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**DIRECTOR GENERAL'S REPORT
ON 2025 WOAHA ACTIVITIES**

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for Animal Health

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FOREWORD

The year 2025 marked a pivotal moment for the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), at the crossroads between consolidating past achievements and preparing for future transformations.

In an increasingly complex international environment, shaped by economic uncertainty, ongoing health crises, and the accelerating impacts of climate change, global dynamics are shifting, putting the resilience of international cooperation to the test. These challenges have raised expectations on multilateral organisations, which must, more than ever, demonstrate both their relevance and their capacity to deliver tangible impact.

In this demanding context, WOAH has risen to these expectations, reaffirming the relevance of its mandate and the value of its action.

Remaining true to its mission to promote animal health and welfare worldwide, the Organisation pursued its work with consistency and determination throughout the year. This was made possible through the commitment of its Members and the dedication of its teams across Headquarters and the Regional and Sub-Regional Representations. The sustained engagement of staff, despite an often uncertain and challenging environment, ensured continuity in operations and highlighted a high level of scientific and operational excellence. This spirit of collaboration remains one of WOAH's core strengths.

The results achieved in 2025 are a direct reflection of this collective effort. Across all areas of work – from transparency on the global animal health situation, to standard setting and scientific guidance, the implementation of global strategies, and direct support to Members – WOAH delivered concrete and measurable outcomes. The Organisation continued to provide timely and reliable information on animal health, advanced the development and adoption of international standards, and supported Members through capacity-building activities and targeted technical assistance. These achievements demonstrate WOAH's ability to respond to Members' expectations while addressing global challenges.

Beyond this operational delivery, 2025 also marked a decisive phase of strategic transition. While the implementation of the 7th Strategic Plan continued, the development of the 8th Strategic Plan was launched through a broad, participatory, and inclusive approach. This co-construction process enabled the development of a shared and ambitious vision, firmly grounded in operational realities, and reflecting a collective commitment to preparing WOAH for the challenges ahead.

In this context, the Organisation is built on strong foundations: recognised scientific expertise, a global network of Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres, and long-standing partnerships with other international organisations. These assets enabled WOAH to fully deliver on its scientific and technical mandate, while reinforcing its role as a global reference in animal health and welfare.

Building on these strengths, WOAH undertook further efforts to adapt its governance, diversify its funding, and strengthen its internal capacities, particularly in the areas of data and digital technologies. Progress is ongoing in reviewing governance mechanisms, enhancing transparency, and strengthening institutional processes. These developments reflect a continuous commitment to modernisation and to ensuring the Organisation remains fit for purpose in a rapidly evolving environment.

Beyond WOAH's core mandate, 2025 was also marked by a strengthening of the Organisation's visibility and influence. Its digital presence expanded substantially, supported by increased engagement across communication platforms and stronger media coverage. At the same time, WOAH maintained an active presence in major international fora, further integrating its priorities into global agendas and strengthening its influence in multilateral discussions. This growing visibility reflects the Organisation's increasing recognition as a key actor in global health, food systems, and sustainable development.

This external momentum was mirrored internally by a series of structural reforms aimed at better aligning the Organisation with its strategic ambitions. Efforts to modernise structures and ways of working contributed to enhancing efficiency, transparency, and long-term sustainability. The development of new tools, improvements in internal processes, recruitment efforts, and the evolution of the organisational structure all reflect this ongoing transformation.

The work of the Governance Review Committee contributes to on-going strengthening institutional Governance and ongoing resource mobilisation efforts. In a global context marked by financial uncertainty and increasing pressure on multilateral systems, these efforts are essential to ensure the future sustainability and resilience of WOAAH's activities.

Taken together, these developments provide a solid foundation for the future. They demonstrate the strength of the multilateral model when grounded in science, cooperation, and mutual trust. In a world in transition, WOAAH plays a critical role in ensuring that animal health and welfare remain at the heart of public policies and global priorities.

At the same time, the year 2025 highlighted the importance of anticipating future challenges. The global financial environment is becoming more constrained, and international organisations are increasingly required to prioritise, adapt, and demonstrate efficiency. WOAAH is not immune to these dynamics. However, the Organisation's strong governance, the trust of its Members, and its recognised technical expertise provide a solid basis to navigate this evolving context.

In this perspective, 2026 will be a defining year. The Organisation will finalise and adopt its 8th Strategic Plan, continue its governance reforms, and further strengthen its operational and financial frameworks. It will also pursue its efforts to enhance its impact, strengthen its voice on the global stage, and support its Members in addressing increasingly complex animal health challenges.

Partnerships will remain central to this ambition. The scale and complexity of current and emerging risks require strengthened collaboration across sectors and organisations. Building on the progress achieved in 2025, WOAAH will continue to deepen its engagement with key partners, including FAO, WHO, and UNEP, and to play a central role within the Quadripartite partnership. Strengthening coordination and collective action will be essential to deliver sustainable and impactful solutions for Members.

Ultimately, the achievements of 2025 and the ambitions for the years ahead are made possible by the dedication, professionalism, and commitment of WOAAH's staff members. Their work, across all functions and regions, is the foundation of the Organisation's success and its ability to deliver on its mandate.

Building on the commitment of its teams, the trust of its partners, and the engagement of its Members, WOAAH remains, more than ever, a global reference in animal health and animal welfare.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 7TH STRATEGIC PLAN IN 2025

The year 2025 marked the penultimate year of implementation of WOAHA's **7th Strategic Plan (2021–2026)** and the launch of the development of the **8th Strategic Plan**, making it a year of both consolidation and strategic transition.

WOAHA continued its progressive shift towards a more results-based approach to implementation and monitoring. Delivery remained tracked through **Action Cards**, while increased attention was placed on outputs and outcomes and on testing indicators to inform the future performance management framework.

Activities remained aligned with the five **Strategic Objectives (SOs)** of the Plan: scientific excellence (SO1), data governance (SO2), responding to Members' needs through standards and capacity building (SO3), collaboration and advocacy (SO4), and organisational efficiency and agility (SO5).

By the end of 2025, of the **169 Action Cards** initiated since the start of the strategic cycle, the vast majority had been completed, almost completed or integrated into routine operations. Of the **26 Action Cards** still ongoing, most were advancing as planned and expected to be finalised in 2026, notably in areas related to data, digital transformation and internal efficiency.

A global survey conducted between March and May 2025 gathered **405 responses**, including **180 respondents from WOAHA Members**. Among these, **87%** indicated that WOAHA generally or fully responded to Members' needs. The most frequently cited forms of engagement included participation in WOAHA events, reference to WOAHA standards, access to WOAHA data and scientific expertise, use of WOAHA communication platforms and interaction with WOAHA databases.

Overall, 2025 confirmed solid progress in the implementation of the 7th Strategic Plan while generating valuable insights to support the transition towards the next strategic cycle.

2. OVERVIEW OF TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES

2.1 Information management, reporting and data governance

In 2025, WOAHA continued to reinforce its role as the global reference for transparency, early warning and animal health information through the **World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS)**. Activities focused on maintaining, stabilising and strengthening the platform to ensure timely reporting by Members, efficient verification and publication processes, and effective consultation by stakeholders.

A major achievement during the year was the completion of the **interconnection between WAHIS and the European Union's Animal Disease Information System (ADIS)**. This interoperability enables single-portal reporting of exceptional animal disease events, reduces duplication and reporting burden, and ensures consistency of information across systems. In parallel, WAHIS accommodated reporting previously undertaken through the ASEAN¹ Regional Animal Health Information System, further illustrating WOAHA's commitment to interoperability and harmonised global and regional reporting.

Extensive support continued to be provided to WAHIS users. Training and assistance were delivered through online demonstrations, one-to-one support sessions and regional workshops, both virtual and face-to-face. In total, more than **110 national Focal Points** were trained in 2025, strengthening reporting quality and consistency.

¹ ASEAN: Association of Southeast Asian Nations

Disease reporting activity reached its highest levels to date. During 2025, **804 immediate notifications** and **5,873 follow-up reports** were published (compared to 548 immediate notifications and 4811 follow-up reports in 2024), covering **78 different diseases** reported by **132 countries and territories**, and documenting more than **24,000 outbreaks** with a start date in 2025. Nearly **76%** of reports were published within 24 hours of receipt, reflecting efficient verification processes and close cooperation with reporting Members.

Monitoring activities through six-monthly and annual reporting continued to support comprehensive disease intelligence. In 2025, **854 six-monthly reports** and **153 annual reports** were submitted, with high publication rates and continued efforts to improve data quality, alignment across reporting modules and transparency.

These information management achievements were underpinned by significant progress in **data governance, management and analytics**. WOAHA consolidated its Data Management Programme through the formalisation of governance mechanisms, deployment of a Lakehouse architecture, standardisation of validation and publication workflows, and increasing integration of AI-supported analytics to enhance epidemic intelligence and decision support.

2.2 Standard setting, implementation and observatory activities

WOAHA continued to apply good regulatory practices throughout the standard-setting process in 2025, focusing on transparency, traceability, coordination and engagement with Members. These efforts were supported by regular webinars, regional workshops and improved publication of comments and responses on proposed standards.

At the **92nd General Session**, a significant number of new and revised chapters of the **Terrestrial Code**, **Aquatic Code** and their respective Manuals were adopted. This work was led by the **Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission**, **Biological Standards Commission**, **Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission** and the **Scientific Commission**, supported by Working Groups and ad hoc expert groups addressing cross-cutting and specialised topics.

The **procedures for official recognition** (23 new applications) and for **self-declaration** (59 submission) of **animal health status** continued to serve Members by enhancing visibility of their achievements in disease control efforts. The **Disease Status Management Platform (DSMP)** continued to evolve as a central digital tool supporting annual reconfirmations for official animal health status (391). While technical challenges affected certain aspects of its deployment in 2025, WOAHA continued to ensure continuity of services and to prepare for further development phases.

The **WOAHA Observatory** advanced its mandate through the publication of the **Second Monitoring Report**, which analysed Members' implementation of WOAHA standards across six technical areas. Additional thematic studies progressed in 2025, notably on animal welfare during transport and on compartmentalisation. Preparatory work also continued for the redevelopment of the Observatory's digital platform, with development scheduled to commence in 2026.

2.3 Capacity building, laboratories and workforce development

Capacity building remained a central pillar of WOAHA's work in 2025, supporting Members in strengthening the governance, performance and sustainability of their Veterinary and Aquatic Animal Health Services.

Through the **PVS Pathway**, WOAHA delivered **50 activities** for **38 Members and three non-Members**, including initial and follow-up evaluations, gap analyses and targeted support. A major innovation during the year was the launch of the **first PVS Self-Assessment Annual Report**, enabling Members to report on actions taken in response to PVS recommendations and providing WOAHA with structured insights into implementation trends and priorities.

Workforce development continued to expand through the development of new assessment tools, curriculum guidance and competency-based training. The **WOAH eLearning Platform** delivered **56 eModules** across key competency domains and attracted nearly **2,000 new learners** during 2025. A new three-year Veterinary Education Establishment (VEE) twinning project was launched to improve the quality of veterinary education in the beneficiary Member by focusing on WOAHS standards and clinical training.

Laboratory capacity was reinforced through the ongoing **Laboratory Twinning Programme** with 120 projects at various stages (100 completed, 17 ongoing and three awaiting administrative clearance), targeted technical support, and initiatives focused on sustainable laboratories such as **BioPREVAIL**, alongside continued strengthening of networks of Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres.

2.4 Global frameworks

Activities implemented under global frameworks continue to represent an important component of WOAHS technical work in 2025 and reflect the Organisation's role at the interface of science, policy, capacity development and global governance.

One Health

WOAH continued to play a leading role in advancing the **One Health** approach, reinforcing the contribution of animal health to the prevention, detection and management of health risks at the human–animal–environment interface. In 2025, this role was particularly strengthened through WOAHS leadership within the **Quadripartite collaboration** with FAO², WHO³ and UNEP⁴.

Between April 2024 and March 2025, WOAHS chaired the **Quadripartite Secretariat**, contributing to improved coherence across political engagement, implementation of the **One Health Joint Plan of Action (OH JPA)**, science and evidence generation, and mobilisation of investment for One Health. This period culminated in the Quadripartite Annual Executive Meeting hosted by WOAHS in March 2025.

Throughout 2025, WOAHS actively supported implementation of the OH JPA at global, regional and national levels. Activities included translation of key guidance, development of practical tools, organisation of regional and national workshops, and support to country-level One Health situation analyses. Quadripartite Regional One Health Coordination Mechanisms were operational across regions, strengthening alignment and joint delivery.

WOAH reinforced its policy and advocacy role through sustained engagement in major international fora, including the G20, G7, United Nations processes and climate and biodiversity conferences. In this context, WOAHS developed its first **Position Paper on Climate Change and Animal Health**, highlighting the interconnections between climate change, animal health and global health security.

Scientific and capacity-building contributions were further strengthened through WOAHS support to the **One Health High-Level Expert Panel (OHHLEP)**, active participation in One Health Communities of Practice, and the designation of the **International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)** as the first WOAHS Collaborating Centre for One Health. Workforce capacity development was reinforced through the establishment of the **FAO/WHO/WOAH Joint One Health Learning Taskforce**, supporting the development of a more integrated, competency-based One Health workforce.

WOAH advanced the implementation of the UN political declaration on antimicrobial resistance (AMR) by supporting Members in delivering animal-health commitments under a One Health approach. Priorities included strengthening surveillance through ANIMUSE, updating international standards on responsible antimicrobial use, promoting vaccination to reduce antimicrobial reliance, and mobilising investment in Veterinary Services.

² FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

³ WHO: World Health Organization

⁴ UNEP: United Nations Environment Programme

WOAH strengthened its work on wildlife health through the evaluation of the Wildlife Health Framework and the preparation of a revised strategy for 2026–2030, informed by extensive consultations with Members and partners. Global coordination was reinforced through the formalisation of the WOA WildNet of Collaborating Centres and the initiation of a new wildlife health information system to enhance surveillance and real-time data sharing.

Transboundary animal diseases

WOAH continued to play a central role in the global and regional coordination of efforts to prevent, control and progressively eradicate **transboundary animal diseases (TADs)**, primarily through its partnership with FAO under the **Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs)**.

In 2025, WOA supported global and regional activities addressing priority diseases including African swine fever, foot and mouth disease, peste des petits ruminants, high pathogenicity avian influenza, lumpy skin disease and rinderpest post-eradication. Standing Groups of Experts, roadmaps and regional coordination platforms continued to provide structured mechanisms for technical exchange, policy dialogue and collective action.

WOAH supported Members through surveillance, diagnostics, vaccination strategies, preparedness planning, laboratory strengthening and guidance on business continuity. The Organisation also accompanied Members' progress towards official disease status recognition and recovery of suspended or withdrawn statuses, in line with international standards. Several webinars were organised and position papers issued.

Others (Animal welfare, Aquatic animal health, Emergency management and preparedness)

WOAH continued substantial work in other global technical frameworks. In **animal welfare**, implementation of the Global Animal Welfare Strategy advanced through standards development, Observatory thematic studies and capacity-building activities, notably in relation to animal welfare during transport.

In **aquatic animal health**, WOA supported Members through adoption and implementation of standards, disease surveillance, laboratory networks and targeted technical assistance, contributing to improved disease management and facilitation of safe trade.

Emergency management and preparedness remained a cross-cutting priority. WOA continued to support Members through simulation exercises, preparedness planning, guidance and training, closely linked to WAHIS, One Health and TADs activities, strengthening early detection, response capacity and resilience.

In October 2025, WOA convened its Third Global Conference on Biological Threat Reduction in Geneva, bringing together 484 multi-sectoral participants from 62 Members to strengthen international cooperation, foster partnerships and identify innovative strategies to address evolving biological threats.

2.5 International collaboration

International collaboration continued to underpin WOA's ability to deliver on its mandate in 2025. The Organisation relied on its extensive networks of 270 **Reference Laboratories and 80 Collaborating Centres** to provide scientific expertise, support standards implementation, strengthen capacity building and enhance disease control.

Scientific coordination was further reinforced through participation in international research and coordination mechanisms, including STAR-IDAZ, facilitating collaboration among research institutions, funders and experts.

WOAH maintained technical partnerships with international and regional organisations and remained actively engaged in multilateral trade-related fora, notably under the **WTO SPS Agreement**, supporting Members in aligning sanitary measures with international standards and promoting science-based decision-making.

3. OVERVIEW OF ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

Administrative activities in 2025 supported the delivery of WOA's mandate while accompanying a broader phase of organisational adaptation and preparation for the next strategic cycle.

3.1 Institutional governance

WOAH's statutory bodies continued to provide strategic direction and oversight. The **92nd General Session** adopted **29 resolutions**, including amendments to standards, decisions on official disease status and designation of new Reference Centres and Collaborating Centres. The **Council** met three times during the year to address strategic planning, governance reform and financial oversight, contributing to transparency and accountability. Regional Commissions and Regional Core Groups strengthened dialogue with Members and ensured alignment between regional priorities and global strategies. The **Governance Review Committee** advanced its work through consultations and analytical documentation, contributing to strengthened institutional governance.

3.2 General administration

General administration in 2025 focused increasingly on **strategic realignment of the Organisation** in preparation for the **8th Strategic Plan**. The **organisational structure** was adapted as well as functions and internal coordination mechanisms to better align technical, policy and support functions with evolving strategic priorities. Changes to the organisational chart reflected this realignment, aiming to enhance coherence, efficiency and responsiveness while supporting cross-cutting work on global frameworks and data.

Human resources management supported this transition through recruitment, staff development, training and internal mobility, ensuring that competencies and capacities were aligned with future needs. Sustained attention was paid to gender and inclusion, supported by dedicated governance mechanisms and targeted initiatives.

Investments in **information systems**, digital governance and cybersecurity supported operational continuity, data management and service delivery. General services ensured effective logistical support, security and risk management in a context of increased operational activity. Communication activities expanded significantly, reinforcing WOA's visibility and advocacy capacity in line with the Global Communication Strategy. Legal affairs supported contracts, agreements and governance processes, ensuring institutional robustness.

