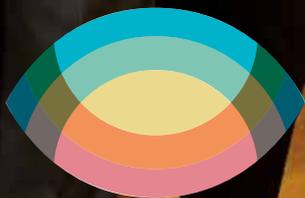


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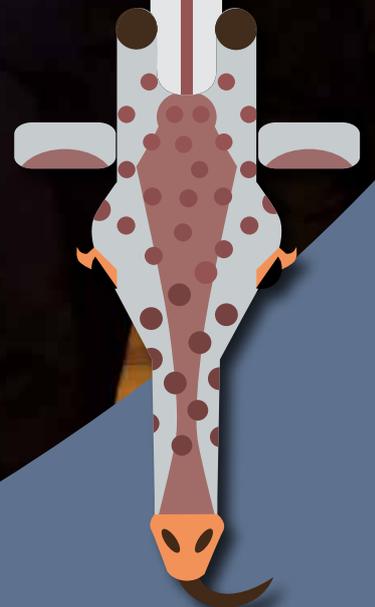


83SG



2015

Paris 24-29
may mai mayo



Oie

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Bernard Vallat, Director General of the OIE, with Margaret Chan, Director General of the WHO

While the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) was blowing out the candles for its 90th anniversary last year, my 15 years as elected head of this institution was drawing to a close, and it will come to an end in December 2015. I was first elected to the post in 2000, and Member Countries reaffirmed their confidence in me by electing me for a further two successive terms, in 2005 and 2010. Together, we can be proud of the immense progress that we have made, especially in the fields of animal health and welfare. On 1 January 2016, Dr Monique Eloit will take her place at the head of the OIE and I know that she will continue to build on our initial achievements and develop many new projects.

The Office International des Épizooties, as the organisation was originally known, has developed and diversified considerably over the last decade. Based in Paris since its creation, the organisation has increased its activities and grown in size, and in 2009 it expanded its Headquarters by buying the adjacent building. In 2003, at my suggestion, the organisation was renamed the World Organisation for Animal Health, although it kept its historical acronym. The OIE has modernised its basic texts, multiplied its resources ten-fold, and adapted to the new animal health challenges confronting our world, while all the while reinforcing its legitimacy on the international scene. Today, the Organisation is among the three principal international organisations charged with health issues, and its standards are recognised by the World Trade Organization (WTO), and by at

Long live the OIE

least 180 countries, as the international reference standards for the prevention and control of animal diseases, including zoonoses.

Since the beginning of the 2000s, the OIE's mandate has been extended to include animal welfare, a complex issue which is causing increasing concern in our society. The first intergovernmental standards on this matter, all science-based, were approved by the General Assembly of OIE Member Countries in 2005. Today, they cover a great variety of issues across a number of key areas relating to terrestrial and aquatic animals, such as animal production systems, transport, methods of slaughter, and animal experimentation. Obtaining consensus and persuading 180 countries to commit to promoting these standards at the national level, regardless of their cultural or religious practices or economic situation, was a huge step forward on this important issue.

Many other innovations have been introduced by the OIE and some of the most important achievements are outlined below.

We have developed prevention and control strategies for all the major infectious diseases of animal origin that threaten the world; in particular, those that can be transmitted to humans, which is true of 60% of the pathogenic agents found in domestic and wild animals. Controlling these diseases at the animal source has been important in ensuring that a large part of the world has been spared from experiencing most of the animal health crises that have occurred, such as the crises concerning avian influenza, bovine spongiform encephalopathy (mad cow disease), rabies and brucellosis.

In 2011, together with all our partners, we were able to achieve the worldwide eradication of an animal disease, rinderpest, for the very first time. The strategy that made this possible will remain an historic model of cooperation and coordination on a national, regional and global level. It is already being envisaged that a similar approach will be

used for peste des petits ruminants (PPR) and canine rabies in the years to come.

The OIE's procedures for officially recognising a country's epidemiological status in relation to certain priority diseases have been expanded to cover diseases such as PPR, contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP) and classical swine fever (CSF). This has enabled countries that so wish to determine their official status for these diseases. The procedures are extremely important for the global control of diseases and for the animal health safety of international trade in animals and animal products. They also apply to BSE, foot and mouth disease (FMD) and African horse sickness (AHS), as well as to the endorsement of official national control programmes for FMD, PPR and CBPP.

.....
Together we were able to become architects of world health
.....

In 2007, the system for disseminating animal health information was modernised through the creation of the World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS), which enables all Member Countries to connect to the server at OIE Headquarters. This has been important for the OIE's policy of transparency and for facilitating its preventive approach to controlling both emerging diseases and the 117 animal diseases listed by the Organisation.

Another achievement of note came in 2014, with the adoption, for the first time, of a standard and guidelines to facilitate the international movement of competition horses. This standard is based on the concept of specific health management of a subpopulation of high-health, high-performance horses. Its development is the result of the valuable public-private partnership established between the OIE, the International Equestrian Federation

(FEI), the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities (IFHA), and their national representatives.

Moreover, several programmes intended to increase solidarity among different countries have been developed. The creation of the World Animal Health and Welfare Fund in 2004 has allowed us to embark upon many activities that assist Member Countries in applying OIE standards and improving the governance of their national animal health and welfare systems, particularly through partnership with the private sector. The Laboratory Twinning projects, initiated in 2006, are a good example. Over the last two years, encouraged by the success of these projects, the OIE has also developed twinning projects between Veterinary Educational Establishments and between Statutory Veterinary Bodies.

.....

While the world is now better prepared for animal health crises, there remain considerable collective challenges to address

.....

These programmes represent a key stage in the progress of the PVS Pathway, which was initiated in 2006 with the aim of improving Veterinary Services. Of all the projects made possible by the OIE World Fund, the PVS Pathway is one of the most important. More than 130 countries have benefited from an independent assessment by the OIE's accredited experts on how well they comply with the quality standards of the Organisation and with its standards of good veterinary governance, and many have since implemented the resulting recommendations. In addition, those at the centre of the Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA) now consider the PVS Pathway to be an important tool for creating a world free from the threat of infectious diseases, both human and animal.

The close links between animal health and human health are what underlie the collaborative work that the OIE and the World Health Organization (WHO) carry out to coordinate the strengthening of national public health systems and help countries confront health risks at the

human-animal interface. A joint WHO/OIE guide has recently been developed for this very purpose. It is yet another example of how the 'One Health' concept – which led to the establishment of a Tripartite Alliance between the OIE, WHO and Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in 2011 – is being applied in practice. Other very useful collaborative relationships should not be forgotten, notably those with the Codex Alimentarius, in the field of food safety, and with the International Standardization Organization (ISO), in the area of animal welfare. Today, the OIE collaborates with nearly 70 other public and private international organisations.

As Hundertwasser, who called himself 'the doctor of architecture', said, 'When a man dreams alone, it is nothing but a dream. But if many dream together, it is the beginning of a new reality'. Many of my dreams have become reality during these fifteen years, and this has contributed towards laying the foundation for a future in which animal health threats are effectively controlled. This has happened thanks to the progressive widening of the OIE network, which today has 180 Member Countries – in 2001 there were only 158 and China had not yet become a Member – nearly 1,500 national Focal Points and 13 Regional Offices. The OIE network of centres of scientific expertise has also grown steadily and is now bigger than it has ever been. Today, it includes more than 300 Reference Centres worldwide, spread over the five continents (in 2001, there were only 146).

This network of expertise and partners is today a guarantee of excellence. Among other things, it enables the OIE to carry out its continuing commitment to further strengthen the competencies of the principal decision-makers of its Member Countries in the areas of animal health and welfare, thus facilitating the protection of their populations, both animal and human.

You are all a part of this invaluable network.

So I want to thank you, dear Delegates, national focal points, experts and partners, as well as the veterinary profession and my colleagues at OIE Headquarters and the Regional Representations, for your continuing confidence, for our rewarding collaborations and for your contribution to, and unerring support for, the success of

the OIE. Together we were able to become architects of world health.

While the world is now better prepared for animal health crises, there remain considerable collective challenges to address under the OIE mandate. We are faced with threats linked to climate change, the need to feed an ever-increasing world population, the emergence and spread of new diseases and the alarming growth of the phenomenon of antimicrobial resistance. These threats must be tackled on a global level with the utmost resolve. We must also deal with controversies – some of which are created with malicious intent and/or without a scientific basis – on environmental and health issues relevant to the relationship between humans and animals.

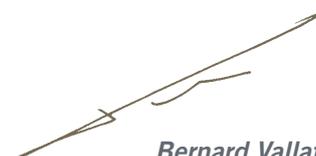
Supporting livestock farming, in all its diverse forms, is essential if we are to develop the livelihoods of the most disadvantaged communities and allow humanity to flourish.

The OIE hopes to continue to support pastoral systems, principally through the Livestock Global Alliance, as they are an important factor for development, the struggle against poverty and sustainable land management; we should always remember that, for many underprivileged communities, livestock farming provides a way of escaping poverty.

The OIE will continue to invest in strengthening Veterinary Services by helping Member Countries to apply the standards of good governance, guaranteeing the excellence of veterinary education and harmonising the content of such training at the global level.

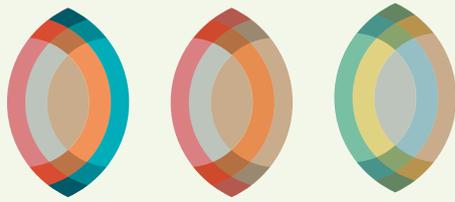
I know that Dr Monique Eloit, who will take over as OIE Director General from 1 January for a five-year term (2016–2020), will be able to count on your support in leading the Organisation to future success in the years to come.

I am confident that she will continue to develop and strengthen this organisation, promote excellence, transparency and solidarity, and carry out the mandate entrusted to us, namely, to protect animals in order to protect our future.

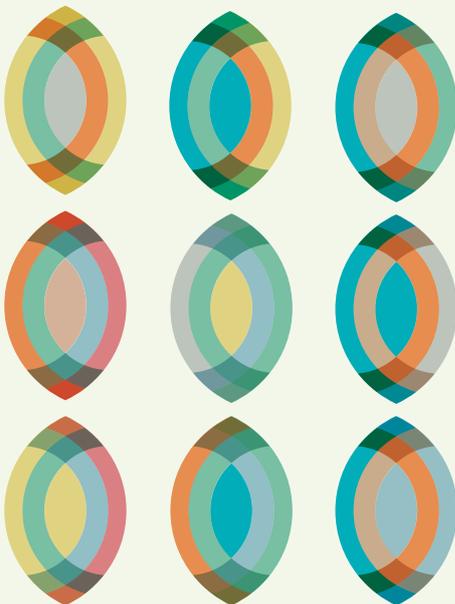


Bernard Vallat
Director General





83SG 2015



Paris **24-29**
may mai mayo

83rd General Session

From 24 to 29 May 2015 the OIE held its 83rd General Session. The annual assembly of the Delegates of OIE Member Countries examines and adopts new and revised intergovernmental standards and guidelines aimed at protecting and improving animal health and welfare throughout the world. Nearly 900 participants, including national Delegates from over 150 Member Countries of the OIE and representatives from 35 international organisations having concluded an agreement with the OIE, took part in the event, along with many eminent scientists.

This 83rd General Session had added significance as it coincided with the five-year election cycle for the Director General, the three-year election cycle of all governance bodies of the Organisation (the OIE Council, four Specialist Commissions and the Bureaus of the five Regional Commissions) and the adoption of the sixth Strategic Plan for the period of 2016–2020.

After three consecutive terms of office and 15 years as the Director General of the OIE, Dr Bernard Vallat will pass the baton to Dr Monique Eloit, currently OIE Deputy Director General (Administration, Management, Human Resources and Regional Actions), from 1 January 2016 for the coming five-year term. Dr Eloit will be the first woman to lead the OIE.

OIE Delegates also elected Dr Botlhe Michael Modisane, Delegate of South Africa, as President, and Dr Mark Schipp, Delegate of Australia, as the new Vice-President of the Council.

The presentation of the Technical Item, on a topic previously selected by the Delegates – **‘The Use of Information Technology in Animal Health Management, Disease Reporting, Surveillance and Emergency Response’** – was presented by Dr Tammy R. Beckham, with the support of Dr Lindsey K. Holmstrom, both from the OIE Collaborating Centre for Biological Threat Reduction, located at the Institute for Infectious Animal Diseases, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas, USA. The high level of interest on the part of OIE Members was reflected in the unprecedented number of country responses (in excess of 140) to the associated questionnaire. The information thus gathered demonstrated a modest trend of data-sharing and integration across domestic animal health, wildlife and public health, which Members were encouraged to expand if a more effective ‘One Health’ approach is to be achieved for the prevention, early detection and rapid identification of disease events at the animal–human interface, combined with a swift response to such events.



Significant resource constraints and data limitations were identified, which adversely affect Member Countries' abilities to implement the technologies now available and to make effective use of the data produced.

One of the OIE's key missions is to ensure transparency of the global situation with regard to animal diseases, including zoonoses, and the General Session gave Member Countries the opportunity to exchange information on their national animal disease situation. Numerous exchanges of views also took place between Member Countries during the week's proceedings, special attention being given to the current global epizootic of avian influenza, African swine fever, Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) and the rabies situation in the world, as well as to cross-cutting issues such as the sanitary safety of food products of animal origin and the strategy for reducing biological threats whatever their origin.

1. Standard setting activities at the 83rd General Session

The OIE Delegates adopted or revised OIE standards and guidelines on terrestrial and aquatic animal disease prevention and control, on diagnostic methods and vaccine quality and on animal welfare.

In total, the World Assembly adopted:

- the revision of 18 chapters and the addition of three new chapters in the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (the *Terrestrial Code*);
- the revision of 12 chapters and the addition of two new chapters in the OIE *Aquatic Animal Health Code* (the *Aquatic Code*).

The main amendments are described below.

a) Standards relating to terrestrial animal diseases: foot and mouth disease, infection with *Taenia solium* and bovine spongiform encephalopathy

An important update of the chapter on foot and mouth disease (FMD) was approved, the fruit of several years' work by the OIE's Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases and Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission. The new provisions are designed to limit restrictions on international trade while maintaining its safety, by placing greater importance on zoning and compartmentalisation procedures.

A new chapter on *Taenia solium*, a type of tapeworm transmissible to humans via contaminated pig meat, was added to the *Terrestrial Code*. This text constitutes a considerable advance in terms of human health protection in many developing countries.



A specific provision relating to atypical forms of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) was adopted. It is designed to minimise the impact of their detection on the official disease status of the countries concerned, the detection and reporting of atypical cases simply reflecting highly effective surveillance systems.

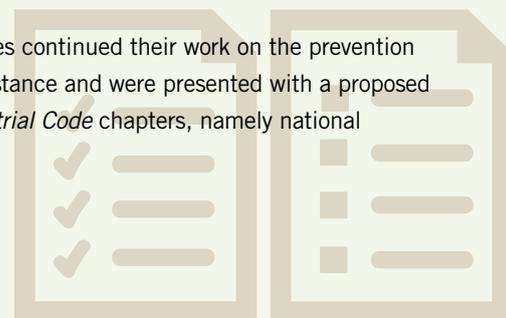
b) Standards relating to aquatic animal diseases

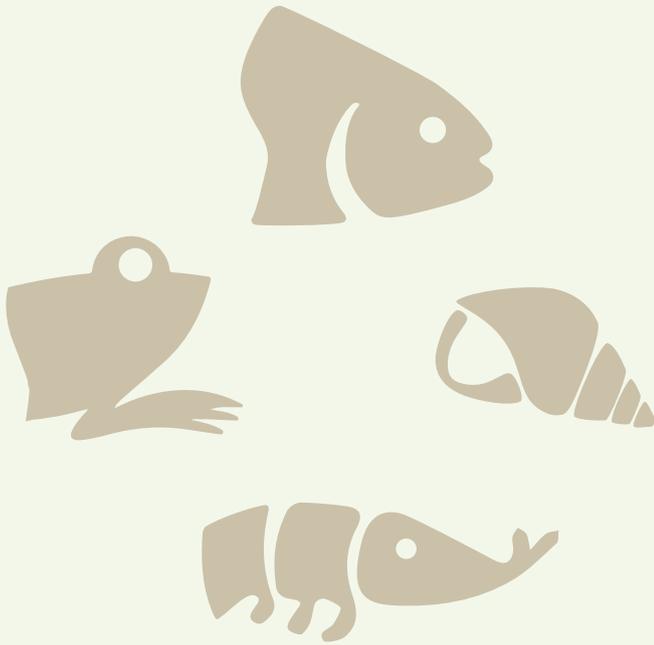
Acute hepatopancreatic necrosis disease (AHPND) is now one of the diseases listed by the OIE, bringing to 118 the number of diseases included in this list. AHPND is an emerging disease that can have devastating effects on productivity in farmed shrimp, notably in Asia and Latin America.

A new *Aquatic Code* chapter of recommendations for surface disinfection of salmonid eggs was approved, and a chapter on the control of pathogenic agents in aquatic animal feed was updated.

c) Standards relating to antimicrobial resistance and animal welfare

The OIE Delegates continued their work on the prevention of antimicrobial resistance and were presented with a proposed update of two *Terrestrial Code* chapters, namely national





antimicrobial resistance surveillance (Chapter 6.7.) and risk analysis for antimicrobial resistance arising from the use of antimicrobials in animals (Chapter 6.10.). The latter topic was also the subject of a new chapter of the *Aquatic Code*.

The OIE is constantly looking at ways to improve animal welfare. A new chapter on the welfare of dairy cattle was added to the already wide range of standards relating to welfare of terrestrial and aquatic animals, in particular with regard to animal production systems.

Lastly, new terms were incorporated into the *Terrestrial Code*, such as the definition of 'biosecurity', an increasingly important means of reducing the spread of certain epizootic diseases, such as avian influenza and porcine epidemic diarrhoea. The definition of this term was adopted unanimously by OIE Member Countries.

2. Rinderpest post-eradication activities

Following the adoption, in 2014, by the World Assembly of a legal framework for the approval of facilities holding rinderpest virus-containing material, developed jointly by the OIE and FAO, five facilities in four countries were approved

as 'rinderpest holding facilities'. This approval was granted subsequent to on-site inspections carried out by OIE and FAO teams of experts. Another institute that applied has yet to be inspected, and is expected to be approved in May 2016.

3. Official OIE recognition of disease status and control programmes of Member Countries

The status of Member Countries with respect to priority diseases was examined with a view to granting official recognition. OIE Member Countries can apply to be included in the list of countries with an officially recognised status with regard to the following six priority diseases: BSE, FMD, contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP), African horse sickness (AHS), peste des petits ruminants (PPR) and, since May 2014, classical swine fever (CSF).

At this General Session, a number of new countries or zones of countries obtained official recognition of their status:

- for the first time, 23 countries were recognised as 'free from CSF' in Europe, the Americas, Asia, and a zone in Brazil;
- four new countries were recognised as 'free from PPR', as well as a zone in Namibia;
- Morocco was recognised as 'free from AHS';
- six countries of Europe were recognised as having a 'negligible BSE risk';
- France was recognised as 'free from CBPP';
- the Philippines was recognised as 'FMD free where vaccination is not practised'; in addition, new zones were officially recognised as free from the disease, either with or without vaccination, in Ecuador, Kazakhstan and Botswana.

In the case of FMD, South America has now almost completely achieved the eradication of the disease, and, for the first time, a country of Eastern Europe, Kazakhstan, has achieved an officially recognised FMD status for a part of its territory.

Member Countries can also apply for official OIE endorsement of their national control programme for FMD, PPR and, from this year, CBPP. Namibia, for example, gained official endorsement of its control programme for CBPP. The OIE endorsed the national

control programmes for FMD submitted by the People's Republic of China, India, Namibia and Venezuela.

In total, more than 50 national applications for official recognition of a given status or endorsement of a control programme were presented for adoption by the World Assembly of Delegates.

The full list of countries and their recognised disease status for AHS, BSE, CBPP, CSF, FMD, and PPR is given in Resolutions on pp. 37-45.

4. Towards a world free from PPR

At the end of the OIE/FAO International Conference for the Control and Eradication of PPR, held in Abidjan (Côte d'Ivoire) in April 2015, a global strategy was adopted. This strategy was elaborated within the OIE/FAO Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs). The PPR eradication programmes will be modelled on the successful strategy that resulted in the eradication of rinderpest in 2011, based on global and regional coordination under the auspices of the OIE and FAO.

5. Quality of Veterinary Services

To improve animal health and welfare throughout the world, the OIE constantly strives to help its Member Countries to strengthen the governance of their animal health systems so that they can all comply with the standards of quality adopted by the World Assembly. The Delegates of the OIE once again repeated their commitment to strengthen the governance of Veterinary Services in all countries and to implement the Resolutions adopted, if necessary with recourse to the support programmes proposed by the OIE through its PVS Pathway, including various programmes of evaluation, costing of required investments, follow-up, modernisation of national veterinary legislation and capacity building, such as twinning projects between laboratories, between veterinary education establishments and between Veterinary Statutory Bodies.

The state of play of OIE Members' engagement in the PVS Pathway can be found on pp. 54-55.

The OIE reaffirmed its commitment to support traditional pastoral systems as a factor for development, poverty alleviation and sustainable management of land without crop production alternatives. Effective control of animal diseases in pastoral areas is essential to safeguard the livestock capital of vulnerable populations and preserve their unique know-how. A Global Conference on safeguarding pastoralism is in preparation with OIE support.

6. OIE scientific network

A new global platform aimed at optimising the collection and analysis of the genetic dynamics of animal pathogens is currently being developed. This will allow major advances to be made in pathogen genotyping by the OIE's global network of Reference Centres, with the results being stored in a public database integrated into the OIE World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS). This concept was unveiled at the Global Conference of OIE Reference Centres at the end of 2014, which has already served to strengthen the networking of the OIE's many Reference Centres.

This strong veterinary scientific network continues to grow and the exchange of information between these Centres of excellence is proving decisive for the successes achieved in terms of animal health surveillance around the world. The OIE's scientific network has been further strengthened by five new Reference Laboratories approved by all the Delegates, bringing the number of official Centres of scientific excellence within the OIE's global network to more than 300, located in nearly 50 countries on all five continents.

Final report of the 83rd OIE General Session:
www.oie.int/en/about-us/final-reports-of-the-general-session-of-the-oie-international-committee/

The Code Commission: from the General Session to the World Assembly of Delegates



This year, 2015, the OIE has completed yet another significant period characterised by growth and recognition at a global level. This is a time for renewal and for change, because the World Assembly of May 2015 was one of those unique opportunities in the life of the OIE when all elected positions come up for election at the same time. This occurs every 15 years, and this time the new Director General, Dr Monique Eloit, was elected to replace Dr Bernard Vallat, who has directed and led this organisation for the past 15 years. It was also a time when the 151 Delegates present out of 180 Member Countries elected several new members to the Council, as well as to the five Regional Commissions and the four Specialist Commissions.

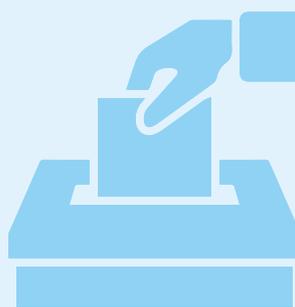
As an outgoing president of one of those Specialist Commissions, the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission (the Code Commission), I would like to recount some of the history surrounding the biggest yearly event of our organisation, the General Session, during the past 25 years. I will also highlight some of the major achievements of the Code Commission during this period.

Why is the General Session or, as it is now called, the World Assembly of Delegates, so important?

It is so important because it is the only yearly gathering of all Delegates, Regional and Sub-Regional offices, headquarters staff, and representatives of relevant

intergovernmental organisations and global private sector organisations. Thus it becomes a unique opportunity for rich networking and exchanges of information. It could be said that this is the ideal peacetime opportunity to exchange business cards and more.

2015 ELECTIONS



Director General



Council



Regional Commissions



Specialist Commissions



forum

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During the earlier years, all General Session activities were conducted on the ground floor of 12 rue de Prony in Paris. As the OIE membership grew, the General Session was moved to the Rene Vittoz Conference Room, now called Salon Vittoz. This great conference room located beneath the OIE headquarters building was commissioned to be built by Director General Dr Rene Vittoz in 1968 and was later modernised in 1994. However, the OIE continued its healthy growth and in 1999 it was decided that, for the first day of the Session at least, the OIE had to move out of Salon Vittoz to the rented Palais des Congrès and other conference locations. This was immediately extended to the first two days, and then the first three days, and finally, since in 2006, the entire General Session has been held away from the OIE headquarters, with the exception of the administrative session on the last day.

The numbers attending the General Session have grown significantly. In 1990, 96 of its 114 Delegates, 18 international organisations and a couple of hundred registered participants attended. By 2015, the numbers had grown to 151 of the now 180 Delegates, 35 international organisations and nearly 800 participants.

1924

ROOM AT HEADQUARTERS

1968

RENÉ VITTOZ CONFERENCE ROOM

1999

PALAIS DES CONGRÈS

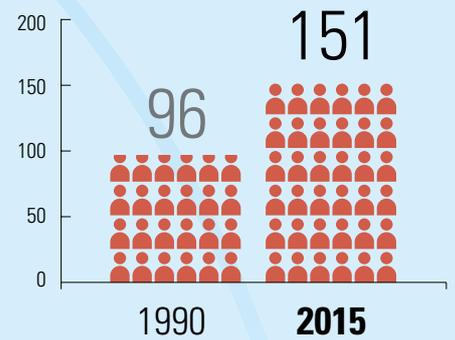
2015

MAISON DE LA CHIMIE

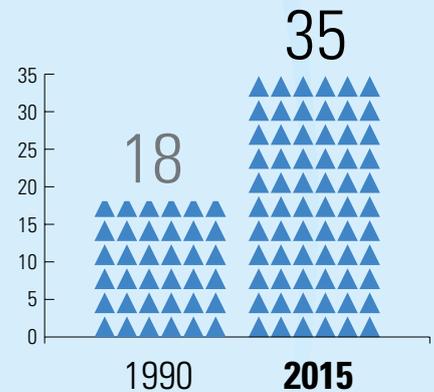
1 day

5 days

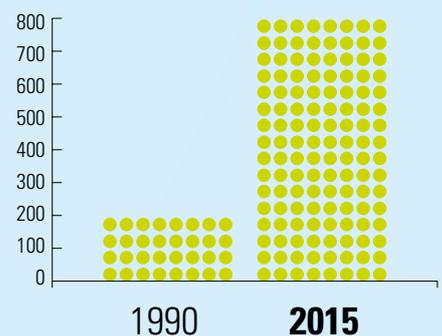
DELEGATES



ORGANISATIONS



TOTAL OF PARTICIPANTS





© OIE/Daniel Mordzinski

Meeting away from home has provided the OIE with some space advantages, as well as giving it more public visibility. However, it has also presented the OIE staff with additional challenges. In 2007, while meeting at the Palais Brongniart, also known as La Bourse, street exposure gave Korean farmers' unions and certain opposition politicians the opportunity to demonstrate publicly against OIE standards dealing with beef trade from countries reporting bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE). Similarly, in May 2013, just a few days before the start of the General Session at Maison de la Chimie, the OIE received notice from the Parisian authorities that it would have no access to the conference site, due to massive authorised demonstrations in favour of and against the same-sex marriage bill, to be held on Sunday in nearby Esplanade des Invalides. Tens of thousands of demonstrators blocked all of central Paris. Nevertheless, the skilful OIE staff managed, within less than a week, to find and secure a conference hall with enough capacity for 600 people, at the Marriott Hotel Saint Jacques, and the Sunday event went flawlessly, with the General Session resuming at the Maison de la Chimie on Monday morning.

80



HEADQUARTERS
STAFF

11



TRANSLATORS

16



INTERPRETERS

76



LOGISTICS/
SECURITY

What you probably did not know about the General Session

When enjoying this well-organised yearly event, one rarely thinks about how it is all managed. I am sure you did not know that the organisation of a World Assembly begins even before the previous one has taken place, as meeting venue and dates need to be confirmed. The preparation for the World Assembly goes on throughout the year in OIE headquarters. The final preparation involves all members of the headquarters staff, assisted by the regional and sub-regional personnel, who work on the revision and translation of documents while the session is going on. Additionally, 11 translators, 16 interpreters and 76 individuals for logistics and security are recruited.

It would be difficult to find another organisation that can deliver a final report, containing over 400 pages in three languages, by early afternoon on the last day. This is the result of a team effort by the entire OIE staff, many of whom work around the clock, while the World Assembly participants enjoy the receptions.

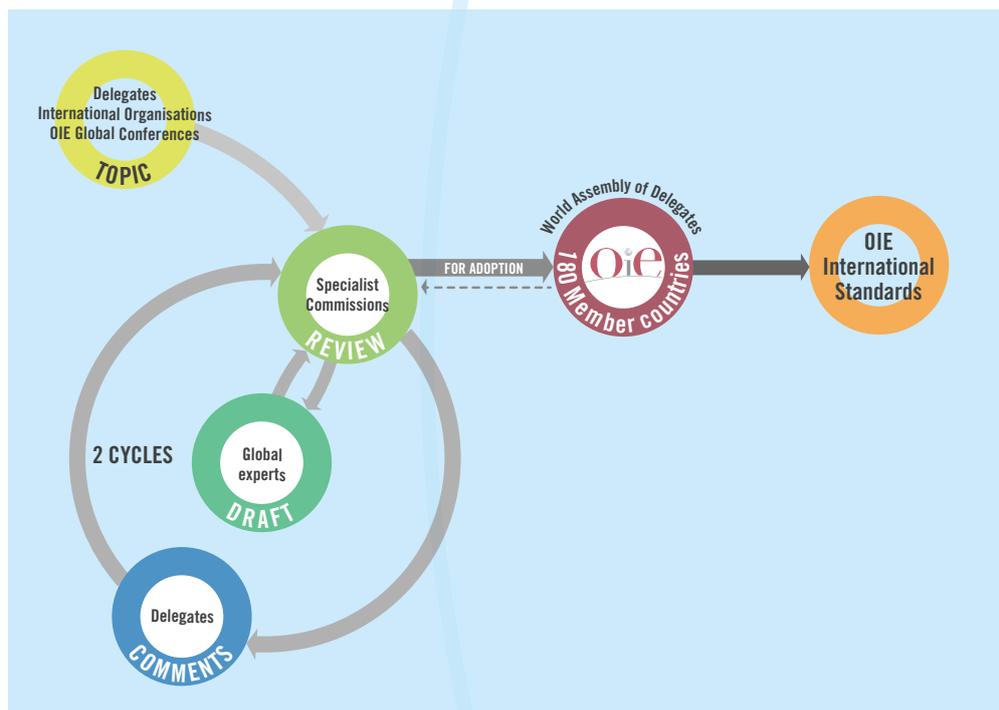




The Code Commission

The work of this Commission culminates each year with the presentation of new or revised standards for adoption. The presentations by the Specialist Commissions are probably the highlight of the OIE General Session. The international standards of the OIE, especially since the signing of the WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (the SPS Agreement), have become one of the cornerstones of our organisation. The international standards for terrestrial and aquatic animals, and the global notifications of disease occurrences published daily in the WAHIS system, make the OIE a unique and critical contributor among all international organisations in terms of safe international trade in animals and animal products.

The work of these Commissions has grown over the years. Using the Code Commission as an example, during the early 1990s it held two four-day meetings each year, providing reports, which rarely exceeded 30 pages, and on which Member Countries provided their comments. These would eventually become adopted standards a few General Sessions later. In 2006, the Code Commission extended each of its meetings to 10 days, in addition to extensive electronic exchanges of information and technical discussions.



In 2015 the Code Commission report was over 400 pages long and, during the World Assembly in May 2015, 19 standards were adopted.

The major achievements of the Code Commission during this period can be attributed to the dedicated work of its elected members and OIE staff, but also to the active participation of experts, the Scientific Commission and, of course, the Member Countries' contributions.

When the SPS Agreement came into force it had a significant impact on the global recognition of OIE standards as the only internationally accepted sanitary standards for animal health.

The Third OIE Strategic Plan empowered the OIE and the Code Commission to take on the subject of animal welfare. An advisory body, dedicated to animal welfare (Animal Welfare Working Group) was established to work with the Code Commission; to date 11 chapters have been adopted.



