



89th General Session • Paris, 23 – 26 May 2022

Final report 2022

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List of abbreviations

ADB	:	Asian Development Bank
ADIS	:	Animal Disease Information System (EU)
AFSCAN	:	African Small Companion Animal Network
ALA	:	Latin American Poultry Association
AMR	:	antimicrobial resistance
AMU	:	antimicrobial usage
AU-IBAR	:	African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources
CaribVET	:	Caribbean Animal Health Network
CBD	:	Convention on Biological Diversity
CIMM	:	<i>Comité International de Médecine Militaire</i>
CNVZ	:	<i>Centre national de veille zoonitaire</i> (Tunisia)
COMESA	:	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
CVA	:	Commonwealth Veterinary Association
CVP	:	<i>Comité Veterinario Permanente del Cono Sur</i> (Permanent Veterinary Committee of the Southern Cone)
DG SANTE (EC)	:	Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety of the European Commission
EC	:	European Commission
ECOWAS	:	Economic Community of West African States
EEC	:	Eurasian Economic Commission
EuFMD	:	European Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease
FAO	:	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FARM	:	Federation of Rural Associations of the MERCOSUR
Feedlatina	:	Association of Animal Feed Industries of Latin America and the Caribbean
GALVmed	:	Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines
GARC	:	Global Alliance for Rabies Control
GF-TADs	:	Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases
GLEWS	:	Global Early Warning System for Major Animal Diseases, including Zoonoses
ICFAW	:	International Coalition for Animal Welfare
ICFAW/RSPCA	:	International Coalition for Animal Welfare/Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
ICMM	:	International Committee of Military Medicine
ICRC	:	International Committee of the Red Cross
IEC	:	International Egg Commission
IGC	:	International Egg Council
IICA	:	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture
IPC	:	International Poultry Council
IPPC	:	International Plant Protection Convention
ISAH	:	International Society for Animal Hygiene
IUCN	:	International Union for Conservation of Nature
NACA	:	Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific
OECD	:	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OIE-WAHIS	:	OIE World Animal Health Information System
OIRSA	:	Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria
OVR-ARC	:	Onderstepoort Veterinary Research, Agricultural Research Council (South Africa)
PCR	:	polymerase chain reaction
PROCISUR	:	Cooperative Programme for Agrifood and Agroindustrial Technological Development in the Southern Cone
SEAFDEC	:	Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Centre
SG-CAN	:	General Secretariat of the Andean Community
SPC	:	Pacific Community
UNEP	:	United Nations Environment Programme
USAID	:	United States Agency for International Development
WAEMU	:	West African Economic and Monetary Union
WAHIAD	:	World Animal Health Information and Analysis Department
WHO	:	World Health Organization
WHO-EMRO	:	World Health Organization - Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean

FINAL REPORT OF THE SESSIONS

Introduction

1. The 89th General Session of the World Assembly of Delegates¹ of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) was held from 23 to 26 May 2022 in a semi-hybrid format, and was chaired by Dr Hugo Federico Idoyaga Benítez (Paraguay), President of the Assembly.
2. The decision to hold the General Session mainly virtually was taken by the OIE Council in coordination with the OIE Director General in light of the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) global pandemic. In this context, the members of the OIE Council, the Presidents of the OIE Specialist Commissions and the Presidents of the OIE Regional Commissions (or the Vice Presidents) were invited to participate in person.
3. 151 Members participated in the General Session, 11 of whom attended in person.
4. The Director General of the OIE, Dr Monique Eloit, participated in the sessions in a consultative capacity and served as Secretary General.
5. Dr Matthew Stone (New Zealand) participated in the General Session as Rapporteur for the Technical Item.
6. The Presidents of the OIE Specialist Commissions also participated in the Plenary Sessions.
7. Dr Jean-Philippe Dop, Deputy Director General “Institutional Affairs and Regional Activities”, and Dr Montserrat Arroyo Kuribreña, Deputy Director General “International Standards and Science”, facilitated the smooth running of the sessions.
8. Several Guests of Honour also participated in the Opening Session through pre-recorded video statements or live speech.

GENERAL SESSION PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES

9. The Council was regularly consulted and informed of the progress of the preparations for the General Session, a notable instance being during its meeting in March 2022.
10. To optimise the allocated time for the General Session, the OIE used an innovative approach to facilitate preparing for and holding the 89th General Session in a semi-hybrid format. This approach was implemented incrementally and was accompanied by a comprehensive communication programme, which aimed to share as much information as possible with OIE Members ahead of the General Session.

Pre-General Session Information Webinars on standards proposed for adoption

11. Three pre-General Session Information Webinars were held during the week of 11 April 2022, to inform OIE Members about the new and revised texts that would be proposed for adoption by the Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission (hereafter the Aquatic Animals Commission), the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission (hereafter the Code Commission) and the Biological Standards Commission, respectively.
12. The purpose of these Webinars was to ensure that OIE Members understood what would be proposed for adoption and the rationale for these proposals so they could prepare their positions for the General Session.
13. The Webinars only presented information that had been published in Part A of the February 2022 reports of the Aquatic Animals Commission, the Code Commission and the Biological Standards Commission, respectively. Members of each Commission delivered these presentations. Participants were invited to submit questions throughout these Webinars.

¹ Hereafter “the Assembly”

14. During the period from 2 to 13 May 2022, OIE Delegates were invited to submit comments or positions on some of the General Session working documents and to indicate their wish to take the floor virtually during the General Session. Delegates were invited to do so through a dedicated page for Delegates on the General Session website. All comments posted during this period were made available to all OIE Delegates.
15. Before the General Session, from 16 to 23 May, OIE Delegates were invited to adopt some administrative and technical resolutions. A remote voting system was deployed to allow Delegates to securely cast their votes electronically.

■ MONDAY 23 MAY 2022 ■

Opening Session

16. The Opening Ceremony started with a video recording of ministerial statements on the main lessons learnt from Members' Veterinary Services' involvement in the response to COVID-19 and the role Veterinary Services should play in the future to ensure an improved management of such emergencies. The following Ministers contributed to the video (in order of appearance):
 - **Mr Aly Saleh Diop**
Minister of Livestock and Animal Production of Senegal
 - **Mr Thomas James Vilsack**
Secretary of State for Agriculture of the United States of America
 - **Mr Santiago Bertoni Hícar**
Minister of Agriculture and Livestock of Paraguay
 - **Shri. Parshottam Rupala**
Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying of India
 - **Mr Roberto Speranza**
Minister of Health of Italy
17. Dr Idoyaga Benítez (Paraguay), President of the Assembly, welcomed the participants.
18. In his address, the President alluded to the challenges faced by the OIE in an ever changing global context, placing particular emphasis on demographic, climate and socioeconomic changes and their implications for animal and human health and food security. He emphasised the role played by the national Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services in the implementation of OIE standards, in the strengthening of the One Health approach and in the safe trade of animals and their products. He stressed that the Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services should work hand in hand with the private sector and regional and international organisations to further strengthen the One Health approach.
19. While highlighting the importance of cooperation with other organisations and the role played by national OIE Delegates, he also encouraged Members to actively contribute to the activities of the General Session and support the efforts of the Organisation through a greater contribution of financial resources. Referring to the need for effective implementation of the Seventh Strategic Plan, the President urged all Members not only to financially support the Strategic Plan but also to contribute to its implementation through knowledge and data sharing. He pointed out that underlying this request for Members' active and supportive engagement, was the necessity to have a strong, well-resourced OIE capable of meeting future challenges successfully.

In conclusion, the President asked Delegates to reflect on and to strengthen global unity on the issues that would be affecting our common future.

20. In her address, Dr Monique Eloit, Director General of the OIE, expressed the hope for productive discussions on a variety of current issues despite the General Session being held in a hybrid format. She stated that the current issues of particular concern included the many animal diseases – avian influenza, African swine fever, African horse sickness, lumpy skin disease, peste des petits ruminants, not to mention a long list of aquatic animal diseases, – that are a daily concern for rural families, and have consequences for national economies, trade flows and the world's capacity to feed its populations. She added that zoonotic diseases as well as the role that Veterinary Services could play in improving the health of humans and our environment were also high on the agenda.
21. In the context of zoonotic diseases, she emphasised to the Assembly that animal health was an essential factor in One Health approaches designed to prevent, prepare for and respond to crisis situations. She noted that this was one of the main drivers behind the choice of topic for the Technical Item for this year, namely engagement in global, regional and national emergency management systems to highlight the importance of Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services to address health risks.
22. The Director General concluded her remarks by highlighting the collaborations to strengthen One Health approaches with FAO², WHO³ and, more recently, UNEP⁴, along with the financial partners supporting the collaborative work. She also underlined the importance of working with Members to implement related projects and ended by noting that the General Session provided an opportunity to move towards this goal.
23. Ms Ivonne Higuero, Secretary-General of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) gave a pre-recorded address, as summarised below.
24. Ms Higuero began her address to the Assembly by highlighting the aims of CITES regarding the legality, traceability and sustainability of international trade of some 38 000 species. She noted the importance of collaboration with partners to achieve common goals such as mainstreaming conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, as well as disease prevention and control efforts especially given the emergence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and the subsequent COVID-19 pandemic.
25. Referring to the agreement signed by CITES and the OIE in 2015, she noted the ways in which the two Organisations had been cooperating to reduce the global health risks associated with zoonotic diseases, specifically through developing training, building networks and coordinating communications. Also, as part of this collaboration, she stated that the chairs of two of CITES governing bodies were observers in the OIE's *ad hoc* Group on reducing the risk of disease spillover events along the wildlife market and wildlife trade supply chain.
26. Ms Higuero also highlighted that the CITES Parties, at their Conference in November 2022, would be considering the role of CITES in reducing the risk of future zoonotic disease emergence associated with the international wildlife trade. She also noted that the Conference was also expected to agree on a resolution on actions to advance the 'One Health' approach in relation to the international wildlife trade.

² FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

³ WHO: World Health Organization

⁴ UNEP: United Nations Environment Programme

27. Ms Higuero concluded her address by thanking the Director General of the OIE for the meaningful collaboration thus far and she looked forward to further collaboration.
28. Ms Amina Jane Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, gave a pre-recorded address, as summarised below.
29. Ms Mohammed acknowledged the role of the OIE and its Members in contributing to strong animal health systems around the world, hence accelerating the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. She stressed that the COVID-19 pandemic was a warning to the world of the growing threats from infectious disease outbreaks, antimicrobial resistance, environmental contamination, biodiversity loss, ecosystem degradation and climate change. She reminded the Assembly of the importance of zoonotic diseases, noting that they accounted for sixty percent of known infectious diseases and seventy-five percent of emerging infectious diseases, and she highlighted the intimate links between the health of humans, animals, our environment and the planet.
30. She therefore advocated a strong One Health approach, which she presented as being critical to pandemic prevention, preparedness and response, and to helping to reduce poverty and address health inequalities.
31. Ms Mohammed concluded by acknowledging the high value of the strong partnership with the OIE, which was collaborating with the UN through FAO, WHO and UNEP. She urged all OIE Members to continue to break down the artificial barriers between sectors, and to explore new ways to strengthen health policies and programming around the world, thereby securing healthier futures for people, the planet and economies.
32. Following these presentations, Dr Idoyaga Benítez declared open the 89th General Session of the Assembly.

FIRST PLENARY SESSION

Adoption of the Programme ([Doc. 89 SG/7](#))

33. The President of the Assembly asked whether the participants had any comments on the programme of the General Session.
34. In the absence of any comments, the Assembly adopted the programme for the General Session.

Nomination of the Sub-Commission for the Agenda

35. The Assembly appointed Dr Komla Batassé Batawui (Togo) and Dr Him Hoo Yap (Singapore), elected members of the Council as responsible for the Sub-Commission for the Agenda.

Nomination of the Credentials Committee

36. Considering that some resolutions were proposed for adoption before the General Session, the Council had previously appointed Dr Roland Xolani Dlamini (Eswatini) and Dr Yobani Gutiérrez Ravelo (Cuba), members of the Council, to prepare the list of Delegates accredited by their Governments to participate in the vote, based on the countries that were up to date with their contributions.
37. In accordance with the decisions of the Council, the Credentials Committee communicated to the President the list of Delegates who, owing to their country's arrears of statutory contributions due to the OIE, were ineligible to take part in the elections.

38. Dr Xolani Dlamini and Dr Gutiérrez Ravelo were also appointed as scrutineers for the elections.

Current animal health situation worldwide: analysis of events and trends

(Doc. 89 SG/2)

39. Dr Mark Schipp (Australia), Chair of the Session, introduced Dr Paula Cáceres, Head of WAHIAD⁵.
40. The “Current animal health situation worldwide: analysis of events and trends”, summarised by Dr Cáceres, focused on four areas. The first section focused on Members’ reporting behaviour, showing historical trends since 2005 and up to May 2022. The second section presented the global situation regarding infection with African swine fever (ASF) virus, infection with high pathogenicity avian influenza (HPAI) viruses and infection with SARS-CoV-2 in animals. The third section analysed the evolution of the quality of information received on aquatic diseases. Dr Cáceres’ presentation ended with an update on the state of play of OIE-WAHIS⁶. She thanked Delegates and national Focal Points for their reporting efforts and highlighted the enormous work done by the WAHIAD, Project team and IT developers in ensuring a solution could be found to address the main defects of the information system. In addition, Dr Cáceres underlined the support mechanisms put in place by the OIE to support its Members.
41. Dr Schipp stressed the importance of immediate notifications being submitted within 24 hours, and the importance of Members’ regularly submitting their six-monthly reports. Dr Schipp also emphasised the need for prompt aquatic animal disease notification. On the subject of ASF, he noted that the disease appeared to be restricted to zones within countries. In the case of HPAI, he expressed the view that, given the significant losses due to the disease, the use of vaccination should be revisited.
42. Germany, on behalf of the 27 Member States of the European Union (EU), congratulated the OIE for the presentation and the WAHIAD team for its constant and crucial work. He highlighted the impact of surveillance systems on transparency of disease reporting. Specifically regarding ASF, he expressed the need for further global efforts for timely and transparent reporting of the disease in wild and feral suids, noting that this was likely impacted by epidemiological factors and existing surveillance efforts. He requested the OIE to make increased efforts to ensure the implementation and recognition of zoning, given the negative impacts different interpretations between trading partners may have. Lastly, he highlighted the need for international scientific collaboration on ASF control, specifically for the development of an effective vaccine.

In response, Dr Cáceres, thanked Member States of the EU for their support and timely reporting and she emphasised the OIE’s position on encouraging enhanced surveillance efforts. She noted that there was already a comprehensive strategy in place to improve overall disease surveillance. She pointed out that the OIE agreed that the implementation of all standards was required, and it was up to each country to implement them thoroughly. On the topic of the development of an ASF vaccine, she highlighted the significant role of the OIE in the collaborative work being undertaken with networks of experts and laboratories in different regions to ensure the efficacy of a vaccine.

43. France, on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, noted the findings of the report, which showed that the intensity of avian influenza epidemics caused by wild bird migrations had increased in recent years. She stressed that poultry populations in large areas on almost all continents were now at risk. She emphasised that, in this context, biosecurity was an essential preventive measure, but that vaccination could also be considered in high-risk areas in order to reduce the number of outbreaks and economic losses. She pointed out that the OIE *Terrestrial Code* stated that vaccination would not affect the free status of countries where surveillance supported the absence of infection. She informed the Assembly that the

⁵ WAHIAD: World Animal Health Information and Analysis Department

⁶ OIE-WAHIS: OIE World Animal Health Information System

EU therefore invited the OIE to further promote the acceptability of vaccination for international trade, under the conditions described in the OIE standards.

44. Portugal, on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, welcomed the reports of SARS-CoV-2 as an emerging disease, but noted, however, the bias in the notification between world regions. It was requested that the OIE set up an *ad hoc* group to present a proposal to the Assembly to determine whether SARS-CoV-2 meets the criteria for inclusion as an OIE-listed pathogenic agent, given that an assessment had not been made since the first submitted notifications and since the scientific data had greatly expanded. She also requested increased efforts be made for timely and transparent notification of OIE-listed and emerging aquatic animal diseases, to the levels between 2005 and 2019, a period that was not impacted by the launch of OIE-WAHIS or the COVID-19 pandemic. Lastly, she noted that since the launch of the ADIS⁷ Notification and Union Reporting modules, interoperability with OIE-WAHIS was a top priority and an important goal for the near future.

Dr Cáceres thanked the 27 Member States of the EU for their support in the development of OIE-WAHIS and assured them that the OIE was working closely with the EU on interoperability with ADIS and this was expected to be completed in the near future. She noted that reporting through only one system, but with dissemination in both, would greatly facilitate the work of Focal Points for disease notification within the EU. Regarding SARS-CoV-2, she invited the EU countries to send the OIE an official request to assess SARS-CoV-2 against the criteria for listing, and she stated that the request would then be transferred to the Scientific Commission.

45. Australia expressed concern that the presentation of certain analyses in the report might be misleading. In particular, she highlighted the comparison of the number of immediate notifications and follow-up reports between terrestrial and aquatic animal diseases. She pointed out that the number of notifiable terrestrial diseases was much higher than the number of notifiable aquatic diseases and that surveillance for each of these two categories of diseases might differ considerably from country to country. She informed the Assembly that Australia was committed to supporting the OIE to develop more meaningful and informative measures.

In response, Dr Arroyo Kuribreña, Deputy Director General “International Standards and Science”, welcomed the interest shown by Delegates in aquatic animal disease reporting, which was in line with the strategic objectives of the OIE in the framework of the Aquatic Animal Health Strategy. She confirmed that the OIE had taken note of this point and would work accordingly.

46. South Africa, on behalf of African countries, congratulated the OIE for this presentation and encouraged OIE Members to continue reporting regularly, in particular for aquatic animal diseases. He highlighted that improved transparency would facilitate access to markets, at intra-continental and international levels.
47. Senegal emphasised the relevance of the conclusions and recommendations of this presentation, especially with regard to strengthening surveillance, notification and biosecurity. He stressed the importance of these measures in a context where no vaccine was available against ASF and where the use of vaccines against avian influenza was limited, due to virus mutations. He stressed that these measures were of primary importance for the continued international trade in animals and animal products. He recognised that the COVID-19 pandemic had had a negative impact on animal disease surveillance and reporting and called on all OIE Members to revitalise their epidemiological surveillance networks and reporting to the OIE. He concluded by requesting that Members be trained in the use of OIE-WAHIS and stressed the importance of interoperability with the Animal Resource Information System (ARIS).

48. Dr Schipp and the President of the World Assembly of Delegates closed the session.

⁷ ADIS: Animal Disease Information System (EU)

TECHNICAL ITEM

World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services Engagement in Global Regional and National Emergency Management Systems[\(Doc. 89 SG/8\)](#)

49. Dr Christianne Bruschke (The Netherlands), Chair of the Session, introduced Dr Matthew Stone, Rapporteur for the Technical Item.
50. Dr Stone summarised the key messages of the Technical Item 'World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services engagement in global, regional and national Emergency Management Systems'.
51. The Technical Item had first been published on the OIE website on 10 May 2022 to allow Delegates time to examine its content before the General Session. A drafting group discussed the accompanying draft Resolution No. 28 on 13 May 2022. The Resolution Drafting Group comprised the Delegates of Australia, Bahrain, Cuba, Eswatini, Nicaragua, Singapore and The Netherlands, or their nominated experts.
52. The Technical Item described the current global context and systems for emergency management by identifying and characterising threats as well as planning approaches and tools. The paper introduced the emergency management disciplines as well as the OIE's expanding programmes and services to Members to develop emergency management capacities to shape future directions.
53. Dr Stone highlighted the central role that Veterinary Services play in managing emergencies, particularly in relation to animal health, animal welfare and veterinary public health, and also in response to broader disasters which have cascading impacts. Whilst explaining some of the gaps at international level and the resource challenges faced by OIE Members, he highlighted the cost-benefit of investing in emergency management systems. The main findings of the Technical Item informed the development of Resolution No. 28.
54. The presentation of the Technical Item included an interactive online survey for OIE Delegates. To allow Delegates to prepare their responses, the questions were provided in advance of the General Session.
55. The results of the online survey were as follows:
 - 89% of respondents (n=57 Members) indicated they had national legislation addressing emergency management, 9% did not and 2% did not know.
 - 97% of respondents (n=70 Members) indicated that they had a national emergency management coordination mechanism, 1% did not and 1% did not know.
 - 88% of respondents (n=74 Members) said the Veterinary Authority was acknowledged as the lead agency for animal disease emergencies within the National Emergency Management legislation and/or coordination mechanism.
 - In terms of the Veterinary Authority (VA) being a support agency for other emergencies, out of 81 Members, 64% said the VA was a support agency for 'zoonoses primarily affecting humans', 58% said the VA was a support agency for 'food safety crises', 31% said the VA was a support agency for 'adverse weather and climatic events', 19% said the VA was a support agency for 'geological events (earthquakes, eruptions)', and 32% said the VA supported the response to 'all of these events'.
 - With regard to the availability of a national incident management system available to the VA, out of 73 Members, 66% said "yes", 27% said "no" and 7% did not know.

- Lastly, when asked if the VA participated in ‘whole-of-government’ emergency management capacity development, such as interagency training, simulation exercises, and after-action reviews, out of 75 Members who responded, 81% said yes, 16% said no, and 3% did not know.
56. Dr Stone highlighted the conclusions of the Technical Item, in particular the need for Members to be engaged in interagency coordination mechanisms, including those at the international level, and encouraged Members to actively participate in the consultations for the One Health international instrument for pandemic prevention, preparedness and response being negotiated through a WHO-led process.

Discussions on the Technical Item

57. The Chair of the Session, Dr Bruschke, thanked Dr Stone and emphasised the growing importance of emergency management as a scientific discipline.
58. Senegal thanked the OIE for addressing a topic of strategic interest which demonstrated the importance of Veterinary Services in supporting national emergency management systems. Senegal highlighted the need for large-scale investment in Veterinary Services to ensure that their support to national emergency management systems enabled a holistic approach to emergency management.
59. France, speaking on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, congratulated the OIE on the Technical Item, which provided a compendium of global hazards and associated risk prevention and mitigation efforts. The EU endorsed the report and its conclusions, emphasising that emergency management needed to take a multisectoral and One Health approach incorporating all hazards. The EU recognised the important role played by Veterinary Services, in collaboration with national and international partners, in resilience against natural and unnatural hazards.
60. South Africa thanked the OIE for selecting the topic and suggested that the report would assist capacity-building activities and encourage all relevant agencies to be involved in emergency management. South Africa mentioned that technical issues with the online polling system used during the presentation had prevented some countries from responding to the survey.
61. Dr Stone thanked the Members for their interventions and support for the Technical Item and its conclusions. He agreed with Senegal on the need for investment in Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services. He explained that although the presentation did not go into details about emergency management financing options, the full paper described examples, including insurance/re-insurance, contingency funds and references to work conducted by the World Bank and the OECD⁸, noting that financing innovation had been a topic of the OIE workshop on innovative approaches to sustainable emergency management (November 2019).
62. FAO also congratulated the OIE. FAO recognised the importance of emergency management and valued its partnerships with the OIE, including through GLEWS⁹ and collaboration on Good Emergency Management Practices, which strengthened emergency management capacity.
63. Australia stressed the need for whole-of-government frameworks for emergencies to integrate Veterinary Services as full partners. Australia noted that the Quads Alliance collaborative mechanism for emergencies was enabled by mobility and flexibility of Veterinary Services, and that the mechanism was dependent on countries having common baseline competencies and licensing recognition underpinned by strong veterinary statutory

⁸ OECD: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

⁹ GLEWS: Global Early Warning System for Major Animal Diseases, including Zoonoses

bodies, of which the OIE played a crucial role in strengthening. Australia urged the OIE to continue to advocate the role of Veterinary Services in One Health, including in the development of the One Health international instrument, and encouraged Members to work at national level to engage in negotiations. Australia, with the support of the Quads Alliance and the OIE Council, proposed a resolution, 'Resolution No. 29', on the contribution of the OIE and its Members to the One Health international instrument for pandemic prevention, preparedness and response and encouraged Members to support it.

64. Dr Bruschke thanked Dr Stone for presenting a timely topic and urged all Members to read the paper, use its references, and support its Resolution (No. 28), as well as the newly proposed Resolution No. 29 on the One Health international instrument (to be discussed on Wednesday).
65. The Director General thanked Members for their interventions and highlighted that it would be important for the OIE and its Members to commit to negotiations on the One Health international instrument.
66. The President thanked Dr Stone and reminded the Assembly that a Resolution to accompany the Technical Item would be presented for adoption on Wednesday.

Activities of the Working Groups

Working Group on Wildlife

[\(Doc. 89 SG/11/GT1\)](#)

67. Dr William B. Karesh, Chair of the Working Group on Wildlife, presented virtually the highlights from the Working Group's activities during the previous 12 months. The Working Group had met virtually twice (in June and December 2021).
68. In summary, the Working Group continued to work closely and coherently with the OIE Specialist Commissions. To support the OIE's core mission of transparency the Working Group discussed how to improve the quality of data and the usefulness of wildlife disease reporting at international level, recognising that this would be underpinned by wildlife disease surveillance at national level. The Working Group agreed to align its work and its mission with the OIE's Wildlife Health Framework and welcomed being an advisory body within the framework's governance structure. The Working Group reiterated that a commitment to One Health required Veterinary Services to recognise the importance of wildlife health and commit to protecting wildlife health directly and in partnership with other relevant actors. The Working Group commended the OIE for its work in building partnerships with other relevant organisations, such as CITES, UNEP and IUCN¹⁰ at international level.
69. The Working Group welcomed the additional resources available to support implementation of the OIE's Wildlife Health Framework, including contributions from Australia, Germany and the United States of America.
70. Dr Karesh concluded by mentioning that monkeypox, which has its reservoir in rodents, illustrated the continued emergence of diseases. He used this as an example to highlight the role played by the OIE, together with national Veterinary Services and the broader animal health community, in prevention.
71. Argentina congratulated Dr Karesh and, building on his point about the scarcity of wildlife disease reporting (due to its not being mandatory), used avian influenza, including LPAI, as an example where heightened surveillance and reporting of diseases in wildlife could support disease management, particularly in countries where there were currently gaps.
72. The President thanked Dr Karesh for his presentation.

¹⁰ IUCN: International Union for Conservation of Nature

Working Group on Antimicrobial Resistance
([Doc. 89 SG/11/GT2](#))

73. Dr Tomoko Ishibashi, Chair of the Working Group on Antimicrobial Resistance, presented virtually an overview of the activities of the Working Group since the previous General Session and the outcomes of the bi-annual meetings of the Working Group, which were held virtually from 26 to 28 October 2021 and from 27 to 29 April 2022.

 74. The activities of this Working Group throughout the period covered by the report focused mainly on the preparation of species-specific Technical Reference Documents Listing Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance, notably for swine and aquatic animal species, and the revision of Terrestrial Code Chapter 6.10. 'Responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents in veterinary medicine'. In addition, the Working Group gave its support and advice for the development of the OIE AMU¹¹ Global Database on antimicrobial agents to be used on animals.

 75. Australia thanked the AMR Working Group for its work and this update. Australia agreed that it was critical to communicate accurately across stakeholders about the purpose of each global antimicrobial list to avoid misunderstandings and noted that the agreed Codex standard on foodborne AMR articulated the combined approach. Australia concurred on the need to expand the environmental component in Chapter 6.10. and that it should take into consideration the work of Codex Alimentarius, WHO, FAO, UNEP and IPPC¹². Furthermore, Australia supported the inclusion of companion and leisure animals in Chapter 6.10. and expressed the need to define these terms in the Terrestrial Code. Australia asked for clarification on how the current activities of the Working Group were driving responsible and prudent use of antimicrobials by Members.

 76. Dr Ishibashi highlighted the continued effort to inform Members on the global discussions on AMR and prudent use through the Working Group reports, inviting all Members to consult them. Moreover, in the 6th OIE Annual Report on Antimicrobial Agents intended for Use in Animals it was noted that use of polypeptides and macrolides in animals had decreased. The Working Group acknowledged the need to develop educational activities as recommended by the 2nd OIE Global Conference on AMR and would discuss this topic at their next meeting, in October 2022.
- In reply to the Dr Ishibashi's intervention, Dr Arroyo Kuribreña added that it was important to strengthen the knowledge of Members AMU data to enable them to take informed decisions on their National Action Plans, and this would be an important step towards responsible and prudent use of antimicrobials.
77. The Director General highlighted the particular efforts that had already been made to improve communication on this topic, illustrated by the World Antibiotic Awareness Week activities. She noted that, in parallel, the OIE had led other related activities, such as the piloting of dedicated Veterinary Legislation Support Programme missions on AMR and veterinary products. The Director General concluded by saying that it was the combination of all these different OIE activities, as well as the Organisation's role within the Quadripartite, that would support Members in achieving more responsible and prudent use of antimicrobials in animals.

 78. The United Kingdom thanked the Working Group for its work and acknowledged the importance of incorporating the environmental component into Chapter 6.10. The United Kingdom emphasised the value of an integrated One Health approach.

¹¹ AMU: antimicrobial usage

¹² IPPC: International Plant Protection Convention

Report: Regional Activities Highlights

79. The President introduced the OIE Regional Representatives, who then presented the highlights of the regional activities to the Assembly.

80. **Africa: Quadripartite at regional level**

Dr Karim Tounkara, OIE Regional Representative for Africa, presented the collaborations in Africa between the Tripartite (OIE, FAO and WHO) within the framework of the One Health approach. A timeline of key events in Africa was outlined, from the One Health Technical and Ministerial Meetings in 2016 until March 2022, when UNEP joined to establish the Quadripartite through a formal Agreement at global level. He noted that regional governing bodies had been established and joint annual work plans developed. Some of the achievements highlighted related to capacity building, such as National Bridging Workshops, Joint Risk Assessments and Joint External Evaluations. Joint support to Members during commemorations of key events was also mentioned. Dr Tounkara concluded by pointing out the positive impact of the quadripartite collaboration at all levels, such as the establishment of national and regional One Health platforms, AMR¹³ communication and advocacy leading to a decline in the use of antimicrobials, and AMU-associated behaviours and practices. The resource partners' increasing confidence in providing support was acknowledged.

81. **Americas: Regional response to African swine fever**

Dr Luis Barcos, OIE Regional Representative for the Americas, presented details of the regional response to the outbreak of African swine fever (ASF) in the Dominican Republic and Haiti in the second half of 2021. He focused particularly on the benefits of inter-institutional collaboration, through which various actions had been implemented to contain the disease on the island and strengthen surveillance systems in other countries, so that any suspected cases of the disease could be detected in a timely manner. He stated that the main strength in the Region was preparedness. The GF-TADs¹⁴ Regional Steering Committee was formed in 2005; ASF was included in the list of priority diseases in 2015. In September 2019, the Standing Group of experts for ASF was created. Activities included coordination meetings and diagnostic activities relating to the situation in the Americas as well as the adoption of the Regional Strategy for the control of ASF.

82. **Asia-Pacific: Regional Work Plan Framework**

Dr Hirofumi Kugita, OIE Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific, highlighted some key achievements made in the Region thanks to the development, every five years, of a Regional Work Plan Framework (RWPF) to guide prioritisation of activities within the Region in line with the OIE Strategic Plan. Among the achievements, he mentioned: i) improvement in the involvement of Members in relevant discussions and activities of the Regional Commission; ii) a more inclusive and transparent approach in the planning and implementation of activities in the Region, based on Members' needs and expectations. Dr Kugita emphasised that, in future, the Regional Commission hoped to see an improvement in Members' ownership of the RWPF as well as more active participation on their part in its implementation. In conclusion, he stated that the Region also wished to see continued strengthening of collaboration between the Regional Commission and the Regional and Sub-Regional Representations to ensure Members' needs and expectations were being well communicated and addressed by the Organisation.

¹³ AMR: antimicrobial resistance

¹⁴ GF-TADs: Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases

83. Europe: Facilitating safe international trade

Dr Budimir Plavšić, OIE Regional Representative for Europe, presented the key achievements in the Region regarding OIE activities aimed at facilitating safe international trade of animals and products of animal origin through the use of OIE standards, guidelines and recommendations. Capacity building of the Veterinary Services using the strategic OIE mechanisms, programmes and tools, including facilitation through the various regional governing bodies, was described. He stated that the OIE had also leveraged strategic partnerships within the Region to provide assistance to Members. Dr Plavšić underlined the importance of OIE Members' active participation in the standard-setting process, in close collaboration with partners, based on the principles of transparency and trust. He informed the Assembly on the European experience with the Regional Core Group for Europe. This included improving current standards and adopting new standards, sharing best practices, knowledge, expertise and scientific evidence to construct consensus solutions among the Region's 53 Members, and supporting each other in protecting animal health and welfare and contributing to public health and environmental protection.

84. Middle East: GF-TADs reactivation at regional level

Dr Ghazi Yehia, OIE Regional Representative for the Middle East, presented the achievements in revitalising GF-TADs in the Middle East Region. The OIE/FAO GF-TADs Regional Steering Committee, established in 2006, had lost momentum from the 2010's up to 2020, which saw the election of a new chair, Dr Ibrahim Qasim, CVO of Saudi Arabia, and a new team for the Regional Steering Committee. The governance, priorities and objectives of the regional coordination mechanism were thus re-established and, with the support of partners, technical activities were conducted in 2020-2021 which improved knowledge and coordination at a technical level regarding FMD, PPR, rabies and vector-borne diseases. Dr Yehia highlighted some of the main difficulties identified, indicating that they were often linked to structural challenges, and that addressing them would require more political commitment to obtain sustainable financing and partnering. In conclusion, Dr Yehia stated that the next steps would be in line with the GF-TADs Global Strategy 2021-2025, and that the Region's activities would support advocacy and more involvement of partners and would continue to provide good technical coordination and support to Members.

85. The President thanked the OIE Regional Representatives for their excellent presentations on the regional activities and opened the floor for discussion and comments.

86. The representative of the IICA¹⁵ commended Dr Barcos on the coordination of ASF control activities under the GF-TADs umbrella and pointed out the three factors for success: i) the anticipation of the risk of introduction of ASF in the Americas; ii) the rapid collective response; and iii) the prioritisation of needs at national, sub-regional and regional levels.

In response, Dr Barcos acknowledged the coordinated rapid response implemented immediately after ASF had been reported in Dominican Republic, which was made possible by the existing strong regional structures, including with the relevant international organisations.

