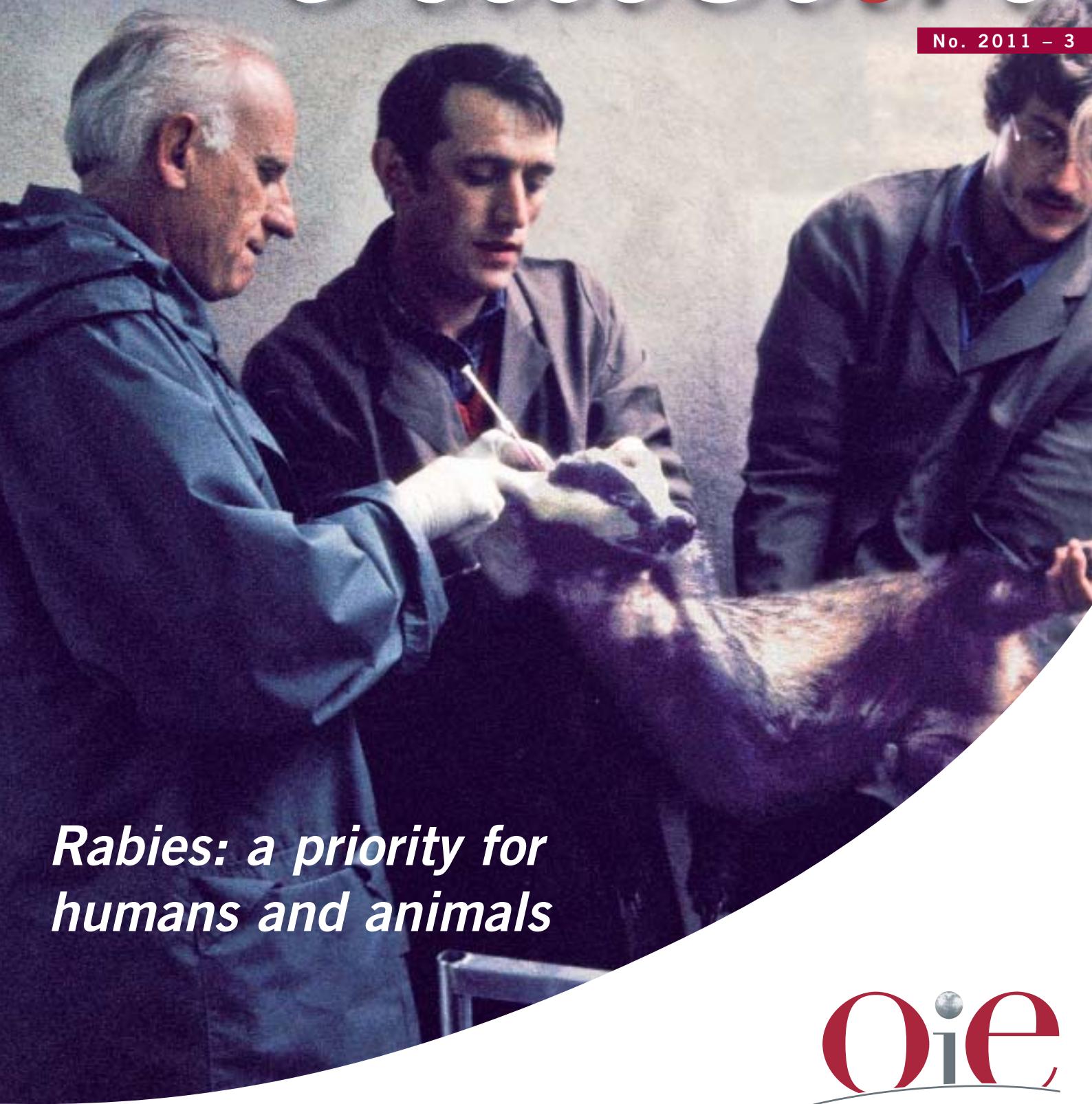




bulletin

No. 2011 – 3



*Rabies: a priority for
humans and animals*

Oie

contents

Challenge inoculation of a badger, efficacy and safety trials of oral vaccines, May 1987 © Jacques Barrat



editorial

The OIE's commitment to fight rabies worldwide	01
--	----

forum

The importance of animal welfare in the control of stray dog populations during rabies control and eradication programmes	03
---	----

Rabies: who is responsible for controlling and stopping this killer disease?	06
--	----

OIE news

World Veterinary Day 2011	09
---------------------------------	----

new OIE publications	10
-----------------------------------	----

news from headquarters	11
-------------------------------------	----

regional activities	15
----------------------------------	----

official acts	24
----------------------------	----

strengthening of veterinary services	26
---	----

meetings and visits	33
----------------------------------	----

the OIE and its partners

epidemiology & animal disease control programmes	44
---	----

activities of reference laboratories & collaborating centres	56
---	----

international news

publications	58
---------------------------	----

special events	59
-----------------------------	----

agenda	61
---------------------	----



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The OIE's commitment to fight rabies worldwide



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Every ten minutes someone dies of rabies somewhere in the world. Rabies is reported to claim nearly 55,000 lives a year, though the true figure is certainly far higher. Ninety-nine percent of human cases are due to bites by infected dogs. Rabies causes more deaths in the world than

any other infectious disease and especially affects children in developing countries.

In countries where people are still dying from rabies, dogs are the main vector. Controlling the disease in dogs, and especially stray dogs, must therefore be the first priority to prevent lethal cases in humans.

Analysts have estimated that just 10% of the financial resources currently used to treat people bitten by potentially rabid dogs would be sufficient to enable national Veterinary Services

throughout the world to eradicate rabies at source in domestic animals and so prevent almost all human cases. Vaccination of animals is the preferred method of controlling and eliminating rabies. Indeed, for ethical, ecological and economic reasons, the culling of animals that are potential vectors cannot be considered as the priority method for control and eradication. All successful rabies eradication programmes have included measures combining stray dog population control and vaccination of all dogs kept under their owner's control.

just 10% of the financial resources currently used to treat people bitten by potentially rabid dogs would be sufficient to enable national Veterinary Services throughout the world to eradicate rabies at source in domestic animals

We know that a rabies control strategy cannot be effective without the support of many different partners coordinated by the authorities, including the animal health services, environmental officers and the police force, and without the support of local and municipal authorities, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and dog owners.

At the international level, the OIE, FAO and WHO are developing recommendations, in particular to ensure good intersectoral collaboration. Since 2010, the OIE's standards relating to rabies have been undergoing revision; the aim being to develop an approach that will allow the disease to be controlled

in stages, with the emphasis on the epidemiological importance of the animal species most frequently linked to human cases (generally dogs). A new chapter being prepared for the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* will make new provisions for 'canine rabies-free status' for countries.

The OIE's aim is not only to encourage transparency in notifying the disease but to encourage governments to invest in priority control programmes, such as rabies prevention in dogs, especially in those countries that cannot manage in the short term to meet the requirements to make a self-declaration of rabies-free status for all susceptible domestic and wild animal species.

Rabies control programmes are a major financial challenge for many countries as the costs, especially vaccination costs, are very high: it is therefore important to encourage research and industry to develop vaccines that will confer long-term

immunity, thereby eliminating the need for booster vaccinations. In this context, the quality standards relating to the production of diagnostic tests and vaccines for rabies contained in the OIE *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals* are currently being updated to take into account the very latest scientific developments.

The possibility of developing vaccine banks – at both the regional and worldwide level – is also being studied by the OIE and the main international organisations involved in rabies control. Among its benefits, this project would help to ensure that, at times of crisis, high-quality vaccines produced in accordance with OIE international standards are available and that in an emergency they can be delivered to developing countries to meet their actual requirements in the field. A vaccine bank for Asia is already being set up by the OIE in 2011.

It should be emphasised that veterinarians and the national Veterinary Services have a primary responsibility to apply their knowledge and skills to help control zoonoses, including rabies, and so break the link between the source of the disease in animals and human infection. Rabies control programmes should always take into account the need to improve the effectiveness of the public and private components of the national Veterinary Services,

especially with regard to compliance with the international standards of quality issued by the OIE. To this end, the active participation of all countries in the OIE's PVS (Performance, Vision and Strategy) initiative to determine the Veterinary Services' level of needs in terms of investment and training is highly recommended.

A global conference on rabies control, organised by the OIE in collaboration with FAO and WHO, is due to be held in Seoul, the Republic of Korea, from 7 to 9 September 2011. The conference will give priority to good governance regarding the distribution of public and private, local, national and international resources targeted at priority prevention actions, to be taken initially in animals, in collaboration with public health services.

Many potential donors are invited to attend in order to support programmes in developing countries.



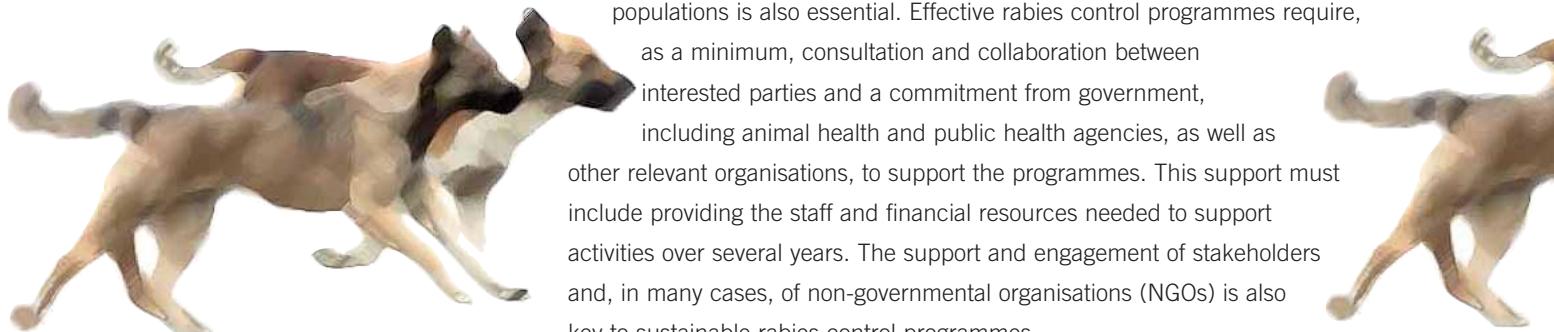
*Bernard Vallat
Director General*



The importance of animal welfare in the control of stray dog populations during rabies control and eradication programmes

Rabies is one of the oldest known diseases, and causes an estimated 55,000 human deaths each year, mostly in children who have been bitten by dogs. Dogs are the main source of rabies in developing countries. For this reason, controlling rabies in dog populations, particularly among stray dogs, is the key to preventing human deaths worldwide.

Immunisation, using vaccines recommended in the OIE *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals*, is the method of choice for successfully controlling rabies. However, effective control of stray dog populations is also essential. Effective rabies control programmes require, as a minimum, consultation and collaboration between interested parties and a commitment from government, including animal health and public health agencies, as well as other relevant organisations, to support the programmes. This support must include providing the staff and financial resources needed to support activities over several years. The support and engagement of stakeholders and, in many cases, of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) is also key to sustainable rabies control programmes.



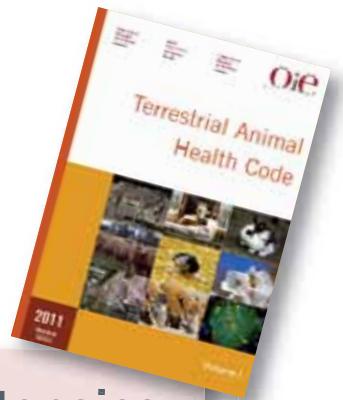
*Tools to raise public awareness and education to promote responsible pet ownership
are important complementary measures in rabies control programmes*

Authorities sometimes attempt to depopulate stray dogs as a stand-alone measure, in the belief that reducing the numbers of stray dogs will help to prevent rabies. However, this is not considered effective. Improvements may be achieved in the short term but the removed animals can quickly be replaced, especially if there is no change in the behaviour of dog owners and others. If measures to reduce the stray dog population are employed with the aim of controlling (or eradicating) rabies, they must be combined with other control measures, notably public awareness campaigns and education on responsible dog ownership, to be successful in the long term.



Recognising the need to control stray dog populations, with the aim of preventing and controlling rabies, particularly in developing countries, and with the objective of avoiding unnecessary animal pain and suffering, the OIE has developed a standard on stray dog population control, found in Chapter 7.7 of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*, which may be viewed online at: www.oie.int/index.php?id=169&L=0&htmfile=chapitre_1.7.7.htm.

Some important recommendations from Chapter 7.7. on ‘Responsibilities and competencies’ and ‘Control measures’ are summarised below.



Responsibilities and competencies (from *Terrestrial Code Article 7.7.4.*)

In order to be effective, the monitoring and management of stray dog populations should be undertaken in a collaborative manner, involving authorities for the protection of public health, animal health and the environment, local authorities and, as appropriate, non-governmental organisations (NGOs). The following responsibilities and competencies should be clearly defined:

- **Veterinary Authority**

The control of a zoonotic disease such as rabies requires technical advice to be provided by the Veterinary Authority, which is responsible for the implementation of animal health and animal welfare legislation. The Veterinary Authority is normally responsible for animal health and some aspects of public health, but other governmental authorities have complementary competencies and responsibilities.

- **Other government authorities**

Public Health Authorities normally take the lead in the prevention of rabies in the human population. Other government agencies may have, or share, responsibility for public safety and security (e.g. management of risks caused by free-roaming dogs in the community), particularly at the state, provincial or local level.

- **Private sector veterinarians**

Private sector veterinarians play a key role in such tasks as disease surveillance, preventive veterinary medicine and advising on responsible ownership. Together with the

police and/or local authorities, private veterinarians can help to manage and prevent the neglect and abandonment of pet dogs, which can lead to an increase in the stray dog population.

- **Non-governmental organisations**

Non-governmental organisations are important partners in the control of stray dog populations, as they can make a major contribution to raising public awareness and help in obtaining resources to support programmes for responsible dog ownership, including sterilisation and vaccination of pet dogs.

- **Dog owners**

As part of responsible pet ownership, dog owners should ensure that each pet dog is clearly identified, preferably with a permanent means of identification, and registered on a centralised database, where required by legislation. Responsible ownership is one of the most important tools to prevent dogs roaming freely and causing hazards to their owners and the community at large.



Control measures

(from *Terrestrial Code Article 7.7.6.*)

To achieve effective and sustainable control of stray dog populations, a suite of complementary measures must be used. It is important to realise that euthanasia, used alone, will not be effective. Relevant control measures include:

a) Responsible dog ownership

The promotion of responsible dog ownership through legislation, education and public awareness campaigns is an essential part of an effective dog population control programme. Encouraging dog owners to be more responsible can help to reduce the number of dogs allowed to roam, thereby reducing the associated risks to the community.

b) Registration and identification of owned dogs

Identification and registration of owned dogs, including the possibility of establishing a centralised database, is a useful tool to aid compliance with legal requirements. In particular, it enables lost dogs to be reunited with their owners.

c) Control of dog reproduction

Controlling reproduction in dogs is obviously important to prevent an increase in the stray dog population. This is essentially the responsibility of owners. However, education and, if possible, incentives should be provided by public authorities to encourage owners to sterilise their pets.

d) Regulation of commercial dog dealers

Dog breeders and dealers can also play an important role in responsible pet ownership. Associations of breeders and/or dealers should encourage a commitment from their members to raising and selling physically and psychologically healthy

dogs. Unhealthy dogs and those that are difficult to manage are more likely to be abandoned, thereby contributing to an increase in the stray dog population. Even if not abandoned, dogs with behavioural problems may be more predisposed to wandering and to attacks on humans.

e) Reduction in dog-bite incidence

Public awareness and education campaigns aimed at the general public, dog owners and children are an effective means for reducing the rate of dog-associated problems, including bites. Dog owners should be educated in the principles of responsible dog ownership (Article 7.7.6., point 1). Young children are the group at highest risk for dog bites. Public education programmes, which teach appropriate behaviour around dogs and are based on the advice of dog-behaviour experts, have been shown to be effective in reducing dog bites.

f) Euthanasia

When euthanasia is required, it should be carried out according to the general principles of the *Terrestrial Code*. The choice of euthanasia methods should ensure operator and public safety and all efforts should be made to avoid unnecessary animal pain and suffering. To meet these requirements, operators should be adequately trained and equipped, and correct techniques applied. Care should be taken to ensure that carcasses are disposed of appropriately and only when death has been confirmed.



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Conclusions

The effective control of stray dog populations is a key element in a successful rabies control or eradication programme, along with the appropriate use of vaccines proven to be effective against rabies. Euthanasia alone is not an effective method of controlling stray dog populations. If euthanasia is used as part of a control programme, it must be integrated with other control methods to achieve effective and sustainable results. The choice of euthanasia methods should ensure operator and public safety and all efforts should be made to avoid unnecessary animal pain and suffering. Tools to raise public awareness and education to promote responsible pet ownership are important complementary measures in rabies control programmes. Veterinary Services should play a lead role, in collaboration with other responsible authorities and, as appropriate, NGOs. Applying the standards in the OIE *Terrestrial Code* is the best way to achieve control or eradication of rabies, while adequately protecting human health, and animal health and welfare.





Rabies: who is responsible for controlling and stopping this killer disease?

It is common knowledge that rabies may be the oldest infectious disease known to humanity. As early as 2300 BC, dog owners in the Babylonian city of Eshnunna were fined heavily for deaths caused by their dogs biting people. As early as 500 BC, there were even special rabies gods: one to prevent rabies (*Aristaeus*, son of Apollo) and one to heal rabies (*Artemis*). The disease was known and feared by everyone; it killed people in villages and in large cities, such as Paris in the early 1600s, Madrid and London, and later in the Americas (3). In 1885, for the very first time, Louis Pasteur, a Parisian chemist, successfully used a crude rabies vaccine to save

diseases in humans? Why do other animal diseases that pose a threat to human health and well-being – but with a far lower mortality rate – receive more attention in the popular press and cause more hysteria and pressure on governments to react to protect human health? Animal diseases that have hit the front pages of international newspapers during the past ten to 15 years include: the outbreak and spread of ‘mad cow disease’ (bovine spongiform encephalopathy or BSE) in the United Kingdom; the highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) strain H5N1 and its unprecedented spread over five continents, with the threat of a possible human pandemic;

Why, after being known and feared by people for more than 4,000 years, does rabies still remain one of the most fatal infectious diseases in humans?

the life of young Joseph Meister. However, rabies remained a mysterious killer disease. Even today, rabies is reported to claim nearly 55,000 lives a year.

The question might well be asked: why, after being known and feared by people for more than 4,000 years, does rabies still remain one of the most fatal infectious

the recent outbreak of H1N1 influenza and the outbreak of Ebola Reston virus in the Philippines. These are just a few examples of the new and, in many instances, unreasonably fearful global concern over the link between human and animal health. In almost all these cases, the main focus was the general fear of a global human pandemic as a result of these diseases in animals. It is thus not surprising that the international donor community, urged on by international organisations such as the OIE, FAO and WHO, reacted swiftly by mobilising and coordinating their efforts to give substantial financial support to strengthen the capacity of countries faced with such threats. This was especially evident during the height of the highly pathogenic avian influenza epidemic, during which an unprecedented amount of money was pledged and made available to prevent a possible global human pandemic, should the disease spill over from its animal source to a naïve human population (1).

Sadly, rabies – one of the oldest known diseases, occurring primarily in animals and responsible for more



A piece of pottery depicting Artemis driving away dogs that have surrounded and attacked her

human deaths than any other known zoonosis, and exceeding, by far, the sum total of recorded human deaths from BSE, HPAI and the recent H1N1 influenza outbreak combined – seems to be always either forgotten or pushed to the back of the queue of animal disease priorities.

Rabies has been known to kill humans since the beginning of recorded history and remains a killer to this day, causing the deaths of thousands of people each year. Countries in Asia and Africa are particularly vulnerable, since they have insufficient

resources to create an effective, protective immune barrier between humans and the animal source of the disease (1).

Scientists and other experts have offered many reasons for the inability or reluctance of governments to react to the rabies threat and mobilise the kind of resources that they have managed to find for other recent human pandemic disease threats. One reason cited is that there is very little financial return on the investment of governments into rabies control programmes, such as the pre- and post-exposure treatment of human victims or controlling the disease at the animal source by implementing rigid and effective vaccination programmes (1). Dr Bernard Vallat, Director General of the OIE, pointed out in a recent editorial that just an estimated 10% of the financial resources currently used for post-exposure treatment of rabies victims would be sufficient to allow national Veterinary Services throughout the world to eradicate rabies at the animal source and, in doing so, to prevent human cases of the disease (4).

Even if this money were to be redirected towards rabies control at the animal source by Veterinary Services, would it result in an effective and coordinated effort to substantially control the disease? In many countries, there still appears to be a never-ending debate between Ministries of Health and Agriculture on who is responsible

for what. The outcome of many of these debates is that dog owners are deemed to be responsible for having their animals vaccinated, or for preventing them from coming into contact with infected animals, and, should they fail to achieve this, then the human health profession takes responsibility for treating the unfortunate human victims. Such a ‘solution’ inevitably results in the continuation of people dying from the disease because of exposure to an increasing, non-vaccinated, canine population – the most important species worldwide for transmission of rabies to humans.

