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PARIS



World  
Organisation  
for Animal  
Health  
Founded in 1924

Organisation  
mondiale  
de la santé  
animale  
Fondée en 1924

Organización  
Mundial  
de Sanidad  
Animal  
Fundada en 1924

# Is WOAHA Ready for the Future? Scenario Package

General Session Forum

Celebrating 100 years of the World Organisation for Animal Health  
Animal Health is our Health. It's everyone's health.  
Founded in 1924 as the Office International des Epizooties

## Exploring scenarios help us prepare to adapt and evolve.

- During the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Participatory Foresight Project, an international panel of participants – experts, Delegates and students – identified critical trends and emerging changes and explored their implications and potential impacts.
- From the explorations of changes and their impacts on food, ecosystems, livestock, trade and the veterinary profession, participants built five future scenarios – three are described in this Scenario Package.
- The scenarios are designed to provoke your thinking; they contain futures within which Veterinary Services and WOAAH will need to be resilient in the face of ongoing change.

## How the scenarios will be used in the Forum?

*They will be used to consider how the conditions of these futures might pose challenges or opportunities for WOAAH, including its governance.*



# Tips for Exploring Future Scenarios



- **Be curious about the contents of the future scenarios. Do not question the scenarios; accept the conditions of the futures as described.**
- **Remember when experiencing these futures that your goal is adapting so you can thrive within these conditions.**
- **Bring your experience, your perceptions of the present and future, your professional role, your local/geographical context, and your relationship to WOA to the exploration.**
- **Keep in mind that the scenarios are to support reflection and learning during this Forum. It is hoped that Delegates and participants will bring insights back from these futures to support adopting a resolution to undertake the revision of the Basic Texts.**



# Scenario 1

## *Eco-Revolution Rising*



# Key drivers of change in “*Eco-revolution Rising*” (Scenario 1)



- **Climate change impacting farming and food systems**
- **Fewer veterinarians in the public service**
- **Shifting societal expectations around environmental sustainability**



# Eco-Revolution Rising – Scenario 1

In the late 2020s, climate change's impact on the food system became evident. The climate crisis accelerated support for the COP28, 29, and 30 global food systems roadmap.

In some parts of the world, a new era in food technology blurred the lines between natural and synthetic food. Bio-engineered food producing animals were introduced to withstand infectious disease and climate-related challenges.

Conflicts both within and between regions and nations were sparked over priorities, access, and modes for food production.

Amidst these conflicts and the climate crisis, counterculture movements emerged, challenging global agri-food corporations and large-scale farming and advocating for ecologically sustainable agriculture.



# Eco-Revolution Rising – Scenario 1 (continued)



Governments implemented legislation on land use, legal rights for forests and animals, and nutrition quotas. Agro-ecology movements fostered local community-based food production.

Big food corporations recognised the need for change and pivoted their business strategies in response. Some sought more involvement in the scientific network of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).

Meanwhile, the number of veterinarians in the public sector continued to diminish. With fewer veterinarians in the public service, and with the private sector seeking representation at WOAH, the World Assembly drastically changed. In the late 2030s, other international organisations were fostering partnerships with the private sector & allowing for special relationships.

In 2050, significant consolidation occurred in international standard setting. These unified standards aim to address sustainable agriculture, biodiversity, cultural heritage, and animal, environmental and human health for a harmonious coexistence.



# Scenario 2

*In WOAAH We Trust*





# Key drivers of change of “*In WOAAH We Trust*”

## Scenario 2

- Environmental consequences of pollution, climate change, and biodiversity loss
- Distrust in science
- One Health movement



# In WOAAH We Trust – Scenario 2

In the late 2020s, three major events occurred that had impacts on animal health and welfare: a 40 percent drop in the effectiveness of antibiotics related to microplastics pollution in animal feed; temperature-induced mortality in live animal transport doubled, leading to global bans; and ecosystem restoration efforts had unintended consequences, with rewilding causing infectious disease spikes and toxic chemical uptake in urban areas.

International organisations, including WOAAH, responded, but misinformation became a major obstacle by 2030. The 'One Health' approach remained crucial, yet the public was increasingly unconvinced.



# In WOAAH We Trust – Scenario 2 (continued)



Quality information, proposals, and courses of action were useless when most people did not know, let alone trust, these institutions, and scientific messages were being drowned out in a sea of misinformation.

