

Memorandum of Understanding

between

the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
and the International Development Association
and the World Animal Health Organisation (OIE)

The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Development Association (hereinafter referred to collectively as the "Bank"), and the OIE wish to coordinate their actions aimed at combating animal diseases and in doing so improve the safety of food of animal origin, improve food security, facilitate sustained international trade and thus contribute to poverty alleviation. In order to meet said objectives (hereinafter referred to as the Common Objectives) the two organizations wish to develop close collaboration within the framework of their respective formal mandates, and on this basis have agreed to the following:

Article 1

The Bank and OIE hereby declare their commitment to collaborate on matters relative to the Common Objectives, in particular regarding the application of the relevant articles of the World Trade Organization Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (the WTO SPS Agreement) and the strengthening of veterinary services.

Article 2

The resolutions and recommendations adopted under the auspices of the OIE which are provided to OIE Member Countries will also be sent to the Bank. The Bank will ensure proper dissemination of those resolutions and recommendations which are relevant to the Bank's work.

Article 3

The Bank and OIE have identified the following priority thematic areas for undertaking joint activities:

1. Strengthening the capacity of interested developing countries to meet the Common Objectives, in particular by supporting both public and private veterinary and sanitary services.
2. Promoting the development of international research on animal diseases and other related matters, for the benefit of developing countries.
3. Coordinating, in conjunction with other relevant international organizations, activities aimed at combating animal diseases and improving the safety of food of animal origin.
4. Promoting an increased role for developing countries in the process of setting international standards related to the Common Objectives.

Article 4

The Bank and OIE will collaborate through the following mechanisms:

1. OIE and the Bank shall consult each other, as necessary, in order to meet the Common Objectives and avoid duplication of activities.
2. As much as possible, representatives of each institution will attend the meetings and conferences related to the Common Objectives which are organized by either institution, in a consultative and deliberative manner. Both institutions will avoid organizing meetings or conferences on topics related to the Common Objectives without previous informal consultation with the other.
3. Both the Bank and OIE may can consult each other and request comments on subjects related to the Common Objectives.
4. As necessary, both institutions will exchange relevant information, reports and publications.
5. Within the framework of the Bank program to support rural development, the two parties will support interested developing countries, as much as possible, in designing and implementing programs supporting the Common Objectives.
6. Any additional topics of common interest may be detailed later in appendices to this Memorandum of Understanding.
7. The two parties agree to review this Memorandum of Understanding periodically. In addition, an evaluation will be conducted after three years in order to assess the need to continue with the partnership. If deemed appropriate at that time, this Memorandum of Understanding will terminate by mutual agreement.



Ian Johnson
Vice President
Environmentally and Socially
Sustainable Development
International Bank for Reconstruction and
Development/International Development
Association
Date:



Bernard Vallat
Director General
World Animal Health Organisation
(OIE)

Date:

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