No more deaths from rinderpest
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The General Session of the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE: an essential annual event for the Veterinary Services of every continent

When it meets annually in General Session at the OIE Headquarters in Paris, France, the Assembly acts as a ‘world parliament’, adopting standards and passing resolutions, in particular on control policies and methods for the most important animal diseases.

The commitment of each and every Delegate is the only way to ensure continuity in the OIE’s standard-setting process, a prerequisite for implementing its action worldwide.

In May 2011, over 600 participants, representing more than 150 OIE Member Countries and more than 50 intergovernmental, regional and national organisations, attended the 79th General Session of the Assembly, with the notable presence of high-level dignitaries, including the President of the Republic of Paraguay and numerous government ministers.

This year’s General Session was also a highlight in the celebrations marking the 250th anniversary of the veterinary profession.

As in every year, the Assembly developed, revised and updated international standards relating to animal health, food safety and animal welfare, demonstrating yet again the importance that all OIE Members place on developing new systems and mechanisms together to prevent and control animal diseases, including those transmissible to humans, at a national, regional and global level.

The 79th General Session was also an historic event since the Assembly officially and unanimously recognised that all 198 countries of the world with rinderpest-susceptible animal populations had now been certified by the OIE as free from this dreadful disease, which through the centuries has had such devastating effects on animals and communities’ livelihoods. This recognition thus opened the way for the solemn declaration of the global eradication of rinderpest. This is the first animal disease to have been eradicated by humanity and marks a major step forward, not only for science, but also for the policies of cooperation between international organisations such as the OIE and FAO and indeed with the whole of the international community. It constitutes a major historic success for the Veterinary Services of the entire world and for the whole of the veterinary profession, of which we can all be proud.

The welcome achievement of rinderpest eradication amply demonstrates that implementing animal disease control programmes can be successful if all countries are resolute in their scientific, technical, political and economic commitment. With this in mind, the Assembly asked the OIE to engage in the task of preparing new strategies which, in the coming years, will allow progress to be
made with worldwide control of other major
diseases, such as foot and mouth disease (FMD),
rabies and peste des petits ruminants.

In a similar vein, the Assembly voted to adopt
a new article for the Terrestrial Animal Health Code
chapter on FMD, making provision for the OIE to
endorse national FMD control programmes that
countries have submitted to it on a voluntary
basis. Furthermore, the Delegates agreed that the
OIE, in collaboration with FAO, should develop a
global strategy for FMD control
to be presented at the next
Global Conference on FMD
Control, being organised jointly
by the two Organisations, with
the Thai Government, due to
be held in Bangkok in June
2012. This is an ambitious undertaking and one
in which I intend to be personally involved, with
a view to convincing donors and government
representatives of the need to prioritise
investment in controlling this major disease of
livestock, an activity that can be classed as a
global public good.

The Assembly also demonstrated its concern
for the issue of world food security by once again
addressing the challenge of reducing the
considerable animal production losses caused by
animal diseases, so as to give the world’s human
population better access to the high quality
animal protein contained in milk, eggs and meat.
Reducing the incidence of these diseases must be
seen as a priority if we are to meet the constant
growth in demand for food products. To this end,
it is vital to ensure that countries are equipped
with good quality Veterinary Services, with the
capacity to enforce health legislation, updated to
address new risks related to globalisation and
climate change, notably in collaboration with
animal producers. OIE standards on the quality
and effectiveness of Veterinary Services and the
‘PVS Pathway’ for the evaluation of Veterinary
Services are highly relevant
tools to help achieve this
objective.

This recognition thus opened
the way for the solemn
declaration of the global
eradication of rinderpest

The OIE is in the forefront
when it comes to making its
voice heard in relevant
international decision-making
fora. This is to ensure that the need for good
governance in the field of animal health and the
need to strengthen international and regional
networks in this respect are taken into account,
thereby making a major contribution to world
food security and the sanitary quality of food.

At the request of the Assembly, the OIE will
further increase its support both for animal health
and welfare policies and for Veterinary Services
worldwide in order to promote sustainable food
security and food safety, based on policies
conducive to animal health and welfare and public
health, while respecting the environment and
biodiversity.

Bernard Vallat
Director General
The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) was created in the early twentieth century with the backing of some twenty countries, and formalised by the international agreement for the creation of an Office international des épizooties¹, signed in Paris on 25 January 1924.

Under the terms of this international agreement, the operating rules of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) are enshrined in a set of texts known as the ‘Basic Texts’. This body of legislation is formed, hierarchically, by the following texts:

**The Organic Statutes**, appended to the international agreement, define the OIE mandate, the historic commitments of Member Countries, and lay down the principle of free choice of the category of contribution for Member Countries. The Organic Statutes stipulate that the Delegates are the ‘technical representatives’ of Member Countries that attend the World Assembly of Delegates (formerly the International Committee³) under the authority of which the Organisation is placed. Their amendment requires a unanimous vote;

**The Organic Rules** specify the basic institutions of the OIE and their attributes, the financial rules, and in particular the statutory annual contributions due by Member Countries. Any amendment to these rules requires a two-thirds majority;

**The General Rules** specify the operational details for the implementation of the provisions of the Organic Statutes and Organic Rules;

**The Financial Regulations** govern the financial administration of the OIE;

**Other implementation texts** include the mandates and the internal rules of the different OIE entities, such as the Specialised Commissions, Working Groups, etc.

These basic texts have been progressively elaborated and regularly enriched in step with the

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1- See Resolution XVI of 23 May 2003 on the use of the name of the World Organisation for Animal Health
2- See Resolution 13 of 29 May 2009 on the modernisation of the Basic Texts: name of the International Committee
A few salient points should be highlighted.

**The new version of the Basic Texts** incorporates several resolutions adopted since 1973, including:
- Resolution XIX of 19 May 1995 concerning the creation of Regional and Sub-regional Representations (see chapter 9 – art. 33), specifying the establishment of these offices to provide relays between the headquarters and Member Countries;
- Resolutions concerning changes in terminology concerning the OIE governing bodies (see Resolution XVI of 23 May 2003 on the use of a common name for the OIE – World Organisation for Animal Health; Resolutions 13 and 33 of 29 May 2009 concerning the OIE World Assembly of Delegates, the Council and the Headquarters).

**The revision of the General Rules** also provided an opportunity to review the text with a view to a more rational organisation of the articles better suited to the way the OIE currently operates. Fundamental modifications were made to the internal rules of the Regional Commissions, Specialised Commissions, Working Groups and *ad hoc* Groups, as well as the provisions applicable to OIE Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres.

Finally, the new Basic Texts formalise the application of certain procedures, in particular those that govern:
- potential conflicts of interest for experts in order to guarantee the independence of the OIE and the credibility of the standards and recommendations it issues,
- the confidentiality rules concerning information brought to the knowledge of experts working for the OIE, within the specialised commissions, working groups, etc., and as experts for special missions in the field.

The World Organisation for Animal Health now has updated Basic Texts that provide an appropriate statutory framework for the implementation of its mandate.
World Animal Health in 2010

In these two volumes, *World Animal Health* presents a synthesis of animal health information from 166 countries and territories around the world, including both OIE Members (178 in May 2011) and non-OIE Members.

This publication provides a unique tool for all those involved in animal production, wildlife disease surveillance, international trade in animals and animal products and the epidemiology and control of animal diseases, including zoonoses. The 2010 edition continues the improvement made in the previous edition by allowing countries and territories to report the animal health status of their domestic and wildlife populations separately, when relevant. This helps in improving surveillance and transparency in the notification of diseases in wild species, without prompting unjustified trade barriers that fail to comply with the provisions of the appropriate chapters of the OIE *Terrestrial and Aquatic Animal Health Codes*.

*World Animal Health* provides tables of data on OIE-listed diseases and their impact in each country/territory, with details of the control and prevention measures applied. For each of the diseases/infections reported present, the tables indicate the number of outbreaks and the number of susceptible animals, cases and deaths. The last section of the publication gives national data on animal populations, veterinary staff resources, national Reference Laboratories and their diagnostic tests, vaccine capabilities and cases of zoonotic disease in humans. Recent information on the worldwide animal health situation is available in near-real time through the WAHID Interface, accessible from this link: www.oie.int/wahid.

Proceedings of the First OIE/FAO Global Conference on Foot and Mouth Disease: The Way Towards Global Control
Asunción, Paraguay, 24-26 June 2009

In June 2009 more than 500 experts and stakeholders arrived in Asunción, Paraguay, to pave the way towards global foot and mouth disease (FMD) control. These conference proceedings will provide an overview of the global and regional situation for FMD
and will address surveillance, vaccination and diagnostic methods to move towards global control as well as the impact FMD has on international trade.

This first Global Conference on FMD Control was a successful start, boosting new national and regional policies and actions with the ultimate overall aim of global control of FMD.

Proceedings of the 2nd OIE Global Conference on Animal Welfare: Putting the OIE Standards to Work
Cairo, Egypt, 20-22 October 2008

The theme of this second OIE Global Conference on Animal Welfare is the worldwide implementation of the OIE Animal Welfare standards for the transport of livestock by land, sea and air; the slaughter of animals for human consumption and the killing of animals for disease control purposes. This conference brought together veterinarians, researchers, representatives of legislative and administrative authorities, representatives of relevant stakeholders and international NGOs who are actively involved in the implementation of animal welfare policies in their countries to share their experiences on the implementation of the OIE standards. It also focused on the importance of strong Veterinary Services to support the implementation of OIE animal health and welfare standards, as animal health is a very important component of animal welfare.

The conference proceedings address the challenges that countries face and the best means for the OIE to support their efforts, as well as the needs of the future for the development of additional OIE animal welfare standards and scientific research in this domain.
news from headquarters

Staff movements

Arrival

International Trade Department
Chargé de mission
Dr Victor Saraiva

Dr Victor Saraiva, from Brazil, graduated as a veterinarian from the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro in 1973. In 1981, he gained an MSc in Epidemiology from Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas. Dr Saraiva began his professional career with Brazil’s Ministry of Agriculture in 1973, and worked with the Pan American Health Organization from 1989 to late 2009, serving in Bogotá, Colombia, and Rio de Janeiro. Dr Saraiva then returned to his former work with Brazil’s Ministry of Agriculture and has now been seconded by the Ministry to work with the OIE International Trade Department for two years, from 2011 to 2013.

Departures

Scientific and Technical Department
Officer in charge of the recognition of countries’ animal disease status
Dr Lea Knopf

Lea Knopf joined the OIE in 2006 and spent five years in charge of official disease status and providing support to the technical secretariat to the Scientific Commission on Animal Diseases, among others. During her time at the OIE, the Organisation saw the global eradication of rinderpest achieved and its scientific work significantly expand to encompass new disease control concepts and an increasing number of diseases. Through her work, Lea has made a significant contribution to the reputation of the OIE for setting science-based standards and being at the crossroads of research networks and initiatives.
Lea is known for her high standards of precision and objectivity and for her talent in stimulating the intellectual curiosity of our experts. Within the OIE, she has gained the trust of all those she worked with, and outside the OIE she relentlessly defended the values that are central to our scientific work. Lea is leaving the OIE to seek new challenges outside the Organisation, but we are sure that our paths will cross again in the future.

Chargé de mission
Dr Yong Joo Kim

After working in the National Veterinary Research and Quarantine Service of the Republic of Korea, Yong Joo Kim joined the OIE in 2008 as Chargé de mission. He brought a considerable amount of knowledge and experience to the work of the Department, helping to organise many meetings and assisting Dr Lea Knopf in providing support and services to the Scientific Commission on Animal Diseases.

Yong Joo Kim, an excellent team player, earned the friendship of all those in the Department and many outside it. He was also instrumental in organising the OIE Global Conference on Rabies in his home country in September 2011.

Yong Joo Kim is returning to the Animal, Plant and Fisheries Quarantine and Inspection Agency in the Republic of Korea to serve as Chief of the Research Laboratory. We are hoping to see him again at OIE meetings!

Arrival

Accounts Unit
Accounts assistant
Daniel Agbodjan-Prince

On 26th September 2001, Mr Daniel Agbodjan-Prince has joined the Accounts Unit as accounts assistant to reinforce the teams placed under the coordination of the Deputy Director General in charge of the Administration, Management, Human Resources and Regional Actions.
Activities of the Scientific and Technical Department
Summaries of the OIE ad hoc Group Meetings
July to September 2011

Ad hoc Group on Diseases of Honey Bees
Paris, 5-7 July 2011
The Group met to address the comments received from OIE Member Countries on the circulation of a revised version of the chapters of the Terrestrial Code related to bee diseases, as well as to update, if necessary, the relevant part of Chapter 5.10.: ‘Model veterinary certificates for international trade in live animals, hatching eggs and products of animal origin’. The Group addressed Members’ comments on five chapters and proposed an amended version of these. However, due to lack of time, the Group was unable to work on the chapters on American and European foulbrood or to review Chapter 5.10. Given that chapter 1.2. of the Terrestrial Code on the criteria for listing diseases is currently being updated, the Group decided that it would be useful to re-examine the bee diseases presently listed and consider whether, based on the new criteria, they should all be kept and/or any new diseases should be added. Another meeting is planned in 2012 to complete the work.

Ad hoc Group on Official Disease Status Recognition of Classical Swine Fever
Paris, 19-21 July 2011
The Group was asked to continue its revision of the chapter on classical swine fever (CSF) to adapt it for official disease status recognition. It had been advised by the Scientific Commission to provide for CSF-free status with vaccination. This had major implications for the revision of the Articles on surveillance, mainly because the current licensed diagnostic tools and vaccines (such as the non-structural protein test for foot and mouth disease) do not allow for easy distinction between vaccinated and infected animals. The majority of Articles on trade with commodities were adapted for CSF-free status with vaccination, but additional refinements are needed. In its next meeting, in December 2011, the Group will finalise its work on the Terrestrial Code chapter on CSF and the CSF questionnaire (Chapter 1.6.), to assist Member Countries in submitting the required documentation.

Ad hoc Group on Brucellosis
Paris, 20-22 July 2011
The Group was requested to revise the existing chapters on bovine, porcine and small ruminant brucellosis, taking a pathogen-based approach instead of focusing on the various species. In view of the fact that countries tend to survey their brucellosis situation mainly through serology, and that co-infections with several Brucella species may be present, the Group decided to provide a single chapter on Brucella infection, covering infections with Brucella abortus, B. melitensis and B. suis. The revised chapter would allow countries to self-declare freedom from Brucella infection at the herd, zone or country level, for all or some of the susceptible species traded. Five groups of animal species were defined: bovines; ovines and caprines; porcines, camelidae and captive wild cervidae.
Activities of the International Trade Department
Summaries of the OIE ad hoc Group Meetings
July to September 2011

**Ad hoc Group on Veterinary Legislation**
*Paris, 5-7 July 2011*

Veterinary legislation is a key element of the infrastructure that enables national Veterinary Services to manage, in an efficient manner, the global challenges they face today. To meet a growing demand, especially from developing countries, the OIE has placed a set of Guidelines on Veterinary Legislation on its website, setting out the essential elements that should be covered by law.

The main task of the ad hoc Group on Veterinary Legislation was to prepare a draft text for inclusion in the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code (the Terrestrial Code), based on the Guidelines on Veterinary Legislation.

A draft text, taking into account the comments of OIE Member Countries, was prepared at the first meeting of the ad hoc Group on 5-7 July 2011.

The revised draft text (proposed new Chapter 3.4.) was reviewed by the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission (the Code Commission) at its September 2011 meeting and distributed to Members for comment in October 2011.

**Ad hoc Group on Laboratory Animal Welfare**
*Paris, 5-7 July 2011*

The OIE ad hoc Group on Laboratory Animal Welfare held its fifth meeting on 5-7 July 2011. The ad hoc Group revised the text of Terrestrial Code Chapter 7.8. (Use of Animals in Research and Education), adopted in May 2010, in light of the most recent OIE Member comments and drafted a new article on transport. The ad hoc Group also developed a Model Veterinary Certificate (MVC) for International Trade in Laboratory Animals, with the assistance of Dr William White, serving as an expert advisor to the International Air Transport Association (IATA). The revised text and the MVC, proposed as a new chapter, were submitted to the Code Commission for consideration at its September 2011 meeting.

No further meeting of the Group is planned at this time. The Director General and the Terrestrial Code Commission thanked the members for their excellent work.

**Ad hoc Group on Veterinary Education**
*Paris, 2-4 August 2011*

The OIE ad hoc Group on Veterinary Education held its third meeting on 2-4 August 2011. The Group addressed OIE Member comments on the list of minimum competencies and discussed the second OIE Global Conference on Veterinary Education, which took place in Lyons on 13-14 May 2011.

Noting that the OIE had received comments from several Members on the subject of veterinary education in aquatic animal health, it was recommended that the Group’s report be provided to both the Terrestrial and the Aquatic Animal Health Commissions (Aquatic Animals Commission).

The Group will hold its next meeting from 11 to 13 January 2012, when the following documents will be addressed:

1) critical skills needed by senior-level veterinarians in the Veterinary Authority
2) continuing education topics for private veterinarians conducting work for the Veterinary Authority and
3) delivery methods and sources of continuing veterinary education.

**Ad hoc Group on Zoonotic Parasites**
*Paris, 30 August – 1 September 2011*

The ad hoc Group on Zoonotic Parasites held its second meeting at OIE Headquarters from 30 August to 1 September 2011. The Group considered the extensive
Activities of the International Trade Department

comments provided by Member Countries on the draft Chapter 8.13. (Trichinellosis), and amended the draft text as appropriate. The chapter was revised to include a new article dealing with commodities that are considered safe for trade, two new articles that outline the requirements for declaring a country or zone as having a negligible risk of Trichinella infection in domestic pigs, a new article on surveillance for Trichinella, and provisions for the introduction of live pigs.

The next meeting of the ad hoc Group will take place on 7-9 December 2011. At this meeting, the Group will address OIE Member comments on the draft Chapter 8.4. (Echinococcosis/hydatidosis) and begin drafting a new chapter on porcine cysticercosis.

The ad hoc Group report was submitted to the Code Commission for consideration at its meeting in September 2011

Ad hoc Group on Pathogen Differentiation for Aquatic Animal Diseases
Paris, 6-8 September 2011

The ad hoc Group on Pathogen Differentiation for Aquatic Animal Diseases held its second meeting at OIE Headquarters from 6 to 8 September 2011.

The objective of this Group’s work is to establish criteria for differentiating strains of pathogens. At a meeting held in January 2011, the Group explored broad concepts, recognising that there were some inconsistencies in reporting by Member Countries. Infectious salmon anaemia virus (ISAV) was chosen by the Aquatic Animals Commission as a ‘case study’ pathogen, which could be used as a model to amend OIE reporting requirements, based on a clear description of different strains of the agent. Three international experts on ISA were invited to join this meeting to address technical details of ISAV differentiation.

The Group assessed the applicability of pathogen differentiation for ISAV, using the criteria developed at its previous meeting, i.e.: 1) variants of the pathogen are clearly recognised in the scientific literature and and show different characteristics 2) there are robust, readily available methods for consistently differentiating (typing) the variants, and 3) there are, or there is potential for, different management methods for variants within or between countries. The ad hoc Group concluded that ISAV fulfilled all three criteria and moved on to consider the case for pathogen differentiation for ISAV, and its implications.

The ad hoc Group report was submitted to the Aquatic Animals Commission for consideration at its meeting on 3-7 October 2011.

Ad hoc Group on the Responsible Use of Antimicrobials in Aquatic Animals
Siège de l’OIE, Paris, 8-9 septembre 2011

The OIE ad hoc Group on the Responsible Use of Antimicrobials in Aquatic Animals held a meeting at OIE Headquarters on 8-9 September 2011. The Group finalised draft chapters on ‘Monitoring of the quantities and usage patterns of antimicrobial agents used in aquatic animals’ and ‘Development and harmonisation of national antimicrobial resistance surveillance and monitoring programmes for aquatic animals’. The ad hoc Group developed a list of bacteria that should be prioritised to develop methods to test antimicrobial resistance in aquatic animals and proposed to publish this list, together with an explanatory article in the OIE Bulletin, in September 2012. The Group also developed a discussion paper on ‘Antimicrobial resistance risk analysis in aquaculture’, for future consideration as the basis for a new chapter in the Aquatic Code.

The ad hoc Group report was submitted to the Aquatic Animals Commission for consideration at its meeting on 3-7 October 2011.
Staff movements

Arrivals

OIE IDENTIFY Programme coordinator
Dr Andrew Davis

Dr Andrew Davis, who joined the OIE in 2011, is a programme coordinator for the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for South-East Asia, based in Bangkok.

His main role is to coordinate the implementation of the OIE’s activities for the IDENTIFY project within the USAID-funded Emerging Pandemic Threats programme. This project focuses on developing the capacity of laboratories and laboratory networks in the human-health and animal-health sectors to contribute to the management of emerging infectious diseases.