The Director General led the OIE to address food safety issues at the farm level in order to contribute to the farm-to-fork concept. An advisory body was established to assist the Code Commission (the Animal Production Food Safety Working Group) in the drafting of new standards. So far 11 chapters have been adopted. This has also contributed to a much closer relationship between OIE and the Codex Alimentarius Commission and the development of complementary standards between the two organisations. This has been the case with standards on *Trichinella* and other zoonotic parasites. An entire section of the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* has been dedicated to disease prevention and control, containing 16 specific chapters. A section on trade measures, containing 13 chapters, makes reference to OIE procedures linked to Member Countries' obligations under the SPS Agreement.

The disease-specific chapters have been reviewed, updated and modified to place more emphasis on risk-based recommendations for safe trade in specific commodities, rather than relying strictly on the sanitary status of the country or zone of origin. The 'User's Guide' was substantially modified and expanded for this purpose.

Member Country participation in the standard-setting process is critical and participation has varied through the years. The degree and quality of

their participation can be attributed to the assignment, by the Delegate, of staff specifically dedicated to the process, as well as to the skills and dedication of these assigned individuals. In this regard, the Commission has noticed changes in the contributions to the standard-setting process. The most significant and sustainable improvement, during the last seven or eight years, has been the contributions made by the Member Countries of the Africa region. These Delegates made a strategic decision to meet during the course of the year, where they jointly examined the Commission reports and presented coordinated and well-justified comments. This has had a significant impact on the chapters adopted at World Assemblies. It has also encouraged other regions to attempt similar approaches.

The biggest challenge for the Code Commission has been to ensure that science prevails throughout the standard-setting process. Delegates participate by providing comments on the Commission reports.

Eventually, the draft texts are presented for adoption, and these are usually adopted by consensus. Unfortunately, not all Member Countries adhere to these adopted standards when implementing trade policy.

One of the most difficult situations experienced was that of disease listing. At the request of Member Countries, the Code Commission reviewed and proposed improvements to the criteria for disease listing. The improved text was presented for adoption and was adopted unanimously. However, soon after, the Code Commission proposed the de-listing of two diseases on the basis of these new criteria. When it came time for this de-listing to be adopted by the World Assembly, several Member Countries opposed the recommendation, without providing any scientific rationale. Seeking consensus, the Code Commission opted to postpone the decision and gave Member Countries one additional year to provide an appropriate justification for their objection. As none was provided, the Code Commission once again submitted the de-listing for adoption. However, the opposition by certain Member Countries remained, and this forced the Code Commission to request adoption by vote. The diseases were de-listed, but not without tension between Member Countries and the Commission.

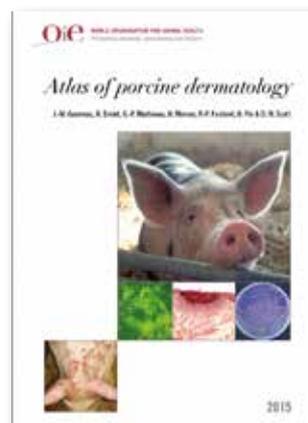
Science must prevail, and the elected members of the Commissions must be the guardians of it.

new OIE publications



Trilingual publication

December 2015
29.7 × 21 cm
Approx. 320 pages
ISBN 978-92-9044-981-2
Price: EUR 70



In English

2015
29.7 x 21 cm
464 pages
ISBN 978-92-9044-984-3
Price: EUR 60

Scientific and Technical Review, Vol. 34 (3) (plurithematic issue)

Volume 34 (3) of the *Scientific and Technical Review* contains 25 articles submitted by experts from across the world.

This issue deals with the epidemiology of many diseases, including avian, sheep, goat, cattle and swine diseases. It also deals with health policies and provides updated information about animal welfare education. Other topics addressed include foot and mouth disease (FMD) vaccination, surveillance and risk assessment, and the mental and physical distress of field veterinarians during and after the 2010 FMD outbreak in Japan.

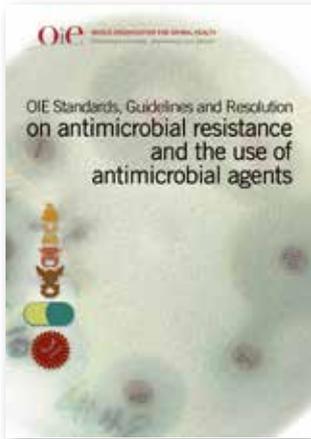
The annual plurithematic issue of the *Scientific and Technical Review* provides a unique opportunity to publish reports on the situation of various animal diseases in the world, in particular in countries whose animal health situation is rarely reported in the literature. Every year, the OIE publishes three issues of the *Scientific and Technical Review*. In 2015, the first two issues addressed the topic of new developments in major vector-borne diseases.

Atlas of porcine dermatology

J.-M. Gourreau, R. Drolet, G.-P. Martineau, H. Morvan, P.-P. Pastoret, D. Pin & D.W. Scott

This atlas, which has been lavishly illustrated, is the first of its kind and fills a gap in the global veterinary literature. The advantage of this book is that it takes into account all aspects of porcine dermatology (it covers non-infectious diseases and those whose origins are neither parasitic nor fungal), thus facilitating differential diagnosis.

Several of the OIE-listed swine diseases, such as foot and mouth disease, Aujeszky's disease, porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome, classical swine fever and African swine fever (some of which also affect other species) can result in cutaneous clinical signs in pigs. For many ailments these signs are crucial for establishing a diagnosis.



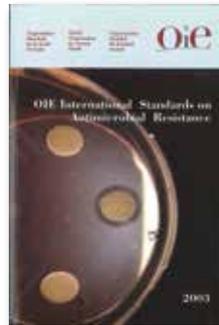
In English
2015

29.7 × 21 cm
128 pages
ISBN 978-92-95108-16-5
Price: EUR 30

OIE Standards, Guidelines and Resolution on antimicrobial resistance and the use of antimicrobial agents

This special publication has been prepared to support the Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance (GAP-AMR) that WHO is developing in collaboration with FAO and OIE. It compiles:

- a note of the OIE Director General on the risks associated with the use of antimicrobial agents in animals worldwide,
- the OIE standards and guidelines on antimicrobial resistance and the use of antimicrobial agents from the *Terrestrial and Aquatic Animal Health Codes* and the *Manual of Diagnostic Test and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals*,
- the OIE List of antimicrobial agents of veterinary importance, and
- the Resolution No. 26 on 'Combating Antimicrobial Resistance and Promoting the Prudent Use of Antimicrobial Agents in Animals' adopted by the OIE World Assembly of Delegates during the 83rd General Session in 2015.



In English
2003

124 × 16 cm
286 pages
ISBN 92-9044-601-3
Price: EUR 30

OIE International Standards on Antimicrobial Resistance

2nd OIE International Conference on Antimicrobial Resistance (OIE Headquarters, Paris, 2–4 October 2001). With the participation of the OIE Collaborating Centre for Veterinary Medicinal Products (AFSSA), Fougères, France

The increasing antimicrobial resistance of important human pathogenic bacteria, and the spread of such bacteria from the closed environment of hospitals into surrounding communities, are increasingly perceived as threats to public health. Any use of antimicrobials, whether in humans, animals, plants or food-processing, may lead to bacterial resistance. The use of antimicrobials in livestock production is thought to significantly contribute to the phenomenon, but little is known about the true causes of antimicrobial resistance.

Increasing international travel and international trade in animals and animal products may spread resistance worldwide. The OIE has developed international standards on antimicrobial resistance to enable Member Countries to protect themselves, without setting up unjustified sanitary barriers. The OIE normative works are recognised by the World Trade Organization (WTO) as international sanitary standards. They are developed by elected Specialist Commissions and Working Groups which bring together internationally renowned scientists, most of whom are experts within the network of Collaborating Centres and Reference Laboratories which also contribute to the scientific objectives of the OIE. Countries which import animals and animal products can legally use these standards to verify whether or not exporting countries are complying with these new requirements.

news from headquarters

Staff movements

Arrivals



Communication Unit

Marina Domingo Monsonís
Chargée de mission

Ms Marina Domingo Monsonís

joined the OIE Communication Unit in March 2014 as *chargée de mission*.

Ms Domingo Monsonís, who was born in Spain, holds a Master's degree in communication and journalism and a 'Master's 2' degree in European and international studies. On her arrival at the OIE, Marina already had considerable experience having worked in various national and European administrations, such as the Valencia delegation in Brussels, the Executive Agency for Health and Consumers of the European Commission and the Directorate General of Global Affairs, Development and Partnerships of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Her knowledge of the media is a key asset for the Communication Unit, thanks to the positions she has held as a journalist (web, television and print media). Since her arrival, Marina has been in charge of various communication topics. For instance, she is the author of the video presentation of the 83rd General Session, which was screened during the Opening Ceremony and can be accessed on the OIE YouTube account. She is also especially dedicated to her role as editorial webmaster and community manager for the organisation's social networks. Feel free to contact Marina if you have any questions on these topics. She will be pleased to inform you.



Communication Unit

Olive Ncube
Trilingual secretary

Zimbabwe-born Olive

Ncube has a certificate in secretarial studies and is trained in communication marketing and public relations. An Anglophone, she holds a diploma in linguistics and translation for French and Portuguese. Her language skills also extend to Spanish, Ndebele, which is her mother tongue, Shona and Setswana. Before joining the OIE, Olive gained sound professional experience through various positions as administrative assistant, project manager and translator while working at the embassy of Brazil in Zimbabwe, the Hivos Foundation, and, more recently, the Kavango–Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area (KAZA TFCA) in Botswana.

Since her arrival, Olive has been a great help for the Communication Unit. She will be your prime point of contact if you have any questions or need any information about the OIE's communication tools, which she is responsible for disseminating within the organisation, in the Headquarters or in the Regions, and through the OIE's network.





Budget and Financial Unit

Louis Dassargues
Assistant

Mr Louis Dassargues joined the OIE on 3 August 2015 as Assistant within the Budget and Financial Unit for a period of six months.

He holds a French senior technician certificate (BTS: *brevet de technicien supérieur*) in accountancy and management. He is responsible for assisting the Head of the Budget and Financial Unit on matters including the reimbursement of mission expenses incurred by OIE staff and experts, budget monitoring of the regular budget, payment of statutory contributions by Member Countries and budgets for regional seminars and global conferences.



Scientific and Technical Department

Tianna Brand
Chargée de mission
for Biological Threat Reduction

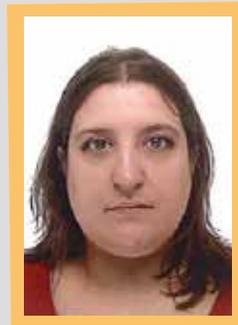
On 27 July 2015, the Scientific and Technical Department welcomed Ms Tianna Brand to the position of Chargée de mission for 'biological threat reduction'. Tianna will lead the coordination of OIE activities for the reduction of biological threats arising from natural, accidental or deliberate pathways. She will also be responsible for fostering relationships and networks between the global health and policing security communities.

Tianna brings with her significant experience in animal and veterinary public health policy, project management, stakeholder engagement and diplomatic

relations. She has a keen awareness and understanding of OIE procedures and processes, as well as a strong track record in establishing effective collaboration between the private and public sectors of Member Countries, to assist their contribution to the development and adoption of OIE standards.

She obtained her Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Science in 2000 and a Master's degree in Public Administration in 2010.

Departure



Regional Activities Department

Sylvie Pupulin
Chargée de Mission

In September 2014, Dr Sylvie Pupulin was seconded to the OIE by the French Ministry of Agriculture, after 13 years spent working for the French Veterinary Services. She joined the Regional Activities Department at OIE Headquarters in Paris as a Chargée de Mission. Her responsibilities primarily involved activities associated with the PVS Pathway, the OIE's global programme to strengthen national Veterinary Services. These included helping to organise OIE assessments of the performance of Veterinary Services (PVS Evaluations), PVS Gap Analyses, veterinary legislation missions and follow-up missions; taking part in the analysis of PVS Pathway mission reports and contributing to OIE Veterinary Legislation Support Programme activities.

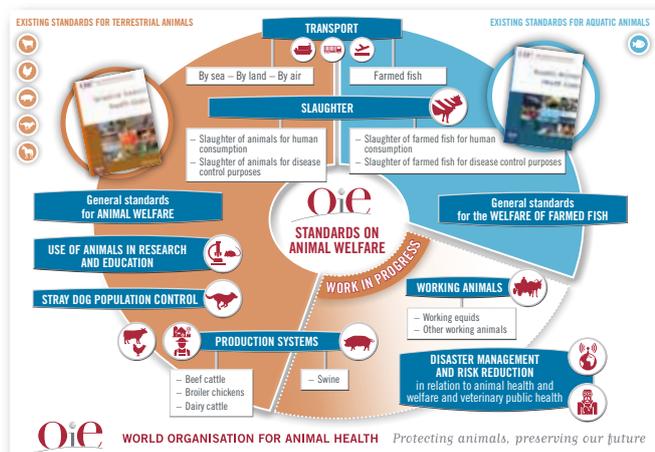
On 1 September 2015 Dr Pupulin left her position at the OIE to return to the French Ministry of Agriculture. The Regional Activities Department wishes her the best for her professional endeavours in the future.



Activities of the Communication Unit

The OIE's new Animal Welfare Portal and DVD

Animal welfare is a multifaceted issue that involves many dimensions, ranging from the scientific, ethical and economic to the cultural, social, religious and political. Since 2001, the OIE has recognised animal welfare as one of its most important areas for development and, due to the widespread public concern for animal welfare which continues to grow, this has become a priority for the OIE.



- the OIE Animal Welfare Working Group and Collaborating Centres;
- the implementation of OIE animal welfare standards by building technical and scientific capacity and improving veterinary governance;
- the development of animal welfare standards and related activities.

Updating the Animal Welfare Portal also led to the addition of two new sections: **Media Resources** and **Events**.

The OIE has also issued a training DVD (available in English and Arabic) on the welfare of cattle in pre-slaughter and slaughter (with and without stunning), as a tool to assist in implementing OIE animal welfare standards.

As a result of the importance of this issue in today's world, the OIE has decided to update its Animal Welfare Portal to keep the public and our stakeholders informed of OIE activities and progress in this sector.

- This update provides information about:
- the history of the OIE's global animal welfare initiative, including its three Global Conferences on Animal Welfare and the regular revision of OIE standards to take account of the latest scientific findings;
 - how the OIE defines animal welfare and the universally recognised 'five freedoms' of animals under human care;
 - science-based standards;
 - the importance of the veterinary profession in ensuring animal health and welfare;
 - details of the OIE animal welfare standards within the context of international trade;

This video has been used by trainers and OIE Focal Points for Animal Welfare during the OIE Improved Animal Welfare Programme (IAWP) workshops. The purpose of these workshops is to facilitate cooperation between recently trained trainers, on the one hand, and veterinary education establishments and industry, on the other (see *Bulletin*, no. 2014-1, p. 31).



We hope you find these new developments informative!

OIE Portal on Animal Welfare:
www.oie.int/en/animal-welfare/animal-welfare-at-a-glance/



Activities of the Communication Unit

The OIE updates its antimicrobial resistance communication materials

Tackling pathogen resistance to antibiotics is one of the priority issues of the OIE. In a world where the effectiveness of antibiotics is becoming increasingly hampered by the emergence of bacterial resistance, the OIE, through its scientific networks and intergovernmental standards, advocates the responsible and prudent use of antimicrobials by properly supervised and well-trained veterinarians.

To mark Awareness Week against Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) (16–22 November 2015) the OIE's information on the fight against AMR has been updated to give a clear overview of OIE action in this arena.

The OIE has even created new tools and overhauled existing tools for its network, including:

- an updated fact sheet
- a new infographic
- three awareness posters aimed at public authorities, veterinarians and the general public
- a leaflet summarising the OIE standards and actions taken on AMR.

In addition, the OIE revised all its intergovernmental standards for AMR in May 2015 and has adopted a new version of the OIE List of Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance.

The World Health Organization (WHO) Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance (GAP-AMR), adopted by WHO Member Countries and published last May, emphasises the importance of the OIE's intergovernmental standards in implementing the Action Plan and has assigned the OIE a central role in surveillance of the use of antimicrobials in animals throughout the world. Consequently, the OIE plans to publish a document on *OIE Standards, Guidelines and Resolution on Antimicrobial Resistance and the Use of Antimicrobial Agents* (see p. 13). This publication, developed in collaboration with FAO and WHO, will gather together the principal OIE texts on the fight against AMR.

Fact sheets

Antimicrobial resistance

Antimicrobial agents are medicines used to treat infections caused by bacteria in particular. They are essential to both human and animal health, but in recent years, some bacteria have demonstrated full or partial resistance to various antimicrobial agents. This phenomenon, called antimicrobial resistance (AMR), is a rising concern for both public and animal health. Many of the actions implemented to improve animal health depend on the availability and appropriate use of quality veterinary medicines, and notably antimicrobial agents. Animal health is a key component of policies to improve animal welfare, food security and food safety. The OIE believes it is vital to ensure adequate access to effective antimicrobial agents to treat animal diseases, but emphasises the need to regulate that access through the intervention of well-trained veterinarians, whose ethics are ensured by national Veterinary Statutory Bodies as laid down by law.

KEY POINTS

- Essential for treating human and animal diseases of bacterial origin, antimicrobial agents are a global public good.
- Combating antimicrobial resistance must be coordinated between public health, animal health and environmental action.
- Access to safe, responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents for animals must be regulated and monitored by well-trained veterinarians, whose ethics are ensured by a Veterinary Statutory Body.

ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE: A GLOBAL AND MULTISECTORAL CONCERN

In the case of zoonotic species for human and animal health has become widespread in recent decades, the world has been confronted with the accelerated emergence of antimicrobial resistance. The discovery of new mechanisms to help bacteria, the incorporation of resistance genes into plasmids and the development of effective antimicrobial agents to treat animal diseases, protect human health, and guarantee food safety.

The globalisation of trade in food products, as well as both conventional and medical tourism, enable resistant bacteria to colonise the entire globe, in spite of preventive measures applied locally. The close behaviour of one country can endanger the efficiency and availability of antibiotics worldwide.

THE 'ONE HEALTH' CONCEPT IS ESSENTIAL

OIE's pathogens originate from many animal species, human and animals share the same bacteria, which need to be controlled and prevented at the national, regional and global levels. Tackling the emergence of antimicrobial resistance therefore requires global, multi-sectoral harmonisation of the strategies and measures designed to improve the coordination of public health, animal health and environmental policies.

In terms of animal health, the responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents is essential for maintaining their therapeutic efficacy. That is the goal pursued by the OIE, particularly through its intergovernmental standards developed with the support of its network of experts and national authorities by its 183 Member Countries.

A LONGSTANDING COMMITMENT BY THE OIE

The OIE has been working actively for more than 100 years on the issue of veterinary practice: to assist its member countries, through international conventions. The OIE has developed a global strategy for veterinary products, in close connection with its global network of experts, all of its 183 Member Countries and its international partners.

GLOBAL ACTION

The OIE issues various action plans on antimicrobial resistance, which are widely used by its members to plan, implement and monitor their national policies.

The OIE was selected Code Alimentarius C and International Code of Veterinary Practice in May 2015.

GLOBAL INTERSECTORAL COLLABORATION

Since 2011, the OIE, alongside the WHO and FAO, has been engaged in a "One Health" strategy that divides the respective responsibilities of the three organisations in the fight against diseases with a high health and economic impact, particularly zoonotic.

The responsible and antimicrobial resist

They have all chosen

- to ensure that animals
- are properly protected
- to facilitate access to

The OIE was selected Code Alimentarius C and International Code of Veterinary Practice in May 2015.

Antimicrobial resistance

Summary of OIE Activities

RESPONSIBLE AND PRUDENT USE OF ANTIBIOTICS IN ANIMALS

PRESERVING THE EFFICACY OF ANTIBIOTICS IS CRUCIAL

Antibiotics are essential resources for human health, animal health and animal welfare. Their misuse can result in the emergence of bacteria resistant to their action, who called antimicrobials. This phenomenon deeply threatens the control of diseases worldwide.

We need to collectively ensure the responsible and prudent use of antibiotics in animals to preserve their effectiveness.

WHAT CAN YOU DO AS POLICY MAKERS?

- Control the use of antibiotics through appropriate use of antimicrobial resistance.
- Prevent the circulation of antimicrobial resistance in animals.
- Encourage research on alternative treatments to antibiotics.
- Ensure that appropriate Veterinary Statutory Bodies.
- Ensure compliance with the intergovernmental and national standards on antimicrobial resistance.

WORLD ANTIBIOTIC AWARENESS WEEK 2015

www.oie.int/antimicrobial-resistance

FIGHTING ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE

HANDLE ANTIBIOTICS WITH CARE

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WORLD ANTIBIOTIC AWARENESS WEEK 2015

www.oie.int/antimicrobial-resistance

All these tools are available on the relaunched web portal dedicated to antimicrobial resistance: www.oie.int/antimicrobial-resistance



Activities of the Scientific and Technical Department

Summaries of the OIE Specialist Commission,

Working Group and *Ad hoc* Group meetings

July to September 2015

Ad hoc Groups

Equine trypanosomoses

OIE Headquarters, Paris, 21–23 July 2015

An *ad hoc* Group of experts on equine trypanosomoses, namely surra and dourine, was convened to discuss the feasibility of developing a *Terrestrial Code* chapter on surra in response to Member Countries' request. Currently the *Terrestrial Code* contains only a chapter on dourine and the *Terrestrial Manual* includes chapters on surra and dourine. Although there is still no clear diagnostic pathway to differentiate *Trypanosoma evansi* and *T. equiperdum*, the experts decided that if diagnostic methods, clinical signs and the epidemiology of the disease are combined, a differentiation could be made. Against this background, the Group reviewed the chapter on dourine and started to draft a chapter on surra. The work has not been finalised and needs to be completed.

Biosecurity for the HHP Concept (Expert Group)

OIE Headquarters, Paris, 28–29 July 2015

Biosecurity is critical for the establishment and maintenance of a high health status horse subpopulation, as described in the *Terrestrial Code* Chapter 4.16, for safe international movement to compete in equestrian competitions ('High Health High Performance' [HHP] concept). A high health status subpopulation should be established by continuous application of documented biosecurity procedures to create and maintain a functional separation between horses within the defined subpopulation and all other equids at all times (establishment of usual residence, transport, competition venues).

An Expert Group, composed of equine disease experts, biosecurity experts and representatives from the Fédération Équestre Internationale (FEI) and the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities (IFHA), was convened on 28–29 July at the OIE Headquarters to finalise a handbook¹ that comprises biosecurity guidelines for the management of the high health status horse subpopulation and HHP horses at

home stable and during competitions, drafted in consultation with the *Ad hoc* Group on International Horse Movement for Equestrian Sport. Ultimately, the HHP handbook is intended to provide guidance to the Veterinary Services and the OIE Delegates when applying the HHP concept and will serve as a reference document for the horse industry (IFHA and FEI) to develop 'operational manuals' for use by private sector stakeholders for implementation of the HHP concept.

Antimicrobial resistance

OIE Headquarters, Paris, 25–27 August 2015

This meeting was organised in two parts. In the first part, based on feedback from the OIE National Focal Points for Veterinary Products, the Group finalised the template and instructions developed for the OIE Member Countries to report data to the OIE on the use of antimicrobial agents in animals with the view to developing an OIE global database. The Group also assisted in drafting the project cover letter to be signed by the OIE Director General for the first round of data collection.

In the second part, the Group reviewed the technical comments received on the *Terrestrial Code* Chapter 6.7 on 'Harmonisation of national antimicrobial resistance surveillance and monitoring programmes' and agreed that it would need to be updated, proposing a selection of animal pathogens for surveillance. The Group proposed to take the animal pathogen table previously included in Chapter 6.7 as a starting point. It also proposed to consider a certain number of criteria for prioritisation of animal pathogens for antimicrobial resistance surveillance. This update of Chapter 6.7 will be on the agenda of the next meeting of the Group in January 2016. The Group also reviewed the definitions proposed, during the meeting held in July 2012, for inclusion in the Glossary of the *Terrestrial Code* and suggested including two of them ('therapeutic use' and 'non-therapeutic use') in the Chapter 6.7 of the *Terrestrial Code*.

¹ *Handbook for the management of high health, high performance horses*, September 2015





Activities of the Scientific and Technical Department

Specialist Commissions

Biological Standards Commission (‘Laboratories Commission’)

OIE Headquarters, Paris, 1–3 September 2015

The newly elected Biological Standards Commission met at the OIE Headquarters under the chairmanship of its President, Dr Beverly Schmitt, and addressed, among others, the following issues:

1. *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals* (the ‘*Terrestrial Manual*’)

The Commission reviewed 21 chapters and one guideline for circulation to Member Countries for a first round of comments and eventual proposal for adoption by the Assembly in May 2016.

2. OIE Reference Centres

The Commission accepted five requests for designation as an OIE Reference Laboratory (see pp. 86-87). Should the requests be endorsed by the OIE Council, they will be proposed for adoption by the Assembly through a formal resolution at the General Session in May 2016.

As of August 2015, 26 laboratory twinning projects have been completed, 34 are underway and a further 10 have been approved in principle and will begin once a source of funding is identified. Seven twinning proposals were presented to the Commission for technical review.

3. *Ad hoc* Groups

The Commission endorsed the report of the *Ad hoc* Group on **Vaccine Banks** held from 3 to 5 June 2015 (see *Bulletin*, no. 2015-3, p. 21).

In the area of **High Throughput Sequencing, Bioinformatics and Computational Genomics (HTS-BCG)**, Dr Antonino Caminiti, Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale della Lombardia e dell’Emilia Romagna, Brescia, Italy, gave a presentation entitled: *The increasing importance of sequence information in managing animal health information globally: OIE actions to update the new members of the Commission on the OIE Platform for the Collection and Management of Genomic Sequences in Animal Health*, which already had the Commission’s approval. To further progress the topic, the

Commission proposed that the Director General of the OIE reconvene the *ad hoc* group to review the draft work plan and assess the pilot project, and detail the steps needed for the implementation of both.

The OIE Reference Laboratories for **bovine tuberculosis** had advised that current supplies of the international reference standard bovine tuberculin PPD² were running out, and that there was an urgent need to develop a replacement. Given the complexity of the task, the Commission recommended that the Director General of the OIE establish an *ad hoc* group to develop a protocol for evaluation and adoption of a new international standard bovine tuberculin, with the participation of Reference Laboratories, tuberculosis experts, experts in international standardisation, members of the Commission and the *Terrestrial Manual* editorial team.

One of the recommendations of the Third Global Conference of OIE Reference Centres, held in October 2014 in Seoul, Republic of Korea, was to further develop the concept of establishing a **virtual OIE biobank**. To progress the project, the Commission proposed that the Director General convene an *ad hoc* group. The principal terms of reference would be to identify which types of biological material, along with the metadata and quality assurance requirements, should be included in the OIE biobank, to review the IT (information technology) options, and to prepare the technical specifications of the OIE biobank.

4. International standardisation/harmonisation

The Commission adopted new OIE-approved international standard sera for the complement fixation test for **contagious bovine pleuropneumonia** that had been prepared by the OIE Reference Laboratory in Portugal. The standards have been added to the table of OIE-approved International Standard Sera (available at: www.oie.int/en/our-scientific-expertise/veterinary-products/reference-reagents/).

At present, the need for fully validated diagnostic reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) methods for **African horse sickness (AHS)** has become a priority for the OIE, due to the demand from the equine industry and equestrian sports organisations for these diagnostic tests to be used for import or export protocols to or from

2 PPD: purified protein derivative



Activities of the Scientific and Technical Department

AHS endemic countries. The OIE Reference Laboratories for AHS had undertaken an international comparative ring trial of available RT-PCR methods. Ten different RT-PCR protocols were compared and, because of its performance and widespread use, the study identified the 'Agüero method' for full validation. The dossier was presented to the Commission for approval. The Commission accepted the validation dossier; the OIE Reference Laboratory experts will be asked to update the *Terrestrial Manual* chapter.

5. The Joint OIE/FAO Network of Expertise on Animal Influenza (OFFLU)³

OFFLU organised a technical meeting in conjunction with the 9th International Avian Influenza Symposium, Athens, Georgia, United States of America, on 15 April 2015. The meeting discussed the strategic agenda as developed by a combined meeting of the Steering Committee and Executive Committee in October 2014.

The responsible experts presented the key achievements of OFFLU Technical Activities (TAs) since the previous Technical Meeting in 2012. These included the OFFLU contributions to the WHO Vaccine Composition Meetings (VCM), the vaccination technical meeting, the research agenda meeting with STAR-IDAZ⁴, ring trial performance, the swine influenza virus technical activities and the equine influenza technical activities, including recommendations for changes in equine influenza vaccine antigens. New TAs proposed include epidemiology and surveillance, economic and social aspects, a wildlife group, a diagnostic TA incorporating current laboratory TAs, a 'One Health' TA including risk assessments for zoonotic potential and a TA for avian influenza vaccine antigen review.

The OFFLU wildlife surveillance group was successfully formed and has convened the first teleconference among the experts.

The Commission is committed to improving its procedures, transparency and output. With this in mind, Dr Schmitt proposed that the next meeting in February 2016 include an in-depth discussion on the Commission's activities, *modus operandi* and working procedures. Foremost among the items for discussion would be an extensive review of the structure of the *Terrestrial Manual*. Recognised by the World Trade

Organization as an international standard, the scope and content of the *Terrestrial Manual* chapters must be reviewed, taking into account the Commission's, the Council's and the Assembly's vision and requirements. The second theme that would be given comprehensive review by the Commission is the network of OIE Reference Centres to ensure demonstration of their scientific excellence and achievement of their mandate, including the procedure for reviewing new applications for OIE Reference Centre status and for monitoring the activities of designated centres.

Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases ('Scientific Commission')

OIE Headquarters, Paris, 7–11 September 2015

The newly elected Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases met at the OIE Headquarters under the chairmanship of its President, Dr Gideon Brückner, and addressed, among others, the following issues:

1. Endorsement of the reports of the *ad hoc* Groups convened on:
 - International horse movement for equestrian sport – and the sub-group on biosecurity for the high health status horse subpopulation. This included revision of the model veterinary certificate for the international movement not exceeding 90 days of high health-high performance (HHP) horses for competition or racing.
 - Prioritisation of diseases for which vaccines could reduce antimicrobial use in animals.
 - Porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome.
 - Equine trypanosomosis including surra (see above).
 - Antimicrobial resistance (see above).
2. Review for future inclusion in the *Terrestrial Code*:
 - Proposed new definitions for the Glossary.
 - Chapter 4.16 'High health status horse subpopulation'.
3. Liaison with the Biological Standards Commission on issues raised during a previous Scientific Commission meeting related to diagnostic strategies and international standardisation of tuberculin.
4. Review of the outcome of the OIE expert missions conducted since February 2015.

³ OFFLU website: <http://offlu.net/>

⁴ STAR-IDAZ: Global Strategic Alliances for the Coordination of Research on the Major Infectious Diseases of Animals and Zoonoses





Activities of the Scientific and Technical Department

5. Follow-up of the evaluation of a Member Country's request to be designated as a Collaborating Centre for Training Veterinary Officials and Diagnosis.

6. Endorsement of the handbook for the management of HHP horses which included biosecurity guidelines (see above).

7. Addressing specific disease questions raised by Member Countries, particularly related to classical swine fever, tuberculosis and foot and mouth disease (FMD).

8. Prioritisation of the future work of the Scientific Commission including the revision and endorsement of the agendas of the upcoming *ad hoc* group meetings and Wildlife Working Group.

The Commission was updated on the outcome of the main conferences and meetings attended by Commission members or OIE staff and also on the state of play of the Global Strategies for the control and eradication of FMD and peste des petits ruminants.

Additionally, the Scientific Commission and the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission held a joint meeting chaired by the Director General to coordinate the working programmes of both Commissions. Several important cross-cutting items were discussed including the model of the veterinary certificate for the international movement of HHP horses, atypical bovine spongiform encephalopathy and other pending issues related to the recently adopted chapter on FMD. Both Commissions emphasised the importance of maintaining transparency on decisions made by the Commissions when communicating with Member Countries and improving accessibility to *ad hoc* Group reports.

