editorial

The 80th General Session of the World Assembly of OIE Delegates: many milestones have been reached ............................................. 1

forum

Procedure for official recognition of disease status – update on foot and mouth disease ................................................................. 3

Promises of aquaculture and the challenge of antimicrobial use .......................................................... 9

OIE new

new OIE publications .......................................................... 15
news from headquarters .................................................... 16
regional activities ............................................................. 26
official acts ........................................................................ 37
strengthening of Veterinary Services ........................................ 58
meetings and visits ............................................................ 66

the OIE and its partners

epidemiology & animal disease control programmes ....................... 75
activities of reference laboratories & collaborating centres .................. 77
news from Member Countries .................................................. 83

international news

special events ..................................................................... 86
agenda ................................................................................ 93
The 80th General Session of the World Assembly of OIE Delegates: many milestones have been reached

The 80th anniversary of the World Assembly of National Delegates of Member Countries of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) was an opportunity to take stock of the path travelled since the very first General Session, which took place on 8 March 1927. Twenty-six national Delegates attended this first session, during which Professor Emmanuel Leclainche was elected the first Director General of the organisation, then called the International Office of Epizootics.

The 26 Delegates that gathered together in Paris at the end of that winter in 1927 were visionaries, but could they ever have suspected back then that the 80th annual meeting of Delegates would assemble more than 750 participants? These participants included official representatives of 178 Member Countries, as well as many high-ranking authorities (including numerous Ministers), international organisations, intergovernmental organisations such as the FAO, WHO, the World Bank and WTO, and dozens of other governmental and non-governmental organisations, both regional and national.

This record participation of high-level authorities from all Member Countries is an indication of the global reach of the OIE.

This record participation of high-level authorities from all Member Countries is an indication of the global reach of the OIE. The annual General Session has become recognised as a world forum for exchange and reflection by all national and international actors – from both the private and the public sectors – who are involved in animal production and welfare, animal health, and veterinary public health, throughout the world.

Indeed, the standard-setting activities of the Assembly have extended beyond the initial mandate of the OIE, which centred on animal health, in such a way as to place the Organisation at the very heart of questions of animal welfare and veterinary public health, which encompass food safety and security and the development of the ‘One Health’ concept.

The most conclusive example of this pivotal role was the notable participation, at the 80th General Session, of Mr Robert Horsch, senior official of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, who presented ‘Livestock Overview and Approach’. This strategy, developed by the Gates Foundation, concerns global support for the livestock sector. It specifically places at its forefront the importance of cooperation between the Foundation and the OIE in the areas of improving animal health and welfare, and highlights the role of Veterinary Services in the aim of contributing to the global reduction in poverty.
Of equal importance in the programme of the Assembly was the concept of ‘One Health’. A study based on a questionnaire submitted to all Member Countries of the OIE demonstrated that the use of this concept has gained ground over recent years; particularly in highlighting the need to strengthen a collaborative, inter-sectoral approach to the prevention, detection and control of animal and human diseases. Veterinary Services are now recognised by all as essential partners in public health, as a result of their role in the fight against diseases of animal origin.

In addition, this year, the Delegates adopted new guiding principles on setting generic standards for animal welfare in the sphere of animal production systems. They also adopted a new chapter on the welfare of beef cattle, thus opening the way to other standards which will be applied to other branches of animal production.

The OIE published the first international standards on animal welfare in 2005. They dealt with the transport of animals by land, sea and air, the slaughter of animals intended for human consumption and the elimination of animals for disease control purposes. Next came standards concerning the welfare of laboratory animals and the control of stray dog populations.

The adoption of standards related to animal welfare is progressing rapidly. The ratification system used by the OIE is now well established and is used every year by Delegates at the General Session, as each standard-setting adoption is passed by consensus or – much more rarely – by a two-thirds majority, each country having its own voice. It is surely this mechanism that should be celebrated above all – thanks to this system we have experienced 80 years of an efficient, rapid and democratic process of setting standards that is unrivalled anywhere in the world.

In addition, during this General Session, the Delegates elected or re-elected eight members of the Council (the equivalent of the administrative board), as well as the members of five Regional Commissions and four Specialist Commissions, paying rigorous regard to the OIE criteria of scientific excellence and geographic distribution.

This 80th General Session also made its contribution to women’s involvement in key positions, since Dr Karin Schwabenbauer (Germany) was elected President of the World Assembly of Delegates, thereby becoming the first woman to occupy this position in the history of the Organisation.

It only remains for me to wish the World Assembly of OIE Delegates many more such productive General Sessions in the future, which will allow the Organisation, as has been the case this year, to develop positions shared by 178 countries on subjects of major importance for the future of humanity.

Bernard Vallat
Director General, OIE
Introduction

In 1994, Member Countries gave the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) the responsibility of compiling a list of Member Countries or zones officially recognised as being free from foot and mouth disease (FMD). Official recognition of the disease status of Member Countries is of great significance for international trade since a Member Country may lose or enhance its commercial attractiveness, depending on such recognition. By acquiring and maintaining its official disease-free status, a Member Country can also demonstrate transparency and help to promote animal health and public health worldwide, thereby gaining the trust of its trade partners and of the international community. To this end, a procedure was developed for official recognition by the OIE of the foot and mouth disease- (FMD-) free status of Member Countries and zones.

The procedure by which the OIE officially recognises disease status was first developed in 1994 for FMD and progressively extended to other diseases, as decided by the World Assembly of Delegates (World Assembly). The procedure has since been expanded to include official recognition of disease-free status for African horse sickness (AHS) and contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP), and risk status level for bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), as well as to endorse official control programmes for FMD. (Since the declaration of the global eradication of rinderpest, at the 79th General Session in 2011, the evaluation of rinderpest status is no longer taking place.)

Procedure

The procedure for official recognition of disease status follows a democratic, transparent and impartial process. A Member Country wishing to be officially recognised as disease-free by the OIE (referred to above) should submit its request to the Director General of the OIE, accompanied by the relevant questionnaire laid out in Chapter 1.6. of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code) and any additional relevant information.

The OIE Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases (Scientific Commission) is responsible for assessing, on behalf of the World Assembly, applications (dossiers) from OIE Member Countries for their compliance with OIE standards. The assessment carried out by the Scientific Commission is based on the recommendations
formulated by a relevant ad hoc Group (for a specific disease), convened by the Director General of the OIE and composed of world-renowned specialists who have been appointed to review the applications from Member Countries. After each General Session, the Director General informs Member Countries about the next scheduled cycle of ad hoc Group meetings dedicated to official recognition of disease status and endorsement of official FMD control programmes. The OIE meeting cycle runs from May to May, and the World Assembly marks both the beginning and end points.

Members of the ad hoc Groups are asked to comply with OIE requirements and procedures on confidentiality, and on the appropriate management of any conflict of interest, as laid down in the OIE’s basic texts. The Chairperson of the ad hoc Group and the OIE Secretariat ensure that any members who do have, or appear to have, a conflict of interest of some sort do not take part in the deliberation and decision-making on that particular dossier. In addition, the withdrawal of any member of the ad hoc Group is recorded in the report of the meeting.

During the evaluation of a dossier, applicant Member Countries can be contacted either during the ad hoc Group meeting or the Scientific Commission meeting, to address specific questions that may arise during the evaluation. If deeper verification is needed, the Scientific Commission may request the Director General to conduct a field mission to the applicant Member Country, to help in reaching a consensus.

After the meeting of the Scientific Commission, each applicant Member Country whose dossier has been evaluated by the Scientific Commission receives a letter from the Director General, informing the Member Country of the outcome of the evaluation, along with a record of the evaluation, including the reasons for a positive or negative outcome. If the outcome is negative, the letter indicates existing information gaps and/or specific areas that should be addressed in the future, based on the evaluations of the ad hoc Group and the Scientific Commission. This letter, containing confidential data, is not released in the public domain.

Once the Scientific Commission recommends the acceptance of a request by a Member Country, all Member Countries’ Delegates are informed of the OIE’s intention to modify the disease status of that particular Member Country for that particular disease. Member Countries then have 60 days in which to register any objection, based on scientific or technical grounds.

Official recognition is then voted on and adopted by at following annual World Assembly. This new official disease status is subsequently recognised by the WTO and should be considered by Member Countries when developing import health measures.
After a disease outbreak, or when the Scientific Commission determines that the conditions required to demonstrate compliance with the relevant requirements of the *Terrestrial Code* are no longer being met, a Member Country’s disease status may be suspended. The Scientific Commission may decide to reinstate the suspended status when the Member Country submits an application that fulfils all the requirements needed for the recovery of official disease status, as laid out in the relevant chapters of the *Terrestrial Code*. Suspensions and recoveries of disease status are announced by the Director General in consultation with the Scientific Commission, and the list of these is kept up to date until the adoption of a new Resolution by the World Assembly, the following May. In this context, the Scientific Commission can follow a ‘fast-track’ process for the suspension and recovery of disease status lost as the result of an outbreak in a country or zone previously recognised as free of disease.

Member Country(ies) or zone(s) enjoying disease-free status officially recognised by the OIE must submit an annual reconfirmation form by the end of November every year.


**Current situation – an example of foot and mouth disease**

The lists of Member Countries/zones that are recognised as being free from FMD by the World Assembly are published in the Resolutions of each General Session and available on the OIE website. This site is updated immediately after each General Session and as soon as a suspension or reinstatement is decided upon by the Scientific Commission.
As an example, the list of Member Countries/zones officially recognised as being free from FMD as of 1 September 2012 consisted of:

– 66 Member Countries recognised as being FMD-free without vaccination

– one Member Country recognised as being FMD-free with vaccination

– 15 zones (in ten different Member Countries) recognised as being FMD-free without vaccination

– ten zones (in four different Member Countries) recognised as being FMD-free with vaccination (Resolution No. 14, 80th General Session in May 2012, and Bulgaria’s reinstatement on 31 August 2012).

In addition, three Member Countries have already their official control programme for FMD endorsed (Resolution No. 15, 80th General Session in May 2012).

Transparency and confidentiality

The OIE, fully recognising the impact of a Member Country’s official disease status on its international trade, takes a series of measures to keep the procedure transparent and impartial and to communicate as much as possible (with limitations, due to the need to respect a Member Country’s confidentiality).

To ensure transparency, the OIE communicates with its Member Countries at several stages of the official recognition procedure and publishes relevant information that could be of use to the International Community on its website.

In 2010, to ensure a user-friendly and user-oriented operating procedure for official recognition of disease status, the Scientific and Technical Department of the OIE reproduced the decisions taken in the World Assembly Resolutions and other requirements in a single document and posted it as a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) on the OIE website. This SOP assists Member Countries wishing to apply the relevant procedures and should facilitate the OIE Delegates’ understanding of the steps required. Member Countries gain a transparent view of the overall time line and of the different stages that their application will go through, as well as the fees involved. The SOP is continually being updated to reflect the evolution of the procedure, the inclusion of new diseases and comments from Member Countries. The latest edition of the SOP was published in July 2012.

Each year, after the General Session, the Director General of the OIE circulates the dates of the meetings of the ad hoc Group responsible for the evaluation of disease status to all Delegates. These dates will determine the deadlines by which application dossiers must be sent to the OIE. Member Countries wishing to apply for official
disease status are also reminded about the procedure and invited to liaise with the OIE Secretariat for any additional information required.

Once the Scientific Commission has recommended the acceptance of a request by a Member Country, the 60-day commenting period prior to the General Session each year allows OIE Member Countries to react and address any concerns they may have about the application, either to OIE Headquarters or to the applicant Member Country. Such concerns must be based on robust scientific or technical evidence.

For higher visibility, the OIE has dedicated a section to official disease status, under the heading ‘Animal health in the world’, which is publicly available through the following link: www.oie.int/en/animal-health-in-the-world/official-disease-status/. This section contains general information on official recognition and links to the SOP, the detailed list of free Member Countries and zones and any suspensions or reinstatements of Member Country disease status that have occurred in the period between the two General Sessions.

Transparency must go hand-in-hand with protecting the confidentiality of information, given the sensitivity of disease status evaluation. The list of Member Countries which have submitted a dossier is kept confidential until the Scientific Commission recommends recognition of their disease-free status. The names of Member Countries that have not met the requirements of the Terrestrial Code, and for which recognition of free status is not recommended by the Scientific Commission, are not released in the public domain; therefore their names and the details of their evaluations are not included in the ad hoc Group/Scientific Commission reports.

The obligation of ad hoc Group and Scientific Commission members to sign a confidentiality agreement and a declaration of any conflict of interest is also part of the OIE’s commitment to protect the confidential information of Member Countries.

The OIE communicates with applicant Member Countries through correspondence between the Director General and the Delegates concerned. Technical contact points can also be contacted at the ad hoc Group as well as at the Scientific Commission meetings, if specific questions are raised. Even though the SOP makes provisions for Member Countries wishing to send experts to meet with the Scientific Commission during its meeting at OIE Headquarters, the Scientific Commission considers that exchanges by e-mail and/or teleconference are more cost and time effective. Since lobbying may hinder the principles of transparency and impartiality, applicant Member Country experts may have a time slot to answer the Scientific Commission’s questions and clarify any technical points, but cannot take part in the discussion.
Conclusion

Since 1994, the procedure for official recognition of disease status has evolved. New priority diseases, new expectations and new communication tools are all driving the OIE’s efforts to progress and gain further public confidence and visibility. The procedure is constantly being revisited and improved where necessary. For this reason, the Scientific and Technical Department is planning to give more emphasis to essential information posted on the website and make the website more user-friendly. Some of these developments will be seen during the coming year.

The list of Member Countries officially recognised by the OIE is also recognised by the WTO and at the international level, since it is based on scientific and robust assessment, led by internationally renowned experts following established procedures and criteria. The possible extension of this procedure to other diseases will further increase the transparency of animal health information and facilitate global trade in animals and animal products.
Managing the challenge of antimicrobial use in aquaculture

There is a great need to further the training and deployment of veterinarians and aquatic animal health professionals. Clinical pharmacology related to poikilothermic animals is only one of the additional areas of study needed; among the others are: the diagnosis and treatment-related aspects of population medicine (epidemiology, health/disease dynamics, nutrition, clinical microbiology) and an enhanced knowledge of and ability to manage complex animal husbandry systems, such as coastal net pens, open ocean systems, land-based ponds, and raceway and recirculating systems, including an understanding of their environmental impact. More specifically, with regard to antimicrobial resistance (AMR), there is a need to develop enhanced methods of microbiological culture and antimicrobial susceptibility and testing (AST). Antimicrobial resistance surveillance and monitoring programmes should be developed for aquatic animals and products of aquatic animal origin. The recent adoption of Chapter 6.5., ‘Development and harmonisation of national antimicrobial resistance surveillance and monitoring programmes for aquatic animals’, into the World Organisation of animal Health (OIE) Aquatic Animal Health Code (Aquatic Code) provides particular guidance on this topic. These programmes should be integrated with existing programmes for terrestrial animals and linked with programmes for human disease. The regulatory infrastructure should be strengthened by promulgating veterinary legislation where it does not yet exist, advancing risk assessment methodologies, and applying effective risk management controls. Non-regulatory controls, such as good aquacultural practices (e.g. the Joint Institute for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition’s Good Aquacultural Practices Manual: http://jifsan.umd.edu/training/gaqps_manual.php) and standards on responsible use, such as those in the OIE Aquatic Code, as well as guidelines published by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) (ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/009/a0282e/a0282e00.pdf), AVMA (Judicious Use of Antimicrobials for Treatment of Aquatic Animals by Veterinarians) and others, are needed to provide an acceptable framework for administering antimicrobials to aquatic species. More comprehensive data are required as a sound basis for risk analysis, alongside advanced methodologies that take into account the diversity of aquatic culture systems.
Strengthening national Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services

For accurate diagnosis and treatment of infections in aquatic species, access to veterinarians and aquatic animal health professionals is essential. Moreover, to protect public health and ensure animal health, as well as to meet their obligations for international trade in food, countries must have adequate national services, both Veterinary Services (VS) and Aquatic Animal Health Services (AAHS), if these are separate from VS. Through the OIE Evaluation of the Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) Pathway programme, OIE Member Countries can request an evaluation of their VS and AAHS infrastructure against the OIE standards for quality. After an initial evaluation, countries may request a PVS Gap Analysis, as a way to assign national priorities and provisional budgets for necessary investment. The PVS Evaluation and Gap Analysis form the basis for a comprehensive national plan to strengthen VS/AAHS with the aims of developing:

– human, physical and financial resources, to attract more resources and retain professionals with technical and leadership skills
– the technical authority and capability to address new and current issues, including the prevention and control of biological disasters, based on scientific principles
– sustained interaction with stakeholders to carry out relevant joint programmes and services in a sustainable manner, and
– the ability to access markets through compliance with standards and the implementation of new disciplines, such as harmonisation, equivalence and zoning.

The national plan will typically contain recommendations for promulgating veterinary legislation, leveraging public/private partnerships, improving veterinary education and governance and establishing or enhancing laboratory services.

Modernising veterinary legislation

Veterinary legislation is an essential element of the national infrastructure that enables VS/AAHS to efficiently carry out their key functions, including epidemiosurveillance; early detection and reporting of diseases, including zoonoses; rapid response to and prevention and control of animal health emergencies; animal production food safety; animal welfare and the certification of animals and animal products for export. Unfortunately, veterinary legislation in many countries is outdated and inadequate to deal with the challenges faced by VS/AAHS today and in the future. For this reason, the OIE has made provision for Member Countries to request assistance with modernising their veterinary legislation within the PVS framework.
The authorisation and use of veterinary medicines, including those to treat aquatic species, also require an adequate legal framework. Pre-market evaluation and authorisation of veterinary medicines can include assessments of effectiveness; animal safety; human food safety (for food producing species); product chemistry, manufacturing and controls; and environmental impact. Importantly, pre-market authorisation includes a review of appropriate labelling, including the need for veterinary supervision of certain products. Post-market surveillance of adverse reactions, including a lack of effectiveness potentially caused by antimicrobial resistance, may also be a requirement of legislation. In some cases, legislation can also contribute to the establishment of surveillance and monitoring systems for evaluating the incidence of resistant micro-organisms and examining trends in the quantities of antimicrobials used. Trends in the incidence of resistant micro-organisms and the quantities of antimicrobials used may be useful in evaluating possible associations. The recently adopted Aquatic Code, Chapter 6.4., ‘Monitoring of the quantities and usage patterns of antimicrobial agents in aquatic species’, provides guidance on this topic.

Addressing the lack of approved drugs
In order to minimise inappropriate use and misuse of antimicrobials and to provide safe and effective therapies, an effective pre-market authorisation process is required. This process requires the generation of data to support the effectiveness of veterinary medicines, as well as their safety for humans and animals, and to gauge their environmental impact. In addition, marketed products need data on manufacturing chemistry and controls to demonstrate their purity, safety, potency and stability. Generating these data in multiple species, at various dosages, in different water chemistries, requires a significant investment by the drug sponsor. Often, specific data are needed to support the authorisation of drugs for disease in a particular species under various conditions of use. Aquatic animal drug sponsors are simultaneously challenged to commit resources to fractionated industry segments. To address the issue of data generation and the need for approved drugs for aquatic species in both public (e.g. conservation and management of important species) and private sectors (e.g. commercial culture), a variety of approaches have been launched. Public/private partnerships have been successful in generating data and analytical methods that support the public sector mission, while also making this information available for use by the private sector, to support the licensing of products that might not otherwise have sufficient commercial interest. In addition, some countries have adopted Minor Use Minor Species (MUMS) legislation to make more medications legally available to
veterinarians and animal owners to treat minor animal species and uncommon diseases in the major animal species. Such legislation can facilitate innovative ways to bring products for small populations to market and is designed to help pharmaceutical companies overcome the financial roadblocks they face in providing limited-demand animal drugs.

Using risk analysis as a tool to address the risks of antimicrobial resistance in aquaculture

The principles of risk analysis, risk assessment, risk management and risk communication are applicable to address the risks of AMR in aquaculture, using a similar approach to that used in other food production sectors. Multilateral organisations and national and regional authorities have invested considerable effort over the past ten to 15 years towards the goal of improving risk assessment and the management of antimicrobial use in aquaculture.

Beginning in 1997, with the World Health Organization (WHO) meeting on the medical impact of the use of antimicrobials in food animals, a series of meetings and expert consultations were held by WHO/OIE/FAO (www.who.int/foodborne_disease/resistance/meetings/en/), resulting in:

- the publication of global principles for the containment of antimicrobial resistance in food animals (2000),
- the development and refinement of lists of critically important antimicrobials for human and veterinary medicine (2005–2007),
- the creation of an ad hoc Intergovernmental Task Force of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) on Antimicrobial Resistance (2008).

In 2006, an important FAO/WHO/OIE consultation focused solely on the issue of antimicrobial use in aquaculture (Joint FAO/OIE/WHO Expert Consultation on Antimicrobial Use in Aquaculture and Antimicrobial Resistance, Seoul, Republic of Korea, 13–16 June, 2006). Outcomes of that meeting included a better understanding of the diversity of aquaculture; the first attempts to apply the principles of risk analysis to AMR in aquaculture; and the identification of knowledge gaps with respect to AST methods and the complexity of exposure pathways for horizontal gene transfer.

Meanwhile, within the Codex framework, food standards, codes of practice and guidelines were also evolving to address the risks of foodborne antimicrobial resistance, including within aquaculture products. Building on several publications, including Food safety risk analysis, a guide for national food safety authorities (FAO #87-2005); Code of practice to minimise and contain antimicrobial resistance (CAC/RCP 61-2005); Principles and guidelines for the conduct of microbiological risk assessment (CAC/GL 30-1999); and Principles and guidelines for the conduct of microbiological risk
management (CAC/GL 63:2007), the Codex guideline, Risk analysis for foodborne antimicrobial resistance (CAC/GL 77), was adopted in 2011. This document sets out principles for conducting risk analysis for foodborne antimicrobial resistance, including in aquaculture products.

Since 2003, the OIE has adopted specific chapters on AMR into the Terrestrial Animal Health Code, including one on risk assessment, and these continue to be updated and revised to reflect the latest scientific knowledge. In 2010, the OIE requested the ad hoc Expert Group on the Responsible Use of Antimicrobials in Aquaculture to draft complementary advice on aquatic animals, for inclusion in the Aquatic Code. As of 2012, four chapters have been adopted, i.e. Chapter 6.2., ‘Introduction to the recommendations for controlling antimicrobial resistance’; Chapter 6.3., ‘Principles for responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents in aquatic animals’; Chapter 6.4., ‘Monitoring of the quantities and usage patterns of antimicrobial agents used in aquatic animals’ and Chapter 6.5., ‘Development and harmonisation of national antimicrobial resistance surveillance and monitoring programmes for aquatic animals’. The guidance provided in these chapters is essential for the creation of a framework to conduct risk analysis. In order to conduct meaningful risk assessment and to evaluate potential risk management options and monitor their effectiveness, systems must be established and supported to generate data and information. Integrating these systems with analogous systems for collecting and analysing human and animal data will be important in understanding possible associations between antimicrobial use and AMR.

Conclusions

Clearly, it is necessary to address the challenges associated with antimicrobial use in aquatic animals in order to fulfil the promise of aquaculture.

The future of aquaculture remains bright and the promise of a blue revolution in this century to match the green revolution of the past century is still within the realms of possibility. A recently published FAO expert paper, entitled: ‘How to Feed the World in 2050 (www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/wsfs/docs/expert_paper/How_to_Feed_the_World_in_2050.pdf), makes a compelling case for the need to greatly increase food production in the not-too-distant future.

Aquaculture will almost certainly make a significant contribution towards meeting these demands. As with any new food production sector there will be challenges, but if the world demand for high-quality, sustainable animal protein is to be met, these challenges, including AMR, must be addressed. We are well on our way towards defining the gaps in our knowledge that must be filled to reap the benefits of aquaculture. As
these gaps are rectified, we will be able to use our most powerful tools (e.g. bioinformatics, genomic research, sophisticated computer modelling) to further monitor the selection and dissemination of resistant micro-organisms and understand the impact of antimicrobial use. It will be important for the private sector to continue to support growth in aquaculture (e.g. through approved drugs, new culture systems and advanced nutrition). It will be crucial for national and regional governmental authorities, with the help of the OIE and other international organisations, to develop frameworks that enhance food safety and facilitate the trade of food products derived from aquatic species. It will also be important for professional educational bodies to take steps to enhance the knowledge and expertise of veterinarians and aquatic health professionals, and for professional organisations to support the continued development of their members working in the aquatic arena. With these elements in place, we have the best possible chance to address the challenge of antimicrobial use and fulfil the promise of aquaculture.

Donald A. Prater, DVM*
Member of the OIE ad hoc Group on the Responsible Use of Antimicrobials in Aquatic Animals
Deputy Director (Foods)
USA Food and Drug Administration*
Europe Office, Parma, Italy

*This article reflects the views of the author and should not be construed to represent FDA’s views or policies
Good governance and financing of efficient Veterinary Services

This Review on ‘Good governance and financing of efficient Veterinary Services’ aims at providing the reader with a conceptual framework to analyse the governance of national Veterinary Services and shows how reforms that promote good governance can help enhance the quality of national health systems and assist countries to achieve compliance with OIE international standards.

Good governance is a complex and multifaceted concept that has numerous meanings and definitions. Originating in the economic and financial context, concepts of governance – and more specifically good governance – are now routinely applied in a wide range of contexts. This Review focuses predominantly on the concept of governance as it relates to the provision of global public goods and services to citizens. Veterinary Services – like those services in areas as diverse as infrastructure, legislative functions and the social sectors – are an important public good. Good governance in Veterinary Services describes services that are sustainably financed, universally available, provided efficiently without waste or duplication, and in a manner that is transparent and free of fraud or corruption.

Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals

Available on the Web site

The purpose of the Terrestrial Manual is to contribute to the international harmonisation of methods for the diagnosis, surveillance and control of the most important animal diseases as well as the certification for international trade of animals and animal products. Standards are described for laboratory diagnostic tests and the production and control of biological products (principally vaccines) for veterinary use across the globe.

All OIE listed diseases are covered, together with additional diseases of importance for international trade. Each chapter of the Terrestrial Manual has been written and reviewed by experts of international standing and has been approved by OIE Member Countries. The diagnostic tests and protocols referred to in the Terrestrial Animal Health Code are described in detail in the Terrestrial Manual. These publications contributed to the designation of the OIE as the reference organisation for animal health by the Marrakesh Agreement establishing the WTO.
Compendium of the OIE Global Conference on Rabies Control
‘Towards Sustainable Prevention at the Source’
Incheon–Seoul, Korea (Rep. of)
7-9 September 2011

The OIE Global Conference on Rabies Control ‘Towards Sustainable Prevention at the Source’, was held from 7 to 9 September 2011 in Incheon-Seoul, Republic of Korea. Around 350 participants from over 90 countries attended this unique international forum. They included high-level officials from veterinary and public health services, veterinary practitioners, representatives of governmental and non-governmental organisations, scientists, and multilateral and bilateral donors.

This Compendium of manuscripts, prepared by speakers of the conference and reviewed by experts from its Scientific Committee, provides an overview of the current rabies situation worldwide and highlights the importance of rabies control at the animal source in achieving worldwide elimination of rabies in humans.

