

bulletin

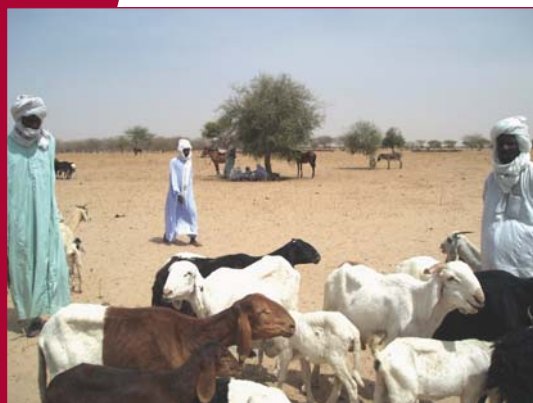
No. 2006 - 4

offlu
OIE | FAO
network on avian influenza

*Transparency
on avian influenza*

Oie

contents



editorial

Transparency on avian influenza virus strains: the OIE/FAO OFFLU network	01
---	----

forum

Animal Welfare Update	03
-----------------------------	----

OIE news

The recognition of country status for freedom from disease	05
The 74th Annual General Session of the International Committee of the OIE	8 and 65
Resolutions adopted during the 74th General Session	9
new OIE publications	30
meetings & visits	33
news from headquarters	39
regional activities	48
official acts	51

news from colleagues

epidemiology & animal disease control programmes	54
activities of reference laboratories & collaborating centres	55

international news

book review	58
special events	59
agenda	63

<i>questions and answers</i>	64
------------------------------------	----

Transparency on avian influenza virus strains: the OIE/FAO OFFLU network



The avian influenza crisis has focused the attention of the international community over several years now, disclosing alternatively scientific,

economic and political issues.

The G8 Summit held in July 2006, surveillance and monitoring of infectious animal diseases and zoonoses was supported and encouraged by world leaders, along with the need to strengthen Veterinary Services worldwide, build up laboratory capacities and capabilities, share virus strain samples between countries and focus on work with relevant international organisations in the mitigation of animal and public health emergencies.

Sharing virus strains, samples and sequences is a critical part of the global work on the surveillance and control of infectious diseases including avian influenza. The joint World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)/Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, worldwide scientific network for the control of avian influenza (OFFLU), has been established precisely with a priority objective of improving the knowledge, following up and sharing of H5N1 virus strains between human health and animal health laboratories and OIE/FAO reference laboratories worldwide, promoting gene sequencing and publishing the gene sequences in public data bases.

This provides vital scientific knowledge for authorities and organisations seeking to control the disease in poultry, and to prepare for the possibility of a human pandemic including scientific support for the production of human vaccines.

Laboratories in charge of the human side of influenza pandemic preparedness, under the guidance of the World Health Organization (WHO), and veterinary laboratories working in the OFFLU framework also work together through a WHO/ OIE-FAO interface mechanism.

In April 2005, the OIE with the FAO created OFFLU and strongly supported its activities ever since, pointing out the importance for human medical research to have a timely access to the animal strains of the virus in order to prepare

on time the most efficient vaccines for humans.

Through an active and permanent cooperation, OFFLU develops and harmonises scientific activities in all continents and provides a pro-active approach in providing support to infected and at risk countries to protect themselves.

OFFLU is also a precious source of scientific expertise. It maintains a database of experts recognised for their excellence who may be able for consultancy

missions to respond to the needs of countries and the FAO/OIE Crisis Management Centre which holds the operational responsibility of managing missions. However, some specific issues on laboratory and scientific expertise may be carried out directly by the Network.

To allow OFFLU to carry out its activities properly, appropriate international funding is needed. Since the very beginning of the avian influenza crisis, the OIE alerted the international community about the need to control the virus at animal source and that national and global resources should be allocated to this end as a priority. As an essential component of the monitoring and

In a world in which outbreaks of zoonotic diseases can cause considerable economic and social disruption, affect the animal kingdom while causing threats to public health I consider that it is our duty to support and strengthen Networks such as OFFLU...

offlu
OIE | FAO
network on avian influenza



control of the virus in animals, OFFLU must be part of this funding process decided at the Beijing Conference in January 2006.

The Steering Committee of OFFLU decided to increase activities of its permanent Secretariat (hosted in Padua, Italy) as well as those of laboratories and epidemiology centres members of the Network. The Committee also decided to reinforce the interface mechanism between OFFLU and the WHO network of Laboratories in charge of avian influenza. Human resources of the Network were recently improved to reach all these objectives.

Liaison officers will be appointed both to OIE and FAO and two additional scientists will be appointed, respectively to the Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale (IZS) in Padua (Italy) and to Veterinary Laboratories Agency (VLA) in Weybridge (United Kingdom). These scientists will work together in Weybridge and Padova on viral strains received.

Then, they will be sent to the US National Institute for Health for sequencing and deposited in full transparency on the free-access database, GenBank.

In a world in which outbreaks of zoonotic diseases can cause considerable economic and social disruption, affect the animal kingdom while causing threats to public health I consider that it is our duty to support and strengthen Networks such as OFFLU in order to promote exchange of information on diagnostic and research programmes in laboratories and epidemiology research centres, and thus contributing in the control and eradication of Avian Influenza worldwide.

OFFLU clearly became an International Public Good.

As an essential component of the monitoring and control of the virus in animals, OFFLU must be part of this funding process decided at the Beijing Conference in January 2006



Bernard Vallat
Director General, OIE



Animal Welfare Update

Introduction

This fourth animal welfare update is designed to maintain awareness of progress with OIE activities involving animal welfare and is part of the OIE's commitment to communication and consultation, which are vital elements of the OIE Animal Welfare mission statement:

'To provide international leadership in animal welfare through the development of science-based standards, and guidelines, the provision of expert advice and the promotion of relevant education and research.'

This update includes feed back from the fifth meeting of the Permanent Animal Welfare Working Group and a report from Ms Sonja Rosic-Banjanin, who was a trainee at the OIE in July/August 2006.

In August 2006, Dr Sarah Kahn took over from Dr David Wilson as Head of the OIE International Trade Department. This position is critical to the OIE work in animal welfare. Dr Wilson is thanked for his most valuable contribution over a three year period and Dr Kahn is welcomed to her new role. In September 2006, Dr Leopoldo Stuardo took over the position previously held by Dr Julio Pinto. The Animal Welfare Working Group looks forward to working with both Dr Kahn and Dr Stuardo.

Working Group Meeting

The OIE Animal Welfare Working Group held its fifth meeting from 4-6 July 2006 at OIE Headquarters in Paris.



Animal Welfare Working Group, including invited observers during their July 2006 meeting

For the second time, this annual meeting was attended by a representative of non governmental organisations and, in an observer capacity, by representatives of the International Meat Secretariat (IMS), the International Dairy Federation (IDF) and the International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP). The Working Group had the opportunity to discuss a number of issues face to face with the Director General, Dr Vallat, who commented very positively on the Working Group's achievements and future direction.

The Working Group reviewed the four sets of guidelines adopted at the May 2005 OIE General Session, taking into account outstanding submissions received. These revisions will be available for member country consultation prior to the 2007 General Session.

The meeting also covered the following areas:

- Housing and production standards. Animal protection, rather than animal welfare promotion, is the strategic priority for many of the developing or transition OIE member countries. The Director General noted that extensive farming, without housing, is the norm for the most economically important species in many of these countries.
- The stray dog control ad hoc group will review and amend its report. Group membership will be revised to include veterinary services management experience. With c. 50,000 people dying worldwide each year from dog-transmitted rabies, this work and associated liaison with WHO is a high priority.
- Development of guidelines on aquatic animal welfare and discussion on draft guidelines for slaughter of crustaceans for human consumption and humane killing of crustaceans for disease control purposes.
- The October 2006 OIE meeting with the International Council for Laboratory Animal Science (ICLAS) and associated organisations.

The European Commission has proposed a follow up to the 2004 Global Conference on Animal Welfare. With support from the Director General, it was recommended that the conference be held, preferably in a developing country, in 2008.

Veterinary Student Perspective of the OIE Animal Welfare Initiative

*Sonja Rosic-Banjanin, DVM Candidate 2008,
Ontario Veterinary College, Guelph, Canada*

The Central Bureau and Animal Welfare Working Group were fortunate to receive support from Ms Sonja Rosic-Banjanin during July and August and the following report provides a valuable perspective from a future veterinarian.

'To be able to teach, one must first learn, by combining practical experience with theoretical knowledge. There is no better way to learn about the role of the OIE in animal health, public health and, specifically animal welfare, than by participating in the process of developing the OIE guidelines. I was fortunate in having this opportunity during my externship at the OIE Headquarters in Paris from 3 July to 30 August 2006.

The most interesting aspect of this process for me is that each word included in the OIE guidelines is carefully weighed to convey the exact meaning and to allow appropriate flexibility in its application. It is an equivalent outcome rather than an identical approach to the issue that the guidelines communicate to the 167 Member Countries of the OIE. The process is dynamic and the guidelines continuously revised. To witness the effort and cooperation of this process is fascinating and is a privilege that I greatly appreciated.

The process of creating guidelines on animal welfare is difficult due to the complexity and sensitivity of this issue, with its multiple ethical, economical, political and scientific dimensions, especially at the international level. To become directly involved in this process during the fifth meeting of the OIE Permanent Working Group on Animal Welfare (PAWWG)

in July 2006 was an honour and a pleasure. The PAWWG meeting was an excellent introduction to the specific issues currently on the agenda and the stakeholders involved. The approachability of the Members of the PAWWG allowed for my active participation and greatly improved my understanding of the issues discussed.

The transparent approach of the OIE in addressing animal welfare on a global scale provides a unique opportunity for stakeholders to communicate, learn and teach. The PAWWG can utilise this knowledge and these resources to address wide-ranging issues, including stray animal control, undergraduate veterinary curricula, aquatic animal welfare, terrestrial animal housing and management and laboratory animal welfare.

The role of the OIE and the PAWWG in the field of animal welfare is the key to securing harmonised approaches and improved animal welfare internationally. The veterinary community should be proud of the accomplishments of the OIE and the PAWWG and should support the initiative by establishing and promoting animal welfare as a key component of the profession. As a future veterinarian, I would like to thank Dr Brian Evans, Canada's Chief Veterinary Officer and Delegate to the OIE and Dr Bernard Vallat, Director General of the OIE, for recognising veterinary students as prospective stakeholders in the field of animal welfare, and thus allowing me to participate in this OIE initiative as part of my summer externship.'

It is hoped that this update is proving useful to *Bulletin* readers and suggestions for material to be included in future issues will continue to be welcomed.

A.C. David Bayvel
Chair, Animal Welfare Working Group



The recognition of country status for freedom from disease

In May 1994, the International Committee of the OIE requested the Foot and mouth disease and Other Epizootics Commission (now called the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases) to develop a procedure for the official recognition by the OIE of the foot and mouth disease (FMD) free status of Member Countries. The procedure has since been expanded to include official recognition of freedom from rinderpest, contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP) and bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE).

The procedure for the official recognition of country status for these four diseases, which was adopted by resolution by the OIE International Committee, can be briefly summarised as follows:

Any Member Country that wishes to be included in the list of disease free countries or to change its status (for example, to move from the list of countries/zones free with use of vaccination to the list of countries/zones free without use of vaccination) sends a request to the OIE Director General, accompanied by specific supporting documentation such as the country questionnaires for FMD, rinderpest or BSE, who in turn sends it to the Scientific Commission. Documentation could be in any of the three official languages of the OIE and should be supplied in hardcopy as well as in electronic format (MSWord or PDF file). The chapter and accompanying

questionnaire for CBPP are currently reviewed by the Scientific Commission. Countries wishing to apply for the evaluation of status for CBPP are advised to consult either the questionnaire for rinderpest or FMD in the interim as most of the information required for these two diseases would be equally applicable for CBPP.



In May 2002, the OIE International Committee adopted Resolution No. XVIII asking Member Countries wishing to be evaluated for BSE, FMD and CBPP status, to submit with their application, 9,000 Euros for BSE and 7,000 Euros each for FMD, Rinderpest and CBPP. Least developed countries need to submit only half these amounts. These payments will be required only when a country applies for recognition for the first time. For subsequent applications, only half of the initial sum will be charged.

The Commission on advice from the ad hoc Groups of experts for each of these diseases, can conclude on a final recommendation for adoption by

the International Committee of the OIE or the Commission may determine that additional documentation is required or that a visit to the country from an expert panel is necessary before a recommendation for adoption can be submitted to the International Committee.

Once the Commission recommends the acceptance of a formal request by a Member Country, all OIE Member Countries are informed of the OIE's intention to change the disease status of the Member Country for that particular disease. Member Countries then have 60 days in which to register any objection in writing. Should an objection be raised, which must be based on scientific or technical grounds, the country or countries objecting are required to submit documentation supporting their case to the Director General. In this case, the Director General consults the Scientific Commission, which decides whether to accept or reject the objection. Member countries wishing to obtain additional information relevant to the application of another Member Country, can request it directly from the Official delegate to the OIE of the relevant country.

At each stage in this procedure, if it is deemed necessary, the Commission may be assisted by an expert panel, nominated by the Director General, to examine field data. The Commission and the expert panels are

guided in their decision-making by the provisions of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* and *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals* current at the time of evaluation as well as any other supporting documentation supplied by the Member Country. All the Commission's proposals must be ratified by vote by the International Committee. During the General Session in May of each year, the International Committee after considering the recommendations of the Scientific Commission, adopts a resolution for each of these four diseases entitled respectively 'Recognition of the Foot and Mouth Disease/Rinderpest/ Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia/ Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy Status of Member Countries'.

For FMD, rinderpest, BSE and CBPP, free countries that experience outbreaks of these diseases, a 'fast track' procedure for regaining its free status exists. During the General Sessions in 1997 (for FMD) and 2004 (for Rinderpest, CBPP and BSE), the International Committee adopted a resolution that delegates to the Scientific Commission the authority to recognise after evaluation of country submissions and without further consultation with Member Countries and the International Committee, that a Member Country or zone within its territory has regained its previously recognised status with respect to FMD, rinderpest, BSE and CBPP, following outbreaks or infections, as appropriate, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the *Terrestrial Code*.

Member Countries wishing to submit dossiers for evaluation by

the Scientific Commission should take note of the time schedule of meetings of the Commission and ad hoc Groups. The Bureau of the Commission meets in May and January each year and meetings of the full Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases in September and February. Meetings of the ad hoc Groups for country evaluations are normally scheduled during the months of July to the end of January to enable sufficient time for the Commission to evaluate the recommendations of the ad hoc Groups and to circulate the tentative lists of countries recommended for the allocation of disease freedom, to Member Countries for comment. The final list of recommendations that will be submitted to the International Committee for adoption during the General Session in May each year is usually circulated to Member Countries during the month of February prior to the General Session to allow for the 60 days period for comments by Member Countries.

The adoption of Resolution XXVII at the 74th General Session of the OIE in May 2006, giving recognition by the International Committee of the OIE to BSE categorisation status of several Member Countries, also signifies

the acceptance by the European Commission, the EU Council and the EU Parliament of a process that would now be the sole responsibility and mandate of the OIE. Countries that were thus previously classified for BSE in accordance with the EC GBR index system will also have to be assessed in accordance with the new categorisation criteria of the OIE as the EC will no longer continue with assessment for BSE using the GBR system. To make provision for a possible influx of applications from Member Countries, additional capacity has been created at the Central Bureau to manage the process.

The maintenance of a disease free status is dependent on continued observance of OIE rules and reporting by Member Countries of any significant events that may change that status. Failure to comply provides grounds for the OIE to revoke the given status. Member countries are obliged to notify the OIE in writing during November of each year that the epidemiological situation in respect of each of the diseases for which a status of disease freedom was allocated by the International Committee, remained unchanged.



OIE procedures for self-declaration of freedom from OIE listed diseases by a Member Country

A Member Country can declare itself free of a disease listed in the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* for which provision has not been made for official declaration of freedom by the OIE and also provisional freedom from rinderpest and CBPP under the conditions outlined in Appendix 3.8.2 and Appendix 3.8.3 in the *Terrestrial Code*. This can be done if that country is satisfied that it can provide the necessary sanitary guarantees to its trade partners that its self-declaration of freedom meets the requirements for freedom as outlined in the relevant chapters of the *Terrestrial Code*.

A Member Country wishing to declare itself free from a given OIE listed disease or provisionally free from rinderpest and CBPP, can submit a declaration to the OIE stating that it declares itself free from such disease in accordance with the requirements of the *Terrestrial Code*. This declaration must be signed by the Official Delegate to the OIE of the Member Country. This declaration could then be published in



the weekly *Disease Information* report and on the OIE website for the information of Member Countries. The OIE is not responsible for inaccurate publication of country/zone disease status based on inaccurate information or changes in epidemiological status or other significant events that were not promptly reported to the Central Bureau

subsequent to the time of self-declaration of freedom.

The self-declaration for freedom from an OIE listed disease is on the responsibility of the Member Country concerned and does not have official OIE recognition status as for diseases published in the annual lists for official disease freedom adopted by the OIE International Committee.

74th Annual General Session of the International Committee of the OIE

21-26 May 2006

The 74th Annual General Session of the International Committee of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) was held in Paris from 21 to 26 May 2006.

The General Session notably brings together representatives appointed by the Governments of the 167 OIE Member Countries.

Approximately 600 participants representing Member Countries, intergovernmental organisations (FAO, WHO, World Bank, WTO etc.) took part in the event. The Session was honoured by the presence, alongside the President and the Director General, of high-ranked authorities, including numerous Ministers of OIE Member Countries.

Member Countries praised the role played by the OIE in the global fight against avian influenza. They particularly saluted the agreement reached with the World Bank and key donors to support developing and in transition countries to invest in programmes aimed at bringing their Veterinary Services in line with OIE standards.

The main points dealt with during the Session were as follows:

- The session accredited the application of a new Collaborating Centre – the Centre for Disease Control (CDC in Atlanta) – with the aim of better preventing and controlling animal diseases transmittable to human beings. It also recognised the crucial role played by the OIE network of 170 reference laboratories and collaborating centres in reaching the organisation's objectives;
- Member Countries welcomed the new World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS) that will strengthen OIE's actions in terms of transparency on state of animal diseases worldwide;
- Consistent with the framework of its usual standard-setting activities, the Committee adopted new and updated international standards aimed at providing better safeguards for the sanitary safety of world trade in terrestrial and aquatic animals and their products as well as guidelines to better implement surveillance of animal diseases and zoonoses on their territory.

- Member countries also voted new improvements to chapters about animal welfare and food safety in production phase;
- They adopted policy lines on identification and animal traceability;
- Special attention was given to updating the chapter on BSE in the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*. Adopted texts highlighted global surveillance methods that will allow the OIE to propose willing Member Countries a new procedure for an official recognition of their status on the disease;
- The Session approved the lists of countries or zones recognised by the OIE as being free from foot and mouth disease, rinderpest, contagious bovine pleuropneumonia and bovine spongiform encephalopathy;
- Member Countries also decided that notification to the OIE of any detection of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in wildlife was to be compulsory;
- The list of Veterinary Critically Important Antimicrobials (VCIA) defined by OIE was published;
- The worldwide zoonository situation has been examined in detail;
- Two technical items of biggest interest were presented and debated during the Session and gave rise to Resolutions passed by the International Committee:
- Economic and social justification of investment in animal health and zoonoses;
- Future approaches needed to ensure veterinary education meets societal demands.