Rabies is, however, a disease that calls for the equal involvement of both the human and animal health professions. The primary task of the animal health profession is to create an immune buffer between the animal source and humans through a rigid and sustainable vaccination strategy, targeting the main animal vector; namely,

dogs. It has been proven in many countries that, by maintaining vaccination coverage of at least 70% to 75% of the canine population, the number of humans contracting the disease would decrease exponentially. Nonetheless, to enable national Veterinary Services to accept this primary responsibility, they need to have the capacity to do so.

The OIE, realising that more than 70% of its 178 Members are either developing or in-transition countries that are in urgent need of help and guidance to effectively control animal diseases and zoonoses, set itself the optimistic goal of assisting at least 120 of its Member Countries to enter the pathway for Good Veterinary Governance. Expert teams trained by the OIE have, to date, completed 102 assessments of the status of these countries’ Veterinary Services to advise them on how to address the gaps in their service delivery systems, thus achieving Good Veterinary Governance and the ability to effectively control important animal diseases, such as



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rabies. The OIE, together with FAO, has also published a comprehensive text on Good Veterinary Governance to further guide countries in need. More importantly, in addressing the serious problem of global rabies control, the OIE, with assistance from donor funding, has established a World Animal Health and Welfare Fund from which funds can be made available to further advance Good Veterinary Governance in OIE Member Countries(2). Furthermore, the OIE urges the donor community to allow the substantial funding that was made available to address the HPAI human pandemic threat to be used for the control of other, equally important zoonotic diseases, such as rabies.

Recently, **the OIE, FAO and WHO** publicly acknowledged the need for closer cooperation and collaboration and confirmed their commitment to their international role as the primary players in combating important diseases threatening both human and animal health. In a joint statement, the three 'sister' organisations accepted the need for mutual efforts at the national and regional levels to obtain stronger and more sustainable political support for integrated approaches to preventing disease and lessening the effect of high-impact pathogens of medical and veterinary importance. The three organisations also confirmed the need for joint development of effective programmes to ensure coherent action and raise awareness among the general public and policy-makers of the risks posed by pathogens of animal origin and the actions needed to minimise human infection. Preventing the emergence and cross-border spread of infectious human and animal diseases was acknowledged as a global public good, with benefits that extend to all countries, people and generations.

The tripartite partners encouraged international solidarity in the control of human and animal diseases, while

providing international support to Member Countries requesting assistance with human and animal disease control and eradication programmes (2). It is sincerely hoped that this common commitment by the three major international participants will be equally applied at the regional and national level to control rabies.



Global Conference on Rabies Control

Seoul (Republic of Korea)
7-9 September 2011

Following the recommendations of two major international conferences on rabies control sponsored by the OIE (in Kiev in 2005 and Paris in 2008), the OIE has urged Member Countries to institute effective and sustainable rabies control programmes (1). Another international conference on rabies control, organised by the OIE in collaboration with the FAO and WHO, is due to be held in Seoul, the Republic of Korea, from 7 to 9 September 2011. Its aim is to increase the global commitment of these international organisations to a combined and multidisciplinary effort to put an end to this killer disease. The OIE has also committed its full support to the initiatives of the Global Alliance for Rabies Control and encourages its Member Countries to actively participate in the annual World Rabies Day, launched by the Global Alliance for Rabies Control.

Gideon Brückner

**President of the OIE for Animal Diseases
Scientific Commission**

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World Veterinary Day 2011

World Veterinary Day was first celebrated by the World Veterinary Association (WVA) in 2001; it is now celebrated each year on the last Saturday of April.

Rabies was the chosen topic for this year. It is a vaccine-preventable disease that still kills 55,000 people every year, mostly children. Ninety-nine percent of all human cases are caused by bites from infected dogs.

Vaccinating animals reduces the incidence of the disease, eliminates suffering and avoids mass culling, while also, and more importantly, saving human lives.

Myanmar was nominated for the World Veterinary Day Award 2011 at the OIE's 79th General Session. This award will be presented at the World Veterinary Congress, to be held in South Africa in October 2011.

Action against such a deadly zoonosis offers an opportunity to focus on the positive contribution of veterinarians to public health, as key players in the prevention and control of animal diseases. The general public mostly associate veterinarians with the medical treatment of animals, while their role in safeguarding both animal and public health seldom finds recognition.



World Veterinary Day in 2011, which has itself been declared World Veterinary Year, is an excellent time to address this lack of recognition and, in particular, to raise awareness about rabies prevention and control and the role that veterinarians play in this task.

For the first time, the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the WVA have joined together in making a public awareness film to promote World Veterinary Day 2011. Everyone knows that a picture is worth a thousand words. Raising awareness and encouraging international solidarity is what drives our work and this is what makes World Veterinary Day a cause for celebration.

Background

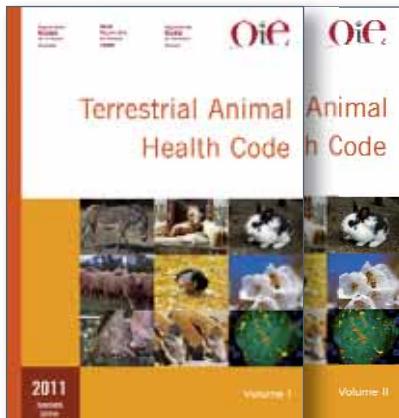
In 2008, the WVA and the OIE decided to create the World Veterinary Day Award, to recognise the most successful celebration of the veterinary profession by a national veterinary association; alone, or in cooperation with any other selected veterinary body.

Both the OIE and the WVA support the 'One Health' concept, in which animal and public health systems throughout the world cooperate at local, national and regional levels to prevent new health hazards by harmonising and coordinating their efforts.

Related links:

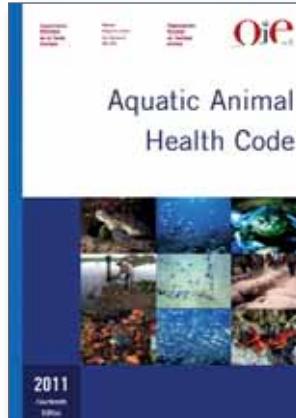
OIE Channel on YouTube:
www.youtube.com/user/OIEVideo
Global Alliance for Rabies Control:
www.rabiescontrol.net
World Veterinary Congress:
www.worldvetcongress2011.com

new OIE publications



In English

20th Edition, 2011
Volumes 1 and 2
Format: 29.7 x 21 cm
approx. 700 pp.
ISBN 978-92-9044-824-2
Price: €60



In English

14th Edition, 2011
Format: 29.7cm x 21 cm
approx. 320 pp.
ISBN: 978-92-9044-833-4
Price: €45

Terrestrial Animal Health Code

The OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (the *Terrestrial Code*) sets out standards for the improvement of terrestrial animal health and welfare and veterinary public health worldwide, including standards for safe international trade in terrestrial animals (mammals, birds and bees) and their products. The health measures in the *Terrestrial Code* should be used by the veterinary authorities of importing and exporting countries to enable the early detection, reporting and control of agents pathogenic to terrestrial animals and, in the case of zoonotic diseases, for humans, and to prevent their transfer through international trade in terrestrial animals and terrestrial animal products, while avoiding unjustified animal health barriers to trade.

The measures published in the *Terrestrial Code* are democratically adopted by consensus of the relevant Competent Authorities of the 178 OIE Member Countries. The OIE standards are referenced in the World Trade Organization Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures. The *Terrestrial Code* is an indispensable reference document for all those responsible for international trade in terrestrial animals and their products, as well as for veterinarians and professionals involved in the detection, prevention and control of terrestrial animal diseases.

The 20th edition of the *Terrestrial Code* will be released in September 2011 and is available on the OIE Website at www.oie.int/en/international-standard-setting/terrestrial-code/

Aquatic Animal Health Code

The OIE *Aquatic Animal Health Code* (*Aquatic Code*) sets out standards for the improvement of aquatic animal health and welfare and veterinary public health worldwide, including standards for safe international trade in aquatic animals (amphibians, crustaceans, fish and molluscs) and their products. The health measures in the *Aquatic Code* should be used by the veterinary authorities of importing and exporting countries to enable the early detection, reporting and control of agents pathogenic to aquatic animals and, in the case of zoonotic diseases, for humans, and to prevent their transfer through international trade in aquatic animals and aquatic animal products, while avoiding unjustified animal health barriers to trade.

The measures published in the *Aquatic Code* are democratically adopted by consensus of the relevant Competent Authorities of the 178 OIE Member Countries. The OIE standards are referenced in the World Trade Organization Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures. The *Aquatic Code* is an indispensable reference document for those responsible for international trade in aquatic animals and their products, as well as for veterinarians and other professionals involved in the detection, prevention and control of aquatic animal diseases.

The 14th edition of the *Aquatic Code* will be released in September 2011 and is available on the OIE website at the same time at www.oie.int/en/international-standard-setting/aquatic-code/

news from headquarters

Staff movements

Arrival

Scientific and Technical Department

Dr Susanne Münstermann



Dr Susanne Münstermann joined the OIE on 15 April 2011 as Chargée de Mission in the Scientific and Technical Department to work principally on veterinary medicinal products.

Dr Münstermann studied veterinary medicine in Germany and Austria, and received her DVM in parasitology from the Free University of Berlin (FUB) in 1984. In 1985, she attended the one-year specialisation course in tropical veterinary medicine at the FUB and began her career in development cooperation, as a scientist, training expert and livestock project manager in Kenya where she worked until 1991. After returning to Germany, she was awarded her degree as a *Fachtierarzt* (specialist) in tropical veterinary medicine.

Between 1991 and 1995, she continued her academic career at the FUB as Course Director of the first Master of Science course for veterinarians from developing countries, offered in the disciplines of 'Epidemiology and preventive veterinary medicine' and 'Veterinary public health', in English.

In 1996, Dr Münstermann returned to Africa, working until recently on livestock development projects in various countries in West and southern Africa. These projects included tsetse and trypanosomosis control in Zimbabwe (among other countries); applied research projects implemented by National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS) in Gambia and other countries; and the design of the regional training programme for the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Promotion of Regional Integration (PRINT) livestock project (Botswana plus 13 other countries).

Just before joining the OIE Dr Münstermann was Head of the FAO Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases (ECTAD) for Southern Africa. She was based in the Regional Animal Health Centre in Gaborone, Botswana, which also hosts the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for Southern Africa and the Sub-Regional office of the African Union-Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR).



Activities of the Communication Unit

World veterinary students visit the OIE

Three different groups of students visited the OIE during March and April 2011.

The first group came as part of the 'Engaging Intergovernmental Organizations' programme, organised each year by Dr Will Hueston, Executive Director of the Global Initiative for Food Systems Leadership, Professor at the College of Veterinary Medicine and Adjunct Professor at the School of Public Health of the University of Minnesota. The Royal Veterinary College, London, also sent two sets of students to visit OIE Headquarters: 20 first-year students and 20 post-graduate students at the Masters level.

The increasing numbers of these field trips, and their participants, organised by eminent universities and veterinary schools, show that the OIE's profile in the academic world is steadily growing, and that the organisation's hard work over recent years in advancing veterinary education throughout the world is bearing fruit.

Emerging health crises which also have an impact upon humans, such as bovine spongiform encephalopathy and avian influenza, have also highlighted the role of the OIE *Terrestrial* and *Aquatic Animal Health Codes* in recent times. As a result of this, and the OIE's focus on improving communication with its stakeholders, future veterinarians are developing an ever-increasing interest in the activities of the OIE.

Activities of the Scientific and Technical Department

Summaries of the OIE *ad hoc* Group, Specialist Commission and Working Group Meetings
April to June 2011

Ad hoc Group on Rabies

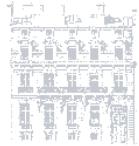
Paris, 20-22 April 2011

The Group addressed the OIE Member comments received after the circulation of the first draft of the completely revised rabies chapter of the *Terrestrial Code*. Taking into account the Fifth Strategic Plan of the OIE, the purpose of the *Terrestrial Code* chapter on rabies was redefined to specifically mitigate the risk of rabies to human health and the international spread of rabies. The *ad hoc* Group decided to re-group species-specific importation recommendations according to the risk of transmission of the rabies virus to humans and animals and improved the clarity of selected sections of the chapter.

Ad hoc Group on Validation of Diagnostic Tests for Wildlife

Paris, 27-29 April 2010

The main objective of the Group was to draft guidelines on 'Principles and methods for the validation of diagnostic tests for infectious diseases applicable to wildlife', taking into account the existing chapters of the *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals* (in particular, Chapter 1.1.4./5., 'Principles and methods of validation of diagnostic assays for infectious diseases') and the documents provided by the OIE Working Group on Wildlife Diseases. The Group began by identifying the challenges and needs specific to the validation and use of diagnostic tests in wildlife. In developing these guidelines, the Group considered ways of making the whole approach for validation practical and feasible for those working in wildlife diagnostics. The step-wise approach taken in draft Chapter 1.1.4./5. was considered as suitable for wildlife; however, some changes were proposed to take issues and characteristics specific to wildlife into consideration. Although a draft document for these guidelines on the 'Principles and methods for the validation of diagnostic tests for infectious



Activities of the Scientific and Technical Department

diseases applicable to wildlife' was proposed by the Group, a second meeting might be organised to further develop the document and address some pending issues.

Ad hoc Group on Vaccine Quality related to Foot and Mouth Disease

Paris, 8-9 June 2011

The Group continued with the revision of Sections C and D of Chapter 2.1.5., 'Foot and mouth disease', of the *Terrestrial Manual*. There was intensive discussion on the methods to be used for the pre-selection of field isolates for vaccine-matching tests, how to choose appropriate field isolates for further testing and how to demonstrate freedom from non-structural proteins in the products. The Group revised the new Section C – 'Requirements for Vaccines' and new Section D – 'Vaccine-Matching Tests'. Experts will meet again in September 2011 to complete their task.

Ad hoc Group on Peste des Petits Ruminants

Paris, 14-19 June 2011

The *ad hoc* Group on Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) met for the first time to discuss the current situation and epidemiological trends of the disease and to review and update the specific PPR chapter of the OIE *Terrestrial Code* and provide comments on the current PPR chapter of the *Terrestrial Manual*. Issues concerning vaccines against PPR, as well as a review of continuing research, were also addressed. An important objective of the meeting was to advise the OIE on the need for and feasibility of launching a global PPR control strategy and a worldwide initiative with appropriate partners. Considering the recent expansion of the disease in several regions in the world, the Group recommended that a global initiative and strategy to control PPR be considered. In this context, the partnership between the OIE and FAO and other international and regional partners could prove very valuable to the discussion, particularly in light of the Global Framework for the Control of Transboundary Diseases (GF-TADs) mechanism, using the successful eradication of rinderpest as a model. Amendments to the

PPR chapter of the *Terrestrial Code* were proposed and recommendations for potential reviewers of the *Terrestrial Manual* listed. Specific articles on the surveillance of PPR would only need to be considered if the disease were to be included in the procedures of official disease status recognition to accompany the global control strategy.

Ad hoc Group on Antimicrobial Resistance

Paris, 20-22 June 2011

The Group on Antimicrobial Resistance met for the second time and continued the revision of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)* started at the first meeting, in addressing Chapter 6.9., on the 'Responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents in veterinary medicine' and also addressing and replying to the technical comments received from OIE Member Countries on the proposed updated version of the *Terrestrial Code*, Chapters 6.7., on 'Harmonisation of national antimicrobial resistance surveillance and monitoring programmes', and 6.8., on 'Monitoring of the quantities of antimicrobials used in animal husbandry', drafted at the first meeting of the Group. The Group also identified the need to define certain terms used in Chapters 6.7. to 6.9. of the *Terrestrial Code*, and proposed future topics that should be considered for discussion in coming meetings.

Ad hoc Group on Evaluation of Foot and Mouth Disease Status of Members

Paris, 27-30 June 2011

The Group evaluated one application for recognition of a new zone free from foot and mouth disease (FMD) for compliance with the requirements in the *Terrestrial Code*. The experts reviewed the FMD chapter of the *Terrestrial Code* for consistency with other, horizontal chapters of the *Terrestrial Code* and developed guidance for the annual reconfirmation of an OIE-endorsed official control programme for FMD. The Group received information for discussion concerning the current and future activities of the OIE supporting the FAO/OIE global strategy on FMD control.



Activities of the International Trade Department

Summaries of the OIE *ad hoc* Group, Specialist Commission and Working Group Meetings
April to June 2011

Ad hoc Group on Animal Welfare and Beef Cattle Production Systems

Paris, 8-10 June 2011

The OIE ad hoc Group on Animal Welfare and Beef Cattle Production Systems held its second meeting at the OIE Headquarters in June 2011.

The Group's main task at this meeting was to address the comments made by OIE Members before and at the 79th General Session.

The updated draft text will be considered by the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission at its meeting in September 2011.

Animal Welfare Working Group

Paris, 21-23 June 2011



In June 2011, the Animal Welfare Working Group (AWWG) held its annual meeting and a teleconference with representatives

of the OIE Animal Welfare Collaborating Centres. Draft texts for the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (including reports of the *ad hoc* Group on Beef Cattle Production Systems) were reviewed and work progressed on all items on the AWWG programme. The OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission will consider the AWWG report in September 2011.

Activities of the Animal Health Information Department



Training course on the 'Use of Specific Software for Geographic Information Systems' at the OIE

Paris, 1-4 March 2011

From 1 to 4 March 2011, nine OIE staff members took part in a training course on the 'Use of Specific Software for Geographic Information Systems (GIS)', organised by the Animal Health Information Department at the OIE Headquarters in Paris.

Dr Annamaria Conte, Dr Carla Ippoliti and Dr Lara Savini were the invited trainers, kindly provided by the Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale dell'Abruzzo e del Molise 'G. Caporale', OIE Collaborating Centre for Veterinary Training, Epidemiology, Food Safety and Animal Welfare.

The aim of the seminar was to improve the technical skills of selected OIE staff when using specific software designed for GIS. This was also a valuable opportunity to exchange practical experience, gained from using GIS in a range of OIE activities.

regional activities

Staff movements

OIE Regional Representation for Africa

Bamako, Mali

Arrival

Regional Representative

Dr Yacouba Samake



After the untimely death of Dr Abdoulaye Niang, OIE Regional Representative for Africa, on 25 November 2010, Dr Yacouba Samake, his Deputy, immediately took over the helm of the OIE Regional Representation

for Africa as acting Representative.

During the inauguration of the new headquarters of the OIE Regional Representation for Africa in Bamako, Mali, on 14 April 2011, in his address to the President of the Republic of Mali, the Director General of the OIE announced that Dr Yacouba Samake had been confirmed as Regional Representative for Africa from 1 April 2011.

Dr Samake, a Mali national, was born in 1951 in the district of Bougouni and graduated as a veterinary surgeon from the Leipzig Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in Germany in 1978. While working for the Mali government, Dr Samake gained additional qualifications in natural resource management in the United States in 1991 and agricultural extension services from the University of Wageningen in the Netherlands in 1992. He then attended the National School of Public Administration in Quebec, Canada, from which he graduated in 1994.

On joining the Civil Service of the Republic of Mali, Dr Samake served as Director of the Veterinary Nursing School and went on to become Deputy Director of the Department of Livestock Services. In 2002, he became advisor in charge of food security policies at the then Ministry of Food Security. Thereafter he became the first

Permanent Secretary of the newly established Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries (2004).

In 2008, he was appointed OIE Deputy Regional Representative for Africa.

In his capacity as Regional Representative, Dr Samake hopes to make a significant contribution towards helping African countries to attain international standards for their Veterinary Services.

OIE Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific

Tokyo, Japan

Arrivals

Regional Technical Assistant

Dr Chantanee Buranathai



In March 2011, Dr Chantanee Buranathai joined the OIE Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific as a Regional Technical Assistant. Dr Chantanee joined the Thai Civil Service in 1997, as a medical

scientist in the Arbovirus Research Laboratory, National Institute of Health, Thai Ministry of Public Health, after receiving her DVM with Honours from the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand, in 1998, and a PhD in microbiology from the University of Iowa College of Medicine, in the United States, in 1997. She was transferred to the Department of Livestock Development (DLD) in 2002 and became Chief of the Emerging and Exotic Animal Disease Unit, in the Veterinary Epidemiology Division. Her most recent position was that of Senior Veterinary Officer,

International Animal Health Affairs, Bureau of Disease Control and Veterinary Services, DLD.

Dr Chantanee has had an active role in the field of emerging infectious diseases, especially Nipah encephalitis, avian influenza and bovine spongiform encephalopathy, transboundary animal disease prevention and control, and animal quarantine and movement management, as well as international regulations on livestock trade. This background is excellent experience for her new position at the OIE Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific, in charge of activities related to GF-TADs¹.

Regional Veterinary Officer

Dr Hnin Thidar Myint



Dr Hnin Thidar Myint joined the OIE Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific in May 2011, as a Regional Veterinary Officer.

Dr Hnin gained her BVSc from the Institute of

Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Science in Yezin, Myanmar, serving the Myanmar Government as a field veterinarian for seven years in central Myanmar. In 2001, she moved to Japan to resume her studies and received her MSc in endocrinology and biochemistry from Obihiro University of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine, and a PhD from Iwate University in the field of animal production. On her return to Myanmar, Dr Hnin became an officer for international relationships in the Planning and Statistics Section, the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Myanmar. Her qualifications and experience will make a valuable contribution to the various OIE activities in the region.