The recommendations adopted at the end of the conference are also included. They will guide the future actions of the OIE and its Member Countries in this area.

On 10 September 2012, Dr Derek Belton joined the OIE as Head of the International Trade Department. Derek comes to the OIE from New Zealand, where he was working in the International Policy Directorate of the Ministry for Primary Industries, leading the team responsible for New Zealand’s input into international organisations, particularly the international sanitary and phytosanitary standard-setting bodies. He graduated in Veterinary Science from Massey University, New Zealand, in 1977, and subsequently gained post-graduate qualifications in microbiology and epidemiology. Derek worked in practice, in veterinary diagnostic laboratories, and in public health, before joining the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity Authority in 1999. He began representing New Zealand in OIE activities in 2001, and is very pleased to be now joining the International Trade Department. He looks forward to further contributing to the fulfilment of the OIE’s mandate.
news from headquarters

Dr Rastislav Kolesar
Animal Welfare Coordinator

Dr Rastislav Kolesar has joined the OIE International Trade Department in the new position of Animal Welfare Coordinator. He comes to the OIE from the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA), where he developed and managed WSPA humane slaughter training programmes in China and Brazil, as well as in South-East Asia.

Dr Kolesar graduated in 1995 from the University of Veterinary Medicine in Kosice, Slovakia, and, since then, has been deeply committed to animal welfare. He joined the Veterinary and Food Administration in the Slovak Republic as an Animal Welfare Officer, and was subsequently promoted to the position of Head Animal Welfare Officer, responsible for the transposition and implementation of the ‘acquis communautaire’ (i.e. the cumulative body of European Union legislation) on animal welfare into Slovak veterinary legislation.

Later, after a year-long spell as a guest veterinary practitioner in Denver, Colorado, he continued training in animal welfare of red meat animals, poultry and fish at pre-slaughter and slaughter, and undertook animal welfare studies at the Langford Veterinary School near Bristol, in the United Kingdom.

After subsequently leading training programmes in animal welfare at pre-slaughter and slaughter for official veterinary inspectors in Slovakia, and managing industry training courses as a freelance consultant, in 2005 Dr Kolesar joined the WSPA to develop its humane slaughter training programme. He is already heavily involved in his work at the OIE, which focuses on assisting Member Countries to implement OIE animal welfare standards.

Dr Dietrich Rassow
Chargé de mission

Since 1 May 2012, Dr Dietrich Rassow has been working as chargé de mission in the International Trade Department. Dr Rassow was made available from the German Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection, where he was head of the department dealing with international health policy and trade, and undertook the function of deputy Chief Veterinary Officer.

Dietrich graduated as a veterinarian from the Freie Universitaet Berlin (1984) and, after working in large-animal practice and obtaining a post-graduate degree, he joined the Veterinary Services of Lower Saxony in 1989. For ten years he worked as a veterinary officer in Oldenburg in various areas: e.g. animal welfare, control of veterinary pharmaceuticals and animal disease control. He was particularly involved in the effort to control classical swine fever in domestic pigs. In 1999, he was appointed head of the Regional
Veterinary Office at Hanover and, one year later, he took up the same position at Oldenburg. In 2004 he moved to the Federal Ministry in Bonn, where he led the department dealing with animal disease crisis management, EU trade and export. From 2008, his work at the Ministry focused on bilateral negotiations with countries outside the EU to facilitate trade. Dietrich hopes that his knowledge and practical experience will make a strong contribution to the work of the International Trade Department.

**Accounts Unit**

**Marie Dieni**
 Accounts assistant

As a result of the large increase in the accounting workload, linked to the considerable expansion in activities carried out by the OIE and its Regional Representations, the Accounts Unit welcomed the arrival of Mlle Marie Dieni on 24 April 2012. She takes up the post of Accounts assistant, left vacant since the departure of Mr Daniel Agbodjan-Prince.

**Departures**

**International Trade Department**

Dr Sarah Kahn
Head of the International Trade Department

After spending six years at the OIE as Head of the International Trade Department, Dr Sarah Kahn left at the end of July 2012 for new horizons. Fortunately, the OIE will continue to benefit from her expertise, as Dr Kahn will take on the role of consultant in several priority areas, such as some of the relations with WTO and the veterinary legislation support programme for Member Countries.

**Communication Unit**

**Maria Zampaglione**
Head of the Unit

Mme Zampaglione led the OIE Communication Unit for more than ten years. Thanks to her know-how, and with the support of her team, the communications area has really taken off, matching the development of the OIE itself, and contributing to raising the profile of the Organisation and its work throughout the
The Director General of the OIE visited the Libramont Agricultural Fair (Belgium), the biggest of its type in Europe, on 30 July 2012. On this occasion, he spoke of the link between the humane treatment of animals and animal health, the food supply and public health. He visited the Fair in the company of Madame Sabine Laruelle, Belgian Minister of Agriculture, and Mr Elio di Rupo, Belgian Prime Minister.

Mme Meslin has been responsible for the OIE Communication Unit’s computer-aided publishing work for nearly five years. Her skills in this area have complemented the Unit’s thriving activities, especially the use of new communication methods in a variety of formats. Mme Meslin’s creativity has prompted her to leave the OIE to try her hand at new crafts and techniques, and we wish her the very best for these new challenges.

Wishing to meet new challenges, Mme Zampaglione has rejoined the private sector, where we wish her the same success as at the OIE.
Celebrations at the 80th General Session

Mr Stéphane Le Foll, French Minister of Agriculture, chose the General Session of the OIE to deliver his first official speech since taking office in the new French Government. He congratulated the OIE for its constant efforts in the control and prevention of animal diseases across the world and, in particular, he hailed its work in implementing the ‘One Health’ concept.

Mory Kanté, the world-famous singer from Guinea, was also a guest at the OIE’s 80th General Session. Known for his commitment to the fight against hunger and poverty, Mr Kanté arrived with his kora (a traditional West African harp) on the day of the inaugural meeting of the Session, celebrating the historical mission of the OIE to advance world fellowship in the goal of improving food security.

Visit to OIE Headquarters

The OIE received a visit from 27 veterinary officers of the Republic of Korea, on 16 July 2012, who wanted to explore the organisation’s Headquarters and learn more about policies for controlling avian influenza on the world scale and the role of the OIE in their implementation.
The Commission met at the OIE Headquarters under the chairmanship of its President, Dr Gideon Brückner, and addressed the following issues:

– general principles for animal disease control guidelines
– requests from Member Countries for the designation of Collaborating Centres
– the involvement of members of the Commission and of the Working Group on Wildlife Diseases in relevant ad hoc Groups, where wildlife plays a role in the epidemiology of the disease
– draft agendas and the dates of 12 planned ad hoc Group meetings
– possible OIE Expert missions and other issues related to evaluating the official disease status of Member Countries
– approaches towards establishing a first-time baseline list of Member Countries that qualify as being historically free from African horse sickness
– prioritising the future work of the Commission.

The Commission also reviewed the reports of the following ad hoc Groups on:

– Epidemiology
– Evaluating the Foot and Mouth Disease Status of Member Countries
– Antimicrobial Resistance
– Diseases of Honey Bees
– the Expert Group on Equine Movements and Diseases.

In addition, the President of the Scientific Commission and the Bureau of the Code Commission held a joint meeting where several important items were discussed, such as the planned ad hoc Group meetings on peste des petits ruminants, classical swine fever and brucellosis; the report of the meeting of the ad hoc Group on Notification of Animal Diseases and Pathogenic Agents; the meeting of the OIE/FAO Joint Advisory Committee on Rinderpest; and a number of Terrestrial Animal Health Code chapters that were then forwarded to the Code Commission.
Meetings of the *ad hoc* Groups

**On Antimicrobial Resistance**

*OIE Headquarters, Paris, 2–4 July 2012*

The Group reviewed the additional technical comments received from Member Countries on Chapter 6.9. of the *Terrestrial Code* on ‘Responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents in veterinary medicine’. The Chapter was revised accordingly. The Group also suggested adding definitions of some important terms used in the chapters about antimicrobial resistance and the use of antimicrobial agents in the *Terrestrial Code*. Finally, it began a review of the OIE list of antimicrobials of veterinary importance, with the aim of finalising the list at the next meeting.

**On the Evaluation of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Status of Member Countries**

*OIE Headquarters, Paris, 3–5 July 2012*

The Group addressed all the comments received from Member Countries and continued its revision of articles – one by one – of Chapter 8.5. of the *Terrestrial Code*, on FMD. The internal consistency of the chapter was improved as well as its compatibility with the questionnaire for applying for recognition of official disease-free status from FMD, as laid out in Chapter 1.6.4. of the *Terrestrial Code*. Issues brought up in discussion included aspects related to FMD protection zones and the spillover of FMD to wildlife. The whole chapter was reviewed, except for the articles on surveillance, which will be revised at the next meeting. Finally, the Group evaluated the request from one Member Country for recovery of its FMD-free status without vaccination.

**On Diseases of Honey Bees**

*OIE Headquarters, Paris, 10–12 July 2012*

The Group finalised its revision of Chapters 9.1. to 9.6. of the *Terrestrial Code* on bee diseases, based on comments received from Member Countries. It also finalised a general introductory text on bees and bee diseases, which highlights their specific characteristics when compared to the more classic domestic animal diseases, particularly in the context of trade. The Group reviewed current bee diseases, based on the new criteria adopted by the World Assembly in May of 2012, to decide if any should be included in or removed from the OIE list. The Group decided that the bee diseases currently listed should remain and that no new ones should be proposed at this stage.

**On Biosafety and Biosecurity in Veterinary Laboratories**

*OIE Headquarters, Paris, 17–19 July 2012*

The Group finalised the draft version of the *Terrestrial Manual*: Chapter 1.1.1. on ‘Collection and storage of diagnostic specimens’; Chapter 1.1.2. on ‘Transport of specimens of animal origin’; and Chapter 1.1.3. on ‘Standards for managing biorisk in veterinary laboratories and animal facilities’. These chapters will now go to the OIE Biological Standards Commission, for consideration.

**On Validation of Diagnostic Assays**

*OIE Headquarters, Paris, 21–23 August 2012*

The Group reviewed all comments from Member Countries and experts on Chapter 1.1.5. of the *Terrestrial Manual*, ‘Principles and methods of validation of diagnostic assays for infectious diseases’, and proposed changes to the text, as appropriate. A final version of the chapter was developed and agreed to by the Group during this meeting.

The Group also reviewed comments from Member Countries and experts on the seven appendices. The Group proposed that, in future, these appendices be designated as validation guidelines. Based on the submitted comments, the Group did some rephrasing and editorial work on the text of all the chapters to harmonise their content with the changes in Chapter 1.1.5. and improve clarity of presentation. However, for some of the validation guidelines, the Group was of the opinion that the documents needed substantial changes. The Group
therefore proposed sending these documents to the original authors or to another expert, to suggest a new version of the relevant guidelines, taking the Group’s comments into account.

The Group recommended that the validation guidelines be published on the OIE website when finalised. The Group also suggested that the OIE consider publishing Chapter 1.1.5. and the validation guidelines as an e-book, as well as in normal book form, depending on interest from Member Countries.

**On Vaccine Quality Related to Classical Swine Fever**

**OIE Headquarters, Paris, 4–6 September 2012**

The Group met with the principal aim of revising Section C – ‘Requirements for vaccines’ – of the Terrestrial Manual, Chapter 2.8.3., version 2008, on classical swine fever. This revision followed the same format as that used for FMD, rabies and Rift Valley fever, with the objective of harmonising the outlines of Manual chapters related to vaccine quality. The Group completed the revision which entirely replaces the old text.

**On BSE Risk Status Evaluation of Member Countries**

**OIE Headquarters, Paris, 11–13 September 2012**

The Group finalised its opinion on potential options for Member Countries with small bovine populations – which have difficulty complying with the BSE surveillance requirements in the Terrestrial Code – with the objective of reviewing the articles on surveillance in Chapter 11.5. The Group also reviewed the recent literature on atypical BSE and considered the possibility of addressing this issue in the Terrestrial Code. Finally, the Group was requested, as a special task, to conduct a preliminary reading of the dossiers received by the time of the meeting to check if they were complete for a formal assessment, which will be conducted at the November meeting.
Responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents in veterinary medicine; Zoonoses transmissible from non-human primates; a new draft chapter on Animal welfare and broiler chicken production systems; Introduction to the recommendations for animal welfare; Use of animals in research and education; Animal welfare and beef cattle production systems; Infection with bluetongue viruses; Infection with *Echinococcus granulosus*; a new draft chapter on Infection with *Echinococcus multilocularis*; Rinderpest; Hygiene and disease security procedures in apiaries; Infestation of honey bees with *Acarapis woodi*; Infection of honey bees with *Paenibacillus larvae* (American foulbrood); Infection of honey bees with *Melissococcus plutonius* (European foulbrood); Infestation with *Aetina tumida* (small hive beetle); Infestation of honey bees with *Tropilaelaps* spp.; Infestation of honey bees with *Varroa* spp.; Infection with viruses of notifiable avian influenza; Bovine spongiform encephalopathy; Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia; Infection with *Chlamydophila abortus*; and a new draft chapter on Infection with epizootic haemorrhagic disease virus.

The Code Commission will review Member Country comments on these texts at its next meeting in February 2013, with a view to identifying the texts to be proposed for adoption at the 81st General Session in May 2013.

Along with the meeting report, the Commission also circulated various documents, including the work programme of the Commission and reports from OIE *ad hoc* Groups and the OIE Animal Welfare Working Group, to Member Countries for their information.

**Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission**

**OIE Headquarters, Paris, 24–28 September 2012**

The newly elected Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission (Aquatic Animals Commission) met to address Member comments received on the report of its February 2012 meeting, including comments received at the 80th General Session, as well as the work done by the *ad hoc* Groups on the OIE List of Aquatic Animal Diseases (Finfish Team), Aquatic Animal Health Surveillance and Evaluation of Aquatic Animal Health Services.

The Aquatic Animals Commission reviewed several *Aquatic Code* chapters, revising existing texts and proposing new texts on the following subjects: Glossary, Notification of diseases and epidemiological information, Criteria for listing aquatic animal diseases, Diseases listed by the OIE, and Infectious salmon anaemia (ISA).

The seventh edition of the *Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals* 2011 was adopted at the General Session in May 2012, with the exception of the chapter on ISA. Publication has been delayed, but it is hoped that an updated online version will be available by the end of the year.

The Aquatic Animals Commission also updated its 2012/2013 work programme.

**OIE *ad hoc* Group Meetings**

**On Evaluation of Veterinary Services**

**OIE Headquarters, Paris, 17–19 July 2012**

The *ad hoc* Group on Evaluation of Veterinary Services, chaired by Dr Herbert Schneider, met to review the current OIE Tool for the Evaluation of Performance of Veterinary Services (OIE PVS Tool, fifth edition), taking into account recent developments in the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (*Terrestrial Code*). Several PVS experts identified by OIE Headquarters were invited to provide their comments on the current PVS Tool, prior to the meeting, and the Group then examined their suggestions closely. The Group also reviewed all 46 Critical Competencies (CC), revising them as appropriate. As part of this revision, the Group also deleted several CC and added new competencies. The new edition of the OIE PVS Tool (sixth edition) will be available on the OIE website or in book form, in due course.
The Group also reviewed the Terrestrial Code chapters relevant to the evaluation of Veterinary Services, as well as the proposed amendments to Chapter 3.2. and the Glossary for consideration by the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission (Code Commission).

On Zoonotic Parasites

**OIE Headquarters, Paris, 23–25 July 2012**

The ad hoc Group considered the extensive comments provided by Member Countries on draft Chapter 8.13., ‘Trichinellosis’, circulated for comment in the September 2011 Report of the Code Commission, and amended the draft text as appropriate. The two Co-chairs of the Codex Working Group on Guidelines for Control of Specific Zoonotic Parasites took part in the meeting to ensure the alignment of risk-based recommendations in the respective standards currently under development.

A broad range of comments from Members resulted in the ad hoc Group making a significant revision of the draft chapter, including restructuring and simplification. The ad hoc Group amended the text to reflect the fact that the importance of trichinellosis lies in the risk posed to humans and the costs of control in slaughter populations, rather than in the risk to animal health. Because of the lack of a clear and objective means of establishing trichinellosis-free status for either a country or zone, the chapter only addressed a compartment with a negligible risk of *Trichinella* infection in domestic pigs, kept under controlled management conditions.

The ad hoc Group report was submitted to the Code Commission for consideration at its meeting in September 2012.

On Veterinary Education

**OIE Headquarters, Paris, 24–25 July 2012**

The OIE ad hoc Group on Veterinary Education held its fifth meeting and reviewed the ‘OIE Guidelines on Twinning Projects for Veterinary Education Establishments (VEE)’.

The Group also reviewed the ‘Guide to Veterinary Education Twinning Projects’ and finalised the document on ‘Post-Graduate and Continuing Education for Graduate Veterinarians to Assure Ongoing Delivery of High-Quality National Veterinary Services’.

Finally, the Group developed draft guidelines for a Model Core Veterinary Curriculum to serve as a companion to its recommendations on the Competencies of graduating veterinarians (‘Day 1 graduates’), to ensure a high quality of national Veterinary Services, which were adopted in May 2012. In turn, these guidelines will serve as a tool for VEEs in OIE Member Countries to use when developing curricula to educate veterinary students to the expected level of competency.

These draft guidelines were submitted to the Code Commission for review and will be circulated for Members to comment on.

On Evaluation of Aquatic Animal Health Services

**OIE Headquarters, Paris, 21–23 August 2012**

The ad hoc Group held its first meeting to develop a stand-alone PVS Tool for the Evaluation of Performance of Aquatic Animal Health Services (AAHS). The ad hoc Group reviewed the draft sixth edition of the PVS Tool and amended specific critical competencies (CC), Levels of Advancement and Indicators so that the Tool was appropriate for evaluating the performance of AAHS. The ad hoc Group noted that the majority of CC were applicable to the evaluation of AAHS. However, the following CC were amended because of differences when considering AAHS:

- CC I-1: Professional and technical staffing of the Veterinary Services or Aquatic Animal Health Services
- CC I-2: Competencies of veterinarians or aquatic animal health professionals, and other technical personnel
OIE news

Activities of the
International Trade Department

- CC II-8: Food safety
- CC II-12: Traceability
- CC III-5: Veterinary Statutory Body and other professional authorities.

In reviewing the Indicators, the ad hoc Group made some amendments relevant to AAHS but noted that the majority were applicable to the evaluation of AAHS.

On the OIE List of Aquatic Animal Diseases (Finfish Team)

OIE Headquarters,
Paris, 11–13 September 2012

The ad hoc Group assessed epizootic ulcerative syndrome against the Criteria for Listing Aquatic Animal Diseases provided in Chapter 1.2. of the Aquatic Animal Health Code (Aquatic Code), taking into consideration the assessment provided by a Member Country. The ad hoc Group report was submitted to the Aquatic Animals Health Standards Commission (Aquatic Animals Commission) for consideration at its meeting in September 2012.

Staff movements

Arrival

Dr Valentyna Sharandak
A new Technical Assistant at the OIE Regional Representation for Eastern Europe

Dr Valentyna Sharandak joined the OIE Regional Representation for Eastern Europe on 27 June 2012 as a Technical Assistant. Dr Sharandak previously worked as Head of the Unit for International Cooperation, the Directorate of State Inspection, Department for Veterinary Medicine, in the State Veterinary and Phytosanitary Service of Ukraine. She has a PhD in veterinary microbiology and virology and spent some time in the role of Associate Professor at the Agricultural University.

Departures

Dr Alexandre Bouchot
OIE Sub-Regional Representation for South-East Asia

Dr Alexandre Bouchot completed his four-year assignment with the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for South-East Asia (SRR-SEA) in Bangkok last August to take up a post at the French Ministry of Agriculture.

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Dr Bouchot was Project Manager of the European Union- (EU-) funded regional cooperation programme on Highly Pathogenic Emerging and Re-emerging Diseases in Asia (HPED), and helped to set up the OIE Regional Vaccine Bank for Asia, managed by the SRR-SEA, with funding from the EU. Dr Bouchot was also involved in training OIE national Delegates and Focal Points and participated in several PVS pathway missions as a PVS Evaluation, Gap Analysis and legislation expert.

Dr Bouchot started his assignment with the SRR-SEA as adviser to the Working Group on Zoning for Foot and Mouth Disease and Animal Movement Management in the Upper Mekong region. He witnessed first hand, and participated in, the significant expansion of the SRR-SEA's scope of activities from a Regional Coordination Unit of the South-East Asia Foot and Mouth Disease (SEAFMD) Campaign to a full OIE Sub-Regional Representation with the following programmes: the STANDZ initiative funded by AusAID, the HPED programme funded by the EU, and the IDENTIFY project funded by the US Agency for International Development (USAID).

With his involvement in almost every aspect of the SRR-SEA's activities, Dr Bouchot knows that his memories of Asia, where he has so much enjoyed working with people from such diverse backgrounds and across such varied systems, will remain very important to him. ‘The [veterinary] world is small, so there is a large chance that my future path will again cross those of my friends and colleagues in Asia, all of whom I am pleased to have known and worked with,’ he says.

Dr Antoine Maillard
OIE Sub-Regional Representation for Eastern Africa and the Horn of Africa

Dr Antoine Maillard joined the Sub-Regional Representation for Eastern Africa and the Horn of Africa – Nairobi – in September 2010 as a Technical Assistant. He quickly adjusted to the Nairobi and Kenyan environment. When Dr Maillard joined the Representation, the offices were being housed by the African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR), a situation which continued until January 2011.

Dr Maillard took an active part in the establishment of the new OIE offices on Upper Hill Road, Nairobi, even lending a helping hand in their design. This relocation included the bonus of an excellent view of Nairobi National Park from his window! He enjoyed witnessing the establishment and growth of this office, and was a professional and efficient Technical Assistant, whose attention to detail was much appreciated by his colleagues. He enjoyed participating in meetings and so represented the OIE on many occasions, both in the Sub-Region and abroad. He was passionate about his job and worked long hours, diligently performing all duties assigned to him.

Dr Maillard left for greener pastures to pursue his professional career and we wish him every success in his future endeavours.
Meetings

International Congress on Animal Welfare: Progress and Strategies for the Future of Livestock and Second Regional Meeting of Researchers on Animal Welfare

10–11 July 2012,
Montevideo, Uruguay

The International Congress on Animal Welfare: ‘Progress and strategies for the future of livestock’, was held in Montevideo, Uruguay, on 10 and 11 July 2012, alongside the Second Regional Meeting of Researchers on Animal Welfare, as part of the framework of activities of the OIE Collaborating Centre for Animal Welfare Chile–Uruguay for the Americas.

The event was declared of national interest by the Ministry of Tourism and Sports and organised by the Veterinary Faculty of the University of the Republic and the Uruguayan institutions involved in the Technical Group on Animal Welfare, i.e. the Ministry of Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries, the National Institute of Agricultural Research, the National Meat Institute, the Extension Services Institute, the Society of Veterinary Medicine of Uruguay and the National Academy of Veterinary Medicine.

The Congress was delighted to welcome Dr Temple Grandin of the United States (USA), known worldwide as a leading expert in animal welfare, together with 15 other top-level experts from home and abroad, including representatives of the OIE (Drs Correa and Barcos), researchers from the Universidad Austral de Chile (Drs Gallo and Strappini), the State University of Sao Paulo (Dr Paranhos), the Institute for Food and Agricultural Research and Technology in Spain (Dr Dalmau), and the OIE Collaborating Centre of the Caporale Institute, Italy (B. Alessandrini), among others.

Some 650 participants attended, from 15 other countries (Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Italy, Mexico, Paraguay, USA, China, Venezuela, Turkey, Spain and the Netherlands), plus a number of interested Uruguayan observers, including many young people, a fact which surprised and delighted Dr Grandin.

Remarkably, the OIE Collaborating Centre Chile–Uruguay and the Veterinary Faculty have enlisted the support of all the national institutions linked to the meat chain and involved in the Technical Group on Animal Welfare, as well as participants from the meat industry, veterinary drug production laboratories, international organisations and non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

Meanwhile, more than 70 excellent research papers, developed in the Americas and displayed as posters, were presented at the Second Regional Meeting of Researchers on Animal Welfare.
(The first meeting was held in Valdivia–Chile in 2009.)

A ceremony to transfer the temporary headquarters of the OIE Collaborating Centre for Animal Welfare for the Americas from Chile to Uruguay also took place during the Congress. Formerly hosted by the Faculty of Veterinary Science, Universidad Austral de Valdivia,
under the direction of Dr Carmen Gallo, the Centre will now move to the Veterinary Faculty of the University of the Republic, in Uruguay, and the leadership of Dr Stella Huertas. This three-yearly transfer of the Centre between Chile and Uruguay was stipulated at the OIE World Assembly in May 2009, when the Centre was created.

At that time, clear commitment to remain aligned to the OIE world standards on animal welfare and to continue to work towards the principal goal of the Collaborating Centre was stated as follows: to promote animal welfare and as a reference point for the region and the world.

Many of the speakers, including Dr Grandin, emphasised the importance of providing training at all levels of the animal industry, highlighting the role of the official Veterinary Services, the Veterinary Faculty and the OIE Collaborating Centre in advancing the spread of knowledge of good animal management practices and animal welfare.

The next regional meeting will be held in Montevideo, from 14 to 18 October 2013, back-to-back with the Seminar for OIE Animal Welfare National Focal Points of the Americas.

The Sixth FAO/OIE Regional Steering Committee Meeting of the Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs) for Asia and the Pacific was convened back-to-back with the Third Steering Committee Meeting of the European Union (EU)-funded Programme on Highly Pathogenic and Emerging or Re-emerging Diseases (HPED) in Bangkok, Thailand, from 17 to 19 July 2012. These two meetings have been organised back-to-back since 2009, in accordance with the recommendations of the Third Regional Steering Committee Meeting of GF-TADS for Asia and the Pacific.

The objective of the OIE component of the HPED programme is to strengthen regional integration and regional and sub-regional cooperation, and to provide capacity-building for surveillance and the early detection and eradication of highly pathogenic emerging and re-emerging transboundary animal diseases in the region, as well as good governance of animal health systems.

GF-TADs is a joint initiative of FAO and the OIE, which specifically aims to control and prevent transboundary animal diseases and emerging infectious diseases, providing a regional coordinating framework for a range of infectious disease control measures at global, regional and country levels. The Regional Steering Committee Meeting of GF-TADs for Asia and the Pacific takes place annually, to provide sub-regional guidance and assistance to all regional members, monitor progress, provide strategic direction to the regional support and coordination units of the organisations concerned and to foster a spirit of cooperation between members and donors.

Both meetings were attended by more than 58 participants from various organisations; namely, the OIE, FAO, WHO, Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC). Representatives also came from the Thai Department of Livestock Development (the host country), the OIE and FAO Regional Commissions, and from donor agencies, such as the European Union, the Australian Aid Agency (AusAid), the Australian Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF), Japan and the US Agency for International Development (USAID).
This one-day meeting was highly productive, with active contributions and discussion from all participants. The meeting focused on reporting progress to date and plans for implementing the upcoming and final phase of activities, using a variety of methods, including a poster session, to stimulate debate and contribute towards the text of the meeting’s recommendations. The European Union commented that the findings and lessons learned from the mid-term review had been successfully incorporated into the programme and that appreciable progress had been made.

