovirales, family Arteriviridae, genus Arterivirus. There are two related but antigenically and genetically distinguishable strains: genotype 1, with the prototype Lelystad virus representing the viruses predominating in Europe; and genotype 2, represented by VR 2332, the prototype of strains originally mostly found in North America. A variant of genotype 2 is the cause of severe disease in Asia.

Susceptible species
The pig (Sus scrofa), whether domestic or feral, is the only species known to be naturally susceptible to this disease. Other species of wild pig and members of the family Suidae may be susceptible.

Geographical distribution
PRRS was first recognised in North America in the mid to late 1980s and spread rapidly throughout the world. In Europe, a similar disease caused by a distinct genotype of the virus also spread rapidly in that region during 1990–1992. The disease is now present throughout the world, with the exception of Australia, New Zealand, Finland, Norway, Sweden, and Switzerland. Some countries are actively engaged in eradication campaigns.

Fig. 1
Free country, zone or compartment wishing to demonstrate its continued freedom and to provide for enhancement of early detection of infection (design prevalence at 1%, confidence to be decided by country, based on risk).
An early detection system would be on-going while demonstration of freedom would sample at regular intervals.
a) Tests = ELISA and PCR
b) Targeted surveillance
   i. Imported pigs: ELISA
   ii. Nucleus/breeding herds: ELISA
   iii. AI centres: ELISA
   iv. Swill feeders: ELISA
   v. Clinical herds (ELISA and PCR):
      - necropsies included
vi. Herds with reports of rapidly increased mortality w/o known cause (ELISA and PCR):
   - classical swine fever (CSF) differential
c) General surveillance
   vii. Abattoirs: ELISA

1- RNA: ribonucleic acid
Diagnostic criteria

Clinical signs

The clinical signs of PRRS vary with the strain of virus, the immune status of the herd and management factors. Infection may also be asymptomatic. Clinical disease in a herd is a consequence of acute viraemia in individuals and transplacental transmission of virus from viraemic dams to their foetuses, which can occur at any time, though infections in the last third of pregnancy can result in severe disease. Concurrent infections with other pathogens are also common.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In adults</th>
<th>In affected litters</th>
<th>In weaned pigs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reduced appetite</td>
<td>Stillborn pigs</td>
<td>Loss of appetite, lethargy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fever</td>
<td>High pre-weaning mortality</td>
<td>Obvious failure to thrive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Premature farrowing and abortion</td>
<td>Mummified pigs</td>
<td>Laboured or rapid breathing and/or respiratory distress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Death in up to 10% or more of sows</td>
<td>Variably sized weak-born pigs</td>
<td>Blotchy reddening of the skin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss of balance, circling and falling to one side</td>
<td>Oedema around the eyes</td>
<td>Rough hair coat</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In adults, a period of acute illness is seen, characterised by lethargy and reduced appetite. With highly pathogenic strains, respiratory disease may also be evident. The disease spreads quickly through a herd within 7–10 days.

As sows become infected and farrow infected litters, the second, or reproductive, phase of the disease occurs as a result of the transplacental transmission. This phase is characterised by late-term reproductive failure and can last from one to four months. Pigs that survive the pregnancy and neonatal phase usually succumb to infection after weaning, although this stage may be masked or exacerbated by concurrent infection with other disease agents, such as Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae and Haemophilus parasuis.

Pathogenesis

PRRS virus (PRRSV) has a tropism for macrophages, also compromising the cellular immune response and damaging mucosal surfaces. The virus replicates mainly in macrophages of the lymphoid tissues and lungs in the acute phase of infection and persists in tonsil and lung macrophages. PRRSV antigen has been found in the resident macrophages of a variety of tissues, as well as in other cells, including muscle tissues.

Gross lesions

PRRSV produces a multisystemic infection in pigs, but gross lesions are usually only observed in respiratory and lymphoid tissues. Both gross and microscopic lesions are most marked in neonatal and young weaned pigs. The gross pathology observed after uncomplicated infection with PRRSV in finishing pigs may be anything from severe to unremarkable.

In severe disease, the lungs are mottled, tan and red, and fail to collapse; the cranioventral lobes are most affected. Lymph nodes are moderately to severely enlarged and tan in colour and, for some strains of virus, may be haemorrhagic. Under field conditions, most PRRSV-infected pigs are co-infected with one or more pathogens, which complicates the diagnosis of PRRS based on pathology.

Free country, wishing to re-establish its free status (in addition to Fig. 1) (design prevalence of at least 1%, confidence at a minimum of 95%). Same as Figure 1 as well as sampling of previously infected herds/ zones, swill feeders, fatteners, sentinels and re-stocked animals and including:

1. Managing of singleton positive samples
   a) Re-test using both tests and an additional antibody test
   b) IPMA or IFA

2. Follow-up visit to herd with subsequent monitoring
   a) Necropsies of suspect animals
   b) Additional testing at herd level - genotyping
   c) Assessment of clinical signs
Laboratory tests
Laboratories handling live virus should ensure that facilities and protocols are in place to ensure biocontainment. This is especially important where a genotype of the virus is used which is not present in the pig population of the country concerned. Laboratory experts recommend a minimum of animal biosafety level 3 in such cases.

Specimens required
The following specimens should be collected.
- For virus isolation and RT-PCR\(^2\)- whole blood (EDTA\(^3\)) and also serum, lung, respiratory tract, spleen and tonsils of affected animals. Samples from mummified or aborted litters are unlikely to yield virus but can still be useful for RT-PCR.
- For antibody testing (serology) - serum from up to 20 exposed animals in the herd.

Specimens should be chilled and forwarded unfrozen on water ice or with frozen gel packs.

Virus isolation
Buffy coat, serum, lung, lymph nodes, spleen and tonsils are the specimens of choice. The virus replicates well on swine pulmonary alveolar macrophages and some strains, particularly those of genotype 2, on MARC-145 cells. Cytopathic effects are evident in 1-4 days. Perform two 7-day passages for maximum sensitivity.

RT-PCR
Whole blood (EDTA), buffy coat and clarified homogenates of the above tissues are best. At this time, there is no fully validated PCR that has international acceptability. Please consult the OIE Manual for suggested methods.

Serological tests
IgM\(^4\) can be detected within 7 days of infection and IgG\(^5\) can be detected within 14 days. Humoral antibody titres reach a maximum about 5-6 weeks after infection. Antibody can be detected by ELISA\(^6\) and by the indirect staining of pre-prepared monolayers of infected cells (IPMA\(^7\) and IFA\(^8\)). Antibody levels can drop quite quickly in the absence of circulating virus.

Differential diagnosis
In the field, suspicion of PRRS is based on clinical signs of reproductive failure and high levels of neonatal mortality. Analysis of farm records will provide helpful information.

The following diseases should be considered within the differential diagnosis of PRRS:

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<th>Respiratory and postweaning disease</th>
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<td>Swine influenza</td>
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<tr>
<td>African swine fever</td>
<td>Enzootic pneumonia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leptospirosis</td>
<td>Proliferative and necrotising pneumonia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Porcine parvovirus</td>
<td>Haemophilus parasuis infection</td>
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<tr>
<td>Porcine enterovirus</td>
<td>Haemagglutinating encephalomyelitis virus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haemagglutinating encephalomyelitis virus</td>
<td>Porcine respiratory coronavirus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aujeszky's disease</td>
<td>Syncytial pneumonia and myocarditis</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Porcine circovirus-associated disease</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nipah virus infection</td>
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</table>

Immunity
Passive immunity
Seropositive sows can transmit maternal antibodies to their offspring via colostrum. Passive immunity appears to decline and gives way to infection soon after weaning.

Active immunity
Pigs infected with PRRSV can generate a specific immune response that is easily detected by the presence of serum antibodies within 7-14 days after infection, reaches maximal levels after 30-50 days and declines to low or non-detectable

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2- RT-PCR: reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction
3- EDTA: ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid
4- IgM: immunoglobulin M
5- IgG: immunoglobulin G
6- ELISA: enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay
7- IPMA: immunoperoxidase monolayer assay
8- IFA: indirect immunofluorescence assay
levels after 4–6 months. Recovered animals are well protected following homologous challenge; however, cross-protection is variable following heterologous challenge.

**Vaccination**

Modified-live virus vaccines and killed virus vaccines for PRRS are commercially available in many countries; however, each type of vaccine possesses strengths and limitations. It is important to match the genotype of the vaccine with the genotype circulating in the pig population. In general, while vaccination of pigs does not prevent PRRSV infection, it may reduce transmission of wild-type virus and clinical disease. In addition, modified-live vaccine virus can persist in pigs and be disseminated to naïve animals through semen and oral fluids. At this time, it is not possible to differentiate vacccinal antibody from that induced by field virus.

**PRRSV transmission**

**Direct routes of transmission**

PRRSV is easily spread by direct contact and virus can be detected in saliva, urine, milk, colostrum, and faeces of infected animals. Transmission by semen can also occur, both via natural service and via artificial insemination. PRRSV produces chronic infections and viral RNA has been recovered from the oropharyngeal region of growing pigs up to 251 days post-infection (PI) and from the sera of piglets infected in utero up to 210 days PI.

**Indirect routes of transmission**

Transmission of PRRSV to pigs fed infected pig meat has been experimentally reproduced. Mechanical transport and transmission has been reported via contaminated needles, fomites (boots and coveralls), farm personnel (hands), transport vehicles (contaminated trailers), and insects (houseflies and mosquitoes). Airborne spread of the virus at a distance of 120 m has been experimentally documented under specific meteorological conditions, i.e. prevailing winds.

**Local spread**

PRRSV can spread rapidly through intensive pig-rearing regions. Significant risk factors for spread between farms include proximity to infected neighbouring herds, purchase of animals from herds incubating infection, and the purchase of semen from boars at PRRS-infected AI centres.

**Control and eradication**

In order to control and eventually eliminate PRRSV, critical issues that allow for maintained circulation of PRRSV within herds must be addressed, including the co-existence of genetically diverse isolates, the existence of naïve breeding herd sub-populations, and improper management of gilt replacement pools. Current control measures include the use of vaccines, the management of incoming replacement gilts and implementation of biosecurity protocols validated to reduce the risk of PRRSV spread within and between herds. Methods of eliminating virus from endemically infected herds include the following: whole herd depopulation/repopulation; test and removal; and herd closure.

**Prevention of introduction into a herd**

Biosecurity protocols to reduce the risk of PRRSV entry into farms and between herds include the quarantine and testing of incoming breeding stock, use of semen from PRRSV-naïve AI centres, proper sanitation of transport vehicles using validated disinfectants and drying periods, implementation of strategies for personnel/fomite entry into and between farms, proper management of needles, and methods of insect control. In addition, recent evidence suggests that the
application of filtration systems to the air inlets may significantly reduce the risk of PRRSV entry via bio-aerosols into farms located in swine-dense regions.

**Prevention of introduction into a country**
The main way in which PRRSV has been introduced into previously free countries is undoubtedly via pig movements. The importation of semen has also played a part, in some cases. Whilst there is a theoretical risk posed by fresh meat, there has been no documented case of the PRRSV having been introduced in this way. Since the movement of such products is a regular occurrence, even to those countries which remain free, this risk is considered small, provided the hazard of exposure to the pig population of the importing country is ameliorated. This can be achieved by banning swill feeding and/or ensuring that swill does not contain pig meat. The risk posed by vaccine virus should not be forgotten, since there is documented evidence of vaccine virus circulating and reverting to a more virulent form.

Protocols are in place, to reduce the risk posed by live pigs and semen. For live pigs, these include sourcing from farms certified free of infection, use of quarantine periods and serological and virological monitoring, both pre- and post-import. For semen, RT-PCR has proved a useful tool in demonstrating absence of virus in semen batches, but care should be taken to ensure that any extender is compatible with such tests.

The borders of a country obviously form the first line of any defence. Illegal pig movements should always be prevented. Where wild pigs may be present, steps should be taken to ensure domestic populations are protected from contact. Ports and airports may also provide a potential avenue for introduction, via galley waste and, in the case of ports, the illegal sale of pigs or pig meat transported on board.

**FURTHER READING**
It was in 1939 that the OIE, founded in 1924, moved to the aristocratic and bourgeois (as well as artistic and cosmopolitan) district of Parc Monceau, after having occupied premises since 1927 near the Champ-de-Mars and the Tour Eiffel, that had been provided by the French Higher Public Health Council (Conseil supérieur d’hygiène publique) (1).

The OIE is one of the few intergovernmental organisations to have a headquarters so steeped in history. At a time when the Organisation needs to extend the working space at its headquarters, we should take a moment to retrace the life of this venerable building, which already bore a significant international ‘stamp’ before the OIE acquired it, and place the building in its context.

The World Organisation for Animal Health and its headquarters

The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) has a staff of more than 90 women and men of 35 different nationalities, working at the Paris headquarters and in the 9 Regional and Sub-Regional Representations, as well a network of Delegates and focal points in 172 Member Countries and Territories, backed up by experts in more than 200 Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres, partners and actions worldwide, but it is also a place with its own history. The OIE is one of the few intergovernmental organisations to have a headquarters so steeped in history.

It was in 1939 that the OIE, founded in 1924, moved to the aristocratic and bourgeois (as well as artistic and cosmopolitan) district of Parc Monceau, after having occupied premises since 1927 near the Champ-de-Mars and the Tour Eiffel, that had been provided by the French Higher Public Health Council (Conseil supérieur d’hygiène publique) (1).

The Monceau district

The Monceau plain, originally called Mousseaux (‘mossy place’) and situated between the hills of Montmartre and Chaillot, was covered by the Forest of Rouvray. A major battle was fought there during the conquest of Lutetia by the Romans. Vines were planted on the plain in the ninth Century.

In 1318, a bourgeois from Paris chose the location to build a turreted fortress. Joan of Arc camped there with her troops in 1429 before going on to deliver Paris from occupation by the English and Burgundians.

The hamlet of Monceau then played host to country dwellings for labourers and second residences for citizens. In the 17th Century it became a hunting area with game coverts for the king and his court. In 1778, the Duke of Chartres (the future Philippe Egalité, who would later put his cousin Louis XVI to death) asked a painter to draw the plan of Parc Monceau in Paris Belonging to the Duke of Chartres 1785.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1796</td>
<td>Mr Deligny and his wife Mrs Degrai set up a dowry for their son Denis Marie of a plot of 702.55 m² forming part of a larger site bought from the Domaine national de la Seine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1858</td>
<td>On the death of Denis Marie Deligny, the site was auctioned by his widow (100,200 francs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1859</td>
<td>The site was purchased by Michel Montane, a former député (member of parliament) and his wife Rose Abrisqueta (married in Peru)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1860</td>
<td>The plot was bought by Emile Pereire (294,960 francs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1865</td>
<td>Expropriation of part of the plot for the opening of rue de Prony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1879</td>
<td>The remaining plot was bought by Baron Jonas Königsquarter from the Société civile et universelle Pereire-Deligny (197,714 francs).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
design a garden to embellish the folly that he had built there. He ordered craftsmen to build a pyramid, a pagoda, a Roman temple, a naumachia and other curiosities.

The Farmers’ General Enclosure was built in 1787. Today there is a rotunda, built by Nicolas Ledoux, at the entrance to the park, which, like the Courcelles gate, was one of the entry points into the walled city, where taxes were levied on food entering Paris.

According to legend, Louis XVI requested a halt at Monceau to drink a glass of wine on his return from Varennes in June 1791 before returning to the Tuileries escorted by the crowd. André-Jacques Garnerin, the world’s first parachutist, landed from a balloon in the Parc Monceau in October 1797. Empress Marie-Louise, the second wife of Napoleon I, walked in the park with their son, known as the ‘King of Rome’.

In 1852, the City of Paris bought the park and sold off half the site to the developer Émile Pereire in 1860 (2), who built magnificent mansions for rich financiers and industrialists: the bankers Moïse de Camondo, Henri Cernuschi (their houses have become museums), Emile Gaillard (his neo-Gothic building is now an annexe of the Banque de France) and Adolphe de Rothschild,

In the late 1950s

The bedrooms on the two upper floors were converted to offices and the attic rooms into an apartment.

The Marquise’s bedroom became the Director General’s office.

1939

The office, dining room and billiard room were converted into meeting rooms (now the Leclainche Room, the Ramon Room and the Oval Room).
OIE news

Legal basis

The International Agreement for the creation of an Office International des Epizooties in Paris, drawn up in Paris on 25 January 1924, states that 'The High Contracting Parties pledge themselves to create and maintain an Office International des Epizooties, having its Headquarters in Paris' (Article 1). According to the Organic Statutes adopted on the same date 'An Office International des Epizooties is hereby established in Paris, under the auspices of the States which agree to participate in its operations' (Article 1).

The first meeting of its members took place in 1927.
An Agreement between the government of the Republic of France and the OIE concerning the headquarters of the OIE and its privileges and immunities on French territory (called the ‘Headquarters Agreement’) was signed in Paris on 21 February 1997. Article 2 states that 'The headquarters of the Office includes the premises which it now occupies or which it may occupy in the future for the requirements of its work, with the exception of residential premises used for its personnel'. The French government recognised the capacity of the Office 'to contract, to acquire, and dispose of movable and fixed property required for its work' (Article 1). Appendix A of the Agreement stipulates 'The permanent Headquarters of the Office are established on a piece of land with a total area of seven hundred and two square metres forty-five centimetres, situated in Paris, 17th arrondissement, 12 rue de Prony; this piece of land and the buildings erected thereon were purchased by the Office by contract dated 22 February 1939'.

The French government is also custodian of the membership instruments of the OIE Members. In 2003, the Office International des Epizooties became the ‘World Organisation for Animal Health’, retaining its historic acronym OIE (Resolution XVI of 23 May 2003).

English style by Baron Georges Eugène Haussmann, Prefect of the Seine, and the engineer Jean-Charles Alphand. A Renaissance arcade and a colonnade were erected.
In 1860, the village of Monceau was attached to Paris. The current Parc Monceau was inaugurated in 1861 by Napoleon III. It boasts a display of magnificent trees of various species, some of them very old, including a 200-year-old oriental plane and a 150-year-old maple.

The workshops of Monduit & Béchet (later Gaget, Gauthier) at 25 Rue de Chazelles were the site where, between 1881 and 1884, the sculptor Auguste Bartholdi assembled the Statue of Liberty (the metal structure was created by Gustave Eiffel), which was a gift to the United States of America (USA) from France and was inaugurated in New York in 1886. People strolling through the district admired this novel attraction, which stood 46 metres high.

The composers Charles Gounod and Maurice Ravel, the writers Guy de Maupassant, Alexandre Dumas père, Edmond Rostand (and his son Jean, a well-known biologist), Marcel Proust (and his father Adrien, a well-known physician) (3) and Marcel Pagnol, the painters Edouard Manet and Louis Godfroy (animal painter), the master glassworker Félix Gaudin, the actress Sarah Bernhardt,
1981
Conversion of the apartment (3rd floor) into offices.

1985
A stained glass panel was installed in the porch by the master glassmaker Michel Brière.

1990
A building was constructed in the courtyard (with an apartment on the upper floor) on the site of the former outbuildings (stables, hay loft and four coachmen’s rooms).

12 rue de Prony
Rue de Prony was opened in 1865 as part of the property development of the Monceau plain by Emile Pereire.

It bears the name of Gaspard Riche, (1755-1839) Baron de Prony (4).

The large townhouse at 12 rue de Prony was built in 1879, in the Neo-Renaissance style, by the celebrated architect Jean-Louis Pascal (5) for the Austrian Baron, Jonas Königswarter, a former banker and railway owner (6), who had bought the site from Emile Pereire for the sum of 197,714 francs. The sculptures on the façade (heads of famous personalities and a lion) and the interior mouldings were created by Gustave Germain (1843-1909) (7).

The façade is composed of five raised regular spans of the same height on the ground floor entirely covered with bossed stone. The three central bays have a balcony supported by four strong consoles linked by garlands with three grotesque figures above the bays.

On the death of Jonas Königswarter in 1883, his assets passed to his niece Saraline, her husband Maximilien Edouard Kann and their three daughters. In 1884 the building was put up for sale by auction (600,000 francs) but, owing to a lack of bidders, the price was dropped to 400,000 francs in February 1885. On 22 April 1885, Luis Teresio Dorado, a Bolivian subject of independent means, bought the house (462,000 francs).

The ‘K’ emblem on the façades was replaced by the still visible ‘LD’.