Departures

Technical Consultant

Dr Ikuo Koike



Dr Ikuo Koike, Technical Consultant at the Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific, left the OIE at the end of December 2010. During his term of nearly five years, Dr Koike was vigorously involved in the OIE/Japan Trust Fund Project to Fight against Avian Influenza in Asia,

and its successor, the OIE/Japan Trust Fund Project to Strengthen the Control of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Asia. In line with the project's objectives, such as strengthening the diagnostic capability of regional laboratories, Dr Koike organised numerous regional and national 'hands-on' training sessions, in cooperation with Veterinary Authorities and laboratory experts in the region.

Dr Koike has moved to Indonesia for the next two years, to join a JICA² project, which begins in June 2011. The OIE wishes him all the best with his new responsibilities in improving animal health in the region.

Regional Veterinary Officer

Dr Sayuri Iwaki (born Sayuri Tagawa)



Dr Sayuri Iwaki, Regional Veterinary Officer at the Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific, left the OIE at the end of March 2011.

Dr Iwaki joined the OIE in April 2009 (see *Bulletin* no. 2009-3, p. 43).

In addition to her main responsibilities, such as improving information-gathering for aquatic animal diseases in the region, maintaining the Regional Representation website and helping to plan regional

1- GF-TADs: FAO/OIE Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases
2- JICA: Japanese International Cooperation Agency

workshops on veterinary vaccines, Dr Iwaki was always a great support to the office in preparing documents and organising many different training seminars.

Dr Iwaki returned to Japan's Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, but is now on maternity leave after giving birth to a baby boy on 17 May. The OIE extends its congratulations to her family, and our very best wishes for the continued good health of Dr Iwaki and her new son.



Technical Consultant

Dr Than Hla

Dr Than Hla, Technical Consultant at the Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific, left the OIE at the end of May 2011.

Dr Than Hla, who joined the OIE in September 2007, was principally responsible for the Permanent Secretariat of the Regional Steering Committee of GF-TADs, which is hosted by the OIE Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific. In addition, Dr Than Hla contributed to both organising and undertaking rapporteur assignments for various meetings and seminars. With his many years of experience in the Myanmar livestock development and animal health areas, notably as Director of Research and Disease Control in the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department of Myanmar, and National Project Manager for several international projects assisted by bilateral and multilateral organisations, such as FAO/UNDP³, CIDA⁴, IAEA⁵, JICA, ACIAR⁶ and the OIE, Dr Than Hla's advice and well-informed opinions were a great asset for the OIE.

The OIE wishes him all the best on his return to Myanmar.

3- FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations – UNDP: United Nations Development Program

4- CIDA: Canadian International Development Agency

5- IAEA: International Atomic Energy Agency

6- ACIAR: Australian Center for International Agricultural Research

Inauguration of the head office of the OIE Regional Representation for Africa

Bamako, Mali, 14 April 2011



The new building

After months of construction-site meetings and with an increasing sense of urgency, the building allocated to the OIE by the Government of Mali to host the OIE Regional Representation for Africa was successfully completed by 14 April 2011, the date upon which both the Mali Government and the Director General of the OIE had agreed for its inauguration. Thanks to the hard work of everybody involved, everything was ready by the target date.

From 4 pm onwards, a large delegation from the Federation of Livestock Farmers of Mali took their seats next to the official stage, as did the chairpersons of the veterinary statutory bodies of 40 African, European and North American countries, under the watchful eye of the Protocol Department. Dignitaries were directed towards the presidential awning and seated beside the Director General of the OIE, Dr Bernard Vallat, and Dr Yacouba Samaké, the OIE Regional Representative for Africa. Government Ministers, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Prof. Dioncounda Traoré; and other honoured guests joined members of the diplomatic corps, including Their Excellencies, the Ambassador of Palestine, Dean of the Diplomatic Corps; Ambassador of Senegal; the Ambassador

Inauguration of the head office of the OIE Regional Representation for Africa

of France and the European Union (EU) Ambassador/Head of the EU Delegation to Mali.

The Hon. Mr Amadou Toumani Touré, President of the Republic of Mali was welcomed by a large and enthusiastic crowd. Music was provided by the Mali National Instrumental Ensemble and traditional peuhl and bambara folk groups.

After a welcoming address by the Mayor of Bamako Municipality no. 1, the OIE Regional Representative, Dr Samaké, spoke of the strong team effort from the Regional and Sub-Regional Representations to improve the governance of Veterinary Services.



Dr Samaké at the inauguration of the new head office of the OIE Regional Representation for Africa welcomed the Hon. Mr Amadou Toumani Touré, President of the Republic of Mali

Dr Vallat cordially thanked the President and Government of Mali for the significant efforts made on behalf of African farmers and the OIE.

The Hon. Dr Bocari Tréta, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries, concluded the series of short speeches and invited the President and the Director General to cut the ribbon and uncover a special commemorative plaque.

After the official ceremonies, the Regional Representative conducted a tour of the new head office. The President of the Republic signed the visitors' book and gave a press conference, before joining members of his Government to mingle with OIE staff at an informal cocktail party.

To his great surprise, the Director General of the OIE was then presented with a perfectly fattened bull on behalf of the Federation of Livestock Farmers. This splendid bull was later offered by Dr Vallat to the staff of the OIE Regional Representation for Africa.

This new, two-storey building includes eight offices, an archive, a small cafeteria, two beautiful boardrooms and a splendid roof terrace, and is separated from the Regional Animal Health Centre by two pedestrian doors. Mali has



A zebu steer, a gift from the Mali livestock farmers to the Director General of the OIE



The Mali National Instrumental Ensemble



At the microphone: Dr Bernard Vallat, Director General of the OIE



Mr Amadou Toumani Touré, President of the Republic of Mali, cutting the ribbon; on his left: Dr Bernard Vallat and Dr Yacouba Samaké

invested 140 million CFA francs, or approximately 213,450 euros, in this project and granted extraterritoriality, which is generally allocated to diplomatic missions and international organisations, to the new head office.

Office OIE Regional Representation for Africa

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

Nairobi, Kenya, 6 June 2011



The OIE Sub-Regional Representation for Eastern Africa and the Horn of Africa, in Nairobi (Kenya), was officially inaugurated on 6 June 2011 by Dr Mohamed Abdi Kuti, Minister for Livestock Development of Kenya, and Dr Bernard Vallat, Director General of the OIE.

On that day the Representation held the first working session at its offices with the Delegates of the 12 Member Countries of the OIE in the Sub-Region (Burundi, Comoros, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, the Seychelles, Somalia, Sudan and Tanzania) and with a representative of Southern Sudan in the role of observer. The meeting discussed the work programme for the Sub-Region for the year 2012.

The Sub-Regional Representation has been directed, since 1 January 2010, by Dr Walter N. Masiga (see Bulletin No. 2010-2, p. 29), with the support of Dr Antoine Maillard, Grace Omwega and Loise Ndungu (see Bulletin No. 2011-1, p. 21).

OIE Representations in Africa

The OIE has now established four presences on the African continent:

Bamako (Mali), where the Regional Representation for Africa launched its activities in 2000 and has just held the Inauguration of its new premises (pp. 17-18)

Gaborone (Botswana), where the Sub-Regional Representation for South Africa was officially established in January 2006. The Representation has occupied its present offices since November 2009 (see *Bulletin* No. 2010-1, pp. 37-38)

Tunis (Tunisia), where the Sub-Regional Representation for Northern Africa was inaugurated in January 2010 (see *Bulletin* No. 2010-1, pp. 35-36)

Nairobi (Kenya), where the Sub-Regional Representation for Eastern Africa and the Horn of Africa was officially inaugurated on 6 June 2011 (see photo above).

The principal missions of these Representations are to:

- strengthen, in the short and medium term, the capacity of Veterinary Services in the areas of improving animal health and the fight against zoonoses, with particular emphasis on Good Governance of Veterinary Services, animal disease information and biosecurity in regional and international trade
- urge Delegates to maintain and improve the distribution of timely and reliable animal disease information, including zoonoses.
- raise Delegates' awareness of the Evaluation of Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) pathway, the modernisation programme for legislation and the twinning programme between laboratories
- raise the awareness of Delegates and their country's principal authorities about the regular payment of contributions to the OIE.

Asia and the Pacific

Relocation

of the OIE Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific

Tokyo, Japan, April 2011



Bird's-eye view of one of the two office rooms



At the entrance of the building, from left to right: Dr Than Hla (Technical Consultant); Ms Yuka Fay (Secretary); Dr Itsuo Shimohira (OIE Regional Representative); Dr Tomoko Ishibashi (Senior Deputy Regional Representative); Dr Hnin Thidar Myint (Regional Veterinary Officer); Dr Chantanee Buranathai (Regional Technical Assistant); Ms Takako Shimizu (Secretary); Ms Kazue Akagawa (Secretary); Ms Noriko Tesaki (Accounting Assistant) and Dr Kenji Sakurai (Deputy Regional Representative)]

In April 2011, the OIE Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific relocated its office to a new building on the University of Tokyo campus. This move was made possible with the kind cooperation and support of the University's Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences, as well as its Research Center for Food Safety, which in 2009 was designated an OIE Collaborating Centre.

The new office is on the fifth floor of the Food Science Building, with access to a conference hall and meeting rooms in the same building, as well as many other nearby facilities, including a major research library. Although located in downtown Tokyo, only 4 km from Tokyo Station, the office benefits from a quiet and peaceful environment.

The Regional Representation staff look forward to inviting regional OIE Members to their new office for upcoming regional meetings and workshops.

Meetings

OIE Seminar on the Role of Veterinary Statutory Bodies in the Promotion of the Veterinary Profession

Bamako, Mali, 14-15 April 2011

Chairpersons and Registrars of veterinary councils and boards – or Veterinary Statutory Bodies (VSBs), as they are defined by the OIE in the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* – met in the capital of Mali, Bamako, to be informed of the OIE's international standards for these independent professional bodies and of the Fifth Strategic Plan of the OIE.

Funded under the Better Training for Safer Food (BTSF) programme of the European Commission's Directorate-general for Health and Consumers (DG-SANCO), the seminar was attended by representatives of VSBs from 27 countries (Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger,

Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Togo and Tunisia) and representatives of the veterinary authority in countries where VSBs do not exist (Burundi, Congo, Gabon, Rwanda and Somalia).

The opening ceremony of the meeting was attended by Dr Bakary Tréta, Minister of Livestock and Fisheries of Mali, and Dr Bernard Vallat, the Director General of the OIE.

General presentations on the OIE's global outreach, the situation of VSBs in Africa and various case studies were given by representatives of veterinary councils from Cameroon, Kenya, Mali, South Africa, Tanzania and Tunisia. Submissions were also made by the African and World Veterinary Associations and representatives from the veterinary councils of Canada and France.

After two days of intense discussion, the participants resolved

to strengthen collaboration between VSBs, which has already begun to happen among southern African countries since an OIE Sub-Regional Representation meeting on the subject in Arusha, Tanzania, in September 2009. Moreover, the OIE was requested to encourage the creation, where appropriate, of regional associations of VSBs and/or other organisations with a delegated educational accrediting authority. These regional associations would be asked to establish a list of veterinary education establishments that are subject to regional accreditation, as well as to present recommendations to the World Assembly of Delegates on Day-1 minimum competencies required by veterinarians for countries to meet the OIE standards on competent Veterinary Services.

Participants at the seminar



Asia and the Pacific

OIE Regional Seminar on Risk Analysis for Veterinary Vaccines

Tokyo, Japan, 1-3 March 2011



A Regional Seminar on Risk Analysis for Veterinary Vaccines, ‘Practical application, including vaccines related to new and emerging technologies’, was held in Tokyo, Japan, from 1 to 3 March 2011, in collaboration with the Japanese National Veterinary Assay Laboratory (NVAL) and National Institute for Animal Health (NIAH). It was also partially sponsored by the international arm of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA-APHIS). This meeting was, in part, a follow-up of another seminar held in 2009 in Kuala Lumpur. Fifteen OIE Members in the region sent participants.

The main objectives of this seminar were:

- to review the risk analysis methodologies currently applied to veterinary vaccines (including new and emerging technologies)
- to develop a deeper understanding of how to apply such methodologies and of what is missing in the current vaccines policy in the region
- to raise awareness of recent discussions at the OIE *ad hoc* Group on Vaccines in relation to new and emerging technologies and of OIE work on vaccines in general
- to inform participants of OIE initiatives on a vaccine bank
- to inform participants of the roles and functions of the relevant OIE Collaborating Centres in the region.

Those who attended took part in lectures, group discussions and presentations of these discussion results, and a half-day was spent in laboratory visits to NVAL and NIAH, which are jointly designated an OIE Collaborating Centre for Diagnosis and Control of Animal Diseases and Related Veterinary Product Assessment in Asia.

Aware of the follow-up nature of this seminar, participants came well prepared on the topic of risk analysis for vaccines. This knowledge was reinforced by the first presentation – a review of the previous seminar – and subsequent presentations on risk analysis by invited experts. Presentations that explored case studies of the application of risk analysis methodologies attracted particular attention.

Vaccines produced by using new technologies were presented from two perspectives: from the point of view of the OIE *ad hoc* Group discussion and from that of NIAH research development. The National Veterinary Assay Laboratory presented a summary of all the national papers submitted by Member Countries in advance of the meeting. This provided the basis for a group discussion, during which many ideas were produced for recommendation. Participants were divided into three groups, based on their preferred topic:

- 1) factors involved in the rapid supply of veterinary vaccines against emerging and re-emerging disease outbreaks
- 2) how to improve test capability in the region
- 3) how to respond rapidly and adequately to adverse events with veterinary vaccines.

First Regional Seminar on Bluetongue Diagnosis and Control

**organised by the OIE and the FAO-Regional Animal
Production and Health Commission for Asia and the Pacific**

Bogor, Indonesia, 7-10 March 2011

As the discussion was very active, many participants lamented the shortage of time (one half-day).

The session on specific vaccine topics dealt with three presentations that did not involve risk analysis:

- the framework and activities of the International Cooperation on Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for the Registration of Veterinary Medicinal Products (VICH)
- outbreaks of foot and mouth disease in Japan, from the perspective of using vaccines
- an OIE vaccine bank in the region.

These topics fuelled valuable debate

on the importance of:

- high-quality vaccines and good vaccine policy for effective disease control
- information-sharing and the eventual harmonisation of technical requirements for vaccine registration
- cooperation among Members in emergency situations, including the use of regional vaccine banks.

The first OIE/FAO-Regional Animal Production and Health Commission for Asia and the Pacific (APHCA) Regional Seminar on Bluetongue Diagnosis and Control was jointly organised by the OIE and FAO, in collaboration with the Directorate General of Livestock and Animal Health Services and the Indonesian Research Centre for Veterinary Sciences (BBalitvet) of the Ministry of Agriculture in Bogor, Indonesia, from 7 to 10 March 2011.

Countries, namely: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, the People's Republic of China, India, Indonesia, Iran, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam. Eleven local observers from Indonesia also took part.

The four-day seminar was composed of lectures, practical sessions (hands-on training) and reports from the invited Members on the situation in their country. The lectures and hands-on training were given by three experts in the field: Dr Ross Lunt and Dr Ian Pritchard from the Australian Animal Health Laboratory of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO-AHL), and Dr Indrawati Sendow from BBalitvet. The practical training sessions focused on competitive enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay techniques, real-time polymerase chain reaction techniques, intravenous egg inoculation and harvesting techniques and cytopathic effects in cell cultures infected with bluetongue virus.

The principal objectives of the seminar were:

- to present an update on the global situation of bluetongue with an emphasis on the current epidemiological situation in Asia and the Pacific
- to give lectures on diagnosis, control and prevention measures
- to provide laboratory 'hands-on training' on the diagnosis of bluetongue.

The seminar was attended by 17 participants and one overseas observer from 17 OIE Member



official acts

Appointment of permanent Delegates

29 March 2011

Sri Lanka

Dr Weligodage Kumarawansa De Silva



Director General,
Department of Animal
Production and Health

1 April 2011

Chile

Dr Oscar Videla Perez

Head of Livestock Protection Division,
Ministry of Agriculture

2 May 2011

Egypt

Prof. Dr Osama

Mahmoud Ahmed Selim

Chairman, General Organization for
Veterinary Services (GOVS), Ministry of
Agriculture and Land Reclamation

8 May 2011

Bangladesh

Dr Musaddique Hossain



Director (Animal
Health and
Administration),
Department of
Livestock Services,
Ministry of Fisheries
and Livestock

9 May 2011

Paraguay

Dr Hugo Federico Idoyaga Benitez

Director General, Trade and
International Relationship
Directorate, Quality and Animal
Health National Service

13 May 2011

Burundi

Dr Emmanuel Nkezabahizi



Director General
of Livestock,
Ministry of
Agriculture and
Livestock

20 May 2011

Ghana

Dr Edward Augustus Mark-Hansen



Ministry of Food
and Agriculture

1 June 2011

Israel

Dr Nadav Galon



Director of
Veterinary Services
and Animal
Health, Ministry of
Agriculture and
Rural
Development

Agreements

Cooperation agreement between

Between

The Global Food Safety Initiative
(hereinafter referred to as GFSI) and
The World Organisation for Animal
Health (OIE) (hereinafter referred to as
the OIE).

(GFSI and the OIE are hereinafter
designated 'the Parties' or 'the Party',
as appropriate.)

Preamble

Considering that the GFSI is a not-for-profit association of retail, manufacturing and food service companies and service providers associated with the food supply chain, which undertakes to share information relevant to the supply chain and review existing good retail practices, through benchmarking food safety schemes against the GFSI criteria;

Considering that the OIE is an intergovernmental organisation with 178 Member Countries, recognised by the World Trade Organization as the reference organisation for setting standards for animal health, including zoonoses, whose mandate is to improve animal health and welfare worldwide and to facilitate safe trade in animals and animal products;

Considering that strengthening the links between GFSI and the OIE would assist both Parties to achieve their objectives of supporting safe trade, within the framework of their respective mandates;

official acts

the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)

(Adopted on 12 July 2011)

The Parties have decided to conclude the following Cooperation Agreement:

Article 1: Scope

The aim of this Agreement is to strengthen cooperation and collaboration between the Parties in relation to their respective mandates, programmes and activities, including but not limited to standards, guidelines and recommendations on safe production and trade in food products derived from terrestrial and aquatic animals.

Article 2: Information on the activities of each Party

The Parties undertake to keep each other informed of activities undertaken in the fields of mutual interest, in particular where there is the potential to undertake joint activities. The Parties undertake to meet on a regular basis, as appropriate, to review and take action on activities of potential mutual interest.

Article 3: Participation in meetings

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

Article 4: Exchange of publications

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

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

Article 5: Other forms of cooperation

The Parties may decide to undertake other forms of cooperation, in particular:

- promotion of the use of international standards under the mandates of the Parties; and
 - training and awareness-raising in Member Countries, in particular developing countries.

Article 6: Consultations on cooperation

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

Article 7: Duration of the Agreement

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

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

Article 8: Amendments

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

In witness whereof, the Parties have signed this Agreement, 12 July 2011
For the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) For the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)

Jurgen Matern
Chairman

Animal Health (S.E.)



Signed in two copies
– one copy to be
held by GFSI and the
other by the OIE.

strengthening of veterinary services

OIE PVS Pathway for efficient Veterinary Services

PVS Evaluation missions

State of Play – as at 29 August 2011

OIE Region	OIE Members	Requests received	Missions completed	Reports available for distribution to donors and partners
Africa	52	50	45	35
Americas	29	22	20	16
Asia and the Pacific	32	18	15	11
Europe	53	14	13	10
Middle East	12	12	11	5
Total	178	116	104	77

PVS Evaluation missions (requests)

- **Africa (50)**

Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Rep., Chad, Comoros, Congo, Dem. Rep. of the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia (not an OIE Member), Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

- **Asia-Pacific (18)**

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

- **Europe (14)**

Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Georgia, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Romania, Tajikistan, Turkey, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.

- **Middle East (12)**

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

In red: completed missions

strengthening of veterinary services

PVS Gap Analysis missions

State of Play – as at 29 August 2011

OIE Region	OIE Members	Requests received	Missions completed
Africa	52	31	21
Americas	29	11	6
Asia and the Pacific	32	12	8
Europe	53	6	5
Middle East	12	8	2
Total	178	68	42

PVS Gap Analysis missions

- Africa (31)

Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Dem. Rep. of the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia.

- Americas (11)

Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama.

- Europe (6)

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey.

- Asia-Pacific (12)

Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Dem. People's Rep. of Korea, Laos, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Vietnam.

In red:

completed missions

Legislation missions

State of Play – as at 29 August 2011

OIE Region	OIE Members	Requests received	Missions completed
Africa	52	19	12
Americas	29	4	2
Asia and the Pacific	32	4	3
Europe	53	3	1
Middle East	12	4	4
Total	178	34	22

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

Legislation missions

- Africa (19)

Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Dem. Rep. of the Congo, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Gabon, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Nigeria, Sudan, Togo, Uganda, Zambia.

- Americas (4)

Bolivia, Dominican Rep., Haiti, Honduras.

- Europe (3)

Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan.

- Asia-Pacific (4)

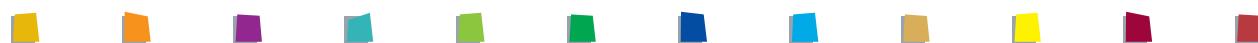
Bhutan, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam.