3.3 Financial management

Financial management in 2025 was carried out in a challenging global environment marked by financial uncertainty and increasing pressure on multilateral organisations. WOAH ensured sound implementation of the approved **2025 budget**, while maintaining continuity of core activities.

Efforts continued to **diversify and consolidate funding sources**, combining statutory contributions, and working on arrears, voluntary contributions and project-based funding. Procurement processes, internal control mechanisms and financial oversight were strengthened through updated procedures, staff training and risk-based management.

Preparatory work for the **2026–2027 budget** was undertaken alongside the development of the 8th Strategic Plan, with the objective of aligning strategic ambitions, operational capacity and long-term financial sustainability.

1. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 7TH STRATEGIC PLAN IN 2025

The year 2025 was the penultimate year of implementation of the 7th Strategic Plan (2021–2026) and was marked by the development of the upcoming 8th Strategic Plan. It was therefore a year of projection, capturing insights from the implementation of the 7th Strategic Plan to inform WOAAH's future strategic direction. As part of this transition, WOAAH continued to progressively shift towards results-based monitoring, with an increased focus on outputs and outcomes from its core activities.

In line with the strategic objectives (SOs) of the 7th Strategic Plan, WOAAH continued in 2025 to deliver on scientific excellence (SO1), data governance (SO2), responding to Members' needs through standards and capacity-building (SO3), collaborating with partners (SO4), and becoming more efficient and agile (SO5). Activities under these SOs focused on reinforcing activities of WOAAH's mission, as well as on strengthening the systems and pillars underpinning them. Details of activities are presented throughout this activity report, key output indicators are reported in [Annex 1](#) and key performance findings are summarised in this introduction.

In terms of the approach to track the implementation of the 7th Strategic Plan in 2025, WOAAH continued to measure progress through the delivery of Action Cards and tested a series of output and outcome indicators. In addition to providing insight into the delivery of the current strategic plan, this combined approach will serve as a foundation for the development of a robust performance management system for the upcoming strategic plan, in terms of methodology, benchmarking, baselines and targets.

Overall, of the 169 Action Cards initiated since the beginning of the 7th Strategic Plan, the vast majority had been completed, almost completed, or integrated into day-to-day activities by the end of 2025, across the five SOs. Of the remaining 26 Action Cards, the majority were ongoing in 2025 and are expected to be completed during 2026. Action Card monitoring made it possible to identify areas of work, particularly under SO2 and SO5, that will continue into the final year of the 7th Strategic Plan and beyond.

In addition to achievements and lessons learned relating to the Action Cards, indicators provided encouraging insights into the outcomes of WOAAH's activities, while also pointing to areas requiring increased focus in 2026 and the next strategic cycle. Data were collected using a variety of methods, which included a survey conducted between March and May 2025 on WOAAH data, support and services. Out of 405 respondents, 180 were from WOAAH Members, including Delegates, Focal Points and other members of the Veterinary Services.

According to the survey, 87% of respondents indicated that WOAAH generally or fully responded to Members' needs, suggesting strong alignment between the Organisation's delivery and Member expectations. Among the 180 Member respondents, the most frequently cited forms of support or services were participation in WOAAH events (130/180), referral to WOAAH standards (120), access to the WOAAH webpage or social media (118), access to WOAAH data or scientific expertise (116) and submission of information or data to WOAAH databases (108). Taken together, these results highlight WOAAH's role as a convener, standard-setting organisation and knowledge hub, reflecting priorities established in the 7th Strategic Plan.

In addition, around half of respondents reported having benefited from a Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) activity in the previous 36 months. Among them, 69% indicated that PVS findings supported advocacy for increased investment in Veterinary Services, albeit with varying degrees of success, underscoring the value of these activities. Beyond perception-based indicators, by the end of 2025, 104 Members had an officially recognised disease-free status and WOAAH endorsement of an official control programme, and 50 self-declarations had been published. Taken together, these results reflect outcomes supported by the 7th Strategic Plan, particularly under SO1 and SO3.

Activities under SO4 continued to focus on strengthening collaboration with partners, alongside communications and advocacy. As an indicator of visibility, WOAAH's share of voice on animal health increased to 60% by the end of 2025, up from 33% in 2024/mid-2025. This metric reflects a higher proportion of public discourse referencing WOAAH during the year. During 2025, a number of global or regional political declarations referencing WOAAH or the Quadripartite⁵ were issued, aligning with the goal of promoting multisectoral collaboration. These developments were coupled with reinforced advocacy efforts by WOAAH at global, regional and national levels and the launch of WOAAH's first Global Communication Strategy.

In relation to SO2, whose goal is to collect and disseminate data to support evidence-based decision-making, 88% of Member respondents reported being satisfied or very satisfied with WOAAH databases, including ANIMUSE⁶, PVS IS⁷, Status or WAHIS⁸. In line with progress reported through Action Cards, WOAAH also continued to strengthen its information systems in 2025. A key output was the development of policy documentation formalising data governance processes, contributing to more consistent and transparent data management.

The SO5 of the 7th Strategic Plan focuses on enabling WOAAH to be recognised as an efficient and agile organisation, underpinned by modern internal processes and tools, including support functions such as human resources, procurement, financial planning and internal control. Key achievements in 2025 towards this goal are presented throughout this report and in [Annex 1](#).

In conclusion, WOAAH made significant progress towards completing activities launched since the beginning of the current strategic cycle. Findings from outcome indicators demonstrated encouraging results, reinforcing momentum as WOAAH approaches its next strategic cycle, while also providing invaluable insights into areas that will remain a priority.

⁵ Quadripartite: WHO, FAO, WOAAH and UNEP

⁶ ANIMUSE: Animal Antimicrobial Use

⁷ PVS IS: PVS Information System

⁸ WAHIS: World Animal Health Information System

2. OVERVIEW OF TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES

2.1. Information management

2.1.1 Animal health information

World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS) platform activities

During 2025, WAHIS platform activities focused on maintaining, stabilising and strengthening the system to enable Members to report disease information without delay, our staff to verify and publish these reports when problem-free and stakeholders to consult the information in an effective manner.

Stabilisation activities focused on reinforcing the existing technical foundations of WAHIS to ensure reliability, security and performance, and compliance with recent IT standards. Actions completed during 2025 included the cleaning and optimisation of the underlying IT code and the strengthening of platform security. A new maintenance contract was awarded in July 2025 for a period of up to three years, ensuring continuity of services with the same IT provider responsible for development and maintenance since July 2024.

Interconnection with the European Union (EU) Animal Disease Information System (ADIS) was completed during 2025 following the successful pilot approach of 2024.

Support for WAHIS reporting and consulting users

Throughout 2025, the WAHIS Support Desk continued to provide extensive support to reporting and consulting users and remained highly appreciated by stakeholders. Support services included assistance with reporting, access to data extractions, system demonstrations, mapping services and the maintenance of training and communication materials. Training videos were updated and enhanced with voice-overs in English, French and Spanish.

Work also continued on optimising the weekly data extraction of events and outbreak data. These extractions were quality-assured as a first step towards broader data-lake-oriented solutions for consulting users. In 2025, 107 additional users were granted access to the weekly extraction, bringing to 353 the total number of users since its introduction in 2022. The extraction includes information on exceptional events since 2005 and supports risk-based decision-making related to animal and public health, trade and policy.

To promote the use of WAHIS and the value of its data, 85 online demonstration sessions and six face-to-face presentations and demonstrations were delivered in 2025.

A wide range of training activities were implemented to strengthen Members' reporting capacity, including:

- Quarterly online introductory sessions on event reporting for new Focal Points, in English, French and Spanish;
- One-to-one training sessions on event reporting, comprising 89 online sessions and 27 face-to-face sessions (the latter delivered during the 92nd General Session);
- One-to-one training sessions on monitoring activities (six-monthly and annual reports), with 76 online sessions and 33 face-to-face sessions.

In addition, several regional face-to-face training events were organised in 2025, including sessions in the Caribbean, the ASEAN region, Africa (English- and French-speaking), and the Middle East. These activities further strengthened regional engagement and reporting consistency. In total, more than 110 Focal Points received training on WAHIS and reporting activities.

Interconnection with other systems and the global health community

A major achievement in 2025 was the completion of the interconnection between ADIS and WAHIS. Building on the successful pilot phase launched in 2024, the interconnection was scaled up to cover 44 European Commission Member countries/territories.

This interoperability enables single-portal reporting of exceptional animal disease events via ADIS into WAHIS using Application Programming Interface (API) technology. As a result, reporting processes are faster, transcription errors are reduced and consistency of information between the two systems is ensured. Veterinary Services have reported a significant reduction in reporting burden, confirming the operational value of the interconnection.

In parallel, since 1 January 2025, WAHIS has also accommodated the reporting needs of the ASEAN Regional Animal Health Information System (ARAHIS). Priority diseases of ASEAN Members are now reported directly in the WAHIS animal disease events module, eliminating the need for parallel reporting in two systems. A dedicated dashboard has been developed to provide ASEAN Members with the regional information previously available through ARAHIS. These developments demonstrate WOAAH's continued commitment to interoperability and more efficient, harmonised disease reporting at global and regional levels.

Use of WAHIS data to add value for Members

In 2025, Members of WOAAH's World Animal Health Information and Analysis Department (WAHIAD) team attended the Regional Commission Conferences in Africa, Asia and the Pacific and the Middle East to better understand Members' needs and use in respect of WAHIS data and to promote their use of WAHIS. During World Café interactive activities, Members were asked to expand on the importance of WAHIS for their daily activities and explore interconnection needs to be considered for future development of the system. The opportunities for additional interconnections between WAHIS and national and regional systems were also explored. In parallel, WAHIS kiosks were provided to demonstrate the use and value of WAHIS data and resolve existing notification and reporting issues.

This as well as regular requests to provide disease situation presentations at GFTADs⁹ and other events showed how Members and other stakeholders value the official nature of information on WAHIS to inform risk- and evidence-based decisions on trade and animal and public health matters.

Active search activities

WOAH's active search for information on animal disease outbreaks and tracking of rumours is an integral component of WOAAH's epidemic intelligence framework and supports the early detection of potential animal health events through the systematic monitoring of open-source information. This activity is coordinated by a team at WOAAH Headquarters, with contributions from the Active Search Team at the Asia and the Pacific Regional Representation. Monitoring is conducted using the Epidemic Intelligence from Open Sources (EIOS) platform, which was upgraded to version 2 in November 2025 to improve signal detection and analytical functions. Signals are also obtained from many other sources from around the world. Active search activities also cover zoonotic diseases and diseases that may evolve into emerging or re-emerging threats.

⁹ GF-TADs: Global Framework for the progressive control of transboundary animal diseases

Information identified through active search activities is assessed, verified and, where relevant, used to support follow-up actions within WAHIS. These actions include submission of immediate notifications, follow-up reporting, six-monthly reporting and reporting through Article 1.1.5. of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)* and the *Aquatic Animal Health Code (Aquatic code)*. This proactive approach contributes to improved data completeness, increases the sensitivity of WAHIS, supports Members in meeting their reporting obligations, and reinforces WOA's mandate on transparency, early warning and evidence-based decision-making at the global level.

Early warning activities

a) Reports of animal disease events

Figure 1 shows the evolution of submissions of animal disease event reports since 2020. The numbers of immediate notifications and follow-up reports submitted through the animal disease events module of WAHIS were the highest ever in 2025, with 804 immediate notifications and 5873 follow-up reports published. One hundred and thirty-two reporting countries/territories reported 78 different diseases and provided information on 24,052 outbreaks with a start date in 2025. Thanks to the WAHIAD team's efforts and the prompt cooperation of the reporting countries/territories' representatives, almost 76% of the reports were published within 24 hours of being received.

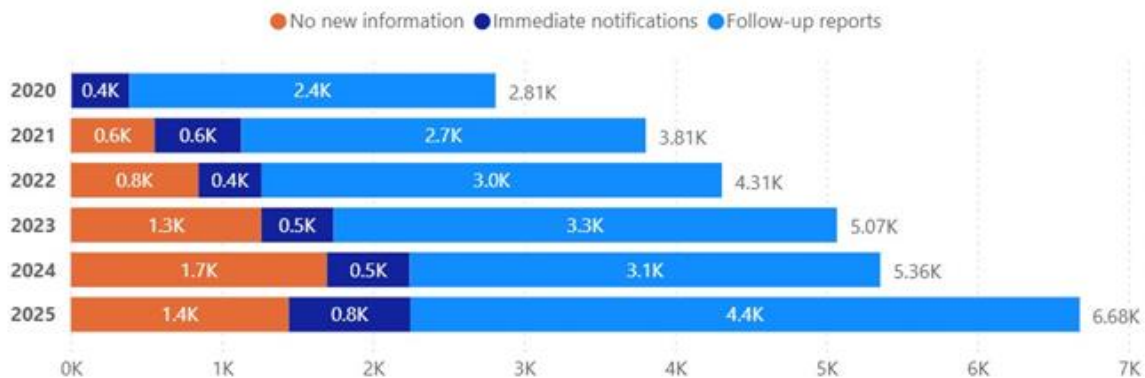


Figure 1. Trend in submission of immediate notifications and follow-up reports in the last six years (including follow-up reports with no new information in the data reported)

b) Reporting under Article 1.1.5.

In 2025, Members were advised that they could report any disease occurrence in a host species not listed in the *Code* disease-specific chapter through a spreadsheet following guidelines that can be found on [WAHIS Support](#). Information received under Article 1.1.5. is published on the WOA's website: [Sharing other important animal health information with WOA](#). In 2025, 39 items of information were published from 16 different countries/territories with data pertaining to more than 160 outbreaks, which were mostly of avian influenza in mammals other than bovines.

c) Simulation exercises

In 2025, information from 34 disease introduction simulation exercises was shared using a new standardised format by 16 countries/territories and is available on the WOA's website: [Simulation Exercises - WOA - World Organisation for Animal Health](#). Simulation exercises are designed to test countries' established national contingency plans.

d) WAHIS housekeeping

With the aim of improving transparency and data consistency between the different WAHIS modules, a 'stable event' marker was created in the animal disease events module. Reporting countries/territories were asked to use this marker to identify disease situations considered as stable and reported only through six-monthly reports. This campaign began with a focus on diseases with an official status or for which a global strategy exists, and will gradually be extended to all WOAHL-listed diseases. During the second half of 2025, almost 100 requests of this kind were received and processed.

Monitoring activities

a) Six-monthly reports

Starting in 2025, WOAHL Members were regularly reminded to submit their six-monthly reports for the relevant period within 75 days after the opening date for submissions (15 March for reports covering the second semester of the previous year, and 15 September for reports covering the first semester of that year).

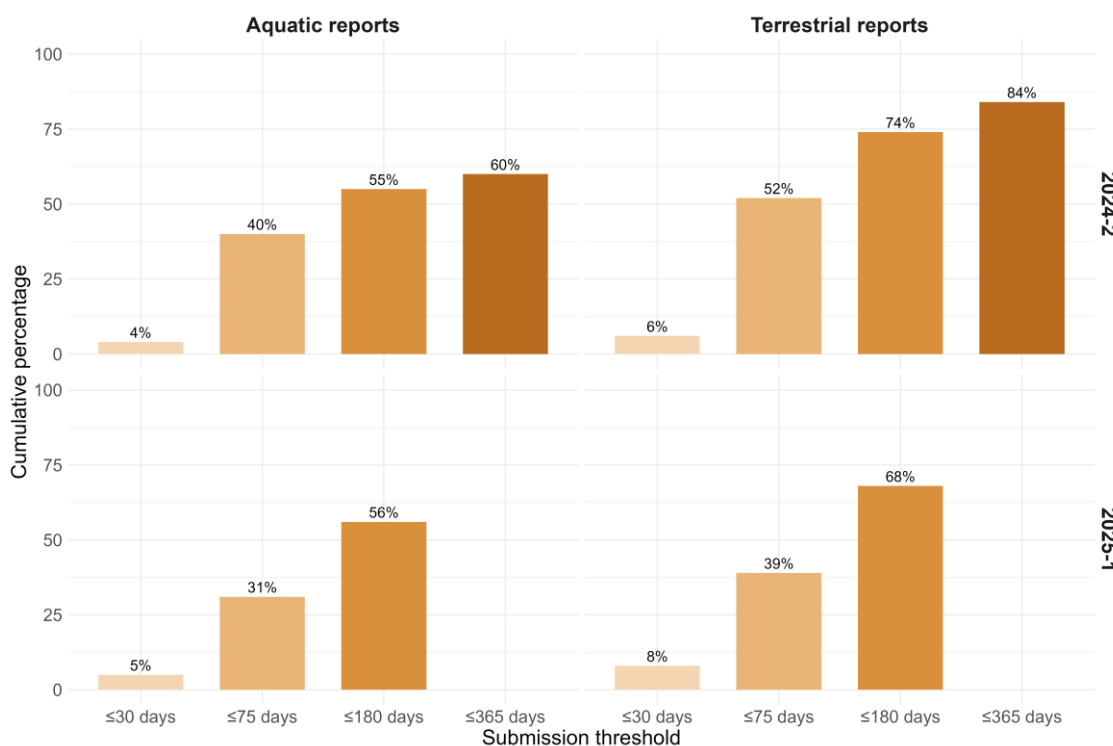


Figure 2. Cumulative percentage of six-monthly reports submitted within 30, 75, 180 and 365 days after the opening of submissions, by report type and reporting period (percentages based on N = 183 Members)

In 2025, a total of 854 six-monthly reports were submitted, of which 791 (93%) were from Members and 63 (7%) from non-Members. During the year, WOAHL implemented several strategies to improve the quality of data published through six-monthly reports. These included: (i) improving consistency between the animal disease event module and the six-monthly report module by ensuring alignment of quantitative data and compliance with notification obligations; (ii) ensuring the presence and accuracy of information on preventive and control measures to appropriately reflect the disease situation; and (iii) ensuring the use of stable event markers in the animal disease event module for diseases with a stable situation that have historically been reported only through the six-monthly report module.

