

**Recommendations of the Conferences  
of the Regional Commissions organised  
since 1st June 2024**

*[Administrative Working Document]*

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# 1. 31st Conference of the Regional Commission for Europe

Samarkand, Uzbekistan, from 30 September to 4 October 2024

## Recommendation No. 1

### The role of Animal Health and Veterinary Services in One Health and pandemic prevention and preparedness

#### CONSIDERING THAT:

1. Members of the Europe region recognise the importance of the One Health (OH) approach including its crucial role in pandemic prevention and preparedness;
2. Members of the Europe region are engaged in advancing the OH approach through various means and mechanisms, and they are working to further develop it to address health threats at the animal-human-environment interface taking into account Climate Change;
3. The Regional One Health Coordination Mechanism was established in 2021 by the Regional Quadripartite organisations (FAO, UNEP, WHO and WOAHA) to support Members in the implementation of the One Health approach, supported by scientific advice from the One Health High Level Expert Panel;
4. The WOAHA Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) Pathway being one of the selection criteria for the scoring of applications of the Pandemic Fund hosted by the World Bank;
5. The One Health Joint Plan of Action and its implementation guide, is a collaborative, participatory effort among the Quadripartite organisations, to strengthen country-level collaboration, communication, capacity building, and coordination equally across all sectors responsible for addressing health concerns at the human-animal-environment interface;
6. The UN General Assembly political declaration adopted in September 2023 calling for strengthening high-level international coordination allowing Members commitment to better prevent, prepare for and respond to pandemics;
7. Supportive political environment and legislative structure at national, regional and global levels, as well as adequate financial support, are key for the successful implementation of the OH approach;
8. Operationalisation of OH requires leadership from animal, human, and environment sectors; with meaningful involvement of civil society and academia, including collaboration with sub-regional, regional, and global partners. It also requires inter-ministerial cooperation and data sharing as well as coordinated research.

## THE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

### RECOMMENDS THAT:

1. Governments of WOAHA Members provide political support and engagement to the OH approach by:
  - a. Promoting the OH approach through advocacy for policies that integrate OH principles and communication campaigns for the general public based on concrete challenges/ examples;
  - b. Supporting the development of the relevant legal framework to ensure a solid legal foundation for the application of the OH approach that encourages intersectoral collaboration, information sharing and the representation of relevant sectors and stakeholders;
  - c. Considering the creation or strengthening of existing OH national coordination mechanisms or OH platform that facilitate coordination, collaboration and active participation among relevant sectors and stakeholders.
  - d. Providing sufficient and sustainable funding appropriately allocated, alongside other relevant stakeholders and donors, between sectors (public, animal and environmental health) and taking into account risk-based prioritised actions.
2. National Veterinary Services of WOAHA Members:
  - a. Advocate for political support and engagement for the OH approach and more specifically for the critical role of Veterinary Services in this approach;
  - b. Raise awareness on the importance of the OH approach to foster and create trust with the different stakeholders involved. Including government officials, health and environment professionals, veterinarians, researchers, private sector and civil society organisations to facilitate the operationalisation of the OH approach at national level;
  - c. Take advantage of the [OH operational tools](#) available to help countries operationalise OH and of the support provided by WOAHA as well as other partners of the Quadripartite to promote, coordinate, communicate and develop the OH approach;
  - d. Identify and build on the existing established mechanisms, structures, and networks that could be used as a basis to adopt and implement the OH approach at national level;
  - e. Invest in capacity building and training initiatives to enhance the skills, competencies and knowledge of the veterinary workforce to implement the OH approach;
  - f. Establish comprehensive and coordinated monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to assess the progress and the impact of the implementation of OH initiatives;
  - g. Ensure risk-based prioritisation of actions highlighted in the OH Joint Plan of Action in accordance with the country's priorities and improve financing and coordination strategies for its effective implementation;
  - h. Promote and participate in global and regional initiatives creating common knowledge through capacity building or sharing experiences and developing a transboundary OH approach.
3. The World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH):
  - a. Continue to prioritise work ensuring that the voice of the animal health sector and Veterinary Services is heard in all relevant political fora in which the global health governance is discussed;

- b. Seek support to develop economic data-driven arguments to convince governments and donors of the return of investment of the OH approach and that the cost of inaction is much higher than the cost of prevention;
- c. Continue promoting strong multisectoral collaboration at all levels (global, regional and national), through the Quadripartite Collaboration on OH, supported by the scientific advice of One Health High Level Expert Panel;
- d. Continue to provide support to Members through the PVS Pathway, and the OH specific workshops, the [IHR-PVS National Bridging Workshops](#) (NBWs), and other OH operational tools developed under the [Tripartite Zoonosis Guide](#) to facilitate implementation of the OH approach at national level;
- e. Develop training programmes for Veterinary Services on OH including practical case studies and simulation exercises, in collaboration with members of the Quadripartite including the WHO Academy.