Activities of the International Trade Department

Summaries of the OIE Specialist Commission, Working Group and *Ad hoc* Group meetings

July to September 2015

Ad hoc Groups

Veterinary Education

OIE Headquarters, Paris, 30–31 July 2015

The OIE *Ad hoc* Group on Veterinary Education convened in July for the first time in three years and included several new faces. One important task for the Group was to advise the OIE about the scope and programme of the Fourth OIE Global Conference on Veterinary Education, planned for 22–24 July 2016 in Thailand.

After reviewing progress since the last OIE Global Conference on Veterinary Education in Brazil in 2013, including the experiences of some members of the Group with OIE twinning projects for veterinary educational establishments (VEEs), the Group:

- agreed that one topic of the conference should be how to support VEEs to implement OIE recommendations on veterinary education – in particular, the *OIE recommendations on the competencies of graduating veterinarians ('Day 1 graduates') to assure National Veterinary Services of quality and the OIE Guidelines on Veterinary Education Core Curriculum*.

- confirmed that it is time to move 'from recommendations to actions'.

The Group also decided it would be opportune to discuss how to improve other important skills, such as leadership, communication, economics and ethics, both for individual veterinarians and for the veterinary profession as a whole. Another topic that should be addressed is 'Best teaching practices in the information age'.

The Group also decided that developing education standards for veterinary para-professionals should be included in the OIE's work at some time in the future, and that this should start with a review of the current situation in the field, possibly through a questionnaire.



Activities of the International Trade Department

The Group's report was submitted to the Code Commission for endorsement and is now available as part of the Code Commission's report on its September 2015 meeting at: www.oie.int/en/international-standard-setting/specialists-commissions-groups/code-commission-reports/meetings-reports/

Specialist Commissions

Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission ('Code Commission')

OIE Headquarters, Paris, 31 August–10 September 2015

The Code Commission addressed Member Countries' comments on texts circulated after the Commission meeting in February 2015, together with interventions made by the OIE Delegates at the 83rd General Session in May 2015. The Code Commission also reviewed several revised or new draft chapters from the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases (the Scientific Commission) and *Ad hoc* Groups, or suggested by its members and OIE Headquarters. The Code Commission had several meetings with the Biological Standards Commission and the Scientific Commission to discuss issues of mutual interest. The Commission also endorsed the reports of the OIE *ad hoc* Groups on Veterinary Education, the Evaluation of Veterinary Services, and the Welfare of Working Equids. The report of the OIE Animal Welfare Working Group was also endorsed at this meeting.

The Code Commission circulated the following new or revised chapters for Member Country comments:

- the User's Guide
- the Glossary
- Notification of diseases, infections and infestations, and provision of epidemiological information (Chapter 1.1.)
- Criteria for the inclusion of diseases, infections and infestations in the OIE List (Chapter 1.2.)

- Diseases listed by the OIE (new draft Chapter 1.2.)
- Prescribed and alternative diagnostic tests for OIE-listed diseases (Chapter 1.3.)
- Procedures for self-declaration and for official recognition by the OIE (Chapter 1.6.)
- Evaluation of Veterinary Services (Chapter 3.2.)
- OIE procedures relevant to the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures of the World Trade Organization (Chapter 5.3.)
- Harmonisation of national antimicrobial resistance surveillance and monitoring programmes (Chapter 6.7.)
- Monitoring of the quantities and usage patterns of antimicrobial agents used in food-producing animals (Chapter 6.8.)
- Infection with *Trichinella* spp. (Chapter 8.16.)
- Infection with *Taenia solium* (Chapter 15.3.)
- Slaughter of animals (Chapter 7.5.)
- Killing of animals for disease control purposes (Chapter 7.6.)
- Animal welfare and broiler chicken production systems (Chapter 7.10.)
- Animal welfare and dairy cattle production systems (Chapter 7.11.)
- Welfare of working equids (new draft Chapter 7.X.)
- Infection with bluetongue virus (Chapter 8.3.)
- Infection with epizootic haemorrhagic disease virus (Chapter 8.7.)
- Infection with Rift Valley fever virus (Chapter 8.14.)
- Infection with foot and mouth disease virus (Chapter 8.8.)
- Infection with *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* complex (draft revised Chapter 8.X.)
- Infection with *Burkholderia mallei* (Chapter 12.10.)
- Infection with African swine fever virus (Chapter 15.1.)
- Criteria for assessing the safety of commodities (new draft Chapter X.X.).

Member Countries' comments on these texts should reach OIE Headquarters by 8 January 2016 to be considered at the Commission's next meeting in February 2016.

Finally, the Code Commission reviewed three applications for recognition as OIE Collaborating Centres and a proposal for OIE Collaborating Centre twinning on animal welfare, and updated its work programme, which has been circulated for Member Country comment.



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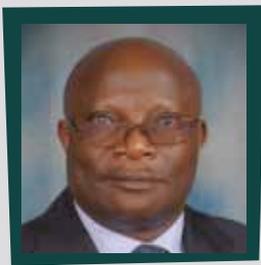
regional activities

Staff movements

Arrivals

Africa

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



Samuel Wakhusama

The OIE Director General has recently appointed Dr Samuel Wakhusama as the Deputy OIE Sub-Regional Representative for Eastern and the Horn of Africa.

Dr Wakhusama is a Kenyan veterinarian, with post-graduate training up to PhD level and over 30 years' experience working in the public sector, with non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and other international organisations in the East African region. He worked for the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI) for nine years, from 1981 to 2000, rising through the ranks from Research Officer to Chief Veterinary Research Officer. In 2000 he moved to the International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-biotech Applications (ISAAA) as the Director of *AfriCenter* and then went on to work for other regional and international organisations, such as the Terra Nuova–COOPI¹–UNA² Consortium, FAO and USAID³ in many East African countries, including some time at the Somali Animal Health Services Project (SAHSP). Dr Wakhusama has worked on numerous diseases, such as leptospirosis, helminthiases, and surveillance for rinderpest in Somalia and for highly pathogenic avian influenza in the East African region. These experiences led him to become the AU-IBAR⁴ Continental Coordinator for the EU-funded 'Vaccines for the Control of Neglected Animal Diseases in Africa' (VACNADA) Project, in July 2009. He then became AU-IBAR Regional Coordinator of the 'Reinforcing Veterinary Governance in Africa (VET-GOV) Project' for IGAD⁵.

Samuel Wakhusama took up his position at the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for Eastern and the Horn of Africa on 1 September 2015.

1 COOPI: *Cooperazione Internazionale*

2 UNA: Urban Natural Assets for Africa

3 USAID: United States Agency for International Development

4 United States Agency for International Development

5 IGAD: Intergovernmental Authority on Development

OIE Sub-Regional Foot and Mouth Disease Coordination Unit Office in Astana, Kazakhstan



Djahne Montabord

On 7 July 2015, Dr Djahne Montabord, Chief Inspector of Veterinary Public Health of the French Ministry of Agriculture, joined the OIE Sub-Regional Foot and Mouth Disease Coordination Unit Office in Astana, Kazakhstan.

A graduate of the French National Veterinary School in Nantes, Djahne Montabord completed her training in several specialisations: in food hygiene; epidemiology; aquaculture; legislation, in particular food legislation; animal production in warm climates and tropical animal pathology. After studying integrated livestock–fish farming systems in Thailand in 1991, she worked in Côte d'Ivoire, on improving veterinary legislation and privatisation of the veterinary profession, between 1992 and 1996. Back in France, Dr Montabord occupied several consecutive positions in the French Ministry of Agriculture, in both local and central administration. These posts covered a variety of areas, such as quality assurance, standardisation, the development of regulations on animal health and food hygiene, managing animal health and food hygiene crises, protection of the environment and endangered species, import–export, animal welfare, aquaculture and shellfish production. Her wide and varied career has given Dr Montabord a comprehensive knowledge of both the agricultural and veterinary fields. This was a considerable asset when she took up a brand-new position as Counsellor for Agricultural and Veterinary Affairs for ASEAN¹ Countries at the French Embassy in Singapore, where she worked from 2009 to 2014. She was responsible for bilateral dialogue with the Veterinary Authorities of ASEAN nations, in such areas as the exchange of information on disease control, veterinary technical cooperation and the lifting of animal health constraints to international trade.

Her far-reaching experience should prove a valuable tool in her new job, building the capacity of Veterinary Services to meet the challenge of controlling foot and mouth disease and other diseases of major economic importance.

Departure

Asia – Pacific

OIE Sub-Regional Representation for South-East Asia



Corissa Miller

Dr Corissa Miller joined the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for South-East Asia (OIE SRR–SEA) as a Project Officer in October 2014, where she provided technical support to various projects under the STANDZ²

initiative, with particular focus on the SEACFMD³ and One Health programmes. She left the OIE on 3 July 2015.

Dr Miller graduated with a Bachelor of Veterinary Science from the University of Queensland in 2008, and spent the following years working in wildlife management and domestic clinical practice in Australia and internationally, while completing a Master of Veterinary Studies in Conservation Medicine through Murdoch University (Perth, Australia). In 2012, she co-founded Ecotone Wildlife Veterinary Services, an Australian-based wildlife management business providing veterinary services to government and private research institutes. In recent years, her interest in One Health and zoonoses has led her to work in Nepal and Bangladesh with USAID⁴ Predict, the Center for Molecular Dynamics Nepal (CMDN), and the Food and Agriculture Organization Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases (FAO-ECTAD).

1 ASEAN: Association of South-East Asian Nations

2 STANDZ: Stop Transboundary Animal Diseases and Zoonoses

3 SEACFMD: South-East Asia and China Foot and Mouth Disease Campaign

4 USAID: United States Agency for International Development





1st OIE knowledge Olympics in the Americas

Knowledge beyond borders

The OIE Regional Representation for the Americas is organising the very first OIE Knowledge Olympics, in collaboration with the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (FMVZ) of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) and the Society of Veterinary Medicine in Argentina (SOMEVET).

Veterinarians and veterinary students from any of the 29 OIE Member Countries in the Americas* will be able to take part in the event by completing a questionnaire which will be available in four different languages (English, Spanish, Portuguese and French). The questionnaire will be online at www.olimpiadasamericas.oie.int. Submissions are open until 3 pm on 12 January 2016 (UTC-3, Buenos Aires time).

The competition will take place during the month of March 2016, in two rounds:

1. The FIRST ROUND (national round) will take place on 2 March 2016.

All registered participants will answer a 30-question quiz, with multiple-choice questions (developed by the OIE Regional

Representation for the Americas). Each question has up to five possible answers, only one of which is correct. Two national finalists (a veterinary student and a practitioner) will be selected from each OIE Member Country.

2. The SECOND ROUND (regional round) will take place on 9 March 2016.

The winners of the first round will answer a 30-question quiz, with multiple-choice questions (developed by the OIE Regional Representation for the Americas). Again, each question has up to five possible answers, only one of which is correct. Two regional winners of the competition will emerge, one from each category: a veterinary student and a practitioner.

The regional winners will be awarded a trip to Paris, France, including a special invitation to the 84th General Session of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates, to be held from 22 to 27 May 2016, and visits to the National Veterinary School of Alfort and the National Museum of Natural History. The winners will be acknowledged during the opening ceremony of the General Session and presented with a diploma of honour by the Director General and President of the OIE.

Additional information:

www.olimpiadasamericas.oie.int/en/index.html

* OIE Member Countries in the Americas are: Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, the United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela.

Asia – Pacific

OIE/JTF Project on FMD Control in Asia 4th Coordination Committee Meeting and 2nd FMD Scientific Meeting for East Asia

Tokyo, Japan, 9–11 June 2015

The OIE/Japan Trust Fund (JTF) Project on Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Control in Asia was launched in 2011. This project is an initiative of the OIE and the Japanese Government, aimed at promoting information-sharing

on FMD in the region; developing strategies and establishing a Roadmap for FMD Control in East Asia; strengthening diagnosis capacity; and improving FMD control measures at the national and regional level.

The Fourth Coordination Committee Meeting and the Second FMD Scientific Meeting for East Asia were the final meetings of the project and took place in Tokyo, from 9 to 11 June 2015.



The main objectives of the meetings were to:

- a) discuss the FMD Roadmap for East Asia
- b) exchange scientific information
- c) exchange information on national FMD strategies and implementation
- d) report progress
- e) extend the project to other important OIE-listed diseases and emerging diseases in the region, and
- f) explore the way forward.

A total of 47 participants attended these meetings, comprising 26 representatives from six Member Countries of the project; namely, the People's Republic of China, Hong Kong SAR, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Mongolia and Chinese Taipei, as well as representatives from Laos and Myanmar; experts on FMD and other transboundary animal diseases; representatives from OIE Headquarters, the Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific and the Sub-Regional Representation for South-East Asia; observers; and interns.

Dr Paula Cáceres, Head of the World Animal Health Information and Analysis Department of the OIE, gave an opening speech on behalf of the OIE Director General, and Dr Toshiro Kawashima, Delegate of Japan to the OIE, welcomed participants on behalf of the host country. Dr Hirofumi Kugita, OIE Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific, introduced the format and general objectives of these meetings.

Fourth Coordination Committee Meeting

During the Fourth Coordination Committee Meeting, speakers highlighted the FMD situation and



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control strategies at the global, regional and national level. The meeting was briefed on the progress of many project activities, including the FMD Roadmap for East Asia, and the regional activities of the SEACFMD¹ in collaboration with the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. Each Member Country presented an update on its FMD status and National FMD Control Plan, as well as on other transboundary animal disease situations within its borders. Invited experts presented the current status of other important OIE-listed and emerging diseases in this region and the world, which are considered to pose a risk to Asia, such as peste des petits ruminants, African swine fever, highly pathogenic avian influenza, rabies and other swine diseases. At the end of the meeting, participants briefly wrapped up the four years of the project's activities, summarised the current situation, and discussed the future direction of a new OIE/JTF Project.

The summary and conclusions of the meeting included the following.

- The OIE/JTF Project on FMD Control in Asia will be completed by the end of July 2015 and will be succeeded by a new project, to be launched later in 2015.
- Member Countries were encouraged to provide the OIE Regional

Representation for Asia and the Pacific with their National FMD Control Plan in an English version, to be annexed to the Roadmap.

- The current Roadmap will be reviewed and revised under the terms of the new OIE/JTF Project.
- An epidemiology network and laboratory networks for East Asia will be established under the new OIE/JTF Project.

Second FMD Scientific Meeting for East Asia

At the Second FMD Scientific Meeting for East Asia, Dr Ronello Abila, OIE Sub-Regional Representative for South-East Asia, gave a keynote presentation on 'Research needed to support FMD control in Pool 1 Region'. Researchers from the laboratory of each Member Country presented results from relevant FMD studies and exchanged scientific information. Fourteen presentations were delivered, each giving rise to discussion. Participants agreed to meet again, once every two years, to canvass FMD issues under the new OIE/JTF Project.

1 SEACFMD: South-East Asia and China Foot-and-Mouth Disease Campaign

FAO-APHCA/OIE/USDA-APHIS regional workshop on prevention and control of neglected zoonoses in Asia

Obihiro, Japan, 15–16 July 2015



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The OIE Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific and FAO-APHCA¹, with the support of USDA-APHIS², jointly organised a regional workshop on prevention and control of neglected zoonoses in Asia, in Obihiro, Japan, from 15 to 16 July 2015.

The workshop provided:

- a) updates on the situation and burden of neglected zoonoses in Asia
- b) an overview of the relevant OIE standards for controlling these diseases
- c) opportunities to share experiences and learn from one another, and
- d) support from international and regional organisations for national control programmes addressing neglected zoonoses, particularly brucellosis.

The meeting was attended by 30 participants from 13 countries, including country representatives, observers and experts. The overview on zoonotic diseases highlighted the fact that a number of neglected zoonotic diseases (NZDs) are widespread in the Asian region and that several countries have prioritised the control of NZDs such as anthrax, tuberculosis, salmonellosis, brucellosis, leptospirosis and food-borne parasites. It was agreed that it is imperative to address NZDs by targeting animal reservoirs to improve animal health and reduce the risk of infecting

humans, as well as to enhance people's livelihoods. Some national representatives were able to provide more detailed descriptions of the status of NZDs and the brucellosis situation in their own country.

The way forward for NZD control was discussed and it was agreed that:

- a) countries should identify set criteria for deciding on the priority of various NZDs and that these criteria should be discussed with relevant stakeholders to develop a prioritised list of NZDs requiring control
- b) countries and development partners should promote and implement a 'One Health' approach to NZD control
- c) a brucellosis control and eradication strategy must be developed and implemented, and
- d) development partners should, as far as possible, provide avenues for countries to discuss the challenges of and solutions to the control of NZDs.

These discussions were productive and the workshop ended with firm recommendations. Many participants expressed their appreciation and most national representatives took an active role by giving presentations that detailed their own country's experience.

1 FAO-APHCA : Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations – Animal Production and Health Commission for Asia and the Pacific

2 USDA-APHIS : United States Department of Agriculture – Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service



Regional workshop on safe international trade in aquatic animals and aquatic animal products

Nagaoka, Niigata, Japan, 22–24 July 2015

This workshop, held in Nagaoka, Japan, was attended by 32 participants, including 20 representatives from 18 Regional Member Countries, an expert on aquatic animal health and biosecurity, a representative of the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia–Pacific (NACA), and several representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan (MAFF) and the Niigata Prefectural Government, as well as OIE staff. The programme centred around providing information to assist participants to implement the relevant OIE international standards to ensure safe international trade in aquatic animals and their products. The workshop included working-group sessions on developing import health measures, certification and trade capability assessment. Each theme was introduced by several informative presentations followed by a group exercise.

Day 1 provided a regional overview of aquatic animal diseases and the role of trade in disease spread. Issues covered included the OIE international standards for disease surveillance and control methodology, risk analysis, developing import health standards, certification and border controls. Each participant gave a brief summary of the production and trade situation in their country, followed by a discussion.



On Day 2, the first working-group session was an exercise on how to use the OIE *Aquatic Animal Health Code* and *Manual* to develop import health measures based on two different

import/export scenarios: one for processed prawn products, the other for broodstock, including relevant disease information for both the importing and exporting countries.

Aquatic Animal Health Code and Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals:
www.oie.int/boutique/index.php?page=cat&lang=en





Participants worked in small groups, shared their results and discussed how they used the *Code* and *Manual* to develop import conditions. Officers from MAFF and a laboratory expert from the Niigata Prefectural Government discussed their experiences in import risk analysis and developing a health certification system for ornamental fish exports, with the involvement of the private sector.

The second working-group session focused on evaluating each country's resources and capabilities for ensuring safe international aquatic trade. After a brief introductory presentation, participants were asked to assess the status of their respective countries, using eight critical competencies from the PVS Tool: Aquatic, and to discuss their strongest and weakest critical competencies with others in the group. Various strengths and weaknesses were reported by those who took part but strengths common

to many countries were: quarantine and border measures, certification in general, passive surveillance and early detection, and improvements in transparency. On the other hand, weaknesses included a lack of: active surveillance due to limited resources and expertise, border measures based on risk analysis and international harmonisation of standards, as well as little traceability of aquatic animals and their products.

The workshop highlighted the impact of transboundary disease outbreaks on the sustainability of aquaculture and the importance of appropriate import and export measures in contributing to safe international trade, using tools provided by the OIE.

It is hoped that participants came away with an understanding of how important preventive and control measures on transboundary disease spread are, in conjunction with the OIE standards, to protect aquatic

animal health during production and international trade. In addition, participants were able to analyse their own country's strengths and weaknesses in the area of aquatic animal health services, which should prove valuable information for future improvement.

On the last day, participants were invited on a field trip arranged by Niigata Prefecture, which included a visit to two ornamental fish (nishikigo) farms, which form part of the health certification system mentioned above. On the farms, participants learned about production and breeding practices, export markets, certification and measures taken to ensure good aquatic animal health on site.

OIE Regional Animal Welfare Strategy (RAWS) Regional meeting and Action Plan writing group meeting

Bangkok, Thailand, 28–30 July 2015



Action Plan writing group

Left to right, front row: Kate Littin (New Zealand), Yooni Oh (OIE), Gardner Murray (OIE), Suphanan Boonyakarn (Thailand), Amy Little (Australia); back row: Phillip Widders (OIE), Quaza Nizamuddin Bin Al Hassan Nizam (Malaysia), Addul Rahman Sira (India), Ian Dacre, Leopoldo Stuardo (OIE)

The OIE Regional Animal Welfare Strategy (RAWS) for Asia, the Far East and Oceania provides a unifying framework and support for the implementation of OIE animal welfare and related standards in the region.

The first edition of the RAWS was endorsed in 2008. The RAWS is now in its second edition (2013–2015). Development and implementation of the RAWS have been guided by a RAWS Coordination Group (RAWS CG) comprising representatives from the OIE and regional governments, including South-East, South and North Asia, as well as industry and a non-governmental organisation.

RAWS and RAWS CG activities, including the provision of a secretariat, were funded by the Australian Government. That funding and support has ceased. As such, the RAWS CG no longer exists. The OIE Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific assumed the secretariat role in March 2014.

Given the importance of animal welfare, the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania agreed, at its meeting in May 2015, that it should assume greater responsibility for the RAWS and that a RAWS regional meeting should be held in Bangkok in July 2015, to provide advice on future requirements and RAWS management. The regional meeting was preceded by a RAWS Action Plan writing group, which provided a draft Action Plan and a report to the regional meeting.

Participants at the regional meeting included regional country representatives, OIE national focal points, staff from OIE Headquarters, the Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific and the Sub-Regional Representation



Participants at the regional meeting

for South-East Asia, the Chair of the OIE Animal Welfare Working Group, the Vice-President of the OIE Council and a member of the Bureau of the Regional Commission.

The meeting was positive and constructive and supported the underlying concepts and continuation of the RAWS. Accordingly it considered and recommended on a range of matters including the establishment of a RAWS Advisory Group (AG), its terms of reference and *modus operandi*, funding issues and advocacy, project work and a consolidated and focussed RAWS Action Plan, as well as future activities.

The recommendations of the meeting were discussed by the Regional Commission at its 29th Conference held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, from 14 to 18 September 2015. The Regional Commission re-affirmed its responsibilities for the management of the RAWS and that expressions of interest should be sought from Delegates for membership and the chair of the RAWS AG; and that they provide comments on the draft RAWS AG's terms of reference. The Bureau of the Regional Commission will examine responses and make recommendations to the OIE Director General so that the new phase of the RAWS can be progressed.

The initiation, development, and implementation of the RAWS have been innovative with many aspects of the RAWS model used in other OIE regions. The funding support provided by Australia was a significant catalyst in progressing the RAWS process. The Regional Commission thanked the RAWS CG for its commendable efforts in developing the RAWS.

Workshop on prevention and control of rabies in SAARC countries

Colombo, Sri Lanka, 11–13 August 2015



© WHO Country Office Sri Lanka

SAARC¹ countries comprise 3% of the world's area and contain 21% (around 1.7 billion) of the world's total population. Rabies remains a disease of public health importance in the region with more than 1.5 billion people at risk of rabies and 45% of the global burden of human rabies. All SAARC Countries except the Maldives are rabies endemic. More than 95% of human rabies in the SAARC Region is attributed to dog bites.

The major factors for the high burden of rabies in endemic countries in the region include:

- poverty,
- ignorance and superstition about rabies,
- unvaccinated roaming dogs,
- poor accessibility to anti-rabies vaccine and rabies immunoglobulin for humans,
- lack of national strategies for rabies elimination and lack of mass dog vaccination programmes.

The economic impact of dog bites and rabies in livestock production in the SAARC region is also considered significant. Rabies is targeted for elimination by 2020 in the South East Asia Region.

The Workshop on Prevention and Control of Rabies in SAARC Countries was held from 11 to 13 August 2015 in Colombo, Sri Lanka, to discuss the future dimension of the SAARC Rabies Elimination Initiative with international partners. It was attended by 64 participants from seven countries of the SAARC Region, development partners and international organisations (WHO, OIE, FAO, SAARC Secretariat, Global Alliance for Rabies Control, Humane Society International, World Animal Protection and Vets Beyond Borders). The Workshop was organised by OIE-RRAP and WHO-SEARO² in collaboration with FAO-RAP³.

The objectives of the meeting were:

a) to review the rabies situation and control activities, to identify gaps for rabies elimination and to share best

practices and lessons learnt in rabies control/elimination in SAARC Countries;

b) to update the global and regional initiative for rabies awareness, education and partnership for rabies elimination;

c) to discuss the 'SAARC Rabies Elimination Project' for submission to the SAARC Development Fund or potential funding agencies;

d) to draft national roadmaps for rabies elimination by individual SAARC Countries for the next four years.

Participants had opportunities to share their experiences, to analyse and to evaluate the progress of their countries according to the stepwise approach for rabies elimination, to identify priorities for rabies control and elimination, and to develop roadmaps considering the necessary actions, timeline and responsibilities from relevant sectors.

The draft recommendations were deliberated and finalised after fruitful discussion.

1 SAARC : South Asian Association for Regional Co-Operation

2 WHO-SEARO: World Health Organization – South-East Asia Regional Office

3 FAO-RAP: Food and Agriculture Organization – Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific



29th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania

Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, 14–18 September 2015

At the suggestion of the government of Mongolia, Ulaanbaatar was named the location for the 29th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania, held from 14 to 18 September 2015.

Ninety-two participants attended the conference, including OIE Delegates and/or nominees from 26 Member Countries in the region, plus one delegate from an observer country and senior officers from seven international and regional organisations.

The opening ceremony was chaired by Dr Bolortuya Purevsuren, Delegate of Mongolia to the OIE. She was accompanied by Ms Radnaa Burmaa, Minister of Food and Agriculture of Mongolia; Dr Bernard Vallat, Director General of the OIE; Dr Botlhe Michael Modisane, President of the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE; and Dr Zhang Zhongqiu, President of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania.

The conference had a content-rich agenda, allowing for some fruitful discussion.



Dr Bernard Vallat, Director General of the OIE, and Dr Bolortuya Purevsuren, Delegate of Mongolia to the OIE

Two Technical Items of interest for the region were presented by rapporteurs chosen for their internationally recognised competencies.

– Technical Item I: **The role of Veterinary Services in managing emerging aquatic animal diseases: what are the factors needed for success?** This was presented by Dr Ingo Ernst, President of the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission, and explored those factors which are most effective in mitigating the effects of emerging aquatic animal diseases, such as a better understanding of their epidemiology.

– Technical Item II: **How can we advance cooperation between the animal health sector and the public health sector?**, presented by Dr Thanawat Tiensin, from the Department of Livestock Development of Thailand, reminded us that global public health is a responsibility shared by both the animal and human health authorities. For this reason, coordination and collaboration between Veterinary and Public Health Services constitute a key component of good veterinary and public health governance.

On the last day of the conference, two recommendations related to the Technical Items were adopted by the Regional Commission, and will be submitted to the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE for approval in May 2016. Once they have been endorsed by the World Assembly of Delegates, they will provide important guidelines for the 36 Member Countries of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania, and indeed for the OIE as a whole.

Regional perspectives of the OIE Sixth Strategic Plan were also commented on during the conference, as was the Second Regional Work Plan Framework for the period between 2016 and 2020, presented for adoption by the Regional Commission.

During the conference, Dr Bernard Vallat gave a presentation on challenges faced in pastoralism and animal

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health. Providing an overview of the work carried out by the OIE in this field, he also reported that the OIE would be supporting Mongolia in its request to UNESCO to recognise pastoralism as a part of our World Heritage.

To take advantage of such a large meeting of Delegates from the region, a one-day, back-to-back seminar was organised on the subject of **the development of public-private partnerships to support Veterinary Services**. The seminar was co-financed by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and facilitated by OIE experts, within the framework of the OIE Capacity-Building Programme for National Veterinary Services. This was a useful opportunity

for participants to discuss the importance of the relationship between official Veterinary Services and veterinarians in the private sector, as well as veterinary technicians and community animal health workers in Asia, the Far East and Oceania.

The host country also organised a cultural visit for the representatives, which provided an opportunity to appreciate the beautiful and unique landscape and culture of Mongolia.

Participants expressed their gratitude to the Government of Mongolia for the warm welcome, excellent organisation and many facilities made available to them during their visit to Ulaanbaatar.



Election of the Director General

On 26 May 2015, the World Assembly of Delegates meeting in General Session elected Dr Monique Eloit as Director General of the OIE for a period of five years starting on 1 January 2016. She will be the first woman

to manage the Organisation.

Dr Bernard Vallat had informed the Member Countries that he would not be seeking a fourth term of office as Director General of the OIE. A single candidature to succeed him had been received: that of **Dr Monique Eloit, presented by France, with the support of the Member States of the European Union.**

After a reminder by the Legal Counsel to the OIE of the statutory rules governing the election of the Director General, and after the presence of a quorum had been

established, official and accredited Delegates were called upon to vote, by secret ballot. Dr John Clifford (United States of America) and Dr Mark Schipp (Australia), members of the OIE Council, were designated as scrutineers.

The results of voting in the first ballot were as follows:

Number of votes cast	139
Spoiled ballots	5
Blank ballots	1
Votes in favour of Dr Monique Eloit	133

Having obtained more than two-thirds of the votes cast, Dr Eloit was duly elected as Director General of the OIE. She thanked the French authorities for their confidence and all the Delegates of Member Countries who had supported her.

She also thanked Dr Bernard Vallat for his support throughout all the years they had been working together.



Statutory elections

At its 83rd General Session, the World Assembly of Delegates elected its representatives to OIE governing bodies: the Regional Commissions and the Council.

The Assembly also elected the members of the four OIE Specialist Commissions.

The following Delegates were elected unanimously:

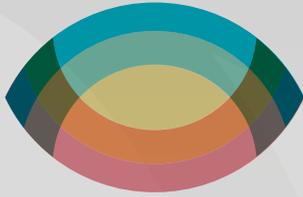


President of the OIE
Dr Botlhe Michael Modisane
(South Africa)



Vice-President of the OIE
Dr Mark Schipp
(Australia)

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Members of the Council



Dr Nicholas Kauta
(Uganda)



Dr Joaquín Braulio Delgadillo
Álvarez (Mexico)



Dr Hugo Idoyaga Benítez
(Paraguay)



Dr Toshiro Kawashima
(Japan)



Dr Evgeny Nepoklonov
(Russia)



Dr Hadi Al Lawati
(Oman)

Were elected as

Presidents

of the Regional Commissions:

Africa



Dr Komla Batassé Batawui
(Togo)

Americas



Dr Guilherme Marques
(Brazil)

Asia, the Far East and Oceania



Dr Zhang Zhongqiu
(People's Republic of China)

Europe



Dr Ago Pärtel
(Estonia)

Middle East



Dr Kassem N. Al-Qahtani
(Qatar)

Additionally, the following Delegates were elected for the Regional Commissions:

- **Africa:** Dr Theogen Rutagwenda (Rwanda) and Dr Karim Boughalem (Algeria) as Vice-Presidents, and Dr Gaston Djonwe (Cameroon) as Secretary General.
- **Americas:** Dr Miguel Azañón (Guatemala) and Dr Mark Trotman (Barbados) as Vice-Presidents, and Dr Martine Dubuc (Canada) as Secretary General.

- **Asia, the Far East and Oceania:** Dr Sen Sovann (Cambodia) and Dr Keshav Prasad Premy (Nepal) as Vice-Presidents, and Dr Matthew Stone (New Zealand) as Secretary General.

- **Europe:** Dr Siala Rustamova (Azerbaijan) and Dr Lucio Carbajo Goñi (Spain) as Vice-Presidents, and Dr Budimir Plavši (Serbia) as Secretary General.

- **Middle East:** Dr Abdulghani Y. Al-Fadhl (Saudi Arabia) and Dr Elias Ibrahim (Lebanon) as Vice-Presidents, and Dr Salah F. Abbas (Iraq) as Secretary General.



Were elected as

Presidents of the Specialist Commissions:

Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases



Dr Gideon Brückner
(South Africa)

Biological Standards Commission



Dr Beverly Schmitt
(United States of America)

Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission



Dr Étienne Bonbon
(France)

Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission



Dr Ingo Ernst
(Australia)

Additionally the following experts were elected for:

– **Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases:** Dr Kris de Clercq (Belgium) and Dr Jef Hammond (Australia) as Vice-Presidents; Dr Sylvia Bellini (Italy), Dr Baptiste Dangu (Democratic Republic of the Congo) and Dr Juan Antonio Montaña Hirose (Mexico) as members of the Commission.