The high level of scientific expertise of the speakers and the quality of the debates that followed the presentation of each technical item will have served to promote the global application of concepts that are essential for improved control of animal diseases and zoonoses.

The International Committee undertook the election of the new OIE President. Dr Barry O'Neil was elected for a three-year mandate. Members of the Administrative Commission, Regional Commissions and Specialist Commissions were also elected by the General Assembly.

see more pictures on page 65



Resolutions adopted by the International Committee of the OIE during the 74th General Session

21-26 May 2006

RESOLUTION XIII

Agreement between the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the Arab Organization for Agriculture Development (AOAD)

CONSIDERING

That it is desirable, in the general interest of all concerned, that cooperation be established between the OIE and the Arab Organization for Agriculture Development (AOAD),

The Agreement between the two organisations approved following the deliberations of the Administrative Commission on 19 May 2006 (74 SG/18),

THE COMMITTEE DECIDES

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

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 26 May 2006)

RESOLUTION XIV

Agreement between the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)

CONSIDERING

That it is desirable, in the general interest of all concerned, that cooperation be established between the OIE and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS),

The Agreement between the two organisations approved following the deliberations of the Administrative Commission on 19 May 2006 (74 SG/19),

THE COMMITTEE DECIDES

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

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 26 May 2006)

RESOLUTION XV

Agreement between the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the World Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (WAVLD)

CONSIDERING

That it is desirable, in the general interest of all concerned, that cooperation be established between the OIE and the World Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (WAVLD),

The Agreement between the two organisations approved following the deliberations of the Administrative Commission on 19 May 2006 (74SG/20),

THE COMMITTEE DECIDES

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

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 26 May 2006)

RESOLUTION XVI

Agreement between the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the International Committee of Military Medicine (ICMM)

CONSIDERING
That it is desirable, in the general interest of all concerned,
that cooperation be established between the OIE and the International Committee of
Military Medicine (ICMM),

The Agreement between the two organisations approved following the
deliberations of the Administrative Commission
on 19 May 2006 (74 SG/21),

THE COMMITTEE DECIDES

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

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 26 May 2006)

RESOLUTION XVII

Agreement between the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the International Egg Commission (IEC)

CONSIDERING
That it is desirable, in the general interest of all concerned, that cooperation be
established between the OIE and the International Egg Commission (IEC),

The agreement between the two organisations approved following the
deliberations of the Administrative Commission on 19 May 2006 (74 SG/22),

THE COMMITTEE DECIDES

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

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 26 May 2006)

RESOLUTION XVIII

Terms of Reference of the Regional Commissions of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)

NOTING
That the five Regional Commissions of the World Organisation for Animal Health
(OIE), namely the OIE Regional Commission for Africa, the OIE Regional
Commission for the Americas, the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East
and Oceania, the OIE Regional Commission for Europe and the OIE Regional
Commission for the Middle East, were created on the basis of the OIE Organic Rules
decided by the International Committee on 24 May 1973,

AWARE

Of the need for a more precise definition of the purpose and mode of operation
of the Regional Commissions, namely to take into account the evolution and
the extension of the missions of the OIE and the provisions of the Fourth Strategic
Plan adopted by the International Committee on 27 May 2005,

GIVEN

The Basic Texts and in particular Chapter III of the General Rules of the OIE
relating to Regional Commissions,

The favourable opinion of the Administrative Commission,

THE COMMITTEE DECIDES THAT

1. The five Regional Commissions of the OIE shall be governed by the Terms
of Reference and Internal Rules of the Regional Commissions appended to the
present Resolution.

2. The Director General shall be responsible for the implementation of the provisions of the Terms of Reference and Internal Rules of the Regional Commissions appended to the present Resolution.
3. The Member Countries hosting the Regional Conferences shall be invited to respect the corresponding provisions appended to the present Resolution.

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 26 May 2006)



TERMS OF REFERENCE AND RULES OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS

Terms of Reference and Internal Rules

I. Terms of Reference

The OIE Regional Commissions are bodies of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) established by decision of the International Committee of the OIE to further the objectives of the OIE in each region of the world.

When Countries accede to the OIE through diplomatic channels they automatically become members of the corresponding OIE Region. The Member Countries of the Region, meeting in Conference, may vote to approve the membership of other countries.

There are five Regional Commissions (Africa; the Americas; Asia, the Far East and Oceania; Europe; and the Middle East). Their terms of reference are:

1. to hold Regional Conferences bringing together the OIE Member Countries of the Region, the OIE Regional Representative(s), the Director General of the OIE, the representatives of international and regional organisations and experts invited to:
 - a. examine within a regional framework issues relating to animal health, animal welfare and animal production food safety;
 - b. produce recommendations to be submitted for approval to the International Committee of the OIE and implemented, after adoption, by the Central Bureau and/or the Regional Representations;
2. to propose adaptations of OIE decisions, programmes, strategies, policies and activities to the conditions and needs of the Regions and, where appropriate, Sub-regions;
3. to contribute to strengthening the capacities of the Veterinary Services of the OIE Member Countries of each Region;
4. to contribute to the harmonisation of sanitary regulations relating to trade in animals and animal products between the Member Countries of each Region;

5. to increase the contribution of livestock to national economies and participate in poverty alleviation through international trade;
6. to give an advisory opinion on the headquarters of the Regional Representation and, where appropriate, that of Sub-regional Representations, and on the work programmes of the Regional Representations and their sub-regional offices;
7. to examine, and where appropriate approve, applications from Member Countries of the Region relating to the creation of new OIE Collaborating Centres. Candidatures presented by Member Countries must first have received the approval of the Specialist Commission concerned and the Administrative Commission. Applications are then transmitted to the President of the relevant Regional Commission by the Director General. The candidatures are then submitted to the the International Committee for approval.

Regional Commissions shall function on the basis of the Internal Rules.

II. Internal Rules

Article 1

OIE Regional Commissions shall be constituted by decision of the International Committee following a proposal by members of the Committee or by the Administrative Commission.

Article 2

OIE Member Countries whose territory is predominantly situated in a given Region delineated by the OIE shall have an automatic right to membership of the corresponding Regional Commission. In certain cases, duly warranted by the presence within a Region of a geographical territory of a country belonging to another Region, an OIE Member Country may be a member of two or more Regional Commissions, subject to its request being accepted by the Regional



TERMS OF REFERENCE AND RULES OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS

Commission(s) concerned and then endorsed by the International Committee.

Article 3

Non member countries may participate, with observer status and without the right to vote, in meetings of the Regional Commissions, subject to a joint decision by the Director General and the President of the Regional Commission.

Article 4

In accordance with Article 13 of the General Rules, the Bureau of each Regional Commission shall be composed of a President, two Vice-Presidents and a Secretary General, elected by the International Committee from among the Members on duty of the Committee, on the proposition of Delegates who are Members of the Regional Commission in question.

Article 5

The members of the Bureaux of the Regional Commissions shall be elected, in an individual capacity, by the International Committee for a period of three years. Members shall be eligible for re-election.

In the event of elections to fill vacancies on the Bureaux of Regional Commissions, the Commissions may agree on regional candidatures. The candidates proposed shall be chosen from among the Delegates of the Member Countries of the Regional Commission. The President of each of the Regional Commissions concerned or, in the absence of the President, one of the Vice-Presidents shall then inform the International Committee, during one of the administrative sessions of the General Session, of the proposition of the Commission. The International Committee shall then be invited to vote on the proposition.

Article 6

The Bureaux of the Regional Commissions may, in accordance with the sanitary priorities of their region, invite the Director General to convene Ad hoc Groups to analyse, discuss and develop proposals on their specific expertise. These proposals shall be submitted to the Bureaux of the Regional Commissions before being assessed by the statutory Specialist Commissions (the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases, the Biological Standards Commission, the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission and the Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission).

Article 7

The Bureaux of the Regional Commissions shall meet, in accordance with Articles 14 and 15 of the General Rules, at

least once a year, convened by the Director General of the OIE in consultation with the President of the Commission concerned and the OIE Regional Representative concerned, to discuss the programmes, strategies, policies, activities and recommendations of the Commission.

The Regional Commissions shall meet during the annual General Session on the basis of an agenda prepared by their respective Bureaux, with the support of the Regional Representative concerned and in accordance with the Director General.

Article 8

Each Regional Commission shall hold, every two years and on each occasion in a different country, with the approval of the International Committee or, in an emergency, with the agreement of the Administrative Commission and the Director General, a Regional Conference to examine animal health, animal welfare and animal food production safety issues within the Region in question and elaborate recommendations and reports, in accordance with Article 16 of the General Rules.

Article 9

Regional Conferences shall be convened by the Director General and organised by the Regional Commissions and the OIE Central Bureau in liaison with the corresponding Regional Representation, after they have ensured that the government of the Host Country is willing to grant all the Delegates, rapporteurs and observers and the members of the OIE secretariat participating in the Conference the immunities they need in order to carry out in total independence the duties that they are required to perform, and to grant all material facilities for holding the Regional Conference. The Host Country shall make the necessary arrangements to ensure that any entry visas and stay permits that may be required by the Delegations of OIE Member Countries are issued in a timely manner.

Article 10

The programme for Regional Conferences shall be approved by the Director General and the President of the Regional Commission in liaison with the corresponding Regional Representation. Invitations to the countries concerned to take part in a Regional Conference shall be sent by the Director General to the Delegates of these countries. Other invitations shall be issued with the agreement of the Director General, the Delegate of the Host Country and the President of the Regional Commission.



TERMS OF REFERENCE AND RULES OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS

Article 11

The OIE Central Bureau and the relevant Regional Representation shall assist the General Rapporteur with the preparation of meeting reports, in particular by providing secretarial staff to coordinate and support the activities of the secretariat provided by the Host Country for the Conference.

Article 12

For Regional Conferences, the OIE Central Bureau and/or its Regional Representation, if the Host Country so requests, shall be responsible for:

- defraying the travelling expenses and per diem allowance of speakers, members of the Bureau of the Regional Commission and members of the Central Bureau and the corresponding Regional Representation;
- defraying the travelling expenses and fees of interpreters (if appropriate);
- printing the preparatory documents for the Conference, subject to their being received at least one month before the Conference;
- an official dinner for the participants.

Article 13

For the Regional Conferences, the Host Country shall, on the basis of a list of requirements provided by the Director General of the OIE, be responsible for:

- reserving hotel accommodation and sending participants practical details about hotels and visas and any other useful information;
- contributing where possible to the cost of hotel accommodation and catering for representatives of Member Countries, by a decision of the Host Country or local authorities;
- rental of the conference hall and additional rooms, including for the secretariat, and installation of a simultaneous translation system;
- printing documents other than those referred to in Article 11;
- secretarial support (personnel and equipment);
- coffee breaks and refreshments during the conference;
- a professional or cultural visit;
- local transport to the conference venue;
- an official dinner for the participants.

Article 14

During Regional Conferences, the Regional Representations shall provide the Regional Commissions and the Host Country with logistic support.

Article 15

Financing of the Conferences of the Regional Commissions, except for items defrayed by the Host Country under the terms of Article 13, shall be covered by the OIE Regular Budget and, if necessary, by the eligible special accounts, including those of the OIE Regional Representations.

Article 16

Representatives of national, regional or international organisations and members of OIE Collaborating Centres and Reference Laboratories, designated by the Director General, may participate in the Conferences of the Regional Commissions and speak on topics within their field of competence. These representatives do not have the right to vote.

Article 17

The date, venue and choice of technical items for the following Conference may be established either during the Regional Conference or at the following General Session of the International Committee, on a proposal by the President of the Regional Commission in question.

Article 18

A draft report of the Regional Conference shall be presented on the last day of the Conference. The comments of participants will be recorded for inclusion in the final report, which will be established and distributed by the OIE Central Bureau.

Article 19

During the General Session of the International Committee, the President, Vice-President or Secretary General of each Regional Commission shall present the activity report of the Commission, and the recommendations and conclusions of the Regional Conferences held since the previous General Session. All these recommendations shall be submitted to the International Committee and, if approved, shall be implemented by the Director General. The vote shall be by a simple majority.

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 26 May 2006)



RESOLUTION XIX

Modification of the composition of the Laboratories Commission

CONSIDERING

the increasing workload of the OIE Biological Standards Commission, hereafter referred to as the Laboratories Commission, which makes it necessary for this Commission to have two additional experts at its disposal, and at the request of the said Commission,

the need for a geographically balanced representation in the composition of this Commission, insofar as is possible,

GIVEN

the Terms of Reference, Internal Rules and Qualifications of the Members of the OIE Laboratories Commission adopted by the OIE International Committee on 22 May 2003,

THE COMMITTEE DECIDES THAT

Articles 1 and 2 of the Internal Rules of the OIE Laboratories Commission shall be abrogated and replaced by the articles hereafter:

“Article 1

The OIE Biological Standards Commission shall consist of a Bureau (comprised of a President, a Vice-President and a Secretary General) and two other Members.

Article 2

The International Committee elects the individual Members of the Bureau and then the other two Members respectively, taking into account the need for a geographically balanced representation, and the need for relevant expertise.

The Members of the Commission are elected for a period of three years.

The mandate of the Commission may be renewed by the International Committee.

Positions should be filled as they fall vacant, before the elections referred to in the first paragraph.”

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 26 May 2006)



RESOLUTION XXVI

Recognition of the Foot and Mouth Disease Status of Member Countries

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 63rd General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolutions XI and XII, ‘Establishment of a list of foot and mouth disease (FMD) free countries where vaccination is not practised’, and ‘Procedure for the recognition of the foot and mouth disease status of Member Countries’, respectively,
2. During the 64th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution XII, which asks that the Director General publish a list of the countries or zones within national territories that fulfil the criteria of one of the FMD free categories described in Chapter 2.2.10. of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (the *Terrestrial Code*),
3. The Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases (the Scientific Commission) has continued to apply the procedure approved by the International Committee, and has supported the recognition of the FMD free status of additional countries and zones within national territories for annual adoption of the list by the International Committee,



4. Recommendations of the Scientific Commission regarding the evaluation of countries as being free from foot and mouth disease have been submitted to Member Countries for comments as outlined in Resolution XVI, which was adopted during the 67th General Session of the International Committee,
5. The Scientific Commission proposed that an updated list of countries and zones previously recognised as free from foot and mouth disease and those newly proposed by the Scientific Commission in consultation with Member Countries be annually adopted by resolution,
6. During the 65th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution XII, which stated that the Delegates of Member Countries where countries or zones within their national territories are recognised as FMD free, annually confirm by letter during the month of November that their FMD status and the criteria by which that status was recognised have remained unchanged,
7. During the 65th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution XVII delegating to the Scientific Commission the authority to recognise, without further International Committee consultation, that a Member Country or zone within its territory has regained its previously recognised FMD free status following outbreaks that are eradicated in accordance with the relevant provisions of Chapter 2.2.10. of the Terrestrial Code,
8. During the 71st General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution XXI delegating to the Scientific Commission the authority to recognise, without further International Committee consultation, an FMD free zone created following outbreaks within a Member Country or its territory in accordance with the relevant provisions of Chapters 1.3.5. and 2.2.10. of the Terrestrial Code.
9. During the 70th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution XVIII asking Member Countries applying for evaluation for freedom from FMD to meet part of the costs sustained by the OIE Central Bureau in the evaluation process,
10. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the official Veterinary Services of Member Countries. The OIE is not responsible for inaccurate publication of country disease status based on inaccurate information or changes in epidemiological status or other significant events that were not promptly reported to the Central Bureau subsequent to the time of declaration of freedom,

THE COMMITTEE RESOLVES

That the Director General publish the following list of Member Countries recognised as FMD free countries where vaccination is not practised, according to the provisions of Chapter 2.2.10. of the *Terrestrial Code*¹:

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

1-For information on the status of non-contiguous territories of Member Countries recognised as FMD free, please address enquiries to that country's Delegate or to the Director General

* Including the territory of Kosovo administered by the United Nations

AND

That the Director General publish the following list of Member Countries recognised as FMD free countries where vaccination is practised, according to the provisions of Chapter 2.2.10. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Taipei China, Paraguay and Uruguay

AND

That the Director General publish the following list of Member Countries as having an FMD free zone where vaccination is not practised, according to the provisions of Chapter 2.2.10. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Argentina: zone situated south of the 42° parallel;

Colombia: zone designated by the Delegate of Colombia in documents addressed to the Director General on 25 November 1995 (Area I - Northwest region of Choco Department) and 3 April 1996;

Malaysia: zones of Sabah and Sarawak designated by the Delegate of Malaysia in a document addressed to the Director General on 15 December 2003;

Namibia: zone designated by the Delegate of Namibia in a document addressed to the Director General on 6 February 1997;

Peru: one zone as designated by the Delegate of Peru in a document addressed to the Director General in December 2004.

Philippines: Islands of Mindanao, Visayas, Palawan and Masbate;

South Africa: zone designated by the Delegate of South Africa in a document addressed to the Director General in May 2005;

AND

That the Director General publish the following list of Member Countries as having FMD free zones where vaccination is practised, according to the provisions of Chapter 2.2.10. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Bolivia: zone of Chiquitania designated by the Delegate of Bolivia in documents addressed to the Director General in January 2003 and a zone situated in the western part of the Department of Oruro in documents addressed to the Director General in September 2005

Brazil: States of Acre along with two adjacent municipalities of Amazon state, Rio Grande do Sul, Santa Catarina, and Rondonia;

Colombia: zone designated by the Delegate of Colombia in documents addressed to the Director General on January 2003 and two zones designated by the Delegate in documents addressed to the Director General in December 2004.

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 23 May 2006)



RESOLUTION XXVII

Recognition of the Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy Status of Member Countries

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 69th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution No. XV, asking Member Countries that wish to be evaluated for conformation with the requirements of the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (the *Terrestrial Code*) for bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) free status to submit a formal application to the Director General of the OIE for consideration by the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases (Scientific Commission),



2. An *Ad hoc* Group of experts on BSE (OIE *Ad hoc* Group for Evaluation of Country Submissions for Recognition as complying with the *Terrestrial Code* as Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy Free) has been set up by the OIE and the Group has developed guidelines to facilitate the submission of data by Member Countries in accordance with the requirements in the current edition of the *Terrestrial Code*,
3. During the 70th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution XVIII asking Member Countries applying for this evaluation to meet part of the costs sustained by the OIE Central Bureau in the evaluation process,
4. During the 71st General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution XXII authorising the Scientific Commission to also evaluate submissions for provisional freedom from BSE in accordance with Article 2.3.13.4. of the *Terrestrial Code*,
5. The *Ad hoc* Group has already examined submissions from several countries and made appropriate recommendations that have been endorsed by the Scientific Commission
6. These recommendations have been submitted to Member Countries for comments as outlined in Resolution No. XVI, which was adopted during the 67th General Session of the International Committee for foot and mouth disease (FMD),
7. During the 72nd General Session, the OIE International Committee adopted Resolution No. XXI asking the Director General to establish a list of countries or zones recognised by the OIE as BSE 'free' and 'provisionally free' in accordance with Chapter 2.3.13. of the 13th edition of the *Terrestrial Code* (2004). This list should be updated as and when new countries are approved by the International Committee and shall be adopted annually by resolution.
8. During the 72nd General Session, the OIE adopted Resolution No. XXI asking the Director General to inform Delegates of Member Countries whose countries or zones within their national territories are recognised as 'free' or 'provisionally free' from BSE that they should annually confirm by letter during the month of November whether their status and the criteria by which their status was recognised have remained unchanged. The list of countries or zones is published free of charge by the OIE.
9. During the 73rd General Session, the OIE adopted Resolution No. XXI requesting the Scientific Commission to continue to examine the dossiers of applicant countries in accordance with Chapter 2.3.13. of the 13th edition of the *Terrestrial Code* (2004), until one year after a new BSE chapter (describing three categories of BSE country status) and all its complementary surveillance appendices are adopted by the International Committee.
10. During the 73rd General Session, the OIE adopted Resolution No. XXI confirming that countries which had already submitted dossiers for the evaluation of country status need not pay any additional costs should they have to renew their applications.
11. Information published by the OIE is derived from appropriate declarations made by the official Veterinary Services of Member Countries. The OIE is not

XXVII

XXVII

responsible for inaccurate publication of country disease status based on inaccurate information or changes in epidemiological status or other significant events that were not promptly reported to the Central Bureau,

THE COMMITTEE RESOLVES THAT

1. The Director General publish the following list of Member Countries recognised as free from BSE in accordance with Chapter 2.3.13. of the 13th edition (2004) of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Australia, Argentina, New Zealand and Uruguay.