In view of the fact that the programme will draw to a close by the end of 2013, the Steering Committee agreed that the next meeting should be a forum for examining the strengths, weaknesses and lessons learned from the programme, as well as the successful activities of the implementing partners (the OIE, FAO and WHO).

All the implementing partners and regional organisations reiterated the need for programme continuity and sustainability, particularly for financial commitment from the donor. The EU clarified that it was not planning a second phase of the programme but drew attention to a new EU ‘One Health’ programme in the region.

The final recommendations included issues linked to ‘One Health’ and rabies, the need to maintain the OIE regional vaccine banks, continuing a harmonised regional approach to foot and mouth disease control and sustaining efforts to strengthen animal health systems through the use of the OIE PVS Pathway.
Pacific, followed by a presentation on the evolution of the FAO Emergency Prevention System (EMPRES).

A main highlight of the meeting was the discussion on the draft five-year Regional GF TADs Action Plan for Asia and the Pacific. Participants discussed the draft plan thoroughly, coming up with a wide range of comments and suggestions for further consolidation. The Action Plan framework was endorsed and a revised version, incorporating the suggestions made at the meeting, will be submitted to the Global GF-TADs Steering Committee through the OIE.

During the general discussion, several issues were raised – among them, a reminder that GF-TADs is a mechanism which tries to promote and empower regional alliances in the campaign against transboundary animal diseases. Regional coordination is the key to successful implementation of discussion forums, programmes, projects and strategies. In view of this, it was recommended that all disease control activities be comprehensively mapped out, to identify synergies and avoid duplications, as well as to identify gaps where more support is needed. These recommendations, among others, recognise that the Regional Action Plan is a living document, which should be revised and reviewed within an evolving regional context and according to changing needs, a process in which all three partners should be equally and actively involved.

With the help of the OIE/Japan Trust Fund (JTF) Project on Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Control in Asia, the OIE Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific organised a workshop for National Contact Persons (NCPs) in Tokyo, from 14 to 15 August 2012.

The idea for the workshop came from recommendations from the inception meeting of the OIE/JTF Project on FMD Control in Asia (held in December 2011), which decided that a roadmap was needed for FMD control in East Asia, and that an NCP from each Member should be appointed to participate in the drafting process.

The objectives of the workshop were to exchange information on national strategies for FMD control and to discuss the development of the roadmap, in collaboration with the South-East Asia and China Foot and Mouth Disease (SEACFMD) Campaign. NCPs were also invited to visit the National Institute of Animal Health (NIAH) (OIE Collaborating Centre for Diagnosis and Control of Animal Diseases and Related Veterinary Product Assessment in Asia), to help in gathering ideas for collaborative strategies and activities which would contribute to FMD control within the region.

The workshop was attended by 17 participants, comprising NCPs or representatives officially assigned by Chief Veterinary Officers (CVOs), from the People’s Republic of China, Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong SAR, Japan, the Republic of Korea, and Mongolia; a representative of the...
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan (MAFF), as the donor and host country; FMD researchers from NIAH; a trainee from Mongolia who came as an observer; and officers from the OIE Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific.

Dr Minoru Yamamoto, Director of the International Animal Health Affairs Office, MAFF, delivered the opening remarks to the workshop, giving the donor’s perspective, while the NCP from each Member Country presented their national strategy and FMD control plan.

Two group meetings were held. During the first one, NCPs took part in a brain-storming exercise to develop an FMD roadmap for East Asia and to undertake a ‘self-evaluation’, based on the stages of the FMD Progressive Control Pathway (PCP).

A visit to the Exotic Research Station of NIAH in Kodaira, Tokyo, followed, where FMD research is carried out in a renovated biosafety level 3 (BSL3) facility. Afterwards, the second group meeting was held, to develop collaborative strategies and activities to contribute towards FMD control in East Asia.

It was felt that the workshop went well and achieved its original objectives. The major outputs were an outline of the FMD roadmap for East Asia and the first draft of an assessment of the stage that Members felt they had achieved along the FMD PCP, along with a projection for the next five years. At the time of writing, and after consultation by electronic means, the roadmap outline and the first draft of the FMD PCP assessment had both been approved by the CVOs of the relevant Members. The conclusions and recommendations of this workshop will be a valuable future reference in the development of the FMD roadmap for this region.
Training Seminar on the OIE PVS Tool for Member States of the European Union

Brussels, Belgium, 14–16 December 2011

With the support of the European Commission (EC), the OIE organised a training seminar on the OIE Tool for the Evaluation of the Performance of Veterinary Services (known as the PVS Tool, below) from 14 to 16 December 2011, in Brussels, Belgium, at the request of the EC and the Member States of the European Union (EU).

This training seminar comes in the context of a desire on the part of the EU for greater convergence between EU legislation – particularly in the framework of preparing new laws on animal health – and the international standards of the OIE related to animal health and well-being and veterinary public health. The latter specifically recommend a periodic evaluation of Veterinary Services, based on the standards and guidelines of the OIE, as a prerequisite for the risk analysis procedure on which countries should base their national policies for animal health, veterinary public health and international trade of animals and products of animal origin.

The EC (Food and Veterinary Office [FVO]1 of the Directorate General for Health & Consumers [DG SANCO]) has its own inspection and audit tools, which are oriented towards the quality control procedures of the sectors and/or commodities produced or introduced into the EU, particularly aimed at ensuring their wholesomeness/safety on the basis of current European regulations – specifically, Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 on official controls – and completed by evaluating the organisation of national control systems.

The OIE PVS Tool focuses on an evaluation of the competent authority (Veterinary Services or Animal and Aquatic Animal Health Services), through a systematic approach which involves all the criteria (‘critical competencies’) related to the quality of these services, as set out in the OIE Terrestrial and Aquatic Animal Health Codes. In this way, both the public and private sectors of Veterinary Services can be fully envisaged. Also included in the evaluation are laboratories and other veterinary professionals who, without being part of the national Veterinary Services in the strictest sense, nonetheless contribute, through their organisation and function, to the quality of national veterinary activities.

To date, among the Member States of the EU, only Bulgaria and Romania are among the 111 countries that have decided to go ahead with an optional evaluation of their Veterinary Services through the OIE PVS Tool.

Nevertheless, it was discussions about the differences in approach of each of these two tools, highlighting their respective added value and even their complementarity, which led to the organisation of this seminar on the PVS Tool in December 2011.

In all, representatives of 24 Member States of the EU (out of 27) took part in the training, as well as participants from two European countries that are not members of the EU (Croatia and Switzerland), and 16 officials from the services of the EC (DG Sanco, including the FVO, and the Directorate General for Trade). The objective of the seminar was to train national experts (two from each country) and EC officials in using the

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1- The FVO, a Directorate of DG SANCO, is responsible for inspections related to food security, animal health or well-being and the phytosanitary domain in EU Member States and Third Countries.
PVS Tool, so as to harmonise its use on the ground in eventual future evaluation exercises.

The seminar was based on an educational template that has already been well tested in the course of four OIE training seminars of similar purpose, from which the pool of PVS experts in the OIE – encompassing all regions of the world – has gradually been built up (May 2006, July 2006, February 2007, February 2008). This template simultaneously combines general presentations on the OIE – in particular, on the OIE standards related to the quality of Veterinary Services which serve as references for these evaluations, as well as for the PVS Pathway, of which the PVS Evaluation is only the first stage, known as the ‘diagnosis’ – with more technical presentations that detail the critical competencies (46, in all), five possible levels of advancement, and indicators used by the tool, along with more operational sessions, describing the practical methods used during these evaluations on the ground.

Some of these methods need to be adjusted to the specific needs of EU Member States and the CE who want at first to use the PVS Tool for a voluntary process of self-evaluation (not the equally voluntary external evaluation used by the great majority of countries undergoing this exercise). The main implication of this, for the Chief Veterinary Officers of the Member States concerned, is that they must decide on the possible participation of qualified OIE PVS experts as observers and/or readers for peer review of the reports from these self-evaluations – as a form of quality assurance for the results and reports produced – as well as the level of confidentiality preferred when distributing the results of these self-evaluations.

At a second stage, an evaluation could be considered which would take into account both the national level (based on the results of self-evaluations of EU Member States) and the ‘supra-national level’, since, for all those who benefit from the competence of the EU or the EC, this last level undeniably makes a huge contribution to the quality and efficacy of the veterinary action taken. This could, in turn, lead to a further adaptation of the PVS Tool, to include a supra-national level, which could also be useful to large countries (in terms of geographic area) which are organised along federal lines (a group of states or provinces) with independent competent authorities in Europe or other regions of the world.

Any follow-ups to this training seminar in terms of implementation are now the responsibility of the EC and the EU Member States, to be discussed at the meetings of Chief Veterinary Officers in Brussels. The OIE remains at their disposal for any assistance they might want. The participants trained at this seminar received a certificate of attendance and a signed ‘Declaration of Expertise’, which confers on them the status of Certified International Expert in the PVS Tool and allows them to join the pool of OIE PVS experts.

The 25th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe was held in Fleesensee, Germany, from 18 to 21 September 2012. The OIE wishes to thank Dr Karin Schwabenbauer, President of the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE and Delegate of Germany to the OIE, and all of her team for the excellent logistical assistance provided during the preparation and holding of the event.

OIE Regional Conferences are held every two years and are one of the major events in the regional life of the OIE and its partners. The previous Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe was held in Astana, Kazakhstan, in September 2010. Attendance at this year’s Conference was exceptionally high.
25th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe
Pleesensee, Germany, 18–21 September 2012

The 15 items on the agenda for the 25th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission covered the following subjects:

a) the OIE’s vision and activities worldwide (an update on the OIE vision; veterinary education; twinning programmes within the framework of the OIE PVS Pathway; a report on the FAO/OIE Global Conference on Foot and Mouth Disease) and in the region (the activities of the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission for 2013 – Issues of interest to Europe; activity reports from the OIE Regional Commission for Europe and the OIE Regional and Sub-Regional Representations in Europe)

b) technical subjects of importance in Europe (the animal health situation; bee diseases; Schmallenberg virus; animal welfare and wildlife).

President of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe was also well placed on the rostrum. The German Minister of Agriculture, Mrs Ilse Aigner, was an honoured guest at dinner, giving a speech that demonstrated her firm commitment to animal welfare. Simultaneous translation of the debates was provided in French, English, German and Russian.

A draft report of the Conference (verbatim) was presented on the final day. It was agreed that participants

The two Technical Items presented were as follows:

– **Technical Item I** (with questionnaire): ‘The role of wildlife in the control of domestic animal diseases’ (expert: Dr Marc Artois)

– **Technical Item II** (without questionnaire): ‘Regional steps towards a common animal welfare approach in Europe’ (expert: Dr Étienne Bonbon).
The main outcomes of the 25th Conference were as follows:

1. the setting up of an OIE regional mechanism/platform for animal welfare, aimed at facilitating the implementation of OIE animal welfare standards in all countries of the region. The mandates, objectives and activities of the platform, as proposed in a concept note prepared by the OIE and previously distributed to Member Countries, were accepted in their entirety. Only the governance of the platform needs to be specified, as the participants want to see a better balance between European Union (EU) countries and non-EU countries and the possible inclusion of civil society stakeholders (private veterinarians and non-governmental organisations). In 2013, this initiative will constitute a major project for the OIE Sub-Regional Representation in Brussels, subject to the appropriate funding being obtained;

2. the setting up of a ‘procedure’ for establishing common regional positions among the Member Countries of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe during the process of adopting OIE standards, a procedure of this type already exists in the Americas and Africa, but in Europe it effectively exists only for the 27 EU Member States, who present a common position coordinated by the Directorate General for Health and Consumers (DG SANCO) of the European Commission. The 81st General Session of the OIE, in May 2013, will provide an opportunity to put this new procedure into place for a limited number of ‘candidate’ topics, still to be determined. A task force, comprising an equal number of EU countries and non-EU countries and the European Commission, has been set up to coordinate the procedure;

3. the express request by the Regional Commission for clarification by the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission of the expression ‘emerging disease’ and the specific circumstances and procedures for notifying emerging diseases. This issue arose in connection with the notification of Schmallenberg virus, which remains a notifiable disease when it occurs for the first time in a country.
Appointment of permanent Delegates

1 July 2012
India
Mr Gokul Chandra Pati
Secretary, Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture

5 July 2012
Vanuatu
Dr Sina Moala
Livestock and Quarantine, Ministry of Agriculture, Quarantine, Forestry and Fisheries

12 July 2012
Paraguay
Dr Hugo Federico Idoyaga Benítez
Presidente, Servicio Nacional de Calidad y Salud Animal (SENACSA), Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería

17 July 2012
Burkina Faso
Dr Lassina Ouattara
Directeur général, Services vétérinaires, Ministère des Ressources animales

1 August 2012
Botswana
Dr Lethlogile Modisa
Director, Veterinary Services, Ministry of Agriculture

8 August 2012
Comoros
Mr Soulé Miradji
Chef de service, Santé animale et vétérinaire, Direction de l’élevage, Ministère de la Production, de l’environnement, de l’énergie, de l’industrie et de l’artisanat

21 August 2012
Bhutan
Dr Karma Dukpa
Director General, Department of Livestock, Ministry of Agriculture and Forests

3 September 2012
Serbia
Dr Slobodan Šibalić
Head, Veterinary Public Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management

3 September 2012
Montenegro
Dr Biljana Blečić
Acting Director, Veterinary Administration, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

27 September 2012
Côte d’Ivoire
Dr Diarra Cissé
Directrice, Services vétérinaires, Ministère des Ressources animales et halieutiques
Statutory elections

At its 80th General Session, the World Assembly of Delegates elected its representatives to OIE governing bodies: the Regional Commissions and the Council. The Assembly also elected the members of the four OIE Specialist Commissions.

The following representatives were elected unanimously:

**President of the World Assembly of Delegates**

Dr Karin Schwabenbauer  
(Germany)

Dr Evgeny Neplokonov  
(Russia)

Dr Bothe Michael Modisane  
(South Africa)

Dr Toshiro Kawashima  
(Japan)

**Vice-President of the World Assembly of Delegates**

Dr Jaouad Berrada  
(Morocco)

Dr Mark Schipp  
(Australia)

Dr Brian Evans  
(Canada)

Dr Nasser El-Deen Al-Hawamdeh  
(Jordan)
Lastly, the Assembly approved the composition of the Working Groups proposed by the Director General.

Presidents of the Regional Commissions

Africa
Dr Marosi Molomo
(Lesotho)

Dr John Clifford
(United States of America)

Dr Zhang Zhongqiu
(People's Republic of China)

Europe
Dr Ago Pärtel
(Estonia)

Dr Kassem Al Qahtani
(Qatar)

the Americas

Asia, the Far East and Oceania

Presidents of the Specialist Commissions

Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases
Dr Gideon Brückner
(South Africa)

Dr Vincenzo Caporale
(Italy)

Dr Alejandro Thiermann
(United States of America)

Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission
Dr Frank Berthe
(France)
CONSIDERING THAT
1. The OIE's Basic Texts provide the Terms of Reference, designation criteria, and internal rules for OIE Reference Centres, which comprise Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres,
2. The Terms of Reference of each of the four elected OIE Specialist Commissions include the responsibility to examine applications from Member Countries relating to the designation of new OIE Reference Centres with activities corresponding to the Commission's scientific terms of reference and report its findings to the Director General,
3. All OIE Reference Centres applications are assessed by the appropriate OIE Specialist Commission using standardised criteria that include: the institution's ability, capacity and readiness to provide services; the scientific and technical standing of the institution concerned at the national and international levels; the quality of its scientific and technical leadership including internationally recognised expertise; the institution's prospective stability in terms of personnel, activity and funding; and the technical and geographical relevance of the institution and its activities to OIE's programme priorities,
4. Details of the applicant institutions that have been accepted by a Specialist Commission are published in the report of the meeting of the Commission,
5. All Reference Laboratory applications also need to be endorsed by the OIE Council, and all Collaborating Centre applications are also endorsed by the corresponding Regional Commission and by the OIE Council,
6. Article 4 of the Internal Rules for OIE Reference Centres states that ‘Applications endorsed by the Council shall be presented to the Assembly for approval’,
7. Proposals for a major change in an OIE Reference Centre follow the same procedure.

THE ASSEMBLY RESOLVES
To designate the following new OIE Reference Centres and add them to the list of OIE Reference Centres (available on the OIE web site):

- OIE Reference Laboratory for Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia Botswana National Veterinary Laboratory, Gaborone, BOTSWANA
- OIE Reference Laboratory for Porcine reproductive & respiratory syndrome Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, China Animal Disease Control Center, Beijing, CHINA (PEOPLE’S REP. OF)
- OIE Reference Laboratory for Newcastle disease National Diagnostic Center for Exotic Animal Diseases, China Animal Health and Epidemiology Center, Ministry of Agriculture, Qingdao, CHINA (PEOPLE’S REP. OF)
- OIE Reference Laboratory for Rabies Diagnostic Laboratory for Rabies and Wildlife Associated Zoonoses (DLR), Department of Virology, Changchun Veterinary Research Institute (CVRI), Chinese Academy of Agricultural
OIE Collaborating Centre for Research, Diagnosis and Surveillance of Wildlife Pathogens
A consortium formed by the US Department of Interior, US Geological Survey, National Wildlife Health Center, Madison, Wisconsin, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and the current OIE Collaborating Centre at the Canadian Cooperative Wildlife Health Centre, Department of Veterinary Pathology, Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan, CANADA

NOTES
deletion of the following Reference Centres:

OIE Reference Laboratory for Brucellosis (Brucella abortus, B. melitensis, B. suis) and Ovine epididymitis (Brucella ovis)
Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Animal Diseases Research Institute, Nepean, Ontario, CANADA.

OIE Reference Laboratory for Equine viral arteritis
Epizootic Research Center, Equine Research Institute, Japan Racing Association, Tochigi, JAPAN

OIE Reference Laboratory for Paratuberculosis
Anses, Laboratoire d’Etudes et de Recherches en Pathologie Animale & Zoonoses, Unité Zoonoses Bactériennes, Maisons-Alfort Cedex, FRANCE

OIE Reference Laboratory for Tularemia
Department of Pathology and Wildlife Diseases, National Veterinary Institute, Uppsala, SWEDEN

Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 24 May 2012
RESOLUTION No.

21

Animal Production Food Safety

CONSIDERING THAT

1. The permanent Working Group on Animal Production Food Safety, established by the Director General in 2002, held its eleventh meeting in November 2011 and drafted a work program for 2012.

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

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

4. That the Director General has asked National Delegates to nominate national focal points for animal production food safety according to established terms of reference.

5. That the OIE continues to organise seminars for national focal points in all five OIE regions, with the objective of providing information and contributing to capacity building of Veterinary Services.

THE ASSEMBLY 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 high level FAO and WHO experts as members of this Working Group be maintained, and appropriate activities undertaken with the objective of further strengthening the collaboration between OIE and Codex.

3. The 2012 work programme prepared by the Working Group guide the OIE’s activities in the field of animal production food safety in the next 12 months, with provision of the resources needed to address the identified priorities.

4. The Director General continue to organise seminars for the national focal points.

5. The Director General continue to work with the Codex Committee on General Principles to develop methods providing for harmonisation of approaches, notably regarding cross references between OIE and CAC standards.

Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 23 May 2012
RESOLUTION No. 22

Animal Welfare

CONSIDERING THAT
1. The mandate of the OIE includes the improvement of animal health and welfare worldwide;
2. Animal welfare is a complex, multi-faceted, international and domestic public policy issue, with important scientific, ethical, economic, cultural, political and trade policy dimensions;
3. The Director General has established a permanent Animal Welfare Working Group, which draws up and implements a detailed annual work programme;
4. Successful Global Conferences on Animal Welfare were held in 2004 and 2008, confirming the OIE’s international leadership role in animal welfare, and that a Third Global Conference will be held in 2012;
5. Animal welfare standards were adopted at the 2005, and subsequent, General Assemblies and are regularly updated;
6. An expansion of the mandate of the Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission to cover, inter alia, aquatic animal welfare, has been adopted by OIE Members, with two standards adopted to date;
7. General Principles for livestock production systems have been proposed for adoption by OIE members;
8. A new standard on animal welfare and beef cattle production systems has been proposed for adoption by OIE Members;
9. More work is underway on the development of animal welfare standards concerning animal welfare in livestock production systems, with animal welfare and broiler chicken production systems already under development and dairy cattle to be developed;
10. Animal welfare is included in the OIE Tool for the Evaluation of Performance of Veterinary Services and in the OIE Veterinary Legislation initiative;
11. The Director General has asked Delegates to nominate national focal points for animal welfare according to proposed terms of reference and the OIE regularly organises seminars for national focal points to provide information and contribute to capacity building of Veterinary Services;
12. Regional animal welfare strategies, and associated implementation plans, can make an important contribution to the OIE mandate of improving animal health and welfare worldwide.

THE ASSEMBLY RECOMMENDS THAT
1. The Director General maintain the Animal Welfare Working Group to advise him, and the Terrestrial and Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commissions, concerning OIE priorities and proposed activities in the field of animal welfare.
2. The Working Group and OIE Headquarters 2012 work programmes be the basis for the OIE’s activities on animal welfare for the next 12 months and that the necessary resources be provided to address the agreed priorities.
3. Delegates take steps to ensure that their national animal welfare focal points be nominated, if this has not already been done, and that focal points participate in regional training programmes organised by the OIE.
4. Within the framework of an agreed strategy and implementation plan, OIE Members play an active role in their regions with institutions, non-governmental organisations, the private sector and other international organisations in promoting the OIE international animal welfare mandate.
5. Veterinary Services of each Member continue to take steps to implement the OIE animal welfare standards, including, as appropriate, the possible need to strengthen the regulatory framework for animal welfare.

6. The OIE Headquarters and the Animal Welfare Working Group continue to give priority to effective and transparent consultation in implementing the OIE animal welfare work programme.

7. OIE Animal Welfare Collaborating Centres be encouraged to identify ‘twinning’ opportunities in accordance with OIE policy and that further applications to be recognised as OIE Animal Welfare Collaborating Centres be assessed according to the new criteria agreed by the OIE Council.

8. The Director General continue to take steps to promote the inclusion of animal welfare in veterinary teaching curricula and in continuing education programmes.

9. The Director General continue dialogue with the Global Food Safety Initiative, GLOBALG.A.P and the International Standardization Organization (ISO) to ensure awareness of OIE science-based animal welfare standards.

Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 23 May 2012

RESOLUTION No. 24

Register of Diagnostic Tests Validated and Certified by the OIE

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 has established 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 Member Countries and for diagnostic kit manufacturers,

4. OIE Member Countries 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 OIE register of recognised assays provides greater transparency and clarity of the validation process, and a means for recognising those manufacturers that produce validated and certified tests in kit format, and

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 Member Countries,

THE ASSEMBLY DECIDES THAT

In accordance with the recommendation of the OIE Biological Standards Commission, the Director General add the following to the register of diagnostic 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>IDEXX M. bovis Antibody Test Kit</td>
<td>IDEXX Laboratories</td>
<td>Fit for the detection of antibody to <em>Mycobacterium bovis</em> (M. bovis) in cattle serum and plasma samples and to be used as a supplemental test, in conjunction with other methods, for diagnosing and managing tuberculosis infection. The test also has utility when performing sero-surveys to understand prevalence and risk at a herd management level.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 23 May 2012
CONSIDERING THAT

1. The OIE World Assembly of Delegates (Assembly) during the 67th General Session adopted Resolution No. XVI describing the general procedure to be followed by the OIE Member Countries 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 (Terrestrial Code),

2. During the 80th General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 19 adding African horse sickness (AHS) to the list of diseases for which status is officially recognised by the OIE in accordance to the relevant provisions of the Terrestrial Code,

3. This procedure invites Delegates of the applicant OIE Member Countries to submit to the OIE Headquarters documentation for evaluation by the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases (Scientific Commission) and its designated experts,

4. Resolution No. XII (FMD) of the 65th General Session, Resolutions No. XVI (rinderpest) and No. XV (BSE) of the 69th General Session and Resolution No. XXII (CBPP) of the 72nd General Session, required that Member Countries with an official free status or, negligible or controlled BSE risk status, either for the whole country or for zone(s), should confirm by official letter, in accordance with the relevant requirements of the Terrestrial Code, 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,

5. Regarding rinderpest, the Assembly, during the 79th General Session, adopted Resolution No. 18 declaring global freedom of the disease and Resolution No. 26 deciding to suspend the duties of Member Countries to annually confirm the disease free status,

6. During the 70th General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. XVIII asking Member Countries applying for evaluation for officially recognised status of certain diseases to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE Headquarters in the evaluation process,

7. During the 65th and 72nd General Sessions, the Assembly adopted Resolutions No. XVII and XXIV, respectively, delegating to the Scientific Commission the authority to recognise, without further Assembly consultation, that a Member Country or zone has regained its previously recognised disease free status following outbreaks that have been eradicated in accordance to the relevant provisions of the Terrestrial Code,

8. During the 75th General Session, the Assembly approved the addition of Article 2.2.10.7 to the Terrestrial Code allowing a Member Country to establish an FMD containment zone for the purpose of minimising the impact of an outbreak of FMD on an entire free country or zone,

9. During the 76th General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. XXII, which specified and updated the procedures that Member Countries should follow to achieve official recognition and maintenance of status of certain animal diseases,

10. During the 79th General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolutions Nos. 19 and 26 establishing a new, non-mandatory step in the procedure for recognising FMD status of a Member Country, namely the endorsement by the OIE of an official control programme for FMD being in compliance with the provisions of the Chapter on FMD in the Terrestrial Code, and inviting Delegates wishing to have their official control programme for FMD evaluated to
submit a formal application to the Director General of the OIE for consideration by the Scientific Commission and the Assembly.

11. During the 79th General Session, the Assembly noted that an explanatory document outlining the standard operating procedures for official disease status evaluations had been compiled by the OIE Headquarters for the benefit of Member Countries and the document was published and kept up-to-date on the OIE website.

12. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegate of Member Countries. The OIE is not responsible for publication or maintenance of Member Countries’ disease status based on inaccurate information or non-reporting of changes in epidemiological status or other significant events subsequent to the time of initial declaration.

THE ASSEMBLY DECIDES

1. That the OIE Member Countries wishing to be officially recognised and listed for a specific disease status or for the endorsement of its official control programme for FMD have to provide documented evidence that they comply with the disease specific provisions of the Terrestrial Code for the recognition for disease status or official control programme for FMD as well as the specific guidelines contained in disease specific questionnaires endorsed by the Scientific Commission and the general provisions for Veterinary Services as outlined in Chapters 1.1., 3.1. and 3.2. of the Terrestrial Code.

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

3. That in the event of the application for an official status to be assigned 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 is being merged with the adjoining zone to become one enlarged zone, and, if the two zones remain separate, provide details on the control measures to be applied for the maintenance of the status of the separate zones and particularly on the identification and movement of animals between the two zones of the same status in accordance with Chapter 4.3. of the Terrestrial Code.