Before joining the OIE, Andrew worked at CSIRO-AAHL and was coordinator for the Australian laboratory network on emergency animal diseases. Andrew has worked as a veterinary pathologist in national, sub-national, university and commercial diagnostic veterinary pathology laboratories within Australia and also internationally. Andrew graduated from the University of Queensland in 2002, and has post-graduate qualifications in diagnostic veterinary pathology.

The OIE has also recruited three new staff for its Sub-Regional Representation for South-East Asia to support the implementation of the AusAID-funded STANDZ programme, an umbrella programme covering the SEACFMD campaign, STRIVES initiative and the ‘One Health’ project focusing on rabies (see details on pages 16-18).

OIE STANDZ-SEACFMD Programme coordinator
Dr Dirk Van Aken

Dirk Van Aken joined the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for South-East Asia in October 2011 as Programme Coordinator for the STANDZ initiative. He is primarily responsible for coordinating the SEACFMD campaign but will also be involved with other scientific activities for the OIE in South-East Asia.

Dirk is a graduate of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in Ghent, Belgium (1981). He holds a Diploma in Tropical Veterinary Medicine (1982) and a Master of Science degree (1992) from the Institute of Tropical Medicine in Antwerp, Belgium. He was accepted as a diplomate of the European Veterinary Parasitology College in 2004.

Dirk has been working in Asia since 1982, on long-term assignments in India, Sri Lanka, the Philippines, Laos...
and Cambodia. His experience includes training veterinary students and research into the epidemiology of diseases in cattle, small ruminants and pigs, as well as the management of major donor-funded projects. His most recent work, from 2005 to 2010, was as Team Leader and Senior Livestock Adviser of the European Union Livestock Programme on Smallholder Livestock Production in Cambodia. Dirk has been cooperating with the SEACFMD project since 1998, when he was working on European Union-funded livestock projects in Laos and Cambodia.

OIE STANDZ Programme coordinator
Ms Maria Cecilia Dy

Maria Cecilia Dy joined the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for South-East Asia in September 2011 as Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) Coordinator, based in Bangkok. She is responsible for managing the implementation of M&E within the framework of the various projects under the STANDZ initiative. Cecilia also oversees the implementation of the Sub-Regional Representation communication plan and coordinates the development and implementation of Member Countries’ communication strategies for animal health in South-East Asia.

Cecilia brings to the OIE her expertise in both animal and human health communication, project coordination, evaluation and journalism. During the last five years, Cecilia has been involved in the development and implementation of communication and advocacy strategies on avian influenza for CARE International, FAO and UNICEF in Cambodia. She also supervised external evaluations of various activities within the CARE community-based, avian influenza risk-reduction programme in Cambodia. Before joining the OIE, Cecilia carried out a ‘KAP’ (knowledge, attitude and practice) survey of smallholder cattle farmers on transboundary animal diseases for Cambodia’s Department of Animal Health and Production.

Cecilia received her Master’s degree in Mass Communications from the University of Leicester, the United Kingdom, and has seven years’ experience as a journalist in the Philippines and in Cambodia.

Project Officer for the OIE STANDZ initiative
Dr Mary Joy Gordoncillo

Mary Joy N. Gordoncillo joined the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for South-East Asia in September 2011 as Project Officer for the STANDZ initiative. She will provide project management and communication support for the implementation of various projects in Member Countries in the region. She will also offer support to the various operations of the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for South-East Asia and promote the OIE’s visibility as an independent, scientific and highly professional centre of excellence throughout South-East Asia. Joy has a DVM degree from the University of the Philippines, a Master’s degree in Tropical Veterinary Science from James Cook University in Australia, and is presently completing her PhD in Veterinary Public Health from Michigan State University in the United States. As well as her advanced skills in veterinary microbiology and molecular biology, she is also particularly skilled, and has a deep interest, in digital media arts, illustration and design, as well as health communication. She is looking forward to contributing her scientific and creative skills to assist the Sub-Regional Representation for South-East Asia, and all Member Countries, to move towards their envisioned goals for animal health in South-East Asia.
Sub-Regional Representation for Central America

Arrival
Sub-Regional Representative
Dr Filiberto Frago Santamaría

Dr Filiberto Frago has a degree from the University of Paraná (Brazil) and a Master of Sciences from the University of Idaho (United States of America).

He took up office as OIE Sub-Regional Representative for Central America in May 2011.

Dr Frago has spent the best part of his working life in Panama’s Veterinary Services. He began his career in the private sector, where his activities involved livestock breeding and fattening, as well as clinical practice relating to small and large species. His appointment as National Food Supervisor familiarised him with the field of food safety, after which he served as National Director of Animal Health and Delegate of Panama to the OIE for a four-year period. More recently he held the position of Secretary General of the Panamanian Food Safety Authority (AUPSA). In the course of all these duties, Dr Frago gained extensive experience in Veterinary Service operation and management, both nationally and internationally, and played a leading role in Panama’s bilateral animal health negotiations with Chile, Canada and the United States of America. His professional achievements include spearheading the process leading to: Panama’s self-declaration as a country free from bovine tuberculosis; the Province of Colón’s self-declaration as the first zone to be technically free from bovine brucellosis in Panama’s history; and Panama’s self-declaration as a country free from classical swine fever. Apart from implementing Panama’s bovine spongiform encephalopathy surveillance programme, Dr Frago led the technical team that applied to the OIE for Panama to be granted official recognition as a country with negligible risk for bovine spongiform encephalopathy, which was approved by the 79th OIE General Session in May 2011.

At the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for Central America, Dr Frago will be responsible for relations between OIE Headquarters in Paris, the OIE Regional Representation for the Americas in Buenos Aires (Argentina), Veterinary Services and regional and international organisations in Central America. He will also provide the OIE Regional Representation for the Americas in Buenos Aires with technical support to help it to meet the objectives of the Fifth OIE Strategic Plan, in particular Veterinary Service capacity-building programmes.

Departure
Sub-Regional Representative
Dr José Joaquín Oreamuno Toledo

On 30 June 2011, Dr José Joaquín Oreamuno relinquished his duties as Sub-Regional Representative at the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for Central America, where he had served since the Sub-Regional Representation opened in Panama in 2006.

Dr Oreamuno had taken part in numerous missions and activities in line with the OIE Strategic Plan, in particular to strengthen Member Countries’ Veterinary Services and to disseminate, update and implement OIE international standards.

The OIE wishes to take this opportunity to thank Dr Oreamuno publicly for his sense of responsibility, professionalism and warmth, qualities that earned him the esteem of his colleagues, as well as to wish the new incumbent every success.
The Fifth Meeting of the Regional Steering Committee for the Americas of the Global Framework for Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs) was organised jointly by FAO1 and the OIE, with the collaboration of the Government of Panama. It was attended by 34 representatives from 12 international, regional and sub-regional organisations.

At the opening session, Dr Carlos Correa Messuti (President of the World Assembly of OIE Delegates), Dr Luis Barcos (OIE Regional Representative for the Americas), Dr Fulvio Biancifiori (representing FAO) and Dr Manuel González Cano (Delegate of Panama to the OIE) welcomed the participants. All agreed that GF-TADs was both a global and regional priority and pointed to the progress made with joint and coordinated activities between the various organisations, with major achievements at global, regional and even national levels.

The meeting elected a new President, Dr Hugo Idoyaga from the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas, and two Vice-Presidents, Dr Ottorino Cosivi from PAHO2 and Dr Igor Romero Sosa, representing the CPA3.

Session one described and commended the advances and highlighted the need to improve inter-agency coordination, as well as the project for developing a Network of National Veterinary Service Laboratories.

Session two focused on the global and regional strategy for the control of foot and mouth disease and included a recommendation for a joint OIE-FAO effort to eradicate and control the disease under GF-TADs, as well as for the FAO-OIE tool to be used for its progressive control, and its relationship with the Hemispheric Plan for the Eradication of Foot and Mouth Disease (PHEFA).

Session three, focusing on regional strategies for controlling other transboundary animal diseases, discussed the control and progressive eradication of screwworm, as well as activities for the control of rabies, brucellosis, classical swine fever, transmissible spongiform encephalopathies and equine encephalitis.

Session four, on cross-cutting issues, included recommendations to: invite veterinary academies and professional associations to attend GF-TADs meetings; incorporate the conclusions of GF-TADs meetings into the institutional agendas of participant countries and organisations; and address aquatic animal diseases.

In its conclusions, the meeting expressed the need for the GF-TADs Regional Steering Committee for the Americas to continue to operate as a mechanism of coordination and cross-disciplinary consultation on animal health priorities and regional programmes, with the participation of international and regional public and private organisations. From the OIE standpoint, this will involve strengthening the Veterinary Services by means of the PVS Tool4, combined with actions by Collaborating Centres and Reference Laboratories.
Hanoi, Vietnam, 12-16 September 2011

**STANDZ Launching and Steering Committee Meeting**

On 12 September 2011, in Hanoi, Vietnam, the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for South-East Asia launched a programme called *Stop Transboundary Animal Diseases and Zoonoses* (STANDZ), funded by AusAID, the Australian Government aid programme.

The launch was attended by 36 participants from ten Southeast Asian countries and China, as well as representatives from the Australian Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Secretariat.

STANDZ brings together, under one umbrella programme, all AusAID-funded OIE projects; namely, the South-East Asia and China Foot and Mouth Disease Programme (SEACFMD) and the Strengthening Initiative for Veterinary Services (STRIVES), formerly known as the Project on Strengthening Veterinary Services (PSVS), as well as a new project, dubbed ‘One Health Project on Zoonoses’.

Under STANDZ, the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for Southeast Asia will work primarily with governmental Departments of Agriculture, including OIE Delegates, national basic and continuing education institutions concerned with veterinary professionals and para-professionals, regional organisations, technical development partners and community-based organisations.

STANDZ will support priority countries to improve their foot and mouth disease (FMD) and rabies control, assist the strengthening of national Veterinary Services systems – in line with the OIE Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) Pathway – and stimulate stronger national commitment to and support for Veterinary Services.
al diseases and zoonoses in Southeast Asia

OIE Sub-Regional Representative Ronel Abila explains the three components of the STANDZ initiative

Through **Component 1** of the programme, the OIE will continue to develop evidence-based regional policy and guidelines, and carry out effective policy engagement activities with core and other stakeholders. These policy engagement or advocacy activities are designed to stimulate regional and Member Country commitment to and alignment with the OIE policies, standards and guidelines developed at the global and regional level. This component also includes a research element to inform both policy development and policy engagement strategies.

**Component 2** focuses on **strengthening general Veterinary Services’ systems** that address the full range of EIDs, TADs and zoonoses. The OIE will assist countries to assess their current status against 46 critical competencies of the OIE PVS Tool, to diagnose capacity needs for improved performance, and develop costed, strategic plans to attract resources for further implementation of the programme.

**Component 3** is designed to assist countries to **improve FMD and rabies disease management performance**. For a small group of countries, the programme will provide technical support to address specific barriers to better disease management.

**The general approach to implementing STANDZ is divided into three broad groups of interventions:**

1) **Policy engagement work** carried out at regional and national levels that aims to gain commitment to OIE global and regional policies, strategies, standards and guidelines, and alignment of regional and national animal-health-related policies and strategies with these objectives;

2) **Programmed (or pre-planned) interventions** to build specific organisational capacity for improved performance in a limited number of areas;

3) **A small-grant facility** that allows selected Member Countries and the OIE to identify priority areas and apply for funding to:
   - strengthen national systems;
   - develop specific disease management responses to FMD and rabies; and
   - carry out research to inform both policy development and policy engagement strategies.

**The facility’s selection criteria will be based on:**

- a high chance of success for the activity;
- the ability of candidates to generate interest and commitment, and to attract resources from the various sources available to Member Countries;
- supporting activities that strengthen and reinforce animal health systems;
- covering priority geographical hotspots for FMD and rabies outbreaks; and
- supporting activities which offer clear value for money in terms of potential impact on food security, human health and/or livelihoods.
Vietnam hosts the 14th SEACFMD National Coordinators’ Meeting

Hanoi, Vietnam, 15-16 September 2011

On 15 and 16 September, the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for South-East Asia successfully held the 14th SEACFMD National Coordinators’ Meeting.

Held back-to-back with the STANDZ launch, the National Coordinators’ Meeting included discussions on STANDZ and how this new AusAID programme supports and complements the SEACFMD 2020\(^1\) roadmap.

The National Coordinators presented their country’s current FMD status and achievements in FMD control and prevention thus far, with reference to the components and objectives of the SEACFMD campaign. The participants were also updated on the most recent FMD accomplishments and activities by partner organisations from ASEAN, AusAID, FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, the OIE Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific, and the OIE FMD Reference Laboratory in Pakchong, Thailand.

During the meeting, the participants reaffirmed their support for the FMD vaccination strategy, discussed updates on the vaccine bank, clarified the roles, responsibilities and readiness of countries requesting FMD vaccines, and moved to hold a discussion on establishing an animal movement protocol. The importance of submitting samples for FMD diagnosis and of timely submission of FMD reports through the ASEAN Regional Animal Health Information System (ARAHIS) was also reiterated.

Dr Gardner Murray, President of the OIE Sub-Commission for Foot and Mouth Disease in South-East Asia, also introduced and welcomed the new additions to the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for South-East Asia: Dr Dirk Van Aken, Ms Maria Cecilia Dy and Dr Mary Joy N. Gordoncillo. The attendees also recognised and thanked Dr Wilai Linchongsubongkoch, who is retiring at the end of September 2011, for her invaluable contribution over the years as head of the FMD Reference Laboratory in Pakchong, Thailand, and in coordinating the SEACFMD Laboratory Network.

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\(^1\) SEACFMD 2020: A roadmap for foot and mouth disease freedom with vaccination by 2020 in South-East Asia and China, OIE, January 2011
The 5th FAO/OIE Regional Steering Committee 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 2nd Steering Committee Meeting of the European Union-funded cooperation programme on highly pathogenic and emerging and re-emerging diseases in Asia (EU HPED). The meeting took place in Japan from 21 to 22 July, 2011, at the Nagashima Hall, Food Science Building, University of Tokyo – the new location of the OIE Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific.

GF-TADs is a joint initiative of the OIE and FAO which specifically aims to control and prevent transboundary animal diseases and emerging infectious diseases, providing a regional coordinating framework for a range of infectious diseases at global, regional and country levels. A Regional Steering Committee Meeting is organised annually to discuss and decide on future activities for the progressive control of transboundary animal diseases in the region, to coordinate existing activities and, since the launch of the EU-HPED programme, to join in its activities to strengthen animal health and zoonoses control.

The meeting was chaired by Dr Toshiro Kawashima, Chief Veterinary Officer of Japan and President of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania; co-chaired by Dr Kazuaki Miyagishima, Deputy Director General of the OIE, and Dr Peter de Leeuw, FAO Senior Veterinary Advisor, representing the OIE and FAO.

There were 49 participants, including the Vice-Presidents and Secretary of the OIE Regional Commission; representatives from the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC); the Chairs of the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Livestock (ASWGL), the FAO Animal Production and Health Commission for Asia and the Pacific (APHCA), and representatives from donor agencies such as the European Union, the Australian Aid Agency (AusAID), the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA), as well as guest speakers from Japan and Korea.

The active participation of representatives from WHO Headquarters and regional offices, i.e. the Regional Office for the Western Pacific (WPRO) and the Regional Office for South-East Asia (SEARO), demonstrated WHO’s adoption of the ‘One Health’ approach and its increasing involvement in the GF-TADs programme.

During the meeting, the FAO and OIE reported on the progress of GF-TADs activities at the global and regional
level, while representatives from ASEAN, SAARC and SPC discussed achievements and key issues at sub-regional levels. Advances in specific projects, such as the South-East Asia and China Foot-and-Mouth Disease Campaign (SEACFMD), HPED and the FAO Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases Operations (ECTAD), were also presented. A major session was dedicated to foot and mouth disease (FMD) control at global, regional and national levels. Invited speakers from Japan and Korea gave presentations on recent outbreaks of FMD in their countries and their national control strategies; the lessons learned were shared with all regional Members. Japan proposed a new OIE/Japan Trust Fund (JTF) project on FMD control in Asia which was welcomed by the Steering Committee.

The meeting concluded that appreciable progress had been made in GF-TADs activities, thanks to the coordination and collaboration of regional Members, supporting units and other specialised regional organisations.

It was also considered that a meeting of sub-regional members, international organisations and key donors should be convened in East Asia to develop the new OIE/JTF project on FMD control. Such a meeting would help to define the process by which national control strategies and a sub-regional roadmap towards FMD control and progressive eradication could be developed. In the cases of classical swine fever (CSF) and porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS), support to Member Countries should be increased so that epidemiological studies could be conducted and capabilities strengthened for the diagnosis, control and management of swine diseases. Finally, the regional organisations (ASEAN, SAARC and SPC, as well as ASEAN+3) should play a pivotal role in bringing together the efforts of individual countries to sustain progress in controlling transboundary animal diseases at the regional level.

The meeting made several overall recommendations for the control of highly pathogenic avian influenza, FMD and classical swine fever, as follows:

1) GF TADs should continue to be a coordinating body that seeks resources from donors to build capacity and strengthen Veterinary Services to meet the OIE standards;
2) the OIE Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) Pathway is an important tool to improve the functioning of Veterinary Services;
3) the conclusions and recommendations of the 2nd HPED Steering Committee Meeting should be followed up and implemented;
4) the Meeting supported the continuation of epidemiological studies and surveillance of avian influenza in domestic and wild birds in the region, using the OIE/FAO network of expertise on animal influenza (OFFLU) as a mechanism for information sharing and data analysis;
5) the Meeting strongly recommended that FMD prevention and control in Member Countries should be an important component of global and regional strategies, and efforts should be made through the GF-TADs umbrella to seek funds for inter- and intra-regional collaborative efforts. It was also recommended that the socio-economic impacts of FMD in affected countries should be studied and reported upon, to justify this additional investment.
As reported in Bulletin No. 3, 2011 (page 20), the Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific (RRAP) recently relocated its offices to the Food Science Building on the University of Tokyo campus. To help celebrate the move, OIE Director General, Dr Bernard Vallat, visited the new offices on 10 September 2011 and gave the keynote speech at an opening lecture organised by the RRAP, entitled, ‘The Veterinary Profession: its Growing Roles and Responsibilities’.

More than a hundred people attended the lecture and a cocktail reception that followed, to celebrate the opening of the new offices. Participants included representatives from OIE Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres in Japan and Japan-based representatives of Regional Members and the FAO. Members of the Veterinary Authority of the Republic of Korea also attended, as did a senior academic from that country, the Dean, professors and students from the University and representatives from the relevant Ministries.

Following Dr Vallat’s address, several speakers from the Region talked about their experiences in disease control, veterinary education and regional cooperation.

This was a great opportunity to remind participants of the variety of the OIE’s work, as well as the importance of better communication and cooperation in the Region. Dr Vallat also expressed his great pleasure at being able to renew old friendships with former OIE colleagues from both Paris and Tokyo.

The new offices are in a brand-new building on a quiet campus covered with rich greenery. Quite apart from the very pleasant physical environment and admirable facilities, it is hoped that this move will make a considerable contribution to the OIE’s future work in veterinary education, especially in the Asia-Pacific Region. Furthermore, Dr Vallat expressed his sincere appreciation to the University of Tokyo, for so kindly welcoming the RRAP onto its campus. This move, and the reinforcement of the RRAP team, will, as the Director General pointed out, help to ensure that the Representation plays an even more active role in achieving the OIE’s objectives in this Region.

(Details of the lecture meeting are available at www.rr-asia.oie.int/)
At the 21st Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe, in 2004, the Government of Spain expressed its firm commitment to working with the OIE in a variety of professional fields, chiefly through the Subdirectorate-General of Animal Health (Subdirección General de Sanidad Animal). A framework cooperation agreement was concluded between the then Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAPA) in Spain and the OIE on 14 November 2007 with the aims of: encouraging the proper worldwide use and development of the Spanish language in veterinary scientific and technical matters in animal health and related areas; fostering collaboration between the OIE and the Government of Spain in this field; encouraging the production of publications of common interest; and promoting solidarity between technologically advanced countries and developing countries, especially in Spanish America.

In this climate of mutual collaboration, the OIE project for the creation of a multilingual terminology base for animal health and related areas (project 3.a) was signed on 1 July 2008. The project was completed in December 2010, after complying with its objective to create an up-to-date, reliable, validated and standardised multilingual terminology base, with full linguistic guarantees, to aid communication and language proficiency in animal health and related areas.

The development of this multilingual terminology base is the starting point for an ongoing enlargement and enhancement task. The extension of project 3.a was signed at the meeting of the OIE steering committee on promoting the correct use of the Spanish language in veterinary scientific and technical matters in animal health and related scientific fields, held in Paris on 25 May 2011 as part of the 79th General Session of the World Assembly of OIE Delegates. The extension is called project 3.b for a multilingual terminology base and extension of the framework cooperation agreement between the OIE and Spain’s Ministry of the Environment and Rural and Marine Affairs.