– **Biological Standards Commission:** Dr Franck Berthe (France) and Dr Hualan Chen (People's Republic of China) as Vice-Presidents; Dr Mehdi El Harrak (Morocco), Dr Peter Daniels (Australia) and Dr Anthony Fooks (United Kingdom) as members of the Commission.

– **Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission:** Dr Stuart MacDiarmid (New Zealand) and Dr Gastón Funes (Argentina) as Vice-Presidents; Dr Masatsugu Okita (Japan), Dr Salah Hammami (Tunisia) and Dr Emmanuel Couacy Hymann (Côte-d'Ivoire) as members of the Commission.

– **Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission:** Dr Alicia Gallardo Lagno (Chile) and Dr Edmund Peeler (United Kingdom) as Vice-Presidents; Dr Joanne Constantine (Canada), Prof. Mohamed Shariff bin Mohamed Din (Malaysia) and Dr Maxwell Barson (Zimbabwe) as members of the Commission.

Lastly, the Assembly approved the composition of the Working Groups proposed by the Director General.

OIE worldwide organisation:

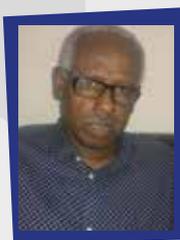
www.oie.int/en/about-us/wo/

Appointment of permanent Delegates



1 July 2015
Zambia

Dr Yona Sinkala
Director, Veterinary
Services, Ministry
of Livestock
and Fisheries
Development



6 September 2015
Somalia

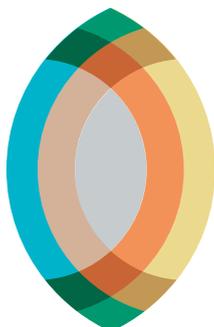
Dr Farah Mohamed Ali
Director of Animal
Health Department,
Chief Veterinary Officer,
Ministry of Livestock,
Forestry and Range

6 October 2015
Georgia

Dr Mikheil Sokhadze
Chief Veterinary Officer, Deputy
Head, National Food Agency,
Ministry of Agriculture



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Paris2015
24-29 may mai mayo

SELECTED RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE WORLD ASSEMBLY
OF DELEGATES OF THE OIE DURING ITS 83RD GENERAL SESSION,
24-29 May 2015



**Recognition of the foot and
mouth disease status of
Member Countries**

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 26 May 2015 in view of an entry into force on 30 May 2015)

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 62nd General Session, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (the Assembly) established a procedure for annually updating a list of Member Countries and zones recognised as free

from foot and mouth disease (FMD) according to the provisions of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)*,

2. During the 83rd General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 15, which specified and updated the procedure for Member Countries to follow to achieve official recognition and maintenance of status for certain animal diseases, including FMD,

3. During the 83rd General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 16, which specified and updated the financial implications for Member Countries applying for evaluation of official recognition of disease status to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE in the evaluation process,

4. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegates of Member Countries. The OIE is not responsible for publication and maintenance of Member Countries' or zonal disease free status based on inaccurate information or untimely reporting to the OIE Headquarters of changes in epidemiological status or other significant events subsequent to the time of declaration of freedom from FMD,



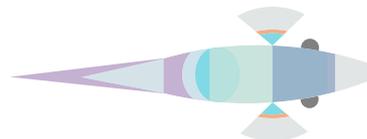
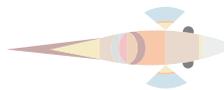


THE ASSEMBLY RESOLVES THAT

1. The Director General publish the following list of Member Countries recognised as FMD free where vaccination is not practised, according to the provisions of Chapter 8.7. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Albania	Italy
Australia	Japan
Austria	Latvia
Belarus	Lesotho
Belgium	Lithuania
Belize	Luxembourg
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Madagascar
Brunei	Malta
Bulgaria	Mauritius
Canada	Mexico
Chile	Montenegro
Costa Rica	Netherlands
Croatia	New Caledonia
Cuba	New Zealand
Cyprus	Nicaragua
Czech Republic	Norway
Denmark	Panama
Dominican Republic	Philippines
El Salvador	Poland
Estonia	Portugal
Finland	Romania
Former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia	San Marino
France	Serbia ¹
Germany	Singapore
Greece	Slovakia
Guatemala	Slovenia
Guyana	Spain
Haiti	Swaziland
Honduras	Sweden
Hungary	Switzerland
Iceland	Ukraine
Indonesia	United Kingdom
Ireland	United States of America
	Vanuatu

¹ Excluding Kosovo administered by the United Nations



2. The Director General publish the following list of Member Countries recognised as FMD free where vaccination is practised, according to the provisions of Chapter 8.7. of the *Terrestrial Code*:
Uruguay.

3. The Director General publish the following list of Member Countries having FMD free zones² where vaccination is not practised, according to the provisions of Chapter 8.7. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Argentina: one zone designated by the Delegate of Argentina in a document addressed to the Director General in January 2007; the summer pasture zone in the Province of San Juan as designated by the Delegate of Argentina in a document addressed to the Director General in April 2011; Patagonia Norte A as designated by the Delegate of Argentina in a document addressed to the Director General in October 2013;

Bolivia: one zone in the Macro-region of the Altiplano designated by the Delegate of Bolivia in documents addressed to the Director General in November 2011;

² For detailed information on the delimitation of zones of Member Countries recognised as FMD free, enquiries should be addressed to the Director General of the OIE

Botswana: four zones designated by the Delegate of Botswana in documents addressed to the Director General in August and November 2014 as follows: one zone consisting of Zones 3c (Dukwi), 4b, 5, 6a, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13; one zone consisting of Zone 3c (Maitengwe); one zone covering Zone 4a; one zone covering Zone 6b;

Brazil: State of Santa Catarina designated by the Delegate of Brazil in a document addressed to the Director General in February 2007;

Colombia: one zone designated by the Delegate of Colombia in documents addressed to the Director General in November 1995 and in April 1996 (Area I - Northwest region of Chocó Department); one zone designated by the Delegate of Colombia in documents addressed to the Director General in January 2008 (Archipelago de San Andrés and Providencia);

Ecuador: one zone consisting of the insular territory of the Galapagos, as designated by the Delegate of Ecuador in a document addressed to the Director General in August 2014;

Kazakhstan: one zone consisting of the regions of Akmola, Aktobe, Atyrau, West Kazakhstan, Karaganda, Kostanay, Mangystau, Pavlodar and North Kazakhstan, as designated by the Delegate of Kazakhstan in a document addressed to the Director General in August 2014;





Malaysia: one zone covering the provinces of Sabah and Sarawak as designated by the Delegate of Malaysia in a document addressed to the Director General in December 2003;

Moldova: one zone designated by the Delegate of Moldova in a document addressed to the Director General in July 2008;

Namibia: one zone designated by the Delegate of Namibia in a document addressed to the Director General in February 1997;

Peru: one zone consisting of three merged zones as designated by the Delegate of Peru in documents addressed to the Director General in December 2004, in January 2007 and in August 2012;

South Africa: one zone designated by the Delegate of South Africa in documents addressed to the Director General in May 2005 and January 2014.

4. The Director General publish the following list of Member Countries having FMD free zones³ where vaccination is practised, according to the provisions of Chapter 8.7. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Argentina: two separate zones designated by the Delegate of Argentina in documents addressed to the Director General in March 2007 and October 2013, and in August 2010 and February 2014;

³ For detailed information on the delimitation of zones of Member Countries recognised as FMD free, enquiries should be addressed to the Director General of the OIE

Bolivia: one zone consisting of four merged zones covering the regions of Amazonas, Chaco, Chiquitania, Valles and part of Altiplano as designated by the Delegate of Bolivia in documents addressed to the Director General in January 2003 and March 2007, in August 2010, in August 2012 and in October 2013 and February 2014;

Brazil: four separate zones designated by the Delegate of Brazil in documents addressed to the Director General as follows:

- one zone covering the territory of State of Rio Grande do Sul (documentation of September 1997);

- one zone consisting of State of Rondônia (documentation of December 2002), State of Acre along with two adjacent municipalities of State of Amazonas (documentation of March 2004) and an extension of this zone into the territory of State of Amazonas (documentation of December 2010);

- one zone consisting of three merged zones: one zone covering the middle southern part of State of Pará (documentation of February 2007), States of Espírito Santo, Minas Gerais, Rio de Janeiro, Sergipe, Distrito Federal, Goiás, Mato Grosso, Paraná, São Paulo, parts of State of Bahia, parts of State of Tocantins (documentation of May 2008), and the zone in State of Mato Grosso do Sul (documentation of July 2008); one zone located in States of Bahia and Tocantins (documentation of December 2010); and one zone covering States of Alagoas, Ceará, Maranhão, Paraíba, Pernambuco, Piauí, Rio Grande do Norte, and the northern region of State of Pará (documentation of October 2013);



- one zone in State of Mato Grosso do Sul (documentation of August 2010);

Colombia: one zone consisting of five merged zones designated by the Delegate of Colombia in documents addressed to the Director General in January 2003, in December 2004 (two zones), in January 2007 and in January 2009;

Ecuador: one zone consisting of the continental Ecuador, as designated by the Delegate of Ecuador in a document addressed to the Director General in August 2014;

Paraguay: two separate zones designated by the Delegate of Paraguay in documents addressed to the Director General in March 2007 and August 2010;

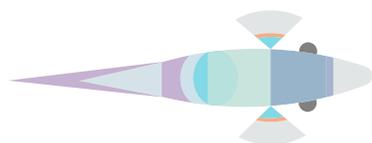
Peru: one zone consisting of the regions of Tumbes and parts of Piura and Cajamarca as designated by the Delegate of Peru in a document addressed to the Director General in August 2012;

Turkey: one zone as designated by the Delegate of Turkey in a document addressed to the Director General in November 2009.

AND

5. The Delegates of these Member Countries shall immediately notify the OIE Headquarters if FMD occurs in their countries or zones within their territories.





No. 18
RESOLUTION

Endorsement of official control programmes for foot and mouth disease of Member Countries

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 26 May 2015 in view of an entry into force on 30 May 2015)

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 79th General Session, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (the Assembly) adopted Resolution No. 19 establishing a new step in the procedure for recognising the foot and mouth disease (FMD) status of a Member Country, namely the endorsement by the OIE of a national official control programme for FMD being in compliance with the provisions of the chapter on FMD in the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)*,

2. During the 83rd General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 15, which specified and updated the procedure for Member Countries to follow to achieve endorsement of their official control programme for FMD,

3. During the 83rd General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 16, which specified and updated the financial implications for Member Countries applying for endorsement of their official control programme for FMD to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE in the evaluation process,

4. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegates of Member Countries. The OIE is not responsible for publication and maintenance of the endorsement of Member Countries' official control programme for FMD based on inaccurate information or non-reporting to the OIE Headquarters of significant changes in the implementation of relevant measures in the Member Country subsequent to the time of endorsement of the official control programme for FMD,

THE ASSEMBLY RESOLVES THAT

The Director General publish the following list of Member Countries with endorsed official control programme for FMD, according to the provisions of Chapter 8.7. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Algeria, Bolivia, China (People's Rep. of), Ecuador, India, Morocco, Namibia and Venezuela.

No. 19
RESOLUTION

Recognition of the contagious bovine pleuropneumonia status of Member Countries

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 26 May 2015 in view of an entry into force on 30 May 2015)

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 71st General Session, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (the Assembly) established a procedure for annually updating a list of Member Countries and zones, recognised as free from contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP) according to the provisions of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)*,

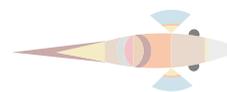
2. During the 83rd General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 15, which specified and updated the procedure for Member Countries to follow to achieve official recognition and maintenance of status for certain diseases, including CBPP,

3. During the 83rd General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 16, which specified and updated the financial implications for Member Countries applying for evaluation of official recognition of disease status to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE in the evaluation process,





RESOLUTION No. 20



Endorsement of official control programmes for contagious bovine pleuropneumonia of Member Countries

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 26 May 2015 in view of an entry into force on 30 May 2015)

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 82nd General Session, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (the Assembly) adopted Resolution No. 31 establishing the endorsement by the OIE of a national official control programme for contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP), in accordance to the relevant provisions of the chapter on CBPP in the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)*,

2. During the 83rd General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 15, which specified and updated the procedure for Member Countries to follow to achieve endorsement of their official control programme for CBPP,

3. During the 83rd General Session, the Assembly also adopted Resolution No. 16, which specified the financial implications for Member Countries applying for endorsement of their official control programme for CBPP to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE in the evaluation process,

4. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegates of Member Countries. The OIE is not responsible for publication and maintenance of the endorsement of Member Countries' official control programme for CBPP based on inaccurate information or non-reporting to the OIE Headquarters of significant changes in the implementation of relevant measures in the Member Country subsequent to the time of endorsement of the official control programme for CBPP,

THE ASSEMBLY RESOLVES THAT

The Director General publish the following list of Member Countries with endorsed official control programme for CBPP, according to the provisions of Chapter 11.7. of the *Terrestrial Code*:
Namibia.

4. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegates of Member Countries. The OIE is not responsible for publication and maintenance of Member Countries' or zonal disease free status based on inaccurate information or untimely reporting to the OIE Headquarters of changes in epidemiological status or other significant events subsequent to the time of declaration of freedom from CBPP,

THE ASSEMBLY RESOLVES THAT

1. The Director General publish the following list of Member Countries recognised as free from CBPP according to the provisions of Chapter 11.7. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Argentina	India
Australia	Portugal
Botswana	Singapore
Canada	Switzerland
China (People's Republic of)	United States of America
France	

AND

2. The Delegates of these Member Countries shall immediately notify the OIE Headquarters if CBPP occurs in their countries or their territories.





RESOLUTION
No. 21

Recognition of the bovine spongiform encephalopathy risk status of Member Countries

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 26 May 2015 in view of an entry into force on 30 May 2015)

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 67th General Session, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (the Assembly) established a procedure for annually updating a list of Member Countries and zones, categorised by their bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) risk according to the provisions of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)*,

2. During the 83rd General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 15, which specified and updated the procedure for Member Countries to follow to achieve official recognition and maintenance of status of certain diseases, including BSE risk status,

3. During the 83rd General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 16, which specified and updated the financial implications for Member Countries applying for evaluation of official recognition of BSE risk status to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE in the evaluation process,

4. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegates of Member Countries. The OIE is not responsible for publication and maintenance of Member Countries' or zonal risk status based on inaccurate information or untimely reporting to the OIE Headquarters of changes in epidemiological status or other significant events subsequent to the time of declaration of the BSE risk status,

THE ASSEMBLY RESOLVES THAT

1. The Director General publish the following list of Member Countries recognised as having a negligible BSE risk in accordance with Chapter 11.4. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| Argentina | Japan |
| Australia | Korea (Rep. of) |
| Austria | Latvia |
| Belgium | Liechtenstein |
| Brazil | Luxembourg |
| Bulgaria | Malta |
| Chile | Netherlands |
| Colombia | New Zealand |
| Croatia | Norway |
| Cyprus | Panama |
| Czech Republic | Paraguay |
| Denmark | Peru |
| Estonia | Portugal |
| Finland | Singapore |
| France | Slovakia |
| Hungary | Slovenia |
| Iceland | Sweden |
| India | Switzerland |
| Ireland | United States of America |
| Israel | Uruguay |
| Italy | |

2. The Director General publish the following list of Member Countries recognised as having a controlled BSE risk in accordance with Chapter 11.4. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| Canada | Mexico |
| Chinese Taipei | Nicaragua |
| Costa Rica | Poland |
| Germany | Spain |
| Greece | United Kingdom |
| Lithuania | |

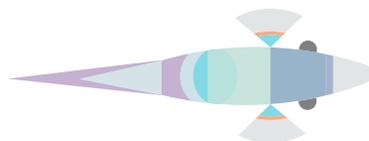
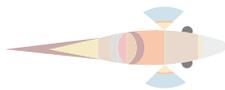
3. The Director General publish the following list of Member Countries having a zone⁴ recognised as having a negligible BSE risk in accordance with Chapter 11.4. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

China (People's Rep. of): a zone designated by the Delegate of China in a document addressed to the Director General in November 2013, consisting of the People's Republic of China with the exclusion of Hong Kong and Macau,

AND

4. The Delegates of these Member Countries shall immediately notify the OIE Headquarters if BSE occurs in their countries or their territories.

⁴ For detailed information on the delimitation of the zone of the Member Country recognised as having a negligible BSE risk, enquiries should be addressed to the Director General of the OIE



RESOLUTION No. 22

Recognition of the African horse sickness status of Member Countries

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 26 May 2015 in view of an entry into force on 30 May 2015)

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 80th General Session, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (the Assembly) adopted Resolution No. 19, which amended the chapter of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)* on African horse sickness (AHS). These standards provide a pathway for Member Countries or zones to be recognised by the OIE as free from AHS,

2. During the 83rd General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 15, which specified and updated the procedure for Member Countries to follow to achieve official recognition and maintenance of status for certain animal diseases, including AHS,

3. During the 83rd General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 16, which specified and updated the financial implications for Member Countries applying for evaluation of official recognition of disease status to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE in the evaluation process,

4. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegates of Member Countries. The OIE is not responsible for publication and maintenance of Member Countries' or zonal disease free status based on inaccurate information or untimely reporting to the OIE Headquarters of changes in epidemiological status or other significant events subsequent to the time of declaration of freedom from AHS,

THE ASSEMBLY RESOLVES THAT

1. The Director General publish the following list of Member Countries recognised as AHS free according to the provisions of Chapter 12.1. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Algeria	Kuwait
Andorra	Kyrgyzstan
Argentina	Latvia
Australia	Liechtenstein
Austria	Lithuania
Azerbaijan	Luxembourg
Belgium	Malaysia
Bolivia	Malta
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Mexico
Brazil	Morocco
Bulgaria	Myanmar
Canada	Netherlands
Chile	New Caledonia
China (People's Rep. of)	New Zealand
Chinese Taipei	Norway
Colombia	Oman
Croatia	Paraguay
Cyprus	Peru
Czech Republic	Poland
Denmark	Portugal
Ecuador	Qatar
Estonia	Romania
Finland	Singapore
Former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia	Slovakia
France	Slovenia
Germany	Spain
Greece	Sweden
Hungary	Switzerland
Iceland	Thailand
India	Tunisia
Ireland	Turkey
Italy	United Arab Emirates
Japan	United Kingdom
Korea (Rep. of)	United States of America
	Uruguay

AND

2. The Delegates of these Member Countries shall immediately notify the OIE Headquarters if AHS occurs in their countries or their territories.





RESOLUTION
No. 23

Recognition of the peste des petits ruminants status of Member Countries

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 26 May 2015 in view of an entry into force on 30 May 2015)

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 81st General Session, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (the Assembly) adopted Resolution No. 29, which amended the chapter of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)* on peste des petits ruminants (PPR). These standards provide a pathway for Member Countries or zones to be recognised by the OIE as free from PPR,
2. During the 83rd General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 15, which specified and updated the procedure for Member Countries to follow to achieve official recognition and maintenance of status for certain animal diseases, including PPR,

3. During the 83rd General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 16 which specified and updated the financial implications for Member Countries applying for evaluation of official recognition of disease status to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE in the evaluation process,

4. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegates of Member Countries. The OIE is not responsible for publication and maintenance of Member Countries' or zonal disease free status based on inaccurate information or untimely reporting to the OIE Headquarters of changes in epidemiological status or other significant events subsequent to the time of declaration of freedom from PPR,

THE ASSEMBLY RESOLVES THAT

1. The Director General publish the following list of Member Countries recognised as PPR free according to the provisions of Chapter 14.7. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Argentina | Finland |
| Australia | France |
| Austria | Germany |
| Belgium | Greece |
| Bolivia | Hungary |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | Iceland |
| Brazil | Ireland |
| Canada | Italy |
| Chile | Korea (Rep. of) |
| Chinese Taipei | Liechtenstein |
| Colombia | Lithuania |
| Cyprus | Luxembourg |
| Czech Republic | Malta |
| Denmark | Mauritius |
| Ecuador | Mexico |
| Estonia | Myanmar |
| | Netherlands |

- | | |
|---------------|--------------------------|
| New Caledonia | Slovenia |
| New Zealand | South Africa |
| Norway | Spain |
| Paraguay | Swaziland |
| Philippines | Sweden |
| Poland | Switzerland |
| Portugal | Thailand |
| Romania | United Kingdom |
| Singapore | United States of America |
| Slovakia | |

2. The Director General publish the following list of Member Countries having a PPR free zone⁵ according to the provisions of Chapter 14.7. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Namibia: one zone located south to the Veterinary Cordon Fence, designated by the Delegate of Namibia in a document addressed to the Director General in November 2014,

AND

3. The Delegates of these Member Countries shall immediately notify the OIE Headquarters if PPR occurs in their countries or their territories.

⁵ For detailed information on the delimitation of the zone of the Member Country recognised as PPR free, enquiries should be addressed to the Director General of the OIE



RESOLUTION
No. 24

Recognition of the classical swine fever status of Member Countries

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 26 May 2015 in view of an entry into force on 30 May 2015)

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 81st General Session, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (the Assembly) adopted Resolution No. 29, which amended the chapter of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)* on classical swine fever (CSF). These standards provide a pathway for Member Countries or zones to be recognised by the OIE as free from CSF,
2. During the 83rd General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 15, which specified and updated the procedure for Member Countries to follow to achieve official recognition and maintenance of status for certain animal diseases, including CSF,

3. During the 83rd General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 16 which specified and updated the financial implications for Member Countries applying for evaluation of official recognition of disease status to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE in the evaluation process,

4. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegates of Member Countries. The OIE is not responsible for publication and maintenance of Member Countries' or zonal disease free status based on inaccurate information or untimely reporting to the OIE Headquarters of changes in epidemiological status or other significant events subsequent to the time of declaration of freedom from CSF,

THE ASSEMBLY RESOLVES THAT

1. The Director General publish the following list of Member Countries recognised as CSF free according to the provisions of Chapter 15.2. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Australia	Mexico
Austria	Netherlands
Belgium	Norway
Canada	Portugal
Chile	Slovakia
Finland	Slovenia
France	Spain
Hungary	Sweden
Ireland	Switzerland
Japan	United Kingdom
Liechtenstein	United States of America
Luxembourg	

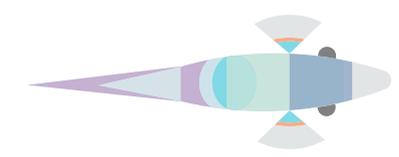
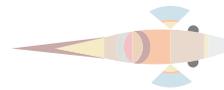
2. The Director General publish the following list of Member Countries having a CSF free zone⁶, according to the provisions of Chapter 15.2. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Brazil: one zone composed of the States of Rio Grande do Sul and Santa Catarina as designated by the Delegate of Brazil in a document addressed to the Director General in September 2014,

AND

3. The Delegates of these Member Countries shall immediately notify the OIE Headquarters if CSF occurs in their countries or their territories.

⁶ For detailed information on the delimitation of the zone of the Member Country recognised as CSF free, enquiries should be addressed to the Director General of the OIE





RESOLUTION No. 26

Combating antimicrobial resistance and promoting the prudent use of antimicrobial agents in animals

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 26 May 2015 in view of an entry into force on 30 May 2015)

CONSIDERING

1. That antimicrobial agents are essential tools for protecting animal health and welfare and also contribute to meeting the increasing global demand for safe meat, milk, fish and eggs, and other products of animal origin,
2. That antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is a significant global animal and human health threat that is influenced by the use of antimicrobial agents in some conditions,
3. That during the 77th General Session 2009, the World Assembly of Delegates (the Assembly) adopted Resolution No. 25 on veterinary products, which considered previous Resolutions on harmonisation of registration requirements for veterinary drugs, their responsible and prudent use and monitoring of resistance,

4. The recommendations of the OIE Global Conference on the responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents in animals, held in March 2013 in Paris, France, including recommendation No. 7 to collect harmonised quantitative data on the use of antimicrobial agents in animals with the view to establishing a global database,

5. The recent update and development of OIE standards and guidelines related to antimicrobial resistance, which include references to the relevant standards developed by Codex Alimentarius,

6. The tripartite agreement between FAO, OIE and WHO to address as a priority antimicrobial resistance and the important contribution of the OIE to the development and achievement of the WHO global action plan on antimicrobial resistance,

7. The network of OIE National Focal Points for Veterinary Products and its role in supporting the global implementation of the OIE standards regarding veterinary products,

8. The importance of the PVS pathway in supporting compliance of national veterinary services with OIE standards including legislation, as a prerequisite to ensuring good governance covering production, registration, distribution and use of antimicrobial agents at the national level,

9. The importance of appropriate Veterinary Education and Veterinary Statutory Bodies in the promotion of veterinary oversight to ensure responsible use of antimicrobial agents in animals,

THE ASSEMBLY RECOMMENDS THAT

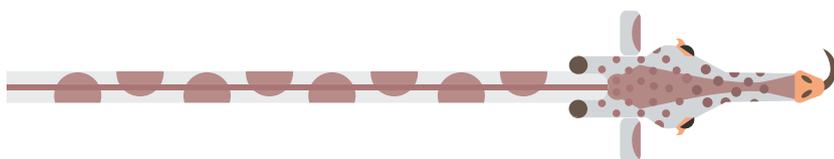
1. The OIE continue to develop and update standards and guidelines related to antimicrobial resistance and the prudent use of antimicrobial agents including updating regularly the OIE List of Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance,

2. The OIE, with support from relevant organisations and donors, work with Member Countries to support them to implement OIE standards and guidelines using the PVS pathway and other relevant OIE capacity building mechanisms, including twinning and regional seminars,

3. The OIE develop a procedure and standards for data quality for collecting data annually from OIE Member Countries on the use of antimicrobial agents in food-producing animals with the aim of creating an OIE global database to be managed in parallel with the World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS),

4. OIE Member Countries set up an official harmonised national system, based on OIE standards, for the surveillance of antimicrobial resistance and the collection of data on the use of antimicrobial agents in food-producing animals, and actively participate in the development of the OIE global database,

5. The participation of OIE Member Countries in the VICH Outreach Forum be facilitated with the aim of adopting and utilising harmonised international guidelines related to the technical requirements for registration of veterinary medicinal products,



6. OIE Member Countries improve veterinary legislation and education, where necessary, in order to facilitate implementation of OIE and Codex Alimentarius standards and guidelines related to antimicrobial resistance and veterinary oversight of the use of antimicrobial agents,

7. The OIE and OIE Member Countries encourage Veterinary Statutory Bodies and the veterinary profession as a whole to develop, implement and ensure compliance with ethics and codes of good veterinary practices, with particular reference to the prescription and delivery of antimicrobial agents by well-trained veterinarians or veterinary para-professionals under their direct oversight,

8. OIE Member Countries follow the guidance of the WHO Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance, developed with the support of the OIE in the spirit of the 'One Health' approach, in particular by developing national action plans, with the support of FAO and WHO where feasible and warranted, in respect of the use of antimicrobial agents in animals and ensuring their close collaboration with public health officials,

9. The OIE continue to seek donor support for the organisation of dedicated regional training seminars for OIE National Focal Points for Veterinary Products with the participation of FAO and WHO within the tripartite collaboration and invite other relevant partners to build capacity at the national and regional levels to enable the implementation of OIE and Codex Alimentarius intergovernmental standards to combat antimicrobial resistance and support the recommendations of the WHO Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance,

10. The OIE strengthen its collaboration with international organisations, such as the World Customs Organisation and Interpol, and stakeholders to combat counterfeit products with the aim of ensuring access to antimicrobial agents of proven quality,

11. Research be promoted to improve tools for rapid diagnostics for use in animals and to explore alternatives to antimicrobial use in animals, including the development of vaccines and other tools for priority diseases.

RESOLUTION No. 32

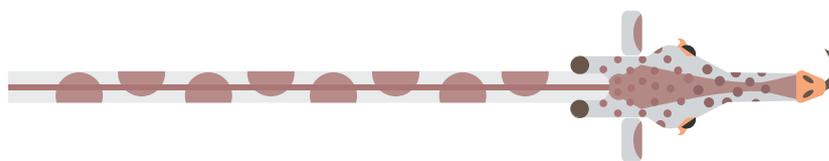
Designation of OIE Reference Laboratories for terrestrial animal diseases

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2015 in view of an entry into force on 30 May 2015)

CONSIDERING THAT

1. The OIE's *Basic Texts* provide the Terms of Reference, designation criteria, and internal rules for OIE Reference Laboratories,
2. The Terms of Reference of the OIE Biological Standards Commissions include the responsibility to examine applications from Member Countries relating to the creation of new OIE Reference Laboratories with activities corresponding to the Commission's scientific mandate and report its findings to the Director General,





3. All OIE Reference Laboratory applications are assessed using standardised criteria that include:

- the institution's ability, capacity and readiness to provide services,
- the scientific and technical standing of the institution concerned at the national and international levels,
- the quality of its scientific and technical leadership including internationally recognised expertise,
- the institution's prospective stability in terms of personnel, activity and funding, and
- the technical and geographical relevance of the institution and its activities to OIE's programme priorities,

4. Details of the applicant laboratories that have been assessed by the OIE Biological Standards Commission are published in the report of the meeting of the Commission,

5. All Reference Laboratory applications are endorsed by the OIE Council,

6. Proposals for a major change in an OIE Reference Laboratory follow the same procedure,

7. Article 4 of the Internal Rules for OIE Reference Centres states that 'Applications endorsed by the Council shall be presented to the Assembly for approval',

THE ASSEMBLY RESOLVES

To designate the following new OIE Reference Laboratories for terrestrial animal diseases and add them to the list of OIE Reference Laboratories (available on the OIE web site)⁷:

- *OIE Reference Laboratory for foot and mouth disease*

Laboratoire de référence national français pour la fièvre aphteuse, Laboratoire de santé animale, ANSES, Maisons-Alfort, France

- *OIE Reference Laboratory for tularemia*

Laboratory of Zoonotic Bacteriology and Mycoplasmatology, Institute for Veterinary Medical Research, Centre for Agricultural Research, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, Hungary

- *OIE Reference Laboratory for equine rhinopneumonitis*

Irish Equine Centre, Johnstown, Naas, Co. Kildare, Ireland

- *OIE Reference Laboratory for bovine spongiform encephalopathy and scrapie*

Centro de investigación en encefalopatías y enfermedades transmisibles emergentes, Universidad de Zaragoza, Spain.



High Throughput Sequencing, Bioinformatics and Computational Genomics (HTS-BCG)

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2015 in view of an entry into force on 30 May 2015)

CONSIDERING THAT

1. Developments in science and technology will continue to provide opportunities to improve animal and public health and welfare while reducing economic losses to animal production and enhancing food security and nutrition,
2. The technologies now available to the global animal health community and their rapid evolution are changing the way animal diseases are detected, predicted, controlled and eradicated,

⁷ See pp. 87-87 in this issue of the *Bulletin*



3. Resolution No. 35 'Modern approaches and the use of new technologies for the control and eradication of aquatic and terrestrial animal diseases that fully consider animal welfare and minimise the impact on food security', adopted at the 81st General Session in May 2013, called on the OIE to evaluate opportunities for a more rapid validation and incorporation of new technologies into OIE animal health standards and guidelines,

4. Genetic sequence information is playing an increasing role in the diagnosis of bacterial and viral infections, including in the characterisation of infectious agents, their possible pathogenicity, the identification of the genetic basis of antimicrobial resistance and their likely spread from place to place and through time,

5. High throughput genetic sequencing (also called next generation sequencing), bioinformatics and computational genomics have advanced significantly in the past few years, resulting in a rapid reduction in DNA sequencing costs, and making the technology accessible to more diagnostic laboratories,

6. In response to the rapid development of new technologies for diagnosis and characterisation of pathogens, there is a need to harmonise global initiatives in the field of genetic sequence information with the involvement of all OIE Member Countries,

7. The network of OIE Reference Centres is unique worldwide and offers the opportunity for the global community to have access to a massive collection of pathogens from around the world,

8. Recommendation No. 14 from the 3rd Global Conferences of OIE Reference Centres in Incheon, Republic of Korea, October 2014, calls on the OIE to develop, with the collective support of OIE Reference Centres, the design of an OIE platform for the collection and management of partial and complete genomic sequences (including genotype assignment) in animal disease diagnosis and notification,

9. The OIE develops and updates standards and guidelines addressing new technologies through its standard process for adoption of new chapters in the OIE *Codes* and *Manuals*, and is currently working on a chapter on general aspects of HTS-BCG for future inclusion in the *Terrestrial Manual*, and on the design of an OIE platform for the collection and management of partial and complete genomic sequences (including genotype assignment),

10. Knowledge of natural genomes is a global public good,

THE ASSEMBLY RECOMMENDS THAT

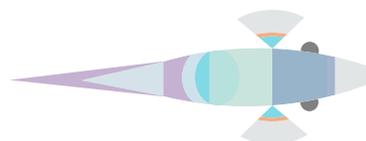
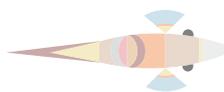
1. The OIE develop and update OIE standards and guidelines related to high throughput genetic sequencing, bioinformatics and computational genomics, taking into consideration horizontal issues of the technology such as appropriate validation, specific requirements for quality assurance, disease-specific implications and other relevant aspects of the technology,

2. The OIE establish a platform for the collection and management of partial and complete genomic sequences (including genotype assignment) with the aim to integrate the reporting of genomic sequence data into the OIE World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS), with the collective support of OIE Reference Centres, and involving all OIE Member Countries,

3. The OIE address the challenges and opportunities to the OIE Member Countries' Veterinary Services posed by these new technologies and report back to the Member Countries regularly,

4. The network of Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres and other partnering initiatives expand the provision of support to the OIE Member Countries, including the twinning programme, training and capacity building in the development, validation and implementation of high throughput genetic sequencing, bioinformatics and computational genomics.