4. That the recognition by the Assembly of the disease status of a Member Country or the endorsement of its official control programme for FMD following the recommendation made by the Scientific Commission is contingent upon a 60 day consultative period by all Member Countries’ Delegates for all new disease status recognitions, changes in the category of disease free status or disease risk status as specified in the Terrestrial Code, changes in the boundaries of an existing free zone, and endorsement of official control programme for FMD.

5. To delegate to the Scientific Commission the authority to recognise, without further Assembly consultation, that a Member Country or a zone within its territory has regained its previously recognised disease status 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 Assembly consultation, the reinstatement of the free status of a zone outside a FMD containment zone on evaluation of documented evidence provided by that Member Country 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 Assembly consultation, to confirm or reject the maintenance of the allocated BSE risk status of a Member Country or a same zone following a report of a change in the epidemiological situation by the Delegate of the Member Country.

8. That a Member Country can maintain its recognised disease status or the OIE endorsement of its official control programme for FMD, provided that the Delegate submits, during the month of November of each year, a letter to the Director General of the OIE providing the relevant information as prescribed in the Terrestrial Code and that the Scientific Commission is
satisfied that the requirements of the Terrestrial Code continue to be met.

9. That when a Member Country having an officially recognised disease status or an endorsed official control programme for FMD has failed to comply with the conditions for maintenance of this status or endorsement as prescribed in the Terrestrial Code, it is deleted from the list of officially recognized Member Countries or zones presented yearly to the Assembly for adoption.

10. That a Member Country having been deleted from the list mentioned in the previous paragraph should apply again for recognition of the lost disease status or endorsement of the official control programme for FMD by re-submitting documented evidence to the Director General for evaluation by the Scientific Commission.

11. That the Delegates of Member Countries should document and clarify aspects of Veterinary Services and the specific animal health situation in non-contiguous territories covered by the same Veterinary Authority when submitting new applications for official recognition of disease status.

12. That financial participation of Member Countries to the cost of official recognition and endorsement procedures is determined by a specific Resolution.

13. This Resolution No. 25 replaces Resolution XXII of the 76th General Session.

Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 24 May 2012

The ‘One Health’ Approach to Address Health Risks at the Animal-Human-Ecosystem Interface

CONSIDERING THAT

1. The concept of ‘One Health’ is necessarily broad and flexible, as it is intended to encompass the many facets of the relationships between humans, animals, and the ecosystems in which they co-exist. Within ‘One Health’ the control of diseases at the animal-human-ecosystem interface is important;

2. The health of humans and animals is interlinked, and that both populations affect and are affected by the environment in which they co-exist;

3. A majority of existing and emerging human infectious diseases are caused by pathogens that also affect animals;

4. Good governance underpins the prevention, surveillance, timely detection, transparent notification and rapid response to animal diseases, and also to animal-related threats including zoonotic diseases, antimicrobial resistance and those that may have an impact on human health through food security and food safety;

5. Control of zoonotic diseases, including those caused by foodborne pathogens, at their source has the greatest benefit for human and animal populations and that Veterinary Services are in the frontline to achieve this objective;

6. The concept or practice of ‘One Health’ reflects the intersectoral collaborative approach to protecting animal, human and environmental health and includes the collaboration among stakeholders, institutions and systems at all levels that support positive health outcomes;

7. Animal production contributes in important ways to food security and human health through nutrition and poverty reduction; and furthermore that emerging, re-emerging, and endemic diseases of animals can have additional implications for human health through food security and safety concerns;

8. OIE Member Countries recognise that the achievement of major public health outcomes through the protection and promotion of animal health is a fundamental part of competent Veterinary Services;

9. Zoonotic diseases, especially rabies, and other issues, such as
antimicrobial resistance, are recognised as a high priority by OIE Member Countries for which ‘One Health’ approaches should be taken;

10. Member Countries reported that guidance on intersectoral collaboration and capacity building on implementing intersectoral approaches is needed;

11. OIE Member Countries endorsed the OIE Fifth Strategic Plan (2011–2015), in which the application of the ‘One Health’ concept for the reduction of risks of high impact diseases at the animal-human-ecosystem interface was a new major element, and mandated the OIE to implement this plan;

THE ASSEMBLY RECOMMENDS THAT

1. The Director General and the OIE Delegates advocate to governments and regional and international organisations for the fundamental role of Veterinary Services in the protection of animal, human and ecosystem health and the application of ‘One Health’ approaches.

2. The OIE continue its initiative of evaluating Veterinary Services through the application of the PVS tool, the PVS gap analysis and PVS follow-up evaluations to further strengthen the ability of OIE Member Countries to practise good veterinary governance.

3. The OIE promote activities to build trust among the concerned professions, institutions and individuals and encourage a deeper understanding of the cultural and ethical challenges to collaboration.

4. The OIE standards and guidance provide support for Member Countries to implement ‘One Health’ approaches, and that the OIE work through its Specialist Commissions, Working Groups, and ad hoc Groups to review existing standards and develop evidence-based guidance on issues related to health risks at the animal-human-ecosystem interface.

5. The Director General encourage relevant OIE Reference Centres to further develop the ‘One Health’ concept and approaches to animal disease detection, prevention and control, including economic studies, and further develop and provide capacity building programmes on implementing ‘One Health’ approaches.

6. The OIE maintain and expand training and capacity building in the area of ‘One Health’, including components within the PVS Pathway, to strengthen the skills of and provide information to OIE Delegates, national focal points, and Veterinary Services in general.

7. The Director General continue to work closely with the World Health Organization to negotiate and ensure harmonisation of the OIE international guidance and standards for good governance of Veterinary Services with guidance from WHO for good governance of human health services, and with other international organisations providing guidance relevant to good governance of ecosystems.

8. Veterinary and medical institutions and faculties worldwide be encouraged to incorporate relevant ‘One Health’ approaches within their undergraduate and postgraduate curricula, including within continuing professional education programmes.

9. The FAO/OIE/WHO Tripartite Concept Note be used as a basis for the cooperation of the OIE with WHO and FAO, and this also serve as a framework for the work of the OIE with other key partners such as the World Bank and European Union, civil society, the private sector and the many other supporters of the ‘One Health’ approach.

10. The OIE and Member Countries consider rabies as a model for the application of the principles of the ‘One Health’ approach and identify the control of dog rabies as a ‘One Health’ priority in the context of implementation of the OIE Fifth Strategic Plan (2011–2015).

Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 24 May 2012
Good Governance and Veterinary Education

CONSIDERING

1. That the activities of Veterinary Services are recognised as ‘global public goods’;
2. That quality veterinary education and effective regulatory Veterinary Statutory Bodies (VSB) are the cornerstones of good governance of Veterinary Services;
3. That the principles for good professional veterinary organisation are the subject of international standards published in the OIE Terrestrial and Aquatic Animal Health Codes, with consensual adoption by all OIE Members;
4. That society expects that veterinarians demonstrate professional ethics and competence – and this depends on quality initial and continuing veterinary education to give each veterinarian at least a minimum knowledge on key topics relevant to the global public good concept and to societal demands (e.g. on animal health, veterinary public health and animal welfare);
5. That the level of the quality of veterinary education is not acceptable in many countries today and that the OIE has been mandated by its 178 Member Countries (as of April 2012) to take a leadership role in establishing the basic requirements for veterinary education globally.
6. That the OIE provides to Members the global PVS Pathway to strengthen capacities relevant to the veterinary domain, including for animal health and welfare, veterinary legislation, veterinary education and regulation of the veterinary profession by VSB;
7. That the OIE convened an ad hoc Group on Veterinary Education to develop guidance in relation to the recommendations of the First OIE Global Conference on Veterinary Education (October 2009);
8. The need for additional advice and tools for OIE Members wishing to strengthen veterinary education and governance, including through the establishment of a VSB or the improvement of existing VSB to meet the standards in the Terrestrial Code, notably Article 3.2.12;
9. The report on ‘Minimum competencies expected of day 1 veterinary graduates to assure delivery of quality national Veterinary Services’, based on the work of the OIE ad hoc Group on Veterinary Education, with input from relevant Specialist Commissions, which was presented to the Assembly at the 80th General Session; and
10. The ongoing work of the OIE in the preparation of guidelines for new or existing twinning projects between Veterinary Education Establishments (VEE), and between VSB; and
11. Resolution No. 34 adopted by the Assembly at the General Session in May 2011.

THE ASSEMBLY RECOMMENDS THAT

1. The OIE, with support from relevant international organisations and donors, should continue to progress the PVS Pathway for efficient Veterinary Services, including relevant public and private components;
2. Within the framework of the PVS Pathway, the OIE should consider, especially in countries where recognised evaluation systems currently do not apply, the creation or strengthening of mechanisms to facilitate the evaluation of national Veterinary Services personnel on the basis of their initial and continuing education;
3. Within the framework of the PVS Pathway, the OIE should develop Guidance for Members on the implementation of the Terrestrial Code standards for VSB;
4. The OIE should continue to work closely with Member Countries and the National leaders of Veterinary Education Establishments (VEE), Regional and Global Organisations and donors to support efforts to improve the quality of (initial and continuing) training of veterinarians and to promote harmonised approaches to recognition of qualifications, notably with the support of VSB;
5. The OIE should finalise procedures for twinning of VEE, and of VSB, and should convince governments, regional and international organisations and donors to support these initiatives;
6. The OIE should cooperate with recognised VEE Evaluation Bodies to ensure that they include basic requirements for veterinary education, as published in OIE guidelines, in their official requirements;

7. The OIE should develop recommendations on a core/basic veterinary curriculum relevant to the delivery of quality national Veterinary Services for consideration of the Assembly at the 81st General Session (May 2013);

8. The OIE should convene a Third Global Conference on the topic of Veterinary Education, with a component addressing the role and responsibilities of National VSB, in collaboration with relevant governments and partner organisations.

Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 24 May 2012

The OIE Role in Maintaining World Freedom from Rinderpest

CONSIDERING
1. The adoption by the World Assembly of Delegates of Resolution No. 18 on the Declaration of Global Freedom from rinderpest in May 2011;
2. The need for the international community and national authorities to take the necessary measures to ensure that the world remains free from rinderpest;
3. The importance of reducing existing rinderpest virus stocks through the destruction of virus in a safe manner and/or the transfer of virus stocks to internationally recognised reference institutions;
4. That OIE has engaged with FAO in establishing a joint rinderpest advisory committee to provide technical advice to inform and oversee post-rinderpest eradication activities;
5. The clear need for transparency on information about remaining stocks of virus, vaccines and research involving manipulation of the virus;
6. That further revision of Terrestrial Animal Health Code Chapter 8.12 addressing these points was announced at the 79th General Session and that a revised text is urgently needed;
7. That revision of the Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals Chapter 2.1.15 addressing diagnosis of rinderpest has been completed and adopted at the 80th OIE General Session (2012);

THE ASSEMBLY RECOMMENDS
1. That the relevant OIE Specialist Commissions complete the necessary revisions to the relevant chapters of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code and that these texts be submitted to the Assembly for consideration at the 81st OIE General Session.
2. That a limited number of OIE Reference Laboratories be appointed with an even geographical distribution.
3. That the OIE Reference Laboratory network provides services to OIE Member Countries to assist with destruction and/or sequestration of remaining stocks of rinderpest virus and that this network ensures global preparedness, surveillance and investigation of, and response to, suspect cases.

REQUESTS THE DIRECTOR GENERAL
1. To accelerate the process of virus sequestration and destruction under the guidance of the new joint FAO/OIE advisory committee on rinderpest and the implementation of all activities specified in Resolution No. 18 adopted at the OIE General Session in May 2011,
2. To seek resources necessary to support all activities specified in this and Resolution No. 18.

Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 25 May 2012
New cooperation agreements

The OIE’s partnership policy was confirmed with the adoption of the Fifth Strategic Plan. In addition to agreements established with intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) aimed primarily at enhancing technical aspects of the OIE’s work, the World Assembly of Delegates requested the OIE to continue expanding the range of cooperation agreements concluded with other organisations, specifically to bring together the public and private sectors through partnerships in fields covered by the OIE mandate.

As a result, agreements were signed with the following organisations in 2012:

1. Caribbean Community (CARICOM), which recently established the Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA) to develop and coordinate programmes for the prevention, control and eradication of diseases among its members and associate members.

2. United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), which promotes in particular stronger disarmament measures for biological weapons.

3. The International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (UICN), which serves as a neutral forum for governments, NGOs, scientists, businesses and local authorities. UICN is now the largest global professional network for nature conservation, one of whose priorities is biodiversity.

4. Commonwealth Veterinary Association (CVA), which supports the veterinary profession in the Commonwealth by encouraging industry best practice to advance animal health, productivity and welfare.

Agreement between
the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)

The World Organisation for Animal Health intergovernmental organisation having its Headquarters at 12, rue de Prony, 75017 Paris, France, duly represented by its Director General, Dr Bernard Vallat, hereinafter referred to as ‘the OIE’; of the first part, and

The Caribbean Community (CARICOM), an International Organisation established by Treaty with its Secretariat located at Turkeyen, Greater Georgetown, Republic of Guyana, duly represented by its Secretary-General, HE Ambassador Irwin LaRocque hereinafter referred to as ‘CARICOM’, of the other part,

WHEREAS:
– the development of animal production relies on improvement of animal health through the prevention and the control of animal diseases and zoonoses, as well as on strengthening the disease information system;
– the development of trade in animals and animal products calls for the creation of an appropriate legislative and regulatory environment, by drawing up relevant regulations;
– the effort of the Veterinary Services is a key factor for the application of health measures and for safeguarding public health;

and CONSIDERING that
– one of the OIE’s main objectives is to collect and disseminate information on the world-wide occurrence of animal diseases, and on disease prevention and control methods;

– the OIE is recognised as the reference Organisation by the World Trade Organisation (WTO) for international animal health standards which regulate the international trade in animals and animal products
– the mandate of the OIE has been enlarged for animal production food safety and animal welfare;
– the OIE has the objective of cooperating with the Member Countries including through the Regional Commission for the Americas with the support of the OIE Regional Representation for the Americas;

and CONSIDERING that
– CARICOM has a treaty mandate to establish an effective regime of sanitary and phyto-sanitary measures;
– CARICOM convenes a forum for discussions among the Chief Veterinary Officers of the Region;

OIE news
Agreement between the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)

– CARICOM recently established a Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA) which is mandated to develop and coordinate programmes for the prevention, control and eradication of diseases and pests in its member and associate member countries: Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana , Haiti , Jamaica, Montserrat, Saint Lucia, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Anguilla, Bermuda; British Virgin Islands; Cayman Islands; and Turks and Caicos Islands,

– CARICOM may conclude cooperation agreements with international organisations to further its goals and mandate;

The Parties have agreed as follows:

**Article 1**
The object and purpose of this Agreement is to collaborate to prevent the spread of animal diseases, to improve the animal health and to harmonise regulations for trade in animals and animal products in CARICOM countries.

**Article 2**
The Parties agree to sign the current Agreement in order to contribute more effectively to fulfilling their mutual interests and objectives by means of technical cooperation.

**Article 3**
The OIE and CARICOM shall cooperate in the following fields, although this list does not preclude further activities that help to achieve their objectives:
– Harmonisation of legislation and regulations on animal diseases and zoonoses;
– Technical cooperation in the field of animal health and zoonoses;
– Exchange of scientific information, dissemination of publications and work programmes;
– Strengthening the region’s epidemiological surveillance systems;
– Dissemination of the OIE health information system on the occurrence of animal diseases and zoonoses;
– Organisation of meetings, seminars, courses and training days for both Official Veterinary Services and the private veterinary sector;
– Organisation of meetings and seminars on OIE standards and guidelines;
– Disseminating and promoting the development of OIE standards and guidelines;
– Disseminating and promoting the application of the OIE Terrestrial and Aquatic Animal Health Codes and Manuals;
– Strengthening the Veterinary Services, taking into account OIE standards for Veterinary Service evaluation and quality, by supporting the organisation of short courses, self-assessment, tools for public and private stakeholders as well as education and training activities.

**Article 4**
Within the framework of its assistance activities, the OIE, as the international reference organisation, shall provide CARICOM with available international expertise.

**Article 5**
CARICOM undertakes to support the OIE by making available resources and officials for any tasks that are undertaken, as far as its technical and economic means allow, and to appoint a contact person responsible for technical relations with the OIE including its Regional Representation for the Americas. Separate arrangements will be agreed biannually for activities to be carried out in collaboration.

**Article 6**
The Parties shall inform one another about the development and progress of activities of mutual interest and shall regularly exchange information and documents on the said activities which are not subject to confidentiality restrictions.

**Article 7**
The Parties shall invite one another’s representatives to participate in open meetings to which observers are admitted, in accordance with the Organisations’ normal practices and when matters of mutual interest are to be considered.

**Article 8**
The OIE shall provide CARICOM with its publications catalogue, to enable CARICOM to order and distribute publications at preferential rates. The OIE and CARICOM shall exchange documents of mutual interest free of charge.

**Article 9**
The Parties agree to hold periodic meetings on aspects relating to the performance of this Agreement and may, by mutual consent, propose new means for improving its efficiency. The channels of communication shall be established between the Executive Heads of the two organizations or their designated representatives and between the OIE Regional Representative and Executive Director of CAHFSA. The designated representative for CARICOM shall be the Assistant Secretary-General for Trade and Economic Integration.

**Article 10**
The Parties agree not to use in any press release, memo, report or other published disclosure related to this Agreement any of the other Parties’ name and logo without prior written agreement by the party concerned.

**Article 11**
This Agreement shall enter into force once signed by the Parties and shall be of indefinite duration. It may be amended by mutual consent and terminated by either of the Parties subject to six months’ notice in writing.

**Article 12**
Any dispute between CARICOM and OIE arising out of the interpretation or application of this Agreement shall be settled by negotiation between the Parties.

Date: 5 June 2012

For the Caribbean Community
H.E. Ambassador Irwin LaRocque
General Secretary

For the World Organisation for Animal Health
Doctor Bernard Vallat
Director general
Memorandum of understanding between the World Organisation for Animal Health and the United Nations concerning OIE’s cooperation with the United Nations Secretary-General’s Mechanism for investigation of the alleged use of chemical, biological or toxin weapons

This Memorandum of Understanding is entered into by and between the United Nations, an international intergovernmental organisation established pursuant to the Charter of the United Nations signed in San Francisco, on 26 June 1945, acting through its Office for Disarmaments Affairs, (hereinafter referred to as ‘UNODA’) whose address is New York, NY 10017, USA, and the World Organisation for Animal Health an intergovernmental organisation established pursuant to the International Agreement for the Creation of an Office International des Epizooties, signed in Paris on 25 January 1924 (hereinafter referred to as ‘OIE’).

RECOGNISING that the mandate of the OIE is to improve animal health, veterinary public health and animal welfare worldwide, that the OIE is responsible for transparency of the global animal disease situation, and that as an intergovernmental organisation, the OIE acts as the leading organisation on international animal health work with scientific and technical support from the worldwide network of the OIE Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres;

RECOGNISING that pursuant to relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions, in particular General Assembly resolutions A/RES/44/115B and A/RES/45/57C and Security Council resolution 820 (1998) the United Nations Secretary-General (the ‘Secretary-General’), is authorised to carry out investigations in response to reports that may be brought to his attention by any Member State concerning the possible use of chemical and bacteriological (biological) or toxin weapons that may constitute a violation of the 1925 Geneva Protocol or other relevant rules of customary international law (the ‘alleged use’) in order to ascertain the facts of the matter;

RECOGNISING that the OIE’s Basic Texts and its International Standards constitute a legal and operational instrument defining, inter alia, responsibilities of OIE Member Countries and of the OIE to maintain transparency of the global animal disease situation in relation to OIE listed diseases which include the most important diseases for animal health and, in the case of zoonoses, for human health, and that OIE’s International Standards are recognised by the World Trade Organisation’s Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures as the international standards for animal health and zoonoses;

REFERRING to the technical guidelines and procedures to guide the Secretary-General in the conduct of timely and efficient investigation of the reports of alleged use set out in A/44/561 and endorsed by the General Assembly (A/RES/45/57C);

RECALLING the exchange of letters between the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (hereinafter referred to as ‘UNODA’) and the OIE in 2009 on issues related to the Secretary-General’s mechanism for investigation of alleged use, including a work plan for joint OIE-UNODA activities and cooperation.

NOW THEREFORE, the OIE and UNODA (hereinafter jointly referred to as the ‘Parties’ and separately referred to as the ‘Party’) have agreed on the following modalities of cooperation on issues related to the Secretary-General’s mechanism for investigation of alleged use:

ARTICLE I
Modalities of collaboration

1. It is understood that any collaborative activity and undertaking as outlined in this Memorandum of Understanding shall be subject to the availability of sufficient financial and human resources for that purpose, as well as each Party’s programme of work, priority activities, internal rules, regulations, policies, administrative procedures and practices.

1.1 Should the Secretary-General receive a report on alleged use of an animal pathogen or zoonotic agent, the OIE will endeavour, where possible, on request from the UNODA, to provide technical support in assessing the animal health, zoonotic clinical, and event-specific health aspects of an alleged use that are brought to the attention of the Secretary-General. This could include the following illustrative (not exhaustive) list of activities by the OIE:

a) nominating OIE experts to UNODA;

b) facilitating access to relevant OIE reference laboratories or collaborating centers;

c) providing animal health information and sharing disease outbreak control methodologies;

d) contributing to the harmonisation of outbreak response procedures and field operations by indicating appropriate international standards and recommendations.
1.2. The OIE will, upon request from UNODA, provide support in updating of technical guidelines for conduct of Secretary-General’s investigations of alleged use and in training of experts on the Secretary-General’s roster of experts. The Parties will extend to each other invitations for participation in relevant training and educational activities. The OIE will support the improvement of training course modules for experts by providing presentations and materials on outbreak investigation for animal health and public health (zoonosis) emergencies.

1.3. The Parties will conduct joint activities for upholding and strengthening of the Secretary-General’s mechanism for investigation of alleged use, including preparation of joint project proposals to potential donors and joint publications as appropriate and subject to internal clearances. Neither Party shall submit project funding proposals concerning this collaboration without prior written agreement of the other Party.

2. The OIE Headquarters and the Weapons of Mass Destruction Branch of UNODA will serve as focal points responsible on behalf of the OIE and UNODA, respectively, for the coordination and practical implementation of activities under this Memorandum of Understanding. Their representatives will meet as required in order to review and evaluate the implementation of this collaboration, and to consider any improvements therein which may be suggested from experience.

ARTICLE II
Legal and financial aspects

1. Nothing in this Memorandum of Understanding gives rise to financial obligations upon either Party

2. To the extent any activity may give rise to financial obligation, a separate agreement shall be concluded subject to the United Nations’ and the OIE’s respective Financial Regulations and Rules, prior to such activity being undertaken.

ARTICLE III
Publications

1. UNODA and OIE will come to agreement on preparation and issuance of any publications resulting from this Memorandum of Understanding

2. If a Party (the ‘Publishing Party’) prepares and issues publications on its own, the other Party shall be given the opportunity to comment on the content before the publication is issued and the parties will agree on any necessary further modification to the text or other actions to account for these comments. The copyright to the publication remains with the publishing party. The copyright of any contribution made to the publication by the other Party (the ‘Contributing Party’) will be retained by the Contributing Party with a non-exclusive, sub-licensable, worldwide, royalty free license to the Publishing Party to deal with the contribution for all purposes, in all manners, and in all formats, as part of the publication. The contribution has been substantial, the party does not wish to be associated with the publication resulting from this Memorandum of Understanding and/or any subsequent agreement.

ARTICLE IV
Liability

Each Party shall be solely responsible for the manner in which it carries out its part of the collaborative activities under this Memorandum of Understanding and/or any subsequent agreement. Thus, neither Party shall be responsible for any loss, accident, damage or injury suffered or caused by the other Party, or that other Party’s employees, consultants or sub-contractors, in connection with, or as a result of, the collaborative activities under this Memorandum of Understanding and/or any subsequent agreement, unless such loss, accident, damage or injury suffered by one Party results from gross negligence or wilful misconduct of the other Party.

ARTICLE V
Use of the Parties’ names and emblems

Except as explicitly provided in this Memorandum of Understanding and/or any subsequent agreement, neither Party shall, in any statement or material of a promotional nature, refer to the relationship of the Parties under this Memorandum of Understanding and/or any subsequent agreement, or
otherwise use the other Party's name, acronym and/or emblem, without the prior written consent of that other Party.

ARTICLE VI
General provisions

1. This Memorandum of Understanding will enter into force upon signature by both Parties and will remain in force for four (4) years from that date. It will then be renewed automatically for another four (4) years unless a Party indicates in writing to the other Party its intent to terminate it six (6) months before the expiration. A Party may also terminate this Memorandum of Understanding at any time without cause with six (6) months prior written notice. This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended at any time by mutual written agreement between the Parties.

2. Amicable settlement: The Parties shall use their best efforts to amicably settle any dispute, controversy, or claim arising out of this Memorandum or the breach, termination, or invalidity thereof. Where the Parties wish to seek such an amicable settlement through conciliation, the conciliation shall take place in accordance with the Conciliation Rules then obtaining of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law ('UNCITRAL'), or according to such other procedure as may be agreed between the Parties in writing.

3. Arbitration: Any dispute, controversy, or claim between the Parties arising out of this Memorandum or the breach, termination, or invalidity thereof, unless settled amicably under paragraph XIII.1, above, within sixty (60) days after receipt by one Party of the other Party's written request for such amicable settlement, shall be referred by either Party to arbitration in accordance with the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules then obtaining. The decisions of the arbitral tribunal shall be based on general principles of international commercial law. The arbitral tribunal shall be empowered to order the return or destruction of goods or any property, whether tangible or intangible, or of any confidential information provided under the Memorandum, order the termination of the Memorandum, or order that any other protective measures be taken with respect to the goods, services or any other property, whether tangible or intangible, or of any confidential information provided under the Memorandum, as appropriate, all in accordance with the authority of the arbitral tribunal pursuant to Article 26 ('Interim measures') and Article 34 ('Form and effect of the award') of the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules. The arbitral tribunal shall have no authority to award punitive damages. In addition, unless otherwise expressly provided in the Memorandum, the arbitral tribunal shall have no authority to award interest in excess of the London Inter-Bank Offered Rate ('LIBOR') then prevailing, and any such interest shall be simple interest only. The Parties shall be bound by any arbitration award rendered as a result of such arbitration as the final adjudication of any such dispute, controversy, or claim.

4. Nothing in or relating to this Memorandum of Understanding shall be deemed to constitute any waiver, express or implied, of the immunities, privileges, exemptions and facilities enjoyed by OIE or by the United Nations, including its subsidiary organs.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the representatives of the Parties sign this Memorandum of Understanding in duplicate on 26 June 2012

Dr Bernard Vallat  
Director-General  
World Organisation for Animal Health

Mme Angela Kane  
High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs
Objectifs

1. Objectives

1.1. The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) will keep the other party informed of activities that may be of mutual interest.

