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**Director General's Report on 2023 WOA
Management,
Activities
and Administrative Work**

Administrative Working Document



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1. Relations with Members

1.1 Accession of new Members

At the end of 2023, WOAHA had 183 Members following the accession of Saint-Vincent and the Grenadines approved by the World Assembly in May 2023.

1.2 Designation of permanent Delegates in 2023

Table 1. New Delegates in 2023

Date	Country	Name
1 January	Norway	Dr Ole-Herman Tronerud , Director, Norwegian Food Safety Authority
20 January	Bulgaria	Dr Ivan Shikov , Chief Veterinary Officer, Executive Director of Food Safety Agency
23 January	Dominican Republic	Dr Angela Coronadora Morillo Poché , Director of Animal Health
24 January	Lithuania	Dr Paulius Bušauskas , Deputy Director, State Food and Veterinary
31 January	Fiji	Mr Michael Macdonald Bartlett , Acting Chief Executive Officer Biosecurity Authority
1 February	Montenegro	Mr Vladimir Djakovic , Director of Administration for Food Safety, Veterinary and Phytosanitary Affairs
3 February	Brazil	Mr Eduardo de Azevedo Pedrosa Cunha , Director of Department of Animal Health
12 February	Syria	Dr Bassem Mohsen , Chief Veterinary Officer, Directorate of Animal Health
24 February	Armenia	Mr Armen Hayrapetyan , Head of the Food Safety Inspection Body
1 March	The Netherlands	Dr Willem Pelgrim , Chief Veterinary Officer
13 March	Tunisia	Dr Sana Kacem , Chargée de la Gestion de la Direction générale des Services vétérinaires
15 March	Panama	Dr Carlos Rubiel Moreno Vega , National Animal Health Director
16 March	India	Mr Rajesh Kumar Singh , Secretary (AHD) – Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying
19 March	Libya	Dr Abdul Rahman Jumamah Ajbil , Director General and Chief Veterinary Officer
24 March	Luxembourg	Dr Carlo Dahm , Head of the Animal Health and Welfare Division, Luxembourg Veterinary and Food Administration
31 March	Nigeria	Dr Columba Teru Vakuru , Chief Veterinary Officer, Department of Veterinary and Pest Control Services
3 April	Maldives	Mr Ismail Rasheed , Director General, Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources and Agriculture
3 April	Colombia	Mr Edilberto Brito Sierra , Deputy Manager of Animal Protection
4 April	Laos	Dr Kaviphone Phouthavong , Director General, Department of Livestock and Fisheries
16 April	Equatorial Guinea	Mr Pascual Bacale Mbiang , Director General, Livestock, Animal Health and Food Control
20 April	Angola	Dr Henrique Gimi , Director General of the Institute of Veterinary Services