87. The President once again congratulated the OIE Regional Representatives.

¹⁵ IICA: Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture

■ TUESDAY 24 MAY 2022 ■

<p>SECOND PLENARY SESSION</p>

Activities of the Specialist Commissions

Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission

([Doc. 89 SG/10/CS1](#))

88. Dr Etienne Bonbon, President of the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission (Code Commission), reported on the work of the Code Commission since the previous General Session. Although he rejoiced at being physically present at the General Session, he informed the Assembly that due to limitations of the semi-hybrid format and the large number of standards being proposed for adoption, he would only be addressing those new and revised texts that would be proposed for adoption and not the texts currently proposed for comments.
89. Dr Bonbon stated that the Commission had met twice since the 2021 General Session. These meetings were held virtually from 7 to 16 September and on 23 September 2021, and from 1 to 11 February 2022, respectively. He expressed his gratitude to the members of the Code Commission, Dr Gaston Funes (Vice-President), Prof. Salah Hammami (Vice-President), Dr Lucio Ignacio Carbajo Goñi, Dr Kiyokazu Murai and Dr Bernardo Todeschini, for their expert contributions, dedication, and commitment to the work of the Commission, including their participation in *ad hoc* Group meetings and representing the Commission at regional or international meetings.
90. On behalf of the Commission, Dr Bonbon thanked Reference Centre experts, OIE *ad hoc* Groups and experts from Members for their contribution to the work of the Commission. He also expressed his appreciation to the members of the other Specialist Commissions for their advice and support and acknowledged the strengthened collaboration and coordination among the four Specialist Commissions in the standard-setting process.
91. Dr Bonbon also commended the staff at OIE Headquarters for the valuable and reliable support they had provided.
92. Dr Bonbon particularly acknowledged the additional efforts made by Commission members and the OIE Secretariat to maintain the high level of productivity of the Code Commission despite the challenges of working in a virtual modality during the past two years.
93. Dr Bonbon expressed his appreciation for the large number of comments submitted by Members and by international organisations having a cooperation agreement with the OIE on texts that had been circulated for comments. He highlighted the improving quality of those comments and stressed that the standard-setting process could only be effective with the input of substantiated comments by Members.
94. Dr Bonbon noted the process that had been put in place for Members to submit their positions prior to the General Session on the texts that were to be proposed for adoption, and he commended the OIE for this procedure in view of the more complex and time-bound sessions due to the hybrid General Session format. Dr Bonbon acknowledged the positions received and noted that the formal positions submitted by OIE Delegates through the dedicated website had been made available to all Delegates through the General Session website. He thanked the Delegates for having sent their positions. Dr Bonbon highlighted that it was preferable that Members submitted detailed comments when a standard was circulated for comments, rather than prior to adoption, noting that many rounds of commenting had taken

place before considering a text to be proposed for adoption. He noted that he had considered all comments received and that he would address some of those directly when introducing the relevant Annex.

95. Concluding his introductory remarks, Dr Bonbon indicated that the remainder of his presentation would focus on presenting the new and revised texts of the *Terrestrial Code* to be proposed for adoption, and reminded the Assembly that the work programme of the Code Commission and the new and revised texts circulated for comment had been circulated to Members in Part B of the Code Commission's February 2022 report and that they were invited to submit comments to OIE Headquarters before 15 July 2022.

Before progressing to a discussion of the texts proposed for adoption, Dr Bonbon invited the Assembly to comment on his introductory remarks or the Code Commission's work programme.

Australia, speaking on behalf of the QUADS Alliance countries (Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States of America) requested the Code Commission to consider including in its work programme the revision of the *Terrestrial Code* chapters on equine encephalopathies, in particular Chapter 8.10. 'Japanese encephalitis', to consistently address horses as dead-end hosts, as was the case in Chapter 8.20. 'West Nile fever'. Noting that Chapter 8.10. had not been updated since 2000, Australia requested the Code Commission to prioritise this work and stated that a proposal would be sent in writing as part of its comments on the Part B of the February report of the Commission.

Dr Bonbon acknowledged that the issue warranted consideration, notably to align with the corresponding standards in the *Terrestrial Manual*. Dr Bonbon highlighted that the revision of Chapter 12.4. 'Equine encephalomyelitis (Eastern and Western)' and Chapter 12.11. 'Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis' were in the Commission's work programme but had not yet started because work on some other equine diseases had been considered a priority, for example, equine influenza, contagious equine metritis and equine piroplasmiasis. He noted that given the progress of these other chapters, it could be an opportunity to address additional chapters. He noted that the Commission would consider these requests at its next meeting, in September 2022.

Dr Bonbon pointed out to the Assembly that the Commission had developed a new mechanism to better inform Members about the prioritisation of its work by assigning in its reports an order of priority for items in the work plan. Dr Bonbon hoped that this would also allow Members to engage in discussing the order of prioritisation, with the objective of better addressing their needs.

Speaking on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, Sweden congratulated the Code Commission on its work and the new process to prioritise its work programme, and on its transparency in this important process. Sweden welcomed the work on updating *Terrestrial Code* Chapter 6.10. 'Responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents in veterinary medicine' and noted proposals submitted to the OIE in December 2018 regarding a potential revision of this chapter. Sweden expressed to the Assembly the opinion that OIE standards should significantly evolve on this important topic with a view to leading the way and helping to control the rise and spread of AMR at the global level as an important effort to implement the Global Action Plan on AMR. Sweden also expressed full support for the Code Commission's plan to develop a new chapter on biosecurity in Section 4 of the *Terrestrial Code*, and noted this topic was a high priority in view of the global challenges posed by diseases such as African swine fever, high pathogenicity avian influenza, potentially serious zoonoses and other contagious diseases. Sweden also supported the Code Commission's plan to revise Section 5, notably the chapters that had been prioritised to work on first, noting that these chapters had not been revised for a long time. Sweden highlighted the importance

of these horizontal standards for bilateral trade and agreements between trading partners and noted that experience had shown that animal welfare aspects should also be included in these chapters related to inspection in the context of trade. Sweden also expressed the willingness of the Member States of the EU to support the OIE in this work.

Mexico, on behalf of the three Members of the North American Animal Health Committee (Canada, Mexico and United States of America), supported the request of the QUADS countries to prioritise the revision of *Terrestrial Code* chapters on equine encephalopathies. Mexico highlighted the importance of reviewing Chapter 12.11. 'Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis', which was last updated in 1998, and the need to consider similar approaches to those used for Newcastle disease and avian influenza, where different pathogenicity of variants was taken into consideration. The North American Animal Health Committee would be submitting further comments for the consideration of the Code Commission.

Dr Bonbon thanked Sweden for its comments on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, and noted that the work of revising Chapter 6.10. was currently being developed in close collaboration with the OIE Working Group on Antimicrobial Resistance, and he indicated that a draft text was expected to be presented for the consideration of the Code Commission at its next meeting in September 2022. He welcomed the support for the proposed work on Sections 4 and 5 and highlighted that these topics were critical for global health, noting that the spread observed for a number of significant diseases in recent years may suggest that some of the OIE's current standards were not adequate, and that improved horizontal standards would help countries in preventing the spread of diseases.

Dr Bonbon also thanked Mexico for its comment and invited Members to submit any scientific evidence that could contribute to the work of the Code Commission on equine encephalopathies.

96. Dr Bonbon then continued his presentation and informed Delegates that the new and revised chapters to be proposed for adoption could be found in Annexes 3 to 12 and 14 to 17 of Document 89 SG/10/CS1.

Chapters proposed for adoption

97. Glossary

Dr Bonbon informed the Assembly that amendments were proposed to the definitions for 'Competent Authority', 'protein meal', 'stray dog', 'Veterinary Authority' and 'Veterinary Services'.

Dr Bonbon explained that the Code Commission had agreed with Members' requests and the feedback from the OIE *ad hoc* Group on Veterinary Services to amend the Glossary definition for 'Competent Authority', 'Veterinary Authority' and 'Veterinary Services'. Dr Bonbon explained that these definitions had been amended to improve clarity and remove unnecessary descriptive information, ensuring that the definitions remained applicable to the diversity of administrative arrangements in Members, and he emphasised that they did not dictate any particular administrative structure. He noted that the amended definitions had been circulated five times. Dr Bonbon emphasised that the Commission had worked closely with the Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission to ensure alignment of these definitions in the *Aquatic Code* and *Terrestrial Code*, where relevant, and that the respective definitions had been circulated to Members in the meeting reports of both Commissions and that all comments received had been considered by both Commissions.

Dr Bonbon noted that, in preparing for this General Session, a minor editorial difference in wording had been noticed, in the English version, between the proposed definition for ‘Competent Authority’ for the *Terrestrial Code* and that proposed for the *Aquatic Code*, and he consequently proposed to amend the text for ‘Competent Authority’ for the *Terrestrial Code* by adding the word ‘the’ before ‘responsibility’. Dr Bonbon noted that the Commission would ensure the consistent use of these three terms across the *Terrestrial Code*, including its foreword and User’s guide, if the revised definitions were adopted.

Dr Bonbon reported that during the revision of Chapter 11.4. ‘Bovine spongiform encephalopathy’ a definition for ‘protein meal’ was proposed and included in the revised text of that chapter. He noted that after several rounds of comments on the amended text, the Commission had agreed to propose it as a Glossary definition for ‘protein meal’. He explained that if the new definition for ‘protein meal’ were to be adopted, the Code Commission would discuss, at its next meeting, in which chapters the terms ‘greaves’ and ‘meat-and-bone meal’ should be replaced with ‘protein meal’, and consider the deletion of the definitions of ‘greaves’ and ‘meat-and-bone meal’.

Dr Bonbon noted that the Code Commission had proposed to replace the Glossary definition for ‘stray dog’ with ‘free-roaming dog’ as a consequence of the revision of Chapter 7.7. ‘Stray dog population control’. Dr Bonbon confirmed that, if the proposed Glossary definition for ‘free-roaming dog’ was adopted, the definition for ‘stray dog’ would be deleted from the Glossary and the term ‘stray dog’ would be replaced by ‘free-roaming dog’ throughout the *Terrestrial Code* for the 2022 edition.

Dr Bonbon presented the revised text to the Assembly.

Korea (Rep. of) thanked Dr Bonbon for the presentation and requested that the proposed definition for ‘protein meal’ be discussed after the revised Chapter 11.4. ‘Bovine spongiform encephalopathy’ had been discussed as it could not be considered independently.

Senegal, speaking on behalf of the 54 Members of the African Union and the OIE Africa Region, supported the proposed revised definitions, and requested that the Code Commission review the use of these terms throughout the *Terrestrial Code* to ensure they were consistently applied.

New Zealand noted that, in addition to ‘protein meal’, the proposed revised Chapter 11.4. also referred to ‘protein products’ and he requested that the meaning of this term be clarified or addressed in the Glossary.

Barbados expressed concerns that the revised Glossary definitions for Veterinary Authority and Veterinary Services removed the specific reference to veterinarians, while their expertise was critical for the entitled functions. Barbados requested that these definitions be reconsidered.

Dr Bonbon reported that the Code Commission had already agreed that it would undertake a comprehensive review of the use of the terms ‘Competent Authority’, ‘Veterinary Authority’ and ‘Veterinary Services’, throughout the *Terrestrial Code*, at its next meeting in September 2022, to ensure consistency and clarity.

Dr Bonbon responded to Barbados and Senegal, noting that the revised definitions for ‘Competent Authority’, ‘Veterinary Authority’ and ‘Veterinary Services’ were the result of many rounds of comments. He also reminded the Assembly that the Glossary definitions were expected to be concise and should not contain unnecessary descriptive detail or further elaborations beyond what was necessary to define the term. He noted that any further descriptive details or explanations that might be necessary for the implementation of a standard were provided within the contents of the relevant chapters.

China (People's Rep. of) queried whether the adoption of the proposed definition for 'protein meal' and the possible replacement of terms 'greaves' and 'meat-and-bone meal' would affect current industry procedures.

Dr Bonbon agreed with the comment from Korea (Rep. of), and noted the comment from China (People's Rep. of), and proposed that the Assembly wait until after the discussion on the proposed revised Chapter 11.4. to finalise the discussion on the proposed definition for 'protein meal'.

The President agreed with this proposal and requested Dr Bonbon to proceed with the programme and come back to this point afterwards.

After the Assembly had agreed not to proceed with the adoption of the revised Chapter 11.4., Dr Bonbon proposed that the Assembly postpone the discussion of the proposed definition for 'protein meal' as well, and consequently proposed to remove the proposed definition from Annex 3 of Document 89 SG/10/CS1.

The President presented the revised texts, including the aforementioned changes, to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

98. Before progressing to the next topic, Dr Bonbon explained to the Assembly that, considering that some of the changes proposed in Chapter 1.3. 'Diseases, infections and infestations listed by the OIE' were the result of discussions on the revision of Chapter 11.10. 'Theileriosis', he would present the revised Chapter 1.3. after presenting the revised Chapter 11.10.

99. **Article 3.1.1. of Chapter 3.1. Introduction to recommendations on Veterinary Services**

Dr Bonbon reminded the Assembly that a new Chapter 3.1. 'Introduction to recommendations on Veterinary Services' had been adopted in 2021.

Dr Bonbon reminded the Assembly that at the time of adoption, Members had requested the Code Commission to consider the development of a definition for 'One Health' to ensure a shared understanding of the concept in the context of the *Terrestrial Code*. He explained that, in response, the Code Commission had proposed to include new text in Article 3.1.1. to explain the meaning of the 'One Health approach' given that this was the first instance where this term was used in the *Terrestrial Code*, rather than including a specific definition for 'One Health'. He noted that a definition for 'One Health' had recently been published by the One Health High Level Expert Panel and the explanatory text proposed in Article 3.1.1. was aligned with this definition.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

100. **Articles 3.2.3. and 3.2.9. of Chapter 3.2. Quality of Veterinary Services**

Dr Bonbon reminded the Assembly that a significantly revised Chapter 3.2. 'Quality of Veterinary Services' had been adopted in 2021.

Dr Bonbon reported that, following the amendments proposed to Chapter 3.1. to address the meaning of the term 'One Health approach', the Commission had reviewed the use of the term 'One Health approach' in the *Terrestrial Code* and proposed amendments to Article 3.2.3. of Chapter 3.2., to align with the changes proposed in Article 3.1.1., and also proposed to amend the text of Article 3.2.9. in response to a comment referring to the storage of veterinary medicinal products.

Dr Bonbon presented the revised text to the Assembly.

Dr Bonbon noted that some comments of an editorial nature for the proposed text in English had been received prior to the General Session, notably regarding the wording of the first paragraph of Article 3.2.3. Dr Bonbon explained that the text referred to the principles of epidemiology, economics and social science and was considered correct as written.

Dr Bonbon also acknowledged that some comments of an editorial nature for the proposed text in French had been received prior to the General Session. Dr Bonbon informed the Assembly that, in the case of comments received on translated texts, he had considered proposed changes would be considered by the Code Commission when they affected the meaning or were contradictory to the English version, but if they merely concerned the wording, the comments would be addressed by the OIE Secretariat.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

101. **Articles 3.4.5. and 3.4.11. of Chapter 3.4. Veterinary legislation**

Dr Bonbon reminded the Assembly that a significantly revised Chapter 3.4. 'Veterinary legislation' had been adopted in May 2021. Dr Bonbon explained that the Commission had proposed an amendment in Article 3.4.11. on veterinary medicinal products to improve clarity and noted that additional changes had been proposed by the Code Commission in Article 3.4.5. as a consequence of a review of the use of the term 'sanitary measures' throughout the *Terrestrial Code*.

Dr Bonbon noted the comments submitted prior to the General Session on Article 3.4.11. with a view to aligning the text with the changes proposed to Article 3.2.9.1., if the latter changes were adopted. Noting the adoption of the proposed revision to Article 3.2.9.1., Dr Bonbon proposed to amend Article 3.4.11. point 1 b), to add "storage" before "and disposal".

The President presented the revised text, including the aforementioned changes, to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

102. **Chapter 6.12. Zoonoses transmissible from non-human primates**

Dr Bonbon informed the Assembly that the Code Commission, in agreement with the Scientific Commission and the OIE Working Group on Wildlife, had agreed to amend Articles 6.12.4., 6.12.6. and 6.12.7. to clarify that hepatitis B was a disease of humans and was not a zoonotic disease. He added that other changes to the chapter, which were proposed by some Members and experts, would be considered in the framework of the Commission's work programme.

Dr Bonbon presented the revised text to the Assembly.

China (People's Republic of) requested to retain hepatitis B in this chapter, noting that studies had shown that although no primate hepatitis B strains had been found to infect humans, human hepatitis B strains could infect non-human primates, and the possibility of genetic recombination, if two hepatitis B virus strains coexisted in an animal host, posed a potential threat to humans; that some researchers had proved that two monkey hepatitis B strains (CMHBV and WMHBV) could infect the same receptors as human hepatitis B strains, suggesting that there may be cross-species infection of hepatitis B virus; and, that some researchers had found that human hepatitis B virus and non-human primate hepatitis B virus had a highly related genetic evolutionary history, indicating that there might be cross-infection between them.

In response, Dr Bonbon referred to the opinion of the OIE Working Group on Wildlife expressed in its March 2020 report, that in consultation with experts, had supported the proposed revision and agreed that it was now recognised that most non-human primates were not naturally infected with human hepatitis B, and great apes and gibbons were infected with different hepatitis B viruses that had never been demonstrated to infect humans. He noted that, based on the current scientific evidence, in terms of risk management it was unnecessary and burdensome to request testing for hepatitis B. He encouraged China (People's Republic of) to submit any additional scientific evidence to be considered by the Code Commission.

He also noted that, as stated in the latest report of the Code Commission, Members' comments on other parts of the chapter would be considered by the Code Commission at its next meetings.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

103. **Chapter 7.7. Stray dog population control**

Dr Bonbon informed the Assembly that Chapter 7.7. 'Stray dog population control' had been thoroughly reviewed to ensure its alignment with the Global Strategic Framework for the elimination of dog-mediated human rabies by 2030.

Dr Bonbon reported that the Commission had agreed to revise the scope of this chapter to focus on the welfare of dogs when implementing dog population management programmes, and as a consequence, to change the title of the chapter to 'Dog population management'. Dr Bonbon also noted that the text of the chapter had been significantly amended to add new content, improve the flow of the recommendations and to address the wider scope of the chapter, taking into consideration the OIE's activities in dog-mediated human rabies.

Dr Bonbon noted that the proposed revised chapter had been circulated three times and the comments were very supportive of this revised version.

Dr Bonbon reported that he had considered the comments received in writing prior to the General Session and wished to propose some additional amendments to the text that would further improve an already excellent text. Dr Bonbon proposed the following additional amendments to the text presented in Annex 9:

- In the French version only, in Article 7.7.5. 'Dog Population Management programme objectives', in the third indent, replace 'maintenir' with 'réduire'.
- In the Spanish version only, in Article 7.7.8. 'Other organisations and actors involved in Dog Population Management', point 3a) 'Public health' replace 'para luchar contra' with 'en lo que se refiere a'.
- In the English version only, in Article 7.7.11. 'DPM programme assessment and planning', point 5, in the first sentence, replace 'Estimating' by 'Estimation of'.
- In Article 7.7.11., at the end of the first sentence, replace the colon with a full stop.
- In the French version only, in Article 7.7.18. 'Reproductive control' point 5, at the end of the first paragraph, replace 'veiller à ce que la' with 's'assurer que la stérilisation chirurgicale peut être effectuée en tout sécurité'.

- In the English version only, in Articles 7.7.19. and 7.7.20. replace 'Vaccination' with 'Vaccinate' to accurately reflect the term 'Catch, Neuter, Vaccinate and Release'.
- In Article 7.7.26., Dr Bonbon proposed to add the term 'fallowing' to address a comment regarding the need for sanitary management between the exit of dogs and the arrival of new dogs in a dog shelter.
- In Article 7.7.27., to be consistent with Chapter 4.13. 'Disposal of dead animals', Dr Bonbon proposed to replace the term 'carcass' with 'dead animals' and in the French version replace 'carcasses' with 'cadavres d'animaux'.

Dr Bonbon presented the revised text, including the aforementioned changes, to the Assembly.

Denmark, speaking on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, thanked the Code Commission for having taken into consideration the majority of its comments submitted previously. Denmark supported adoption of the revised chapter, and noted the EU had submitted, prior to the General Session, a proposal to improve Article 7.7.26. regarding the management of dog housing.

Morocco, speaking on behalf of the 54 Member of the African Union and the OIE Africa Region, welcomed the progress made by the OIE in revising this chapter and noted that this standard was an important tool that would contribute to the control and elimination of dog-mediated rabies by 2030. Nevertheless, while the Africa Region supported the adoption of the chapter, it recommended the inclusion of a definition for 'National Competent Authority', in Article 7.7.2, which was responsible for the management of the dog population. Morocco also proposed that the term 'Competent Authorities' be changed to the singular in Article 7.7.14, noting that a Competent Authority was the sole entity implementing the recommendations on the establishment of an animal identification system as well the owner's registration database.

Dr Bonbon responded to the comment made by Denmark on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, and indicated that the Code Commission would consider the EU's comments sent prior to the General Session, if not already addressed, at the next meeting of the Commission in September 2022.

Dr Bonbon thanked the Members of the African Union and the OIE Africa Region for their comments. Regarding Article 7.7.2. 'Definitions', Dr Bonbon did not agree with the addition of a new definition for 'National Competent Authority' as he considered this could cause confusion since there was already a definition for 'Competent Authority' in the Glossary. In addition, he noted that a Competent Authority did not necessarily have national coverage. In response to the comment on Article 7.7.14., Dr Bonbon did not agree and he explained that there were different organisational settings at the national and local levels among Members, which may impact how the recommendations of this article would be implemented, and these standards would not necessarily be implemented through a single authority.

The President presented the revised text, including the aforementioned changes, to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted with one abstention (Afghanistan).

104. **Chapter 8.16. Infection with rinderpest virus**

Dr Bonbon reminded the Assembly of the global eradication of Rinderpest in 2011 and noted that the disease-specific chapter in the *Terrestrial Code* had not been significantly reviewed since eradication was declared.

Dr Bonbon reported that a thorough review of Chapter 8.16. ‘Infection with rinderpest virus’ had been undertaken to take into consideration the updated situation and the possibility of recurrence. The proposed text was revised in response to Member requests, notably to better clarify the definitions of ‘case’ and ‘suspected case’, the reporting obligations of Members and the measures that should be implemented if re-emergence of rinderpest occurred. Dr Bonbon noted that the chapter had been circulated four times.

Dr Bonbon noted that he had considered some comments received prior to the General Session and agreed with a proposal to amend Article 8.16.1., point 2 b) iii), to move the phrase “that are not a consequence of vaccination” from before “to RPV” to before “have”, in order to align with the wording used in other chapters of the *Terrestrial Code*.

Dr Bonbon presented the revised text, including the aforementioned change, to the Assembly.

France, speaking on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, thanked the Commission for having considered most of its previous comments and expressed support, in general, for adoption of this revised chapter. France highlighted that the global eradication of rinderpest was a major achievement of the veterinary community worldwide and preserving global freedom status should be of the highest priority for all Members. France also acknowledged that in the event of re-emergence of rinderpest anywhere in the world, immediate and dauntless action would be required by the Veterinary Services concerned for swift disease eradication and restoration of global freedom, and thus welcomed the revision of this important chapter, which was one of the cornerstones for collective preparedness for such a global emergency. France stated that owing to the distinct feature of rinderpest being a globally eradicated animal disease, the Member States of the EU could accept certain exceptional and unique provisions in this disease-specific chapter, including, for example, the compulsory notification to the OIE of a suspected case, the mandatory confirmation of a case in an OIE Reference Laboratory, and the requirement to establish a containment zone in the case of a re-emergence of the disease, noting that these provisions went beyond hitherto well-established principles of the *Terrestrial Code* but that they were justified in the particular case of rinderpest.

Dr Bonbon acknowledged that this was indeed a particular case, as a result of a major effort of work conducted globally by all countries of the world and in close collaboration with FAO. Dr Bonbon emphasised that the measures required at global level did indeed justify going beyond the usual provisions for an OIE-listed disease.

The President presented the revised text, including the aforementioned change, to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

105. **Chapter 8.5. Infection with *Echinococcus granulosus***

Dr Bonbon informed the Assembly that Chapter 8.5. ‘Infection with *Echinococcus granulosus*’ had been revised in response to a request from experts from WHO to include new developments in the area of vaccine production and vaccination.

Dr Bonbon explained that the amendments proposed by the Code Commission had been developed in collaboration with the Biological Standards Commission to ensure alignment between the corresponding chapters in the *Terrestrial Code* and *Terrestrial Manual*.

Dr Bonbon noted that he had considered a comment received prior to the General Session and agreed to amend Annex 11 (Chapter 8.5.) to reflect that some of the specific measures provided were also intended to address food safety and not only for the control of the infection in livestock. Therefore, he proposed, in Article 8.5.3., point 3, to replace “Control” with “Food safety and control”.

The President presented the revised text, including the aforementioned change, to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

106. **Chapter 15.4. Infection with *Taenia solium* (Porcine cysticercosis)**

Dr Bonbon informed the Assembly that Chapter 15.4. 'Infection with *Taenia solium* (Porcine cysticercosis)' had been revised in response to a request from experts from WHO to include new developments in the area of vaccine production and vaccination.

Dr Bonbon pointed out that the revised *Terrestrial Manual* chapter on 'Cysticercosis' (Chapter 3.10.3.) adopted in May 2021 had been used as the basis for the amendments being proposed in Chapter 15.4.

Dr Bonbon presented the revised text to the Assembly.

Dr Bonbon noted that he had considered a comment received prior to the General Session and agreed to amend Annex 12 (Chapter 15.4.) to reflect that some of the specific measures provided were also intended to address food safety and not only for the control of the infection in pigs. Therefore, he proposed, in Article 15.4.3., point 2, to replace "Control" with "Food safety and control".

The President presented the revised text, including the aforementioned change, to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

107. **Chapter 11.4. Bovine spongiform encephalopathy and Chapter 1.8. 'Application for official recognition by the OIE of risk status for bovine spongiform encephalopathy'**

Dr Bonbon informed the Assembly that the Code Commission had undertaken an in-depth review of Chapter 11.4. 'Bovine spongiform encephalopathy', having acknowledged that the current chapter was no longer appropriate for the current bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) risk and epidemiological situation and did not reflect the latest scientific evidence. He also emphasised that Members had requested that the OIE provide more risk-based recommendations on BSE, and that the chapter being presented fulfilled that request.

Dr Bonbon informed the Assembly that, over the past four years, three different types of OIE *ad hoc* Groups on BSE had met on four occasions to undertake a comprehensive revision of the chapter, to provide more science-based, risk-based and applicable recommendations, and to resolve a number of issues related to surveillance, notification, risk status, status recognition and trade.

Dr Bonbon noted that the Code Commission had received a large number of Member comments, some of which were backed by a scientific rationale and others that were not. He further explained that additional *ad hoc* Groups had been convened to address comments received on the revised texts and much improved recommendations had been developed. He also reported that the Code Commission had received some comments that insisted that the Commission had been 'too scientific' in the revised chapter, whereas it had usually been told that the Commission was 'not scientific enough'. He requested that Members be more consistent when engaging in the standard-setting process, and he stressed that standards should be based on science and their intended purpose was to practically manage identified risks.

Dr Bonbon emphasised that he did not think that the Code Commission would receive new and different answers from experts to some of the questions Members had raised. However, he reported that several Members had submitted positions on the revised chapter prior to the General Session, and while some supported the proposed adoption, others expressed concerns or did not support adoption. He also noted that some Members had submitted very detailed comments. Dr Bonbon informed the Assembly that significant amendments had been made to the text at the last two Code Commission meetings and therefore Members might not have had enough time to review the amended text. Therefore, he proposed to the Assembly to withdraw the proposed revised Chapter 11.4. from adoption. Dr Bonbon emphasised that the revision of the chapter was not a matter of urgency and that it was important to make every effort to reach agreement by consensus. He also explained that the postponement would provide the OIE with more time to further review the impact on the assessment of official BSE status already recognised and to develop guidelines on surveillance that would help Members adapt the proposed new provisions on BSE surveillance, although he stressed that these guidelines would not create a need for any further modifications to the chapter. Dr Bonbon indicated that the Code Commission would consider comments received prior to this General Session, as well as any additional comments submitted to the OIE by Members before 15 July, at its next meeting in September 2022 and explained that the revised chapter would be presented to the Assembly at the next OIE General Session.

Dr Bonbon also explained that the revised Chapter 1.8. would also be withdrawn from adoption, given that it was linked to Chapter 11.4. and would also be presented to the Assembly at the next General Session.

The President agreed with these proposals.

The Netherlands, speaking on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, accepted the decision not to propose the revised Chapter 11.4. for adoption but thought it was important to hear the arguments and comments from Members, as she considered this would help in reaching consensus at a future time.

Australia supported the proposal by The Netherlands on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU.

Argentina, speaking on behalf of the six Members of the CVP¹⁶ (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay), asked the OIE and also the OIE Members to take into account the need to have predictability in the dates of adoption of these provisions, especially in terms of surveillance, as it involved planning actions in the field, budget and purchases, one year in advance for each country. Argentina also pointed out that, for example, the surveillance system implemented in 2022 would impact on the evaluation of the annual reconfirmation of official BSE risk status in 2023, and thus emphasised that OIE Members should be kept well informed in a timely manner in the event of a decision that differed from what was shown in the Specialist Commission's reports.

South Africa, speaking on behalf of the 54 Member States of the African Union and the OIE Africa Region, supported the proposal not to propose the revised chapter for adoption at this time. South Africa also requested that the Commission consider the concerns expressed by the Member States of the African Union and the OIE Africa Region in comments submitted prior to the General Session, including budgetary issues relating to surveillance, noting that there would be very few African countries that would be able to meet the conditions to apply for official recognition by the OIE of their BSE risk status.

¹⁶ CVP: Comité Veterinario Permanente del Cono Sur (Permanent Veterinary Committee of the Southern Cone)

Japan pointed out that, while understanding the importance of hearing Member positions at this General Session, this hybrid format would obstruct efficient and fruitful discussions. Japan thanked the OIE and relevant Specialist Commissions for their dedicated work of revising the chapter, and requested that the Code Commission consider Japan's written comments submitted prior to the General Session.

Brazil did not agree with the inclusion of atypical BSE in the revised chapter. Brazil considered that the surveillance and implementation of the recommended mitigation measures for classical BSE were sufficient to also address any potential risk of atypical BSE and that the inclusion of atypical BSE in the assessment for determining a country's risk status was inappropriate, based on the following arguments: atypical BSE had a completely different epidemiological behaviour from that classical BSE; the potential oral transmission of L-type BSE was based on very limited evidence from a single experimental study and there was no evidence that recycling this agent was a relevant and reproducible possibility under field conditions; and atypical BSE did not meet the criteria for inclusion in the OIE list. In addition, Brazil expressed its concern about a possible misinterpretation of the chapter, which may lead to unjustified trade requirements or restrictions by some Members, stemming from the occurrence of an atypical BSE case, which should not interfere with the negligible risk status of the Member.

Hungary, speaking on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, thanked the OIE for its work and for addressing some of the comments previously submitted. Hungary considered that the implementation of a ruminant-to-ruminant feed ban should be a mandatory risk mitigation measure in applicant countries where livestock industry practices did not prevent cattle from being fed with ruminant-derived protein meal, as there were no alternative risk mitigation measures in this case to ensure that the risk of recycling the BSE agent was negligible. It also considered that full transparency should be ensured by the OIE on the criteria to determine and validate the "date from which the risk of BSE agents being recycled within the cattle population has been negligible", in particular for Members or zones of Members that would be recognised under the new BSE standards once adopted. Hungary stated that it would be very attentive that this date be clearly mentioned in the relevant OIE documents relating to recognition of Members BSE risk status.

Austria, speaking on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, supported the proposal to postpone adoption of the chapter, and thanked the OIE for its work on this chapter and for addressing some of the comments previously submitted. However, it regretted the OIE's position not to reinstate in Article 11.4.3. a ruminant-to-ruminant feed ban as a clear requirement for Members applying for OIE recognition of their BSE risk status. It considered notably that the implementation of a ruminant-to-ruminant feed ban should have been a mandatory risk mitigation measure in countries where livestock industry practices did not prevent cattle from being fed with ruminant-derived protein meal, as there were no alternative risk mitigation measures in this case to ensure that the risk of recycling the BSE agent was negligible. Additionally, it considered that it would have been appropriate to keep the feed ban as an explicit requirement in Chapter 11.4. and as a reminder for the future, as Members' knowledge and awareness of the aim and the value of such a measure to avoid contamination of cattle population was likely to progressively diminish over time.

108. **Chapter 11.10. Theileriosis**

Dr Bonbon informed the Assembly that the Code Commission had undertaken an in-depth review of Chapter 11.10. 'Theileriosis'.

Dr Bonbon reported that the chapter had been comprehensively revised and included an amended title: 'Infection with *Theileria annulata*, *T. orientalis* and *T. parva*'. He noted that this review had been undertaken in collaboration with the Scientific Commission and the Biological Standards Commission and that the revised chapter had been circulated four times.

Dr Bonbon presented the revised text to the Assembly.

Australia did not support the adoption of Chapter 11.10. ‘Theileriosis’ and did not agree that *Theileria orientalis* met the criteria for an OIE listed disease and therefore did not support its addition to this chapter or Chapter 1.3. Australia explained that it had conducted an extensive literature search and did not find any countries that had demonstrated freedom or impending freedom from *T. orientalis*. Australia also emphasised that *T. orientalis* was not consistently pathogenic, explaining that *T. annulata* and *T. parva* were considered ‘transforming’ as they can transform leukocytes of host animals to allow infected cells to proliferate indefinitely. Australia further explained that these transforming *Theileria* species had undergone drastic genetic evolution, with greater genetic variation that was often linked to increased virulence and evasion of host immune defences, but, by contrast, *T. orientalis* did not have this ability and was termed ‘non-transforming’. Australia also emphasised that the revised chapter would have a significant impact on cattle trade and was not least trade restrictive.

Dr Bonbon reminded the Assembly that *T. orientalis* had been assessed against the listing criteria by experts, and the rationale had been provided in the report of February 2019 Scientific Commission meeting. He explained that, after extensive consultation, it would not be prudent to re-open the discussion on the listing at this time. However, given that a comment to consider African buffaloes as animals that played a epidemiologically significant role in the disease had been submitted prior to the General Session, he indicated that these comments together with Australia’s comments submitted prior to the General Session on *T. orientalis* would be discussed with subject-matter experts and considered at the Code Commission’s September 2022 meeting.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted, with two abstentions (Australia and New Caledonia).

109. Articles 1.3.2, 1.3.4 and 1.3.6 of Chapter 1.3. Diseases, infections and infestations listed by the OIE

Dr Bonbon informed the Assembly that, as part of the revision of Chapter 11.10. ‘Theileriosis’, the Code Commission had agreed to replace ‘Theileriosis’ with ‘Infection with *Theileria annulata*, *T. orientalis* and *T. parva*’ and that, consequently, the Commission had proposed amendments to the diseases, infections and infestations listed by the OIE in Article 1.3.2. to reflect this amendment.

Dr Bonbon also noted that the Code Commission had proposed amendments to Article 1.3.4. and Article 1.3.6. to address some discrepancies between the names of some listed diseases in Chapter 1.3. and the corresponding disease-specific chapters (i.e., Chapter 10.5., Chapter 12.6. and Chapter 12.8.). Dr Bonbon emphasised that the proposed amendments were to align the text in Chapter 1.3. with that of relevant disease-specific chapters.

Dr Bonbon presented the revised text to the Assembly.

Ireland, speaking on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, thanked the OIE for its work and supported the adoption of the revised articles. However, it noted that Chapter 10.5. ‘Infection with *Mycoplasma gallisepticum* (Avian mycoplasmosis)’ did not address infection with *Mycoplasma synoviae*, while both pathogens were listed separately in Chapter 1.3. It also noted that Chapter 10.5. did not include a case definition and that the text referred to “avian mycoplasmosis” in general instead of *Mycoplasma gallisepticum*. It also noted that the corresponding chapter in the *Terrestrial Manual* addressed both pathogens and also referred to *M. meleagridis* and *M. iowae*. Ireland considered that this was confusing, especially as regards the concept of freedom from avian mycoplasmosis referred to in several articles in Chapter 10.5. Ireland queried whether these four pathogens should be assessed against the listing criteria, with a view to possible amendments of Chapters 1.3. and 10.5. of the *Terrestrial Code*.