2. The Director General publish the following list of Member Countries recognised as 'provisionally free' from BSE in accordance with Chapter 2.3.13. of the 13th edition (2004) of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Chile, Iceland, Paraguay and Singapore.

3. Countries listed above wishing to submit an application before the end of 2006 for confirmation of their status will be assessed against the *Terrestrial Code* of 2004 and will remain on the list published by the OIE until May 2008.

4. Any country wishing to submit an application before the end of 2006 for negligible risk or controlled risk status for BSE, will be assessed against the *Terrestrial Code* of 2006.

5. After December 2006, all applications for BSE status will be assessed against the *Terrestrial Code* current at the time.

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 23 May 2006)



RESOLUTION XXVIII

Recognition of Member Countries Free Status from Rinderpest Infection and Rinderpest Disease

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 63rd General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution No. XIV 'Establishment of a list of countries that are free of rinderpest',

2. During the 68th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution No. XIII designating a baseline list of Member Countries that were free from rinderpest infection. The countries included in the list certified that they met the requirements specified in Chapter 2.2.12. of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (the *Terrestrial Code*),

3. The OIE has also developed a list of countries that are considered to be free from rinderpest disease in accordance with Chapter 2.2.12. of the *Terrestrial Code*,

4. Recommendations of the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases (the Scientific Commission) regarding countries that are evaluated as free from rinderpest disease and from rinderpest infection have been submitted to Member Countries for comments as outlined in Resolution No. XVI which was adopted during the 67th General Session of the International Committee,

5. The Scientific Commission has continued to apply the procedure approved by the International committee and has supported the recognition of a list of countries and zones as free from rinderpest disease and rinderpest infection for annual adoption of this list by the International Committee,

6. During the 71st General Session, the Scientific Commission proposed that

Member Countries so recognised reconfirm annually whether their rinderpest status as well as the conditions under which such status was granted have remained unchanged and that this annual reconfirmation would be a requirement for maintaining OIE recognition,

7. During the 70th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution No. XVIII resolving that most of the costs incurred by the OIE Central Bureau in the evaluation of country applications for obtaining the free status with respect to rinderpest disease or rinderpest infection would be recovered whenever possible from sources other than the applicant countries,

8. Information published by the OIE is derived from appropriate declarations made by the official Veterinary Services of Member Countries. The OIE is not responsible for inaccurate publication of country disease status based on inaccurate information or changes in epidemiological status or other significant events that were not promptly reported to the Central Bureau subsequent to the time of declaration

of freedom from disease or infection,

THE COMMITTEE RESOLVES

That the Director General publish the following list of Member Countries recognised as free from rinderpest infection, according to the provisions of Chapter 2.2.12. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Albania	Burkina Faso	Eritrea	Ireland	Moldavia	Rwanda	Ukraine
Algeria	Burundi	Estonia	Italy	Mongolia	Senegal	United Kingdom
Andorra	Canada	Finland	Jamaica	Morocco	Singapore	United States of
Angola	Chile	Former Yug. Rep.	Japan	Myanmar	Slovakia	America
Argentina	Colombia	of Macedonia	Korea (Rep. of)	Namibia	Slovenia	Uruguay
Australia	Congo	France	Laos	Nepal	South Africa	Vanuatu
Austria	Congo (Dem.	Germany	Latvia	Netherlands	Spain	Venezuela
Barbados	Rep. of the)	Greece	Lesotho	New Caledonia	Swaziland	Vietnam
Belgium	Costa Rica	Guatemala	Lithuania	New Zealand	Sweden	Zambia
Benin	Croatia	Guinea	Luxembourg	Norway	Switzerland	Zimbabwe
Bhutan	Cuba	Guinea Bissau	Madagascar	Panama	Thailand	
Bolivia	Cyprus	Guyana	Malawi	Paraguay	Taipei China	
Bosnia and	Czech Rep.	Honduras	Malaysia	Peru	Togo	
Herzegovina	Denmark	Hungary	Mali	Philippines	Trinidad and	
Botswana	Ecuador	Iceland	Malta	Poland	Tobago	
Brazil	Egypt	India	Mauritius	Portugal	Tunisia	
Bulgaria	El Salvador	Indonesia	Mexico	Romania	Turkey	

That the Director General publish the following list of Member Countries as being free from rinderpest disease according to the provisions of Chapter 2.2.12. of the *Terrestrial Code*;

Chad	Ghana	Mauritania	Nigeria	Tanzania
Cote d'Ivoire	Lebanon	Niger	Sudan	Uganda.

That the Director General publish the following list of Member Countries having zones designated by their respective Delegates as free from rinderpest disease according to the provisions of Chapter 2.2.12. of the *Terrestrial Code*;
 Ethiopia: zone designated by the Delegate of Ethiopia in a document addressed to the Director General in July 2004
 Kenya : zone designated by the Delegate of Kenya in a document addressed to the Director General in August 2005

AND

That the Delegates of Member Countries whose countries or zones within their national territories are recognised as rinderpest infection or rinderpest disease free, annually reconfirm by letter in November of each year that both their status and the criteria by which such status was recognised have remained unchanged. It is understood that these Delegates will immediately notify the Central Bureau if rinderpest infection or disease occur in their countries or zones within their territories.

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 23 May 2006)

RESOLUTION XXIX

Recognition of the Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia Status of Member Countries

CONSIDERING THAT

1. Appendix 3.8.3. of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code (the Terrestrial Code) provides for a pathway for Member Countries to be declared free from contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP) by the OIE if an application including supporting data as outlined in Appendix 3.8.3. of the Terrestrial Code is submitted to the OIE. The Terrestrial Code also provides a procedure for the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases (the Scientific Commission) to review these applications and report its recommendations to the International Committee,
2. During the 70th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution No. XVIII asking Member Countries applying for evaluation for freedom from CBPP to meet part of the costs sustained by the OIE Central Bureau in the evaluation process,
3. During the 71st General Session, the International Committee approved Resolution N° XXIV regarding the recognition of the CBPP status of specific Member Countries,
4. Appendix 3.8.3. contains provisions for countries or zones within their territories that are continuously free from CBPP for at least 10 years and meet the relevant requirements of Appendix 3.8.3. for “freedom from CBPP” in that
 - a) no vaccination has been carried out for at least 10 years, b) throughout that period there has been no clinical or pathological evidence of CBPP infection, c) throughout that period a permanent adequate disease surveillance and reporting system has been and is still in place covering all susceptible domestic livestock, and d) in appropriate circumstances, use of diagnostic procedures capable of differentiating *Mycoplasma mycoides* from other bovine *Mycoplasma* infections in the investigation of respiratory disease has been made, with findings consistent with



XXIX

freedom from *M. mycoides* infection, may be proposed to be declared free from CBPP by the Scientific Commission without the necessity to proceed through the normal intermediate steps detailed in Appendix 3.8.3. of the *Terrestrial Code*,

5. During the 72nd General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution No. XXIII asked the OIE Director General to establish a list of countries or zones free from CBPP with or without vaccination and include in that list countries already recognised free of CBPP by the OIE.

6. The Scientific Commission continue to apply the procedure approved by the International Committee with respect to the recognition of disease free status and support the recognition of the CBPP free status of additional countries and zones within national territories for annual adoption of the list by the International Committee.

7. An updated list of countries and zones previously recognised as free from CBPP and those newly proposed by the Scientific Commission after consultation of Member Countries will be annually adopted by resolution.

8. Member Countries recognise that information published by the OIE is derived from appropriate declarations made by the official Veterinary Services of Member Countries. The OIE is not responsible for inaccurate publication of country disease status based on inaccurate information or changes in epidemiological status or other significant events that were not promptly reported to the Central Bureau subsequent to the time of declaration of freedom,

THE COMMITTEE RESOLVES THAT

1. The Director General publish the following list of Member Countries recognised as free from CBPP according to the provisions of Appendix 3.8.3 of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Australia Botswana Portugal Switzerland.

2. The Delegates of Member Countries whose countries or zones within their national territories are recognised as free from CBPP reconfirm by letter in November of each year that both their status and the criteria by which such status was recognised have remained unchanged. It is understood that these Delegates will immediately notify the Central Bureau if CBPP occurs in their countries or in zones within their territories.

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 23 May 2006)



RESOLUTION XXX

Study of the Procedure to Expedite the Process for the Recognition of a Foot and Mouth Disease Free Zone during an Outbreak of FMD in a Member Country

CONSIDERING THAT

1. The International Committee has adopted a procedure for establishing a list of Member Countries and zones within their territories recognised as free of FMD according to the provisions of chapter 2.2.10. of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (the *Terrestrial Code*),

2. New Member Countries and zones recognised as FMD free are added to the list annually by resolution at the General Session of the International Committee after a period of consultation with the interested Member Country, the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases, other Member Countries and the final decision of the International Committee,





3. Recognition of FMD free status is suspended upon declaration by a Member Country of an outbreak in a previously disease free national territory or zone,
4. The list of FMD free countries and zones recognised as FMD free is important to some Member Countries for the purpose of trade in animals and animal products. These countries could sustain huge economic losses through lost trade for a period of time exceeding that required in the *Terrestrial Code* to regain FMD free status following eradication of an outbreak,
5. Chapter 2.2.10. of the *Terrestrial Code* describes criteria by which under certain circumstances a recognised FMD free country or zone that has had an FMD outbreak can regain its disease free status in less than a year,
6. During the 70th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution No. XVIII asking Member Countries applying for evaluation for freedom from FMD to meet part of the costs sustained by the OIE Central Bureau in the evaluation process,
7. During the 65th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution No. XVII delegating to the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases the authority to recognise, without further International Committee consultation, that a Member Country or zone within its territory has regained its previously recognised FMD free status following outbreaks that are eradicated in accordance with the relevant provisions of chapter 2.2.10. of the *Terrestrial Code*,
8. During the 71st General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution No. XXI delegating to the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases the authority to recognise, without further International Committee consultation, an FMD free zone created following outbreaks within a Member Country or its territory in accordance with the relevant provisions of chapters 1.3.5. and 2.2.10. of the *Terrestrial Code*,
9. The suspension of the free status of a country or a zone within a country as result of an outbreak of FMD in the country or zone, could have a severe impact on the international trade in animals and animal products for the affected Member Country irrespective of the extent of the outbreak,
10. The provisions contained in chapters 1.3.5. and 2.2.10. and appendix 3.8.7. of the *Terrestrial Code* provide guidelines to Member Countries to effectively identify and separate infected from non-infected zones within a country,
11. The provisions contained in chapters 1.3.5 and 2.2.10 and appendix 3.8.7 of the *Terrestrial Code* allows Member Countries to establish several zones of freedom from FMD either with or without vaccination, within a country,
12. Articles 2.2.10.4 and 2.2.10.5 of Chapter 2.2.10 of the *Terrestrial Code*, do not specifically require that free zones of different or similar FMD status within a country be separated from each other by a buffer zone or geographical or physical borders.
13. Some Member Countries have expressed the need for the continuation or early resumption of trade in animals and animal products in the event of an outbreak of foot and mouth disease and after appropriate measures have been taken to control the disease.

THE COMMITTEE RESOLVES THAT

1. The Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases reconsider the current provisions of relevant chapters and appendices in the *Terrestrial Code* in view of the need of Member Countries to continue with the trade in animals and animal products in the event of an



- outbreak of foot and mouth disease within a country or zone and after appropriate measures have been taken in accordance with the provisions of the *Terrestrial Code*.
2. The Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases reconsider the current provisions of relevant chapters and appendices in the *Terrestrial Code* to ensure that where several free zones for foot and mouth disease, with or without vaccination, are present in the same country, sufficient sanitary measures are provided to protect the free status of non-affected zones in the event of an outbreak of FMD in one or more of the free zones.
 3. The Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases consider the need for possible changes to the relevant chapters and appendices in the *Terrestrial Code* to expedite the process for the regaining of freedom from disease and resumption of trade following the suspension of the disease free status of a country or zone.
 4. The OIE presents its recommendations for consideration by the International Committee during the 75th General Session of the OIE.

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 23 May 2006)

RESOLUTION XXXII

Recognition and implementation of OIE standards for the validation and registration of diagnostic assays by Member Countries

CONSIDERING THAT

Participation in the international and regional trade in animals and animal products offers opportunities for all Member Countries of the OIE,

Compliance with and the maintenance of international sanitary standards for the trade in animals and animal products are major constraints for many Member Countries to successfully participate in the international and regional trade in animals and animal products,

International standards, guidelines and recommendations of the OIE and the SPS Agreement facilitate access to the international trade market for animals and animal products,

New concepts to facilitate trade in animals and animal products following technological developments in veterinary science are continuously developed and upgraded by the OIE,

Standards regarding the quality and evaluation of Veterinary Services have been developed by the OIE in order to guarantee the credibility of export certification procedures established by the national Veterinary Services of OIE Member Countries,

OIE international sanitary standards may be used even by non-exporting OIE Member Countries as relevant guidelines to improve their national animal health status,

Veterinary Services of many importing and exporting countries do not yet have a harmonised system of export certification that complies with international standards,

The OIE acknowledge that within most Member Countries there are national registration authorities who are legally mandated and responsible for the registration of diagnostic assays for infectious animal diseases for use within that country,

During the 71st General Session of the OIE, the International Committee adopted Resolution No. XXIX endorsing the principle of validation and certification of

XXXII

diagnostic assays for infectious animal diseases by the OIE and giving a mandate to the Director General of the OIE to set up the specific standard procedures to be used before the final decision on the validation and certification of the diagnostic assay is taken by the OIE International Committee,

The final decision on the validation and certification of a diagnostic assay and adoption thereof by the OIE International Committee in terms of Resolution No. XXIX of the 71st General Session of the OIE, renders the application of such a diagnostic assay to be in conformity with an international standard of the OIE,

THE COMMITTEE RESOLVES THAT

1. Member Countries of the OIE are encouraged to give recognition to and apply wherever possible, the international standards, guidelines and recommendations developed by the OIE and adopted by the International Committee for the delivery of veterinary services and the international trade in animals and animal products.

2. Member Countries of the OIE are encouraged to harmonise their standards for the validation and registration of diagnostic assays with the standards, guidelines and recommendations in the OIE *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals* and where such standards are absent or not yet developed, to apply the standards in the Manual and in the OIE test register for the registration of such products within their countries.

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 25 May 2006)



RESOLUTION XXXIII

List of Antimicrobials of Veterinary Importance

CONSIDERING THAT

Antimicrobial agents are essential drugs for human and animal health and welfare. Antimicrobial resistance is a global public and animal health concern that is influenced by both human and non-human antimicrobial usage. The human, animal and plant sectors have a shared responsibility to prevent or minimise antimicrobial resistance selection pressures on both human and non-human pathogens.

The second joint FAO/OIE/WHO workshop on management options for non-human antimicrobial usage in March 2004 in Oslo recommended that the concept of “critically important” classes of antimicrobials for human usage should be developed by WHO. A similar list for animal usage should be pursued by the OIE.

The list of Critically Important Antibacterial Agents (CIA) for Human Medicine was established in February 2005, in a working group meeting in Canberra.

The OIE *ad hoc* Group on Antimicrobial Resistance prepared a questionnaire to collect proposals on antimicrobials of veterinary importance. The questionnaire was sent to the 167 OIE Member Countries and to International Organisations having signed a co-operation agreement with OIE in order to establish such a list. A list of antimicrobials of veterinary importance was compiled from the information received from Member Countries and was circulated to OIE Member Countries.

When finalised, the list could complement the OIE Guidelines for the responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents in veterinary medicine (OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* Appendix 3.9.3).





The list could be useful for the risk assessment of antimicrobial resistance in accordance with OIE *Terrestrial Code* Appendix 3.9.4. In this context, lists of CIA for humans and for animals are elements that could be taken into account in a risk assessment process.

THE COMMITTEE RESOLVES

To publish a preliminary list of antimicrobials of veterinary importance based on the list compiled by the OIE *ad hoc* Group from the answers received to the questionnaire sent to OIE Member Countries.

To ask the Director General to reconvene the *ad hoc* Group to further refine the list and consider breaking it down into subcategories according to type of usage.

To use the list further refined within the framework of the work in progress with the WHO, FAO and the Codex Alimentarius Commission on antimicrobial resistance.

To regularly update the list in accordance with new scientific information.

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 25 May 2006)



RESOLUTION XXXIV

Future approaches needed to ensure that veterinary education meets societal demands

CONSIDERING THAT

Developments in all countries of the world with the resultant risks to animal and public health and their impact on trade in animals and animal products demand the involvement of the veterinary profession in all aspects of animal production and well-being,

Emerging and future societal demands dictate that the scope of veterinary training must include considerations of traceability, animal welfare, bio-security, ecosystem health and surveillance for animal diseases, the early detection of, and rapid response to animal disease outbreaks,

This demand needs to be met by training veterinarians and veterinary para-professional personnel in areas essential for the care of terrestrial and aquatic animals,

University and other veterinary training institutions in all countries of the world should strive to meet this challenge,

The quality of Veterinary Services and certification depends on the competence of both veterinary officers and private veterinarians, as they share responsibilities for controlling animal diseases and zoonoses and for ensuring food safety.

THE COMMITTEE RESOLVES THAT

1. The OIE should promote worldwide the development of veterinary curricula both for initial training and for continuing professional development that include the subjects dictated to the veterinary organisation by the emerging societal demand. Collaboration between universities and between universities, Veterinary Services and other stakeholders, is essential to achieve the above-objectives;
2. Universities and veterinary training institutions should develop their curricula accordingly taking into account among others the basic principles as well as the standards of the OIE;



3. The OIE should develop standards and guidelines for the continuing education of the agents of the Veterinary Services (in accordance with the OIE definition) to assure the quality of Veterinary Services;
4. The National veterinary accreditation bodies worldwide should ensure that in their accreditation procedures knowledge of the OIE standards and guidelines is included;
5. The OIE should promote the implementation of international programmes for official veterinarians in collaboration with other international organisations. To this end the use of OIE Collaborating Centres in veterinary training and recent developments in distance learning are considerable assets. Member Countries should promote public/private sectors, tertiary institutions and donor agency participation in the facilitation and the provision of the necessary fundings for these training programmes.