Further technical cooperation projects between Spain and the OIE for animal disease control in Spanish America are being prepared.
Appointment of permanent Delegates

14 July 2011
Gabon
Dr Aubierge Moussavou
Director General, Directorate General of Livestock, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development

22 July 2011
Peru
Dr Glen Frederick Halze Hodgson
Director General of Animal Health, SENASA, Ministry of Agriculture

2 August 2011
Kyrgyzstan
Dr Zhanybek Sultanov
Director General, State Veterinary Department

11 August 2011
Ethiopia
Dr Teshome Bekele
Acting Director, Animal and Plant Health Regulatory Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

22 August 2011
Niger
Dr Ibrahim Bangana
Director General of Veterinary Services, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock

27 August 2011
Bolivia
Dr Rubens Robles Saucedo
Director General, National Service of Animal Health and Food Safety, Ministry of Rural Development and Lands

15 September 2011
Australia
Dr Mark Andrew Schipp
Chief Veterinary Officer, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Elections of the 79th General Session of the OIE
Friday, 27 May 2011

During the Second Administrative Session of the 79th General Session, Dr Karin Schwabenbauer (Germany) was elected by the Assembly for the vacant position of member of the Council and Vice-President of the Assembly.
Regional Commission for Europe
The Assembly unanimously adopted the proposal of the Regional Commission for Europe to fill the vacant positions of:

First Vice-President
Dr Ivan Bisiuk
(Ukraine)

Second Vice-President
Dr Ago Pärtel
(Estonia)

Regional Commission for Africa
The Assembly unanimously adopted the proposal of the Regional Commission for Africa to fill the vacant positions of:

President
Dr Mahamadou Saley
(Niger)

First Vice-President
Dr Mohammed Abdel Razig Abdel Aziz
(Sudan)

Regional Commission for the Americas
The Assembly unanimously adopted the proposal of the Regional Commission for the Americas to fill the vacant position of:

President
Dr John Clifford
(United States of America)

Second Vice-President
Dr Hugo Federico Idoyaga
(Paraguay)

Regional Commission for the Middle East
The Assembly unanimously adopted the proposal of the Regional Commission for the Middle East to fill the vacant position of:

Vice-President:
Dr Abdul Ghaniy Y.M. Al Fadhl
(Saudi Arabia)
CONSIDERING

1. The objectives of the Fifth Strategic Plan for the period 2011–2015, in particular the chapter on the modernisation of the Basic Texts of the OIE,
2. Article 2 of the Organic Rules, and in particular paragraph 5 concerning the procedure for modifying the General Rules,
3. Resolution No. XVI of 23 May 2003 concerning the use of a common name for the Office International des Epizooties, adopted unanimously,
4. Resolution No. 13 of 29 May 2009 concerning the name of the International Committee, adopted unanimously,
5. Resolution No. 33 of 29 May 2009 concerning the name of the Administrative Commission and the Central Bureau, adopted unanimously,
6. Resolution No. XVIII of 26 May 2006 concerning the Terms of Reference and Internal Rules of the Regional Commissions, as well the need to modernise certain aspects of this text,
7. Resolution No. XVII of 22 May 2003 concerning new Terms of Reference for the OIE Specialist Commissions, but noting that certain modifications are required so as to establish common Internal Rules for these bodies, harmonise certain aspects of their terms of reference, and define the qualifications of the members,
8. Resolution No. XIX of 19 May 1995 concerning the mandates and Rules for OIE Regional Representations and Resolution No. XIX of 25 May 2007 concerning the Terms of Reference of the Sub-Regional Representations of the OIE, and desirous of combining, simplifying and modernising the contents of these Resolutions and confirming that these mandates, rules and terms of reference should be included in the Basic Texts of the OIE,
9. Resolution No. XVII of 28 May 2004 concerning the creation of a World Animal Health and Welfare Fund, and desirous of modernising the rules governing the function of this Fund as contained in the Appendix to the said Resolution and confirming that these rules should be included in the Basic Texts of the OIE,

AND CONSIDERING

10. That certain modifications are required to the General Rules as part of the modernisation process,
11. That certain modifications are required to the mandates and internal rules of organs of the OIE to ensure consistency of operating procedures and rules,
12. That it is desirable to protect the OIE from possible conflicts of interest between the activities undertaken by experts, reference laboratories and collaborating centres on behalf of the Organisation and their other activities,
13. That the OIE has entered into a number of Agreements with the Governments of countries hosting an OIE Regional or Sub-Regional Representation,
14. That no new financial charges will result from the proposed modifications,
THE ASSEMBLY, ON A PROPOSAL BY THE COUNCIL DECIDES

1. To adopt the Revised General Rules and other texts as contained in document 79 SG/19c.

2. To make the following amendment to Article 1 ‘Qualifications of the Members’ of Chapter 2, entitled ‘Mandate and qualifications of the Members’ applied to the OIE Scientific Commission:

Instead of reading:

‘The members of the Commission shall be veterinarians internationally recognized in a field relevant to the control of infectious diseases of animals and shall have appropriate experience in animal disease control.’

It should read:

‘The members of the Commission shall be specialists internationally recognized in a field relevant to the control of infectious diseases of animals and shall have appropriate experience in animal disease control.’

3. To amend Article 3 of Chapter 4 ‘Internal Rules’ of the section entitled ‘Mandate and internal rules of the OIE Reference Centres’ as follows:

Instead of reading:

‘However, in principle, no more than one Reference Laboratory shall be designated for the same pathogen or disease in the same country and no more than one Collaborating Centre shall be designated for the same category of specialty in the same region or sub-region.’

It should read:

‘However, in principle, no more than one Reference Laboratory shall be designated for the same pathogen or disease in the same country and no more than one Collaborating Centre shall be designated for the same category of specialty in the same region or, exceptionally, in a sub-region.’

This Resolution shall come into effect on 28 May 2011.

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2011)

MINDFUL of the need for the international community and the responsibility of national authorities to take the necessary measures to ensure that the world remains free from rinderpest,

THE ASSEMBLY

1. DECLARES solemnly that the world has achieved freedom from rinderpest in its natural setting, one of the most dreadful animal diseases with severe impacts on livelihoods.

2. EXPRESSES its deep gratitude to all nations, organisations and individuals who contributed to the fight against rinderpest and the successful eradication of the disease.

3. UNDERTAKES to reduce, around the world, the number of institutions holding rinderpest virus-containing material other than attenuated vaccines, under approved conditions and according to relevant guidelines.

4. URGES the membership:

– To maintain, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code, appropriate surveillance systems for rinderpest and immediately notify the OIE of suspect or confirmed cases of rinderpest;

– To collaborate with OIE and FAO in managing confirmed or suspected outbreaks of rinderpest, through the provision of information, support and facilitation;

– To put in place and update national contingency plans consistent with international guidance from OIE and FAO;

– To destroy, under the supervision of the Veterinary Authority, rinderpest virus-containing materials or assure the storage or use of these materials in a biosecure facility in their country.
or, where applicable, assure the safe transfer to an approved laboratory in another country in agreement with the Veterinary Authority of the receiving country and complying with the standards of the OIE Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals and the Guidelines elaborated by the Joint FAO/OIE Committee on Global Rinderpest Eradication (Appendix);
- To take effective measures to forbid synthesis of rinderpest full-length infectious clones unless approved by the relevant authorities, OIE and FAO;
- To use rinderpest vaccines solely for the emergency management of confirmed rinderpest outbreaks under the authority of the Veterinary Services following international and regional guidelines and not to use rinderpest vaccines to protect animal populations from other morbillivirus infections;
- To ensure that rinderpest occupies an appropriate place in veterinary education curricula and training programmes to maintain professional knowledge and adequate diagnostic capabilities at national levels.

5. REQUESTS the Director General:
- To approve, jointly with FAO, facilities in which rinderpest virus-containing material can be held, and conduct regular site visits to those facilities to verify whether their biosafety/biosecurity conditions are adequate;
- To maintain and regularly update, jointly with FAO, an inventory of facilities holding rinderpest virus-containing material;
- To establish, jointly with FAO, an advisory body that assists both Organisations in (i) the approval of facilities for holding rinderpest virus-containing material and of facilities that produce and/or hold rinderpest vaccines, (ii) the approval of requests for research and other manipulations of the rinderpest virus, (iii) reviewing the plans and results of regular site visits of virus repositories, and (iv) planning and implementing other rinderpest-related activities as required;
- To develop and update, in collaboration with FAO, a plan of action for the post-eradication activities at the international level;
- To facilitate and make sustainable, in collaboration with FAO, the provision of technical assistance to OIE Members in the maintenance of adequate surveillance systems and national preparedness, and to facilitate their access to diagnostic reagents or facilities and relevant rinderpest vaccines;
- To ensure that OIE Members are informed of the status of rinderpest virus sequestration and research involving rinderpest virus.

6. REQUESTS the relevant Specialist Commissions to complete the necessary revisions to the relevant chapters of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code and the Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals as soon as possible.

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 25 May 2011)

Appendix

Global Rinderpest Eradication: Guidelines for Rinderpest Virus Sequestration
Endorsed with amendments on 28 January 2010 by the Biological Standards Commission of the OIE
Endorsed with amendments on 14 April 2010 by the Joint FAO/OIE Committee on Global Rinderpest Eradication

Introduction
The global eradication of rinderpest creates a duty for the international community to prevent the re-emergence of the disease through release of virus from laboratory sources. To this end FAO and OIE shall establish the principle of international oversight and regulation of facilities holding rinderpest virus containing material. The objective of the present guidelines is to ensure secure handling and sequestration of rinderpest virus in the post-eradication era. FAO and OIE and M ember states undertake to reduce the number of virus repositories in order to minimise the risk of accidental release.

FAO and OIE, in collaboration with Member states, will put in place global contingency plans and will ensure approval of a minimum number of repositories and Reference Centres/Reference Laboratories necessary to maintain preparedness against releases of the virus into the environment. These plans will include, amongst others, vaccine production, vaccine banks and deployment of vaccines in case of emergency. Vaccines should be available to countries for immediate dissemination in case of emergency. The following guidelines deal with biosafety and bio-containment measures to be observed in laboratories and other facilities holding rinderpest virus containing material.

Definitions
For the purpose of these guidelines the following definitions apply:
An approved BSL3 facility means a facility that is jointly approved by FAO and OIE and subject to joint regular inspection. The facility meets
BSL3 standards as defined in chapter 1.1.2 of the OIE Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals, is certified by the Veterinary Authority; and in addition has mandatory shower out for staff and either an exclusion zone or a restricted movement zone for rinderpest-susceptible species around the facility. Staffs are subject to restriction on contact with susceptible species (e.g. on farms, in zoos).

Rinderpest virus-containing material means field and laboratory strains of rinderpest virus; vaccine strains of rinderpest virus including valid and expired vaccine stocks; tissues, sera and other clinical material from infected or suspect animals; and diagnostic material containing or encoding live virus. Recombinant morbilliviruses (segmented or non-segmented) containing unique rinderpest virus nucleic acid or amino acid sequences are considered to be rinderpest virus. Full length genomic material including virus RNA and cDNA copies of virus RNA is considered to be rinderpest virus-containing material. Sub-genomic fragments of morbillivirus nucleic acid that are not capable of being incorporated in a replicating morbillivirus or morbillivirus-like virus are not considered as rinderpest virus-containing material.

Veterinary Authority means the Governmental Authority of an OIE/FAO Member, comprising veterinarians, other professionals and para-professionals, having the responsibility and competence for ensuring or supervising the implementation of animal health and welfare measures, international veterinary certification and other standards and recommendations in the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code in the whole territory.

Guidelines for rinderpest virus sequestration

1. All manipulation of rinderpest virus-containing materials, including vaccine production, shall be forbidden unless approved the Veterinary Authority and by FAO and OIE. An advisory body, jointly established by FAO and OIE, shall be tasked to approve in advance and monitor any activities involving the use of rinderpest virus-containing material.

2. All countries shall either destroy or transparently audit and manage all remaining rinderpest virus-containing material under biologically secure conditions. The Veterinary Authority shall be kept aware of and be held responsible for any activity involving rinderpest virus-containing material.

3. Rinderpest virus-containing material, with the exception of stocks of packaged, manufactured vaccines, must only be kept, and can only be manipulated, in an approved BSL3 facility.

4. Master seed stocks must be maintained in, and tested by, the approved BSL3 facilities designated by FAO and OIE. Stocks of packaged, manufactured vaccines, as covered under rinderpest virus-containing material, shall only be kept in FAO and OIE approved facilities which are subject to joint regular inspection. Any expired vaccine stocks shall be destroyed by a validated process.

5. Rinderpest virus-containing material that is not in an approved BSL3 facility shall be destroyed by a validated process or transferred to an approved BSL3 facility. Its relocation or destruction shall be supervised and documented by the Veterinary Authority and be notified to FAO and OIE.

6. Transfers of rinderpest virus-containing material to an approved BSL3 facility located in another country must be notified to FAO and OIE; such material may remain the property of the country of origin.

7. Transport (intra and inter-country) arrangements for rinderpest virus-containing material shall be agreed by the relevant Veterinary Authorities in advance and in accordance with chapter 1.1.1 of the OIE Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals.

8. FAO and OIE shall establish and maintain a single global inventory on all existing rinderpest virus-containing materials, including vaccine stocks and the facilities holding such stocks and any movement of such materials. The global database shall be kept up-to-date on a permanent basis.

9. FAO and OIE shall develop a mechanism to facilitate and standardise reporting of rinderpest virus-containing material by Veterinary Authorities to update the global database.

10. FAO and OIE shall widely publicise the availability of internationally accessible rinderpest vaccine stocks to assist in convincing national authorities that they do not need to continue holding rinderpest virus-containing material.

11. FAO and OIE shall develop a set of guidelines and standard operating procedures to govern the maintenance of rinderpest vaccine stocks and their use for emergency purposes.

12. FAO and OIE, through their Reference Centres and Reference Laboratories, (including the laboratory of the Joint FAO/IAEA division) shall advise regional, national and international partners on laboratory-related issues having to do with rinderpest virus, including virus sequestration, destruction and disinfection protocols and diagnostic quality control.

13. FAO and OIE shall oversee the development of diagnostic kits that do not require the use of live virus within the kit itself or during the manufacture of the kit.
CONSIDERING THAT
1. The ‘OIE/FAO Global Conference on Foot and Mouth Disease: The way towards global control’ held from 24 to 26 June 2009 in Asunción, Paraguay, summarised the key findings on the global FMD situation and adopted a set of recommendations supporting a coordinated approach to achieve control and eradication of FMD at the worldwide level;
2. The strong commitment of all countries at the highest political level is key to harmonisation of global, regional and national policies for the control and eventual eradication of FMD;
3. Global control and eradication of FMD can only be achieved if the international community recognises that the control of FMD is a global public good that will benefit all populations and future generations;
4. The OIE and FAO, through the GF-TADs coordinating mechanism, Reference Laboratories, Collaborating and Reference Centres, provide policy and technical support to Members to ensure elaboration and implementation of sustainable FMD control programmes, taking into account regional specificities;
5. The FAO and OIE, in support of non-FMD free countries and regions that need implementing FMD control activities and programmes, have developed a tool called the Progressive Control Pathway (PCP) for FMD Control to assist Members to monitor their achievements in their national FMD control programmes before reaching an FMD free status officially recognised by the OIE;
6. The OIE and FAO are currently developing a global strategy for FMD control, the overall objective of which is the gradual reduction in the incidence of FMD through maintenance of the officially recognised status in FMD free countries and zones without vaccination, the progressive cessation of vaccination in FMD free countries or zones practising it so as to move, where appropriate, towards the status of FMD free without vaccination, and the gradual improvement of FMD control in infected countries with the eventual aim of achieving an official OIE recognised status;
7. The following requirements are essential to the development of a global strategy for FMD control:
   - Compliance with OIE standards of quality of Veterinary Services supported, if requested, by the use of the PVS Pathway;
   - Application of OIE guidelines for FMD surveillance and control;
   - Control of movements of FMD susceptible animals and their products;
   - Production and use of vaccines that comply with the OIE Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals (Terrestrial Manual);
   - Regional programmes for the progressive, long-term control of FMD that address the principal virus pools, using successful experiences having accumulated knowledge to be incorporated in the global strategy;
   - Regional Agreements between countries having common epidemiological ecosystems, using when necessary the concept of protection zones;
   - Strong public-private partnerships involving in particular farmers and private veterinarians;
   - Support from national and reference laboratories, preferably working in networks, that build scientific capacity to support national and regional programmes and which contribute to and are advised by the global OIE/FAO FMD Reference Laboratory network;
   - Relevant training and communication activities.
8. OIE official recognition of FMD free status and OIE endorsement of official control programmes for FMD, with the potential aim of obtaining country or zonal freedom from FMD, are important elements in the drive towards the global control of FMD and the safe trade in animals and animal products.
THE ASSEMBLY RECOMMENDS THAT

1. The OIE, together with Members, FAO and other international, regional and national role players and stakeholders, confirm and communicate the economic and social justification for recognising the global control and eventual eradication of FMD as a global public good.

2. A global strategy for FMD control and eradication be defined and managed jointly by the OIE and FAO using the GF-TADs platform, in consultation with the relevant international, regional and national stakeholders and experts and the donor community.

3. The joint FAO-OIE PCP tool for FMD be used to monitor and assess the achievements of the global strategy implementation as often as appropriate at national and regional levels on the basis of a voluntary participation of countries.

4. The OIE, in collaboration with FAO, continue to support FMD control programmes at national and regional levels, using the results of specific successful regional strategies and programmes.

5. The OIE develop its capacities for disease status recognition to adequately support the expected increase in the number of countries and zones requesting official recognition of disease status or endorsement of official FMD control programmes, following the implementation of a global strategy for the FMD control.

6. The OIE Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases (Scientific Commission), during the evaluation of evidence provided by a Member for the endorsement of an official FMD control programme, could, in consultation with the Director General of the OIE, as is currently done for any disease status recognition, request, if needed, a mission of experts to the applicant Member to verify compliance by that Member with the relevant provisions of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code.

7. The OIE Members give a full consideration to the essential requirements enumerated above (in the preamble paragraph No. 7) for the global strategy for FMD control.

8. The OIE, in collaboration with FAO and the international donor community, consider the establishment of FMD vaccine banks in strategic locations and in support of regional FMD control programmes.

9. The OIE continue to update its existing standards for FMD, encouraging worldwide use of diagnostic tests and vaccines that are compliant with the standards of the Terrestrial Manual and official certification of FMD diagnostic tests for inclusion into the OIE Register of Diagnostic Tests.

10. The OIE, in addition to its collaboration with FAO in this area, further enhance the establishment of and access to diagnostic laboratories for the rapid and accurate detection of FMD through initiatives such as the OIE laboratory twinning programme.

11. The OIE, in collaboration with FAO and other relevant sources of expertise, support strategies of epidemiological networks and strengthen cooperation for national, regional and global surveillance systems for FMD, while Members continue to increase transparency and timely disease reporting to OIE to protect FMD free countries and zones and to enable better monitoring of the progress of FMD control in endemic areas.

12. The OIE, jointly with FAO, organise an international pledging conference, with FMD free and infected countries, and relevant organisations and donors, to support the goal of global FMD control.

AND DECIDES THAT

1. The Working Group preparing the global strategy will include renowned and recognised experts of the five OIE Regions.

2. The OIE Scientific Commission be given a mandate to evaluate and endorse national programmes for the control of FMD and to annually present for adoption by the World Assembly a proposed list of Members with an ‘OIE-endorsed official FMD control programme’.

3. The Scientific Commission should, in making their evaluation of national programmes, take into account the epidemiological and virological situation in the neighbouring areas e.g. through adopting border protection measures.