Dr Bonbon acknowledged that there was a need to revise Chapter 10.5. and indicated that the query and the comment on a difference between the *Terrestrial Code* and the *Terrestrial Manual* would be considered by the Code Commission at its September 2022 meeting. Dr Bonbon noted that work to develop case definitions was ongoing but that these diseases (i.e. infection with *M. gallisepticum* and infection with *M. synoviae*) had been considered as low priority. He indicated that this prioritisation would be reviewed in discussion with the Scientific Commission.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

110. Terminology: Use of the term ‘sanitary measure’

Dr Bonbon informed the Assembly that, following the adoption of the Glossary definition of ‘sanitary measure’ in 2019, the Code Commission had reviewed and assessed whether the term ‘sanitary measure’ was used appropriately throughout the *Terrestrial Code*.

Dr Bonbon reported that, as a result of this assessment, the Commission had agreed on the need to amend the text of Article 4.15.6. of Chapter 4.15. ‘Official health control of bee diseases’ and of Article 6.3.3. of Chapter 6.3. ‘Control of biological hazards of animal health and public health importance through *ante-* and *post-mortem* meat inspection’, where the use of the term ‘sanitary measure’ did not correspond to the Glossary definition.

Dr Bonbon noted that a comment on the French version, received prior to the General Session, referred to the use of the term “l’assainissement” in the first paragraph of Article 6.3.3. Dr Bonbon explained that the term was correctly used in this context, in alignment with the relevant Codex Alimentarius standards. Nonetheless, he acknowledged the need to make an editorial amendment and proposed to replace “l’assainissement” with “d’assainissement” in the French version.

The President presented the revised texts to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised texts were adopted, with one abstention (Israel).

111. The Assembly took note of the report of the Code Commission.

Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases

[\(Doc. 89 SG/10/CS3\)](#)

112. Dr Cristóbal Zepeda, President of the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases (Scientific Commission) thanked the other members of the Scientific Commission and members of the *ad hoc* Groups and expert panels for their valuable contributions to the work of the Scientific Commission since the General Session in May 2021. He expressed his deep appreciation for the excellent support and professional expertise provided by the staff of Status and Science Departments at the OIE Headquarters.
113. Dr Zepeda summarised the activities of the Scientific Commission, including the outcomes of the regular Scientific Commission meetings held via videoconference from 13 to 24 September 2021 and from 7 to 23 February 2022. He noted that the reports of these two meetings were available on the OIE website.
114. Following the presentation of Dr Bonbon, President of the Code Commission with regard to *Terrestrial Code* Chapters 1.8. ‘Application for official recognition by the OIE of risk status for bovine spongiform encephalopathy’ and 11.4. ‘Bovine spongiform encephalopathy’ and the proposal for these chapters to be considered for adoption at the next General Session, Dr Zepeda explained the proposed procedures for the official recognition and the annual reconfirmation of BSE risk status, as well as the maintenance of the BSE risk status should

an indigenous case of classical BSE occur in a Member or zone recognised as posing a negligible or controlled risk for BSE. He noted that these procedures would only be applicable upon adoption of the revised *Terrestrial Code* Chapters on BSE.

115. The President indicated that the draft resolutions relating to animal health status recognition had been presented for adoption by the Assembly using the adapted procedure before the General Session, and that the results obtained through the electronic voting process would be presented by the President of the Assembly during the Third Plenary Session.
116. After a presentation on the report by the President of the Scientific Commission, the President of the Assembly opened the floor to discussion.
117. Hungary, speaking on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU welcomed the efforts of the Scientific Commission to develop case definitions for listed diseases where such definitions are not currently included in the *Terrestrial Code*. However, he expressed its concerns that such case definitions are published on the OIE website as guidance for Members for purposes of notification without any prior information or consultation of Members. He requested that case definitions for listed diseases always and exclusively be included in the *Terrestrial Code* following the standard setting process, noting that this would avoid potential inconsistencies between case definitions published on the OIE website and notification obligations of the *Terrestrial Code*.
118. Hungary, on behalf the 27 Member States of the EU, expressed its concerns with the suggestion of the Scientific Commission to revise the listing criteria of the *Terrestrial Code* for the assessment of pathogenic agents. He reminded the Scientific Commission that the current *Terrestrial Code* Chapter 1.2. 'Criteria for the inclusion of diseases, infections and infestation in the OIE list' was revised and adopted by the World Assembly in 2017 and that listing SOPs were subsequently developed by OIE Headquarters in close cooperation with relevant Specialist Commissions. He noted that any further revision of the criteria would affect all listed diseases and would need to be thoroughly discussed with Members and the Code Commission.
119. New Zealand expressed its support for the comments of the Member States of the EU.
120. The President of the Scientific Commission thanked the Members for their comments.
121. With respect to the development of case definitions, Dr Zepeda noted that Members had requested case definitions for those diseases that did not currently have a chapter in the *Terrestrial Code*, or diseases that had a chapter but did not include a complete case definition. Dr Zepeda explained that this process was developed to facilitate the notification of Members to the OIE. The definitions were developed by subject-matter experts and reviewed by the Biological Standard Commission and the Scientific Commissions before being published onto the website. They will be incorporated into the *Terrestrial Code* following the standard setting process.
122. In regard to the listing criteria, Dr Zepeda noted that SOPs had been developed, and processes established to request that experts provide a rationale and supporting scientific information for assessing diseases against the listing criteria. However, Dr Zepeda explained that experts had indicated a need for additional clarity and guidance for a correct interpretation of the criteria.
123. The Assembly noted the report of the Scientific Commission.

■ WEDNESDAY 25 MAY 2021 ■

THIRD PLENARY SESSION

Activities of the Specialist Commissions (contd)

Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission

([Doc. 89 SG/10/CS4](#))

124. Dr Ingo Ernst, President of the Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission (Aquatic Animals Commission), informed the Assembly that due to the semi-hybrid format of the General Session, he would only be addressing the new and revised texts proposed for adoption.
125. Dr Ernst stated that the Commission had met twice since the 2021 General Session. The first meeting was held virtually from 22 to 29 September 2021 and the second meeting on 24 and 27 January 2022 and from 16 to 23 February 2022. He expressed his gratitude to the members of the Aquatic Animals Commission, Dr Alicia Gallardo Lagno (Vice-President), Dr Fiona Geoghegan (Vice-President), Dr Kevin William Christison (Member), Dr Hong Liu (Member) and Dr Espen Rimstad (Member) for their expert contributions and commitment to the work of the Commission, including their participation in *ad hoc* Group meetings and representing the Commission at regional or international meetings.
126. Dr Ernst commended the Reference Centre experts, members of *ad hoc* Groups and experts from Members for their contribution to the work of the Commission. He also commended the staff at OIE Headquarters for the support they provided to the work of the Commission and *ad hoc* Groups.
127. Dr Ernst acknowledged the additional work required of Commission members and the Secretariat to maintain a high level of productivity given the challenges of working in a virtual modality.
128. Dr Ernst thanked those Members that had submitted comments on texts to be proposed for adoption. He noted the importance of the contributions of experts from Members in improving the quality of the standards and encouraged all Members to contribute to this work.
129. Dr Ernst emphasised that, where relevant, all comments on a specific disease were considered in the corresponding *Aquatic Animal Health Code (Aquatic Code)* and *Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals (Aquatic Manual)* chapters to ensure alignment.
130. Concluding his introductory remarks, Dr Ernst reminded the Assembly that the work programme of the Aquatic Animals Commission and the new and revised texts circulated for comment are available in Part B of the Commission's February 2022 report and that they were invited to submit comments to OIE Headquarters before 15 July 2022.
131. Dr Ernst informed Delegates that the new and revised chapters to be proposed for adoption in the *Aquatic Code* and *Aquatic Manual* were presented in Annexes 2 to 4, 7, 9 to 16 and 18 to 22 of Document 89 SG/10/CS4.
132. Australia questioned why a member of the Commission was shown as being affiliated with the EU rather than with the nominating Member. The Delegate of Ireland confirmed that Dr Fiona Geoghegan had been nominated by Ireland.

AQUATIC CODE**133. Texts proposed for adoption**

Dr Ernst indicated that the remainder of his presentation would focus on presenting the new and revised texts of the *Aquatic Code* and *Aquatic Manual* that were to be proposed for adoption. He commenced with texts to be proposed for the *Aquatic Code*.

134. User's Guide

Dr Ernst reported that the Aquatic Animals Commission had proposed amendments to the User's Guide to include a reference to Chapter 4.1. Biosecurity for aquaculture establishments, and amendments to ensure consistency with chapter titles used throughout the *Aquatic Code*. He noted that the User's Guide had been circulated twice for Member comments.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

135. Glossary definitions

Dr Ernst reported that the Aquatic Animals Commission had proposed amendments to five Glossary definitions and one new Glossary definition. He noted that amendments had been proposed for 'basic biosecurity conditions' and 'early detection system', and a new definition for 'passive surveillance' as a consequence of the Commission's work on revising Chapter 1.4. Aquatic animal health surveillance. Dr Ernst noted that these definitions had been circulated three times for Member comments.

Dr Ernst further explained that the Commission had proposed amendments to the definitions for 'Competent Authority', 'Veterinary Authority' and 'Aquatic Animal Health Services' and highlighted that these amendments had been made in close collaboration with the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission to ensure alignment with the amendments to the definitions of 'Competent Authority', 'Veterinary Authority' and 'Veterinary Services' that had been proposed for adoption in the *Terrestrial Code*. These definitions had been amended to improve clarity for Members and remove unnecessary descriptive information. Dr Ernst noted that the intended meanings remain unchanged and that the Commission considered that the definitions needed to remain applicable to the diversity of administrative arrangements in Members, and he emphasised that they did not dictate any particular administrative structure. Dr Ernst also noted that the Assembly had adopted the equivalent definitions for the *Terrestrial Code* during the previous day's session. Dr Ernst noted that these definitions had been circulated three times for Member comments.

Dr Ernst explained that there are some incorrect instances of use of the terms 'Aquatic Animal Health Services', 'Competent Authority' and 'Veterinary Authority' in the *Aquatic Code*. If the proposed amendments to the definitions were adopted, the use of these terms will be reviewed by the Commission.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

136. Chapter 1.3. Diseases listed by the OIE

Dr Ernst reported that the Aquatic Animals Commission had agreed to propose the inclusion of infection with tilapia lake virus (TiLV) to the diseases of fish listed by the OIE in Article 1.3.1. He reminded the Assembly that, in 2017, infection with TiLV had been assessed against the Criteria for listing aquatic animal diseases, in accordance with Chapter 1.2. and that Criterion No. 3 requiring a reliable method for detection and diagnosis was not met. The Commission had requested that the OIE convene an *ad hoc* Group to assess diagnostic methods. Dr Ernst reported that the *ad hoc* Group had submitted to the Commission a

detailed assessment of an inter-laboratory comparison of multiple assays for infection with TiLV. At its September 2021 meeting, the Commission reassessed infection with TiLV against the criteria for listing aquatic animal diseases and agreed that infection with TiLV now met the criterion for listing. Dr Ernst noted that the revised Article 1.3.1. and the revised and updated assessment of TiLV against the listing criteria had been circulated twice for Members' information.

Dr Ernst presented the revised text to the Assembly.

Australia supported the listing of infection with TiLV and noted that tilapia are one of the most important groups of farmed fish globally. Infection with TiLV is, however, not a significant disease for Australia as the susceptible species are exotic to Australia and there is no tilapia aquaculture or wild catch industry in the country. Australia considered the rigorous scientific approach to this emerging disease using a quality-assured inter-laboratory comparison study, utilisation of the OIE Reference Centre network and the collaboration among some laboratories of OIE Members to be a model approach to addressing the challenges of emerging diseases. Australia encouraged the OIE to adopt similar approaches in the future for the consideration of other diseases, where appropriate. Australia noted that there is currently no OIE Reference Laboratory for this disease and encouraged the OIE and its Members to address this gap to assist early diagnosis and to prevent spread of the disease.

Thailand did not support the listing of infection with TiLV as it did not agree that the disease fulfilled the criteria for listing in Chapter 1.2. Thailand considered that there was unclear evidence of mass mortalities in cultured and wild populations and that reports of mortalities resulted from experimental infections, rather than natural infections. Finally, Thailand noted inconsistencies between the assessment document and the report of TiLV incidence notified by one Member regarding the mortality rate in wild populations. Thailand requested that the assessment be reviewed to ensure that sufficient evidence was provided for each criterion to be met.

Dr Ernst thanked Australia for the intervention and agreed that the approach used for infection with TiLV was a good model for emerging diseases. He pointed out that, due to the characteristics of the aquaculture industry, serious emerging diseases occurred frequently. Dr Ernst explained that there is also an activity, within the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Strategy, to assist Members in emergency disease response. He further explained that in the Asia and the Pacific region there are ongoing activities to support Members in responding to emerging diseases. Dr Ernst was pleased to report that this area of work was already well underway.

Dr Ernst thanked Thailand for its intervention and requested that any new information on the epidemiology or impacts of infection with TiLV be provided to the Commission. He noted that the Commission had considered all available scientific information and that it was confident that the available information supported the conclusion that infection with TiLV did indeed meet the criteria for listing.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted, with one objection (Thailand).

137. **Chapter 1.4. Aquatic animal health surveillance**

Dr Ernst explained that the proposed approaches for disease freedom in both Chapter 1.4. and the model articles had been developed based on a discussion paper prepared by the Commission that was first circulated to Members in 2018 and revised following comments from Members.

Dr Ernst reported that the Aquatic Animals Commission had agreed to substantially revise Chapter 1.4. Aquatic animal health surveillance, to focus on self-declaration of freedom rather than surveillance more generally. He stated that the revised chapter described the pathways for declaration of freedom and provided more details about the evidence needed, and he indicated that the periods for surveillance were more clearly described.

Dr Ernst noted that the revised chapter had been circulated for Member comments three times and that Members' input had been valuable throughout the consultation process, which had resulted in the development of a sound approach for demonstrating self-declaration of freedom.

Dr Ernst presented the revised text to the Assembly.

Australia supported the adoption of the chapter and commended the Commission for taking up this scientifically challenging work. Australia noted that the revised chapter clarified the many different pathways for demonstration of freedom at the level of country, zone or compartment. The chapter also explicitly defined the other requirements that had to be in place to underpin surveillance activities. Australia considered that the revised chapter provided a robust scientific basis for the required period of absence of disease specified in each disease-specific chapter to self-declare freedom. Australia looked forward to receiving and reviewing the Commission's work on revising Chapter 4.2. Zoning and compartmentalisation, aligned with this newly revised chapter.

Finland, speaking on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, supported the adoption of the chapter but proposed a change to Article 1.4.3. point 1, to include the word "level" at the end of the sentence, to read "at the country or zone level" for consistency with other wording in this article.

Indonesia thanked the Commission for progressing this work and supported the adoption of the chapter as it would support the country in its work to strengthen its surveillance systems. Indonesia also informed the Assembly that an Aquatic PVS evaluation would be conducted in its country in July this year and thanked the OIE for accepting its request.

Dr Ernst thanked Australia and Indonesia for their support for this work and confirmed that the work on revising the standards on compartmentalisation was included in the work plan of the Commission as a priority for this term. He noted that the work plan was presented in Part B of the Commission's February 2022 report for Member information and comments.

Dr Ernst thanked Finland for the comment and proposed that the word "level" be added to Article 1.4.3., point 1, to ensure consistency with other points within the same article.

The President presented the revised text, with the aforementioned change, to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

138. Model Articles X.X.4. to X.X.8. for disease-specific chapters to address declaration of freedom from [Pathogen X]

Dr Ernst reported that the model Articles X.X.4. to X.X.8. had been updated in conjunction with Chapter 1.4. Aquatic animal health surveillance, to ensure alignment between Chapter 1.4. and the disease-specific chapters. He explained that, once adopted, the model articles would be applied to relevant articles of the disease-specific chapters in the 2022 edition of the *Aquatic Code*.

Dr Ernst noted that, following adoption of the revised Chapter 1.4., an assessment of default periods for basic biosecurity conditions and targeted surveillance periods would be conducted for all listed diseases. Until that time, the currently adopted periods in the *Aquatic Code* would be maintained. Dr Ernst noted that the model articles had been circulated four times for Member comments.

Dr Ernst presented the revised text to the Assembly.

Finland, speaking on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, supported the adoption of these model articles and pointed out some inconsistencies between Article X.X.7., points 1 and 2(c), and Article 1.4.10. (in Annexes 6 and 7). Finland commented that Article X.X.7., point 1, indicated that the default period for targeted surveillance in a compartment was two years. However, according to Article 1.4.10., the minimum default period during which targeted surveillance should be carried out in a compartment prior to a self-declaration of freedom from disease, was one year. In addition, Article X.X.7., point 2(c) indicated that to regain freedom, targeted surveillance should be carried out in a compartment “for at least the last [one] year”. However, according to Article 1.4.10., the required period of targeted surveillance to regain freedom “may be less than the original declaration of freedom”, and that at least one survey in the compartment was required. The EU requested that these inconsistencies be addressed prior to adoption of the model articles.

Dr Ernst thanked Finland for pointing out this issue. He proposed that in the first paragraph of Article X.X.7. point 1, the default period indicated in square brackets be changed from “two” to “one”. He explained that this would align with the default period outlined in Article 1.4.10. of Chapter 1.4. Dr Ernst noted that the default period outlined in Article X.X.7. point 2c was consistent with Article 1.4.10. The default period for targeted surveillance to regain freedom in Article X.X.7. point 2c could be less than the original declaration (i.e. a default minimum of one year) depending on an assessment of the specific disease in accordance with Chapter 1.4. Therefore, no change was required in point 2c.

The President presented the revised text, with the aforementioned changes, to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

139. **Articles 9.X.3. for crustacean disease-specific chapters**

Dr Ernst informed the Assembly that the Aquatic Animals Commission, at its September 2020 meeting, had reviewed Article X.X.3. of all disease-specific chapters to address comments that the recommended time/temperature treatments in these articles represented different levels of thermal treatment and that some were not commercially feasible as they would diminish product quality. The Commission agreed to propose amendments to Articles X.X.3. throughout the *Aquatic Code* to specify the minimum time/temperature treatments required to inactivate the pathogenic agent. Dr Ernst noted that this was a change from the current commodity-based approach and was made in response to Member comments.

Dr Ernst informed the Assembly that the Commission had started by amending Articles 9.X.3. of all crustacean disease-specific chapters in Section 9. He explained that these articles had been revised to include minimum thermal treatment requirements for each pathogen rather than indicate standard commercial processes. He pointed out that the thermal treatments were consistent with those presented in *Safe commodity assessments for OIE listed aquatic animal diseases*, published in 2016 and available on the OIE website. Dr Ernst explained that references to specific product types subjected to thermal treatment had been removed because any product that had been subjected to the minimum thermal treatment would be considered safe.

Dr Ernst informed the Assembly that the Commission had included work to review the safe commodity assessments for all listed diseases in its work plan, to ensure that the thermal treatments for inactivation of listed pathogens were based on current scientific evidence. Dr Ernst noted that the revised Articles 9.X.3. had been circulated four times for Member comments.

Dr Ernst presented the revised text to the Assembly.

Thailand indicated that it wanted to abstain from adoption of the proposed amendments to Articles 9.X.3. for the crustacean disease-specific chapters and Articles 10.X.3. for the fish disease-specific chapters, presented in Annex 11. Thailand considered that Article X.X.3. should clearly define that the use of different time and temperature combinations are allowed when Members are able to demonstrate pathogen inactivation. In this regard, Thailand proposed amending the text on the use of equivalent time and temperatures to read “or a time/ temperature that has been demonstrated to inactivate [pathogen name].”

Dr Ernst thanked Thailand for these comments and understood the desire for flexibility for equivalent time/temperatures for inactivation of pathogens and noted that this had been the intention of the Commission as it amended these articles. Dr Ernst wished to share a number of points in response. He explained that changing to a minimum time/temperature and allowing for the use of equivalent time/temperature combinations allowed for increased flexibility, resulting in a greater range of products that could be considered safe. He informed the Assembly that there is limited information available on the thermal stability of some pathogenic agents and encouraged Members that had demonstrated other thermal treatments to inactivate a pathogen to publish this information so it could be reviewed for inclusion in the standards. Dr Ernst noted that these articles are fundamental for supporting safe trade and that he did not consider it advisable to have text that promoted uncertainty. Rather than amending the text to specify that exceptions are allowed where there is evidence, Dr Ernst suggested that a stronger alternative would be for new information to be published and provided to the Commission for consideration. He informed the Assembly that there would be a revision of the assessments for safe commodities and he urged Members to provide any new evidence to the Commission for its consideration.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted, with one abstention (Thailand).

140. **Articles 10.X.3. for fish disease-specific chapters**

Dr Ernst reminded the Assembly that the Commission had also amended Articles 10.X.3. of all fish disease-specific chapters in Section 10 to include minimum thermal treatment requirements for each pathogen rather than standard commercial processes, and to ensure consistency with the thermal treatments presented in *Safe commodity assessments for OIE listed aquatic animal diseases*. Dr Ernst noted that the proposed amendments were aligned with those made in Articles 9.X.3., as appropriate. Dr Ernst noted that the revised Articles 10.X.3. had been circulated twice for Member comments.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted, with one abstention (Thailand).

141. **Chapter 9.X. – Infection with decapod iridescent virus 1**

Dr Ernst explained that following the adoption in May 2021 of the inclusion of infection with decapod iridescent virus 1 (DIV1) in Chapter 1.3. Diseases listed by the OIE, the Commission had developed a draft new Chapter 9.X. Infection with DIV1, based on the article structure of other disease-specific chapters in Section 9 of the *Aquatic Code*.

Dr Ernst noted that the proposed new chapter included relevant horizontal amendments being proposed for adoption, such as the model Articles X.X.4. to X.X.8. and Articles 9.X.3.

Dr Ernst stated that the list of susceptible species in Article 9.X.2. would be placed under study pending assessment against Chapter 1.5. Criteria for listing species as susceptible to infection with a specific pathogen. He noted that, following adoption of the revised Chapter 1.4., an assessment of default periods for basic biosecurity conditions and targeted surveillance periods would be required for all listed diseases, including infection with DIV1.

Dr Ernst noted that the new Chapter 9.X. had been circulated twice for Member comments.

Dr Ernst presented the revised text to the Assembly.

Australia, referring to Article 9.X.5., questioned how a country could make a self-declaration of freedom if it shared water bodies with other countries. Australia pointed out that the article indicated that a country could only submit a self-declaration of freedom if all shared water bodies were in a country or zone declared free. Australia explained that this seemed like a 'chicken and egg' situation, in which it would be difficult to determine which came first. Australia asked how Members could self-declare if other Members, sharing the water body, had not previously declared freedom.

Dr Ernst explained that when there was a shared water body, a Member Country could not submit a self-declaration for freedom if the health status of the shared water body was uncertain. This would require the two Member Countries to work together with respect to surveillance and claims of self-declaration of freedom.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted, with one abstention (Thailand).

142. **Article 10.1.2. of Chapter 10.1. Infection with epizootic haematopoietic necrosis virus**

Dr Ernst explained that the Commission had proposed a minor amendment to Article 10.1.2. of Chapter 10.1. Infection with epizootic haematopoietic necrosis virus, to list the susceptible species in a table format, as agreed by the Commission, if there were more than 10 susceptible species. Dr Ernst noted that the revised Article 10.1.2. of Chapter 10.1. had been circulated twice for Member comments.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

143. Article 10.7.2. of Chapter 10.7. Infection with koi herpesvirus

Dr Ernst explained that common carp x crucian carp hybrids (*Cyprinus carpio x Carassius carassius*) had been omitted from Article 10.7.2. despite being found to be susceptible by the *ad hoc* Group on Susceptibility of fish species to infection with OIE listed diseases (November, 2017). Dr Ernst noted that the revised Article 10.7.2. of Chapter 10.7. had been circulated twice for Member comments.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

144. Articles 11.1.1. and 11.1.2. of Chapter 11.1. Infection with abalone herpesvirus

Dr Ernst informed the Assembly that Article 11.1.1. had been amended to ensure consistency with other disease-specific chapters with respect to the inclusion of the name and taxonomy of the pathogenic agent, and that the list of susceptible species in Article 11.1.2. had been amended in line with the recommendations made by the *ad hoc* Group on Susceptibility of mollusc species to infection with OIE listed diseases. Dr Ernst noted that the revised Articles 11.1.1. and 11.1.2. of Chapter 11.1. had been circulated twice for Member comments.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

145. Articles 11.2.1. and 11.2.2. of Chapter 11.2. Infection with *Bonamia exitiosa*

Dr Ernst informed the Assembly that Article 11.2.1. had been amended to ensure consistency with other disease-specific chapters with respect to the inclusion of the name and taxonomy of the pathogenic agent, and that the list of susceptible species in Article 11.2.2. had been amended in line with the recommendations made by the *ad hoc* Group on Susceptibility of mollusc species to infection with OIE listed diseases.

In February 2022, in response to a Member comment that new scientific evidence indicated that *Ostrea stentina* and *Ostrea equestris* were distinct species rather than synonyms, the Aquatic Animals Commission had requested the *ad hoc* Group to re-assess the susceptibility of *Ostrea stentina* and *Ostrea equestris*. The Commission had agreed to further amend the list of susceptible species in line with the *ad hoc* Group's recommendations.

Dr Ernst noted that the revised Articles 11.2.1. and 11.2.2. of Chapter 11.2. had been circulated three times for Member comments.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

AQUATIC MANUAL

146. Texts proposed for adoption

Dr Ernst indicated that the remainder of his presentation would focus on presenting the revised texts of the *Aquatic Manual* that were to be proposed for adoption.

147. Chapter 2.3.0. General information (diseases of fish)

Dr Ernst reported that Chapter 2.3.0. had been amended to include a new sentence on the need to further investigate negative molecular test results when clinical signs indicate the presence of a specific disease or when other positive test results indicate that a false negative

result may have been obtained. Dr Ernst noted that the revised Chapter 2.3.0. had been circulated twice for Member comments.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

148. **Chapter 2.3.4. Infection with HPR-deleted or HPR0 infectious salmon anaemia virus**

Dr Ernst reported that this chapter had been comprehensively revised to update scientific information and reformatted by the Commission, in close cooperation with the OIE Reference Laboratory experts for infection with infectious salmon anaemia virus. He noted that the revised chapter had been circulated three times for Member comments.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

149. **Chapter 2.3.6. Infection with koi herpes virus**

Dr Ernst reported that this chapter had been comprehensively revised to update scientific information and reformatted by the Commission in close cooperation with the OIE Reference Laboratory experts for infection with koi herpes virus. He noted that the revised chapter had been circulated three times for Member comments.

Dr Ernst informed the Assembly that there was a spelling mistake identified in Section 5., which would be corrected. The author's name written as "Englesma" would be corrected to "Engelsma".

The President presented the revised text, with the aforementioned change, to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

150. **Sections 2.2.1. and 2.2.2. of Chapter 2.4.1. Infection with abalone herpesvirus**

Dr Ernst reported that the parallel changes made to the revised articles in Chapter 11.1. of the *Aquatic Code* and Sections 2.2.1. and 2.2.2. of Chapter 2.4.1. of the *Aquatic Manual* reflected the recommendations of the *ad hoc* Group on Susceptibility of mollusc species to OIE listed diseases. Dr Ernst noted that the revised Sections 2.2.1. and 2.2.2. of Chapter 2.4.1. of the *Aquatic Manual* had been circulated three times for Member comments.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

151. **Section 2.2.1. and 2.2.2. of Chapter 2.4.2. Infection with *Bonamia exitiosa***

Dr Ernst reported that the parallel changes made to the revised articles in Chapter 11.1. of the *Aquatic Code* and Sections 2.2.1. and 2.2.2. of Chapter 2.4.2. of the *Aquatic Manual* reflected the recommendations of the *ad hoc* Group for Susceptibility of mollusc species to OIE listed diseases.

In February 2022, in response to a Member comment that new scientific evidence indicated that *Ostrea stentina* and *Ostrea equestris* were distinct species rather than synonyms, the Aquatic Animals Commission had requested the *ad hoc* Group to re-assess the susceptibility of *Ostrea stentina* and *Ostrea equestris*. The Commission agreed to further amend Sections 2.2.1. and 2.2.2. of the *Aquatic Manual* Chapter 2.4.2. in line with the *ad hoc* Group's recommendations.

Dr Ernst noted that the revised Sections 2.2.1. and 2.2.2. of Chapter 2.4.2. of the *Aquatic Manual* had been circulated three times for Member comments.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

152. Reference Centres

Dr Ernst expressed his ongoing appreciation for the support and expert advice provided to the OIE by the Reference Centres.

Dr Ernst informed the Assembly that the Commission had approved the application from the Laboratory of Veterinary Pharmacology (FARMAVET) and Laboratory of Food Safety (LIA) and Center for Research and Innovation in Aquaculture, University of Chile, for a new OIE Collaborating Centre for Antimicrobial Stewardship in Aquaculture.

The Commission had also approved an application from the Aquatic Medicine Laboratory, Biology Division of Animal Health Research Institute (AHRI), Council of Agriculture in Chinese Taipei for an OIE Reference Laboratory for Infection with decapod iridescent virus 1.

153. The Assembly noted the report of the Aquatic Animals Commission.

Biological Standards Commission

([Doc. 89 SG/10/CS2](#))

154. Prof. Emmanuel Couacy-Hymann, President of the Biological Standards Commission, thanked the other Members of the Commission. Appreciation was expressed for the contribution of the other regular participant, Dr Steven Edwards, Consultant Editor of the *Terrestrial Manual*, as well as specialist contributions by OIE experts from Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres, and others. Prof. Couacy-Hymann also commended the staff of the Science Department and the Antimicrobial Resistance and Veterinary Products Department at the OIE Headquarters for supporting the work of the Commission.

155. Prof. Couacy-Hymann informed Delegates that the new and revised chapters to be proposed for adoption were presented in Doc. 89 SG/10/CS2.

OIE MANUAL OF DIAGNOSTIC TESTS AND VACCINES FOR TERRESTRIAL ANIMALS (mammals, birds and bees)

156. In March 2022, the 19 chapters and the glossary of terms that had been reviewed and approved by the Biological Standards Commission for circulation to Members were made available via a web link in the February 2022 report Part A, which can be found both on the Delegates' website and on the Commission's webpage of the OIE public website, for consultation as the final versions that are proposed for adoption. Prof. Couacy-Hymann summarised the review processes for the revised and new chapters in five tranches, with comments invited from Members and partners.

157. Prof. Couacy-Hymann explained that in the commenting period before the General Session, India proposed that a statement and reference be added to Chapter 3.1.6 Echinococcosis (infection with *Echinococcus granulosus* and with *E. multilocularis*), Section C.1.2 *Definitive hosts*, confirming that vaccination of the dog host against *E. granulosus* is feasible when recombinant proteins are used.
158. Prof. Couacy-Hymann noted that the result reported in the publication mentioned by India have never been able to be replicated. Follow-up trials by the same research group have found that worms in vaccinated dogs do become patent and that the effect they originally described sometimes occurred in groups of control, non-vaccinated dogs. A second paper described vaccination experiments undertaken in Morocco and Tunisia in which a recombinant vaccine achieved a statistically significant reduction in the worm burden of vaccinated animals after a challenge infection with *E. granulosus*. However, the results have never been able to be replicated in the ensuing 14 years, despite the researchers' efforts; there has been no follow-up publication.

Furthermore, even if the results of the two published studies had been found to be repeatable, there is currently no registered vaccine against *E. granulosus* infection in dogs, nor is there any such vaccine undergoing commercial scale-up or registration. For these reasons, the Commission disagreed with the proposal.

159. Regarding Chapter 3.1.X. Mammalian tuberculosis (infection with *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* complex), Prof. Couacy-Hymann reported that during the commenting period: the 27 Member States of the EU asked for the deletion of the words "*and is a barrier to trade*" in the first paragraph of the Summary (line 9). Even if that statement may be true for most of the OIE listed diseases, it is out of the scope of the *Terrestrial Manual*. Furthermore, there are no further references to this point elsewhere in the chapter that would give some context to this statement. The Member States of the EU therefore requested that the words be deleted from the text before the chapter is presented for adoption.

Prof. Couacy-Hymann accepted the comment from the Member States of the EU and agreed to delete the words from the chapter's Summary.

160. Spain, speaking on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, congratulated the Biological Standards Commission for its essential work. In particular, he commended the Commission for its continued efforts to update the *Terrestrial Manual* and thanked the Commission for having taken into account the comments of the Member States of the EU.
161. Also regarding Chapter 3.1.X. Mammalian tuberculosis (infection with *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* complex), the United Kingdom provided technical clarifications to the interpretation of the results of the two tests given in Section B.2.2.2.1 *The single cervical test (SCT)* (lines 465–466) and to Section B.2.2.2.2 *The comparative cervical test (CCT)* (line 484).

Prof. Couacy-Hymann accepted the clarifications and reported that the chapter would be amended as follows:

In Section B.2.2.2.1. *The single cervical test (SCT)*, lines 465–466: replace "between" with "more than" before "2 mm" and add "less than" before "4 mm".

In Section B.2.2.2.2. *The comparative cervical test (CCT)*, line 484, add "more than" before "4 mm" and delete "or more" after "4 mm". In lines 485–487, replace "there is a difference in skin thickness of ≥ 2 –0 mm and <4 mm and a reaction to PPD-B of 2 mm or more" with "the reaction to PPD-B is 2 mm or more, and is greater than the PPD-A reaction by 4 mm or less" and amend Table Interpretation of the comparative cervical test accordingly.

162. Prof. Couacy-Hymann explained that Mexico proposed that a new sentence and reference be added to Chapter 3.1.22. Tularemia, Section A *Introduction* (line 94).

Prof. Couacy-Hymann accepted the comment from Mexico and agreed to include a version of the sentence that had been slightly modified for clarity: “Species that are moderately susceptible to tularemia, and maintain the infection for a prolonged time, may serve as reservoirs of infection to others (Hestvik *et al.*, 2015¹⁷).”

163. The United Kingdom had also proposed that a new sentence be added to Chapter 3.1.22 Tularemia, Section A *Introduction* (line 96).

Prof. Couacy-Hymann accepted the proposal from the United Kingdom and agreed to include the sentence: “Hunters opening carcasses of lagomorphs in the wild are at risk of infection.”

164. Regarding the new sentence, Australia asked if the danger is related to the place where the carcass is opened or should it rather refer to the risk of infection irrespective of where the carcass is opened.

Prof. Couacy-Hymann agreed that though the danger is not linked to place, it is important to mention that precaution need to be taken when handling dead animals because hunters and forest rangers work outdoors and do not necessary take precautions as they are not aware of the risk. He agreed that the sentence should be re-drafted as follows: “Hunters and forest rangers should take precautions before opening dead animals as they are at risk of infection”.

165. Senegal congratulated Prof. Couacy-Hymann and the Commission for their excellent work, which enabled the 19 chapters to be updated and presented for adoption. He also congratulated him for the format of his presentation, which is very clear to follow.

166. During the commenting period the United Kingdom proposed to amend line 173 of Chapter 3.3.15. Turkey rhinotracheitis (avian metapneumovirus [*aMPV*]), Section A *Introduction* to stipulate that there is serological and molecular evidence that aMPV occurs in a variety of other avian species, but that there is no evidence of disease “except in pheasants”.

Prof. Couacy-Hymann accepted the proposal. He also informed the Assembly that the United Kingdom had identified spelling mistakes in the chapter, which would be corrected.