20 April	India	Ms Alka Upadhyaya , Secretary, Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying
27 April	Mongolia	Dr Narantuya Ayushjav , Director General and Chief Veterinary Officer General Authority for Veterinary Services
1 May	Belize	Dr Roxanna Alvarez , Director and Chief Veterinary Officer, Animal Health Department
8 May	El Salvador	Dr Karen Margarita Sermeño Vides , Head of Veterinary Services Division, Directorate General for Animal Husbandry
15 May	Slovakia	Dr Martin Chudy , Chief Veterinary Officer, State Veterinary and Food Administration
24 May	Trinidad and Tobago	Dr Lana Gyan , Chief Veterinary Officer, Technical Officer, Animal Health
1 June	St Vincent and the Grenadines	Dr Kathian Hackshaw , Chief Veterinary Officer, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, Rural Transformation, Industry & Labour
12 June	Guatemala	Dr Khrista Marie Polanco Kepfer , Director of Animal Health
27 June	Lesotho	Dr Relebohile Lepheana , Director General, Veterinary Services
13 July	Pakistan	Dr Khalid Ashfaq , Acting Animal Husbandry Commissioner & Chief Veterinary Officer
20 July	Bulgaria	Dr Iliev Damyan , Counsellor to the Minister of Agriculture and Food on Veterinary Issues and Chief Veterinary Officer
27 July	Türkiye	Prof. Dr Ahmet Gümen , Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, General Directorate of Food and Control
20 August	Kuwait	Dr Yousef Al-Azemi , Supervisor of Coordination and Follow-up Department, Authority of Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources
28 August	Mali	Dr Boubacar dit Youcoule Kanoute , Chief Veterinary Officer
1 September	Seychelles	Dr Jimmy Melanie , Principal Veterinary Officer, Agriculture Department – Animal Health and Livestock Research Division
24 September	Nepal	Umesh Dahal , Director General, Department of Livestock Services
25 September	Costa Rica	Luis Alberto Matamores Cortes , Chief Veterinary Officer
8 October	Iran	Dr Mojtaba Norouzi , Head of Iran Veterinary Organization
1 October	Slovakia	Prof. Dr Jozef Bireš , Chief Veterinary Officer, State Veterinary and Food Administration
1 November	Jordan	Dr Ibtihal Khreesha , Under Secretary General for Animal Wealth
3 November	Niger	Dr Aboubacar Ramou , Head of Veterinary Services
13 November	Lithuania	Dr Vaidotas Kiudulas , Chief Veterinary Officer, State Food and Veterinary Service
28 November	Kyrgyzstan	Dr Ulugbek Kozhobergenov , Director of the Veterinary Service
1 December	Australia	Dr Beth Cookson , Chief Veterinary Officer
1 December	Kenya	Dr Allan Azegele , Director of Veterinary Services
1 December	Pakistan	Dr Muhammad Akram , Animal Husbandry Commissioner, Chief Veterinary Officer
4 December	New Zealand	Dr Mary Van Andel , Chief Veterinary Officer
8 December	El Salvador	Dr Sonia Lissette Sanchez Lopez , Head of Veterinary Services Division
11 December	Panama	Dr Concepción Santos Sanjur , National Director of Animal Health, Chief Veterinary Officer

1.3 Contribution categories

On 31 December 2023, the distribution of Members by category was as follows:

First category	16
Second category	7
Third category	12
Fourth category	15
Fifth category	28 (including 3 LDCs ¹)
Sixth category	105 (including 40 LDCs)
Total	183 Members

In 2023, no Member changed its contribution category. Three (3) Members contributed in category A and one (1) Member in category B.

In 2024, three (3) Members will contribute in category A.

2. WOAH statutory bodies

2.1 World Assembly

The 90th General Session of the World Assembly of Delegates was held in Paris in person, from 21 to 25 May 2023. One hundred and forty-one (141) Members participated in the General Session.

In accordance with Article 47 of the General Rules, the Resolutions of the 90th General Session and the Final Report of the Session were sent to the Governments of all Members in June 2023.

2.2 Council, Regional Commissions, Commissions and Working Groups

At the 90th General Session, the Assembly held elections to elect two (2) members (Europe and the Americas) of the Council, a Vice President and the Secretary General of the Regional Commission for Europe, a Vice President and the Secretary General of the Regional Commission for the Americas and the President and a Vice President of the Regional Commission for the Middle East.

There was no election for the Specialist Commissions in 2023. In accordance with the texts, the composition of the Working Groups (Wildlife Working Group and Antimicrobial Resistance Working Group) was presented and approved by the Assembly.

The situation as of 31 December 2023 is presented in [Annex 1](#).

3. WOAH Administration

3.1 Staff

A table of WOAH staff according to the source of funding is provided in [Annex 2](#).

A table of WOAH staff and the number of nationalities is provided in [Annex 3](#).

A table of WOAH staff according to gender is provided in [Annex 3](#).

3.2 Works and Equipment

Maintenance and renovation work on the WOAH Headquarters buildings continued, including plumbing, electrical and cabling works, and the improvement of security installations. Two (2) meeting rooms were created (fourth floor at 12 rue de Prony and second floor at 14 rue de Prony) and furnished with appropriate coworking equipment.

With a building study being carried out (to assess the possibilities for optimising the use of land), the works have been limited to the maintenance of the premises and equipment.

¹ Least Developed Countries

4. Financial and Budgetary Management

2023, the Headquarters was responsible for managing:

- The Regular budget
- The accounts of the Regional and the Sub-Regional Representations
- The World Animal Health and Welfare Fund
- The other special accounts (Autonomous Old Age Pension Fund of the Organisation and the Joint Old Age Pension Fund for the staff of WOA Regional and Sub-Regional Representations).