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 26 May 2011)
RESOLUTION No. 34

VETERINARY EDUCATION

CONSIDERING
1. The obligations of the veterinary profession, whatever they may include, regarding the animal kingdom and society in its largest sense;
2. The need to strengthen the capacities of countries globally to create or maintain national animal health and veterinary public health systems that cover the whole national territory and that can provide for efficiency in the surveillance, early detection and rapid response to outbreaks of aquatic and terrestrial animal diseases, including zoonoses, whether these arise through natural or intentional events;
3. That the mandate of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) as an intergovernmental organisation with 178 Members (as of April 2011) is to improve animal health and welfare worldwide and to ensure sanitary safety of world trade of animals and animal products, while consolidating the place of animals in the world;
4. That the OIE provides to Members the global PVS Pathway for Efficient Veterinary Services under its mandate 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 the Veterinary Statutory Bodies (VSB);
5. That, following the 1st Global Conference on Veterinary Education (October 2009), the OIE convened an ad hoc Group on Veterinary Education, which recommended a set of minimum competencies required of “Day 1” veterinary graduates (in the public and private sector) to enable Members to meet the OIE standards for efficient Veterinary Services;
6. The Declaration of the OIE Conference on the Role of Veterinary Statutory Bodies (Bamako [Mali], 14–15 April 2011), published on the internet site of the OIE Regional Representation for Africa; and

THE ASSEMBLY RESOLVES THAT
1. The OIE, with support from relevant international organisations, should continue to progress the PVS Pathway for efficient Veterinary Services (including relevant public and private components).
2. The OIE should continue to work closely with Member Countries, their veterinary statutory bodies (VSB) and veterinary education establishment leaders, and Regional and Global Organisations to support efforts to improve the quality of (initial and ongoing) training of veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals, and to harmonise approaches to recognition of qualifications, notably with the support of VSB.
3. The OIE should in future present a framework and recommendations to the World Assembly of Delegates on the Day 1 minimum competencies required by veterinarians for countries to meet the OIE quality standards for Veterinary Services (both public and private components), taking into account existing input prepared by the ad hoc Group on Veterinary Education and relevant Specialist Commission.
4. In the framework of the PVS Pathway, the OIE should consider the creation or strengthening of mechanisms to support the evaluation of the quality of national Veterinary Services personnel on the basis of their initial and continuing education, particularly where recognised evaluation systems currently do not apply;
5. The OIE should use the principles established under the successful Laboratories Twinning Programme to prepare guidelines for pilot twinning projects between Veterinary Education Establishments (VEE) and between VSB and convince potential donors to make financial contributions to such projects;
6. Members should note the Bamako Declaration and the Resolutions of the Lyons conference and should promote all OIE activities described above, in order to improve animal health and veterinary public health worldwide.

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 26 May 2011)
Range of agreements approved by the General Assembly at the 79th General Session

At the 79th General Session, the Assembly approved the signing of several cooperation agreements. This approach is set down in the implementation framework of the OIE’s Fifth Strategic Plan which aims to widen partnerships with organisations that can support the OIE in achieving its objectives.

Thus, four accords were signed with:
– The Arab Maghreb Union (AMU), a regional intergovernmental organisation whose principal policy aim is the adoption of a common agricultural policy among the five states of the Arab Maghreb (Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Mauritania and Libya)
– the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC), an independent consultative body involved in conserving game species by promoting the sustainable use of wildlife resources
– the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), one of whose main missions is the development of voluntary international standards, aimed at facilitating international trade in goods and services
– the World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA), whose primary objective is to advance the quality and availability of small animal veterinary medicine and surgery

Two other planned cooperation agreements have also been approved by the Assembly, one with UNESCO and the other with the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) (see Bulletin 3-2011, pages 24-25), whose principal activity is reviewing food safety standards and certification systems and benchmarking them against its own guidelines, which serve as an international reference in the field of private standards. This agreement with UNESCO is in the process of being finalised.

Cooperation Agreement
The Arab Maghreb Union (AMU) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)
(adopted on 24 May 2011)

The World Organisation for Animal Health, hereinafter referred to as the OIE, represented by its Director General, Dr Bernard Vallat, and The Arab Maghreb Union, hereinafter referred to as the AMU, represented by its Secretary General, Mr Habib Ben Yahia,
– Whereas the development of animal production and trade in animals and animal products requires a situation with a high sanitary level;
– Whereas strengthening of the Veterinary Services is a key element in ensuring the correct application of measures to protect animal health and public health;
– In view of the respective mandates of the OIE and the AMU;
– Mindful of their common interest in supporting the efforts of their respective members in promoting regional cooperation;
Wishing to broaden and harmonise their efforts for reciprocal information, consultation and cooperation;
The two Parties have agreed as follows:

Article 1 - Aims
The aim of the present Cooperation Agreement is to ensure optimal collaboration between the OIE and the AMU, with a view to coordinating their efforts and the activities they pursue in sectors falling within their respective mandates.

Article 2 - Consultations
2.1 The OIE and the AMU will regularly consult each other on matters potentially of mutual interest. In particular:
  a) Technical cooperation in the field of animal health;
  b) Strengthening of Veterinary Services in member countries of the AMU and of the epidemiological surveillance network in the Mediterranean region;
  c) Dissemination of the OIE sanitary information system on animal diseases and zoonoses;
  d) Promotion and harmonisation of legislation relating to animal health and veterinary public health in AMU countries;
  e) Exchange of information, in particular on their respective work programmes of mutual interest;
2.2 When particular circumstances so require, the OIE and the AMU will conduct specific consultations to select whatever means they consider appropriate to improve the effectiveness of their respective activities in areas of mutual interest related to animal health and veterinary public health.

Article 3 - Reciprocal information
Subject to any arrangements that may be required to safeguard the confidentiality of certain documents, the OIE and the AMU will exchange their publications relating to matters of common interest, to promote the development of their activities and the dissemination of their work.

Article 4 - Cooperation
4.1 For the purposes of this Cooperation Agreement, the OIE and the AMU agree to cooperate with each other through their competent bodies.
4.2 This cooperation will relate to all matters of common interest relating to the field of animal health and veterinary public health, and may include:
  – The organisation of workshops, meetings and seminars focusing on
The World Organisation for Animal Health (hereinafter referred to as OIE), having its Headquarters at 12, rue de Prony, 75017 Paris, France, represented by Dr Bernard Vallat, Director General and the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (hereinafter referred to as CIC), having its Headquarters at Telki út hrsz. 0178/9, 2092 Budakeszi, Hungary, represented by Mr Bernard Lozé, President

**PREAMBLE**

**CONSIDERING** that the OIE is an intergovernmental organisation responsible for improving animal health worldwide was established to fight animal diseases at global level already in 1924, through the signing of an international Agreement, as ‘Office International des Epizooties’, and in January 2011 had a total of 178 Member Countries,

**considering** that OIE is recognised as the reference organisation by the World Trade Organization (WTO) for international animal health standards,

**considering** that OIE has a longstanding tradition in providing assistance to its Member Countries in fighting animal diseases and this also with the background that animal protein production plays a critical role in food security and the alleviation of poverty,

**considering** that OIE works on safeguarding world trade by publishing sanitary standards for international trade in animals and animal products for Member Countries to protect themselves from the introduction of diseases and pathogens and avoid their spread worldwide,

**Article 5 - Participation in OIE and AMU events**

5.1 The OIE will be invited to participate, as an observer, in technical events of the AMU relating to programmes or matters of common interest, in accordance with the conditions laid down in the Charter of the AMU and the regulations in force.

5.2 The AMU will be invited to participate, as an observer, in technical meetings of the statutory organs of the OIE relating to programmes or matters of common interest, in accordance with the conditions laid down in the OIE regulations in force.

**Article 6 - Implementing provisions**

The Director General of the OIE and the Secretary General of the AMU will regularly consult on matters relating to the present Cooperation Agreement and may, where appropriate, agree on any additional provisions needed to improve its implementation.

**In witness whereof**, the representatives of the OIE and the AMU have signed the present Cooperation Agreement in two original copies, in Arabic and in French.

**Date:** 24 May 2011

*For the World Organisation for Animal Health*
Dr Bernard Vallat
Director General

*For the Arab Maghreb Union*
Habib Ben Yahia
Secretary General

Mr Bernard Lozé and Dr Bernard Vallat
considering that OIE has a high interest in issues related to wildlife health, including wildlife born diseases transmissible to domestic animals (endangering the economy of livestock production) and even to humans with grave consequences on public health and social structures,

considering that the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (hereinafter referred to as ‘CIC’) is a global organisation, with legal seat in Vienna, Austria and its Headquarters in Budapest, Hungary, is aiming at a world that values and supports sustainable hunting for the benefit of people and nature (Vision of the CIC) through promoting on a global scale sustainable hunting as a tool for conservation while building on valued traditions (Mission of the CIC),

considering that the CIC has members (states, hunting associations and federations, research organisations as well as individuals) in 84 countries and is a recognised inter-governmental observer organisation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). The CIC also has concluded Memorandum of Understanding with the Food and Agriculture Organizaton of the United Nations (FAO),

Recognising that partnership between OIE and CIC would reflect effectively on synergies and create the opportunity to develop a dynamic joint programme that embodies the vision and mission of both organisations in the field of biodiversity and health. This partnership will assist OIE and the CIC in their efforts to contribute to the objectives of a number of International Multilateral Environmental Agreements.

The OIE and the CIC (hereinafter referred to as ‘the Parties’) have agreed to the following:

Section 1. Objective

The main objective of this cooperation is to enhance the capacity of countries in fighting animal diseases, especially in the relation between wild animals and livestock as well as zoonoses, thereby contributing to biodiversity conservation, food safety, and food security as well as animal and human health.

Section 2. Scope of cooperation

2.1 With a view to attaining the above objective and in compliance with the mandate of the two parties, the cooperation envisaged by this Agreement will include collaboration within the framework of the work programmes of the two parties on the following types of activities:

a) Identifying, documenting and disseminating successful experience and best practices on fighting animal diseases and avoiding their spread into wildlife, domestic animals and human society;

b) Improving communication among countries and between National Veterinary Services and National Hunting Associations through the promotion of the networks of professional experts on spreading of contagious animal diseases (Early Warning System), working out operational guidelines and capacity building for the Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres for control of wildlife diseases;

c) Propose experts on OIE’s request that could contribute to inter alia OIE’s technical assistance programmes in animal diseases and veterinary public health. It is understood that OIE will keep the ultimate responsibility to select and appoint the experts;

d) Developing joint projects within the scope of their collaboration, mainly (but not restricted to) demonstrating best practice, to test innovations and to train human resources. If the CIC identifies financial resources for the implementation of projects jointly developed, OIE with its experience and capacities available is most suited to be entrusted to execute such projects in a trust fund arrangement with or through the CIC;

e) Be available to assist OIE in organising conferences, seminars, training workshops and technical meetings on matters related to sustainable use and conservation of wildlife and veterinary public health at global, regional and national level. It is understood that it will be OIE’s prerogative to prepare and finalise the meetings’ agenda and list of participants and identify the resource persons;

f) Demonstrate the collaboration through representatives of the Parties participating in the different fora at various levels of the other organisation;

g) The Parties will also collaborate in communicating the results of their joint work through joint press releases and joint publications in public, general and professional media.

Subsequent to this Agreement, separate arrangements will be agreed annually for activities to be carried out in collaboration.

These annual arrangements will be annexed to this Cooperation Agreement.

Both OIE and CIC will designate a focal point for the coordination of the relationship with each other.

Section 3. Use of OIE and CIC logos

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.
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 companion animals in the global ‘One Health’ Concept. Specifically, (1) the potential for emergence or re-emergence of zoonotic infectious diseases in companion animal species and the need for adequate surveillance systems of such diseases in these animals, (2) the major benefits to be derived for human health from comparative research into spontaneously arising disorders of companion animals, and (3) the significance of societal aspects of the human-companion animal bond.

- The role and responsibilities of the veterinary profession in companion animal health and welfare.

- Relationships between companion animal practitioners, their associations and official Veterinary Services.

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

- The representation of the OIE on the WSAVA One Health Committee which aims to address these aims.

- The implementation of the first aim above through implementation of the OIE standards and guidelines for disease surveillance and reporting in parallel with the WSAVA electronic communications network.

**Agreement between the World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)**

(adopted on 26 May 2011)

**Section 4. Final Provisions**

4.1 Neither the OIE or the CIC, nor its personnel shall communicate to any other person or entity any confidential information made known to it by OIE or CIC in the course of the implementation of this Agreement nor shall it use this information to private or company advantage. This provision shall survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement. No provision of this Memorandum obligates the OIE and the CIC to hold in confidence information delivered to it under this Agreement if international law requires the parties to publicly disclose such information.

4.2 Any dispute between the Parties concerning the interpretation and the execution of this Memorandum, or any document or arrangement relating thereto, shall be settled by negotiation between the Parties.

4.3 This Agreement may be terminated by the Parties at a jointly agreed time or by one Party giving three months’ notice in writing to the other Party.

**Section 5. Amendments**

Any amendment to this Agreement shall be effected only on the basis of written mutual consent by the Parties.

**Section 6. Entry into Force**

The parties have signed this Agreement in two copies, one copy to be held by the OIE and the other by the CIC. The present Agreement will enter into force upon signature by both Parties.

**Date: 26 May 2011**

On behalf of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)

Dr Bernard Vallat,
Director General

On behalf of the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC)

Mr Bernard Lozé,
President

Signing the Agreement between the WSA and the OIE
Agreement between the WSAVA and the OIE
(adopted on 26 May 2011)

- The continuing education of veterinary practitioners dealing with companion animals in the above mentioned fields.
- The WSAVA to serve as facilitator for OIE international position statements to be distributed via International and National Associations for companion animal professionals.

(1) The OIE will invite the WSAVA to participate as observer in Groups of Experts, consultations and international conferences that are organised to address issues of common interest.

(2) The WSAVA 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 WSAVA will exchange their points of view on all issues of common interest.

The parties have signed this Agreement in two copies, one copy to be held by the OIE and the other by WSAVA. The present Agreement will enter into force upon signature by both Parties.

Paris, 26 May 2011

Pr. Jolle Kirpensteijn
President of the World Small Animal Veterinary Association

Dr Bernard Vallat
Director General of the World Organisation for Animal Health

The International Organization for Standardization (hereinafter referred to as ISO) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) (hereinafter referred to as the OIE) are hereinafter designated ‘the Parties’ or ‘the Party’, as appropriate).

Preamble

Considering that the ISO is a network of the national standards institutes of 163 countries, one member per country, with a Central Secretariat in Geneva, Switzerland, that coordinates the system, and helps to form a bridge between stakeholders both in the public and private sectors, and whose aim is in particular to develop voluntary international standards in a variety of fields including the environment, health, engineering, information technologies, food technologies and management systems;

Considering that the OIE is an intergovernmental organisation, created in Paris...
Cooperation agreement between the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) (adopted on 27 May 2011)

in 1924, with 178 Member Countries, recognised by the World Trade Organization as the reference organisation for international standards concerning the sanitary safety of international trade in animals and products of animal origin and zoonoses, and whose aim is to improve animal health and welfare worldwide;

Given that it is in the interests of the Parties to collaborate;

Believing that a partnership between ISO and the OIE can considerably improve cooperation and technical assistance in the Parties’ respective fields of interest;

Considering that strengthening the links between ISO and the OIE would give renewed impetus to international cooperation within the framework of their respective mandates;

The Parties have decided to conclude the following Cooperation Agreement:

Article 1: Scope
The aim of this Agreement is to facilitate and strengthen cooperation and collaboration between the Parties in all their fields of interest, where their respective mandates and activities may be of mutual interest, including but not limited to the field of international standards and recommendations on animal health and welfare and sanitary safety of international trade in terrestrial and aquatic animals and animal products.

Article 2: Information on the activities of each Party
The Parties undertake to keep each other informed of activities undertaken in the fields of mutual interest, in particular where there is the potential to undertake joint activities in the interest of Member countries/institutes. The Parties undertake to meet at least annually to review and take action on activities of potential mutual interest (see Annex 1 for listing of activities of potential interest to each Party, at the time of signing the Agreement).

Article 3: Participation in meetings
Each Party will invite the other Party to participate as an observer/liaison in meetings where matters of mutual interest may arise, and make the reports of these meetings available to the other Party. Such participation shall be subject to the respective organisations’ rules for observer/liaison participation.

Article 4: Exchange of publications
The Parties will exchange their catalogue of publications and upon agreement, will exchange, free of charge, a limited number (normally 1-5) of copies of documents and publications on subjects of mutual interest.

Where appropriate, the Parties will benefit from the concessionary rates applied to their Members or affiliated organisations for further orders of publications.

Treatment of rules on the copyright, reference and use of publications is covered in Annex 2.

Article 5: Other forms of cooperation
The Parties may decide to adopt other forms of cooperation and collaboration, in particular:
- promotion of the use of international standards under the mandates of the Parties;
- training and awareness-raising in Member countries, in particular developing countries; and
- the development of joint publications in fields of mutual interest. Procedures for the development, publication and dissemination of such jointly developed works shall be mutually agreed by the Parties.

Article 6: Consultations on cooperation
The two Parties will endeavour to extend their cooperation through formal or informal consultations on issues of common interest and periodically assess the outcomes of this cooperation.

Article 7: Duration of the Agreement
This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of signature by both Parties and shall remain valid until termination.

Each Party may propose termination of this Agreement by giving the other Party three months’ written notice of its intention to terminate the Agreement.

Article 8: Amendments
Either Party may propose amendments to this Agreement by making a written notification. Agreement shall be reached through an exchange of letters.

In witness whereof, the Parties have signed this Agreement Signed in two copies, one copy to be held by ISO and the other by the OIE.

Date: 27 May 2011

For the International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
Mr Rob Steele
Secretary-General

For the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)
Dr Bernard Vallat
Director General
strengthening of veterinary services

OIE PVS Pathway for efficient Veterinary Services

PVS Evaluation missions

State of Play – as at 15 November 2011

<table>
<thead>
<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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
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<td><strong>116</strong></td>
<td><strong>108</strong></td>
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</table>

PVS Evaluation missions (requests)

- **Africa** (50)

- **Americas** (22)
  Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Rep., Ecuador, El Salvador, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay.

- **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 Requests Missions

Region Members received completed missions:

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<th>Region</th>
<th>Africa</th>
<th>Americas</th>
<th>Asia and the Pacific</th>
<th>Europe</th>
<th>Middle East</th>
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<td>Asia and the Pacific</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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### PVS Gap Analysis missions

State of Play – as at 15 November 2011

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<th>OIE Region</th>
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<th>Requests received</th>
<th>Missions completed</th>
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<td>Middle East</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>178</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
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- **Americas** (11): Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama.

- **Europe** (6): Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey.

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

### Legislation missions

State of Play – as at 15 November 2011

<table>
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<th>OIE Region</th>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>178</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</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.


- **Americas** (4): Bolivia, Dominican Rep., Haiti, Honduras.

- **Europe** (3): Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan.

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

In red: completed missions.
Following the event organised in Gaborone (Botswana) in March 2010, OIE Delegates recently appointed by their government took part in a similar regional information seminar held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 7 to 9 June 2011.

The seminar, now fully standardised and scheduled to become a regular event, is designed to provide new Delegates with all the information they need to perform their duties in accordance with the OIE provisions that their countries have undertaken to implement.

One of the main objectives was to explain clearly the OIE’s missions, organisation and operation, followed by Delegates rights and obligations vis-à-vis the OIE. OIE international standards for aquatic and terrestrial animals were discussed at length, in particular OIE standard-setting procedures and OIE Codes and Manuals. The full range of expertise offered by the OIE was described, with a view to facilitating contacts between Delegates and the persons best able to respond to their concerns. A review was made of animal disease notification and the use of the World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS). The concept of Veterinary Service quality was examined from the specific angle of the OIE PVS Pathway introduced to improve its Members’ Veterinary Services. Speakers shared their wealth of experience with animal health strategies. There was a presentation of the major problem of glanders in the Middle East and the management of Rift Valley fever in Kenya. The seminar also provided new Delegates with an opportunity to obtain practical pointers, raising their awareness of the information available at the OIE to provide them with a deeper understanding of their role, as well as a source of useful documentation to present the OIE or to persuade their national decision-makers of the need to support Veterinary Services.

World Veterinary Year was given pride of place in an address tracing the history of the veterinary profession. This year marks the 250th anniversary of the establishment of the first veterinary school in Lyons (France) by Claude Bourgelat.

A field visit was organised for two groups. The first group visited a private cattle slaughterhouse on the outskirts of the capital, with very rigorous hygiene standards, while the other group went to the Livestock Breeders Show and Sale, a two-yearly event featuring competitions and sales showcasing the country's best beef and dairy cattle.

The seminar was attended by OIE Delegates (or their deputies) from Benin, Burundi, Djibouti, Gambia, Ghana, Madagascar, Mauritania, Seychelles, Somalia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. South Sudan was represented by a livestock manager in an observer capacity.
Seminar (second cycle) for national focal points for veterinary products

Dakar, Senegal, 20-22 September 2011

Mrs Oumou Khairy Gueye Seck, Senegal’s Minister for Livestock Production, agreed to chair the opening session of this seminar, organised with the support of the Inter-State School of Veterinary Science and Medicine in Dakar (EISMV), which also provided the venue. From the podium she made a strenuous appeal for stronger veterinary governance and better control of veterinary medicinal products, making more effective use of regional tools.

The seminar, on the subject of BTSF\(^1\) financing, was aimed at the 21 national focal points for veterinary products who had already attended the initial training cycle. Of the 22 countries invited, 21 were represented at Dakar, underscoring the importance that OIE member countries attach to this subject.

The West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU/UEMOA) was represented at a high level by the Principal Private Secretary to the Commissioner responsible for Agriculture and the Environment and by the President of the WAEMU Regional Committee for Veterinary Medicinal Products (CRMV).