In 1888, Luis Dorado married Marie Julie Hay, the future Marquise de Montebello (8) under an arrangement where each partner managed their assets separately. He died in 1889 and their baby daughter Maria-Luisa Carlota Dorado, also born in 1889, inherited the house, which was put up for sale by public auction. In 1893, Mrs Marie Julie Hay reacquired the building at auction (500,000 francs).

OIE news
the actor Pierre Brasseur, the music-hall artist ‘La Belle Otéro’, and many other well-known figures from the world of art and culture lived in the district. The writer Georges Pérec used it as a backdrop, in a street with an imaginary name, for his novel ‘La vie mode d’emploi’ published in 1978.

The district hosts the headquarters of several major companies and banks, embassies and prestigious buildings such as the Hôtel Royal-Monceau, which catered for many world celebrities and where many international agreements were signed, as well as the Salons Hoche, used during several OIE General Sessions.
Acquisition by the OIE

In May 1938, the OIE Members gave

Doctor Emmanuel Leclainche, Founder and first General Director of the OIE, full powers to buy a townhouse in Paris, using the reserve fund. Dr Leclainche chose the mansion from four properties selected by a Commission comprising the President of the OIE, H.C.L.E. Berger (Netherlands), the Vice-President, Carlo Bisanti (Italy), and the accountant, Gottlieb Flückiger (Switzerland). On 22 February 1939, the OIE, represented by E. Leclainche, bought the mansion from the Marquise de Montebello (700,000 francs).

The 13th General Session of the OIE was held from 30 May to 5 June 1939 at 12 rue de Prony after rebuilding work had been completed. Due to the Second World War, the following General Session did not take place until 1946, from 2 to 5 October. Following their entry into Paris in June 1940, the German occupying forces temporarily closed and sealed the OIE headquarters. The efforts of the President, Gottlieb Flückiger, elected in 1939, resulted in its re-opening, but it was placed under the control of the German Reich, represented by a German veterinary officer (Dr Rievel followed by Dr Oppermann, son of professors at the Veterinary School of Hannover), until Paris was liberated in August 1944. During the occupation, OIE relations were restricted to countries under the sway of the Reich and neutral countries.

In 1940, Dr Friedrich Weber, chief veterinary officer of the Reich, and companion of Adolf Hitler at the Munich Putsch (November 1923), came to the OIE headquarters to prepare for its transfer to Berlin, which was avoided through the intervention of President Flückiger.

After the war, in 1946, the OIE remained in operation despite the unsuccessful attempts of the UNRRA (United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration), created in Washington, DC (USA) in 1943, and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), created in Washington, DC in 1945, to take over its tasks.

In 1951, a new plan to integrate the OIE into a United Nations agency (the World Health Organization [WHO], created in Geneva in 1948 (9), or the FAO, which was transferred to Rome, Italy, in 1951) came to nothing.

Modernisation and extension

A succession of major works to renovate and modernise the headquarters were undertaken by the Directors General elected after E. Leclainche: Gaston Ramon, René Vittoz, Louis Blajan, Jean Blancou and currently Bernard Vallat. Due to the headlong development of the organisation (tripling of the staff and the budget since 2001), additional premises have been rented at 14 rue de Prony since 2004 in a mansion belonging from 1993 to the AXA insurance group, which built for a Mr Biver in 1883 (i.e. four years after no. 12) by the architect Jean-Baptiste Pigny, the brother-in-law of Presidential description
Charles Gounod. The main part of the mansion has two floors with a further two floors under the roof. The mullion windows, pilasters and the dressed stone skylight framed by ornamental vases give the façade of this townhouse, with its superb oak staircase, a certain Renaissance style. The façade facing the courtyard is a mix of brick and dressed stone with stained glass panels.

In May 2008 the International Committee of the OIE adopted a resolution, at the request of the Director General, giving him a mandate to negotiate the purchase of the building at 14 rue de Prony. Discussions with the owner and lending establishments are currently underway.

New pages in the history of the OIE headquarters are being written that reflect its international reach and its constant efforts to improve animal health and promote Veterinary Services worldwide.

Dr Jean-Luc Angot

2001
Renovation and paving of the courtyard and conversion of the apartment and ground floor of the courtyard building into offices.

2002
Modernisation of the 3rd floor offices.

2002-2003
Renovation of the premises and modernisation of the installations.

2003
Paving of the porch.

2004
Partial renovation of the conference room.

It is curious to note that railways crop up on various occasions in the history of the OIE headquarters:

- The first OIE offices (1927-1939) were located in the same building as the offices of the railway company Compagnie des chemins de fer de Paris à Lyon et à la Méditerranée (PLM).
- Emile Pereire, who developed the Monceau plain, was a pioneer of railway transport in France.
- Jonas Königswarter, who ordered the construction of the building at 12 rue de Prony, was the owner of German and Austrian railway companies.
- The Union internationale des chemins de fer (UIC) had its headquarters at 10 rue de Prony up until 1963*.

An anecdotal tale: the chocolate maker Menier, owner of one of the grandest mansions in the Monceau district, designed a ‘table railway’ in the dining room to transport the various dinner courses to his guests! These businessmen had grasped the huge economic development potential of this new means of transport, which led to greater international openness, a value shared by the OIE.

* The mansion was demolished and replaced by a residential building. The OIE and the UIC cooperated in the 1950s on the disinfection of wagons.
(1) 9 avenue Emile-AcCallas, Paris 7th arrondissement (from March 1927 to March 1939), was built in 1926 by the architect A. Guterle for the firm L’industrielle financière. Emile AcCallas (1826-1891), lawyer and politician, friend of Georges Clemenceau, helped to draft the J apanese Constitution.

(2) Emile Pereire (1800-1875), financier, industrialist and politician, grandson of Francisco Rodrigues Pereira, the Portuguese interpreter of Louis XV, built and operated, jointly with his brother Isaac, one of the first passenger railway lines (from Paris to Saint Germain-en-Laye, in 1837); he founded several companies (rail and maritime transport, real estate, insurance, etc.).

(3) Adrien Proust (1834-1903), a physician and hygienist, Inspector General of Public Health in France from 1874 to 1903, organised international conferences leading to the creation in 1907 of the International Office of Public Hygiene, the predecessor of WHO; his publications included an essay in 1873 entitled ‘Essai sur l’hygiène internationale, ses applications contre la peste, la fièvre jaune et le choléra asiatique’.

(4) Gaspard Riche, Baron de Prony (1755-1839), engineer and mathematician, co-founder with Gaspard Monge of the Ecole Polytechnique, member of the Académie des Sciences, married to a musician, Madame Lapaix de Frénimville, whose salon was very popular under the Consulate and the First Empire, created a musical unit (the prony), devised an equation used in hydraulics (the Prony equation) and designed a braking mechanism for steam engines (the Prony brake); his name is commemorated on the Eiffel Tower.

(5) Jean-Louis Pascal (1837-1920), one of the most celebrated architects at the end of the 19th Century, was awarded the Premier Grand Prix de Rome in 1866 (with his plan for ‘A mansion for a rich banker’, winning a first class medal at the Universal Exposition of 1878); he was a member of the Académie des Beaux-Arts and the panel of judges at the Universal Exposition of 1900, and was awarded a gold medal by the American Institute of Architects and by the Royal Institute of British Architects (1914).

(6) Jonas Königswarter (1807-1883), an associate of the Austro-Hungarian emperor Franz Joseph, came from a Bohemian family (Kynzvart/Königswart) which emigrated to Bavaria (Fürth) and was a member of the Parisian Jewish high society during the era of Rothschild, Camondo, Stern, Worms and Pereire; the Königswarter banking dynasty founded establishments in Vienna, Amsterdam, Hamburg, Hannover and Paris; the brother of Jonas married a great actress, Rachel; one of his grand-nieces, Pannonica Koenigswarter (nicknamed Nica) sponsored some of the great North American jazz musicians.

(7) Gustave Germain (1843-1909) created many sculptures and decorative elements on Parisian buildings: Elysée Palace, National Library, Grand Palais, Petit Palais, Palais de la Découverte, Pont Alexandre III, Hôtel de Ville, etc.

(8) Marie Julie Hay (1869-1909), who made his name at the battles of Ulm, Austerlitz, Jena and Friedland and died of his wounds at Essling. The writer Marcel Proust certainly participated in some of these receptions regularly organised by the Marquise de Montebello at the Hôtel de Prony and these apparently inspired him to describe the Duchesse de Guermantes in his famous novel ‘A la recherche du temps perdu’, written between 1908 and 1922.

(9) The WHO took over from the Office international d’hygiène publique (created in Paris under the International Arrangement of 9 December 1907) and the Health Committee of the League of Nations (created in Geneva following the Peace Conference in Paris in 1919).

Several film scenes were shot in the OIE headquarters for the following films: ‘Les trois frères’ (1995), ‘Backstage’ (2005) and ‘Avant que j’oublie’ (2006). Teams from various television channels from a number of countries have converged on the OIE headquarters to record interviews during major animal health crises, especially the avian influenza crisis (2005-2007).

The OIE has also produced two films describing its activities (2002 and 2005). A film on animal health, to be broadcast worldwide as a matter of urgency, is soon to be produced at the initiative of the OIE.
new OIE publications

These publications are available for purchase from the OIE e-bookshop www.oie.int (publications)

Scientific and Technical Review
Vol. 27 (2), 2008
Climate change: the impact on the epidemiology and control of animal diseases

Coordinated by:
Stéphane de La Rocque,
Serge Morand & Guy Hendrickx

August 2008
Trilingual
Format: 21 × 29.7 cm
approx. 300 pp.
Price: 55 €

The impact of climate change on human and animal health is a highly topical issue and extensive debates and speculations often predict the worst. Following the most recent report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, this special issue of the Scientific and Technical Review is being developed to provide an overview of the latest scientific knowledge on the impact of climate change on animal diseases and the control options currently available. This publication will, therefore, help increase the reader’s understanding of what can be expected.

Following the presentation of the origin of climatic change and of the latest projections for the future, the cascading effects that affect host-pathogen systems will be reviewed. To help clarify how climate change will affect the occurrence, distribution or epidemiology of certain diseases, a number of case-studies will be presented, covering different animal diseases of major importance (including those affecting marine ecosystems). The final section will examine different world regions, in terms of the diseases likely to be affected and the mitigation strategies in place or in development.

Plurithematic issue of the Scientific and Technical Review
Vol. 27 (3), 2008

December 2008
Trilingual publication
Format: 21 × 29.7 cm
Approximately 300 pp.
Price: 55 €

Volume 27 (3) of the Scientific and Technical Review contains 29 articles submitted by experts from all parts of the world. The articles describe different animal disease surveillance strategies and the control and elimination of important animal diseases. The organisation of Veterinary Services is also discussed, as are diagnosis and vaccines.

The Review also constitutes a unique vehicle for the publication of reports on the situation of various animal diseases in the world, in particular in countries whose animal health situation receives little or no publicity otherwise.

Every year, the OIE also publishes two issues of the OIE Scientific and Technical Review on specific topics.
meetings and visits

Name and function of OIE permanent staff who participated in meetings or visits: June to September 2008

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<tr>
<th>Central Bureau</th>
<th>OIE Regional and Sub-Regional Representations</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td><strong>General Directorate</strong></td>
<td><strong>Africa</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bernard Vallat</td>
<td>Abdoulaye Bouna Niang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jean-Luc Angot</td>
<td>Yacouba Samaké</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gideon Brückner</td>
<td>Nicolas Denormandie</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alex Thiermann</td>
<td>Mariam Minta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maria Zampaglione</td>
<td>Aïssata Bagayoko</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glaiel Mamaghani</td>
<td>Bonaventure J. Mtei</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alain Dehove</td>
<td>Patrick Bastaensen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Margarita Gómez Riela</td>
<td>Nensa Tchikoko</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willem Doppers</td>
<td>Administration and Management Systems Department</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Luis Osvaldo Barcos</td>
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<td>Osvaldo Luján Ibarras</td>
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<td>François Caya</td>
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<td>Alicia Susana Palmas</td>
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<td>José Joaquín Oreamuno</td>
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<td>Yolanda Conte</td>
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<td>Asia and the Pacific</td>
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<td>Teruhide Fujita</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karim Ben Jelba</td>
<td>Sarah Kahn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Francesco Berlingieri</td>
<td>Leopoldo Stuardo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lauro Weber-Vintzel</td>
<td>Yamato Atagi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alessandro Ripani</td>
<td>Gillian Mylrea</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mariela Varas</td>
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<td>Gideon Brückner</td>
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<td>Elisabeth Erlicher-Vindel</td>
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<td>Yong Joo Kim</td>
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<td>Keith Hamilton</td>
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<td>François Diaz</td>
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<td>Lea Knopf</td>
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<td>Sara Linnane</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Regional Activities Department</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Gastón Funes</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Maria Elisa González</td>
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<td>Stéphane Berlaud</td>
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<td>Nilton Antônio de Morais</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Nathaly Monsalve</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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1. OFFLU: OIE/FAO Network of Expertise on Avian Influenza
2. SEAFMD: Southeast Asia Foot and Mouth Disease Campaign
Name and function of experts who represented the OIE in meetings or visits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Menachem Banai</td>
<td>OIE Expert</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Véronique Bellemain</td>
<td>OIE Expert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eva-Maria Bernoth</td>
<td>OIE Expert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gary Bührmann</td>
<td>OIE Expert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vincenzo Caporale</td>
<td>OIE Expert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patrick Dehaumont</td>
<td>OIE Expert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marie Edan</td>
<td>OIE Expert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sabrina Ichou</td>
<td>OIE Expert</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tomoko Ishibashi</td>
<td>OIE Expert</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rossella Lelli</td>
<td>OIE Expert</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeffrey Mariner</td>
<td>Member of the OIE ad hoc Group on Epidemiology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Klaus Nielsen</td>
<td>OIE Expert</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Barry O’Neill</td>
<td>President of the OIE International Committee</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martial Petitclerc</td>
<td>OIE Project Manager</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sira Abdul Rahman</td>
<td>Member of the OIE Working Group on Animal Welfare</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenichi Sakamoto</td>
<td>Member of the OIE Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herbert Schneider</td>
<td>President of the OIE ad hoc Group on the quality of Veterinary Services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judy Stack</td>
<td>OIE Expert</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Thwala</td>
<td>President of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Wilkins</td>
<td>Member of the OIE Working Group on Animal Welfare</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

meetings and visits

**June 2008 (see also Bulletin No. 3-2008)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of the event</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>38th IFAP World Farmers’ Congress</td>
<td>Kraków (Poland)</td>
<td>2 June 2008</td>
<td>Dr C. Planté</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portuguese-speaking Workshop on in-door simulation and communication on highly pathogenic avian influenza outbreak, organised by FAO/ECTAD/RAHC team with the participation of OIE/RAHC</td>
<td>Praia (Cape Verde)</td>
<td>23-27 June 2008</td>
<td>Dr N. Denormaldie</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**July 2008**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of the event</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Participants</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CBRN Task Force – Bio Sub-Group – Threats to animals organised by EC Directorate General JLS (Justice, Liberty &amp; Security)</td>
<td>Brussels (Belgium)</td>
<td>1-2 July 2008</td>
<td>Dr C. Planté</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workshop on establishing human and animal health sector collaboration in the Philippines</td>
<td>Manila (Philippines)</td>
<td>3-4 July 2008</td>
<td>Dr R.C. Abila</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Cooperation Program on Highly Pathogenic, Emerging and Re-emerging Diseases in Asia (HPEDI) of the European Commission</td>
<td>Rome (Italy)</td>
<td>6-8 July 2008</td>
<td>Dr A. Dehove</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OIE/FAO Regional Workshop on Classical Swine Fever Control Strategy for Southeast Asia</td>
<td>Makati City (Philippines)</td>
<td>7-8 July 2008</td>
<td>Dr A. Kamakawa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VICH* Steering Committee meeting</td>
<td>OIE Headquarters, Paris (France)</td>
<td>7-9 July 2008</td>
<td>Dr F. Diaz &amp; Dr P. Dehaumont</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCFICS’ Working Group responsible to draft a Generic Model Health Certificate</td>
<td>Brussels (Belgium)</td>
<td>8-9 July 2008</td>
<td>Dr F. Berlingieri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Preparatory Plenary Session for the Global Conference on Avian Influenza planned for October 2008 in Sharm el-Sheikh</td>
<td>Cairo (Egypt)</td>
<td>8-10 July 2008</td>
<td>Dr B. Vallat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd meeting of the SADC Joint Technical Committee (JTC) on Regional Preparedness and Prevention of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in the SADC Region</td>
<td>Lusaka (Zambia)</td>
<td>9-10 July 2008</td>
<td>Dr K. Hamilton, Dr B.J. Mtei &amp; Dr P. Bastiaansen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Steering Committee Meeting for the FAO International Conference to be held in 2009 on the Use of Biotechnology for Food and Agriculture in developing Countries: learning from the past and planning for the future</td>
<td>FAO Headquarters, Rome (Italy)</td>
<td>10-11 July 2008</td>
<td>Dr E. Erlacher-Vindel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Seminar on OIE Standards on Veterinary Services FAO/OIE/US Department of Defense/US Department of Agriculture Compensation Experience in the Western Hemisphere</td>
<td>Bangkok (Thailand)</td>
<td>10-11 July 2008</td>
<td>Dr A. Kamakawa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panama City (Panama)</td>
<td>15-17 July 2008</td>
<td>Dr L.O. Barcos &amp; Dr J.J. Oreamuno Toledo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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[3] PVS: Evaluation of Performance of Veterinary Services
[5] CBRN: Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear
[7] CCFICS: Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification System
[8] SADC: Southern African Development Community
### July 2008 (cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of the event</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3rd WHO Meeting of the Asia Pacific Technical Advisory Group on Emerging Infectious Diseases</td>
<td>Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia)</td>
<td>16-18 July 2008</td>
<td>Dr T. Fujita</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logistics preparation of the OIE Regional Seminar on Communication</td>
<td>Bangkok (Thailand)</td>
<td>19 July 2008</td>
<td>Dr T. Fujita</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One World, One Health Strategic Development Meeting</td>
<td>Washington DC (United States of America)</td>
<td>21-24 July 2008</td>
<td>Dr A. Thiermann &amp; Dr A. Dehove</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OFFLU - GISAID meeting</td>
<td>VLA Headquarters, Addlestone (United Kingdom)</td>
<td>24 July 2008</td>
<td>Dr K. Hamilton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29th World Veterinary Congress</td>
<td>Vancouver (Canada)</td>
<td>26-31 July 2008</td>
<td>Dr B. O’Neil, Dr B. Vallat, Dr A. Thiermann, Dr S. Khan, Ms M. Zampaglione, Ms A. Souyri, Dr J.J. Oreamuno Toledo, Dr R. Thwala, Dr P. Dehaumont, Dr E.-M. Bernoth, Dr S.A. Rahman, Dr H. Schneider, Dr D. Wilkins &amp; Dr J. Mariner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Scientific Meeting on Food Safety and Sustainable Development of the Agricultural and Animal Sector Groupama meeting</td>
<td>Zaffar (Oman)</td>
<td>27-30 July 2008</td>
<td>Dr G. Yehia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workshop on “Experts Orientation on INAP10 for Avian and Human Influenza in Sub-Saharan Africa”</td>
<td>Bamako (Mali)</td>
<td>28-30 July 2008</td>
<td>Dr G. Funes, Dr A.B. Niang, Dr Y. Samaké, Dr N. Denormandie, Dr M. Petitclerc, Dr M. Edan &amp; Dr S. Ichou</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Official visit to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Angola</td>
<td>Luanda (Angola)</td>
<td>28-31 July 2008</td>
<td>Dr B.J. Mtei &amp; Dr P. Bastiaensen</td>
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</table>