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

1.3. The OIE and IUCN will exchange their catalogue of publications to enable both organisations to request publications on activities related to their work. The OIE and IUCN will exchange free copies of documents and publications on subjects of mutual interest. Both organizations will benefit from the concessory rates applied to their affiliated members or organizations for further orders of publications.

1.4. The two Organisations will endeavor to cooperate further through both formal and informal consultations on issues of common interest, in particular the issues listed below:

a) The provision of expertise on wildlife and ecosystem health including early detection of diseases, notification and response.

b) The provision on input relating the One Health policy.

c) Share expert knowledge on wildlife conservation, re-introduction and translocation.

d) Share expert knowledge and participation at meetings on relevant aspects of biodiversity, invasive species and ecosystem management.

e) The assistance on technical matters such as taxonomy.

f) Collaboration on a wildlife disease risk analysis publication and other publications of common interest as appropriate.

2. Term and Termination

This MoU shall be effective as of its signature by both parties (the ‘Effective Date’) without any set duration, other than through termination in virtue of below paragraph.

Either party may terminate this MoU by giving the other party three months advance written notice of termination.

3. Amendment

This MoU may be amended only by a writing signed by both parties.

4. Non-enforceability clause

This MoU is a non binding statement of the Parties’ mutual understanding of their proposed collaboration framework. The MoU is not intended to create any legally enforceable rights or obligations in respect of either Party, including any obligation on their part to enter into any Supplemental Agreement.

In witness whereof, the undersigned, being duly authorised to do so, have executed this MoU in the English language in two (2) counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, and which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

Date: 26 June 2012

Julia Marton-Lefèvre
Director General
UICN

Bernard Vallat
Director General
OIE
Agreement between the Commonwealth Veterinary Association (CVA) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)

With a view to encouraging collaboration between the two signatories of the agreement on the following issues of common interest:

- The recognition of the importance of animal health and welfare throughout the world and the global nature and emergence of diseases. Specifically,
  
  (1) the potential for emergence or re-emergence of zoonotic infectious diseases in farm, wild and companion animal species and the need for adequate surveillance systems of such diseases in these animals,
  
  (2) the major benefits to animals of the effective implementation of appropriate welfare practices and
  
  (3) the significance of societal and economic aspects of animal production to the people of developing countries.

- The recognition that as diseases knows no boundaries, their control and eradication must be properly addressed in both developed and developing countries.

- The role and responsibilities of the veterinary profession in animal health and welfare, with special reference to developing countries.

- The significance of ensuring an adequately trained veterinary profession and veterinary service in developing countries.

- Consultation and translation of international and global standards and guidelines to improve animal health and welfare.

- Ensuring effective and constructive relationships amongst veterinarians, their associations and official Veterinary Services.

- The importance and delivery of continuing education of veterinarians dealing with farm, wild and companion animals in the above mentioned fields, especially within those countries with limited resources.

1. The OIE will invite the CVA to participate as observer in relevant Commissions, Working Groups, consultations and international conferences that are organised to address issues of common interest.

2. The CVA will invite the OIE to participate in similar works concerning issues of common interest.

3. If necessary and whenever required by circumstances, the OIE and the CVA will exchange their points of view on all issues of common interest.

Paris, 27 June 2012

Dr S. Abdul Rahman
President of the Commonwealth Veterinary Association

Dr Bernard Vallat
Director General of the World Organisation for Animal Health
strengthening of Veterinary Services
OIE PVS Pathway for efficient Veterinary Services

PVS Evaluation missions
State of Play – as at 15 October 2012

<table>
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<tr>
<th>OIE Region</th>
<th>OIE Members</th>
<th>Requests received</th>
<th>Missions completed</th>
<th>Reports available for distribution to donors and partners</th>
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- **Africa** (51)

- **Asia-Pacific** (18)

- **Europe** (14)
  Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Georgia, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Romania, Tajikistan, Turkey, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.

- **Middle East** (12)
  Afghanistan, Bahrain, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestinian N.A. (not an OIE Member), Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, United Arab Emirates, Yemen.

In red: completed missions
OIE news

2012 • 4

OIE Requests Missions Reports available for distribution
Region Members received completed to donors and partners
Africa 52 37 33 19
Americas 29 13 9 6
Asia and the Pacific 32 12 10 6
Europe 53 7 6 2
Middle East 12 8 4 0
Total 178 77 62 33

PVS Gap Analysis missions
State of Play – as at 15 October 2012

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<th>OIE Region</th>
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PVS Gap Analysis missions

- Africa (37)

- Americas (13)
  Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Suriname.

- Asia-Pacific (12)

- Europe (7)
  Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey.

- Middle East (8)
  Afghanistan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestinian N.A. (not an OIE Member), Syria, United Arab Emirates, Yemen.

In red: completed missions

Legislation missions
State of Play – as at 15 October 2012

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<td>39</td>
<td>28</td>
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</table>

This table does not include the missions to Botswana and South Africa nor the first mission carried out in Zambia since the project was in pilot phase.

Legislation missions

- Africa (22)

- Americas (5)
  Bolivia, Dominican Rep., Haiti, Honduras, Paraguay.

- Asia-Pacific (5)
  Bhutan, Cambodia, Laos, Mongolia, Vietnam.

- Europe (3)
  Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan.

- Middle East (4)
  Afghanistan, Kuwait, Lebanon, United Arab Emirates.

In red: completed missions
Introduction and background

Improving animal health brings great benefits for human health, economic development, poverty alleviation and food production. This is particularly the case in Africa, where livestock is the largest contributor to agriculture and often accounts for more than 30% of the agricultural gross domestic product (GDP). In short, animals play a fundamental role in the livelihoods of African farmers and households.

As guarantors of animal and public health, Veterinary Services also have an important role to play because they are at the very core of animal disease detection, prevention and control; it is for this reason that Veterinary Services are considered a global public good. Good governance of animal health systems is the responsibility of all governments and depends upon the efficient use of good governance mechanisms; namely, providing adequate human and financial resources and employing the methods of governance described in the OIE Codes and democratically adopted by 178 Members.

In view of the economic and strategic importance of animal health systems, the goal of the European Union-funded programme, ‘Reinforcing Veterinary Governance in Africa’ (or ‘Vet-Gov’) is to achieve effective and efficient Animal Health Services in Africa by strengthening the institutional environment (national and regional). Reinforced Veterinary Services will be able to put into place the necessary measures to ensure that the livestock sector actively contributes to food security and safety, economic growth and wealth creation in Africa.

The Vet-Gov Programme

This programme builds on the success of the long-term partnership between the European Union, the African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR), OIE and FAO, which led to the eradication of rinderpest in 2011, one of the major transboundary animal diseases affecting Africa.

In collaboration with the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), these partners have once again joined forces for this five-year programme. The structure of the Vet-Gov Programme is founded on the concept of partnership and on respecting the different mandates of the various institutions. The inception workshop for Vet-Gov was held at the OIE Headquarters in Paris (France) from 17 to 19 May 2012, with the participation of representatives from the three major implementing partners (AU-IBAR, FAO and OIE).

AU-IBAR has responsibility for the overall coordination of the programme and has already begun a series of stakeholder workshops in all sub-regions to promote and improve understanding of the programme, and to encourage participation (‘buy-in’) and ownership by all those who will benefit from Vet-Gov.

The FAO and OIE are responsible for carrying out the activities aimed at achieving specific results in the RECs and at both country and regional level. The OIE recognises the importance of regional stakeholders and has signed collaboration agreements with organisations such as AU-
IBAR, RECs (the Arab Maghreb Union, Economic Community of West African States and Southern African Development Community) and other Economic Communities (the West African Economic and Monetary Union or WAEMU, and the Commission Economique du Bétail, de la Viande et des Ressources Halieutiques – CEBEVIRHA), to support them in implementing their respective mandates.

The OIE approach

The OIE has long advocated the need to strengthen, support and promote good governance of Veterinary Services and the Vet-Gov Programme coincides with this objective. The OIE PVS Pathway encapsulates the OIE’s strategy of using OIE standards to evaluate and improve the quality of Veterinary Services and guidelines on veterinary legislation to bring a country’s laws and regulations up to date. Progressing in the PVS Pathway allows national Veterinary Services to establish their current levels of performance, identify gaps in their ability to comply with OIE international standards, and define a shared vision with their stakeholders (including the private sector), by establishing priorities and securing the investment needed to carry out strategic initiatives.

Through the Veterinary Legislation Support missions under the PVS Pathway, the OIE will provide assistance to countries wanting to improve their legislation in the animal health field and ensure that their animal health systems provide for: appropriate disease surveillance, early detection and transparency, and a rapid response to animal disease outbreaks, including biosafety measures, compensation and vaccination, when appropriate. To further support this initiative and encourage Members to take it up, the OIE will conduct a seminar on veterinary legislation for OIE Subject Matter Focal Points in Cotonou (Benin) from 15 to 17 January 2013.

Bearing in mind the benefits of the OIE PVS Pathway, and in line with the already-established results of Vet-Gov, the OIE will continue to deploy these tools in Africa to enhance the institutional capacities of African Veterinary Services in livestock policy formulation, animal health strategies and legislation, and to help them to enforce and implement their policies and regulations in line with the OIE international standards on quality.

Additionally, and in collaboration with AU-IBAR, the OIE will implement or ‘roll out’ the updated OIE-compatible Animal Resources Information System (ARIS II) in an increasing number of African countries. This exercise will be accompanied by a campaign to promote awareness among Member States of the enormous value of collecting and sharing such information, to ensure that the necessary financial support is made available to guarantee the sustainability of the system and to improve the capacity to respond rapidly to outbreaks and prevent and control animal diseases. In particular, it is important to control the existing endemic diseases, to prevent their spread to other countries or regions and to reduce their expansion, with the long-term goal of eradication.

Challenges and perspectives

The Vet-Gov Programme provides the institutional framework to avoid duplications or gaps, so that the already-proven partnership between the OIE, FAO, AU-IBAR and RECs can continue towards strengthening good governance among Veterinary Services. Together, these organisations can make a valuable contribution towards the improvement of public health and food security in Africa.

Although the programme provides an incredible opportunity to coordinate actions in Africa among intergovernmental and regional organisations/institution, there are still certain challenges that it must overcome before it can fully achieve its objectives.
Regional Seminars for OIE National Focal Points and new Delegates

Asia – Pacific

Regional Seminar for OIE National Focal Points on Veterinary Products (2nd cycle)

Bangkok, Thailand, 10–13 July 2012

The Asia–Pacific Regional Seminar for National Focal Points on Veterinary Products was held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 10 to 13 July 2012. Hosted by the Department of Livestock Development (DLD), the Thai Ministry of Agriculture and Thai Cooperatives, it was organised by the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for South-East Asia, with support from the OIE Regional Representation for Asia – Pacific and OIE Headquarters in Paris. The meeting was inaugurated by the Director General of the DLD, with the assistance of senior officials from the Bureau of Drug Control, Food and Drug Administration, Ministry of Public Health of Thailand.

This seminar, a follow-up to the first training cycle held in Siem Reap, Cambodia, in 2011, was intended to familiarise OIE National Focal Points on Veterinary Products with the programme on International Cooperation on Harmonization of Technical Requirements for Registration of Veterinary Medicinal Products (VICH).

In all, 60 participants, representing 28 countries from the Asia–Pacific region, attended the seminar. They included 12 OIE National Focal Points on Veterinary Products (ten of which had attended the first seminar in 2011); 14 country representatives, from which five attended the first seminar; two OIE Delegates and 14 observers; two representatives from OIE Headquarters in Paris; two representatives from the OIE Regional and Sub-Regional Representations; and speakers from OIE Collaborating Centres in France, Japan and the USA.

An educational visit was organised to the veterinary pharmaceuticals...
The seminar discussed:
– control of drugs and vaccines, particularly inspection systems, monitoring plans, monitoring the distribution of vaccines and the issue of counterfeiting;
– the responsible use of veterinary products, including maximum residue limits (MRLs), withdrawal periods and residue-monitoring plans; and
– regional aspects of this topic, as a follow-up to a thought-provoking session from four outside speakers (from ASEAN, a private-sector association, Mahidol University and the Thai Food and Drug Administration).

Field trip

Plant, Better Pharma (Betagro Group), with the assistance of the Thai Veterinary Pharmaceuticals Association. This trip offered an opportunity to observe the manufacturing process and to discuss the issue of quality control for veterinary products. A representative from the Thai Veterinary Pharmaceuticals Association discussed the support they gave to their members in terms of technical knowledge and implementing the required laws and regulations on the control and management of veterinary products.

All participants expressed an interest in continuing this training. They suggested that future discussions focus on how to estimate the market value of veterinary products, and how to ensure that this wealth reinforces systems in which well-trained veterinarians can make a living by being responsible for the use of the appropriate drugs.

OIE launches pilot programme for OIE National Focal Points on Veterinary Laboratories

Pakchong, Thailand,
20–23 August 2012

The OIE launched a global pilot programme for OIE Delegates and National Focal Points on Veterinary Laboratories at a workshop for ‘ASEAN plus 3 countries’, held in Pakchong, Thailand, from 20 to 23 August. With the exception of Laos and Singapore, 11 National Focal Points or their proxies attended the seminar.

Mr Nirundorn Aungtragoolsuk, Deputy Director of the Department of Livestock Development of Thailand, and Dr Tomoko Ishibashi, Senior Deputy OIE Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific, opened the seminar. Speakers included representatives from OIE Reference Laboratories, OIE Collaborating Centres, the OIE Biological Standards Commission and an expert on quality management in veterinary laboratories.

The programme was primarily aimed at providing the opportunity to share good governance concepts with OIE Members, to explain and clarify the role and responsibilities of the OIE National Focal Points nominated by the OIE Delegate, and to facilitate consistency and harmonisation among OIE Members when assigning duties to these Focal Points.
The pilot seminar introduced OIE National Focal Points on Veterinary Laboratories to their duties as set out in the terms of reference (ToRs). Presentations and discussions covered important topics, including laboratory networking, assessing capacity-building needs, and preparing national contributions to revisions of OIE standards that are relevant to veterinary laboratories.

To address the need to collaborate with laboratories in their country, the organisational structures for Veterinary Services laboratory services within the region were discussed, along with the benefits and challenges of networking. When discussing the mechanisms for preparing Member comments on revisions of OIE standards, some key issues emerged, including the need for timely coordination with country experts and the need to inform and motivate the relevant authorities about the importance of contributing to OIE standards, to ensure that they are universally relevant.

The workshop concluded with a field trip to the OIE Reference Laboratory for Foot and Mouth Disease – Regional Reference Laboratory, Pakchong.

Important challenges that were identified by the Focal Points, when considering how to effectively fulfil their role as outlined in the ToRs, included the busy schedules of OIE Delegates and competing priorities, which could lead to potential delays in passing comments onto the National Focal Points, as well as concern about a potential lack of national expertise for the OIE Manual chapters. Despite these obstacles, the participants stressed the value of appointing OIE National Focal Points on Veterinary Laboratories and commended the OIE on implementing this pilot initiative.
The OIE held a one-day seminar for recently appointed OIE Delegates in Fleesensee (Germany) on 17 September 2012. The seminar, which was held back-to-back with the 25th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe, was financed by the European Commission, within the framework of the EU/OIE Financial Agreement for 2012–2013. The OIE is especially grateful to the European Commission for the funding provided and to the host country, Germany, for its logistical support.

The seminar was attended by 15 Delegates (or their representatives) from the following countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Hungary, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Luxembourg, Portugal, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. The newly appointed Delegates of Denmark, Israel and Moldavia were unfortunately unable to attend the seminar, which was chaired by Prof. Nikola Belev, OIE Regional Representative for Eastern Europe, and held in English, with simultaneous translation into Russian.

The seminar’s objectives were: (i) to inform OIE Delegates of the OIE’s mandate, its organisation and operation, and the range of its activities; (ii) to detail the roles and responsibilities which they are required to fulfil as the principal point of contact between the OIE and their national authorities, and especially their essential role in the notification of animal diseases and in developing and adopting OIE standards; (iii) to give an in-depth presentation of the OIE tools available to Delegates, namely the World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS), the Delegates’ Vademecum and the OIE Delegates’ website; and (iv) to encourage the establishment of regional networks of OIE Delegates. These networks are essential for the success of transboundary, sub-regional and regional activities, in fields such as animal disease prevention and control, animal welfare and animal production food safety. This training is based on the OIE Basic Texts, which define the role of the OIE’s Regional Commissions, each of which comprises all the Delegates of the region. The Regional Commissions are a crucial element in worldwide animal health governance.

These training components have now been standardised for the OIE’s five regions.

During the seminar, particular emphasis was placed on the importance of National Focal Points who provide technical support to their OIE Delegates in seven key areas: veterinary products; animal welfare; aquatic animals; animal production food safety; animal disease notification to the OIE; wildlife, and communication. Delegates were asked to check, on returning to their respective countries, that all seven Focal Points had been appointed, that the list was up to date and that the Focal Points were operating within their respective terms of reference. The OIE must be informed of any new appointment of a Focal Point: a written notification should be sent to the relevant department (International Trade Department; Scientific and Technical Department; Animal Health Information Department; Communication Unit).

An evaluation carried out at the end of the seminar was encouraging, since the training content was considered highly satisfactory by the majority (>90%) of those who attended. Furthermore, all the participants felt that this training would improve their country’s contribution to the OIE’s core missions (its impact was judged to be satisfactory by all participants). However, it was suggested that a greater number of practical examples could be used to illustrate the presentations, while including discussion sessions would allow for greater interaction, both among the participants and also with the presenters.

The next training seminar for newly appointed Delegates in the European Region will be held in 2014 (date and venue to be determined).
meetings and visits

Names and positions of OIE permanent staff who participated in meetings or visits:
from July to September 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OIE Headquarters</th>
<th>Simona Forcella</th>
<th>Chargée de mission</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Directorate</td>
<td>Aziza Yassin Mustafa</td>
<td>Chargée de mission</td>
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<td>Vera Cecilia Ferreira</td>
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International Trade Department

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<tr>
<th>Derek Belton</th>
<th>Acting Head of Department (until 9 September 2012) Head of Department (from 10 September 2012)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Rastislav Kolesar</td>
<td>Animal Welfare Coordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gillian Mylrea</td>
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<td>Masatsugu Okita</td>
<td>Chargé de mission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mariela Varas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dietrich Rassow</td>
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Scientific and Technical Department

| Kazuaki Miyagishima            | Head of Department                                                                             |
| Joseph Domenech                | Chargé de mission                                                                               |
| Elisabeth Erlacher-Vindel      | Deputy Head of Department                                                                       |
| Kathleen Glynn                 | Chargée de mission                                                                               |
| Alessandro Ripani              | Chargé de mission                                                                               |
| Susanne Münstermann            | Chargée de mission                                                                               |
| Bernardo Todeschini            | Chargé de mission                                                                               |
| Kiok Hong                      | Chargé de mission                                                                               |
| Raffaella Nisi                 | Laboratory Specialist                                                                          |
| François Diaz                  | Chargé de mission                                                                               |
| Keith Hamilton                 | Chargé de mission                                                                               |
| Laure Weber-Vintzel            | Officer in charge of the Recognition of Countries’ Animal Disease Status                        |
| Jennifer Lasley                | Project Coordinator                                                                             |
| Gounalan Pavade                | OFFLU Technical Assistant                                                                       |
| Victor Saraiva                 | Chargé de mission                                                                               |
| Sara Linnane                   | Scientific Editor                                                                               |
| Marta Martinez Avilés          | Veterinary Epidemiologist                                                                       |

Regional Activities Department

<p>| François Caya                  | Head of Department                                                                             |
| Nathaly Monsalve               | Conference Coordinator/Trilingual Secretary                                                     |
| Mara Elma González             | Deputy Head of Department                                                                       |
| Francisco D’Alessio            | Chargé de mission                                                                               |
| Marie Edan                     | Chargée de mission                                                                               |</p>
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<td></td>
<td>Yacouba Samaké</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Florência Cipriano</td>
<td>Deputy Regional Representative for Africa (Bamako, Mali)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Daniel Bourzat</td>
<td>Adviser to the Regional Representative for Africa (Bamako, Mali)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Youma N’Diaye</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mariam Minta</td>
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<td>Aïssata Bagayoko</td>
<td>Secretary (Bamako, Mali)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Alou Sangaré</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant (Bamako, Mali)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Neo Joel Mapitse</td>
<td>Sub-Regional Representative for the Countries of the Southern African Development Community (Gaborone, Botswana)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Patrick Bastiaensen</td>
<td>Programe Officer (Gaborone, Botswana)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mpho Mantsho</td>
<td>Administrative and Financial Assistant (Gaborone, Botswana)</td>
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<td>Nomsa Thekiso</td>
<td>Secretary (Gaborone, Botswana)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Rachid Bouguedour</td>
<td>Sub-Regional Representative for North Africa (Tunisia)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Vincent Brioudes</td>
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<td>Antonio Petriti</td>
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<td>Mouna Boussleb</td>
<td>Administrative and Financial Assistant (Tunisia, Tunisia)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Inês Guijtouni</td>
<td>Secretary (Tunisia, Tunisia)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Walter Masiga</td>
<td>Sub-Regional Representative for Eastern Africa and the Horn of Africa (Nairobi, Kenya)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Antoine Maillard</td>
<td>Adviser to the Sub-Regional Representative for Eastern Africa and the Horn of Africa (Nairobi, Kenya) (until 3 August 2012)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grace Omwega</td>
<td>Administrative and Financial Assistant (Nairobi, Kenya)</td>
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<td>Loise W. Ndungu</td>
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<td><strong>Americas</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Luis Osvaldo Barcos</td>
<td>Regional Representative for the Americas (Buenos Aires, Argentina)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Martin Minassian</td>
<td>Technical Assistant (Buenos Aires, Argentina)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Alicia Palmas</td>
<td>Secretary (Buenos Aires, Argentina)</td>
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<td>Leandro Barcos</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant (Buenos Aires, Argentina)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Filiberto Frago Santamaria</td>
<td>Sub-Regional Representative for Central America (Panama City, Panama)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Alina Gutierrez Camacho</td>
<td>Secretary (Panama City, Panama)</td>
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<td><strong>Asia and the Pacific</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ittso Shimohira</td>
<td>Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific (Tokyo, Japan)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tomoko Ishibashi</td>
<td>Senior Deputy Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific (Tokyo, Japan)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Kenji Sakurai</td>
<td>Deputy Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific (Tokyo, Japan)</td>
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<td>Chantaneee Buranathai</td>
<td>Regional Technical Assistant (Tokyo, Japan)</td>
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<td>Hnin Thidar Myint</td>
<td>Regional Veterinary Officer (Tokyo, Japan)</td>
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<td>Yuka Fay</td>
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<td>Chiharu Izumi</td>
<td>Temporary Secretary (Tokyo, Japan)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ronello Abila</td>
<td>Sub-Regional Representative for South-East Asia and SEACFMD Regional Coordinator (Bangkok, Thailand)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dirk Van Aken</td>
<td>Deputy Sub-Regional Representative for South-East Asia (Bangkok, Thailand) (from 1 August 2012) and STANDZ Programme Coordinator (Bangkok, Thailand) (until 31 August 2012)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Alexandre Bouchot</td>
<td>Project Manager (EU/HPED) and Technical Adviser (SEACFMD) (Bangkok, Thailand)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Andrew Davis</td>
<td>Project Manager (IDENTIFY) (Bangkok, Thailand)</td>
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<td>Ouyen Tran</td>
<td>Project Officer (HPED) (Bangkok, Thailand)</td>
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<td>Mary Joy Gordoncillo</td>
<td>Project Officer (STANDZ) (Bangkok, Thailand)</td>
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<td>Karanvir Kukreja</td>
<td>Project Officer (SEACFMD) (Bangkok, Thailand)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Maria Cecilia Dy</td>
<td>Coordinator for the ‘M&amp;E’ initiative (Bangkok, Thailand)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Chutikarn Dhebhasit</td>
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<td><strong>Eastern Europe</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nikola T. Belev</td>
<td>Regional Representative for Eastern Europe (Sofia, Bulgaria)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Rina Kostova</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Stanislav Ralchev</td>
<td>Technical Assistant (Sofia, Bulgaria)</td>
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<td>Valentyna Sharandak</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Nadège Lebouc</td>
<td>Sub-Regional Representative (Brussels, Belgium)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stephane de La Rocque</td>
<td>Animal Health Specialist (Brussels, Belgium)</td>
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<td><strong>Middle East</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ghazi Yehia</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mustapha Mestom</td>
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<td>Rita Riz</td>
<td>Secretary (Beirut, Lebanon)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Hany Imam</td>
<td>Technical Assistant (Beirut, Lebanon)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Khodr Rejeili</td>
<td>Assistant (Beirut, Lebanon)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mahmoud Ghaddaf</td>
<td>Assistant (Beirut, Lebanon)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Names and positions of experts who represented the OIE in meetings or visits**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expert</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carlos A. Correa Messuti</td>
<td>Past President of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates and OIE Delegate of Uruguay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huang Je</td>
<td>Vice-President of the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Kahn</td>
<td>OIE Expert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thet Khaing</td>
<td>OIE Expert (LBVD, Myanmar)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donald V. Lightner</td>
<td>OIE Expert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kazimieras Lukauskas</td>
<td>President of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa and OIE Delegate of Lesotho</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marosi Molomo</td>
<td>Vice-President of the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Certification Systems</td>
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</table>