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 25 May 2006)



RESOLUTION XXXV

Economic and social justification for investment in animal health and zoonoses

CONSIDERING

The significant negative socio-economic impact of animal diseases at the national, regional and global levels, especially the impact of transboundary diseases,

The recent acceleration in the global spread of certain emerging and re-emerging transboundary animal diseases, and infections, most of which are zoonotic, as a result of globalisation,

The Global Public Good character of public and private policies and activities aimed at preventing and controlling pathogens of animal origin that could become transboundary in nature, or be used for bioterrorism,

The need to take account of the probability and impact of the various threats in order to prioritise sustainable and flexible allocation of national and/or external resources,

The existence of international standards adopted by OIE Member Countries in the areas of disease information, surveillance, and control of animal and zoonotic diseases, as well as in the area of quality and evaluation of Veterinary Services,

The fundamental role that national Veterinary Services must play in preventing and controlling animal diseases, including zoonoses, whilst complying with and implementing OIE standards,

The pressing need to ensure that these standards are implemented in all OIE Member Countries in order to prevent and contain the spread of pathogens of animal origin at the national, regional, and global levels, and to overcome the economic and other limitations to successful implementation of these standards that exist in some countries,

The existence and use, under the auspices of the OIE, of the "Performance, Vision and Strategy" (PVS) instrument, a new tool designed to facilitate the identification of areas of improvement to bring national Veterinary Services into compliance with the OIE quality standards in the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*.



This will help to prevent and control animal diseases more effectively and/or to demonstrate to their trading partners that the health certificates that they issue are supported by reliable procedures,

The need to continually improve this instrument, in compliance with OIE procedures, as experience in using it grows,

The decision of the World Bank and the donor community represented at the Beijing Conference in January 2006 to consider the use of the PVS tool under the auspices of the OIE as an extremely useful approach for any Member Country requesting international financial aid to build the capacity of its Veterinary Services and help to bring them into compliance with OIE standards, in order to pinpoint the fields in which priority investment must be made,

The need to conduct appropriate socio-economic and financial analyses to evaluate more accurately the direct and indirect effects of health crises of animal origin, as well as the cost of measures needed to prevent and control such crises via the activities of national Veterinary Services, in order to guide policymakers to invest in animal health policies,

The need to continue the technical, economic and financial analyses aimed at fostering the creation or improvement of national, regional and global insurance and reinsurance mechanisms for reducing the adverse economic effects of health crises on sectors and countries,

The need to support OIE Member Countries in the area of socio-economic and financial analyses relating to animal health policies,

The need to support any OIE Member Country that so requests, in the area of Veterinary Service evaluation, notably in the context of assimilating it into the Global Public Good concept, as well as in the context of the 1991 Doha Declaration aimed at facilitating the access of developing and transition countries to the international market in animals and animal products,

The need for the OIE to have Collaborating Centres to support it in the aforementioned areas, including the training of experts responsible for animal health economical surveys and for supporting the evaluation programmes for Veterinary Services in Member Countries that so desire,

The OIE mandate stemming from the Fourth Strategic Plan to improve animal health in the world, by exerting its influence on governments and the international community to invest effectively in implementing animal health and research policies based on OIE standards,

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THAT

1. The OIE should intensify its actions to help prevent and control animal diseases, including zoonoses, more effectively at the national, regional and global levels, by continually updating appropriate standards and guidelines and using its influence on national policymakers and international development institutions to build the capacity of the Veterinary Services of all its Member Countries;
2. The OIE should continue to support the Member Countries by helping the donor community to guide investment for building the capacity of the Veterinary Services of any Member Country by promoting use of the PVS instrument worldwide;

3. The OIE should use the World Animal Health and Welfare Fund, created by Resolution No. XVII and adopted by the OIE International Committee in May 2004, to make available to its Member Countries economic and financial analysis and methodologies aimed at measuring more accurately the direct and indirect effect of animal diseases and health crises at the national, regional and global levels and for identifying the best means for funding;
4. The OIE should use the World Animal Health and Welfare Fund to support its Member Countries by analysing and promoting a general framework for financing support to a global governance system for animal health. This framework should include the survey of the setting up of a global compensation fund supporting the methods used to control pathogens of animal origin (such as for culling in outbreaks) aimed at encouraging the declaration of outbreaks and facilitating early detection and a rapid response to disease outbreaks;
5. The OIE should use the World Animal Health and Welfare Fund to support its Member Countries to analyse and make the case for insurance and reinsurance systems aimed at reducing the harm suffered by Member Countries and their livestock sectors during health crises;
6. The OIE should call for applications from its Member Countries to establish one or more Collaborating Centre(s) to support it in all the aforementioned areas;
7. The OIE should select and train competent experts, with the support of the Collaborating Centres responsible for training veterinary officials, to support the evaluation and then the promotion of the Veterinary Services of Member Countries that so desire;
8. The OIE should continue its actions for promoting the quality and evaluation of its Member Countries' Veterinary Services, by regularly updating the standards pertaining thereto, as well as the PVS instrument, whenever necessary calling upon the services of the *ad hoc* group on the quality of Veterinary Services, which is responsible for reporting to the Specialist Commissions in this field which will make appropriate proposals to the International Committee;
9. Member Countries are invited to include in their national budget the necessary resources to implement the OIE standards.

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 25 May 2006)



RESOLUTION XXXVI

Composition of the Sub Commission for the South East Asia Foot and Mouth Disease (SEAFMD) Campaign

CONSIDERING THAT:

The Sub Commission for Foot and Mouth Disease has instituted the OIE South East Asia Foot and Mouth Disease (SEAFMD) control programme in 1997,

The SEAFMD Programme has so far achieved considerable success in the sub-regional harmonisation of control measures against FMD in South East Asia and is now considered as a model applicable to the harmonisation of control measures against other important animal diseases,

The SEAFMD Programme has been extended and has since January 2006 entered Phase III of its implementation,



The management of the SEAFMD Programme has not yet been entrusted to the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) as previously envisaged mainly because of the delay in the setting up of the Animal Health Trust Fund by ASEAN countries,

The Permanent Secretariat of the joint Regional FAO/OIE Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs) for Asia, the Far East and Oceania is located in the OIE Regional Representation in Tokyo, Japan. The GF-TADs Permanent Secretariat will also benefit from financial assistance provided by the Government of Japan and other donors,

The SEAFMD Regional Coordination Unit located in Bangkok (Thailand) will be considered as an OIE Sub regional Representation within Asia, the Far East and Oceania region,

Within the GF-TADs Agreement, OIE and FAO have decided to collaborate closely,

It is imperative to ensure that adequate national and international resources are available to sustain the Programme until the ASEAN Trust Fund is able to meet all expenses involved in its sustainability,

The 12th Meeting of the OIE Sub-Commission for FMD held in Chiang Mai, Thailand, in February/March 2006 has recommended that the OIE International Committee review the composition of the Sub-Commission to also include FAO and key donors,

THE COMMITTEE RESOLVES THAT

The new composition of the Sub-Commission for FMD in South East Asia be constituted as follows:

- a) President: to be nominated by the OIE Director General
- b) Vice-Presidents: Two Vice-Presidents to be elected among the FMD National Coordinators of Member Countries
- c) Members:
 - i. Other FMD National Coordinators of Member Countries
 - ii. Representative of the FAO to be nominated by the FAO Director General
 - iii. The OIE Representative for Asia and the Pacific
 - iv. Representative(s) of donors contributing more than USD 150,000 per year to the Programme.

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 26 May 2006)



new OIE publications

These publications are available for purchase from the OIE e-bookshop www.oie.int (publications)

Plurithematic issue of the *Scientific and Technical Review*, 2006 Vol. 25 (3)

December 2006

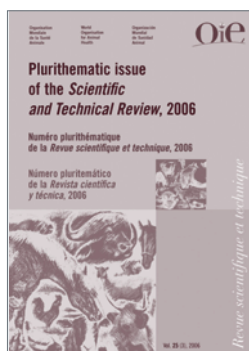
Trilingual

ISBN 92-9044-673-0

Format: 21 × 29.7 cm,

Approximately 320 pp.

Price: 50 €



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

The articles describe different animal disease surveillance strategies and control and eradication of important animal diseases. The economic impact of animal diseases on global trade is also studied, and the epidemiology of different diseases is described in various countries. Veterinary public health organisational models and veterinary diagnostic laboratory quality control are also discussed.

The *Review* also constitutes a unique vehicle for the publication of reports on the situation of various animal diseases in the world, in particular in countries whose animal health situation receives little or no publicity otherwise.

Scientific and Technical Review Vol. 26 (1) & (2)

Animal vaccination Part 1: development, production and use of vaccines

April and August 2007

ISBN 92-9044-687-0

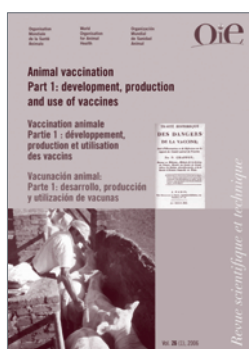
26 (1): ISBN 92-9044-688-9

26 (2): ISBN 92-9044-689-7

Trilingual

Format: 21 × 29.7 cm

Price: 50 € each issue



Vaccination, when available, is undoubtedly the most cost-effective means to prevent and control or even eradicate infectious diseases. In recent years vaccination has also been used for other purposes in animal health and production, such as for immunocastration. In fact the impact of vaccination goes far beyond the simple control of infectious diseases.

Vaccination will therefore help to reach many of the objectives of the 2005 *Millenium development goals report*, especially in the light of the foreseen livestock revolution.

Public perception and disapproval of some veterinary prophylactic measures, such as mass slaughtering of livestock to control epizootic diseases, also contribute to drive vaccination as an alternative. This will be made easier, thanks to recent progress in veterinary vaccinology, such as the availability of marker vaccines. Attention should be given to the quality and safety of products derived from vaccinated animals related in particular with the effect of excipients (including adjuvants). Moreover science based information should be given to address the consumers acceptance of these products from vaccinated animals.



Animal vaccination Part 2: scientific, economic, regulatory and socio-ethical aspects



Moreover vaccines are not always the ultimate solution due to inadequate quality, safety, efficacy, the development of healthy carriers despite vaccination, or due to the evolution of pathogens as exemplified by vaccination against Marek's disease of poultry. Vaccination and vaccines have always been a major topic for the World Animal Health Organisation (OIE).

Recently, the OIE was involved in the publication by Elsevier of the textbook *Veterinary Vaccinology*, and organised in Buenos Aires in April 2004 an International Conference on the 'Control of Infectious Animal Diseases by Vaccination', the proceedings of which were published by the International Association for Biological Standardization (IABS).

It was timely to review the different aspects of vaccination and vaccines in animal health to provide to the OIE Delegates updated information to scientifically support decision making. This special issue of the OIE *Scientific and Technical Review* is therefore aiming at providing useful generic information instead of giving detailed technical descriptions of specific diseases or vaccines.

Proceedings of the OIE/AU-IBAR/FAO Regional Seminar Animal Health Policies, Evaluation of Veterinary Services and Role of Livestock Breeders in the Surveillance of Animal Diseases

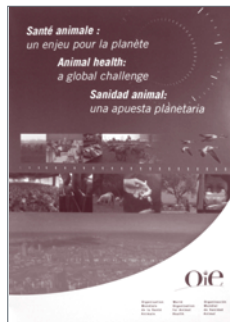
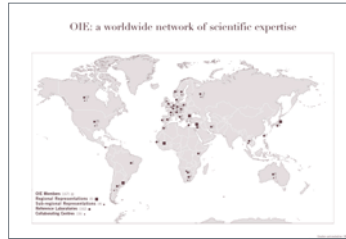
N'djamena, Chad,
13-15 February 2006
Format: 21 × 29.7
450 pp.



The proceedings of the above seminar will be published shortly in English and French. They cover the speeches made by the various personalities who attended the seminar including the Minister of Agriculture of the Republic of Chad and the OIE Director General. The various technical presentations made by Veterinary Services, Academia, Breeder associations, Veterinary Statutory Bodies and Livestock breeders are included. The proceedings also include the recommendations adopted during the seminar one of which deals with the prevention and control of avian influenza in Africa.

New OIE Brochure and DVD

The brochure and the DVD are obtainable for free on request to the Communication Unit g.mamaghani@oie.int and are also available on the OIE Web site, under the heading "Resources" http://www.oie.int/fr/press/Plaqueette_EN.pdf.



In a context of political and economic globalisation, the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) is constantly developing its actions in the field of world animal health and welfare, international trade in animals and animal products, food safety, and the strengthening of national Veterinary Services.

As a standard-setting organisation, the OIE fully accomplishes its mission with regard to the international community and constantly endeavours to fulfil its duty of transparency and information towards its Member Countries, the veterinary community,

interested parties, the international media and the public.

This year the OIE Communication Unit has produced a new brochure, presenting its activities in the Organisation's three official languages. The new, updated brochure reflects an effective International Organisation endowed with a global vision.

As a source of information on programmes initiated by the OIE, and the OIE's international partnerships, the brochure clearly illustrates the Organisation's determination to increase its services to the international community, with the emphasis always on animal health and its beneficial effects on human health and food, poverty alleviation, and animal welfare, throughout the world.

A DVD was also realised containing new OIE presentation films, an interview of the Director General and several fact sheets on the importance of Veterinary Services.

meetings and visits

From June to September 2006

June 2006 (cont.)

Consultation meeting on the research needs of developing countries concerning Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza

Dr A.B. Niang, Consultant to the OIE Regional Representation for Africa, represented the OIE at the consultation meeting on the research needs of developing countries concerning Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, held in Nairobi (Kenya) from 14 to 16 June 2006.

OIE/FAO Joint Mission for Japan/OIE HPAI Special Trust Fund Programme

Dr T. Fujita, OIE Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific and Dr S. Yoshimura, Senior Deputy Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific, represented the OIE at the OIE/FAO Joint Mission for Japan/OIE HPAI Special Trust Fund Programme, held in

Thailand, 19-20 June 2006. Dr S. Yoshimura represented also the OIE at the OIE/FAO Joint Mission for Japan/OIE HPAI Special Trust Fund Programme, held in Yangon (Myanmar), from 21 to 23 June 2006.

Ministerial Meeting to set up a Regional Strategy for the Prevention and Control of Avian Influenza in West Africa

Dr A.B. Niang, Consultant to the OIE Regional Representation for Africa, represented the OIE at the Ministerial Meeting to set up a Regional Strategy for the Prevention and Control of Avian Influenza in West Africa, held in Abuja (Nigeria) from 20 to 23 June 2006.

OIE workshop on the new World Animal Health Information System

Dr D. Chaisemartin, Head, OIE Administrative and Management Systems Department, Dr K. Ben Jebara, Head, OIE Animal Health Information Department and Dr L.O. Barcos, OIE Regional Representative for the Americas, participated in the OIE workshop on the new World Animal Health Information System, held in San Salvador (El Salvador), from 26 to 30 June 2006.

The World Trade Organization (WTO) SPS Committee (36th meeting) and associated meetings

Dr T. Ishibashi, Project Officer, OIE International Trade Department, participated in the WTO SPS Committee (36th meeting) and associated meetings, held in Geneva (Switzerland), on 27-28 June 2006.

Regional Workshop on contingency planning, compensation and communication for Middle east/North Africa Region

Dr G. Yehia, OIE Regional Representative for the Middle East, represented the OIE at the Regional Workshop on contingency planning, compensation and communication for Middle east/North Africa Region, held in Beirut (Lebanon), 27-28 June 2006.

July 2006

29th session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC)

Dr W. Droppers, Project Officer, OIE International Trade Department, and Dr F. Berlingieri, Deputy Head, OIE International Trade Department, participated in the 29th session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC), held in Geneva (Switzerland), from 3 to 7 July 2006.



**Participation
in the annual meeting
of the Codex Alimentarius
Commission (CAC) –
Bilateral contacts
with the WHO –
Participation in the Codex
working group on
antimicrobial resistance**

Dr B. Vallat, Director General of the OIE, participated in the annual meeting of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC), had bilateral contacts with the WHO and participated in the Codex working group on antimicrobial resistance. These various meetings all took place in Geneva (Switzerland) on 4 and 5 July 2006.

**ALive Research Proposal
Development Workshop**

Dr A.B. Niang, Consultant to the OIE Regional Representation for Africa, represented the OIE at the ALive workshop on animal health research themes and their implementation. This workshop was held in Nairobi (Kenya) from 4 to 6 July 2006.

**Steering Council of
the European
Technology Platform
for Animal Health**

Dr Ch. Brusckhe, Project Officer, OIE Scientific and Technical Department, participated in the Steering Council of the European Technology Platform for Animal Health, held in Brussels (Belgium), on 6 July 2006.

**Special Meeting of the
OIE Regional and Sub-
Regional Representatives**

Dr B. Vallat, Director General of the OIE, Dr J.-L. Angot, OIE Deputy Director-General, Dr D. Sibartie, Head, OIE Regional Activities Department, Dr G. Funes, Deputy Head, OIE Regional Activities Department, Dr A. Dehove, Co-ordinator of the OIE World Fund for Animal Health and Welfare, Dr G. Yehia, OIE Regional Representative for the

Middle East, Prof. Dr N.T. Belev, President of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe and Regional Representative for Eastern Europe, Dr T. Fujita, OIE Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific, Dr Y. Oketani, Deputy Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific, Dr L.O. Barcos, OIE Regional Representative for the Americas, Dr A. Samba Sidibé, OIE Regional Representative for Africa, Dr B.J. Mtei, OIE Sub-Regional Representative for SADC, Dr R.C. Abila, Regional Coordinator for SEAFMD, Dr S. Forman, SEAFMD Technical adviser and Dr C. Planté, Project Officer, participated in the Special Meeting of the OIE Regional and Sub-Regional Representatives, held at the OIE headquarters in Paris, on 13 July 2006.

**WTO Regional Seminar
on the SPS Agreement,
accompanied
by a special training
session for OIE trainers**

Dr N.T. Belev, OIE Regional Representative for Europe, Dr D. Wilson, OIE Consultant, and Dr V. Bellemain, Director of ENSV, an OIE Collaborating Centre, represented the OIE during a WTO Regional Seminar on the SPS Agreement, accompanied by a special training session for OIE trainers. This seminar took place in Vienna (Austria) from 17 to 21 July 2006.

**Official signature of the
OIE/FAO/WHO "GLEWS"
agreement and the
conditions for its
implementation – First
meeting of the GLEWS
Management Committee**

Dr B. Vallat, Director General of the OIE, and Dr D. Chaisemartin, Head, OIE Administrative and Management Systems Department, participated in the official signature of the OIE/FAO/WHO "GLEWS" agreement and the conditions for its



implementation, then attended the first meeting of the GLEWS Management Committee. This mission took place in Geneva (Switzerland) on 18 July 2006.

Participation in the OFFLU Steering Committee meeting – Visit to the laboratory in Weybridge

Dr B. Vallat, Director General of the OIE, and Dr Ch. Brusckke, Project Officer with the OIE Scientific and Technical Department, took part in the meeting of the OFFLU Steering Committee, then visited the laboratory at Weybridge. This mission took place at Weybridge (United Kingdom) on 18 and 19 July 2006.