## **2. 31st Conference of the Regional Commission for Europe**

Samarkand, Uzbekistan, 30 September to 4 October 2024

### **Recommendation No. 2**

#### **Advancements in the Veterinary Services through Digitalisation (Data Management, Veterinary Information Systems, Big Data, Meta Language, Artificial Intelligence)**

##### **CONSIDERING THAT:**

1. Data in animal health and veterinary epidemiology do exist and are collected, however, they are largely under-utilised or not available in practice. They are often handled in isolation, with minimal to no communication between the different sectors involved, and there are significant challenges throughout the process, from data availability and collection, to analysis and the generation of meaningful insights;
2. The vast amount of animal health data generated daily, and big data analytics, can represent a revolution in the way we approach disease control and epidemiological surveillance;
3. Advances in genomics, sensors and information technologies are enabling more detailed and accurate characterisation of animal health;
4. Precision Veterinary Epidemiology is a concept that uses multi-level animal health data to better understand disease dynamics in a population and to design more cost-effective systems for surveillance, early detection and rapid control of animal diseases;
5. Digitalisation can bring great value to Veterinary Services, helping them to increase efficiency and sustainability of livestock production with a smaller ecological footprint, reduce environmental impact and improve disease prevention and management at local, regional and global levels;
6. There are certainly some challenges, but there is also a tremendous opportunity for Veterinary Services to use available computational tools to significantly improve animal health;
7. The legal framework for data management is comprised of a variety of laws, regulations, and guidelines that govern how data is collected, stored, processed, shared, and protected depending on the intended use for the data collection process. It aims to ensure that organisations handle data responsibly, securely, and transparently;
8. The legal framework for data management is complex and continually evolving, reflecting growing concerns over data privacy, security, and ethical use. Veterinary Services and Organisations must ensure they stay compliant with both international and national laws by adopting appropriate data management practices, policies, and governance frameworks, acknowledging the cost to generate and collect data and the potential beneficiaries of processed data.

## THE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

### RECOMMENDS THAT:

1. Governments of WOAAH Members include animal health and welfare dimension in the relevant overarching policies related to digital transformation including from the perspective of legal framework for data management and link animal, human and environmental health data to support OH implementation.
2. Veterinary Services of WOAAH Members:
  - a. Sensitise high level authorities about the importance of allocating resources to enhance the quality, harmonisation, and security of data collection processes. This includes ensuring that data sets are well-documented with metadata and data dictionaries, enabling proper sharing, merging, and comparison;
  - b. Consider expanding the scope of their expertise to subjects related to proper management of data;
  - c. Develop IT systems and legal framework for data collection and analysis and share data among the Members of the Region using the existing tools to facilitate risk assessment, risk communication and decision making;
  - d. Act as a catalyst for digitisation in agriculture and aquaculture to improve data collection and assisting with data interpretation in particular through support of public private partnership involving multidisciplinary teams from academia, including data scientists and IT engineering, and private sectors;
  - e. With the support of WOAAH and its partners, share experiences on development of:
    - i. new artificial intelligence (AI) approaches and machine learning (ML) algorithms specifically adapted to animal health data.
    - ii. user-friendly tools to monitor, visualise, assess and generate "interpretable" alerts on risks in real time, digital optimisation of processes related to epidemiological investigations or certification, and to facilitate risk communication.
  - f. Use data from PVS Information System to identify priorities for improvement and advocate for resources and investments.
3. The World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH):
  - a. Keep promoting the digitalisation of Veterinary Services and develop policy and guidelines for the equitable and inclusive access of digitalisation tools to the Veterinary Services, including those in low-resource settings;
  - b. Support exchange of practices and impact assessment of the development and operation of tools for the integration and interpretation of animal health and welfare directly or indirectly related data, including generation and collection of these data;
  - c. Consider expanding its veterinary education support to include digitalisation;
  - d. Continue to pursue its own digital transformation, which was prioritised and initiated during the 7th Strategic Plan;
  - e. Consider, together with its partners and all relevant stakeholders, the development of animal health data collection harmonisation and interoperability frameworks, clear case definitions, metadata and data dictionaries.