Detailed reports for each account are provided in the WOA Financial Report for the 97th Financial Year (91GS/Fin-01).

Annex 1. Tables of the composition of the Council, Regional Commissions, Specialist Commissions and Working Groups as of 31 December 2023

Table 2. Composition of the Council

Council composition	
Dr Hugo Federico Idoyaga Benítez (Paraguay)	President
Dr Mark Schipp (Australia)	Past President
Dr Susana Guedes Pombo (Portugal)	VicePresident
Dr Him Hoo Yap (Singapore)	member
Dr Komla Batassé Batawui (Togo)	member
Dr Roland Xolani Dlamini (Eswatini)	member
Dr Wilmer Juarez Juarez (Nicaragua)	member
Dr Konstantin Savenkov (Russian Federation)	member
Dr Fajer Sabah Al Salloom (Bahrain)	member

Table 3. Composition of the Bureaus of the Regional Commissions

Bureaus of the Regional Commissions composition	
Regional Commission for Africa	
Dr Honoré Robert N’Lemba Mabela (Dem. Rep. of the Congo)	President
Dr Mbargou Lo (Senegal)	VicePresident
Dr Albertina Shilongo (Namibia)	VicePresident
Dr Anna Rose Ademun Okurut (Uganda)	Secretary General
Regional Commission for the Americas	
Dr Ximena Melón (Argentina)	President
Dr Arnold Dwarkasing (Curacao)	VicePresident
Dr Rosemary Sifford (United States of America)	VicePresident
Dr Rafael Enrique Rodriguez Alvarado (Honduras)	Secretary General
Regional Commission for Asia and the Pacific	
Dr Baoxu Huang (People's Republic of China)	President
<i>Vacant</i>	VicePresident
Dr Masatsugu Okita (Japan)	VicePresident
Dr Ye Tun Win (Myanmar)	Secretary General
Regional Commission for Europe	
Dr Maris Balodis (Latvia)	President
Dr Ulrich Herzog (Austria)	VicePresident
Dr Vasili Basiladze (Georgia)	VicePresident
Dr Nikolche Babovski (Republic of North Macedonia)	Secretary General
Regional Commission for Middle East	
Dr Sanad Al Harbi (Saudi Arabia)	President
<i>Vacant</i>	VicePresident
Dr Samah Al Sharif (Oman)	VicePresident
Dr Elias Ibrahim (Lebanon)	Secretary General

Table 4. Composition of the Specialist Commissions

Specialist Commissions composition	
Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission	
Dr Etienne Bonbon (France)	President
Dr Gastón María Funes (Argentina)	VicePresident
Prof. Salah Hammami (Tunisia)	VicePresident
Dr Lucio Ignacio Carbajo Goñi (Spain)	member
Dr Kiyokazu Murai (Japan)	member
Dr Bernardo Todeschini (Brazil)	member
Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases	
Dr Cristóbal Zepeda (United States of America)	President
Dr Kris de Clercq (Belgium)	VicePresident
Dr Trevor Drew (Australia)	VicePresident
Dr Silvia Bellini (Italy)	member
Dr Misheck Mulumba (South Africa)	member
Dr Baptiste Dungu (South Africa)	member
Biological Standards Commission	
Prof. Emmanuel Couacy-Hymann (Côte d'Ivoire)	President
Prof. Ann Cullinane (Ireland)	VicePresident
Dr John Pasick (Canada)	VicePresident
Dr Chris Oura (Trinidad and Tobago)	member
Dr Joseph S. O'Keefe (New Zealand)	member
Dr Satoko Kawaji (Japan)	member
Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission	
Dr Ingo Ernst (Australia)	President
Dr Alicia Gallardo Lagno (Chile)	VicePresident
Dr Fiona Geoghegan (Ireland)	VicePresident
Dr Kevin William Christison (South Africa)	member
Prof. Dr Hong Liu (People's Republic of China)	member
Dr Espen Rimstad (Norway)	member