Of the six-monthly reports submitted in 2025, 732 (85%) were published, with 569 (78%) of these being published within 30 days from the start of verification. Factors contributing to delays in publication included WOAAH resource availability and delayed responses by submitters to requests for clarification or correction.

b) Annual reports

In 2025, a total of 153 annual reports were submitted, of which 148 (97%) were from Members and 5 (3%) from non-Members. Of the 148 annual reports submitted by Members, 102 were for the 2023 reporting year and 46 for the 2024 reporting year. A total of 151 (99%) of the annual reports submitted in 2025 were published. As of 31 December 2025, 60% and 56% of the total number of expected annual reports (183 reports per year) for 2023 and 2024, respectively, had been submitted by Members.

Communication activities focussing on WAHIS

WAHIS was a focus of WOAAH communication activities in 2025, with three stories based on WAHIS data or WAHIAD's activities published on the website during the year, as well as a [video](#) explaining how data are collected and shared by WOAAH. This content was also disseminated through social media. On these platforms, regular posts on immediate notifications of animal diseases have consistently proven to be engaging for our audiences, particularly on LinkedIn and Instagram, also thanks to the revamped format developed.

In the second semester of 2025, visits to the WAHIS website steadily increased, supported in part by the implementation of continuous outreach campaigns. This reflects the effort to better integrate data in WOAAH's communication, presenting the Organisation as a source of reliable information for expert and non-expert audiences.

Performance of WAHIS website in 2025:

- 786,000 page views
- 279,000 total visits
- 5'46" average visit duration (denoting interest in the content)
- 45% bounce rate (i.e. quite low)
- Breakdown of website visits per region: 40% Europe, 31% Asia and the Pacific, 18% the Americas, 7% Africa
- Top 10 countries visiting the website: France, India, United States of America, China (People's Rep. of), United Kingdom, Bangladesh, Spain, Mexico, Japan, Italy

2.1.2 Publications

WOAH publications disseminate the Organisation's scientific knowledge, information on its international standards and news and reports from within the Organisation and on animal health globally. Their purpose is also to maximise the reach and impact of WOAAH's scientific and policy-related contributions, inform decision-making and influence the animal health research agenda, in accordance with the [WOAH Science System](#)

- Flagship publications

WOAH's flagship publications are *The Animal Echo*, *WOAH News* and the *Scientific and Technical Review*.

In 2025, WOAAH launched *The Animal Echo* – a knowledge-sharing space co-edited by the Publications and Communications teams – featuring accessible scientific and technical articles and blog posts on global themes examined through the lens of animal health. Since January the publication has been hosted on [a new dedicated website](#) and, in 2025, 24 scientific and technical articles were published in three languages on the themes of [Gender](#), [Artificial Intelligence \(AI\)](#) and [Global Health Security](#). Development of content on the next theme – Workforce Development – began in late 2025.

In 2025, eight [issues](#) of *WOAH News* were produced and shared across the entire WOAAH network, showcasing key organisational activities such as modernising international standards, leveraging WAHIS data to drive informed decisions, streamlining the use of AI tools for animal health, developing WOAAH's next Strategic Plan and tackling antimicrobial resistance and agro-terrorism.

The ***Scientific and Technical Review*** (the *Review*), WOAAH's peer-reviewed journal, transitioned to a continuous publishing model in 2025 whereby articles are published monthly on a rolling basis on two themes per year to ensure timeliness and relevance. In 2025, this model was launched with content published on the theme [Antimicrobial resistance: science, standards and stewardship](#). The [Editorial Board](#) for the *Review* met twice and chose topics for three subsequent issues to be published in 2026 and 2027: Vaccines in Action, Biothreat Reduction and Wildlife Trade.

- *Ad hoc* and co-publications

WOAH also produces and disseminates *ad hoc* publications prepared by WOAAH teams on specific topics and co-publications with its Tripartite¹⁰ and Quadripartite partners and other partners. Some of the significant *ad hoc* and co-publications published in 2025:

- [Use, challenges and impact of zoning and compartmentalisation, Part 2](#)
- [Mitigating Disease Transmission Risk at the Wildlife–Livestock Interface to Facilitate Safe Trade](#)
- [Second Observatory Monitoring Report](#)
- [Ninth Annual Report on Antimicrobial Agents Intended for Use in Animals](#)
- [WOAH Rabies Reference Laboratory Network's \(RABLAB\) overview of lateral flow device tests for field application](#)
- [Book of Abstracts of the WOAAH Global Conference on Biological Threat Reduction](#)
- [Surveillance of High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza for Smallholder Poultry Systems in Resource-Limited Settings](#)
- [Peste des petits ruminants Monitoring and Assessment Tool: User guide version 2 \(PMAT2\)](#)

- Publications strategy

A staff workshop was held in June 2025 to explain our publishing processes, provide guidance on the writing process and on publishing in scientific journals. The 2024 Style Guide was reviewed with a revised edition to be published in early 2026. Testing of AI-based copy-editing tools is ongoing and work is underway to develop an organisational trilingual glossary in 2026.

¹⁰ Tripartite: WHO, FAO, WOAAH

2.1.3 Documentation

Through its Documentation Cell, WOAAH delivers library, knowledge and archive services to ensure the dissemination, discoverability and long-term preservation of its intellectual heritage. These services aim to foster the Organisation's business continuity, accountability, transparency and scientific impact (Figure 3).

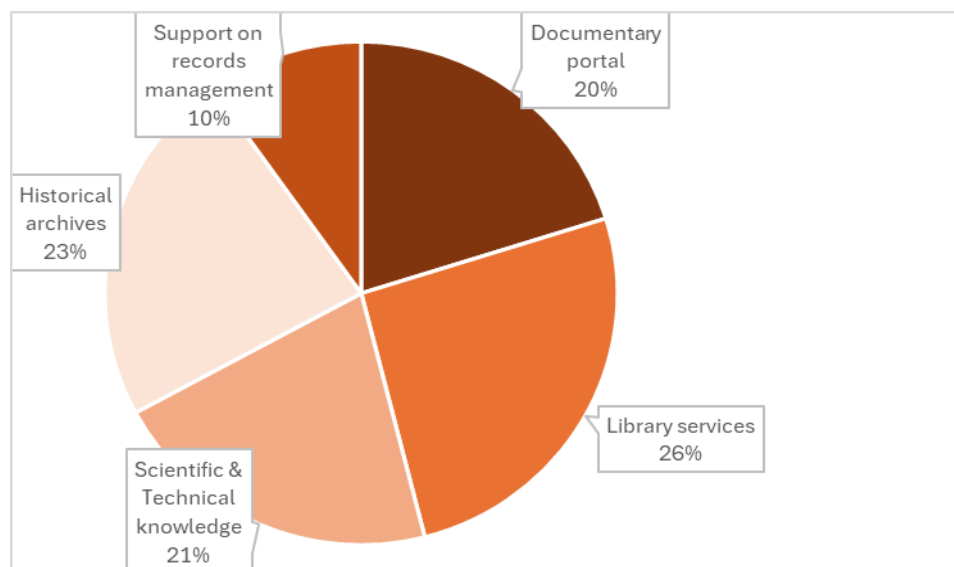


Figure 3. Breakdown of the 217 requests processed in 2025, by category

The [Documentation & Archives Centre](#) aims to collect, reference and provide access to the relevant information for internal staff, the Veterinary Services of WOAAH Members and any individual seeking information on WOAAH's activities and animal disease control in the world. In 2025, external users accounted for 21% of the requests processed.

In 2025, the number of requests addressed to the Documentation Cell increased slightly. They ranged from simple requests, such as locating specific documents, to more advanced research. These requests were received both from technical and from administrative teams. WOAAH's heritage was promoted both during the General Session and at internal events, which enhanced the visibility of the archival mission.

- Archives and records management

Since 2022, WOAAH has been conducting a transversal archiving and records management project. It is crucial for WOAAH to be able to manage authentic, reliable and usable records, and transform information governance to foster transparency and accountability. Failure to meet this significant challenge would result in diminished accountability and a loss of WOAAH's organisational and institutional memory.

In 2025, a central electronic repository was created and is now used daily to keep records. In this way, key WOAAH documents, such as Decisions, the minutes of Directorate Committee (CODIR) and Executive Committee (COMEX) meetings and Memoranda of Understanding can be secured at an early stage. Similar approaches are being implemented for technical and scientific archives, as well as for completed projects.

Guidelines on archiving and record keeping were made available to staff for managing both hard copies and electronic documents.

WOAH's heritage and achievements were highlighted through in-house exhibitions and displays, articles in the WOAAH *Newsletter* and videos, thereby showcasing WOAAH's collections.

In 2025, 49 requests relating to historical archives were processed, including 10 external requests from Members , along with 21 requests relating to active records by staff seeking support regarding records management practices. A particular focus was placed on the handling of hard copies, such as accounting records, technical and scientific archives, and records from the General Directorate's office.

- WOAAH Documentary Portal

The [Documentary Portal](#) is the electronic library and institutional repository of publications and documents resulting from WOAAH's intellectual work and activities. The Portal plays an essential role in the transparent dissemination of and accessibility to knowledge for its stakeholders, thus enhancing the Organisation's visibility and scientific and technical credibility. It also enables archive documents tracing the Organisation's activities to be made available to external audiences.

The Documentary Portal contributes to the fulfilment of WOAAH's mandate in terms of information, data and knowledge management and supports four of the five strategic pillars of the 7th Strategic Plan.

In 2025, 43 user requests relating to technical support, functional settings, indexing and cataloguing, and the handling of metadata were processed.

2.1.4 Data: governance, management and analytics

In 2025, the Data Management Programme accelerated through consolidation of a shared strategy and operating model, formalised governance mechanisms via the Data Management Working Group (DMWG), and operationalisation of the technical foundations of the Lakehouse architecture on Microsoft Fabric. This work established the baseline required to strengthen trust and quality in data products, reduce duplication and inconsistencies across domains, and enable scalable analytics and Artificial Intelligence (AI) use cases within a governed framework.

- Programme objectives and 2025 focus

The 2025 Programme focused on establishing foundational elements aligned with the Data Strategy roadmap, with priorities on:

- Activation of data governance and role models (Owners, Stewards, Custodians, DMWG as governance board).
- Adoption of a common language and standards through a shared lexicon and metadata approach.
- Deployment of a fit-for-purpose Lakehouse architecture with Medallion layers (Bronze/Silver/Gold) and domain-oriented ownership (data mesh principles).
- Definition of quality, validation, and publication workflows for datasets and dashboards.
- Establishment of responsible AI governance for day-to-day use and platform-enabled AI capabilities.

- DMWG operating model

The DMWG mandate was reinforced and clarified, covering standards, metadata, quality processes, interoperability and compliance, data literacy and reporting. Collaboration channels and operating rhythm were structured, including a single-entry point for documentation, regular meetings and task-focused working sessions.

- Lifecycle-based governance framework

The governance framework was reinforced around a full data lifecycle model (creation, storage, processing, sharing, deletion/archiving), with clearly defined roles and supporting security controls, including role-based access control, encryption, auditability and lineage.

- Key 2025 achievements (highlights)
 - Strategy and common foundations.
 - Consolidated Data Strategy Roadmap defining a phased approach covering governance activation, inventory and catalogue, tooling and architecture, migration and data exploitation.
 - Maintenance of a shared, bilingual Data Management Lexicon to reduce ambiguity and accelerate cross-team execution.
 - Platform and architecture.
 - Operational deployment of Microsoft Fabric Lakehouse as the central data platform, with a defined target architecture.
 - Delivery of core platform capabilities, including scalable ingestion, transformation and engineering, multiple storage paradigms (Lakehouse, Warehouse, Eventhouse), data science workloads, real-time analytics, SQL endpoints, and unified governance and security.
 - Technical implementation of governance-by-design principles, including lineage, traceability and security patterns aligned with governance procedures.
- Data governance processes: validation and publication
 - Formalisation of dataset and dashboard validation workflows, from “work in progress” to “shared externally”.
 - Publication of validation checklists standardising quality, metadata, traceability, confidentiality and sharing readiness.
- Master data and high-value data assets
 - Progress in master data consolidation, including completion and availability of Disease master data within the platform and continued consolidation of “Country master data” with an end-2025 target.
- Survey data

The survey coordination group developed and endorsed a framework for WOA’s survey stewardship, as well as documentation on good practice in survey design, to improve the management, relevance and quality of data collected via surveys, while reducing the associated burden on responding WOA Members. These improved management mechanisms will be turned into a WOA-internal standard operating procedure (SOP), drafting of which started in 2025. The year also saw the global launch of the Survey Information Page within the Delegates’ Portal. The Survey Coordination Group provides support services that include guidance on survey design methodologies and survey data analytics.

- AI-supported data management and analytics

AI-supported capabilities were integrated into data management and analytics workflows to enhance efficiency, scalability and analytical depth. The production of monthly disease situation reports supporting the incidence management system now leverages AI-based filtering of web-scraped news sources, improving the timeliness and relevance of epidemic intelligence outputs (e.g. situation reports for Rift Valley fever).

In parallel, contextual querying of large reference corpora – including the *Terrestrial* and *Aquatic Codes* and other publicly available documents – was enabled through an internally developed application based on Google Gemini, facilitating faster and more accurate access to regulatory and technical information.

- Data literacy and enablement
 - Launch and expansion of a structured training programme, covering foundational tools and skills and preparing for advanced topics such as platform usage, georeferenced data and AI.
 - Introduction of “data science kitchens” as a hands-on capability-building approach based on real use cases.
- AI governance
 - Drafting and maintenance of AI governance guidelines defining safe and responsible use of general-purpose AI tools and platform AI features, covering privacy, verification, transparency, security and compliance, with documented example use cases.
- Deliverables produced or matured in 2025
 - DMWG scope, objectives, and activity plan.
 - Data Strategy Roadmap with phased milestones and deliverables.
 - Lakehouse Architecture reference documentation (platform components, domains, medallion layers, continuous integration/continuous deployment [CI/CD], roles).
 - Data governance procedures and policies, including lifecycle governance, security, sharing workflows and naming conventions.
 - Dataset and dashboard validation and publication workflow, including checklists.
 - Data Management Lexicon (bilingual).
 - AI governance framework for organisational and platform usage.

Conclusion

The 2025 activities established the structural and technical foundations for data transformation: a shared roadmap, common vocabulary, strengthened governance, a modern Lakehouse architecture, and standardised validation and publication workflows. These foundations position the Organisation to scale ownership across domains, accelerate governed data products and strengthen trust, quality and impact of data for internal and external stakeholders.

2.2. Standard setting and implementation

2.2.1 Overview of the standard-setting process

In 2025, the WOAHA Common Secretariat continued to implement good regulatory practices for the development and review of WOAHA standards. Coordination among Specialist Commissions through regular Bureau and Task Force meetings resulted in enhanced transparency, coordination and alignment of standard-setting work for WOAHA international standards.

The number of Members and partners submitting comments continued to increase but the level of engagement continued to vary by region. The Secretariat continued to support Members to engage in the standard-setting process and to submit comments aligned with the [Standard Operating Procedure for Members and International Organisations to submit comments](#).

Implementation of the step-wise approach to improve the transparency of the WOAH process for the elaboration of standards for better documentation and traceability progressed with the publication of all comments considered by the relevant Specialist Commission as well as the Commission's response on both the Delegate's website and the [WOAH website](#).

The Presidents of the Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission (AAHSC or Aquatic Animals Commission), the Biological Standards Commission (BSC) and the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission (TAHSC or Code Commission) delivered a presentation at dedicated information webinars prior to the 2025 General Session as part of the process of engagement of WOAH Members and partner organisations in the standard-setting process. These webinars gave participants information about the new and revised texts that would be proposed for adoption at the 92nd General Session.

Some Specialist Commission members presented updates on relevant standard-setting work undertaken by their respective Commission at regional webinars after their September 2025 meetings as well as at the WOAH Regional Commission Conferences for Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and the Middle East.

A number of established as well as new activities were conducted during 2025 with the objective of disseminating knowledge about WOAH standards and to strengthen understanding and engagement, including webinars and workshops. In-person workshops were conducted in the WOAH regions of the Americas and the Middle East and for some Members of Europe (mainly Scandinavian), with the aim of engaging Members in the process for the elaboration of WOAH standards and strengthening their understanding of how to use WOAH standards to facilitate safe trade. Participants included Delegates or their representatives.

2.2.2 Activities of the Specialist Commissions and Groups

The Code Commission manages the standard-setting work for the *Terrestrial Code*, the Biological Standards Commission for the *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals (Terrestrial Manual)* and the Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission for the *Aquatic Code* and the *Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals (Aquatic Manual)*. Both the BSC and the AAHSC also oversee the work of relevant WOAH Reference Centres. The Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases (Scientific Commission) oversees WOAH official recognition of animal health status and provides scientific advice to the TAHSC and BSC, as needed. Each Commission works closely with other Commissions and dedicated WOAH Secretariat staff across various technical departments to fulfil their responsibilities.

2.2.2.1 Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission

The TAHSC (Code Commission) held meetings in February and September 2025. The [reports](#) are available on the WOAH website. During both meetings, the Code Commission contributed to WOAH's standard-setting process by considering proposals or requests for the development of new or revised texts for the *Terrestrial Code* and responding to comments received from Members and partners on texts circulated for comment. As part of its standard-setting work, the Commission also considered relevant [ad hoc Group reports](#) and other expert consultations.

The Code Commission also liaised with the Scientific Commission, the BSC, the Aquatic Animals Commission, the Working Group on Antimicrobial Resistance and the Working Group on Wildlife on topics of common interest to ensure alignment of relevant work and for scientific advice, as appropriate.

The new and revised texts adopted in the *Terrestrial Code* at the 92nd General Session in May 2025 were as follows.