### **3. 27th Conference of the Regional Commission for the Americas**

Quito, Ecuador, 25 - 29 November 2024

#### **Recommendation No. 1 Current scenario of critical veterinary products**

##### CONSIDERING THAT:

1. Veterinary products play a key role in the prevention and control of animal diseases;
2. Access to Veterinary products is essential for both animal health and welfare, influencing and having an impact on “One Health” results, including the fight against antimicrobial resistance;
3. According to Chapter 6.10 on Responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents in veterinary medicine of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code, Veterinary Authorities should promote the availability of authorised antimicrobial products on the market in collaboration with the veterinary pharmaceutical industry to follow-up any potential products shortages;
4. According to the same Chapter, the pharmaceutical industry should endeavour to ensure that authorised antimicrobial products are available and cooperate with the Competent Authority to forecast and avoid any shortages;
5. Ensuring that everybody has a role to play in the availability of critical veterinary products. This includes the national Competent Authorities, the veterinary pharmaceutical industry and their international associations, the wholesale and retail distributors, the veterinarians, and the breeders, owners and keepers of animals;
6. Veterinary product shortages may cause negative impacts on animal health and welfare, public health and even food production chains;
7. There is no harmonised definition of critical or essential veterinary products, besides specific initiatives such as the WOAHA List of antimicrobial agents of veterinary importance and the List of essential medicines for food producing animals developed by Brooke and the World Veterinary Association (WVA);
8. It is important to identify the causes and impact of essential or critical veterinary product shortages to define effective measures to prevent and solve the lack of availability;
9. In most Members of the Regional Commission for the Americas, no plans or programmes were identified either to define and study the causes of shortages or to implement measures to avoid essential or critical veterinary product shortages



## THE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE AMERICAS

### RECOMMENDS THAT:

#### THE VETERINARY AUTHORITIES OF THE MEMBERS:

1. Draw up a list of essential or critical veterinary products taking into consideration existing lists defined by international organisations, including the List of antimicrobial agents of veterinary importance compiled by WOAHA and the WVA/Brooke List of essential medicines for food producing animals, as well as the epidemiological characteristics of the country itself, ensuring that such document is continually updated;
2. Design an action programme including measures to prevent, combat and mitigate shortages of essential or critical veterinary product shortages;
3. Involve all the relevant actors in the veterinary products manufacturing and distribution chain, as well as veterinary professionals and society in the development and implementation of such a programme;
4. Participate and promote in the existing initiatives aiming for the harmonisation of technical requirements for the registration of veterinary products including the International Cooperation on Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Registration of Veterinary Medicinal Products (VICH) and the Americas Committee for Veterinary Products (CAMEVET). Collaborative actions should be directed to reduce regulatory barriers;
5. Create a task force or working group to identify and assess all aspects related to essential product shortages, including the characterisation of the shortages, the definition of the causes and their impact;
6. Establish communication mechanisms with information exchanges on critical products shortages between the regulatory authorities and private sector companies such as manufacturers, importers, distributors and marketers, so that a critical veterinary product stockout risk assessment system can be introduced;
7. Establish contingency measures for shortage crisis situations, evaluating the adoption of procedures such as import and use authorisations in emergency situations, the use of inputs whose manufacture may have been suspended because of failures in Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) or the lengthening of product shelf lives, always as part of a risk-benefit approach;
8. Promote incentives through formal recognition of companies that operate highly efficient quality systems;
9. Foster improving quality systems to avoid the risk of product supply disruptions.
10. Advocate for the development of policies and regulatory frameworks that support access to innovative veterinary products.

WOAH:

1. Develop guidelines to assist Members in defining critical or essential veterinary products, adapted to the needs and specificities of each country, in particular some relevant criteria that countries should take into account when drawing up their own list of essential or critical veterinary products;
2. Promote cooperation and harmonisation of technical requirements between countries in cases of shortages of veterinary medicine in all situations, including crisis, through the National Focal Points for Veterinary Products;
3. Facilitate discussion platforms to enable solidarity-based cooperation with countries facing shortages of essential veterinary products and restrictions on their supply, particularly in crisis situations.