### August 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of the event</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Participants</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seminar on Food Safety Control System and Risk Analysis within the framework of the Meeting of the APEC Sub-Committee on Standards and Conformance</td>
<td>Cusco (Peru)</td>
<td>6-8 August 2008</td>
<td>Dr L.O. Barcos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Scientific Conference on Animal Health, Production, Fisheries and Wildlife</td>
<td>Khartoum (Sudan)</td>
<td>17-21 August 2008</td>
<td>Dr A.B. Niang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BTWC12 meeting</td>
<td>Geneva (Switzerland)</td>
<td>18-22 August 2008</td>
<td>Dr G. Brückner &amp; Dr K. Hamilton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st OIE Inter-American Meeting on Animal Welfare</td>
<td>Panama City (Panama)</td>
<td>19-20 August 2008</td>
<td>Dr L. Stuardo, Dr L.O. Barcos, Dr J.J. Oreamuno Toledo &amp; Dr F. Caya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congress of the Southern African Society for Veterinary Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine (SASVEPM)</td>
<td>Gauteng (South Africa)</td>
<td>20-22 August 2008</td>
<td>Dr B.J. Mtei</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting of the Southern African Council of Agricultural Unions (SACAU)</td>
<td>Johannesburg (South Africa)</td>
<td>25 August 2008</td>
<td>Dr P. Bastiaensen</td>
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<tr>
<td>International Cooperation and Development Days 2008</td>
<td>Paris (France)</td>
<td>25-26 August 2008</td>
<td>Dr A. Dehove</td>
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<tr>
<td>USDA13 Regional Workshop on Live Bird Markets</td>
<td>Amman (Jordan)</td>
<td>25-27 August 2008</td>
<td>Dr P. Primot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Symposium on Bee Diseases, organised by the OIE Reference Laboratory in Freiburg and Apimondia (bee keepers association)</td>
<td>Freiburg (Germany)</td>
<td>26-28 August 2008</td>
<td>Dr C. Planté</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th Meeting of the SEAFMD National Coordinators</td>
<td>Chiang Mai (Thailand)</td>
<td>27-29 August 2008</td>
<td>Dr R.C. Abila</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14th Ordinary Meeting of the Agricultural Council for the South</td>
<td>Concón (Chile)</td>
<td>28-29 August 2008</td>
<td>Dr L.O. Barcos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Coordination Meeting of Chief Veterinary Officers of Arab Maghreb</td>
<td>Tunis (Tunisia)</td>
<td>28-29 August 2008</td>
<td>Dr A.B. Niang</td>
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</table>

### September 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of the event</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seminar on the Dialogue and Common Activities between the OIE Member Countries of the European Union and the other OIE Member Countries of the Regional Commission for Europe Eurogrippe Seminar</td>
<td>Dushanbe (Tajikistan)</td>
<td>1-2 September 2008</td>
<td>Prof. Dr N.T. Belev, Dr C. Planté, Ms R. Kostova &amp; Dr V. Bellemain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Angers (France)</td>
<td>3 September 2008</td>
<td>Dr J.-L. Angot</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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[9] GISAID: Global Initiative on Sharing Avian Influenza Data  
[12] BTWC: Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of the event</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transboundary Workshop on Strengthening Collaboration for Surveillance, Prevention and Control of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Western and Central Africa</td>
<td>Abidjan (Ivory Coast)</td>
<td>3-5 September 2008</td>
<td>Dr. Y. Samaké</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arnold Theiler Memorial Lecture at the centenary celebrations of the Faculty of Veterinary Science of the University of Pretoria in South Africa</td>
<td>Pretoria (South Africa)</td>
<td>4 September 2008</td>
<td>Dr. G. Brückner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminar on the Dialogue and Common Activities between the OIE Member Countries of the European Union and the other OIE Member Countries of the Regional Commission for Europe</td>
<td>Tashkent (Uzbekistan)</td>
<td>4-5 September 2008</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. N.T. Belev, Dr. C. Planté, Ms. R. Kostova, Dr. V. Bellemain, Prof. V. Caporale &amp; Dr. R. Lelli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17th International Meat Secretariat Annual Conference</td>
<td>Cape Town (South Africa)</td>
<td>7-11 September 2008</td>
<td>Dr. G. Brückner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Senior Officials’ Meeting on Agriculture of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) - 4th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture</td>
<td>Baku (Azerbaijan)</td>
<td>8-10 September 2008</td>
<td>Dr. G. Brückner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHO/FAO/OIE/ICD/SAFE round table on capacity building for food safety</td>
<td>Rome (Italy)</td>
<td>9 September 2008</td>
<td>Dr. D. Chaisemartin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brucellosis International Research Conference</td>
<td>Egham (United Kingdom)</td>
<td>10-13 September 2008</td>
<td>Dr. K. Nielsen, Dr. J. Stack &amp; Dr. M. Banai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Official visit to the Ministry of Agriculture of Botswana</td>
<td>Gaborone (Botswana)</td>
<td>11 September 2008</td>
<td>Dr. B.J. Mtei &amp; Dr. P. Bastiaensen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting of the EFSA* Scientific panel on animal health and animal welfare</td>
<td>Barcelona (Spain)</td>
<td>11-12 September 2008</td>
<td>Dr. E. Erlacher-Vindel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OIE Regional Workshop on Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS)</td>
<td>Hanoi (Vietnam)</td>
<td>14-17 September 2008</td>
<td>Dr. T. Fujita, Dr. K. Sakurai, Dr. Y. Sakurai, Dr. M. Yamage, Dr. G. Bührmann &amp; Dr. T. Ishibashi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OIE/FAO FMD Reference Laboratories Network Meeting</td>
<td>Landzhou (People’s Republic of China)</td>
<td>15-17 September 2008</td>
<td>Dr. K. Sakamoto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IAEA* Training Workshop and OIE Laboratory twinning project meeting</td>
<td>Vladimir (Russia)</td>
<td>15-17 September 2008</td>
<td>Dr. K. Hamilton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-Regional (French-speaking African countries) Biosafety and Laboratory Biosecurity Awareness Raising Meeting</td>
<td>Nairobi (Kenya)</td>
<td>15-19 September 2008</td>
<td>Dr. F. Diaz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23rd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe</td>
<td>Vilnius (Lithuania)</td>
<td>16-19 September 2008</td>
<td>Dr. B. Vallat, Dr. A. Thiermann, Dr. G. Funes, Dr. F. Berlingieri, Ms. N. Morsalve, Prof. Dr. N.T. Belev, Dr. C. Planté &amp; Ms. R. Kostova</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECO* Expert Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Subregional Mechanism for Prevention and Control of Avian Influenza</td>
<td>Tirana (Albania)</td>
<td>18-19 September 2008</td>
<td>Dr. K. Hamilton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting of the Ministers of Agriculture of the European Union under the French Presidency</td>
<td>Abidjan (Ivory Coast)</td>
<td>18-25 September 2008</td>
<td>Dr. Y. Samaké</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation Ceremony for “Lauriers de l’INRA”</td>
<td>Annecy (France)</td>
<td>22 September 2008</td>
<td>Dr. B. Vallat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd OIE/FAO-APHCA* Regional Workshop and Working Group Meeting on BSE* and other Prion Diseases</td>
<td>Paris (France)</td>
<td>23 September 2008</td>
<td>Dr. A. Dehove</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interagency Table - Top Exercise Humanitarian Response to a Pandemic</td>
<td>Qingdao (People’s Republic of China)</td>
<td>23-25 September 2008</td>
<td>Dr. L. Knopf, Dr. A. Kamakawa &amp; Dr. S. Shin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19th Executive Board Meeting of the ETPGAH*</td>
<td>Geneva (Switzerland)</td>
<td>26 September 2008</td>
<td>Dr. W. Droppe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd meeting of the Project Management Board of Discontools*</td>
<td>IFAH Headquarters, Brussels (Belgium)</td>
<td>26 September 2008</td>
<td>Dr. E. Erlacher-Vindel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparatory Meeting on the OIE Project for Strengthening HPAI* Control in Asia, in particular the Surveillance Programme of Wild Birds and Domestic Animals in conjunction with HPAI21</td>
<td>IFAH Headquarters, Brussels (Belgium)</td>
<td>26 September 2008</td>
<td>Dr. E. Erlacher-Vindel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparatory Meeting on the OIE Project for Strengthening HPAI21 Control in Asia, in particular the Surveillance Programme of Wild Birds and Domestic Animals in conjunction with HPAI21</td>
<td>Beijing (People’s Republic of China)</td>
<td>27 September 2008</td>
<td>Dr. T. Fujita &amp; Dr. M. Yamage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference on veterinary medicinal products legislation in the European Union - Opportunities of improvement</td>
<td>Hong Kong (Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China)</td>
<td>29-30 September 2008</td>
<td>Dr. T. Fujita &amp; Dr. M. Yamage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference on veterinary medicinal products legislation in the European Union - Opportunities of improvement</td>
<td>Afssa Headquarters, Maisons-Alfort (France)</td>
<td>30 September 2008</td>
<td>Dr. F. Diaz</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[14] EFSA: European Food Safety Authority
[15] FMD: Foot and Mouth Disease
[16] IAEA: International Atomic Energy Agency
[17] ECOWAS: Economic Community of West African States
[19] BSE: Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy
[21] Discontools: Disease Control Tools
[22] HPAI: Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza
Staff changes

Dr Mara González Ortiz
Mexican-born Dr Mara Elma González Ortiz joined the OIE as Deputy Head of the Regional Activities Department on 15 July 2008. Formerly, she worked as an animal health specialist at the headquarters of the Regional International Organization for Plant Protection and Animal Health (OIRSA) in El Salvador.

She is a graduate of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Husbandry of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM). During her professional career she has held a variety of positions in Mexico’s Official Veterinary Services, in the areas of importation and exportation of animals and animal products, regulation and certification of livestock products and inputs, and regionalisation of disease-free zones. She advised on implementation of the World Trade Organization Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement) in the countries of the OIRSA Region and helped to draw up Mexican Official Standards on livestock imports, the regulation of veterinary products, the processing and use of meal, animal health specifications for foodstuffs, the establishment of disease- and pest-free zones and specifications for the verification of meat, carcasses, viscera and offal.

Dr Elisabeth Erlacher-Vindel
Dr Elisabeth Erlacher-Vindel returned on 1 September 2008 to her previous position as Deputy Head of the Scientific and Technical Department of the OIE after she left the services of the OIE in December 2006 to take up the position of Deputy Director of the Scientific Department and Head of the Food Safety and Environment unit of the Centre National Interprofessionnel de l’Economie Laitière Paris (CNIEL), in Paris. At CNIEL she was responsible for scientific information linked to hygiene of milk and milk products and environment. She was also responsible to give advice and expert support on scientific studies related to animal health, microbiological food pathogens, contaminants and environmental issues for the dairy sector and participated as a food hygiene expert in crisis management and communication for the dairy sector. She also represented CNIEL on several committees of the IDF (International Dairy Federation).

The OIE is delighted to once again have her wide expertise available. She will assist in managing the Scientific and Technical Department with special attention to all matters related to biotechnology, antimicrobial resistance, laboratory twinning and capacity building and issues emanating from the OIE Biological Standards Commission. She will also serve as focal point for the OIE Central Bureau with the IDF, Epizone and the European Technical Platform for Global Animal Health.

Dr Nilton Antônio de Morais
Dr Nilton Antônio de Morais joined the Regional Activities Department on 20 June 2008 as a chargé de mission, on secondment from the Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply. In his previous position, he was responsible for coordinating the national foot and mouth disease eradication and prevention programme within the Ministry’s Animal Health Department.

Dr de Morais graduated from the School of Veterinary Medicine of the Federal University of Goiás in 1998. After obtaining his degree he worked at the State Secretariat for Public Health of Goiás and the Brazilian Ministry of Health on controlling zoonoses and tropical diseases. In 2001 he gained a master’s degree in veterinary medicine in the field of animal health and in 2002 he passed a competitive
examination to enter the Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture, where he worked as a veterinary inspector.

**Dr Yong-Joo Kim**

Dr Yong-Joo Kim joined the team of the Scientific and Technical Department on 1 September 2008. He is on secondment from the National Veterinary Research and Quarantine Service in Anyang, Republic of Korea, where he was a veterinary researcher in the field of infectious diseases. His particular scientific expertise covers diagnostics and control systems for animal diseases. Dr Kim will mainly work with Dr Lea Knopf on the procedure for official disease status recognition.

**Dr Maria Cristina Ramírez Matus**

Dr Maria Cristina Ramírez Matus, chargée de mission within the Animal Health Information Department, left the OIE on 31 August 2008 after two years of active service to the Organisation. The OIE staff wish her every success in her new destination.

**Ms Marie Bonnerot**

Ms Marie Bonnerot joined the Human Resources and Budget Management Unit on 23st June 2008 as Assistant.

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**Internships at the OIE**

The OIE welcomes selected interns for periods of one to six months, for the benefit of the OIE, of the intern and of the country or sponsoring institution.

Here are brief reports on six of the interns here in 2008. The breadth and depth of their work is a clear demonstration of the value of these internships.

- **Ms Lise Gazzola** worked in the Documentation unit of the publications Department at the OIE Headquarters in February and again in July and August 2008. Lise’s training in biology as well as information technology served her well during her stay at the OIE.

  As part of the project to revise the OIE Web site, Lise suggested ways to make it more ergonomic in accordance with accepted standards of web design. She also participated in managing the database of OIE publications available on the intranet. Lise actively contributed to the project aimed at digitizing the OIE’s archive of historical documents and clearly appreciated the importance of making these documents easily accessible.

- **Dr Rebecca Jennings** worked in the OIE International Trade department, from 9 June to 25 July 2008. Her internship was sponsored by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, New Zealand.

  Rebecca produced a summary of published research covering dermatitis, ascites, lameness and broiler breeders, and also a short paper covering the affective state of pain in cattle and fear in chickens and linked this to behaviour and animal health. Wherever possible the OIE aims to have a global focus and an effort was made to collect data from all of the OIE regions in compiling this research. The review of the literature that she compiled with Dr Mukakanamugire will be used to assist in the development of animal welfare standards for broiler chickens.
Dr Alice Mukakanamugire also did her internship with the International Trade Department, from March to September 2008, following her graduation from the Inter-State School for Veterinary Sciences and Medicine (EISMV) in Dakar, Senegal.

This gave her the opportunity to familiarise herself with the fields of safety of food of animal origin and animal welfare. During meetings of ad hoc Groups, Alice was able to share the knowledge of world experts. In connection with these meetings she was assigned the task of grouping together animal welfare criteria and justifying them on a scientific basis, with reference to poultry broiler production.

Dr Min-Hye Lee, from the National Veterinary Research and Quarantine Service, Ministry for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of the Republic of Korea, worked as an intern in the International Trade department from 29 March 2008 to 19 June 2008.

Her work was to compare the animal welfare regulations in Australia, Canada, the European Union, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines and the United States of America, relating to the following topics: compulsory regulations; voluntary regulations; penalties relating to breaches of animal welfare standards; and the level of detail with which different animal species are treated in the regulations. This training opportunity served as an excellent basis for Dr Lee to help develop animal welfare regulations in her home country.

Dr Marie Edan spent four months within the World Fund Unit at the OIE from 5 May to 5 September 2008 as part of her Master’s in Public Health (specialising in International health and tropical pathology) at the University of Bordeaux Institute of Public Health, Epidemiology and Development. Her dissertation was entitled ‘Cost of animal disease and zoonosis prevention systems to achieve early detection and rapid response for emerging and re-emerging diseases, in accordance with the relevant OIE international standards – a methodological approach’.

Ms Sophie Chartier, a French law student, spent two months as an intern with the International Trade Department, focusing on mediation as a mechanism for resolving trade disputes between OIE Members. She completed two documents: ‘International trade: Rights and obligations of OIE Members’, and ‘A comparative study of informal dispute settlement mechanisms.’
Activities of the International Trade Department

**Ad hoc Group on Aquatic Animal Health Surveillance**

*Paris, 15-17 July 2008*

The OIE ad hoc Group on Aquatic Animal Health Surveillance met at the OIE Headquarters in Paris from 15 to 17 July 2008. The ad hoc Group continued to develop the draft manuscript for the OIE *Handbook on Aquatic Animal Health Surveillance*. The *Handbook* is due for publication in early 2009 and will provide the first authoritative publication in the field of aquatic animal health surveillance and an important resource for OIE Members.

**Ad hoc Group on Trade in Terrestrial Animal Products**

*Paris, 21-27 July 2008*

The ad hoc Group on Trade in Terrestrial Animal Products (Commodities) met for the first time at the OIE Headquarters in Paris from 21 to 23 July. The Group held fruitful discussions and recommended further action by the OIE to:
1. develop publications communicating the OIE’s commitment to policies supporting the global increase of trade in commodities;
2. seek funds for research to support commodity trade;
3. obtain feedback on Members’ application of OIE standards, particularly in regard to commodity trade;
4. develop additional standards for the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* designed to facilitate commodity trade;
5. promote and provide technical support for commodity trade;
6. strengthen Veterinary Services so that they can effectively implement OIE standards and maintain credibility in the issuing of veterinary health certificates;
7. address antigenic variation within serotypes of FMD-SAT1 viruses in terms of vaccine selection and diagnostic tools to help African countries to apply acceptable risk mitigation measures for safe trade in commodities;
8. address research needs for updating the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*.

**Ad hoc Group on Safety of Products Derived from Aquatic Animals**

*Paris, 27-29 August 2008*

The ad hoc Group on Safety of Products Derived from Aquatic Animals met, for the first time, at the OIE Headquarters in Paris from 27 to 29 August 2008. The ad hoc Group developed criteria for (i) assessing the safety of aquatic animal commodities traded irrespective of country disease status; and (ii) assessing the safety of aquatic animal products destined for human consumption. The ad hoc Group evaluated the criteria using an example of a commodity/disease combination to demonstrate how they could be applied to assess the safety of a specific commodity with regards to a given disease agent.

The ad hoc Group also addressed issues related to the safety of disinfected fish eggs and larvae, spat and juvenile stages of molluscs and crustaceans.

**Ad hoc Group on Evaluation of Veterinary Services**

*Paris, 23-25 September 2008*

The OIE ad hoc Group on Evaluation of Veterinary Services met at the OIE Headquarters in Paris from 23 to 25 September 2008. The ad hoc Group discussed issues relevant to the OIE PVS² procedures, including new or modified definitions for the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* and the potential use of the PVS to assess aquatic animal health services. The Group continues to support the further development of the OIE PVS initiative.

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1. One of the strains of foot and mouth disease virus, currently found in the African continent
2. PVS: OIE ‘Performance of Veterinary Services’ tool
Activities of the Scientific and Technical Department

Ad hoc Group and Specialist Commission Meetings: summaries July to September

OFFLU1 Epidemiology Task Group
OIE, Paris, 2 July 2008
The OFFLU Epidemiology Task Group held its first meeting at OIE Headquarters on 2 July 2008. The Group defined its terms of reference and developed a work plan. It was considered most important that the Group restricts its activities to specific avian influenza-related activities that complement and do not duplicate other activities of the OIE, FAO2 and WHO3. The proposed activities will be submitted to the OFFLU Steering Committee for approval at its next meeting, on 25th November 2008.

Ad hoc Group on Camelidae diseases
OIE, Paris, 8–10 July 2008
The ad hoc Group met to list, by species, the diseases (bacterial, parasitic and viral) that are considered significant in Camelidae. The diseases were divided into significant diseases, diseases for which camelids are potential pathogen carriers, and minor or non-significant diseases. A table was developed listing for each disease the available antigen detection methods and serological tests, followed by recommendations for diagnosis and prevention. This list of diseases was divided into three categories to cover Old World camels (dromedary and Bactrian camels) and New World camelids (llamas and alpacas). Regarding international trade in camelids and camelid products, the Group recommended removing dromedary from the OIE list of animals susceptible to foot and mouth disease (FMD), and also establishing specific guidelines for trade in camelids and camelid products. For their next meeting planned next year, the Group should identify the priority diseases for each of the three categories of Camelidae so that the relevant OIE Reference Laboratories can be contacted and asked for information on the disease in camelids and availability of diagnostic tests validated for camelids. The Group will also be responsible for drafting an introductory chapter on Camelid diseases of significance for inclusion in the OIE Manual of Diagnostic Test and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals. An International Conference on Camelidae is being organised in 2009 in Tunisia and this would be a good opportunity to present the work done by this ad hoc Group.

Ad hoc Group on Biotechnology
OIE, Paris, 26–28 August 2008
The ad hoc Group met for the last time from 26 to 28 August 2008. On behalf of Dr Bernard Vallat, Director General of the OIE, Dr Gideon Brückner, Deputy Director General welcomed all the participants and thanked them for their valuable contribution and the work done since the creation of this ad hoc Group. In future, work on biotechnology will be carried out by two ad hoc Groups: one focused on vaccinology related to new technologies and the other on molecular diagnostic tests.

Ad hoc Group on Country Status Evaluation for FMD
A request for reinstatement of status and an application for recognition of FMD free status were evaluated for compliance with the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code (2008). The ad hoc Group emphasised the importance of compliance with basic requirements for Veterinary Services within the framework of maintenance of and application for FMD free status.