167. During the commenting period before the General Session the 27 Members States of the EU indicated that it did not support the addition of the sentence “A minimum of five suspect colonies should be taken for confirmation by PCR¹⁸” in Section B.1.5. Molecular methods (line 180) of Chapter 3.6.2. Contagious equine metritis. The Member States of the EU found that it was not clear why and on what basis this addition was proposed as neither a scientific reference nor adequate rationale was provided in the Commission’s report to substantiate the proposal or the number of colonies to be taken. Experience has shown that a minimum of five suspect colonies is not always obtained, while this does not hamper confirmation by PCR. It was also not clear why this point was made in that part of the text, and not in Section B.1.1 *Culture techniques* – if at least five suspect colonies need to be grown for subsequent confirmation by PCR, this should be indicated from the start. Furthermore, it is also not clear why this point would only be applicable for confirmation by PCR, and not for the other techniques. Carrying out biochemical and growth tests as a screening on suspicious colonies is economical and reliable prior to identification by PCR. When a colony is suspected of being of the *Taylorella* genus, then it is appropriate to carry out a PCR for its confirmation and species identification. This is the procedure that is performed in the EU reference laboratory

¹⁷ Hestvik G., Warns-Petit E., Smith L.A., Fox N.J., Uhlhorn H., Artois M., Hannant D., Hutchings M.R., Mattsson R., Yon L. & Gavier-Widen D. (2015). The status of tularemia in Europe in a one-health context: a review. *Epidemiol. Infect.*, 143, 2137–2160. doi: 10.1017/S0950268814002398

¹⁸ PCR: polymerase chain reaction

for equine diseases. The Member States of the EU therefore requested that this sentence be deleted from the text before the chapter is presented for adoption.

Prof. Couacy-Hymann noted the concerns of the Member States of the EU. Rather than deleting it, he proposed that the sentence be replaced with a less prescriptive text, which would allow suspect colonies to be used for confirmation by PCR: “To mitigate the possibility of false negative results, it is recommended that, whenever possible, several colonies suspected of being of the *Taylorella* genus are selected for confirmation by PCR.”

168. Spain, speaking on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, thanked the Commission for having taken into account their comments, which make the text clearer.
169. During the commenting period the United Kingdom proposed to amend lines 6 and 7 of the *Summary*, and Section A *Introduction*, line 30 of Chapter 3.10.6 *Mange*, to clarify that the term “scab” should be used in relation to *Psoroptes ovis*.

Prof. Couacy-Hymann accepted the proposal.

170. The President presented the 19 chapters and the updated glossary for adoption. They were adopted unanimously and with the changes agreed as described above.
171. The President indicated that the draft Resolution relating to OIE Reference Laboratories had been presented for adoption by the Assembly following the adapted procedure before the General Session with the results obtained through the electronic voting process, along with the proposal for adoption of the Resolution on the newly designated Collaborating Centres, would be presented during the Fourth Plenary Session.
172. The Assembly noted the Report of the Biological Standards Commission.

Presentation of proposed Resolutions drafted during plenary sessions

173. The President announced that the quorum had been reached (92 required).

Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 28

OIE and Veterinary Services engagement in global, regional and national Emergency Management Systems

174. The President submitted Draft Resolution No. 28 for adoption and opened the floor for Members' comments.
175. France, speaking on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, supported the Resolution whilst requesting some amendments. Firstly, because the OIE Observatory was a new initiative and there was not consensus on its future role and scope of activities, and because other OIE initiatives provide relevant data about Member's needs, the Member States of the EU requested a more general reference to OIE capacity and capability evaluation and development programmes in recommendation no.5. Secondly, the Member States of the EU requested modifications to recommendations no.1 and no.7 to reflect the importance of strengthening synergy, whilst avoiding overlap, with other international organisations. Lastly, they suggested to add the word 'voluntary' to recommendation no.15 about Member's support to the OIE's emergency management and resilience work programme.

176. The Director General agreed to the suggestions made by France, on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, with the exception of adding the word ‘voluntary’ to recommendation no.15. The Director General explained that as the nature of contributions can vary e.g., they could be financial or scientific expertise, the current wording was more inclusive to a range of contribution types.
177. There were no objection or abstention, and the Draft Resolution No. 28 was adopted by the World Assembly. The text appears under Resolution No. 28 at the end of this report.
178. The Director General thanked Dr Stone, the Rapporteur of the Technical Item, and those involved in its development. The Technical Item was an excellent example of what future Technical Item reports should encompass and going beyond the usual areas of work of the OIE and it will be useful for the OIE and its Members.

Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 29
One Health international instrument for pandemic prevention, preparedness and response

179. The President reminded the proposal made by Australia for a resolution on the important of the recognition of the Veterinary Services, and more broadly the animal health sectors, to be recognised in the development of the One Health international instrument for pandemic prevention, preparedness and response under development with WHO.
180. The President submitted Draft Resolution No. 29 for adoption and gave the floor to Members. Denmark, speaking on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, as well as Argentina, provided comments and suggested editorial amendments of which some were accepted.
181. In response to a question on recommendation 3., the Director General provided further explanations on the “Friends of One Health”. It is a time-honoured expression, existing for other subjects such as the PPR(“Friends of PPR”), which represents a group of countries interested in a common subject, sharing common objectives and joining forces to advocate for them. Usually, these groups are composed by the Permanent Representatives to the UN agencies. Here, for One Health, it would be the Ambassadors to the WHO or the national diplomats appointed to follow this issue.
182. The Resolution, to which relevant comments were to be included, was adopted unanimously. The text appears under Resolution No. 29 at the end of this report.

Draft Technical Resolutions adopted during the online voting period

183. The President certified that, since 98 Delegates had voted during the online procedure, the quorum had been reached (92 required).
184. The President divulged the results of the voting on the technical resolutions that had been proposed for adoption before the General Session.

RESO	TITLE	YES	NO	ABS	RESULTS
No. 11	Recognition of the Foot and Mouth Disease Status of Members	98	0	0	ADOPTED
No. 12	Endorsement of Official Control Programmes for Foot and Mouth Disease of Members	98	0	0	ADOPTED
No. 13	Recognition of the Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia Status of Members	98	0	0	ADOPTED
No. 14	Endorsement of Official Control Programmes for Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia of Members	98	0	0	ADOPTED

No. 15	Recognition of the Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy Risk Status of Members	94	2	2	ADOPTED
No. 16	Recognition of the African Horse Sickness Status of Members	97	1	0	ADOPTED
No. 17	Recognition of the Peste des Petits Ruminants Status of Members	98	0	0	ADOPTED
No. 18	Recognition of the Classical Swine Fever Status of Members	98	0	0	ADOPTED
No. 19	Endorsement of Official Control Programmes for Dog-mediated Rabies of Members	97	0	1	ADOPTED
No. 25	Designation of OIE Reference Laboratories for terrestrial and aquatic animal diseases	98	0	0	ADOPTED
No. 27	Extension to the Designation of Facilities Holding Rinderpest Virus Containing Material to Maintain Global Freedom from Rinderpest	98	0	0	ADOPTED

185. The President congratulated Members that had been granted a new status or had had their official control programme endorsed by the Assembly.

Activities of the Regional Commissions

([Doc. 89 SG/9](#))

186. The President reminded participants that the report of the meetings of the Regional Commissions that took place from 16 to 18 May 2022 were made available on the Delegates' page of the General Session website on Tuesday 24 May (Doc. 89 SG/9).
187. The President then asked if there were any comments.
188. There were no comments from participants. The President confirmed that the Assembly had noted the report of the meetings of the Regional Commissions.

■ **THURSDAY 26 MAY 2022** ■

FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION

189. Only Delegates of Members, as validated by the Credentials Committee, were eligible to adopt resolutions and vote in the partial elections. The Assembly was reminded that an independent legal expert would be witnessing the election process to guarantee the conformity of the process. After recalling the election process, a simulation of a vote was held, using the secured online voting platform, to ensure that all participants fully understood the process. The Webcast was turned off during the election.
190. Before the beginning of the session, the President of the Assembly confirmed that the quorum had been reached (92 required).

Partial Elections (a Member of the Council and members of the Bureaus of Regional Commissions)

Election of a Member of the Council

191. Following the departure of Dr Majid Al Qassimi (United Arab Emirates) and upon a proposal of the Regional Commission for the Middle East, the Assembly elected Dr Fajer Sabah Al Salloom (Bahrain) as a Member of the Council.

Election of the Vice-President of the Regional Commission for Africa

192. The President informed the Assembly of the proposal of the Regional Commission to fill the vacant position of Vice-President of the Commission.

Dr Albertina Shilongo (Namibia) was elected as Vice-President by the Assembly.

Election of the President of the Regional Commission for the Americas

193. The President informed the Assembly of the proposal of the Regional Commission to fill the vacant positions of President of the Commission, but also of Vice-President and Secretary-General. He explained how vacancies for one position leads to vacancies in others in the Commission. Hence the reason for three different proposals.

Dr Wilmer Juárez Juárez (Nicaragua) was elected as President by the Assembly, The Assembly also elected Dr Arnold Dwarkasing (Curaçao) as Vice-President and Dr. Rosemary Sifford (United States of America) as Secretary General.

Election of the President of the Regional Commission for the Middle East

194. The President informed the Assembly of the proposal of the Regional Commission to fill the vacant positions of President and Vice-President of the Commission.

Dr Abdelhakim Ali (Egypt) was elected as President by the Assembly.

Dr Samah Alsharif (Oman) was elected as Vice-President by the Assembly.

195. As a result of these partial elections, the Assembly noted the new composition of the related Regional Commissions as follows:

Regional Commission for Africa

President	:	Dr Honoré Robert N'lemba Mabela (Dem. Rep. of the Congo)
Vice-President	:	Dr Albertina Shilongo (Namibia)
Vice-President	:	Dr Mbargou Lo (Senegal)
Secretary General	:	Dr Anna Rose Ademun Okurut (Uganda)

Regional Commission for the Americas

President	:	Dr Wilmer Juárez Juárez (Nicaragua)
Vice-President	:	Dr Ximena Melón (Argentina)
Vice-President	:	Dr Arnold Dwarkasing (Curaçao)
Secretary General	:	Dr Rosemary Sifford (United States of America)

Regional Commission for the Middle East

President	:	Dr Abdelhakim Ali (Egypt)
Vice-President	:	Dr Sanad Al Harbi (Saudi Arabia)
Vice-President	:	Dr Samah Alsharif (Oman)
Secretary General	:	Dr Elias Ibrahim (Lebanon)

SECOND ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION

196. Webcast streaming was resumed for the Second Administrative Session which was chaired by the President of the Assembly.
197. Dr Jean-Philippe Dop, Deputy Director General for Institutional Affairs and Regional Activities, explained to the Assembly that the Second Administrative session had been organised into two blocks. The first block would be reporting back on the year 2021 as delineated in several documents and resolutions and the second one would be focusing on the years 2022 and 2023, including activities and related budgets.

Annual Report of the Director General on the Activities of the OIE in 2021

 (Docs [89 SG/1](#) and [89 SG/3](#))

198. The Director General presented the salient points of the report on the activities of the OIE in 2021.

The Director General began by stating that, beyond the orientations given in the Seventh Strategic Plan, the global context had impacted the Organisation's activities. Nonetheless, she stressed that activities aimed at enhancing transparency and efficiency had continued, reflecting a willingness to engage with Members to better identify and respond to their needs. Despite an often-degraded operational context, the OIE's teams had worked on the definition of action plans for each of the Organisation's departments with the aim of maintaining all of the usual activities, while pursuing the ambition of a more nimble organisation, fit for purpose and able to deliver on the two newly launched strategies on aquatic animal health and wildlife health. The Director General noted the increasing workload and burden on OIE teams due to the growing number of requests for official status recognition and stated that 381 requests had been received in 2021.

The Director General recalled the amount of work invested by teams in progressing on a number of important topics, such as OIE-WAHIS, the aforementioned aquatic animal and wildlife health strategies and the Observatory. She stated that, with a view to enhancing communication with Members, the presentation of the SG/1 report had been significantly overhauled to better convey information on the investment of internal resources towards organisational progress.

The Director General also expounded upon commitments and efforts invested in developing the OIE to become more fit for purpose. In this regard, she noted the work ongoing on digitalisation, the creation of the Performance Management and Internal Control Unit as well as the work done on enhancing the budgetary and administrative affairs of the OIE. She also explained her belief that the Organisation could not and should not establish standards without giving regard to their implementation, thus reiterating the growing importance of the Observatory.

199. The 89 SG/1 report had been submitted to Members for comment before the General Session.
200. Via a comment sent through the online commenting system, Singapore informed the Assembly of numerous national initiatives on wildlife held in 2021. Singapore invited the OIE to continue to engage in actions to support the sharing and analysis of data, horizon scanning and digitalisation across domains using a One Health approach, and underscored the fact that building the capacities of national Veterinary Services was also essential in order to have progressive and capable veterinary workforces capable of addressing current and future challenges.
201. The President gave the floor to the Delegates for spontaneous comments.

202. Congo (Dem. Rep. of the) took the floor and thanked the Director General for her excellent presentation. He then noted that the annual report mentioned a lack of expertise to launch training. He encouraged the OIE to make efforts to influence veterinary education and get momentum going to bolster the Veterinary Services. He also noted that diseases such as monkeypox were re-emerging and inquired how the OIE could be better prepared for this and for other emerging diseases. Finally, he emphasised that funding remained a critical factor, with particular attention needing to be given to arrears of statutory contributions, and he called for even more efforts to facilitate the securing of appropriate resourcing levels for the Organisation.
203. Senegal congratulated the OIE and its staff on the work on the new version of OIE-WAHIS and the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Strategy. He expressed his appreciation for the new structure of the report. Lastly, he encouraged the work being done on digital transformation noted that this work needed to be continued.
204. In response, the Director General invited Congo (Dem. Rep. of the) to examine in detail the annual report (89 SG/1), which highlighted the OIE's efforts over the past year to continue its training and capacity-building work, including training for veterinary paraprofessionals, as well as the continuous development of the OIE online training platform. She also noted that situations such as that involving monkeypox served to underline the value of cooperation work with partners such as WHO, among others. Dr Eloit underlined the need for Delegates to provide support through advocacy with their own leadership structures. She also emphasised the crucial importance of partnerships in enabling the challenges facing the Organisation to be tackled in a holistic manner. The Director General added that, going forward, the complexity of the topics the OIE would have to address would continue to increase; thus, partnerships and cooperation would be increasingly crucial to complement the OIE's own expertise.
205. The Assembly noted the report of the Director General.

Financial Report for the 95th Financial Year
(1 January - 31 December 2021)
 ([Doc. 89 SG/4](#))

206. Dr Monique Eloit, Director General of the OIE, presented an overview of the financial performance in 2021 for the Regular Budget, the World Animal Health and Welfare Fund (World Fund) and the Regional and Sub-Regional Representations, using Key Financial Performance Indicators, as described in the Financial Report (Doc. 89 SG/4), alongside other key financial information, such as the annual financial statements, as well as accounting information on the financial situation of the various accounts managed by the OIE.
207. Dr Eloit informed Members that efforts had been made to improve financial reporting, with aim of making the Organisation's financial performance and position easier to understand and more transparent.
208. She warmly thanked Members and resource partners for their continuous support and investment in the Organisation.
209. The 89 SG/4 report had been submitted to Members for comment before the General Session. The OIE did not receive any comments in advance.
210. The President gave the floor to the Delegates for spontaneous comments.
211. No spontaneous comments were received on Doc. 89 SG/4.

Report of the Auditors of the Council

[\(Doc. 89 SG/12\)](#)

212. Dr Roland Xolani Dlamini (Eswatini), on behalf of the Auditors of the Council (also comprised of Dr Yobani Gutiérrez Ravelo [Cuba]) confirmed the proper management of the OIE accounts. The Assembly noted the report of the Auditors of the Council.

Report of the External Auditor

[\(Doc. 89 SG/13\)](#)

213. The Assembly noted the report of the External Auditor appointed by the OIE, Mr Didier Selles, and his recommendations.
214. The President gave the floor to the Delegates for spontaneous comments.
215. No spontaneous comments were received on Doc. 89 SG/13.

Activities of the Council

[\(Doc. 89 SG/14\)](#)

216. The President reported on the activities of the Council in 2021.
217. The Assembly adopted the report on the activities of the Council as presented (Doc. 89 SG/14).

Draft Administrative Resolutions adopted during the online voting procedure

218. The President certified that, since 98 Delegates had voted during the online procedure, the quorum had been reached (92 required). The President divulged the results of the voting on the administrative resolutions proposed for adoption before the General Session.

RESO	TITLE	YES	NO	ABS	RESULTS
No. 2	Approval of the Report of the Director General on the Management, Activities and Administrative Work of the OIE in 2021	96	0	2	ADOPTED
No. 4	Acknowledgements to the Members and Partners that made Voluntary Contributions or Subsidies to the OIE, or contributed in the Organisation of OIE Meetings and for the Provision of Personnel	98	0	0	ADOPTED

219. The President certified that the quorum had been reached, as 121 Delegates were connected virtually or present face-to-face in the room (92 being the minimum required) for the adoption of Draft Resolutions No. 1 and No. 3.

Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 1

Report of the Director General on the Activities of the OIE in 2021

220. The President submitted Draft Resolution No. 1 for adoption. The Resolution was adopted unanimously. The text appears under Resolution No. 1 at the end of this report.

Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 3

Approval of the Financial Report for the 95th Financial Year of the OIE (1 January to 31 December 2021)

221. The President submitted Draft Resolution No. 3 for adoption. The Resolution was adopted unanimously. The text appears under Resolution No. 3 at the end of this report.

Presentation of future OIE activities and the corresponding budgets

(Docs [89 SG/5](#) and [89 SG/6](#))

222. Dr Eloit presented the plan of activities for the years 2022 and 2023 and the corresponding budgets.
223. Dr Eloit presented key activities in line with the planned yearly intentions she had presented on the occasion of the adoption of the Seventh Strategic Plan. She noted that the numerous lessons learnt from the first year of implementation of the Strategic Plan had informed planning for the future. Dr Eloit stated that the Seventh Strategic Plan was being implemented through various initiatives planned across the years and that a dynamic planning review process had been established to best adapt initiatives to current understanding and opportunities.
224. Dr Eloit then presented the 2022 Budget and the 2023 Budget Estimates. She indicated that the Organisation had revised its budgetary structure to align with key areas of work and applied the same structure as that used to report on activities in Doc. 89 SG/1 (i.e., information management, standard-setting and implementation, global frameworks, institutional governance, general administration and Regional and Sub-Regional Representations). She explained that this approach was aimed at making the Organisation's budgets easier to understand and facilitating comprehension across the different reports.
225. Dr Eloit emphasised that earmarked, short-term contributions were the reason for the modifications to the 2022 Budget.
226. With regard to the Regular Budget, Dr Eloit indicated that the 2023 Budget included a 15% increase of statutory contributions. She explained that this increase had been the subject of a thorough budgetary dialogue with the Council and the Members, which had included the submission of a detailed note explaining the rationale in January 2022. Dr Eloit pointed out that the work programme funded by the Regular Budget was entirely dependent on the total income received through statutory contributions.
227. Dr Eloit stated that the 2023 Regular Budget Estimates had been prepared using the revised budgetary structure.
228. Dr Eloit explained that the additional income resulting from the increase in statutory contributions would be principally distributed across between the following budget lines: technically focused areas of work (information management; standard-setting and implementation [status included]; and global frameworks), institutional governance (Council; Assembly; Regional Commission Conferences and meetings) and to support general administration.
229. Dr Eloit presented the Proposed 2023 Contributions Scale to the Assembly, recalling the recommendation of the Council to increase statutory contributions by a total of 30%. She explained that these efforts would be distributed across three consecutive years, namely: an increase of 15% in 2023, an increase of 7.50% in 2024 and an increase of 7.50% in 2025. Dr Eloit noted that these increases included the application of the OECD¹⁹ Total Consumer Price Index (CPI) as per Resolution No. 15 of 24 May 2018. She informed the Assembly that the CPI index for 2023 was 4%.
230. The Director General explained that the rebranding was an important exercise to reposition the Organisation for the future. This effort would enable the Organisation to increase public awareness and the clarity of its values, expertise and scope and improve communication on global animal health challenges and how they could be addressed, both to stakeholders and to the general public. While underlining that one-off expenses should not be confused with the Organisation's structural budgetary difficulties, she confirmed that the increase in statutory contributions for 2023 would not contribute to the rebranding exercise, which had already been completed.

231. Dr Eloit concluded by informing OIE Members that the previous day, at the World Health Assembly, WHO members had adopted a landmark decision to improve its financing model. This would consist of gradually increasing assessed contributions, starting with a 20% increase in WHO's 2024-25 budget and with the aim of assessed contributions reaching 50% of WHO's budget by 2028-2029. She reminded the Assembly of the current debate on global health governance and One Health and invited Members to be inspired by the World Health Assembly's decision when considering the increase to the OIE's modest budget.
232. Documents 89 SG/5 and 89 SG/6 had been submitted to Members for comment before the General Session.
233. Before the General Session, Liechtenstein had commented on the 30% increase in statutory contributions and indicated that this was a significant increase for his country. He considered that this increase could be justified to target animal health and animal disease control and the improvement of animal welfare worldwide but not for non-core activities, such as the rebranding exercise.
234. Before the General Session, the United States of America underlined its support for the Organisation's rebranding efforts as a means to continue and increase its prominence as an international organisation. The United States of America invited the Council to re-consider the pronunciation of the acronym WOA^H in the English language.
- The United States of America informed the Assembly that it could not support the requested increase in statutory contributions given the country's zero nominal growth policy in respect of proposed increases by international organisations that impacted the assessed portion of the Organisation's budget.
235. Before the General Session, Hungary reported that the country would not be able to support the proposed increase in statutory contributions given the negative economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on his country. Hungary invited the Organisation to consider reducing expenses, where possible, and a simplification of processes (i.e., self-declarations for disease freedom and confirmations for official disease status). Hungary underscored its commitment to the Organisation and recognised its pivotal role in the fight against animal diseases at a global level.
236. Before the General Session, Japan expressed concern with the lack of prior consultations with Members concerning the rebranding exercise. Japan invited the Organisation to consider applying an extended transition period using both the old and new logos and acronyms to allow for smooth transitions in Members, international organisations and other relevant stakeholders.
- Regarding the proposed increase in statutory contributions, Japan requested that a review of how statutory contributions were being used be undertaken and invited the Organisation to explore alternative mechanisms, including potential budgetary transfers from the World Fund to the Regular Budget. Japan also requested the OIE to continue to increase organisational efficiencies as well as to proceed with strategic recovery of statutory contributions from all Members.
237. The President gave the floor to the Delegates for spontaneous comments.
238. Congo (Dem. Rep. of the) thanked the Director General for her thorough presentation. He reiterated concern for the financial sustainability of the Regional Representations, particularly those in Africa, which had a fragile financial situation and appealed for increased financial efforts from the Members in the region to address this issue. He referenced the External Auditor's report and invited the Organisation to further explore mechanisms to recover outstanding statutory contributions from the 37 countries in arrears, with a specific focus on the 10 countries that represented 50% of the arrears. In closing, he proposed that the increase in statutory contributions be redistributed, with a greater financial effort in financial year 2024 (9% rather than 7.5%) and a lesser effort in financial year 2025 (6% rather than 7.5%). Recognising the historic decision by the Assembly, he invited Members to be equally ambitious and generous with the Organisation.

239. Senegal congratulated the Director General for her presentation and confirmed his support for an increased budget for communication in 2022, which he considered an essential investment for the Organisation's visibility and outreach. He requested the Director General to clarify where communication was captured in the new budgetary structure.
240. South Africa recognised that the increase in statutory contributions would assist the Organisation to be sustainably financed and to implement its activities. Nonetheless, he reminded the Assembly that it was not simple for countries to negotiate these increases internally and invited the Organisation to explore new engagement modalities, including involving embassies in the dialogue to facilitate communication with national treasuries.
241. The Director General thanked the Delegates for their interventions and questions. In response to Democratic Republic of the Congo, she highlighted that most of the 10 countries that represented 50% of the arrears were African countries. These countries were either at war or in extreme poverty and therefore had other, more pressing issues than their statutory contributions. She reiterated the External Auditor's contention that the Organisation had an excellent recovery rate. She welcomed the proposal concerning the percentage increase to the 2024 budget and affirmed it would be discussed with the Council at its next meeting.
242. She thanked Senegal for his positive feedback and interest in the OIE's communication activities. She announced that communication activities were included in the General Administration budget line whereas the staff costs were in another chapter.
243. In response to South Africa, the Director General acknowledged the difficulties faced by Members in requesting increased statutory contributions. For this reason, she invited Members to use the recent decision from the World Health Assembly as an additional argument when negotiating with their Ministers or government. In such negotiations, Members should outline the intrinsic value of the Organisation which, she pointed out, went beyond trade. She also took the opportunity to remind the Assembly that for this budgetary dialogue the Organisation had sent explanatory documents to some Ministers through diplomatic channel based on Member requests. The OIE would be pleased to put into place a combination of approaches to better support Members in their efforts.
244. Before closing the session, the President underlined the importance of statutory contributions for the Organisation and the need for sustainable financial resources to implement the Organisation's mandate and Strategic Plan. While acknowledging the contracted economic situation globally, he invited the Members to financially support the Organisation. He noted that the Organisation's efforts to increase political visibility would also have positive impacts on Veterinary Services at the national level.
245. The President certified that the quorum had been reached, as 111 Delegates were connected virtually or present face-to-face in the room (92 being the minimum required).

**Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 5
Modification of the 2022 Budget**

246. The President submitted Draft Resolution No. 5 for adoption. The Resolution was adopted (110 votes in favour and 1 abstention). The text appears under Resolution No. 5 at the end of this report.

**Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 6
Budgetary Income and Expenses for the 97th Financial Year (1 January to 31 December 2023)**

247. The President submitted Draft Resolution No. 6 for adoption. The Resolution was adopted (107 votes in favour and 4 abstentions). The text appears under Resolution No. 6 at the end of this report.

**Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 7
Financial Contributions from OIE Members for 2023**

248. The President submitted Draft Resolution No. 7 for adoption. The Resolution was adopted (99 votes in favour, 7 votes against and 5 abstentions). The text appears under Resolution No. 7 at the end of this report.

**Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 8
Renewal of the Appointment of the External Auditor**

249. The President proposed to the Assembly to renew for a period of 1 year (2022) the appointment of Mr Didier Selles as External Auditor of the OIE.
250. The President submitted Draft Resolution No. 8 for adoption. The Resolution was adopted unanimously. The text appears under Resolution No. 8 at the end of this report.

**Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 9
Memorandum of Understanding between the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
([Doc. 86 SG/15](#))**

251. Dr Dop presented the Draft Resolution on the Memorandum of Understanding with UNEP approved by the Council. The United States of America asked for a slight change to one of the articles of the Memorandum of Understanding. Dr Dop confirmed that this would be suggested to UNEP.
252. Draft Resolution No. 9 was adopted unanimously. The text appears under Resolution No. 9 at the end of this report.

Logo and Acronym of the Organisation

253. The President gave the floor to Mr Gerrit Beger, Head of the Communication Department, to present the new logo and acronym of the World Organisation for Animal Health.
254. Mr Beger summarised the consultation process for changing the logo and acronym (branding strategy), involving staff, a few Delegates, partners and the public. He further noted the drivers behind the changes, specifically referring to the 100th anniversary of the Organisation in 2024, new challenges pertaining to the animal health sector, as well the desire to have an identity that would align with the Seventh Strategic Plan, and subsequent strategic plans.

He noted that the impacts of animal and zoonotic disease outbreaks were becoming increasingly publicised. In this regard, he stressed the need to have a new brand and narrative to bring more visibility to the role and work of Veterinary Services as well as more visibility as to the purpose and scope of the Organisation's work.

Mr Beger underlined that there was no change to the core mission or mandate of the Organisation and also pointed out that in 2003, the Assembly, through a resolution, had authorised the use of the common name of the Organisation - 'World Organisation for Animal Health'. Hence, the change in logo and acronym to 'WOAH' – and 'OMSA' in French and Spanish – now being proposed was intended to align with the Organisation's common name.

Continuing to outline the brand strategy of the organisation, Mr Beger referred to the new narrative where WOAH aimed to: *“help policy makers and governments create a future in which humans and animals benefit and support each other, so that livelihoods are transformed, economies are boosted, and the world is safer and healthier for everyone. We do that by improving animal health and welfare, globally.”* Related to the narrative, Mr Beger presented the tagline, *“It's everyone's health”* and described the target audiences for the branding strategy: veterinary services' professionals, decision-makers and the general public.

Showcasing the logo, Mr Beger explained the details of the colour and design, and specifically stated that orange represented determination, health, happiness, energy and balance. He then outlined the four components of the logo design: first, the globe signifying the Organisation's global, worldly and institutional qualities; the second component, the globe in two halves representative of the Organisation's dual nature – wisdom and action; the third component, the three cloves or segments representing One Health; and finally, the 'moving' lines representing action, direction and purpose. He also highlighted that as part of the transition from the former logo and acronym to the new, the logo would make reference to its historic roots.

As part of his presentation, Mr Beger noted that the new logo was on a par with those of UN partner organisations and demonstrated how the logo would look on social media applications as well as the in the *Codes* and *Manuals*.

Mr Beger concluded his presentation by thanking the Assembly for its attention.

255. The OIE Director General introduced the resolution on the subject by providing some clarification on the value of having such a resolution. Dr Eloit specifically noted that this resolution aligned with the one adopted almost twenty years ago at the 71st General Session of the OIE in 2003 (Resolution No. XVI), according to which "World Organisation for Animal Health" was authorised as the common name of the Organisation in the hope of increasing its recognition amongst stakeholders and partners. Dr Eloit also noted that the OIE Council members, as representatives of the Assembly between two General Sessions, had been, since September, regularly informed on this topic, as reflected in the minutes of the Council meetings.
256. The President then gave the floor to Delegates for comments to be voiced.
257. Congo (Dem. Rep. of the) took the floor, referring to the Organisation's structure and stating that the World Assembly of Delegates sat above the Council as a decision-making body. He expressed his concern regarding the adoption of the resolution, which had already been supported by the Council.
258. The Director General took the floor again to provide further clarification, stating that the Council had not made the decision to change the acronym or the logo, but rather that she had proposed, based on the Resolution No. XVI, adopted in 2003 at the 71st General Session, to use a common acronym suggesting a link with the common name 'World Organisation for Animal Health'. Given that the decision had already been made to authorise the common name of the Organisation in 2003, the Council supported her proposal to use the common acronym WOAHA as part of the rebranding strategy.
259. Australia took the floor to express support for the change in logo and the new identity and brand. Finding the pronunciation of the English acronym rather awkward, Australia offered to work with the communications team on how to use the new acronym.
260. France, speaking on behalf of the 27 Member States, of the European Union, acknowledged the work of the OIE in terms of the efforts to rebrand the Organisation. Whilst having been aware of the work being done, she pointed out that the logo and the new acronym had only been revealed ten days before the General Session, which she deemed insufficient for robust consultation. Furthermore, she considered that the change in acronym could have been done as part of the Organisation's 100th anniversary. France also stated that, with the change in acronym, confusion might ensue, especially with regard to the use of the Organisation's statutory name as well as the current acronym 'OIE' in legislation and regulations, which might then lead to inconsistencies from a legal perspective. France concluded with a call for a gradual transition to introduce the logo and the new acronym.
261. South Africa acknowledged the work that had been done on the brand strategy and understood the rationale and the intention of the rebranding strategy given the new role of the OIE today. Referring to the issues raised by France particularly around using the name and acronym, he stated that there could be legislative implications, involving amendments to national legislation. He noted his full confidence in the elected Council to support this decision by the Director General and reminded the Assembly that it was not obligated to endorse what the Council had supported. He concluded by stating that he fully supported the Director General's decision and vision for the Organisation and the rebranding strategy.

262. Uruguay, speaking on behalf of the six countries of the CVP, took the floor and questioned the procedures used for debate and consultation. Given that this was a decision of major importance, he indicated that Members should have been fully consulted and he considered that there was not sufficient time to properly debate the decision or have a discussion on the costs and benefits of changing the acronym. He referred to points in the history of the OIE where there had been discussions about the possible dissolution of the Organisation, around the time the United Nations was established post-World War II and FAO was founded. Noting the decision to change the common name of the OIE to the World Organisation for Animal Health, he voiced his concern that the prestige of the Organisation and the long-standing legacy would be minimised by changing the acronym to resemble a United Nations body or agency. Uruguay concluded by pointing out that the six CVP countries would abstain from voting.
263. Japan regretted that there had been no prior, formal consultations with all Members on the rebranding strategy. Without prior consultation, Delegates had no means of conducting the necessary in-country consultation with relevant stakeholders. Japan was concerned that this would result in undermining the continuous in-country efforts to advocate for the Organisation's value to date and the outcomes obtained from efforts thus far. In this regard, Japan stated its position that all Members needed to be given sufficient time to conduct in-country consultation and given the opportunity to provide feedback before the change in the logo and acronym were proposed for adoption. Japan also sought clarification that any existing official legal documents containing a reference to the statutory name of the Organisation or its acronym "OIE" would remain unchanged. If this were not the case, Japan would like to insist that this be made the case.
264. Mexico took the floor to state that, as a founding member of the Organisation, Mexico fundamentally opposed the change of the acronym. Referring to the long-standing history of the Organisation and the recognition of the Organisation as the 'OIE', Mexico considered that changing the acronym would not benefit the Organisation.
265. The United Kingdom recognised the rationale and the aims behind the changes, especially in light of continually having to explain the meaning of "OIE" to Ministers, other officials, the public and partners. Thus, aligning the acronym with the name of the current and common name of the Organisation would be helpful when referencing the Organisation. The United Kingdom, like Australia, was willing to work with the Communications Department on the pronunciation of the acronym.
266. Barbados took the floor, acknowledging the arguments for the changes and reiterating its absolute trust in the leadership of Director General Eloit in making these changes. That said, he considered that, as also noted by both France and South Africa, there were potential legal implications in changing the acronym. Barbados also expressed concern about the pronunciation of the acronym in English, which might lead to a certain amount of ridicule.
267. The Director General thanked the Delegates for their interventions and returned to the resolution for adoption, noting that 'Office International des Epizooties' remained the statutory name of the Organisation as per the treaty signed on 25 January 1924. To underline this point, she noted again that, in 2003, through a resolution, the Assembly had authorised the use of the common name - 'World Organisation for Animal Health' with the aim of clearly highlighting what the Organisation did and what it stood for. She stressed that, according to the draft resolution No. 10, it was crystal clear that the statutory name of the Organisation and the corresponding acronym 'OIE' would continue to be used in certain legal documents.

The Director General also pointed out that during its history the Organisation had changed its logo and colours numerous times. With regard to the acronym, she noted the various disagreements, and with respect to the pronunciation in English she agreed that further work could be done with English-speaking countries to refine it. She went further to explain that while the acronym OIE was known in the veterinary science community, it did not 'ring any bells' for partners outside of this community. She added that, in this regard, given that the Organisation was now more vocal and more involved in major discussions at international level, the aim was making the name of the Organisation more visible and clearer in terms of what it represented and supported.

She concluded by stating that the decision to change the acronym today was also to support the reputation and the voice of the Organisation in the years to come.

**Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 10
Logo and Acronym of the Organisation**

268. The President submitted Draft Resolution No. 10 for adoption. The Resolution was adopted (112 Delegates present; 10 votes against, 19 abstentions). The text appears under Resolution No. 10 at the end of this report.

FOURTH PLENARY SESSION

Presentation of proposed Resolutions drafted during plenary sessions

269. The President announced that the quorum had been reached (92 required).

**Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 23
Amendments to the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code***

270. The President submitted Draft Resolution No. 23 for adoption. The Resolution was adopted unanimously. The text appears under Resolution No. 23 at the end of this report.

**Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 21
Amendments to the OIE *Aquatic Animal Health Code***

271. The President submitted Draft Resolution No. 21 for adoption. The Resolution was adopted unanimously. The text appears under Resolution No. 21 at the end of this report.

**Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 24
Amendments to the *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals***

272. The President submitted Draft Resolution No. 24 for adoption. The Resolution was adopted unanimously. The text appears under Resolution No. 24 at the end of this report.

**Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 22
Amendments to the *Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals***

273. The President submitted Draft Resolution No. 22 for adoption. The Resolution was adopted unanimously. The text appears under Resolution No. 22 at the end of this report.

**Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 26
Designation of OIE Collaborating Centres**

274. The President submitted Draft Resolution No. 26 for adoption. The Resolution was adopted unanimously. The text appears under Resolution No. 26 at the end of this report.

Dates of the 90th General Session (May 2023)

275. The Director General informed the Assembly that the 90th General Session of the OIE would take place during the week beginning 22 May 2023. The format of the Assembly would be decided later.

Closing Session

276. Delegates were informed that the Draft Final Report of the technical and administrative sessions would be sent to them at the beginning of the following week. The Delegates would then have until **17 June 2022** to submit in writing any rectifications to the report, no amendments being permitted to the adopted Resolutions.

277. The Director General informed the Assembly that the General Session had been attended by 151 Members, 440 participants virtually and 600 participants on the livestream. She thanked the Delegates for their support.
278. The President thanked the Delegates, the Rapporteurs and the other participants for the quality of the debates. He congratulated the Director General, the staff of the Headquarters and Regional and Sub-Regional Representations, the translators and the technicians for the outstanding organisation of the General Session. He thanked the Presidents of the Specialist Commissions. He also thanked the interpreters and ended his address by declaring the 89th General Session closed.
279. He invited the Delegates to attend the 90th General Session in May 2023.

.../Resolutions/Regional Commission Reports

RESOLUTIONS

Adopted by the World Assembly of OIE Delegates

During the 89th General Session

23 – 26 May 2022

LIST OF RESOLUTIONS

Administrative resolutions:

- [No. 1](#) Approval of the Annual Report of the Director General on the Activities of the OIE in 2021
- [No. 2](#) Approval of the Report of the Director General on the Management, Activities and Administrative Work of the OIE in 2021
- [No. 3](#) Approval of the Financial Report for the 95th Financial Year of the OIE (1 January – 31 December 2021)
- [No. 4](#) Acknowledgements to the Members and Partners that made Voluntary Contributions or Subsidies to the OIE, or contributed in the Organisation of OIE Meetings and the Provision of Personnel
- [No. 5](#) Modification of the 2022 Budget
- [No. 6](#) OIE Budgetary Income and Expenses for the 97th Financial Year and Related Planned Work Programme (1 January to 31 December 2023)
- [No. 7](#) Financial contributions from OIE Members for 2023
- [No. 8](#) Renewal of the Appointment of the External Auditor
- [No. 9](#) Memorandum of Understanding between the OIE and the UNEP
- [No. 10](#) Logo and Acronym of the Organisation

Technical resolutions

- [No. 11](#) Recognition of the Foot and Mouth Disease Status of Members
- [No. 12](#) Endorsement of Official Control Programmes for Foot and Mouth Disease of Members
- [No. 13](#) Recognition of the Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia Status of Members
- [No. 14](#) Endorsement of Official Control Programmes for Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia of Members
- [No. 15](#) Recognition of the Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy Risk Status of Members
- [No. 16](#) Recognition of the African Horse Sickness Status of Members
- [No. 17](#) Recognition of the Peste des Petits Ruminants Status of Members
- [No. 18](#) Recognition of the Classical Swine Fever Status of Members
- [No. 19](#) Endorsement of Official Control Programmes for dog-mediated rabies of Members
- [No. 21](#) Amendments to the *OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code*
- [No. 22](#) Amendments to the *Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals*
- [No. 23](#) Amendments to the *OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code*
- [No. 24](#) Amendments to the *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals*
- [No. 25](#) Designation of OIE Reference Laboratories for terrestrial and aquatic animal diseases
- [No. 26](#) Designation of OIE Collaborating Centres
- [No. 27](#) Extension to the Designation of Facilities Holding Rinderpest Virus Containing Material to Maintain Global Freedom from Rinderpest
- [No. 28](#) World Organisation for Animal Health, Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services engagement in global, regional and national emergency management systems
- [No. 29](#) Contribution of the World Organisation for Animal Health and its Members to the negotiations related to an international instrument for pandemic prevention, preparedness and response

RESOLUTION N° 1

Approval of the Annual Report of the Director General on the Activities of the OIE in 2021

In accordance with Article 6 of the Organic Rules of the OIE,

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES

To approve the Annual Report of the Director General on the Activities of the OIE in 2021 (89 SG/1).

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 26 May 2022
in view of an entry into force on 27 May 2022)

RESOLUTION No. 2

**Approval of the Report of the Director General on the Management, Activities and
Administrative Work of the OIE in 2021**

In accordance with Article 6 of the Organic Rules,

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES

To approve the Report of the Director General on the Management, Activities and Administrative Work of the OIE in 2021 (89 SG/3).

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 24 May 2022
in view of an entry into force on 27 May 2022)

RESOLUTION No. 3

**Approval of the Financial Report for the 95th Financial Year of the OIE
(1 January – 31 December 2021)**

In application of Article 15 of the Organic Statutes and Article 6 of the Organic Rules of the OIE,

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES

To approve the Financial Report for the 95th Financial Year of the OIE (1 January – 31 December 2021) (89 SG/4).

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 26 May 2022
in view of an entry into force on 27 May 2022)

RESOLUTION No. 4

**Acknowledgements to the Members and Partners that made Voluntary Contributions
or Subsidies to the OIE, or contributed in the Organisation of OIE Meetings
and the Provision of Personnel**

Having noted the voluntary contributions and subsidies received by the OIE in 2021 and the in-person meetings organised by the OIE in 2021,

THE ASSEMBLY

REQUESTS

The Director General to sincerely thank:

1. Argentina, Australia, Bahrain, Canada, China (People's Rep. of), Colombia, Cyprus, Djibouti, Egypt, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Korea (Rep. of), Kuwait, Lebanon, Mexico, the Netherlands (through the AMR MPTF), New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Panama, Qatar, Russia, Spain, Sweden (through the AMR MPTF), Switzerland, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom and the United States of America;

The European Union, Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, the World Bank and the World Health Organization, the World Trade Organization;

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the Donkey Sanctuary, Four Paws, Galvmed, International Coalition for Working Equids, the International Horse Sports Confederation, the Regional International Organization for Plant Protection and Animal Health (OIRSA), the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and St Jude's Hospital;

for their voluntary contributions and subsidies to support the OIE in 2021.

2. Kenya;

for their contribution to the organisation of OIE workshops that were held during 2021.

3. Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Korea (Rep. of), Norway, Panama, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom and the United States of America;

for seconding national experts to the OIE in 2021.

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 24 May 2022
in view of an entry into force on 27 May 2022)

RESOLUTION No. 5

Modification of the 2022 Budget

In accordance with Article 15 of the Organic Statutes and Article 6.h of the Organic Rules of the OIE,

Considering the variation in expenses and income for the 96th Financial Year (1 January to 31 December 2022),

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES

To modify Resolution No. 6 of 27 May 2021 and replace paragraphs 1 and 2 of said Resolution with the following paragraphs:

1. The budget for the 96th Financial Year, for the period 1 January to 31 December 2022, is set in terms of income and expenses at EUR 18 475 200:

1.1. Income

Sections	Description	Amount EUR
Section 1	OIE Members' contributions established according to the categories provided in Article 11 of the Organic Statutes of the OIE and per Article 14 of the Organic Rules of the OIE	11 180 500
	Extraordinary contributions	1 349 700
	Sub-total Section 1	12 530 200
Section 2	Registration fees (General Session, conferences)	-
	Publication sales	20 000
	Fees for evaluation of sanitary status applications	140 000
	World Fund overheads	1 000 000
	Internal contributions	750 000
	Other operating revenue	3 582 000
	Sub-total Section 2	5 492 000
Section 3	Investment income	10 000
	Extraordinary income	-
	Recovery of subsidies	33 000
	Cancellation of provisions	410 000
	Sub-total Section 3	453 000
TOTAL		18 475 200

1.2. Expenses by field of activity

Field of Activity	Amount EUR
1. Assembly and Council	693 100
2. General Directorate and Administration	3 492 350
3. Communication	761 500
4. Information Systems	3 666 400
5. Animal Health Information	1 865 000
6. Publications	433 000
7. International Standards and Science	2 993 300
8. Regional Activities	456 500
9. Missions and organisation of various meetings	567 000
10. General expenses	1 349 400
11. Regional and Sub-Regional Representations	1 114 250
12. Depreciation and amortisation expenses	1 083 400
TOTAL	18 475 200

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 26 May 2022
in view of an entry into force on 27 May 2022)

RESOLUTION No. 6

**OIE Budgetary Income and Expenses for the 97th Financial Year
and Related Planned Work Programme
(1 January to 31 December 2023)**

In accordance with Article 15 of the Organic Statutes and Article 6.h of the Organic Rules of the OIE,

CONSIDERING the Seventh Strategic Plan of the OIE, established for the 2021-2025 period,

THE ASSEMBLY, ON THE PROPOSAL OF THE COUNCIL

1) DECIDES

- 1.1) To approve the Planned Work Programme for 2023 (89 SG/6), subject to prioritisation by the Council to ensure that expenditure remains within the allotted budget.
- 1.2) That the budget for the 97th Financial Year, for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2023, shall be set in terms of income and expenses at EUR 18 282 100 and established as follows:

a. Income

Sections	Description	Amount EUR
Section 1	OIE Members' contributions established according to the categories provided in Article 11 of the Organic Statutes of the OIE and per Article 14 of the Organic Rules of the OIE	12 858 000
	Extraordinary contributions	781 600
	Sub-total Section 1	13 639 600
Section 2	Registration fees (General Session, conferences)	-
	Publication sales	-
	Fees for evaluating disease status dossiers	140 000
	World Fund overheads	1 000 000
	Internal contributions	760 000
	Other operating revenue	2 272 500
	Sub-total Section 2	4 172 500
Section 3	Investment income	20 000
	Extraordinary income	-
	Recovery of subsidies	33 000
	Cancellation of provisions	417 000
	Sub-total Section 3	470 000
	TOTAL	18 282 100

b. Expenses by Budgetary Chapters

Budgetary Chapters	Amount EUR
1. Information Management	4 304 500
2. Standard Setting and Implementation	2 221 500
3. Capacity Building	22 000
4. Global Frameworks	744 800
5. International Collaboration	-
6. Institutional Governance	3 176 100
7. General Administration	5 362 200
8. Regional and Sub-Regional Representations	1 438 500
9. Depreciation and Amortisation Expenses	1 012 500
TOTAL	18 282 100

2) RECOMMENDS THAT

Members provide the necessary support to allow the Planned Work Programme to be carried out, in the form of payment of both statutory contributions and, when possible, voluntary contributions to the Regular Budget and/or to the World Animal Health and Welfare Fund, or any other form of support to OIE activities.

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 26 May 2022
in view of an entry into force on 27 May 2022)

RESOLUTION No. 7

Financial contributions from OIE Members for 2023

In accordance with Article 11 of the Organic Statutes and Article 14 of the Organic Rules of the OIE,

CONSIDERING

Resolution No. 8 dated 1 June 2001 related to contributions by the Least Developed Countries (LDC),

Resolution No. 11 of 30 May 2014 creating two categories of extraordinary contributions,

The Note sent to all OIE Delegates on 11 January 2022 titled “Request to increase statutory contributions for a sustainable and balanced OIE Regular Budget”,

The OIE Council recommendation for Members to endorse a 30% increase in statutory contributions over the next three consecutive years, starting with a 15% increase in 2023 and 7.5% increases to statutory contribution in 2024 and 2025. This increase includes the annual consumer price index (“OECD-Total” CPI) produced by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

THE ASSEMBLY

DECIDES

- 1) that the annual statutory contribution from Members for the 2023 Financial Year are established as follows:

Category	Annual total contribution
1 st category	256 538 EUR
2 nd category	205 230 EUR
3 rd category	153 923 EUR
4 th category	102 615 EUR
5 th category	51 308 EUR
6 th category	30 785 EUR

that, in accordance with the six-category scale, the OIE will only call for 50% of the total contributions due from the Members classified as Least Developed Countries (LDCs) by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

- 2) that Members, while retaining the choice of category in which they are registered, are may contribute to one of the two extraordinary categories for 2023. In this case, the concerned Members shall be exempt from their statutory contribution for the year in question.

The two extraordinary categories of contribution to be paid as a lump sum are as follows:

Category A: EUR 500 000 minimum

Category B: EUR 300 000 minimum

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 26 May 2022
in view of an entry into force on 27 May 2022)

RESOLUTION No. 8
Renewal of the Appointment of the External Auditor

In accordance with Article 12.1. of the Financial Regulations concerning the appointment of the External Auditor and the renewal of his mandate,

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES

To renew for a one year period the appointment of Mr Didier Selles as External Auditor of OIE Accounts to audit the 2022 accounts.

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 26 May 2022
in view of an entry into force on 27 May 2022)

RESOLUTION No. 9

**Memorandum of Understanding between the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)
and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)**

CONSIDERING

That it is desirable, in the general interest of all concerned, that cooperation be established between the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP),

The Memorandum of Understanding between the OIE and UNEP was approved following the deliberations of the Council on 10 March 2022 (89 SG/15),

THE ASSEMBLY

DECIDES

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

The provisions of this Resolution shall enter into force on 28 May 2022.

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 26 May 2022
in view of an entry into force on 27 May 2022)

RESOLUTION No. 10

Logo and Acronym of the Organisation

CONSIDERING the Basic Texts that organise the functioning of the OIE, especially the International Agreement for the creation of an Office International des Epizooties of 25 January 1924, the Organic Rules of 24 May 1973 and the General Rules revised in May 2013,

CONSIDERING Resolution No. XVI of 23 May 2003 specifying the use of the designation 'World Organisation for Animal Health',

CONSIDERING the unanimous opinion of the Council of the OIE, expressed at its meeting in September 2021, in favour of the new graphical charter of the OIE logo, as well as the common acronym 'WOAH', which will suggest a link with the designation 'World Organisation for Animal Health',

CONSIDERING THAT

1. The ability of an intergovernmental organisation to perform its tasks depends, in particular, on the effective communication and dissemination of information on its activities,
2. The activities of the OIE extend beyond the prevention and control of epizootic diseases, and in general to all aspects of animal health and their consequences for human health and biodiversity,
3. The significant increase in the visibility of the OIE, particularly in the context of the 7th Strategic Plan, implies a wide external dissemination of the designation, logo and acronym of the Organisation,
4. The use of the acronym 'OIE', commonly applied to the designation of the Organisation, is likely to cause confusion in the minds of the public and the international community,
5. The graphical charter of the OIE logo, on the eve of the 100th anniversary of the creation of the Organisation, deserves to be reviewed in order to strengthen the identity of an evolving Organisation,
6. It is desirable, in order to improve consistency and modernity, that the distinctive emblems of the Organisation be adapted.

THE ASSEMBLY

TAKES NOTE

1. Of the new graphical charter of the official logo of the Organisation, and of the common acronym 'WOAH'.
2. Of the unchanged statutory name 'Office International des Epizooties' and the corresponding acronym 'OIE' of the Organisation, which will continue to be used by the Organisation in certain documents of legal value and as necessary.

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 26 May 2022
in view of an entry into force on 27 May 2022)

RESOLUTION No. 11

Recognition of the Foot and Mouth Disease Status of Members

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 62nd General Session, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (the Assembly) established a procedure for annually updating a List of Members and zones recognised as free from foot and mouth disease (FMD) according to the provisions of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)*,
2. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 15, which specified and updated the procedure for Members to follow to achieve official recognition and maintenance of status for certain animal diseases, including FMD,
3. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 16, which specified and updated the financial implications for Members applying for evaluation of official recognition of animal health status to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE in the evaluation process,
4. During the 79th General Session, the Assembly noted that an explanatory document outlining the standard operating procedures for official animal health status evaluations had been compiled by the OIE Headquarters for the benefit of Members,
5. During the 85th General Session, the Assembly noted a complete revision of the standard operating procedures providing further details on the process of official status recognition. The document has been published on the OIE website,
6. During the 86th General Session, the Assembly noted an explanatory document outlining the standard operating procedure for official recognition of animal health status of non-contiguous territories as part of a Member already having an OIE official animal health status. The document has been published on the OIE website,
7. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegates of Members. The OIE is not responsible for publication and maintenance of Members' or zonal animal health status based on inaccurate information or untimely reporting to the OIE Headquarters of changes in epidemiological status or other significant events subsequent to the time of declaration of freedom from FMD,

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES THAT

1. The Director General publish the following List of Members recognised as FMD free where vaccination is not practised, according to the provisions of Chapter 8.8. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Albania	Dominican Republic	Latvia	Portugal ²³
Australia	El Salvador	Lesotho	Romania
Austria	Estonia	Lithuania	San Marino
Belarus	Eswatini	Luxembourg	Serbia ²⁴
Belgium	Finland ²¹	Madagascar	Singapore
Belize	France ²²	Malta	Slovakia
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Germany	Mexico	Slovenia
Brunei	Greece	Montenegro	Spain ²⁵
Bulgaria	Guatemala	New Caledonia	Suriname
Canada	Guyana	New Zealand	Sweden
Chile	Haiti	Nicaragua	Switzerland
Costa Rica	Honduras	North Macedonia (Rep. of)	The Netherlands
Croatia	Hungary	Norway	Ukraine
Cuba	Iceland	Panama	United Kingdom ²⁶
Cyprus	Ireland	Peru	United States of America ²
Czech Republic	Italy	Philippines	Vanuatu
Denmark ²⁰	Japan	Poland	

2. The Director General publish the following List of Members recognised as FMD free where vaccination is practised, according to the provisions of Chapter 8.8. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Paraguay, Uruguay

3. The Director General publish the following List of Members having FMD free zones²⁸ where vaccination is not practised, according to the provisions of Chapter 8.8. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Argentina: one zone designated by the Delegate of Argentina in a document addressed to the Director General in January 2007;

the summer pasture zone in the Province of San Juan as designated by the Delegate of Argentina in a document addressed to the Director General in April 2011;

Patagonia Norte A as designated by the Delegate of Argentina in a document addressed to the Director General in October 2013;

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

one zone consisting of the Department of Pando as designated by the Delegate of Bolivia in a document addressed to the Director General in August 2018;

Botswana: four zones designated by the Delegate of Botswana in documents addressed to the Director General in August and November 2014 as follows:

- one zone consisting of Zones 3c (Dukwi), 4b, 5, 6a, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13;
- one zone consisting of Zone 3c (Maitengwe);
- one zone covering Zone 4a;

²⁰ Including Faroe Islands and Greenland.

²¹ Including Åland Islands.

²² Including French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Réunion, Saint Pierre and Miquelon.

²³ Including Azores and Madeira.

²⁴ Excluding Kosovo administered by the United Nations.

²⁵ Including Balearic Islands and Canary Islands.

²⁶ Including Guernsey (incl. Alderney and Sark), Isle of Man, Jersey and Falkland Islands (Malvinas). (A dispute exists between the Government of Argentina and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) [see resolution 2065 (XX) of the General Assembly of the United Nations]).

²⁷ Including American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands.

²⁸ For detailed information on the delimitation of zones of Members recognised as FMD free, enquiries should be addressed to the Director General of the OIE.

- one zone covering Zone 6b;
 - one zone covering Zone 3b designated by the Delegate of Botswana in a document addressed to the Director General in August 2016;
 - one zone covering Zone 7 designated by the Delegate of Botswana in a document addressed to the Director General in August 2018;
- Brazil: State of Santa Catarina designated by the Delegate of Brazil in a document addressed to the Director General in February 2007;
- three zones of Brazil as designated by the Delegate of Brazil in a document addressed to the Director General in August 2020 as follows:
- State of Paraná;
 - State of Rio Grande do Sul;
 - one zone (Block 1) including the States of Acre and Rondônia and 14 municipalities in the State of Amazonas and five municipalities in the State of Mato Grosso;
- Chinese Taipei: one zone covering Taiwan, Penghu and Matsu areas, as designated by the Delegate of Chinese Taipei in a document addressed to the Director General in September 2019;
- Colombia: one zone designated by the Delegate of Colombia in documents addressed to the Director General in November 1995 and in April 1996 (Area I - Northwest region of Chocó Department);
- one zone designated by the Delegate of Colombia in documents addressed to the Director General in January 2008 (Archipelago de San Andrés and Providencia);
- Ecuador: one zone consisting of the insular territory of the Galápagos, as designated by the Delegate of Ecuador in a document addressed to the Director General in August 2014;
- Kazakhstan: four zones as designated by the Delegate of Kazakhstan in a document addressed to the Director General in August 2018 as follows:
- Zone 1 consisting of West Kazakhstan, Atyrau, Mangystau and south-western part of Aktobe region;
 - Zone 2 including north-eastern part of Aktobe region, southern part of Kostanay region and western part of Karaganda region;
 - Zone 3 including northern and central parts of Kostanay region, western parts of North Kazakhstan and Akmola regions;
 - Zone 4 including central and eastern parts of North Kazakhstan region and northern parts of Akmola and Pavlodar regions;
- Malaysia: one zone covering the provinces of Sabah and Sarawak as designated by the Delegate of Malaysia in a document addressed to the Director General in December 2003;
- Moldova: one zone designated by the Delegate of Moldova in a document addressed to the Director General in July 2008;
- Namibia: one zone designated by the Delegate of Namibia in a document addressed to the Director General in February 1997;
- Russia: one zone designated by the Delegate of Russia in documents addressed to the Director General in August 2015 and March 2016;

4. The Director General publish the following List of Members having FMD free zones²⁹ where vaccination is practised, according to the provisions of Chapter 8.8. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Argentina:	two separate zones designated by the Delegate of Argentina in documents addressed to the Director General in March 2007 and October 2013, and in August 2010 and February 2014;
Bolivia:	one zone covering the regions of Chaco, Valles and parts of Amazonas and Altiplano as designated by the Delegate of Bolivia in documents addressed to the Director General in October 2013, February 2014 and August 2018;
Brazil:	one zone consisting of two merged zones designated by the Delegate of Brazil in documents addressed to the Director General in August 2010, September 2017 and September 2019, covering the States of Alagoas, Amapá, Amazonas, Bahia, Ceará, Espírito Santo, Goiás, Mato Grosso, Mato Grosso do Sul, Maranhão, Minas Gerais, Pará, Paraíba, Pernambuco, Piauí, Rio de Janeiro, Rio Grande do Norte, Roraima, São Paulo, Sergipe, Tocantins and Distrito Federal, with the exclusion of the municipalities of the States of Amazonas and Mato Grosso that are part of the zone of Block 1 (free from FMD where vaccination is not practised) as addressed to the Director General in August 2020;
Chinese Taipei:	one zone consisting of Kinmen County as designated by the Delegate of Chinese Taipei in a document addressed to the Director General in September 2017;
Colombia:	three separated zones designated by the Delegate of Colombia in documents addressed to the Director General in September 2019 as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Zone I (Northern border) consisting of Departments of La Guajira, Cesar and part of the Department of Norte de Santander; - Zone III (Trade) consisting of the Departments of Atlántico, Córdoba, Magdalena, Sucre and part of Antioquia, Bolívar and Chocó Departments; - Zone IV (Rest of the country), consisting of the Departments of Amazonas, Caldas, Caquetá, Cauca, Casanare, Cundinamarca, Guainía, Guaviare, Huila, Meta, Nariño, Quindío, Putumayo, Risaralda, Santander, Tolima, Valle del Cauca, Vaupés and part of Antioquia, Bolívar, Boyacá, and Chocó Departments, <p>one zone consisting of two merged zones designated by the Delegate of Colombia in documents addressed to the Director General in September 2019 and in August 2020, which includes Zone II (Eastern border) and the former high surveillance zone covering the Departments of Arauca and Vichada and the municipality of Cubará of the Department of Boyacá;</p>
Ecuador:	one zone consisting of the continental Ecuador, as designated by the Delegate of Ecuador in a document addressed to the Director General in August 2014;
Kazakhstan:	five separate zones designated by the Delegate of Kazakhstan in documents addressed to the Director General in August 2016 as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - one zone consisting of Almaty region; - one zone consisting of East Kazakhstan region; - one zone including part of Kyzylorda region, northern part of South Kazakhstan region, northern and central parts of Zhambyl region; - one zone including southern part of Kyzylorda region and south-western part of South Kazakhstan region; one zone including south-eastern part of South Kazakhstan region and southern part of Zhambyl region;
Russia:	two zones of Russia as designated by the Delegate of Russia in documents addressed to the Director General in August 2020 as follows:

²⁹ For detailed information on the delimitation of zones of Members recognised as FMD free, enquiries should be addressed to the Director General of the OIE.

- Zone-South including Southern and North Caucasian Federal Districts, consisting of 13 Subjects: Rostov Oblast, Stavropol Krai, Krasnodar Krai, Volgograd Oblast, Astrakhan Oblast, Republic of Kalmykia, Chechen Republic, Republic of Ingushetia, Republic of Dagestan, Kabardino-Balkarian Republic, Karachay-Cherkess Republic, Republic of North Ossetia-Alania, Republic of Adygea;
- Zone-Sakhalin consisting of the Island of Sakhalin and the Kurile Islands;

one zone of Eastern Siberia consisting of two Subjects (Republic of Tuva and Republic of Buryatia) and one administrative Raion of the Republic of Altai (Kosh-Agachsky Raion) designated by the Delegate of Russia in a document addressed to the Director General in August 2021;

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

AND

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

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 24 May 2022
in view of an entry into force on 27 May 2022)

RESOLUTION No. 12

Endorsement of Official Control Programmes for Foot and Mouth Disease of Members

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 79th General Session, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (the Assembly) adopted Resolution No. 19 establishing a new step in the procedure for recognising the foot and mouth disease (FMD) status of a Member, namely the endorsement by the OIE of an official control programme for FMD being in compliance with the provisions of the chapter on FMD in the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)*,
2. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 15, which specified and updated the procedure for Members to follow to achieve endorsement of their official control programme for FMD,
3. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 16, which specified and updated the financial implications for Members applying for endorsement of their official control programme for FMD to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE in the evaluation process,
4. During the 79th General Session, the Assembly noted that an explanatory document outlining the standard operating procedures for official animal health status evaluations had been compiled by the OIE Headquarters for the benefit of Members,
5. During the 85th General Session, the Assembly noted a complete revision of the standard operating procedures providing further details on the process of official status recognition. The document has been published on the OIE website,
6. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegates of Members. The OIE is not responsible for publication and maintenance of the endorsement of Members' official control programme for FMD based on inaccurate information or non-reporting to the OIE Headquarters of significant changes in the implementation of relevant measures in the Member subsequent to the time of endorsement of the official control programme for FMD,

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES THAT

1. The Director General publish the following List of Members with an endorsed official control programme for FMD, according to the provisions of Chapter 8.8. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Botswana	Kyrgyzstan	Namibia
China (People's Rep. of)	Mongolia	Thailand
India	Morocco	

2. The Delegates of these Members shall notify the OIE Headquarters the occurrence of FMD, changes in the epidemiological situation and other significant events in their countries or territories in accordance with Chapter 1.1. of the *Terrestrial Code*.

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 24 May 2022
in view of an entry into force on 27 May 2022)

RESOLUTION No. 13

Recognition of the Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia Status of Members

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 71st General Session, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (the Assembly) established a procedure for annually updating a List of Members and zones recognised as free from contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP) according to the provisions of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)*,
2. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 15, which specified and updated the procedure for Members to follow to achieve official recognition and maintenance of status for certain diseases, including CBPP,
3. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 16, which specified and updated the financial implications for Members applying for evaluation of official recognition of animal health status to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE in the evaluation process,
4. During the 79th General Session, the Assembly noted that an explanatory document outlining the standard operating procedures for official animal health status evaluations had been compiled by the OIE Headquarters for the benefit of Members,
5. During the 85th General Session, the Assembly noted a complete revision of the standard operating procedures providing further details on the process of official status recognition. The document has been published on the OIE website,
6. During the 86th General Session, the Assembly noted an explanatory document outlining the standard operating procedure for official recognition of animal health status of non-contiguous territories as part of a Member already having an OIE official animal health status. The document has been published on the OIE website,
7. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegates of Members. The OIE is not responsible for publication and maintenance of Members' or zonal animal health status based on inaccurate information or untimely reporting to the OIE Headquarters of changes in epidemiological status or other significant events subsequent to the time of declaration of freedom from CBPP,

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES THAT

1. The Director General publish the following List of Members recognised as CBPP free according to the provisions of Chapter 11.5. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Argentina	Eswatini	Peru
Australia	France ³⁰	Portugal ³¹
Bolivia	India	Russia
Botswana	Italy	Singapore
Brazil	Mexico	South Africa
Canada	Mongolia	Switzerland
China (People's Rep. of)	New Caledonia	United States of America
Ecuador	Paraguay	Uruguay

2. The Director General publish the following List of Members having a CBPP free zone³² according to the provisions of Chapter 11.5. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Namibia: one zone located south of the Veterinary Cordon Fence, designated by the Delegate of Namibia in a document addressed to the Director General in October 2015.

AND

3. The Delegates of these Members shall immediately notify the OIE Headquarters if CBPP occurs in their countries or free zone within their territories.

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 24 May 2022
in view of an entry into force on 27 May 2022)

³⁰ Including French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Mayotte and Réunion.

³¹ Including Azores and Madeira.

³² For detailed information on the delimitation of the zone of the Member recognised as CBPP free, enquiries should be addressed to the Director General of the OIE.

RESOLUTION No. 14

**Endorsement of Official Control Programmes
for Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia of Members**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 82nd General Session, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (the Assembly) adopted Resolution No. 31 establishing the endorsement by the OIE of an official control programme for contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP), in accordance with the relevant provisions of the chapter on CBPP in the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)*,
2. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 15, which specified and updated the procedure for Members to follow to achieve endorsement of their official control programme for CBPP,
3. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 16, which specified and updated the financial implications for Members applying for endorsement of their official control programme for CBPP to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE in the evaluation process,
4. During the 79th General Session, the Assembly noted that an explanatory document outlining the standard operating procedures for official animal health status evaluations had been compiled by the OIE Headquarters for the benefit of Members,
5. During the 85th General Session, the Assembly noted a complete revision of the standard operating procedures providing further details on the process of official status recognition. The document has been published on the OIE website,
6. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegates of Members. The OIE is not responsible for publication and maintenance of the endorsement of Members' official control programme for CBPP based on inaccurate information or non-reporting to the OIE Headquarters of significant changes in the implementation of relevant measures in the Member subsequent to the time of endorsement of the official control programme for CBPP,

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES THAT

1. The Director General publish the following List of Members with an endorsed official control programme for CBPP, according to the provisions of Chapter 11.5. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Namibia	Zambia
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2. The Delegates of these Members shall notify the OIE Headquarters the occurrence of CBPP, changes in the epidemiological situation and other significant events in their countries or territories in accordance with Chapter 1.1. of the *Terrestrial Code*.

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 24 May 2022
in view of an entry into force on 27 May 2022)

RESOLUTION No. 15

Recognition of the Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy Risk Status of Members

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 67th General Session, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (the Assembly) established a procedure for annually updating a List of Members and zones, categorised by their bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) risk according to the provisions of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)*,
2. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 15, which specified and updated the procedure for Members to follow to achieve official recognition and maintenance of status of certain diseases, including BSE risk status,
3. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 16, which specified and updated the financial implications for Members applying for evaluation of official recognition of BSE risk status to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE in the evaluation process,
4. During the 79th General Session, the Assembly noted that an explanatory document outlining the standard operating procedures for official animal health status evaluations had been compiled by the OIE Headquarters for the benefit of Members,
5. During the 85th General Session, the Assembly noted a complete revision of the standard operating procedures providing further details on the process of official status recognition. The document has been published on the OIE website,
6. During the 86th General Session, the Assembly noted an explanatory document outlining the standard operating procedure for official recognition of animal health status of non-contiguous territories as part of a Member already having an OIE official animal health status. The document has been published on the OIE website,
7. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegates of Members. The OIE is not responsible for publication and maintenance of Members' or zonal risk status based on inaccurate information or untimely reporting to the OIE Headquarters of changes in epidemiological status or other significant events subsequent to the time of declaration of the BSE risk status,

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES THAT

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

Argentina	Denmark	Latvia	Poland
Australia	Estonia	Liechtenstein	Portugal ³⁴
Austria	Finland ³³	Lithuania	Romania
Belgium	France	Luxembourg	Serbia ³⁵
Bolivia	Germany	Malta	Singapore
Brazil	Hungary	Mexico	Slovakia
Bulgaria	Iceland	Namibia	Slovenia
Canada	India	New Zealand	Spain ³⁶
Chile	Ireland	Nicaragua	Sweden
Colombia	Israel	Norway	Switzerland
Costa Rica	Italy	Panama	The Netherlands
Croatia	Japan	Paraguay	United States of America
Cyprus	Korea (Rep. of)	Peru	Uruguay
Czech Republic			

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

Chinese Taipei	Greece
Ecuador	Russia

3. The Director General publish the following List of Members with zones³⁷ recognised as having a negligible BSE risk in accordance with Chapter 11.4. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

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

United Kingdom: one zone consisting of Northern Ireland as designated by the Delegate of the United Kingdom in a document addressed to the Director General in September 2016;
one zone consisting of Jersey as designated by the Delegate of the United Kingdom in a document addressed to the Director General in August 2019.

4. The Director General publish the following List of Members with zones¹⁸ recognised as having a controlled BSE risk in accordance with Chapter 11.4. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

United Kingdom: one zone consisting of England and Wales as designated by the Delegate of the United Kingdom in documents addressed to the Director General in September and October 2016 and in November 2021;
one zone consisting of Scotland as designated by the Delegate of the United Kingdom in documents addressed to the Director General in September and October 2016 and in December 2018.

AND

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

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 24 May 2022
in view of an entry into force on 27 May 2022)

³³ Including Åland Islands.

³⁴ Including Azores and Madeira.

³⁵ Excluding Kosovo administered by the United Nations.

³⁶ Including Balearic Islands and Canary Islands.

³⁷ For detailed information on the delimitation of the zones of the Members recognised as having a negligible or controlled BSE risk, enquiries should be addressed to the Director General of the OIE.