The training was delivered by OIE senior staff (from the OIE Regional Representation for Africa and OIE Headquarters), assisted by colleagues from OIE Collaborating Centres and Reference Laboratories (ANSES-ANMV\(^2\) and EISMV-LACOMEV\(^3\)). The representatives of IFAH-Europe\(^4\) and VICH\(^5\) also contributed to the scientific excellence of this training course. Last but not least, a senior official of the World Health Organization (WHO) came to present WHO work and activities in this field of public health.

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1- BTSF: The European Commission ‘Better training for Safer Food’ initiative
2- ANSES: France’s National Agency for Food Safety, Environment and Labour; ANMV: French Agency for Veterinary Medicinal Products
3- EISMV: Inter-State School of Veterinary Science and Medicine; LACOMEV: Medicinal product control laboratory (Senegal)
4- IFAH: International Federation for Animal Health
5- VICH: International Cooperation on Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Registration of Veterinary Medicinal Products
Swaziland hosted participants from all over southern Africa and experts from the OIE Reference Laboratories for a seminar conducted from 14 to 17 June 2011 in Ezulwini. Dr Saley Mahamadou, the President of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa, from Niger, was also invited to the seminar to meet key animal health stakeholders in the sub-region. Attendees were welcomed from Angola, Botswana, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The main objective of the workshop, which was organised with the financial support of the European Union Better Training for Safer Food (BTSF) programme in Africa, was to share information on honey-bee diseases, bridging the gap between the National Focal Points for Animal Disease Notification and bee experts (biologists and entomologists) to enhance reporting of these diseases to the OIE. Six bee diseases have been listed by the OIE: acarapisosis, American and European foulbrood, small hive beetle infestation \(Aethina tumida\), \(Tropilaelaps\) infestation, and varroosis.

The various sessions covered beekeeping, the biology of bees, OIE standards related to honey bees, and the OIE World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS).

It was recommended that southern African countries avoid the importation of honey bees from other continents to avoid the introduction of parasites and brood diseases, such as American and European foulbrood, as well as viral diseases and protozoa such as \(Nosema\).

The lack of diagnostic capacity for honey-bee diseases was cited on several occasions and participants were keen for this gap to be closed. It was thought that this would be best achieved through the OIE twinning mechanism with existing OIE Reference Laboratories in Argentina, Germany and France.

Private sector and non-governmental perspectives were highlighted by the Chairperson of the South African Bee-Industry Organisation (SABIO) and by a
representative from the Bees for Development organisation. The establishment of an apiculture network in southern Africa was also discussed. This network would involve both private and public stakeholders to complement the Honey Bee Councils already established in some countries, including South Africa, Swaziland and Zambia.

Finally, the participants enjoyed a field trip to look at beekeeping practices in Swaziland. Their visit to a honey processing and packaging plant confirmed that a processing plant does not have to be big or serve a large number of producers to implement quality management systems.
The seminar was facilitated by Rhodes University staff, OIE staff and Prof. Larry Hammell from the OIE Collaborating Centre for Epidemiology and Risk Assessment of Aquatic Animal Diseases (Atlantic Veterinary College, Charlottetown, Canada).

The intensive training session focused on diseases of farmed finfish, including such topics as OIE standards and guidelines, Reference Centres and twinning; epidemiology and biosecurity in aquaculture; aquaculture production and nutrition; toxicology, pollution and food safety; anatomy, physiology, endocrinology and pharmacology of finfish; diseases and diagnosis of diseases; and certification and legislation.

The lectures were complemented with a practical session on fish (histo)pathology and a field visit to a trout aquaculture and mariculture research station.

As part of the global capacity-building programme for OIE national coordinators, the Regional Representation for the Americas held a workshop on animal disease notification in Buenos Aires (Argentina) from 5 to 7 July 2011.

The main objective of the workshop was to inform and advise national focal points for their country’s animal information system on the notification of animal diseases via the OIE World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS) and WAHID database, in support of their activities. The workshop was attended by 35 national coordinators and focal points from 26 countries or territories (Argentina, Aruba, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Granada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Uruguay).

The workshop was led by: Drs Karim Ben Jebara and Paula Cáceres from the OIE Animal Health Information Department; the organisers at the OIE Regional Representation for the Americas, Drs Luis Barcos, Leandro Barcos and Martin Minassian; and the OIE Sub-Regional Representative for Central America, Dr Filiberto Frago.

The presentations focused on improvements in WAHIS data quality and processing and covered the full range of reports on terrestrial and aquatic animal diseases: immediate notifications; monitoring reports; six-monthly reports; and annual reports. At the same time, the national coordinators were shown how reports were generated via the WAHID interface. Following each presentation, the participants performed a
WAHID training for national focal points for animal disease notification

series of exercises to familiarise themselves with WAHIS. The speakers also described the improvements made to the system since 2009, when a distinction was introduced between notifications of disease outbreaks in domestic and wildlife species, and all the improvements soon to be incorporated into the WAHIS II system.

The participants were updated on the status of disease notification in the region and were told that data for the region were of very good quality, as both the six-monthly and annual reports were up to date. One of the main comments from participants was that it was difficult to collect all the data within the appropriate deadlines, a task made even more difficult when information collection required coordination with other ministries. Participants also pointed out problems in notifying the disease status of wildlife.

The Regional Representation for the Americas used an online software to evaluate the workshop, with the results indicating complete satisfaction with the quality of the workshop organisation and the high standard of seminars (good methodology and excellent knowledge and availability on the part of the speakers), as well as the positive atmosphere and camaraderie throughout. The participants were particularly appreciative of the simultaneous interpretation and the fact that the presentations were made in English and Spanish at the same time. The opportunity to clarify all doubts directly with the members of the OIE Animal Health Information Department was evaluated highly. Suggestions included: increasing the number of days for an advanced training workshop and the possibility of holding more frequent training seminars.
The first seminar for OIE National Focal Points on Veterinary Products in Asia and the Pacific Region was held in Siem Reap, Cambodia, from 29 June to 1 July 2011. Hosted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Cambodia, the seminar was organised by the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for South-East Asia in coordination with OIE Headquarters.

A total of 57 participants attended the seminar, including OIE National Focal Points on Veterinary Products and representatives and observers from 26 countries in the Asia-Pacific Region.

The training programme consisted of both OIE and technical presentations on veterinary medicinal products, given by representatives of the three OIE Collaborating Centres for Veterinary Medicinal Products. In addition, representatives from the European Medicine Agency and the ASEAN Secretariat explained the existing international and regional structures relevant to veterinary medicinal products. The private-sector point of view was offered by a representative of IFAH.

The seminar also included a comprehensive case study on veterinary medicinal products conducted in three countries (Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam) and another case study on the reorganisation of the veterinary products market from the Mongolia Farmers’ Association.

Three parallel working groups were organised and participants discussed five questions prepared in advance:

1) Do you know the various parties in charge of veterinary medicinal products in your country?

2) As a National Focal Point, what do you consider your tasks and responsibilities to be in this area?

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1- Agence nationale du médicament vétérinaire (ANMV), France; National Institute of Animal Health (NIAH) and National Veterinary Assay Laboratory (NAL), Japan; Food and Drug Administration (FDA), United States

2- ASEAN: Association of South-East Asian Nations

3- IFAH: International Federation for Animal Health
Regional Workshop for advanced training on the World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS) for National Focal Points on Animal Disease Notification to the OIE

Vladimir, Russia, 15-17 June 2011

A regional workshop for National Focal Points on Animal Disease Notification to the OIE, co-sponsored and organised by the OIE and the Federal Service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance of the Russian Ministry of Agriculture, was hosted by the Federal Centre for the Protection of Animal Health (ARRIAH) in Vladimir, Russia, from 15 to 17 June 2011.

This workshop was a follow-up training session for Focal Points who had already received basic training on the World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS). Previous regional workshops for National Focal Points for Animal Disease Notification were held in Georgia in 2005 and France in 2008.

The purposes of the workshop were:
- to enhance participants’ knowledge of WAHIS and its value in the exchange of information between the Veterinary Services of OIE Members and the OIE,
- to improve participants’ skill in using the WAHIS/WAHID interface, through specially designed exercises, case studies and demonstrations of the process of submitting animal health reports,
- to clarify frequently asked questions, commonly made mistakes during work with WAHIS and other points involving the collection and dissemination of animal health information.

The seminar successfully achieved its objectives of providing an overview of OIE activities related to veterinary products and addressing the role and responsibilities of OIE National Focal Points for Veterinary Products. It also offered an excellent opportunity for participants to make new contacts and discuss common experiences and difficulties. The regional synergies created by this type of networking will help considerably in the better management and control of veterinary products.
The workshop began with a general presentation from the OIE by Dr N. Leboucq, OIE Sub-Regional Representative in Brussels. The hands-on sessions were conducted by Dr K. Ben Jebara and Dr L. Weber-Vintzel of the OIE Animal Health Information Department.

A total of 23 participants attended the workshop, from 26 invited countries. Of these, 13 had already attended a previous workshop and were eager to improve their skills and to answer some of the questions they had accumulated during their use of WAHIS. Ten participants were beginners because their countries had just nominated or changed their Focal Point for Disease Notification or had sent the alternate Focal Point.

The workshop examined the series of steps necessary to collect and process high-quality data for WAHIS (through immediate notification/follow-up reports, six-monthly and annual reports) and explored the main OIE definitions associated with disease notification, so that data collection can be better harmonised among countries. The importance of timely notification was highlighted, as well as effective communication and collaboration at national levels between all stakeholders of the animal health information network.

The OIE facilitators received considerable feedback on the practical aspects of the WAHIS/WAHID interfaces and the overall OIE notification system. The participants expressed the need to develop WAHIS further, especially in the area of preparing reports, to make it more user-friendly and stable. Participants were given tips on saving their processed pages frequently and logging out as soon they had finished working on WAHIS, to avoid connection problems. Users were also advised where they could find interactive help in WAHIS, as well as the ‘user’s manual’ and the ‘frequently asked questions’ section.

The participants also asked for Russian translations of the basic training documents, exercises and WAHIS guidelines. While Russian is not an official OIE language, the OIE made a commitment to improve this aspect.

Both during the workshop and at the closing session, the participants made very positive comments on the content, format and organisation of the workshop. They believed this training would be valuable in their work and in further communication with the OIE Animal Health Information Department.

Finally, the workshop provided ARRIAH with a great opportunity to network with their colleagues from different countries, which will serve as a good basis for future collaboration in veterinary research, statistical analysis and vaccine production. The Director of ARRIAH, Prof. V.A. Gruby, expressed his keen wish to improve his organisation’s collaboration with the OIE on the future planning and hosting of OIE events.
Regional Seminar for OIE National Focal Points on Communication
Prague, Czech Republic, 28-30 September 2011

Communication is the most recent topic for which the Delegates of OIE Member Countries have been requested to nominate Focal Points. This two-and-half day seminar held in Prague was the first of its kind, gathering together representatives from more than 40 countries in the European region. The purpose of the seminar was to clarify the role of OIE Focal Points and to create a network of 'OIE communicators' in the region, to promote and advocate for animal-health-related issues in front of various audiences. It was also an opportunity to highlight the strategic value of communication in animal health policies as it is often underestimated, especially in times of 'no crisis'.

Based on the standard format of OIE seminars for National Focal Points, the programme was divided into two main sessions, with institutional presentations on the OIE on the first day, and technical presentations and working groups on the second. Discussions within the working groups and in the plenary sessions demonstrated that, even though everyone agrees on the importance of communication in principle; in practice, a thorough understanding and effective implementation are found only in a few cases.

There was a general consensus on the OIE initiative to lead 'animal health communication' with a proposal to develop a platform where all relevant communication tools and documents could be shared. This would not only serve as a reference for all animal health communication in the region, but would also allow countries with fewer resources to access material at no or limited cost for their own use.

From a logistical point of view, the seminar was very well organised by the OIE Regional Representation for Eastern Europe. A special thank you should be given to the hosting country, which provided members of its staff to act as hosts and made rooms available at the Czech National State Veterinary Administration, ensuring that all participants enjoyed an excellent stay in Prague.
meetings and visits

Names and positions of OIE permanent staff who participated in meetings or visits: July to September 2011

**OIE Headquarters**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Directorate</th>
<th>Animal Health Information Department</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bernard Vallat</td>
<td>Director General</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alex Thierrmann</td>
<td>Technical Adviser and President</td>
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<td>of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martin Nissen</td>
<td>Legal adviser</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maria Zampaglione</td>
<td>Head of the Communication Unit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glaiéul Mamaghani</td>
<td>Deputy Head of the Communication Unit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Julie Strat</td>
<td>Chargée de mission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monique Eliot</td>
<td>Deputy Director General (Administration, Management, Human Resources and Regional Actions)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alain Dehove</td>
<td>Coordinator of the World Animal Health and Welfare Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emily Tagliaro</td>
<td>Project officer – World Animal Health and Welfare Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alix Weng</td>
<td>Head of the Budget and Financial Unit</td>
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<td>Jean-Pierre Croiziers</td>
<td>Head of the Human Resources Unit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marie Bonnerot</td>
<td>Administrative and budgetary technician</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kazuaki Miyagishima</td>
<td>Deputy Director General (Animal Health, Veterinary Public Health and International Standards)</td>
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<th>Administration, Logistics and Publications Department</th>
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<td>Daniel Chaisemartin</td>
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<td>Paul-Pierre Pastoret</td>
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<td>Bertrand Flahault</td>
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<td>Alejandro Torres-Balmont</td>
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<td>Sarah Kahn</td>
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<td>Gillian Mylrea</td>
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<th>Scientific and Technical Department</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kazuaki Miyagishima</td>
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<td>Joseph Domenech</td>
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<td>Jennifer Lasley</td>
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<td>Gounalan Pavade</td>
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<tr>
<td>François Caya</td>
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<td>Nathaly Monsalve</td>
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<td>Mara Elia González</td>
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<td>Francisco D’Alessio</td>
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<td>Marie Edan</td>
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**OIE Regional and Sub-Regional Representations**

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<th>Africa</th>
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<tr>
<td>Yacouba Samaké</td>
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<td>Daniel Bourzat</td>
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<td>Youma N’Diaye</td>
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<td>Mariam Minta</td>
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<td>Aïssata Bagayoko</td>
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<td>Bonaventure J. Mtei</td>
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| Neo Joel Mapitse | Deputy Sub-Regional Representative for the countries of the Southern African Development Community (Gaborone, Botswana) |
| Patrick Bastiaensen | Programme officer (Gaborone, Botswana) |
| Mpho Mantsho | Administrative and financial assistant (Gaborone, Botswana) |
| Nomsa Thekiso | Secretary (Gaborone, Botswana) |
| Fauzi Kechrid | Sub-Regional Representative for North Africa (Tunis, Tunisia) |
| Vincent Brioudes | Programme officer (Tunis, Tunisia) |
| Antonio Petrini | Programme officer (Tunis, Tunisia) |
### OIE Regional and Sub-Regional Representations (cont.)

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<th>Africa (cont.)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mouna Boussleh</td>
<td>Administrative and financial assistant (Tunis, Tunisia)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inès Guitouni</td>
<td>Secretary (Tunis, Tunisia)</td>
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<tr>
<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>Antoine Maillard</td>
<td>Adviser to the Sub-Regional Representative for Eastern Africa and the Horn of Africa (Nairobi, Kenya)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grace Omwega</td>
<td>Administrative and financial assistant (Nairobi, Kenya)</td>
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<td>Loise W. Ndungu</td>
<td>Secretary (Nairobi, Kenya)</td>
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<th>Americas</th>
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<tr>
<td>Luis Osvaldo Barcos</td>
<td>Regional Representative for the Americas (Buenos Aires, Argentina)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martin Minassian</td>
<td>Technical assistant (Buenos Aires, Argentina)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alicia Palmas</td>
<td>Secretary (Buenos Aires, Argentina)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inès Borgeaud</td>
<td>Assistant of the secretary (Buenos Aires, Argentina)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leandro Barcos</td>
<td>Administrative assistant (Buenos Aires, Argentina)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Filiberto Frago Santamaria</td>
<td>Sub-Regional Representative for Central America (Panama City, Panama)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alina Gutierrez Camacho</td>
<td>Secretary (Panama City, Panama)</td>
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<td>Itsubo Shimohira</td>
<td>Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific (Tokyo, Japan)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tomoko Ishibashi</td>
<td>Senior Deputy Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific (Tokyo, Japan)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kenji Sakurai</td>
<td>Deputy Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific (Tokyo, Japan)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chantanee Buranathai</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hnin Thidar Myint</td>
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<tr>
<td>Noriko Tesaki</td>
<td>Accountant (Tokyo, Japan)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Takako Hasegawa Shimizu</td>
<td>Secretary (Tokyo, Japan)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nikola T. Belev</td>
<td>Regional Representative for Eastern Europe (Sofia, Bulgaria) and President of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anatoly Vlasov</td>
<td>Expert (Sofia, Bulgaria)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stanislav Ralchev</td>
<td>Technical assistant (Sofia, Bulgaria)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rina Kostova</td>
<td>Secretary (Sofia, Bulgaria)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nadege Leboucq</td>
<td>Sub-Regional Representative for Europe in Brussels (Belgium)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jean-Pierre Vermeersch</td>
<td>Project Manager (ADIS) (Brussels, Belgium)</td>
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<td>Ghazi Yehia</td>
<td>Regional Representative for the Middle East (Beirut, Lebanon)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mustapha Mestum</td>
<td>Consultant (Beirut, Lebanon)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rita Rizk</td>
<td>Secretary (Beirut, Lebanon)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hani Imam</td>
<td>Technical assistant (Beirut, Lebanon)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Khidr Rjeli</td>
<td>Assistant (Beirut, Lebanon)</td>
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<td>Mahmoud Al Ghadaf</td>
<td>Assistant (Beirut, Lebanon)</td>
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### Names and positions of experts who represented the OIE in meetings or visits

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name and Position</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hassan Abdel Aziz Aldaros</td>
<td>Member of the OIE Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nasser Al-Hawamdeh</td>
<td>Internal Auditor of the OIE Council and OIE Delegate of Jordan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jean-Claude Balvet</td>
<td>OIE certified PVS Expert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rachid Bouguedour</td>
<td>Internal Auditor of the OIE Council and OIE Delegate of Algeria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gideon Brückner</td>
<td>President of the OIE Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vincenzo Caporale</td>
<td>President of the OIE Biological Standards Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Huaian Chen</td>
<td>Member of the OIE Biological Standards Commission and OIE Expert, OIE Reference Laboratory for Highly and Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza (poultry) (Harbin, People’s Republic of China)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tenzin Dhendup</td>
<td>Member of the OIE Council and OIE Delegate of Bhutan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mehdi El Harrak</td>
<td>Secretary General of the OIE Biological Standards Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian R. Evans</td>
<td>Member of the OIE Council and OIE Delegate of Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric Fermet-Quinet</td>
<td>OIE certified PVS Expert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Fischer</td>
<td>Member of the OIE Working Group on Wildlife Diseases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony Fooks</td>
<td>OIE Expert, OIE Reference Laboratory for Rabies (Weybridge, United Kingdom)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olga Haenen</td>
<td>Member of the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William B. Karesh</td>
<td>President of the OIE Working Group on Wildlife Diseases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gardner Murray</td>
<td>OIE special advisor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darwin Murrell</td>
<td>Chair of the OIE ad hoc Group on Zoonotic Parasites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wim Pelgrim</td>
<td>OIE Consultant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martial Petitclerc</td>
<td>OIE Project Manager and Lead Expert on the Veterinary Legislation Programme</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
List of abbreviations

ADIS
Animal Disease Information System of the European Union

AfDB
African Development Bank

AHVLA
Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency

AI
Avian influenza

ASFRISK
Evaluating and controlling the risk of African swine fever in the European Union

AU-IBAR
African Union-Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources

AVMA
American Veterinary Medical Association

BBIC
Biosafety and Biosecurity International Conference

BPT
German Association of Veterinary Practitioners

BTSF
Better Training for Safer Food (programme)

CAMEVET
Americas Committee for Veterinary Medicines

CAPSCA
Cooperative Arrangement for the Prevention of Spread of Communicable Disease through Air Travel

CCFH
Codex Committee on Food Hygiene

CHORDS
Connecting Health Organizations for Regional Disease Surveillance

CIRSA
International-Regional Committee for Plant Protection and Animal Health

CISA
Inter-American Committee on Avian Health

CODEX
Codex Alimentarius Commission

DG SANCO
Directorate General for Health and Consumers of the European Commission

Discontrols
Disease Control Tools Project

EAFP
European Association of Fish Pathologists

EAHIL
European Association for Health Information and Libraries

EAREN
East-African Regional Epidemiology Network

EARLN
East-African Regional Laboratory Network

EC
European Commission

EDPLN
WHO Emerging and Dangerous Pathogens Laboratory Network

EFSA
European Food Safety Authority

EPT
Emerging Pandemic Threats

ESV
European Society for Veterinary Virology

ESWI
European Scientific Working Group on Influenza

ETPGAH
European Technology Platform for Global Animal Health

EU
European Union

FAO
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

FMD
Foot and mouth disease

GF-TADs
FAO/OIE Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases

HPAI
Highly pathogenic avian influenza

HPED
European Union-funded cooperation programme on highly pathogenic and emerging and re-emerging diseases in Asia