## 4. 27th Conference of the Regional Commission for the Americas

Quito, Ecuador, 25 - 29 November 2024

### Recommendation No. 2

#### **New World screwworm (*Cochliomyia hominivorax*) and its economic impact on the affected countries**

##### CONSIDERING THAT:

1. Globalisation of trade, increased movement of people and animals, climate change and other environmental and socio-economic factors, as well as the lack of awareness, contribute to the global spread of pathogens and vectors;
2. Besides being a zoonosis, the New World screwworm (NWS) generates significant economic losses in livestock farming, due to inadequate husbandry practices affecting animals;
3. The disease affects farm, companion animals, and wildlife, being a threat to biodiversity and also affecting the human population;
4. The decision to implement preventive and curative treatments, control, eradication programmes or temporary control measures depends not only on the immediate cost-benefit analysis but also on the evaluation of the long-term consequences in terms of competitiveness and sustainability of livestock farming in the affected regions;
5. The development of socio-economic studies to support the definition of disease control and eradication measures requires epidemiological data as a scientific basis for policy decisions;
6. The NWS, which was successfully eradicated in Central America through a strategy based on epidemiological surveillance, education and the environmental dispersal of sterile flies, managed to cross the barrier established by the Panama - United States Commission for the Eradication and Prevention of Screwworm (COPEG), progressively affecting animals in Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras and Guatemala, and being detected in Mexico;
7. The response of countries and individuals to any threat or danger is related to their perception of the level of actual or potential losses, the risk to which they are exposed and the possibilities they have to reduce, avoid or mitigate it;
8. Prevention, control and eradication of the NWS is possible through close collaboration between public and private sectors;
9. The best prevention and control strategy relies on promoting epidemiological surveillance to ensure early detection and monitoring of outbreaks, the dispersal of sterile flies, education, promoting coordination among farmers, veterinarians, physicians, national and local competent authorities, and national animal health programmes to foster the flow of epidemiological information under a OH approach.

## THE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE AMERICAS

### RECOMMENDS THAT:

#### WOAH:

1. Promote notification of disease outbreaks and the prevalence of NWS in endemic areas to provide accurate epidemiological information enabling decision-making for the prevention, control and eradication of the disease;
2. Promote collaborative work among countries in the region, with the participation of the private sector, with the aim of reducing the risk of outbreak spreading as well as reducing the impact of outbreaks when they occur;
3. Support the development of methodologies and tools to estimate the economic impact of NWS infestation in countries where it is present and in those still free;
4. Coordinate the actions of all international, regional and sub-regional organisations under the umbrella of the GF-TADs;
5. Prioritise the revision of the current Chapter on NSW in the Terrestrial Code.

#### WOAH MEMBERS:

6. Promote coordinated regional efforts to implement prevention and control measures, including surveillance as well as training, awareness-raising and good livestock practices.
7. Maintain a state of alertness and prevention on NWS consistent with the situation in neighbouring countries and the geographical spread in affected areas;
8. Develop community information and education programmes consistent with the epidemiological risk of NWS for animals and the human population;
9. Work in coordination with the Ministries of Health and Environment on the prevention and control of cases in the human population;
10. Increase the production capacity of sterile flies.

#### AFFECTED MEMBERS:

11. Implement a national control and eradication programme, as appropriate, based on epidemiological surveillance, education, good zootechnical practices, and the use of sterile insect technique (SIT) and its efficacy evaluation, combined with a robust epidemiological surveillance system and biosecurity measures.

#### THE VETERINARY AUTHORITIES OF MEMBERS:

12. Work on strengthening their capacities to monitor and track fly populations and animals affected by NWS. To that effect, it is important to apply animal health economics concepts to prioritise activities according to their economic and social impact;
13. Implement public-private partnership and financing strategies for monitoring, control or eradication as appropriate, with a design using economic principles to define and share responsibilities between public and private sectors, including financing and compensation mechanisms.

