Dr Franck Berthe has contributed to the Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission of the OIE (World Organisation for Animal Health) since 1996. He is currently Secretary General of the Commission.

Franck graduated as a Doctor in Veterinary Medicine at the Ecole Vétérinaire de Maisons-Alfort (France), specialising in aquaculture. He completed a diploma in molecular taxonomy and epidemiology at the Institut Pasteur de Paris (France) and obtained a PhD degree in molecular parasitology from the Université Blaise Pascal de Clermont-Ferrand (France).

After a brief experience in a private veterinary practice, he spent nearly 10 years as a senior scientist at the French Research Institute for the Exploitation of the Seas (Ifremer) where he was responsible for the EU Reference Laboratory and OIE designated expert for mollusc diseases. In 2004, he was awarded a Canada Research Chair in Aquatic Health Sciences and appointed associate professor at the Atlantic Veterinary College of the University of Prince Edward Island (Canada).

Since July 2007, he has worked at the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). He has been leading EFSA's Animal Health and Welfare (AHAW) Unit since March 2010. The core activity of his group is to perform risk assessment at the human-animal ecosystems interfaces.