Meeting on the sero-surveillance survey through the National Framework for FMD Control in Lao PDR for 2006-2008

Dr S. Forman, Technical Advisor SEAFMD Campaign and Ms N. Hungerford, Communications Officer SEAFMD Campaign, represented the OIE at the meeting on the sero-surveillance survey through the National Framework for FMD Control in Lao PDR for 2006-2008 in order to organise emergency public

awareness campaign along the Laos/Vietnam border.

This mission was held in Vientiane, Laos, on 20-21 July 2006.

Regional interagency communication task force on Avian and Pandemic Influenza

Ms M. Zampaglione, Head, OIE Communication Unit, participated in the Regional interagency communication task force on Avian and Pandemic Influenza, held in Washington (United States of America), on 24-25 July 2006.

First OIE/FAO Joint Steering Committee Meeting on HPAI Control at Source in Southeast Asia

Dr T. Fujita, OIE Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific, represented the OIE at the first OIE/FAO Joint Steering Committee Meeting on HPAI Control at Source in Southeast Asia, held in Bangkok (Thailand), 24-25 July 2006.

Meeting with the National Animal Health and Production Investigation Centre (NAHPIC) regarding the control of FMD outbreak in Cambodia

Dr S. Forman, Technical Advisor SEAFMD Campaign, and Ms N. Hungerford, Communications Officer SEAFMD Campaign, represented the OIE at the meeting to assist the National Animal Health and Production Investigation Centre (NAHPIC) in trying to control the large outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) that has occurred in the South-West of Cambodia, to follow-up on the sero-surveillance survey and to work through the National Framework for FMD Control in Cambodia for 2006-2008. This mission was held in Phnom Penh (Cambodia), on 27-28 July 2006.

Conference of Ministers of Health and Agriculture/Livestock for Avian Influenza Control and Pandemic preparedness in Asia

Dr T. Fujita, OIE Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific, represented the OIE at the conference of Ministers of Health and Agriculture/Livestock for

Avian Influenza Control and Pandemic preparedness in Asia, held in New Delhi (India), on 27-28 July 2006.

August 2006

OIE/CIRAD Regional Training Workshop on Epidemiology, in particular of HPAI and TADs in ASEAN Countries in collaboration with Chulalongkorn University

Dr T. Fujita, OIE Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific and Dr Y. Sakurai, Regional Veterinary Officer, OIE Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific, represented the OIE at the OIE/CIRAD Regional Training Workshop on Epidemiology, in particular of HPAI and TADs in ASEAN Countries in collaboration with Chulalongkorn University. This mission was held in Bangkok (Thailand), from 31 July to 4 August 2006.



First meeting of the TCP for Avian Influenza for the extended MERCOSUR countries, with the aim of defining the regional development activities

Dr L.O. Barcos, OIE Regional Representative for the Americas, represented the organisation at the first meeting of the TCP for Avian Influenza, for the extended MERCOSUR countries, with the aim of defining the regional development activities, which took place in Buenos Aires (Argentina) on 15 and 16 August 2006.

FAO/OIE/WHO workshop on a concept paper for USAID to finance the FAO/OIE Crisis Management Centre (CMC)

Dr D. Chaisemartin, Head, OIE Administration and Management Systems Department, Dr K. Ben Jebara, Head, OIE Animal Health Information Department, and Dr G. Brückner, Head, OIE Scientific and Technical Department, participated in the FAO/OIE/WHO workshop on a concept paper for USAID to finance the FAO/OIE Crisis Management Centre (CMC), held at the FAO headquarters, in Rome (Italy), on 17 August 2006.

59th Session of the WHO Regional Committee for South-East Asia

Dr Y. Oketani, Deputy Regional Representative, OIE Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific, represented the OIE at the 59th Session of the WHO Regional Committee for South-East Asia, held in Dhaka (Bangladesh), from 22 to 25 August 2006.

Demonstration of a poultry culling and disposal system

Dr S. Kahn, Head, OIE International Trade Department, attended a demonstration of a poultry culling and disposal system, held in Brussels (Belgium), on 23 August 2006.

Special Senior Officials Meeting of the 27th ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry

Dr T. Fujita, OIE Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific, represented the OIE at the Special Senior Officials Meeting of the 27th ASEAN Ministers

on Agriculture and Forestry, held in Bohol (Philippines), from 29 to 31 August 2006.

September 2006

Participation of the People's Republic of China in OIE activities

Dr B. Vallat, Director General of the OIE, and Dr J.-L. Angot, OIE Deputy Director General met the Minister Qu Xing and Mr Hu Changchun, the First Secretary at the Embassy of China in France. This meeting was held in Paris (France) on 6 September 2006.

Participation of Brazil in OIE activities

Dr J.-L. Angot, OIE Deputy Director General met Mrs Vera Pedrosa, Ambassador, and Ms Maria Laura Da Rocha, Minister, at the Embassy of Brazil in France. This meeting was held in Paris on 7 September 2006.

Tripartite meeting (OIE Paris, OIE Tokyo, OIE Bangkok) Japan Special Trust Fund (JSTF) on HPAI Control in Asia

Dr A. Dehove, Coordinator of the World Animal Health and Welfare Fund, Dr G. Funes, Deputy Head, OIE Regional Activities Department and Dr T. Fujita, OIE Regional

Representative for Asia and the Pacific, participated in the Tripartite meeting (OIE Paris, OIE Tokyo, OIE Bangkok) Japan Special Trust Fund (JSTF) on HPAI Control in Asia, held in Bangkok (Thailand), 7-8 September 2006.

89th Meeting of the IATA Dangerous Goods Board

Dr G. Brückner, Head, OIE Scientific and Technical Department, participated in the 89th Meeting of the IATA Dangerous Goods Board, held in Beijing (People's Republic of China), from 11 to 13 September 2006.

10th European Conference of Medical and Health Libraries

Ms M. Teissier, Documentalist, participated in the tenth European Conference of Medical and Health Libraries, held in Cluj-Napoca, Transylvania (Romania), from 11 to 16 September 2006.

**56th Session
of the Health Assembly
for Europe,
Technical Briefing
on AI WHO EURO**

Dr Ch. Brusckhe, Project Officer, OIE Scientific and Technical Department, participated in the 56th Session of the Health Assembly for Europe, Technical Briefing on AI WHO EURO, held in Copenhagen (Denmark), on 12 September 2006.

**APEC Capacity Building
Seminar on Avian
Influenza; Prevention
of Avian Influenza
at its Source and a
Dialogue on Indemnity**

Dr T. Fujita, OIE Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific, represented the OIE at the APEC Capacity Building Seminar on Avian Influenza; Prevention of AI at its Source and a Dialogue on Indemnity, held in Hoi An (Vietnam), on 12-13 September 2006.

**World Poultry
Forum and International
Egg Council meeting**

Dr L.O. Barcos, OIE Regional Representative for the Americas, represented the OIE in the World Poultry Forum and International Egg Council meeting held in Guadalajara (Mexico), from 16 to 18 September 2006.

**National Seminars on
WTO-SPS Agreement's
application – Starting of
STDF 13 Project**

Dr G. Funes, Deputy Head, OIE Regional Activities Department, and Dr S. Sidibe, OIE Regional Representative for Africa, participated in the National Seminars on WTO-SPS Agreement's application – Starting of STDF 13 Project, held in Djibouti, from 17 to 20 September 2006 and in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 21-22 September 2006.

**European Forum of
Animal Welfare Council**

Dr T. Ishibashi, Project Officer, OIE International Trade Department, participated in the European Forum of Animal Welfare Council, held in Berlin (Germany), on 18-19 September 2006.

**57th Session
of the World Health
Organization Regional
Committee for the
Western Pacific**

Dr D. Belton, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, New Zealand, represented the OIE at the 57th Session of the World Health Organization Regional Committee for the Western Pacific, held in Auckland (New Zealand), from 18 to 22 September 2006.

**Mission on the FMD
situation in Southern
Vietnam**

Dr S. Forman, Technical Advisor, OIE SEAFMD Regional Coordination Unit, and Ms N. Hungerford, Communications Officer, SEAFMD Campaign, visited Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam), from 19 to 21 September 2006 to review the FMD situation in Southern Vietnam.

**Meeting with the
World Bank and the
Vietnam Department
of Animal Health (DHA)
on PVS Evaluation
of the Vietnamese
Veterinary Services**

Dr S. Forman, Technical Advisor, OIE SEAFMD Regional Coordination Unit, represented the OIE at the meeting with the World Bank and the DAH on PVS

Evaluation of the Vietnamese Veterinary Services, held in Hanoi (Vietnam), on 21 September 2006.

**The Mongolian State
Conference of
Veterinarians**

Dr T. Fujita, OIE Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific, represented the OIE at the Mongolian State Conference of Veterinarians, held in Ulaan Baatar (Mongolia), on 21-22 September 2006.

**WHO working group on
influenza research on the
human animal interface**

Dr Ch. Brusckhe, Project Officer, OIE Scientific and Technical Department, participated in the WHO working group on influenza research on the human animal interface, held in Geneva (Switzerland), on 21-22 September 2006.

**7th International Congress
of Veterinary Virology**

Ms A. Souyri, Deputy Head,
OIE Publications
Department, represented
the OIE and presented
its publications at the
7th International Congress
of Veterinary Virology, held
in Lisbon (Portugal), from
24 to 27 September 2006.

**World Trade
Organization (WTO)
Public Forum 2006**

Dr A. Thiermann, Special
Advisor to the Director
General of the OIE,
participated in the WTO
Public Forum 2006, held
in Geneva (Switzerland),
on 25 September 2006.

**22nd Conference
of the OIE Regional
Commission for Europe**

Dr B. Vallat, Director General
of the OIE,
Dr D. Sibartie, Head,
Regional Activities
Department,
Ms N. Monsalve, Secretary
to the Regional Activities

Department, Ms C. Hayet,
Secretary/translator to
the Regional Activities
Department, Mrs
H. Gevers, Project Officer
of the Regional Activities
Department,
Ms T. Benicasa, Marketing
Assistant of the Publications
Department and
Dr N. Belev, President of the
OIE Regional Commission
for Europe and OIE Regional
Representative for Eastern
Europe, took part in the
22nd Conference of the
OIE Regional Commission
for Europe, which was held
in Lyons (France) from
25 to 29 September 2006.

**Humane Slaughter
Association workshop
on humane slaughter
and killing of animals for
disease control purposes**

Dr S. Kahn, Head,
OIE International Trade
Department, participated
in the Humane Slaughter
Association workshop on
humane slaughter and
killing of animals for disease
control purposes, held
in Bristol (United Kingdom),
on 27-28 September 2006.

**Second Asia Pacific
UN Regional Team
Meeting on Avian and
Human Influenza**

Dr T. Fujita, OIE Regional
Representative for Asia and
the Pacific, represented the
OIE at the 2nd Asia Pacific
UN Regional Team Meeting
on Avian and Human
Influenza, held
in Bangkok (Thailand),
on 28 September 2006.

**OIE Workshop on
HPAI Information Systems
in Southeast Asia**

Dr K. Ben Jebara, Head,
OIE Animal Health
Information Department,
Dr T. Fujita, OIE Regional
Representative for Asia
and the Pacific and
Dr Y. Sakurai, Regional
Veterinary Officer,
participated in the
OIE Workshop on HPAI
Information Systems
in Southeast Asia, held
in Bangkok (Thailand),
on 28-29 September 2006.

**Meeting with the
World Society for the
Protection of Animals**

Dr S. Kahn, Head,
OIE International Trade
Department, participated
in a meeting with the World
Society for the Protection
of Animals, held in London
(United Kingdom),
on 29 September 2006.

GENERAL DIRECTORATE

Bernard Vallat	Director General
Isabelle Cusin	Directorate secretary
Alex Thiermann	Advisor and President of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code (**)
Maria Zampaglione	Head of Communication Unit (*)
Glaïeul Mamaghani	Deputy head of the Communication Unit
X	Assistant (Communication Unit) (**)

Jean-Luc Angot Deputy Director General (Administration, Finances, Staff management)

Raluca Taras	Trilingual secretary
Alain Dehove	World Fund Coordinator (**)
Margarita Gómez-Riela	Assistant to the World Fund Coordinator (**)
Jean-Pierre Croiziers	Head of the human resources and budget management unit
Amale Moussa-Guérin	Assistant of the human resources and budget management unit
Alix Weng	Head of the Accounts unit
Sophie Do	Deputy Head of the Accounts unit
Romain Lemesnager	Accounts Assistant (**)

X	Deputy Director General (Animal Health and International Standards)
Natalia Carrillo-Botero	Trilingual secretary (+ recognition of animal disease status secretary) (**)
Willem Droppers	Chargé de mission (**)

Administration and Management Systems Department

Daniel Chaisemartin	Head of the Administration and Management Systems Department (**)
Alejandra Balmont	Bilingual secretary / Conference assistant
Bertrand Flahault	Deputy Head of Department
Vincent Tran	Computer Technician
X	Webmaster
Elizabeth Boucaud	Conference assistant (*)
Guillaume Kondolas	Information Technician
Alex Ginzburg	Receptionist
Quentin Mirgon	Custodian
Joël Yabut	Janitor

Animal Health Information Departement

Karim Ben Jebara	Head of the Department
Françoise Ricordel	Bilingual secretary (*)
Antonio Petrini	Deputy Head of Department (**)
Cristina Ramírez	Chargée de mission (**)
Natalja Lambergeon	Animal Health Information Technician
Margarita Alonso	Translation/Editing Assistant
Stéphanie Beau	Bilingual secretary

International Trade Department

Sarah Kahn	Head of the Department
Claudia Campos	Bilingual secretary
Francesco Berlingieri	Deputy Head of Department
Leopoldo Stuardo	Chargé de mission
Tomoko Ishibashi	Chargée de mission (**)
Anne Guillon	Copy editor

Publications Department

Paul-Pierre Pastoret	Head of the Department
Séverine Bègue	Bilingual secretary
Annie Souyri	Deputy Head of Department
Tamara Benicasa	Sales and marketing agent (*) (**)
Alexandra Moran	Copy editor
Gérard Bègue	Printer

Scientific and technical Department

Gideon Brückner	Head of the Department
Kokoé Sodji	Bilingual secretary
Martine Risser	Secretary (typing, DTP)
Elisabeth Erlacher-Vindel	Deputy Head of Department
Christianne Brusckhe	Chargée de mission (**)
François Diaz	Officer in charge of validation of diagnostic assays (**)
Lea Knopf	Officer in charge of the recognition of countries' animal disease status (**)
Natalia Carrillo-Botero	Trilingual secretary (and secretariat of Deputy DG Animal Health and International trade)
Sara Linnane	Scientific editor
Marie Teissier	Documentalist (*)

Regional Activities Department

Dewan Sibartie	Head of the Department
Nathaly Monsalve	Bilingual secretary
Gastón Funes	Deputy Head of Department
Helga Gevers	Chargée de mission
Stéphane Berlaud	Chargé de mission
Catherine Hayet	Secretary / Translator

The Documentation Centre is under the responsibility of the Scientific and Technical Department

(*) Part-Time

(**) Financing from contributions other than the obligatory ones



Regional Activities Department

Arrival and Departure

Dr Gaston Funes assumed his position as Deputy-Head



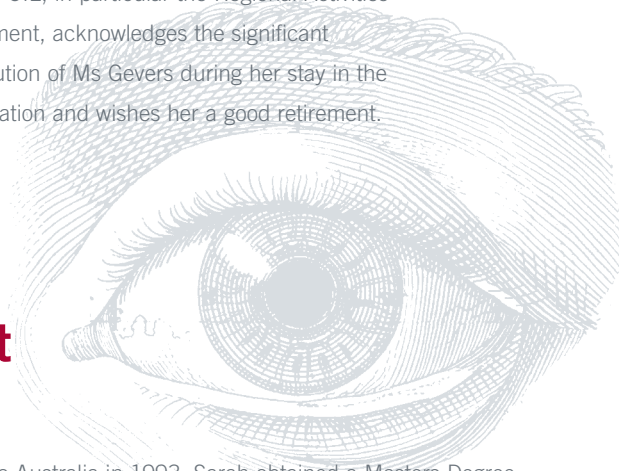
of the Regional Activities Department. He joined us in June 2006 from Argentina where he worked as Epidemiology Director of the SENASA (Official Veterinary Services).



Ms Helga Gevers, Chargée de Mission at the Regional Activities Department, will retire from the OIE in December 2006. Ms Gevers joined the OIE in 1992 coming from the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of South

Africa. She started her assignment at the OIE as Project Officer working directly under the then Director General Dr Jean Blancou. She has been closely associated with the creation of the Regional activities Department in 2002 and has since that time, in her capacity as "Chargée de Mission", been actively involved in the various activities of that department. She has contributed immensely in the organisation of regional conferences, seminars, meetings and workshops and in the process has earned the admiration and respect of Delegates and other eminent scientists participating in the activities of the OIE.

The OIE, in particular the Regional Activities Department, acknowledges the significant contribution of Ms Gevers during her stay in the Organisation and wishes her a good retirement.



International Trade Department

New people

On 2 August Dr Sarah Kahn joined the OIE as the new Chief



of the International Trade Department. Sarah comes to the OIE from Australia, where she was working most recently as a specialist in International Trade with the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries

and Forestry. She has previously worked in Rome, the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom. Sarah graduated in Veterinary Medicine from Melbourne University, Australia, in 1978. She worked at several locations in urban and rural Australia before accepting a position as Veterinary Counselor with the Australian Embassy in Washington DC. After her

return to Australia in 1993, Sarah obtained a Masters Degree in Science at the University of James Cook, North Queensland. She then worked on a World Trade Organization case involving Australia's trade measures for the importation of salmon for human consumption. In 2000 Sarah moved to Canada and worked as Deputy Chief Veterinary Officer with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency in Ottawa for four years. At the end of this period she went to Rome and worked with the Animal Health Department of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, where she worked on avian influenza. Sarah is very pleased to join the OIE as she has a strong interest in international trade. She hopes that her knowledge and practical experience will help the Department to make a strong contribution to the OIE's fulfillment of its mandate in the elaboration of international norms.

Dr Cathleen Hanlon is on short-term assignment to OIE from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, GA USA. She has been at the CDC for 10 years and is a Veterinary Medical Officer in the Rabies Section. After completing her bachelor degree in Animal Science at Rutgers University, (New Jersey), She obtained her veterinary degree from the University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia, PA), School of Veterinary Medicine, and her PhD in comparative medicine from the Biomedical graduate group. She was recently Board Certified in Veterinary Preventive Medicine by the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine. She has participated in many international scientific conferences and also been an invited consultant and field trainer/investigator in Russia and several Latin American and Asian countries for WHO and PAHO.



Dr Leopoldo Stuardo Escobar, Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, is Chilean and has two children. After being awarded a Masters in Environmental Management by the University of Louvain in Belgium, he worked for

five years at Chile's Agricultural Office to the European Union, based in Brussels, where he took an active part in the negotiations for the Sanitary and Phytosanitary Agreement between Chile and the European Union. Upon his return to Chile, he became an academic in the Faculty of Veterinary and Livestock Science of the University of Chile, after which he worked in the Livestock Protection Division of Chile's Agriculture and Livestock Service (SAG), where he was responsible for all SAG animal welfare activities and for relations with the European Union. Early this year he was appointed by open competition to the post of Head of the SAG International Affairs Division, where he was working when he accepted the OIE position.