RESOLUTION
No. 34

Register of diagnostic kits validated and certified by the OIE

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2015 in view of an entry into force on 30 May 2015)

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 71st General Session of the OIE in May 2003, the International Committee adopted Resolution No. XXIX endorsing the principle of validation and certification of diagnostic assays (test methods) for infectious animal diseases by the OIE and giving a mandate to the Director General of the OIE to set up the specific standard procedures to be used before the final decision on the validation and certification of a diagnostic assay is taken by the OIE International Committee,
2. The Resolution has established that 'fitness for purpose' should be used as a criterion for validation,
3. The aim of the procedure for diagnostic kits is to produce a register of recognised assays for OIE Member Countries and for diagnostic kit manufacturers,

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

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

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

THE ASSEMBLY RESOLVES THAT

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

Name of the diagnostic kit	Name of the manufacturer	Fitness for purpose
BOVIGAM® <i>Mycobacterium bovis</i> Gamma interferon test kit for cattle	Prionics AG	Fit for the detection of cell mediated immune response to infection with <i>Mycobacterium bovis</i> and other mycobacteria belonging to the tuberculosis complex on analysis of whole blood specimens in cattle, buffalo (<i>Syncerus caffer</i>), goat and sheep (provisionally) for the following purposes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. historical freedom 2. re-establishment of freedom after outbreaks 3. certify freedom from infection or agent in individual animals or products for trade/ movement purposes 4. eradication of infection from defined populations 5. confirmatory diagnosis of suspect or clinical cases (includes confirmation of positive screening test) 6. estimate prevalence of infection to facilitate risk analysis (surveys/herd health schemes/ disease control) 7. ancillary test for eradication of tuberculosis.





RESOLUTION No. 35

The use of information technology in animal health management, disease reporting, surveillance, and emergency response

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 28 May 2015 in view of an entry into force on 30 May 2015)

CONSIDERING THAT

1. Information technologies now available to the global animal health community have the ability to revolutionise the way animal disease data and information are collected, integrated, reported, analysed, shared, and disseminated to stakeholders,
2. These new technologies offer substantial opportunities for enhancing animal, public and ecosystem health across the globe,
3. These new technologies can allow for more data collection and reporting at the local, national, regional, and global levels,

4. The power of information technology systems to collect, filter, process, and present information/data from a number of data sources greatly enhances the decision-making process, animal health situational awareness, anticipation and prediction, and the ability for timely detection and response to animal disease occurrences,

5. Their capabilities offer user-friendly, low-cost, and low-maintenance options for collecting, storing, and analysing trends in animal health, movements, and management,

6. As many of these new information and communication technologies are relevant to support animal health and welfare, approaches for accessing, implementing, standardising data quality and nomenclature, utilising, and harmonising these systems will be needed,

7. OIE is the world leader in collecting, analysing, reporting and disseminating information on global terrestrial and aquatic animal and zoonotic diseases,

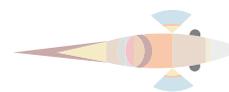
8. OIE's support and/or involvement to promote the development, implementation, and integration of these technologies will be critical for establishing capacity for adoption and utilisation on the part of Member Countries,

9. OIE Member Countries are keen to take advantage of existing and emerging technologies to support animal health for active and passive surveillance data management, disease outbreak reporting and response,

THE ASSEMBLY RECOMMENDS THAT

1. The OIE should continue to promote data sharing and cooperation within and between Member Countries and partner organisations, and the inclusion of public health counterparts in this process, especially as information technologies are implemented,
2. The OIE should work to support the development of data standards and guidelines for the use of these technologies in line with current international efforts to enhance data quality and allow for efficient data sharing and cooperation among Member Countries and the OIE,
3. The OIE should help address limitations to adoption and implementation of new technologies through continued promotion of the OIE use of the Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) Pathway including Gap Analysis tool,
4. The OIE should consider incorporating critical competencies for the use of information technologies in the PVS tool,
5. The OIE utilise the PVS tool to help identify and develop a strategy for addressing gaps in information technology adoption and utilisation within OIE Member Countries,





6. Once gaps are identified, the OIE should support technology guidance, training and capacity building through Reference Centre twinning opportunities, regional workshops, and technology demonstrations,

7. The OIE should work to identify and implement incentives that encourage early reporting from both formal and informal data sources, including public and private sector collaboration. Methods for incentivising, incorporating and analysing 'informal' animal health reports within the WAHIS system should be maintained and further developed with input including verification from OIE Member Countries,

8. The OIE should continue to modernise the WAHIS system including its interfacing and compatibility with other platforms using the General budget and, if needed, World Fund for Animal Health and Welfare financial resources,

9. The OIE should, as a matter of due diligence, perform a robust 'requirements gathering process' to ensure clarity of objectives and outcomes prior to investing in further information technology development, including that of WAHIS.

No.
RESOLUTION
36

Agreement between the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the African Union / Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR)

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 29 May 2015)

CONSIDERING

That it is desirable, in the general interest of all concerned, that the Agreement adopted by the parties on 19 September 2001, be updated to take into account the enlargement of their cooperation,

That the revised Agreement between the OIE and AU-IBAR was approved following the deliberations of the Council on 22 February 2015 (83 SG/19),

THE ASSEMBLY DECIDES

To approve the terms of this Agreement and its signature by the Director General on behalf the OIE.

The provisions of this Resolution shall enter into force on 30 May 2015.

No.
RESOLUTION
37

Agreement between the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the World Customs Organization (WCO)

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 29 May 2015)

CONSIDERING

That it is desirable, in the general interest of all concerned, that cooperation be established between the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the World Customs Organization (WCO),

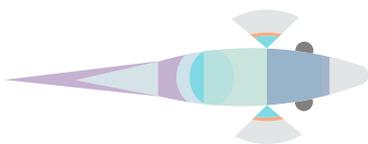
That the Agreement between the OIE and WCO was approved following the deliberations of the Council on 22 February 2015 (83 SG/20),

THE ASSEMBLY DECIDES

To approve the terms of this Agreement and its signature by the Director General on behalf the OIE.

The provisions of this Resolution shall enter into force on 30 May 2015.





Memorandum of Understanding between the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the International Police Organization (INTERPOL)

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 29 May 2015)

CONSIDERING

That it is desirable, in the general interest of all concerned, that cooperation be established between the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the International Police Organization (INTERPOL),

That the Memorandum of Understanding between the OIE and INTERPOL was approved following the deliberations of the Council on 22 May 2015 (83 SG/21),

THE ASSEMBLY DECIDES

To approve the terms of this Memorandum of Understanding and its signature by the Director General on behalf the OIE.

The provisions of this Resolution shall enter into force on 30 May 2015.



Agreement between the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the World Veterinary Association (WVA)

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 29 May 2015)

CONSIDERING

That it is desirable, in the general interest of all concerned, that the Agreement between the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the World Veterinary Association (WVA), adopted on 29 May 2002, be updated to take into account the enlargement of their cooperation,

That the revised Agreement between the OIE and WVA was approved following the deliberations of the Council on 22 May 2015 (83 SG/22),

THE ASSEMBLY DECIDES

To approve the terms of this revised Agreement and its signature by the Director General on behalf the OIE.

The provisions of this Resolution shall enter into force on 30 May 2015.



Agreement between the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 29 May 2015)

CONSIDERING

That it is desirable, in the general interest of all concerned, that cooperation be established between the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES),

The Agreement between the OIE and the Secretariat of the CITES was approved following the deliberations of the Council on 22 May 2015 (83 SG/23),

THE ASSEMBLY DECIDES

To approve the terms of this Agreement and its signature by the Director General on behalf the OIE.

The provisions of this Resolution shall enter into force on 30 May 2015.

Cooperation agreements between the OIE and intergovernmental organisations and other international nongovernmental organisations: www.oie.int/en/about-us/key-texts/cooperation-agreements/



strengthening of Veterinary Services

PVS Evaluation missions

State of Play – as at 1 December 2015

OIE Region	OIE Members	Requests received	Missions completed	Reports available for distribution to donors and partners
Africa	54	53	51	43
Americas	29	25	24	19
Asia and the Pacific	32	25	23	12
Europe	53	19	19	11
Middle East	12	13	11	6
Total	180	135	128	91

PVS Evaluation mission requests

• Africa (53)

Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Rep., Chad, Comoros, Rep. of the Congo, Dem. Rep. of the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

• Americas (25)

Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Rep., Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela.

• Asia-Pacific (25)

Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, Fiji, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Dem. People's Rep. of Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Caledonia, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor Leste, Vanuatu, Vietnam.

• Europe (19)

Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.

• Middle East (13)

Afghanistan, Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestinian N.A. (observer), Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, United Arab Emirates, Yemen.

In red: completed missions



OIE PVS Pathway for efficient Veterinary Services

Legislation missions

State of Play – as at 1 December 2015

OIE Region	OIE Members	Requests received	Missions completed
Africa	54	41	28
Americas	29	7	6
Asia and the Pacific	32	7	6
Europe	53	5	4
Middle East	12	5	4
Total	180	65	48

PVS Gap Analysis missions

State of Play – as at 1 December 2015

OIE Region	OIE Members	Requests received	Missions completed	Reports available for distribution to donors and partners
Africa	54	47	44	28
Americas	29	18	12	9
Asia and the Pacific	32	19	14	7
Europe	53	9	8	4
Middle East	12	10	4	0
Total	180	103	82	48

Legislation mission requests

• Africa (41)

Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African (Rep.), Chad, Comoros, Dem. Rep. of the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

• Americas (7)

Barbados, Bolivia, Dominican Rep., Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Paraguay.

• Asia/Pacific (7)

Bhutan, Cambodia, Fiji, Laos, Mongolia, Papua New Guinea, Vietnam.

• Europe (5)

Armenia, Georgia, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan.

• Middle East (5)

Afghanistan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates.

In red: completed missions

PVS Gap Analysis mission requests

• Africa (47)

Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African (Rep.), Chad, Comoros, Dem. Rep. of the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

• Americas (18)

Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Suriname.

• Asia-Pacific (19)

Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, Fiji, Indonesia, Iran, Dem. People's Rep. of Korea, Laos, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor Leste, Vanuatu, Vietnam.

• Europe (9)

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Serbia, Tajikistan, Turkey.

• Middle East (10)

Afghanistan, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestinian N.A. (observer), Saudi Arabia, Syria, United Arab Emirates, Yemen.

In red: completed missions





OIE PVS Pathway experiences in some South-East Asian Countries

The majority of countries in South-East Asia have fully embraced the OIE Performance of Veterinary Services Pathway (PVS Pathway).

The PVS Pathway is a global capacity-building programme developed by the OIE to help its Member Countries comply with international standards on the quality of Veterinary Services. Nine countries have used the tools within the OIE PVS Pathway in order to strengthen their Veterinary Services, particularly in the areas of veterinary legislation, strategic action planning, capacity building and disease prevention and control.

Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Vietnam have undergone OIE PVS Evaluations (the 'diagnostic' phase) and PVS Gap Analyses (the 'prescription' phase). In addition, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam have each received an OIE Veterinary Legislation Identification mission. PVS Evaluation Follow-up missions have been conducted in Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam. The OIE has also fielded several pilot PVS Pathway missions: a PVS Pathway

Laboratory mission in Laos, PVS Evaluation missions to assess the *Aquatic Animal Health Services* in Vietnam and the Philippines, and a PVS 'One Health' Evaluation mission in the Philippines. In 2006, Vietnam became the first OIE Member Country to undergo an OIE PVS Evaluation and is so far the only country in South-East Asia to have made this kind of report public. Laos and Vietnam have also made available the PVS Evaluation follow-up reports.

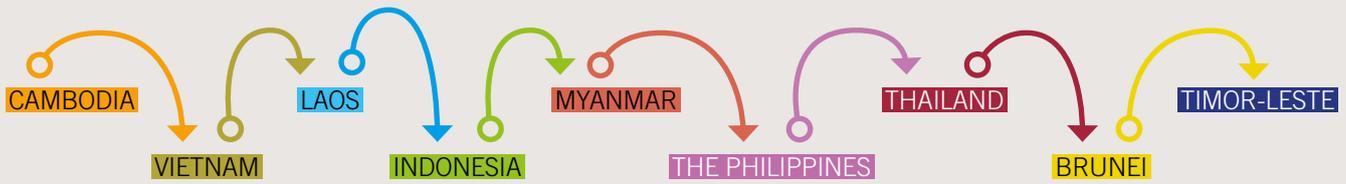
Although Malaysia and Singapore have not carried out an OIE PVS Evaluation, both countries have used the 5th edition of the PVS Tool either for self-evaluation (Malaysia) or capacity building (Singapore). Malaysia, however, recognised the fact that an external evaluation by OIE experts is needed because it lends credibility to the process. Malaysia, thus, officially requested an OIE PVS Evaluation in 2014. Following the training conducted by OIE PVS experts in November 2014, Singapore is considering conducting a PVS self-evaluation and may in the future request a full OIE PVS Evaluation mission, which will allow independent experts to evaluate

its Veterinary Services and provide unbiased recommendations for improvement.

An analysis of OIE PVS Evaluation reports on seven OIE Member Countries in South-East Asia (Dr A. Poirier, 2014), based on evaluations conducted between 2006 and 2012, indicates that there are ample opportunities for countries to strengthen the fundamental components of their Veterinary Services, as defined in the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*. The analysis, which was carried out by the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for South-East Asia (SRR-SEA), revealed that nearly 70% of critical competencies were not in compliance with OIE international standards, 22.4% of critical competencies being at level of advancement 1 and 46.5% at level 2 (levels of advancement range from 1 [no compliance] to 5 [full compliance]).

Since the OIE PVS Evaluation reports were compiled, progress has been made to address the weaknesses identified in these countries' Veterinary Services, which may have improved their compliance with international standards. The





OIE SRR-SEA conducted a Sub-Regional Workshop on the PVS Pathway in Bali, Indonesia, from 28 to 30 April 2015. The workshop brought together Veterinary Services' representatives, some of whom had previously been involved in PVS Pathway missions in their respective countries, to discuss the progress made by their Veterinary Services since the last OIE PVS Pathway mission as well

as future strategies for utilising the OIE PVS Pathway in the Sub-Region. The workshop revealed that, since the completion of these missions, countries had made considerable progress in improving their compliance with OIE and other international standards. This was achieved by addressing the gaps and shortcomings outlined in the OIE PVS Pathway reports and implementing the reports' recommendations.

This article highlights some of the key achievements of South-East Asian countries in utilising the OIE PVS Pathway, whether directly or indirectly, to strengthen the fundamental components of their Veterinary Services. Interviews with participants from each country were also conducted in order to elicit detailed information about the perceived value of the OIE PVS Pathway reports.

Legislation

Cambodia and Vietnam have developed animal health and veterinary legislation based on the recommendations of OIE Veterinary Legislation Identification missions: a veterinary law was passed in Vietnam in June 2015 and in Cambodia in November 2015.

With the support of FAO, Cambodia has developed a law on animal health and production, which includes provisions:

- to establish a national veterinary council – the veterinary council will be the regulatory body to manage registration and licensing of veterinarians, village animal health workers (VAHWs) and private veterinary clinics,
- to promote accountable and ethical behaviour and
- to ensure they meet acceptable standards of competence and practice.

the gaps identified in the OIE PVS Pathway reports.

Indonesia's regulations to control the use of veterinary drugs are being improved by upgrading the circular issued by the Director General to a Ministerial Decree to allow stronger enforcement. In 2014, Thailand passed its first Animal Welfare Act and amended the Animal Epidemics Act and Feed Quality Control Act. In 2013, the Philippines amended its Animal Welfare Act to increase

CAMBODIA

- to establish the Animal Health and Production Administration to replace the Department of Animal Health and Production,
- to establish the compulsory notification of animal diseases with serious socio-economic, trade or public health consequences,
- to establish sanitary inspection of animals and animal products,
- to establish management of animal breeding and rearing,
- to establish an animal disease emergency fund,

In Vietnam, the recommendations of the OIE Veterinary Legislation Identification mission in 2009 were used to develop the Veterinary Law, which includes the creation of a Veterinary Statutory Body to oversee the 25,000 veterinarians in the country. Laos has likewise benefited from an OIE Veterinary Legislation Identification mission.

Laos and also Indonesia, Myanmar, the Philippines and Thailand are revising their existing animal health legislation to address

penalties for violators. Singapore also strengthened its animal welfare legislation in 2015. Myanmar conducted a national consultative workshop to amend the Animal Health and Development Law. The law does not cover the management of veterinary drugs and biological materials, which are under the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department (LBVD) of the Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development is using the 2009 OIE

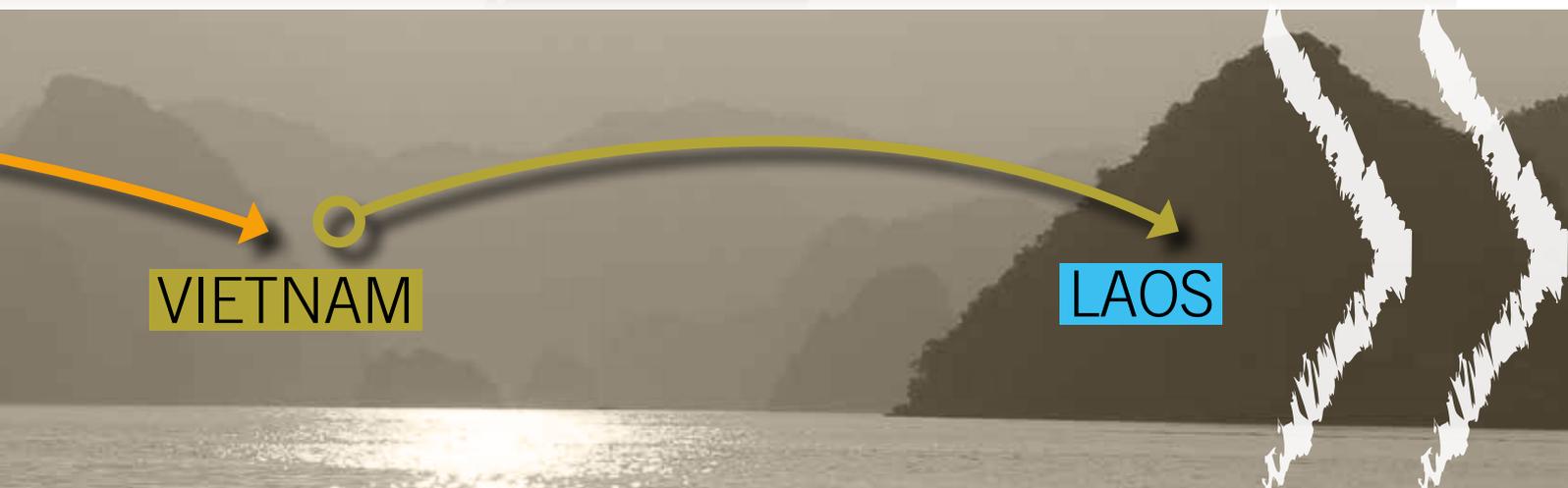


PVS Evaluation recommendations to take over full control of veterinary drugs from the FDA.

In the Philippines, the proposed bill entitled 'Animal Industry and Veterinary Services Act', which addresses the recommendations of the OIE PVS Pathway reports to modernise and update existing laws, was submitted to Congress in 2010. The bill seeks to restructure and modernise the 85-year-old law that created the Bureau of

following: the investigation, reporting and prevention of the causes and dangers of communicable diseases among animals; research and development in the field of animal health, welfare and food production; and regulation of imported and foreign animals. One important provision of the law is the creation of the Disease Compensation and Eradication Trust Fund, which will have an initial appropriation of PHP 300 million (USD 6.7 million).

Thailand's Department of Livestock Development (DLD) has amended its veterinary drug law as recommended in the OIE PVS Evaluation report. The amended law, which is being pushed for approval by Parliament, will give the DLD greater control over the manufacture, import, registration, sale and use of veterinary drugs, with clear sharing of responsibility and information with the FDA. One of the main findings of the PVS Evaluation in 2012 was



Animal Industry (BAI). Using the recommendations of the OIE PVS Pathway reports, BAI is lobbying Congress to pass the bill. The bill proposes to convert the BAI to a National Livestock and Veterinary Services Authority and to transfer all responsibilities of the Department of Agriculture's (DA) regional staff performing veterinary services and functions to the Regional Livestock and Veterinary Services' Offices. BAI is one of seven bureaus under the DA. Its functions include the

Other legislation that supports improvements in the Veterinary Services has been passed, including Administrative Order No. 10, which created the Philippine Inter-Agency Committee on Zoonoses (PhilCZ) in 2011, Republic Act No. 10611 (Food Safety Act of 2013), and Administrative Order No. 42 of 10 April 2014 'Creating an Inter-Agency Committee for the Formulation and Implementation of a National Plan to Combat Anti-Microbial Resistance (AMR) in the Philippines'.

the lack of regulatory control over veterinary drug sales and their use, in a context where farmers can buy drugs without a prescription.

Strategic plans

Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam have each developed a strategic plan for their Veterinary Services, and the Philippines is still developing it. Cambodia is developing its Veterinary Services Strategic Plan based on the OIE PVS Pathway reports and with

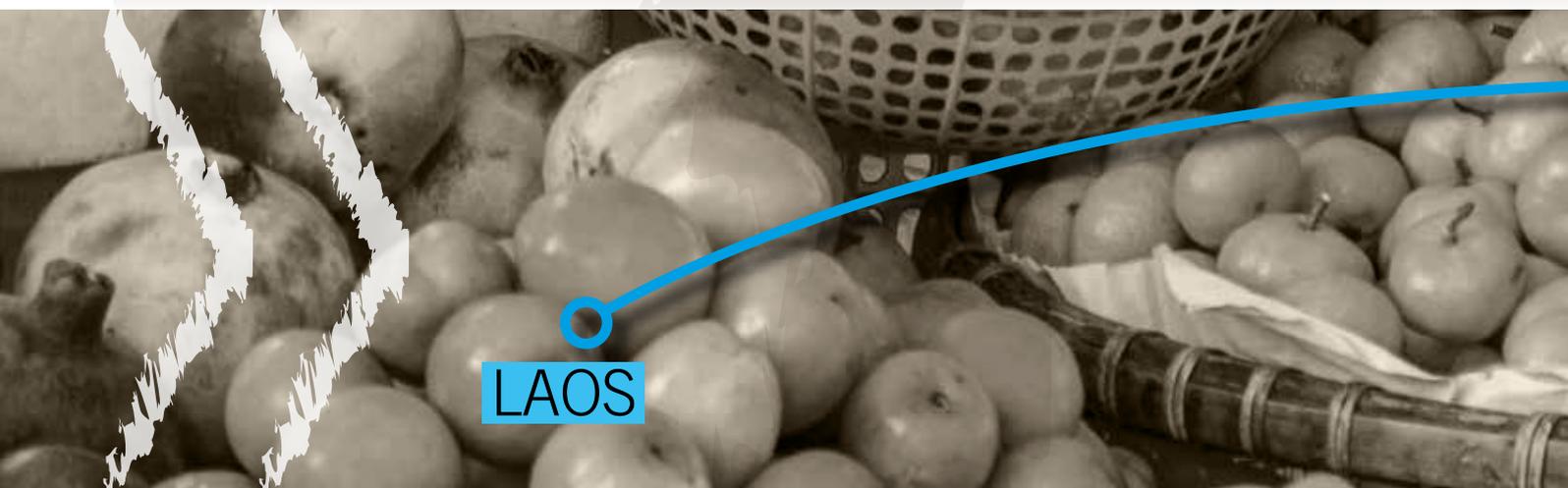


support from the European Union-funded project entitled 'Promotion of Inclusive and Sustainable Growth in the Agricultural Sector: Livestock Component'.

Laos, the only country in South-East Asia to have benefited so far from a PVS Pathway Laboratory mission, and Cambodia, Myanmar, the Philippines and Thailand have all developed their Laboratory Strategic Plans based on the recommendations of the OIE PVS Pathway reports.

to address the weaknesses identified in the PVS reports is a workshop conducted in May 2012 by the Australia–Indonesia Partnership on Emerging Infectious Diseases (AIP-EID) Animal Health Programme. The Programme – with funds of AUD 22 million over four years (2011–2015) – aims to sustainably strengthen the Veterinary Services of Indonesia with a focus on capacities to prevent, detect and control emerging infectious

developing strategic plans. He noted that the workshop had tried to demystify the report and promote its assimilation into the strategic planning process. At Indonesia's request and with support from the AIP-EID Programme, the OIE conducted a training seminar on PVS Assessment in May 2015. Subsequently, Indonesia intends to establish a National Team for PVS Self-Assessment and use the recommendations of the PVS Pathway



LAOS

Veterinary Services' Strategic Plans and Laboratory Strategic Plans provide guidance and policy directions for the short- and long-term development of a country's Veterinary Services and animal health laboratories, as well as identifying priority activities for investments. They also serve as advocacy tools to request an increased budget allocation to strengthen the Veterinary Services and laboratories.

A good example of the use of the PVS reports in prioritising activities

diseases and priority endemic diseases. Dr Jonathan Happold, the AIP-EID Team Leader, said that the PVS reports provided great value in planning and programme design. At the time of the workshop, many government staff were not familiar with the PVS Pathway and very few people within the Department had access to the PVS Gap Analysis report. He added that although the PVS report was a hard document to read, it provided valuable ideas, that were worth looking at when

reports to increase capacity of Indonesian veterinarians to advocate for more support to strengthen the Veterinary Services.

Advocacy

The Division of Livestock Industry, Department of Agriculture and Agrifood of the Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources, the main body responsible for the Veterinary Services of Brunei, has made use of the OIE PVS Evaluation and PVS Gap Analysis reports to review its



guidelines and policies on good animal husbandry and use of veterinary medicines with a view to improving service delivery. The PVS Gap Analysis report has been useful in presenting to top management the priority needs of the current Veterinary Services and helps provide the rationale for continuity and an increase in the budget allocation. Brunei is also involving the private sector in running small animal health clinics – under a privatisation

Bank. The Delegate of Cambodia to the OIE has been using the OIE PVS Pathway reports to guide decision making on where funding should be directed, as well as to raise Government awareness of the importance of supporting livestock development and disease control in order to improve rural livelihoods and contribute to economic development.

Indonesia's Directorate General of Livestock and Animal

in response to the recommendations in the OIE PVS Pathway reports.

In **Myanmar**, the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department (LBVD) of the Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development has been successful in using the OIE PVS Pathway reports to advocate for more resources for strengthening its Veterinary Services. As a result of its advocacy, the Ministries of Planning and Finance granted the LBVD an exemption from the



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programme that aims to enhance sustainable delivery of Veterinary Services.

Cambodia has been successful in accessing funding from technical agencies, donor countries and funding bodies to implement projects that will help strengthen its Veterinary Services in areas identified as weaknesses in the OIE PVS Pathway reports. These projects include those funded by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the European Union, FAO, the OIE SRR-SEA and the World

Health Services (DGLAHS) has made use of the results of the OIE PVS Evaluation mission conducted in 2007 and the PVS Gap Analysis mission conducted in 2011 in advocating for a new laboratory. Following the Minister of Agriculture's approval, the new laboratory will be built in 2015 with a proposed budget of IDR 300 billion (USD 22.8 million). Indonesia has doubled the number of veterinary schools and improved the quality of veterinary education

recruitment cap and allowed it to hire all the 366 field veterinarians it needed for the 330 townships. The LBVD received a 76% increase in its budget, to MMK 12,420.652 million (USD 11 million) in 2014 from MMK 3,000 million (USD 2.7 million) in 2009. The increase allowed the LBVD to establish a new biosecurity level 2 (BSL-2) foot and mouth disease (FMD) diagnostic laboratory worth USD 3 million in Nay Pyi Taw. It also allowed the LBVD to increase the number of staff by

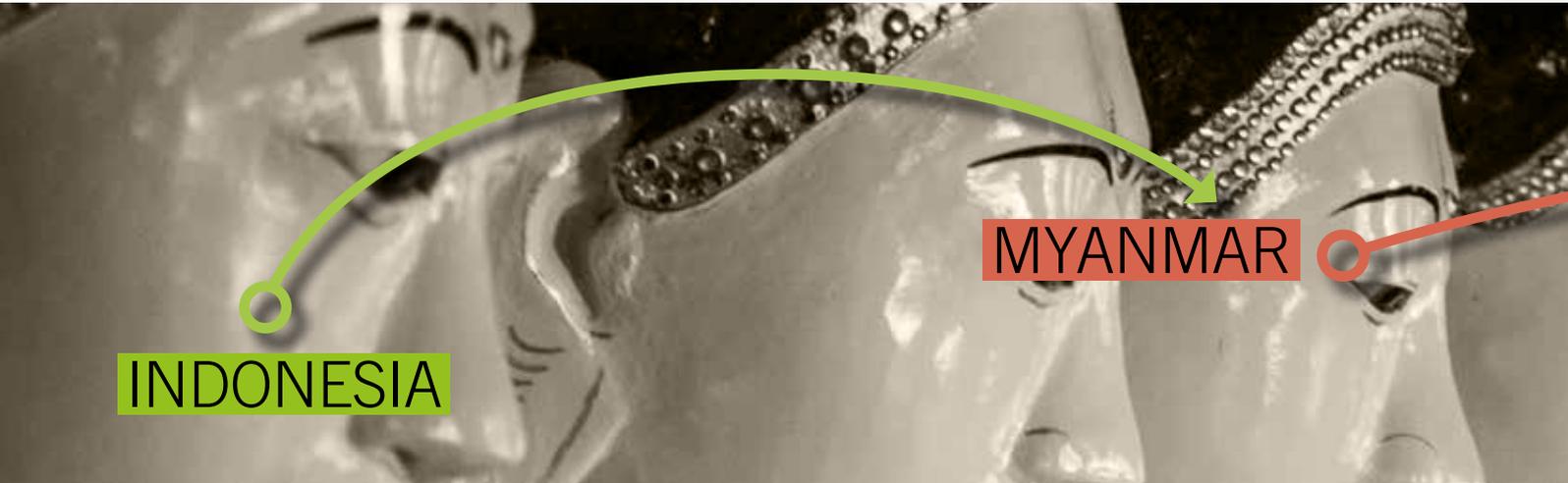


40%, from 1,846 in 2009 to 2,987. Government staff salaries were also doubled in April 2015 to harmonise them with government staff salaries within the ASEAN¹ region. In addition, the Ministry provided the LBVD with MMK 668.9 million (USD 600,000) for procurement of laboratory equipment.