**List of abbreviations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AAT</td>
<td>Aquaculture Assessment Tools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCAHZ</td>
<td>ASEAN Coordination Centre for Animal Health and Zoonoses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACGSL</td>
<td>ASEAN Communication Group on Livestock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHPNS</td>
<td>Acute Hepatopancreatic Necrosis Syndrome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AI</td>
<td>Avian influenza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alive</td>
<td>Partnership for Livestock Development, Poverty Alleviation and Sustainable Growth in Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APFIC</td>
<td>Asia-Pacific Fisheries Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APSED</td>
<td>Asia-Pacific Strategy for Emerging Diseases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASEAN</td>
<td>Association of South-East Asian Nations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AU</td>
<td>African Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUC</td>
<td>African Union Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AU-IBAR</td>
<td>African Union-Interafriean Bureau for Animal Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AVMA</td>
<td>American Veterinary Medical Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BTSF</td>
<td>Better Training for Safer Food (programme)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCFSI</td>
<td>Codex Committee on Food Import and Export</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FMD</td>
<td>Foot and mouth disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GC</td>
<td>Global Cooperation Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GFL</td>
<td>Global Food Safety Partnership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HPAI</td>
<td>Highly pathogenic avian influenza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HPED</td>
<td>European Union-funded cooperation programme on highly pathogenic and emerging and re-emerging diseases in Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IABS</td>
<td>International Alliance for Biological Standardization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IAEA</td>
<td>International Atomic Energy Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICA</td>
<td>Colombian Institute for Agriculture and Livestock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDB</td>
<td>Inter-American Development Bank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IP</td>
<td>Integrated Regional Coordination Mechanism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISAE</td>
<td>International Society for Applied Ethnology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISVEE</td>
<td>International Society for Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IUCN</td>
<td>International Union for Conservation of Nature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JASV</td>
<td>Japanese Association of Swine Veterinarians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JTF</td>
<td>Japan Trust Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KOPA</td>
<td>Korea Oversea International Cooperation Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LBVD</td>
<td>Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M&amp;E</td>
<td>Monitoring &amp; Evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MERCOSUR</td>
<td>Southern Common Market</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MRED</td>
<td>Mediterranean Network of Establishments for Veterinary Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEPAD</td>
<td>New Partnership for Africa’s Development (AU Programme)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OFFLU</td>
<td>Joint OIE/FAO worldwide scientific network for the control of animal influenza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OIE</td>
<td>World Organisation for Animal Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAHO</td>
<td>Pan-American Health Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PANAFTOSA</td>
<td>Pan-American Foot and Mouth Disease Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCP</td>
<td>Progressive Control Pathway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPR</td>
<td>Peste des petits ruminants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAHC</td>
<td>Regional Animal Health Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RECs</td>
<td>Regional Economic Communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REEV-Med</td>
<td>Mediterranean Network of Establishments for Veterinary Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REMESA</td>
<td>Mediterranean Animal Health Network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REPIVET</td>
<td>Veterinary Epidemiology-surveillance Network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RESEPSA</td>
<td>Socio-Economic Network for Production and Animal Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RIMS</td>
<td>Inter-American Meeting, at Ministerial Level, on Health and Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RSLs</td>
<td>Regional Support Laboratories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RU</td>
<td>Rhodes University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RVF</td>
<td>Rift Valley fever</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### List of abbreviations (cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SADC</td>
<td>Southern African Development Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SASVEPM</td>
<td>Southern African Society for Veterinary Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEACFMDF</td>
<td>South-East Asia and China Foot and Mouth Disease Campaign</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEAVSA</td>
<td>South-East Asia Veterinary Schools’ Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SENACSA</td>
<td>Senegal’s National Animal Quality and Health Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPS</td>
<td>Small Grants Facility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STDF</td>
<td>Standards and Trade Development Facility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STANDZ</td>
<td>Stop Transboundary Animal Diseases and Zoonoses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAIEX</td>
<td>Technical Assistance and Information Exchange Instrument</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UMA</td>
<td>United Arab Maghreb Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>United States of America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USAID</td>
<td>United States Agency for International Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VAM</td>
<td>Veterinary Association Malaysia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VET-GOV</td>
<td>Project ‘Reinforcing Veterinary Governance in Africa’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WB</td>
<td>World Bank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WDA</td>
<td>Wildlife Disease Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHO</td>
<td>World Health Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>WISAVA</td>
<td>World Small Animal Veterinary Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>WTO</td>
<td>World Trade Organization</td>
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<tr>
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<td>World Trade Organization</td>
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</table>

### meetings and visits

#### July 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of the event</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FAO meeting on RVF to finalise the FAO/OIE Project on RVF</td>
<td>Nouakchott (Mauritania)</td>
<td>1-5 July</td>
<td>Dr A. Petrini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th World Brahman Congress 2012 Panama</td>
<td>Panama City (Panama)</td>
<td>2-4 July</td>
<td>Dr S. Kahn &amp; Dr F. Frago Santamaria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EAHIL 2012 Conference: ‘Health information without frontiers’</td>
<td>Brussels (Belgium)</td>
<td>2-6 July</td>
<td>Ms M. Teissier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission</td>
<td>Rome (Italy)</td>
<td>2-7 July</td>
<td>Dr B. Vallat &amp; Dr G. Mylrea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EFSA technical meeting on animal welfare: workshop on the use of animal-based measures for dairy cows, pigs and broilers</td>
<td>Parma (Italy)</td>
<td>3-5 July</td>
<td>Dr M. Varas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VET-GOV/ECAS Stakeholders Workshop</td>
<td>Libreville (Gabon)</td>
<td>3-5 July</td>
<td>Dr F. Cipriano &amp; Dr D. Bourzat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHO Expert Meeting on Camplobacteriosis</td>
<td>Geneva (Switzerland)</td>
<td>3-5 July</td>
<td>Prof. J. Wagenaar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAO/NACA/APFIC Regional Workshop on Application of AAT in Asia-Pacific</td>
<td>Pattaya (Thailand)</td>
<td>3-5 July</td>
<td>Dr H. Thidir Myint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18th Coordination Meeting of the Regional Animal Health Center (RAHC)</td>
<td>Gaborone (Botswana)</td>
<td>5 July</td>
<td>Dr N.J. Mapitse, Dr P. Bastaensen, Ms M. Mantsho &amp; Ms N. Thekise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordination Mission to the Philippines: Preparation of Small Grants Facility (SGF) Proposal on Rabies Control in the Philippines</td>
<td>Manila (Philippines)</td>
<td>5-6 July</td>
<td>Dr D. Van Aken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Partnership Program – Liaison Visit</td>
<td>Paris (France)</td>
<td>9 July</td>
<td>Dr M. Eloit &amp; Dr A. Dehove</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting on: ‘Defining the status, roles and responsibilities of regional support laboratories (RSLs) in Sub-Saharan Africa’</td>
<td>Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)</td>
<td>9-11 July</td>
<td>Dr A. Maillard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCFICS Physical Working Group to consider the Proposed Draft Principles and Guidelines for National Food Control Systems</td>
<td>Grange (Ireland)</td>
<td>9-12 July</td>
<td>Dr S.A. Slorach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Official visit at the invitation of the Authorities of Kazakhstan</td>
<td>Astana (Kazakhstan)</td>
<td>9-13 July</td>
<td>Dr B. Vallat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FMD Outbreak Simulation Workshop</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>9-13 July</td>
<td>Dr K. Kukreja</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54th Meeting of the WTO SPS Committee</td>
<td>Geneva (Switzerland)</td>
<td>10-11 July</td>
<td>Dr M. Okita</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Congress on Animal Welfare: ‘Progress and Strategies for the Future of Livestock’ and 2nd Regional Meeting of Researchers on Animal Welfare</td>
<td>Montevideo (Uruguay)</td>
<td>10-11 July</td>
<td>Dr L.O. Barcos &amp; Dr C.A. Correa Messuti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inception Meeting of the ASEAN Communication Group on Livestock (ACGL)</td>
<td>Quezon City (Philippines)</td>
<td>10-12 July</td>
<td>Dr K. Sakurai, Dr M.J. Gordoncillo &amp; Ms M.C. Dy</td>
</tr>
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</table>
## July 2012 (cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of the event</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2nd Meeting of the Technical Advisory Group on APSED (2010), organised by WHO</td>
<td>Manila (Philippines)</td>
<td>10-12 July</td>
<td>Dr R. Abila</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Training Seminar (Asia-Pacific) for OIE National Focal Points for Veterinary Products (2nd cycle)</td>
<td>Bangkok (Thailand)</td>
<td>10-13 July</td>
<td>Dr E. Erlacher-Vindel, Dr S. Münstermann, Dr H. Thidar Myint, Dr A. Bouchot &amp; Dr Q. Tran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STDF Seminar on ‘International Trade and Invasive Alien Species’</td>
<td>Geneva (Switzerland)</td>
<td>12-13 July</td>
<td>Dr M. Okita</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REPIVET and RESEPSA Workshops of the REMESA</td>
<td>Tunis (Tunisia)</td>
<td>12-13 July</td>
<td>Dr R. Bouguedour, Dr V. Brioudes &amp; Dr A. Petrini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audience with the President of the Republic of Paraguay – Meeting with the Rural Association of Paraguay and FARM – Meeting with the President of SENACSA in the framework of the International Livestock Exposition</td>
<td>Asunción (Paraguay)</td>
<td>9-15 July</td>
<td>Dr L.O. Barcos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd meeting of Inter-Agency Liaison Group on Invasive Alien Species</td>
<td>Geneva (Switzerland)</td>
<td>13 July</td>
<td>Dr M. Okita</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WSAVA Vaccination Guidelines Group Meeting</td>
<td>Maihama (Japan)</td>
<td>13 July</td>
<td>Dr T. Ishibashi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JASV Meeting</td>
<td>Hamamatsucho (Japan)</td>
<td>13 July</td>
<td>Dr K. Sakurai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mission to Mongolia on AI Surveillance (2nd cycle in 2012)</td>
<td>Ulan Bator (Mongolia)</td>
<td>14-23 July</td>
<td>Dr K. Sakurai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mission to Iraq following an invitation by the Iraq National State Company for Veterinary Services</td>
<td>Baghdad (Iraq)</td>
<td>15-18 July</td>
<td>Dr G. Yehia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visit of Veterinary Services from Republic of Korea</td>
<td>OIE Headquarters, Paris (France)</td>
<td>16 July</td>
<td>Ms G. Mamaghani, Dr K. Hong &amp; Dr G. Povade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th Regional Steering Committee Meeting of the GF-TADs for Africa</td>
<td>AU-IBAR Headquarters, Nairobi (Kenya)</td>
<td>16-17 July</td>
<td>Dr A. Dehove, Dr Y. Samaké, Dr D. Bourratt, Dr W. Masiga, Dr A. Maillard, Dr M. Molomo &amp; Dr T. Rutagwenda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USAID-EPT Country (Uganda) Work Planning Meeting and Regional (Congo Basin) Work Planning Meeting</td>
<td>Kampala (Uganda)</td>
<td>16-19 July</td>
<td>Dr N.J. Mapitse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Meeting of the HPED Steering Committee</td>
<td>Bangkok (Thailand)</td>
<td>17 July</td>
<td>Ms E. Tagliaro, Dr M.E. González, Dr I. Shimohira, Dr T. Ishibashi, Dr C. Buranathai, Dr R. Abila, Dr D. Van Aken, Dr A. Bouchot, Dr Q. Tran, Dr M.J. Gordoncillo, Dr K. Kukreja, Ms M.C. Dy &amp; Dr G. Murray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19th ALive Executive Committee Meeting</td>
<td>AU-IBAR Headquarters, Nairobi (Kenya)</td>
<td>17-18 July</td>
<td>Dr A. Dehove, Dr Y. Samaké, Dr D. Bourratt, Dr W. Masiga, Dr A. Maillard, Dr M. Molomo &amp; Dr T. Rutagwenda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G8 Global Partnership Biological Security Sub-Working Group</td>
<td>Geneva (Switzerland)</td>
<td>18 July</td>
<td>Dr K. Hamilton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th Regional Steering Committee Meeting of the GF-TADs for Asia and the Pacific</td>
<td>Bangkok (Thailand)</td>
<td>18-19 July</td>
<td>Ms E. Tagliaro, Dr M.E. González, Dr I. Shimohira, Dr T. Ishibashi, Dr C. Buranathai, Dr R. Abila, Dr D. Van Aken, Dr A. Bouchot, Dr Q. Tran, Dr M.J. Gordoncillo, Dr K. Kukreja, Ms M.C. Dy &amp; Dr G. Murray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th ALive General Assembly: ‘Governance of Veterinary Services in Africa’</td>
<td>AU-IBAR Headquarters, Nairobi (Kenya)</td>
<td>19 July</td>
<td>Dr A. Dehove, Dr Y. Samaké, Dr D. Bourratt, Dr W. Masiga, Dr A. Maillard, Dr M. Molomo &amp; Dr T. Rutagwenda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting between OIE, WHO and WB on governance at the animal-human interface</td>
<td>OIE Headquarters, Paris (France)</td>
<td>20 July</td>
<td>Dr K. Glynn, Dr J. Lasley &amp; Dr S. de La Rocque</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd AU-IBAR Advisory Committee Meeting</td>
<td>AU-IBAR Headquarters, Nairobi (Kenya)</td>
<td>20 July</td>
<td>Dr W. Masiga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mission in support of planned SGF project and communication activities in Cambodia</td>
<td>Phnom Penh and Takeo Province (Cambodia)</td>
<td>22-24 and 27 July</td>
<td>Ms M.C. Dy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WildTech Technology Transfer Workshop: ‘New Technologies for Screening and Diagnosing Pathogens in Wildlife’</td>
<td>Lyons (France)</td>
<td>23 July</td>
<td>Dr S. Forcella, Dr E. Erlacher-Vindel &amp; Dr F. Diaz</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### July 2012 (cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of the event</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6th Regional Steering Committee Meeting of the GF-TADs for the Americas</td>
<td>Santiago (Chile)</td>
<td>23 July</td>
<td>Dr B. Vallat &amp; Dr L.O. Barcos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UMA Maghreb Veterinary Committee Meeting on FMD</td>
<td>Rabat (Morocco)</td>
<td>23-25 July</td>
<td>Dr A. Petrini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th COHEFA Meeting (COHEFA 12)</td>
<td>Santiago (Chile)</td>
<td>24 July</td>
<td>Dr B. Vallat &amp; Dr L.O. Barcos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint 61st International WDA Conference and 12th Biennial EWDA Conference: ‘Convergence in Wildlife Health’</td>
<td>Lyons (France)</td>
<td>24 July</td>
<td>Dr E. Erlacher-Vindel &amp; Dr F. Diaz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd SADC Regional SPS Coordinating Committee Meeting</td>
<td>Centurion, Pretoria (South Africa)</td>
<td>24-27 July</td>
<td>Dr P. Bastiaenssen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting with the Minister of Agriculture of Chile</td>
<td>Santiago (Chile)</td>
<td>25 July</td>
<td>Dr B. Vallat &amp; Dr L.O. Barcos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USAID-EPT Regional Work Planning Meeting</td>
<td>Bangkok (Thailand)</td>
<td>25-26 June</td>
<td>Dr A. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workshop on Regional Proficiency Testing Programme for Aquatic Animal Disease Laboratories in Asia-Pacific</td>
<td>Bangkok (Thailand)</td>
<td>25-26 July</td>
<td>Dr H. Thidar Myint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th Inter-American Meeting, at Ministerial Level, on Health and Agriculture (RIMSA 16): ‘Agriculture, Health, Environment: joining efforts for the well-being of the Americas’, organised by PAHO</td>
<td>Santiago (Chile)</td>
<td>26-27 July</td>
<td>Dr B. Vallat &amp; Dr L.O. Barcos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libramont agricultural, forestry and agri-food fair</td>
<td>Libramont (Belgium)</td>
<td>30 July</td>
<td>Dr B. Vallat, Ms G. Mamaghani &amp; Prof. P.-P. Pastoret</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILRI Regional (SADC) Strategy Development Meeting for Botswana</td>
<td>Gaborone (Botswana)</td>
<td>30 July</td>
<td>Dr P. Bastiaenssen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Laboratory Network Technical Advisory Group Meeting</td>
<td>Bangkok (Thailand)</td>
<td>30-31 July</td>
<td>Dr R. Abila, Dr A. Davis &amp; Dr M.J. Gordoncillo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mission to assess impact of SGF-funded vaccination campaign</td>
<td>Luang Prabang (Laos)</td>
<td>30 July – 3 August</td>
<td>Dr K. Kukreja &amp; Ms M.C. Dy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46th ISAE Congress</td>
<td>Vienna (Austria)</td>
<td>31 July – 1 August</td>
<td>Dr A. Thiermann</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### August 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of the event</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10th SASVEPM Annual Congress: ‘Outbreak Investigation: Science and Intuition’</td>
<td>Lynnwood, Pretoria (South Africa)</td>
<td>1-3 August</td>
<td>Dr P. Bastiaenssen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USAID-EPT Country Work Planning Meeting</td>
<td>Vientiane (Laos)</td>
<td>3 August</td>
<td>Dr A. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>149th AVMA Annual Convention</td>
<td>San Diego (United States)</td>
<td>3-7 August</td>
<td>Ms T. Benicasa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint FAO/OIE/PANAFTOSA Mission on FMD Post vaccination monitoring (PVM)</td>
<td>Sao Paulo, Porto Alegre and Brasilia (Brazil)</td>
<td>5-12 August</td>
<td>Dr S. Münstermann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting of the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas and visit to the IDB</td>
<td>Washington, DC (United States)</td>
<td>6-9 August</td>
<td>Dr L.O. Barcos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laboratory Quality Management Mission</td>
<td>Phnom Penh (Cambodia)</td>
<td>6-10 August</td>
<td>Dr A. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Consultation Workshop with Laos (FAO/ KOICA Regional Project for FMD Control through application of the PCP)</td>
<td>Vientiane (Laos)</td>
<td>7-8 August</td>
<td>Dr R. Abila &amp; Dr M.J. Gordoncillo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting with the Minister of Agrarian Policy of Ukraine, First Vice-Minister of Agrarian Policy and the Head of the State Veterinary and Phytosanitary Service of Ukraine</td>
<td>Kiev (Ukraine)</td>
<td>8 August</td>
<td>Prof. Dr N.T. Belev</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific and practical conference: ‘The main achievements and prospects of veterinary medicine of Ukraine’</td>
<td>Kiev (Ukraine)</td>
<td>9 August</td>
<td>Prof. Dr N.T. Belev</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical meeting with DG SANCO</td>
<td>Brussels (Belgium)</td>
<td>9 August</td>
<td>Dr N. Leboucq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NACA/DAFF Asia-Pacific Emergency Regional Consultation on Shrimp EMS/AHPNS</td>
<td>Bangkok (Thailand)</td>
<td>9-10 August</td>
<td>Dr H. Thidar Myint, Dr A. Bouchot, Dr K. Kukreja, Dr H. Jie &amp; Prof. D.V. Lightner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mission to Vietnam (the northern part) on AI Surveillance</td>
<td>Nam Dinh Province (Vietnam)</td>
<td>10-17 August</td>
<td>Dr K. Sakurai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laboratory Quality Management Mission</td>
<td>Bangkok (Thailand)</td>
<td>13-17 August</td>
<td>Dr A. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Contact Person Workshop under OIE/JTF Project on FMD Control in Asia</td>
<td>Tokyo (Japan)</td>
<td>14-15 August</td>
<td>Dr I. Shimohira, Dr T. Ishibashi, Dr C. Buranathai, Dr H. Thidar Myint, Ms N. Tesaki, Ms Y. Fay &amp; Ms C. Izumi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### August 2012 (cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of the event</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st RVF Working Group Meeting of the ‘Epidemiology and Informatics’ and ‘Laboratories’ Sub-Committees of SADC-FANR</td>
<td>Johannesburg (South Africa)</td>
<td>16-17 August</td>
<td>Dr. S. Münstermann, Dr. N.J. Mapitse &amp; Dr. P. Bastiaensen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Policy Forum on Asian Livestock Challenges, Opportunities and the Response</td>
<td>Bangkok (Thailand)</td>
<td>16-17 August</td>
<td>Dr. D. Van Aken &amp; Dr. A. Bouchot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visit to the FMD World Reference Laboratory</td>
<td>Pirbright (United Kingdom)</td>
<td>16-19 August</td>
<td>Dr. R. Abila</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Consultation Workshop with Vietnam (FAO/KOICA Regional Project for FMD Control through application of the PCP)</td>
<td>Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam)</td>
<td>19-20 August</td>
<td>Dr. M.J. Gordoncillo &amp; Dr. T. Khaing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting with the Brazilian Authorities to discuss the Compartmentalisation Project</td>
<td>Sao Paulo (Brazil)</td>
<td>20-24 August</td>
<td>Dr. A. Thiermann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13th ISVEE Conference: ‘Building Bridges – Crossing Borders’</td>
<td>Maastricht (Netherlands)</td>
<td>20-24 August</td>
<td>Dr. K. Glynn, Dr. R. Nisi, Dr. T. Ishibashi, Dr. A. Bouc, Dr. A. Davis, Dr. K. Kukreja &amp; Ms. P. Angvanitchakul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Training Seminar for OIE National Focal Points for Veterinary Laboratories</td>
<td>Pak Chong (Thailand)</td>
<td>21-23 August</td>
<td>Dr. R. Abila</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WB Seminar on Climate Change and Animal Health</td>
<td>Bellagio (Italy)</td>
<td>21-24 August</td>
<td>Dr. S. de La Rocque</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAO/OIE/WHO Tripartite Meeting on Antimicrobial Resistance</td>
<td>FAO Headquarters, Rome (Italy)</td>
<td>22-23 August</td>
<td>Dr. E. Erlacher-Vindel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OIE/OFA Regional Workshop on Swine Health Management in South-East and East Asia</td>
<td>Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam)</td>
<td>22-24 August</td>
<td>Dr. K. Sakurai &amp; Dr. D. Van Aken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18th JSZWM Meeting</td>
<td>Towada (Japan)</td>
<td>24 August</td>
<td>Dr. T. Ishibashi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inception Workshop and Launching of the AU-IBAR/USAID SMP-AH Project</td>
<td>Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)</td>
<td>27-30 August</td>
<td>Dr. D. Bourzat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd ACCAHZ Preparatory Committee Meeting</td>
<td>Chiang Mai (Thailand)</td>
<td>28-29 August</td>
<td>Dr. D. Van Aken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Partnership Against Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction</td>
<td>Stockholm (Sweden)</td>
<td>28-30 August</td>
<td>Dr. K. Hamilton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved Animal Welfare Programme Planning Workshop and Stakeholders Consultation Meeting</td>
<td>Jakarta (Indonesia)</td>
<td>29-30 August</td>
<td>Dr. R. Kolesar &amp; Dr. G. Murray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional workshop of stakeholders from Central and West Africa on ‘One Health’, organised and funded by AU-IBAR</td>
<td>Grand-Bassam, Abidjan (Côte d’Ivoire)</td>
<td>29-31 August</td>
<td>Dr. Y. Samaké</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Meeting on AI Surveillance in Mongolia and follow-up training programme on HPAI diagnosis for Mongolia</td>
<td>Ulan Bator (Mongolia)</td>
<td>29 August – 1 September</td>
<td>Dr. K. Sakurai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference of the international network of the French Ministry of Agriculture</td>
<td>OIE Headquarters, Paris (France)</td>
<td>30 August</td>
<td>Dr. M. Eloit, Dr. A. Dehove, Dr. D. Chaisemartin, Dr. A. Bouc &amp; Dr. N. Leboucq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consultative Workshop to Develop a Strategic Framework and Plan for Veterinary Epidemiology Capacity in South-East Asia, organised by ASEAN and FAO</td>
<td>Chiang Mai (Thailand)</td>
<td>30-31 August</td>
<td>Dr. K. Kukreja</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### September 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of the event</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FAO Workshop on the Pre-Testing of Training/Teaching Module for FMD-Free Zones or Countries in South-East Asia</td>
<td>Manila (Philippines)</td>
<td>3-4 September</td>
<td>Dr. M.J. Gordoncillo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting of the NEPAD/OIE/RU Drafting Committee for a regional project on aquatic biosecurity</td>
<td>Grahamstown (South Africa)</td>
<td>3-5 September</td>
<td>Dr. P. Bastiaensen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50th ICA Anniversary</td>
<td>Bogota (Colombia)</td>
<td>3-6 September</td>
<td>Dr. L.O. Barcos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meeting: Foodborne parasites – prioritisation for risk management</td>
<td>FAO Headquarters, Rome (Italy)</td>
<td>3-7 September</td>
<td>Dr. G. Myrea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Level Veterinary Sample Management Training Course</td>
<td>Entebbe (Uganda)</td>
<td>4-6 September</td>
<td>Dr. N.J. Mapitse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th International Congress of Veterinary Virology: ‘One World, One Health, One Virology’</td>
<td>Madrid (Spain)</td>
<td>4-7 September</td>
<td>Prof. P.-P. Pastoret, Ms. T. Benicasa &amp; Dr. E. Erlacher-Vindel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st International Conference on Dog Population Management</td>
<td>York (United Kingdom)</td>
<td>4-8 September</td>
<td>Dr. M. Martinez Avilés</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### September 2012 (cont.)