IAEA
International Atomic Energy Agency

IDENTIFY
Laboratory Capacity Building and Networking Project

IDF
International Dairy Federation

IQAD
Intergovernmental Authority on Development

IRCM
Integrated Regional Coordination Mechanism

ISAH
International Society for Animal Hygiene

ISOTRC
International Scientific Council for Trypanosomiasis Research and Control

ISO
International Organization for Standardization

JCC
Joint Coordinating Committee

JSPS
Japan Society for the Promotion of Science

JTF
Japan Trust Fund

M&E
Monitoring & Evaluation

MZCP
Mediterranean Zoonoses Control Programme

NATO
North Atlantic Treaty Organisation

NZD
Neglected zoonotic diseases

OECD
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

OFFLU
Joint OIE/FAO worldwide scientific network for the control of animal influenza

OIE
World Organisation for Animal Health

OIRSA
Regional International Organization for Plant Protection and Animal Health

PAN-SPSO
Participation of African Nations in Sanitary and Phytosanitary Standard-setting Organisations

PVS
Performance of Veterinary Services

SACIDS
Southern African Centre for Infectious Disease Surveillance

SADC
Southern African Development Community

SEACFMD
Southeast Asia and China Foot and Mouth Disease Campaign

SPS
Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

STANDZ
Stop Transboundary Animal Diseases and Zoonoses

TAEK
Technical Assistance and Information Exchange Instrument

TASW
Towards a Safer World

US
United States

USAID
United States Agency for International Development

VICH
International Cooperation on Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Registration of Veterinary Medicinal Products

WAHID
OIE World Animal Health Information Database

WAHIS
OIE World Animal Health Information System

WHO
World Health Organization

WTO
World Trade Organization
## July 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of the event</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5th Regional Steering Committee Meeting of GF-TADs for the Americas</td>
<td>Panama City (Panama)</td>
<td>1 July</td>
<td>Dr. B. Vallat, Dr. M.E. González, Dr. L.O. Barcos, Dr. M. Minassian &amp; Dr. F. Frago Santamaria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd National Veterinary Meeting: ‘The Veterinarian, Partner of the Green Morocco Plan for the Development and Security of Animal Production’, organised by the National Veterinary Council of Morocco</td>
<td>Rabat (Morocco)</td>
<td>1-2 July</td>
<td>Dr. F. Kechrid &amp; Dr. V. Brioudes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visit to the OIE Regional Representation for Eastern Europe as part of the administrative and accounting audit</td>
<td>Sofia (Bulgaria)</td>
<td>4-5 July</td>
<td>Dr. M. Eloit &amp; Ms. A. Weng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission</td>
<td>Geneva (Switzerland)</td>
<td>4-6 July</td>
<td>Dr. B. Vallat &amp; Dr. G. Mylrea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IAEA/FAO Workshop on biosafety, sequestration and risk analysis for laboratories holding rinderpest virus</td>
<td>Debre Zeit (Ethiopia)</td>
<td>4-7 July</td>
<td>Dr. K. Hamilton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHO Interagency Meeting on Planning NZD Prevention and Control</td>
<td>WHO Headquarters, Geneva (Switzerland)</td>
<td>5-6 July</td>
<td>Dr. S. Münstermann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Workshop for advanced training on WAHIS and WAHID for OIE National Focal Points for Animal Disease Notification to the OIE</td>
<td>Buenos Aires (Argentina)</td>
<td>5-7 July</td>
<td>Dr. K. Ben Jebra, Dr. P. Cáceres, Dr. L.O. Barcos, Mr. L. Barcos &amp; Dr. F. Frago Santamaria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EAHIL 2011 Workshop: ‘Active Learning and Research Partners in Health’</td>
<td>Istanbul (Turkey)</td>
<td>5-8 July</td>
<td>Ms. M. Teissier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OIE/EC – ADIS Pilot Committee Meeting</td>
<td>OIE Headquarters, Paris (France)</td>
<td>7 July</td>
<td>Ms. E. Tagliaro, Dr. D. Chaisemartin &amp; Dr. J.-P. Vermeersch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordination day of the stakeholders of the rural development sector in Mali</td>
<td>Bamako (Mali)</td>
<td>7 July</td>
<td>Dr. Y. Samaké</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Bank Regional Meeting on ‘One Health’ Veterinary Strategic Plan and Transboundary Diseases</td>
<td>Antalya (Turkey)</td>
<td>7-8 July</td>
<td>Dr. A. Dehove, Dr. N. Leboucq, Dr. E. Fermet-Quinet &amp; Dr. J.-C. Balcet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US National Academy of Sciences Workshop: ‘Anticipating Biosecurity Challenges of the Global Expansion of High Containment Biological Laboratories’</td>
<td>Istanbul (Turkey)</td>
<td>11-13 July</td>
<td>Dr. K. Hamilton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International meeting on ‘A Sustainable Rabies Prevention and Elimination Programme: the Bohol Rabies Project’</td>
<td>Tagbilaran City (Philippines)</td>
<td>12-14 July</td>
<td>Dr. T. Ishibashi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EC Steering Group of the ADIS system</td>
<td>Brussels (Belgium)</td>
<td>13 July</td>
<td>Dr. D. Chaisemartin &amp; Dr. J.-P. Vermeersch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting of the Committee for the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Nairobi</td>
<td>Nairobi (Kenya)</td>
<td>13 July</td>
<td>Dr. W. Masiga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implementation of avian influenza surveillance programme in Mongolia (2nd round)</td>
<td>Ulan Bator (Mongolia)</td>
<td>13-16 July</td>
<td>Dr. K. Sakurai &amp; Dr. H. Thidar Myint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st ‘One Health’ Conference in Africa, organised by SACIDS</td>
<td>Johannesburg (South Africa)</td>
<td>14-15 July</td>
<td>Dr. B.J. Mtei</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCFH Working Group on ‘Guidelines for Control of Specific Zoonotic Parasites in Meat’</td>
<td>Grange (Ireland)</td>
<td>14-15 July</td>
<td>Dr. D. Murrell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lecture on OIE activities at the Tokyo University for Foreign Studies</td>
<td>Tokyo (Japan)</td>
<td>15 July</td>
<td>Dr. K. Miyagishima</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USAID Country Workplan Meeting and IDENTIFY National Animal Health Laboratory Visit</td>
<td>Jakarta (Indonesia)</td>
<td>15-19 July</td>
<td>Dr. A. Davis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### July 2011 (cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of the event</th>
<th>Place</th>
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<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>148th AVMA Annual Convention</td>
<td>Saint Louis (United States)</td>
<td>16-19 July</td>
<td>Dr B. Vallat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Session of the MZCP Joint Coordinating Committee (JCC)</td>
<td>Geneva (Switzerland)</td>
<td>18-19 July</td>
<td>Dr D. Chaisemartin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identification mission on Veterinary Legislation</td>
<td>Conakry (Guinea)</td>
<td>18-22 July</td>
<td>Dr S. Münstermann &amp; Dr M. Petitclerc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biosafety, Biosecurity and Biodefense International Congress 2011</td>
<td>Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia)</td>
<td>19-20 July</td>
<td>Dr K. Hamilton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Meeting on the Prophylaxis and Control of African Swine Fever</td>
<td>Minsk (Belarus)</td>
<td>19-21 July</td>
<td>Prof. Dr N.T. Belev</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Meeting of the HPED Steering Committee</td>
<td>Tokyo (Japan)</td>
<td>20 July</td>
<td>Dr K. Miyagishima, Dr A. Dehove, Dr I. Shimohira, Dr T. Ishibashi, Dr K. Sakurai, Dr C. Buranathai, Dr H. Thidar Myint, Ms N. Tesaki, Ms T. Hasegawa Shimizu, Ms K. Akagawa, Ms Y. Fay, Dr R.C. Abila, Dr A. Bouchot &amp; Dr G. Murray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th Regional Steering Committee Meeting of GF-TADs for Asia and the Pacific</td>
<td>Tokyo (Japan)</td>
<td>21-22 July</td>
<td>Dr K. Miyagishima, Dr A. Dehove, Dr I. Shimohira, Dr T. Ishibashi, Dr K. Sakurai, Dr C. Buranathai, Dr H. Thidar Myint, Ms N. Tesaki, Ms T. Hasegawa Shimizu, Ms K. Akagawa, Ms Y. Fay, Dr R.C. Abila, Dr A. Bouchot &amp; Dr G. Murray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th Meeting of the GF-TADs FMD Working Group</td>
<td>Paris (France)</td>
<td>25-26 July</td>
<td>Dr J. Domenech &amp; Dr N. Leboucq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WTO Workshop for Caribbean countries</td>
<td>Bridgetown (Barbados)</td>
<td>25-29 July</td>
<td>Dr M. Minassian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Meeting of the WHO Asia-Pacific Technical Advisory Group on the Asia-Pacific Strategy on Emerging Diseases</td>
<td>Manila (Philippines)</td>
<td>26-28 July</td>
<td>Dr R.C. Abila</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPT Africa Regional Work Planning Meeting</td>
<td>Kinshasa (Democratic Republic of the Congo)</td>
<td>26-29 July</td>
<td>Dr N.J. Mapitse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AU-IBAR IRCM Consolidated Framework Workshop</td>
<td>Nairobi (Kenya)</td>
<td>27-29 July</td>
<td>Dr D. Bourzat, Dr W. Masiga &amp; Dr A. Maillard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHORDS Executive Board Meeting</td>
<td>Annecy (France)</td>
<td>28-29 July</td>
<td>Dr K. Glynn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional tripartite meeting for coordination of events</td>
<td>Manila (Philippines)</td>
<td>29 July</td>
<td>Dr T. Ishibashi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outreach mission towards the authorities of Liberia for the accession of this country to the OIE</td>
<td>Monrovia (Liberia)</td>
<td>31 July – 3 August</td>
<td>Dr Y. Samaké</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### August 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of the event</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OIE/WHO/FAO Consultation on Antimicrobial Resistance Activities</td>
<td>Geneva (Switzerland)</td>
<td>5 August</td>
<td>Dr E. Erlacher-Vindel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extraordinary Meeting of the Technical Commission of the OIRSA International-Regional Committee for Plant Protection and Animal Health (CIRSA)</td>
<td>San Pedro Sula (Honduras)</td>
<td>7-10 August</td>
<td>Dr F. Frago Santamaria</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## August 2011 (cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of the event</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meeting with the Belgian Authorities (the Secretary of the Interministerial Committee on Headquarters Policy) with a view to a Headquarters Agreement</td>
<td>Brussels (Belgium)</td>
<td>8 August</td>
<td>Mr. M. Nissen &amp; Dr. N. Leboucq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDENTIFY Project Training Workshop on OIE standards for collection and shipping of samples</td>
<td>Nairobi (Kenya)</td>
<td>9-11 August</td>
<td>Dr. J. Lasley, Dr. N.J. Mapitse, Dr. W. Masiga, Ms. G. Omwega &amp; Ms. L.W. Ndungu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting with the Minister of Agricultural Policy of Ukraine and the Delegate of Ukraine to the OIE, Vice-President of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe</td>
<td>Kiev (Ukraine)</td>
<td>10 August</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. N.T. Belev</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visit to Chubu Diagnostic Centre (Animal Quarantine Service)</td>
<td>Nagoya (Japan)</td>
<td>10 August</td>
<td>Dr. I. Shimohira, Dr. K. Sakurai &amp; H. Thidar Myint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Technical Coordination Workshop with PAN-SPSO project stakeholders</td>
<td>Bamako (Mali)</td>
<td>11 August</td>
<td>Dr. Y. Samaké</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Celebration of Veterinary Profession Day in Ukraine</td>
<td>Kiev (Ukraine)</td>
<td>11 August</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. N.T. Belev</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th PAN-SPSO Steering Committee Meeting</td>
<td>Bamako (Mali)</td>
<td>12 August</td>
<td>Dr. Y. Samaké</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminar on ‘One Health’ Regional Action Plan</td>
<td>Almaty (Kazakhstan)</td>
<td>16-17 August</td>
<td>Dr. N. Leboucq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDENTIFY Laboratory visit/Country mission</td>
<td>Phnom Penh (Cambodia)</td>
<td>16-19 August</td>
<td>Dr. A. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IRCM for the control of transboundary animal diseases and zoonoses: review and planning workshop</td>
<td>Gaborone (Botswana)</td>
<td>17-19 August</td>
<td>Dr. B.J. Mtei &amp; Dr. N.J. Mapitse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting with the Chief Veterinary Officer of the People’s Republic of China on OFFLU AI Vaccine and Vaccination Research Project and meeting with the Chief Veterinary Officer of the Republic of Korea on OFFLU AI Vaccine and Vaccination Research Project</td>
<td>Beijing (People’s Republic of China)</td>
<td>17-24 August</td>
<td>Dr. D. Swayne &amp; Dr. H. Chen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applied Epidemiology Workshop: ‘Impact of Disease Notification at the International Level’</td>
<td>Divisa (Panama)</td>
<td>23 August</td>
<td>Dr. F. Frago Santamaria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visit to the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for Southeast Asia as part of the administrative and accounting audit</td>
<td>Bangkok (Thailand)</td>
<td>29-31 August</td>
<td>Dr. M. Eloit &amp; Ms. A. Weng</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## September 2011