One new chapter was adopted:

- Chapter 8.24. 'Infection with Nipah virus'

The User's Guide and seven chapters were revised and adopted:

- Chapter 1.3. 'Diseases, infections and infestations listed by WOAHP'
- Chapter 7.1. 'Introduction on the recommendations for animal welfare'
- Chapter 8.13. 'Infestation with *Cochliomyia hominivorax* (New World screwworm) and Infestation with *Chrysomya bezziana* (Old World screwworm)'
- Chapter 11.5. 'Infection with *Mycoplasma mycoides* subsp. *mycoides* SC (Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia)'
- Chapter 12.1. 'Infection with African horse sickness virus'
- Chapter 12.3. 'Infection with *Trypanosoma equiperdum* (Dourine)'
- Chapter 12.4. 'Infection with eastern equine encephalitis virus (Eastern equine encephalomyelitis) and Infection with western equine encephalitis virus (Western equine encephalomyelitis)'.

Details of the texts adopted are provided in [Resolution No. 25](#) Amendments to the *Terrestrial Code*.

All adopted amendments were published in the online version of the [Terrestrial Code](#).

2.2.2.2 Biological Standards Commission

In 2025, the BSC held two meetings at WOAHP Headquarters, in [February 2025](#) and [September 2025](#). During these meetings, the BSC contributed significantly to WOAHP's standard-setting and scientific advisory processes.

Among its key activities and achievements, the Commission:

- Contributed to WOAHP's standard-setting process by overseeing the update of chapters for the *Terrestrial Manual*;
- Advised WOAHP on the appropriate use of diagnostic tests and vaccines;
- Evaluated 17 applications for WOAHP Reference Centre status, recommending eight for acceptance. All recommendations were endorsed by the WOAHP Council and were adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates (the Assembly);
- Evaluated 14 proposed changes of Reference Centre experts, nine of which were accepted and endorsed by the WOAHP Council;
- Assessed the activities of 231 Reference Laboratories and 70 Collaborating Centres in the terrestrial animal domain to ensure compliance with their Terms of Reference (ToR);
- Discussed the enhancement of the procedure for the recognition of WOAHP-Approved Standard Reagents to improve the system by ensuring increased accessibility and effectiveness;
- Liaised with the Scientific Commission, the Aquatic Animals Commission and the Code Commission on topics of common interest.

Highlights of the year's activities included the following:

- Revision of comments on the 29 draft chapters that had been sent for first-round Member comment in October 2025, and approval of 28 for circulation for second-round comment in March 2025. The 28 chapters were presented to WOAHP Members at a pre-General Session webinar organised in April 2025. All 28 went on to be adopted at the 92nd General Session in May 2025 and can be found online.
- the new review cycle (2025–2026), which began at the September 2025 meeting; 18 draft chapters were reviewed, and 17 chapters were approved for first-round comment; all 17 were subsequently circulated to Members in October 2025.

2.2.2.3 Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases

The Scientific Commission met in February and in September 2025. The [reports](#) are available online. During these meetings, the Scientific Commission contributed to WOA's standard-setting, disease status recognition and scientific advisory processes. Among its key activities and achievements, the Commission:

- contributed to WOA's standard-setting process by providing scientific input as requested in response to comments received from Members on *Terrestrial Code* chapters and other matters as they arose;
- for *ad hoc* Groups convened by the Director General under the Commission's supervision, reviewed the ToR for planned future *ad hoc* Groups and the reports of those that had already met;
- made assessments regarding the official animal health status of Members and worked on standards related to official status recognition;
- worked on disease control-specific issues, including (but not limited to) the development of case definitions to facilitate notification, the evaluation of diseases against the listing criteria described in Chapter 1.2. of the *Terrestrial Code* and against the Glossary definition of 'emerging disease';
- contributed to the development of technical guidelines to support standards implementation and provided recommendations on global disease control and eradication strategies;
- liaised with the BSC and the Code Commission on topics of common interest.

Highlights of the year's activities included the following:

- five *ad hoc* Group reports on the evaluation of a total of 13 applications for official recognition of animal health status and for WOA endorsement of official control programmes were reviewed. Of the 13 applications, 11 achieved official recognition by the Assembly in May 2025;
- forty-eight annual reconfirmations for official animal health status and 11 annual reconfirmations for the endorsement of official control programmes of 2024 were comprehensively assessed;
- the issue of certain Members with an official animal health status importing commodities from countries or zones not officially recognised as free by WOA for the disease in question without fully complying with the relevant provisions of the *Terrestrial Code* was further discussed. The Scientific Commission recommended that Members having an officially recognised status that are using alternative measures to those described in the disease-specific chapters should, by 2029, provide WOA with the relevant documentation demonstrating that their measures meet the criteria of equivalence laid out in *Terrestrial Code* Chapter 5.3. The Commission initiated the development of a method for the assessment of equivalency of risk mitigation measures put in place by Members for maintenance of an official disease-free status;
- streamlining of the annual reconfirmation process, as requested by Members, while still respecting the relevant requirements of the *Terrestrial Code* and without compromising the credibility of the WOA procedure. In this context, the Scientific Commission endorsed a revised annual reconfirmation form for FMD, featuring more direct questions, and established criteria determining when the submission of documented evidence is required;
- annual reassessment of existing emerging diseases according to the existing SOP;
- support for the development of WOA technical guidelines to facilitate the implementation of standards, in particular to mitigate risk in the context of African swine fever and avian influenza surveillance.

- collaboration with the Code Commission on the following:
 - review of Chapters 1.6., 11.5. on Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP) and 12.1. on African horse sickness (AHS) to ensure a common understanding of the main concerns raised by Members, the decisions made on the revised chapters and their impact on official status recognition, as well as on the adapted procedures that will be required;
 - review of the recommendations and proposed draft chapter of the *ad hoc Groups* on the revision of chapters on equine encephalitides, Chapter 14.8. on Scrapie and 14.9 on Sheep pox and goat pox, and identification any potential need for amendments to Chapter 11.9. on Infection with lumpy skin disease virus and Chapter 4.4. on Zoning and compartmentalisation, and development of a new Chapter 4.Y. on Application of zoning;
 - review of the recommendations of the *ad hoc Group* on biosecurity for a new Chapter 4.X. on Biosecurity;
 - endorsement of case definitions for anthrax, Aujeszky's disease, Infection with *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. *paratuberculosis* (paratuberculosis) and *chlamydia abortus*;
 - evaluation of infection with SARS-CoV-2 and Infection with *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. *paratuberculosis* (paratuberculosis) against the listing criteria of *Terrestrial Code* Chapter 1.2.
 - assessment of high pathogenicity avian influenza viruses against the Glossary definition of emerging disease.

2.2.2.4 Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission

The Aquatic Animals Commission held meetings in February and September 2025. The [reports](#) are available on the WOAHA website. During both meetings, the Aquatic Animals Commission contributed to the WOAHA standard-setting process by considering proposals or requests for the development of new or revised texts for the *Aquatic Code* and the *Aquatic Manual* and responded to comments received from Members and partners on texts circulated for comment. As part of its standard-setting work, the Commission also considered relevant [ad hoc Group reports](#). The Aquatic Animals Commission also liaised with the Biological Standards Commission and the Code Commission on topics of common interest to ensure alignment of relevant work, as appropriate.

The new and revised texts adopted in the *Aquatic Code* and *Aquatic Manual* at the 92nd General Session in May 2025 were as follows.

Aquatic Code

Five new chapters were adopted:

- Chapter 4.10. 'Emergency disease preparedness'
- Chapter 4.11. 'Disease outbreak management'
- Chapter 4.6. 'Control of pathogenic agents in traded gametes and fertilised eggs of fish'
- Chapter 5.12. 'Movement of ornamental aquatic animals'
- Chapter 10.8. 'Infection with *Megalocytivirus pagrus1*'
- Thirty chapters revised to update periods for basic biosecurity conditions and targeted surveillance were adopted:
 - Chapter 8.1. 'Infection with *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*'
 - Chapter 8.2. 'Infection with *Batrachochytrium salmandrivorans*'

- Chapter 8.3. 'Infection with *Ranavirus* species'
- Chapter 9.1. 'Acute hepatopancreatic necrosis disease'
- Chapter 9.2. 'Infection with *Aphanomyces astaci* (Crayfish plague)'
- Chapter 9.3. 'Infection with decapod iridescent virus 1'
- Chapter 9.4. 'Infection with *Hepatobacter penaei* (Necrotising hepatopancreatitis)'
- Chapter 9.5. 'Infection with infectious hypodermal and haematopoietic necrosis virus'
- Chapter 9.6. 'Infection with infectious myonecrosis virus'
- Chapter 9.7. 'Infection with *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* nodavirus'
- Chapter 9.8. 'Infection with Taura syndrome virus'
- Chapter 9.9 'Infection with white spot syndrome virus'*
- Chapter 9.10. 'Infection with yellow head virus genotype 1'
- Chapter 10.1. 'Infection with epizootic haematopoietic necrosis virus'
- Chapter 10.2. 'Infection with *Aphanomyces invadens* (Epizootic ulcerative syndrome)' *
- Chapter 10.3. 'Infection with *Gyrodactylus salaris*'
- Chapter 10.4. 'Infection with infectious salmon anaemia virus'
- Chapter 10.5. 'Infection with salmonid alphavirus'
- Chapter 10.6. 'Infection with infectious haematopoietic necrosis virus'
- Chapter 10.7. 'Infection with koi herpesvirus'
- Chapter 10.9. 'Infection with spring viraemia of carp virus'
- Chapter 10.10 'Infection with viral haemorrhagic septicaemia virus'
- Chapter 10.11. 'Infection with tilapia lake virus'
- Chapter 11.1. 'Infection with abalone herpesvirus'
- Chapter 11.2. Infection with '*Bonamia exitiosa*'
- Chapter 11.3. Infection with '*Bonamia ostreae*'
- Chapter 11.4. Infection with '*Marteilia refringens*'
- Chapter 11.5. Infection with '*Perkinsus marinus*'
- Chapter 11.6. Infection with '*Perkinsus olseni*' *
- Chapter 11.7. Infection with '*Xenohalotis californiensis*' *

* chapters that were also amended to update the list of susceptible species.

The deletion of two chapters was adopted:

- Chapter 4.6. 'Contingency planning'
- Chapter 10.8. 'Infection with red sea bream iridovirus'

Details of texts adopted are provided in [Resolution No. 23](#) 'Amendments to the *Aquatic Code*'.

All adopted amendments were published in the online version of the [Aquatic Code](#).

Aquatic Manual

Two chapters were comprehensively revised and adopted:

- Chapter 2.4.2. 'Infection with *Bonamia exitiosa*'
- Chapter 2.4.3. 'Infection with *Bonamia ostreae*'

Four chapters had the list of susceptible species updated and adopted:

- Chapter 2.2.9. 'Infection with white spot syndrome virus'
- Chapter 2.3.1. 'Infection with *A. invadans* (epizootic ulcerative syndrome)'
- Chapter 2.4.6. 'Infection with *Perkinsus olsenii*'
- Chapter 2.4.7. 'Infection with *Xenohalotis californiensis*'

Details of texts adopted are provided in [Resolution No. 24](#) Amendments to the *Aquatic Manual*.

All adopted amendments were published in the online version of the [Aquatic Manual](#).

The Aquatic Animals Commission also reviewed relevant annual reports of WOAHA Collaborating Centres and Reference Laboratories for aquatic animal diseases and approved changes to Reference Centre experts.

2.2.2.5 Activities of the Working Groups

2.2.2.5.1 Wildlife

The Working Group on Wildlife (WGW) held two meetings in 2025. The full reports of both meetings are available online ([April meeting](#) – [November meeting](#)). Highlights from the period are described below.

The Working Group reviewed, discussed and agreed on an updated version of its Terms of reference.

The Working Group continued to be involved in the follow-up of the Wildlife Health Framework (2021–2025), reviewed key outcomes, made suggestions and comments for its evaluation, was informed about the evaluation of the current Wildlife Health Framework and contributed to the development of the next Framework (2026–2030).

The Working Group also continued to provide technical guidance on selected topics and to guide future strategy and programming. In particular, the Working Group expressed its support for and contributed to the ongoing development of a new generation of a wildlife health information system in WOAHA, made comments on the proposed versions of the project and encouraged WOAHA to move forward on the project. The Working Group was also involved in ongoing and new collaboration, such as with the network of Collaborating Centres working on wildlife health, the network of national Focal Points for Wildlife, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the Wildlife Diseases Association (WDA), the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC), and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Where relevant, the Working Group made recommendations, suggestions or comments for the fruitful implementation of this collaboration.

A [statement on Bluetongue and other orbiviruses in wildlife](#), highlighting the link with climatic factors and providing recommendations for actions, was finalised by the Working Group.

The Working Group discussed the high pathogenicity avian influenza (HPAI) situation and its management in wildlife worldwide, and provided a [brief statement on the current situation in wildlife](#) for WOAHA communication purposes.

The Working Group continued to collaborate closely with WOAHA Specialist Commissions, in particular by putting forward recommendations aimed at better integration of wildlife health in chapters of the *Terrestrial Code*.

2.2.2.5.2 Antimicrobial resistance

The Working Group on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMRWG) completed its membership renewal in 2025, whilst continuing the development and implementation of its work programme. A shortcut to the [AMRWG web space](#) was embedded in [WOAH's AMR web portal](#) for easier access by our Members and other relevant stakeholders. The [AMRWG work programme](#), the [reports](#) of its two 2025 presential meetings and the [newly updated compilation](#) of WOAHA standards, guidelines and resolutions on AMR are publicly available.

▪ Highlights from 2025

The Director General appointed two new members to the AMRWG in 2025: Dr Michiko Kawanishi (Japan) and Prof. Yang Wang (China [People's Rep. of]). This followed a transparent selection process from among the 96 applications received through an open call that took place between December 2024 and February 2025. The Director General also appointed a new Chair of the AMRWG, based on the recommendations of the Secretariat: Dr Arshnee Moodley (Kenya).

The AMRWG reviewed the [Essential Veterinary Medicines List \(EVML\)](#) for food-producing animals that Brooke and the World Veterinary Association (WVA) have been developing. The AMRWG agreed that this EVML could be a valuable document in improving access to antimicrobials, advising that before implementation a rationale document should be provided to explain the exclusion of some antimicrobials, and the classification of some antimicrobials as core and others as complementary. Moreover, the Working Group suggested strengthening of the evidence base for the recommendations throughout the document.

A significant body of work to revisit the WOAHA List of Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance (the WOAHA List) and improve its utility was initiated in 2025. This included key milestones such as:

- The creation of an 'AMR package', consisting of the WOAHA List and related species-specific Technical Reference Documents (TRDs), including an explanatory preface and a more visible location within [WOAH's website](#).
- The design and launch of a global survey to assess the level of awareness and relevance of the WOAHA List and the TRDs among WOAHA Members and stakeholders. The survey received 123 responses (88 responses, representing 38.3% of WOAHA Members, and 35 responses from non-governmental stakeholders). Most of the Members who responded (> 90%) agreed that the WOAHA List was useful and agreed with the proposed new categorisation criteria under consideration. Concerns raised referred to the inclusion of 'productivity' in criterion 2, due to the possibility that it could be used to justify the non-veterinary use of antimicrobials for growth promotion purposes, and the need for better alignment with the World Health Organization (WHO) lists (i.e. WHO Medically Important Antimicrobials List and WHO AWaRe List) and Codex Alimentarius guidance documents. The findings of this survey, including the recommendations made by Members and stakeholders will be used to inform the revision of the WOAHA List and further development of TRDs.
- The development of a technical plan to establish a VetAWaRe list to fulfil [commitment #7 from](#) the 4th Global High-Level Ministerial Conference on AMR held in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, in November 2024. Commitment #7 states to "*Encourage WOAHA through consultation with its members, to develop science-based global stewardship guidance, such as a veterinary equivalent of the WHO AWaRe (Access, Watch, Reserve) framework to facilitate improved guidance, targeting and measuring appropriate use of antibiotics in animals*". This plan has been costed and awaits appropriate financial support to be implemented.

The revision of *Aquatic* and *Terrestrial Code* chapters relating to antimicrobial resistance continued in 2025.

- Amendment of Chapter 6.2 of the *Aquatic Code* was agreed with the Aquatic Animals Commission in February 2025. A first draft of the chapter, developed by the Centre for Antimicrobial Stewardship for Aquaculture (CASA, a WOAHA Collaborating Centre) was reviewed by an *ad hoc* group, chaired by an AMRWG member, Ms. Barbara Freischem. The Aquatic Animals Commission reviewed the draft chapter in September 2025 and advised that the *ad hoc* group make further revisions to better align the chapter with Chapter 6.10 of the *Terrestrial Code*. The revised draft chapter will be submitted for consideration by the Aquatic Animals Commission in February 2026.
- Following the decision made in September 2024 by the Code Commission, an *ad hoc* group was created in 2025 to update *Terrestrial Code* Chapter 6.8. 'Harmonisation of national antimicrobial resistance surveillance and monitoring programmes' (last updated in 2018). A call for experts was launched among Collaborating Centres between April and the end of May 2025. This group is chaired by AMRWG member Dr Carolee Carson and initiated its work in September 2025.

The AMRWG retained oversight of the writing of a reflection paper on autogenous vaccines, leveraging the expertise residing in WOAHA's Collaborating Centres on Veterinary Medicinal Products. A Technical Expert Group on Autogenous Vaccines (TEG-AV) created a draft document including recommendations on the future development of relevant standards or guidelines (i.e. guidance for quality, safety and efficacy), as tools to reduce the need to use antimicrobials. The document went through external consultation between March and June 2025, after which the AMRWG was consulted for further advice. The AMRWG noted that the definition of 'autogenous vaccines' is not globally agreed and that a distinction between 'autogenous vaccines' and 'fully authorised vaccines' is required, to reflect the differences in authorisation between the two, particularly as both types of vaccines are commercially available. The final version is now under review for an expected publication during the 93rd General Session.