- Middle East (4)

Afghanistan, Kuwait, Lebanon, United Arab Emirates.

In red:

completed missions



Regional Seminars for OIE National Focal Points and new Delegates

Africa

Regional Workshop for National Focal Points for Animal Disease Notification to the OIE

Bamako, Mali, 8-10 March 2011

From 8 to 10 March 2011, the OIE Regional Representation for Africa held an advanced workshop, in French, on the World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS) and the World Animal Health Information Database (WAHID) in Bamako, Mali, under the auspices of the OIE/European Union (EU) project, Better Training for Safer Food – Africa (BTSF Africa), funded by the EU.

This workshop, aimed at National Focal Points for Animal Disease Notification to the OIE, was conducted by Drs Karim Ben Jebara and Laure Weber-Vintzel from the OIE Animal Health Information Department.

A total of 24 out of 29 invited countries sent their Focal Point to attend the workshop, and two

representatives attended from Mali, the host country.

Only four of those present had not taken part in any previous courses on WAHIS. The remaining participants all had some experience with it, having already attended one or two workshops. They asked Dr Ben Jebara and Dr Weber-Vintzel to focus on specific issues encountered during their use of WAHIS and WAHID.

The presentations and practical exercises given during the workshop concentrated on improving the quality of data submitted to WAHIS for all types of reports on terrestrial and aquatic animal diseases (i.e. immediate notification/follow-up reports, six-monthly and annual reports) and on the way that information is displayed on the

WAHID interface. The session also addressed the improvements included in WAHIS Version 2, to make the notification process easier, and explained how to overcome some problems in data processing for users who encounter Internet connection problems when using WAHIS.

A lively and very useful exchange took place between the participants and the OIE lecturers. Some Focal Points shared their positive experiences of collecting and notifying animal disease information at the national level. All who attended showed a real interest in WAHIS and actively participated during and after the presentations, staying after-hours to practise on WAHIS with the OIE material that had been provided for them.



Opening ceremony. From left to right:
Dr Yacouba Samaké, OIE Regional Representative for Africa;
Dr Issa Baba Touré, Deputy National Director of the Veterinary Services of Mali, on behalf of the Minister of Livestock and Fisheries of Mali; Dr Karim Ben Jebara, Head of the OIE Animal Health Information Department and Dr Faouzi Kechrid, OIE Sub-Regional Representative for Northern Africa



Regional Seminars for OIE National Focal Points and new Delegates

Africa and the Middle East

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

Yasmine Hammamet, Tunisia, 4-6 April 2011

Opening ceremony. From left to right:
Prof. Vincenzo Caporale, Director of the
OIE Collaborating Centre for Veterinary
Training, Epidemiology, Food Safety and
Animal Welfare; Dr Faouzi Kechrid, OIE
Sub-Regional Representative for North
Africa; Hon. Mokhtar Jellali, Minister of
Agriculture and Environment of Tunisia;
Mr Mohamed Faouzi Jaoui, Governor of
Sousse and Dr G. Yehia, OIE Regional
Representative for the Middle East



Approximately 60 participants, representing 40 countries in Africa and the Middle East, took part in a seminar for OIE National Focal Points for Animal Production Food Safety in Hammamet, Tunisia, from 4 to 6 April 2011. The OIE had organised previous seminars on this subject in Cameroon in September 2009 and Kuwait in February 2010.

During his speech, the Tunisian Minister of Agriculture and Environment, Mr Mokhtar Jellali, emphasised that improving food security in Africa and the Middle East is a key public health issue and efforts to achieve this must be increased (based on OIE standards), given the major social and economic impact of diseases potentially transmitted by food.

This seminar, organised under the joint OIE/European Commission project, Better Training for Safer Food – Africa (BTSF Africa), and financed by the European Commission and Italy, addressed the role of OIE National Focal Points for Animal Production Food Safety in the production phase.





Regional Seminars for OIE National Focal Points and new Delegates

Americas

OIE Focal Points are placed under the authority of the OIE Delegate of each Member Country, to provide support in carrying out the duties and obligations involved in being a Member of the OIE. In terms of food safety, this includes establishing a network of animal production food safety experts within the country or communicating with an existing network (consulting recognised experts on the draft texts or draft standards, proposed by the OIE Code Commission, that deal with animal production food safety issues).

Organised by the Sub-Regional Representation of the OIE for North Africa, based in Tunis, in partnership with the OIE Regional Representation for the Middle East, this seminar also focused on the role of Veterinary Services in the area of food safety, such as establishing intervention strategies for the monitoring and control of *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter*, as well as implementing control programmes against *Echinococcus*, *Trichinella* and cysticercosis in the countries of these two regions.

Also presented and discussed at the seminar was the support offered by the OIE to aid capacity building for Veterinary Services, such as the OIE tool for the evaluation of Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS tool) and laboratory twinning.

Asia-Pacific

Regional Workshop for National Focal Points for Animal Disease Notification to the OIE

Beijing, People's Republic of China, 12-14 April 2011

From 12 to 14 April 2011, the OIE Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific held an advanced workshop for National Focal Points for Animal Disease Notification to the OIE, in Beijing, the People's Republic of China. The Veterinary Bureau of the Chinese Ministry of Agriculture very kindly hosted this workshop, which was organised under the auspices of the OIE and the regional cooperation programme on Highly Pathogenic and Emerging and Re-emerging Diseases (HPED) in Asia and co-funded by the European Union.

The objectives of the workshop were to provide information on the role and responsibilities of a National Focal Point for Animal Disease Notification to the OIE; that is, supporting the OIE Delegate in complying with OIE standards, and training other Focal Points and government officials who work with the OIE animal information systems, in OIE Member Countries in Asia and the Pacific.

Dr I. Shimohira, OIE Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific, and Dr K. Sakurai, his Deputy, presented general information on the OIE and its activities. The workshop was conducted by Drs Karim Ben Jebara, Aziza Mustafa and Laure



Regional Seminars for OIE National Focal Points and new Delegates

OIE Workshop for OIE National Focal Points for Animal Disease Notification to the OIE
(Beijing, P. R. China, 12-14 April 2011)

Weber-Vintzel from the OIE Animal Health Information Department.

In all, 87 people attended the workshop. Out of 32 OIE Members in the region, 29 were represented in this advanced workshop. Among these representatives were 14 National Focal Points for Animal Disease Notification to the OIE, one permanent Delegate to the OIE, and 14 national professionals. In addition, several officials from the host country, China, attended the workshop as observers. Brunei and Singapore each sent an additional observer and a representative of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community also attended as an observer.

Six Focal Points had previously received basic training in using the OIE World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS): four of them in Laos in 2005 and the other two in India in 2007. They were eager to improve their skills on notification requirements and on their use of WAHIS, as well as reinforcing regional networks.

It was noted that most of the countries who took part were already regularly sending information through WAHIS

and that the purpose of this seminar was to help Focal Points to provide higher quality information. The workshop outlined a series of actions involved in collecting and processing high-quality data for WAHIS (through immediate notifications/follow-up reports, six-monthly and annual reports) and highlighted the need for improved harmonisation of data collected among countries, by revisiting the main OIE definitions employed in disease notification. It is hoped that this will enable all users of WAHIS to share the same understanding of the information requested by the system. The importance of prompt notification was emphasised, as well as the need for good communication and collaboration among Focal Points for Animal Disease Notification, Focal Points for Aquatic Animals and Focal Points for Wildlife at national levels.

The workshop came to a successful end, having created a valuable forum for the exchange of information and discussion among the OIE facilitators and all the participants. Thanks go to the host country, China, for greatly contributing to the success of the workshop.



Regional Seminars for OIE National Focal Points and new Delegates

Seminar for OIE National Focal Points on Aquatic Animals

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, 19-22 April 2011



The first seminar for OIE National Focal Points on Aquatic Animals in Asia and the Pacific region was held in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, from 19 to 22 April 2011. The events comprised a two-and-a-half-day training programme and a one-and-a-half-day field trip, with visits to aquaculture production sites in southern Vietnam.

Hosted by the Vietnamese Department of Animal Health, the events were successfully organised by the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for Southeast Asia.

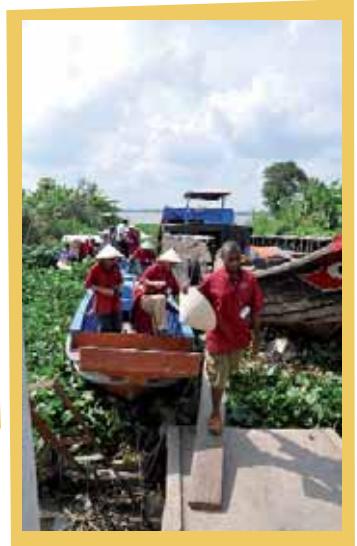
The aim of the seminar was to provide the participants with knowledge on:

- the importance of aquaculture and aquatic animal health in the region
- the rights and responsibilities of OIE Delegates and their Focal Points
- the rights and obligations of OIE Member Countries in trade
- efficient aquatic animal health surveillance through the implementation of OIE standards in the region.

A total of 49 participants, representing 25 countries from Asia and the Pacific, took part in the seminar. Participants from Vietnam included the Deputy Director General and Senior Officers from the Vietnamese Veterinary Services (Department of Animal Health, Division of Aquatic Animal Health, Research Institute for Aquaculture No. 2) and Vietnamese National Agro Forestry Fishery Quality Assurance.

Technical information was provided during the seminar by experts from the OIE Aquatic Animals Commission, the OIE Collaborating Centre for Aquatic Animals and from a partner organisation, the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific. The programme also included national presentations by the People's Republic of China, Iran and Vietnam, which summarised aquatic animal health services and key issues in their countries.

All those attending took an enthusiastic part in the activities and, in particular, in the working group session. One theme arising from these sessions was a lack of communication between the Delegates and Focal Points, as many Focal Points do not have access



to relevant OIE reports and were unsure of how to carry out their role. Participants indicated that they would inform their Delegate of the outcomes of this meeting and encourage closer communication with their OIE Delegate.

The field trip was facilitated by representatives from the Vietnamese Department of Animal Health, and was greatly appreciated by the participants, since it gave them the opportunity to observe the Vietnamese aquaculture industry and its production and management systems at close quarters.

This was a very important seminar, given that the Asia-Pacific region is the world's largest contributor to world aquaculture, representing 90% of global aquaculture production by quantity and 80% by economic value. The growth of aquaculture production in the region has been very strong over the last ten years, exceeding the growth of aquaculture in the rest of the world.

It is expected that such a seminar will be the starting point for a network that will greatly enhance the involvement of Asian and Pacific countries in the OIE's activities in the area of aquatic animals.

meetings and visits

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

OIE Headquarters

General Directorate

Bernard Vallat	Director General
Alex Thiermann	Technical Adviser and President of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission
Martin Nissen	Legal adviser
Maria Zampaglione	Head of the Communication Unit
Glaïeul Mamaghani	Deputy Head of the Communication Unit
Julie Strat	Chargée de mission
Monique Eloit	Deputy Director General (Administration, Management, Human Resources and Regional Actions)
Alain Debove	Coordinator of the World Animal Health and Welfare Fund
Margarita Gómez-Riela	Project officer – World Animal Health and Welfare Fund
Emily Tagliaro	Project officer – World Animal Health and Welfare Fund
Alix Weng	Head of the Budget and Financial Unit
Jean-Pierre Croiziers	Head of the Human Resources Unit
Marie Bonnerot	Administrative and Budgetary Technician
Kazuaki Miyagishima	Deputy Director General (Animal Health, Veterinary Public Health and International Standards)

Administration, Logistics and Publications Department

Daniel Chaisemartin	Head of Department
Paul-Pierre Pastoret	Scientific adviser
Marie Teissier	Documentalist
Bertrand Flahault	1st Deputy Head of Department and Head of the Systems Management and Events Unit
Alejandra Torres	Conference Coordinator
Annie Souyri	2nd Deputy Head of Department and Head of the Publications Unit
Tamara Benicasa	Marketing and Sales Manager

Animal Health Information Department

Karim Ben Jebara	Head of Department
Francesco Berlingieri	Deputy Head of Department
Laure Weber-Vintzel	Chargée de mission
Paula Cáceres	Veterinary Epidemiologist
Simona Forcella	Chargée de mission
Aziza Yassin Mustafa	Chargée de mission

International Trade Department

Sarah Kahn	Head of Department
Gillian Mylrea	Deputy Head of Department
Masatsugu Okita	Chargé de mission
Mariela Varas	Chargée de mission
Wim Pelgrim	Chargé de mission

Scientific and Technical Department

Kazuaki Miyagishima	Head of Department
Joseph Domenech	Chargé de mission
Elisabeth Erlacher-Vindel	Deputy Head of Department
Kathleen Glynn	Chargée de mission
Alessandro Ripani	Chargé de mission
Yong Joo Kim	Chargé de mission
Susanne Munstermann	Chargée de mission
François Diaz	Officer in charge of validation of diagnostic assays
Keith Hamilton	OFFLU Coordinator
David Swayne	OFFLU Scientific Officer
Lea Knopf	Officer in charge of the recognition of countries' animal disease status
Jennifer Lasley	Project Coordinator
Sara Linnane	Scientific Editor

Regional Activities Department

François Caya	Head of Department
Nathaly Monsalve	Conference Coordinator/Trilingual secretary
Mara Elma González	Deputy Head of Department
Francisco D'Alessio	Chargé de mission
Marie Edan	Chargée de mission
Bernardo Todeschini	Chargé de mission

OIE Regional and Sub-Regional Representations

Africa

Yacouba Samaké	Regional Representative for Africa (Bamako, Mali)	Neo Joel Mapitse	Deputy Sub-Regional Representative for the countries of the Southern African Development Community (Gaborone, Botswana)
Daniel Bourzat	Adviser to the Regional Representative for Africa (Bamako, Mali)	Patrick Bastiaensen	Programme officer (Gaborone, Botswana)
Youma N'Diaye	Accountant (Bamako, Mali)	Mpho Mantsho	Administrative and financial assistant (Gaborone, Botswana)
Mariam Minta	Secretary (Bamako, Mali)	Nomsa Thekiso	Secretary (Gaborone, Botswana)
Aïssata Bagayoko	Secretary (Bamako, Mali)	Faouzi Kechrid	Sub-Regional Representative for North Africa (Tunis, Tunisia)
Bonaventure J. Mtei	Sub-Regional Representative for the countries of the Southern African Development Community (Gaborone, Botswana)	Vincent Brioudes	Programme officer (Tunis, Tunisia)
		Antonio Petrini	Programme officer (Tunis, Tunisia)
		Mouna Boussleh	Administrative and financial assistant (Tunis, Tunisia)

OIE Regional and Sub-Regional Representations (cont.)

Africa (cont.)	
Inès Guitouni	Secretary (Tunis, Tunisia)
Walter Masiga	Sub-Regional Representative for Eastern Africa and the Horn of Africa (Nairobi, Kenya)
Antoine Maillard	Adviser to the Sub-Regional Representative for Eastern Africa and the Horn of Africa (Nairobi, Kenya)
Grace Omwega	Administrative and financial assistant (Nairobi, Kenya)
Loise W. Ndungu	Secretary (Nairobi, Kenya)
Americas	
Luis Osvaldo Barcos	Regional Representative for the Americas (Buenos Aires, Argentina)
Martín Minassian	Technical assistant (Buenos Aires, Argentina)
Alicia Palmas	Secretary (Buenos Aires, Argentina)
Inés Borgeaud	Assistant to the secretary (Buenos Aires, Argentina)
Marina Cozzarin	Assistant (Buenos Aires, Argentina)
Leandro Barcos	Administrative assistant (Buenos Aires, Argentina)
José Joaquín Oreamuno	Sub-Regional Representative for Central America (Panama City, Panama) (until 30 June 2011)
Filiberto Frago Santamaría	Sub-Regional Representative for Central America (Panama City, Panama) (from 1 July 2011)
Alina Gutierrez Camacho	Secretary (Panama City, Panama)
Asia and the Pacific	
Itsuo Shimohira	Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific (Tokyo, Japan)
Tomoko Ishibashi	Senior Deputy Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific (Tokyo, Japan)
Kenji Sakurai	Deputy Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific (Tokyo, Japan)
Chantanee Buranathai	Regional Technical Assistant (Tokyo, Japan)
Hnin Thidar Myint	Regional Veterinary Officer (Tokyo, Japan)
Than Hla	Consultant (Tokyo, Japan)
Noriko Tesaki	Accountant (Tokyo, Japan)
Takako Hasegawa Shimizu	Secretary (Tokyo, Japan)
Kazue Akagawa	Secretary (Tokyo, Japan)
Yuka Fay	Secretary (Tokyo, Japan)
Ronello C. Abila	Sub-Regional Representative for Southeast Asia and SEACFMD Regional Coordinator (Bangkok, Thailand)
Alexandre Bouchot	Project Manager (HPED) (Bangkok, Thailand)
Andrew Davis	Project Manager (IDENTIFY) (Bangkok, Thailand)
Sharie Michelle Razo Aviso	Project officer (SEACFMD) (Bangkok, Thailand)
Quyen Tran	Project officer (HPED) (Bangkok, Thailand)
Jarunee Siengsanant-Lamont	Project officer (PSVS) (Bangkok, Thailand)
Khun Chutikarn Dhebhasit	Secretary (Bangkok, Thailand)
Pattita Angvanitchakul aka Ning	Secretary (Bangkok, Thailand)
Eastern Europe	
Nikola T. Belev	Regional Representative for Eastern Europe (Sofia, Bulgaria) and President of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe
Anatoly Vlasov	Expert (Sofia, Bulgaria)
Stanislav Ralchev	Technical assistant (Sofia, Bulgaria)
Rina Kostova	Secretary (Sofia, Bulgaria)
Nadège Leboucq	Sub-Regional Representative for Europe in Brussels (Belgium)
Jean-Pierre Vermeersch	Project Manager (ADIS) (Brussels, Belgium)
Middle East	
Ghazi Yehia	Regional Representative for the Middle East (Beirut, Lebanon)
Mustapha Mestom	Consultant (Beirut, Lebanon)
Rita Rizk	Secretary (Beirut, Lebanon)
Hani Imam	Technical assistant (Beirut, Lebanon)
Khodr Rjeili	Assistant (Beirut, Lebanon)
Mahmoud Al Ghadaf	Assistant (Beirut, Lebanon)

Names and positions of experts who represented the OIE in meetings or visits

Jacques Acar	OIE Senior Expert	Gideon Brückner	President of the OIE Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases
Adriana Alippi	OIE Expert, OIE Reference Laboratory for American Foulbrood of Honey Bees (La Plata, Argentina)	Vincenzo Caporale	President of the OIE Biological Standards Commission
Kassem N. Al-Qahtani	President of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East and OIE Delegate of Qatar	Giovanni Cattoli	OFFLU Expert
Howard Batho	OIE Expert	Marie-Pierre Chauzat	OIE Expert
David Bayvel	Chairman of the OIE Working Group on Animal Welfare	Kris de Clercq	Vice-President of the OIE Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases
Franck Berthe	Secretary General of the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission	Carlos A. Correa Messuti	President of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates and OIE Delegate of Uruguay
Ian Brown	OIE Expert, OIE Reference Laboratory for Highly and Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza (poultry) and Newcastle Disease (Weybridge, United Kingdom)	Allal Dakkak	OIE Expert, OIE Reference Laboratory for Echinococcosis and Hydatidosis (Rabat, Morocco)
		Berhe Gebreegziabher	OIE Delegate of Ethiopia

Names and positions of experts who represented the OIE in meetings or visits (cont.)

Christian Grund	OIE Expert, OIE Reference Laboratory for Newcastle Disease (Greifswald, Germany)	Caroline Planté	OIE Expert
Timm C. Harder	OIE Expert, OIE Reference Laboratory for Highly and Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza (poultry) (Greifswald, Germany)	Wolfgang Ritter	OIE Expert, OIE Reference Laboratory for Bee Diseases (Freiburg, Germany)
Barry J. Hill	President of the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission	Mahamadou Saley	President of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa and OIE Delegate of Niger
Jie Huang	Member of the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission	Stuart A. Slorach	Chairman of the OIE Working Group on Animal Production Food Safety
Peter M. Ithondeka	OIE Delegate of Kenya	Leopoldo Stuardo	Chief, Sub-Department of Animal Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture of Chile
Christophe Joubert	OIE Expert	Jaap Wagenaar	OIE Expert, OIE Reference Laboratory for Campylobacteriosis (Lelystad, Netherlands)
Gérard Moulin	OIE Expert, OIE Collaborating Centre for Veterinary Medicinal Products (Fougères, France)	Cristóbal Zepeda	OIE Expert, OIE Collaborating Centre for Animal Disease Surveillance Systems, Risk Analysis and Epidemiological Modelling (Fort Collins, United States)
Kgoeitsile Phillemon-Motsu	OIE Delegate of Botswana		

List of abbreviations

ADIS	Animal Disease Information System of the European Union	CMS	Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals	GF-TADs	FAO/OIE Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases
AGISAR	Advisory Group on Integrated Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance	CORUS	Cooperation for academic and scientific research	GREP	Global Rinderpest Eradication Programme
ALive	Partnership for Livestock Development, Poverty Alleviation and Sustainable Growth in Africa	DG SANCO	Directorate General for Health and Consumers of the European Commission	HPAI	Highly pathogenic avian influenza
AOTR	Agreement Officer's Technical Representative	EFSA	European Food Safety Authority	HPED	European Union-funded cooperation programme on Highly Pathogenic and Emerging and Re-emerging Diseases in Asia
APEC	Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation	EMIDA	Coordination of European Research on Emerging and Major Infectious Diseases of Livestock	HSA	Humane Slaughter Association
APHIS	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service	EPIZONE	Network of Excellence for Epizootic Disease Diagnosis and Control	ICAHS	International Conference on Animal Health Surveillance
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations	EPT	Emerging Pandemic Threats	ICEID	International Conference on Emerging Infectious Diseases
AU-IBAR	African Union-Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources	ERA-NET	European Research Network	IDENTIFY	Laboratory Capacity Building and Networking Project
AusAID	Australian Agency for International Development	EU	European Union	IMS	International Meat Secretariat
Brooke (the)	International nongovernmental animal welfare organisation dedicated to improving the lives of working horses, donkeys and mules in the poorest parts of the world	EuFMD	European Commission for the Control of Foot and Mouth Disease	INMV	National Institute of Veterinary Medicine
BSE	bovine spongiform encephalopathy	FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	IPC	International Poultry Council
BTSF	Better Training for Safer Food (programme)	FEFAC	European Feed Manufacturers' Federation	IS	International Services
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	FMD	Foot and mouth disease	Izs	Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale dell'Abruzzo e del Molise 'G. Caporale'
CHORDS	Connecting Health Organizations for Regional Disease Surveillance	FNOVI	National Federation of the Associations of Italian Veterinarians	JCLR	Joint Community Level Risk Assessment
CIC	International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation	FVE	Federation of Veterinarians of Europe	JS(T)F	Japan (Special) Trust Fund

List of abbreviations (cont.)