The **Philippine** Delegate to the OIE considers the OIE PVS Pathway reports as a useful tool for justifying requests for more investment and

the government budget allocation. The Programme received a tenfold increase in the budget allocated for rabies vaccine procurement, from PHP 5 million (USD 112,000) a year to PHP 50 million (USD 1.1 million) in 2014. It also received close to USD 1 million in funding from the OIE SRR-SEA's STANDZ² 'One Health' Programme in 2014. The Department of Agriculture (DA) has been very successful in advocating with other government agencies and the private

The Department of Livestock Development (DLD) of **Thailand's** Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives has made full use of the OIE PVS Evaluation report in asking the Government for more resources. It developed a 10-year recruitment plan for 1,000 veterinarians to replace all veterinary paraprofessionals by 2020. With Government approval, the DLD began its recruitment of 1,000 veterinarians in 2013. A total



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support for policy development. The number of staff of the national Veterinary Quarantine Services, which are now under the BAI, has increased from 6 to 358, with the addition of newly created positions and transferred positions. Almost half of the manpower required by the Veterinary Services is being recruited under the Government's rationalisation plan. The Philippine National Rabies Prevention and Control Programme benefited the most from the recent increases in

sector for additional support for its Rabies Programme. It has received PHP 69,545,000 (USD 1.6 million) in budget support from the Department of Health (DOH) for 2014 for the procurement of animal rabies vaccines to augment the DA's supply of vaccines. The DA's engagement with the private sector resulted in the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement with the Philippine Veterinary Medical Association to support the National Rabies Prevention and Control Programme.

of 280 veterinarians are being recruited for district livestock offices around the country. This will address the recommendation of the OIE PVS Evaluation report to tackle the lack of veterinary professionals at district level.

The results of the OIE PVS Pathway missions were discussed within **Vietnam's** Department of Animal Health (DAH) and with all 63 provinces to address the recommendations. Each of the 63 provinces was requested to

1 ASEAN: Association of Southeast Asian Nations

2 STANDZ: Stop Transboundary Animal Diseases and Zoonoses



develop an annual plan identifying priority activities to be implemented along with a corresponding budget allocation. Fifty-eight provinces responded, with a total allocation of USD 500 million in 2012 for terrestrial animal health, while USD 0.5 million was allocated by 10 provinces in 2013 for aquatic animal health. Since then, annual plans have been regularly drawn up along with the corresponding budget allocation. Huge increases in

from the Government, the private sector, producers and donors.

Disease control programmes

Disease control programmes have been improved with the development of FMD control plans by Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam. The Philippines has improved its animal disease status with its successful zoning approach on FMD eradication. In 2011, the Philippines received OIE official

the national disease reporting system through the development of an integrated animal health information system called iSIKHNAS (wiki.iSIKHNAS.com). Access to data collected by iSIKHNAS has



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budget allocations for aquatic animal health have been provided over the years, rising to USD 1.5 million for 35 provinces in 2014 and USD 2 million for 40 provinces in 2015. For terrestrial animal health, the total budget allocation was USD 250 million in 2014. These budget allocations are especially for the prevention of priority diseases, ranging from avian influenza, FMD, rabies and porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS) to diseases in shrimp and pangasius. Additional funding may be requested

recognition of disease status for the remaining zone, making the whole country FMD-free without vaccination. National plans on avian influenza were also developed with donor funding and helped improve the Veterinary Services in Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam. Avian Influenza Protection Programme of the Philippines has been revised to include H7N9.

The Australia-Indonesia AIP-EID Programme (see p. 60) has enhanced Indonesia's capability to conduct passive surveillance and strengthen

been useful in improving other areas of work including advocacy, communication and policy development. Indonesia's central and sub-national governments are currently supporting the establishment of iSIKHNAS across the country.

Capacity building

The OIE PVS Pathway results have enabled Brunei's Division of Livestock Industry, Department of Agriculture and Agrifood to address its weaknesses through recruitment



and training of veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals and improvements to the veterinary laboratory and legislation.

In Cambodia, the PVS Gap Analysis report, which indicated that the quality of Veterinary Services needed to be improved, was used to advocate for the creation of a Faculty of Veterinary Medicine. In 2013, the Royal University of Agriculture (RUA) established a new Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and developed a six-year Doctor of Veterinary

veterinary education (2013-2014) and finalise the revision of the veterinary medicine curricula.

The capacities of veterinary teaching staff of Laos' Faculty of Agriculture in the OIE Day-1 Competencies of Graduating Veterinarians have been enhanced through a project funded by the OIE SRR-SEA/STANDZ programme.

With support from the AIP-EID Programme, Indonesia developed a comprehensive training programme on veterinary leadership and

its laboratory to be recognised as an OIE Reference Laboratory. Another Laboratory Twinning Project, on emerging infectious diseases, has just been approved and a Veterinary Statutory Body Twinning Project is now being developed. Thailand is also supporting Cambodia and Laos in improving the quality of their veterinary education.

Vietnam's DAH has appointed and trained new Commune Animal Health Workers (CAHWs) for 97% of all the country's communes.

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Medicine (DVM) curriculum, which includes the OIE Veterinary Education Core Curriculum and Day 1 Competencies of Graduating Veterinarians. FAO also used the PVS Gap Analysis Report when it developed a Technical Cooperation Programme (2014-2015) that builds on the support provided by the OIE in order to further strengthen the capacity of the RUA's veterinary faculty staff and equip graduates with the necessary competencies. The OIE SRR-SEA, through the Australian-funded STANDZ programme, provided funding support to the RUA to improve the quality of

conducted short-course training for veterinarians and paraveterinarians on a variety of topics including surveillance, epidemiology and disease investigation.

Thailand's DLD has also participated in the OIE Twinning Programme. Thailand is one of the participating countries in the first Veterinary Education Twinning Project, which was launched in July 2013 between the University of Minnesota, United States of America, and Chiang Mai University. The OIE Laboratory Twinning Project on brucellosis has been completed and Thailand has applied to the OIE for

There are a total of 11,000 CAHWs and 14,789 Village Animal Health Workers for 61 provinces³. All 594 key aquatic animal health (AAH) staff at the DAH and Sub-DAHs have attended at least three training courses on:

- General epidemiology with a specific section on AAH;
- Collection of information, data on AAH, and management and analyses of AAH data;
- Design and implementation of active surveillance for major diseases;
- Outbreak investigation of major diseases; or
- Laboratory diagnosis.

³ 61 provinces represent 97% of the total of 63 provinces



More than 120 short training courses were organised for over 6,000 local veterinary staff and paraprofessionals.

Capacity building on animal disease outbreak investigation and management has been conducted in Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and the Philippines. Capability on laboratory biosafety and biosecurity has been increased in Laos, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam, while capability building on bee production and bee diseases has been conducted in the Philippines.

Brunei is considering requesting an OIE Veterinary Legislation Identification mission to allow the Division of Livestock Industry, Department of Agriculture and Agrifood of the Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources, to retain control over the veterinary laboratory, which is essential to the enforcement of its animal health law. Brunei plans to regulate and upgrade the qualifications of veterinary paraprofessionals through training, enhance sustainable delivery of

by increasing the number of staff at district level and by building the technical capacities of staff at the central level and developing their skills in terms of inspection services, testing and certification. Food safety will be improved through the control of food-borne diseases. Livestock production will be increased and the mortality and morbidity rates of major diseases will be reduced.

Indonesia will continue to strengthen the technical capacity of its staff and, following the Seminar



THAILAND

Way forward

Following the OIE Sub-Regional Workshop on the PVS Pathway organised by OIE SRR-SEA in Indonesia in April 2015, participants agreed to take the OIE PVS Pathway as an agenda to the forthcoming meeting of the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group for Livestock. They also agreed to have regular meetings to share best practices, strategy and resources for the prevention, control and eradication of animal diseases. Participants suggested that they engage donors to support the implementation of recommendations of the OIE PVS Pathway reports.

Veterinary Services by privatisation of small animal health clinics, conduct a stray dog ecology study on rabies in support of its Rabies Elimination Programme and strengthen control programmes for priority endemic animal diseases. It will conduct a dissemination meeting with senior management of the Department and Ministry to share the findings and recommendations of the OIE PVS Pathway reports. At the same time, a parallel meeting will be organised to share the highlights of the reports with the staff.

Cambodia will continue to strengthen its Veterinary Services

on the OIE PVS Tool in May 2015 and the creation of a National Team, will carry out a PVS self-assessment at the provincial level. Indonesia will also participate in the OIE Laboratory Twinning Programme.

Laos will use the OIE PVS Pathway reports to engage decision makers in understanding and supporting the OIE PVS Pathway recommendations. It will continue to work with donors to improve its laboratory capacity, animal health information system and animal movement management, as well as improve the quality of veterinary education.



Myanmar will develop its Veterinary Services' strategic plan and annual action plan for the central and field level. Improvements in staffing, disease surveillance, animal identification and certification for disease-free zones will also be made. Given its limited regulatory authority over veterinary drugs and biologicals, the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department will

as well as improve veterinary public health and food safety and strengthen its involvement in regional and bilateral activities that promote border security and eliminate illegal imports of veterinary products.

The Philippines will advocate for an increased budget to strengthen Regional Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratories. The Philippines will also develop standards for organic agriculture for livestock and poultry

OIE PVS Evaluation mission while, as requested by **Malaysia**, the OIE has proposed the country to receive an OIE PVS Evaluation mission in February 2016.

Thailand's Department of Livestock Development is advocating for the passing of the amended veterinary drug law, which will give it greater control over the manufacture, import, registration, sale and use of veterinary drugs.



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work towards increasing its regulatory powers over the sale, administration, and monitoring of veterinary medicinal products and testing for residues. The LBVD will continue to upgrade its laboratory capacity to meet international standards through twinning programmes or ISO certification. The LBVD will also revise its existing veterinary legislation to meet international standards,

and increase staff capabilities in conducting risk analysis, and it has already requested a PVS Gap Analysis mission for its *Aquatic Animal Health Services*. The Philippines has submitted a proposal to the United States Department of Agriculture for possible funding for a BSL-3 laboratory.

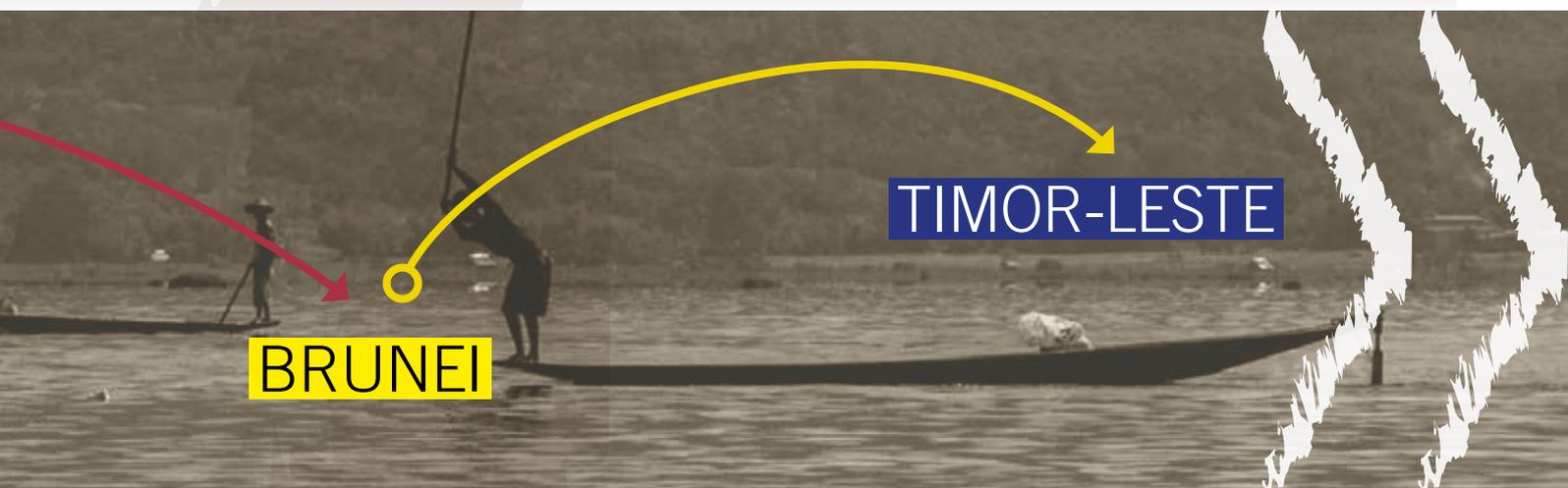
Singapore is considering conducting a PVS self-evaluation and may in the future request an

Since completing the Laboratory Twinning project on brucellosis, Thailand has participated in another Laboratory Twinning project, on emerging infectious diseases. The proposed Veterinary Statutory Body Twinning project is currently being developed. Thailand plans to expand its export markets for poultry, pork and dairy products and has invested heavily in improving its livestock production. It is also

improving its national programmes for priority diseases such as FMD, avian influenza, rabies and emerging diseases as it expands the coverage of its field veterinary network to the whole country. The DLD will continue to refine its activity based on risk analysis and cost-benefit analysis, and develop a human resource strategy in partnership with the Veterinary Council and veterinary faculties. To

new five-year programme covering the period 2016-2020. This will be supported by a USD 11-million plant that will initially produce 5 million doses of FMD vaccines by 2016–2017. The DAH plans to set up two disease free zones for FMD and classical swine fever in the north and for avian influenza in the south. The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development will continue to require the

laboratory for the National Centre for Veterinary Diagnostics. The DAH will also develop national surveillance programmes for residues, disease pathogens in aquatic animals and products and meet other sanitary requirements of countries importing animals and animal products from Vietnam. The OIE has agreed to Vietnam's request for a PVS Evaluation Follow-up mission for the Aquatic Animal Health Services.



reach 100% vaccination coverage against FMD, the DLD may increase its vaccine production or consider importing vaccines.

Vietnam will implement its first Veterinary Education Twinning Project, between Nong Lam University and the University of Queensland, Australia. The Department of Animal Health is reviewing its National FMD Programme and is developing a

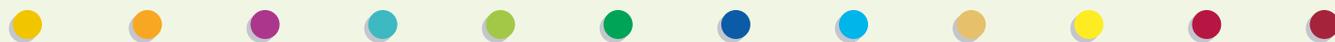
development of annuals plans with corresponding budgets from all 63 provinces for Veterinary Services' activities. Post-graduate staff specialising in epidemiology, laboratory and public health will be recruited while short training courses for existing staff will continue. Improvements will be made to existing laboratory infrastructure, including the construction of a new building and

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OIE Regional Workshops for focal points and Information Seminars for new Delegates



Regional seminar for OIE National Focal Points on Animal Welfare

Americas

Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, 3–5 August 2015



The Third Seminar for OIE National Focal Points on Animal Welfare in the Americas took place in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, from 3 to 5 August 2015, with the organisational support of the National Service of Agricultural Health and Food Safety (SENASAG) and funding from the International Regional Organization for Plant and Animal Health (OIRSA) towards the participation of OIRSA Member Countries.

Some 51 participants attended the seminar, including National Focal Points for Animal Welfare from 24 OIE Member Countries, experts from the OIE Collaborating Centre on Animal Welfare and Livestock Production Systems (Uruguay), and staff from OIE Headquarters and the Regional Representation for the Americas. Local officials from the Bolivian Veterinary Services and non-governmental organisations also attended.

Newly appointed Focal Points were introduced to the basic structure of the OIE, their Terms of Reference and their role in the modification and adoption of the OIE International Standards.

OIE experts presented the tools available for assisting Member Countries to implement the OIE Animal Welfare Standards, focusing on the difference between the criteria of design-based and outcome-based animal welfare standards. An explanation of the OIE International Standards currently available was also given.

A special discussion focused on the perspectives of private organisations and non-governmental organisations when faced with the implementation of the OIE International Standards, and the status of the ISO TC34 WG 16 Animal Welfare Technical Specification, currently under development.

Three field trips were organised so that participants could visit a slaughterhouse, an animal control post and a cattle auction. Participants identified animal welfare indicators that should be checked at each facility and prepared a report under the supervision of the experts from the Collaborating Centre.

Other presentations included the OIE's proposed future work in the field of animal welfare, covering such topics as disaster management and risk reduction, and the welfare of working equids and farmed fish. The Regional Animal Welfare Strategy for the Americas and its implementation as well as the role of the Animal Welfare Collaborating Centres in this region were covered in some detail.

Finally, this seminar gave National Focal Points the chance to meet with experts from the Collaborating Centre, and staff from OIE Headquarters and the Regional Representation. No less valuable was the chance to interact with other Focal Points facing similar realities in their own countries.



Regional Seminar for OIE National Focal Points for Animal Production Food Safety

Aguascalientes, Mexico, 10–11 September 2015

The Regional Seminar for OIE National Focal Points for Animal Production Food Safety (APFS) for the Americas was held on 10 and 11 September 2015. The meeting was organised in the city of Aguascalientes, Mexico, with the financial support of the Regional International Organisation for Plant Protection and Animal Health (OIRSA) and administrative support from the Mexican Government, through the National Service of Animal and Plant Health, Quality and Food Safety (SENASICA).

The seminar was attended by 36 participants, including National Focal Points for APFS from 25 Member Countries in the Americas, the Delegate of Mexico to the OIE and the Chief Director of SENASICA.

The week before the seminar, all participants were invited to take part in an electronic meeting, using the Webex platform. This discussion was aimed particularly at the 14 new National Focal Points, as an opportunity to explain the purpose and expectations of the seminar and to provide some background information about the OIE.

The first session of the seminar included a general presentation on the OIE, the terms of reference for National Focal Points, the role of Veterinary Services in food safety, and a review of the outcomes of previous seminars. Short country presentations by each National Focal Point provided an excellent overview of APFS diseases of concern in the region.

The second session focused on OIE standard-setting activities, including procedures for amending and adopting standards, and a break-out session on how to use the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission reports and draft comments and how to conduct in-country consultation.

The second day introduced the OIE PVS Pathway, and focused on the need for an integrated view of APFS within the framework of Veterinary Services, the results of an electronic questionnaire completed by the National Focal Points before a seminar on national priorities, and the implementation of official control programmes for APFS-related diseases.

The final session targeted antimicrobial resistance and included two presentations that focused on a specific country, describing its national surveillance programmes and how these were developed, as well as a working-group exercise on designing an antimicrobial resistance surveillance scheme.

The combination of presentations and group exercises throughout the seminar provided some very useful opportunities for active discussion and networking by National Focal Points.

Thanks to the kind invitation of the Mexican Government, participants also attended the 4th International Forum on Healthy Food, organised by SENASICA on 8 and 9 September. This was attended by more than 1,000 participants, including representatives from government agencies, food production and processing companies, and private veterinarians.



meetings and visits

Names and positions of OIE permanent staff who participated in meetings or visits from July to September 2015

OIE Headquarters

General Directorate

Bernard Vallat	Director General
Alex Thiermann	Adviser to the Director General
Catherine Bertrand-Ferrandis	Head of the Communication Unit
Marina Domingo Monsonís	Chargée de mission
Yael Farhi	Chargée de mission
Monique Eloit	Deputy Director General (Administration, Management, Human Resources and Regional Activities)
Alain Dehove	Coordinator of the World Animal Health and Welfare Fund
Julie Macé	Project Officer (World Fund)
Emily Tagliaro	Project Officer (World Fund)
Victoria Wong	Project Officer (World Fund)
Sophie Rivière	Project Officer (World Fund)
Rodney de Souza	Head of the Legal and Administrative Affairs Unit
Alix Weng	Head of the Budget and Financial Unit
Jean-Pierre Croiziers	Head of the Human Resources Unit
Gilles Seigneurin	Head of the Accounts Unit
Brian Evans	Deputy Director General (Animal Health, Veterinary Public Health and International Standards)

Administration, Logistics and Publications Department

Daniel Chaisemartin	Head of Department
Bertrand Flahaut	1st Deputy Head of Department and Head of the Systems Management and Events Unit
Annie Souyri	2nd Deputy Head of Department and Head of the Publications Unit
Tamara Benicasa	Marketing and Sales Manager

World Animal Health Information and Analysis Department

Paula Cáceres Soto	Head of Department
Neo Mapitse	Deputy Head of Department
Marija Popovic	Chargée de mission
Lina Awada	Veterinary Epidemiologist
Paolo Tizzani	Veterinary Epidemiologist
Patrícia Pozzetti	Chargée de mission
Aziza Yassin Mustafa	Chargée de mission
Mauro Meske	Chargé de mission (from 1 September 2015)

International Trade Department

Derek Belton	Head of Department
Gillian Mylrea	Deputy Head of Department
Tomoko Ishibashi	Senior Manager, Standards Development and Horizontal Management Framework
Leopoldo Humberto Stuardo Escobar	Chargé de mission
Jae Myong Lee	Chargé de mission

Scientific and Technical Department

Brian Evans	Head of Department
Elisabeth Erlacher-Vindel	Deputy Head of Department
Susanne Münstermann	Project Officer
Morgane Dominguez	Project Officer
François Diaz	Chargé de mission
Keith Hamilton	Officer in charge of the Reduction of Biological Threats (until 31 July 2015)
Tianna Brand	Chargée de mission for Biological Threat Reduction (from 27 July 2015)
Laure Weber-Vintzel	Officer in charge of the Recognition of Countries' Animal Disease Status
Jennifer Lasley	Project Coordinator
Mariano Ramos	Chargé de mission
Gounalan Pavade	OFFLU Technical Assistant
Min Kyung Park	Chargée de mission
Dawid Visser	Biosecurity Officer (until 31 August 2015)
Simona Forcella	Chargée de mission
Maria Luisa Danzetta	Chargée de mission
Gregorio José Torres Peñalver	Chargé de mission
Kazutoshi Matsuo	Chargé de mission
Regional Activities Department	
François Caya	Head of Department
Mara Elma González Ortiz	Deputy Head of Department
Nathaly Monsalve	Conference Coordinator/Trilingual Secretary
Sylvie Pupulin	Chargée de mission (until 31 August 2015)
Valentyna Sharandak	Chargée de mission
David Sherman	Chargé de mission
Martial Petitclerc	Chargé de mission
Pablo Andrés Belmar von Kretschmann	Chargé de mission

OIE Regional and Sub-Regional Representations

Africa			
Yacouba Samaké	Regional Representative for Africa (Bamako, Mali)	Veronica Yu	Secondment Officer (Tokyo, Japan) (from 1 September 2015)
Karim Tounkara	Deputy Head of the Regional Representative for Africa (Bamako, Mali)	Takako Hasegawa	Administrative Officer (Tokyo, Japan)
Daniel Bourzat	Adviser to the Regional Representative for Africa (Bamako, Mali)	Kanako Koike	Accounting Officer (Tokyo, Japan)
Abdramane Sanogo	Accountant (Bamako, Mali)	Izumi Goto	Administrative Officer (Tokyo, Japan)
Aïssata Bagayoko	Secretary (Bamako, Mali)	Ronello Abila	Sub-Regional Representative for South-East Asia (Bangkok, Thailand)
Alou Sangaré	Administrative Assistant (Bamako, Mali)	Phillip Widders	Programme Coordinator (STANDZ) (Bangkok, Thailand)
Moetapele Letshwenyo	Sub-Regional Representative for Southern Africa (Gaborone, Botswana)	Mary Joy Gordoncillo	Science and One Health Coordinator (Bangkok, Thailand)
Mpho Mantsho	Administrative and Financial Assistant (Gaborone, Botswana)	Pennapa Matayompong	STRIVES Coordinator (Bangkok, Thailand)
Nomsa Thekiso	Secretary (Gaborone, Botswana)	Cecilia Dy	M&E Coordinator and Communication Officer (Bangkok, Thailand)
Rachid Bouguedour	Sub-Regional Representative for North Africa (Tunis, Tunisia)	Karan Kukreja	Project Officer (Bangkok, Thailand)
Alessandro Ripani	Programme Officer (Tunis, Tunisia)	Blesilda Verin	Project Officer, Northern Laos FMD Project (Bangkok, Thailand)
Jocelyn Mérot	Programme Officer (Tunis, Tunisia)	Scott Zaari	Project Officer (Bangkok, Thailand)
Ines Guitouni	Administrative and Financial Assistant (Tunis, Tunisia)	Melada Ruengjumroonnath	Financial Officer (Bangkok, Thailand)
Walter Masiga	Sub-Regional Representative for Eastern Africa and the Horn of Africa (Nairobi, Kenya)	Preechaya Srithep	Administrative Officer (Bangkok, Thailand)
Samuel Wakhusama	Deputy Head of the Sub-Regional Representative for Eastern Africa and the Horn of Africa (Nairobi, Kenya) (from 1 September 2015)	Onsiri Benjavejbhaisan	Administrative Officer (Bangkok, Thailand)
Patrick Bastiaensen	Programme Officer (Nairobi, Kenya)	Europe	
Grace Omwega	Administrative and Financial Assistant (Nairobi, Kenya)	Nikola T. Belev	Regional Representative for Eastern Europe (Sofia, Bulgaria)
Loise Ndungu	Secretary (Nairobi, Kenya)	Aleksandra Miteva	Technical Assistant (Sofia, Bulgaria)
Americas			
Luis Osvaldo Barcos	Regional Representative for the Americas (Buenos Aires, Argentina)	Rina Kostova	Secretary (Sofia, Bulgaria)
Martín Minassian	Technical Assistant (Buenos Aires, Argentina)	Kazimieras Lukauskas	Regional Representative in Moscow (Russia)
Alina Gutiérrez Camacho	Secretary (Buenos Aires, Argentina)	Ekaterina Panina	Technical and Administrative Assistant (Moscow, Russia)
Leandro Barcos	Assistant (Buenos Aires, Argentina)	Nadège Leboucq	Sub-Regional Representative in Brussels (Belgium)
Helia Lemos da Silva	Chargée de mission (Buenos Aires, Argentina)	Stéphane de La Rocque	Chargé de mission – Veterinary Public Health (Brussels, Belgium) (until 31 August 2015)
Montserrat Arroyo Kuribreña	Sub-Regional Representative for Central America (Panama City, Panama)	Stanislav Ralchev	Technical Assistant (Brussels, Belgium)
Lexy Castro de Ceballos	Secretary (Panama City, Panama)	Mereke Taitubayev	Head of the Sub-Regional FMD Coordination Unit (Astana, Kazakhstan)
Baldomero Molina Flores	Regional Project Officer (Panama City, Panama)	Djahne Montabord	Technical Adviser (Astana, Kazakhstan)
Asia and the Pacific			
Hirofumi Kugita	Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific (Tokyo, Japan)	Middle East	
Yooni Oh	Regional Veterinary Officer (Tokyo, Japan)	Ghazi Yehia	Regional Representative for the Middle East (Beirut, Lebanon)
Yoko Aoyama	Regional Veterinary Officer (Tokyo, Japan)	Mustapha Mestom	Consultant (Beirut, Lebanon)
Batsukh Basan	Regional Project Coordinator (Tokyo, Japan)	Xavier Pacholek	Technical Assistant (Beirut, Lebanon)
		Ali El Romeh	Technical Assistant (Beirut, Lebanon)
		Rita Rizk	Trilingual Secretary (Beirut, Lebanon)
		Tony Atallah	Assistant (Beirut, Lebanon)
		Khodr Rejeili	Assistant (Beirut, Lebanon)

Names and positions of experts who represented the OIE in meetings or visits from July to September 2015

Sharie Michelle Aviso	OIE Expert
Susan Corning	OIE Consultant
Joseph Domenech	OIE Expert
Sergio J. Duffy	OIE Expert
Graham Hamley	OIE VLSP Expert
Gloria Mintah	OIE VLSP Expert
Botlhe Michael Modisane	President of the World Assembly of OIE Delegates and Delegate of South Africa to the OIE
Gardner Murray	OIE Special Adviser
David Paton	OIE Expert
Mark Schipp	Vice-President of the OIE Council and Delegate of Australia to the OIE

List of abbreviations

APHCA Animal Production and Health Commission for Asia and the Pacific	CMC-AH Crisis Management Centre – Animal Health	GHSA Global Health Security Agenda
APHIS Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service	CODA-CERVA Veterinary and Agrochemical Research Centre (Belgium)	ICPALD IGAD Centre for Pastoral Areas and Livestock Development
APIMONDIA International Federation of Beekeepers' Associations and other organisations working within the apiculture sector	CVOs Chief Veterinary Officers	IDF International Dairy Federation
ASEAN Association of South-East Asian Nations	DISCONTTOOLS Disease Control Tools Project	IEC International Egg Commission
ASFORCE European consortium funded by the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme for 'Targeted research effort on African swine fever'	EAC East African Community	IGAD Intergovernmental Authority on Development
AU-IBAR African Union-Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources	EAREN Eastern Africa Regional Epidemiology Network	IHR International Health Regulations
AU-PATTEC African Union–Pan-African Tsetse and Trypanosomosis Eradication Campaign	EARLN Eastern Africa Regional Laboratory Network	LinkTADs Linking Epidemiology and Laboratory Research on Transboundary Animal Diseases and Zoonoses in European Union and China
AVMA American Veterinary Medical Association	EC European Commission	M&E Monitoring & Evaluation
BTSF Better Training for Safer Food (programme)	EU European Union	MERS-CoV Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus
CAADP Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme	EuFMD European Commission for the Control of Foot and Mouth Disease	OFFLU Joint OIE/FAO worldwide scientific network for the control of animal influenzas
CILSS Permanent Interstates Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel	FAO Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	OIE World Organisation for Animal Health
CIRAD French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development	FMD Foot and mouth disease	OIRSA Regional International Organization for Plant Protection and Animal Health
	FSVO Swiss Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office	OPCW Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
	GALVMed Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines	
	GF-TADs FAO/OIE Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases	

List of abbreviations (contd)

PCP Progressive Control Pathway	SAARC South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation	USAID United States Agency for International Development
PPR Peste des petits ruminants	SADC Southern African Development Community	USDA United States Department of Agriculture
PVS Evaluation of Performance of Veterinary Services	SEAAVEE Southern and Eastern Africa Association of Veterinary Educational Establishments	VETGOV Reinforcing Veterinary Governance in Africa (EU-funded project implemented by AU-IBAR in partnership with OIE and FAO)
RAHN Regional Animal Health Network	SEACFMD South-East Asia and China Foot and Mouth Disease Campaign	VLSP OIE Veterinary Legislation Support Programme
RAWS Regional Animal Welfare Strategy	SPS Sanitary and phytosanitary measures	WHO World Health Organization
RELABSA Animal Health Laboratories Network of REMESA	STANDZ Stop Transboundary Animal Diseases and Zoonoses	WTO World Trade Organization
REMESA Mediterranean Animal Health Network	STRIVES Strengthening Initiative for Veterinary Services	
RESEPI Regional Network of National Epidemiological Surveillance Systems for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza and Other Priority Diseases	UECBV European Livestock and Meat Trades Union	
RESOLAB Western and Central Africa Veterinary Laboratory Network for Avian Influenza and Other Transboundary Diseases	UN United Nations	

meetings and visits

July 2015

Title of the event	Place	Date	Participants
CIRAD Annual Scientific Days	Montpellier, France	27 June – 5 July	Dr D. Bourzat
GHSA meeting on 'Zoonotic Diseases' ('Prevent-2') Action Package	OIE Headquarters, Paris, France	1 July	Dr S. Corning
National Workshop on Animal Health Risk Assessment to support Risk Assessment at Animal and Human Health Interface	Naypyidaw, Myanmar	1–2 July	Dr M.J. Gordoncillo
Regional Seminar for OIE National Focal Points for Aquatic Animals	Bergen, Norway	1–3 July	Dr G. Mylrea, Dr E. Panina, Dr N. Leboucq & Ms R. Kostova
PVS Tool Training Seminar	Canberra, Australia	5–9 July	Ms E. Tagliaro
Technical Assistance Mission to Haiti, Cuba and the Dominican Republic for the progressive control of classical swine fever, organised by FAO	Haiti, Cuba and Dominican Republic	5–11 July	Dr B. Molina Flores
Regional consultation on the implementation of the CAADP in Central Africa	Brazzaville, Rep. of Congo	6–7 July	Dr Y. Samaké
Rabies Case Investigation Workshop in the Pilot Areas of the STANDZ-funded Rabies Project	Albay, the Philippines	6–8 July	Dr M.J. Gordoncillo & Ms C. Dy
38th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission	Geneva, Switzerland	6–9 July	Dr B. Vallat & Dr G. Mylrea
VETGOV/OIE Regional Seminar for SADC Member States on legislative drafting for regional harmonisation of laws in the veterinary domain: 'Animal disease control with a focus on PPR'	Maseru, Lesotho	6–10 July	Dr B.M. Modisane, Dr D. Sherman, Dr M. Letshwenyo, Dr G. Mintah & Mr G. Hamley
Meeting with Mr Ren Wang and Dr Berhe Tekola on CMC-AH protocol, PPR Secretariat and Rinderpest Post-Eradication Activities	FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy	7 July	Dr B. Evans
Workshop on the OIE procedure for the official recognition of Member Countries' disease status and for the endorsement of their official national control programmes with regard to FMD	Bangkok, Thailand	7–8 July	Dr M.K. Park, Dr B. Basan, Dr R. Abila, Dr P. Widders, Dr P. Matayompong, Dr K. Kukreja, Ms O. Benjavejhaisan & Dr D. Paton

meetings and visits

July 2015 (contd)