Meeting of the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases
OIE, Paris, 29 July 2008
The report of the ad hoc Group on FMD was endorsed, followed by discussions on the identified priorities for the
next scheduled OIE FMD expert mission to the Mercosur countries and the OIE/FAO International Conference on FMD in Paraguay in June 2009. The Commission reviewed the items listed for the working plan 2008/2009 and updated the list of issues raised by the International Committee during the 76th General Session to ensure that they were reflected in its work programme. The main activities will be as follows:
- to arrange for the development of a handbook for animal health surveillance
- to define criteria to further the establishment of networks of OIE Reference Laboratories for specific diseases
- to consider a holistic approach to raise awareness at the OIE of epidemiological factors that favour the global spread of animal diseases.

**Ad hoc Group on General Guidelines for the Use of Epidemiological Models for the Management of Animal Diseases**

**OIE Collaborating Centre for Animal Disease Surveillance and Risk Analysis**

**Fort Collins, United States of America**

**13-15 August 2008**

The ad hoc Group met in conjunction with an international workshop on epidemiological modelling, which was held to facilitate the task of the ad hoc Group experts in considering the most relevant aspects and critical steps for Veterinary Services in the use of epidemiological models, in accordance with Resolution No. XXXIII adopted by the International Committee during the 75th General Session. The ad hoc Group emphasised that OIE Collaborating Centres have a crucial role in promoting exchange of information and in providing training on the appropriate use of models. The first draft for general guidelines was referred to the ad hoc Group on Epidemiology for comment and further elaboration of the guidelines is foreseen.

**Ad hoc Group on Epidemiology**

**OIE, Paris, 3-5 September 2008**

The ad hoc Group continued the work it began at its June 2008 meeting on the development of the table of content and editing process concerning the handbook on animal health surveillance. The 'General disease surveillance guidelines', as revised by the ad hoc Group on Wildlife Disease Surveillance, were reviewed and amended to include wildlife considerations in accordance with general principles of surveillance. Discussions were held on the implications of infection in wildlife for the free status of countries or zones, taking as examples classical swine fever, FMD and avian influenza. The ad hoc Group was requested to analyse the measures to be applied in the separation of zones and countries having a different disease status.

**Meeting of the Biological Standards Commission**

**OIE, Paris, 23-25 September 2008**

The OIE Biological Standards Commission met at the OIE Headquarters from 23 to 25 September 2008. The Commission has a number of regular items that it considers at its meetings (reviewing new applications for Collaborating Centre and Reference Laboratory status and proposed changes of designated experts; reviewing twinning applications; following progress in the programme to achieve international standardisation of diagnostic tests and vaccines; updating/reviewing the list of prescribed and alternative tests; updating the Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals; providing advice on diagnostic tests and disease definitions to the other Specialist Commissions, etc.). At this meeting, the Commission considered a proposal that had been received to establish a regional Collaborating Centre network. The Commission requested a policy statement from the OIE Administrative Commission on handling such applications. The Commission also proposed that the OIE consider adopting a procedure for officially recognising Reference Laboratory networks. The Commission reviewed the reports of the meetings of a number of ad hoc Groups: Validation of Diagnostic Assays; Biotechnology; Brucellosis; and Camelidae Diseases. The latter ad hoc Group had drawn up a table listing, for each disease, the available antigen detection methods and serological tests, followed by recommendations for diagnosis and prevention. The Commission recommended that the table of significant diseases of Camelidae be added to the OIE Web
site. This list of diseases was divided into three categories to cover Old World camelids (dromedary camels and Bactrian camels) and New World camelids (llama and alpaca). An OFFLU Technical Group had drafted biosafety guidelines for handling highly pathogenic avian influenza in veterinary diagnostic laboratories. The Commission will present these guidelines for adoption as a text for inclusion in the avian influenza chapter in the Terrestrial Manual by the International Committee in May 2009.

Meeting of the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases

**OIE, Paris, 30 September - 2 October 2008**

The OIE Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases met at the OIE Headquarters from 30 September to 2 October 2008. It was acknowledged that in some countries swine vesicular disease (SVD) might also be a concern in terms of bilateral trade. The Commission reiterated that the relative importance of the epidemiological relationship between domestic and wild pig populations should be consistently applied across all diseases, and might need to be adjusted in the draft chapter on SVD.

The Commission accepted the recommendations of the ad hoc Group on Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome that it would not be opportune to draft a chapter that might have the potential to be harmful to international trade in pig and pig products due to the current insufficient scientific information on the differentiation between highly pathogenic and low pathogenic (including vaccine) virus strains of the disease. The Commission did, however stress the importance of establishing the necessary scientific basis, so that a chapter can be drafted as soon as possible.

The Commission accepted the recommendations of the ad hoc Group on the draft chapter on classical swine fever but reiterated that the concept of the presence of a listed disease in wildlife and its relevance to the disease status of a country or zone in terms of the domestic animal population should also be further discussed, as it relates to other diseases such as FMD.

The Commission discussed and reached a consensus on the application of a buffer zone with regard to FMD, thereby confirming the previous proposal recommended by the ad hoc Group and emphasising that the important issues are biosecurity, geographical barriers, control measures and increased surveillance, i.e. the application of acceptable animal health control measures. A buffer zone should be optional and not obligatory as long as the specified conditions have been met. This would still give the Scientific Commission the required legal text and support in the evaluation of country dossiers for disease status. It was also proposed that the wording ‘buffer zone’ should be replaced by ‘protection zone’ and that consideration be given to the further defining ‘surveillance zone’, as it is already covered within the definition and objectives of a buffer zone.

Drs David Paton and Jeff Hammond of the OIE/FAO Reference Laboratory for foot and mouth disease at Pirbright, United Kingdom, were invited by the Commission to give the Commission insight on the management and progress with the implementation of the OIE/FAO FMD Reference Laboratories network.

A short but very fruitful meeting was held between the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases and the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission to discuss issues of mutual interest.
Activities of the Communication Unit

Ad hoc Group on Communication
11-12 September 2008

Recent years have seen increased public attention on animal diseases, their zoonotic potential and the measures used for their control. Avian influenza, foot and mouth disease, bluetongue and other emerging and re-emerging diseases have proven that there is a need among the media and the general public for a better understanding of animal health issues, which are, in fact, also social and economical issues. There is still low awareness that early detection of animal diseases and an immediate response are keys to effective prevention and control of natural or intentional animal health disasters. There is an acknowledged need among decision and policy makers throughout the world for a better definition of animal health systems. It must be clearly communicated that investing in animal health mechanisms not only protects countries from disease occurrence, but also safeguards public health, reduces poverty and opens up possibilities for trading their agricultural products freely with the rest of the world.

Communication underpins everything that the Veterinary Services do, including prevention, surveillance, animal welfare, disease response, public health and food safety.

Improving communication is therefore a major strategic element for the OIE. To be effective, this communication must be acknowledged and supported by the relevant stakeholders, first and foremost by the national Veterinary Services. In many cases, a lack of adequate structure and expertise in communication has led to a loss of visibility and credibility of their actions in the face of scrutiny by the general public. In line with the old adage ‘Get the work done and let them know’, the Veterinary Services must become fully aware of the overriding need for improved communication, in order to convince and influence policy makers and civil society of the economic and social worth of the missions these services perform every day.

The Fourth OIE Strategic Plan recognises communication as a cross-cutting area aimed at achieving the objectives of the Organisation. As such, it is already referenced in the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code (the Terrestrial Code). In evaluating the capacity of the Veterinary Services of OIE Members, the Terrestrial Code lists communication as one of the fundamental principles of their quality. Communication is referred to as a horizontal function as evidenced by the mention of it in several critical competencies in the PVS1 Tool. However, the context is limited to that of the narrow Terrestrial Code definition of risk communication (Article 1.3.2.7. of the Terrestrial Code).

In view of the increasing importance of communication in animal health issues in recent years, there was a general consensus that this concept needs to be expanded to encompass all aspects of communication and lead to a definition of communication as relevant to animal health policies and activities.

The ad hoc Group on Communication, which met at the OIE Headquarters on 11 and 12 September 2008, was the very first OIE ad hoc Group to meet on a non scientific/veterinary subject. It was comprised of six experts from different parts of the world and from different backgrounds. The ad hoc Group discussed and agreed on terminology and definitions of communication, concepts and guiding principles of communication and reviewed the applicability of communication within the Terrestrial Code.

The Ad hoc Group also recognised the need for continuing work on drafting the content of a chapter on communication for the Terrestrial Code for submission to the Code Commission, based on a proposed framework, and it also recommended drafting practical guidelines on communication, in line with the approach adopted on other topics covered by the Terrestrial Code.

The full integration of communication into the Terrestrial Code will be an effective means of creating the necessary incentive for countries and their relevant ministries to incorporate communication strategies in their animal health policies.

1- PVS: Performance of Veterinary Services
Meeting on national compensation mechanisms in the Americas

A meeting of technical experts in the field of national compensation mechanisms in the Americas was held in Panama City, Panama, from 15 to 17 July 2008. The meeting was organised by the OIE Regional Representation for the Americas, jointly with FAO, USDA-APHIS\(^1\) and the United States Southern Command.

The meeting was attended by 24 countries of the Americas and presented advances in the implementation of compensation mechanisms in the Americas and the rest of the world.

The subjects under discussion included systems for valuing animals for stamping-out measures, sources of funding and the legal framework.

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Launching of SEAFMD E-News

The South-East Asian Foot and Mouth Campaign (SEAFMD) launched the inaugural SEAFMD E-News in September 2008 as part of the communication campaign to fight foot and mouth disease (FMD) in South-East Asia. This regular electronic newsletter will inform readers of FMD-related events in South-East Asia as well as relevant meetings and activities of the Campaign. The aim is to reach many more people and organisations and to provide a regular source of information on FMD. The SEAFMD newsletter has now become a 6-monthly publication. If you would like to receive either the E-News or newsletter, please contact the OIE Regional Coordination Unit for SEAFMD at oiercu@seafmd.org.

---

1- USDA-APHIS: United States Department of Agriculture - Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
INAP orientation workshop

Within the framework of ALive\(^1\), a workshop on “Experts Orientation on INAP\(^2\) for Avian and Human Influenza in Sub-Saharan Africa” was held in the OIE/FAO/\(^3\) AU-IBAR\(^4\) Regional Animal Health Centre in Bamako, Mali, from 28 to 30 July 2008.

The OIE was represented by Dr Gastón Funes, Head of the Regional Activities Department, Dr Abdoulaye Bouna Niang, Regional Representative for Africa, Dr Yacouba Samake Deputy Regional Representative and Dr Nicolas Denormandie, Programme Officer at the Regional Representation, as well as by three PVS\(^5\) experts, Dr Marie Edan, Dr Sabrina Ichou and Dr Martial Petitclerc.

Among the 37 participants at the Workshop were representatives of all INAP partner organisations\(^6\) and selected experts who had carried out rapid assessment (RA) and INAP missions.

The Workshop was organised by ALive to provide RA mission and INAP experts with guidelines aimed at improving the whole process, including avian influenza RA missions and the preparation of INAP missions in the countries concerned.

On behalf of the OIE, Dr Funes stressed the importance of collaborative and complementary mechanisms, such as GF-TADs\(^7\) and the creation of Regional Animal Health Centres under the umbrella of GF-TADs, among the various sectors and organisations, to help in the fight against animal diseases. He commented on the priority that the OIE gives to the process of strengthening Veterinary Services worldwide and the key role that Veterinary Services play in controlling animal diseases, including zoonoses at source, through good governance which enables early detection and a rapid response.

Dr Funes highlighted the differences between the avian influenza RA-INAP missions and the PVS, as well as the links and complementarities that should exist between both processes, stating that INAP should be a complementary procedure for avian influenza-specific issues but stressing that the OIE-PVS is a global programme with a broader approach beyond avian influenza.

It was also pointed out that, for those countries that have not yet undertaken an OIE-PVS evaluation, the INAP could act as a ‘seeding’ process, by including a specific recommendation to the National Authorities to ask the OIE for an evaluation of this type with a view to strengthening the Veterinary Services on a broader front.

The INAP programme will finish in July 2009, by which time 11 additional INAP missions are expected to have been completed.

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\(^1\) ALive platform: Partnership for livestock development, poverty alleviation and sustainable growth in Africa
\(^2\) INAP: Integrated National Action Programme
\(^3\) FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
\(^4\) AU-IBAR: African Union - Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources
\(^5\) PVS: Performance of Veterinary Services
\(^6\) INAP partner organisations are ALive, FAO, AU-IBAR, AFRO-WHO and OIE
\(^7\) GF-TADs: FAO/OIE Global Framework for the Progressive Control of FMD and Other Transboundary Animal Diseases
The OIE Regional Representation for the Middle East, created in 1998, is based in Lebanon at Kfarshima on the outskirts of Beirut, in premises provided by the Lebanese Ministry of Agriculture.

Dr Ghazi Yehia has been the Regional Representative since its creation, heading a team of eight people who carry out OIE activities specially tailored for the Middle East region.

The top priority of the Regional Representation is strengthening the capacity of the Veterinary Services, as provided for in the OIE Fourth Strategic Plan.

The Regional Representation organises regular workshops on the most important regional animal health issues and helps OIE Members in the region by providing ad hoc expertise suited to their requirements.

For example, in 2008, some OIE Members in the Horn of Africa were provided with special technical assistance to help them create quarantine stations to secure the trade in animals exported to the Gulf States.

This year there has been a major effort to support OIE accredited PVS experts to evaluate the Veterinary Services using the PVS1 tool; all OIE Members in the region are due to have been evaluated by the middle of 2009.

Special attention is also paid to translating into Arabic all documents of major interest (OIE reference documents, regional conference and seminar reports, technical documentation).

All of these documents are also published on the Web site of the Regional Representation (www.rr-middleeast.oie.int), which provides two versions for consultation, one in English and the other in Arabic.

Regional news is published online on the Web site, with updated details of OIE Members, summaries of the situation for the main animal diseases affecting the region, and scientific articles adapted to the regional context.

For 2009, in addition to pursuing existing actions, the priority project of the Regional Representation will be to draw up and propose a regional strategy for the surveillance and control of foot and mouth disease.

OIE Regional Representation for the Middle East
Kfarshima - B.P. 6220/268 Hazmiah
Beirut, Lebanon
Tel. +961 5 43 07 41
Fax +961 5 43 07 42
E-mail: rr.mideast@oie.int
Web site: www.rr-middleeast.oie.int

Regional Representation offices at Kfarshima (outskirts of Beirut)

Setting up the RAHC in the offices of the Regional Representation:
Dr Hassan Aidaros (coordinator of the FAO ECTAD unit for the Middle East),
Dr Ali Moumen (FAO representative in Lebanon), Mrs Daniela Mangioni (FAO) and Dr Ghazi Yehia (OIE Regional Representative for the Middle East)

Regional Representation staff, from left to right: Mahmoud Gaddaf, Pierre Primot, Rita Rizk, Ghazi Yehia, Laure Zoghbi, Mustapha Meston, Hani Imam, Khodr Rejeili

1: PVS: Performance of Veterinary Services
Regional Animal Health Centre for the Middle East

As part of the GF-TADs' programme, the OIE and FAO established a Regional Animal Health Centre (RAHC) in May 2007 to strengthen and coordinate their activities in the Middle East.

The RAHC is housed in the same building, provided by the Lebanese Ministry of Agriculture, as the OIE Regional Representation for the Middle East and the FAO's newly created ECTAD3 regional unit.

This centre is the second of its type, the first being based in Mali (see OIE Bulletin No. 2007-1 page 41).

The purpose of the RAHC in Beirut is to improve animal health in the Middle East by implementing programmes to control transboundary animal diseases using a concerted approach with the two partner organisations pooling their resources.

Each of the organisations provides experts and intervenes in its fields of competence. They pool their expertise for activities such as the evaluation and reinforcement of Veterinary Services, controlling animal diseases and zoonoses and the harmonisation of national emergency response plans.

The OIE Regional Representation acts as the permanent secretariat for the GF TADs Regional Steering Committee for the Middle East, as well as providing the secretariat for the RAHC.

The RAHC has been in operation since June 2007 and has mainly been involved in helping countries in the region to achieve official recognition of freedom from rinderpest.

A workshop was organised for this purpose in February 2008 where a working programme was defined to achieve this objective as soon as possible.

In 2009, the OIE Regional Representation hopes to set up on its premises a fully equipped training room (computer hardware, translation, etc.) to facilitate the work of the RAHC in organising technical programmes suited to the specific needs of the countries in the region.

Further details are available on the Web site of the OIE Regional Representation: www.rr-middleeast.oie.int

OIE Regional Representation for the Middle East
Kfarshima - B.P. 6220/268 Hazmieh, Beirut, Lebanon
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Fax +961 5 43 07 42
E-mail: rr.mideast@oie.int
Web site: www.rr-middleeast.oie.int

2: GF-TADs: Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases
3: ECTAD: Emergency Centres for Transboundary Animal Diseases
Status of the OIE PVS\(^1\) Evaluation Programme
(as at 25 September 2008)

\* Official requests:

Africa (36): Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d’Ivoire, Congo (Dem. Rep.), Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Swaziland, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia

Americas (15): Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay

Asia/Pacific (13): Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, Fiji, Indonesia, Korea (DPR), Laos, Mongolia, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Vietnam

Europe (9): Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Romania, Turkey, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

Middle East (11): Bahrain, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestinian Nat. Authority, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, United Arab Emirates, Yemen

In italics: Completed missions

Additional information on the evaluation of performance of Veterinary Services using the OIE PVS Tool is given in the OIE Bulletin No. 2008-2, pp 33-34.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
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<th>Reports sent to countries</th>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1- PVS: Performance of Veterinary Services
Appointment of permanent Delegates

12 June 2008
Venezuela
Dr Yesenia Medina Macías
Director of Veterinary Services, Ministry of Agriculture and Lands

2 July 2008
Croatia
Dr Andelko Gaspar
Director of Veterinary Directorate, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development

4 July 2008
Trinidad and Tobago
Dr Simone Titus
Chief Veterinary Officer and Director, Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Marine Resources

1 August 2008
Albania
Dr Kapllan Sulaj
Director of Veterinary Services, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection

18 August 2008
Belarus
Dr Vladimír Khilia
Chief Veterinary Officer, Ministry of Agriculture and Food

3 September 2008
Botswana
Dr Letšwenyo Moetapele
Director of Veterinary Services, Ministry of Agriculture

16 September 2008
Sudan
Dr Mohammed Abdel Razig Abdel Aziz
Undersecretary, Ministry of Animal Resources and Fisheries

17 September 2008
Colombia
Dr Andrés Fernández Acosta
Director General, Colombian Institute for Agriculture and Livestock, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

25 September 2008
Republic of Korea
Dr Kiyoon Chang
Director Animal Health Division, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
Agreements

Agreement between the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU)

Introduction
The West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) is a financial institution with eight West African member countries founded by the treaty of 10/01/94 modified on 19/01/03 to increase the economic and financial competitiveness of its member States, create a common market and coordinate national sectoral policies, including in the field of agriculture and the environment.

As the World Organisation for Animal Health, the OIE, created in 1924, has as its main objectives to inform governments of the appearance and evolution of animal diseases throughout the world and on the means of controlling these diseases, to coordinate at the international level animal disease surveillance and control, to harmonise the rules governing trade in animals and animal products in its Member Countries by means of international animal health standards recognised by the World Trade Organization, to promote international solidarity in the field of animal health, to ensure better safeguards for food safety and animal welfare and to promote the strengthening of Veterinary Services worldwide.

Mutual cooperation at the sub-regional level
The two organisations recognise the necessity and the importance of establishing an agreement for mutual cooperation at the sub-regional level for the benefit of WAEMU member countries, Africa and the international community as a whole, in the field of animal health and veterinary animal health:
1) Technical cooperation in the field of animal health, development of work programmes with the Regional Animal Health Centre (RAHC) in Bamako and the OIE Regional Representation for Africa.
2) Exchange of scientific information and publications.
3) Strengthening the Veterinary Services of the countries of West Africa and epidemiological surveillance systems in the countries of the sub-region; promotion of the use of the PVS tool.
4) Diffusion of information on the appearance or evolution of animal diseases and zoonoses, and on food safety and animal welfare.
5) Diffusion of Animal Health Codes and Manuals of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines (terrestrial and aquatic animals) and promotion of their use.
6) Promotion of twinning arrangements for diagnostic laboratories within the framework of the programme set up by the OIE.
7) Organisation of specific missions in the event of animal health crises.

The Director General of the OIE may delegate all or part of the responsibility for this cooperation to the OIE Regional Representation for Africa.

The OIE will reassign to the activities of the RAHC in Bamako any resources that may be committed by WAEMU for the benefit of the activities of this centre.