The AMRWG held a brainstorming session to discuss the key aspects of the third WOAHA Global AMR Conference, expected to take place in 2027. Based on the experiences from the first two global conferences ([2013](#) and [2018](#)) and the current context and landscape regarding global, regional and local actions to contain AMR, the AMRWG suggested that the following outcomes be considered:

- Data & Evidence: Improved use of existing data; mandatory and transparent antimicrobial use/antimicrobial resistance (AMU/AMR) reporting via the animal antimicrobial use database (ANIMUSE); AI-assisted real-world data systems;
- Funding & Sustainability: Sustainable and equitable funding mechanisms across sectors; support for vaccine development and diagnostics;
- Policy & Governance: Alignment with [79th United Nations General Assembly \(UNGA\)](#) Political Declaration on AMR commitments and the revised Global Action Plan; revision of WOAHA's [AMR Strategy](#) and Roadmap;
- Behavioural Change & Stewardship: Education for future prescribers; responsible use of antimicrobials; phaseout of antimicrobials for growth promotion; success stories and lessons learned;
- Innovation & Collaboration: Progressive implementation of the VetAWaRe List; strengthened private sector engagement; cross-sectoral coordination; integration with broader planetary agendas.

All these factors are included in a project proposal presented for funding scouting to support the initiative.

2.2.3 Guidelines

Mitigating Disease Transmission Risk at the Wildlife–Livestock Interface to Facilitate Safe Trade

In many countries where transboundary animal diseases (e.g. African swine fever [ASF], avian influenza foot and mouth disease [FMD], etc.) are endemic, infections can be transmitted between wild and domestic animals, sustaining infection transmission cycles that are difficult to control because of the complex factors and risk pathways involved.

Importantly, for some diseases WOAH standards allow the recognition of animal health status in effectively separated subpopulations and require that Members do not ban international livestock trade in domestic animals and their products solely in response to disease occurrence in wildlife, providing effective risk mitigation measures are implemented at the domestic animals–wildlife interface.

In this context, Members have requested WOAH to provide practical guidance on how to effectively manage risks at the wildlife–livestock interface, in line with WOAH standards, while preserving the animal health status of domestic subpopulations to ensure business continuity.

WOAH launched the consultancy in October 2024 and the guidelines were published in December 2025. In January 2026, WOAH organised a [launch webinar](#).

2.2.4 Status

2.2.4.1 Applications for the official recognition of animal health status

In promoting the safe international trade of commodities through achieving official recognition of disease-free status of countries or zones or endorsement of official disease control programmes, WOAH received 23 new applications in 2025 (Table 1). The application dossiers were evaluated during the meetings of the respective *ad hoc* Group for each disease, held between October and November 2025. The applications and corresponding evaluation reports of the *ad hoc* Groups were forwarded to the Scientific Commission for evaluation and, where appropriate, recommendation to the Assembly for adoption at the 93rd General Session in May 2026.

Table 1. Distribution of new applications received in 2025, by disease

Disease and category	No. of applications
African horse sickness	
Country freedom	1
Zonal freedom	1
Bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE)	
Negligible BSE risk country status	1
Classical swine fever	
Country freedom	1
Zonal freedom	3
Foot and mouth disease	
Zonal freedom without vaccination	2
Zonal freedom with vaccination	2
Adjustment of geographical boundaries of zones free without vaccination	1

Endorsement of control programme	1
Peste des petits ruminants	
Country freedom	3
Endorsement of control programme	1
Dog-mediated rabies	
Endorsement of control programme	6
Total	23

2.2.4.2 Annual reconfirmations

In accordance with the *Terrestrial Code* and the relevant SOP, WOAHA Members having an officially recognised animal health status or an endorsed official control programme are obliged to reconfirm the maintenance of their official status or official control programme each year during November. A total of 391 annual reconfirmations were screened by the Status Department in 2025.

Due to technical issues on the Disease Status Management Platform (DSMP), the 2025 annual reconfirmation campaign was launched with some delay and with a 10-day extension of the deadline, which contributed to the higher proportion of timely submissions (80%) compared to past years, with 142 annual reconfirmations submitted during the last four days before the deadline of 10 December.

As mentioned above, the Scientific Commission continued discussing streamlining the procedure for annual reconfirmations, and the methodology for the assessment of equivalency of risk mitigation measures put in place by Members for maintenance of an official disease-free status.

2.2.4.3 Development of the Disease Status Management Platform

In line with the strategic objective of WOAHA's 7th Strategic Plan for optimising data governance through digital transformation, WOAHA has continued to develop the DSMP since 2023. This centralised system facilitates the archiving, tracking, searching and submission of Members' dossiers related to the official recognition and maintenance of animal health status.

The Annual Reconfirmation component of the DSMP was first utilised during the 2023 annual reconfirmation campaign, and it was updated in 2024 with new functionalities, guidance material including video tutorials and written manuals, as well as a new form for bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) to accommodate the standards that were updated in May 2023.

The DSMP was used for the 2025 annual reconfirmation campaign. However, due to challenges encountered in the collaboration with its service provider, WOAHA is in the process of identifying and engaging a new provider to complete the remaining development of DSMP, covering the submission of applications for official recognition of animal health status and endorsement of official control programmes as well as the submission of self-declarations.

2.2.4.4 Self-declarations

Publication of self-declarations on the WOAHA website provides an opportunity for Members to increase the visibility of their animal health status and the associated risk mitigation measures in place, promote the quality of their Veterinary Services and demonstrate transparency in animal disease reporting and continuous compliance with WOAHA standards.

As indicated last year, WOAHA continued to review all published self-declarations impacted by changes adopted in the *Terrestrial* and *Aquatic Codes* at the May 2025 General Session and, where appropriate, requested the Members concerned to submit an updated version of their self-declaration dossier. In 2025, nine self-declarations were impacted by the adoption of new standards and all six Members concerned submitted an updated version of their self-declaration(s), aligned with the current *Terrestrial* and *Aquatic Codes*. Including these requested updates, a total of 59 self-declarations were submitted to WOAHA in 2025 for publication on the [WOAHA website](#). Among the 50 newly self-declarations published in 2025, half were for HPAI, two for equine disease-free zones and seven for aquatic animal diseases.

2.2.5 Observatory

In 2025, the WOAHA Observatory advanced its mandate through the publication of the second Monitoring Report, the continuation of thematic studies, strategic realignment of its digital platform and strengthened external engagement to promote evidence-based recommendations for the implementation of WOAHA standards.

- **The Second WOAHA Observatory Monitoring Report**

This report is the flagship publication of the programme. It enhances understanding of how Members implement WOAHA standards, highlights existing gaps and offers recommendations for improvement. The second iteration of the Monitoring Report, published in December 2025, draws on existing data regularly collected by WOAHA or obtained from external sources. The internal and external data are cleaned and transformed for quantitative analysis, indicators are calculated to measure the extent to which WOAHA standards are used by Members, and results are interpreted to develop recommendations for WOAHA and its Members. This report is structured into six technical sections, each covering a specific topic: trade and sanitary measures; self-declaration and official status for animal diseases; movement control inside countries/territories and border precautions; zoning and compartmentalisation; antimicrobial use and antimicrobial resistance; and implementation of the One Health approach.

The report highlights progress in the use of WOAHA standards and identifies areas for improvement. Overall recommendations include strengthening of data collection on Members' capacities, such as workforce availability, simulation exercises and contingency planning.

- **The thematic studies**

The second thematic study conducted by the WOAHA Observatory focused on animal welfare during transport by land and sea, reflecting the Organisation's commitment to improve standards globally. The initial phase of this study, completed in 2024, aimed to assess the level of implementation of WOAHA standards by Members' Veterinary Services.

Building on this foundation, the second phase commenced in early 2025, adopting a qualitative approach to identify both success factors and barriers influencing the use of welfare standards during transport. Nineteen interviews were conducted during the second and third quarters of 2025 with national Animal Welfare Focal Points, ensuring broad regional representation. These interviews sought to examine the extent to which WOAHA transport standards have been integrated at national level, to uncover obstacles hindering their implementation, and to highlight factors contributing to successful adoption. In September 2025, two focus groups were convened to deliberate on preliminary findings and explore practical solutions for enhancing the utilisation of WOAHA standards in future practices. The forthcoming report, scheduled for publication in the first quarter of 2026, will consolidate the insights gained from both phases of the study, offering evidence-based recommendations and actionable proposals for WOAHA and its Members. To complement this comprehensive analysis, a concise factsheet summarising the outcomes of the second phase will also be produced.

In addition to the thematic study on animal welfare during transport by land and sea, the Observatory is advancing a case study focused on the application, benefits and challenges of compartmentalisation for avian influenza. This study adopts a two-phase approach. The initial

phase, launched in September 2025, involved a survey comprising two distinct questionnaires: one directed at the public sector, shared with 183 WOAAH Members, and another tailored for poultry industry stakeholders. The forthcoming second phase, scheduled for 2026, will delve deeper into the practical challenges and success factors associated with compartmentalisation through targeted interviews.

Furthermore, a call for proposals was issued in early 2025 to identify future topics for analysis. WOAAH departments were invited to submit suggestions, and the selection process adhered to transparent criteria, including Member priorities and data availability. Following this rigorous process, the Observatory Steering Committee – comprising the WOAAH Director General and three Deputy Directors General – approved two new studies to commence in 2026: monitoring and evaluating the impact of standards for WOAAH-listed diseases through a case study on infection with *Megalocytivirus pagrus*; and an examination of self-declaration of freedom from animal diseases. The latter study aims to identify the key drivers motivating Members to submit such declarations, while clarifying the benefits and conditions underpinning successful implementation.

- **The Observatory Digital Platform**

The year 2025 marked a period of strategic realignment for the Observatory Programme, prompted by evolving technical and operational requirements. Several project components of the Observatory digital platform project were redefined, notably the architecture of the data integration framework and the future approach to reporting and visualisation, ensuring alignment with revised priorities. As a result, a new procurement process was initiated and culminated successfully in December 2025 with the selection of a service provider distinguished by its expertise in data science. Development of the Observatory's digital platform is scheduled to commence in early 2026, marking a significant step towards enhancing data integration, accessibility and analytical capabilities for the benefit of WOAAH Members and stakeholders worldwide.

- **Observatory Programme External Engagement and Promotion**

The Observatory Programme places significant emphasis on external engagement and the promotion of its outputs to ensure broad dissemination and stakeholder involvement. Throughout the year, its findings and analytical products were presented at the WOAAH Regional Conferences for the Middle East and Asia and the Pacific, as well as during technical workshops, meetings of *ad hoc* groups and Specialist Commissions, and the dedicated Zoning Forum. In addition, a side event organised during the 92nd General Session provided an opportunity to showcase the results of the second Monitoring Report to a global audience. The Observatory Programme actively contributes to international dialogue by participating in the Three Sisters Working Group alongside the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) and the Codex Alimentarius Commission, and through physical representation at the World Trade Organization (WTO) Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Committee). Furthermore, it engaged in the WTO SPS Committee transparency working group. Strategic collaborations extended to global health and policy organisations, including engagement with WHO on the AMR Accountability Index and with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) to align with best practice of international organisations.

2.3 Capacity building

WOAH's capacity-building programme continues to support Members in strengthening the sustainable governance, performance and accountability of their Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services, in line with WOAAH standards. Building on established expertise and methodologies, the programme integrates the **Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) Pathway** and the **WOAH Competency-based training system**, adopting a workforce development cross-cutting approach. Providing institutional and individual-level support through assessment, planning, targeted support and learning, WOAAH facilitates evidence-based decision-making, prioritisation of investments and continuous improvement of animal health and welfare systems, including workforce capacities. Dissemination of results and dialogue among stakeholders remain central, promoting coordination among Members, partners, donors, and public, private and non-profit actors.

Capacity building remains a core pillar of WOAAH's 7th Strategic Plan (2021–2026), addressing persistent inequalities in capacities and resources across Members and contributing to stronger global animal health governance. The PVS Pathway supports Members through orientation, evaluation, gap analysis, strategic planning, monitoring, evaluation and learning, underpinned by the progressive digitalisation of processes and data through the PVS Pathway Information System (PVS IS). This enables customised sectoral and cross-sectoral analyses to inform action and accountability. Complementing this, targeted support assists Members in priority areas such as veterinary legislation, sustainable laboratories, One Health and National Bridging Workshops, and public–private partnerships. In parallel, workforce development initiatives support the assessment, planning and continuous development of the veterinary workforce, including veterinary education and continuing education, competency frameworks, curriculum guidelines and learner-centred training delivered through the [WOAH eLearning Platform](#). Together, these mutually reinforcing initiatives ensure a coherent top-down and bottom-up, competency-oriented approach, while allowing WOAAH to respond agilely to emerging needs and to support major thematic programmes, including antimicrobial resistance, wildlife health, animal welfare and aquatic animal health frameworks.

2.3.1 PVS Pathway

▪ PVS Pathway Information System (PVS IS)

Through sustained application of artificial intelligence and natural language processing with WOAAH's bespoke large language model, WOAAH has continued its discovery of data and insights extracted from PVS reports for more effective advocacy for investment, sustainable funding, and bankable project development for its Members, along with a deeper understanding of global and regional capacity and performance trends towards compliance with WOAAH's international standards. New data include specific thematic analyses on WOAAH-listed diseases, antimicrobial use and resistance, workforce, One Health, private sector engagement and wildlife, among others.

In 2025, WOAAH embarked on a major innovation aimed at demonstrating the impact of the PVS Pathway in preparation for its 20th anniversary: the first-ever PVS Self-Assessment Annual Report on actions taken by Members against recommendations made in each Member's most recent PVS Evaluation was launched. This new PVS activity is managed through the PVS IS and is a custom-made monitoring instrument for each Member based on the exact recommendations made in its most recent PVS Evaluation. This reporting enables Members to demonstrate the impact of their actions and investments, and to more effectively direct future funding toward actions to be implemented and enables WOAAH to report on the most common actions that still need to be taken to inform priorities and strategies. Preliminary data indicate a commitment to action by Members' Veterinary Services, given that they have taken action on 80% of the recommendations made, despite having had sufficient resources to implement fewer than half of them.

Additional features have been added to the PVS IS to save time and increase efficiency for Members engaged in the PVS Pathway. Piloting of the digitalised workflow of PVS Evaluations, featuring simple forms and intuitive tasks, began, with the aim of enhancing collaboration between PVS Experts, Delegates and WOAAH during PVS report finalisation. Access to the PVS IS was granted to all officially nominated national Focal Points and PVS Experts, and the procedures for accessing reports and performance data and uploading documents was greatly facilitated. The text of Gap Analysis Reports and the associated costing data were migrated and added to dashboards. Data entry for automated costing calculation is nearing completion, and Learning Needs Assessment (LNA) passive data collection on the full PVS dataset is in the pilot stage to gather needs and insights to inform WOAAH's training system. The next phase of PVS IS development began for the Capacity-Building Expert Management System, including an open call for new Capacity-Building Experts and an expert management interface.

▪ **PVS Pathway activity delivery for Members**

The PVS Pathway Programme conducted 50 activities for 38 WOAHO Members and three non-Members, including 16 Initial and Follow-Up Evaluations (two of which focused on Aquatic Animal Health Services); four Gap Analyses; and 30 Targeted Support activities. Table 2 shows a breakdown of PVS activities conducted in 2025.

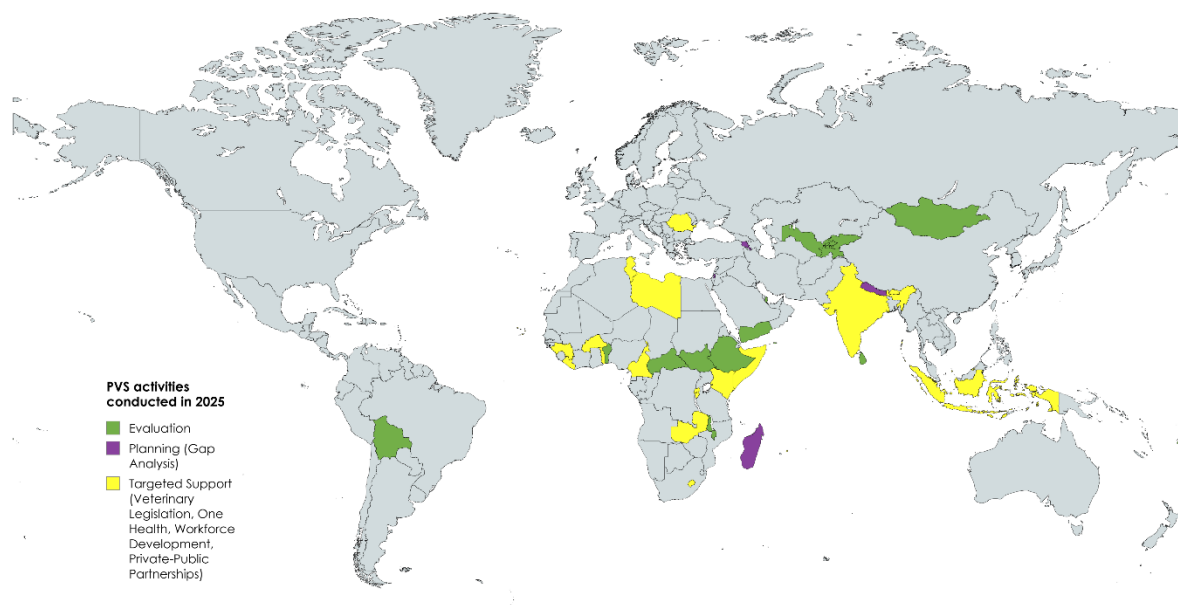


Figure 4: PVS activities conducted in 2025

Table 2. Targeted support activities conducted in 2025.

One Health Integration: IHR-PVS National Bridging Workshops (NBW)	10
One Health Integration: WHO Joint External Evaluations (JEE) with PVS Experts in the Team of Assessors	2
Veterinary Legislation Support Programme (VLSP) activities	8
Veterinary Workforce Development and Veterinary Paraprofessional Support	6
Public–Private Partnerships (PPP) activities	4

Security issues have conditioned the development of PVS activities in some Members, for which flexible methodologies have been adapted, such as hosting the mission in a WOAHO regional office or adopting remote formats.