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<th>Title of the event</th>
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<th>Participants</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meeting with IDF</td>
<td>OIE Headquarters, Paris (France)</td>
<td>1 September</td>
<td>Dr. A. Dehove &amp; Dr. E. Erlacher-Vindel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Declaration of the border zone of the Renacimiento district as being technically free from bovine brucellosis between Paso de Canoas and Piedra de Candela</td>
<td>Chiriquí (Panama)</td>
<td>2 September</td>
<td>Dr. F. Frago Santamaria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th Meeting of the GF-TADs FMD Working Group</td>
<td>Rome (Italy)</td>
<td>5 September</td>
<td>Dr. J. Domenech &amp; Dr. N. Leboucq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CISA Meeting</td>
<td>Buenos Aires (Argentina)</td>
<td>5 September</td>
<td>Dr. L.O. Barcos &amp; Dr. M. Minassian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual EARLN/EAREN Coordination Meeting</td>
<td>Kigali (Rwanda)</td>
<td>5-7 September</td>
<td>Dr. A. Maillard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64th Session of the WHO Regional Committee for Southeast Asia</td>
<td>Jaipur (India)</td>
<td>6-9 September</td>
<td>Dr. C. Buranathai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22nd Latin American Poultry Congress</td>
<td>Buenos Aires (Argentina)</td>
<td>6-9 September</td>
<td>Dr. L.O. Barcos &amp; Dr. M. Minassian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza 2011: zoonotic influenza and human health conference</td>
<td>Oxford (United Kingdom)</td>
<td>7-9 September</td>
<td>Dr. D. Swayne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title of the event</td>
<td>Place</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Participants</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Conference on Rabies Control: ‘Towards Sustainable Prevention at the Source’</td>
<td>Incheon-Seoul (Republic of Korea)</td>
<td>7-9 September</td>
<td>Dr B. Vallat, Dr D. Chaisemartin, Ms A. Torres-Balmont, Dr E. Erlacher-Vindel, Dr Y.J. Kim, Dr L. Knopf, Ms M. Bonnerot, Dr Y. Samaké, Dr D. Bourzat, Dr B.J. Mtei, Dr F. Kechrid, Dr W. Masiga, Dr F. Frago Santamaria, Dr I. Shimohira, Dr T. Ishibashi, Ms Y. Fay, Dr A. Bouchot, Dr N. Leboucq, Dr G. Murray, Dr N. Al-Hawamdeh, Dr R. Bouguedour, Dr T. Dhendup, Dr B.R. Evans, Dr G. Brückner, Prof. H.A.A. Aidaros, Prof. V. Caporale, Dr M. El Harak, Dr W.B. Karesh, Dr J. Fischer &amp; Dr A. Fooks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAIEX Workshop on Animal Health including regional policies to support trade in the Mediterranean neighbourhood countries</td>
<td>Brussels (Belgium)</td>
<td>8-9 September</td>
<td>Dr A. Dehove, Dr G. Yehia &amp; Dr A. Petrini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inauguration of the new offices of the OIE Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific</td>
<td>Tokyo (Japan)</td>
<td>9 September</td>
<td>Dr B. Vallat, Dr I. Shimohira, Dr T. Ishibashi, Dr K. Sakurai, Dr C. Buranathai, Dr H. Thidar Myint, Ms N. Tesaki, Ms T. Hasagawa Shimizu, Ms K. Akagawa &amp; Ms Y. Fay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th Southern Africa Coordination Meeting on the Regional Animal Health Centre</td>
<td>Gaborone (Botswana)</td>
<td>9 September</td>
<td>Dr N.J. Mapitse &amp; Ms M. Mantsho</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lecture meeting entitled: ‘The Veterinary Profession: its Growing Roles and Responsibilities’</td>
<td>Tokyo (Japan)</td>
<td>10 September</td>
<td>Dr B. Vallat, Dr I. Shimohira, Dr T. Ishibashi, Dr K. Sakurai, Dr C. Buranathai, Dr H. Thidar Myint, Ms N. Tesaki, Ms T. Hasagawa Shimizu, Ms K. Akagawa &amp; Ms Y. Fay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting for improvement on activities of OIE Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres in Japan</td>
<td>Tokyo (Japan)</td>
<td>10 September</td>
<td>Dr I. Shimohira &amp; Dr K. Sakurai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th ESWI Influenza Conference</td>
<td>Valletta (Malta)</td>
<td>11-14 September</td>
<td>Dr D. Swayne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STANDZ Launching and Steering Committee Meeting</td>
<td>Hanoi (Vietnam)</td>
<td>12 September</td>
<td>Dr A. Dehove, Dr C. Buranathai, Dr R.C. Abila, Dr A. Bouchot, Dr D. Van Aken, Dr M.J. Gordoncillo, Ms M.C. Dy, Ms P. Angvanitchakul &amp; Dr G. Murray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avian influenza surveillance in Vietnam</td>
<td>Hanoi (Vietnam)</td>
<td>12 September</td>
<td>Dr K. Sakurai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biosafety and Biosecurity International Conference (BBIC) 2011</td>
<td>Amman (Jordan)</td>
<td>12-15 September</td>
<td>Dr G. Yehia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th International Conference on Diseases of Fish and Shellfish, organised by EAP</td>
<td>Split (Croatia)</td>
<td>12-16 September</td>
<td>Dr O. Haenen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31st International Scientific Council for Trypanosomiasis Research and Control (ISCTRC) General Conference</td>
<td>Bamako (Mali)</td>
<td>12-16 September</td>
<td>Dr Y. Samaké</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OECD Meeting on ‘Non-Tariff Measures on Food and Agricultural Products: Which Road Ahead?’</td>
<td>OECD Headquarters, Paris (France)</td>
<td>13 September</td>
<td>Dr K. Miyagishima &amp; Dr G. Mylrea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STANDZ ‘Monitoring &amp; Evaluation’ Workshop</td>
<td>Hanoi (Vietnam)</td>
<td>13-14 September</td>
<td>Dr C. Buranathai, Dr R.C. Abila, Dr A. Bouchot, Dr D. Van Aken, Dr M.J. Gordoncillo, Ms M.C. Dy, Ms P. Angvanitchakul &amp; Dr G. Murray</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### September 2011 (cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of the event</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AHVLA International Conference – Animal Diseases and their Consequences 2011</td>
<td>London (United Kingdom)</td>
<td>13-15 September</td>
<td>Dr M. Eloit &amp; Dr J. Domenech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISO Regional Workshop on Fisheries Safety, Quality, Productivity and Sustainability</td>
<td>Bali (Indonesia)</td>
<td>13-16 September</td>
<td>Dr T. Ishibashi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IGAD/AFDB Workshop on Livestock Development and Drought Preparedness</td>
<td>Djibouti</td>
<td>14-15 September</td>
<td>Dr A. Maillard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th OIE Regional Meeting on Strengthening Animal Health Information Networking in Asia, under the OIE/ITF Project for Strengthening HP AI Control in Asia</td>
<td>Chiang Mai (Thailand)</td>
<td>14-16 September</td>
<td>Dr I. Shimohira, Dr K. Sakurai, Dr H. Thidar Myint, Ms T. Hasegawa Shimizu &amp; Dr A. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TASW Conference on: ‘Pandemic Preparedness and Practical Approaches to Advance Disaster Preparedness’</td>
<td>Rome (Italy)</td>
<td>15 September</td>
<td>Dr A. Dehove</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OFFLU Steering Committee Meeting</td>
<td>OIE Headquarters, Paris (France)</td>
<td>15 September</td>
<td>Dr K. Hamilton &amp; Dr G. Pavade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting on at-risk materials with regard to transmissible spongiform encephalopathies</td>
<td>Panama City (Panama)</td>
<td>15 September</td>
<td>Dr F. Frago Santamaria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14th SEACFMD National Coordinators’ Meeting</td>
<td>Hanoi (Vietnam)</td>
<td>15-16 September</td>
<td>Dr C. Buranathai, Dr R.C. Abila, Dr A. Bouchot, Dr D. Van Aken, Dr M.J. Gordoncillo, Ms M.C. Dy, Ms P. Angvanitchakul &amp; Dr G. Murray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59th Plenary Meeting of the EFSA Animal Health and Animal Welfare Panel</td>
<td>Parma (Italy)</td>
<td>15-16 September</td>
<td>Dr N. Leboucq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting on improving market access for livestock products in the SADC Region</td>
<td>Gaborone (Botswana)</td>
<td>16 September</td>
<td>Dr N.J. Mapitse &amp; Dr P. Bastiaensen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Symposium on diagnosis and control of bee diseases</td>
<td>Buenos Aires (Argentina)</td>
<td>19-20 September</td>
<td>Dr L.O. Barcos &amp; Dr M. Minassian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55th IAEA General Conference on ‘Side-Event on Global Rinderpest Eradication’ and visit to the OIE Collaborating Centre at Seibersdorf</td>
<td>Vienna (Austria)</td>
<td>19-21 September</td>
<td>Dr K. Miyagishima</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SADC Regional Stakeholder Assembly on SPS Measures for Food Safety</td>
<td>Gaborone (Botswana)</td>
<td>19-21 September</td>
<td>Dr N.J. Mapitse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting of the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe</td>
<td>Sofia (Bulgaria)</td>
<td>20 September</td>
<td>Prof. Dr N.T. Belev</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAPSCA: First Meeting in Europe</td>
<td>Paris (France)</td>
<td>20-21 September</td>
<td>Dr K. Glynn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mission at the quarantine station of Mogadishu</td>
<td>Mogadishu (Somalia)</td>
<td>20-21 September</td>
<td>Dr W. Masiga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDPLN Regional Workshop</td>
<td>Jakarta (Indonesia)</td>
<td>20-22 September</td>
<td>Dr K. Hamilton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Seminar for OIE National Focal Points for Veterinary Products</td>
<td>Dakar (Senegal)</td>
<td>20-22 September</td>
<td>Dr E. Erlacher-Vindel, Dr S. Münstermann, Dr Y. Samaké, Dr D. Bourzat, Ms Y. N’Diaye &amp; Ms A. Bagayoko</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-Regional Seminar for OIE National Focal Points for Aquatic Animals</td>
<td>Grahamstown (South Africa)</td>
<td>20-23 September</td>
<td>Dr G. Mylrea, Dr P. Bastiaensen &amp; Ms M. Mantsho</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting of the NATO ‘Public Health, Food and Water’ Planning Group on Emerging Animal Diseases</td>
<td>Brussels (Belgium)</td>
<td>21 September</td>
<td>Dr N. Leboucq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Meeting of the Drafting Committee to support the preparation of dossiers in view of the official recognition of FMD sanitary status</td>
<td>Tunis (Tunisia)</td>
<td>21-23 September</td>
<td>Dr F. Kechrid, Dr V. Brioudes &amp; Dr A. Petrini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39th Animal Global Health Seminar, within the framework of the JSPS Global Centers of Excellence Programme</td>
<td>Obihiro (Japan)</td>
<td>22 September</td>
<td>Dr H. Thidar Myint</td>
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</table>
## September 2011 (cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of the event</th>
<th>Place</th>
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<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meeting with Battelle Laboratories (United States) and Sarl Microbiodetection (France)</td>
<td>OIE Headquarters, Paris (France)</td>
<td>23 September</td>
<td>Dr A. Thiermann, Dr A. Dehove &amp; K. Glynn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASFRISK Symposium</td>
<td>Lisbon (Portugal)</td>
<td>23 September</td>
<td>Dr N. Leboucq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60th BPT Annual Congress</td>
<td>Mainz (Germany)</td>
<td>23-25 September</td>
<td>Mr M. Nissen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th Pestivirus Symposium, organised by ESVV</td>
<td>Hanover (Germany)</td>
<td>25-27 September</td>
<td>Dr A. Thiermann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th Meeting of the GF-TADs FMD Working Group</td>
<td>Paris (France)</td>
<td>26 September</td>
<td>Dr J. Domenech &amp; Dr N. Leboucq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘4-way Linking Project’: training workshop for animal and public health experts</td>
<td>Ain Sukhna (Egypt)</td>
<td>26-28 September</td>
<td>Dr S. Forcella</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting of Quarantine Experts in the Americas Region</td>
<td>Cananéia (Brazil)</td>
<td>26-30 September</td>
<td>Dr L.O. Barcos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GF-TADs Management Committee Meeting</td>
<td>OIE Headquarters, Paris (France)</td>
<td>27 September</td>
<td>Dr B. Vallat, Dr M. Eloit, Dr K. Miyagishima, Dr A. Dehove, Dr D. Chaisemartin, Dr J. Domenech, Dr F. Caya &amp; Dr M.E. González</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17th CAMEVET Seminar</td>
<td>Mendoza (Argentina)</td>
<td>27-29 September</td>
<td>Dr M. Minassian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training activity on ‘Animal Welfare Concerning the Farming of Pigs’, within the framework of the BTSF Programme</td>
<td>Teramo (Italy)</td>
<td>27-30 September</td>
<td>Dr W. Pelgrim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EC/OIE Meeting on HPED Budget</td>
<td>Brussels (Belgium)</td>
<td>28 September</td>
<td>Dr A. Dehove &amp; Ms E. Tagliaro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Rabies Day 2011, organised with FAO, AU-IBAR and the Botswana Ministries of Agriculture and Health</td>
<td>Gaborone (Botswana)</td>
<td>28 September</td>
<td>Dr B.J. Mtei &amp; Dr N.J. Mapitse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd ETPGAH/Discontools Stakeholder Meeting and 3rd Discontools Meeting on ‘Work Package 4’: Technology Evaluation</td>
<td>Brussels (Belgium)</td>
<td>28-29 September</td>
<td>Dr E. Erlacher-Vindel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint symposium on avian influenza and Newcastle disease in North Africa and the Middle East</td>
<td>Cairo (Egypt)</td>
<td>28-29 September</td>
<td>Dr K. Hamilton &amp; Dr F. Kechrid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Seminar for OIE National Focal Points on Communication</td>
<td>Prague (Czech Republic)</td>
<td>28-30 September</td>
<td>Dr M. Eloit, Ms M. Zampagione, Ms G. Mamaghani, Prof. Dr N.T. Belev, Ms R. Kostova &amp; Dr N. Leboucq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparatory meeting for the FAO/OIE Global Conference on Foot and Mouth Disease Control, to be held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 27 to 29 June 2012</td>
<td>Rome (Italy)</td>
<td>29 September</td>
<td>Dr D. Chaisemartin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit du Nord Meeting: ‘Economic Scenario’</td>
<td>Paris (France)</td>
<td>29 September</td>
<td>Dr A. Dehove</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparatory meeting with DG SANCO for the VICH ‘Outreach Group’ meeting to be held in Tokyo</td>
<td>Brussels (Belgium)</td>
<td>30 September</td>
<td>Dr S. Münstermann</td>
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</table>
Agriculture and Apiculture in Afghanistan

Presentation
The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, with a population of 30 million inhabitants and a surface area of 647,497 km² (249,999 square miles), is bordered by Iran to the West, Pakistan to the South and East, and by Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan to the North. A narrow strip, the Vakhan (Wakhan), extends in the north-east beside Pakistan to the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region of China. The capital and largest city is Kabul.

The greater part of Afghanistan is steeply sloped with mountains, whose ranges fan out across the centre of the country from the towering Hindu Kush (reaching a height of more than 7,315 m (24,000 ft). There are, however, within these mountain ranges and on their edges, many fertile valleys and plains. In the South, particularly in the south-west, are great stretches of desert, including the regions of Seistan and Registan. To the North, between the central mountain chains (notably the Selseleh-ye Kuh-e Baba, or Koh-i-Baba, and the Paropamisus) and the Amu Darya (Oxus) River, which marks part of the northern boundary, are the highlands of Badakhshan, Afghan Turkistan, the Amu Darya plain, and the rich valley of Herat on the Hari Rud (Arius) River in the north-west corner of the country (the heart of ancient Ariana). The regions thus vary widely, although most of the land is dry.

For the most part, the rivers are not navigable. The longest is the Helmand, which flows in a south-west direction from the Hindu Kush to the Iranian border. Its water has been used for irrigation for centuries, as have the waters of the Hari Rud and the Amu Darya. The Kabul River, on which the capital city stands, is particularly famous because it leads to the Khyber Pass and thus South to Pakistan.

Although enforced warfare in Afghanistan during the late 20th Century caused substantial population displacement, with millions of refugees fleeing into Pakistan and Iran, regional ethnicity remains substantially the same as it was before the unrest.

Economy
Agriculture is the main occupation, although less than 10% of the land is cultivated; a large percentage of the arable land was damaged by warfare during the 1980s and 1990s. It consists largely of
subsistence crops, including wheat and other grains, fruit and nuts. The opium poppy, grown mainly for the international illegal drug trade, is the most important cash crop, and the country is the world's largest producer of opium. Grazing is also of great importance to the economy. Fat-tailed sheep are a staple of Afghan life, supplying skins and wool for clothing, and meat and fats for food.

Some small-scale manufacturers produce cotton and other fabrics, furniture, shoes, fertiliser and processed agricultural goods. Extremely high levels of unemployment, about 40% in 2005, have resulted from the general collapse of Afghanistan's industries.

Opium, fruit and nuts, hand-woven carpets, wool, cotton, lambskins (karakul) and gemstones are the main exports; capital goods, foodstuffs, textiles and other manufactured goods, and petroleum products are the main imports. As a result of civil war, exports have dwindled to a minimum, except for the illegal trade in opium and hashish. The country has also become an important producer of heroin, which is derived from opium. Afghanistan is heavily dependent on international assistance. Its main trading partners are Pakistan, the United States, and India.

Roads and communications throughout the country are poor, although existing roads have undergone reconstruction since the end of Taliban rule. Pack animals are an important means of transport in the interior. A road and tunnel under the Salang Pass, built in 1964 by the Russians, provides a short, all-weather route between North and South Afghanistan.

**Apiculture**

Honey bee species indigenous to Afghanistan include *Apis cerana* and *A. dorsata*. *Apis florea* has been recorded in the past but perhaps needs re-identification. *Apis mellifera*, the European honey bee, was introduced into Afghanistan by the FAO in 1965.

The author saw 150 colonies of *A. mellifera* in Afghanistan; they were small, weak, docile and easy to handle. In Pakistan and northern India (Haryana, Punjab) beekeeping with European honey bees is practised on a large scale. In these areas, where bees were not kept formerly, *A. mellifera* is proving successful. These are dry plains with large-scale, irrigated agriculture: monocultures of sunflower and *Brassica* provide excellent forage sources for bees.

Beekeepers practise migratory beekeeping, moving stocks to new areas as plants come into flower. In areas bordering the Hindu Kush and Himalayas, the diversity of habitats means that flowering plants...
are available throughout the year. This is an exceptionally good region for beekeeping and can generate honey harvests of well above 20 to 30 kg per colony per year. Migratory beekeeping requires transport, roads, skilled staff and equipment suitable for the continual movement of bee colonies.

With suitable management methods, A. mellifera delivers higher yields of honey and beeswax than A. cerana. However, the input costs will also be greater. This is because A. mellifera is an exotic species from a temperate climate, and requires more resources (time, treatment against endemic diseases, protection against predators). It is already well known from other countries in Asia that beekeeping with A. mellifera can be more economic than with A. cerana, when practised on a large scale. However, if the aim of a project is to assist the landless or poor farmers, the promotion of A. mellifera may be inappropriate. Afghan beekeepers remain largely unaware of diseases and parasitic mites, their recognition and control, and this lack of knowledge will cause further disease spread. Since beekeeping methods and technology are brought from Pakistan, this gives rise to dependence on Pakistan for the provision of materials; in particular, the beeswax foundation sheets needed for beekeeping with frame hives.

There have been few initiatives promoting a sustainable method of beekeeping that is appropriate for the rural poor. Various non-governmental organisations (NGOs) are now proposing projects involving beekeeping but technical support will be essential. The NGO Terre des Hommes imported 150 colonies for Rustaq in Afghanistan from Tajikistan between 2008 and 2009. Rustaq now has 1,000 colonies with 91 beekeepers, 22 of which are women, and an active cooperative. The beekeepers were trained by the author from 2008 to 2010, a programme which was also organised by Terre des Hommes.

Traditional hives and wall hives can yield approximately 6 to 10 kg of honey per year.

These yields are low in comparison to potential yields from frame hives. However, many poor beekeepers only harvest the same amounts of honey from their frame hives as they could have harvested from their log or wall hives. A beekeeper could obtain many traditional hives for the cost of one box hive with frames. However, when projects provide boxes free of charge, such economic considerations are often missed.
Conclusion
Afghanistan has some 150,000 to 200,000 honey bee colonies, according to Sannie Satti, Sayed Khan Panjshri, Director of the Cooperative and R. Shahrouzi, 2010. Modern frame hives can yield approximately 10 to 40 kg of honey per year. This can make a big economic difference to an Afghan family. In 2004, the author published an article about a ten-year plan to create 10,000 jobs in beekeeping by eventually establishing 1,000,000 bee colonies. In addition, the author wrote a book about beekeeping guidelines in the Dari language and translated several CDs produced by l’Office pour l’Information et la Documentation en Apiculture/The Information and Documentation Service for Apiculture, into Dari for Afghan beekeepers. It is the fervent hope of the author that, by 2015, Afghanistan will have reached its goal of 1,000,000 hives and 10,000 beekeepers. Since 2005, when France opened a bureau in Kabul to aid the development of agriculture in Afghanistan, Franco-Afghan collaboration in apiculture has been considerable, thanks, in no small part, to the work of M. Marc Jean of the World Bank. Thanks are also due to the many NGOs working on rural development in Afghanistan, on such projects as arboriculture, cattle and sheep breeding, greenhouse production, etc. For example, in 2010, some 5,000,000 euros were invested in arboriculture alone. The aim is to create 30,000 jobs in the agricultural sector over ten years. These are great efforts but, in truth, much is needed to ensure an optimistic future for agriculture in Afghanistan.

References
The Role of Vaccines and Vaccination in Avian Influenza Control and Eradication

High pathogenicity avian influenza (HPAI) and low pathogenicity notifiable avian influenza (LPNAI) in poultry are reportable to the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) by its Member Countries. Twenty-nine distinct epizootics of HPAI have occurred since 1959, with the H5N1 HPAI panzootic in Asia, Africa and Eastern Europe being the largest, affecting poultry and/or wild birds in 63 countries. The first case occurred in 1996 in the People's Republic of China, with the start of global spread in 2003. Historically, stamping-out was used to achieve eradication in 24 epizootics, while vaccination was used in four epizootics as an adjunct to stamping-out.

In response to the need for improved control and eradication, the OIE-FAO Network of Expertise on Animal Influenza (OFFLU) has conducted a global evaluation of control programmes employed between 2002 and 2010, focusing on avian influenza (AI) vaccines and vaccination. The survey showed that each country’s response to an AI outbreak varied, according to economic status, poultry production systems, laboratory facilities, diagnostic capacity and various other factors related to Veterinary Services. Higher poultry density in less-developed countries was associated with increased numbers and longer durations of AI outbreaks, and longer times till eradication. Low performance scores for Veterinary Services were associated with longer AI eradication times, higher mortality rates, higher culling rates and increased numbers of outbreaks.

Questionnaires were sent to 80 countries which had experienced HPAI and/or LPNAI outbreaks; 69 countries completed and returned the questionnaire. Over 113 billion doses of AI vaccine were used in at-risk national poultry populations of over 135 billion birds (50.3% vaccine coverage rate) in 15 countries. The global vaccine coverage rate was 13.7% for all poultry. Inactivated AI vaccines accounted for most of the vaccine used (95.6%), requiring catching and injection of individual birds, while live recombinant virus vaccines had minor usage (4.4%) but were more easily administered by spray application. Most of the AI vaccine was used in the H5N1 HPAI panzootic, and more than 99% of the vaccine was used in China, Egypt, Indonesia and Vietnam.

Vaccination was implemented in these four
countries after H5N1 HPAI became endemic in domestic poultry. Vaccine use has contributed to preventing clinical disease and mortality in chickens and maintaining rural livelihoods and food security. The primary reason for using AI vaccine was in response to failure of or difficulty in implementing stamping-out programmes to achieve eradication. Development and implementation of AI vaccine and vaccination exit strategies has been difficult.

Since some H5 and H7 low pathogenicity avian influenza (LPAI) viruses have mutated to HPAI viruses, H5 and H7 LPAI became reportable in 2006 (and are now termed LPNAI). Fewer outbreaks of LPNAI have been reported than of HPAI, with only six countries using vaccine in control programmes. These countries account for less than 9% of the total H5/H7 AI vaccine usage, with the majority being employed in Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador and Italy. Stamping-out programmes are considered the preferred method in handling HPAI and LPNAI, but AI vaccines and vaccination may be suitable if stamping-out programmes are unsuccessful, or if Veterinary Services are not adequate, and diagnostics and surveillance not effective, in identifying the first few cases in real time, before the outbreak spreads.
Reference Laboratories

Equine influenza and equine rhinopneumonitis
Institute of Virology, Veterinary Medicine,
Free University of Berlin, Philippstrasse 13,
10115 Berlin, Germany
Tel: (+49-30) 20.93.65.63;
E-mail: borchers@zedat.fu-berlin.de
Designated Reference Expert: Dr Kerstin Borchers

The Berlin OIE Reference Laboratory specialises in virological, serological and molecular biological methods for the diagnosis of equine herpesviruses 1 and 4 (EHV-1, EHV-4) and equine influenza virus infections. In addition, coordinating national and international cooperation projects, training veterinarians and students, and consulting clinicians and practitioners form a large part of the work carried out by the team, including Prof. Klaus Osterrieder, Dr Kerstin Borchers, Dr Armando Damiani and a staff of technicians.

Anaplasma spp. and Babesia spp.
National Animal Health Verification Services Center (CENAPA),
Carretera Cuernavaca Cuautla #8534, Colonia Progreso, CB 62550, Jiutepec, Morelos, Mexico
Tel: (+52-777) 3.19.02.02 / 3.20.43.62;
E-mail: para.cen@senasica.sagarpa.gob.mx
Designated Reference Expert: Dr Fernando Parrodi López

With a staff of over 100, CENAPA is located in the city of Jiutepec in the state of Morelos, Mexico, and is the National Reference Laboratory for the diagnosis of several animal diseases. It was designated several years ago as an FAO reference
laboratory on tick resistance techniques for Latin America and the Caribbean, and is recognised by several other international organisations upholding quality standards, such as from the Mexican Accreditation body (EMA), the USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service, the European Union, OIE, FAO, the International Quality Net (IQ Net), and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 9000, among others.

**Swine influenza**
National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NSVL),
1920 Dayton Ave, Ames, IA 50010,
United States of America
Tel: (+1-515) 337.75.51;
Fax: (+1-515) 337.73.48;
E-mail: sabrina.l.swenson@aphis.usda
Designated Reference Expert: **Dr Sabrina L. Swenson**

The NVSL Diagnostic Virology Laboratory has the capability to conduct virus isolation in cell culture and eggs, polymerase chain reaction for the matrix and pandemic N1, sequencing of isolates, serotyping of viruses (HI/NI), electron microscopy, and haemagglutination inhibition for antibodies in sera. Diagnostic reagents and standard operating procedures for assays are also available. In conjunction with the United States’ National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN), the laboratory is developing a repository of swine influenza virus isolates during ongoing surveillance, with the sequence data being deposited in GenBank.

**Foot and mouth disease**
Lanzhou Veterinary Research Institute, CAAS,
National Foot and Mouth Disease Reference Laboratory,
Xujiaping No.1, Yanchangpu, Lanzhou,
Gansu Province 730046,
China (People’s Republic of)
Tel: (+86-931) 834.25.85;
Fax: (+86-931) 834.09.77; (+86-931) 834.20.52;
E-mail: hnxiantao@hotmail.com
Designated Reference Expert: **Dr Xiangtao Liu**

The laboratory’s work focuses on farm animal health and welfare. Its major activities are foot and mouth disease diagnoses, epidemiological surveillance, selection and recommendation of virus strains for vaccine development, development of disease prevention and control technologies, advisory services and personnel training programmes. The services that are provided to OIE Member Countries include: testing sera samples, virus isolation, comparison and assessment of diagnostic reagents, personnel training programmes, communicating information on molecular epidemiology, and the various other services offered by a P3 laboratory.