RESOLUTION No. 16

Recognition of the African Horse Sickness Status of Members

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 80th General Session, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (the Assembly) adopted Resolution No. 19, which amended the chapter of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code) on African horse sickness (AHS). These standards provide a pathway for Members or zones to be recognised by the OIE as free from AHS,
2. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 15, which specified and updated the procedure for Members to follow to achieve official recognition and maintenance of status for certain animal diseases, including AHS,
3. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 16, which specified and updated the financial implications for Members applying for evaluation of official recognition of animal health status to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE in the evaluation process,
4. During the 79th General Session, the Assembly noted that an explanatory document outlining the standard operating procedures for official animal health status evaluations had been compiled by the OIE Headquarters for the benefit of Members,
5. During the 85th General Session, the Assembly noted a complete revision of the standard operating procedures providing further details on the process of official status recognition. The document has been published on the OIE website,
6. During the 86th General Session, the Assembly noted an explanatory document outlining the standard operating procedure for official recognition of animal health status of non-contiguous territories as part of a Member already having an OIE official animal health status. The document has been published on the OIE website,
7. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegates of Members. The OIE is not responsible for publication and maintenance of Members' or zonal animal health status based on inaccurate information or untimely reporting to the OIE Headquarters of changes in epidemiological status or other significant events subsequent to the time of declaration of freedom from AHS,

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES THAT

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

Algeria	Croatia	Korea (Rep. of)	Poland
Andorra	Cyprus	Kuwait	Portugal ⁴¹
Argentina	Czech Republic	Latvia	Qatar
Australia	Denmark	Liechtenstein	Romania
Austria	Ecuador	Lithuania	Singapore
Azerbaijan	Estonia	Luxembourg	Slovakia
Bahrain	Finland ³⁹	Malta	Slovenia
Belgium	France ⁴⁰	Mexico	Spain ⁴²
Bolivia	Germany	Morocco	Sweden
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Greece	New Caledonia	Switzerland
Brazil	Hungary	New Zealand	The Netherlands
Bulgaria	Iceland	North Macedonia (Rep. of)	Tunisia
Canada	India	Norway	Turkey
Chile	Ireland	Oman	United Arab Emirates
China (People's Rep. of) ³⁸	Italy	Paraguay	United Kingdom ⁴³
Chinese Taipei	Japan	Peru	United States of America ⁴⁴
Colombia	Kazakhstan	Philippines	Uruguay

AND

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

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 24 May 2022
in view of an entry into force on 27 May 2022)

³⁸ Including Hong Kong and Macau.

³⁹ Including Åland Islands.

⁴⁰ Including French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Mayotte, Réunion, Saint Barthélémy, Saint Martin, Saint Pierre and Miquelon.

⁴¹ Including Azores and Madeira.

⁴² Including Balearic Islands and Canary Islands.

⁴³ Including Cayman Islands, Guernsey (incl. Alderney and Sark), Isle of Man, Jersey, Saint Helena and Falkland Islands (Malvinas). (A dispute exists between the Government of Argentina and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) [see resolution 2065 (XX) of the General Assembly of the United Nations]).

⁴⁴ Including American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands.

RESOLUTION No. 17

Recognition of the Peste des Petits Ruminants Status of Members

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 81st General Session, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (the Assembly) adopted Resolution No. 29, which amended the chapter of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (*Terrestrial Code*) on peste des petits ruminants (PPR). These standards provide a pathway for Members or zones to be recognised by the OIE as free from PPR,
2. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 15, which specified and updated the procedure for Members to follow to achieve official recognition and maintenance of status for certain animal diseases, including PPR,
3. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 16 which specified and updated the financial implications for Members applying for evaluation of official recognition of animal health status to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE in the evaluation process,
4. During the 79th General Session, the Assembly noted that an explanatory document outlining the standard operating procedures for official animal health status evaluations had been compiled by the OIE Headquarters for the benefit of Members,
5. During the 85th General Session, the Assembly noted a complete revision of the standard operating procedures providing further details on the process of official status recognition. The document has been published on the OIE website,
6. During the 86th General Session, the Assembly noted an explanatory document outlining the standard operating procedure for official recognition of animal health status of non-contiguous territories as part of a Member already having an OIE official animal health status. The document has been published on the OIE website,
7. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegates of Members. The OIE is not responsible for publication and maintenance of Members' or zonal animal health status based on inaccurate information or untimely reporting to the OIE Headquarters of changes in epidemiological status or other significant events subsequent to the time of declaration of freedom from PPR,

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES THAT

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

Argentina	Denmark	Liechtenstein	Portugal ⁴⁷
Australia	Ecuador	Lithuania	Romania
Austria	Estonia	Luxembourg	Russia
Belgium	Eswatini	Madagascar	Singapore
Bolivia	Finland ⁴⁵	Malta	Slovakia
Bosnia and Herzegovina	France ⁴⁶	Mauritius	Slovenia
Botswana	Germany	Mexico	South Africa
Brazil	Greece	New Caledonia	Spain ⁴⁸
Canada	Hungary	New Zealand	Sweden
Chile	Iceland	North Macedonia (Rep. of)	Switzerland
Chinese Taipei	Ireland	Norway	The Netherlands
Colombia	Italy	Paraguay	United Kingdom ⁴⁹
Croatia	Korea (Rep. of)	Peru	United States of America ⁵⁰
Cyprus	Latvia	Philippines	Uruguay
Czech Republic	Lesotho	Poland	

2. The Director General publish the following List of Members having a PPR free zone⁵¹ according to the provisions of Chapter 14.7. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

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

AND

3. The Delegates of these Members shall immediately notify the OIE Headquarters if PPR occurs in their countries or free zone within their territories.

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 24 May 2022
in view of an entry into force on 27 May 2022)

⁴⁵ Including Åland Islands.

⁴⁶ Including French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Réunion, Saint Barthélemy, Saint Martin, Saint Pierre and Miquelon.

⁴⁷ Including Azores and Madeira.

⁴⁸ Including Balearic Islands and Canary Islands.

⁴⁹ Including Cayman Islands, Guernsey (incl. Alderney and Sark), Isle of Man, Jersey, Saint Helena and Falkland Islands (Malvinas). (A dispute exists between the Government of Argentina and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) [see resolution 2065 (XX) of the General Assembly of the United Nations]).

⁵⁰ Including American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands.

⁵¹ For detailed information on the delimitation of the zone of the Member recognised as PPR free, enquiries should be addressed to the Director General of the OIE.

RESOLUTION No. 18

Recognition of the Classical Swine Fever Status of Members

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 81st General Session, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (the Assembly) adopted Resolution No. 29, which amended the chapter of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (*Terrestrial Code*) on classical swine fever (CSF). These standards provide a pathway for Members or zones to be recognised by the OIE as free from CSF,
2. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 15, which specified and updated the procedure for Members to follow to achieve official recognition and maintenance of status for certain animal diseases, including CSF,
3. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 16 which specified and updated the financial implications for Members applying for evaluation of official recognition of animal health status to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE in the evaluation process,
4. During the 79th General Session, the Assembly noted that an explanatory document outlining the standard operating procedures for official animal health status evaluations had been compiled by the OIE Headquarters for the benefit of Members,
5. During the 85th General Session, the Assembly noted a complete revision of the standard operating procedures providing further details on the process of official status recognition. The document has been published on the OIE website,
6. During the 86th General Session, the Assembly noted an explanatory document outlining the standard operating procedure for official recognition of animal health status of non-contiguous territories as part of a Member already having an OIE official animal health status. The document has been published on the OIE website,
7. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegates of Members. The OIE is not responsible for publication and maintenance of Members' or zonal animal health status based on inaccurate information or untimely reporting to the OIE Headquarters of changes in epidemiological status or other significant events subsequent to the time of declaration of freedom from CSF,

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES THAT

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

Argentina	Germany	Paraguay
Australia	Hungary	Poland
Austria	Ireland	Portugal ⁵⁴
Belgium	Italy	Slovakia
Bulgaria	Kazakhstan	Slovenia
Canada	Latvia	Spain ⁵⁵
Chile	Liechtenstein	Sweden
Costa Rica	Luxembourg	Switzerland
Croatia	Malta	The Netherlands
Czech Republic	Mexico	United Kingdom ⁵⁶
Denmark	New Caledonia	United States of America ⁵⁷
Finland ⁵²	New Zealand	Uruguay
France ⁵³	Norway	

2. The Director General publish the following List of Members having CSF free zones⁵⁸ according to the provisions of Chapter 15.2. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

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

one zone covering the States of Acre, Bahia, Espírito Santo, Goias, Mato Grosso, Mato Grosso do Sul, Minas Gerais, Rio de Janeiro, Rondônia, São Paulo, Sergipe and Tocantins, Distrito Federal, and the municipalities of Guajará, Boca do Acre, South of the municipality of Canutama and Southwest of the municipality of Lábrea in the State of Amazonas as designated by the Delegate of Brazil in a document addressed to the Director General in September 2015 and in October 2020;

one zone consisting of the State of Paraná as designated by the Delegate of Brazil in a document addressed to the Director General in October 2020;

Colombia: one zone designated by the Delegate of Colombia in a document addressed to the Director General in September 2015;

the central-eastern zone as designated by the Delegate of Colombia in a document addressed to the Director General in October 2020;

Ecuador: one zone consisting of the insular territory of the Galápagos as designated by the Delegate of Ecuador in a document addressed to the Director General in October 2018.

AND

3. The Delegates of these Members shall immediately notify the OIE Headquarters if CSF occurs in their countries or free zones within their territories.

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 24 May 2022
in view of an entry into force on 27 May 2022)

⁵² Including Åland Islands.

⁵³ Including French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Mayotte and Réunion.

⁵⁴ Including Azores and Madeira.

⁵⁵ Including Balearic Islands and Canary Islands.

⁵⁶ Including Guernsey (incl. Alderney and Sark), Isle of Man and Jersey.

⁵⁷ Including Guam, Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands.

⁵⁸ For detailed information on the delimitation of the zones of the Members recognised as CSF free, enquiries should be addressed to the Director General of the OIE.

RESOLUTION No. 19

**Endorsement of Official Control Programmes
for dog-mediated rabies of Members**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 84th General Session, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (the Assembly) adopted Resolution No. 26, which confirmed Members' commitment towards the elimination of dog-mediated rabies by 2030,
2. During the 87th General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 27 establishing the endorsement by the OIE of an official control programme for dog-mediated rabies, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the chapter on infection with rabies virus in the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)*,
3. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 15, which specified the procedure for Members to follow to achieve endorsement of their official control programme for dog-mediated rabies,
4. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 16, which specified the financial implications for Members applying for endorsement of their official control programme for dog-mediated rabies to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE in the evaluation process,
5. During the 79th General Session, the Assembly noted that an explanatory document outlining the standard operating procedures for official animal health status evaluations had been compiled by the OIE Headquarters for the benefit of Members,
6. During the 85th General Session, the Assembly noted a complete revision of the standard operating procedures providing further details on the process of official status recognition. The document has been published on the OIE website,
7. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegates of Members. The OIE is not responsible for publication and maintenance of the endorsement of Members' official control programme for dog-mediated rabies based on inaccurate information or non-reporting to the OIE Headquarters of significant changes in the implementation of relevant measures in the Member subsequent to the time of endorsement of the official control programme for dog-mediated rabies,

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES THAT

1. The Director General publish the following List of Members with an endorsed official control programme for dog-mediated rabies, according to the provisions of Chapter 8.14. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Namibia	Philippines
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2. The Delegates of these Members shall notify the OIE Headquarters the occurrence of dog-mediated rabies, changes in the epidemiological situation and other significant events in their countries or territories in accordance with Chapter 1.1. of the *Terrestrial Code*.

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 24 May 2022
in view of an entry into force on 27 May 2022)

RESOLUTION No. 21

Amendments to the OIE *Aquatic Animal Health Code*

CONSIDERING THAT

1. The current content of the *Aquatic Animal Health Code* (*Aquatic Code*) is the result of modifications made by the World Assembly of Delegates during previous OIE General Sessions;
2. It is necessary to update the *Aquatic Code* in accordance with the recommendations in Part A of the February 2022 report of the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission (Annexes 2, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 of Document 89 SG/10/CS4), after consultation with the World Assembly of Delegates.

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES

1. To adopt the updates to the *Aquatic Code* proposed in Annexes 2, 3, 4, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 of Document 89 SG/10/CS4 in English, French and Spanish, each text being authentic.
2. To adopt the updates to the *Aquatic Code* proposed in Annexes 7 and 9 of Document 89 SG/10/CS4 in English, French and Spanish, each text being authentic, with the following modifications:
 - 2.1. In Annex 7 (Chapter 1.4. Aquatic animal health surveillance):
 - a) In Article 1.4.3., point 1, first paragraph, add the word “level” at the end of the sentence.
 - 2.2. In Annex 9 (Model Articles X.X.4. to X.X.8.):
 - a) In Article X.X.7., point 1, change the default period for targeted surveillance from “[two] years” to “[one] year”.
3. To ask the Director General to publish the adopted texts in a revised edition of the *Aquatic Code* with appropriate numbering and formatting.

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 26 May 2022
in view of an entry into force on 27 May 2022)

RESOLUTION No. 22

Amendments to the OIE *Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals*

CONSIDERING THAT

1. The current content of the OIE *Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals* (the *Aquatic Manual*) is the result of modifications made by the World Assembly of Delegates at previous OIE General Sessions,
2. It is necessary to update the *Aquatic Manual* in accordance with recommendations in Part A of the February 2022 report of the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission (Annexes 18 to 22 of Document 89 SG/10/CS4), after consultation with the World Assembly of Delegates.

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES

1. To adopt the updates to the *Aquatic Manual* proposed in Annexes 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22 of Document 89 SG/10/CS4 in English, the text being authentic;
 2. To ask the Director General to publish the adopted text in the online version of the *Aquatic Manual* with appropriate numbering and formatting.
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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 26 May 2022
in view of an entry into force on 27 May 2022)

RESOLUTION No. 23

Amendments to the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*

CONSIDERING THAT

1. The current content of the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (the *Terrestrial Code*) is the result of modifications made by the World Assembly of Delegates at previous OIE General Sessions;
2. It is necessary to update the *Terrestrial Code* in accordance with recommendations in Part A of the February 2022 report of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission (Annexes 3 to 12 and 14 to 17 of Document 89 SG/10/CS1), after consultation with the World Assembly of Delegates.

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES

1. To adopt the updates to the *Terrestrial Code* proposed in Annexes 4, 5, 6, 8 and 16 of Document 89 SG/10/CS1 in English, French and Spanish, each text being authentic;
2. To adopt the updates to the *Terrestrial Code* proposed in Annexes 3, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 17 of Document 89 SG/10/CS1 in English, French and Spanish, each text being authentic, with the following modifications:
 - 2.1. In Annex 3 (Glossary)
 - a) In the English version only, in the definition for ‘Competent Authority’, add “the” before “responsibility”.
 - b) Remove the proposed definition for ‘protein meal’.
 - 2.2. In Annex 7 (Chapter 3.4.)
 - a) In Article 3.4.11., point 1 b), add “storage” before “and disposal”.
 - 2.3. In Annex 9 (Chapter 7.7.)
 - a) In the French version only, in Article 7.7.5., the third indent, replace “maintenir” with “réduire”.
 - b) In the Spanish version only, in Article 7.7.8., point 3 a), replace “para luchar contra” with “en lo que se refiere a”.
 - c) In the English version only, in Article 7.7.11., point 5, first sentence, replace “Estimating” with “Estimation” and add “of” before “dog”.
 - d) In the English version only, in Article 7.7.11., point 5, end of first sentence, replace the colon with a full stop.

- e) In the French version only, in Article 7.7.18., point 5, end of the first paragraph, replace “veiller à ce que la” with “s’assurer que la stérilisation chirurgicale peut être effectuée en toute sécurité”.
 - f) In the English version only, in Article 7.7.19., third paragraph, replace “Vaccination” with “Vaccinate” (twice).
 - g) In the English version only, in Article 7.7.19., fifth paragraph, fifth indent, replace “Vaccination” with “Vaccinate”.
 - h) In the English version only, in Article 7.7.20., last paragraph, replace “Vaccination” with “Vaccinate”.
 - i) In Article 7.7.26., point 2, second indent, add “, including fallowing” after “cleaning”.
 - j) In Article 7.7.27., second paragraph,
 - i. In the English version only, replace “carcass disposal” with “disposal of dead animals”.
 - ii. In the French version only, replace “carcasses” with “cadavres”.
 - k) In Article 7.7.27., point 4, title,
 - i. In the English version only, replace “Carcass disposal” with “Disposal of dead animals”.
 - ii. In the French version only, replace “carcasses” with “cadavres d’animaux”.
 - l) In Article 7.7.27., point 4, first paragraph,
 - i. In the English version only, replace “Carcasses” with “Dead animals”, replace “carcass” with “dead animal” and replace “carcass disposal” with “disposing of dead animals”.
 - ii. In the French version only, replace “carcasses” with “cadavres” (twice) and replace “la carcasse” with “le cadavre”.
- 2.4. In Annex 10 (Chapter 8.16.)
- a) In Article 8.16.1., point 2 b) iii),
 - i. In the English version only, delete “that are not a consequence of vaccination” before “to RPV” and add “, that are not a consequence of vaccination,” before “have”.
 - ii. In the French version only, delete “, qui ne sont pas consécutifs à une vaccination,” before “dirigés”, and add “, qui ne sont pas consécutifs à une vaccination,” before “ont”.

- 2.5. In Annex 11 (Chapter 8.5.)
 - a) In Article 8.5.3., point 3,
replace “Control” with “Food safety and control”.
 - 2.6. In Annex 12 (Chapter 15.4.)
 - a) In Article 15.4.3., point 2,
replace “Control” with “Food safety and control”.
 - 2.7. In Annex 17 (Terminology: Use of the term ‘sanitary measure’)
 - a) In the French version only, in Article 6.3.3., the first paragraph,
replace “l’assainissement” with “d’assainissement”.
 3. To ask the Director General to publish the adopted texts in a revised edition of the *Terrestrial Code* with appropriate numbering and formatting.
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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 26 May 2022
in view of an entry into force on 27 May 2022)

RESOLUTION No. 24

**Amendments to the
OIE Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. The *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals (Terrestrial Manual)*, like the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*, is an important contribution to the international harmonisation of sanitary standards related to terrestrial animals and animal products,
2. Members were asked for the comments of their specialists for each new or revised chapter of the *Terrestrial Manual* before it was finalised by the Biological Standards Commission,

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES

1. To adopt the following texts for the *Terrestrial Manual*:

Glossary of terms

- 1.1.8. Principles of veterinary vaccine production
- 2.3.4. Minimum requirements for the production and quality control of vaccines
- 3.1.4. Brucellosis (infection with *Brucella abortus*, *B. melitensis*, *B. suis*)
- 3.1.6. Echinococcosis (infection with *Echinococcus granulosus* and with *E. multilocularis*)
- 3.1.8. Foot and mouth disease (infection with foot and mouth disease virus)
- 3.1.X. Mammalian tuberculosis (infection with *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* complex)

With the amendments approved by the Assembly:

In line 9, *Summary*, to delete the words “and is a barrier to trade” after the words “and certain wildlife populations”.

In lines 465–466, Section B.2.2.2.1 *The single cervical test (SCT)*, replace “between” with “more than” before “2 mm” and add “less than” before “4 mm”.

In line 484, Section B.2.2.2.2 *The comparative cervical test (CCT)*, add “more than” before “4 mm” and delete “or more” after “4 mm”. In lines 485–487, replace “there is a difference in skin thickness of ≥ 0 mm and <4 mm and a reaction to PPD-B of 2 mm or more” with “the reaction to PPD-B is 2 mm or more, and is greater than the PPD-A reaction by 4 mm or less”, and amend Table *Interpretation of the comparative cervical test* accordingly.

- 3.1.14. Nipah and Hendra virus diseases
- 3.1.22. Tularemia

With the amendments approved by the Assembly:

In line 94, Section A *Introduction*, add the sentence and reference: “Species that are moderately susceptible to tularemia, and maintain the infection for a prolonged time, may serve as reservoirs of infection to others (Hestvik *et al.*, 2015)”.

HESTVIK G., WARNS-PETIT E., SMITH L.A., FOX N.J., UHLHORN H., ARTOIS M., HANNANT D., HUTCHINGS M.R., MATSSON R., YON L. & GAVIER-WIDEN D. (2015). The status of tularemia in Europe in a one-health context: a review. *Epidemiol. Infect.*, **143**, 2137–2160. doi: 10.1017/S0950268814002398

In line 96, Section A *Introduction*, add the sentence: “Hunters and forest rangers should take precautions before opening dead animals as they are at risk of infection.”

3.2.1. Acarapisosis of honey bees (infestation of honey bees with *Acarapis woodi*)

3.3.9. Fowl cholera

3.3.15. Turkey rhinotracheitis (avian metapneumovirus)

With the amendments approved by the Assembly:

In line 173, Section A *Introduction*, add “except in pheasants” after “evidence of disease”.

3.6.2. Contagious equine metritis

With the amendments approved by the Assembly:

In line 178, Section B.1.5 *Molecular methods*, to replace the sentence “A minimum of five suspect colonies should be taken for confirmation by PCR” with “To mitigate the possibility of false negative results, it is recommended that, whenever possible, several colonies suspected of being of the *Taylorella* genus are selected for confirmation by PCR.”

3.8.11. Scrapie

3.8.13. Theileriosis in sheep and goats (infection with *Theileria lestoquardi*, *T. luwenshuni* and *T. uilenbergi*)

3.9.3. Classical swine fever (infection with classical swine fever virus) (diagnostic section only)

3.10.1. Bunyaviral diseases of animals (excluding Rift Valley fever and Crimean–Congo haemorrhagic fever)

3.10.2. Cryptosporidiosis

3.10.6. Mange

With the amendments approved by the Assembly:

In lines 6 and 7 of the *Summary*, and line 30, Section A *Introduction*, to add “a term that should be used in relation to *Psoroptes ovis*” after the word “scab”.

3.10.7. Salmonellosis

2. To request the Director General to publish the adopted texts in the on-line version of the *Terrestrial Manual*.

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 26 May 2022
in view of an entry into force on 27 May 2022)

RESOLUTION No. 25

Designation of OIE Reference Laboratories for terrestrial and aquatic animal diseases

CONSIDERING THAT

1. The OIE's *Basic Texts* provide the Terms of Reference, designation criteria, and internal rules for OIE Reference Laboratories,
2. The Terms of Reference of the OIE Biological Standards Commission and the Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission include the responsibility to examine applications from Members relating to the creation of new OIE Reference Laboratories with activities corresponding to the Commission's scientific mandate and report its findings to the Director General,
3. All OIE Reference Laboratory applications are assessed using standardised criteria that include: the institution's ability, capacity and readiness to provide services; the scientific and technical standing of the institution concerned at the national and international levels; the quality of its scientific and technical leadership including internationally recognised expertise; the institution's prospective stability in terms of personnel, activity and funding; the technical relevance of the institution and its activities to OIE's programme priorities,
4. Details of the applicant laboratories that have been assessed by the OIE Biological Standards Commission or the Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission are published in the reports of the meetings of the Commissions,
5. All Reference Laboratory applications are endorsed by the OIE Council,
6. Proposals for a major change in an OIE Reference Laboratory follow the same procedure,
7. Article 4 of the Internal Rules for OIE Reference Centres states that "Applications endorsed by the Council shall be presented to the Assembly for approval",

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES

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

OIE Reference Laboratory for African swine fever

National Centre for Foreign Animal Disease, Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Canadian Science Centre for Human and Animal Health, Winnipeg, Manitoba, CANADA

OIE Reference Laboratory for African swine fever

USDA, APHIS, VS, NVSL, Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory, Plum Island Animal Disease Center, Greenport, New York, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

OIE Reference Laboratory for avian mycoplasmosis (Mycoplasma gallisepticum, M. synoviae)

Avian Medicine Laboratory, Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale delle Venezie, Buttapietra Verona, ITALY

OIE Reference Laboratory for bovine tuberculosis

National Veterinary Services Laboratories, USDA, APHIS, VS, Ames, Iowa, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

OIE Reference Laboratory for chronic wasting disease

National Veterinary Services Laboratories, USDA, APHIS, VS, Ames, Iowa, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

OIE Reference Laboratory for New World screwworm (Cochliomyia hominivorax)

Panama–United States Commission for the Eradication and Prevention of Screwworm, Panama, PANAMA

OIE Reference Laboratory for paratuberculosis

National Reference Centre for Paratuberculosis, Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale della Lombardia e dell'Emilia Romagna, Gariga di Podenzano, Piacenza, ITALY

OIE Reference Laboratory for Rift Valley fever

Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement (CIRAD), Campus international de Baillarguet, Montpellier, FRANCE

OIE Reference Laboratory for decapod iridescent virus 1

Aquatic Medicine Laboratory, Biology Division of Animal Health Research Institute (AHRI), Council of Agriculture, CHINESE TAIPEI

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 24 May 2022
in view of an entry into force on 27 May 2022)

RESOLUTION No. 26

Designation of OIE Collaborating Centres

CONSIDERING THAT

1. The OIE's *Basic Texts* provide the Terms of Reference, designation criteria, and internal rules for OIE Collaborating Centres,
2. The Terms of Reference of each of the four elected OIE Specialist Commissions include the responsibility to examine applications from Members relating to the designation of new OIE Collaborating Centres with activities corresponding to the Commission's area of expertise,
3. All OIE Collaborating Centre applications are assessed by the appropriate OIE Specialist Commission using standardised criteria that include: the institution's ability, capacity and readiness to provide services; the scientific and technical standing of the institution concerned at the national and international levels; the quality of its scientific and technical leadership including internationally recognised expertise; the institution's prospective stability in terms of personnel, activity and funding; and the technical and geographical relevance of the institution and its activities to OIE's programme priorities,
4. Details of the applicant institutions that have been assessed by a Specialist Commission are published in the reports of the meeting of the Commission,
5. All Collaborating Centre applications are assessed by the corresponding Regional Commission and endorsed by the OIE Council,
6. Proposals for a major change in an OIE Collaborating Centre follow the same procedure,
7. Article 4 of the Internal Rules for OIE Reference Centres states that "Applications endorsed by the Council shall be presented to the Assembly for approval".

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES

To designate the following new OIE Collaborating Centres and add them to the list of OIE Collaborating Centres (available on the OIE web site):

OIE Collaborating Centre for Antimicrobial Stewardship in Aquaculture

Laboratory of Veterinary Pharmacology (FARMAVET) and Laboratory of Food Safety (LIA) and Center for Research and Innovation in Aquaculture (CRIA), University of Chile, Faculty of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Region Metropolitana, CHILE

OIE Collaborating Centre for Camel Diseases

Abu Dhabi Agriculture and Food Safety Authority, Mohammed Bin Zayed City, Abu Dhabi, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 26 May 2022
in view of an entry into force on 27 May 2022)

RESOLUTION No. 27

Extension to the Designation of Facilities Holding Rinderpest Virus Containing Material to Maintain Global Freedom from Rinderpest

ACKNOWLEDGING the declaration of global freedom from rinderpest in May 2011 and the commitment made by Members to maintaining this status, reaffirmed through OIE Resolution No. 21 (2017),

REITERATING the importance of reducing the risk posed by rinderpest virus containing material stocks through the destruction of virus in a safe manner and/or the transfer stocks to designated facilities holding rinderpest virus containing material (hereinafter ‘Rinderpest Holding Facilities’),

CONSIDERING THAT

1. Resolution No. 23 (2014) requested the Director General to put in place, jointly with FAO, a system to designate, inspect, monitor and evaluate Rinderpest Holding Facilities,
2. Resolution No. 24 (2019) extended the designation of the Rinderpest Holding Facilities first designated through OIE Resolution No. 25 (2015) for a three-year period,
3. Resolution No. 23 (2019) designated two new Rinderpest Holding Facilities for a three-year period.
4. The COVID-19 pandemic and associated travel restrictions created conditions which prevented the deployment of an international team to carry out site inspections of the FAO-OIE designated Rinderpest Holding Facilities,
5. In the absence of a site inspection, the FAO-OIE designated Rinderpest Holding Facilities provided a written report on the previous three-year period to demonstrate compliance with their mandate.

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES

To exceptionally extend the designation of the following facilities as approved for holding rinderpest virus containing material for the period of one year, on behalf of the OIE, and subject to equivalent action by FAO. These facilities shall be subject to a full inspection and evaluation process led by FAO and OIE during the year of 2022, aiming to propose a three-year extension of their mandate by the time of the next OIE General Session, in May 2023.

A) Rinderpest Holding Facility for storing rinderpest virus containing material, excluding vaccine stocks

1. African Union Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Centre (AU-PANVAC), Debre-Zeit, Ethiopia.

2. Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement (CIRAD), Montpellier, France.
3. China Institute of Veterinary Drug Control/China Veterinary Culture Collection Center (IVDC), Beijing, People's Republic of China.
4. High Containment Facilities of Exotic Diseases Research Station, National Institute of Animal Health, Kodaira, Tokyo, Japan.
5. USDA-APHIS, Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (FADDL), Plum Island, New York, United States of America.
6. The Pirbright Institute, Surrey, United Kingdom.

B) Rinderpest Vaccine Holding Facility for storing only manufactured vaccines, vaccine stocks and material solely for their production:

1. African Union Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Centre (AU-PANVAC), Debre-Zeit, Ethiopia.
2. Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement (CIRAD), Montpellier, France.
3. China Institute of Veterinary Drug Control/China Veterinary Culture Collection Center (IVDC), Beijing, People's Republic of China.
4. Building for Safety Evaluation Research, Production Center for Biologicals; Building for Biologics, Research and Development (storage), National Institute of Animal Health, Tsukuba, Ibaraki, Japan.

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 24 May 2022
in view of an entry into force on 27 May 2022)

MANDATE FOR A FACILITY DESIGNATED TO HOLD RINDERPEST VIRUS CONTAINING MATERIAL

The facilities designated by FAO and OIE to hold rinderpest virus (RPV)-containing material⁵⁹ (hereinafter ‘Rinderpest Holding Facilities’) have a mandate which justifies their function and ensures safe storage of this material.

The Rinderpest Holding Facility has a separate mandate and approval mechanism from an OIE Reference Laboratory for rinderpest and from an FAO Reference Centre for morbillivirus.

Although the decision to designate a Rinderpest Holding Facility lies with the OIE World Assembly of Delegates, the Member’s OIE Delegate must support the application and be fully aware of the Mandate.

The following text describes the Mandates of the two categories of Rinderpest Holding Facility:

- A) Rinderpest Holding Facility for storing rinderpest virus containing material, excluding vaccine stocks
- B) Rinderpest Vaccine Holding Facility for storing only manufactured vaccines, vaccine stocks and material solely for their production.

A) Rinderpest virus holding facilities for storing rinderpest virus containing material, excluding vaccine stocks:

1. To retain an up-to-date inventory of RPV-containing material and sequence data (including recording entry and exit of this material into and out of the facility), and to share this information with FAO and the OIE through the designated web-based system.
2. To send an annual report to the OIE and FAO through the designated web-based system.
3. To safely hold RPV-containing material at an appropriate level of biocontainment and ensure appropriate measures are taken to prevent its accidental or deliberate release.
4. To accept RPV-containing material from FAO and OIE Members for safe storage and/or for destruction.

⁵⁹ *RPV-containing material* means field and laboratory strains of RPV; vaccine strains of RPV including valid and expired vaccine stocks; tissues, sera and other material from animals known or suspected to be infected; laboratory-generated diagnostic material containing live virus, recombinant morbilliviruses (segmented or nonsegmented) containing unique RPV nucleic acid or amino acid sequences, and full length genomic material including virus RNA and its cDNA copies. Subgenomic fragments of RPV genome (either as plasmid or incorporated into recombinant viruses) that cannot be incorporated into a replicating morbillivirus or morbillivirus-like virus are not considered to be RPV-containing material, neither are sera that have been either heat-treated to at least 56°C for at least two hours, or shown to be free from RPV genome sequences by a validated RT-PCR assay.

5. To notify FAO and the OIE before receiving RPV-containing material from other institutes for FAO to assist in shipping if needed and to ensure chain of custody.
6. To provide RPV-containing material to other institutes for the research or vaccine manufacture that has been approved by FAO and the OIE.
7. To contribute, when requested by FAO and the OIE, to the Global Rinderpest Action Plan and the global rinderpest vaccine reserve.
8. To maintain a system of quality assurance, biosafety and biosecurity, and to notify FAO and OIE should a breach of biocontainment happen, with or without release of RPV-containing material.
9. To notify immediately FAO and the OIE of any release or contamination of RPV-containing material in other virus stock or material stored at the facility.
10. To seek approval from FAO and the OIE before manipulating RPV-containing materials for the purposes of research or any other purposes, including in private sector institutions, or before shipping RPV-containing materials to other institutes.
11. To work towards an ever-reducing inventory of RPV-containing material from the time of adoption of the resolution, aiming to keep only the critical material to safeguard the global freedom.
12. To participate in scientific meetings in its capacity as FAO-OIE Rinderpest Holding Facility and using that title.
13. To undergo regular inspections and inventory audits by FAO and the OIE, at the institute's expense, to ensure that storage is secure and that safe operating conditions are met.
14. To fully cooperate by providing all the relevant reports and information when FAO and the OIE carry out a site inspection.
15. To provide technical advice or training to personnel from other FAO and OIE Member Countries on the destruction, safe shipment of RPV-containing material, and/or decontamination of facilities.
16. To establish and maintain a network with other Rinderpest Holding Facilities.

B) Rinderpest Vaccine Holding Facility for storing only manufactured vaccines, vaccine stocks and material solely for their production:

1. To retain an up-to-date inventory of vaccine stocks including current and expired vaccines and any materials solely for vaccine production and to share such information with FAO and the OIE through the designated web-based system.
2. To send an annual report to the OIE and FAO through the designated web-based system.
3. To validate or destroy stocks of expired vaccines.

4. To accept vaccine virus seeds or stocks from FAO and OIE Member Countries for safe storage and/or for destruction.
5. To notify FAO and the OIE before receiving RPV-containing material from other institutes for FAO to assist in shipping if needed and to ensure the chain of custody.
6. To provide vaccine virus seeds or vaccines to other institutes (public or private sector) for the research or vaccine manufacture that has been approved by FAO and the OIE.
7. To contribute, when requested by FAO and the OIE, to the global rinderpest vaccine reserve and the Global Rinderpest Action Plan, including through the emergency manufacture and preparation of vaccines in accordance with OIE standards.
8. To maintain a system of quality assurance, biosafety and biosecurity, and to notify FAO and OIE should a breach of biocontainment happen, with or without release of RPV-containing material.
9. To notify immediately FAO and the OIE of any release or contamination of RPV-containing material in other virus stock or material stored at the facility.
10. To seek approval from FAO and the OIE before manipulating RPV-containing materials for the purposes of vaccine production or any other purposes, or before shipping RPV-containing materials to other institutes.
11. To regularly test the quality of the vaccines in accordance with the OIE guidelines.
12. To maintain and follow procedures approved by FAO and the OIE for managing vaccine stocks (storing packaged and manufactured vaccine).
13. To work towards an ever-reducing inventory of RPV-containing material from the time of adoption of the resolution, aiming to keep only the critical material to safeguard the global freedom.
14. To undergo regular inspections and inventory audits by FAO and the OIE, at the institute's expense, to ensure that storage is secure and that safe operating conditions are met.
15. To fully cooperate by providing all the relevant reports and information when FAO and the OIE carry out a site inspection.
16. To establish and maintain a network with other Rinderpest Holding Facilities.