▪ **What’s new in PVS?**

Since 2008, the **Veterinary Legislation Support Programme (VLSP)** has engaged 40% of WOAHO’s Members – offering recommendations for legal reform based on Chapter 3.4. of the *Terrestrial Code* and support in the revision of existing legislation and/or the development of new laws and regulations. In 2025, to respond to Members’ needs, evolving global challenges and the call for greater transversality within WOAHO, the VLSP continued its commitment to expanding and refining its offer with:

- optional focused themes: biological threat reduction (BTR) in support of the WOAHO BTR Strategy; antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in support of the [WOAHO Strategy on AMR and the Prudent Use of Antimicrobials](#) (the Quadripartite One Health Legislative Assessment Tool for AMR [OHLAT-AMR] was published in September 2025); and wildlife as part of the [WOAHO Wildlife Health Framework](#);

- enhanced support to legal frameworks for Veterinary Statutory Bodies (VSBs), veterinary workforce and Public–Private Partnerships (PPPs);
- increasing flexibility for a tailored approach, with the aim of responding to the variety of Members' requests and needs.

Since 2023, **PPP Targeted Support** has been implemented with a growing stepwise approach, demonstrating its effectiveness as a sustainable, demand-driven capacity-building methodology, strengthening Member ownership, stakeholder engagement and the institutionalisation of PPPs within national Veterinary Services.

In 2025, training and tool development activities were undertaken to strengthen the practical implementation of PPPs in priority technical areas. These included capacity building in AMR containment, rabies control, and disease control through zoning and compartmentalisation. Legal and Policy Enabling Guidelines were also developed and piloted and are now nearing finalisation for global rollout. In December 2025, WOAHA organised a regional capacity-building workshop for the Middle East to empower PPPs and strengthen peste des petits ruminants (PPR) eradication, in line with the recommendations of the PPR Middle East Roadmap Meeting held in Saudi Arabia in April .

Working with partners, WOAHA advanced the PPP enabling environment through a series of complementary initiatives. In February 2025, progress on the joint WOAHA–AU-IBAR¹¹ initiative, the [Africa PPP Forum](#) in the veterinary domain, was presented at the Africa Regional Conference. This was followed by a private sector engagement [workshop](#) on AMR under the Asia-Pacific Regional Tripartite Project. During the same period, WOAHA supported the publication of the [Public-Private Partnerships for improved SPS Systems and Safe Trade Facilitation](#) by the WTO Standards and Trade Development Facility.

Building on these achievements, the successful completion of the PPP 2.0 project and the approval of a new initiative funded by the Gates Foundation represent a significant milestone and reflect strong trust and confidence of Members and partners.

2.3.2 Workforce assessment, planning and development: from enabling frameworks to education and continuing education

WOAHA's Veterinary Workforce Development (WFD) Programme aims at supporting its Members in veterinary workforce assessment, planning and development, through specifically designed methodologies and tools to assess their veterinary workforce needs and sustainably address them within the limits of financial, human and educational resource constraints. It encompasses the PVS Pathway and the Competency-based training system, providing overarching support from assessment to evaluation and learning.

From the design and pilot of new methodologies to the increase of the training offer in the eLearning Platform, the WFD programme is in continuous evolution, and is raising considerable interest among WOAHA Members.

Progress was made with the Veterinary Workforce Assessment Tool to help countries better understand their workforce needs (it will be piloted in 2026), the curriculum support toolbox for Veterinary Paraprofessionals' education, and Veterinary Statutory Body Targeted Support, to strengthen VSB governance capacity. Efforts also continued aimed at promoting the competency and curriculum guidelines for Community Animal Health Workers, supporting more consistent and safe service delivery at the community level.

WFD activities delivered to Members are now being progressively integrated into PVS Pathway.

¹¹ AU-IBAR: African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources

A new three-year Veterinary Education Establishment (VEE) twinning project between the National Veterinary School of Toulouse (France) and the National School of Veterinary Medicine of Sidi Thabet (Tunisia) was launched to improve the quality of veterinary education in the beneficiary Member by focusing on WOAAH standards and clinical training.

- **Consolidation of the competency-based training system**

Along with institutional programmes in direct support to Members, the WOAAH learner-centred and **competency-based training system** has also progressed significantly as a central mechanism for global veterinary capacity development.

The most significant innovation achievement is the **Learning Needs Assessment Information System** (LNA IS), integrated into the PVS IS. The LNA IS links PVS Evaluation findings with the Competency-based Training Framework, producing evidence-based analyses and targeted surveys to identify priority competency gaps and recommend tailored training solutions. This system provides a strategic foundation for adapting, prioritising and scaling training interventions according to Members' operational needs. It will be piloted in 2026.

The **Platform for the Training of Veterinary Services**, involving the WOAAH Collaborating Centres on training and education, met in December 2025 to review, prioritise and consolidate the competency-based system, strengthen quality assurance mechanisms, expand the global learning community and identify concrete actions to enhance collaboration, scalability and sustainability, directly informing the next phase of implementation under WOAAH's upcoming 8th Strategic Plan.

Through the continued expansion of its **eLearning Platform** – the renewed version having been launched at the 92nd General Session in a side event with more than 100 participants, including Delegates, Focal Points, experts and donors – WOAAH delivers accessible, multilingual and practice-oriented learning solutions that directly address priority capacity gaps, also identified through the PVS. Training activities combined methodological and digital innovation with blended and face-to-face approaches, reaching a diverse global audience.

The training offer currently includes 56 eModules across critical domains of competencies; newly published modules include [trade of animal and animal products](#) (10 modules), [antimicrobial resistance](#) (5 modules), [emergency management](#) (3 modules) and [African swine fever](#) (1 module). All modules were made available in English, French and Spanish, with additional versions in Russian and Portuguese developed when resources allowed, ensuring broader regional accessibility.

The WOAAH eLearning platform was attended by almost 2000 new learners in 2025.

A coordination mechanism to strengthen One Health capacity among the animal, human, plant and environment health workforce, leveraging the expertise of the FAO eLearning Academy and Virtual Learning Centres, the WHO Academy and the WOAAH eLearning Platform, was born during the WOAAH chair of the Quadripartite collaboration for One Health: the **FAO/WHO/WOAH Joint One Health Learning Taskforce (JOHLT)** puts together for the first time One Health subject matter and learning methodologies' experts from the three organisations, to promote a One Health cultural change to inspire a collaborative workforce mindset. JOHLT is growing through a flexible, interactive, and collaborative learning approach based on existing and successful programmes and perceived needs for values and behaviour change, that recognises the importance of cross-sector opportunities and challenges, using a competency-based approach.

2.3.3 Laboratory twinning

As of 31 December 2025, 100 projects had been completed, 17 projects were underway, and three projects were awaiting administrative clearance before starting. So far, 24 new WOA Reference Centres have been designated as a direct result of Laboratory Twinning projects.

The map below shows the global distribution of laboratory twinning projects (Figure 5). The countries in shades of green have played the role of parents, and the countries in shades of purple have played the role of candidates. Darker shades indicate more projects implemented. Stars indicate the candidate countries where new WOA Reference Centres have been designated as a result of twinning projects. The number in each star is the number of new institutes designated per candidate Member. Thus, Chile, Chinese Taipei, Cuba, Egypt, India, Namibia and Senegal have one new Reference Centre each; Brazil, Thailand, Türkiye and Russia have two; United Arab Emirates has three and China (People's Rep. of) has four. With regard to parents, Italy has 26 twinning participations, followed by the United Kingdom and France, with 16 and 15 participations, respectively.

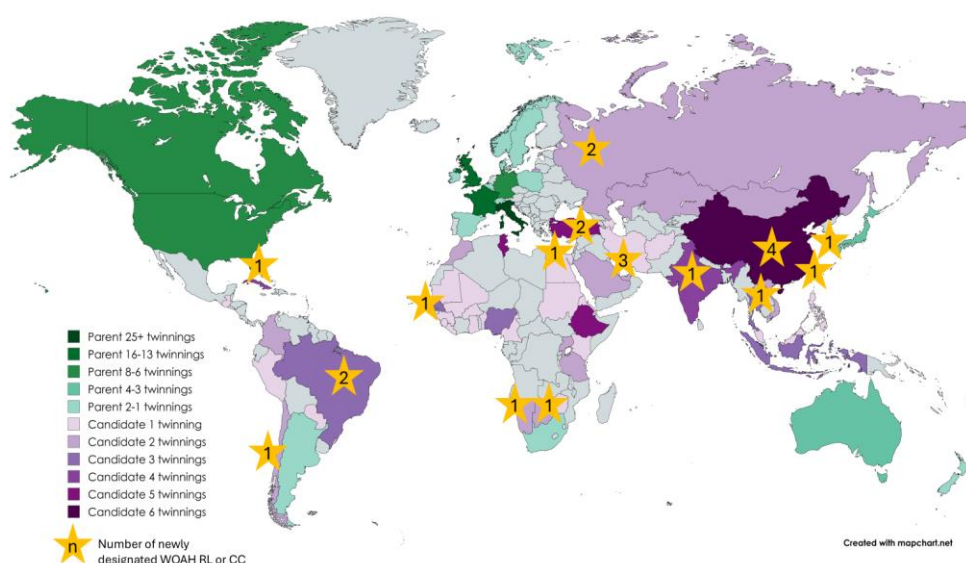


Figure 5. Global distribution of laboratory twinning projects, indicating the role of the participants and the location of newly designated WOA Reference Centres

The evaluation of the Laboratory Twinning Programme was concluded in 2025. Its main objective was to understand whether the Programme had fulfilled its mission statement and to identify the factors associated with project success and the sustainability of twinning projects. The Twinning Programme was found to have had a positive impact in the targeted regions – Africa, Asia, the Middle East and South America – though to varying degrees. Project outcomes depended heavily on the context in which the projects were implemented. Alignment with the animal health priorities of the candidate Member, support for the national Veterinary Authority, and the existence of a baseline level of capacity were found to be conducive to successful twinning. Staff turnover and sociopolitical instability were found to be unsurmountable barriers to twinning implementation. As a result of the evaluation, a new twinning guidebook and a set of recommendations for WOA to improve the Programme has been delivered. Also, a new monitoring tool and a project evaluation tool have started to be progressively implemented.

2.3.4 Sustainable laboratories

▪ Innovation to improve the sustainability of laboratories (BioPREVAIL)

Diagnostic laboratories play a critical role in global efforts to prevent, detect and respond to dangerous pathogens. These facilities face recurrent challenges, especially in resource-constrained settings, to maintain biosafety and biosecurity levels commensurate with the hazardous material they handle.

BioPREVAIL aims to drive an innovation movement focused on practical, scalable solutions that enable laboratories to function sustainably – rooted in local context, resilient to future challenges, and capable of supporting global biosafety and biosecurity in the long term.

Following several years of scoping work, BioPREVAIL was launched in November 2023 (<https://www.bioprevail.org/>).

Since the launch, there have been a number of achievements. 1. A community of practice has been developed. This allows leading experts to share ideas and experiences for policy and technical solutions to improve the sustainability of laboratories. 2. A platform for Design Sprints has been established. This aims to identify innovators who have ideas for solutions to specific technical problems, with a view to seeking investment to develop those solutions. 3. A BioPREVAIL Academy has been established to support winning innovators of the Design Sprints in the process of customer discovery, understanding intellectual property rights, and ‘pitching’ their ideas to potential investors. 4. The first design sprint showcase event was held in Geneva, Switzerland, in December 2025.

For the Design Sprint, a total of 66 submissions from 31 countries were received, addressing at least one of three thematic areas (facility design, equipment maintenance and waste management). Following the selection process, nine teams were invited to take part in an intensive 6-month programme comprised of a 3-month development period followed by a 3-month pilot period. The teams represented geographical and demographic diversity, with seven countries represented and 44.4% of teams led by female primary investigators. Teams are supported in a variety of ways over the course of the programme, including financial support for the development and pilot phases and technical mentorship coordinated through a lead mentor assigned to each team to assist in accessing expertise and resources on the virtual innovation ecosystem platform. Following a required virtual innovation training programme, teams convened in-person to present preliminary results from the development phase of the programme in December 2025. The solutions were showcased in person and also online. Here is a recording of the showcase event: <https://youtu.be/S7cBG9EYMC8?si=9dIDA45AYCQjcWRJ>

The BioPrevail initiative is supported by funding from Global Affairs Canada’s Weapons Threat Reduction Program and is implemented through a partnership between WOH, the Global Health Security Fund, the United Kingdom’s International Biosecurity Programme and Global Affairs Canada in close collaboration with a global network of laboratory sustainability experts.

2.4. Global frameworks

2.4.1 One Health

WOAH plays a leading global role in advancing One Health (OH), leveraging transformative initiatives, strategic partnerships and innovative tools to address interconnected health challenges at the human–animal–environment interface, including zoonotic threats and pandemic risks. In 2025, WOH made tangible progress in implementing its OH strategy by consolidating internal coordination through its One Health Network and engagement in WOH relevant thematic task forces, and by deepening collaboration with Quadripartite partners (FAO, WHO and UNEP). These efforts strengthened regional OH coordination mechanisms and supported country-level implementation of the [One Health Joint Plan of Action](#) (OH JPA).

Through sustained dialogue with Members and engagement in global policy processes, WOH continued to align its work with major international frameworks, including the OH JPA. In 2025, this included active contributions to the G20 and G7 forums, and the Conference of the Parties (COP) for biodiversity and for climate change, reinforcing WOH’s leadership in policy, advocacy and science for One Health.

2.4.1.1 Strategic global context

[WOAH's One Health Strategy](#) (Figure 6) aims to enhance the contribution of the animal health sector to the prevention, prediction, detection and response to health threats, while improving the health and resilience of animals, humans and ecosystems. As WOAHA prepares its 8th Strategic Plan, One Health remains a central pillar, with upcoming thematic studies to assess the inclusion of OH in WOAHA standards and the development of a WOAHA Position Paper on climate change and animal health, reflecting the growing importance of environmental drivers of health risks.

The strategy seeks to promote animal health as a public and global good, delivering co-benefits for human and environmental health, and to reduce health risks at the human–animal–environment interface through a collaborative and multisectoral One Health approach. To achieve these objectives, WOAHA focuses on four medium-term outcomes:

- (i) building advocacy, political support and investment for an evidence-based One Health approach;
- (ii) improving coordination, communication and capacity development across One Health activities;
- (iii) strengthening cross-sectoral collaboration to support inclusive and effective One Health strategies; and
- (iv) developing, harmonising and promoting practical One Health tools and good practices to support implementation at global, regional and national levels.

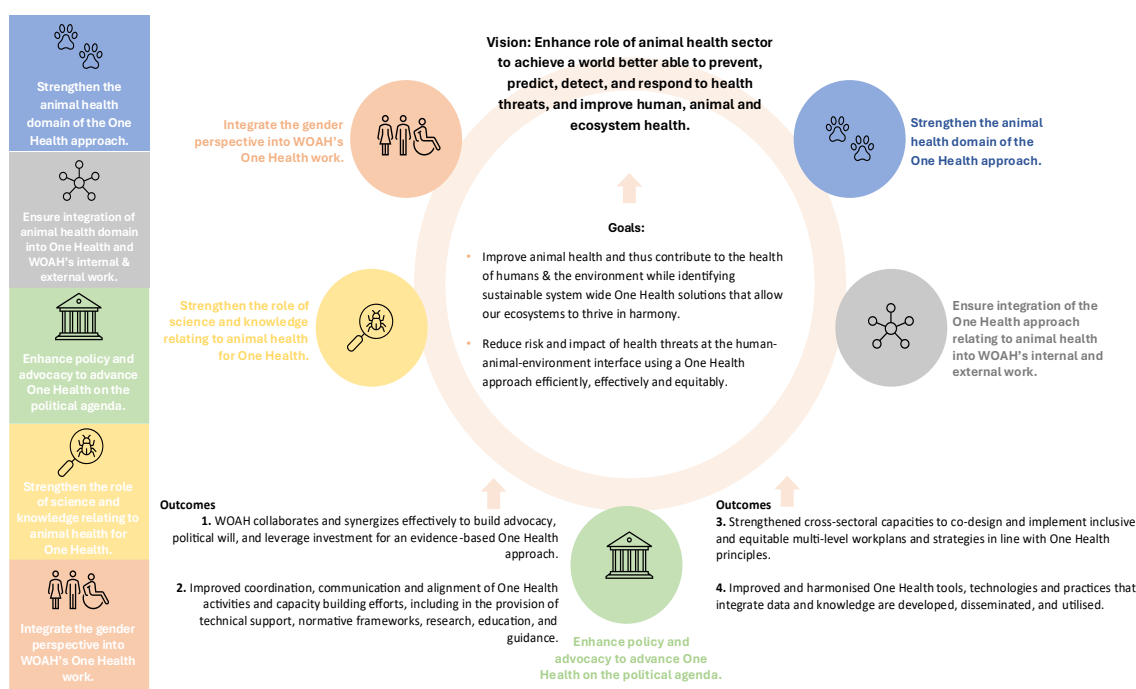


Figure 6. WOAHA One Health Strategy

Objectives and Achievements for One Health at WOAAH

1. Ensure integration of the animal health domain into the OH approach and across WOAAH's internal and external work

WOAH aims to promote the OH approach across its technical and normative work, ensuring that animal health perspectives are systematically integrated into key thematic areas, including antimicrobial resistance (AMR), vector-borne and zoonotic diseases, emerging and neglected zoonoses, wildlife health, disease intelligence, and capacity development.