Claudia Campos trained in both communication and translation. After working for several years as a translator, she joined the OIE International Trade Department on 1 August 2006. Claudia is originally from Colombia but lived in France for 12 years.

Meetings

12 years. International Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS) annual meeting and OIE / International Council for Laboratory Animal Science (ICLAS) Meeting

Dr Sarah Kahn and Dr Leopoldo Stuardo participated in the American Association of Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS) National Meeting held in the Salt Palace Convention Center, Salt Lake City, UT from 15 to 19 October. Over 1,500 people from research centres, universities, regulatory institutions and industry took part. The meeting included over 200 presentations in the form of seminars, platform sessions, special lectures, workshops and round-table discussions.

Prior to the meeting, the OIE and the International Council for Laboratory Animal Science (ICLAS) held an official meeting on Laboratory Animal Welfare. Member organisations of ICLAS reported on their activities. The OIE and ICLAS agreed to continue working together to explore future opportunities for closer collaboration.

OIE Working Group on Animal Welfare

The OIE Working Group on Animal Welfare held its fifth meeting at the OIE Headquarters in Paris on 4-6 July 2006. During this meeting the Working Group addressed the following major issues:

Discussion was held regarding a draft Resolution on the International Declaration on Animal Welfare.

Updating of four chapters on terrestrial animal welfare which were adopted by the International Committee unamended.

Concerning the development of the chapters on aquatic animal welfare, it was noted that the Working Group has made great progress with the draft documents.

In general, the Working Group considered that the country recommendations for the different guidelines were very helpful to improve the incorporation of outcome-based recommendations rather than prescriptive standards.

In terms of the Working Group strategic plan, the contents of the document entitled, "Issues and Options Regarding Role Clarity and Strategic Direction", define the future actions of the Working Group.

Concerning Animal production/housing and management, the Working Group agreed to recommend that the Director General begin by creating an *ad hoc* Group to develop a guidance document that would provide background on relevant issues and suggest a framework for the development of animal production/management guidelines.

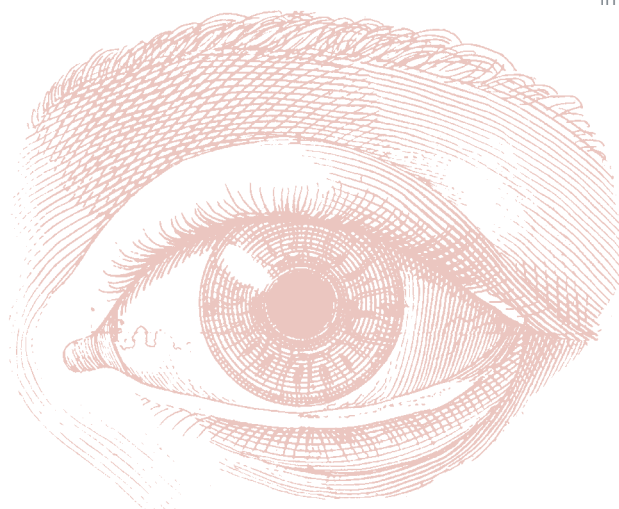
Relating to regional involvement in animal welfare issues, it was deemed very important that the Regional Commission participate in the promoting, awareness and adoption of guidelines. Such involvement was supported by the Director General.

Finally, it was discussed and agreed upon to start working on the Second Global Conference on Animal Welfare; time has lapsed since the first conference in 2004 and the need to make a follow-up conference is due.

18-21 July 2006:

ad hoc Group on identification and traceability of live animals

The *Ad hoc* Group was convened at the request of the OIE Animal Production Food Safety Working Group to propose some general principles and definitions for the identification and traceability of live animals. At this third meeting the *ad hoc* Group finalised its work on the general principles on identification and traceability of live animals (they were adopted in May by the International Committee) and prepared the first draft guidelines for the design and implementation of animal traceability.



8-11 August 2006:

ad hoc group on the OIE list of aquatic animal diseases and Chapters for mollusc diseases for the Aquatic Animal Health Code

The *ad hoc* Group met to address Member Countries' comments on the previous report of the Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission and the comments raised at the 74th OIE General Session on the new chapters for mollusc diseases. The *ad hoc* Group focused on the commodities that can be traded with negligible risk and addressed questions relating to transport water and trade in gametes. It also made progress in the harmonisation of aquatic disease chapters.

The *ad hoc* Group also addressed the Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission's suggestions and assessed some emerging diseases against the OIE criteria for listing diseases, notably abalone viral mortality and infestation with *Terebrasabella heterouncinata*.

11-13 September 2006:

ad hoc Group on amphibian diseases

The *ad hoc* Group, following the terms of reference prepared by the Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission, reviewed published scientific information on transmissible diseases in amphibians, with a focus on Ranaviruses and Chytridiomycosis and the evidence for their transmission by international trade. It drafted a questionnaire for submission to Member Countries on import and export trade in live amphibians and related disease occurrence in captive and wild amphibian populations.

Scientific and Technical Department

New people



Dr Lea Knopf, previously from the Swiss Federal Veterinary Office in Bern, Switzerland, joined the team of the Scientific and Technical Department in October 2006 to assume responsibility for aspects related to country applications for the official recognition of disease freedom. Dr Knopf has extensive experience of risk-based surveillance systems and animal disease control systems in Western Africa.

Meetings of Commissions and *ad hoc* Groups

The *ad hoc* Groups on epidemiology, antimicrobial resistance, evaluation of vaccination strategies for avian influenza, Newcastle disease, tuberculosis, country evaluations for contagious bovine pleuropneumonia, aquatic animal health surveillance, rinderpest, classical and African swine fever and biotechnology, met at the OIE Headquarters. During this period the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases had two meetings while there was one meeting of the Biological Standards Commission and of the Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission.

Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases

The Scientific Commission had two meetings - the Bureau of the Commission met from 3 to 4 July 2006 and the full Commission from 19 to 22 September 2006. During the meeting of the Bureau of the Commission, the working program for the next 3 years was finalised and priority issues related to the development or revision of existing international standards for animal diseases were identified. During the meeting of the Commission in September 2006, the recommendations of the *ad hoc* Group on Epidemiology for changes to the *Terrestrial Code* Chapter on foot and mouth disease and draft chapter on bluetongue and bluetongue surveillance guidelines were adopted. The proposed changes to the chapter on foot

and mouth disease, relates to the request of the International Committee in Resolution XXX during the 74th General Session of the OIE that the Scientific Commission should review the requirements of the *Terrestrial Code* to assess if the process for the re-instatement of disease-free status could be expedited. The Commission also expressed the need to develop an appendix for the *Terrestrial Code* for guidelines on the practical implementation of compartmentalisation and specific guidelines for surveillance for wildlife diseases and vector-borne diseases.

Biological Standards Commission

The Biological Standards Commission met twice in 2006 (from 25 to 27 January and from 13 to 15 September). Over and above the routine work of the Commission (reviewing progress on International standardisation of diagnostic tests and vaccines, reviewing the list of prescribed and alternative tests; examining applications for OIE Reference Laboratory or Collaborating Centre status, examining annual reports of Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres, and progressing the next edition of the OIE *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals*), the Commission also reviewed the reports of the *ad hoc* Group on Evaluation of Nonstructural Protein (NSP) Tests for Foot and Mouth Disease Diagnosis, the *ad hoc* Group on antimicrobial resistance, the *ad hoc* Group on Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy Tests, the Expert Surveillance Panel on Equine influenza and the *ad hoc* Group to revise the OIE Guidelines for International Reference Standards for Antibody Assays. The Commission is also overseeing the preparation of a handbook on Veterinary Biosafety Facility Construction.

Special meeting of the Presidents of OIE Specialist Commissions

To enable closer cooperation and collaboration between the Specialist Commissions of the OIE (Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases, Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission, Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission and Biological Standards Commission), the Director General of the OIE, convened an extraordinary meeting on

2 October 2006 at the OIE Headquarters where the Presidents of all four of these Commissions and the Heads of the Scientific and Technical Department and International Trade Department were present. The Terms of Reference of the Commissions were reviewed and a draft document to discuss the working procedures between the Commissions and between the Commissions and the focal Departments in the Central Bureau was discussed. The latter document was adopted outlining future working relationships and the procedures for the appointment of *ad hoc* Groups and meetings of *ad hoc* Groups and Specialist Commissions.

Ad hoc Group on Aquatic Animal Health Surveillance

The *ad hoc* Group met at the OIE Headquarters from 22 to 24 July 2006. The Group reviewed Appendix 3.8.1 of the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* on General guidelines for animal health surveillance and adapted them to aquatic animal health surveillance. It also reviewed and updated Chapter 1.1.4 of the *Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals* on Requirements for surveillance for international recognition of freedom from infection. The Group initiated a description of steps involved in the design of a surveillance system with the intention of including it in guidelines.

Ad hoc Group on Antimicrobial Resistance

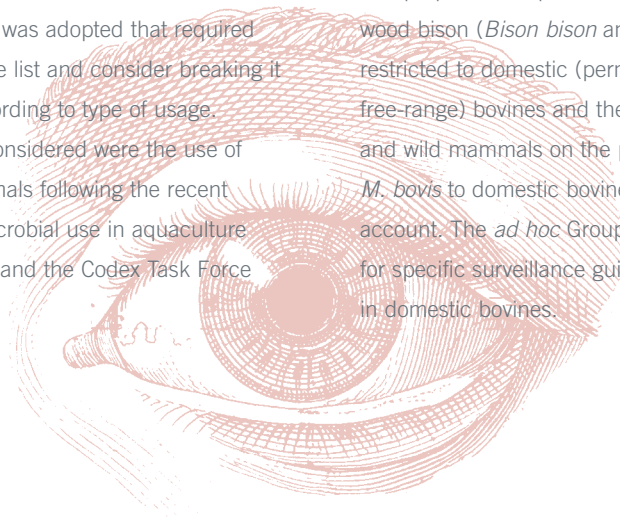
The *ad hoc* Group met at the OIE Headquarters from 6 to 8 February and from 26 to 28 September 2006. The Group compiled a list of proposed veterinary critically important antimicrobials (VCIA), based on the information supplied by OIE Member Countries. The draft list had been presented to the OIE International Committee during the General Session in May 2006 and had stimulated debate and discussion. A Resolution was adopted that required the Group to further refine the list and consider breaking it down into subcategories according to type of usage. Other areas that the Group considered were the use of antimicrobials in aquatic animals following the recent expert consultation on antimicrobial use in aquaculture and antimicrobial resistance, and the Codex Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance.

Ad hoc Group on biotechnology

The *ad hoc* Group met at the OIE headquarters in Paris twice, from 3-5 April 2006 and from 30 to 31 October 2006. During the first meeting three subgroups worked on reproductive animal biotechnologies, on vaccines and nanotechnology. The *ad hoc* Group also revised the draft chapter from the OIE *Terrestrial Manual on Principles of veterinary vaccine production*. For the second meeting the objectives of the *ad hoc* Group were revised to develop guidelines on the animal health risks arising from somatic cell nuclear transfer cloning of production animals, to develop guidelines for new vaccine technologies, to monitor developments on nanotechnology and to advise OIE on suitable procedures for the identification and tracing of animals and animal products resulting from biotechnology interventions. The main focus of the meeting in October was to develop the *Guidelines for Somatic Cell Nuclear Transfer in Production Livestock and Horses* according to the new terms of reference. An update was given on nanotechnology and the organization of the international symposium *Animal Genomics for Animal Health* which will take place at OIE headquarters, 23-25 October, 2007.

Ad hoc Group on Tuberculosis

The *ad hoc* Group met at the OIE Headquarters in Paris, France, from 11 to 13 October 2006. The Group reviewed Chapter 2.3.3 of the *Terrestrial Code* and took into account the changes in view of new scientific concepts and also took into consideration comments received from Member Countries on the Chapter adopted in May 2005. The proposed Chapter has been expanded to include wood bison (*Bison bison* and *Bison bonasus*) and restricted to domestic (permanently captive and owned free-range) bovines and the influence of other domestic and wild mammals on the potential transmission of *M. bovis* to domestic bovines has been taken into account. The *ad hoc* Group agreed that there is no need for specific surveillance guidelines on bovine tuberculosis in domestic bovines.



Ad hoc Group on Epidemiology

The *ad hoc* Group met at the OIE Headquarters in Paris, France, from 5 to 8 September 2006 with the specific task to discuss the possibilities for amendment of the current requirements of the *Terrestrial Code* for foot and mouth disease for the re-instatement of disease-free status after a limited outbreak of the disease in a free zone or country. This followed the adoption of Resolution XXX at the 74th General Session of the OIE in May 2006 in which the Scientific Commission was given the mandate by the International Committee to proceed with urgency on this matter. The Group made specific recommendations for consideration by the Scientific Commission.

Ad hoc Group on Newcastle disease

The *ad hoc* Group met at the OIE Headquarters in Paris, France, from 5 to 6 October 2006. The Group had the important task to review an outdated chapter of the *Terrestrial Code* on Newcastle disease and also to develop specific guidelines for surveillance for Newcastle disease based on the latest scientific information taking into consideration the lessons learned and approach taken in developing a *Terrestrial Code* chapter and surveillance guidelines for avian influenza.

Ad hoc Group on vaccination strategies for avian influenza

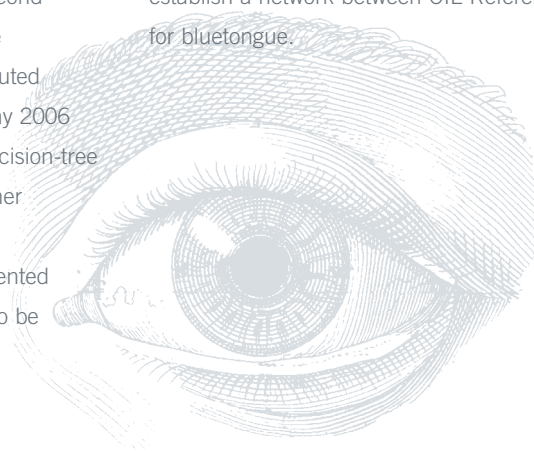
The *ad hoc* Group met at the OIE Headquarters in Paris, France, from 3 to 4 October 2006 for the second time following the initial meeting in March 2006. The second meeting of the Group was convened to evaluate the OIE information document on AI vaccination distributed to Delegates during the 74th General Session in May 2006 and to use this document as a basis to design a decision-tree to guide Member Countries in their decisions whether or not to apply vaccination for avian influenza. The recommendations of the *ad hoc* Group will be presented for discussion at an OIE/FAO/IZSVe AI conference to be held in Verona, Italy in March 2007.

Ad hoc Group on the evaluation of country status for contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP)

The *ad hoc* Group met at the OIE Headquarters in Paris, France, from 11 to 13 October 2006 to assess the applications of countries for the allocation of freedom from CBPP and also to suggest changes to the current *Terrestrial Code* chapter and surveillance guidelines for CBPP. The Group also revised the existing questionnaire for countries applying for disease freedom to bring the questionnaire on par with the similar questionnaire used for foot and mouth disease and rinderpest.

Ad hoc Group on bluetongue

Following the outbreaks of bluetongue since June 2006 within the Northern part of Europe, the Director General of the OIE convened an extraordinary meeting of experts on bluetongue to advise the OIE and especially the Specialist Commissions of the OIE on possible changes that might be necessary to the current provisions of the *Terrestrial Code* and *Terrestrial Manual* in view of the outbreaks. The Group took note of an important new epidemiological finding by the OIE Collaborating Centre in Teramo, Italy, that a European adapted *Culicoides* specie could be incriminated in the spread of the disease in Europe. The Group suggested minor changes to the *Terrestrial Code* chapter and Manual to accommodate these new epidemiological findings on the disease. Support was also given to the OIE to establish a network between OIE Reference Laboratories for bluetongue.



Ad hoc Group on Classical and African swine fever

The *ad hoc* Group met at the OIE Headquarters in Paris, France, from 2 to 3 November 2006 to review the surveillance guidelines for classical swine fever in view of the incorporation of the principle of compartmentalisation that was included in the newly adopted *Terrestrial Code* chapter for classical swine fever and also to develop a new *Terrestrial Code* chapter and surveillance guidelines for African swine fever following the changes to the chapter on classical swine fever. The process necessitated further suggested changes to the already adopted new chapter and surveillance guidelines for classical swine fever that would be equally applicable to the new chapter and surveillance guidelines developed by the Group for African swine fever.

Ad hoc Group on African horse sickness

The *ad hoc* Group met at the OIE Headquarters in Paris, France, from 7 to 9 November 2006. The Group revised the current outdated chapter of the *Terrestrial Code* using the approach taken for the newly developed *Terrestrial Code* chapter on bluetongue as a reference document and also taking into account the relative importance of wild equidae in the epidemiology of the disease and consequent trade implications in the movement of horses. The Group also commenced in developing specific surveillance guidelines for African horse sickness based on the surveillance guidelines developed for bluetongue.

Ad hoc Group on country evaluations for BSE status of Member Countries

The *ad hoc* Group met at the OIE Headquarters in Paris, France, from 14 to 16 November 2006. Following the decision of the EU Parliament to discontinue the evaluation of countries trading with the EU in accordance with the GBR index system for BSE and to entrust the sole mandate of country evaluations to the OIE, the Group evaluated the applications of seven countries applying for status evaluation in accordance with the provisions of the 2006 edition of the *Terrestrial Code*. The applicants included countries that were formally listed as BSE free by the OIE but now had to be assessed in terms of the new categories of the *Terrestrial Code*.

Ad hoc Group on country evaluations for rinderpest

The *ad hoc* Group met at the OIE Headquarters in Paris, France, from 21 to 22 November 2006 to assess the applications of 9 OIE Member Countries – the majority of them being from those countries in Africa not yet being listed free from the disease. The Group also had the important task to review the existing *Terrestrial Code* chapter and surveillance guidelines for the disease and specifically the OIE pathway for achieving freedom from disease in view of perceived changes in the clinical manifestation of the disease.

Communication Unit

**New people**

Glaieul Mamaghani joined the Communication Unit of the OIE in May 2006. Trained in media studies and journalism at masters level, Glaieul built up experience at

Reuters International and through different international positions. Most recently she was Communication Officer in Sri Lanka on post-tsunami reconstruction programmes.



regional activities

22nd OIE Regional Conference for Europe

Lyons, France from 26 to 29 September 2006

The OIE 22nd Regional Conference for Europe was held in Lyons, France from 26 to 29 September 2006 with the support of the “Ecole Nationale des Services Veterinaires” and the French Ministry of Agriculture.

Birthplace of Veterinary Science, it was befitting that Lyons be chosen to host this very important OIE event: the first veterinary school in the world was founded in this city in 1761. In 1764, a new decree gave the school the title of Royal Veterinary School (the school would subsequently hold the title “Imperial” and then “National” Veterinary School). Its founder, Claude Bourgelat, went on to open another school of veterinary medicine in Alfort, nearby Paris in 1766. Those two schools would later on spawn the first veterinary schools on other continents. Lyons was also designated by UNESCO as a world cultural heritage site in 1998.