Reciprocal representation
The President of the WAEMU Commission shall invite the Director General of the OIE to participate – in person or by sending a representative –, without voting rights, in meetings of WAEMU, as well as in other events of mutual interest.

Likewise, the Director General of the OIE shall invite the President of the WAEMU Commission to participate – in person or by sending a representative –, without voting rights, in General Sessions of the International Committee of the OIE, meetings of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa, international meetings as well as in other events of mutual interest organised by the OIE Regional Representation for Africa and the RAHC in Bamako.

Validity and duration
This agreement shall enter into force as soon as it has been signed by both parties and shall remain in force for an indefinite period. Either Party may propose amendments to the original text. Either Party may terminate this agreement by means of an official notification giving three months’ notice and stating the reasons for termination.

For WAEMU
President of the Commission

Dr Bernard Vallat

For the OIE
Director General

Dr Bernard Vallat
Memorandum of understanding between the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)

WHEREAS, the Inter-American Development Bank (hereinafter referred to as the "Bank") is a public international organization, the purpose of which is to contribute to the acceleration of the process of economic and social development of its regional developing member countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, individually and collectively;

WHEREAS, the World Organisation for Animal Health (hereinafter referred to as the "OIE") is an intergovernmental organization responsible for improving animal health worldwide. The OIE promotes animal health in the international trade of animals and their related products by issuing harmonized sanitary guidelines on certification and disease control methods and working to improve the resources and legal framework of the national veterinary services

OIE’s mission is to ensure transparency in the global animal disease situation, to collect, analyze and disseminate veterinary scientific information, to provide expertise and encourage international solidarity in the control of animal diseases, It is recognized as a reference organization by the World Trade Organization (WTO), within its mandate under the WTO SPS Agreement, to safeguard world trade by publishing health standards for international trade in animals and animal products, to improve the legal framework and resources of national Veterinary Services, and;

WHEREAS, the Bank and the OIE (hereinafter referred to as the "Parties") wish to formalize a basis on which the Parties may explore opportunities for cooperation and collaboration on matters of common interest, and to render their respective activities more effective and beneficial;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Parties have agreed to enter into this Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as the "MoU") as follows:

ARTICLE 1. Objective

The objective of this MoU is to formalize a non-exclusive framework of cooperation and to facilitate collaboration between the Parties in providing assistance for programs and projects that foster cooperation among them, and particularly in supporting and promoting animal health systems in Latin America and the Caribbean. These and any other activities agreed to between the Parties shall be subject to the Parties' internal objectives, functions, policies and procedures. The Parties may, in particular, explore the possibility of cooperation in the following areas of activity:

2.1 Participation and collaboration by the Parties in the following areas of mutual interest:

(a) Strengthening the capacity of interested Bank regional developing member countries to support veterinary and sanitary services;
(b) Participating in activities aimed at combating animal diseases and improving the safety of food of animal origin;
(c) Promoting an increased role for Bank regional developing member countries in the process of setting international standards related to veterinary and sanitary services; and,
(d) Encouraging the utilization and application of international and guidelines standards of quality and evaluation of Veterinary Services for Bank regional developing member countries.

2.2 Exchange of information and consultation, as necessary and appropriate, in the interest of identifying additional areas in which, and the concrete activities for which, effective and practical cooperation may be possible as means of carrying out joint activities and programs within the framework of this MoU.

2.3 Any exchange of information between the Parties shall be subject to the internal policies and procedures of the respective organizations, including those policies for the hiring of consultants and other services.

2.4 Other related activities may also be agreed upon between the Parties from time to time, subject to each of the Parties’ internal policies and procedures.

ARTICLE 3. Obligations of the Parties

2.4 This MoU does not represent any commitment with regard to funding on the part of the Parties. Any such commitment shall be reflected in separate agreements that may be entered into by the Parties under this MoU. Furthermore, this MoU shall not represent any commitment on the part of either party to give preferred treatment to the other in any matter contemplated under this MoU or otherwise.

ARTICLE 4. Effectiveness, Amendment and Termination

4.1 This MoU shall enter into force on the date of its signature by both Parties and will remain in effect indefinitely unless terminated by either Party with a written notice to the other Party. No such termination shall affect contractual obligations already entered into by either Party under this MoU.

4.2 This MoU may be amended only by written consent of the Parties hereto.

ARTICLE 5. Channel of Communication and Notice

5.1 For the purpose of facilitating the implementation of the working arrangements to be established by the Parties of this MoU, the channel of communication for the Parties shall be:

5.1.1 For the Bank:
Inter-American Development Bank
Attn.: Héctor Malarín,
1. The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), hereinafter referred to as OIE, and the International Air Transport Association, hereinafter referred to as IATA, will keep the other party informed of activities that may be of mutual interest.

2. Each organisation will invite the other party to participate as an observer in its meetings where matters of mutual interest may arise, and make the reports of these meetings available.

3. The OIE and IATA will exchange their catalogue of publications to enable both organizations to request publications on activities related to their work. OIE and IATA will exchange free copies of documents and publications on subjects of mutual interest. Both organizations will benefit from the concessionary rates applied to their affiliated members or organizations for further orders of publications at the discretion of each organisation.

4. The two organisations will endeavour to cooperate further through both formal and informal consultations on issues of common interest, in particular the issues listed below.

   ISSUES OF COMMON INTEREST
   - The provision of general information on the international transport of live animals and perishable goods, particularly biological samples, as relevant to relations and interactions with official veterinary services worldwide on animal and public health issues;
   - Veterinary research into animal health during air transport of live animals and perishable goods, particularly biological samples and into welfare during transport of live animals;
   - The development and revision of international standards for the air transport of live animals and perishable goods, particularly biological samples;
   - Interactions with other intergovernmental bodies, particularly UNCTAD, WHO and FAO and their subsidiary bodies concerning the international transport of perishable goods, particularly biological samples;
   - Technical requirements for the international transport of live animals and perishable products, particularly biological samples;
   - Communication strategies, in particular relating to animal health and animal welfare emergencies arising from the international transport of live animals and to perishable goods, particularly biological samples.

5.1.2. For the OIE:
   The World Organisation for Animal Health
   Attn.: Bernard Vallat
   12 Rue de Prony, Paris 75017, France

5.2. Either Party hereto may, by notice in writing to the other Party, designate additional representatives or substitute other representatives for those designated in Section 5.1 of this Article.

ARTICLE 6. Miscellaneous
Subject to the Bank’s policies and procedures with respect to the disclosure of information, the Bank may make this MoU publicly available.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto, each acting through its duly authorized representative, have signed this Memorandum of Understanding in two (2) original counterparts in the English language [, in [City], [Country] on this [__ day of __________], 2008] [on the dates indicated below].

Adopted by the IDB on 18th July 2008 and by OIE on 4th August 2008

Inter-American Development Bank
Luis Alberto Moreno
President

The World Organisation for Animal Health
Bernard Vallat
Director General

Agreement between the International Air Transport Association and the World Organisation for Animal Health

1. The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), hereinafter referred to as OIE, and the International Air Transport Association, hereinafter referred to as IATA, will keep the other party informed of activities that may be of mutual interest.

2. Each organisation will invite the other party to participate as an observer in its meetings where matters of mutual interest may arise, and make the reports of these meetings available.

3. The OIE and IATA will exchange their catalogue of publications to enable both organizations to request publications on activities related to their work. OIE and IATA will exchange free copies of documents and publications on subjects of mutual interest. Both organizations will benefit from the concessionary rates applied to their affiliated members or organizations for further orders of publications at the discretion of each organisation.

4. The two organisations will endeavour to cooperate further through both formal and informal consultations on issues of common interest, in particular the issues listed below.

   ISSUES OF COMMON INTEREST
   - The provision of general information on the international transport of live animals and perishable goods, particularly

Signed on 9 September 2008

For the International Air Transport Association
Giovanni Bisignani
Director General and CEO

For the World Organisation for Animal Health
Dr Bernard Vallat
Director General
The extensive office space at 14 rue de Prony currently rented by the OIE;

THE COMMITTEE, ON A PROPOSAL BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION DECIDES
To give the Director General a mandate to negotiate at the best possible price and for an amount compatible with the regular resources of the organisation, the acquisition by the OIE of all or part of the property situated at 14 rue de Prony, to seek the agreement of the Administrative Commission before proceeding with this acquisition and to launch a voluntary subscription among Member Countries and Territories and other potential donors to enable the financing of the acquisition to be completed.

RECOMMENDS THAT
OIE Member Countries and Territories and other potential donors help in the acquisition of this property by participating in the voluntary subscription that will be launched by the Director General or by making voluntary contributions or specific subsidies. France, the host country of the headquarter of the organisation, is invited to make a special effort.

REQUESTS
The Director General to report to the International Committee at the 77th General Session on progress made with the acquisition of this property.

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 30 May 2008)
Resolution
No. XVIII
Recognition of the Foot
and Mouth Disease
Status of Members

CONSIDERING THAT

1. Adoption of subsequent Resolutions1 since the 62nd General Session of the OIE International Committee has established a procedure for annually updating a list of Member countries and zones, recognised as free from foot and mouth disease (FMD) according to the provisions of the Terrestrial Code,

2. The Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases (the Scientific Commission) has continued to apply the procedure approved by the International Committee, and has supported the recognition of the FMD free status of additional countries and zones for annual adoption of the list by the International Committee,

3. During the 65th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution XII, which stated that the Delegates of Members where entire countries or zones are recognised as FMD free, annually confirm by letter during the month of November that their FMD status and the criteria by which that status was recognised have remained unchanged,

4. Recommendations of the Scientific Commission regarding the evaluation of countries or zones as being free from FMD have been submitted to Members for comments as outlined in Resolution XVI, which was adopted during the 67th General Session of the International Committee,

5. During the 70th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution No. XVIII asking Members applying for this evaluation to meet part of the costs sustained by the OIE Central Bureau in the evaluation process,

6. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the official Veterinary Services of Members. The OIE is not responsible for inaccurate publication of country or zonal disease free status based on inaccurate information, changes in epidemiological status or other significant events that were not promptly reported to the Central Bureau subsequent to the time of declaration of freedom from FMD.

THE COMMITTEE RESOLVES THAT

1. The Director General publish the following list of Members recognised as FMD free where vaccination is not practised, according to the provisions of Chapter 2.2.10. of the Terrestrial Code:

- Albania
- Austria
- Belgium
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Brunei
- Canada
- Costa Rica
- Cuba
- Czech Rep.
- Dominican Republic
- El Salvador

- Australia
- Belarus
- Belize
- Bulgaria
- Chile
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Denmark
- Estonia

- Finland
- Former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Guatemala
- Guyana
- Haiti
- Honduras
- Hungary
- Iceland
- Indonesia
- Ireland
- Italy
- Japan
- Korea (Rep. of)
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Madagascar
- Malta
- Mauritius
- Mexico
- Montenegro
- Netherlands
- New Caledonia
- New Zealand
- Nicaragua
- Norway
- Panama
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Serbia2
- Singapore
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Ukraine
- United Kingdom
- United States of America
- Vanuatu

2. The Director General publish the following list of Members recognised as FMD free where vaccination is practised, according to the provisions of Chapter 2.2.10. of the Terrestrial Code:

- Chinese Taipei
- Uruguay.

3. The Director General publish the following list of Members having a FMD free zone where vaccination is not practised, according to the provisions of Chapter 2.2.10. of the Terrestrial Code3:

- Vanuatu

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1. 62nd General Session (GS) Resolution No (Res) IX; 63rd GS Res XI and Res XII; 64th GS Res XII; 65th GS Res XVII and 71st GS Res XXI.
2. Including Kosovo administered by the United Nations.
3. For detailed information on the delimitation of zones of Members recognised as FMD free, it is required to address enquiries to the Director General of the OIE.
Argentina: the zone designated by the Delegate of Argentina in a document addressed to the Director General in January 2007; Botswana: the zones as designated by the Delegate of Botswana in a document addressed to the Director General in December 2006; Brazil: State of Santa Catarina; Colombia: zones designated by the Delegate of Colombia in documents addressed to the Director General in November 1995 and in April 1996 (Area I - Northwest region of Choco Department) and in January 2008 (Archipelago de San Andres and Providencia); Malaysia: zones of Sabah and Sarawak designated by the Delegate of Malaysia in a document addressed to the Director General in December 2003; Namibia: zone designated by the Delegate of Namibia in a document addressed to the Director General in February 1997; Peru: zones as designated by the Delegate of Peru in two documents addressed to the Director General in December 2004 and in January 2007; Philippines: Islands of Mindanao, Visayas, Palawan and Masbate; South Africa: zone designated by the Delegate of South Africa in a document addressed to the Director General in May 2005.

4. The Director General publish the following list of Members having FMD free zones where vaccination is practised, according to the provisions of Chapter 2.2.10. of the Terrestrial Code:

Argentina: zone of Argentina designated by the Delegate of Argentina in documents addressed to the Director General in March 2007.

Bolivia: zone of Chiquitania designated by the Delegate of Bolivia in documents addressed to the Director General in January 2003 and a zone situated in the western part of the Department of Oruro in documents addressed to the Director General in September 2005;

Brazil: States of Acre along with two adjacent municipalities of Amazon state, Río Grande do Sul, Rondonia and the middle southern part of the State Pará, as designated by the Delegate of Brazil in a document addressed to the Director General in March 2004 and February 2007. The States of Bahia, Espírito Santo, Minas Gerais, Río de Janeiro, Sergipe, Tocantins, Distrito Federal, Goiás, Mato Grosso, Paraná, São Paulo of Brazil as designated by the Delegate of Brazil in a document addressed to the Director General in May 2008;

Colombia: zone designated by the Delegate of Colombia in documents addressed to the Director General in January 2003, two zones designated by the Delegate in documents addressed to the Director General in December 2004 and a south western zone designated by the Delegate of Colombia in documents addressed to the Director General in January 2007; Paraguay: zone designated by the Delegate of Paraguay in documents addressed to the Director General in March 2007.

AND

5. The Delegates of these Members will immediately notify the Central Bureau if FMD occurs in their countries or zones within their territories.

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 27 May 2008)
Resolution No. XIX
Recognition of the Rinderpest Status of Members

CONSIDERING THAT
1. Adoption of subsequent Resolutions' since the 63rd General Session of the OIE International Committee has established a procedure for annually updating a list of Member countries and zones, recognised as free from rinderpest according to the provisions of the Terrestrial Code,

2. During the 69th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution No. XVI which stated that Delegates of Members where entire countries or zones are recognised as rinderpest free, annually reconfirm by letter during the month of November that their rinderpest status and the criteria by which the status was recognised have remained unchanged,

3. During the 70th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution No. XVIII asking fees to be paid by Members applying for evaluation for freedom from rinderpest and that these fees would be recovered whenever possible from sources other than the applicant countries,

4. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the official Veterinary Services of Members. The OIE is not responsible for inaccurate publication of country or zonal disease free status based on inaccurate information, changes in epidemiological status or other significant events that were not promptly reported to the Central Bureau subsequent to the time of declaration of freedom from disease or infection.

5. During the 75th General Session the International Committee adopted the proposed update in the “OIE rinderpest pathway” of the Terrestrial Code. In view of the progress in global rinderpest eradication, the provisions of Chapter 2.2.12. of the Terrestrial Code 2007 were restricted the sole recognition of rinderpest free status representing a country-wide infection free status. Therefore new applications of Members for zones free from rinderpest or rinderpest disease free status are no longer applicable.

THE COMMITTEE RESOLVES THAT
1. The Director General publish the following list of Members recognised as free from rinderpest, according to the provisions of Chapter 2.2.12. of the Terrestrial Code:

- Afghanistan
- Algeria
- Angola
- Australia
- Barbados
- Belgium
- Bhutan
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Botswana
- Bulgaria
- Burundi
- Chile
- Chinese Taipei
- Congo
- Côte d'Ivoire
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Denmark
- Egypt
- Equatorial Guinea
- Estonia
- Finland
- Former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Guinea
- Guyana
- Honduras
- Iceland
- Indonesia
- Ireland
- Jamaica
- Jordan
- Latvia
- Lesotho
- Luxembourg
- Malawi
- Mali
- Mauritania
- Mexico
- Mongolia
- Mozambique
- Namibia
- Netherlands
- New Zealand
- Pakistan
- Paraguay
- Philippines
- Portugal
- Rwanda
- Senegal
- Serbia
- Slovakia
- South Africa
- Sudan
- Sweden

- Congo (Dem. Rep. of the)
- Côte d'Ivoire
- Costa Rica
- Cuba
- Czech Rep.
- Ecuador
- El Salvador
- Eritrea
- Ethiopia
- Gabon
- Guatemala
- Guinea Bissau
- Haiti
- Hungary
- India
- Iran
- Italy
- Japan
- Korea (Rep. of)
- Lebanon
- Lithuania
- Madagascar
- Malaysia
- Malta
- Mauritius
- Moldavia
- Morocco
- Myanmar
- Nepal
- New Caledonia
- Norway
- Panama
- Peru
- Poland
- Romania
- Senegal
- Singapore
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Swaziland
- Switzerland
- Tanzania

4. 63rd General Session (GS) Resolution No (Res) XIV; 67th GS Res XVI, 68th GS Res XV, and 70th GS Res XVI
Resolution
No. XX
Recognition of the
Contagious Bovine
Pleuropneumonia Status
of Members

CONSIDERING THAT
1. Adoption of subsequent Resolutions’ since the 71st General Session of the OIE International Committee has established a procedure for annually updating a list of Member countries and zones, recognised as free from contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP) according to the provisions of the Terrestrial Code, 2. During the 70th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution No. XVIII asking Members applying for this evaluation to meet part of the costs sustained by the OIE Central Bureau in the evaluation process,
3. During the 72nd General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution No. XXIII that implemented the establishment of a list of countries or zones free from CBPP and included in that list Members already recognised free of CBPP by the OIE,
4. During the 72nd General Session the International Committee adopted Resolution No. XXIII which stated that the Delegates of Members where countries or zones are recognised as CBPP free, annually confirm by letter during the month of November that their CBPP status and the criteria by which that status was recognised have remained unchanged,
5. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the official Veterinary Services of Members. The OIE is not responsible for inaccurate publication of country or zonal disease free status based on inaccurate information, changes in epidemiological status or other significant events that were not promptly reported to the Central Bureau subsequent to the time of declaration of freedom from CBPP,

THE COMMITTEE RESOLVES THAT
1. The Director General publish the following list of Members recognised as free from CBPP according to the provisions of the Terrestrial Code:
Australia Botswana
India Portugal
Switzerland
United States of America

AND
2. The Delegates of these Members will immediately notify the Central Bureau if CBPP occurs in their countries.

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 27 May 2008)

5- Excluding Kosovo administered by the United Nations
6- For detailed information on the delimitation of Kenya’s zone recognised as free from rinderpest disease, it is required to address enquiries to the Director General of the OIE
7- 71st General Session (GS) Resolution (Res) XXIV, 72nd GS res XXIV, 73rd GS Res XIX and 74th GS Res XXXI
Resolution No. XXI
Recognition of the Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy Status of Members

CONSIDERING THAT

1. Adoption of subsequent Resolutions since the 67th General Session of the OIE International Committee has established a procedure for annually updating a list of Members, categorised by their BSE risk according to the provisions of the Terrestrial Code,
2. During the 70th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution No. XVIII asking Members applying for a BSE risk evaluation to meet part of the costs sustained by the OIE Central Bureau in the evaluation process,
3. During the 72nd General Session, the OIE adopted Resolution No. XXI requesting the Director General to inform Delegates of Members whose country or zones are recognised with regard to their BSE risk status should annually confirm during the month of November whether their risk status and the criteria by which their status was recognised have remained unchanged,
4. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the official Veterinary Services of Members. The OIE is not responsible for inaccurate publication of a Member disease status based on inaccurate information, changes in epidemiological status or other significant events that were not promptly reported to the Central Bureau, subsequent to the time of declaration of the BSE risk status.

THE COMMITTEE RESOLVES THAT

1. The Director General publish the following list of Members recognised as having a negligible BSE risk in accordance with Chapter 2.3.13. of the Terrestrial Code:

   - Argentina
   - New Zealand
   - Singapore
   - Australia
   - Norway
   - Sweden
   - Finland
   - Paraguay
   - Uruguay
   - Iceland

2. The Director General publish the following list of Members recognised as having a controlled BSE risk in accordance with Chapter 2.3.13. of the Terrestrial Code:

   - Austria
   - Germany
   - Mexico
   - Belgium
   - Greece
   - Netherlands
   - Brazil
   - Hungary
   - Poland
   - Canada
   - Ireland
   - Portugal
   - Chile
   - Italy
   - Slovak Republic
   - Chinese Taipei
   - Latvia
   - Slovenia
   - Cyprus
   - Lichtenstein
   - Spain
   - Czech Republic
   - Lithuania
   - Switzerland
   - Denmark
   - Luxembourg
   - United Kingdom
   - Estonia
   - United States of America
   - Malta
   - France

AND

3. The Delegates of these Members will immediately notify the Central Bureau if BSE occurs in their countries or their territories.