RESOLUTION No. 28

**World Organisation for Animal Health, Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health
Services engagement in global, regional and national emergency management systems**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. The Technical Item at the OIE's 89th General Session presented the OIE, Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services engagement in global, regional and national emergency management systems;
2. The OIE plays an important role individually, and collectively with other international partners (particularly the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations [FAO], the United Nations Environment Programme [UNEP], World Health Organization [WHO], and more recently, in relation to agro-crime, the International Criminal Police Organization [INTERPOL]), in promoting prevention and preparedness and in global coordination of emergencies that affect animal health and welfare, and veterinary public health;
3. Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services play an essential role in the prevention, preparedness, response and recovery to emergencies that affect animal health and welfare, and veterinary public health. Such emergencies may arise from a broad range of natural and artificial hazards;
4. Emergency management is a process of risk analysis and reduction (prevention), readiness (preparedness), response during an emergency, and recovery following emergencies. The principle of learning from experience to improve future performance is a best practice in emergency management. Emergency management has become a professional discipline with a growing evidence base (for example from scientific studies and after action reviews) supporting continuous learning and development;
5. The United Nations Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (the Sendai Framework) promotes an *All-Hazards* approach to emergency preparedness and management. National emergency management systems are increasingly designed with a *Whole of Government* approach to maximise coordination, effectiveness and efficiency, whilst coordinating command and control functions using a common *Incident Management System*;
6. Multiple initiatives to review performance of international agencies, and to improve preparedness and accountability to health emergencies, for example the WHO process to develop the global pandemic prevention, preparedness and response instrument, have been initiated in response to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic;
7. The OIE Terrestrial and Aquatic Codes provide some international standards that describe expectations of Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services with respect to emergency management systems, contingency planning, and legislation. The OIE Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) Pathway contains critical competencies relevant to emergency management. Results from PVS evaluations indicate many OIE Members have low levels of advancement in these competencies;

8. The OIE Preparedness and Resilience Programme, supports Members in planning and responding to animal health emergencies. As part of a project being implemented in collaboration with INTERPOL and FAO, an international simulation exercise is planned for 2022, and an OIE Global Conference on emergency management is planned for 2023;
9. Three OIE Collaborating Centres with emergency management as their speciality have formed the OIE Collaborating Centre Network on Veterinary Emergencies (EmVetNet), with objectives that address technical advice and support, training and evaluation, recommending research priorities, and supporting operational activities;
10. The drivers and root-causes of some emergencies are trending upwards, meaning emergencies requiring the engagement of the OIE and its Members are generally expected to increase in frequency, severity, and complexity;
11. It is well recognised that it is cost effective to invest in emergency management capability.

THE ASSEMBLY RECOMMENDS THAT

1. The OIE develops and maintains a sustainable work programme on emergency management, which is built on evidence, good practices, and collaborative partnerships, and strengthens synergies with other international organisations;
2. The OIE adopts an all hazards approach to emergency management which considers emerging threats, including cyber related threats, and emerging infectious diseases;
3. The OIE ensures that its International Standards and its capacity and capability evaluation and development programmes, including the PVS Pathway, Twinings, Training Platform, and the One Health Workforce Development programme, further integrate emergency management;
4. The OIE encourages expansion of the OIE Collaborating Centre Network on Veterinary Emergencies to achieve wider geographical representation and increased coverage of the range of hazards relevant to Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services;
5. The OIE improves its understanding of the current emergency management capacity and capability of OIE Members through its monitoring and data collection systems. For this, OIE encourages Members to share annual reports to OIE-WAHIS, national contingency plans, and notifications of simulation exercises. These data allow the OIE capacity and capability evaluation and development programmes to support Members according to their needs relating to emergency management, and inform policy development and capacity building;
6. The OIE develops an internal Incident Management System (IMS), building on past experience, to better support OIE and its partners, and OIE Members during international emergencies. The OIE should explore possibilities to support its Members in the development of their own IMS;
7. The OIE should continue to work with the Quadripartite and other key international partners, e.g., INTERPOL, to ensure coordination and interoperability of Incident Management Systems, so that the partners can work collaboratively in emergency management, while avoiding duplication;
8. Given that UNEP has only recently joined the Quadripartite, the OIE should encourage the Quadripartite to better integrate environmental elements to its emergency management policies;

9. The OIE engages with WHO and key stakeholders during the negotiation process for a global agreement on a pandemic instrument to ensure the perspectives, needs, and interests of Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services are recognised in a One Health approach, keeping OIE Members informed and promoting their active involvement in the negotiation process;
 10. OIE Members should actively engage with their national public health partners to ensure that a One Health approach is promoted by WHO Member States in their negotiations with WHO on the global agreement on a pandemic instrument;
 11. OIE Members work to engage the Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services in Whole of Government national emergency management systems to ensure they contribute to overall national emergency management capability, and benefit from preparedness activities and capability development programmes;
 12. In emergency management planning, OIE Members should carry out risk analysis to inform national and regional priorities;
 13. OIE Members should adopt an all hazards approach to emergency management, which considers emerging threats, including cyber related threats, and emerging infectious diseases;
 14. To create synergy and resource efficiency OIE Members are encouraged to consider collaborating with other OIE Members on emergency management planning;
 15. OIE Members and Partners are encouraged to support the OIE Emergency Management and Resilience work programme through contributions to the OIE.
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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 25 May 2022
in view of an entry into force on 27 May 2022)

RESOLUTION No. 29

Contribution of the World Organisation for Animal Health and its Members to the negotiations related to an international instrument for pandemic prevention, preparedness and response

CONSIDERING THAT:

1. In the last 40 years there have been six pandemics, all of which have originated from the spillover of zoonotic diseases, including from wildlife,
2. The OIE is the leading international standard setting body for animal health, including zoonoses. The Organisation plays an important role individually, and collectively with other international partners, in promoting a One Health approach,
3. Veterinary Services have responsibilities for preventing zoonotic diseases and ensuring food security. They are fundamental to implementing a One Health approach as part of “Health workforces”,
4. Animal health (including wildlife health), balanced ecosystems, and biodiversity contribute to achieving One Health. One Health considers the interconnectivity between the health of humans, animals, plants and their shared ecosystems,
5. OIE Resolution N.31 “How can the OIE support Veterinary Services to achieve One Health resilience” adopted by the Assembly in May 2021, recommended that:
 - The OIE should closely follow and collaborate with the WHO, FAO and UNEP to ensure the international legal instrument for pandemic preparedness and response, if progressed, is well grounded in the One Health approach and promotes a continuous improvement approach to the intelligence systems, response mechanisms, evaluation processes and capacity development tools made available for our Members’ benefit,
 - The OIE should continue to advocate the importance of including Veterinary Services, which are a global public good, in multisectoral cross government emergency management frameworks and provide support to Veterinary Services to better engage in such frameworks, for example by supporting advocacy,
6. The World Health Assembly, via adoption of resolutions to the second special session on 1 December 2021, decided that a new international instrument for the purposes of improving preparedness and response to future pandemics would progress under the auspices of the World Health Organization (WHO),
7. An intergovernmental negotiating body has been established (the “INB”) to draft and negotiate the WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response, with a view to adoption under provisions of the WHO Constitution,
8. It is essential that at the outset, the international instrument is crafted in such a way to ensure that ‘One Health’ is articulated as a fundamental principle guiding the implementation of all phases of pandemic prevention, preparedness and response,
9. Applying a One Health approach to the development of the international instrument requires that human, animal, and environmental health sectors be equally represented,
10. It is essential that the OIE and other partners of the Quadripartite alliance be actively involved in the development and the negotiation of the international instrument.

THE ASSEMBLY

RECOMMENDS THAT:

1. The OIE provide strong leadership to represent and amplify the interests and concerns of the animal health sector, particularly as they relate to prevention-focused reform, which includes reducing the risk of zoonotic diseases emergence and spread (and potential spillover events) at the animal, human and environment interface under the One Health approach, wildlife health management, and regulating sanitary aspects of wildlife trade,
2. The OIE advocate for the formation of collaborative governance arrangements that provide for the Quadripartite to co-design the essential elements of the new instrument,
3. The OIE support the formation of a 'Friends of One Health' group to amplify the voice of the animal and environmental health sectors and ensure that the One Health approach remains a guiding principle in the international instrument negotiations. The group will provide a mechanism for dialogue and collaboration between Members and strengthening of One Health positions taken to the INB,
4. The OIE timely inform Members of the status of the negotiations and the positions it promotes.
5. Members timely inform OIE of the positions promoted by their authorities responsible for the negotiations.
6. Members actively engage with the negotiation process, to promote the views of the animal health sector, through their national governments and appropriate inter-ministerial channels and through WHO channels.
7. OIE Members advocate for One Health to be adopted as an underlying foundation of the new instrument, so it complements and strengthens the coherence between existing International Health Regulations (IHR) 2005, environmental treaties, and animal health regulations and standards as well as human, animal, and environmental health systems more broadly,
8. Members act with urgency as the instrument is intended to be finalized and adopted at the 2024 WHO General Assembly, with a very tight schedule to deliver milestones starting with a working draft of the instrument in July 2022 and a first draft to be submitted for consideration at the 2023 WHO General Assembly.
9. The OIE and its Members advocate that any financial mechanism put into place to support the international instrument include sustainable financing for the measures required and to support the Quadripartite collaboration guide and accompany Members to implement a One Health approach. Any discussions on financial support for competent, sustainable and resilient health systems capable of ensuring timely pandemic preparedness, prevention and response must consider the commitment and crucial engagement of national Veterinary Services.

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 25 May 2022
in view of an entry into force on 27 May 2022)

REPORTS

**of the meetings of the OIE Regional Commissions
held in the framework of the 89th General Session
16-18 May 2022**

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

16 May 2022

The OIE Regional Commission for Africa met by videoconference on 16 May 2022 at 1:00 p.m. CEST. The meeting was attended by up to 114 participants, including Delegates and observers from 31 Members of the Commission, and representatives from 13 International or Regional Organisations:

Members of the Commission: Algeria, Benin, Botswana, Cameroon, Chad, Congo (Rep. of the ~), Congo (Dem. Rep. of the ~), Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, São Tome and Príncipe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tunisia, Uganda and Zambia.

International/regional organisations: AU-IBAR⁶⁰, CNVZ⁶¹, COMESA⁶², CVA⁶³, DG SANTE (EC), ECOWAS (RAHC)⁶⁴, FAO, ICFAW⁶⁵, IEC⁶⁶, USAID⁶⁷, WAEMU⁶⁸.

Observers: Chairpersons and members of the OIE Biological Standards Commission and the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission, representatives of AFSCAN⁶⁹, CIMM⁷⁰, GALVmed⁷¹, GARC⁷², ICRC⁷³, OVR-ARC⁷⁴ and World Fish.

The meeting was chaired by Dr Honoré Robert N'lemba Mabela, President of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa and OIE Delegate of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, accompanied by Dr Karim Toukara, OIE Regional Representative for Africa. He welcomed the participants to the meeting. He stated that COVID-19 had affected many activities and reiterated his recognition for the fact that the OIE had continued to deliver on its mandate by organising events through electronic meetings and that he was looking forward to a physical meeting soon.

⁶⁰ AU-IBAR: African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources

⁶¹ CNVZ: *Centre national de veille zoosanitaire* (Tunisia)

⁶² COMESA: Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa

⁶³ CVA: Commonwealth Veterinary Association

⁶⁴ ECOWAS: Economic Community of West African States

⁶⁵ ICFAW: International Coalition for Animal Welfare

⁶⁶ IEC: International Egg Commission

⁶⁷ USAID: United States Agency for International Development

⁶⁸ WAEMU: West African Economic and Monetary Union

⁶⁹ AFSCAN: African Small Companion Animal Network

⁷⁰ CIMM: *Comité International de Médecine Militaire*

⁷¹ GALVmed: Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines

⁷² GARC: Global Alliance for Rabies Control

⁷³ ICRC: International Committee of the Red Cross

⁷⁴ OVR-ARC: Onderstepoort Veterinary Research, Agricultural Research Council (South Africa)

1. **Adoption of the Agenda**

The Agenda, described in the Appendix, was unanimously adopted.

2. **Relaunching of GF-TAD Africa**

Dr Karim Tounkara introduced the Global Framework for the progressive control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs) for Africa. Dr Patrick Bastiaensen, Regional Programme Officer at the OIE Subregional Representation for Eastern Africa, on behalf of the Regional Secretariat, briefly addressed the relaunching of the Africa chapter of the GF-TADs for Africa after a 7-year hiatus. He reported on the 10th Regional Steering Committee (RSC) meeting held (online) in October 2021, where several important governance documents were endorsed, allowing among others, the launch in March 2022 of the Standing Group of Experts (SGE) on African swine fever (ASF) and the expected launch later in 2022 of the SGE on Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP). The RSC which is currently chaired by the Director of AU-IBAR, will reconvene for its 11th meeting from 21 – 23 June 2022 in Nairobi, Kenya.

3. **Launch of the PPR strategy in Africa; AU-IBAR 70th Anniversary and 10 years Rinderpest Eradication**

Dr Nick Nwankpa, acting AU-IBAR Director, informed the meeting that AU-IBAR celebrated its 70th Anniversary from 17 to 18 March 2022. This celebration was attended by seven Ministers, former Commissioners of the AUC, AU-IBAR former directors, directors of animal production and veterinary services, RECs, as well as traditional partners such as the OIE, FAO, ILRI, IAEA, and the donor community, notably the European Union. He also mentioned that the Ministers made ‘The Nairobi Declaration on the Eradication of Peste des Petits Ruminants by 2030’. This declaration is significant in the sense that it mirrors the Nairobi declaration that was made in 1948 for rinderpest eradication. The AU-IBAR Anniversary was done concurrently with the celebration of the 10th anniversary of the global eradication of Rinderpest. This is the first time that commemoration of Rinderpest was done at continental level. AU-IBAR played a critical role in coordinating the eradication activities in the African continent, in collaboration with partners that led to the defeat of this dreaded cattle plague. Dr Nwankpa also highlighted some key animal health related events that took place in the recent months.

Finally, he mentioned that AUC has taken the eradication of PPR as a priority policy issue as articulated in the Pan African PPR Strategy for the control and eradication of PPR. The Pan African Programme for the eradication of PPR will be the basis for engaging partners and donor community for eradication of PPR in Africa. He, once again, called upon for the European Union and other development partners to enhance their support and for AU Member States to consolidate their commitment for the eradication of this devastating disease of sheep and goats in Africa. Eradication of PPR will contribute to food security, poverty reduction and resilience of livestock-dependent communities, as well as to economic growth of the countries concerned, thus reducing instability, conflicts and irregular migration from Africa.

The OIE Delegate from Senegal thanked the AU-IBAR for launching the PPR Pan-Africa PPR Eradication Programme (2022-2026). He suggested AU-IBAR to mobilise resources for the implementation of the PPR Strategic Plan in the Region.

4. **Organisation of the 25th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa to be held in February 2023**

Dr Letlhogile Oarabile, Delegate of Botswana, confirmed that his country is willing and honoured to host this important regional event and invited all Delegates to attend the conference, which will likely be held in Kasane in February 2023. Exact dates will be soon defined in collaboration with the OIE Director General. He reported that an organising committee will be formed to prepare the Conference and would update the OIE accordingly.

5. Selection of Technical Item II (without questionnaire) to be included in the agenda of the 25th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa

The Regional Commission selected the following technical item (without questionnaire to Members) for inclusion in the agenda of the 25th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa:

“Elimination of dog-mediated human rabies from Africa by 2030 - national strategies, legal frameworks, tools to track progress”.

6. Proposal of three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means (*Scientific and Technical Review, Bulletin, scientific paper, technical item or during a specific activity/meeting*)

The Regional Commission proposed the following three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means. This selection was made following a short Zoom poll, out of a shortlist of 6 pre-selected topics, which came out on top following an earlier survey circulated amongst Delegates in March and again in May:

- Elimination of dog-mediated rabies;
- Eradication of Peste des petits ruminants;
- Concept of Veterinary Services as essential services during disasters or lockdowns.

7. The OIE capacity-building system: from the new normality to a new future. A dialogue with OIE Members on PVS and Training

Ms Barbara Alessandrini, Head of the Capacity Building Department, introduced the evolution of the OIE capacity-building system, the needs it intends to satisfy, and the reasons that are driving this transformative process.

She reminded the participants that a number of factors have changed our lives and influenced our ways to deliver services. Technologies have helped us to overcome last years' challenges, however they cannot replace the value of human relationships.

She informed that the OIE has reflected on its capacity-building system and defined new approaches to better satisfy its Members' needs and provide more impactful services through the PVS Pathway Programme and the Platform for the Training of the Veterinary Services. New methodologies and support programmes, remote and blended options, and digitalisation are the three pillars on which the OIE capacity-building system intends to move from the new normality of the post COVID-19 era to a new future in which flexible and blended approaches are possible, thus optimising the use of human, technical, and financial resources.

Ms Alessandrini concluded by highlighting that a dialogue with Members and partners interested in understanding the new opportunities offered by the PVS programme and the OIE Training Platform and in exploiting these customised opportunities has to be established, to build scalable approaches for a collaborative growth of the Veterinary Services. This is particularly important in the light of the request for more resilient Veterinary Services, recognised by national and regional health systems, to play their role in protecting One Health.

The OIE Delegates from Senegal and Benin thanked the OIE for coming up with various capacity-building programmes. They mentioned that the training of Veterinary Services' personnel is very important to improve Veterinary Services, and animal welfare capacity in the region. They also suggested that OIE should provide training on specific topics and suggested a physical (face-to-face) training in addition to the online training.

8. Barriers to the implementation of OIE Standards on aquatic animals: first results of the survey of national Focal Points for Aquatic Animals

Dr Laure Weber-Vintzel, Programme Manager of the OIE Observatory, shared the first findings of a recent survey of national Focal Points for Aquatic Animals. The objectives were to identify barriers preventing OIE Members from: i) implementing OIE standards on aquatic animal health and welfare, ii) notifying aquatic animal diseases, and iii) using the PVS Pathway for the aquatic animal health services. She thanked the Delegates of the Africa Region for their participation. She pointed out the most important barriers identified in the survey, such as the fact that aquatic animal health is not prioritised by government agencies, which was seen by 54% of the respondents globally, as a blocking barrier for the notification to the OIE. She also highlighted that only 9% of the respondents indicated that Chapter 4.1. of the Aquatic Code, which was adopted at the 88th General Session in 2021, is being fully implemented by them.

Dr Weber-Vintzel concluded by indicating that the report presenting the detailed results of this survey would be available during the second semester of 2022.

The Delegate from South Africa thanked the OIE for the aquatic animal health survey and mentioned the need for increased capacity building on the Region of Africa to improve aquatic animal health.

CLOSED SESSION FOR DELEGATES ONLY

9. Proposal of a Member of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa to join the Bureau of the Regional Commission for Africa as Vice-President

Dr Honoré Robert N'lemba Mabela reminded participants that the Delegate of Botswana had stepped down, leaving vacant his position as Vice-President of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa, which required a partial election to be held.

Following a discussion involving all Delegates present in the meeting, Dr Albertina Shilongo, Delegate of Namibia, was proposed, for a two-year period, until the election for the next three-year mandate of the Regional Commission, which will be held in May 2024.

This proposal will be presented to the World Assembly for election.

10. Presentation of the new logo and acronym of the Organisation

In order to better inform Delegates about the OIE rebranding to be presented during the General Session, a special session was held during which Ms Lyne Iyadi, Regional Communication officer, introduced the new OIE brand and provided details on the logo, acronym and the rationale of the rebranding.

The World Organisation for Animal Health undertook this branding change after 18 years since the current logo came out in 2003. The objectives of the rebranding were for the Organisation's purpose and scope to be more clearly understood by audiences worldwide, and to place animal health and welfare as a high priority for decision-makers, and for standards and services to be recognised and adopted. Furthermore, for the wider audiences to understand the contribution of animal health and welfare. Consultation with stakeholders was carried out at all levels including members of the public.

The new brand does not change the core mission or mandate of the Organisation which will remain dedicated as ever to promoting global animal health and welfare.

In conclusion, the new brand will give more visibility to the Organisation, and clarity on its mission to the Veterinary Services, policymakers and wider global audiences, thereby helping the Organisation to achieve its goals. It will bring, among others, more fruitful and strong partnerships with current and potential future partners, attractiveness on the Organisation's mission from professionals other than veterinarians as well as clearer understanding worldwide of its key role in the veterinary and public health sectors.

Mr Gerrit Beger, Head of the OIE Communication Department, responded to several comments from Members who, while supporting the rebranding proposal, asked questions about the pronunciation of the acronym in English in order to avoid unpleasantries, others expressed disappointment that the OIE had consulted only some Delegates and not all. Some Delegates requested for clarification regarding the cost of this project as well as the rationale behind the decision to change the brand at this juncture. Mr Berger thanked the Delegates for their comments and informed them that the item will be presented during the administrative session of the 89th General Session.

The meeting was then reopened for all attendants, after which the President of the Regional Commission took the floor to inform the participants of the selection of the new Vice-President Dr Albertina Shilongo, the OIE Delegate of Namibia and then delivered his closing remarks.

11. Closing

The meeting officially ended at 3.40 p.m. CEST. Dr Honoré Robert N'lemba Mabela, thanked all for their active participation, and also the interpreters and technical people who organised the meeting successfully.

.../Appendix

MEETING OF THE OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

16 May 2022

Agenda

12:45 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Zoom check-in and connecting
1:00 p.m. – 1:05 p.m.	Welcome and housekeeping information (Dr Honoré N'lemba Mabela, President of the Regional Commission and OIE Delegate of the Democratic Republic of the Congo / Karim Tounkara, Regional Representative)
1:05 p.m. – 1:10 p.m.	Adoption of the agenda (Dr Honoré N'lemba Mabela)
1:10 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.	Relaunching of GF-TAD Africa (Dr Karim Tounkara/ Patrick Bastiaensen, GF-TADs Regional Secretariat)
1:25 p.m. – 1:35 p.m.	Launch of PPR strategy in Africa; AU-IBAR 70 th Anniversary and 10 years Rinderpest Eradication (Dr Nick Nwankpa, acting Director, AU-IBAR)
1:35 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.	Organisation of the 25 th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa to be held in February 2023 (Dr Oarabile Letlhogile, OIE Delegate of Botswana)
1:45 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Selection of Technical Item II (without questionnaire) to be included in the agenda of the 25 th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa (Dr Honoré N'lemba Mabela/ Dr Karim Tounkara)
2:00 p.m. – 2:20 p.m.	Proposal of three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means (<i>Scientific and Technical Review, Bulletin, scientific paper, technical item or during a specific activity/meeting</i>) (Dr Honoré N'lemba Mabela/ Dr Karim Tounkara)
2:20 p.m. – 2:40 p.m.	The OIE capacity-building system: from the new normality to a new future. A dialogue with OIE Members on PVS and Training (Ms Barbara Alessandrini, Head of Department, Capacity Building Department)
2:40 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Barriers to the implementation of OIE Standards on aquatic animals: first results of the survey of national Focal Points for Aquatic Animals (Drs Laure Weber-Vintzel, Programme Manager of the OIE Observatory)

CLOSED SESSION FOR DELEGATES ONLY

3:00 p.m. – 3:20 p.m.	Proposal of Members of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa to join the Bureau of the Regional Commission for Africa as Vice-President (Dr Honoré N'lemba Mabela)
3:20 p.m. – 3:35 p.m.	Presentation of the new logo and acronym of the Organisation (Ms Lyne Iyadi, Regional Communication Officer)
3:35 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.	Closing

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE AMERICAS

17 May 2022

The OIE Regional Commission for the Americas met by videoconference on 17 May 2022 at 4:00 p.m. CEST. The meeting was attended by 85 participants, including Delegates and observers from 26 Members of the Commission and representatives from 11 International or Regional Organisations:

Members of the Commission: Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Curaçao, Dominican Rep, El Salvador, France, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America, and Uruguay

International/regional organisations: ALA⁷⁵, CaribVET⁷⁶, FAO, FARM⁷⁷, Feedlatina⁷⁸, ICFAW, IICA, IPC⁷⁹, OIRSA⁸⁰, PROCISUR⁸¹, and SG-CAN⁸².

The meeting was chaired by Dr Wilmer José Juárez Juárez, Vice-President of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas and Delegate of Nicaragua, supported by Dr Luis Osvaldo Barcos, OIE Regional Representative for the Americas and Dr Catya Martínez Rivas, OIE Subregional Representative for Central America.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The Agenda, described in the Appendix, was unanimously adopted following a minor change in the order of topics.

2. Brief report on the activities carried out in the Region since the last General Session

Dr Luis Barcos, OIE Regional Representative for the Americas, presented the actions carried out in response to the notification of outbreaks of African swine fever (ASF) in the Dominican Republic and Haiti. He highlighted the role of the GF-TADs as a coordination platform and the active participation of all its members, including the private sector, together with the Members of the Americas. In this respect, he highlighted the relevance of the development of the Regional Strategy for the containment and prevention of the spread of ASF in the Americas and the National Implementation Plans.

⁷⁵ ALA: Latin American Poultry Association

⁷⁶ CaribVET: Caribbean Animal Health Network

⁷⁷ FARM: Federation of Rural Associations of the MERCOSUR

⁷⁸ Feedlatina: Association of Animal Feed Industries of Latin America and the Caribbean

⁷⁹ IPC: International Poultry Council

⁸⁰ OIRSA: Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria

⁸¹ PROCISUR: Cooperative Programme for Agrifood and Agroindustrial Technological Development in the Southern Cone

⁸² SG-CAN: General Secretariat of the Andean Community

Referring to projects under development and planned, he indicated the progress of projects on antimicrobial resistance, financed by the European Union and the MPTF, as well as projects related to ASF, high health and high performance horses (HHP horses), aquatic animal health surveillance and biological risk management.

He then provided a summary of all the activities and meetings organised, including the meetings of the Regional Commission and the forthcoming Conference of the Regional Commission, the workshops for National Focal Points, as well as other relevant events. Finally, he detailed the communication activities carried out in the region, which are aligned with global campaigns and are coordinated with other international and regional organisations.

3. Organisation of the 26th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas to be held by videoconference, from 8 to 9 November 2022

Dr Arnold Dwarkasing, Secretary General of the OIE Regional Commission and Delegate of Curaçao, explained that taking into account the still delicate situation in the Region in terms of post-pandemic recovery, it has been decided to hold the next Regional Conference once more in a virtual format. Full details of the event will be communicated in due course.

He added that the 27th Conference is expected to be organised in 2024 in a face-to-face format, for which he invited the Members to consider their application in terms of the venue for the event. In this regard, Dr Barcos described the requirements for such a face-to-face venue, which will be distributed to Members for their consideration. It was recommended that the formal presentation be made during the 26th Regional Conference, inviting proposals to be sent sufficiently in advance in order to be discussed within the Regional Commission.

4. Decision regarding the selection of Technical Items for the 26th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas

Dr Wilmer Juárez Juárez, explained that, taking into account that the next Regional Conference will be held once more in a virtual format, Technical Items with and without a questionnaire will not be included in the agenda of the Conference. This is because the time and format do not facilitate the presentation of such extensive issues or the development of recommendations. The Technical Item with a questionnaire selected during the meeting of the Regional Commission in the 88th General Session, will remain on the list of items to be considered for the future Conference, which will be organised in a face-to-face format in case said item is still on-going and relevant for the Regional Commission. In due course, the Technical Item will also be selected without a questionnaire.

5. Emergencies and disasters management: Creation of networks, and support from the OIE Collaborating Centres

Dr Pastor Alfonso, Representative of the National Centre for Agricultural Health, an OIE Collaborating Centre in Cuba, presented the *Network of Collaborating Centres for Veterinary Emergencies* (EmVetNet), which the Cuban Centre forms part of, and referred to existing studies describing the capacities for preparedness and management of emergencies and disasters. He then proceeded to highlight the importance of sub-regional platforms in the Americas, especially in response to the *La Soufrière* volcano eruption and the work undertaken on the relationship between animal welfare and the COVID-19 pandemic.

Finally, he presented the development of a list of experts in emergency and disaster management, the management of information and communications distribution lists, as well as the development of distance-learning modules on the subject, which will be available soon.

It was agreed that the integration of Veterinary Services into national emergency management systems is vital so as to achieve an adequate response that considers the health and welfare of the affected animals.

6. Proposal of three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means (*Scientific and Technical Review, Bulletin, scientific paper, technical item or during a specific activity/meeting*)

The Regional Commission proposed the following three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means:

- The role and interrelation of international organisations in emergencies such as African swine fever: assessment, identification of challenges and opportunities for improvement;
- Animal health and food waste;
- Integration of private parties in animal disease surveillance and certification systems.

7. Application from the University of Chile, Faculty of Veterinary and Animal Sciences to become an OIE Collaborating Centre on Antimicrobial Stewardship in Aquaculture

Dr Alicia Gallardo Lagno, Representative of Chile, submitted a request to the Regional Commission in order for it to consider the Faculty of Veterinary and Livestock Sciences of the University of Chile as an OIE Collaborating Centre for the administration of antimicrobial components in aquaculture.

Dr Gallardo Lagno provided a brief description of the proposed centre and its activities, stating that full details had already been shared with Delegates.

The Regional Commission unanimously approved the proposal submitted by the University of Chile.

8. The OIE capacity-building system: from the new normality to a new future. A dialogue with OIE Members on PVS and Training

Ms Barbara Alessandrini, Head of the Capacity Building Department, introduced the evolution of the OIE capacity-building system, the needs it intends to satisfy, and the reasons that are driving this transformative process.

She reminded the participants that a number of factors have changed our lives and influenced our ways to deliver services. Technologies have helped us to overcome last years' challenges, however they cannot replace the value of human relationships.

She informed that the OIE has reflected on its capacity-building system and defined new approaches to better satisfy its Members' needs and provide more impactful services through the PVS Pathway Programme and the Platform for the Training of the Veterinary Services. New methodologies and support programmes, remote and blended options, and digitalisation are the three pillars on which the OIE capacity-building system intends to move from the new normality of the post COVID-19 era to a new future in which flexible and blended approaches are possible, thus optimising the use of human, technical, and financial resources.

Ms Alessandrini concluded by highlighting that a dialogue with Members and partners interested in understanding the new opportunities offered by the PVS programme and the OIE Training Platform and in exploiting these customised opportunities has to be established, to build scalable approaches for a collaborative growth of the Veterinary Services. This is particularly important in the light of the request for more resilient Veterinary Services, recognised by national and regional health systems, to play their role in protecting One Health.

9. Barriers to the implementation of OIE Standards on aquatic animals: first results of the survey of national Focal Points for Aquatic Animals

Dr Gaspar Avendano Pérez, Technical Coordinator of the OIE Observatory, shared the first findings of a recent survey of national Focal Points for Aquatic Animals. The objectives were to identify barriers preventing OIE Members from: i) implementing OIE standards on aquatic animal health and welfare, ii) notifying aquatic animal diseases, and iii) using the PVS Pathway for the aquatic animal health services. He thanked the Delegates of the Americas Region for their participation. He pointed out the most important barriers identified in the survey, such as the fact that aquatic animal health is not prioritised by government agencies, which was seen by 54% of the respondents globally, as a blocking barrier for the notification to the OIE. He also highlighted that only 9% of the respondents indicated that Chapter 4.1. of the Aquatic Code, which was adopted at the 88th General Session in 2021, is being fully implemented by them.

Dr Gaspar Avendano Pérez concluded by indicating that the report presenting the detailed results of this survey would be available during the second semester of 2022.

10. Thematic kiosks during 89th General Session

Dr Neo Mapitse, Head of Regional Activities Department, informed the participants about the nine OIE virtual thematic kiosks of 89th General Session and invited the participants to visit these kiosks, to interact with experts and learn more about specific activities relevant to the OIE and its mission.

CLOSED SESSION FOR DELEGATES ONLY

11. Presentation of the new logo and acronym of the Organisation

In order to better inform Delegates about the OIE rebranding to be presented during the General Session, a special session was held during which Ms Cecilia Westerdahl, Regional Communication officer, introduced the new OIE brand and provided details on the logo, acronym and the rationale of the rebranding.

The World Organisation for Animal Health undertook this branding change after 18 years since the current logo came out in 2003. The objectives of the rebranding were for the Organisation's purpose and scope to be more clearly understood by audiences worldwide, and to place animal health and welfare as a high priority for decision-makers, and for standards and services to be recognised and adopted. Furthermore, for the wider audiences to understand the contribution of animal health and welfare. Consultation with stakeholders was carried out at all levels including members of the public.

The new brand does not change the core mission or mandate of the Organisation which will remain dedicated as ever to promoting global animal health and welfare.

In conclusion, the new brand will give more visibility to the Organisation, and clarity on its mission to the Veterinary Services, policymakers and wider global audiences, thereby helping the Organisation to achieve its goals. It will bring, among others, more fruitful and strong partnerships with current and potential future partners, attractiveness on the Organisation's mission from professionals other than veterinarians as well as clearer understanding worldwide of its key role in the veterinary and public health sectors.

Mr Gerrit Beger, Head of the OIE Communication Department, responded to several comments from Members who, while supporting the rebranding proposal, asked questions about the pronunciation of the acronym in English in order to avoid unpleasantities, others expressed disappointment that the OIE had consulted only some Delegates and not all. Some requested for clarification regarding the cost of this project as well as the rationale behind the decision to change the brand at this juncture. Mr Berger thanked the Delegates for their comments and informed them that the item will be presented during the administrative session of the 89th General Session.

Dr Jean-Philippe Dop, Deputy Director General - Institutional Affairs and Regional Activities, also clarified that the proposal for the new institutional image had the support of the Council. He added that the proposal will not be put to a vote, as it does not impact the OIE Basic Texts nor does it imply a legal modification. However, and for information purposes, it will be presented through a Resolution during the General Session to ensure the support of Members.

12. Proposal of a Member of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas to join the Bureau of the Regional Commission for the Americas as President and conformation of the Bureau

Dr Hugo Federico Idoyaga Benítez, President of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates and Delegate of Paraguay, reminded participants that the Delegate of Canada had stepped down, leaving vacant his position as President of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas, which required a partial election to be held.

After a discussion including the participation of all the Delegates present at the meeting, Dr Wilmer Juárez Juárez, Delegate of Nicaragua, was proposed as President, while Dr Arnold Dwarkasing, Delegate of Curaçao, was proposed as Vice-President, along with Dr Rosemary Sifford, Delegate of the United States, proposed as Secretary General.

The final composition of the Regional Commission will be as follows:

President:	Dr Wilmer Juárez Juárez (Nicaragua) (new proposed position)
Vice-president:	Dr Ximena Melón (Argentina) (voted in 2021)
Vice-president:	Dr Arnold Dwarkasing (Curaçao) (new proposed position)
Secretary general:	Dr Rosemary Sifford (United States of America) (new proposed position)

The positions will be held for a period of two years, until the election for the next three-year term of the Regional Commission, which will be held in May 2024.

This proposal will be presented to the World Assembly for election.

13. Closing

The meeting officially ended at 7:30 p.m. CEST.