The Conference was chaired by Dr Monique Eloit, the OIE Delegate for France and Dr Nikola Belev, President of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe and OIE Regional Representative for Eastern Europe. The representative of the Minister of Agriculture of France, Mr Jean-Marc Bournigal, the President of the OIE International Committee, Dr Barry O’Neil, the Director General of the OIE, Dr Bernard Vallat, Delegates of OIE Member Countries, representatives of international and regional organisations and observers attended the Conference.

A total of 138 participants, comprising OIE Delegates and/or nominees of 45 Member Countries and two Observer Countries and senior officers from 12 regional and international organisations attended the conference. In addition, representatives of the private sector and private veterinary organisations from the host country were present.

Two technical items were discussed during the Conference:

- the illegal smuggling of animals and animal products;
- the role of veterinarians and other stakeholders in the epidemiological surveillance of animal diseases.

These two items are of particular significance considering the current international scene dominated by the occurrence of avian influenza in the world and of other emerging and re-emerging animal diseases such as bluetongue in Europe. A recommendation on each item was adopted by the Conference. The recommendation on smuggling of animals and animal products called for more effective coordination amongst the various agencies such as veterinary, customs, intelligence and police services to combat smuggling of animals, animal products and veterinary medicines. The OIE has also been asked to review the Chapter in the *Code* relating to the evaluation of Veterinary Services to bring out in particular the link between Veterinary Services and the other agencies involved and also to review the models of proposed international certificates to render them unalterable. The recommendation on epidemiological surveillance asked member Countries to strengthen their networks of surveillance systems to include private practitioners and farmers especially in remote rural areas where veterinary care is less accessible.

A summary of the animal health situation in the various European countries was presented. Useful discussions took place on the recent outbreaks of bluetongue in the continent and the observed changes in the epidemiology of the disease. An update on aquatic animal diseases and the growth of international trade in fishery products was also presented and discussed.



ALive and PACE meetings

Nairobi, Kenya, on 23 and 24 October 2006

The 7th Executive Committee Meeting of ALive¹, chaired by Dr Bernard Vallat, OIE Director General, was held in Nairobi, Kenya, on 23 and 24 October 2006.

The Committee reaffirmed its support to the creation of OIE/FAO/IBAR Regional Animal Health Centres, an important priority of these centres being to constitute a pool of experts to participate in the preparation, follow-up and support of national projects in the regions concerned.

It also supported a request to the European Commission to provide 8 million euros to the ALive Programme for the prevention and control of avian and human influenza. This meeting was followed by the ALive General Assembly which was chaired by the Honourable Minister of Agriculture of Mali. The General Assembly endorsed all the recommendations of the Executive Committee including the grant of **8 million euros** to the ALive Programme. Both meetings were followed by the 13th Advisory Committee Meeting (ACM) of the Pan-African Programme for the Control of Epizootics (PACE) to review progress achieved under that programme.

The ACM, which was the last of its kind, expressed satisfaction at the progress achieved by PACE Member Countries in the control of important animal diseases. It noted that rinderpest had virtually disappeared but noted that there was still a possibility that rinderpest virus could be circulating in some parts of the Somali ecosystem. In this respect, it strongly recommended the coordination of a programme to ensure that the disease has indeed been wiped out of the planet.

On the occasions of the ALive and PACE meetings, Dr B. Vallat was awarded medals of merit for the contribution of the OIE in the implementation the two programmes.

OIE Seminar on capacity building for African national Veterinary Services

Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, 6-9 November 2006

From 6 to 9 November 2006, a seminar on capacity building for African national Veterinary Services was held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, by the Regional Representation for Africa. It was organised for the Delegates to the OIE of countries of the Regional Economic Communities (IGAD¹, ECOWAS², UEMOA³, CEBEVIRHA⁴) as well as those of Algeria, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia.

Two main items were studied over the course of this seminar:

- information on the PVS tool
- the prevention and control of highly pathogenic avian influenza in Africa.

Both those items were the object of a recommendation adopted during the OIE/AU-IBAR/FAO Regional Seminar on Animal Health Policies, Evaluation of Veterinary Services and the Role of Livestock Breeders in the Surveillance of Animal Diseases, that was held in N'Djamena, Chad, from 13 to 15 February 2006.

The PVS (Performance, Vision, Strategy) tool was conceived with a view to identifying gaps and weaknesses that can subsequently be remedied through additional national resources and/or international aid. It will also ensure that Veterinary Services are in compliance with the OIE international standards on Veterinary Services mentioned in the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*.

The seminar recommended *inter alia* that the OIE provide technical support for the development of a Reference Laboratory for the diagnosis of highly pathogenic avian influenza in Africa and provide necessary guidelines to African countries to decide on vaccination and other biosecurity measures against the disease.

The seminar was also the first training seminar on the PVS tool to be held outside the OIE headquarters.

1-ALive: Partnership for livestock development, poverty alleviation and sustainable growth

1-IGAD: Intergovernmental Authority on Development

2-ECOWAS : Economic Community of West African States

3-UEMOA : *Union économique et monétaire ouest-africaine* (West African Economic and Monetary Union)

4-CEBEVIRHA : *Commission économique du bétail, de la viande et des ressources halieutiques* (Economic Commission of Livestock, Meat and Fishery Resources)



18th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas

**Florianopolis, Brazil,
from 28 November to 2 December 2006**

The 18th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas was in Florianopolis, Brazil, from 28 November to 2 December 2006.

Two technical items were discussed during the Conference:

- mechanisms for farmer compensation
- animal welfare in the Americas.

It is the first time that mechanisms for farmer compensation were discussed at the Regional level in the Americas. This issue is considered crucial for the survival of livestock owners who are often not compensated by the state for the destruction or slaughter of their stock carried out as part of animal disease control programmes.

The second technical item dealing with animal welfare was also of special interest to the region particularly for countries that still need to develop appropriate legislations on the subject. It is recalled that the OIE approaches the subject of animal welfare on a scientific basis and this is often in conflict with animal welfare organisations which are heavily influenced by human emotions.

The Regional Conference was held prior to the First International conference of OIE Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centers (Official experts from all the OIE Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres, Chief Veterinary Officers from the Regional Commission for the Americas, OIE Regional Representatives worldwide, Presidents of all OIE Regional Commissions as well as national scientific and private laboratory experts, were invited to participate in the Conference). The Government of Brazil kindly agreed to sponsor the conference.

First International Conference of OIE Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres

**Florianopolis, Brazil
from 3 to 5 December 2006**

The main purpose of the First International Conference was to provide a multidisciplinary forum to strengthen scientific cooperation within the network of OIE Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres. It also presented the opportunity to launch the new concept of twinning of laboratories. Over 300 experts from 35 different countries participated and contributed to the Conference's success.



official acts

New membership

Cape Verde

The official notification of the accession of the Republic of Cape Verde to the International Agreement of 25 January 1924 for the creation of the Office International des Epizooties was effective on 26 December 2006.

Appointment of permanent Delegates

4 July 2006

Benin

Dr Christophe Boni Monsia

Director of Livestock,
Ministry of Agriculture,
Livestock and Fisheries

1 August 2006

India

Ms Charusheela Sohoni

Secretary, Department of Animal
Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries

6 August 2006

Vanuatu

Dr Dale Hamilton

CVO, Department of Quarantine
and Livestock, Ministry of Agriculture,
Forestry and Fisheries

7 August 2006

Libya

Dr Ahmed Abdulla Abubaker

General Director,
National Center of the Animal Health
and Breeding Improvement

27 August 2006

Sudan

Dr Bashir Taha Mohamed Taha

Undersecretary, Federal Ministry
of Animal Resources and Chief
Veterinary Officer, Ministry
of Animal Resources

30 August 2006

Romania

Dr Stefan Nicolae

General Director,
Chief Veterinary Officer,
National Sanitary Veterinary Agency,
Ministry of Agriculture,
Food and Forests

15 September 2006

Japan

Dr Toshiro Kawashima

General Director,
International Animal Health Affairs
Office, Ministry of Agriculture,
Forestry and Fisheries



New agreements

Framework Cooperation Agreement between the World Animal Health Organisation (OIE) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)

The Economic Community of West African States, with headquarters in Abuja, represented by its Executive Secretary, Dr Mohamed Ibn Chambas, hereinafter referred to as "ECOWAS",

AND

The World Animal Health Organisation (OIE), with headquarters at 12, rue de Prony, 75017, Paris, France, represented by its Director General, Dr Bernard Vallat, hereinafter referred to as "the OIE",

Noting Decision A/DEC. 4/5/82, relating to the adoption of the protocol on regional agricultural development strategy, adopted by the Heads of State and Government at Cotonou, Benin, and the need to implement it by means of suitable programmes;

Convinced that livestock farming, which is one aspect of this regional agricultural development strategy, plays an essential role in the socio-economic development of the Member States of the Community insofar as it provides a means of fighting poverty for the populations of the said Community engaged in this activity;

Mindful that good animal health is also a source of good health for the said population as consumers of livestock products;

Considering that the objectives of the OIE include, on the one hand, contributing to the eradication of animal diseases of whatever type capable of affecting human populations and, on the other hand, determining animal health standards relating to the animal health status of its Member Countries with regard to priority animal diseases, with a view to international trade in animals and animal products;

Recognising the urgent need to strengthen both the capacities of regional institutions in terms of animal disease research and control at the regional or global level and the regulation of trade in animals and animal products which help to alleviate poverty and improve the quality of life of human populations in West Africa;

Given that the Parties to the present Agreement are mindful of the mutual benefit to be derived from such cooperation;

Hereby agree to the following:

General principles

Article 1

The Parties to the present Agreement hereby decide to create a general framework for collaboration in various fields of activity.

Article 2

The cooperation decided upon by the Parties is aimed at durably strengthening and developing exchanges between them.

Article 3

The present Framework Cooperation Agreement concerns the field of livestock farming, and in particular the field of animal health, including zoonoses.

Forms of cooperation

Article 4

Cooperation between ECOWAS and the OIE may take various forms, including the following areas:

– technical assistance;

- training;
- information and consultations;
- exchanges of good practice in all fields of animal health.

Article 5

The OIE will provide ECOWAS with technical assistance and expertise in the fields of activity defined by mutual agreement.

Article 6

Each Party may participate in training courses, seminars and workshops or meetings organised by the other Party in accordance with pre-established or predetermined conditions.

Article 7

1. ECOWAS and the OIE hereby agree to exchange information and consult each other periodically on all matters of mutual interest relating to:

- epizootic diseases, including zoonoses, and methods used to control them;
- animal health and research standards on the diagnosis, prophylaxis, surveillance and control of priority animal diseases;
- international trade of animals.



2. To this end, the Parties shall regularly inform each other on sector priorities of mutual interest and on the various decisions taken by their respective institutions, and exchange their activity programmes and projects under study likely to be of interest to the Party requesting them.

Article 8

The Parties may, in as durable a manner as possible, exchange good practices in livestock farming with a view to strengthening their cooperation.

Article 9

Consultations and information of a confidential nature will be the subject of special arrangements or procedures agreed to by the Parties.

Article 10

Any cooperation activity within the framework of the present Agreement is to be the subject of a request by one of the Parties, and will require the approval of the other Party.

Article 11

The Parties also agree to seek the external funding needed to launch their activities within the framework of the present Cooperation Agreement.

Other provisions

Article 12 Duration – Denunciation of the Agreement

1. The present Agreement is concluded for an indefinite duration.

2. The Parties nevertheless agree that the Agreement may be denounced, subject to six (6) months' notice being given. The Party taking the initiative shall inform the other Party by whatever means at its disposal.

Article 13 Amendments

The present Agreement may be amended by mutual consent, on condition that the Party proposing the amendment notifies the other Party. Amendments shall take the form of a protocol signed by both Parties and attached to the present Agreement.

Article 14 Settlement of disputes

1. Any disputes relating to the implementation of the present Agreement shall be settled amicably between the Parties.

2. In the event of failure to reach an amicable settlement, the dispute will be definitively settled by three (3) adjudicators, one to be designated by each of the Parties and the third to be designated by the two (2) adjudicators already designated by the two (2) Parties.

Article 15 Entry into force

The present Agreement shall come into force as soon as it has been signed by the Executive Secretary of ECOWAS and the Director General of the OIE.

In witness whereof, the Executive Secretary of ECOWAS and the Director General of the OIE signed the present Cooperation Agreement.

Date: 27 June 2006

*Dr Mohamed Ibn Chambas
Executive Secretary
Economic Community
of West African States
(ECOWAS)*

*Dr Bernard Vallat
Director General
World Organisation
for Animal Health
(OIE)*

Presentation of OIE Honorary Awards



The Gold Medal was granted to Dr Romano Marabelli for his outstanding services to the OIE and the veterinary world



Dr Niang delivered a speech in praise of Dr Dennis Alexander and presented him with the Meritorious Service Medal

epidemiology & animal disease control programmes

India declares itself free from African horse sickness

**Information received
on 15 September 2006 from
Ms Charusheela Sohoni,
Delegate of India to the OIE,
Department of Animal Husbandry,
Dairying and Fisheries,
Ministry of Agriculture, New Delhi**



- African horse sickness (AHS) is a notifiable disease in India.
- The disease has not been reported in India for more than forty years; the last occurrence of AHS was reported in 1965.
- There has been no vaccination against AHS in the country since 1980.
- Production of AHS vaccine in the country was stopped in 1979 and importation of AHS vaccine in the country is not allowed.
- Serological testing of all thoroughbred horses as well as in other species of horses has been carried out as per the testing procedure of the OIE. More than 20,000 equine sera from various agro-geographical areas have been tested for AHS, with negative results.
- Equine animals are regulated and imported through approved Government Quarantine Stations which are situated at the four international airports of Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai and Chennai. Horses are kept in isolation and undergo various diagnostic tests before they are allowed to be introduced into the various registered studs of the country.
- Importation of livestock into India is regulated through the *Livestock Importation Act 1898* (Act 9 of 1898) as amended by the *Livestock Importation Amendment Act 2001* (Act 28 of 2001). Importation of horses is allowed from countries that are free from African horse sickness.

activities of reference laboratories & collaborating centres

Activities in 2005

During 2005 there were 157 Reference Laboratories and 17 Collaborating Centres covering 94 diseases or groups of closely related diseases or topics. Annual reports were received from 150 laboratories and 17 centres. Of these, the following numbers were involved in international activities (the percentage values are based on the reports received):

Reference Laboratories

General activities		Percentage of Laboratories carrying out these activities
1	Test(s) in use/or available for the specified disease	99%
2	Production and distribution of diagnostic reagents	84%
Specific OIE activities		
3	International harmonisation/standardisation of methods	68%
4	Preparation and supply of international reference standards	56%
5	Research and development of new procedures	82%
6	Collection, analysis and dissemination of epizootiological data	61%
7	Provision of consultant expertise	78%
8	Provision of scientific and technical training	59%
9	Provision of diagnostic testing facilities	51%
10	Organisation of international scientific meetings	29%
11	Participation in international scientific collaborative studies	56%
12	Presentations and publications	84%

Collaborating Centres

General activities		Percentage of Centres carrying out these activities
1	Activities as a centre of research, expertise, standardisation and dissemination of techniques	100%
2	Proposal or development of any procedure that will facilitate harmonisation of international regulations applicable to the surveillance and control of animal diseases, food safety and animal welfare	87%
3	Placement of expert consultants at the disposal of the OIE	67%
Specific OIE activities		
4	Provision of scientific and technical training within to personnel from OIE Member Countries	87%
5	Organisation of scientific meetings on behalf of the Office	40%
6	Coordination of scientific and technical studies in collaboration with other laboratories or organisations	73%
7	Publication and dissemination of any information that may be useful to OIE Member Countries	93%



List of Reference Experts and Laboratories

approved in May 2006

Highly pathogenic avian influenza

Dr John Pasick

Canadian Food Inspection Agency, National Centre for Foreign Animal Disease, 1015 Arlington Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3E 3M4, Canada

Tel: (1.204) 789.20.13 – Fax: (1.204) 789.20.38

jpasick@inspection.gc.ca

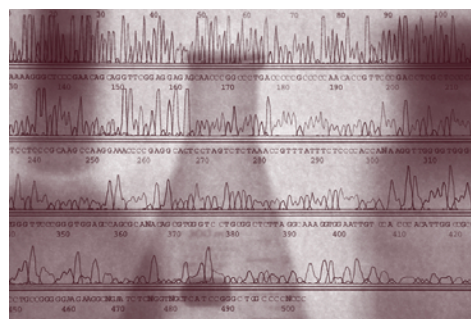
Rabies

Dr Anthony Fooks

Rabies and Wildlife Zoonoses Group, Virology Department, VLA Weybridge, New Haw, Addlestone, Surrey KT15 3NB, United Kingdom

Tel: (44.1932) 35.78.40 – Fax: (44.1932) 35.72.39

t.fooks@vla.defra.gsi.gov.uk



Bovine spongiform encephalopathy

Dr Stefanie Czub

Canadian Food Inspection Agency, National Centre for Foreign Animal Disease, Winnipeg, Canada

Tel: (1.204) 789.20.21 – Fax: (1.204) 789.20.38

czubs@inspection.gc.ca

Contagious agalactia

Dr Robin A.J. Nicholas

Mycoplasma Group, Department of Statutory and Exotic Bacterial Diseases, VLA Weybridge, New Haw, Addlestone, Surrey KT15 3NB, United Kingdom

Tel: (44.1932) 34 11 11 – Fax: (44.1932) 34 70 76

r.a.j.nicholas@vla.defra.gsi.gov.uk

Equine influenza & equine rhinopneumonitis

Dr Jennifer A. Mumford

Cambridge Infectious Diseases Consortium, Department of Veterinary Medicine, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0ES, United Kingdom

Tel: (44.1223) 76.46.66 – Fax: (44.1223) 76.46.67

jam80@hermes.cam.ac.uk

Surra (Trypanosoma evansi)

Dr Filip Claes

Institute of Tropical Medicine Antwerp, Department of Parasitology, Nationalestraat 155, B-2000 Antwerpen, Belgium

Tel: (32.3) 247.65.34 – Fax: (32.3) 247.63.73

fclaes@itg.be

Avian tuberculosis

Dr I. Pavlik

Veterinary Research Institute, Hudcova 70, 62132 Brno, Czech (Rep.)