**meetings and visits**

<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 risk assessment procedures in SPS issues — the EU versus the USA approach</td>
<td>Uppsala (Sweden)</td>
<td>5 September</td>
<td>Dr J. Domenech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Conference on Health and Security</td>
<td>Washington, DC (United States)</td>
<td>5-6 September</td>
<td>Dr K. Hamilton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53rd Meeting of Japanese Society of Tropical Medicine</td>
<td>Obihiro (Japan)</td>
<td>5-6 September</td>
<td>Dr T. Ishibashi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAO workshop on harmonising FMD impact assessment</td>
<td>Bangkok (Thailand)</td>
<td>5-6 September</td>
<td>Ms M.C. Dy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAIEX workshop on ‘Regional veterinary policies to support trade’</td>
<td>Paphos (Cyprus)</td>
<td>5-7 September</td>
<td>Dr A. Dehove, Dr R. Bouguedour, Dr V. Brioudes &amp; Dr G. Yehia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th SEACFMD National Coordinators’ Meeting</td>
<td>Manila (Philippines)</td>
<td>5-7 September</td>
<td>Dr I. Shimohira, Dr C. Buranathai, Dr R. Abila, Dr D. Van Aken, Dr M.J. Gordoncillo, Dr K. Kukreja, Ms M.C. Dy, Dr G. Murray &amp; Dr T. Khaing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Consultative Workshop on Livestock Intervention</td>
<td>Monrovia (Liberia)</td>
<td>6 September</td>
<td>Dr Y. Samaké</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High-Level Preparatory Meeting on the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management and related events at the 5th IUCN World Conservation Congress</td>
<td>Jeju City (Republic of Korea)</td>
<td>7-8 September</td>
<td>Dr T. Ishibashi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Animal Health Laboratory Strategic Planning Workshop</td>
<td>Kep (Cambodia)</td>
<td>10-14 September</td>
<td>Dr A. Davis, Dr K. Kukreja &amp; Ms P. Angyanitchakul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GF-TADs Management Committee Meeting</td>
<td>OIE Headquarters, Paris (France)</td>
<td>11 September</td>
<td>Dr B. Vallat, Dr M. Eloit, Dr A. Dehove, Dr D. Chaisemartin, Dr J. Domenech, Dr F. Caya &amp; Dr M.E. González</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workshop to strengthen preparedness and response in animal health emergencies</td>
<td>Tunis (Tunisia)</td>
<td>12-14 September</td>
<td>Dr R. Bouguedour, Dr V. Brioudes &amp; Dr A. Petrini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Seminar for Recently Appointed OIE Delegates</td>
<td>Fleesensee (Germany)</td>
<td>17 September</td>
<td>Dr M.J. Sánchez Vázquez, Dr F. Caya, Prof. Dr N.T. Belev, Ms R. Kostova, Dr V. Sharandak &amp; Dr N. Leboucq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BTSF Training Course on Rabies Diagnostics and Control</td>
<td>Rabat (Morocco)</td>
<td>17-19 September</td>
<td>Dr A. Petrini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IAEA Scientific Forum: ‘Food for the Future: Meeting the Challenges With Nuclear Applications’</td>
<td>Vienna (Austria)</td>
<td>18-19 September</td>
<td>Dr K. Miyagishima</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd WHO Expert Consultation on Rabies</td>
<td>Geneva (Switzerland)</td>
<td>18-20 September</td>
<td>Dr K. Schwabenbauer, Dr B. Vallat, Dr A. Thiermann, Dr M.J. Sánchez Vázquez, Dr F. Caya, Ms N. Monsalve, Prof. Dr N.T. Belev, Ms R. Kostova, Dr V. Sharandak &amp; Dr N. Leboucq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe</td>
<td>Fleesensee (Germany)</td>
<td>18-21 September</td>
<td>Dr N. Leboucq &amp; Prof. Dr K. Lukauskas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GALVMed Board Meeting</td>
<td>Edinburgh (United Kingdom)</td>
<td>19 September</td>
<td>Dr K. Hamilton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nordic-Baltic Seminar: ‘Contingency planning for the next decade’, organised by EVIRA</td>
<td>Helsinki (Finland)</td>
<td>19-20 September</td>
<td>Dr A. Dehove</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WAEMU Regional Sanitary Information System in relation with WAHIS/WAHID</td>
<td>Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso)</td>
<td>19-20 September</td>
<td>Dr D. Chaisemartin, Dr K. Ben Jebara &amp; Dr F. Cipriano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AU-IBAR (IRCM) Regional Workshop of ‘One Health’ in Eastern and Southern Africa</td>
<td>AU-IBAR Headquarters, Nairobi (Kenya)</td>
<td>19-21 September</td>
<td>Dr W. Masiga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd World Rabies Day Webinar</td>
<td>OIE Headquarters, Paris (France)</td>
<td>20 September</td>
<td>Ms G. Mamaghani</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDC site visit (Atlanta, United States)</td>
<td>OIE Headquarters, Paris (France)</td>
<td>20-21 September</td>
<td>Dr M. Eloit, Dr A. Dehove, Ms J. Macé, Dr K. Miyagishima, Dr E. Erlacher-Vindel, Dr K. Glynn &amp; Dr J. Lasley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Consultation Workshop with Cambodia (FAO/KOICA Regional Project for FMD Control through application of the PCT)</td>
<td>Phnom Penh (Cambodia)</td>
<td>20-21 September</td>
<td>Dr K. Kukreja</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commemorative Day upon the 40th Anniversary of the OIE Reference Laboratory for Rabies and Wildlife</td>
<td>Nancy (France)</td>
<td>21 September</td>
<td>Dr M. Martinez Avilés</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd South-East Asia Workshop on Veterinary Education, under the STANDZ Programme</td>
<td>Putrajaya (Malaysia)</td>
<td>21-22 September</td>
<td>Dr R. Abila, Dr D. Van Aken, Ms M.C. Dy &amp; Dr G. Murray</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### September 2012 (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 Congress of SEAVSA</td>
<td>Putrajaya (Malaysia)</td>
<td>21-22 September</td>
<td>Dr R. Abila, Dr D. Van Aken, Ms M.C. Dy &amp; Dr G. Murray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterinary Association Malaysia (VAM) Meeting</td>
<td>Putrajaya (Malaysia)</td>
<td>21-22 September</td>
<td>Dr R. Abila, Dr D. Van Aken, Ms M.C. Dy &amp; Dr G. Murray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BTSF Training Course on Rabies Diagnostics and Control Assessment of the Animal Health Laboratory</td>
<td>Algiers (Algeria)</td>
<td>22-25 September</td>
<td>Dr A. Petrini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BTSF Training Course on PPR Diagnostics and Control</td>
<td>Rabat (Morocco)</td>
<td>22-25 September</td>
<td>Dr G. Yehia &amp; Prof. M. Thibier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GFSP International Organisations Meeting</td>
<td>Geneva (Switzerland)</td>
<td>22-25 September</td>
<td>Dr A. Dehove</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd SADC/OIE/FAO Seminar on the FMD PCP</td>
<td>Abu Dhabi and Dubai (United Arab Emirates)</td>
<td>22-28 September</td>
<td>Dr R. Bouguedour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WTO-STDF Regional Workshop on SPS for English-speaking African countries</td>
<td>Gaborone (Botswana)</td>
<td>24-26 September</td>
<td>Dr N.J. Mapitse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Consultation on HPAI Control and Prevention</td>
<td>Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)</td>
<td>24-27 September</td>
<td>Dr P. Bastiaensen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IGAD/FAO/AU-IBAR meeting on PPR and small ruminants diseases control for building resilience among the pastoralist communities of the Horn of Africa</td>
<td>Taipei City (Chinese Taipei)</td>
<td>25 September</td>
<td>Dr K. Sakurai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Meeting of Animal Quarantine Specialists</td>
<td>OIE Headquarters, Panama City (Panama)</td>
<td>25-27 September</td>
<td>Dr L.O. Barcos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IABS Conference: ‘Alternatives to Antibiotics in Animal Health: Challenges and Solutions’</td>
<td>Paris (France)</td>
<td>26-28 September</td>
<td>Dr E. Erlacher-Vindel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st General Assembly of the REEV-Med</td>
<td>Rabat (Morocco)</td>
<td>27-28 September</td>
<td>Dr B. Vallat, Dr R. Bouguedour &amp; Dr V. Brioude</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Rabies Day and hand-over ceremony of rabies vaccines to Laos</td>
<td>Vientiane (Laos)</td>
<td>27-29 September</td>
<td>Dr D. Van Aken &amp; Ms M.C. Dy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OIE World Fund Work on Indicators Meeting</td>
<td>OIE Headquarters, Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)</td>
<td>28 September</td>
<td>Dr M. Eliot, Dr A. Dehove, Ms J. Macé &amp; Ms E. Tagliaro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPS Coordination and Capacity Building in Africa: the role and function of the AUC and RECs</td>
<td>Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)</td>
<td>28 September</td>
<td>Dr P. Bastiaensen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting for preparation of the establishment of the GCC FMD Unit in Bahrain</td>
<td>Manama (Bahrain)</td>
<td>28-30 September</td>
<td>Dr G. Yehia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st FMD Vaccination Campaign and Efficiency Study in Xiangkhouang, Laos (under OIE/JTF Project on FMD Control in Asia)</td>
<td>Vientiane and Xiangkhouang (Laos)</td>
<td>28 September – 3 October</td>
<td>Dr C. Buranathai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BTSF Training Course on PPR Diagnostics and Control</td>
<td>Algiers (Algeria)</td>
<td>29 September – 3 October</td>
<td>Dr R. Bouguedour &amp; Dr A. Petrini</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
African swine fever: a reemerging risk from East Europe

J.M. Sánchez-Vizcaíno
and Lina Mur
VISAVET Center
and Animal Health Department
OIE Reference Laboratory for ASF
University Complutense of Madrid

African swine fever (ASF), one of the most complex infectious diseases of livestock is causing problems in Eastern Europe. Despite being considered as an exotic disease, this is not the first time ASF virus (ASFV) is present in the European continent. From 1960 to the mid-1990s ASFV was established in the Iberian Peninsula, and since 1978 the Italian island of Sardinia has been endemic. However, during the last decades ASFV was not present in Europe, with the exception of Sardinia, until the new arrival of the virus to the Georgian coasts in 2007.

Since the first introduction of ASFV in the Caucasus region five years ago, the economic losses have been huge, affecting both domestic and wild boar from five different countries, spreading to northern and western regions (Fig. 1). In the first stages of the disease, an endemic area in the south of Russia was established and more than 300,000 animals were sacrificed in order to prevent the spread of the virus. Despite these efforts, ASF is still not controlled, as it was demonstrated by the appearance of more than 40 outbreaks in northern regions, many of them concentrated in Tver region, far away from the initial endemic area. Since the beginning of the problem, Russian Federation is making some improvements, mainly in ASF diagnosis and disease communication strategies. These

Fig. 1
Map representing the ASF notified outbreaks in East Europe since 2007. Countries with at least one outbreak were outlined in red color.
(Source: own elaboration, data from WAHID)
actions are supported by the existing OIE Twinning Project between the national reference laboratory of ASF in Russia and the OIE Reference Laboratory-Universidad Complutense of Madrid.

This concerning situation, especially the uncontrolled spread of ASFV within the Russian Federation during 2011 and 2012, implies a serious risk for ASFV introduction into surrounding and nearby countries as Belarus, Moldova, some European Union (EU) countries and Ukraine, where a recent outbreak occurred in July 2012. This epidemiological change has also increased the risk of introduction into East Asia.

The risk of ASFV introduction into free countries is much related with three specific pathways. The first one includes the illegal movement of pigs and mainly meat or pork products where ASFV survives long periods of time. Although swill feeding is forbidden within EU, these illegal imported products as well as other contaminated waste from international planes and ships, could be illegally used in some regions for feeding pigs due to the lack of knowledge, leading to the infection of susceptible populations. The second one comprises contaminated transports, mainly vehicles transporting animals to Russia or material from mixed enterprises which could also pose a risk if they are not properly disinfected when returning to the country of origin. The EU, aware of this risk, approved in 2011 a new decision regulating livestock vehicles coming from Russia. The third and, also the most complex route to be controlled, is the natural movement of wild boar. Wild animals do not understand of barriers or country borders, so health status and behavior of these animals should be continuously studied.

The existence of these routes, together with the uncontrolled situation of the disease in the Russian Federation and other Trans-Caucasian countries led to a risk situation for ASF-free Asian countries and, above all, for European countries too. These countries should be aware of that risk and put the appropriate measures in place to avoid or prevent the entrance or further spread in their countries. Early detection on filed, good laboratory diagnosis and updated contingency plans are essential to effectively control the disease and reduce the negative consequences associated to this entrance.
activities of reference laboratories & collaborating centres

Newly designated OIE Reference Centres and their areas of expertise

OIE Reference Laboratory for

**Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia**
Botswana National Veterinary Laboratory, Private Bag 0035, Gaborone, Botswana
Tel: (+267) 392.8816
E-mail: cmrobelaraborokgwe@gov.bw
Designated Reference Expert: **Dr Chandapiwa Marobela-Raborokgwe**

Botswana National Veterinary Laboratory (BNVL) is mandated to carry out diagnostic testing, research and epidemiological surveillance of animal diseases, as well as to monitor abattoir hygiene and conduct quality control testing of meat, milk and by-products to facilitate both internal and external trade.

For the diagnosis and surveillance of contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP), BNVL has the capability to perform the complement fixation test (CFT), competitive enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA), the isolation of *Mycoplasma mycoides* subsp. *mycoides* small colony variant and identification by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) and histopathological testing.

As an OIE Reference Laboratory for CBPP, BNVL stores and distributes biological reference products (sera) and antigen to national laboratories for the CBPP CFT. BNVL provides diagnostic testing services for CBPP, and technical training for personnel from OIE Member Countries. BNVL also organises annual inter-laboratory proficiency testing with regional laboratories for the CBPP tests (CFT and PCR) to ensure equivalence of results.

**Porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome**
Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, China Animal Disease Control Center, No. 2 Yuanmingyuan West Road, Haidian District, Beijing, China (People’s Rep. of) 100193
Tel: (+86-010) 62.89.12.57 / 58
Tel: (+86-010) 62.89.35.07
E-mail: Tiankg@263.net
Designated Reference Expert: **Dr Kegong Tian**

The Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory of the China Animal Disease Control Center is responsible for diagnosing porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome virus (PRRSV), using such techniques as virus isolation, routine or real-time reverse-transcription PCR (RT-PCR), ELISA, the immunofluorescence assay, the immunohistochemical assay and histopathology. The laboratory also carries out epidemiological surveillance and molecular epidemiological investigation of PRRSV, and provides diagnostic reagents and technical support to other relevant laboratories. The Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory has made outstanding progress in the diagnosis of highly pathogenic PRRSV, the pandemic swine disease in South-East Asia, and in the development of vaccines to control this disease.

Dr Kegong Tian, a renowned expert in the veterinary field, was the first to have identified the highly pathogenic strain of PRRSV (HP-PRRSV) and has been focusing on the study of the aetiology, pathogenesis and immunology of HP-PRRSV since 2006. He is also the first to have developed and marketed killed and modified live HP-PRRSV vaccines, which play a pivotal role in the control of the disease in South-East Asia.
Newcastle disease
National Diagnostic Center for Exotic Animal Diseases,
China Animal Health and Epidemiology Center,
Ministry of Agriculture, No. 369 Nanjing Road,
Qingdao 266032, China (People’s Rep. of)
Tel: (+86-532) 87.83.91.88;
Tel: (+86-532) 87.83.99.22
E-mail: zlwang111@yahoo.com.cn
Designated Reference Expert: Dr Zhiliang Wang

The main activities of this laboratory are the diagnosis, surveillance, prevention and control of Newcastle disease, and training in all its aspects. The laboratory is ISO/IEC 17025-accredited and has the capacity to conduct virus isolation, identification, genome sequencing, genotyping, phylogenetic analysis, vaccine evaluation, etc. A repository of Newcastle disease virus, which includes epidemiological information and sequence data, has been developed, based on national surveillance and cooperation with other international laboratories.

Rabies
Diagnostic Laboratory for Rabies and Wildlife Associated Zoonoses (DLR), Department of Virology,
Changchun Veterinary Research Institute (CVRI),
Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS),
Liuying Xi Road 666#, Jingyue Economic Development Zone,
Changchun 130112, China, (People’s Rep. of)
Tel: (+86) 431.8698.5921; Fax: (+86) 431.8698.5862
E-mail: changchun_tu@hotmail.com
Designated Reference Expert: Prof. Changchun Tu

The Diagnostic Laboratory for Rabies and Wildlife Associated Zoonoses (DLR) specialises in research on pathogen ecology, molecular epidemiology, diagnostic technology and the pathogenesis of rabies and other zoonotic viruses. It has been designated by the Chinese Ministry of Agriculture to provide confirmative diagnoses of animal rabies. Using OIE and World Health Organization (WHO) standard methods in its advanced facility, the DLR has the capability to conduct viral isolation and identification, molecular detection, the fluorescent antibody test, electron microscopy, and the rabies neutralising antibody test. The laboratory also provides technical support to help control animal rabies in OIE Member Countries, including confirmative diagnoses, technical training and consultancy services.

Avian mycoplasmosis
MYCOLAB (Laboratorio para diagnóstico de micoplasmas),
Centro nacional de sanidad Agropecuaria, CENSA,
San José de las Lajas,
Provincia Mayabeque, Cuba
Tel: (+53-47) 86.33.14 ext. 153
Fax: (+53-47) 86.38.97
E-mail: elobo@censa.edu.cu or evelynlobo68@hotmail.com
Designated Reference Expert: Dr Evelin Lobo Riveroi

During this past year, the MYCOLAB laboratory has continued its research programme on the detection of Mycoplasma, and provided scientific and technical services, such as training courses for specialists (national and international, including experts from Ecuador, Colombia and Angola). Samples were received and processed from Angola and Italy, as part of the proposed activities of the OIE Twinning Project on CBPP diagnosis. The laboratory has confirmed its participation at the meeting of the Laboratory Working Group in Guyana (9–13 September) and the Technical Meeting for Vaccine Development against M. gallisepticum (23–27 September) in Canada.
**Epizootic haemorrhagic disease**
French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health and Safety (Anses), Laboratoire de santé animale de Maisons-Alfort, National Reference Laboratory for BT/EHD and AHS Diseases, UMR 1161 Virology, 23 Avenue de Général De Gaulle, 94703 Maisons-Alfort, France
Tel: (+33[0]1) 43.96.72.82; Fax: (+33[0]1) 43.96.73.96
E-mail: s.zientara@vet-alfort.fr or stephan.zientara@anses.fr

**Designated Reference Expert:** Dr Stéphan Zientara

The Anses animal health laboratory confirms the diagnosis of this disease and develops molecular and serological tools, such as real-time PCR and the production of recombinant proteins for the development of the ELISA test. In addition, it uses sequencing to characterise the different virus isolates. The laboratory provides scientific and technical expertise and can also supply reference strains.

**Paratuberculosis**
Agence nationale de sécurité sanitaire de l’alimentation, de l’environnement et du travail (Anses), Laboratoire de Niort, 60, rue de Pied-de-Fond, BP 3081, 79012 Niort Cedex, France
Tel: (+33[0]1) 49.79.61.28; Fax: (+33[0]1) 49.79.42.19
E-mail: pascale.mercier@anses.fr

**Designated Reference Expert:** Dr Pascale Mercier

The Anses laboratory at Niort carries out research and reference-based activities, on ruminant paratuberculosis (cows, sheep and goats), also known as Johne’s disease. Various techniques are used, including culture, PCR, ELISA, the interferon gamma test and histology. The laboratory has a biological serum bank, consisting of bovine and caprine sera and *Mycobacterium avium* paratuberculosis strains. A positive bovine serum is available for reference. The Niort laboratory also works to improve diagnostic tools, from various samples (single or mixed, taken from the environment).

**Enzootic bovine leukosis**
Institute of Virology, Centre for Infectious Diseases, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Leipzig University, An den Tierkliniken 29, 04103 Leipzig, Germany
Tel: (+49-341) 97.38.201; Fax: (+49-341) 97.38.219
E-mail: Thomas.vahlenkamp@uni-leipzig.de

**Designated Reference Expert:** Prof. Thomas Vahlenkamp

This OIE Reference Laboratory specialises in serological and molecular biological methods for the diagnosis of enzootic bovine leukosis (EBL). In addition, the distribution of the EBL OIE Reference Serum E05, the performance of diagnostic ring trials in close cooperation with the other two OIE Reference Laboratories for EBL in the UK and Poland, coordination of international cooperation projects, and training of veterinarians and students form a large part of the work carried out in the Reference Laboratory at the Centre for Infectious Diseases in Leipzig.

**Myxomatosis**
Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale della Lombardia e dell’Emilia Romagna (IZSLER) ‘Bruno Ubertini’, Via Bianchi 9 – 25124 Brescia, Italy
Tel: (+39[0]30) 2290.617; Fax: (+39[0]30) 2290.559
E-mail: antonio.lavazza@izsler.it

**Designated Reference Expert:** Dr Antonio Lavazza

IZSLER is a public institute offering services in animal health and food safety; in particular, diagnosis and research on transmissible and widespread animal diseases and zoonoses. IZSLER has a long tradition of research on lagomorphs and has been an OIE Reference Laboratory for rabbit haemorrhagic disease since 1990 and a National Reference Centre for viral diseases of lagomorphs since 2002. The activities of the staff (Dr Lorenzo Capucci, Dr Antonio Lavazza, Dr Patrizia Cavadini, plus technicians and collaborators) include: developing diagnostic methods, the production and distribution of reagents, research projects, education and training, consulting and supporting public and private stakeholders, as well as determining prevention and control strategies and surveillance programmes.
Swine influenza

Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale della Lombardia e dell’Emilia Romagna (IZSLER),
Via Antonio Bianchi No. 9, 25124 Brescia, Italy
Tel: (+39-[0](52)1) 29.37.33; Fax: (+39-[0](52)1) 29.35.38
E-mail: emanuela.foni@izsler.it
Designated Reference Expert: Dr Emanuela Foni

The IZSLER Virology Laboratory in Parma performs virological investigations using cell culture and eggs, as well as biomolecular assays (reverse-transcription [RT] PCR and real-time PCR) for swine influenza virus (SIV) detection. A multiplex RT-PCR is used for typing SIV subtypes from clinical samples and isolates. Antigenic characterisation by the haemagglutination inhibition test is also performed, and isolates are analysed by sequencing. In addition, the laboratory carries out serological testing, while diagnostic reagents and standard operating procedures for assays are also available.

Chronic wasting disease

Prion Disease Research Laboratory, Division of Foreign Animal Disease, Animal, Plant and Fisheries Quarantine and Inspection Agency (QIA), 335 Anyang-ro, Manan-gu, Anyang, Gyeonggi, 430-757, Korea (Rep. of)
Tel: (+82-31) 467.18.67; Fax: (+82-31) 467.18.30
E-mail: shonhj@korea.kr or shonhjoo@hanmail.net
Designated Reference Expert: Dr Hyun-Joo Sohn

The Prion Disease Research Laboratory (PDRL), QIA, is a national institution charged with the diagnosis and national surveillance of major animal diseases in Korea (Rep. of), particularly notifiable infectious diseases, such as chronic wasting disease (CWD). The laboratory has developed diagnostic monoclonal antibodies and established sensitive diagnostic methods (e.g. serial protein misfolding cyclic amplification [sPMCA], etc.). Upon request, the laboratory provides OIE Member Countries with diagnostic reagents, diagnostic test services, technical training and collaboration on research projects on CWD.

Rabies

Rabies Research Laboratory, Division of Viral Disease, Animal, Plant and Fisheries Quarantine and Inspection Agency (QIA), Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (MIFAFF), 175 Anyang-ro, Manan-gu, Anyang, Gyeonggi 430-757, Korea (Rep. of)
Tel: (+82) 31 467.1783,
Fax: (+82) 31 467.1797
E-mail: yangdk@korea.kr; ydk40@hanmail.net
Designated Reference Expert: Dr Dong-Kun Yang

This OIE Reference Laboratory provides OIE Member Countries with diagnostic materials (rapid immunodiagnostic assays, RT-PCR kits, specific monoclonal antibodies, etc.) for rabies and advice on rabies eradication. The laboratory has also carried out research projects on bait vaccine and surveillance to block transmission of sylvatic rabies and to develop new diagnostic tools for rabies.
Equine babesiosis (piroplasmosis)
Animal Disease Research Unit (ADRU),
Agricultural Research Service,
United States Department of Agriculture (USDA),
Co-located at the College of Veterinary Medicine,
Washington State University, Pullman, WA 99164-6630,
United States of America
Tel: (+1-509) 335-6001; Fax: (+1-509) 335-8328
E-mail: dknowles@vetmed.wsu.edu
Designated Reference Expert: **Dr Don Knowles**

USDA scientists within the Animal Disease Research Unit (ADRU) collaborate with the College of Veterinary Medicine Faculty to discover research-based solutions for infectious diseases that have serious economic consequences for livestock health and international trade. The ADRU is currently designated as an OIE Reference Laboratory for caprine arthritis/encephalitis (small ruminant lentiviruses), and has been newly designated as an OIE Reference Laboratory for equine babesiosis (piroplasmosis). ADRU scientists work collaboratively with the Department of Veterinary Microbiology and Pathology (VMP), the Paul G. Allen School for Global Animal Health (ASGAH) and the Washington Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (WADDL), to understand pathogenesis, discover genetic markers predicting disease resistance, develop novel diagnostics and vaccines to control vector-borne infectious diseases (such as babesiosis, theileriosis, anaplasmosis), the contagious viral diseases (malignant catarrhal fever, small ruminant lentiviruses), and the contagious prion diseases: scrapie and chronic wasting disease. Current international collaborations and training exchanges include projects with Africa, Argentina, Brazil, Egypt, Israel, Japan, Libya, Mexico, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka and Turkey.

Foot and mouth disease
National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NSVL),
USDA-APHIS-VS, Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory,
Plum Island Animal Disease Center, P.O. Box 848,
Greenport, NY 11944, United States of America
Tel: (+1-631) 323.32.56; Tel: (+1-631) 323.33.66
E-mail: Consuelo.Carrillo@aphis.usda.gov
Designated Reference Expert: **Dr Consuelo Carrillo**

The NVSL Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory carries out a wide array of diagnostic testing for foot and mouth disease (FMD), including virus isolation, PCR testing, antigen and antibody ELISAs, electron microscopy, whole genome sequencing and FMD virus microarray for serotyping and genomic characterisation. The laboratory has similar testing capabilities for related vesicular diseases that may be included in a list of differential diagnoses. Reagents and standard operating procedures are available and provided to the National Animal Health Laboratory Network to support readiness in case of an outbreak. Developmental activities, including validating tests carried out on bulk milk tank samples, vaccine-matching strategies and developing new tests for differentiating infected from vaccinated animals (DIVA), are also conducted.
The OIE Collaborating Centre focuses on strengthening technical capacities, furthering regional collaboration and communication, and promoting epidemiological studies on the prevention and control of zoonoses in Asia–Pacific. The objectives of the Centre are: to meet key needs for the prevention and control of zoonoses, such as animal influenza, rabies, brucellosis, tuberculosis, Salmonella, and tick-borne diseases; to carry out research on the regional epidemiology, aetiology and molecular mechanisms of pathogenesis and immune mechanisms; and to develop rapid, sensitive, specific detection methods and diagnostic techniques, as well as novel, highly efficient and safe vaccines. The Centre actively engages in regional scientific exchanges and collaboration, technical training and joint research, and provides comprehensive and accurate data and information for regional zoonoses control.

The OIE Collaborating Centre for Research, Diagnosis and Surveillance of Wildlife Pathogens is a consortium between the Canadian Cooperative Wildlife Health Centre and the USGS National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC). The NWHC, newly designated as an OIE Collaborating Centre in 2011, provides leadership to safeguard wildlife and ecosystem health through dynamic partnerships and exceptional science. The NWHC supports the OIE charge to address animal diseases at a global level by providing information, technical assistance, training and research on wildlife pathogens.
national and international wildlife health issues. Centre scientists train others at OIE National Wildlife Focal Points Seminars on topics such as disease surveillance in wildlife species. A recent undertaking by the NWHC, in conjunction with the Canadian Cooperative Wildlife Health Centre, is to create a North American Strategy for Wildlife Health. This initiative will provide an operational framework, within which institutions with a stake in wildlife health can cooperate and collaborate to achieve optimal outcomes for wildlife, human, domestic animal and ecosystem health. This will further the work of the OIE by creating multidisciplinary partnerships among government agencies and key wildlife professionals, to address the increasingly severe consequences of wildlife diseases and their multiple impacts across society.

Self-declaration

Other than for foot and mouth disease, contagious bovine pleuropneumonia, African horse sickness and bovine spongiform encephalopathy, for which the OIE currently has a procedure of official recognition of status, the self-declaration of freedom of a country or a territory from a given OIE-listed disease is under the responsibility of the Member concerned. The OIE is not responsible for inaccuracies in the publication of self-declarations concerning the status of a country or zone with regard to a disease.

Self-declaration from Japan on the recovery of its Newcastle disease-free status

Backgroun information

As stated in the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code, Newcastle disease (ND) is defined as an infection of poultry caused by a virus (NDV) of avian paramyxovirus serotype 1 (APMV-1), which meets one of the criteria for virulence, as described in Article 10.9.1.1.

Newcastle disease is a notifiable disease in Japan. Owners or private veterinarians must report it if they find suspected cases or confirm that the number of dead poultry per day increases to more than twice the average number of those found during the 21 days before the day an outbreak is suspected.

Characterisation of the last event

The last reoccurrence of ND was confirmed in Ehime Prefecture on 1 July 2010. The previous occurrence of the disease took place on 2 December 2008 and was resolved on 28 April 2009, since no new cases had been reported since stamping-out measures were applied on 13 December 2008 (including disinfection of the affected establishment). The affected farm introduced 60 day-old chicks on 22 June 2010, when two dead chicks were found. Thirty-three chicks died from 28 June to 1 July 2010. The Ehime Prefectural Veterinary Authority confirmed that the two dead chicks collected on 30 June 2010 were infected with ND virus by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test and virus identification on 1 July 2010. All susceptible animals on the farm were destroyed on 1 July 2010.
There was no farm within 3 km of the affected farm. The local government Veterinary Service made sure that all susceptible animals on all four farms within 5 km of the affected farm showed no clinical signs and had been vaccinated. The farms were put under continuous surveillance. It was also confirmed that nothing unusual had happened in the hatchery from which the cases originated.

The isolated NDV was confirmed to be of low pathogenicity by pathological appraisal and did not meet any criteria for ND virulence, as defined in Chapter 10.9.1. of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code. However, at that time, in Japan, low-pathogenicity ND was dealt with in the same way as highly pathogenic ND by law, and the same control measures were applied. In 2011, Japan revised its legislation and nowadays there is a distinction between highly pathogenic ND and low-pathogenicity ND. Since then, only highly pathogenic ND is a notifiable disease to the OIE, according to the OIE Terrestrial Code.