## **5. 26th Conference of the Regional Commission for Africa**

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 4-7 February 2025

### **Recommendation No. 1**

#### **Control and eradication of CBPP in Africa: Challenges and Strategies for a CBPP Free Africa**

##### **CONSIDERING:**

1. The importance of cattle to livelihoods, food, and nutrition security, incomes, and resilience of rural and pastoral communities in Africa, as well as their contribution to national economies and the emergent opportunities to increase intra-African trade under the African Continental Free Trade Area;
2. The persistent threat of CBPP to large cattle populations in Africa and the uncontrolled internal and cross-border movements of animals;
3. The persistent occurrence of climate change related droughts trigger long distance movement and leave animals weakened and susceptible to CBPP;
4. The gaps in knowledge and expertise on the regional, and sub-regional CBPP control strategies/programmes and the requisite tools to support and assess the implementation of CBPP control programmes; the different and uncoordinated national, regional, and continental CBPP control strategies coupled with poor coverage and tracking of vaccination;
5. The limited surveillance and challenges with CBPP diagnostic tests including irregular market availability and limited technical capacity;
6. The persistence on the market of CBPP vaccines that have not been quality controlled, as well as the poor infrastructure for vaccine storage and transportation;
7. The inadequate resources (human, technical and financial) to effectively implement existing national strategies for CBPP control and to undertake WOAHA processes and procedures for Disease Status recognition and the endorsement of official control programmes;
8. The need to strengthen policies, including legislation, and the engagement of stakeholders, including private sector actors in CBPP control efforts, taking advantage of existing regional coordination mechanisms such as the standing group of experts for Africa;
9. On one hand, the attainment of WOAHA official recognition of CBPP free status by four Members with two of these having WOAHA endorsement of their official control programs for CBPP and, on the other hand, the slow progress towards WOAHA recognition of CBPP free status of other potential Members;
10. Abattoir surveillance is key to support targeted investigation and diagnosis of CBPP and there are existing innovations to support real time flow of data; and
11. Need to expand the network of WOAHA Reference Laboratories for this disease in Africa to support Members' efforts towards a CBPP free Africa.

## THE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

### RECOMMENDS THAT:

1. WOAAH continues to provide support to its Members to strengthen their Veterinary Services with respect to the control and eradication of CBPP, through the implementation of the PVS Pathway with consideration of CBPP, reflecting Members' specific needs to control this disease, as well as training on WOAAH official recognition procedures;
2. Members and Regional Economic Communities (RECs) enhance efforts in collaboration and coordination to enforce regulations and procedures to control both internal and cross-border animal movements and vaccination approaches. This should be supported by the regular sharing of information on nomadic, transhumant, and trade-related movements of animals;
3. WOAAH, FAO, AU-IBAR and RECs to continuously insist on the need for continental efforts towards a CBPP-free Africa through AU-IBAR's Animal Health Strategy for Africa (AHSA) framework for transboundary livestock disease control and the respective regional CBPP strategies among Members and policy makers, to enhance ownership, buy-in and continued support as well as the appropriate alignment and harmonisation of national CBPP control activities, including vaccination strategies and movement control;
4. Members in consultation with WOAAH, FAO, AU-IBAR, development partners and RECs, prioritise the development, where relevant, review and implementation of their CBPP national strategic plans (NSP) and national investment plans, aligned with AU-IBAR's to-be-developed Africa CBPP control strategy, and increase their participation and cooperation within the GF-TADs framework;
5. Members improve knowledge of their CBPP epidemiological situation, by monitoring disease occurrence within their ecosystems through coordinated surveillance and submit reports to WOAAH in compliance with the requirements of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code regarding the notification of diseases and provision of epidemiological information. This knowledge should support decision making to target the animal populations at risk for CBPP;
6. Members improve their capacity for CBPP diagnosis through participatory community training, general surveillance, enhanced targeted abattoir surveillance, and participation in training activities for validation of CBPP tests with support from the WOAAH Reference Laboratories;
7. Members ensure the use of quality CBPP vaccines by procuring and registering, only those vaccines that have undergone quality certification by AU-PANVAC and ensuring the full enforcement of legislation pertaining to vaccine storage, transportation, and delivery;
8. WOAAH Reference Centres and research institutions are invited to enhance efforts to develop new vaccines and therapeutics;
9. Members review their legislation, policies, licensing, and guidelines for the use of antimicrobials for the treatment of CBPP and other infectious diseases for which there exist efficacious vaccines;
10. Members enact legislation to limit the sale of counterfeit antimicrobials and unregulated use of antimicrobials for the treatment of CBPP and other infectious diseases for which there exist efficacious vaccines;

11. WOAHA is requested to develop clear guidance on the use of antimicrobials in the framework of CBPP control;
12. WOAHA, in collaboration with partners, support Members to conduct and document analyses of the cost of CBPP to social, cultural, food security, nutrition, climate resilience and economic well-being of livestock keepers in order to encourage Governments and international development partners to continue to commit to, and support disease control and eradication by allocating necessary resources (financial, structural and human) as well as supportive legislation to foster proper implementation of relevant CBPP control strategies or programmes including, among others, cooperation with farmers, vaccination and animal movement controls;
13. Members enhance the engagement and involvement of stakeholders in CBPP control activities beyond conventional partners. In particular, efforts should be made to leverage private sector vaccine producers and animal health service providers, farmers associations, community-based organisations, to better deliver disease control interventions;
14. Members that have never reported CBPP and do not have vaccination programs against CBPP implement the necessary activities to ensure compliance with the relevant WOAHA standards with regard to a country or zone free from CBPP and subsequently undertake the procedures and processes for submission of an application to WOAHA for the official recognition of their disease free status.