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 27 May 2008)

Resolution No. XXII
Update on procedures for Members for the official recognition and maintenance of status of certain animal diseases

CONSIDERING THAT

1. The International Committee during its 67th General Session has adopted Resolution XVI describing the general procedure to follow by OIE Members wishing to achieve an officially recognised status for foot and mouth disease (FMD), rinderpest, contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP) and bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), according to the provisions of the relevant chapters of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code.
2. This procedure invites Delegates of the applicant OIE Members for recognition to submit to the OIE Central Bureau documentation for analysis by the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases (Scientific Commission) and its designated experts.
3. Recognition of the status following the proposal made by the Scientific Commission is contingent upon a 60 day consultative period by all Members’ Delegates and the corresponding Resolutions containing the established disease specific list are submitted for adoption to the International Committee.
4. Regarding FMD, rinderpest and CBPP, the recognition of an official disease status is suspended upon an outbreak in a previously recognised national territory or zone for this

disease, as soon as the outbreak is declared by the Delegate of the affected OIE Member,

5. Regarding BSE, the official BSE status of a country or zone, is determined on the basis of risk. This status should be re-assessed in the event of any change in the epidemiological situation.

6. Resolution XII of the 65th General Session (FMD), Resolution XVI (RP) and XV (BSE) of the 69th General Session and Resolution XXIII of 72nd the General Session (CBPP), required that Delegates of Members where countries or zones are recognised for a disease free status or their BSE risk, should confirm by official letter during the month of November of each year that their official disease free status or BSE risk status and the criteria by which that status was recognised have remained unchanged.

7. During the 70th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution No. XVIII asking Members applying for evaluation for officially recognised status of certain diseases to meet part of the costs sustained by the OIE Central Bureau in the evaluation process,

8. During the 65th and 72nd General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolutions No. XVII and XXIV, respectively, delegating to the Scientific Commission the authority to recognise, without further International Committee consultation, that a Member country or zone has regained its previously recognised disease free status following outbreaks that are eradicated in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Terrestrial Code,

9. During the 75th General Session the International Committee approved the addition of Article 2.2.10.7 to the Terrestrial Code allowing a Member to establish a FMD containment zone for the purpose of minimising the impact of an outbreak of foot and mouth disease on an entire free country or zone,

10. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegate of Members and that the OIE is not responsible for inaccurate publication of country disease status based on inaccurate information or changes in epidemiological status or other significant events that were not promptly reported to the Central Bureau subsequent to the time of initial declaration.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS

1. That OIE Members wishing to be officially recognised and listed for a specific disease status have to provide documented evidence that they comply with the disease specific provisions of the Terrestrial Code for the recognition for disease status as well as the specific guidelines contained in disease specific country questionnaires endorsed by the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases and the general provisions for veterinary services as outlined in Chapters 1.1.2, 1.3.3 and 1.3.4 of the Terrestrial Code,

2. That the Scientific Commission, following the evaluation of documented evidence provided by a Member for the recognition or reinstatement of a specific disease status, could in consultation with the Director General of the OIE, request if needed a mission of experts to the applicant Member to verify compliance by that Member with the provisions of the Terrestrial Code for the control of that particular disease.

3. That in the event of the allocation of an official status to a new zone adjacent to another zone having already the same official status, the Delegate should indicate in writing to the Director General whether the new zone should be merged with the adjoining zone to become one enlarged zone or whether the two zones shall be managed as two distinct zones by the Member.

4. That recognition by the International Committee of the disease status of a Member following the recommendation made by the Scientific Commission is contingent upon a 60 day consultative period by all Members’ Delegates for all new applications for disease status recognition, change in the category of disease free status or disease risk status as specified in the Terrestrial Code or change in the boundaries of an existing free zone.

5. To delegate to the Scientific Commission the authority to recognise, without further International Committee consultation, that a Member country or a zone within its territory has regained its previously recognised status of the same zone following outbreaks or infections as appropriate, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Terrestrial Code.
6. To delegate to the Scientific Commission the authority to recognise, without further International Committee consultation, the reinstatement of the free status of a zone outside a FMD containment zone on evaluation of documented evidence provided by that Member that a FMD containment zone has been established in accordance with the provisions of the Terrestrial Code.

7. To delegate to the Scientific Commission the authority, without further International Committee consultation, to consider the maintenance in the previously allocated BSE risk status of a country or a same zone following a report of any change in the epidemiological situation by the OIE Delegate of the Member.

8. That a Member maintains its recognised disease status provided that the Member has been continuously compliant with the relevant provisions of the Terrestrial Code and that the Delegate submit during the month of November of each year, a letter to the Director General of the OIE which includes the relevant information as prescribed in the Terrestrial Code, for confirming the maintenance of the recognised disease status.

9. That Members having an officially recognised disease status and who fail to comply with the conditions for maintenance of this status as prescribed in the Terrestrial Code, will be deleted from the list of officially recognised countries or zones presented yearly to the International Committee for adoption.

10. That a Member who has been deleted from the list due to failure to confirm the maintenance of its disease status should apply again for recognition of the lost disease status by re-submitting documented evidence to the Director General for evaluation by the Scientific Commission.

11. That OIE Delegates are encouraged to document and clarify aspects of veterinary services and the animal health situation in non-contiguous territories covered by the same Veterinary Authority when submitting applications for official recognition of disease status.

12. That financial participation of Members to the cost of official recognition procedures would be fixed in a specific Resolution.

13. This Resolution XXII replaces the Resolution XV of the 62nd General Session, the Resolutions XII and XVII of the 65th General Session, Resolution XVI of the 67th General Session, Resolution XV of the 69th General Session, Resolution XI of the 71st General Session and Resolutions XXIII and XXIV of the 72nd General Session.

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 28 May 2008)
costs involved. The expenses, including travel of experts to meetings, per diem allowances, additional labour of the personnel of the OIE Central Bureau, and other miscellaneous costs amount to nine thousand Euros per application for BSE and seven thousand Euros per application for FMD, Rinderpest and CBPP, respectively. The cost of possible additional country missions is not included in these amounts.

3. Resolution XVIII of the 70th General Session stated that Members applying for evaluation will submit with their application the amount of nine thousand Euros for BSE and of seven thousand Euros each for FMD and CBPP. Least developed countries need to submit only half the amounts mentioned. This payment will cover the complete cost of one application for evaluation, except the extra cost of possible country missions. The money submitted will not be refunded, even in the case of an application not being approved. The participation of the costs for Rinderpest evaluation will be obtained from other sources than direct payment by Members.

4. Resolution XVIII of the 70th General Session highlights further that the full amount for evaluation of BSE, FMD or CBPP status will be required only when a Member not already having an officially recognised disease status for the particular disease or diseases under consideration, applies for recognition of status for that disease for the first time, for either the entire country or for one or several zones within the country.

THE COMMITTEE RESOLVES THAT

1. For new applications, the full amount for each evaluation of BSE, FMD or CBPP status will be required only when a Member not already having an officially recognised disease status for the particular disease or diseases under consideration, applies for recognition of status for that disease for the first time, for either the entire country or for one or several zones within the country.

2. The full amount is nine thousand Euros for BSE and seven thousand Euros for each application for FMD and CBPP, irrespective if the application for evaluation is for a Member’s complete national territory or only for one or several zones within the Member’s territory. The cost of possible additional country missions is not included in these amounts.

3. For subsequent additional applications possibly submitted for the same disease (e.g. recognition of an additional zone or change in category of a Member’s disease status, the merging of zones or recovery of status along with enlargement of the zone under consideration), only half of the initial amount will be charged for each debated disease.

4. For recovery of status of a country or a zone already recognised, i.e. Members seeking evaluation for reinstatement of a formerly recognised disease status or for confirmation of maintenance of the recognised disease status, except in the event of an OIE mission to the Member country or territory, Members will not be charged provided that the application is for the reinstatement of the same disease status within the same country, the same zone(s) as described by the Delegate for the initial recognition of disease status.

5. For all applications of least developed countries only half the amounts mentioned above need to be submitted. In considering this the eligibility of Members for reduced cost is based on the current official UN list of least developed countries at the time of the OIE’s call for capitals.

6. The amount transferred with any application will not be refunded, even in the case of applications not being compliant on a technical basis or not being approved by either the Scientific Commission or the International Committee.

7. This Resolution XXIII replaces Resolutions XV and XVIII adopted at the 69th and 70th General Session, respectively.

(Abducted by the International Committee of the OIE on 28 May 2008)
CONSIDERING

1. Animal welfare is a complex, multi-faceted, international and domestic public policy issue, with important scientific, ethical, economic and political dimensions.

2. The Director General has established a permanent Working Group on Animal Welfare, which draws up and implements a detailed annual work programme.

3. A successful Global Conference on Animal Welfare was held in February 2004, which confirmed the OIE’s global leadership role in animal welfare.

4. A set of five animal welfare guidelines were adopted at the May 2005 General Session and are regularly updated.


6. Draft aquatic animal welfare guidelines have been developed and will be the subject of further discussion between the Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission and the Animal Welfare Working Group.

7. Draft Guidelines on Dog Population Control have been developed and will be the subject of further discussion between the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission and the Animal Welfare Working Group.

8. Work is well underway in respect of the four additional areas of strategic priority, agreed as the 2005 General Session, with first meetings of the ad hoc Group on Laboratory Animal Welfare and the ad hoc Group on Production Animal Welfare having taken place.

9. The active involvement of all OIE members will be essential to the successful international implementation of the OIE animal welfare mandate.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THAT

1. The Director General maintains the Working Group on Animal Welfare to advise him and the Terrestrial and Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commissions on OIE activities in the field of animal welfare.

2. The Working Group and Central Bureau 2008/2009 work programmes be the basis for the OIE’s activities on animal welfare for the next 12 months and the OIE Central Bureau and Working Group be provided with the necessary resources to address the priorities listed.

3. Veterinary Services on each member be actively involved in the preparation, review and implementation of animal welfare legislation and that Delegates take steps to nominate their national animal welfare contact point to facilitate communication.

4. OIE members play an active role in their regions with institutions, non-governmental organisations, the private sector and with other international organisations in promoting the OIE international animal welfare mandate.

5. OIE Regional Commissions play an active role in promoting the OIE work programme (particularly in relation to implementation of guidelines and animal welfare in education), with active involvement of Working Group regional members.

6. The OIE Central Bureau and Working Group continue to give high priority to effective and regular communication and transparent consultation in implementing the animal welfare work programme.

7. The Working Group continues to monitor international developments in the area of wildlife animal welfare.

8. Members are encouraged to participate actively on the Second OIE Global Conference on Animal Welfare to be held in Cairo from 19 - 22 October 2008.

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 27 May 2008)
CONSIDERING THAT

1. The permanent Working Group on Animal Production Food Safety, established by the Director General in 2002, held its seventh meeting in November 2007 and drafted a work programme for 2008.

2. The Working Group has developed a document on The role of the Veterinary Services in food safety, the purpose of which is to provide guidance to OIE Members in regard to the role and responsibilities of Veterinary Services in food safety, to assist them in meeting food safety objectives laid down in national legislation and the requirements of importing countries.

3. The Working Group has developed various texts aimed at minimising food safety risks associated with hazards in animal production, including a Guide to Good Farming Practices. A draft of the Guide, prepared by an ad hoc Group, was reviewed by the Working Group and will be finalised and published in cooperation with FAO.


5. The Working Group discussed the report of an ad hoc Group on OIE Model Veterinary Certificates, in light of the comments of OIE Members and the Terrestrial Code Commission, and made a number of recommendations on the further development of this document.

6. The Working Group reviewed the draft Guidelines on the Detection, Control and Prevention of Salmonella enteritidis and S. typhimurium in Poultry Producing Eggs for Human Consumption produced by an ad hoc Group in light of OIE Member comments on this draft. The Working Group also reviewed the terms of reference for the ad hoc Group that will be convened to develop recommendations on the detection, prevention and control of salmonella in broiler chickens.

7. The OIE and the Codex Alimentarius Commission continued to work together to ensure that standards relevant to animal production food safety developed by either party are consistent and take a ‘whole food chain’ approach to food safety.

8. The work on animal production food safety benefits from cooperation with FAO and WHO, which provide additional expert advice and expertise in regard to food safety, zoonotic diseases and related issues.

THE COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDS THAT

1. The Director General retain the Working Group on Animal Production Food Safety to advise him and the relevant Specialist Commissions on issues relevant to animal production food safety.

2. The participation of FAO and WHO high level experts as members of this Working Group be continued to further strengthen the collaboration between OIE and Codex.

3. The 2008 work programme prepared by the Working Group guide the OIE’s activities on animal production food safety during the next 12 months, and the Working Group be provided with resources needed to address the identified priorities.

4. Of the priorities listed in the work programme, the Working Group give special attention to its work on the development of texts on animal identification and traceability; animal feed, including feed for aquatic animals; and salmonellosis in poultry, for consideration by the International Committee.

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 27 May 2008)
CONSIDERING THAT

Avian influenza is a global problem that poses an ongoing threat to animal and human health.

Global control strategies must focus on controlling the disease at the animal source.

Avian influenza is a transboundary disease that has the ability to spread rapidly across continents. An outbreak of avian influenza in any one country is a threat to the whole international community.

It is paramount that any changes in the virological characteristics of avian influenza viruses resulting in increased risks to animal or human health are detected early.

Countries reporting outbreaks of avian influenza are responsible for sharing material and data with the international scientific community in a timely manner to ensure that this is freely available to formulate global control and preparedness strategies.

Genetic information about current circulating field viruses is needed for the early development and preparation of human influenza vaccines and to facilitate accurate laboratory diagnosis.

OFFLU is the joint OIE-FAO network of expertise on avian influenza. The objectives of OFFLU include encouraging members to exchange scientific data and biological materials (including virus strains) within the network and to share such information with the wider scientific community, and to collaborate with the WHO influenza network on issues relating to the animal–human interface, including early preparation of human vaccine.

All information about avian influenza viruses that can lead to the development of more effective prevention and control policies is a global public good and should be put into the public domain without delay.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THAT

1. OIE Members reporting outbreaks of avian influenza should agree to share avian influenza viral material and information about avian influenza viruses through OFFLU with the international scientific community.

2. OIE Reference Laboratories must actively encourage sharing of material and data with the international scientific community, and as a minimum, deposit genetic data within 3 months of receiving an isolate into a public database designated by the OFFLU Steering Committee, which will manage scientific relations with the WHO.

3. To enhance cooperation and transparency, the actions taken by countries must be recognised in subsequent publications and other benefits arising from the use of biological material or data that they have submitted to OIE Reference Laboratories.

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 29 May 2008)
CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 71st General Session of the OIE in May 2003, the International Committee adopted Resolution No. XXIX endorsing the principle of validation and certification of diagnostic assays (test methods) for infectious animal diseases by the OIE and giving a mandate to the Director General of the OIE to set up the specific standard procedures to be used before the final decision on the validation and certification of a diagnostic assay is taken by the OIE International Committee,

2. The Resolution establishes that ‘fitness for purpose’ should be used as a criterion for validation,

3. The aim of the procedure for diagnostic kits is to produce a register of recognised assays for OIE Members and for test manufacturers,

4. OIE Members need assays that are known to be validated according to OIE criteria in order to improve the quality of assays, to ensure that the test can be used to correctly establish animal disease status and to enhance confidence in assays,

5. The process of producing an OIE register of recognised assays will provide greater transparency and clarity of the validation process, and a means for recognising those manufacturers that produce validated and certified tests in kit format,

6. During the 74th General Session of the OIE, the International Committee adopted Resolution No. XXXII on the importance of recognising and implementing OIE standards for the validation and registration of diagnostic assays by Members,

THE COMMITTEE RESOLVES THAT

1. In accordance with the recommendation of the OIE Biological Standards Commission, the Director General adds the following to the register of test kits certified by the OIE as validated as fit for purpose:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the diagnostic kit</th>
<th>Name of the Manufacturer</th>
<th>Fitness for purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BioChek Avian Influenza Antibody test kit</td>
<td>BioChek UK Ltd</td>
<td>Fit for serological diagnosis of type A avian influenza in chickens (specific to IgG in serum) and for the following purposes:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IQ 2000TM WSSV Detection and Prevention System</td>
<td>Genereach Biotechnology Corporation</td>
<td>Fit for the diagnosis of white spot disease in crustaceans and for the following purposes:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prionics®-Check WESTERN</td>
<td>Prionics®</td>
<td>Fit for the post-mortem diagnosis of bovine spongiform encephalopathy in cattle and for the following purposes:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 29 May 2008)
Resolution No. XXVIII
Food security and animal health

CONSIDERING
1. The problems that many countries are experiencing with their food supply, in terms of quantity, quality and affordability,
2. The nutritional requirements of populations in terms of protein and essential amino acids derived from animal products,
3. The growth in world demand for animal products,
4. The increasing demand for food crops for human and animal food, and for energy,
5. The health threats linked to global warming and to the globalisation of trade and movements of people,
6. The current huge impact of animal diseases on the world animal production, particularly in developing and in transition countries.
7. The mandate of the OIE to improve world animal health and welfare,

THE COMMITTEE EMPHASISES
1. The strong link that exists between the quantitative and qualitative security of food production and the control of animal diseases,

RECOMMENDS THAT THE OIE
1. Support its Members in the fight against terrestrial and aquatic animal diseases by supporting improvement of sanitary governance and strengthening the capacities of national Veterinary Services based on the quality standards contained in the Terrestrial Animal Health Code.
2. Further develop the use of the PVS tool for the evaluation of national Veterinary Services, with the aim of helping to improve their capacities and urgently seeking the appropriate national and international resources for their compliance with the OIE standards in the field of quality.
3. Encourage countries and donor organisations, based on the results of the PVS evaluations accepted by Members, to increase their investment in the field of animal health, so as to help to contribute to food security throughout the world by improving the health status of food-producing animals.
4. Commission and communicate research and surveys on the current and likely future impact of animal diseases in the world animal production, as well as animal health policies that minimise the loss of animal proteins.

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 30 May 2008)

Resolution No. XXXI
Participation of Small Farmers in Animal Health Programmes

CONSIDERING THAT
1. There is a diversity of farming systems and perceptions regarding the characteristics of small livestock owners.
2. Small farmers are numerically the largest stakeholder group active in livestock production worldwide.
3. In developing countries, the majority of those in poverty continue to depend on small-scale farming as a key livelihood activity.
4. Many small farmers keep livestock, and livestock keepers include some of the most marginalised and vulnerable groups in particular women farmers and certain pastoral societies.
5. Members reported that small farmers are a significant source of animal health information and are important partners in disease control.
6. Success of national programmes for disease surveillance and mitigation depends in part on small farmer involvement and Members reported that small farms, due to their diversity, offer challenges to bio-security and surveillance programmes.
7. Small farms differ both quantitatively and qualitatively from large farms in animal health needs, capacity to participate and ability to influence national policy.
8. It is recognised that trained representatives of small farmers, such as community animal health workers, have an important role in the delivery of services in national animal health.
programmes, under the supervision of veterinarians.

9. Members reported that the role of small farmers should increase in animal health and that this could be achieved through capacity building, new programmes, revised policies and increased organisation.

10. Small farmers are integrated into national marketing systems and both affect and are affected by international trade decisions.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THAT

1. OIE Members actively encourage small farmer organisation and representation in national and international animal health decision-making and policy setting processes in order to contribute to more effective Veterinary Services and animal health programmes.

2. OIE Members undertake to ensure that small farmer organisations are given the opportunity to contribute their comments and submissions on proposed or revised OIE standards.

3. The principle of equivalence be applied whenever possible in developing and evaluating animal health programmes to enhance the involvement, market access and level of services provided to small farmers.

4. Passive and active disease surveillance should be applied using conventional and participatory approaches to enhance small farmer inclusion and the sensitivity and representativeness of animal health information systems.

5. The OIE review international standards, definitions and guidelines to identify opportunities to encourage small farmer participation, under the supervision of Veterinary Services and enhance equity and efficiency in animal health programmes and trade.

6. The PVS evaluation of countries should provide the basis for promoting further investment and capacity building to permit an increased role of the small farmers in animal health programme.