Internal integration and coordination:

- In 2025, WOAAH strengthened internal integration of One Health through structured and regular coordination mechanisms. The One Health team convened routine meetings with the internal network of Regional One Health Officers, engaging relevant staff from WOAAH Headquarters and regional and sub-regional offices to review progress, address challenges and align priorities and workplans. These mechanisms supported improved coherence, information flow and alignment of One Health activities across the Organisation.
- Internal communication and knowledge sharing were further enhanced through the continued dissemination of the quarterly One Health Newsletter, which highlights global, regional and national achievements, new publications and key resources. A dedicated internal knowledge-sharing platform facilitated access to One Health information and tools, while high-level policy updates on major One Health developments were regularly communicated by Headquarters to regional teams to ensure consistent positioning and messaging.
- In 2025, the One Health Department developed the first version of the WOAAH Position Paper entitled *Climate Change, Animal Health, and Global Health Security – A One Health Imperative*. This paper was presented at the [COP 30 | UNFCCC](#) and at the Conference of the Middle East, supporting strategic dialogue on the role of animal health within climate and health policy agendas.

External coordination:

- WOAAH is a core member of the Quadripartite collaboration on One Health, which provides the global framework for coordinated action to prevent, detect and respond to health threats at the human–animal–environment interface. Between 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025, WOAAH chaired and coordinated the Quadripartite rotating Secretariat, demonstrating strong leadership in advancing animal health priorities within the Quadripartite's four agreed strategic areas: (i) political engagement and advocacy; (ii) implementation of the One Health Joint Plan of Action (OH JPA); (iii) science and evidence; and (iv) leveraging investment for One Health.
- This period of leadership culminated in the Quadripartite Annual Executive Meeting hosted by WOAAH from 25 to 27 March 2025, which provided strategic guidance on priority actions and enabled the formal handover of the Quadripartite Chair to FAO. WOAAH's term as Quadripartite Chair contributed to strengthened coherence across Quadripartite workstreams and clearer articulation of roles and responsibilities for One Health implementation at global and regional levels.
- In 2025, the Quadripartite partners revised their Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), and clarified further roles, responsibilities, and mechanisms for collaboration across the four strategic areas. WOAAH led and contributed actively to this process, ensuring that the animal health perspective was fully integrated into the updated agreement.

- In collaboration with its Quadripartite partners, WOAAH co-organised regional One Health workshops to support the operationalisation of the OH JPA. At the national level, One Health workshop was conducted in Malawi in 2025, with additional workshops planned in other countries and regions in 2026. These activities supported countries and regions in adapting their One Health strategies and implementation plans in line with the OH JPA and its implementation guide.
- WOAAH also supported the establishment or strengthening of Quadripartite Regional One Health Coordination Mechanisms across all regions, namely Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Europe, the Middle East and the Americas. These mechanisms provide a structured platform for cooperation among Quadripartite regional offices, enhancing coordination, joint planning and delivery of One Health activities at the regional level.

2. **Strengthen the animal health domain of the One Health approach**

In 2025, WOAAH enhanced the role of animal health in One Health by supporting implementation of the [One Health Joint Plan of Action \(OH JPA\)](#), building national capacity, and ensuring that veterinary expertise informs integrated, evidence-based interventions.

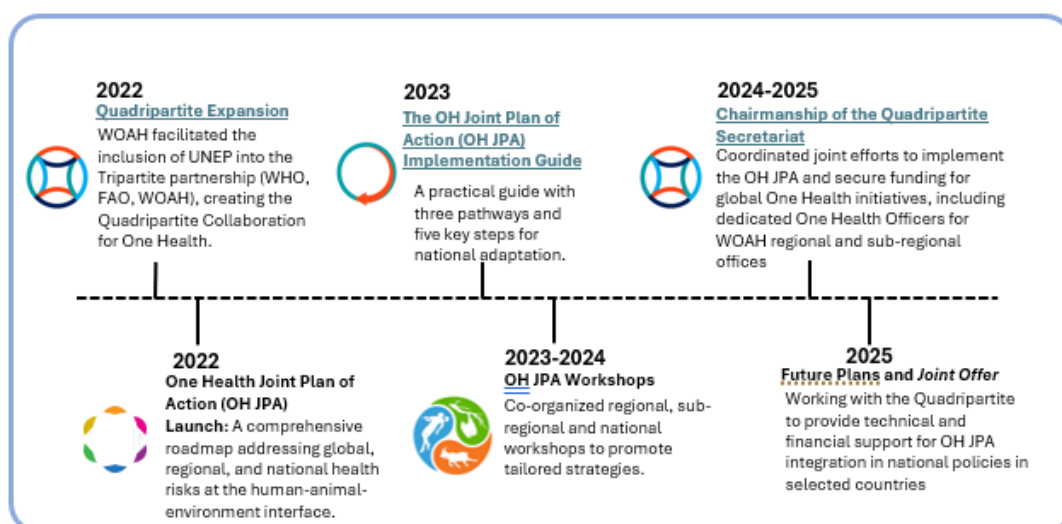


Figure 7. Strengthening the animal health domain in One Health

In 2025, WOAAH strengthened the animal health dimension of the OH approach by enhancing the accessibility, uptake and operationalisation of the OH JPA at national and regional levels. To facilitate broader use of the OH JPA and its implementation guide, the guide was translated into the following five languages – Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish. In parallel, WOAAH led the development of a concise two-page OH JPA fact sheet, providing countries and stakeholders with a practical and accessible overview of the Joint Plan of Action and its stepwise implementation approach.

To sustain and scale these implementation efforts, the One Health Department secured additional financial resources in 2025. Building on existing funding from Italy and the United States Department of Agriculture, new contributions were mobilised from GIZ, the Netherlands and the French Government. In addition, European Union funding was secured for the PROVBA project in the Western Balkans and Caucasus, and United Kingdom funding was obtained to support an ASEAN regional project aimed at strengthening One Health capacity. Through a One Health regional initiative (Central Asia One Health Framework for Action), the World Bank also contributed to the implementation of OH in relation to other initiatives (Global Health Society, Pandemic Fund)

[The OH JPA Implementation Guide](#) provides countries with practical guidance on adopting and adapting the Joint Plan of Action through three pathways of change, which collectively support the implementation of its six Action Tracks. The guide serves as an operational complement to the OH JPA, translating its strategic objectives and high-level activities into national contexts. It outlines a stepwise approach comprising five essential steps, beginning with a One Health situation analysis, followed by the establishment or strengthening of national multisectoral One Health coordination mechanisms and the development or adaptation of national One Health action plans (Figure 8)

In 2025, comprehensive One Health Situation Analyses (Step 1 of the Implementation Guide) were completed or were in the final stages of completion in Panama, Brazil and Bolivia. These analyses provide the evidence base for the development of coherent national One Health action plans, building on existing initiatives and clarifying roles and responsibilities across sectors, with technical support from the Quadripartite partners as required.

Also in 2025, WOA, together with its Quadripartite partners, defined a coordinated process for operationalising the OH JPA through a series of virtual workshops and an in-person meeting. This process contributed to the development of a shared One Health vision through to 2030 and the definition of country selection criteria to prioritise support where political commitment, multisectoral engagement, institutional capacity and enabling environments are in place, while ensuring geographical balance and equity.

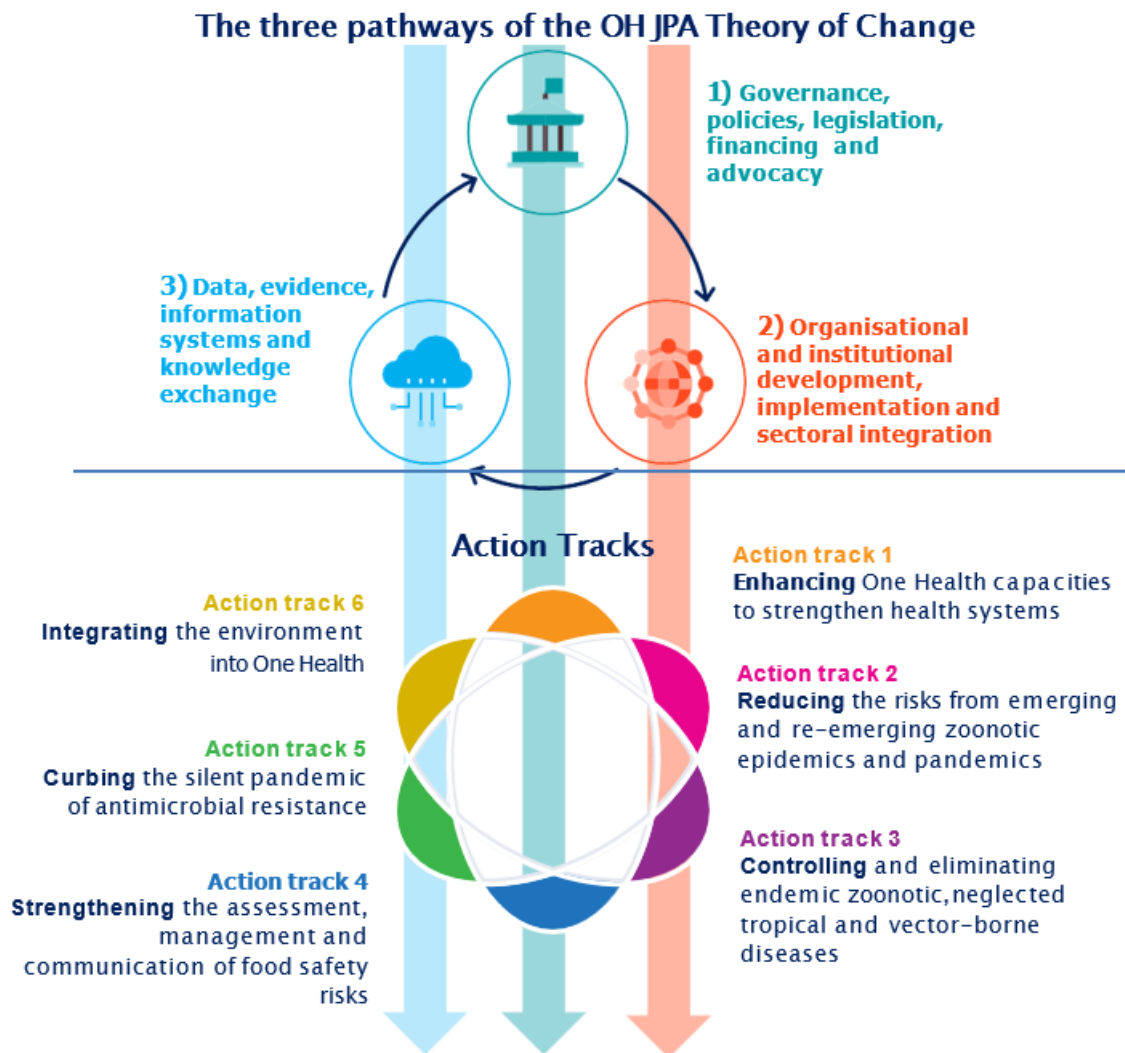


Figure 8. OH JPA Action tracks and pathways of change



Figure 9. A stepwise approach to OH JPA implementation

To advance investment for One Health, the Quadripartite Resource Mobilization Taskforce developed [the Quadripartite Joint Offer on One Health](#), a collective call for targeted investment to support national implementation of the OH JPA. The Joint Offer was presented at the Quadripartite Executive Annual Meeting in March 2025. To support its uptake, WOA and its Quadripartite partners developed a Frequently Asked Questions document and initiated planning for dedicated roundtables with bilateral partners and multilateral development banks. In parallel, WOA strengthened engagement with international financial institutions, including the World Bank, to support the implementation of One Health projects in regions such as West and Central Africa and Central Asia.

Looking ahead to 2026, the Taskforce plans to organise separate roundtables with bilateral partners and multilateral development banks to mobilise resources for the Joint Offer on One Health. Preparatory work is also underway to develop key messages and elevator pitches to support Quadripartite organisations in engaging their Members on the adoption and financing of the One Health approach.

At the operational level, WOA continued to strengthen the animal health contribution to One Health implementation through targeted projects. In alignment with OH JPA Action Tracks 2 and 3, through the [PROVNA-2 project](#), implemented in partnership with IZS Teramo (Italy), WOA has reinforced the risk-based surveillance and control of mosquito-borne diseases, particularly Rift Valley fever (RVF), in North Africa. Building on earlier phases, the project advanced an eco-regionalisation approach to disease risk prediction and strengthened regional engagement in international vector-borne disease initiatives, including the RVF Incident Management System.

The project “*Defining Ecoregions and Prototyping an Earth Observation-based Vector-borne Disease Surveillance System for Balkan Countries*” (PROVBA) was launched in 2025 and established an operational framework across the Western Balkans and Caucasus, with active participation from Georgia, North Macedonia, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Montenegro. While data collection and administrative processes remain ongoing, the project advanced to the regionalisation phase, laying the foundation for the development of risk maps for West Nile fever and Crimean–Congo haemorrhagic fever.

WOAH also continued its engagement with the World Bank [Pandemic Fund](#), where it holds observer status on the Board, to ensure that animal health perspectives are adequately reflected in funded proposals. Although WOAHA is not currently an implementing entity, discussions with the World Bank, WHO and FAO are ongoing to clarify WOAHA's role as a delivery partner in relevant projects. WOAHA actively encourages Veterinary Services to collaborate with national counterparts in proposal development to secure financing aligned with One Health priorities. In 2025, WOAHA successfully advocated for the inclusion of two One Health indicators, based on the PVS Pathway and WAHIS, in the WHO Risk–Needs metric for the Pandemic Fund, reinforcing the importance of veterinary systems in pandemic prevention, preparedness and response.

3. **Enhance policy and advocacy to advance One Health on the political agenda**

In 2025, WOAHA strengthened global advocacy for One Health by engaging political and policy fora, promoting multisectoral collaboration, and ensuring animal health is integrated into international health, climate, and development agendas.

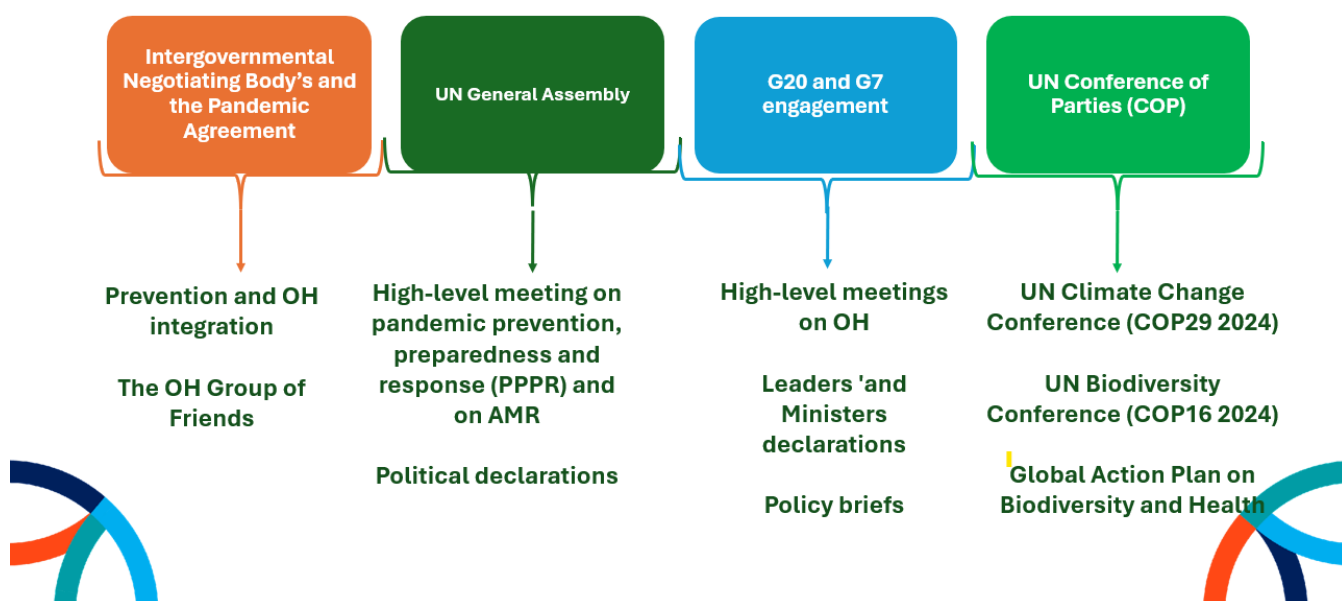


Figure 10. *Enhancing policy and advocacy for One Health*

Political engagement

- WOAHA actively engages in high-level political fora, including the G20, G7 and United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), to mobilise political commitment, resources and partnerships for One Health, while ensuring strong visibility of the animal health sector within global health governance. Through these platforms, WOAHA promotes prevention at source, system strengthening and the integration of animal health within broader health, climate and development agendas.
- IN 2025, WOAHA participated in the [G20 Agriculture Ministerial conference](#) and provided an intervention on “Preparing for the Future: Animal Health, Economic Impact & Global Resilience”, where The WOAHA Director General urged G20 Agriculture Ministers to place animal health at the centre of food systems, stressing it as a strategic investment for food security, economic resilience, climate adaptation and pandemic prevention rather than a purely technical issue. She called for strong political leadership to fund Veterinary Services, fully implement One Health, and support global disease control efforts – especially for avian influenza and PPR – highlighting that prevention costs far less than crisis response.

- In 2025, WOAHA significantly strengthened its global advocacy for One Health. Engagement was expanded at the [Climate Change Conference \(COP30\)](#), where WOAHA co-organised two high-level events with the Ministry of Agriculture of Brazil: a side event at Agrizone on “*Building Climate-Resilient Animal Health Systems*” and an official Blue Zone side event on “*One Health for Climate Resilience*”. These events highlighted the interlinkages between climate change, animal health, zoonotic risks and food systems, and advocated for the inclusion of animal health in climate finance mechanisms and the recognition of Veterinary Services as essential partners in climate adaptation and resilience planning.
- In the same year, WOAHA participated in the seventh session of the [United Nations Environment Assembly](#) (UNEA-7), delivering an official statement and interventions in the high-level segment that underscored the critical role of strong veterinary and wildlife health systems in safeguarding ecosystem integrity, enhancing climate resilience and preventing future pandemics.