JTF	RMAA	UFAW
Japan Trust Fund	Red Meat Abattoir Association	Universities Federation for Animal Welfare
OFFLU	SADC	UMA
Joint OIE/FAO worldwide scientific network for the control of animal influenza	Southern African Development Community	Arab Maghreb Union
OIE	SEACFMD	USAID
World Organisation for Animal Health	Southeast Asia and China Foot and Mouth Disease Campaign	United States Agency for International Development
PRP	SEAVSA	USDA
Partners for Rabies Prevention	Southeast Asia Veterinary Schools' Association	United States Department of Agriculture
PSVS	SPS	VICH
OIE/AusAID Programme for Strengthening Veterinary Services	Sanitary and phytosanitary measures	International Cooperation on Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Registration of Veterinary Medicinal Products
PVS	SSAFE	WAEMU
Performance of Veterinary Services	Safe Supply of Affordable Food Everywhere	West African Economic and Monetary Union
RAWS	STAR-IDAZ	WAHIS
Regional Animal Welfare Strategy	Global Strategic Alliances for the Coordination of Research on the Major Infectious Diseases of Animals and Zoonoses	World Animal Health Information System
RECOMSA	STDF	WCO
Animal Health Communication Network	Standards and Trade Development Facility	World Customs Organization
REMESA	TADs	WHO
Mediterranean Animal Health Network	transboundary animal diseases	World Health Organization
RESEPSA	TAIEX	WTO
Socio-Economic Network for Production and Animal Health	Technical Assistance and Information Exchange Instrument	World Trade Organization

meetings and visits

April 2011

Title of the event	Place	Date	Participants
WTO STDF Working Group Meeting	Geneva (Switzerland)	1 April	Dr S. Kahn
Meeting with the Minister of Agriculture and Environment of Tunisia	Tunis (Tunisia)	1 April	Dr F. Kechrid
Meeting with the Governor of Sousse in the presence of the Minister of Agriculture and Environment of Tunisia	Hammamet (Tunisia)	4 April	Dr F. Kechrid
Training course on: 'Management approach to the Veterinary Public Health – Veterinary Services and International Collaboration'	Rome (Italy)	4-5 April	Dr K. Miyagishima
6th Regional Steering Committee Meeting of the GF-TADs for Africa	Nairobi (Kenya)	4-5 April	Dr M. Eloit, Dr F. Caya, Dr D. Bourzat, Dr B.J. Mtei, Dr W. Masiga & Dr A. Maillard
Workshop for OIE National Focal Points for Animal Production Food Safety	Hammamet (Tunisia)	4-6 April	Dr G. Mylrea, Dr P. Bastiaensen, Dr F. Kechrid, Dr V. Brioudes, Dr A. Petrini, Ms M. Boussleh, Ms I. Guitouni, Dr G. Yehia, Prof. V. Caporale, Dr S.A. Slorach, Prof. J. Wagenaar & Prof. A. Dakkak
SPS Workshop in Afghanistan	Kabul (Afghanistan)	4-7 April	Dr S. Kahn
TAIEX Workshop on future challenges for veterinarians in the European Union and in neighbouring countries	Budapest (Hungary)	5 April	Dr N. Leboucq
17th Meeting of the Executive Committee of ALive Platform	Nairobi (Kenya)	5-6 April	Dr M. Eloit, Dr F. Caya, Dr D. Bourzat, Dr B.J. Mtei, Dr W. Masiga & Dr A. Maillard

meetings and visits

April 2011 (cont.)

Title of the event	Place	Date	Participants
17th Annual Meeting of the European Union Reference Laboratories for Avian Influenza and Newcastle Disease	Brussels (Belgium)	5-6 April	Dr D. Swayne, Prof. I. Brown, Dr T.C. Harder & Dr G. Cattoli
OFFLU Meeting	OIE Headquarters, Paris (France)	6-7 April	Dr K. Glynn, Dr K. Hamilton & Dr J. Lasley
High-Level Panel on World Health Day 2011: 'Combat antimicrobial resistance: No action today, no cure tomorrow'	WHO Headquarters, Geneva (Switzerland)	7 April	Dr B. Vallat & Ms M. Zampaglione
ALive 6th Ordinary General Assembly Meeting	Nairobi (Kenya)	7 April	Dr M. Eloit, Dr F. Caya, Dr D. Bourzat, Dr B.J. Mtei & Dr W. Masiga
IPC Spring Meeting: 'Challenges and potential for meeting the growing demand for poultry meat'	Rome (Italy)	7-8 April	Dr M. Okita
Meeting with the Chief Veterinary Officer of Netherlands on Avian Influenza Vaccines and Vaccination Research Project Data Collection	The Hague (Netherlands)	7-8 April	Dr D. Swayne
3rd ADIS User Group Meeting	Brussels (Belgium)	7-8 April	Dr D. Chaisemartin & Dr J.-P. Vermeersch
Symposium of the OIE Collaborating Centre on Biotechnology-based Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases in Veterinary Medicine, organised by the Swedish Collaborating Centre	Uppsala (Sweden)	8 April	Dr E. Erlacher-Vindel
AU-IBAR Steering Committee Meeting	Nairobi (Kenya)	8 April	Dr W. Masiga
7th International Congress of Veterinary Sciences	Havana (Cuba)	11-14 April	Dr L. Stuardo
5th EPIZONE Annual Meeting: 'Science on alert'	Arnhem (Netherlands)	12-13 April	Dr E. Erlacher-Vindel
Regional Workshop for OIE National Focal Points for Animal Disease Notification to the OIE	Beijing (People's Republic of China)	12-14 April	Dr K. Ben Jebara, Dr L. Weber-Vintzel, Dr A.Y. Mustafa, Dr I. Shimohira, Dr K. Sakurai & Ms T. Hasegawa Shimizu
Training course on: 'Management approach to the Veterinary Public Health – Veterinary Services and International Collaboration'	Rome (Italy)	14 April	Dr A. Ripani
FAO Seminar on Risk Communication	Rome (Italy)	14 April	Ms G. Mamaghani
1st Meeting of the FMD Task Force Group of the Bulgarian Risk Assessment Centre	Sofia (Bulgaria)	14 April	Prof. Dr N.T. Belev & Dr S. Ralchev
Seminar on the role of Veterinary Statutory Bodies in the promotion of the veterinary profession and inauguration of the new Head Office of the OIE Regional Representation for Africa	Bamako (Mali)	14-15 April	Dr B. Vallat, Dr Y. Samaké, Dr D. Bourzat, Ms Y. N'Diaye, Ms M. Minta, Ms A. Bagayoko, Dr N.J. Mapitse, Dr P. Bastiaensen, Dr F. Kechrid, Dr W. Masiga & Dr A. Maillard
World Bank Meeting on 'One Health' Needs Assessment and CDC/ICEID Planning Committee	Atlanta (United States)	14-15 April	Dr K. Glynn
Visit to Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut within the framework of the laboratory twinning process with the United Arab Emirates	Jena (Germany)	16-19 April	Dr G. Yehia
USDA-APHIS-IS Regional Workshop on 'Veterinary border control (inspection and certification) of imports and exports of live animals and products of animal origin: a tool for monitoring of TADs, including HPAI'	Accra (Ghana)	18-21 April	Dr A. Petrini
1st Meeting of the RAWS Coordination Group	Bangkok (Thailand)	19-20 April	Dr T. Ishibashi, Dr A. Davis & Dr S.M. Razo Aviso
Regional Seminar for OIE National Focal Points for Aquatic Animals	Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam)	19-21 April	Dr C. Buranathai, Dr A. Bouchot & Dr Q. Tran
CHORDS Annual Meeting	Annecy (France)	21-22 April	Dr K. Glynn

meetings and visits

April 2011 (cont.)

Title of the event	Place	Date	Participants
Meeting with the Chief Veterinary Officer of Vietnam on Avian Influenza Vaccines and Vaccination Research Project Data Collection	Hanoi (Vietnam)	25 April – 4 May	Dr D. Swayne
EuFMD Tripartite Meeting	Rome (Italy)	26 April	Prof. Dr N.T. Belev
Regional collaboration project on bluetongue between IZS (Italy) and INMV (Algeria) institutes	Teramo (Italy)	26-27 April	Dr A. Petrini
Preparatory meetings with the Bureau of Animal Industry and the Philippines Animal Health Center to organise BSE Diagnosis Training in the OIE Reference Laboratory for BSE in Japan in 2011	Manila (Philippines)	26-27 April	Dr K. Sakurai
4th ADIS User Group Meeting	Brussels (Belgium)	27 April	Dr J.-P. Vermeersch
39th General Session of the EuFMD	FAO Headquarters, Rome (Italy)	27-28 April	Dr J. Domenech, Prof. Dr N.T. Belev & Dr N. Leboucq
Conference-debate: 'The "One Health" concept including rabies control'	Bamako (Mali)	29 April	Dr Y. Samaké
4th FMD Working Group Meeting of GF-TADS	FAO Headquarters, Rome (Italy)	29 April	Dr J. Domenech & Dr N. Leboucq
International Symposium on Transboundary Diseases and Celebration of both the World Veterinary Year and World Veterinary Day	Gammartin (Tunisia)	30 April	Dr F. Kechrid

May 2011

Title of the event	Place	Date	Participants
2nd Meeting of the EFSA Animal Health and Animal Welfare Panel Scientific Network	Parma (Italy)	2-3 May	Dr N. Leboucq
Seminar of Chief Veterinary Officers for a common position of Africa during the 79th General Session of the OIE	Nairobi (Kenya)	2-4 May	Dr D. Bourzat & Dr W. Masiga
3rd ASEAN Workshop on Regional Coordination, Animal Health and Zoonoses	Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia)	3 May	Dr T. Hla & Dr S.M. Razo Aviso
CORUS meeting for the development of an epidemiological network for monitoring the dynamics of foot and mouth disease within the Greater Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Area	Skukuza, Kruger National Park (South Africa)	3-5 May	Dr N.J. Mapitse
Meeting of the Partners for Rabies Prevention (PRP) (Global Alliance for Rabies Control)	Banna and Asti (Italy)	3-6 May	Dr L. Knopf
Meeting for veterinary students, organised by the National Veterinary School of Alfort	Maisons-Alfort (France)	4 May	Dr A. Dehove
Annual Meeting of the European Union Foot and Mouth Disease Reference Laboratories	Brussels (Belgium)	4 May	Dr K. de Clercq
57th Plenary Meeting of the EFSA Animal Health and Animal Welfare Panel	Parma (Italy)	4-5 May	Dr N. Leboucq
APEC 'One Health' Forum	Hong Kong (Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China)	4-5 May	Dr T. Ishibashi & Dr J. Siengsan Lamont
19th Meeting of the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Livestock	Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia)	4-6 May	Dr T. Hla & Dr S.M. Razo Aviso
FAO Corporate 'One Health' Workshop	Rome (Italy)	5-6 May	Dr A. Dehove

meetings and visits

May 2011 (cont.)

Title of the event	Place	Date	Participants
14th Regional Animal Health Centre Coordination Meeting	Gaborone (Botswana)	9 May	Dr B.J. Mtei, Dr N.J. Mapitse & Dr P. Bastiaensen
Joint Eastern African Interim Secretariat Network Meeting	Nairobi (Kenya)	9-10 May	Dr A. Maillard
11th National Congress of Veterinary Medicine of the Romanian Veterinary Association	Bucharest (Romania)	9-10 May	Prof. Dr N.T. Belev
57th International Military Veterinary Medical Symposium: 'Veterinary Public Health: Cooperation Among Nations'	Wroclaw (Poland)	9-13 May	Dr D. Swayne
FAO/OIE/WHO IDENTIFY Project Planning Meeting	Lyons (France)	10-11 May	Dr K. Glynn & Dr J. Lasley
SADC Livestock Technical Committee Meeting	Gaborone (Botswana)	10-12 May	Dr N.J. Mapitse & Dr P. Bastiaensen
Final meeting of the EU-funded ERA-NET project on EMIDA	London (United Kingdom)	11 May	Dr E. Erlacher-Vindel
Conference of the Red Meat Abattoir Association (RMAA)	Somerset West (South Africa)	11 May	Dr G. Brückner
Meeting with DG SANCO on the preparation of a 'BTSF2' programme	Brussels (Belgium)	12 May	Dr N. Leboucq
Kick-off meeting of a new EU-funded project that aims to extend the coordination of research to a global level, called 'STAR-IDAZ'	London (United Kingdom)	12-13 May	Dr E. Erlacher-Vindel
Planning meeting on the development of the OIE-PVS Gap Analysis tool on Veterinary Laboratories in support of the IDENTIFY Project	OIE Headquarters, Paris (France)	12-13 May	Dr A. Dehove, Dr K. Glynn, Dr J. Lasley, Dr M. Edan & Dr A. Davis
Mission to Mongolia under the OIE/J(S)TF Project on HPAI control to implement avian influenza surveillance	Ulan Bator (Mongolia)	12-13 May	Dr K. Sakurai
12th AU-IBAR Annual Meeting of the Inter-Agency Donor Group	Nairobi (Kenya)	12-14 May	Dr D. Bourzat & Dr W. Masiga
58th General Assembly of the CIC	Saint Petersburg (Russia)	12-15 May	Prof. Dr N.T. Belev
2nd World Conference on Veterinary Education	Lyons (France)	13-15 May	Dr B. Vallat, Dr M. Eloit, Dr S. Kahn, Ms T. Benicasa & Dr F. Kechrid
OIE/FAO Regional Workshop for the strengthening of the epidemiological surveillance and the control of West Nile fever in North Africa	Teramo (Italy)	16-20 May	Dr F. Kechrid & Dr A. Petrini
Preparatory meetings with the Thai Department for Livestock Development to organise the 4th OIE Regional Meeting on Strengthening Information Networking in Asia, under the OIE/JTF Project for Strengthening HPAI Control in Asia	Bangkok and Chiang Mai (Thailand)	17-18 May	Dr K. Sakurai
International Veterinary Forum and 11th International Exhibition on Animal Production and Agricultural Mechanisation	Algiers (Algeria)	17-19 May	Dr F. Kechrid & Dr V. Brioudes
64th WHO Annual Assembly	WHO Headquarters, Geneva (Switzerland)	17-20 May	Dr K. Miyagishima
International Conference on Animal Health Surveillance (ICAHS)	Lyons (France)	17-20 May	Dr J. Domenech & Dr L. Knopf
Informal Meeting with DG SANCO on the preparation of the GF-TADs Europe Action Plan	Brussels (Belgium)	18 May	Dr N. Leboucq
OIE FMD Expert Mission to the Thrace Region of Turkey	Thrace (Turkey)	18-21 May	Dr G. Brückner, Dr K. de Clercq & Dr H. Batho
EU Veterinary Week 2011	Brussels (Belgium)	19-20 May	Dr N. Leboucq

meetings and visits

May 2011 (cont.)

Title of the event	Place	Date	Participants
Informal Consultation on a Draft Action Plan for Emerging Infectious Diseases in Asia Pacific Region (2011-2015)	Manila (Philippines)	19-20 May	Dr J. Lasley & Dr A. Davis
Annual Meeting of the World Animal Forum: 'The future of Agriculture and Social Marketing'	Turin (Italy)	20 May	Dr A. Debove
Regional Seminar (Americas) for Recently Appointed OIE Delegates	Paris (France)	21 May	Dr L.O. Barcos, Dr M. Minassian & Dr J.J. Oreamuno
37th Animal Transportation Association Conference	Brussels (Belgium)	22-25 May	Dr C. Joubert
79th General Session of the OIE	Paris (France)	22-27 May	OIE
SSAFE Network – International Nestlé Regulatory and Scientific Affairs Conference	Vevey (Switzerland)	24 May	Dr A. Debove
REMESA Joint Permanent Committee Meeting	Paris (France)	24 May	Dr F. Kechrid, Dr V. Brioudes & Dr A. Petrini
Signature of the OIE-UMA Memorandum of Agreement by the Director General of the OIE and the Secretary General of UMA	Paris (France)	24 May	Dr B. Vallat & Dr F. Kechrid
OIE/FAO/REMESA emergency meeting on the health situation in Tunisia following the incidents in Libya	Paris (France)	25 May	Dr F. Kechrid, Dr V. Brioudes & Dr A. Petrini
10th Annual World Poultry Conference	Brussels (Belgium)	25-26 May	Prof. J. Wagenaar
5th FMD Working Group Meeting of GF-TADS	Paris (France)	27 May	Dr N. Leboucq
World Veterinary Year 2011	Bern (Switzerland)	31 May	Dr M. Eloit
1st Meeting Advisory Board Control Post Project	Brussels (Belgium)	31 May	Dr N. Leboucq
17th World Congress of Disaster and Emergency Medicine	Beijing (People's Republic of China)	31 May – 3 June	Dr I. Shimohira

June 2011

Title of the event	Place	Date	Participants
SADC TADs Project: Regional buffalo sampling exercise. Evaluation of the tender dossier	Gaborone (Botswana)	3 June	Dr N.J. Mapitse
Inauguration of the head office of the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for Eastern Africa and the Horn of Africa	Nairobi (Kenya)	6 June	Dr B. Vallat, Dr A. Thiermann, Dr M.E. González, Dr Y. Samaké, Dr B.J. Mtei, Dr F. Kechrid, Dr W. Masiga, Dr A. Maillard, Ms G. Omwega, Ms L.W. Ndungu & Dr G. Yehia
OFFLU Technical Review Meeting: 'Vaccine Efficacy for the Control of Avian Influenza in Egypt'	FAO Headquarters, Rome (Italy)	6-7 June	Dr D. Swayne, Dr C. Grund & Dr G. Cattoli
SADC cross-border harmonisation meeting between Angola, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Malawi, Tanzania and Zambia, with regard to peste des petits ruminants	Chingola (Zambia)	6-8 June	Dr N.J. Mapitse & Dr P. Bastiaensen
CDC Veterinary Medical Officer 'One Health' Meeting	Atlanta (United States)	6-10 June	Dr K. Glynn
Discussions on VICH with the OIE Collaborating Centre for Veterinary Medicinal Products	Fougères (France)	7 June	Dr E. Erlacher-Vindel & Dr S. Munstermann
Kick-off workshop of the EU Reference Laboratory for Bee Health	Brussels (Belgium)	7 June	Dr F. Diaz & Dr M.-P. Chauzat
7th Meeting of the ADIS Steering Committee	OIE Headquarters, Paris (France)	7 June	Dr D. Chaisemartin, Dr N. Leboucq & Dr J.-P. Vermeersch
FAO Regional Workshop: 'The World after Rinderpest'	Bangkok (Thailand)	7-8 June	Dr R.C. Abila

meetings and visits

June 2011 (cont.)