Title of the event	Place	Date	Participants
Regional meeting of international organisations on the 'Integration and Cooperation in Agricultural Health and Food Safety', organised by OIRSA	San Salvador, El Salvador	7–8 July	Dr M. Minassian & Dr M. Arroyo Kuribreña
1st meeting of the Steering Committee of the CAADP in Central Africa	Brazzaville, Rep. of Congo	8 July	Dr Y. Samaké
Summer course: National School of Veterinary Services (ENSV): Animal Health and Welfare	Paris, France	9 July	Dr C. Bertrand-Ferrandis & Dr Y. Farhi
Rabies communication planning workshop	Albay, the Philippines	9 July	Ms C. Dy
Lumpy skin disease vaccine trial at CODA-CERVA	Brussels, Belgium	10 July	Dr L. Weber-Vintzel & Dr G.J. Torres Peñalver
152nd AVMA Annual Convention	Boston, United States	10–14 July	Ms T. Benicasa
LinkTADs workshop on animal health surveillance and the evaluation of surveillance systems	Qingdao, P.R. China	13–14 July	Dr P. Widders
High-Level Stakeholder Meeting on Building Health Security Beyond Ebola, convened by WHO	Cape Town, South Africa	13–15 July	Dr B. Evans
OIE Expert Mission on FMD status in Namibia	Windhoek, Namibia	13–17 July	Dr L. Weber-Vintzel
Mission within the framework of the high surveillance programme for FMD in border areas of Venezuela and Colombia	Colombia and Venezuela	13–24 July	Dr L.O. Barcos
Meeting about the United Nations Secretary General's Mechanism (UNSGM) for investigation into the alleged use of biological weapons	UN Headquarters, New York City, United States	14–15 July	Dr K. Hamilton
National Stakeholders Forum of the Tanzania Livestock Modernisation Initiative	Dar es Salaam, Tanzania	14–15 July	Dr P. Bastiaensen
63rd WTO SPS Committee Meeting; Informal meeting on SPS-related private standards; Informal meeting on issues arising from the fourth review of the operation and implementation of the SPS Agreement; Informal thematic session on risk communication	Geneva, Switzerland	14–17 July	Dr D. Belton
GHSA teleconference on 'Biosafety and Biosecurity' ('Prevent-3') Action Package	Rome, Italy	15 July	Dr S. Corning
FAO-APHC/OIE/USDA-APHIS regional workshop on prevention and control of neglected zoonoses in Asia	Obihiro, Japan	15–16 July	Dr G. Mylrea, Dr H. Kugita, Dr Y. Oh & Dr M.J. Gordoncillo
Stakeholder Workshop for the PCP-FMD Validation in Laos, as part of the National Consultations	Vientiane, Laos	16 July	Dr K. Kukreja
3rd meeting on the establishment of the African Surveillance Informatics Governance Board (ASIGB), organised by WHO	Cape Town, South Africa	16–18 July	Dr M. Letshwenyo
Preparatory meeting with Hokkaido University for the organisation of the 6th Asia-Pacific Workshop on Multi-Sectoral Collaboration for the Prevention and Control of Zoonoses, to be held in Sapporo, Japan, from 28 to 30 October 2015	Sapporo, Japan	17 July	Dr H. Kugita, Dr Y. Oh & Dr M.J. Gordoncillo
Laboratory Health and Safety (LHS) Training	Phnom Penh, Cambodia	20–22 July	Dr S. Zaari
Visit to the Finnish Food Safety Authority (Evira)	Helsinki, Finland	20–22 July	Prof. K. Lukauskas
Training on FMD diagnosis and on post-vaccination monitoring	Yangon and Naypyidaw, Myanmar	20–31 July	Dr B. Verin
WHO Bi-Regional Meeting of the Technical Advisory Group on the 2010 Asia-Pacific Strategy for Emerging Diseases	Manila, the Philippines	21–23 July	Dr R. Abila & Dr M.J. Gordoncillo
6th Steering Committee Meeting of the VETGOV Project	Port Louis, Mauritius	22–23 July	Dr K. Tounkara
Stakeholder Meeting for the PCP-FMD Validation for Vietnam, as part of the National Consultations	Hanoi, Vietnam	22–23 July	Dr P. Widders

meetings and visits

July 2015 (contd)

Title of the event	Place	Date	Participants
Regional workshop on safe international trade in aquatic animals and aquatic animal products	Nagaoka, Japan	22–24 July	Dr G. Mylrea, Dr H. Kugita & Dr Y. Aoyama
17th Latin-American Buiatrics Congress and 11th Brazilian Buiatrics Congress	Sao Paulo, Brazil	22–24 July	Dr S.J. Duffy
2nd ASEAN and ISC (Indian Sub-Continent) Canine and Feline Vaccination Guideline Forum	Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam	23–24 July	Dr M.J. Gordoncillo
Technical meeting to develop and prioritise animal welfare key issues and key interventions areas for Africa, organised by AU-IBAR	Naivasha, Kenya	27–29 July	Dr W. Masiga & Dr P. Bastiaensen
Workshop and seminar on transboundary diseases, emphasising vesicular diseases, porcine epidemic diarrhea and highly pathogenic avian influenza	Panama City, Panama	27–31 July	Dr M. Arroyo Kuribreña & Dr B. Molina Flores
OIE RAWs regional meeting and Action Plan writing group meeting	Bangkok, Thailand	28–30 July	Dr L.H. Stuardo Escobar, Dr Y. Oh, Dr P. Widders, Dr G. Murray & Dr M. Schipp
OIRSA Regional Event: 'Agricultural Health in Higher Education'	Managua, Nicaragua	29 July	Dr M. Arroyo Kuribreña
OIE information seminar for veterinary educational establishments	Surabaya, Indonesia	29 July	Dr R. Abila, Dr P. Matayompong & Dr S. Zaari
GHSA teleconference on 'Reporting' ('Detect-4') Action Package	Rome, Italy	29 July	Dr S. Corning
OIE information seminar for practicing veterinarians	Surabaya, Indonesia	30 July	Dr R. Abila, Dr P. Matayompong & Dr S. Zaari
Stakeholder Meeting for the PCP-FMD Validation for Cambodia, as part of the National Consultations	Phnom Penh, Cambodia	30 July	Dr K. Kukreja
GHSA teleconference on 'Antimicrobial Resistance' ('Prevent-1') Action Package	Rome, Italy	30 July	Dr S. Corning

August 2015

Title of the event	Place	Date	Participants
Pre-Congress Workshop at the 3rd International Congress on Pathogens at the Human-Animal Interface (ICOPHA1 2015)	Chiang Mai, Thailand	3 August	Dr M.J. Gordoncillo
Regional seminar for OIE National Focal Points on Animal Welfare	Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia	3–5 August	Dr L.H. Stuardo Escobar, Dr M. Minassian, Ms A. Gutiérrez Camacho & Dr M. Arroyo Kuribreña
Hand-over ceremony of the USAID-funded SADC Regional Sanitary and PhytoSanitary (SPS) Strategy report to SADC Secretariat	Gaborone, Botswana	4 August	Dr M. Letshwenyo
Botswana National Agricultural Show	Gaborone, Botswana	4 August	Dr M. Letshwenyo
FAO Regional Meeting for Africa on 'Maintaining Global Freedom from Rinderpest'	Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt	5–6 August	Dr D. Visser
2nd Meeting of the South American Network of Avian Influenza and Newcastle Disease Diagnostic Laboratories (RESUDIA)	Santiago, Chile	6–7 August	Dr M. Minassian
3rd International Forum on 'One World, One Health'	Jurmala, Latvia	6–8 August	Prof. K. Lukauskas
4th Annual Regional Meeting of Deans and Principals of Faculties and School of Veterinary Medicine or Science of the SEAAVEE	Nairobi, Kenya	10–11 August	Dr W. Masiga, Dr P. Bastiaensen & Ms G. Omwega

meetings and visits

August 2015 (contd)

Title of the event	Place	Date	Participants
7th Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) Meeting of Experts 2015 and Global Partnership Coordination Meeting	Geneva, Switzerland	10–14 August	Dr T. Brand
Final Workshop of the FAO-funded Regional Project on 'Capacity building to prevent PPR introduction into Malawi, Mozambique and Zambia'	Kafue, Zambia	11–12 August	Dr M. Letshwenyo
Workshop on prevention and control of rabies in SAARC countries	Colombo, Sri Lanka	11–13 August	Dr H. Kugita, Dr Y. Oh & Dr M.J. Gordoncillo
Database Training and Management for the Northern Laos FMD Vaccination Project, and examination of financial/accounting records	Luang Prabang, Laos	16–19 August	Dr P. Widders, Dr B. Verin & Ms M. Ruengjumroonnath
Opening Ceremony of the SADC Heads of State Summit	Gaborone, Botswana	17 August	Dr M. Letshwenyo
10th meeting of the ASEAN Expert Group on Communicable Diseases (AEGCD)	Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei	18–20 August	Dr M.J. Gordoncillo
Inception meeting on 'Enhancing National Capacities for Antimicrobial Resistance Risk Management in Animal Food Production in Thailand', organised by the FAO and Thailand's Department of Livestock Development	Bangkok, Thailand	19 August	Dr R. Abila, Dr P. Matayompong & Dr S. Zaari
Meeting with Mr Junnosuke Kawabe, a lawyer from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) of Japan, for a one-day orientation programme on the OIE	OIE Headquarters, Paris, France	21 August	Dr M. Eloit, Dr B. Evans, Dr K. Matsuo, Dr N. Mpitse, Dr T. Ishibashi, Dr G.J. Torres Peñalver, Dr M.K. Park, Dr M.E. González Ortiz, Mr R. de Souza, Dr D. Sherman
Group Exchange organised by the International Veterinary Students' Association	Tokyo, Japan	24 August	Dr H. Kugita
WHO IHR Review Committee Meeting	Geneva, Switzerland	24–25 August	Dr A. Dehove & Dr S. de La Rocque
1st workshop for the formulation of the roadmap for the control and eradication of PPR in Central Africa, organised by FAO and OIE	Yaounde, Cameroon	24–25 August	Dr S. Münstermann & Dr K. Tounkara
International Conference on Emerging Infectious Diseases (ICEID)	Atlanta, Georgia, United States	24–26 August	Dr A. Thiermann & Dr B. Evans
EuFMD Workshop: 'FMD Outbreaks in North Africa: from lessons learnt to regional strategy'	Rabat, Morocco	24–26 August	Dr R. Bouguedour, Dr A. Ripani & Dr J. Mérot
Official country visit to the veterinary authority of the Republic of South Sudan	Juba, South Sudan	24–26 August	Dr W. Masiga & Dr P. Bastiaensen
Introductory workshop on methods to investigate allegations of deliberate use of biological agents, with particular consideration of the mandate under the United Nations Secretary General's Mechanism (UNSGM)	OPCW Headquarters, The Hague, the Netherlands	24–27 August	Dr T. Brand
SEACFMD Animal Movement Meeting	Qingdao, P.R. China	25 August	Dr B. Basan, Dr R. Abila, Dr P. Widders, Dr K. Kukreja, Ms P. Srithep & Dr G. Murray
GHSA international conference on 'Zoonotic diseases prevention and control – addressing health threat posed by zoonotic diseases: global collaboration and technical challenge'	Hanoi, Vietnam	25–26 August	Dr Y. Oh & Dr M.J. Gordoncillo
Meeting with representatives of the FSVO	OIE Headquarters, Paris, France	26 August	Dr M. Eloit & Dr A. Dehove
Meeting with the Executive Director of the CILSS	OIE Headquarters, Paris, France	26 August	Dr M. Eloit & Dr A. Dehove

meetings and visits

August 2015 (contd)

Title of the event	Place	Date	Participants
2nd FAO/OIE Sub-Regional Meeting of the GF-TADs for SAARC Member Countries	Bangkok, Thailand	26 August	Dr H. Kugita & Dr Y. Aoyama
2nd Annual Coordination Meeting of RESEPI, RESOLAB and Chief Veterinary Officers of Central Africa, organised by FAO and OIE	Yaounde, Cameroon	26–28 August	Dr K. Tounkara
18th SEACFMD National Coordinators' Meeting	Qingdao, P.R. China	26–28 August	Dr B. Basan, Dr R. Abila, Dr P. Widders, Dr K. Kukreja, Ms P. Srithep & Dr G. Murray
Inception Workshop on SAARC Food Security through Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases in South Asia	Bangkok, Thailand	27 August	Dr H. Kugita & Dr Y. Aoyama
GHSA meeting at the French Directorate General of Health	Paris, France	28 August	Dr A. Dehove
Special Session of the SAARC CVOs Forum	Bangkok, Thailand	28–29 August	Dr H. Kugita & Dr Y. Aoyama
9th Edition of the International Days on Veterinary Practice	Mar del Plata, Argentina	28–29 August	Dr M. Minassian
FAO-EuFMD/EC/OIE Tripartite Group Meeting on the control of FMD and other exotic diseases in the Southern Balkans	Alexandroupolis, Greece	31 August – 1 September	Dr L. Weber-Vintzel

September 2015

Title of the event	Place	Date	Participants
Laboratory Health and Safety (LHS) Training for the Department of Veterinary Services of Malaysia	Selangor, Malaysia	1–3 September	Dr P. Matayompong
Inter-American Meeting of the National Services of Animal and Plant Health and Food Safety on 'The Challenges of International Trade'	Brasilia, Brazil	2–3 September	Dr L.O. Barcos
29th Annual Conference of the Ethiopian Veterinary Association (EVA): 'Maximizing benefits from livestock resources through improved governance of Veterinary Services'	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	4 September	Dr P. Bastiaensen
UECBV Annual General Assembly	Düsseldorf, Germany	5 September	Dr M. Eloit
1st Steering Committee Meeting of the Italy–United Arab Emirates Camel Diseases Twinning Project	Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates	5–8 September	Dr G. Pavade & Dr G. Yehia
2nd GHSA High-Level Meeting: GHSA forum	Seoul, Rep. of Korea	7 September	Dr A. Dehove, Dr B. Evans & Dr S. Corning
6th annual coordination meeting of the EAREN and EARLN networks, combined with the RAHN meeting for Eastern Africa (CVOs' meeting)	Kampala, Uganda	7–9 September	Dr S. Münstermann & Dr S. Wakhusama
2nd GHSA High-Level Meeting: GHSA Steering Committee meeting and breakout sessions on the GHSA action packages	Seoul, Rep. of Korea	8 September	Dr A. Dehove, Dr B. Evans & Dr S. Corning
4th International Forum on Healthy Food	Aguascalientes, Mexico	8–9 September	Dr G. Mylrea, Dr P.A. Belmar von Kretschmann, Dr L.O. Barcos, Dr M. Minassian & Dr M. Arroyo Kuribreña

meetings and visits

September 2015 (contd)

Title of the event	Place	Date	Participants
BTSF Workshop on: 'Export Trade, for countries exporting animal products to the EU', funded and organised by the EU	Gaborone, Botswana	8–9 September	Dr M. Letshwenyo
1st Wildlife Forum: 'How to Achieve Sustainable Wildlife Management and Improve Local Livelihoods?', organised by the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management (CPW), during the 14th World Forestry Congress	Durban, South Africa	8–9 September	Dr P. Bastiaensen
Follow-up Workshop for the Development of the National FMD Control Programme for 2015–2020	Hanoi, Vietnam	8–9 September	Dr P. Widders
2nd GHSA High-Level Meeting: GHSA Ministerial Meeting	Seoul, Rep. of Korea	9 September	Dr A. Dehove, Dr B. Evans & Dr S. Corning
45th Japan Society for Veterinary Epidemiology Conference: Symposium on Epidemiology of Antimicrobial Drug Resistance: 'Recent efforts in Japan, and global movements'	Towada, Japan	9 September	Dr H. Kugita
Regional Seminar for OIE National Focal Points for Animal Production Food Safety	Aguascalientes, Mexico	10–11 September	Dr G. Mylrea, Dr P.A. Belmar von Kretschmann, Dr L.O. Barcos, Dr M. Minassian & Dr M. Arroyo Kuribreña
1st Regional Roadmap Workshop for the control and eradication of PPR in Eastern Africa, organised by FAO and OIE for IGAD and EAC Member States	Kampala, Uganda	10–11 September	Dr S. Münstermann, Dr S. Wakhusama & Dr N. Leboucq
5th Meeting on Strengthening the Collaboration between Mongolia, China and Russia on Transboundary Animal Diseases and Emerging Infectious Diseases	Ulan Bator, Mongolia	11–12 September	Dr H. Kugita
10th 'Algerian veterinary area' exhibition	Oran, Algeria	13–15 September	Dr R. Bouguedour
32nd World Veterinary Congress of the World Veterinary Association (WVA)	Istanbul, Turkey	13–17 September	Dr B. Evans, Ms T. Benicasa & Dr G. Yehia
AU-PATTEC Steering Committee Meeting	N'Djamena, Chad	13–18 September	Dr D. Bourzat
Seminar for OIE National Delegates on the development of public–private partnerships to support Veterinary Services	Ulan Bator, Mongolia	14 September	Dr B.M. Modisane, Dr B. Vallat, Dr P. Cáceres Soto, Dr T. Ishibashi, Dr F. Caya, Ms N. Monsalve, Dr D. Sherman, Dr H. Kugita, Dr Y. Aoyama, Dr B. Basan, Dr R. Abila, Dr M.J. Gordoncillo, Dr S. Zaari, Dr S. de La Rocque & Dr G. Murray
Meeting with Life Animal Health Agency	Paris, France	14 September	Dr C. Bertrand-Ferrandis, Dr L.H. Stuardo Escobar & Dr N. Leboucq
29th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania	Ulan Bator, Mongolia	14–18 September	Dr B.M. Modisane, Dr B. Vallat, Dr P. Cáceres Soto, Dr T. Ishibashi, Dr F. Caya, Ms N. Monsalve, Dr D. Sherman, Dr H. Kugita, Dr Y. Aoyama, Dr B. Basan, Dr R. Abila, Dr M.J. Gordoncillo, Dr S. Zaari, Dr S. de La Rocque & Dr G. Murray
Zoonoses Technical Working Group: Rift Valley fever Mitigation Planning Meeting	Kabete, Kenya	15 September	Dr W. Masiga & Dr S. Wakhusama
GF-TADs Working Group Meeting on FMD	OIE Headquarters, Paris, France	15–16 September	Dr L. Weber-Vintzel & Dr G.J. Torres Peñalver
Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock (GASL) Guiding Group Meeting	Geneva, Switzerland	15–17 September	Ms E. Tagliaro
15th meeting of Rabies Programme Managers in the Americas	Brasilia, Brazil	15–17 September	Dr B. Molina Flores

meetings and visits

September 2015 (contd)

Title of the event	Place	Date	Participants
44th APIMONDIA International Apicultural Congress: 'Bees, Connecting the World'	Daejeon, Rep. of Korea	15–19 September	Dr F. Diaz
GHSA teleconference on 'Biosafety and Biosecurity' ('Prevent-3') Action Package	Rome, Italy	16 September	Dr S. Corning
16th PCPP Poultry School: 'Sharpening the saw: The key in staying competitive', organised by the Philippine College of Poultry Practitioners (PCPP)	Manila, the Philippines	17 September	Dr P. Matayompong
IDF Dairy Farmers Forum	Vilnius, Lithuania	19–20 September	Prof. K. Lukauskas
Avian Influenza Summit during the IEC Global Leadership Conference 2015	Berlin, Germany	21–22 September	Dr A. Thiermann & Dr B. Evans
Pandemic Emergency Facility Financing Stakeholders Meeting	World Bank Headquarters, Washington, DC, United States	21–22 September	Dr A. Dehove
IDF World Dairy Summit 2015	Vilnius, Lithuania	21–24 September	Dr E. Erlacher-Vindel
OIE Expert Mission on FMD status in Zimbabwe	Harare, Zimbabwe	21–24 September	Dr L. Weber-Vintzel
WHO consultation and information meeting on the composition of seasonal influenza virus vaccines for the Southern Hemisphere, 2016	Memphis, United States	21–24 September	Dr G. Pavade
Meeting with the Director General of the Pasteur Institute, Prof. Christian Bréchet, and signing of the Cooperation Agreement between Pasteur Institute and OIE	OIE Headquarters, Paris, France	22 September	Dr B. Vallat
GF-TADs Management Committee Meeting (by visioconference with FAO)	OIE Headquarters, Paris, France	22 September	Dr M. Eloit, Dr D. Chaisemartin & Dr F. Caya
Round table on 'innovation in animal health'	Brussels, Belgium	22 September	Dr G.J. Torres Peñalver
Joint SEACFMD Laboratory Network (LabNet) and Epidemiology Network (EpiNet) Meeting	Naypyidaw, Myanmar	22–24 September	Dr B. Basan, Dr R. Abila, Dr M.J. Gordoncillo, Dr K. Kukreja, Ms M. Ruengjumroonnath, Dr J. Domenech & Dr S.M. Aviso
Training course on animal welfare in poultry production (laying hens and broiler chickens for meat production), in the framework of the BTSF initiative	Crieff, Scotland, United Kingdom	22–25 September	Dr L.H. Stuardo Escobar
GALVmed Annual General Assembly	Edinburgh, United Kingdom	23–25 September	Dr B. Evans
ASFORCE Symposium	Lisbon, Portugal	24 September	Dr G.J. Torres Peñalver
GHSA teleconference on 'Antimicrobial Resistance' ('Prevent-1') Action Package	Rome, Italy	24 September	Dr S. Corning
Preparatory meeting for the upcoming 'African Union' Assistance Conference on the Implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004)', to be held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in February or March 2016	Vienna, Austria	24–25 September	Dr T. Brand
90th EuFMD Executive Committee Meeting	Monza, Italy	24–25 September	Dr N. Leboucq
New academic year of National School of Veterinary Services (ENSV)	Lyon, France	25 September	Dr M. Eloit



meetings and visits

September 2015 (contd)

Title of the event	Place	Date	Participants
Joint Funders, Project Management Board and Disease Expert Meeting of the DISCONTTOOLS Project	Brussels, Belgium	25 September	Dr E. Erlacher-Vindel
World Rabies Day 2015: 'Let's End Rabies Together'	Kasane, Botswana	28 September	Dr M. Letshwenyo
World Rabies Day 2015: 'Let's End Rabies Together'	Tunis, Tunisia	28 September	Dr R. Bouguedour, Dr A. Ripani & Dr J. Mérot
Consultative meeting to improve the understanding of MERS-CoV and enhance its prevention and control in the IGAD region, organised by IGAD/ICPALD with the financial support of USAID	Khartoum, Sudan	28–29 September	Dr S. Wakhusama
Joint FAO/WHO meeting on the control of nontyphoidal <i>Salmonella</i> spp. in beef and pork meat	Rome, Italy	28 September – 2 October	Dr G. Mylrea
RELBSA workshop on the implementation of biosecurity and biosafety measures in laboratories	Tunis, Tunisia	29–30 September	Dr J. Lasley, Dr R. Bouguedour, Dr A. Ripani, Dr J. Mérot & Ms I. Guitouni
Joint FAO/OIE Training Workshop on Animal Disease Surveillance System	Bangkok, Thailand	29 September – 1 October	Dr P. Tizzani, Dr R. Abila, Dr P. Matayompong, Dr K. Kukreja, Dr S. Zaari & Ms O. Benjavejhaisan
6th GF-TADs Regional Steering Committee Meeting for Europe	Brussels, Belgium	30 September – 1 October	Dr P. Cáceres Soto, Dr F. Caya, Dr A. Ripani, Prof. Dr N.T. Belev, Prof. K. Lukauskas, Dr N. Leboucq & Dre D. Montabond
3rd and final meeting of the G7 Global Partnership (GP) Working Group	Berlin, Germany	30 September – 1 October	Dr T. Brand
Launch of the IGAD/ICPALD Regional Network for Export Quarantine Stations in the IGAD region	Khartoum, Sudan	30 September – 1 October	Dr S. Wakhusama
OIE Council's Meeting	OIE Headquarters, Paris, France	30 September – 2 October	Dr B. Vallat, Dr M. Eloit & Dr B. Evans



the OIE and its partners

epidemiology & animal disease control programmes

Working on the control and eradication of sheep pox and goat pox in the United Arab Emirates: a four-year programme

Sheep pox and goat pox (SGP) are contagious viral diseases of sheep and goats, presenting with papular and pustular eruptions on the skin and internal lesions (particularly haemorrhagic inflammation of the respiratory tract). Both diseases are caused by strains of capripoxvirus (and are referred to below as one entity). The morbidity rate of SGP in local breeds reaches 70–90% in endemic areas, with a mortality rate of 5–10%. The incubation period is between 8 and 13 days. SGP is usually transmitted by aerosol after close contact with severely affected animals which have ulcerated papules on their mucous membranes.

Being an OIE-listed disease, SGP is notifiable to the Organisation. The importance of this disease lies in its economic impact from the high morbidity and mortality rates, especially in young animals, and its effect on international trade. It is endemic in many African and Asian countries.

The Ministry of the Environment and Water (MOEW) of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) has revised its control programme. A new programme was developed for the period 2014 to 2017 and is currently being implemented. This article presents the new programme, which aims to eradicate the disease by 2017.





Fig. 1
Map of the United Arab Emirates

I. Country information

The UAE is a federal state located in the south-east of the Arabian Peninsula. It was established on 2 December 1971 as a Federation composed of seven Emirates; namely, Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Ajman, Umm Al Quwain, Ras Al-Khaimah and Fujairah. It covers a surface area of 82,880 km² and lies between latitudes 26.08 to 22.5 N and 55.5 to 58.37 E (Fig. 1).

This region has a dry climate and is known for its high temperatures.

II. Sheep pox and goat pox in the United Arab Emirates

SGP is a notifiable disease in the UAE under Federal Law No. (8) for the year 2013 on the prevention of infectious and epidemic animal

diseases and control. According to disease notification records, the last case of SGP which occurred in the UAE and was reported to the OIE, took place in 2010.

This observation resulted in a revision of UAE vaccination policy. There was also a need to confirm that the absence of reported cases of SGP was not related to under-reporting but demonstrated the real absence of the disease. A questionnaire was designed and sent to field veterinarians to determine whether they had observed any SGP cases in the field.

Routine vaccinations of sheep flocks and goat herds against SGP have been applied once a year between October and December for more than 30 years in succession, using approved, live attenuated vaccines produced in Jordan and Turkey.

Table I shows the size of targeted populations of small ruminants for vaccination in each Emirate.

Table I
Number of sheep and goats by Emirate in 2013*

Emirate	Number of sheep	Number of goats	Total
Abu Dhabi	1,780,061	1,214,478	2,994,539
Dubai	50,908	59,484	110,392
Sharjah	94,318	109,507	203,825
Ajman	15,531	19,868	35,399
Umm Al-Quwain	26,140	25,883	52,023
Ras Al-Khaimah	68,216	211,486	279,702
Fujairah	47,752	209,756	257,508
Total	2,082,926	1,850,462	3,933,388

* Source: UAE National Bureau of Statistics

III. The newly designed control programme for sheep pox and goat pox

1. Objective

The objective of the programme that started in 2014 is to enhance surveillance and control of the disease, leading to its eradication, so that the UAE may self-declare its freedom from the disease in 2017, according to Article 14.9.2. of Chapter 14.9. of the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* on sheep pox and goat pox disease.

2. Justification

One of the strategic objectives of the MOEW is to prevent the introduction of animal diseases in general and to control a number of priority diseases in particular, including SGP, due to its economic importance and its impact on international trade. SGP is prevalent in the Middle East. It is worth mentioning that the UAE is officially recognised as being free from two diseases; namely, rinderpest and African horse sickness.

3. Beneficiaries of the programme

Livestock keepers and livestock traders are the main beneficiaries of this programme.

4. Scope of the programme and its implementation

The programme targets the whole country, i.e. all seven Emirates. Its implementation is coordinated by the MOEW, with the help of local authorities; municipalities; livestock keepers, especially those with traditional holdings of small ruminants; and livestock dealers.

If eradication of the disease is to be sustained, once it has been achieved, it would be advisable for all countries in the region to implement a similar control and eradication programme, through a regional framework that could be coordinated by the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC).

5. Legal basis supporting the control and eradication programme

All activities included in the programme, such as the mandatory reporting of notifiable diseases, outbreak management, animal movement restrictions, the slaughter and disposal of diseased animals, cleaning and disinfection, vaccination and the prosecution of lawbreakers, are covered in Federal Law No. (8) of the year 2013 regarding the prevention of infectious and epizootic diseases and their control, as well as in Ministerial Resolution No. (25) of the year 2014 with respect to the implementation of the regulations of Federal Law No. (8) of the year 2013 on the prevention of infectious and epizootic diseases and their control.

According to Federal Law No. (6) of the year 1979 on veterinary quarantine, and Ministerial Decision No. 460 of the year 2001, concerning the implementation of quarantine regulations in GCC countries, quarantine measures must be strictly applied at entry points to imported small ruminants from countries where the presence of SGP has been reported. As a prerequisite, animals imported from these countries must be vaccinated against SGP before shipment.

To properly implement the control and eradication programme and succeed in achieving its objective, the following measures are being applied:

- explaining and communicating the new control programme for eradication of the disease;
- timely reporting of suspected disease cases from the field;
- outbreak investigation, isolation of infected animals and quarantine of infected premises;
- controlling the movement of small ruminants from the affected areas;
- slaughtering affected animals;
- cleaning and disinfection of premises;

- tracing back animals and their products that have left the farm during the last 21 days, in addition to, if possible, tracing back small ruminants which were introduced onto the farm in the last 21 days before the appearance of clinical signs;

- implementing ring vaccination around the outbreak(s);

- applying strict quarantine measures at border entry points to small ruminants and to countries of origin where the presence of the disease has been reported. As a prerequisite, animals imported from these countries must be vaccinated against SGP before shipment;

- ending routine vaccination from the first half of 2016 and replacing it by ring vaccination around outbreaks of SGP, if there are any.

6. Activities and components of the working programme/ action plan

A description of the activities and objectives that were achieved during 2014, as well as those being undertaken in 2015 and those which will be implemented between 2015 and 2017, is given below.

a) Activities undertaken in 2014:

- A questionnaire on SGP has been designed and sent to field veterinarians to collect information on observations of SGP cases/ outbreaks.

- Based on the analysed information from the returned questionnaires, a draft control programme has been prepared and presented for discussion with strategic partners of the MOEW, i.e. by local authorities such as the Abu Dhabi Food Control Authority and the Veterinary Service Section of the Dubai Municipality.

- Vaccination coverage has been extended since the last vaccination campaign (which focused on vaccinating small ruminant flocks/herds and on areas where positive cases of the disease had previously been identified).



- Veterinarians from the private sector who worked with livestock were involved in disease reporting of suspected cases of SGP and in increasing vaccination coverage against the disease. (A number of workshops were organised for private-sector veterinarians to introduce regulations on the prevention of animal diseases and their obligations to report notifiable diseases as present legislation requires.)

- Activities took place to explain and alert stakeholders to the objectives of the new control programme, the strategy involved, and the target of self declaration from the UAE of freedom from SGP.

- Meetings were organised for heads of Animal Health Departments to strengthen the disease reporting system.

- An extensive vaccination campaign was undertaken to control disease outbreaks and a procedure was developed for isolating infected animals, isolating infected farms, controlling animal movement outside affected areas, the safe disposal of dead animals and animal waste, cleaning and disinfection procedures and treatment against ectoparasites.

- A case definition of SGP has been developed to ensure common understanding and use of the term by field veterinarians.