7. The OIE and its Members be encouraged to fully consider the critical engagement of small farmers in the development of OIE activities and its annual work plan.

8. The OIE Members encourage the training of technicians, community animal health workers and livestock owners, and their organisations involved in animal health promotion in order to engage in animal health surveillance and disease control.

9. The OIE and its Members support and increase animal health data collection concerning all stakeholders in order to disaggregate data by farm size for better strategic planning and policy formulation.

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 29 May 2008)

CONSIDERING

That the World Trade Organization, under the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, formally recognises the OIE as the reference organisation responsible for establishing international standards relating to animal diseases, including zoonotic diseases.

That the OIEs current 172 Members and the international community at large recognise the OIE as the organisation responsible for setting standards for animal disease surveillance and animal health and welfare, with the objective of providing a scientific basis for safe international trade in animals and animal products and improving animal health and welfare worldwide.

That the OIE International Committee has adopted international standards for animal welfare during transport, slaughter and killing for sanitary purposes, and the OIE is developing new standards in the animal welfare domain, and

NOTING

That commercial standards, established by private companies without direct involvement of governments, are increasingly coming into play in international trade, and are of great concern for a majority of OIE Members.
THE COMMITTEE DECIDES

1. To reaffirm the standards published by the OIE in the field of animal health including zoonoses, as the global official sanitary guarantees for preventing the risks associated with international trade in animals and animal products, while avoiding unjustified sanitary barriers to trade, and promoting the prevention and control of animal diseases worldwide.

2. To reaffirm the standards published by the OIE in the field of animal welfare as the global reference standard for OIE Members.

3. To ask the Director General to work with relevant public and private international organisations with the objective that concerns of Members are taken into consideration and that private standards, where used, are consistent with and do not conflict with those of the OIE.

4. To ask the Director General to support Members in taking whatever steps are available to them to ensure that private animal health and animal welfare standards, where used, are consistent with and do not conflict with those of the OIE.

5. To ask the Director General to continue with the relevant activities to further strengthen the OIE’s work in standard setting for animal health, including zoonotic diseases, and animal welfare and to continue to implement and reinforce capacity building programmes to assist Members in implementing OIE standards. Capacity building includes communication for Veterinary Services in order to convince consumers on the efficiency of OIE standards to protect health and animal welfare.

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 29 May 2008)
Germany declares itself free from rabies

Information received on 1 October 2008

In accordance with Article 2.2.5.2. point 4 of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code (2007 Edition) of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), I wish to inform the OIE that no cases of rabies have been reported in humans or animals over the past two years in Germany. The last case of rabies was diagnosed on 3 February 2006 in a fox in the district of Mainz-Bingen in Rhineland-Palatinate.

In Germany, rabies is subject to compulsory declaration; effective surveillance measures have been implemented to control rabies and to prevent its introduction via the importation of live animals.

Germany therefore satisfies the conditions to be considered a rabies free country in accordance with Article 2.2.5.2. of the Terrestrial Code (2007).
Austria declares itself free from rabies

Information received on 10 September 2008

The aim of this report is to demonstrate that Austria complies with the requirements for rabies freedom according to Article 2.2.5.2. of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code (2007). For this purpose, a brief description of the Austrian nationwide rabies control and monitoring programme is given.

Notification

In Austria rabies is a disease subject to compulsory notification in accordance with the Animal Disease Act which was published in 1909. Since then rabies has been a notifiable disease. Data on outbreaks are available for the period since 1945.

No case of rabies was notified before World War II, but cases were reported in the eastern part of Austria between 1945 and 1956. Between 1956 and 1966 Austria was rabies-free. In 1966 a new epizooty started from western Austria. The number of rabies cases, which occurred mainly (i.e. 90%-100%) in wild animals, increased from 9 in 1966 to 3,063 in 1977.

In 1986 the first vaccination programme started in western Austria, leading to an enormous decline in the number of cases within one year. Encouraged by this success, other Federal Provinces introduced vaccination programmes. Since autumn 1991 rabies control has been organised and co-ordinated by the appropriate Federal Ministry.

Results of the rabies control and surveillance system in Austria

The principles of the vaccination campaigns complied with recommendations from the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE): designing of a vaccination and surveillance programme including large-scale and long-term vaccination, sufficient financial resources, assistance from hunting associations and co-ordination meetings of Federal and Provincial Veterinary Services as well as the Austrian Agency of Health and Food Safety (national reference laboratory for rabies, AGES) and representatives from the public health authorities.

Information received on 10 September 2008 from
Dr Ulrich Herzog,
OIE Delegate, Chief Veterinary Officer, Federal Ministry of Health, Family and Youth, Austria

[Map of Austria showing the distribution of rabies cases]

Fig. 1

Campaign (S=spring, A=autumn, E=emergency)
sector and the University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna. From the beginning of oral vaccination of foxes the effect was proven by the control of bait uptake and the detection of antibodies in foxes from the vaccination area.

For the last ten years, baits have been distributed by aerial dropping, with a density of 20 to 25 baits per square kilometre (Fig. 1).

In the context of rabies all investigations are still carried out within the Austrian Agency of Health and Food Safety, Institute of Veterinary Investigations, Mödling, the Austrian National Reference Laboratory for rabies.

Table I shows the decrease of rabies in wildlife and domestic animals from the beginning of the nationwide co-ordinated oral vaccination of foxes. The distribution of rabies cases within the nine Austrian Federal Provinces is shown in Figure 3.

Due to the good results of oral vaccination it became possible to reduce the vaccination area step by step (Fig. 2).

Disease surveillance (Table II) is carried out according to WHO recommendations: examination of at least eight foxes from infected areas and four foxes from rabies-free areas per year per 100 km². The number of foxes examined in Austria is far beyond the requested minimum (size of Austria: 84,000 km² × 4 foxes per 100 km² = 6,720 investigations per year):

Rabies was diagnosed in 1999 and 2001 in two illegally imported dogs. In each case the suspect dog and all animals which had contact with the suspect dog were euthanised. All people involved in the diagnosis were vaccinated.

Twenty-four rabies cases were diagnosed in 2002 as a result of a rabies-free area in the southern part of Austria becoming re-infected. Consequently, emergency vaccination was carried out and the area was included in the vaccination area.

Since that time, no more cases have been detected in this area.

In 2004 and 2006 two cases of rabies were diagnosed, both of which were clearly due to infection with the vaccination virus. These two vaccine-induced cases were confirmed by the WHO Collaborating Centre for Rabies Surveillance and Research, Wusterhausen, Germany.

Prior to the final diagnosis of vaccine-induced rabies in 2004, emergency vaccination was carried out as a quick response to the finding of a supposedly rabies-positive fox.

Table I

Number of rabies cases:
1991-2008 (August)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No. of rabies cases in wildlife</th>
<th>No. of rabies cases in domestic animals</th>
<th>Total No. of rabies cases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>1,839</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>1,967</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>1,056</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>1,117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>618</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>675</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>254</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
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<td>2005</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(up to August)
Effective importation procedures
The importation procedures are in line with European Union (EU) legislation. Among others, procedures on trade in animals as well as on travelling with pets have been made more stringent by the adoption of Regulation (EC) No. 998/2003, allowing only for the import of animals that have either been vaccinated and subjected to a rabies titration test or, based upon a specific risk assessment valid for all EU Member States, without such testing, but only from specific countries with a favourable rabies situation. Imports of non-vaccinated animals under 12 weeks of age may be allowed only from these countries. The latter measures also apply to non-commercial movements of pet animals within the EU.

Conclusions
Since the beginning of the nationwide rabies vaccination campaigns in 1991 the number of cases has declined substantially. Although two cases of vaccine-induced rabies were diagnosed in 2004 and 2006, respectively, no infections with the wild type virus have been found in Austria since 2003. Oral vaccination of foxes will be continued dependent on the rabies situation in neighbouring countries (Fig. 4).

The Austrian Veterinary Services within the Federal Ministry of Health, Family and Youth plans to take the opportunity of World Rabies Day on 28 September 2008 to declare the territory of Austria free from rabies. Focal points for the future will be to raise public awareness of the risks of illegal imports of pets from, and travel in, areas where rabies is endemic. Furthermore, contracts will be concluded with vaccine producers to obtain a certain number of baits for potential emergency vaccination.

As demonstrated above, Austria complies with Article 2.2.5.1. of Chapter 2.2.5. of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code (2007). Thus, as the Delegate of Austria to the OIE, I declare my country free from rabies.
Self-declaration of freedom from Taura syndrome (TS) in New Caledonia
(Aquatic Animal Health Code 2008, Article 2.3.1.4.)

New Caledonia, by its nature (archipelago) and geographic situation, does not share any zone1 with other countries.

The Delegate of New Caledonia, Dr Christian Desoutter, has sent the OIE a self-declaration of freedom from Taura syndrome for the entire territory of New Caledonia and presented the following document as evidence of compliance with the conditions required by the Aquatic Animal Health Code 2008 (Aquatic Code) and by the Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals 2006 (Aquatic Manual).

New Caledonia satisfies the conditions laid down in point 2 of Article 2.3.1.4. of the Aquatic Code
‘A country where the susceptible species referred to in Article 2.3.1.2. are present but there has been no observed occurrence of the disease for at least the past ten years despite conditions that are conducive to its clinical expression, as described in Chapter 2.3.1. of the Aquatic Manual, may make a self-declaration of freedom from TS when basic biosecurity conditions have been continuously met in the country for at least the past two years.’

The shrimp species found in New Caledonia
In 2008, 19 aquatic farms were in operation. Their annual production of shrimp is more than 2,000 tonnes, three-quarters of which is destined for export. Only the species Litopenaeus stylirostris is farmed. There are also around ten species of wild penaeids, including species susceptible to Taura syndrome according to the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code 2008, such as Penaeus monodon and Metapenaeus ensis.

The basic biosecurity conditions
The conditions that apply to Taura syndrome in New Caledonia to ensure an adequate level of biosecurity are respected.
- declaration to the Veterinary, Food and Phytosanitary Inspection Department (SIVAP) of the presence or any suspicion of Taura syndrome is compulsory.
- an early detection system has been in place since 1993, and clinical and technical follow-up on farms is carried out by the research organisation IFREMER and by the Directorate of Veterinary, Food and Rural Affairs (DAVAR), notably via the Official Laboratory of New Caledonia (LNC), in partnership with the laboratory of Prof. D.V. Lightner2 in Tucson, Arizona, United States of America.
- active animal health surveillance had been introduced to look for any evidence of TS: virological surveys3 were conducted using the most sensitive targeted technique (PCR) in 2002 and 2004 on all farms and enclosures, and in 2005 and 2007 in wild shrimp.
- imports are subject to the conditions laid down in the Aquatic Code to prevent the introduction of Taura syndrome into the country.

1- according to the definition given by the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code
2- Prof. Lightner is the OIE Reference Expert for Taura syndrome.
3- according to the sampling plans recommended by the OIE

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Tracing back to the source

Forensic medicine has recently been successfully used to search for a bioterrorist suspect.

Everyone remembers the dramatic incidents caused by the dispersion of anthrax bacillus spores in the United States of America (USA), and a few charlatans that later used talc.

It has now been scientifically proven that Bruce Ivins, a military researcher at Fort Detrick in the USA who committed suicide at the age of 62, was behind these deadly acts of bioterrorism.

The investigation that led to this discovery was conducted in collaboration with external laboratories, such as The Institute for Genomic Research (TIGR) in Rockville, Maryland, USA, which sequenced a large number of samples. This required the development of new genetic testing methods, although no spectacular advance was necessary to obtain the result. Starting with the spores in the envelopes, and using currently available molecular biology techniques, scientists succeeded in reconstructing the trail that led back to the source of these lethal incidents. This is not the first time that this type of technique has been used to determine the origin of an infection, but it is undoubtedly the first associated with an act of bioterrorism.

Review of an article recently published in Science magazine, 321, pp. 898-899 entitled ‘Full-genome sequencing paved the way from spores to a suspect’, by Martin Enserink
The era of the genome and the ensuing field of genomics are upon us. But can the animal health research community benefit from this new field of research that promises to revolutionise biomedical research? The input received from the 260 scientists from 28 countries that participated in the first international symposium on animal genomics dedicated to animal health was a resounding ‘yes’. Recent advances in genomics are now providing unprecedented opportunities for understanding the links between the genetic code and diseases. While it took 13 years to sequence the human genome, significant breakthroughs in sequencing technologies are providing the whole genome sequences of animals at record speed: the draft genome sequences of the chicken in 2005, dog in 2006, and cattle and horse in 2007, with the cat and pig genomes in the queue for 2008 and 2009, respectively. Although it is abundantly clear that animal genome sequences alone are insufficient and that many of the genomic tools and infrastructure for animal health research need to be developed, we are now at a crossroads where we can begin to move animal health research forward to new dimensions and start to address some of the most difficult problems in animal health.

This volume presents the proceedings of an International Symposium held at the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) Headquarters in Paris, France, from 23 to 25 October 2007. The primary aims of the Symposium were to identify key challenges for integrating animal genomics in animal health research and to bring together worldwide leaders in the fields of animal genomics and animal health to plan new directions that will fundamentally change the way we approach animal health research. Exceptional collaboration between these two communities will pave the way for addressing difficult problems in animal health by connecting those who are currently engaged in cutting edge genomics research with animal health scientists who are disease experts and understand the real-world challenges facing animal health.

The proceedings include a review of the state of the art in animal genomics and animal health research, and the contribution of animal genomics to the construction of animal disease models. Research projects using animal genomics to understand animal diseases, disease susceptibility, desirable animal traits and the development
of new tools to prevent and control animal diseases are presented. Importantly, the results of a round table discussion and a questionnaire given to the participants at the Symposium highlight four areas in which to advance this field of research and key recommendations that will guide the way forward.

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**Monographs in Virology**

**Volume 27, 2008**

**Avian influenza**

*Editors: H.-D. Klenk (Marburg), M.N. Matrosovich (Marburg) & J. Stech (Greifswald)*

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*In English*

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**A topical issue of increasing concern**

Because of its high impact on both animal and human health, avian influenza has become a matter of increasing public concern and growing scientific interest within the last decade. This volume gives an overview of the most important results of these research efforts and provides information about the ecology and epidemiology of avian influenza with particular emphasis on recent H5N1 outbreaks in the People’s Republic of China, Siberia and Europe. Several articles deal with new vaccination strategies, the use of antivirals and other control measures to combat outbreaks of avian influenza. Further chapters illustrate that molecular biology, culminating in the generation of influenza viruses by recombinant DNA technology, was instrumental in unravelling the roles of the viral haemagglutinin and polymerase as well as cellular signalling pathways and innate immunity in pathogenesis and interspecies transmission. Finally, the threat of a pandemic originating from avian influenza viruses is illustrated by the example of the so-called Spanish influenza pandemic of 1918.

This comprehensive publication on avian influenza viruses and their relevance for human influenza will be of great value to all influenza virologists, molecular biologists, public health scientists, veterinary virologists, ecologists, and scientists engaged in drug design and vaccine development.
Dr Bernard Vallat, Director General of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) has won the first Penn Vet World Leadership in Animal Health Award. Each year this prize is awarded to a veterinarian whose accomplishments have transformed the practice and image of the veterinary profession and had a major influence on the lives and careers of other members of the profession.

‘I am particularly honoured to be the first person to receive the prestigious Penn Vet World Leadership in Animal Health Award, and I am grateful to the Vernon and Shirley Hill Foundation for its tremendous contribution to helping us face the exciting challenges of the veterinary profession,’ said Dr Vallat.

The event highlighted the impetus that Dr Vallat has given the OIE by highlighting key priorities such as the worldwide dissemination of scientific information, the promotion of Veterinary Services and the need to guarantee universal food safety and animal welfare.

‘I can think of no one more appropriate to receive this award,’ stated Dr Joan C. Hendricks, the Gilbert S. Kahn Dean of the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine.

The ceremony took place in the presence of the sponsors of the award, Vernon and Shirley Hill, the former Gilbert S. Kahn Dean of Veterinary Medicine, Dr Alan Kelly, the current Dean, Dr Hendricks and the President of the University, Dr Amy Gutman.

Dr Vallat was presented with the award on 29 April during a ceremony in the Irvine Auditorium on the University of Pennsylvania campus.

Dr Ron deHaven, Vice-President of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), and Prof. Leon Russell, President of the World Veterinary Association (WVA), also attended the ceremony alongside other well-known personalities.
Some 3000 participants attended the 29th World Veterinary Congress, which took place in Vancouver, Canada, from 27 to 31 July 2008. World renowned scientists in animal production, animal health and welfare gathered at this major event along with rural and urban veterinary practitioners, representatives from the public Veterinary Services and from academia, and veterinary students from all around the world.

Under the common theme of ‘Celebrate our diversity’, the five days of intensive discussions focused on the new concept of ‘One World One Health’. Veterinarians are professionals who, through control and eradication of infectious animal diseases, including those transmissible to humans, provide a benefit of international and intergenerational scope, considered as a global public good.

With almost 75% of emerging animal diseases having zoonotic potential, it is timely to address a broader concept of health where scientific disciplines are no longer segmented.

Commenting on the need for countries worldwide to have appropriate veterinary legislation in place, Dr Vallat indicated that ‘the time has come to develop a new leadership in global and national animal health governance, where the alliance between the public and private sector and cooperation with medical bodies are key factors for the prevention and control of animal diseases’.

However, good national veterinary governance linked to effective international veterinary coordination starts way upstream with appropriate veterinary education. There are almost 100 poor countries in the world where veterinary education criteria do not yet meet the basic and rapidly evolving needs. There was a consensus among Congress participants on the urgent need to harmonise and improve veterinary curricula worldwide and to ask national governments and donors to prioritise investments accordingly in order to meet the increasing worldwide demand for ‘new veterinarians’, including those needed for the public sector.
**OIE Regional Seminar on Communication**

*Bangkok, Thailand, 30-31 October 2008*

The OIE’s communication strategy continues to produce results. It is a recognised fact that effective communication has a beneficial effect on technical aspects of animal disease prevention, contingency plans, and the early detection, rapid response, and recovery phases in the event of outbreaks.

It has also been acknowledged that high level government officials must be made aware of the importance of, and held accountable for, keeping the relevant audiences properly informed on animal health related issues. Steps must also be taken to ensure that strategic communication, as a science, is integrated into the veterinary infrastructure and policy at a national level, and to obtain private sector and international support for this where necessary.

With this in mind, the OIE is holding a series of regional seminars on communication for the Delegates of OIE Members and their press officers.

The first Regional Seminar on Communication, organised for the Americas Region, was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in November 2007. The participants recommended that the OIE create an expert group to define communication strategies with the aim of incorporating a chapter on communication in the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*.

The second Regional Seminar on Communication, organised for the Asia, Pacific and the Far East Region, as held in Bangkok, Thailand, on 30 and 31 October 2008. The seminar brought together many participants, including Chief Veterinary Officers (CVOs) from the region, their communication officers, and representatives of industry, the media and consumer organisations.

It was strongly recommended that communication should be one of the priorities of the Veterinary Services, particularly for disseminating information on the various actions that the Veterinary Services carry out, such as disease prevention, surveillance and notification, early detection and rapid response strategies, risk analysis, emergency response activities, biosecurity, good veterinary practice, compensation mechanisms, and extension work with stakeholders.

It was also recommended that a communication team should be a fully integrated component of the Veterinary Services, under the direct authority of the CVO.

The OIE will pursue its communication strategy, including the holding of seminars on communication, in order to create the necessary incentive for countries and their national administrations to incorporate communication strategies within animal health policies. Further seminars are planned for Africa and the Middle East.
OIE hosts the 21st VICH¹ Steering Committee² meeting

Brussels, Belgium, 10 July 2008

The Steering Committee systematically reviewed the 27 VICH Guidelines implemented for more than three years and agreed that the majority of the Guidelines did not require updating for the time being. The Steering Committee decided, however, that three of these Guidelines needed further attention and will be reviewed in more detail at the next Steering Committee meeting. A milestone was achieved by the sign-off of the last two Target Animal Safety Guidelines at step 6, VICH Guideline 43 (Pharmaceuticals: Target Animal Safety for Veterinary Pharmaceutical Products), and VICH Guideline 44 (Biologicals: Target Animal Safety for Veterinary live and inactivated Vaccines) for implementation in the three regions by July 2009. The Steering Committee congratulated the members and the chairman of the Expert Working Group for the successful drafting of three VICH Target Animal Safety Guidelines (including Guideline 41 – Reversion to Virulence) and their commitment to this difficult task. The Steering Committee received the progress report from the chairman of the Metabolism and Residue Kinetics Expert Working Group and acknowledged that four draft Guidelines (Determination and quantity of residues; Comparative metabolism studies in laboratory animals; Residue depletion; Analytical method validation) would be submitted in the near future to the Steering Committee for endorsement for public consultation.