Title of the event	Place	Date	Participants
Regional Information Seminar for Recently Appointed OIE Delegates from Africa and the Middle East	Nairobi (Kenya)	7-9 June	Dr B. Vallat, Dr A. Thiermann, Dr M.E. González, Dr Y. Samaké, Dr B.J. Mtei, Dr F. Kechrid, Dr W. Masiga, Dr A. Maillard, Ms G. Omwega, Ms L.W. Ndungu, Dr G. Yehia, Dr K.N. Al-Qahtani, Dr B. Gebregeziabher, Dr P.M. Ithondeka & Dr K. Phillemon-Motsuv
World Bank Meeting on Economics of 'One Health' Concept Note	Washington, DC (United States)	7-10 June	Dr A. Dehove
54th FEFAC Annual General Meeting: 'EU feed industry to reduce feed-related environmental burden of livestock production, while improving animal health and food safety'	Bruges (Belgium)	8 June	Dr G. Mylrea
IMS Regional Conference	Campo Grande (Brazil)	8-9 June	Dr C. Planté
2nd Meeting of the Drafting Committee to assist in the preparation of official FMD status recognition applications	Tunis (Tunisia)	9-10 June	Dr F. Kechrid, Dr V. Brioudes & Dr A. Petrini
General Assembly of the FVE and FNOVI Biosecurity Conference	Palermo, Sicily (Italy)	10-11 June	Dr N. Leboucq
Chatham House Seminar: 'The Rise of Global Health in International Affairs'	London (United Kingdom)	13 June	Dr K. Miyagishima
AU-IBAR Workshop: 'Enhancing safe inter-regional livestock trade: risk-based approaches to livestock certification and harmonised control of TADs'	Dubai (United Arab Emirates)	13-16 June	Dr G. Yehia
FAO/the Brooke Expert Meeting on the role, impact and welfare of working (transport and traction) animals	FAO Headquarters, Rome (Italy)	13-17 June	Dr M. Varas
2nd Veterinary Forum organised by the Algeria Society of Veterinary Medicine and the Association of Veterinary Practitioners, and Celebration of World Veterinary Year	Mostaganem (Algeria)	13-17 June	Dr F. Kechrid
FAO Regional Workshop: 'The World after Rinderpest'	Rabat (Morocco)	14-15 June	Dr V. Brioudes
3rd meeting of the WHO Advisory Group on Integrated Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance (WHO-AGISAR)	Oslo (Norway)	14-17 June	Dr E. Erlacher-Vindel, Dr G. Moulin & Prof. J. Acar
1st Sub-Regional Training Seminar on Bee Diseases for OIE National Focal Points for Animal Disease Notification to the OIE	Ezulwini (Swaziland)	14-17 June	Dr S. Forcella, Dr F. Diaz, Dr Y. Samaké, Dr B.J. Mtei, Dr N.J. Mapitse, Ms M. Mantsho, Dr M. Saley, Dr W. Ritter, Dr A. Alippi & Dr M.-P. Chauzat
PVS Gap Analysis Training Seminar	OIE Headquarters, Paris (France)	14-17 June	Regional Activities Department, World Animal Health and Welfare Fund, experts of the PVS Gap Analysis PVS
FAO/UMA Meeting	Rabat (Morocco)	15 June	Dr V. Brioudes
USAID Meeting on EPT Programme	FAO Headquarters, Rome (Italy)	15-16 June	Dr K. Miyagishima & Dr K. Glynn
Avian Influenza Vaccines and Vaccination Research Project Data Collection	Padua (Italy)	15-16 June	Dr D. Swayne
Regional Workshop for advanced training on WAHIS for OIE National Focal Points for Animal Disease Notification to the OIE	Vladimir (Russia)	15-17 June	Dr K. Ben Jebara, Dr L. Weber-Vintzel, Prof. Dr N.T. Belev, Dr A. Vlasov & Dr N. Leboucq
Meeting with the OIE Reference Laboratory at Hokkaido University for surveillance of wild birds and domestic birds, under the OIE/JTF Project for Strengthening HPAI Control in Asia	Sapporo (Japan)	16 June	Dr H. Thidar Myint
FAO Regional Workshop: 'Maintaining vigilance for diseases caused by morbilliviruses'	Rabat (Morocco)	16-17 June	Dr V. Brioudes

meetings and visits

June 2011

Title of the event	Place	Date	Participants
FAO/OIE/WHO Preparatory Meeting for Joint Ministerial Meeting	OIE Headquarters, Paris (France)	17 June	Dr B. Vallat, Dr A. Thiermann, Dr A. Debove, Dr K. Miyagishima & Dr K. Glynn
6th FMD Working Group Meeting of GF-TADs	Brussels (Belgium)	20 June	Dr J. Domenech & Dr N. Leboucq
Joint Community Level Risk Assessment (JCLRA) modellers' project meeting	WHO Headquarters, Geneva (Switzerland)	20-21 June	Dr K. Glynn
WAEMU Regional Workshop to validate the review report to set up a community-based veterinary drug inspection system in the WAEMU zone	Cotonou (Benin)	20-22 June	Dr Y. Samaké
ADIS Meeting	Brussels (Belgium)	21 June	Dr D. Chaisemartin & Dr J.-P. Vermeersch
FAO/OIE/WHO Preparatory Meeting for Joint Ministerial Meeting	Geneva (Switzerland)	21 June	Dr A. Debove
4th OIE Regional Expert Group Meeting for implementation of the programme on surveillance of wild birds and domestic animals along migratory flyways, under the OIE/JTF Project for Strengthening HPAI Control in Asia	Tokyo (Japan)	21-22 June	Dr K. Hamilton, Dr D. Swayne, Dr I. Shimohira, Dr K. Sakurai, Dr C. Buranathai & Dr H. Thidar Myint
International Seminar and 2nd Congress of SEAVSA	Surabaya (Indonesia)	21-22 June	Dr T. Ishibashi
3rd Joint Meeting of the SADC Sub-Committees on epidemiology and informatics and veterinary laboratories and diagnostics	Johannesburg (South Africa)	21-23 June	Dr N.J. Mapitse
Meeting with the consultants of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force of the United Nations	OIE Headquarters, Paris (France)	22 June	Dr K. Miyagishima & Dr K. Hamilton
WHO Consultation on cystic and alveolar echinococcosis surveillance, prevention and control	WHO Headquarters, Geneva (Switzerland)	22-23 June	Prof. A. Dakkak
Meeting of the Veterinary Academy – Tribute to Dr Jean Blancou	OIE Headquarters, Paris (France)	23 June	OIE
Meeting with the Chief Veterinary Officer of Japan on Avian Influenza Vaccines and Vaccination Research Project Data Collection	Tokyo (Japan)	23-24 June	Dr D. Swayne
117th and 118th Sessions of the Customs Co-operation Council (World Customs Organization [WCO])	Brussels (Belgium)	23-24 June	Dr N. Leboucq
Meeting organised by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Tunisia for the accredited diplomatic body in Tunisia: 'Support from countries and international organisations for the process of democratic elections to be held in Tunisia on 25 October 2011'	Tunis (Tunisia)	24 June	Dr F. Kechrid
Opening day of the 37th Biennial FAO Conference and Global Rinderpest Eradication Commemorative Ceremony	FAO Headquarters, Rome (Italy)	25 June	Dr B. Vallat & Ms G. Mamaghani
FAO Regional Workshops: 'Communication for Animal Health in North Africa', 'Socio-economics for Animal Health in North Africa' and 'Strengthening coordination and cooperation within the framework of RECOMSA and RESEPSA'	Hammamet (Tunisia)	26-29 June	Dr F. Kechrid & Dr V. Brioudes
Celebration of Global Freedom from Rinderpest – GREP Symposium on Rinderpest Eradication: 'Achievements and Obligations'	FAO Headquarters, Rome (Italy)	27 June	Dr K. Miyagishima, Ms M. Zampaglione, Dr W. Masiga & Prof. Dr N.T. Belev
Meeting with Dr Rossella Lelli, IZS Institute in Teramo (Italy)	Tunis (Tunisia)	27 June	Dr F. Kechrid

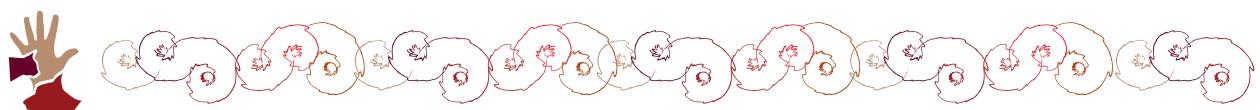
meetings and visits

June 2011

Title of the event	Place	Date	Participants
USAID: EPT Programme Quarterly Partners' Meeting	Washington, DC (United States)	27-28 June	Dr J. Lasley
WTO STDF Working Group Meeting	Geneva (Switzerland)	27-28 June	Dr M. Okita
Inception Workshop of the CMS/FAO Task Force on Wildlife Diseases	Beijing (People's Republic of China)	27-28 June	Dr T. Ishibashi
Awareness and Training FAO Workshop on the Reference Laboratories' activities	Madrid (Spain)	27-29 June	Dr A. Petrini
Project meeting with the USAID IDENTIFY Agreement Officer's Technical Representative (AOTR)	Washington, DC (United States)	28 June	Dr J. Lasley
37th FAO Conference Plenary Session – Adoption of the FAO Declaration on Global Freedom from Rinderpest	FAO Headquarters, Rome (Italy)	28 June	Dr K. Miyagishima, Ms M. Zampaglione, Dr W. Masiga & Prof. Dr N.T. Belev
Informal meeting on economic analysis methodologies and indicators in the SPS area	Geneva (Switzerland)	28 June	Dr M. Okita
Meeting with the Ambassador of Romania in Tunisia, the Chief Veterinary Officer of Romania and the Romanian Delegation visiting Tunisia by invitation from the Ministry of International Cooperation of Tunisia	Tunis (Tunisia)	28 June	Dr F. Kechrid
International workshop on capacity-building network in Balkan countries	Teramo (Italy)	28-29 June	Ms M. Zampaglione & Prof. Dr N.T. Belev
UFAW International Symposium 2011: 'Making animal welfare improvements: economic and other incentives and constraints'	Portsmouth (United Kingdom)	28-29 June	Dr D. Bayvel
OIE Global Conference on 'Aquatic Animal Health Programmes: their benefits for global food security'	Panama City (Panama)	28-30 June	Dr C.A. Correa Messuti, Dr B. Vallat, Dr D. Chaisemartin, Ms A. Torres, Dr K. Ben Jebara, Dr S. Kahn, Dr G. Mylrea, Dr M.E. González, Dr Y. Samaké, Dr B.J. Mtei, Dr P. Bastiaensen, Dr L.O. Barcos, Dr M. Minassian, Ms A. Palmas, Ms M. Cozzarin, Dr J.J. Oreamuno, Dr F. Frago Santamaría, Ms A. Gutierrez Camacho, Dr I. Shimohira, Dr G. Yehia, Dr B.J. Hill, Dr F. Berthe & Dr J. Huang
Regional Training Seminar for OIE National Focal Points for Veterinary Products	Siem Reap (Cambodia)	28 June – 1 July	Dr E. Erlacher-Vindel, Dr S. Munstermann, Dr F. Diaz, Dr T. Ishibashi & Dr H. Thidar Myint
Informal meeting on the third review of the operation and implementation of the SPS Agreement	Geneva (Switzerland)	29 June	Dr M. Okita
Informal meeting on SPS-related private standards	Geneva (Switzerland)	29 June	Dr M. Okita
Plan for the '4-way linking project' workshop to be held in Egypt	WHO Headquarters, Geneva (Switzerland)	29-30 June	Dr S. Forcella (on the premises) Dr C. Zepeda (through videoconference)
50th Anniversary of the teaching and research farm of the Veterinary University of Hanover	Ruthe (Germany)	30 June	Mr M. Nissen
51st Meeting of the WTO SPS Committee	Geneva (Switzerland)	30 June – 1 July	Dr M. Okita
HSA Centenary International Symposium on: 'Recent Advances in the Welfare of Livestock at Slaughter'	Portsmouth (United Kingdom)	30 June – 1 July	Dr D. Bayvel

the OIE and its partners

epidemiology & animal disease control programmes



The worldwide rabies situation in animals

Based on data collected through the World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS)

Rabies is a major zoonosis caused by a neurotropic virus of the genus *Lyssavírus* of the family *Rhabdoviridae*. It is contagious for all mammals, including humans, and is present on all continents. Although some countries have successfully implemented control measures and managed to eliminate the disease, rabies remains endemic in many countries, including in wild animal hosts. There are two epidemiological types of rabies: urban (involving feral dog populations in Eastern Europe and most of the developing countries of Central and South America, Africa and Asia) and sylvatic (involving bats, including vampire bats, and wild carnivores).

Several animal species are involved in the maintenance and

transmission of the disease in nature. Several West European countries have succeeded in bringing rabies under control, but the disease remains prevalent in parts of Canada and the United States in some wildlife species (notably skunks, raccoons and foxes). Jackals, bat-eared foxes and mongoose are involved in rabies transmission in Africa. A variety of bat species act as rabies reservoirs in Africa, Australia, Central and Southeast Asia and Europe. In the Americas, the sylvatic rabies cycle is maintained by vampire bats in particular.

Figure 1 shows the distribution of rabies around the world, based on data provided to the OIE through the World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS). Where available,

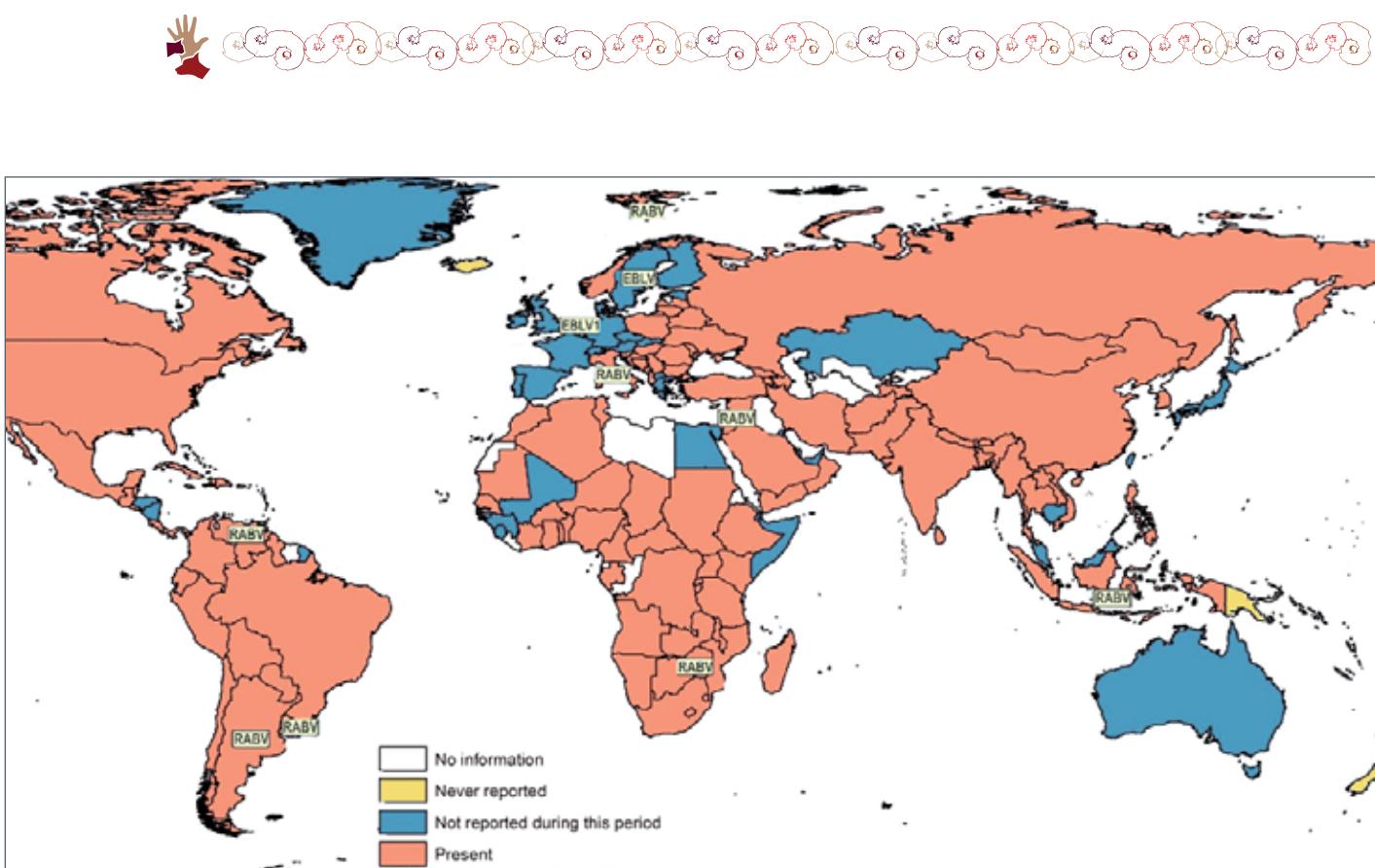


Fig. 1

Rabies distribution and viral species during 2010 and early 2011 (WAHIS)

RABV: rabies virus

ELBV: European bat lyssavirus (undetermined strain)

ELBV1: European bat lyssavirus strain 1

details of the reported viral species are given.

Rabies-affected species

Using data collected through WAHIS, an analysis has been made of the categories of animals affected by rabies. Figure 2 summarises, by continent and by category, the distribution of animal cases worldwide. It should be noted that dogs and cats have been grouped together because they are involved in the urban cycle of the disease, whereas livestock are mainly epidemiological 'dead ends'. Information on these two groups is often collected via separate surveillance networks (the Ministry of Public Health and the Ministry of Agriculture, for example) and the sensitivity of these respective

networks may well differ. As shown in the figure, Europe reported the highest number of cases in 2010 (46% of all cases reported worldwide), followed by Africa and the Americas.

In Europe, the highest number of reported rabies cases occurred in wildlife in Central and Eastern Europe; in Africa and Asia, the majority of reported cases occurred in dogs and cats; while in the Americas, the majority of reported cases involved livestock.

Figure 3 shows a breakdown by category of affected species. The animal group with the highest number of cases in 2010, reported through WAHIS, was dogs and cats (4,305 cases), followed by wildlife species (3,359 cases) and cattle and buffalo (2,791 cases).

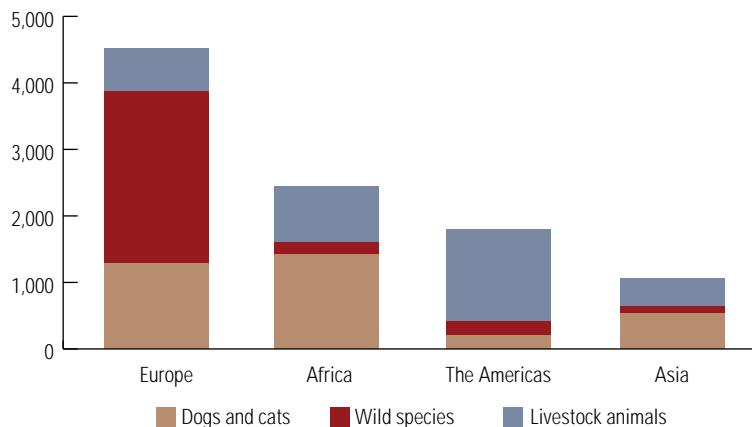


Fig. 2

Number of rabies cases notified in 2010, by continent and animal group

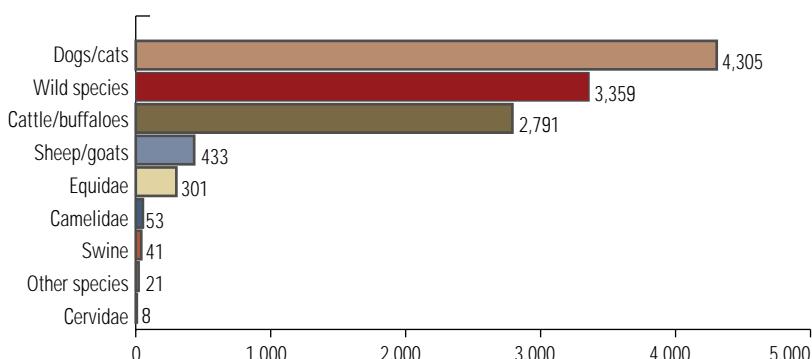


Fig. 3

Number of rabies cases notified in 2010, by animal group

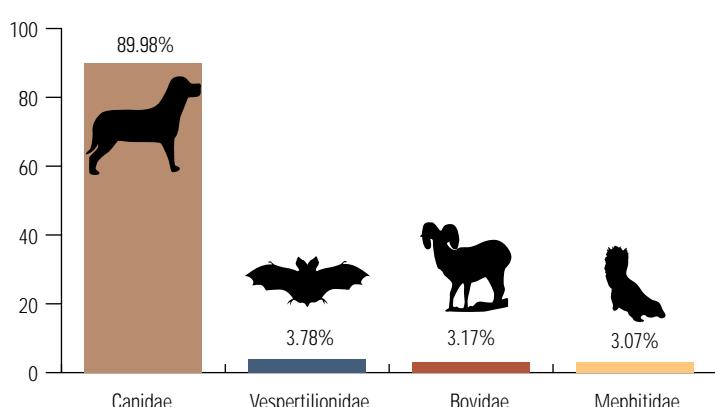


Fig. 4

Percentage of all rabies cases notified in 2010 in wild animals, by family group

According to the data collected through the OIE questionnaire on wildlife diseases for 2010, the highest number of cases identified was reported in the family of Canidae (dogs, wolves, jackals and foxes) (89.98%), followed by Vespertilionidae (bats) (3.78%), Bovidae (bovines) (3.17%) and Mephitidae (skunks) (3.07%) (Fig. 4).

The red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*) is the main reservoir of sylvatic rabies in Europe and the predominant species affected by it; 90.8% of all rabies cases in European countries during 2010 were reported in *V. vulpes*. Some 2.70% of cases were reported in five other species: *Lutra lutra*, *Martes foina*, *Martes martes*, *Meles meles*, and *Mustela putorius*, all belonging to the Mustelidae family. One family of bats, the Vespertilionidae, represented 1.8% of all European wild animal cases reported in 2010.