.../Appendix

MEETING OF THE OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE AMERICAS

17 May 2022

Agenda

- 3:45 p.m. – 4:10 p.m. Zoom check-in and connecting
- 4:10 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. Adoption of the agenda (Dr Wilmer Juárez Juárez, Vice-President of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas and Delegate of Nicaragua)
- 4:15 p.m. – 4:25 p.m. Brief report on the activities carried out in the Region since the last General Session (Dr Luis Barcos, OIE Regional Representative for the Americas)
- 4:25 p.m. – 4:35 p.m. Organisation of the 26th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas to be held by videoconference, from 8 to 9 November 2022 (Dr Arnold Dwarkasing, Secretary General of the OIE Regional Commission and Delegate of Curaçao)
- 4:35 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. Decision regarding the selection of Technical Items for the 26th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas (Dr Wilmer Juárez Juárez)
- 4:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Emergencies and disasters management: Creation of networks, and support from the OIE Collaborating Centres (Dr Pastor Alfonso, OIE Collaborating Centre, Cuba)
- 5:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. Proposal of three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means (*Scientific and Technical Review, Bulletin*, scientific paper, technical item or during a specific activity/meeting) (Dr Ximena Melón, Vice-President of the Regional Commission and Delegate of Argentina)
- 5:15 p.m. – 5:25 p.m. Application from the University of Chile, Faculty of Veterinary and Animal Sciences to become an OIE Collaborating Centre on Antimicrobial Stewardship in Aquaculture (Dr Alicia Gallardo Lagno, Chile)
- 5:25 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. The OIE capacity-building system: from the new normality to a new future. A dialogue with OIE Members on PVS and Training (Ms Barbara Alessandrini, Head OIE Capacity Building Department)
- 5:45 p.m. – 5:55 p.m. Barriers to the implementation of OIE Standards on aquatic animals: first results of the survey of national Focal Points for Aquatic Animals (Drs Gaspar Avendano Pérez, Paula Caceres, Barbara Alessandrini, Mario Ignacio Alguerno and Bernita Giffin)
- 5:55 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Announcement to Delegates about OIE kiosks during 89th General Session (Dr Néó Mapitse, Head of Regional Activities Department)

CLOSED SESSION FOR DELEGATES ONLY

- 6:00 p.m. – 6:15 p.m. Presentation of the new logo and acronym of the Organisation (Ms Cecilia Westerdahl, Regional Communication officer)
- 6:15 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Selection of a Member of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas to join the Bureau of the Regional Commission for the Americas as President and conformation of the Bureau (Dr Hugo Federico Idoyaga Benítez, President of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates and Delegate of Paraguay).
- 6:30 p.m. – 6:40 p.m. Closing

**REPORT OF THE MEETING
OF THE OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION
FOR ASIA, THE FAR EAST AND OCEANIA**

16 May 2022

The OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania met by videoconference on 16 May 2022, at 7:00 a.m. CEST. The meeting was attended by 61 participants, including Delegates from 25 Members of the Commission, 1 observer, and representatives from 8 International and Regional Organisations:

Members of the Commission: Australia, Bangladesh, China (People's Rep. of), Chinese Taipei, Fiji, India, Iran, Iraq, Japan, Korea (Rep. of), Laos, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Russia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Observer: Hong Kong SAR

International/regional organisations: FAO, ICAW, ISAH⁸³, NACA⁸⁴, SEAFDEC⁸⁵, ADB⁸⁶, SPC⁸⁷ and WHO

The meeting was chaired by Dr Baoxu Huang, President of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania and Delegate of China (PR of), accompanied by Dr Hirofumi Kugita, OIE Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The Agenda, described in the Appendix, was unanimously adopted.

2. Outcomes of the 32nd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania held on 15 and 16 September 2021

Dr Wacharapon Chotiyaputta, representative from Thailand, who hosted (virtually) the 32nd conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania, recapped the main topics presented during the conference. The report of the regional conference can be accessed via the link https://rr-asia.oie.int/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/final-report_32-regional-conference_afeo.pdf.

3. Confirmation of the dates and venue of the 33rd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania to be held in September 2023

Mr Atul Chaturvedi, OIE Delegate from India, reiterated his country's offer to host the 33rd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania in September 2023 in New Delhi. Exact dates will be defined at a later stage in consultation with the OIE Director General.

⁸³ ISAH: International Society for Animal Hygiene

⁸⁴ NACA: Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific

⁸⁵ SEAFDEC: Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Centre

⁸⁶ ADB: Asian Development Bank

⁸⁷ SPC: Pacific Community

4. Selection of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be included in the agenda of the 33rd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania

The Regional Commission selected the following technical item (with questionnaire to Members) for inclusion in the agenda of the 33rd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania:

“Zoonosis Prevention: Enhance capacity for prevention, control and rapid diagnostic testing of zoonoses, boost research on rapid and accurate diagnostic techniques, refine awareness campaign, and promote research on vector-borne zoonoses”.

5. Proposal of three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means (*Scientific and Technical Review, Bulletin, scientific paper, technical item or during a specific activity/meeting*)

The Regional Commission proposed the following three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means:

- TADs/One Health/Wildlife – Generalised discussion on emerging animal diseases, including ASF and LSD Contingency plan with vaccine development, monitoring and control mechanism.
- Trade/Border Control – Digitalisation of import/export control: eSanitary certification: Opportunities and challenges of eSanitary certification and remote assessment/evaluation: How can Members be best supported to realise the efficiency and integrity benefits of eSanitary certification digitalisation?
- R&D/Reference Centres – Enhance capacity for prevention, control and rapid diagnostic testing of zoonoses, boost researchers on rapid and accurate diagnostic techniques, refine awareness campaign, and promote research on vector-borne zoonoses.

6. The OIE capacity-building system: from the new normality to a new future. A dialogue with OIE Members on PVS and Training

Ms Barbara Alessandrini, Head of the Capacity Building Department, introduced the evolution of the OIE capacity-building system, the needs it intends to satisfy, and the reasons that are driving this transformative process.

She reminded the participants that a number of factors have changed our lives and influenced our ways to deliver services. Technologies have helped us to overcome last years' challenges, however they cannot replace the value of human relationships.

She informed that the OIE has reflected on its capacity-building system and defined new approaches to better satisfy its Members' needs and provide more impactful services through the PVS Pathway Programme and the Platform for the Training of the Veterinary Services. New methodologies and support programmes, remote and blended options, and digitalisation are the three pillars on which the OIE capacity-building system intends to move from the new normality of the post COVID-19 era to a new future in which flexible and blended approaches are possible, thus optimising the use of human, technical, and financial resources.

Ms Alessandrini concluded by highlighting that a dialogue with Members and partners interested in understanding the new opportunities offered by the PVS programme and the OIE Training Platform and in exploiting these customised opportunities has to be established, to build scalable approaches for a collaborative growth of the Veterinary Services. This is particularly important in the light of the request for more resilient Veterinary Services, recognised by national and regional health systems, to play their role in protecting One Health.

7. Barriers to the implementation of OIE Standards on aquatic animals: first results of the survey of national Focal Points for Aquatic Animals

Dr Laure Weber-Vintzel, Programme Manager of the OIE Observatory, shared the first findings of a recent survey of national Focal Points for Aquatic Animals. The objectives were to identify barriers preventing OIE Members from: i) implementing OIE standards on aquatic animal health and welfare, ii) notifying aquatic animal diseases, and iii) using the PVS Pathway for the aquatic animal health services. She thanked the Delegates of Asia, Far East and Oceania for their participation. She pointed out the most important barriers identified in the survey, such as the fact that aquatic animal health is not prioritised by government agencies, which was seen by 54% of the respondents globally, as a blocking barrier for the notification to the OIE. She also highlighted that only 9% of the respondents indicated that Chapter 4.1. of the Aquatic Code, which was adopted at the 88th General Session in 2021, is being fully implemented by them.

Dr Weber-Vintzel concluded by indicating that the report presenting the detailed results of this survey would be available during the second semester of 2022.

8. Discussion on regional positions for the OIE General Session

Dr Masatsugu Okita, Vice-President of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania and Delegate of Japan facilitated the discussion.

The new Regional Delegates platform for sharing positions and other information was highlighted to Members and all Members were encouraged to regularly visit the site and share their comments on the OIE texts.

Dr Okita introduced an outcome of the discussion at a pre-Commission meeting where the regional common position on revised BSE standards for adoption in the forthcoming General Session was discussed based on proposals from some Members in the Region following a previous Regional Core Group meeting.

There was an extensive discussion amongst the Delegates on the proposals, however none were unanimously agreed on by the Regional Commission to be put forward at the plenary of the 89th General Session on behalf of the OIE Members of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania.

Dr Okita thanked all regional Delegates for their active participation in the coordination procedure and noted that albeit no regional common position had been agreed upon for the BSE standards, more than one Member can jointly propose a position and encourage relevant Members to work on it after the meeting. He also expressed the hope that the Region would continue to work to strengthen regional coordination and collaboration in order to develop regional positions on key issues. Delegates were also encouraged to consult the FAQ document on BSE available in the Delegates webpages and General Session webpages along with all relevant document for the 89th General Session.

9. Adoption of the 3rd Regional Work Plan Framework 2021-2025

Dr Tony Zohrab, Delegate of New Zealand and Vice-President of the Regional Commission, presented the 3rd Regional Work Plan Framework. The work done by the drafting group was acknowledged and commended and the Framework was unanimously adopted by the Regional Commission.

10. Report of the RAWS Consultation and proposal of the revised management of RAWS Advisory Group for adoption

Dr Ye Tun Win, Delegate of Myanmar and Secretary General of the Regional Commission, summarised the history and activities of the Regional Animal Welfare Strategy and the Advisory Group in the Region (RAWS AG) before introducing the current chair of the RAWS AG, Dr Kate Littin, animal welfare focal point of New Zealand.

Dr Kate Littin presented the activities of the RAWS AG over the past 2 years highlighting the limited ability to implement activities due to the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. An updated terms of reference and *modus operandi* were presented for consideration and adoption by the Regional Commission. These comprised a more flexible approach designed to increase the ability to engage with different regional stakeholders, build the connection between the regional and global platforms, and take advantage of the digital and virtual communication which is widely used since the COVID-19 pandemic.

The updated ToR and *modus operandi* were unanimously adopted by the Regional Commission. A call for interest to update membership of the RAWS AG will be launched with a 1-month deadline, with a final list of members to be endorsed by the President of the Regional Commission.

CLOSED SESSION FOR DELEGATES ONLY

11. Presentation of the new logo and acronym of the Organisation

In order to better inform Delegates about the OIE rebranding to be presented during the General Session, a special session was held during which Mr Basilio Valdehuesa, Regional Communication officer, introduced the new OIE brand and provided details on the logo, acronym and the rationale of the rebranding.

The World Organisation for Animal Health undertook this branding change after 18 years since the current logo came out in 2003. The objectives of the rebranding were for the Organisation's purpose and scope to be more clearly understood by audiences worldwide, and to place animal health and welfare as a high priority for decision-makers, and for standards and services to be recognised and adopted. Furthermore, for the wider audiences to understand the contribution of animal health and welfare. Consultation with stakeholders was carried out at all levels including members of the public.

The new brand does not change the core mission or mandate of the Organisation which will remain dedicated as ever to promoting global animal health and welfare.

In conclusion, the new brand will give more visibility to the Organisation, and clarity on its mission to the Veterinary Services, policymakers and wider global audiences, thereby helping the Organisation to achieve its goals. It will bring, among others, more fruitful and strong partnerships with current and potential future partners, attractiveness on the Organisation's mission from professionals other than veterinarians as well as clearer understanding worldwide of its key role in the veterinary and public health sectors.

Mr Gerrit Beger, Head of the OIE Communication Department, responded to several comments from Members who, while supporting the rebranding proposal, asked questions about the pronunciation of the acronym in English in order to avoid unpleasantries, others expressed disappointment that the OIE had consulted only some Delegates and not all. Some Delegates requested for clarification regarding the cost of this project as well as the rationale behind the decision to change the brand at this juncture. Mr Berger thanked the Delegates for their comments and informed them that the item will be presented during the administrative session of the 89th General Session.

12. Closing

The meeting officially ended at 10:24 a.m. CEST.

.../Appendix

**MEETING OF THE
OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA, THE FAR EAST AND OCEANIA**

16 May 2022

Agenda

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| 6:45 a.m. - 7:10 a.m. | Zoom check-in and connecting |
| 7:10 a.m. - 7:15 a.m. | Adoption of the agenda (Dr Baoxu Huang, President of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania and Delegate of China, PR) |
| 7:15 a.m. - 7:25 a.m. | Outcomes of the 32 nd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania held on 15 and 16 September 2021 (Dr Wacharapon Chotiyaputta, representative from Thailand, Host Member of the 32 nd Conference). |
| 7:25 a.m. - 7:35 a.m. | Confirmation of the dates and venue of the 33 rd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania to be held in September 2023 (Dr Atul Chaturvedi, Delegate of India, Host Member of the 33 rd Conference) |
| 7:35 a.m. - 7:45 a.m. | Selection of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be included in the agenda of the 33 rd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania (Dr Ye Tun Win, Secretary General of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania and Delegate of Myanmar) |
| 7:45 a.m. - 7:55 a.m. | Proposal of three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means (<i>Scientific and Technical Review, Bulletin</i> , scientific paper, technical item or during a specific activity/meeting) (Dr Masatsugu Okita, Vice-President of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania and Delegate of Japan) |
| 7:55 a.m. - 8:15 a.m. | The OIE capacity-building system: from the new normality to a new future. A dialogue with OIE Members on PVS and Training (Ms Barbara Alessandrini, Head OIE Capacity Building Department) |
| 8:15 a.m. - 8:35 a.m. | Barriers to the implementation of OIE Standards on aquatic animals: first results of the survey of national Focal Points for Aquatic Animals (Drs Laure Weber-Vintzel, Paula Caceres, Lina Awada, Barbara Alessandrini, and Stian Johnsen) |
| 8:35 a.m. - 9:15 a.m. | Discussion on regional positions for the OIE General Session (Dr Masatsugu Okita) |
| 9:15 a.m. - 9:25 a.m. | Adoption of the 3 rd Regional Work Plan Framework 2021-2025 (Dr Tony Zohrab, Vice-President of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania and Delegate of New Zealand) |
| 9:25 a.m. - 9:40 a.m. | Report of the RAWs Consultation and proposal of the revised management of RAWs Advisory Group for adoption (Dr Ye Tun Win) |

CLOSED SESSION FOR DELEGATES ONLY

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| 9:40 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. | Presentation of the new logo and acronym of the Organisation (Mr Basilio Valdehuesa, Regional Communication officer) |
| 9:40 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. | Closing |

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

18 May 2022

The OIE Regional Commission for Europe met by videoconference on 18 May 2022 at 10:00 a.m. CEST. The meeting was attended by 104 participants, including Delegates and observers from 42 Members of the Commission, and representatives from 8 International or Regional Organisations:

Members of the Commission: Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Rep., Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Turkey, United Kingdom and Uzbekistan.

International/regional organisations: EC ⁸⁸, EEC ⁸⁹, IGC ⁹⁰, FAO, EuFMD ⁹¹, ICMM ⁹², ICFAW/RSPCA ⁹³; and Irish Equine Centre.

The meeting was chaired by Dr Ulrich Herzog, Vice-President of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe and OIE Delegate of Austria, accompanied by Dr Jean-Philippe Dop, OIE Deputy Director General for Institutional Affairs and Regional Activities, and Dr Budimir Plavsic, OIE Regional Representative for Europe who welcomed participants on behalf of the World Organisation for Animal Health.

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Agenda, described in the Appendix, was unanimously adopted.

2. Organisation of the 30th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe to be held from 3 to 7 October 2022

Dr Davide Lecchini, Delegate of Italy, confirmed that his country was willing and honoured to hold this important regional event and invited all Delegates to attend the conference, which would be held in Catania, from 3 to 7 October 2022.

He reported briefly on the various arrangements Italy had made to start organising the conference. Dr Lecchini provided general information about the event, assuring the participants that all the details would be sent in a timely manner.

3. Selection of Technical Item II (without questionnaire) to be included in the agenda of the 30th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe

The Regional Commission selected the following technical item (without questionnaire to Members) for inclusion in the agenda of the 30th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe:

“Vaccination against HPAI”

⁸⁸ EC: European Commission

⁸⁹ EEC: Eurasian Economic Commission

⁹⁰ IGC: International Egg Council

⁹¹ EuFMD : European Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease

⁹² ICMM: International Committee of Military Medicine

⁹³ ICFAW/RSPCA: International Coalition for Animal Welfare/Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

4. Proposal of three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means (*Scientific and Technical Review, Bulletin*, scientific paper, technical item or during a specific activity/meeting)

The Regional Commission proposed the following three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means:

- Pandemic preparedness (planning, capacity building, zoonotic surveillance, and coordination between competent authorities);
- Animal Welfare: implications on international trade and consumer expectations;
- Vaccination against HPAI – impact on animal health, welfare, and international trade.

5. The OIE capacity-building system: from the new normality to a new future. A dialogue with OIE Members on PVS and Training

Ms Barbara Alessandrini, Head of the Capacity Building Department, introduced the evolution of the OIE capacity-building system, the needs it intends to satisfy, and the reasons that are driving this transformative process.

She reminded the participants that a number of factors have changed our lives and influenced our ways to deliver services. Technologies have helped us to overcome last years' challenges, however they cannot replace the value of human relationships.

She informed that the OIE has reflected on its capacity-building system and defined new approaches to better satisfy its Members' needs and provide more impactful services through the PVS Pathway Programme and the Platform for the Training of the Veterinary Services. New methodologies and support programmes, remote and blended options, and digitalisation are the three pillars on which the OIE capacity-building system intends to move from the new normality of the post COVID-19 era to a new future in which flexible and blended approaches are possible, thus optimising the use of human, technical, and financial resources.

Ms Alessandrini concluded by highlighting that a dialogue with Members and partners interested in understanding the new opportunities offered by the PVS programme and the OIE Training Platform and in exploiting these customised opportunities has to be established, to build scalable approaches for a collaborative growth of the Veterinary Services. This is particularly important in the light of the request for more resilient Veterinary Services, recognised by national and regional health systems, to play their role in protecting One Health.

6. Barriers to the implementation of OIE Standards on aquatic animals: first results of the survey of national Focal Points for Aquatic Animals

Dr Gaspar Avendano Pérez, Technical Coordinator of the OIE Observatory, shared the first findings of a recent survey of national Focal Points for Aquatic Animals. The objectives were to identify barriers preventing OIE Members from: i) implementing OIE standards on aquatic animal health and welfare, ii) notifying aquatic animal diseases, and iii) using the PVS Pathway for the aquatic animal health services. He thanked the Delegates of Europe Region for their participation. He pointed out the most important barriers identified in the survey, such as the fact that aquatic animal health is not prioritised by government agencies, which was seen by 54% of the respondents globally, as a blocking barrier to the notification to the OIE. He also highlighted that only 9% of the respondents indicated that Chapter 4.1. of the Aquatic Code, which was adopted at the 88th General Session in 2021, had been fully implemented in their country/territory.

Dr Avendano Pérez concluded by indicating that the report presenting the detailed results of this survey would be available during the second semester of 2022.

7. Statements by Regional Representatives/Directors of FAO and WHO for Europe

Mr Vladimir Rakhmanin, FAO Regional Representative for Europe and Central Asia, commended the OIE for the work done in collaboration with the FAO and WHO, in the framework of the One Health Partnership at both global and regional levels, as well as the recent adjunction of UNEP. He underlined that at regional level, the FAO will continue to work with the OIE and other partners in the framework of the Single Regional Coordination Mechanism for Health, for Europe and Central Asia, established in April 2021 and chaired by the WHO this year.

Finally, he informed about the FAO Regional Conference for Europe during which Member States reaffirmed the importance of adopting and implementing the One Health approach, including the fight against antimicrobial resistance and zoonotic diseases through national action plans.

Dr Hans Kluge, Regional Director, WHO Regional Office for Europe, highlighted the high level of cooperation with the OIE at regional level on areas of common interest, including zoonoses and pandemic preparedness. He also mentioned the fact that COVID-19 crisis reminded the world that approximately 60% of human diseases originate from animals. He concluded that no one sector can lead successfully the fight against diseases on its own, and that only a coordinated multisectoral approach under the One Health concept will ensure balanced and optimised health of people, animals and ecosystem, as well as a good preparation to current and future challenges. The ultimate goal is preventing emerging and re-emerging health threats, thus, it is of paramount importance that all concerned sectors have the needed capacities to help countries to better manage diseases threats.

Dr Kluge concluded by underlining that the OIE was a vital partner to the WHO, and that their cooperation has been greatly improved since the creation, last year, of the Quadripartite One Health Mechanism for Europe.

8. Thematic kiosks during 89th General Session

Dr Neo Mapitse, Head of Regional Activities Department, informed the participants about the nine OIE virtual thematic kiosks of 89th General Session and invited the participants to visit these kiosks, to interact with experts and learn more about specific activities relevant to the OIE and its mission.

CLOSED SESSION FOR DELEGATES ONLY

9. Presentation of the new logo and acronym of the Organisation

In order to better inform Delegates about the OIE rebranding to be presented during the General Session, a special session was held during which Dr Arsenty Polyakov, Regional Communication officer, introduced the new OIE brand and provided details on the logo, acronym and the rationale of the rebranding.

The World Organisation for Animal Health undertook this branding change after 18 years since the current logo came out in 2003. The objectives of the rebranding were for the Organisation's purpose and scope to be more clearly understood by audiences worldwide, and to place animal health and welfare as a high priority for decision-makers, and for standards and services to be recognised and adopted. Furthermore, for the wider audiences to understand the contribution of animal health and welfare. Consultation with stakeholders was carried out at all levels including members of the public.

The new brand does not change the core mission or mandate of the Organisation which will remain dedicated as ever to promoting global animal health and welfare.

In conclusion, the new brand will give more visibility to the Organisation, and clarity on its mission to the Veterinary Services, policymakers and wider global audiences, thereby helping the Organisation to achieve its goals. It will bring, among others, more fruitful and strong partnerships with current and potential future partners, attractiveness on the Organisation's mission from professionals other than veterinarians as well as clearer understanding worldwide of its key role in the veterinary and public health sectors.

Mr Gerrit Beger, Head of the OIE Communication Department, responded to several comments from Members, including those done on behalf of 27 Member States of the European Union, who while supporting the rebranding proposal, asked questions about the pronunciation of the acronym in English in order to avoid unpleasantities, others expressed disappointment that the OIE had consulted only some Delegates and not all. Some requested for clarification regarding the cost of this project as well as the rationale behind the decision to change the brand at this juncture. Mr Berger thanked the Delegates for their comments and informed them that the item will be presented during the administrative session of the 89th General Session.

Dr Jean-Philippe Dop, Deputy Director General - Institutional Affairs and Regional Activities, also clarified that the proposal for the new institutional image had the support of the Council. He added that the proposal will not be put to a vote, as it does not impact the OIE Basic Texts nor does it imply a legal modification. However, and for information purposes, it will be presented through a Resolution during the General Session to ensure the support of Members.

10. Closing

The meeting officially ended at 12:30 p.m. CEST.

.../Appendix

**MEETING OF THE
OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

18 May 2022

Agenda

09:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Zoom check-in and connecting
10:00 a.m. – 10:05 a.m.	Welcome address (Dr Budimir Plavsic, OIE Regional Representative for Europe)
10:05 a.m. – 10:10 a.m.	Adoption of the agenda (Dr Ulrich Herzog, Vice-President of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe and Delegate of Austria)
10:10 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.	Organisation of the 30th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe to be held from 3 to 7 October 2022 (Dr Davide Lecchini, Delegate of Italy)
10:20 a.m. – 10:35 a.m.	Selection of Technical Item II (without questionnaire) to be included in the agenda of the 30th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe (Dr Ulrich Herzog)
10:35 a.m. – 10:50 a.m.	Proposal of three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means (<i>Scientific and Technical Review, Bulletin, scientific paper, technical item or during a specific activity/meeting</i>) (Dr Ulrich Herzog)
10:50 a.m. – 11:10 a.m.	The OIE capacity-building system: from the new normality to a new future. A dialogue with OIE Members on PVS and Training (Ms Barbara Alessandrini, Head OIE Capacity Building Department)
11:10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Barriers to the implementation of OIE Standards on aquatic animals: first results of the survey of national Focal Points for Aquatic Animals (Drs Gaspar Avendano Pérez, Paula Caceres, Barbara Alessandrini and Bernita Giffin)
11:30 a.m. – 11:40 a.m.	Statements by Regional Representatives/Directors of FAO and WHO for Europe (Mr Vladimir Rakhmanin and Dr Hans Kluge)
11:40 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.	Thematic kiosks during 89 th General Session (Dr Néo Mapitse, Head of Regional Activities Department)

CLOSED SESSION FOR DELEGATES ONLY

11:45 a.m. – 11:55 a.m.	Presentation of the new logo and acronym of the Organisation (Mr Arsenty Polyakov, Regional Communication officer)
11:55 a.m. – 12:00 a.m.	Closing

**REPORT OF THE MEETING
OF THE OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR MIDDLE EAST
17 May 2022**

The OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East met on 17 May 2022 at 9:00 a.m. CEST by videoconference. The meeting was attended by 51 participants, including Delegates and observers from 13 Members of the Commission, and representatives from 4 International and Regional Organisations:

Members of the Commission: Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkey, and United Arab Emirates.

International/regional organisations: CBD⁹⁴, EuFMD, FAO, ICFAW, WHO-EMRO⁹⁵

Observers: Chairpersons and members of the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission

The meeting was chaired by Dr Fajer Al Salloom, President of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East and Delegate of Bahrain accompanied by Dr Ghazi Yehia, OIE Regional Representative for the Middle East.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The Agenda, described in the Appendix, was unanimously adopted.

2. Outcomes of the 16th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East held on 3 and 4 November 2021

Dr Ghazi Yehia briefly described the main conclusions from the topics presented and discussed during the 16th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission which was attended by a total of 84 participants, comprising OIE Delegates or representatives of 17 Members of the Region and senior officials from 11 regional and international organisations.

He highlighted, among others: i) OIE Delegates are key in the role of advocating with high level authorities and stakeholders on the importance of the OIE mission and the need to invest in Veterinary Services; ii) Members' transparency and timely reporting of animal diseases are critical for effective control and potential eradication of animal diseases in the region; iii) good understanding of the socio-economic impacts of transboundary animal disease is key in supporting the investment case for risk management through implementation of OIE's international standards; iv) in the region, the most important factor in prioritising investment towards the prevention or control of animal diseases are impact on human health, food security, protection of export trade; v) the OIE Wildlife Health Framework is a significant global enabling that needs to be supported by all parties as a global priority; vi) the OIE is currently developing new tools to assist Members in workforce assessment and planning, and in creating an enabling environment for effective integration of Veterinary para-professionals into the veterinary workforce; vii) the most important actions in the Region to tackle the spread of AMR are surveillance, monitoring of antimicrobial use, legislation, and promotion of AMR awareness campaigns.

⁹⁴ CBD: Convention on Biological Diversity

⁹⁵ WHO-EMRO: World Health Organization - Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean

3. Confirmation of the dates and venue of the 17th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East to be held in November 2023

Dr Elias Ibrahim, Secretary General of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East and Delegate of Lebanon confirmed that the next Conference of the OIE Regional Commission will be hosted by Saudi Arabia, in November 2023. Exact dates will be defined at a later stage in consultation with the OIE Director General.

4. Selection of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be included in the agenda of the 17th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East

The Regional Commission selected the following technical item (with questionnaire to Members) for inclusion in the agenda of the 17th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East:

“One Health (coordination, communication and cooperation between Veterinary and Public Health Services)”

5. Proposal of three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means (*Scientific and Technical Review, Bulletin, scientific paper, technical item or during a specific activity/meeting*)

The Regional Commission proposed the following three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means:

- Global preparedness for disease prevention and control;
- One Health: coordination between the responsible sectors (Veterinary, Public Health and Environment);
- Strengthen the Veterinary Laboratories capacity for TADs.

The Region also suggested “safe trade of animal and animal products” as a topic that should always be addressed by the OIE through different means in order to keep Members well informed and updated on this key mission of the Organisation.

6. Barriers to the implementation of OIE Standards on aquatic animals: first results of the survey of national Focal Points for Aquatic Animals

Dr Laure Weber-Vintzel, Programme Manager of the OIE Observatory, shared the first findings of a recent survey of national Focal Points for Aquatic Animals. The objectives were to identify barriers preventing OIE Members from: i) implementing OIE standards on aquatic animal health and welfare, ii) notifying aquatic animal diseases, and iii) using the PVS Pathway for the aquatic animal health services. She thanked the Delegates of the Middle East Region for their participation. She pointed out the most important barriers identified in the survey, such as the fact that aquatic animal health is not prioritised by government agencies, which was seen by 54% of the respondents globally, as a blocking barrier for the notification to the OIE. She also highlighted that only 9% of the respondents indicated that Chapter 4.1. of the Aquatic Code, which was adopted at the 88th General Session in 2021, is being fully implemented.

Dr Weber-Vintzel concluded by indicating that the report presenting the detailed results of this survey would be available during the second semester of 2022.

7. The OIE capacity-building system: from the new normality to a new future. A dialogue with OIE Members on PVS and Training

Ms Barbara Alessandrini, Head of the Capacity Building Department, introduced the evolution of the OIE capacity-building system, the needs it intends to satisfy, and the reasons that are driving this transformative process.

She reminded the participants that a number of factors have changed our lives and influenced our ways to deliver services. Technologies have helped us to overcome last years' challenges, however they cannot replace the value of human relationships.

She informed that the OIE has reflected on its capacity-building system and defined new approaches to better satisfy its Members' needs and provide more impactful services through the PVS Pathway Programme and the Platform for the Training of the Veterinary Services. New methodologies and support programmes, remote and blended options, and digitalisation are the three pillars on which the OIE capacity-building system intends to move from the new normality of the post COVID-19 era to a new future in which flexible and blended approaches are possible, thus optimising the use of human, technical, and financial resources.

Ms Alessandrini concluded by highlighting that a dialogue with Members and partners interested in understanding the new opportunities offered by the PVS programme and the OIE Training Platform and in exploiting these customised opportunities has to be established, to build scalable approaches for a collaborative growth of the Veterinary Services. This is particularly important in the light of the request for more resilient Veterinary Services, recognised by national and regional health systems, to play their role in protecting One Health.

8. Adoption of the Regional Core Group Terms of Reference

Dr Fajer Al Salloom reminded Delegates about the Regional Core Group (RCG) Terms of Reference (ToRs) that were shared with all the Members few weeks prior to the meeting for comments. The ToRs provide a clear guidance regarding the functioning and composition of the RCG.

No comments had been received by the time of the meeting. Dr Fajer requested Delegates again for comments or questions if they had any, regarding the document. The ToRs were considered to be clear and were agreed upon by all Delegates.

The Regional Commission adopted the document unanimously.

9. Application from the “Abu Dhabi Agriculture and Food Safety Authority” to become an OIE Collaborating Centre on Camel Diseases

Mrs Kaltham Kayaf, Delegate of the United Arab Emirates, presented to the Regional Commission, a proposal for the “Abu Dhabi Agriculture and Food Safety Authority” to become an OIE Collaborating Centre on Camel Diseases.

He provided a brief review of the proposal and said that full details were sent to Delegates in advance by the Regional Representation.

The Commission approved this proposal.

CLOSED SESSION FOR DELEGATES ONLY

10. Proposal of a Member of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East to join the OIE Council as Member, and partial elections (if needed) in case of vacancy in the Bureau of the Regional Commission for the Middle East

Dr Fajer Al Salloom, Delegate of Bahrain, was proposed as candidate to join the OIE Council as member.

Dr Abdelhakim Mohamed Ali, Delegate of Egypt, was proposed as President of the Bureau of the Regional Commission following the vacancy left by Dr Al Salloom while Dr Samah Alsherif, Delegate of Oman, was proposed as Vice-President following the vacancy left by Dr Abdelhakim Mohamed Ali, former Vice-President of the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East.

They are proposed for a two-year period, until the election for the next three-year mandate of the Regional Commission, which will be held in May 2024.

The new composition of the Regional Commission will be as follows:

President: Dr Abdelhakim Ali (Delegate of Egypt) (new proposed position)

Vice President : Dr Sanad Alharbi (Delegate of Saudi Arabia) (voted in 2021)

Vice President : Dr Samah Alsharif (Delegate of Oman) (new proposed position)

Secretary: Dr Elias Ibrahim (Delegate of Lebanon) (voted in 2021)

This proposal will be presented to the World Assembly for election.

11. Presentation of the new logo and acronym of the Organisation

In order to better inform Delegates about the OIE rebranding to be presented during the General Session, a special session was held during which Ms Rita Rizk, Regional Communication officer, introduced the new OIE brand and provided details on the logo, acronym, and the rationale of the rebranding.

The World Organisation for Animal Health undertook this branding change after 18 years since the current logo came out in 2003. The objectives of the rebranding were for the Organisation's purpose and scope to be more clearly understood by audiences worldwide, and to place animal health and welfare as a high priority for decision-makers, and for standards and services to be recognised and adopted. Furthermore, for the wider audiences to understand the contribution of animal health and welfare. Consultation with stakeholders was carried out at all levels including members of the public.

The new brand does not change the core mission or mandate of the Organisation which will remain dedicated as ever to promoting global animal health and welfare.

In conclusion, the new brand will give more visibility to the Organisation, and clarity on its mission to the Veterinary Services, policymakers and wider global audiences, thereby helping the Organisation to achieve its goals. It will bring, among others, more fruitful and strong partnerships with current and potential future partners, attractiveness on the Organisation's mission from professionals other than veterinarians as well as clearer understanding worldwide of its key role in the veterinary and public health sectors.

Mr Gerrit Beger, Head of the OIE Communication Department, responded to several comments from Members who, while supporting the rebranding proposal, asked questions about the pronunciation of the acronym in English in order to avoid unpleasantries, others expressed disappointment that the OIE had consulted only some Delegates and not all. Some Delegates requested for clarification regarding the cost of this project as well as the rationale behind the decision to change the brand at this juncture. Mr Berger thanked the Delegates for their comments and informed them that the item will be presented during the administrative session of the 89th General Session.

12. Closing

The meeting officially ended at 11:15 a.m. CEST.

.../Appendix

**MEETING OF THE
OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE MIDDLE EAST
17 May 2022**

Agenda

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| 8:45 a.m.– 9:05 a.m. | Zoom check-in and connecting |
| 9:05 a.m.– 9:10 a.m. | Adoption of the agenda (Dr Fajer Al Salloom, President of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East and Delegate of Bahrain) |
| 9:10 a.m. – 9:20 a.m. | Outcomes of the 16th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East held on 3 and 4 November 2021 (Dr Ghazi Yehia, OIE Regional Representative for the Middle East) |
| 9:20 a.m. – 9:25 a.m. | Confirmation of the dates and venue of the 17th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East to be held in November 2023 (Dr Elias Ibrahim, Secretary General of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East and Delegate of Lebanon) |
| 9:25 a.m. – 9:35 a.m. | Selection of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be included in the agenda of the 17th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East (Dr Sanad Alharbi, Vice-President of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East and Delegate of Saudi Arabia) |
| 9:35 a.m. – 9:50 a.m. | Proposal of three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means (<i>Scientific and Technical Review, Bulletin</i> , scientific paper, technical item or during a specific activity/meeting) (Dr Abdelhakim Mohamed Ali, Vice-President of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East and Delegate of Egypt) |
| 9:50 a.m.– 10:00 a.m. | Barriers to the implementation of OIE Standards on aquatic animals: first results of the survey of national Focal Points for Aquatic Animals (Drs Laure Weber-Vintzel, Paula Caceres, Barbara Alessandrini, and Bernita Giffin) |
| 10:00 a.m. – 10:20 a.m. | The OIE capacity-building system: from the new normality to a new future. A dialogue with OIE Members on PVS and Training (Ms Barbara Alessandrini, Head OIE Capacity Building Department) |
| 10:20 a.m.– 10:25 a.m. | Adoption of the Regional Core Group Terms of Reference (Dr Fajer Al Salloom) |
| 10:25 a.m.– 10:35 a.m. | Application from the “Abu Dhabi Agriculture and Food Safety Authority” to become an OIE Collaborating Centre on Camel Diseases (Mrs Kaltham Kayaf, Delegate of the United Arab Emirates) |

CLOSED SESSION FOR DELEGATES ONLY

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| 10:35 a.m.– 10:55 a.m. | Proposal of a Member of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East to join the OIE Council as Member, and partial elections (if needed) in case of vacancy in the Bureau of the Regional Commission for the Middle East (Dr Fajer Al Salloom) |
| 10:55 a.m.– 11:10 a.m. | Presentation of the new logo and acronym of the Organisation (Ms Rita Rizk, Regional Communication officer) |
| 11:10 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. | Closing |