Table 5. Composition of the Working Groups

Working Groups composition	
Working Group on Wildlife	
Dr William B. Karesh (United States of America)	President
Dr Jonathan Sleeman (United States of America)	
Dr Marcela Uhart (Argentina)	
Prof. Koichi Murata (Japan)	
Dr Rupert Woods (Australia)	
<i>Vacant</i>	
<i>Vacant</i>	
Working Group on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)	
Dr Tomoko Ishibashi (Japan)	President
<i>Vacant</i>	
Dr Donald Prater (United States of America)	
Prof. Moritz van Vuuren (South Africa)	
Dr Fajer Sabah Al Saloom (Bahrain)	
Dr Stephen Page (Australia)	
Ms Barbara Fleischer (The Netherlands)	

Annex 2. WOAAH staff by source of funding as of 31 December 2023

Table 6. Headquarters staff

Sources of funding for staff at Headquarters				
Entity	Paid by WOAAH		Placed at the disposal of WOAAH by their Organisation or country of origin	Total Number
	Regular Budget	World Fund, with donor support		
Directorate General	4	1	0	5
Engagement and Investment Department	0	6	0	6
Digital Transformation & Information Systems Department	4	3	0	7
Communication Department	7	4	0	11
Performance Management and Internal Control Unit	1	0	0	1
Directorate of Administration	1	0	0	1
Human Resources Unit	5	0	0	5
Budget Unit	5	0	0	5
Accounting Unit	3	2	0	5
General Services Unit	7	0	0	7
Regional Activities Department	3	1	3	7
Capacity-Building Department	0	10	0	10
Legal Affairs Unit	2	0	1	3
Documentation Cell	2	0	0	2
Events Coordination Unit	6	0	0	6
World Animal Health Information and Analysis	15	2	1	18
Data Integration Department	2	4	1	7
Standards Department	7	1	3	11
Status Department	7	1	0	8
Preparedness and Resilience Department	1	8	0	9
Science Department	4	5		9
Antimicrobial Resistance and Veterinary Products Department	3	8	1	12
Publications Unit	4	0	0	4
Procurement Unit	2	1	0	3
Institutional Affairs and Regional Activities	1	2	0	3
International Standards and Science	1	1	1	3
TOTAL	97	60	11	168
	58%	36%	7%	(100%)

Table 7. Staff of the Regional Representations (RR) and Sub-Regional Representations (SRR)

Sources of funding for staff of the RR and SRR				
Entity	Paid by WOH		Placed at the disposal of WOH by their Organisation or country of origin	Total Number
	Paid by WOH from the Regular Budget or RR/SRR	Paid by WOH from the World Fund, with donor support		
RR for Americas	5	0	0	5
SRR for Central America and the Caribbean	2	0	1	3
RR for Africa	8	10	0	18
SRR for Southern Africa	3	2	0	5
SRR for North Africa	0	3	1	4
RR for Eastern Africa	3	7	0	10
RR for Asia and the Pacific	0	13	0	13
SRR for South-East Asia	0	11	1	12
RR for Middle East	1	0	0	1
SRR for the Arabian Gulf	2	0	1	3
SRR in Brussels	2	2	2	6
RR in Moscow	2	0	1	3
SRR for Central Asia	2	1	1	4
TOTAL	30	49	8	87
	34%	56%	9%	100%

Annex 3. Tables of WOAH staff, nationalities and gender as of 31 December 2023

Number of nationalities at Headquarters:	55
In the RR and SRR:	37 (including 18 already represented at Headquarters)
Total:	71

Table 8. Number of agents of WOAH according to nationality as of 31 December 2023

Number of WOAH agents by nationality			
	French	Other nationalities	Total
Headquarters	55	113 ²	168
Regional and Sub-Regional Representations	6	81	87
TOTAL	61 (24%)	194 (76%)	255 (100%)

Table 9. Number of agents of WOAH according to gender as of 31 December 2023

Number of WOAH agents by gender			
	Women	Men	Total
Headquarters ³	110	58	168
Regional and Sub-Regional Representations ⁴	32	55	87
TOTAL	142 (56%)	113 (44%)	255 (100%)

² including 13 staff who also have French Nationality

³ including 3 women and 4 men in the Executive Committee, and 15 women and 12 men in the Management Committee

⁴ including 10 men and 2 women Representatives