The Steering Committee applauded the significant progress achieved by the Pharmacovigilance Expert Working Group Task Force on the Controlled Lists of Terms. These lists are necessary for harmonised data exchange relating to Adverse Event Reports and will be finalised in early 2009. The Steering Committee also reviewed the progress of the work of the Expert Working Groups on Quality and Biologics Quality Monitoring.

In view of current scientific progress, the Steering Committee agreed to formalise further discussions on the Target Animal Batch Safety Test for immunological veterinary medicinal products, which has the potential to significantly contribute to the reduction of animal testing. The Steering Committee agreed to monitor the developments in electronic submissions of regulatory documents in each region to facilitate a consistent approach. The Steering Committee and OIE decided to organise the 4th VICH Public Conference at the OIE Headquarters in Paris in June 2010. The 22nd meeting of the Steering Committee is scheduled for 25 and 26 February 2009, and will be hosted by Canada, an observer member.

1- What is VICH?

VICH is a trilateral (European Union-Japan-United States of America) programme aimed at harmonising technical requirements for veterinary product registration. Its full title is International Cooperation on Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Registration of Veterinary Medicinal Products. VICH was officially launched in April 1996.

For further information, please contact the VICH Secretariat:
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e-mail: sec@vichsec.org - Website: www.vichsec.org

2- Members of the Steering Committee

Europe
EU: European Commission - European Medicines Agency;
IFAH-EUROPE: representing the European Animal Health Industry

Japan
JMAFF: Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries;
JVPA: Japanese Veterinary Pharmaceutical Association

United States of America
FDA (US Food & Drug Administration) – CVM (Centre for Veterinary Medicine) and USDA/CVB (US Department of Agriculture – Center for Veterinary Biologics); AHI: US Animal Health Institute

Observers
Australia/New Zealand
APVMA (Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority)/NZFSA (New Zealand Food Safety Authority);
The Alliance/AGCARM: Animal Health Alliance (Australia) Ltd./Agricultural Chemicals & Animal Remedies Manufacturers’ Association of New Zealand

Canada
HC (Health Canada); VDD (Veterinary Drugs Directorate) and CFIA (Canadian Food Inspection Agency); VBS (Veterinary Biologics Section); CAHI: Canadian Animal Health Institute

Associate Member
OIE: World Organisation for Animal Health

Interested party
AVBC: Association of Veterinary Biologics Companies (USA)
The 23rd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe was held in Vilnius, Lithuania, from 15 to 19 September 2008, under the chairmanship of Dr Kazimieras Lukauskas, Delegate of Lithuania to the OIE, and with the support of the OIE Central Bureau and the OIE Regional Representation for Eastern Europe.

A total of 173 people from 46 different countries attended the Conference.

During the Conference, Dr Alejandro Thiermann, President of the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission, gave a presentation on the practical application of OIE standards and guidelines on compartmentalisation, and Prof. Vincenzo Caporale, President of the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases, gave a presentation on bluetongue control strategy, including recourse to vaccine.

A review of the animal health situation in the countries in the region was made. Over the past year, they have had to deal with outbreaks of highly pathogenic avian influenza, foot and mouth disease, classical swine fever, African swine fever, rabies and bluetongue. Today, bluetongue is one of the most serious animal health issues affecting Europe. Historically confined to some regions of Africa and the Mediterranean Basin, different strains of the virus have been infecting northern regions since 2000. Moreover, since 2006 a new serotype (BTV-8) has been active in northern Europe, where it continues to spread. The Conference concluded with a strong commitment to move forward with the establishment of regional surveillance networks for early detection and rapid response mechanisms under the strict supervision of Veterinary Services. This needs to be supported by the broad implementation of appropriate vaccination strategies against bluetongue in infected and at-risk countries, using vaccines complying with OIE standards.

The most recent activities of the OIE Terrestrial and Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commissions and the OIE Working Group on Animal Welfare were presented during the Conference.

OIE partner organisations, such as the FAO and the European Commission, also presented updates on their activities and policies in Europe in the field of animal health as well as the results of the programmes they carry out jointly with the OIE.

All recommendations adopted by the Conference will be submitted for consideration and final adoption by all OIE Members at the next OIE General Session, in May 2009.
Environmental Risk Assessment of Human and Veterinary Medicines
29 September - 2 October
Berlin (Germany)
registrations@informa-ls.com

October
(updated since no. 2008-3)

The 8th Biennial Conference of the European Wildlife Disease Association (EWDA)
2-5 October
Rovinj, Istria (Croatia)
www.ewda2008.org/

SPS Committee (Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures)
6-10 October
Geneva (Switzerland)

FAO/OIE/WHO Joint Technical Consultation on Avian Influenza at the Human-Animal Interface
7-9 October
Verona (Italy)

XIX Latin American Congress on Microbiology (ALAM 2008)
11-15 October
Quito (Ecuador)
www.microbiologiaecuador.com/

Second International Workshop on Equine Viral Arteritis
13-15 October
Lexington, Kentucky (United States of America)
Department of Veterinary Science
University of Kentucky
108 M.H. Gluck Equine Research Center
Lexington, KY 40546-0099
United States of America
Tel.: (859) 257-4757
Fax: (859) 257-8542

Meeting of the Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission
13-17 October
OIE Headquarters, Paris (France)
trade.dept@oie.int
www.oie.int/aac/eng/en_fdc.htm

September
(events not included in no. 2008-3)

WHO/FAO/OIE/ICD/SSAFE round table on capacity building for food safety
9 September
Rome (Italy)
www.who.int/foodsafety/en/

Aquaculture Europe 2008
15-18 September
Krakow (Poland)
mario.stael@scarlet.be
www.marevent.com/

Welfare Assessment System – Progress and Considerations: a Welfare Quality Meeting of the Advisory Committee
25-26 September
Copenhagen (Denmark)
www.welfarequality.net/everyone

FAO Expert Meeting on Capacity Building to Implement Good Animal Welfare Practices
29 September - 3 October
Rome (Italy)
www.fao.org/ag/againfo/home/en/events.htm

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29 September - 2 October
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Rome (Italy)
www.fao.org/ag/againfo/home/en/events.htm
**4th Modern Drug Discovery and Development Summit**  
15-17 October  
San Diego, CA  
(United States of America)  
Josette Barba  
josette.barba@gtcbio.com  
Tel.: 626-256-6405  
www.moderndrugmeeting.com/

**2nd OIE Global Conference on Animal Welfare: ‘Putting the OIE standards to work’**  
20-22 October  
Cairo (Egypt)  
trade.dept@oie.int  
a.balmont@oie.int  
www.oie.int/eng/A_AW2008/home.htm

**Protein Expression & Antibodies Europe**  
20-23 October  
Lisbon (Portugal)  

**Nano Risk Conference**  
21-23 October  
Paris (France)  
www.upperside.fr/nanorisk2008/nanorisk2008intro.htm

**IV Buffalo Symposium of the Americas and III Buffalo Symposium of the Europe and Americas**  
22-24 October  
Merida (Venezuela)  
Av. Andrés Bello  
Centro Comercial Alto Chama  
Torre Norte, Piso 3 Oficina 307  
Mérida, Ed. Mérida (Venezuela)  
Tel.: +58 274 415 53 96  
Fax: +58 274 271 60 23  
fundasibu@yahoo.com

**International Ministerial Conference on Avian and Pandemic Influenza**  
24-26 October  
Sharm El-Sheik (Egypt)  
Conference secretariat  
info@imcap2008.gov.eg  
www.imcap2008.gov.eg

**Food Safety: Veterinary Roles for the World Kitchen (15th Congress of the Federation of Asian Veterinary Associations - FAVA & OIE Symposium)**  
27-29 October  
Bangkok (Thailand)  
Conference Secretariat:  
The Thai Veterinary Medical Association  
69/26 Soi Patumwan Resort  
Phayathai Rd., Ratchathewee  
Bangkok 10400 (Thailand)  
Tel.: +66 2 255 1309  
Fax: +66 2 252 8773  
fava2008@hotmail.com  
achariya.sailasuta@gmail.com  
www.fava2008.com/

**OIE Regional Seminar on communication**  
30-31 October  
Bangkok (Thailand)  
m.zampaglione@oie.int

**9th International Meeting ‘Molecular Epidemiology and Evolutionary Genetics of Infectious Diseases’**  
30 October - 1 November  
Nairobi (Kenya)  
Michel Tibayrenc  
Institut de recherche pour le développement (IRD)  
michel.tibayrenc@ird.fr  
www.th.ird.fr/site_meeting/menu.htm

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**November**

**Training Seminar for new National OIE Delegates of Europe**  
5-6 November  
Lyons (France)  
regactivities.dept@oie.int

**Managing Alien Species for Sustainable Development of Aquaculture and Fisheries (MALIAF)**  
5-7 November  
Florence (Italy)  
Dr Francesca Gherardi  
University of Florence  
francesca.gherardi@unifi.it  
www.dbag.unifi.it/maliaf/
**New methodologies and interdisciplinary approaches in global change research**

**5-10 November**

Centre IGESA  
Île de Porquerolles, Hyères, (France)  
Ms Jean Kelly

European Science Foundation (ESF) Conferences Unit  
Brussels, Belgium  
Tel.: +32 (0)2 533 2025  
Fax: +32 (0)2 538 8486  
Please quote 08-284 in any correspondence

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**Workshop for OIE Collaborating Centres in Charge of the Training of Official Veterinarians**

**7 November**

Lyons (France)  
regactivities.dept@oie.int

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**7th International Bird Flu Summit: Prevention, Preparedness, Response, Recovery**

**13-14 November**

Las Vegas, Nevada (United States of America)  
riza.gomez@new-fields.net

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**Hundred and Thirty-fifth Session of the FAO Council**

**17-18 November**

Rome (Italy)  

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**19th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas**

**17-21 November**

Havana (Cuba)  
regactivities.dept@oie.int

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**WHO/FAO/OIE Brainstorming Meeting on Avian Influenza**

**18-19 November**

Geneva (Switzerland)

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**Global Meeting on Veterinary Public Health**

**19-21 November**

Lucknow (India)  
Dr A.K. Srivastava  
Indira Nagar, Lucknow (India)  
Tel.: +91 522 271 58 00  
Fax: +91 522 407 18 26  
ak.srivastava55@gmail.com

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**Veterinary vaccines**

**26-27 November**

Prague (Czech Republic)  
registrations@informa-ls.com  
[www.animalpharmevents.com/summi](http://www.animalpharmevents.com/summi)

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**Congress on biotechnology**

**30 November - 5 December**

Havana (Cuba)  
Dr Hector Luis Machado Morales  
Tel.: +537 271 60 22  
Fax: +537 273 17 79  
hector.machado@cigb.edu.cu  
bh2008.cigb.edu.cu/

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**December**

**Epidemics Conference**

**1-3 December**

Asilomar, CA  
(United States of America)

Nina Cosgrove  
Epidemics Conference Secretariat  
Tel.: + 44 1865 843297  
Fax: + 44 1865 843958  
n.cosgrove@elsevier.com

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**BIT’s first Annual World Vaccine Congress (WVC)**

**1-5 December**

Guangzhou (People’s Rep. of China)

[www.bitlifesciences.com](http://www.bitlifesciences.com)

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**OIE Regional Workshop on Application of SPS and OIE Standards to Imports of Animal Products and Products of Animal Origin**

**1-5 December**

Maseru (Lesotho)  
srr.southern-africa@oie.int

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**Vaccines: 2nd Global Congress**

**7-9 December**

Boston (United States of America)

[www.vaccinecongress.com](http://www.vaccinecongress.com)
January

35th Annual Conference of the International Embryo Transfer Society (IETS)
3-7 January
San Diego, California (United States of America)

NAVC Conference 2009
17-21 January
Orlando, Florida (United States of America)
info@tnavc.org

15th Annual SIVE meeting
23-25 January
Bologna (Italy)
Mrs Elena Piccioni
Tel.: +39 0372 403502
info@sive.it
www.cms.sive.it/

February

International Meeting on Emerging Diseases and Surveillance
13-16 February
Vienna (Austria)
doris.steinbach@mci-group.com
imed.isid.org/

Meeting of the OIE Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases
10-13 February
OIE Headquarters, Paris (France)
scientific.dept@oie.int

Meeting of the OIE Administrative Commission
18-20 February
OIE Headquarters, Paris (France)

18th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa
23-27 February
N’Djamena (Chad)
regactivities.dept@oie.int

March

Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission
2-6 March
Paris (France)
trade.dept@oie.int
www.oie.int/TAHSC/eng/en_tahsc.htm

Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission
9-13 March
Paris (France)
trade.dept@oie.int
www.oie.int/aac/eng/en_fdc.htm

Second Conference of the International Society of Camelid Research and Development (ISOCARD)
11-14 March
Djerba (Tunisia)
hadrami@uae.ac.ae
www.isocard.org/
3rd African Veterinary Congress  
17-19 March  
Yaounde (Cameroon)  
www.onvc.org

First OIE International Conference on Animal Identification and Traceability  
23-25 March  
Buenos Aires (Argentina)

April

The European Veterinary Conference “Voorjaarsdagen” 2009  
23-25 April  
Amsterdam (The Netherlands)  
info@voorjaarsdagen.org  
www.voorjaarsdagen.org/index.php

May

The Impact of the Environment on Innate Immunity: The Threat of Diseases  
4-9 May  
Ötz Valley (Austria)  
European Science Foundation Research Conferences Unit  
149 Avenue Louise, Box 14  
Brussels (Belgium)  
Tel.: +32 (0)12 533 2020  
Fax: +32 (0)12 538 8486  
conferences@esf.org  
www.esf.org/conferences

Meeting of the OIE Administrative Commission  
21-22 May  
OIE Headquarters  
Paris (France)

77th General Session of the OIE  
24-29 May  
Maison de la Chimie and OIE Headquarters  
Paris (France)

June

International Symposium on Sustainable Improvement of Animal Production and Health  
8-11 June  
Vienna (Austria)  
International Atomic Energy Agency  
IAEA-CN-174  
Vienna International Centre  
P.O. Box 100  
Wagramer Strasse 5  
1400 Vienna (Austria)  
APHS-Conferece@iaea.org

Nanotechnology for the Study of Cellular and Molecular Interactions  
14-18 June  
Barga, Tuscany (Italy)  
ksteb@seas.upenn.edu  
www.engconfintl.org/9aa.html

World Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (WAVLD) Annual Conference  
26th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania  
China (People’s Rep. of)  
OIE Regional Activities Department  
regactivities.dep@oie.int

October

Conference of Deans: ‘Evolving veterinary education for a safer world’  
12-14 October  
Maison de la Chimie, Paris (France)  
s.suarez@oie.int

November

26th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania  
China (People’s Rep. of)  
OIE Regional Activities Department  
regactivities.dep@oie.int

OIE/FAO International conference on foot and mouth disease  
24-26 June 2009  
Asunción (Paraguay)  
scientific.dept@oie.int
question:
‘Food safety’ and ‘food security’: what is the difference?

answer:
Confusion often exists between the terms ‘food safety’ and ‘food security’, but they are in fact different concepts which can overlap.

**Food safety** means reducing food-borne risks to human health. The OIE has the goal of reducing food-borne risk to human health due to hazards arising from animals.

(A hazard is defined here as a biological, chemical or physical agent in food with the potential to cause an adverse health effect in humans, whether or not it causes disease in animals.)

In 2002, the Director General of the OIE established a permanent Working Group on Animal Production Food Safety to coordinate the food safety activities of the OIE. The Working Group includes in its membership high-level experts from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Health Organization, the Codex Alimentarius Commission and relevant Codex Committees, and reflects a broad geographical basis.

**Food Security** refers to ensuring the supply of food, to prevent hunger.

According to the FAO:
Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food for a healthy and active life.

This includes four conditions:
1. adequacy of food supply or availability;
2. stability of supply, without fluctuations or shortages from season to season or from year to year;
3. accessibility to food or affordability; and
4. quality and safety of food.

Currently there are over 800 million food insecure people in the world.

There is of course a strong link between the fight against hunger around the world and the fight against animal diseases – in particular in developing countries – and consequently between food security and animal health. In fulfilling its mandate to improve animal health worldwide, the OIE is working to ensure an adequate supply of safe food, thus improving both food safety and food security.

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**OBITUARY**

Dr Otto Hübschle, Director of the Veterinary Services of Namibia and OIE Delegate, died in Paris on 16 July 2008. After having suffered a heart attack while attending the 76th OIE General Session in May he was moved to the intensive care unit of a large Parisian hospital.

It was with great sadness that the OIE learned of his passing. The death of Dr Otto Hübschle is a great loss, not only to his country, but also for our organisation.

On behalf of the 172 Members of the OIE we present our sincere condolences to Dr Hübschle’s family and to the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry of Namibia.
AFGHANISTAN
ALBANIA
ALGERIA
ANDORRA
ANGOLA
ARGENTINA
ARMENIA
AUSTRALIA
AUSTRIA
AZERBAIJAN
BAHRAIN
BANGLADESH
BARBADOS
BELARUS
BELGIUM
BELIZE
BENIN
BHUTAN
BOLIVIA
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
BOTSWANA
BRAZIL
BRUNEI
BULGARIA
BURKINA FASO
BURUNDI
CAMBODIA
CAMEROON
CANADA
CAPE VERDE
CENTRAL AFRICAN REP.
CHAD
CHILE
CHINA (PEOPLE’S REP. OF)
CHINESE TAIPEI
COLOMBIA
COMOROS
CONGO
CONGO (DEM. REP. OF THE)
COSTA RICA
CÔTE D’IVOIRE
CROATIA
CUBA
CYPRUS
CZECH REPUBLIC
DENMARK
DJIBOUTI
DOMINICAN REP.
ECUADOR
EGYPT
EL SALVADOR
EQUATORIAL GUINEA
ERITREA
ESTONIA
ETHIOPIA
FIJI ISLANDS
FINLAND
FORMER YUG. REP. OF MACEDONIA
FRANCE
GABON
GAMBIA
GEORGIA
GERMANY
GHANA
GREECE
GUATEMALA
GUINEA
GUINEA BISSAU
GUYANA
HAITI
HONDURAS
HUNGARY
ICELAND
INDIA
INDONESIA
IRAN
IRAQ
IRELAND
ISRAEL
ITALY
JAMAICA
JAPAN
JORDAN
KAZAKHSTAN
KENYA
KOREA (DEM. PEOPLE’S REP.)
KOREA (REP. OF)
KWAZULU-NATAL
LAOS
LATVIA
LIBANON
LESOTHO
LIBYA
LIECHTENSTEIN
LITHUANIA
LUXEMBOURG
MADEIRA
MALAWI
MALAYSIA
MALDIVES
MALI
MALTA
MAURITANIA
MAURITIUS
MEXICO
MOLDOVA
MONGOLIA
MONTENEGRO
MOROCCO
MOZAMBIQUE
MYANMAR
NAMIBIA
NEPAL
NETHERLANDS
NEW CALEDONIA
NEW ZEALAND
NICARAGUA
NIGER
NIGERIA
NORWAY
OMAN
PAKISTAN
PANAMA
PARAGUAY
PERU
PHILIPPINES
POLAND
PORTUGAL
QATAR
ROMANIA
RUSSIA
RWANDA
SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE
SAUDI ARABIA
SENEGAL
SERBIA
SIERRA LEONE
SINGAPORE
SLOVAKIA
SLOVENIA
SOMALIA
SOUTH AFRICA
SPAIN
SRI LANKA
SUDAN
SURINAME
SWAZILAND
SWEDEN
SWITZERLAND
SYRIA
TAJIKISTAN
TANZANIA
THAILAND
TOGO
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
TUNISIA
TURKEY
TURKMENISTAN
UGANDA
UKRAINE
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
UNITED KINGDOM
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
URUGUAY
UZBEKISTAN
VANUATU
VENEZUELA
VIETNAM
YEMEN
ZAMBIA
ZIMBABWE
The two recipients of OIE Honorary Awards presented in May 2008 in recognition of their outstanding services to veterinary science and the OIE: Dr Amadou Samba Sidibé (Mali) with the Gold Medal and Dr Kazimieras Lukauskas (Lithuania) with the Meritorious Service Award.
NEW
coming soon

CONFERENCES

24-25-26 June 2009
Asuncion, Paraguay

12-14 October
Paris, France