**Equine infectious anaemia**
Laboratory of Equine Infectious Anaemia,
Harbin Veterinary Research Institute of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, 427 Maduan Street,
Harbin 150001, China (People’s Republic of)
Tel: (+86-189) 46.06.61.24;
Fax: (+86-451) 82.73.31.32;
E-mail: jianhua_uc@126.com
Designated Reference Expert: **Dr Jianhua Zhou**

This laboratory provides serological (primarily, the agar gel immunodiffusion test) and virological (nested-polymerase chain reaction,
the immunofluorescence test and virus isolation) detection and the relevant reagents for equine infectious anaemia (EIA) infection. The laboratory also provides technical support to other laboratories and has interests in lentivirus vaccine development. Collaborations on the epidemiology of and basic research into EIA are welcome.

**Spring viraemia of carp**
Shenzhen Exit & Entry Inspection and Quarantine Bureau, AQSIQ, 2049 Heping Road, Shenzhen, 518001, China (People’s Republic of)
Tel: (+86-755) 25.58.84.10; Fax: (+86-755) 25.58.86.30; E-mail: liuhong@szciq.gov.cn
Designated Reference Expert: Dr Hong Liu

Dr Liu has studied fish virology for 17 years, mainly working on spring viraemia of carp, infectious haematopoietic necrosis, infectious pancreatic necrosis, koi herpesvirus disease and turtle iridovirus. The team she leads is also the regional resource centre of the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific. This team plays an important role in China’s aquatic animal health surveillance programme and has provided training programmes on fish virus isolation, molecular tests and immunological tests not only for Chinese technicians but also for researchers from other Asian-Pacific countries.

**White spot disease & infectious hypodermal and haematopoietic necrosis**
Disease Control and Molecular Pathology Laboratory, Yellow Sea Fisheries Research Institute (YSFRI), Chinese Academy of Fishery Sciences, 106 Nanjing Road, Qingdao, Shandong Province 266071, China (People’s Republic of)
Tel: (+86-532) 582.30.62 ext. 802;
Fax: (+86-532) 581.15.14; E-mail: huangjie@ysfri.ac.cn; aqudis@public.qd.sd.cn
Website: www.ysfri.ac.cn
Designated Reference Expert: Dr Jie Huang

This OIE Reference Laboratory undertakes research and surveillance projects to investigate the epidemiology and molecular pathology of white spot syndrome virus (WSSV) and infectious hypodermal and haematopoietic necrosis virus (IHHNV) and to develop surveillance, diagnosis and control technologies and standards for these two diseases. The laboratory provides diagnostic kits and reference materials for WSSV and IHHNV, as well as diagnostic test services, histopathological slide preparation, technical training and research collaboration on these two diseases for OIE Member Countries on request.

**Infection with abalone herpes-like virus**
Australian Animal Health Laboratory (AAHL), CSIRO Livestock Industries, 5 Portarlington Road, East Geelong, Victoria 3220, Australia
Tel: (+61-3) 52.27.51.18; Fax: (+61-3) 52.27.55.55; E-mail: mark.crane@csiro.au
Designated Reference Expert: Dr Mark Crane

The Australian Animal Health Fish Diseases Laboratory, Geelong, Victoria, together with the Department of Primary Industries, also in Victoria, continues to undertake research into the abalone herpes-like virus. Details on current diagnostic procedures, molecular diagnostic reagents and positive controls are available from the Reference Laboratory.
The Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria (Regional International Organization for Plant Protection and Animal Health – OIRSA) is an intergovernmental organisation specialising in agrifood health matters. OIRSA was founded in 1953 to provide technical assistance to the agriculture and livestock ministries and departments of its member countries for the protection and development of agricultural, aquaculture and forestry resources by means of safe food production to ensure human welfare. OIRSA member countries are Belize, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua and Panama.

On 21 May 2005, OIRSA and the OIE concluded a cooperation agreement in order to contribute more effectively to fulfilling their mutual interests and objectives by means of technical cooperation. Cooperation focuses chiefly on: 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 the OIE health information system on the occurrence of animal diseases and zoonoses; disseminating and promoting the application of the OIE Terrestrial and Aquatic Animal Health Codes and Manuals; and strengthening the Veterinary Services, taking into account OIE rules for.

Between 2007 and 2009, the OIE conducted Veterinary Service evaluation missions in connection with the OIE PVS Pathway in eight of the nine OIRSA member countries (Fig. 1). These missions were organised at the countries’ own request with the aims of: assisting Veterinary Services in determining their strengths and identifying any weaknesses with respect to OIE international standards; sharing a vision with other stakeholders (including the private sector); setting priorities; and undertaking strategic initiatives.

Pursuant to the OIRSA/OIE cooperation agreement, in May 2010 OIRSA asked the OIE to participate as an observer in any PVS-Gap Analysis missions that the OIE might organise in OIRSA member countries, to help to boost implementation and follow-up of the resulting work plans. In November 2010, this request was extended to include OIRSA participation in OIE Veterinary Legislation Support Programme missions.

So far, the OIE has carried out four PVS-Gap Analysis missions in OIRSA member countries (Fig. 2), three of which were joined by a team of OIRSA observers, usually comprising a veterinarian and an economist. The OIE also conducted a Veterinary Legislation Identification mission, in which OIRSA representatives participated (Fig. 3).

This cooperation will continue to be fostered in the near future, when OIRSA takes part in a further two PVS-Gap Analysis missions that are already planned. Subject to authorisation from the countries concerned, the OIE will share with OIRSA the reports on any OIE PVS Pathway missions carried out in OIRSA member countries.
Applied Animal Endocrinology
By E.J. Squires

This textbook explains the role of hormones in improving and monitoring the production, performance, reproduction, behaviour and health of animals. With its focus on livestock animals (cattle, pigs, sheep and horses, as well as poultry and fish), the book uses an integrative approach to cover endocrine concepts across species. This updated edition is expanded to include new topics in each section, with updated references, revised study questions and an expanded subject index. It is an essential text for students in animal and veterinary sciences, as well as anyone in academia or industry who is interested in applications of endocrinology in animal production systems.

Microscopie des plantes consommées par les animaux
[Microscopy of Plants Eaten by Animals]

By J. Rech

Quæ Editions – practical guide

This guide presents an original method of identifying plants ingested by animals. The author describes a way of examining plant fragments (leaves, seeds, fruit, bark), which cannot be recognised with the naked eye or with a magnifying glass, that are found in faecal matter, in the stomach contents of animals or in the raw materials ground into flour during the making of a foodstuff. The identification of a species of vegetation eaten by a farm animal, its possible toxicity in animal and human food, and its traceability in industrial food products are among the applications and stakes of this new approach. The work provides a precise description and codification of each observed characteristic. It is systematically illustrated to aid identification. More than 150 plates of drawings, done by the author in China ink, appear.

Fish Diseases and Disorders
Volume 3: Viral, Bacterial and Fungal Infections
Edited by P.T.K. Woo & D.W. Bruno

This third and final volume in the acclaimed Fish Diseases and Disorders trilogy addresses infectious diseases of finfish and shellfish caused by viruses, bacteria and fungi. Topics covered include infectious pancreatic necrosis virus, infectious haematopoietic necrosis virus, viral diseases of cold and warm-water fish, rickettsial and chlamydial infections, furunculosis, motile aeromonads, vibriosis, flavobacterial diseases and shellfish diseases. Written by experts in each discipline and updated throughout to reflect new developments in the field, including new chapters on alphaviruses, oncogenic viruses, genomics and proteomics, this is a must-have reference for fish health specialists and veterinarians, microbiologists, zoologists and researchers and students in aquaculture.
More than 350 participants from over 90 countries, including high-level officials from veterinary and public health services, veterinary practitioners, representatives of governmental and non-governmental organisations, scientists, and multilateral and bilateral donors, attended this conference. The following recommendations were adopted at the end of the conference, highlighting how important Veterinary Services are for the prevention of rabies at its animal source and therefore for public health. They will also guide the OIE’s future actions in this area.

**CONSIDERING THAT:**

1. Rabies is a widespread, neglected and under-reported zoonosis with an almost 100% case fatality rate in human and animal untreated on time, and causing a significant social and economic burden in many countries worldwide;

2. On a global level, the main reservoir of rabies is the dog, responsible for almost 99% of fatal rabies cases in humans;

3. Only 32 out of the 178 OIE Member Countries would be eligible to qualify for historical freedom in accordance with the provisions of the Terrestrial Code or have successfully eliminated rabies in domestic animals, while at least 110 Member Countries are considered endemically infected with rabies; only in 161 Member Countries is rabies a notifiable disease in dogs;

4. Good veterinary governance is a prerequisite for compliance with international standards, guidelines and recommendations for rabies prevention and control in animals;

5. In spite of the availability of scientific methods to control rabies in dogs the effective implementation of such rabies control programmes and technologies are dependent on political will, community commitment and sufficient financial resources at the global, regional, national and local levels;

6. The control and elimination of rabies in dogs, through vaccination remains the only cost-effective way to sustainably protect humans from contracting the disease;

7. Massive culling of dog populations or wildlife, as isolated, interim or emergency control measures, is neither sustainable nor scientifically supported for efficiently controlling or eliminating dog-mediated rabies;

8. On-going assessment of the global burden of rabies will help to better advocate for rabies control worldwide;

9. The OIE, WHO and FAO have published a concept note on the sharing of responsibilities and coordinating their global activities to address health risks at the animal-human-ecosystem interfaces;

10. Rabies in wildlife reservoirs remains important in many parts of the world and endangers biodiversity particularly where wildlife become victims of dog-mediated rabies;

11. The OIE has adopted and continually updates international standards related to rabies prevention and control;

12. The regular training of OIE National Focal Points for Animal Disease...
Recommendations on Rabies Control

OIE, WHO and FAO to continue to invest in dog rabies prevention and control and to increase and sustain the momentum of the global control and subsequent elimination of rabies with emphasis on dog rabies;

1. All governments consider rabies control as a high priority and ensure that national legislation provides for rabies to be a notifiable disease;

2. The OIE, WHO and FAO should consider rabies a priority and should encourage international solidarity and donor support for countries in need of funding to initiate and sustain control programmes for rabies;

3. OIE Member Countries are encouraged to support awareness campaigns on rabies (e.g. participate in the World Rabies Day initiative);

4. OIE Reference Laboratories and WHO Collaborating Centres continue their work on international harmonisation of laboratory methods for the diagnosis and the quality control of vaccines as well as development/evaluation of new communities mobilise appropriate financial support from the public budget and other sources to benefit from the cost-effective advantage of eliminating rabies at the animal source;

8. The budget for rabies control programmes should include the cost and accessibility of human vaccines to protect veterinarians, para-veterinarians, laboratory staff and other personnel directly involved in rabies control programmes to mitigate any professional hazard leading to rabies infection;

9. Options for combining rabies control programmes with other interventions or zoonosis prevention and control programmes should be actively considered;

10. Surveillance and reporting of rabies, in humans, domestic animals and wildlife, be continually improved nationally and globally, and the data so generated should be shared across sectors through e.g. WAHIS/WAHID and GLEWS;

11. Definitive diagnosis of rabies in animals should only be confirmed by laboratory tests as described in the OIE Terrestrial Manual;

12. OIE Reference Laboratories and WHO Collaborating Centres continue their work on international harmonisation of laboratory methods for the diagnosis and the quality control of vaccines as well as development/evaluation of new communities mobilise appropriate financial support from the public budget and other sources to benefit from the cost-effective advantage of eliminating rabies at the animal source;

The OIE twinning initiative is improving the capability and access of Member Countries to rabies diagnosis and scientific expertise in some regions of the world;

14. OIE Reference Laboratories and WHO Collaborating Centres on rabies have considerably contributed to the development of safer, more effective rabies vaccines and other rabies biologicals, diagnostic tests and preventive and control methods;

15. The OIE is promoting and implementing the concept of regional vaccine banks for dog vaccination;

16. An increasing number of non-governmental organisations are supporting rabies control at the animal source and rabies awareness campaigns;

17. The goal of this conference was to support global rabies elimination while providing a global platform to encourage exchanges of experiences on rabies prevention and control at the animal source and to seek for renewed concepts of inter-sectoral collaboration between stake-holders.

RECOMMENDS THAT:

1. Governments, donors, foundations and NGOs be mobilised at global level with the guidance of the
techniques and methodologies for rabies control;

13. Laboratory twinning / training programmes should be encouraged to further improve diagnostic capability in laboratories in developing countries;

14. Strategic implementation and continuous evaluation of control programmes throughout the world should be undertaken to enhance and improve the decision-making ability for the most appropriate vaccination strategies;

15. Control strategies be continuously reviewed and adapted taking into account, e.g. dog population density, population turn-over and accessibility;

16. More research on practical and feasible chemical or immuno-contraception with the possibility for use in combination with parenteral or oral rabies vaccines should be supported, with due consideration to safety, public and animal health and ecological aspects of oral vaccines;

17. OIE standards on rabies prevention and control should be continuously updated to reflect new scientific advances;

18. The OIE extend the establishment of regional vaccine banks to provide access to high quality vaccines to countries in urgent need;

19. Dog population management be applied in compliance with OIE standards;

20. Public awareness and education on rabies be a national priority and be enhanced by exchange of information, experience and cooperation between medical, veterinary, educational, environmental and customs authorities, relevant communication channels and the private sector;

21. Governmental and non-governmental organisations active in rabies control should communicate and coordinate their technical and financial efforts with national authorities and international organisations, to maximise sustainability of their collaboration and joint projects;

22. The OIE, WHO and FAO continue to encourage governments to update their legislation to comply with relevant standards for efficient rabies prevention and a ‘One Health’ approach to disease control;

23. Dog population management, rabies control and animal welfare be included in the basic core curriculum of the initial training of veterinarians and para-veterinarians;

24. Veterinary Statutory Bodies should ensure that their rules provide for the ethical conduct required from veterinarians and para-veterinary professionals in situations where rabies poses risks to animals and humans;

25. Rabies control be considered as a global public good eligible to international solidarity and donors support where needed, as well as a priority model to apply the ‘One Health’ concept by countries and intergovernmental organisations.
Attendance of the President of Paraguay at the 79th General Session of the OIE

The 79th General Session of the OIE was an historic event for the entire international community, one which celebrated the victory of the veterinary profession over one of the most dreaded animal diseases: rinderpest. On this occasion, the President of the Republic of Paraguay, Mr Fernando Lugo, honoured the Assembly with his presence. He rose to the podium and delivered a keynote speech on the opening day of the General Session.

Presentation of OIE Honorary Awards

Dr Correa Messuti delivered a speech in praise of Dr Barry O’Neill, past President of the OIE, describing Dr O’Neill’s considerable accomplishments and his outstanding services to the OIE and veterinary world during his career, presenting him with the OIE Gold Medal. He then presented Dr Berthe, Dr Limlamthong and Dr Hargreaves with Meritorious Service Awards. Unfortunately, Dr Hargreaves was unable to be present, due to illness, but he asked former OIE staff member and close friend, Ms Gillian Dilmitis, to accept the award on his behalf.

Dr Barry O’Neill (New Zealand), past President of the OIE, received the Gold Medal

Ms Gillian Dilmitis, on behalf of Dr Stuart Hargreaves (Zimbabwe), received the Meritorious Award

Dr Franck Berthe (France) received the Meritorious Award

Dr Yukol Limlamthong (Thailand) received the Meritorious Award
The Vet2011 International Photo Competition Awards

To mark World Veterinary Year 2011, the OIE and the European Commission Directorate General for Health and Consumers launched a web-based photographic competition on the theme: ‘Vets in your daily life’. Amateur and professional photographers around the world submitted more than 2,500 pictures.

A jury of five members, including veterinarians, communications experts and professional photographers, selected one winner for each of the five OIE regions: Africa, Europe, Asia and the Pacific, the Americas and the Middle East. The winners attended two prize-giving ceremonies held in Brussels, Belgium, at EU Vet Week and in Paris, France, at the 79th General Session of the OIE; each received professional photographic equipment to a value of 1,000 euros.

The overall winner was announced at the OIE General Session and received additional equipment worth 2,000 euros.

The OIE decided to honour a sixth picture and awarded a special prize of 1,000 euros to Bojia Endebu Duguma, from Ethiopia.

The six photos were exhibited in the cocktail room of Maison de la Chimie throughout the General Session.

Genoveva Kriechbaum

The Middle East
Camel pedicure

This female camel had to be sedated for her pedicure. However, it still took the strength of five men and a woman to bring the ‘patient’ into an operating position.

Somenath Mukhopadhyay

Asia and the Pacific
Family friend

I was accompanying a village veterinarian on his rounds when I came across this engaging scene of him taking the temperature of a goat with peste des petits ruminants. It was the veterinarian’s third visit to the household, and the goat was in recovery, thanks to the medication it had been given.

For me, this photo is the ultimate portrayal of what a vet means to us.
The Americas
West Indian Manatee
Photograph captured in February 2010, Playa del Carmen, Mexico

Ariel Alejandro
Corvalán Herrera

Photograph: Ariel Alejandro

Playa del Carmen, Mexico
February 2010
Europe
The bird hospital of Hortobágy I
This stork (*Ciconia ciconia*) was the victim of a traffic accident and its beak had been injured. Dr Déri János, veterinarian at the Bird Hospital of Hortobágy, Hungary, and his colleague performed surgery to repair the animal’s beak.

Africa
Hands-on care
Gorilla doctor Jan Ramer, The Mountain Gorilla Veterinary Project Regional Manager, holds the hand of Mukunda, a silverback mountain gorilla, who was relocated from a village in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) back to his home in Virunga National Park.
OIE Special Award
Working with communities to improve the welfare of donkeys and mules

The picture shows owners who had brought their donkeys for deworming but carried with them the sticks which they use to beat their animals. In Ethiopia, the Donkey Sanctuary works with local communities to improve working conditions for donkeys and mules. Wounds are a major problem and treating them as they occur is far from a suitable solution. The veterinarian addresses the source of these physical injuries by working with communities: he has developed an improved harness which is affordable, locally available and humane. He is working to improve the knowledge, attitude, beliefs and practices of animal-owners, and involving local stakeholders in the process.
2012

February

11th International Colloquium on Paratuberculosis 2012
5-10 February
Sydney (Australia)
icp2012@conceptevents.com.au
www.icp2012.com.au

Biological Standards Commission
7-10 February
OIE Headquarters
Paris (France)
Scientific.dept@oie.int

OIE Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases
13-17 February
OIE Headquarters
Paris (France)
Scientific.dept@oie.int

One Health Summit 2012.
One Health – One Planet – One Future. Risks and Opportunities
19-23 February
Davos (Switzerland)
Scientific.dept@oie.int

March

GalvMed Conference
13-15 March
Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)

May

80th OIE General Session
20-25 May
Paris, France
www.oie.int

June

Nineteenth IMS World Meat Congress
4-6 June
Paris (France)
www.worldmeatcongress2012.com

2nd FAO/OIE World Conference on Foot and Mouth Disease
27-29 June
Bangkok (Thailand)
www.oie.int

August

International Symposium on Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics
20-24 August
Maastricht
(The Netherlands)
a.seeverens@zinmaastricht.nl
www.isvee13.org/

September

OIE Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases
3-7 September
OIE Headquarters
Paris (France)
oie@oie.int

9th International Congress of Veterinary Virology
5-7 September
Madrid (Spain)
www.esvv.eu

October

Global Symposium LFDA / GRID
Animal rights
18-19 October
OIE, Paris (France)
oie@oie.int

November

3rd OIE Global Conference on Animal Welfare
6-8 November
Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia)
oie@oie.int

21st Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas
26-29 November
Barbados
regactivities.dept@oie.int

July

Joint Wildlife Disease Association/ European Wildlife Disease Association Conference – Convergence in Wildlife Health
22-27 July
Lyons (France)
wda2012.vetagro-sup.fr/

November

IABS (International Association for Biologicals)
Conference:
Alternatives to Antibiotics in Animal Health: Challenges and Solutions
26-28 September
OIE Headquarters
Paris (France)
oie@oie.int

December

25th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe
18-21 September
Fleesensee (Germany)
regactivities.dept@oie.int
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New Release!
OIE Standards
Terrestrial & Aquatic Codes

The aim of both the Terrestrial and Aquatic Animal Health Codes is to contribute to improving animal health and welfare worldwide and to assure the sanitary safety of international trade in animals 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 that are pathogenic for animals or humans, while avoiding unjustified trade barriers. The OIE Codes are essential reference documents for use by Veterinary Authorities, import/export services, epidemiologists and all those involved in international trade.

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