

## **Formal Recognition of the Mediterranean Animal Health Network (REMESA)**

### HAVING REGARD TO

1. The Basic Texts governing the functioning of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), in particular the Organic Rules which notably define the powers of the Assembly,
2. The declaration entitled “Cooperation Framework for the Establishment and Development of REMESA”, signed by ten chief veterinary officers from the Mediterranean region, a representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and a representative of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) in Montpellier on 10 November 2012,
3. The agreement between WOAHA and the Italian Ministry of Health concerning the programme “Strengthening efforts to address challenges related to the ‘One Health’ approach and food safety”, funded through a grant awarded to WOAHA, signed on 14 September 2017,

### CONSIDERING

4. The funding by WOAHA, through its World Animal Health and Welfare Fund, of REMESA activities carried out by the Scientific and Technical Office of REMESA (STOR), and the need for a robust legal framework to sustain this financial support,
5. The external legal evaluation launched by WOAHA in autumn 2025 regarding the administrative framework established for this funding,
6. The identification, through this external evaluation, of a legal weakness in the “Cooperation framework for the Establishment and Development of REMESA”, depriving this document of any legal value, as well as the absence of formal recognition of REMESA by the two international partner organisations, namely FAO and WOAHA,
7. The existence of REMESA and its added value for its members, and consequently the need to strengthen its legal basis in order to ensure the sustainability of the network and to further develop its activities and attractiveness to donors,
8. The recognition by FAO and WOAHA of the existence and functioning of REMESA constitutes a prerequisite for this legal consolidation,
9. The opinion of 3 March 2026 whereby the WOAHA Council: (i) recognises the need to strengthen REMESA’s legal framework; (ii) mandates the Director General to work in partnership with FAO on the various legal provisions required to ensure a robust legal framework for REMESA; (iii) mandates the Director General to inform and validate, together with the Joint Permanent Committee (JPC) of REMESA, the identified legal solutions,
10. The opinion of the REMESA JPC, expressed during its extraordinary meeting on 29 April 2026, recognising the need to strengthen REMESA’s legal framework and endorsing the official recognition of REMESA by FAO and WOAHA, and in particular by WOAHA through a resolution adopted by its World Assembly of Delegates during the 93rd General Session,

THE ASSEMBLY, ON THE PROPOSAL OF THE COUNCIL,

DECIDES

11. To formally recognise the existence of REMESA, thereby consolidating its current mandate,
  12. To mandate the Director General to work with REMESA members, FAO, and relevant REMESA partners towards the establishment of an appropriate legal framework.
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