In Africa, the greater kudu (*Tragelaphus strepsiceros*) was the most frequently affected mammalian species and accounted for 51.24% of all cases reported; 34.71% of cases were reported in species belonging to the family Canidae, namely: *Canis simensis* (15 cases), *Canis mesomelas* (11 cases), *Otocyon megalotis* (12 cases), *Vulpes vulpes* (three cases) and *Canis aureus* (one case).

In the Americas, cases were reported in ten wildlife species;



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67.07% of all cases were in bats, 18.13% were in striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*) and 9.97% were in members of the Canidae family.

In Asia, 95.59% of rabies cases reported in mammals were in members of the Canidae family. Of these, 47.06% were found in the red fox (*V. vulpes*); 29.41% were in the grey wolf (*Canis lupus*); 17.65% were in the golden jackal (*Canis aureus*) and one case was reported in a raccoon dog (*Nyctereutes procyonoides*). The European badger (*M. meles*) accounted for 4.41% of cases.

The rabies situation in humans

Between 2006 and 2010, a total of 82 countries reported human cases of rabies to the OIE. Sixty-four (78%) of these countries submitted quantitative data and 18 countries (22%) did not provide any quantitative information on the number of cases in animals. The total number of human cases reported in the period 2006 to 2010 was 24,890, with

Table I**Human and animal cases of rabies reported to the OIE between 2006 and 2010 (WAHIS)**

	2006		2007		2008		2009		2010	
	Human	Animal								
Afghanistan			2.974		+..		2	34	1.389	33
Angola					+..	34	248	39		
Botswana	880	34	1.249	70	+..	84	+..	53		
Central African Republic	+..	+..	599	+..	744	+..	+..	249	+..	74
Chad					49					
Chile							+..	A		
China (People's Rep. of)	3.279	378	3.300	138	2.466	42	2.213	192		
Egypt	+..	(-)								
French Guiana					1	(-)				
Guinea-Bissau	+..	?	1	?						
India	+..	43	+..	301	221	90	260	324		
Iraq			10	+..						
Kazakhstan			10	+..	6	(-)				
Martinique (France)			+..	0000						
Mozambique	1,487	7	53	10	13	16	44	7		
Myanmar	+..	2			35	1	38	6		
Senegal					4	(-)	1	4	2	2
Syria			5	+..	11	(-)	3	6		
Uganda	23	?	+..	?	+..	?	+..	B		
United Kingdom					1	1	+..	A		
United States of America	2	+..			1	+..	4	+..		
Vietnam	+..	1	525	343	126	14	125	96		

+.. = Rabies present without quantitative information

0000 = Rabies has never been reported

A = Absent in domestic animals; no information on wildlife

N.B. an empty box indicates no information was provided

(-) = Rabies absent

? = Rabies suspected

B = Present in wildlife; no information on domestic animals



14,938 deaths. It is important to note that, according to the World Health Organisation (WHO), dogs are the source of 99% of human rabies deaths (www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs099/en/).

Table I shows the number of human cases reported from various countries in the annual report to the OIE, for the period between 2006 and 2010. For certain countries, apparent inconsistencies were noted between the reported number of human cases and the reported situation in animals. These apparent inconsistencies were of three main types:

- a high incidence of rabies reported in humans and a very low incidence reported in animals, or vice versa
- rabies reported in humans but absent in animals
- rabies cases reported in humans but no information provided on the rabies situation in animals.

This analysis shows that some countries need to improve their rabies monitoring systems in humans and animals. There is also a need for consistency in the way that Member Countries define a human case of rabies, so that data can easily be compared between countries. For example, suspected cases in humans, treated after having been bitten by unidentified animals, should only be counted as positive cases if the infection is duly confirmed.

It should be noted, however, that a case of rabies reported in one country could, in fact, be an imported case after exposure in another country. This could explain the reported absence of the disease in animals in the first country.

Conclusions

Rabies remains one of the most serious zoonoses worldwide. It causes considerable loss of human life, substantial economic losses due to post-exposure treatment of humans and also losses of livestock. To achieve global success in controlling rabies, three of the most useful tools available are: a comprehensive knowledge of the situation in animals, the reservoir of the disease; controlling the number of stray animals, and implementing routine vaccination, particularly in dogs. The OIE is committed to improving transparency in reporting the presence of rabies in domestic and wild animals and asks its Members to notify it on a regular basis, using WAHIS and through the annual OIE questionnaire on wildlife diseases. ***This questionnaire is due to be replaced by a new application called WAHIS-Wild, to achieve better integration with WAHIS.***

Inconsistencies have been observed between the number of cases that some countries report in humans and the number they report in animals. In addition, not all countries use the same definition of a human case. In some countries, this definition includes people who were bitten and treated, while other countries include only those who were fatally affected by the disease. This indicates that there is room for improvement at the national level when collecting data on both the rabies situation in humans and in susceptible animal populations. All countries should come to a common understanding of what constitutes a case in humans and what constitutes a case in animals, and they should apply these case definitions consistently. There is also a need to improve rabies monitoring in both humans and animals in many affected countries. Those countries that have not already done so should implement a rabies vaccination programme for animals, given the significant role played by animals in transmitting the disease to humans.

Several Member Countries have reported that feral dog populations are one of the problems they encounter in trying to control rabies. This problem, along with the existence of wildlife reservoirs in many regions of the world, needs to be addressed when designing and implementing national rabies control programmes.

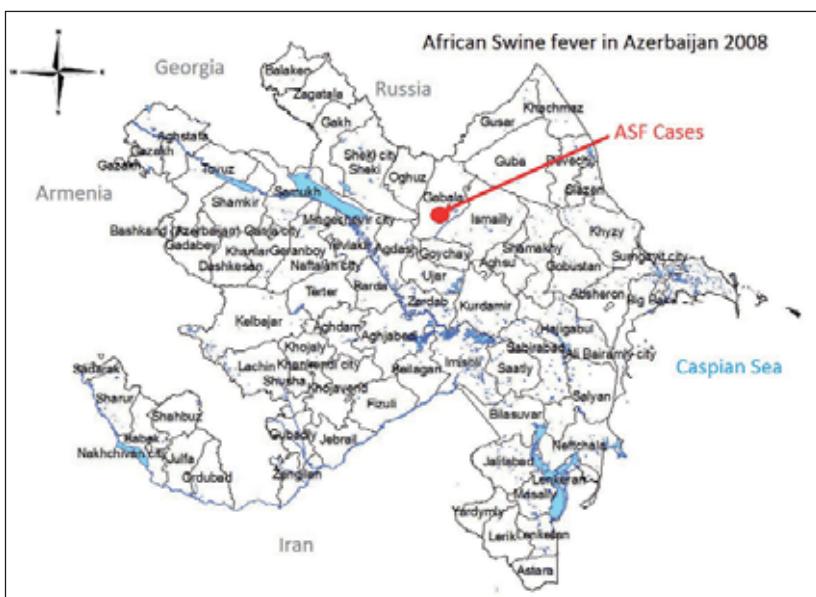
Self-declaration by Azerbaijan of its status of freedom from African swine fever



Self-declaration submitted to the OIE on 2 June 2011 by Dr Siala Rustamova, Main Veterinary Inspector and Chief Veterinary Officer, Ministry of Agriculture, Baku, Azerbaijan

History of African swine fever in Azerbaijan

In Azerbaijan, information on suspected cases of African swine fever (ASF), a disease that had never previously occurred in this country, was received from Nidj village in the Gabala region on 22 January 2008. The epidemiological investigation established that pig mortalities had been observed at roughly the same time in six backyards in various parts of the village. Samples of blood and pathological materials were collected from the diseased animals and sent to the Republic Veterinary Laboratory.



Samples examined using enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) and polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tested positive for the ASF virus. In accordance with established procedure, after confirmation of the outbreak, this information was immediately sent to the OIE and neighbouring countries were notified.

Implementation of stamping-out measures for African swine fever in Azerbaijan

Stamping-out measures for ASF were implemented in accordance with Chapter 15.1. of the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* and the requirements for the prevention and eradication of ASF. On 26 January 2008, all fallen animals and those showing clinical signs (193 animals in total) were destroyed and buried. In five days 4,639 pigs were destroyed. The pigs were killed by shooting them in the head with a small-bore weapon. The dead animals were then placed in 40 pits (3 m deep, 3 m wide and 10 m long), their carcasses burned and covered with disinfectant, and the pits were filled with soil to a height of 1.2 m.

This procedure was carried out using disinfection vehicles and vehicles equipped with cranes.

Stamping-out was completed on 16 February 2008. The total number of animals destroyed was 4,863. Quarantine was lifted on 28 March 2008 and this fact was notified to the OIE and the Veterinary Services of neighbouring countries.

Compensation was paid to animal owners for the destruction of their pigs, in accordance with a national decree. The total amount of compensation was US\$ 126,576.

African swine fever monitoring and surveillance

After quarantine measures were lifted, an 'Action Programme for Preventing and Eradicating African Swine Fever' was implemented. Only eight districts of Azerbaijan have pig populations. For surveillance purposes, districts with more than 100 pigs were chosen (five districts). From each district, villages with pig populations were identified; three villages per district were randomly selected, and five to ten blood samples were taken from each village. The following samples were collected and examined at the Republic Veterinary Laboratory, in total:

- in 2008, 146 blood samples from domestic pigs and 3 samples of pathological material from wild boar
- in 2009, 100 blood samples from domestic pigs and 4 samples of pathological material from wild boar
- in 2010, 68 blood samples from domestic pigs
- in 2011, 78 blood samples from domestic pigs.



African swine fever: Swine. Huddling with severe multifocal cutaneous haemorrhages along with erythema and cyanosis of the ears; bloody discharge is also visible

© The Plum Island Animal Disease Center

All samples tested negative for ASF virus.

Ticks collected from wild and domestic pigs in these and other zones of Azerbaijan were also tested for the presence of the ASF virus. The results of these tests were also negative.

In 2009, the State Veterinary Service gave permission for people to once again keep and breed pigs in Nidj village (the Gabala region).

According to the requirements of the OIE

Terrestrial Animal Health Code for ASF (Article 15.1.3.), if the disease has not occurred in the territory of a country for at least three years, and if surveillance in domestic pigs has been carried out and all imported pigs fulfil the requirements of articles 15.1.5. and 15.1.6., the country may be considered free from ASF. On this basis, and considering the results of the monitoring and surveillance that has been conducted, the Azerbaijan Republic declares that its territory is free from ASF.

A review of mortality outbreaks in the Pacific oyster, *Crassostrea gigas*, reported since 2008 in various European Union Member States and the related implementation of Council Directive 2006/88/EC

Since 2008, widespread mortality outbreaks, killing billions of young Pacific oysters (*Crassostrea gigas*) have been reported in different Member States of the European Union. The Pacific oyster appears to be the only shellfish species affected by these mortalities.

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In the summer of 2008, abnormally high mortalities were reported from most of the Pacific oyster production areas in France and from three bays in the Republic of Ireland. Similar mortality outbreaks were again observed in 2009 in France, Ireland and Jersey. During 2010, mortality events occurred again in France, Ireland and at one location in the United Kingdom (Whitstable, Kent, UK). These increased mortality events were seasonal (April to August) and affected mainly young oysters. Reported mortality rates varied from 40% to 95%.

Most of the reported cases of increased mortality were investigated, with the main objective of checking for compulsory notifiable diseases, endemic pathogens or emerging ones. The laboratory tests performed usually included histology, isolation and identification of the predominant bacterial strains, and *Ostreid herpesvirus 1* (OsHV-1) detection by polymerase chain reaction (PCR).

The results of these diagnostic tests indicated that:

- no compulsory notifiable pathogen was involved
- OsHV-1 was detected in most of the samples, especially in moribund oysters
- *Vibrio splendidus* was also detected in the affected oysters (Table I).

Increased mortality outbreaks in Pacific oysters were attributed to a combination of adverse environmental factors together with the presence of OsHV-1 and *Vibrio* spp. (1). Although climatic factors alone are not likely to be sufficient to cause increased mortalities, a rapid increase in water temperature has been shown to be an important risk factor. The available evidence also suggests that OsHV-1 infection is a necessary cause, and a particular genotype named OsHV-1 μvar (4) appeared to be the dominant viral genotype in the increased mortality events between 2008 and 2010. The genotype OsHV-1 μvar has been detected in France, Ireland, Jersey and the UK (Kent) in cases of Pacific oyster mortality (1). However, it is not clear if this is a result of

increased virulence or other epidemiological factors. The role of other pathogenic agents, such as *Vibrio* spp., needs further investigation.

Similar mortalities have been reproduced through experimental assays on French oysters (2, 3). The selected experimental approach was based on the use of infectious tissue homogenates prepared from naturally infected Pacific oysters, collected in the field during mortality outbreaks. Intra-muscular injection of tissue homogenates in oyster spat of healthy appearance led to the induction of high mortalities and detection, by real-time PCR, of large amounts of OsHV-1 DNA in moribund animals.

According to EU regulations, OsHV-1 and *Vibrio* spp. are not agents that cause compulsory notification diseases; neither are they listed by the OIE in the OIE *Aquatic Animal Health Code*. French, Irish and British competent authorities have attempted to control the spread of abnormal mortality events to other farming areas by instituting restrictions on Pacific oyster movements. In 2010, Commission Regulation (EU) No. 175/2010 was



implemented to further control increased mortality in Pacific oysters in connection with the detection of OsHV-1 pvar. In 2010, four Member States established programmes for the early detection of OsHV-1 pvar in accordance with Article 5 of this Regulation (Ireland, the Netherlands, Spain, UK; see Table II). OsHV-1 pvar has not been detected in Scotland (UK) or Spain. The virus was detected in Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, and Northern Ireland (UK), but not associated with mortality.

In the context of information collected on OsHV-1 pvar in 2010, Commission Regulation (EU) No. 175/2010 was abrogated in 2011 and Commission Regulation (EU) No. 350/2011 was adopted instead, making it possible for Member States to implement national surveillance programmes and declare coastal areas free from OsHV-1 pvar.

Table I

Results summary from analyses of increased Pacific oyster mortality cases in France from 2008 to 2010*

Pathogen(s) isolated	2008		2009		2010	
	(51 cases of mortality investigated)		Frequency of positive batches		(80 cases of mortality investigated)	
	Positive/ analysed	%	Positive/ analysed	%	Positive/ analysed	%
OsHV1*	28/37	75.7	57/61	93.4	71/80	88.7
<i>Vibrio splendens</i>	23/46	50	27/59	45.8	70/78	89.7
<i>V. aestuarianus</i>	15/46	32.6	5/59	8.5	11/78	14.1
<i>V. harveyi</i>	15/46	32.6	2/59	3.4	0/78	0
<i>V. tapetis</i>	0/51	0	5/59	8.5	0/78	0

*Source : Ifremer Repamo (Pathology molluscs network); www.ifremer.fr/repamo/

Table II

Results summary from programmes for the early detection of *Ostreid herpesvirus 1* pvar (OsHV-1 pvar), established in accordance with Article 5 of EU Regulation No. 175/2010 (1)

	No. of compartments	Sampling points	Positive detection of OsHV-1 pvar	Mortalities	Comments
Republic of Ireland	8	22	3/22	Observed at only one of the three sites	All farming areas that were not affected by increased mortalities in 2008 and 2009 were included in the programme
United Kingdom:					
Northern Ireland	4	4	1/4	None	Four oysters from the 150 sampled tested positive. Water temperature at the positive sampling point was 14.5°C
Scotland	4	13	None	None	
The Netherlands	2	6	2/6	None	86 oysters from the 450 sampled tested positive. Water temperature at the positive sampling point was 21°C
Spain	1	3	None	None	Water temperature at the sampling point was 17.5°C

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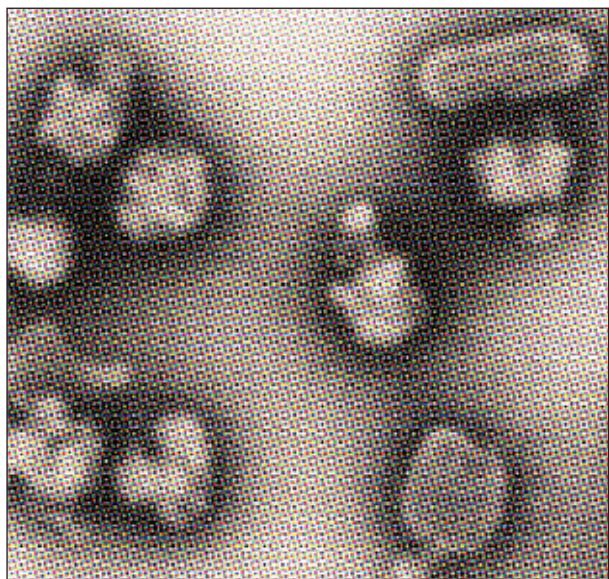


Epidemiology of rabies

Rabies viruses belong to the *Lyssavirus* genus of the Rhabdoviridae family. The rabies virus was long considered to be antigenetically unique but, since 1956 and the discovery of the first related virus isolates in Africa, several serotypes, then genotypes and now species have been described, and the genus *Lyssavirus* (from the Greek *lyssa*, meaning madness, fury, rage or frenzy) was created (4).

Initially the genus was divided into four serotypes: classical rabies virus (RABV); Lagos bat virus (LBV); Mokola virus (MOKV) and Duvenhage virus (DUVV). The isolation of new bat viruses in Europe and Australia, coupled with advances in genetic characterisation, has allowed seven genotypes to be initially identified (3):

- 1 (RABV)
- 2 (LBV)
- 3 (MOKV)
- 4 (DUVV)
- 5 European bat lyssavirus type-1 (EBLV-1)
- 6 European bat lyssavirus type-2 (EBLV-2)
- 7 Australian bat lyssavirus (ABLV).



Each genotype can be subdivided into different strains corresponding to variants circulating among specific vectors and reservoirs. The latest bat lyssavirus isolates in Central Asia have expanded this diversity to 11 distinct virus species.

Remarkably, bats are the reservoirs of 10 of the 11 characterised species and are also the sole vectors for 9 of these species. Only the classical rabies virus RABV involves terrestrial vectors (chiefly carnivores) but the animal reservoir for the MOKV species has not yet been clearly ascertained.

Only the RABV species is distributed virtually worldwide. The other species have a smaller geographical range.

Bat lyssaviruses have been isolated in many species of insectivorous, fruit-eating and hematophagous bat throughout the world. A total of 1,116 bat species have been identified worldwide or 20.6 % of all currently known mammal species (7). Insectivorous bats are present in virtually every region of the globe. The species involved in Lyssavirus transmission belong mainly to eight genera: *Eptesicus*, *Myotis*, *Lasiurus*, *Lasionycteris*, *Pipistrellus*, *Tadarida*, *Miniopterus* and *Nycteris* (6). Bats can spread the infection to land mammals, including humans. Furthermore, phylogenetic analyses suggest that host transfers can occasionally occur between a bat vector and a terrestrial carnivore, so enlarging the range of virus hosts. Bats are therefore an accidental yet continual and uncontrollable threat. They are considered to be the source of archéolyssavirus.

A special case is the hematophagous bat, or common vampire bat (*Desmodus rotundus*) (2). The common vampire bat is a non-migratory species living in colonies of up to several hundred individuals. While their preferred prey is cattle, they may also attack humans. The first scientific evidence of the role of vampire bats in rabies



transmission was provided in the first half of the 20th Century on the island of Trinidad (Trinidad and Tobago) and in Latin America. In a country like Mexico, where rabies transmitted by stray dogs coexists with rabies transmitted by vampire bats, humans are regularly infected. A relatively simple technique can be used to determine the source of human infections (5). The vampire bat can excrete the rabies virus asymptotically (1).

Apart from bats, terrestrial carnivores are a primary reservoir, as mentioned earlier. Carnivore reservoirs vary in terms of their geographical range. They include the skunk, mongoose, raccoon, fox, wolf, jackal, etc., and, of course, the dog. These animals transmit the infection to other domestic or wild mammals, usually by bite with infected saliva. The virus strains involved are distinct variants (biotypes) being subservient to the various reservoirs implicated. In Europe, vaccination campaigns against rabies in foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*) have eliminated terrestrial rabies at its wild source in several countries.

In developing countries, the primary source of transmission to humans is the dog. The dog is estimated to be responsible for more than 50,000 human deaths

annually, posing an extremely serious public and animal health problem. Even though solutions exist for eradicating canine rabies, proper measures are not applied everywhere. More often than not, the will and means for applying them are lacking.

Acknowledgements

We thank Hervé Bourhy, of the Pasteur Institute of Paris, for reviewing the manuscript



**The hematophagous bat, or common vampire bat
(*Desmodus rotundus*)**

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A blueprint for canine rabies prevention and control



Rabies, transmitted mainly by domestic dogs, continues to impose a tremendous public health burden on many developing countries, despite the availability of effective human and animal vaccines. Among many other constraints described in this issue of the *Bulletin*, a lack of easily accessible guidelines covering rabies control from A to Z has contributed to less-than-desirable implementation of rabies prevention and control programmes, in particular at the source: the animal. In an attempt to address this gap, rabies experts from all over the world, including OIE staff, have translated evidence-based knowledge on rabies prevention and control into user-friendly guidelines.

Practical information was obtained from various sources, including previously published guidelines by international health, animal health and animal welfare organisations, as well as scientific findings. This information has now been compiled into a new document, *The Blueprint for Rabies Prevention and Control* (www.rabiesblueprint.com).