Tel: (420.5) 33.33.16.01 – Fax: (420.5) 33.33.12.29

pavlik@vri.cz

Marek's disease

Dr Aly M. Fadly

USDA, ARS, Avian Disease and Oncology Laboratory, 33606 East Mount Hope Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823, United States of America

Tel: (1.517) 337.68.28 – Fax: (1.517) 337.67.76

fadly@msu.edu



List of Collaborating Centres



Infection with *Xenohaliotis californiensis*

Prof. Carolyn Friedman

Friedman Shellfish Health Laboratory, School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences, University of Washington
Box 355020, Seattle, Washington 98195,
United States of America
Tel: (1.206) 543.95.19 – Fax: (1.206) 616.86.89
carolynf@u.washington.edu

Escherichia coli

Dr John Morris Fairbrother

The *Escherichia coli* Laboratory (EcL),
3200 Sicotte Saint-Hyacinthe, Québec, J2S 7C6, Canada
Tel: (1.450) 773.85.21 – Fax: (1.450) 778.81.08
john.morris.fairbrother@umontreal.ca

Emerging and Re-emerging Zoonotic Diseases

National Center for Infectious Diseases, CDC,
Division of Bacterial and Mycotic Diseases,
1600 Clifton Road, Mailstop C12, Room 6034, Building 1,
Atlanta, Georgia 30333
United States of America
Tel: (1-404) 639.38.31 – Fax: (1-404) 639.30.39
nmarano@cdc.gov

Zoonoses in Europe

Friedrich-Loeffler-Institute, Boddenblick 5a, 17493
Greifswald, Insel Riems, Germany/Allemagne/ Alemania
Tel: (49-38351) 7-250 – Fax: (49-38351) 7-151
thomas.mettenleiter@fli.bund.de

Training of Veterinary Services

Centro Buenos Aires para la Capacitación de los Servicios Veterinarios (CEBASEV), Avenida Alexander Fleming 1653
Piso 1, CP 1640 – Martinez, Pcia de Buenos Aires, Argentina
Tel: (54.11) 46.24.50.43 – Fax: (54.11) 41.21.53.60
aasilvestre@fvvet.uba.ar

book review

Mexico's National Confederation of Livestock Producer Organizations and Mexican livestock farming. Seventy years of history

Felipe Arturo Ávila Espinosa

Price: 20 €

Contact: Revistadelveterinario@yahoo.com.mx



The rearing, care and handling of the various livestock species form an essential part of Mexico's rural culture. Livestock farmers, domestic animals and the relationship between them and rural families have been throughout history, and still are today, fundamental factors in understanding the idiosyncrasy and identity of rural society. In Mexico, for many of those who devote their lives to it, livestock farming has always bestowed prestige

and been associated with the best values of rural life: work, commitment, care and love for animals. This is why livestock farming is so special to all those involved in it, many of whom see it as much more than a means of income and livelihood. For them it is a vocation and a way of life, a culture, an identity.

Ethics and the Politics of Food

Edited by: Matthias Kaiser
and Marianne Elisabet

ISBN: 9086860087

Price: AU \$120.00

592 pp.

Publisher:

Wageningen Academic Publishers,

The Netherlands

Published August 2006



Food has emerged as a political topic par excellence. It is increasingly involved in controversies at a transnational level, in relation to issues of access, dominance, trade and control in a shared global environment. At the same time, innovations in biotechnology and animal domestication have brought ethics to the forefront of food debates. Thus, we live in an era when the ethics and the politics of food must come together.

This book addresses the ethics and the politics of food from a broad range of academic disciplines, including sociology, philosophy, nutrition, anthropology, ethics, political science and history. The chapters expose novel problem areas, and suggest guidelines for approaching them. Topics range from fundamental issues in philosophy to sustainability, from consumer trust in food to ethical toolkits. Transparency, power and responsibility are key concerns, and special attention is given to animal welfare, emerging technologies in food production and marine domestication. Together, the chapters represent a wide range of academic responses to the fundamental dilemmas posed by food production and food consumption in the contemporary world.



special events

The OIE Global Conference on Aquatic Animal Health: shared responsibility and stronger commitment at all levels



The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), in collaboration with the Norwegian Government, organised the first Global Conference on Aquatic Animal Health dedicated to reinforcing the commitment of OIE Member Countries to their rights and obligations regarding disease notification and implementation of OIE standards.

Commenting on the event, Dr Bernard Vallat, OIE Director General said: 'today, over 40% of global fish production for human consumption comes from farming but that poor animal health conditions are one of the major constraints to its further development'. 'The conference addressed the need to raise awareness and define roles and responsibilities of national veterinary services, other competent authorities, and the private sector in the prevention and control of aquatic animal diseases,' Dr Vallat added.

The conference, held in Bergen, Norway from 9th to 12th October 2006, established recommendations to create a framework for improved cooperation among stakeholders, to improve global aquatic animal health monitoring and information sharing, and to address aquatic animal health and welfare issues. OIE Member Country Delegates, representatives of national veterinary services, competent authorities and aquaculture producers made up the 150 participants strong conference.

The conference served to underpin the efforts of the OIE and those of the OIE Aquatic Animals Commission, chaired by Dr Eva-Maria Bernoth, in promoting training from the farm level to the veterinary network and authorities' level in early detection and appropriate rapid response to aquatic animal outbreaks.

It emphasized the need for enhanced information sharing and official notification in the field of aquatic animal health based on the success of WAHIS (OIE World Animal Health Information System) in monitoring and controlling the occurrence and spread of terrestrial animal diseases.

At the conference the OIE provided an update on progress in the elaboration of science-based guidelines on aquatic animal welfare proposed for discussion with OIE Member Countries. These include chapters on slaughter of farmed finfish for human consumption, humane killing of finfish for disease control purposes, transport of finfish by boat and transport of finfish by land. Similar guidelines on terrestrial animals already exist in the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*.

The OIE, with the support of the Aquatic Animals Commission, will respond to the outcomes of this first Global Conference on Aquatic Animals and assist in implementing these recommendations using the organisation's network, including its regional and sub regional offices.

Simulation of an avian influenza occurrence in Peru

Lima, 10-13 July 2006

**National Agricultural Health
Service Animal Health Division
National Poultry Health
Programme**

Introduction

Between 10 and 13 July 2006, the first field and academic simulation of an avian influenza occurrence was conducted in Peru. It formed part of the activities to

prepare the health emergency system, under the responsibility of the National Agricultural Health Service (SENASA) with the active participation of poultry producers and associated institutions.

Background

In its *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*, the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) recommends that Member Countries should conduct self-evaluations of various aspects of their Veterinary Services, one of which is the capacity to take emergency measures to control outbreaks of exotic diseases, including zoonoses. In this connection, SENASA staged the event described below.

Objectives

The objectives were to:

- Evaluate the joint response capacity of the official Veterinary Service and of poultry producers (Poultry Health System) to deal with an avian influenza occurrence.
- Consolidate the operational knowledge of sanitary actions for containing and eradicating a possible outbreak of avian influenza.

Participants and speakers

The participants included:

- SENASA personnel
- Professionals from Peru's poultry industry
- Professionals and technicians from other national institutions, including: the Ministry of Health, the National Institute of Civil Defence, the Ministry of Tourism and Integration, the Ministry of the Interior/National Police of Peru, the Ministry of Defence/Peruvian Armed Forces, and the NGO Grupo de Aves del Peru (Poultry Group of Peru).
- Representatives of the:
 - Official Veterinary Services of Chile and Ecuador
 - Poultry Producers' Association of Ecuador (CONAVE)
 - Andean Community of Nations
 - Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) – Peru.

The following people gave academic presentations:

- Dr Jorge Fuller Catalán, from Chile's Agriculture and Livestock Service
- Dr José Naranjo, from the Pan American Foot and Mouth Disease Centre of PAHO
- Dr Roberto Acosta Galvez, from SENASA
- Dr Raúl Zegarra Valencia, from SENASA
- Dr Lidia Conza Blanco, from SENASA.

Activities

Two types of activity were carried out:

Academic activities: technical talks on avian influenza, Chile's experience in controlling the 2002 outbreak (Appendix 1), techniques for diagnosing avian influenza, principles for avian influenza surveillance and control, and practical field demonstrations on how to conduct a rapid test for identifying the antigen using immunochromatography and on humane procedures for stamping out animals and destroying carcasses.

Simulation activities: epidemiological investigation and outbreak control activities, and systemic management, in response to a simulated notified occurrence, in accordance with the guidelines of the *Manual of Procedures for dealing with an Avian Influenza Occurrence*, in order to validate the guidelines.

As there were two types of activity, the event was organised as follows:

- **Day 1:** 09.00 hrs to 17.00 hrs – Technical talks
- **Days 2 and 3:** 08.00 hrs to 14.00 hrs – Simulation of an occurrence
14.00 hrs to 15.30 hrs – Practical field exercises
- **Day 4:** 09.00 hrs to 13.00 hrs – Summaries, analysis, final report and closing.



Practical field exercises with rapid diagnosis using immunochromatography

Results

The **academic activities** met with expectations and successfully attained the objective of training SENASA staff and private veterinary professionals who form the operational human resource component of the avian influenza emergency system (Fig. 1).

The **simulation activities** achieved the following results:

- The outbreaks scripted in the simulation exercise were identified and quarantined.
- Visits were made to 14 farms during the epidemiological investigation activities (33% of farms in the zone).
- Three cockfighting arenas were inspected.
- Visits were made to 65 backyard farms.
- Nine control posts were established.
- A total of 98,473 birds were slaughtered.
- Exports of poultry and poultry products were suspended.
- An Emergency Directorate was set up at central level in response to the health emergency.
- The presence of avian influenza type A virus was detected by means of a rapid field diagnosis using immunochromatography.
- Serological diagnoses detected the presence of avian influenza type A virus using ELISA and agar gel immunodiffusion, and antibodies to the H5 virus were detected using haemagglutination inhibition.

Conclusions

- The activities proposed and carried out during the Simulation of an Avian Influenza Occurrence were used to assess the response capacity of Peru's Poultry

Health System in terms of logistics, material resources, equipment, procedural manuals, regulations and, most important of all, human resources.

- The academic training sessions held in parallel were useful in consolidating practical knowledge of applying sanitary measures.
- Documentation and reference material were created which will be useful in staging future simulation activities in other areas of Peru, with special interest in bi-national cross-border participation with Ecuador, and tri-national participation with Bolivia and Chile.
- Health cooperation relations between Peru, Ecuador and Chile were strengthened.

Recommendations

The following actions were recommended based on observations and interpretations of the events:

- To provide operational clarifications on the activities described in the *Manual of Procedures for dealing with an Avian Influenza Occurrence*.
- To provide operational clarifications for poultry producers in emergencies.
- To devise and issue rules for the central level on actions to ensure management of an emergency, including technical, legal, financial and administrative aspects.
- To ensure that all the material resources and equipment proposed in the emergency response modules are available and to improve the terms of reference for work inputs, including the provision of a lightweight generating set for each module, amongst other things.
- To step up coordination activities with the official Veterinary Services of neighbouring countries in order to schedule two strategic simulation exercises in the next 12 months, at bi-national cross-border level with Ecuador and at tri-national level with Bolivia and Chile.



2007

January

33rd Annual Conference of the International Embryo Transfer Society
7-9 January
Kyoto (Japan)

<http://www.iets.org/2007/index.asp>

February

International Meeting on Emerging Diseases and Surveillance
23-25 February,
Vienna (Austria)

<http://imed.isid.org>

17th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa
26 February - 1 March
Asmara (Eritrea)

OIE Regional Activities Department
(regactivities.dept@oie.int)

March

Second International Seminar on Animal Health, SISA 2007
7-9 March
San José de las Lajas,
La Habana (Cuba)

Dr Siomara Martínez Marrero,
Scientific Secretary
siomara@censa.edu.cu

SPS Committee (Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures)
7-9 March
Geneva (Switzerland)

<http://www.wto.org/>

3rd Annual Meeting on Regulation of Veterinary Medicines in Europe
20-21 March
Crown Plaza, Praha
(Czech Republic)

Informa Life Sciences
sarah.cook@informa.com

OIE/FAO/IZS/VE scientific conference on Avian Influenza Vaccination with the support of the European Commission
20-22 March
Palazzo della Gran Guardia, Verona (Italia)

Scientific and Technical Department
scientific.dept@oie.int

April

2nd International Symposium on Animal Disease Control in the 21st Century
23-25 April
Greifswald-Insel Riems
(Germany)

symposium07@fli.bund.de

May

75th General Session of the OIE
20-25 May
Palais Brongniart
(Bourse)
Paris (France)

International Conference: Towards the Elimination of Rabies in Eurasia
27-30 May
OIE Headquarters,
Paris (France)

Scientific and Technical Department
scientific.dept@oie.int

June

Federation of European Laboratory Animal Science Associations (FELASA) & International Council for Laboratory Animal Science (ICLAS) Meeting
11-14 June
Como (Italy)

www.felasa-iclas2007.com

13th International Congress in Animal Hygiene
17-21 June
Tartu (Estonia)

www.emu.ee/isah2007

agenda

7th Nordic Symposium on Fish Immunology
17-23 June,
Stirling (United Kingdom)

Dr Janina Costa
Tel.: +44(0) 1786 466-598
noffi@stir.ac.uk
www.noffi.org

July

Codex Alimentarius Commission
2-6 July
Rome (Italy)

www.codexalimentarius.net

August

12th International Conference of the Association of Institutions for tropical Veterinary Medicine (AITVM)
20-23 August
Montpellier (France)

Denise Bastron
CIRAD-EMVT – TA30/B
Tel.: 33 467 593 904
Fax: 33 467 593 795
aitvm@cirad.fr
<http://aitvm2007.cirad.fr>



2007

October

International Conference on Animal Genomics for Animal Health

**23-25 October,
OIE, Paris (France)**

OIE Publications Department
publications.dept@oie.int
and the OIE Scientific and Technical
Department
scientific.dept@oie.int

9th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East

**30 October - 2 November
Damascus (Syria)**

OIE Regional Activities Department
regactivities.dept@oie.int

December

25th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania

November (New Zealand)

OIE Regional Activities Department
regactivities.dept@oie.int

questions and answers

question

What is the OIE doing to improve animal welfare standards globally?

answer:

The OIE has taken a leadership role globally in developing guidelines for animal welfare. At its 73rd General Session, in May 2005, the International Committee of OIE Member Countries adopted four guidelines for inclusion in the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*.

The guidelines on Animal Welfare are in Section 3.7 of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* – 2006, which contains six appendices on animal welfare, as follows:

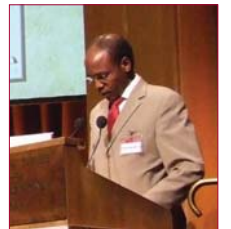
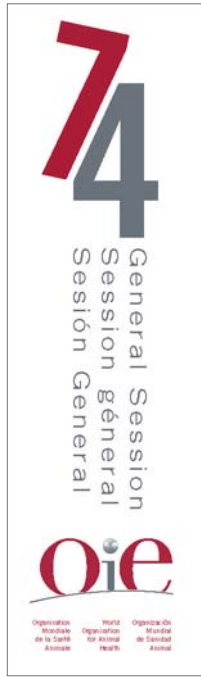
- Appendix 3.7.1: Introduction to the Guidelines for Animal Welfare (http://www.oie.int/eng/normes/mcode/en_chapitre_3.7.1.htm)
- Appendix 3.7.2.: Guidelines for the transport of Animals by Sea (http://www.oie.int/eng/normes/mcode/en_chapitre_3.7.2.htm)
- Appendix 3.7.3.: Guidelines for the transport of Animals by Land (http://www.oie.int/eng/normes/mcode/en_chapitre_3.7.3.htm)
- Appendix 3.7.4.: Guidelines for the transport of Animals by Air (http://www.oie.int/eng/normes/mcode/en_chapitre_3.7.4.htm)
- Appendix 3.7.5.: Guidelines for the Slaughter of Animals (http://www.oie.int/eng/normes/mcode/en_chapitre_3.7.5.htm)
- Appendix 3.7.6.: Guidelines for the Killing of Animals for Disease Control Purposes (http://www.oie.int/eng/normes/mcode/en_chapitre_3.7.6.htm)

The OIE is constantly refining and developing new guidance to meet its mandate as set by 167 Member Countries. In 2006-2007, the OIE will also work on the development of guidelines for animal housing/production systems. This is on the work program, as indicated in the report of the OIE's Permanent Animal Welfare Working Group in September 2005 (http://oie_nt3/eng/bien_etre/WG_sept2005_report.pdf). Once the Working Group has finalized its technical input, the new guidelines will be presented at the General Session, held in May each year, for adoption by the International Committee.

It is not mandatory for countries to implement OIE standards. Each Member Country is responsible for developing and implementing its own animal welfare legislation, but they are committed, as OIE Member Countries, to using OIE standards as a basis and a reference. In the case of developing countries, the OIE works to help these countries to implement standards.

For further information on OIE's activities on Animal Welfare, please visit the OIE internet home page at http://oie_nt3/eng/bien_etre/en_introduction.htm.





OIE MEMBERS (168)

AFGHANISTAN	CYPRUS	KOREA (REP. OF)	RUSSIA
ALBANIA	CZECH REPUBLIC	KUWAIT	RWANDA
ALGERIA	DENMARK	KYRGYZSTAN	SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE
ANDORRA	DJIBOUTI	LAOS	SAUDI ARABIA
ANGOLA	DOMINICAN REP.	LATVIA	SENEGAL
ARGENTINA	ECUADOR	LEBANON	SERBIA-AND-MONTENEGRO
ARMENIA	EGYPT	LESOTHO	SIERRA LEONE
AUSTRALIA	EL SALVADOR	LIBYA	SINGAPORE
AUSTRIA	EQUATORIAL GUINEA	LITHUANIA	SLOVAKIA
AZERBAIJAN	ERITREA	LUXEMBOURG	SLOVENIA
BAHRAIN	ESTONIA	MADAGASCAR	SOMALIA
BANGLADESH	ETHIOPIA	MALAWI	SOUTH AFRICA
BARBADOS	FINLAND	MALAYSIA	SPAIN
BELARUS	FORMER YUG. REP. OF MACEDONIA	MALI	SRI LANKA
BELGIUM	FRANCE	MALTA	SUDAN
BELIZE	GABON	MAURITANIA	SURINAME
BENIN	GAMBIA	MAURITIUS	SWAZILAND
BHUTAN	GEORGIA	MEXICO	SWEDEN
BOLIVIA	GERMANY	MOLDAVIA	SWITZERLAND
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	GHANA	MONGOLIA	SYRIA
BOTSWANA	GREECE	MOROCCO	TAIPEI CHINA
BRAZIL	GUATEMALA	MOZAMBIQUE	TAJKISTAN
BRUNEI	GUINEA	MYANMAR	TANZANIA
BULGARIA	GUINEA BISSAU	NAMIBIA	THAILAND
BURKINA FASO	GUYANA	NEPAL	TOGO
BURUNDI	HAITI	NETHERLANDS	TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
CAMBODIA	HONDURAS	NEW CALEDONIA	TUNISIA
CAMEROON	HUNGARY	NEW ZEALAND	TURKEY
CANADA	ICELAND	NICARAGUA	TURKMENISTAN
CAPE VERDE	INDIA	NIGER	UGANDA
CENTRAL AFRICAN REP.	INDONESIA	NIGERIA	UKRAINE
CHAD	IRAN	NORWAY	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
CHILE	IRAQ	OMAN	UNITED KINGDOM
CHINA (PEOPLE'S REP. OF)	IRELAND	PAKISTAN	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
COLOMBIA	ISRAEL	PANAMA	URUGUAY
COMOROS	ITALY	PARAGUAY	UZBEKISTAN
CONGO	JAMAICA	PERU	VANUATU
CONGO (DEM. REP. OF THE)	JAPAN	PHILIPPINES	VENEZUELA
COSTA RICA	JORDAN	POLAND	VIETNAM
CÔTE D'IVOIRE	KAZAKHSTAN	PORTUGAL	YEMEN
CROATIA	KENYA	QATAR	ZAMBIA
CUBA	KOREA (DEM. PEOPLE'S REP.)	ROMANIA	ZIMBABWE



OFFICE INTERNATIONAL DES EPIZOOTIES