## **6. 26th Conference of the Regional Commission for Africa**

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 4-7 February 2025

### **Recommendation No. 2**

#### **Veterinary Services and food safety: challenges and perspectives for policy development in the context of market unification on a continental scale**

##### **CONSIDERING THAT:**

1. Livestock farming plays a key economic and social role in Africa, where it accounts for a substantial proportion of agricultural GDP, especially in the poorest countries. However, the sector remains vulnerable to diseases that can have a significant economic and sanitary impact;
2. Despite having considerable economic potential, intra-African trade remains weak (16-17% of all trade), due in part to non-tariff barriers, differences in sanitary policies and the lack of traceability systems meeting international standards;
3. Zoonoses and infectious diseases continue to limit the sustainability of animal production sectors. The informal sector, which dominates agricultural trade, presents serious sanitary risks;
4. The unification of African markets, driven by initiatives such as the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), offers a unique opportunity to strengthen food safety and the Veterinary Services, which are essential not only in promoting sustainable, fair trade but also in improving animal and human health;
5. The consumption of meat and milk in Africa is likely to double by 2050, driven by an equivalent demographic increase. This growth presents an opportunity for economic integration through the AfCFTA;
6. The regional economic communities (REC) and the AfCFTA provide opportunities for harmonising sanitary policies and stimulating trade in products of animal origin;
7. The Veterinary Services play a key role in fully exploiting the opportunities that the AfCFTA offers. However, they face significant challenges, including the lack of human and financial resources, technical disparities between countries, the absence of harmonisation of sanitary standards and the growing threats posed by zoonoses and food contamination;
8. The implementation of coordinated, well-funded programmes at national, regional and continental levels is essential to strengthen the food safety systems in Africa;
9. Initiatives such as the Maputo Declaration , the Malabo Declaration, the Kampala Declaration and programmes such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) and the LiDeSA strategy seek to strengthen the Veterinary Services and harmonise regulatory frameworks at continental level;
10. The WOAHP PVS Pathway promotes continuous improvement and alignment with WOAHP standards through its Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) cycle, while providing evidence-based data through its Information System that support decision making and sustainable investments adapted to the specific needs and priorities of each Member.



## THE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

### RECOMMENDS THAT

#### MEMBERS:

1. Continue active engagement in the PVS Pathway and advocate for strategic planning and increased resources for the Veterinary Services, backed up by data and analyses present in the PVS Information System;
2. Provide the Veterinary Services with needs-based competencies, infrastructure and resources to better manage the challenges linked to sanitary threats;
3. Align and harmonise regulatory frameworks covering animal production, processing, veterinary public health and animal production food safety regulatory frameworks with international standards, including zoning and compartmentalisation, in order to promote smooth, safe continental trade;
4. Integrate actors in the informal animal food sector into formal market chains through training and economic incentive measures and by reducing regulatory and fiscal burdens;
5. Strengthen participation in the standard-setting process of WOA and in the work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission;
6. Pursue efforts to strengthen the food safety systems' capacities of the Veterinary Services, including through multisectoral collaborations;
7. Improve their transparency obligations in diseases notification and reporting through the World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS);
8. Assure their veterinary workforce access to competency-based training to strengthen and maintain the necessary capacity to implement WOA standards.
9. Urge AU-IBAR to prepare a note to Heads of States stressing the need of adequate staffing of Veterinary Services to enable them to fulfil their role in ensuring safe trade and effective surveillance systems, making reference to PVS Reports, where relevant, in particular recommendations on human resources and access to markets.

#### WOA:

1. Continue to give priority to work that enables the voice of the animal health sector and the Veterinary Services to be heard in all relevant political fora and their key role in animal production food safety and safe trade to be recognised;
2. Continue to support Members through the PVS Pathway to strengthen their capacities, including Public Private Partnerships to facilitate advocacy and support sustainable investments;
3. Continue developing competency-based training for the Veterinary Services' workforce, based on learning need assessments focused on the capacities needed to assure safe trade, control of transmittable diseases including zoonoses, food safety;
4. Further develop and promote the data housed in the PVS Information System (PVS IS) to support performance monitoring of the Veterinary Services and the development of methodologies, data and tools to facilitate the analysis of the economic impact of animal diseases and demonstrate the essential role of animal health in public health and trade.