The initial online publishing of this tool was facilitated by the FAO Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases (ECTAD), Bamako. The current version of the *Blueprint* focuses on controlling canine rabies; a second blueprint on rabies control, with particular emphasis on rabies in wildlife, e.g. red foxes, is being developed. The *Blueprint* has been translated into French and will soon be available in Spanish, Russian and Portuguese. The OIE supports this initiative and will actively promote its use in countries through the OIE Delegates' network. Please visit the webpage and inform all your colleagues about this useful tool.

The *Blueprint* is the result of a collective effort by a large number of authors. For this reason, it has been released under the name 'Partners for Rabies Prevention' (PRP) (www.rabiescontrol.net/EN/prp.html). Partners for Rabies Prevention is the technical branch of the Global Alliance for Rabies Control (GARC), founded in 2006, an independent, non-profit organisation, bringing together all stakeholders – medical, veterinary, wildlife and animal welfare

professionals, both in the private and public sectors – who are involved in the field of rabies. The Global Alliance is also considered to have initiated World Rabies Day, celebrated since 2007 on 28 September. The OIE and its Reference Laboratories on rabies, along with WHO and FAO, have been involved in the PRP group since its creation in 2008. This informal network provides a platform for sharing information and expertise, and exchanging and discussing current information in the field of rabies prevention and control including: global epidemiology, outbreak information, new tools and diagnostic techniques, laboratory surveillance, educational awareness and advocacy.



activities of reference laboratories & collaborating centres



Increasing diagnostic capacity – a regional approach in Southern Africa



In the Member Countries of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), rabies is on the increase and an important public health and veterinary concern for the relevant authorities at national and sub-regional level. While Veterinary Services need to increase their vigilance in ensuring high vaccination coverage of dog populations and improving stray dog control, the veterinary laboratories must have the capacity and capability to carry out diagnoses accurately and in a timely manner.

The need to provide SADC countries with relevant laboratory training was identified by the Southern and Eastern African Rabies Group (SEARG), SADC and the OIE, as noted in one of the recommendations of the Ninth International SEARG Conference in Botswana in 2008. Subsequently, the Agricultural Research Council – Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute (ARC-OVI) in Pretoria, South Africa, organised a laboratory training exercise on rabies diagnosis in August 2009, with support from the OIE.

A request was made by the SADC Sub-Committee on Laboratory Diagnosis, with support from the Regional Animal Health Center for Southern Africa (RAHC) (a body comprising the OIE, FAO Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases, and African Union Inter-african Bureau for Animal Resources), to take this process further. Thus, a group of experts under the leadership of Dr Claude Sabeta, designated OIE expert at the OIE Reference Laboratory for Rabies based at the ARC-OVI, met in August 2010. They scrutinised all standard operating procedures (SOPs) for the fluorescent antibody test (FAT) currently in use

by the 15 SADC Central Veterinary Laboratories (CVLs). In line with the OIE *Terrestrial Manual* (Chapter 2.1.13.), these SOPs were compared and aligned with the aim of producing one single, harmonised SADC SOP. The resulting document was then circulated to all Heads of Laboratories for comments, and the revised version was presented to the SADC Sub-Committee on Laboratory Diagnosis in March 2011 for endorsement.

On the recommendation of the Tenth SEARG International Conference in Mozambique in January 2011, it was decided to test the performance of laboratories in the use of this SADC rabies FAT SOP in an inter-laboratory proficiency test. The ARC-OVI is currently organising this test for the SADC CVLs, and has prepared a panel of 11 samples, consisting of control and field strains commonly encountered in the southern African region. The controls and field strains of rabies were prepared and amplified in suckling mice and then freeze-dried to make transportation easier. Together with this panel of samples, a vial of anti-rabies fluorescent conjugate was provided to all laboratories.

The proficiency test panels were sent out in June 2011 and the test results should be returned to the OVI by the end of July 2011. The experts at the OIE Rabies Reference Laboratory at ARC-OVI will analyse the results and compile a report, using the same format employed in similar proficiency tests previously carried out for the SADC laboratory network. This activity is being supported by the RAHC in Gaborone, particularly by the OIE Sub-Regional Office, along with the University of Pretoria and SEARG.

The OIE hosts its first laboratory and collaborating centre twinning seminar

OIE Headquarters in Paris, March 2011



For two glorious spring days at the end of March 2011, 38 experts from 26 countries converged on OIE Headquarters in Paris to take part in the first OIE laboratory-twinning feedback seminar. The aim was to bring together twinning project participants from across the world to discuss experiences, successes and the challenges of individual projects, with a view to improving the effectiveness and impact of the twinning programme.

This seminar was only one component of the on-going monitoring and evaluation of the OIE Laboratory Twinning Programme. Its results will be considered together with those of three Twinning Project audits undertaken in March 2011, and all will be reflected in future revisions of the Twinning Guide.

To maximise the liveliness and openness of the debate, participants were invited from regionally selected Parent and Candidate Laboratories, donor agencies and intergovernmental organisations, including the International Atomic Energy Agency and FAO.

Ms Lina Awada, an intern at the OIE, presented outputs from her study on assessing global needs for capacity building. The study used livestock and economic data and information about current global laboratory capacity to identify those regions in greatest need. Her conclusions suggest that more needs to be done to build capacity and expertise to support the surveillance and control of terrestrial animal diseases in Africa and South Asia. At present, there are very few twinning projects for aquatic animal diseases and none for bee diseases. More effort must be made to develop twinning projects for aquatic animal diseases and bee diseases in developing countries.

All participants responded to a pre-meeting questionnaire, which revealed that twinning projects are delivering significant outputs in terms of capacity building, improved compliance with OIE standards and research.

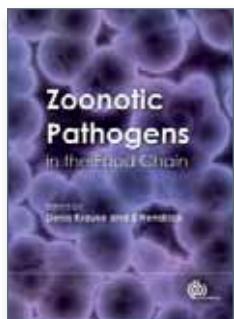
Experts shared their ideas and experiences and expressed their opinions on how the twinning programme can be improved. In addition to the finding that more twinning projects should be initiated in priority regions, it was evident that more consideration must be given to providing support and guidance to Candidate twinning laboratories in the phase following completion of the twinning project. Networking is also an important element of twinning, and Candidate Laboratories should be promoted in their region so that they can play a central role in providing technical and diagnostic support to other countries.

The meeting was a great success and all participants expressed satisfaction at having been able to take part and express their views. The seminar coincides with the launch of an OIE webpage dedicated to twinning. More information about the feedback seminar and twinning in general can be found by visiting the webpage at www.oie.int/en/support-to-oie-members/laboratory-twinning/.

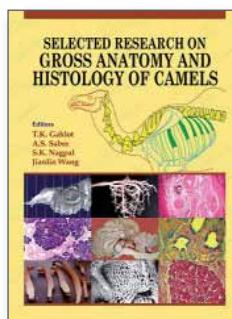
OIE Director General, Dr Vallat, closed the two-day seminar by thanking participants for their contributions, which would be used to help the OIE in further improving the twinning programme and adding increased force to its impact on global disease security.

international news

publications



November 2010
In English
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In English
452 pp.
ISBN: 978-1-9031-401-4
Publisher: Camel Publishing House
www.camelsandcamelids.com
www.tkgahlotcamelve.com

Zoonotic Pathogens in the Food Chain

Edited by D.O. Krause & S. Hendrick

Beginning with their sources, including manure and animal feed, and detailing their development, spread and transmission to humans, *Zoonotic Pathogens in the Food Chain* gives an insightful introduction to and epidemiological overview of the problems caused by zoonotic pathogens. The authors specifically examine the attributes of micro-organisms that allow potential contamination of food sources and the factors in modern animal production processes that contribute to the risk of infection. Chapters discuss in detail various pathogens that have recently emerged as important sources of infection, investigating in depth the implications of avian flu, swine flu, bovine spongiform encephalopathy for human consumers, and considering where potential mitigation strategies should be focused. Highlighting new trends in animal production, such as organic livestock farming and raw milk consumption, this text provides an interesting and up-to-date reference for researchers, academics and all those with an interest in pathology who work in the livestock industry.

Selected Research on Gross Anatomy and Histology of Camels

Edited by T.K. Gahlot, A.S. Saber, S.K. Nagpal & Jianlin Wang

Selected Research on Gross Anatomy and Histology of Camels is a unique reference book on the anatomy of dromedary and Bactrian camels. Gross anatomy, histochemical and histoimmunological studies are all covered but in addition, for the first time, a wide spectrum of histological descriptions of the various organs of camels is included, illustrated by special stains and scanning electron microscopy. The work comprises 92 papers in nine sections; e.g. radiographic anatomy, the anatomy of various systems (skeletal, digestive, respiratory, circulatory, urogenital and nervous), the common integument and miscellaneous. These papers were first published by 158 authors, working in 37 laboratories, colleges and institutions, from 14 countries in the *Journal of Camel Anatomy*. These countries are: Egypt, India, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Jordan, Japan, Pakistan, Sweden, the United Arab Emirates, the United States, France and Germany. There is also exclusive research from China. A classic reference book, which will serve as a one-stop resource for scientific information on the gross anatomy and histology of camels.

special events

Resolutions of the 2nd Global Conference on Veterinary Education

Lyons, France, 13-14 May 2011



CONSIDERING:

1. The obligations of the veterinary profession, whatever they may include, regarding the animal kingdom and society, in its largest sense.

2. The need to strengthen the capacities of countries globally to create or maintain national animal health and veterinary public health systems that cover the whole national territory and that can provide for surveillance, early detection and rapid response to outbreaks of aquatic and terrestrial animal diseases, including zoonoses, whether these arise through by natural or intentional events;

3. That the mandate of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) as an intergovernmental organisation with 178 Members (as of April 2011) is to improve animal health and welfare worldwide and to ensure sanitary safety of world trade of animals and animal products, while consolidating the place of animals in the world;

4. That good governance, according to the OIE standards on the quality of Veterinary Services, in particular the provisions of Article 3.2.12 of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (the *Terrestrial Code*) on Veterinary Statutory Bodies (VSB), is of critical importance in enabling veterinary services to fulfil at least the basic missions recommended by

the international community in order to improve animal health and welfare as well as veterinary public health at national, regional and global levels;

5. That the OIE provides to Members the global PVS Pathway for Efficient Veterinary Services under its mandate to strengthen capacities relevant to the veterinary domain, including for animal health and welfare, veterinary legislation, veterinary education and regulation of the veterinary profession by the VSB;

6. That the training (initial and ongoing) of veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals must take into account basic competencies, notably skills in diagnosis, epidemiology, food safety, animal welfare, veterinary legislation, management and leadership;

7. That the training of veterinarians must be based on a foundation of strong scientific research in the major domains of study;

8. The disparities between veterinary registration, accreditation and monitoring procedures and the legislation governing VSB in the various regions/countries, as well as the lack of formal VSB or equivalent institutions in some countries;

9. The need for increased regional integration and subsequent transboundary mobility of veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals;

10. The insufficient participation in general of private veterinarians and

their associations in supporting the activities of Veterinary Services and the need for more public-private veterinary partnerships in many countries;

11. The need for countries and organisations to work together to support countries that wish to improve veterinary governance;

12. That, following the 1st Global Conference on Veterinary Education (October 2009), the OIE convened an ad hoc Group on Veterinary Education, which recommended a set of minimum competencies required of 'Day 1' veterinary graduates (in both the public and private sector) to enable Members to meet the OIE standards for efficient veterinary services;

13. The importance of promoting the veterinary profession in order to better address ambiguities relating to the recognition of veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals;

14. The presentations on veterinary education and the role of VSB made at this conference;

15. The need for strengthening the networks between deans of veterinary education establishments at national, regional and world levels; and

16. The willingness of the participants at this Conference to actively participate in the implementation of international recommendations on veterinary education worldwide.



2nd Global Conference on Veterinary Education

THE CONFERENCE MAKES THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS:

- 1.** The OIE, with support from relevant international organisations, should continue to progress the PVS Pathway for efficient Veterinary Services (including relevant public and private components) by using all associated supporting mechanisms, including independent evaluation, the Veterinary Legislation Support Programme, Twinning Programmes, the PVS Gap Analysis and the PVS follow-up missions;
- 2.** The OIE should continue to work closely with Member Countries and Regional and Global Organisations to support efforts to improve the quality of (initial and ongoing) training of veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals, and harmonised approaches to recognition of qualifications, notably with the support of VSB;
- 3.** The OIE should augment its standards and associated PVS critical competencies in the domain of the Veterinary Statutory Body (VSB), to better provide guidance to OIE Members wishing to update and improve the national governance of the veterinary profession and the OIE should develop a twinning mechanism for countries wishing to establish or strengthen VSB or any equivalent body complying with the OIE *Terrestrial Code* definition (further referred to as 'equivalent body');
- 4.** The OIE should present recommendations to the World Assembly of Delegates on the Day 1 minimum competencies required by veterinarians for countries to meet the OIE standards on the quality of Veterinary Services. The minimum competencies for veterinarians, including those working in governmental services, should ensure sound knowledge, notably in the following subjects: clinical sciences, diagnosis, epidemiology and veterinary public health, including food safety, animal welfare, veterinary legislation, management and leadership;
- 5.** In the framework of the PVS Pathway, the OIE should consider the creation or strengthening of mechanisms to support the evaluation of the quality of national Veterinary Services personnel on the basis of their initial and continuing education, particularly where recognised evaluation systems currently do not apply;
- 6.** The OIE should encourage the creation, if necessary, of regional associations of VSB and/or other relevant organisations with delegated authority for accrediting veterinary education establishments (VEE), which could facilitate the establishment of a list of VEE that would be subject to regional accreditation after appropriate external audit, based on criteria that may be accepted throughout the region to facilitate mobility of veterinarians as appropriate;
- 7.** The OIE should inform VSB about relevant standards and recommendations pertinent to the training of veterinarians and any other useful information related to this field;
- 8.** The OIE should use the principles established under the successful Laboratories Twinning Programme to prepare recommendations for pilot twinning projects between Veterinary Education Establishments (VEE), and between VSB (or equivalent body), and convince potential donors to make financial contributions to such projects;
- 9.** OIE Member Countries should take steps to improve compliance with international standards on the quality of national Veterinary Services by following, when needed, the OIE PVS Pathway, as appropriate to the national and regional context;
- 10.** OIE Member Countries that have done a PVS evaluation are urged to consider the findings of the evaluation and, where appropriate, apply the relevant next steps such as the PVS Gap Analysis and Veterinary Legislation Identification missions, to improve general compliance with OIE standards on the quality of Veterinary Services and other relevant international standards;
- 11.** OIE Members should develop and implement national legislation enabling the establishment of veterinary associations, including clear definitions of the terms 'veterinarian' and 'veterinary para-professional' based on OIE definitions, and the modalities of their



Resolutions of the 2nd Global Conference on Veterinary Education

participation in relevant animal health activities in the country;

12. Those Members who have not yet done so should commence the process of creating an autonomous national VSB complying with the OIE *Terrestrial Code* definition, including as a first step providing national legislation for the establishment of a VSB with clearly defined objectives and powers to regulate the whole veterinary profession, in accordance with OIE standards as referenced in Article 3.2.12 of the *Terrestrial Code*;

13. VSB are encouraged to comply with the OIE standards on the quality of Veterinary Services, in particular the provisions of Article 3.2.12 of the *Terrestrial Code* on VSB;

14. VSB are encouraged to increase the quality of national Veterinary Services by accrediting only veterinarians who have graduated from high-quality educational programmes (e.g., those programmes accredited by a recognised educational accrediting body and/or complying with the OIE recommended core curriculum model);

15. Countries/regions should encourage collaboration between VSB or equivalent bodies, relevant official national or regional accrediting agencies, and veterinary education establishments (VEE), in order to harmonise the evaluation of education programmes; to facilitate both regional integration of Veterinary Services and regional mobility of veterinarians, and also to enable countries whose VEE do not provide good quality training to have access to this; and

16. Countries and regions should encourage stronger cooperation between the various education systems for animal health and human health.

agenda

2011

October

11th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East
3-6 October
Beirut (Lebanon)
regactivities.dept@oie.int

OIE Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission
3-7 October
Paris (France)
trade.dept@oie.int

30th World Veterinary Congress 2011
World Veterinary Association/South African Veterinary Association
10-14 October
Cape Town (South Africa)
Petrie@savetcon.co.za
www.worldvetcongress2011.com

SPS Committee (Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures)
10-14 October
Geneva (Switzerland)
www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/sps_e.htm

2011

*Annual Meeting
of OIE Regional
and Sub-Regional
Representations*
25-28 October
Paris (France)
regactivities.dept@oie.int

November

*27th Conference
of the OIE Regional
Commission for Asia,
the Far East and Oceania*

19-23 November
Tehran (Iran)
regactivities.dept@oie.int

*2nd World Conference on Biological
Invasions and Ecosystem
Functioning (BIOLIEF 2011)*

21-24 November
Mar del Plata (Argentina)
biolief@grieta.org.ar

December

*Regional (Africa + Middle East)
Seminar for OIE National Focal
Points for Veterinary Products*

6-8 December
Casablanca (Morocco)
regactivities.dept@oie.int

2012

February

*11th International Colloquium on
Paratuberculosis 2012*

5-10 February
Sydney (Australia)
icp2012@conceppevents.com.au
www.icp2012.com.au

*OIE Scientific Commission
for Animal Diseases*

6-10 February
Paris (France)
Scientific.dept@oie.int

May

80th OIE General Session

20-25 May
Paris, France
www.oie.int

June

*2nd World Conference
on Foot and Mouth Disease*

Thailand
27-29 June
www.oie.int

July

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

August

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

September

*9th International Congress
of Veterinary Virology*
5-7 September
Madrid (Spain)
<http://esvv.eu/>

*25th Conference of the OIE
Regional Commission for Europe*
17-21 September
Fleesensee (Germany)
regactivities.dept@oie.int

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



Rabies today, and the role of Jean Blancou



© Jacques Barrat

Rabies is a deadly zoonotic disease that is often fatal to humans because of a lack of proper post-exposure prophylaxis. Unfortunately, rabies is still too often neglected in many countries: in animals, little use is made of well-known prophylactic methods and, in humans, in many cases access to good-quality treatment and vaccines is still difficult for economic or social reasons. However, we are now seeing a widespread determination to tackle the rabies problem comprehensively, as part of a coordinated and complementary approach incorporating both human and veterinary aspects.

Early on, Jean Blancou understood this one-medicine concept for the surveillance and control of complex zoonoses, like rabies, involving a variety of domestic and wild species. Jean Blancou has always been interested in the role played by wildlife in zoonoses and felt there was a growing need to ascertain and predict potential interference between wildlife diseases and diseases of domestic animals or humans.

This has prompted Jean Blancou to devote much of his career to understanding the pathology of lyssaviruses in their reservoir species and to seeking to

characterise the species barrier, a crucial element in protecting public health. Inoculation routes and incubation, morbidity and excretion periods in dogs and foxes and their post-vaccination resistance to challenge hold no more secrets for Jean Blancou and his team. However, the most interesting part of this research lies in analysing variations in susceptibility among the different animal species, depending on the viruses used. Writing in the late 1970s that intrinsic adaptation characteristics of the different rabies virus biotypes could act independently of local environmental and ecological variations and determine the persistence of the epizootic was something of a pioneering and avant-garde idea. Nonetheless, Jean Blancou has not neglected the role of the environment and ecology in the spread of rabies. On the contrary, his work to analyse fox ethology and ecology and his research on innovative vaccine technologies contributed largely to the foundations of the fox-vaccination strategy in France and Europe, and to the eradication of rabies from Western Europe.

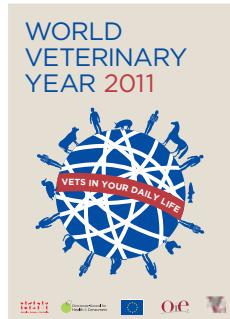
Hervé Bourhy

Head of the Lyssavirus and Host Adaptation Dynamics Unit (Unité Dynamique des Lyssavirus et Adaptation à l'Hôte), National Rabies Reference Centre and World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Reference and Research on Rabies (Centre National de Référence pour la Rage and Centre Collaborateur de l'Organisation Mondiale de la Santé de Référence et de Recherche sur la Rage), Institut Pasteur, Paris, France

Oie members

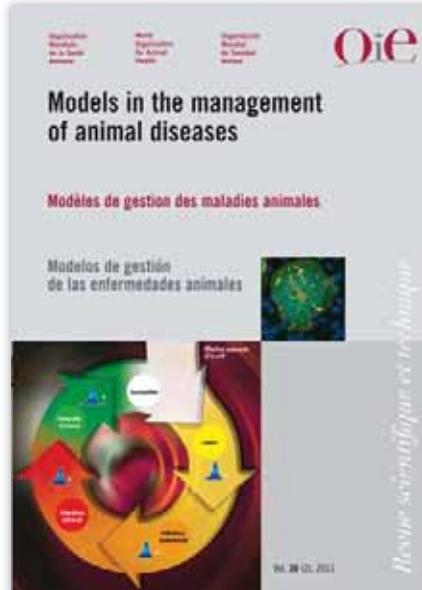
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Models in the management of animal diseases

OIE Scientific and Technical Review, Vol. 30 (2), August 2011

The purpose of this issue of the *Review* is to encourage and facilitate the worldwide improvement in the understanding of the ways in which national Veterinary Services and their partners can make use of models in the prevention and control of animal diseases.

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