- A Guide and Manual for field veterinarians on managing SGP outbreaks has been produced and largely distributed.

b) Scheduled activities and their objectives for 2015 and 2016:

- strengthen laboratory capabilities so that they can implement laboratory diagnostic confirmatory tests for SGP

- continue efforts to strengthen the disease reporting system by organising meetings for field animal health staff

- continue coordination with slaughterhouses and livestock markets to encourage reporting of suspected cases of the disease to trace them back

- continue applying a modified stamping-out policy by slaughtering identified positive cases of SGP, if any

- end routine vaccination at the beginning of 2016

- apply a policy of ring vaccination around the outbreaks in the event of identification of another positive case of the disease

- identify affected areas, isolate infected animals, quarantine infected premises and instigate animal movement controls on affected farm(s) and on farms in the affected zone.

c) Scheduled activities for 2017:

- continue surveillance activities to ensure the absence of the disease

- inform the OIE on the outcomes of the control and eradication programme for SGP

- self-declare the UAE free from the disease (prepare an article for publication in the *OIE Bulletin*).

Conclusion

The success of the SGP eradication and control programme, coordinated by the MOEW and implemented by local authorities, will serve as a good incentive to all stakeholders working on animal health and production in the public and private sectors of the UAE.

Self-declaring the UAE free from this important disease in the future would pave the way for targeting other diseases and planning a time-frame for their progressive control and consequent eradication.

activities of Reference Laboratories & Collaborating Centres

Newly designated OIE Reference Centres and their areas of expertise

OIE Reference Laboratories

Foot and mouth disease

Agence nationale de sécurité
sanitaire de l'alimentation, de
l'environnement et du travail
(ANSES)

Laboratoire de santé animale
de Maisons-Alfort
14 rue Pierre et Marie Curie
94701 Maisons-Alfort Cedex,
France

Tel. +33 1 49 77 13 00

E-mail: labib.bakkali-kassimi@anses.fr

Designated reference expert: **Dr Labib Bakkali Kassimi**



This laboratory also serves as France's National Reference Laboratory for foot and mouth disease (FMD). It is particularly involved in the emergency diagnosis of suspicious cases. As well as diagnosing the disease, the laboratory undertakes expert assessments and carries out scientific and epidemiological surveillance. In addition, it is proficient in modelling and biostatistics as they apply to FMD. It provides technical and scientific support for the control of this disease at national and international level and engages in research aimed at improving detection and virus characterisation tools, and, at a basic science level, at understanding the mechanisms of viral persistence. The laboratory's activities are subject to quality assurance and it is accredited under ISO/CEI 17025 by the French standards association, Cofrac.

Tularemia

Laboratory of Zoonotic Bacteriology and
Mycoplasmology, Veterinary Medical
Research Institute, Centre for Agricultural
Research, Hungarian Academy of Sciences

Hungaria krt. 21

Budapest 1143, Hungary

Tel. +36 1 467 4060; Fax +36 1 467 4076

E-mail: gyuranecz@vmri.hu

Designated reference expert: **Dr Miklós Gyuranecz**



The laboratory in Budapest specialises in tularemia (*Francisella tularensis*) diagnosis, surveillance and research. Multiple tools are applied for disease diagnosis, such as serological methods, pathology, immunohistochemistry, culture, and different molecular methods including genotyping. Consultancy and training are also provided.

Equine rhinopneumonitis

Irish Equine Centre

Johnstown, Naas, Co. Kildare, Ireland

Tel. +353-45 86 62 66; Fax +353-45 86 62 73

E-mail: acullinane@equine-centre.ie

Designated reference expert:

Prof. Ann Cullinane



OIE Member Countries can turn to the OIE Reference Laboratory at the Irish Equine Centre for any assistance they require in relation to equine rhinopneumonitis (equine herpesvirus-1 and -4) or equine influenza. Training in diagnostic techniques and their validation to ISO17025, diagnostic reagents and proficiency tests are available on request. The active research programme in the Virology Unit of the Centre contributes to a better understanding of the diagnosis and control of equine rhinopneumonitis. Professor Cullinane is available

to advise on the prevention and control of outbreaks of equine herpesvirus infection associated with abortion and neurological disease anywhere in the world.

Bovine spongiform encephalopathy and scrapie

Centro de investigación en encefalopatías y enfermedades transmisibles emergentes, Universidad de Zaragoza, Facultad de Veterinaria

Miguel Servet, 177
50013 Zaragoza, Spain
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Designated reference expert: **Dr Juan José Badiola Díez**



and scrapie). They also provide technical and scientific assistance, reference materials for the diagnosis of these diseases, and training, both nationally and internationally.

The laboratories offer rapid diagnostic procedures as well as confirmation and differentiation techniques, such as immunohistochemistry, enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay, western blot and immunochromatography, all undertaken in accordance with the OIE diagnostic and quality assurance standards.

Research is conducted at these Reference Laboratories on the pathogenesis, genetics, strain characterisation, diagnosis and epidemiology of transmissible spongiform encephalopathies, in collaboration with other national and international laboratories.

All laboratory manipulations involving potentially contaminated material are performed at an appropriate biosafety and containment level. These OIE Reference Laboratories for BSE and scrapie also have facilities for experimentation on livestock and small laboratory animals, and they hold a bank of tissues and fluids obtained from animals affected by these diseases.

These OIE Reference Laboratories are specialised in the diagnosis, control and eradication of transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (bovine spongiform encephalopathy [BSE]

More information about OIE Reference Centres:
www.oie.int/en/our-scientific-expertise/overview/



Locate all 301 OIE Reference Centres:
www.90.oie.int/en/Cartography

news from Member Countries

Self-declarations

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

Self-declaration from Germany on regaining freedom from glanders

submitted to the OIE on 13 July 2015 by Dr Karin Schwabenbauer, Delegate of Germany to the OIE, Chief Veterinary Officer, Directorate of Animal Health and Animal Welfare, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Bonn

Whilst being tested for export purposes, a horse born in May 2008 in Germany tested positive for glanders on 1 December 2014 using the complement fixation test (CFT).

The Friedrich Loeffler Institute, the National Reference Laboratory for glanders, confirmed the positive result in further tests (CFT and immunoblot). In light of these findings on the one hand, and the epidemiological situation of glanders in Germany on the other (the last case of glanders was in 1955), the clinically inconspicuous horse was slaughtered on 13 December 2014 for diagnostic purposes in order to examine organs and tissue bacteriologically, histologically and immunohistologically.

The pathohistological and immunohistological examination of the skin (from the head, the forelegs and the hind legs) was inconclusive. The bacteriological tests were negative. To further clarify these findings, samples of scabby hide preserved in formalin were taken for polymerase chain reaction tests. *Burkholderia mallei*-specific DNA was finally detected in these scabs.

Restrictions were immediately placed upon the premises on 1 December 2014. The other 30 horses

kept together with the affected horse at the holding tested negative for glanders in three successive serological blood tests (at intervals of 14 days). The restrictions on the holding were lifted on 27 January 2015, after the holding had been cleaned and disinfected.

Epidemiological and traceability investigations were immediately initiated, with the involvement of the respective keepers, after the first positive finding in the serological blood test (1 December 2014). It was established that the glanders-positive horse had never been moved to other European Union (EU) Member States or third countries. Three hundred and ninety-eight (398) contact horses in other holdings in Germany were identified. All of these contact horses have tested negative for glanders.

In addition to this, during tests carried out for export to third countries in 2014, 4,694 horses tested negative for glanders. Between 1 January 2015 and 13 June 2015, 2,665 horses tested negative for glanders, this period ending six months after the killing of the affected animal. All results were recorded in state and private testing facilities.



No symptoms that would have indicated a suspicion of, or an outbreak of, the notifiable disease of glanders were notified to the Competent Authority of Germany, during the course of passive monitoring (examinations of horses that were intended for slaughter and of horses that died), or during the movement of animals from other EU Member States or the import of horses from third countries.

The conclusion drawn from all tests carried out so far is that the case in question was an isolated one.

Therefore,

- considering the information given above,
 - considering that six months have now elapsed since any case has been reported, and
 - in accordance with Article 12.10.2., of the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*,
- the Delegate of Germany declares that her country regained its disease-free status for glanders as of 14 June 2015.**

Self-declaration by Turkey on regaining freedom from highly pathogenic avian influenza

submitted to the OIE on 18 August 2015 by Prof. Dr Irfan Erol, Director General of Food and Control, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock, Ankara

Between 23 April and 15 May 2015, three outbreaks of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) due to serotype H5N1 were officially recorded in Turkey and notified to the OIE (Fig. 1). One of them was in small backyard poultry flocks and the other two occurred in commercial poultry flocks. In all cases, a stamping-out policy was applied (including disinfection of all affected establishments) without vaccination, followed by surveillance in accordance with Article 10.4.3.1. of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (2015) over a three-month period.

Historical background on the epizootic

On 14 July 2008, Turkey declared itself to be free from HPAI to the OIE. Screening activities have been carried out regularly on commercial holdings since 2006. Turkey has harmonised legislation with the European Union, a contingency plan and laboratories accredited for HPAI.

The first outbreak was in Kastamonu Province, Küre District, in the village of İkizciler, and started on 23 April 2015. This outbreak was notified to the Provincial Directorate on the same day. It was confirmed as H5N1 on 30 April 2015. The outbreak

ended on 9 May 2015 after culling of a total of 172 backyard poultry in the area, in a protection zone that extended for a radius of three kilometres around the outbreak.

The second outbreak occurred in Balıkesir Province, Bandırma District, in Edincik village, on 28 April 2015. This outbreak was notified on the same day and confirmed on 7 May 2015. The outbreak ended on 9 May 2015 after culling all poultry in the area within a 10-km radius around the outbreak.

The third outbreak occurred in Manisa Province, Akhisar District, Moralılar village, on 14 May 2015. As a result of strong suspicions of HPAI, all poultry in the infected commercial holdings were destroyed immediately without waiting for confirmation. After culling and disinfection of all affected holdings, the outbreak ended on 15 May 2015. This case was also confirmed as H5N1 by the laboratory on 18 May 2015, as expected.

From all three outbreaks, a total of 2,047,761 poultry were culled. All poultry pens were disinfected in the area in which culling was carried out. Compensation was paid in all cases. A final report was sent to the OIE on 15 August 2015.



Fig. 1
Distribution of HPAI outbreaks resolved in May 2015

Legislation

The 'Regulation on Protection from and Combat against Avian Influenza' was adopted by the Government and published in the Official Gazette No. 28044 on 4 September 2011. It fully incorporates Council Directive 2005/94/EC (European Union measures for the control of avian influenza).

Notification

In each case, the disease was immediately notified to the OIE, based on laboratory test results confirming the presence of HPAI (H5N1). Immediate notification was sent to the OIE on 4 May 2015. Follow-up reports were regularly sent. All outbreaks were resolved by 15 May 2015. From that date, outbreak monitoring and active and passive surveillance across the country were carried out until 15 August 2015, for a three-month period, with the aim of regaining freedom from HPAI in accordance with OIE requirements.

Source of the outbreaks

Based on the results of the outbreak investigation, the source of the outbreaks was determined as direct or indirect contact with wild birds. Samples were sent to the Animal and Plant Health Agency in Weybridge, the United Kingdom, for analysis and confirmed as H5N1.

Control measures

Stamping-out with compensation, movement control, cleaning and disinfection are used to control the disease without recourse to vaccination. Within both the 3-km-radius protection zone and the 7-km-radius surveillance zone, the transport of poultry and poultry products is prohibited for at least 21 days after the completion of culling, cleaning and disinfection.

Active and passive survey study for avian influenza

Objectives:

- to strengthen early warning and detection systems as well as biosecurity measures in commercial poultry holdings for notifiable avian influenza (NAI).
- to prevent the introduction and spread of H5 or H7 low pathogenicity avian influenza (LPAI) viruses in commercial poultry holdings in the event of the infection being detected in wild birds or backyard poultry.
- to identify commercial poultry holdings located in areas where the risk of disease introduction from wild birds or backyard poultry is considered to be higher.
- to certify commercial poultry holdings as free of NAI, in order to enhance consumer confidence and facilitate trade in poultry and poultry products.
- and
- to support decision-making, and control and eradication programmes, as well as the evaluation of their effectiveness.

The objective of this study was to collect clinical information to determine the existence of active HPAI outbreaks or probable outbreaks by carrying out clinical surveillance in backyard flocks, commercial flocks and wild birds. The survey covered the entire country. The study population consisted of domestic poultry (chickens, turkeys, geese, ducks, etc.) and waterfowl.

For the purposes of this study, the village was considered to be the epidemiological unit for backyard poultry and wild birds. It was also considered as the establishment for commercial poultry.

The number of samples required to detect at least one positive case with a 95% likelihood has been defined.

Clinical surveillance was conducted by veterinarians, either as separate campaigns or combined with other routine campaigns (vaccinations, medication, animal identification, etc.). During these visits, cases of mortality and morbidity were observed. In cases of mortality, samples were submitted to the regional Veterinary Control and Research Institute.

Live bird surveillance incorporated sampling live-captured, apparently healthy wild birds to detect the presence of HPAI virus. Birds were captured using a variety of methods, sampled, and released on site. Samples collected for H5N1 avian influenza investigation were as follows: 1 tracheal and 1 cloacal swab were taken from each of 4 wild birds, each swab being placed in a separate viral transport media tube (i.e. no pooled samples).

All collected samples taken from backyard flocks, commercial

flocks and wild birds were tested for avian influenza (AIV-Matrix protein) by using reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction in the laboratory. Furthermore, virus isolation studies were conducted in specific-pathogen-free (SPF) eggs with embryos between 9–11 days old for all samples. No more cases of HPAI have been observed in domestic poultry, commercial poultry or wild birds.

Post-epizootic investigation, including laboratory test results from backyard poultry, commercial poultry and wild birds, showed no evidence of further spread of the infection after the quarantine period, and control measures were therefore lifted.

Therefore:

- considering the information given above, and
- considering that more than three months have elapsed since stamping-out was applied to the last outbreak (stamping-out was completed on 15 May 2015, including disinfection of all affected establishments), without vaccination, and
- considering that post-outbreak surveillance has been carried out during the said three-month period, and
- in accordance with Article 10.4.3. and Article 10.4.31. of the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (2015),

the Delegate of Turkey declares that his country regained its disease-free status for highly pathogenic avian influenza from 15 August 2015.

Self-declaration by the Netherlands on regaining freedom from avian influenza

submitted to the OIE on 31 August 2015 by Dr Christianne Brusckhe, Delegate of the Netherlands to the OIE and Chief Veterinary Officer, Ministry of Economic Affairs, the Hague

On 13 March 2015, 27 March 2015 and 4 April 2015, the Netherlands reported outbreaks of low-pathogenicity avian influenza (LPAI) to the OIE, in poultry in the municipalities of Barneveld, Tzummarum and Milheeze, respectively. The infected flocks were culled and the establishments were cleaned and disinfected.

In its follow-up reports to the OIE, the Netherlands confirmed the presence of serotypes H7N7 in the case of Barneveld, H7N7 in Tzummarum and H5N2 in Milheeze. The outbreaks were resolved on 16 July 2015 for Barneveld, on 13 August 2015 for Milheeze and on 18 August 2015 for Tzummarum.

On 7 May 2015, the Delegate of the Netherlands to the OIE submitted a self-declaration that the country had regained its freedom from highly pathogenic avian influenza as of 29 April 2015 (see *Bulletin*, no. 2015-3, p. 76).

Therefore, considering:

- the information given above
- the fact that three months have elapsed since the last disinfection of affected premises from these three outbreaks was completed on 18 May 2015 (in Tzummarum), and
- in accordance with Article 10.4.3. of Chapter 10.4. of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (2015)

the Delegate of the Netherlands to the OIE declares that her country has recovered its freedom from avian influenza as of 18 August 2015.

NETHERLANDS

international news

special events

Presentation of OIE Honorary Awards

Paris, 24 May 2015

During the 83rd OIE General Session, Dr Karin Schwabenbauer, President of the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE, reminded the participants that in 1985 the Assembly had decided to grant honorary awards to members of the veterinary community for outstanding services to veterinary science and to the OIE. She then indicated the persons selected by the Council in 2015 to receive the awards: Dr Roy Gordon Bengis (South Africa) for the Gold Medal and Dr Abdul Rahman Sira (India), Dr Temple Grandin (United States of America) and Prof. Volker Moenning (Germany) for the Meritorious Service Award.

Dr Schwabenbauer commended Dr Bengis and recalled the major accomplishments of his career and his outstanding services to the OIE and to the veterinary world, in his capacity as a wildlife specialist, as State veterinarian in the Kruger National Park (South Africa) and notably as a member of the OIE Working Group on Wildlife for a number of years. She presented him with the Gold Medal. She then delivered a speech in praise of Dr Sira, Dr Grandin and Prof. Moenning and presented them with the Meritorious Service Award. The recipients thanked the President and the Assembly.



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Left to right: Dr Bernard Vallat (Director General of the OIE), Prof. Volker Moenning (Meritorious Service Award), Dr Karin Schwabenbauer (President of the OIE), Dr Temple Grandin (Meritorious Service Award), Dr Abdul Rahman Sira (Meritorious Service Award), Dr Roy Gordon Bengis (Gold Medal)

The College of Veterinarians of Costa Rica together with the Costa Rican National Animal Health Service were announced as the joint recipients of the 2015 World Veterinary Day prize.

The winners of the 2015 OIE photo competition, one from each of the OIE regions, were presented their awards by the President (see *Bulletin*, no. 2015-3, pp. 89–94).

Animal health and welfare in Europe: a summer course by ENSV

From 22 June until 11 July 2015, 21 senior executive officers from the Veterinary Services of 17 countries, spanning four continents, attended a summer course organised by the French National School for Veterinary Services (ENSV) – OIE Collaborating Centre for the Training of Official Veterinarians. The course was held in cooperation with France Vétérinaire International, and with the support of the OIE, the French Ministry for Agriculture and the World Bank.

The aim of the course was to update the participants' knowledge and skills in governance and health regulations in relation to international trade in animals and animal products.



The summer course hosted 21 participants from 17 different countries, seen here at the OIE



Over the first two weeks, more than 20 European experts presented various concepts and tools to help in analysing and managing veterinary health hazards. Topics tackled included emerging zoonoses, prioritisation, traceability and European legislation on animal health. Targeted in particular were recent developments in knowledge and new approaches to regulation, through lectures, case studies and field visits.

The third week was given over to visits to European institutions and intergovernmental organisations in Geneva (the World Trade Organization and World Health Organization), Brussels (the European Commission and Parliament) and Paris. Among the organisations which hosted visits in Paris were the OIE; other French organisations involved in the development of standards, regulation and risk analysis, such as the French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety (ANSES); and the French Craftsmen Mutual Insurance Company (MAAF).

The purpose of this course was to exchange views and compare practices and, by all accounts, those who attended



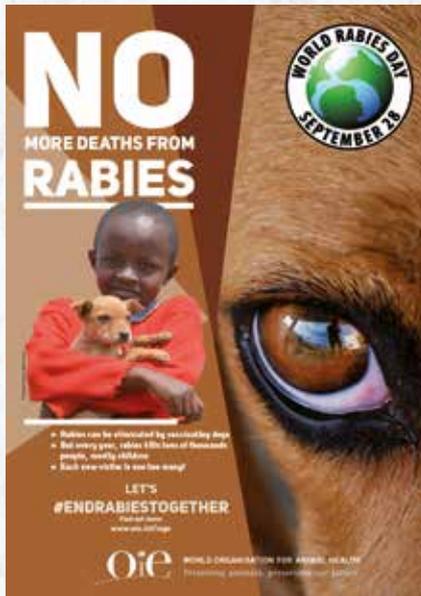
A visit to OIE Headquarters enabled participants to meet OIE staff

felt that the goal had been met. The chance for professional networking, in an intellectually stimulating and friendly atmosphere, was regarded as particularly valuable.

It is planned to repeat the training course each year, in conjunction with a seminar on food safety.

For more information:

<http://summerschools.ensv.fr>



Let's End Rabies Together World Rabies Day

The 28th of September has been declared World Rabies Day. To mark this international day against rabies in 2015, the OIE reached out to the global community to continue its efforts towards the realistic goal of increasing the number of *rabies-free* nations throughout the world, through the implementation of rabies control programmes, including dog vaccination campaigns, in all OIE Member Countries.

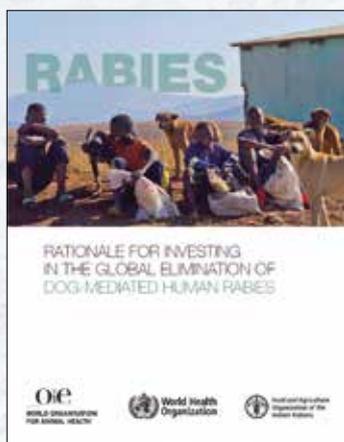
Why join the fight against rabies?

Rabies continues to kill tens of thousands of people every year. Over 95% of human rabies cases are caused by dog bites. Almost 40% of these victims are

children under the age of 15. By vaccinating 70% of dog populations in areas where rabies is present, the number of human cases can rapidly drop to almost zero.

The key to ending human rabies cases transmitted by dogs

Mass vaccination of dogs has been accepted by the international community as the most cost-effective means of eliminating rabies. 'This is the method of choice for eliminating dog-transmitted human rabies,' says Dr Bernard Vallat, Director General of the OIE. 'It is the only real way to break the disease's infectious cycle between animals and humans.'



On World Rabies Day 2015, the OIE, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), in collaboration with the Global Alliance for Rabies (GARC), published their *Rationale for investing in the global elimination of dog-mediated human rabies*, which calls on all countries to invest in the mass vaccination of their dog populations. These partner organisations believe that collaboration between the human and animal health sectors is essential to eradicate this disease, and held a global conference on this topic on 10 and 11 December 2015, in Geneva.

There is also an ongoing public awareness campaign to raise the profile of rabies prevention in Member Countries. On its website, the OIE provides copies of its various press releases as well as a portal on rabies. The portal includes an interactive infographic, which allows people to improve their knowledge about this zoonotic disease. This platform also brings together a wealth of information on rabies and on global actions against the disease. One page is dedicated to OIE communication tools, including fact sheets, which have been adapted for various audiences.

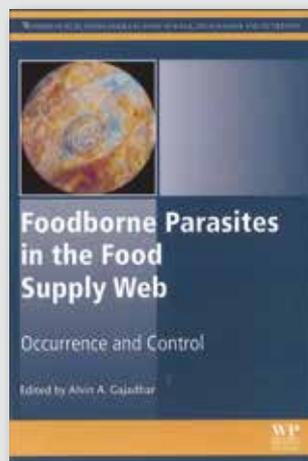
Rationale for investing in the global elimination of dog-mediated human rabies.

www.oie.int/fileadmin/home/eng/Media_Center/docs/pdf/Rabies_portal/WHO_Rationale%20Rabies_2015_2.pdf

OIE portal on rabies:

www.oie.int/en/animal-health-in-the-world/rabies-portal/about-rabies/

publications



2015

Hardbound, 454 pages
Woodhead Publishing Series in Food Science, Technology and Nutrition: Number 288
ISBN 978-1-78242-332-4
Purchase: <http://store.elsevier.com>

Foodborne parasites in the food supply web

Occurrence and control

Edited by Alvin A. Gajadhar

This book provides a review of current knowledge on the essential aspects of parasites:

- Part One establishes a base of perspectives from current situations including present practices in food production, consumer preferences, the influences of climate change and the impact of foodborne parasitic infections.
- Part Two contains information on the biology, ecology, epidemiology, control and prevention of individual parasite species or groups of protozoa, nematodes, cestodes and trematodes.
- Part Three explores the transmission dynamics of the various parasites according to food types such as pork, fish and shellfish, and fruits and vegetables.
- Part Four provides theoretical and practical components of control strategies, modeling, diagnostics and regulations.

This is an essential text for food microbiologists and parasitologists, food safety managers in industry, regulatory and public health bodies and academics/postgraduate students with a research interest in the area.



agenda

2016

February

Regional Workshop on the OIE World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS)
3–5 February
Japan

March

Regional Seminar for OIE National Focal Points for Communication
14–17 March
Panama

April

Regional Seminar for OIE National Focal Points on Animal Production Food Safety
4–8 April
Greece

Regional Seminar for OIE National Focal Points for Veterinary Laboratories
5–7 April
Republic of Korea

May

Information Seminar for Recently Appointed OIE Delegates
21 May
Paris, France

84th General Session of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates
22–27 May
Paris, France

June

Regional Workshop on the OIE World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS) (in French)
6–10 June
Tunis, Tunisia

Conference on veterinary education
22–24 June
Bangkok, Thailand

Regional Seminar for OIE National Focal Points for Veterinary Laboratories
27–30 June
Argentina

July

Regional Seminar for OIE National Focal Points on Wildlife
5–7 July
Belarus

August

Regional Workshop on the OIE World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS) (in English)
15–19 August
Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt

September

OIE Global Conference on Pastoralism Activities
1–2 September
Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Regional Workshop on the OIE World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS)
5–9 September
Panama

27th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe
19–23 September
Porto, Portugal

October

Regional Workshop on the OIE World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS)
3–7 October
Armenia

OIE Regional Conference on Veterinary Education
10–13 October
Almaty, Kazakhstan

Regional Seminar for OIE National Focal Points for Veterinary Products
11–13 October
Hungary

GF-TADs Global Steering Committee Meeting
25–26 October
OIE Headquarters, Paris, France

Annual Meeting of OIE Regional and Sub-Regional Representatives
25–28 October
OIE Headquarters, Paris, France

November

23rd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas
14–18 November
Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia

December

4th OIE Global Conference on Animal Welfare
6–8 December
Guadalajara, Mexico

2017

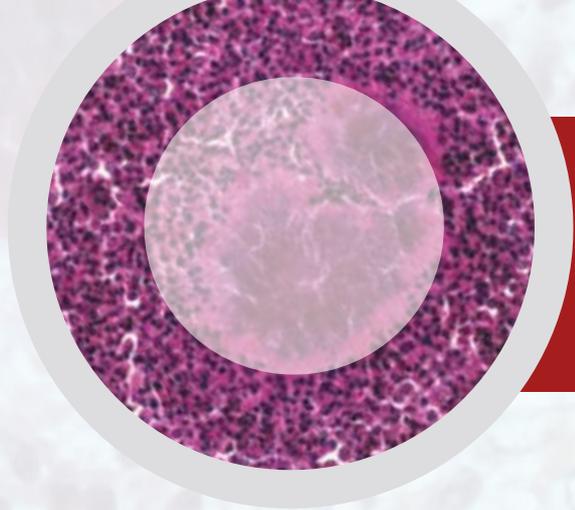
February

22nd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa
(dates to be confirmed)
Swakopmund, Namibia

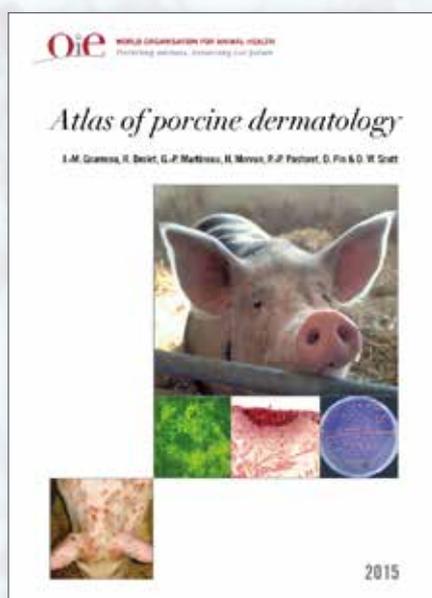
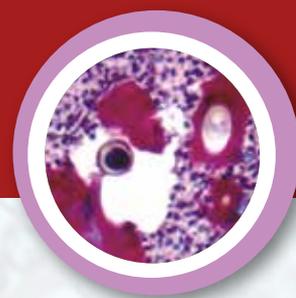


OiE members (180)

AFGHANISTAN	CYPRUS	KYRGYZSTAN	RUSSIA
ALBANIA	CZECH REPUBLIC	LAOS	RWANDA
ALGERIA	DENMARK	LATVIA	SAN MARINO
ANDORRA	DJIBOUTI	LEBANON	SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE
ANGOLA	DOMINICAN REP.	LESOTHO	SAUDI ARABIA
ARGENTINA	ECUADOR	LIBERIA	SENEGAL
ARMENIA	EGYPT	LIBYA	SERBIA
AUSTRALIA	EL SALVADOR	LIECHTENSTEIN	SEYCHELLES
AUSTRIA	EQUATORIAL GUINEA	LITHUANIA	SIERRA LEONE
AZERBAIJAN	ERITREA	LUXEMBOURG	SINGAPORE
BAHAMAS	ESTONIA	MADAGASCAR	SLOVAKIA
BAHRAIN	ETHIOPIA	MALAWI	SLOVENIA
BANGLADESH	FIJI ISLANDS	MALAYSIA	SOMALIA
BARBADOS	FINLAND	MALDIVES	SOUTH AFRICA
BELARUS	FORMER YUG. REP. OF MACEDONIA	MALI	SOUTH SUDAN
BELGIUM	FRANCE	MALTA	SPAIN
BELIZE	GABON	MAURITANIA	SRI LANKA
BENIN	GAMBIA	MAURITIUS	SUDAN
BHUTAN	GEORGIA	MEXICO	SURINAME
BOLIVIA	GERMANY	MICRONESIA (FEDERATED STATES OF)	SWAZILAND
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	GHANA	MOLDOVA	SWEDEN
BOTSWANA	GREECE	MONGOLIA	SWITZERLAND
BRAZIL	GUATEMALA	MONTENEGRO	SYRIA
BRUNEI	GUINEA	MOROCCO	TAJIKISTAN
BULGARIA	GUINEA BISSAU	MOZAMBIQUE	TANZANIA
BURKINA FASO	GUYANA	MYANMAR	THAILAND
BURUNDI	HAITI	NAMIBIA	TIMOR-LESTE
CABO VERDE	HONDURAS	NEPAL	TOGO
CAMBODIA	HUNGARY	NETHERLANDS	TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
CAMEROON	ICELAND	NEW CALEDONIA	TUNISIA
CANADA	INDIA	NEW ZEALAND	TURKEY
CENTRAL AFRICAN REP.	INDONESIA	NICARAGUA	TURKMENISTAN
CHAD	IRAN	NIGER	UGANDA
CHILE	IRAQ	NIGERIA	UKRAINE
CHINA (PEOPLE'S REP. OF)	IRELAND	NORWAY	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
CHINESE TAIPEI	ISRAEL	OMAN	UNITED KINGDOM
COLOMBIA	ITALY	PAKISTAN	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
COMOROS	JAMAICA	PANAMA	URUGUAY
CONGO (REP. OF THE)	JAPAN	PAPUA NEW GUINEA	UZBEKISTAN
CONGO (DEM. REP. OF THE)	JORDAN	PARAGUAY	VANUATU
COSTA RICA	KAZAKHSTAN	PERU	VENEZUELA
CÔTE D'IVOIRE	KENYA	PHILIPPINES	VIETNAM
CROATIA	KOREA (DEM. PEOPLE'S REP. OF)	POLAND	YEMEN
CUBA	KOREA (REP. OF)	PORTUGAL	ZAMBIA
	KUWAIT	QATAR	ZIMBABWE
		ROMANIA	



NEW!



Atlas of porcine dermatology

*J.-M. Gourreau, R. Drolet, G.-P. Martineau,
H. Morvan, P.-P. Pastoret†, D. Pin & D.W. Scott*

This atlas, which has been lavishly illustrated, is the first of its kind and fills a gap in the global veterinary literature. The advantage of this book is that it takes into account all aspects of porcine dermatology (it covers non-infectious diseases and those whose origins are neither parasitic nor fungal), thus facilitating differential diagnosis.

Several of the OIE-listed swine diseases, such as foot and mouth disease, Aujeszky's disease, porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome, classical swine fever and African swine fever (some of which also affect other species) can result in cutaneous clinical signs in pigs. For many ailments these signs are crucial for establishing a diagnosis.

ORDER ONLINE NOW! www.oie.int/boutique





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protecting our future



4th OIE Global Conference on Veterinary Education:
Implementing OIE guidelines to ensure the excellence of the veterinary profession

Bangkok (Thailand)
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Protecting animals, preserving our future