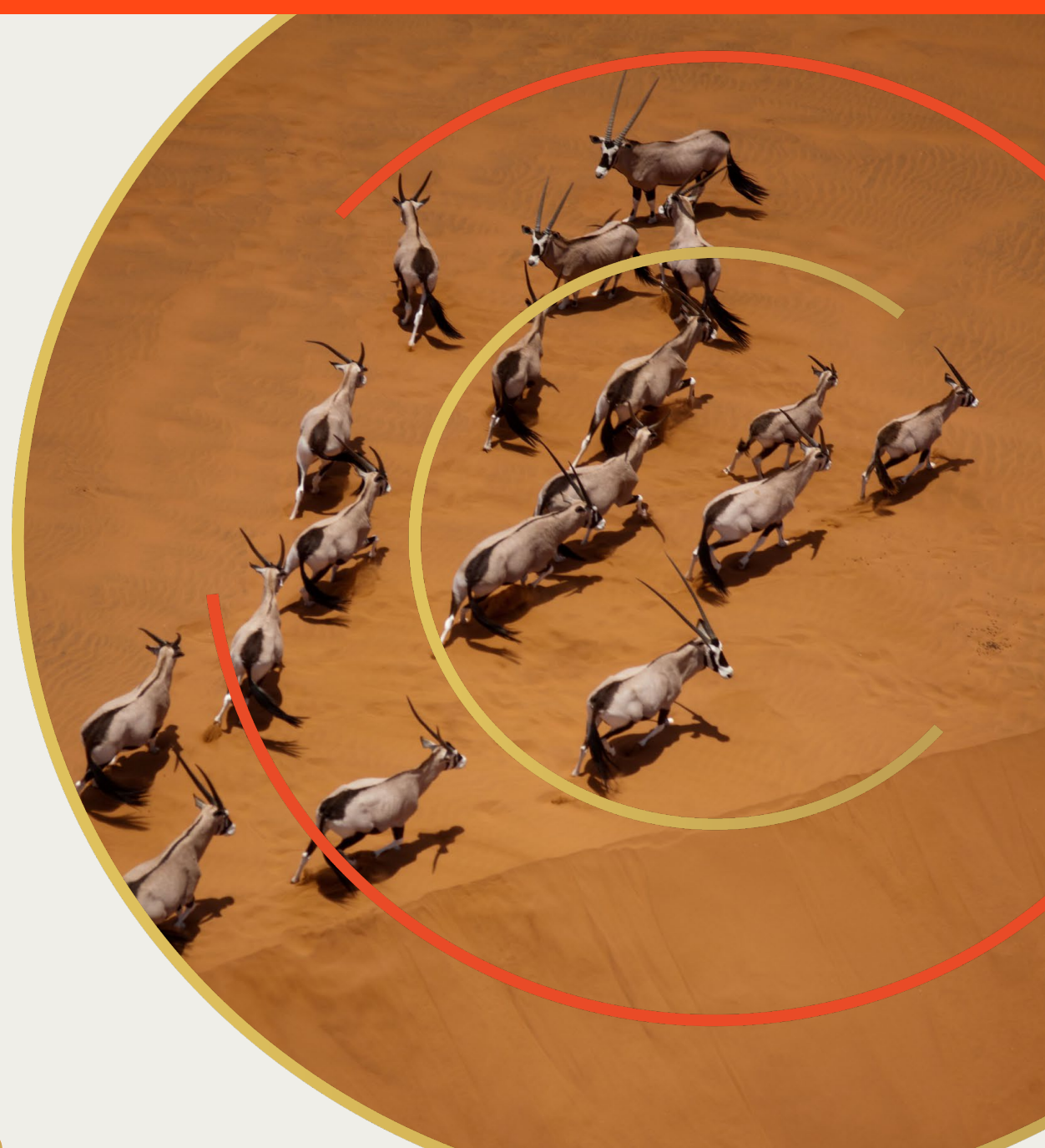
By the late 2030s, WOAAH faced rising public distrust, prompting a shift in communication strategies with efforts involving social networks, influencers, and media. WOAAH's image improved, and by 2045, it ranked among the world's most trusted organisations.

WOAH's 'soft power' grew, focusing on cultural influences and international relations. By 2050, it hosted a global seminar where Delegates proposed a collaborative 'super-organisation' for human, animal, and environmental health worldwide. This entity aims for health equality through bold initiatives in animal welfare, quality food, and holistic health, prioritizing less developed regions and marginalised communities.



# Scenario 3

## *Hangry Games*



# Key drivers of change of “*Hangry Games*” (Scenario 3)

- **Global political and economic tensions**
- **Innovations using Artificial Intelligence**
- **Climate change and environmental degradation**



# Hangry Games – Scenario 3

After 2030, global politics shifted, creating new power blocs and escalating border conflicts over strategic resources. This in turn challenged international agreements, leading to increased trade disruptions and local social unrest. Rising political and economic tensions meant even less global agreement on coordinated climate change responses.

By 2035, warnings from separate eco-sensor artificial intelligence (AI) arrays run by national, academic and non-governmental organisations in Latin America, Eastern Europe, sub-Saharan Africa, the Pacific Ocean, and in low earth orbit indicated ecosystem tipping points were imminent. The glaciers melted, and rising seas infiltrated freshwater tables along many coasts.



# Hangry Games – Scenario 3 (continued)



Rainfall patterns shifted randomly from year to year. The result was synchronised harvest failure in 2037-2038 across the globe, plunging every country into chaos. International animal and food trade collapsed. People and animals migrated in search of safe places to live.

At the same time, in some parts of the globe, the use of artificial intelligence (AI) was central to addressing animal health challenges including updating of health and welfare standards, disease monitoring and treatment, as well as veterinary medicines and diagnostics.

However, the installation, upkeep and energy requirements for AI-run systems increased inequalities in agriculture and aquaculture production systems. Grey and black markets flourished using AI systems for fraud, misinformation, and bioweapon development.

In the face of these challenges, efforts were made to build new systems, transforming agreements and infrastructure. Decentralised green energy now powers agriculture, energy-efficient sensors monitor ecosystems, and adaptive AI platforms manage global trade equitably. New collaborations generate hope for the rise of renewed and resilient animal production systems.