Newcastle disease control measures applied

The Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries has established biosecurity standards for poultry farms. Each prefectural Veterinary Authority regularly conducts on-the-spot inspections and holds training courses for farmers who keep no fewer than 100 poultry, to improve their awareness of disease control and ensure that farmers follow biosecurity standards.

Farmers are required to read and take note of recent animal health information provided by prefectural Veterinary Authorities, to establish biosecurity zones, to take the necessary measures to prevent their facilities from becoming infected with pathogenic agents and maintain good sanitation, to prevent pathogenic agents from entering their farms with wildlife, to check the physical condition of their poultry and to record visitors and their management practices.

Each prefectural Veterinary Authority has local veterinary service centres, which implement front-line control measures and give producers guidance. As of 1 July 2012, a total of 171 local veterinary service centres had been established within the 47 prefectures.

As ND is notifiable in Japan, suspicious cases have to be reported. Since the last outbreak, a total of 55 suspicious cases have been notified and all of them were confirmed negative. Since, in 2011, Japan revised the law for highly pathogenic and low-pathogenicity ND, as mentioned above, if outbreaks of ND that meet the virulence criteria set out in the OIE Terrestrial Code are confirmed, i.e. highly pathogenic ND, the veterinary officers of the local service centres immediately adopt control measures, including stamping out. If the outbreaks are caused by low-pathogenicity ND, the centres provide guidance to the affected farms and any surrounding farms on vaccinating their poultry, when appropriate.

Each local veterinary service centre carries out two-fold monitoring: fixed-point monitoring and intensive monitoring, as part of its surveillance for the early detection of poultry diseases, such as avian influenza and ND.

Table I

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month/Year</th>
<th>Fixed-point monitoring Farms</th>
<th>Poultry</th>
<th>Intensive monitoring Farms</th>
<th>Poultry</th>
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<tr>
<td>7/2010</td>
<td>461</td>
<td>4,530</td>
<td>264</td>
<td>2,540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>223</td>
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<td>3,020</td>
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<td>5,195</td>
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<td>325</td>
<td>3,881</td>
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<td>344</td>
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</table>
As far as fixed-point monitoring is concerned, at least three farms are selected by each centre from among the high-risk farms, such as those located where wild birds congregate, and at least 10 samples are collected for antigen and antibody tests from each farm every month.

Regarding intensive monitoring, target farms are selected randomly at a level sufficient to detect 10% prevalence with at least a 95% level of confidence, and at least 10 samples are collected for antibody tests from each farm.

As of 1 October 2011, a total of 338 million poultry (layers: 187 million; broilers: 144 million; others: 5 million) were kept on 36,580 farms in Japan and a great number of them have been subjected to fixed-point and intensive monitoring, as shown in Table I.

This surveillance is continuing and no NDV infection has been detected since the last outbreak of 1 July 2010.

Japan regains its NCD-free status

Therefore, considering the above information, and:

– that more than two years have elapsed since the last case of ND was resolved on 1 July 2010 in Japan;
– in accordance with Chapter 10.9.3. of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code, an ongoing ND awareness programme, including regular inspection of farms, is in place;
– all notified suspicions of ND are subjected to field and laboratory investigation;
– surveillance conducted from the last outbreak until June 2012;

it was demonstrated that no NDV infection is present in the Japanese poultry population.

The Delegate of Japan to the OIE self-declares that his country has regained its ND-free status, in accordance with Articles 10.9.2. and 10.9.3. of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code, as of 4 September 2012.

Compartmentalisation

In this section of the Bulletin on compartments, the OIE may, upon official request of an OIE Member Country, publish the URL of an official website providing information on the establishment of one or several compartments for a disease or diseases in that country. The country must indicate in its official request that the compartment has been established in accordance with the OIE standards, notably the Terrestrial Animal Health Code Chapters 4.3. and 4.4. and the Aquatic Animal Health Code Chapters 4.1. and 4.2. for terrestrial and aquatic animals, respectively.

Implementation and evaluation must be conducted in accordance with the principles defined in the Codes. The Member Country must demonstrate that the compartmentalisation is supported by a robust and clear biosecurity plan, and that it was developed in close partnership between the Veterinary Authority and the relevant private sector. The self-declaration of a compartment is the full responsibility of the Member Country concerned.

In addition, the OIE does not take responsibility for the content of websites at the quoted URL address, which can be updated or modified at any time without the OIE’s knowledge. This is the responsibility of the Member Country concerned and all enquiries should be directed to the contact provided by the Member Country.

On Monday 9 July 2012 the Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer of the United Kingdom requested that a link to information on approved poultry-breeding compartments in the UK be included in the Bulletin.

The compartmentalisation concept has been implemented for avian influenza and Newcastle disease. The relevant documents are publicly available on the website of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs: www.defra.gov.uk/animal-trade/exports-non-eu/compartmentalisation/.
Dr Correa Messuti reminded the participants that in 1985 the Assembly had decided to grant honorary awards to members of the veterinary community for outstanding services to veterinary science and to the OIE. He then commended Dr Fujita and recalled the major accomplishments of his career and his outstanding services to the OIE and the veterinary world, and presented him with the Gold Medal.

He also delivered a speech in praise of Dr Steele (represented by a member of his family), Dr Amirbekov and Dr Ferris and presented them with the Meritorious Service Awards. The recipients thanked the President and the Assembly.
The newly appointed FAO–OIE Rinderpest Joint Advisory Committee (JAC) met for the first time in Rome (15 June 2012), and again at OIE Headquarters in Paris (2 October 2012). JAC is charged with providing technical advice to the OIE and FAO to assist Member Countries in their obligation to destroy remaining stocks of rinderpest virus, or to ensure safe storage of the virus in a minimum number of high-containment facilities, approved by the OIE and FAO (sequestration). JAC is currently focusing on developing technical guidance to aid destruction and sequestration. At present, there is a moratorium on research involving manipulation of the rinderpest virus and JAC will also be responsible for reviewing any future research proposals on an ad hoc basis. More information on the OIE and FAO’s commitment to ensuring that the world remains free from rinderpest will follow in the next edition of the Bulletin.

The members of the Committee (pictured below) are: Junaidu Maina, Gerrit Viljoen (International Atomic Energy Agency), Beverley Schmitt, Mo Salman, Gordon Abrahams, Genevieve Libeau and David Ulaeto, with Samia Metwally and Keith Hamilton as secretariat support staff.

The OIE Regional Vaccine Bank for Asia provides 50,000 rabies vaccines to Lao PDR

Laos, 28 September 2012

On 28 September 2012, the OIE has donated 50,000 rabies vaccines to Lao PDR through its Regional Vaccine Bank for Asia supported by the European Union’s regional cooperation programme on Highly Pathogenic and Emerging and Re-emerging Disease in Asia (HPED). The vaccine bank is managed by the OIE Sub-Regional Representation in Bangkok.
CONSIDERING THAT:

– Livestock is important in food security, income generation, small holder’s livelihoods and poverty alleviation.

– Major livestock diseases are of social and economic importance, in particular those of highly contagious and transboundary nature. They are among the most significant limiting factors for livestock production. Their impact can vary from reduced productivity and restricted market access to the elimination of entire flocks or herds, with the resultant loss of biodiversity and valuable genetic resources and public health risks.

– Globalisation of trade with rapid and long distance movements of animals and animal products increases the risk of major pathogens spreading from one country/region to another.

– FMD is still widespread throughout the world, particularly in Asia, Africa and the Middle East and by the end of May 2012, more than 100 countries were not FMD-free and they remain a continuous threat to free countries. Foot and mouth disease (FMD) can severely affect and disrupt regional and international trade in animals and animal products causing enormous financial damage. In developing countries, where the adverse effects of FMD are often underestimated, the disease undermines food security and economic development, at the level of both village smallholders and the more organised production chains. In other regions of the world massive culling has created animal welfare and ethical concerns, not just in the agricultural sector, but in society as a whole.

– All scientific evidence indicates that in most regions of the world, wild ungulates are susceptible to FMD but do not serve to maintain the virus in the absence of ongoing infections in domestic livestock. In the context of Sub-Saharan Africa, the African buffalo (Syncerus caffer) can serve as a source of FMD infection for domestic animals but not all FMD outbreaks in livestock over the last ten years have been associated with buffalo. In some regions, in particular in Southern Africa, the persistence of the FMD virus in certain wild animals represents a threat to the domestic ruminant population and the impact

**Recommendations**

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FAO/OIE Global Conference on Foot and Mouth Disease Control

**Bangkok, 27–29 June 2012**

As agreed during the first FAO/OIE Global Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Conference in Paraguay, the second conference in Bangkok was made up of a technical session and a session that focused mainly on the socio-economic aspects of the disease. There were approximately 650 participants, including ministers, high-level officials of Veterinary Services, private veterinary practitioners, representatives of governmental and non-governmental organisations, scientists and multilateral and bilateral funding partners.

Panels reviewed the global situation of FMD, the control strategies currently in use and key elements needed to prevent and control the disease. Panel members presented their regional experience, sharing the knowledge gained during FMD control programmes and the constant vigilance required to maintain disease-free status. After the panel sessions, the Global FMD Control Strategy was presented, supported by panels examining the socio-economic aspects of FMD and the estimated initial costs of implementing the Global Strategy.

Some 39 recommendations were approved, encompassing the activities of countries, regional and global technical partners, development partners and the OIE and FAO. Finally, it was recommended that a third Global Conference for the Control of FMD be held in Africa.
of some FMD control measures on wildlife conservation has become an important consideration.

- The recent epidemiological situation, with the incursion of FMD virus into free (Japan, Korea, Bulgaria) and infected countries (SAT2 in Egypt and Libya) once again shows that countries – even those where the virus has been eliminated for years – remain under threat and must be fully prepared for the emergence/reemergence of FMD.

- Controlling Transboundary Animal Diseases (TADs) such as FMD at source is a shared interest between infected and uninfected countries and should be considered a Global Public Good.

- The control of FMD and other TADs cannot be sustained if good governance of animal health systems, including effective Veterinary Services complying with OIE Standards and continuously updated supporting legislation, is not in place and supported by appropriate public-private partnerships.

- The first OIE FAO Global Conference on FMD held in Asunción, Paraguay, in June 2009 recommended that FAO and OIE establish an FMD Working Group under the Global Framework for the progressive control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF TADs) and prepare a Global FMD Control Strategy.

- The 79th OIE World Assembly in May 2011 in Paris supported the preparation of the Global Control Strategy and asked that a consultation of experts and representatives of national, regional and international institutions be undertaken.

- Implementing science-based animal health measures based on the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code and Manual is essential to minimise potential economic and trade implications of FMD.

- The Global FMD Control Strategy published and discussed during the FAO/OIE Global Conference on FMD Control held in Bangkok, Thailand, 27-29 June 2012, is not presented as a ‘stand-alone’ activity but rather a combination of three inter-related components, namely the Control of FMD, Strengthening of Veterinary Services and the Prevention and control of other major diseases of livestock. The overall aim of the FMD Control Strategy is to reduce the global impact of the disease and to be used as an entry point to achieve sustainable progress in the performance of Veterinary Services and, in turn, improve the animal health status concerning other livestock diseases (spin-off effects). The Strategy is flexible enough to accommodate differentiated responses according to different scenarios in terms of country FMD-PCP stages and regionally different existing initiatives such as SEACFMD and South American Institutions.

- Endemic countries are at different stages of managing FMD reflecting their socio-economic development and their livestock sectors. But for global control it is necessary to find ways to encourage all countries to engage with the global effort.

- In addition to the OIE Performance of Veterinary Services Pathway (PVS Pathway) and relevant articles of the OIE Terrestrial Code and Manual, new articles of the Code allow OIE to endorse national FMD control programmes submitted by countries that are not yet FMD-free but which are at an advanced level such as Stage 3 of the FMD-PCP and this will mark the country’s entry into the pathway towards freedom from FMD in the domestic animal population.

- The OIE pathway to freedom provides the definitive steps for countries seeking international recognition for their disease control programme and disease freedom status, whereas the Progressive Control Pathway for FMD (FMD-PCP), a new joint FAO-EuFMD-OIE tool, provides a mechanism for other countries to engage in and contribute to the global FMD control effort without the immediate goal of disease freedom.

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- Several tools are of critical importance to the Global FMD Control Strategy. These include effective surveillance and competent diagnostic laboratories with regional and international networking, appropriate vaccines to control FMD in endemic countries and to maintain free status (before complete cessation of vaccination), and emergency preparedness and immediate response to new disease events.

- Capacity building at the technical and managerial level as well as regular and effective communication to build public-private partnerships and gain the support of the animal owners are crucial for any control strategy.

- The role and services of reference laboratories are important to the success of a global approach. However some concerns exist among participating
countries about the constraints in submitting infectious materials to reference laboratories.

- A regional approach is seen as (and history has proven to be) key for the control of FMD and other major TADs. The FMD control experience of a number of countries and regions, especially Europe, South America and South-East Asia have served as the basis for developing the global strategy.
- Global experience with Rinderpest eradication and HPAI H5N1 control has demonstrated the importance of international and regional cooperation and coordination.
- Many developing countries lack the necessary resources and effective veterinary services that comply with the OIE Quality Standards to initiate, implement or sustain control programmes against FMD and other TADs.
- The difficulties and limits of analysis of the Cost Benefit on the Global FMD programme, as well as the demand from many national veterinary services to get support with the socio-economic justification of investing in overall veterinary services capacity and specific control programmes, including the progressive control of FMD.
- Strengthened veterinary services with sound governance are able to make a sound contribution to One Health initiatives and the broader public good.
- Global elimination of FMD and other major TADs is a long term objective requiring more than the period of 15 years presented in the Global FMD Control Strategy.

THE PARTICIPANTS OF THE CONFERENCE RECOMMEND THAT:

TO COUNTRIES:
1. FMD be recognised as a high priority disease that should be combatted synchronously on a global scale for the benefit of all countries;
2. FMD global control be considered as possible with existing means and methods;
3. The joint FAO/OIE Global FMD Control Strategy and Implementing Plan – with the 3 Components – be strongly supported as the framework to engage into or continue FMD (and other animal diseases) control worldwide, under the GF-TADs mechanism when accepted by countries;
4. All countries that are not FMD-free, develop and implement a national FMD control programme using the objectives, guidance and tools of the global FMD Control Strategy with the FMD-PCP as the preferred tool when appropriate for FMD-endemic countries to design and implement the strategy and monitor progress over time;
5. Countries use the possibility of OIE-officially endorsed FMD Control Programmes at Stage 3 of the PCP as a recognition of the effective management of FMD control in the country and continue by entering the official OIE recognition pathway for FMD-free status whenever feasible (based on zoning or the country as a whole);
6. Countries develop the veterinary services capacity using the OIE PVS Pathway (to create the required enabling environment), so as to ensure the sustainability of FMD (and other animal diseases) control programmes put in place including FMD-PCP when appropriate and to improve the economic and social resilience to major animal health events;
7. Countries consider the good governance of veterinary services, based on an appropriate animal health legislation, veterinary education and statutory bodies, as a pre-requisite to reach the higher FMD-PCP stages (Stage 3 and beyond);
8. The national FMD control programmes be based on robust animal health systems and effective public-private partnerships, and notably encourage the role of the private sector and of local communities, as key actors in FMD and other animal disease prevention and control measures;
9. Countries improve the surveillance, reporting and official notification of FMD (and other animal diseases) – both in domestic and wildlife species – including immediate alert, follow-up and final reports at national and global level using the OIE World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS/WAHID).
10. Rumour tracking is also encouraged at global level using, when appropriate, the FAO-OIE-WHO GLEWS (Global Early Warning System) reporting system as well as other regional information systems compatible with global systems.
11. Countries make use of the existing articles of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code to combine these with the FMD-PCP approach in the appropriate stages, in particular zoning, compartmentalisation, containment, protection zones and commodity-based trade and actively participate in the FMD standard setting process through their national OIE Delegate;
12. The risk of infection from African buffalo must be considered when developing national FMD control programmes. There is little evidence that other wild ungulates play a role in the maintenance of FMD with the exception of Syncerus caffer and so efforts to control FMD must be regionally and locally appropriate and are best targeted at reducing or preventing the disease in domestic animals including feral animals, thus most effectively protecting both livestock and wildlife, as well as human livelihoods.
TO REGIONAL AND GLOBAL TECHNICAL PARTNERS:

13. The strengthening of the laboratory and epidemiology expertise and the networks, as foreseen by the Global FMD Control Strategy, be supported;

14. The international community, including the countries themselves, supports the Global FMD Control Strategy and in particular fund the regional support units for progressive control of FMD in each virus pool, to give the technical and other guidance required to achieve PCP progress. Within each virus pool control strategies will have to be developed to suit the epidemiology of FMD, socioeconomic status and resources available;

15. There should be global investment in ensuring reference laboratories are equipped to perform the likely increased load for vaccine matching studies and services. Countries are encouraged to submit field virus strains for vaccine matching and to monitor the spread and emergence of new viruses;

16. The setting of regional vaccine banks be established when and where appropriate using existing OIE antigen/vaccine banks or other efficient regional vaccine banks as models, or special funds for FMD vaccine delivery and application (i.e. FAO APHCA) as key contribution for funding partners and country/regional commitment;

17. Applied research should be conducted to improve vaccines, diagnostics and the understanding of infection and transmission mechanisms, to develop better spread models and determine the presence of virus in products destined for commodity trade;

18. Regular GF-TADs regional and global Steering Committee meetings as well as regional roadmaps meetings be organised;

TO OIE AND FAO (THROUGH THE GF-TADs):

19. The FAO establish a more robust FAO/OIE FMD Secretariat within the FAO-OIE GF-TADs FMD Working Group;

20. FAO and OIE explore fund raising options, based on the conclusions of the Bangkok conference;

21. To enhance effective results of technical interventions FAO and OIE continue to emphasise the importance of socio-economic analysis (including livelihood, livestock sector strategies and value chain factors) that can guide FMD control programmes to be more successful;

22. For FMD control programmes, key beneficiaries of the programme, including farmers, farmer associations and traders be consulted at all stages of design and implementation;

23. Based on this understanding, FAO and OIE assist national Veterinary Services to advocate for the political and other stakeholders support for appropriate FMD control activities;

24. OIE and FAO assist countries to assemble evidence to demonstrate impacts of early control gains, so as to further secure political and other stakeholder support for FMD control;

25. A monitoring system for the Global Strategy implementation be put in place, under the responsibility of the Global GF-TADs Steering Committee; the GF-TADs FMD WG to report on an annual basis on the global and regional progress, including where appropriate the country FMD PCP stages from regional FMD roadmaps; this information to be made available in the GF-TADs Steering Committee and the Annual Assembly of OIE Delegates;

26. The Global Strategy be reviewed regularly and if needed updated on the basis of this monitoring work;

27. The FMD portfolio of activities (national budget and external support) be established every two years by the GF-TADs FMD WG, to best support the implementation of the Global Strategy;

28. The provisional GF-TADs FMD acceptance process, for the external evaluation of the relevant country FMD-PCP stages, be finalised;

29. The FAO-OIE CMC-AH and FAO-OIE-WHO GLEWS be made sustainable and be continually improved, to best serve the countries;

30. Institute for Animal Health, Pirbright, United Kingdom, be considered as the Global Coordinating Reference Laboratory for FMD, for the first phase of the Global Strategy. Support for reference laboratory services should be increased. Capacity building of FMD diagnosis at national and regional level be promoted through the network of FMD reference laboratories. Establishment of a reference laboratory should be promoted for each of the virus pool regions. Twinning programmes should be applied to speed up achievement of reference status for these laboratories;

31. The Global Strategy be considered as the preferred framework to develop new animal disease global control programmes under the GF-TADs mechanism and if relevant dedicated specific GF-TADs WG be set up for this purpose;

32. International agencies pursue dialogue with IATA/ICAO and other relevant agencies such as UNCTAD and WCO, to develop agreements that would facilitate shipping of FMD samples to reference laboratories or alternative;

33. OIE continue to review and update the standards for FMD in the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code and Manual to reflect the latest technical advances and in doing so to
ensure that the standards of FMD for international trade purposes are only applicable to those domestic and wildlife ruminants that have been scientifically proven to be of epidemiological significance.

**TO DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS**

34. The international community of development partners considers funding the Global Strategy, on the bases of the budget presented during the Global conference;

35. The international community of development partners devotes special attention to/
   (i) strengthening Veterinary Services using OIE standards and guidelines,
   (ii) initiate and sustain FMD control programmes in the least developed countries – with particular emphasis on Africa, Asia, Middle East, Andean Region and Eastern Europe,
   (iii) regional and global activities to ensure the proper awareness, monitoring, resources mobilisation and commitment, coordination and harmonisation;

36. At regional and global level, priority activities include support to:
   (i) surveillance and diagnostic laboratories including twinning programmes at all levels;
   (ii) development of FMD regional roadmaps where appropriate
   (iii) reinforced FAO-OIE GF-TADs FMD Working Group to stimulate and monitor and report on the implementation of the Global Strategy;

37. Sub-regional training workshops be supported under agreed mechanisms with international agencies (FAO, OIE) and partners, including relevant regional organisations, to draft country disease control plans based on the results of the OIE PVS Gap Analysis. These plans covering a list of three to five regional/national priority diseases (including FMD) – as proposed by the GF-TADs Regional Steering Committees – would be prepared first at national level respecting donors requirements and, when possible, be discussed and analysed with FAO/OIE animal health and socio-economist experts. When finalised, the plans should then be presented using, when appropriate, to the GF-TADs framework.

38. The third Global Conference for the control of FMD be held in Africa (date and venue to be confirmed).
2013

January

A World United Against Infectious Diseases: Cross-sectoral Solutions
28 January – 2 February
Bangkok (Thailand)
pmaconference@mahidol.ac.th
www.pmaconference.mahidol.ac.th

February

International Meeting on Emerging Diseases and Surveillance (IMED 2013)
15-18 February
Vienna (Austria)
www.isid.org/imed/index.shtml

20th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa
18-22 February
Lome (Togo)

March

Regional Seminar (Europe) for OIE National Focal Points on Animal Welfare
5-7 March
Teramo (Italia)

April

Regional Seminar (Europe) for OIE National Focal Points on Aquatic Animals
9-12 April
Portugal

May

81st General Session of the OIE
26-31 May
Maison de la Chimie
Paris (France)

June

16th International Symposium of the World Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians
5-8 June
Berlin (Germany)
info@csm-congress.de
www.csm-congress.de

Regional Seminar (Africa) for OIE National Focal Points on Animal Disease Notification to the OIE
24-28 June
Nairobi (Kenya)

July

Regional Seminar (Middle East) for OIE National Focal Points on Aquatic Animals
8-10 July
Ayla Napa (Cyprus)

August

10th IVIS – International Veterinary Immunology Symposium
28 August – 1 September
Paris (France)
ivis2013@mvcongressi.it
www.ivis2013.org

September

31st World Veterinary Congress and 150th Anniversary of the World Veterinary Association (WVA)
17-20 September
Prague (Czech Republic)
wvc2013@guarant.cz
2013

October

12th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East
October
Amman (Jordan)

Inter-regional Seminar (Africa) for OIE National Focal Points on Veterinary Products
1-4 October
Algiers (Algeria)

Regional Seminar (Asia) for OIE National Focal Points on Animal Disease Notification to the OIE
8-10 October
Bangkok (Thailand)

Regional Seminar (Americas) for OIE National Focal Points on Animal Welfare
15-16 October
Montevideo (Uruguay)

OIE Regional Workshop (Americas) on Animal Welfare and International Trade
17-18 October
Montevideo (Uruguay)

November

28th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania
November
Philippines

Regional Seminar (Africa) for OIE National Focal Points on Wildlife
12-15 November
Gaborone (Botswana)

Regional Seminar (Africa) for OIE National Focal Points on Communication
18-22 November
Niamey (Niger)

Regional (Africa) Seminar for OIE National Focal Points on Communication
25-29 November
Nairobi (Kenya)

December

Regional Seminar (Africa) for OIE National Focal Points on Veterinary Products
3-6 December
Maputo (Mozambique)

Global Conference on Veterinary Education and the Role of the Veterinary Statutory Body
‘Ensuring excellence and ethics of the veterinary profession’
4-6 December
Foz do Iguaçu (Brazil)
AFGHANISTAN
ALBANIA
ALGERIA
ANDORRA
ANGOLA
ARGENTINA
ARMENIA
AUSTRALIA
AUSTRIA
AZERBAIJAN
BAHAMAS
BAHRAIN
BANGLADESH
BARBADOS
BELARUS
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BELIZE
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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
EUROPEAN UNION
ERITREA
ESTONIA
ETHIOPIA
FIJI ISLANDS
FINLAND
FORMER YUGOSLAV REP. OF MACEDONIA
FRANCE
GABON
GAMBIA
GEORGIA
GERMANY
GHANA
GREECE
GUATEMALA
GUINEA
GUINEA-BISSAU
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JAPAN
JORDAN
KAZAKHSTAN
KENYA
KOREA (DEM REP. OF)
KOREA (REPUBLIC)
KUWAIT
KYRGYZSTAN
LAOS
LATVIA
LEBANON
LESOTHO
LIBYA
LIECHTENSTEIN
LITHUANIA
LUXEMBOURG
MAURITANIA
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MEXICO
MICRONESIA
MOLDOVA
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NAMIBIA
NEPAL
NETHERLANDS
NEW ZEALAND
NICARAGUA
NIGER
NIGERIA
NORWAY
OMAN
PAKISTAN
PANAMA
PAPUA NEW GUINEA
PARAGUAY
PERU
PHILIPPINES
POLAND
PORTUGAL
QATAR
ROMANIA
RUSSIA
RWANDA
SAUDI ARABIA
SENEGAL
SERBIA
SIERRA LEONE
SINGAPORE
SLOVAKIA
SLOVENIA
SOMALIA
SOUTH AFRICA
SPAIN
SRI LANKA
SUDAN
SURINAME
SWAZILAND
SWEDEN
SWITZERLAND
SYRIA
TAJIKISTAN
TANZANIA
THAILAND
TIMOR-LESTE
TOGO
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
TUNISIA
TURKEY
TURKMENISTAN
UGANDA
UKRAINE
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
UNITED KINGDOM
UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA
URUGUAY
UZBEKISTAN
VANATU
VENEZUELA
VIETNAM
YEMEN
ZAMBIA
ZIMBABWE
The aim of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code is to contribute to improve animal health and welfare worldwide and to assure the sanitary safety of international trade in terrestrial animals (mammals, birds and bees) and their products. This is achieved through the detailing of health measures to be used by the Veterinary Authorities of importing and exporting countries to avoid the transfer of agents pathogenic for animals or humans, while avoiding unjustified trade barriers.

The Aquatic Animal Health Code has the same objective as the Terrestrial Code, only for aquatic animals: amphibians, crustaceans, fish and molluscs. These Codes constitute references for both terrestrial and aquatic animals within the WTO SPS Agreement as international standards for animal health and zoonoses.