Policy engagement

- WOAHA maintains regular dialogue with its Members through updates to the WOAHA Council and the Organisation’s governing bodies. In addition, the One Health team develops and disseminates targeted briefing notes to keep Members informed of key policy developments related to One Health, including progress on the implementation of the One Health Joint Plan of Action (OH JPA), negotiations on the WHO Pandemic Agreement, and opportunities linked to the Pandemic Fund.

WOAHA’s contribution to the WHO Pandemic Agreement

- WOAHA actively engaged in the development of the WHO Pandemic Agreement, advocating for the systematic integration of animal health and prevention at source within global health security frameworks. Through sustained technical and policy engagement, WOAHA contributed to elevating One Health as a strategic priority, reinforcing the essential role of Veterinary Services in global health governance, and supporting alignment between political commitments and the One Health Joint Plan of Action.
- The [Pandemic Agreement was adopted on 20 May 2025](#). Provisions on One Health and prevention were retained in the final text, and WOAHA, together with its Quadripartite partners, is explicitly referenced in the accompanying resolution as a provider of technical support for country-level implementation.

4. Strengthen the role of science and knowledge relating to animal health for One Health

WOAHA continued to strengthen the scientific and knowledge foundations of One Health in 2025 by contributing to evidence generation, governance analysis, innovation and capacity development, in close collaboration with its Quadripartite partners and a wide range of scientific institutions.

Communities of Practice under the One Health Knowledge Nexus

- WOAHA actively participated in two Communities of Practice (CoPs) hosted under the One Health Knowledge Nexus, a collaborative platform established by the Quadripartite to support the operationalisation of the One Health Joint Plan of Action (OH JPA) through knowledge sharing, capacity development and evidence-based decision-making.
- One CoP focuses on [the Return on Investment \(ROI\) for One Health](#) and One Health investment planning. Launched in November 2023, this CoP expanded to approximately 500 members from 92 countries. Its work highlighted persistent gaps in the economic evaluation of One Health interventions and contributed to the development of more standardised and practical approaches to support investment planning and advocacy.

- The second [CoP, on One Health Governance](#), was launched in April 2025. It aims to strengthen governance frameworks, policies and coordination mechanisms at global, regional, national and local levels, thereby supporting implementation of the OH JPA. WOAHA played a central role in shaping this CoP, including through content review, facilitation of webinars, engagement of expert speakers, development of knowledge products and dissemination of outputs.

Scientific tools and innovation

- WOAHA plays a key role in providing scientific expertise and technical inputs to the animal health components of the Quadripartite's operational tools. Through collective Quadripartite efforts, the [Tripartite Zoonotic Guide \(TZG\)](#) was released to support countries in adopting a multisectoral One Health approach to zoonotic diseases. The TZG provides principles, best practices and operational options for collaboration at the human–animal–environment interface, supported by a suite of operational tools for prevention, detection and response. These include the [Joint Risk Assessment \(JRA\) tool](#) for cross-sectoral risk evaluation, the [Multisectoral One Health Coordination Mechanism \(MCM\) tool](#) for inter-sectoral collaboration, [the Surveillance and Information Sharing \(SIS\) tool](#) for coordinated monitoring, [the Workforce Development \(WFD\) tool](#) to build sectoral competencies, and [the Monitoring and Evaluation \(M&E\) tool](#) for evidence-based decision-making.
- WOAHA also strengthened partnerships with international agencies to advance innovation and data integration for One Health. A significant milestone in 2025 was the signing of a Memorandum of Intent with the European Space Agency (ESA) to enhance the use of Earth Observation data in understanding environmental and climatic drivers of zoonotic and vector-borne diseases. This collaboration supports improved risk assessment, early warning and prevention. As part of this partnership, WOAHA hosted the [ESA Forum on Earth Observation for Health](#) at its Headquarters from 22 to 25 September 2025.

Support to the One Health High-Level Expert Panel (OHHLEP)

- WOAHA continued to support the work of the [One Health High-Level Expert Panel \(OHHLEP\)](#) through its role in the joint Quadripartite technical secretariat hosted by WHO. This included coordination of meetings, support to the Panel's Bureau and working groups, preparation of background papers and review of reports and recommendations. WOAHA systematically reviewed OHHLEP outputs to provide technical inputs and to inform the Organisation's own work on One Health.
- For [OHHLEP Term II](#) (2024 and ongoing), WOAHA, together with its Quadripartite partners, supported the establishment of a renewed and diversified Panel through an open call for experts, expanding expertise to include virology, epidemiology, social sciences, economics and legal disciplines. Two key analytical deliverables were identified: (i) an analysis of enablers and barriers affecting One Health implementation across the OH JPA's three pathways of change, using selected Action Track examples; and (ii) an international governance mapping to assess the relevance of existing global governance instruments for One Health implementation in relation to specific health risks. These deliverables are scheduled to be presented at the [One Health Summit](#) in France in April 2026 and at the One Health Congress in September 2026.

Engagement in expert groups and scientific committees

- The WOAHA One Health team actively contributed to relevant WOAHA expert groups and *ad hoc* committees, including the Working Group on Wildlife and the *ad hoc* Group on reducing the risk of emerging and re-emerging zoonotic diseases, with the aim of ensuring that One Health perspectives are reflected in WOAHA's scientific and normative work.

- In 2025, WOAAH also engaged with a technical partners working group to support the development of indicators for biodiversity and health for the [Global Action Plan on Biodiversity and health](#) under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). This work demonstrates WOAAH's contribution to cross-sectoral evidence generation and policy guidance at the interface of animal, human and ecosystem health.
- In 2025, WOAAH further advanced its engagement in global prevention efforts through the [PREZODE initiative](#), serving on its Steering Committee and jointly establishing a working group on the science–policy interface for prevention at source.

One Health Collaborating Centres

- In 2025, WOAAH initiated the establishment of a network of One Health Collaborating Centres to strengthen technical cooperation, knowledge generation and capacity development in support of One Health implementation. The designation of the [International Livestock Research Institute](#) (ILRI) as the first One Health Collaborating Centre marked an important milestone in operationalising this network. This initiative provides a structured mechanism to mobilise scientific expertise, foster innovation and enhance collaboration across animal, human and environmental health domains at global, regional and national levels.

Capacity development

- WOAAH led OH capacity development efforts through the FAO/WHO/WOAAH Joint One Health Learning Task Force (JOHLT), which aims to strengthen knowledge, skills and competencies across animal, human, plant and environmental health sectors in line with the OH JPA. Key achievements in 2025 included the annual in-person meeting at the WHO Academy in Lyon, France, the finalisation of the JOHLT Terms of Reference, and the development of a joint needs assessment survey to inform future training activities.

Communication, outreach and knowledge sharing

- WOAAH continued to [communicate and disseminate One Health knowledge](#) internally and externally through a range of channels. This included the production of key messages, videos, interviews and other communication materials published on the One Health webpage, as well as organising and participating in dedicated webinars, and contributing to peer-reviewed publications, scientific reports, white papers and operational tools, thereby strengthening the evidence base for integrated One Health action. In 2025, the quarterly One Health Newsletter continued to highlight initiatives and achievements at global, regional and country levels. In addition, the first One Health Kiosk at the 92nd General Session engaged over 300 participants, demonstrating strong interest among Members in advancing One Health on their national agendas.

5. Integrate the gender perspective into WOAAH's One Health work

- In 2025, WOAAH strengthened the integration of gender perspectives across its One Health work through both internal and external collaboration. The One Health team actively engaged with WOAAH's Gender Task Force and partnered with external networks, including the Women for One Health Network, to promote gender-responsive approaches in policy, research and implementation.
- Gender and equity experts were also integrated into the membership of the One Health High-Level Expert Panel (OHHLEP) Term II, ensuring that social, economic and equity dimensions are systematically reflected in strategic advice and technical outputs.

- The designation of ILRI as a One Health Collaborating Centre further reinforced this work by bringing specialised expertise on gender analysis within One Health research and policy engagement. WOAHA in collaboration with ILRI launched a consultancy entitled “*Identify key risk behaviours for disease emergence and spread: Qualitative Model Development of the Bushmeat Value Chain – Parameterizing the Model Through Evidence Synthesis*”. The results will be available mid-2026.

2.4.1.2 Strategic OH context at regional and sub-regional level

WOAH continued to strengthen Quadripartite Regional One Health Coordination Mechanisms in 2025, recognising their critical role in translating the OH JPA into coordinated action and implementation at regional and country levels. This work was undertaken in close consultation with WOAHA regional offices and its Members to ensure responsiveness to regional and national priorities and contexts.

In 2025, several regional One Health workshops were conducted to support implementation planning and country engagement. These included [workshops in the Europe region \(including Central Asia\) in April, the Middle East and North Africa \(MENA\) region in June](#), and the Americas region in November. In addition, the second Quadripartite One Health Workshop for Asia was held in November 2025, and a [high-level seminar in Athens](#) focused on the implementation of the OH JPA within the European veterinary sector. Together, these events strengthened regional dialogue, shared implementation experiences and supported alignment of regional and national One Health priorities.

At the national level, uptake of the OH JPA continued to increase. WOAHA and its Quadripartite partners supported this process by organising national One Health workshops involving multisectoral coordination mechanisms and platforms. In 2025, Malawi conducted national One Health workshops, while preparations are underway for similar workshops in Nigeria and Ghana. In parallel, Panama and Bolivia advanced or finalised One Health situation analyses in line with the OH JPA. Further progress was observed in Asia, where Bhutan and Bangladesh revised their national One Health strategic plans to align with the Quadripartite OH JPA. In Africa, Cabo Verde developed a Joint Roadmap for One Health following a National Bridging Workshop.

By the end of 2025, Quadripartite Regional One Health Coordination Mechanisms were established and active in Asia and the Pacific, Europe (including Central Asia), the Eastern Mediterranean and Africa. A major milestone in 2025 was the coordination of the Quadripartite One Health Coordination Group for the MENA region by the WOAHA Sub-Regional Representation for North Africa, which resulted in the validation of a regional One Health action plan and a joint statement. In addition, 2025 marked a significant step towards full regional coverage with laying the foundations for a Quadripartite Regional One Health Coordination Mechanism in the Americas, through a joint statement of intent to strengthen collaboration in the region.

WOAHA’s regions also play an integral role in the Quadripartite Executive Annual Meeting (QEAM), where regional colleagues present achievements in One Health governance, coordination mechanisms and implementation, as well as insights from the field, including implementation challenges, differences in geographical and geopolitical coverage among Quadripartite partners, and efforts to align with some international partners’ One Health agendas and to share practical solutions.

Regional and sub-regional conferences organised by WOAHA place strong emphasis on One Health technical priorities, with experts engaged to prepare dedicated technical reports. For example, One Health was identified as a focal topic for the Regional Commission Conferences in the Europe and Central Asia, and the Americas regions, and the [18th Conference of the Regional Commission for the Middle East in 2025](#). This provided an additional platform to align regional One Health priorities and revise strategic orientations. Further planning is underway in 2026 for other regions.

At regional and sub-regional levels, WOAHA continued to oversee a range of operational and capacity-building initiatives that support One Health implementation. These included National Bridging Workshops, zoonotic disease prioritisation exercises, and training on operational tools from the Tripartite Zoonotic Guide (TZG). During 2025, National Bridging Workshops were delivered or planned in six African Members and in Tonga. Training activities covered key TZG operational tools, including Joint Risk Assessment, Multisectoral Coordination Mechanisms, Surveillance and Information Sharing, Workforce Development, and Monitoring and Evaluation, contributing to a comprehensive and integrated approach to advancing One Health implementation worldwide.

2.4.1.3 Antimicrobial resistance

Since the favourable vote by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), on 7 October 2024, of resolution A/RES/79/2, which adopted the [political declaration of the high-level meeting on AMR](#), WOAHA has been actively working on the successful implementation of the 44 commitments, all united around one common goal, namely “to reduce the global deaths associated with bacterial antimicrobial resistance by 10 per cent by 2030, against the 2019 baseline of 4.95 million deaths”.

Early in 2025, WOAHA released a [four-page memo summarising the key outcomes that Veterinary Services](#) need to consider and implement as their essential contributions to ensure that this global effort translates into successful achievements. The memo focused on the four specific commitments set for the animal health sector, and was proactively disseminated via email to WOAHA Delegates, and Focal Points, as well as most of WOAHA’s partners having a Memorandum of Understanding with WOAHA. Moreover, specific AMR sessions were deployed at the Regional Commission Conferences in Africa, Asia and the Pacific and the Middle East, with the main goal of increasing awareness around animal health sector commitments and the provision of support to Members. Similar sessions are due to be held in the Americas and Europe during 2026.

On the specific commitment to “*strive to **meaningfully reduce** [...] the quantity of antimicrobials used globally in the agri-food system*”, uptake by our membership seems to be low, according to results observed through [ANIMUSE](#). Data published in the [9th Annual Report \(May 2025\)](#) confirmed observations made during the previous three years: the trend remained steady, and no further reductions in use were observed. WOAHA continues to deploy actions and resources to maintain or increase the level of reporting to ANIMUSE, as it provides the standardised and validated methodology to accurately monitor antimicrobial use in animals, enabling comparisons over time. WOAHA would like to congratulate the 54 WOAHA Members having made their data publicly available through the system by the end of 2025, as well as all those that continue to upgrade their surveillance systems to provide quantitative data (i.e. more than 60% of participants). Moreover, WOAHA provided specific training sessions with selected Members in Asia and the Pacific, as well as in French-speaking Africa, for help on creating a written national report, increasing transparency, and progressing from data reporting to evidence-based policy decision-making. Last, but not least, findings from the [EcoAMR Series report](#) on the economic impact of AMR in food-producing animals were proactively disseminated, and in particular the finding regarding the positive effects on global gross domestic product (GDP) if a 30% global reduction were to be achieved by 2030.

On the specific commitment to “ensure that the use of antimicrobials in animals and agriculture is done in a **prudent and responsible manner** in line with [...] the standards, guidance and recommendations of the World Organisation for Animal Health”, WOAHA continues to update relevant Code chapters after the revision of Chapter 6.10 on responsible use in terrestrial animals, such as [Chapter 6.2 on responsible use in aquatic animals](#) and Chapter 6.8 on AMR surveillance in terrestrial animals (see section 2.2.2.5 above). Uptake by our membership of *Terrestrial Code* Chapter 6.10 seems to be partial, as suggested by the number of Members reporting use of antimicrobials as growth promoters, unchanged since 2017.

On the specific commitment to “ensure [...] that **animal vaccination strategies** are defined with an implementation plan [...] taking into account WOAHA’s list of priority diseases for which vaccines could reduce antimicrobial use”, WOAHA has initiated several actions:

- Establishment of a multidisciplinary *ad hoc* group, through an open call, to update the priority lists developed in 2015 and 2018, as well as to set an implementation plan for the top-5 priority diseases for which success is the most likely to be achieved before 2030. This group kicked off in January 2026;
- Designing a five year action plan of additional actions at global and regional levels, synergising with the implementation of [Resolution No. 29 adopted at the 92nd General Session](#).

Uptake of this commitment by our membership seems promising, as it links with the topic of the [Animal Health Forum](#) held in parallel to WOAHA’s 92nd General Session, as well as Technical Item No. 1 presented at the [34th Conference of the Regional Commission for Asia and the Pacific](#).

On the specific commitment to “invest in animal health systems to support equitable access to essential veterinary services, improve animal health and appropriate management practices to prevent infections”, WOAHA has undertaken several actions to better connect our membership to global and regional development banks, as well as to expand the donor base of the AMR Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF), the Steering Committee of which was chaired by WOAHA throughout the year. These actions are complementary to others initiated by various departments at WOAHA Headquarters and Regional and Sub-Regional teams. Membership interest seems high, suggesting good uptake in the months to come.

Among the 15 commitments assigned to the Quadripartite, including its Quadripartite Joint Secretariat on AMR (QJS-AMR), two of them merit special emphasis because of their direct implications for WOAHA’s membership.

- **Commitment paragraph No. 25** – “Request the Quadripartite organizations, in consultation with Member States, to **update the Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance by 2026** to ensure a robust and inclusive multisectoral response, through a One Health approach, that aligns with current realities to drive greater impact against antimicrobial resistance, and request the Quadripartite to report biennially on progress made towards their specific and joint commitments”

The QJS-AMR initiated this work by setting up a core group which, based on a preliminary analysis done in consultation with local, sub-regional or regional offices, carried out an online written consultation in May–June 2025 to collect feedback. Among the 397 responses collected (35% from Members, 65% from non-state actors, including academia, the private sector, civil society, youth, and AMR survivors), animal health accounted for 23% of the non-Member respondents, with a much lower engagement from the governmental level, despite our proactive information dissemination campaign.

Based on this, a [Zero Draft revision](#) was made public on the QJS-AMR website, and submitted to feedback through a four-session online consultation done via the AMR Multi-Stakeholders Partnership Platform (MSPP) in September 2025. These consultations gathered around 500 participants (split across four sessions), originating from more than 140 countries. Approximately 40% of participants were affiliated to the animal health sector. This work was completed by formal consultations within each Quadripartite organisation membership (November 2025). In the case of WOAHA, a total of 51 Members provided input, which was then summarised and compiled with input from other Quadripartite organisations' membership, to generate a final version to be submitted to the respective governing bodies for consideration and likely adoption during upcoming general assemblies (FAO, WHO and WOAHA in 2026, UNEP in 2027). WOAHA's Council has been regularly informed of all these steps, and the AMR Working Group has been closely following the update of the Global Action Plan, providing inputs at each opportunity.

- **Commitment paragraph No. 30.** – *“Invite the Quadripartite organizations to establish an **independent panel for evidence for action against antimicrobial resistance** in 2025 to facilitate the generation and use of multisectoral, scientific evidence to support Member States in efforts to tackle antimicrobial resistance, making use of existing resources and avoiding duplication of on-going efforts, after an open and transparent consultation with all Member States on its composition, mandate, scope, and deliverables”*

This panel, commonly known as the IPEA, is the last body proposed by the [Inter-Agency Core Group report issued in 2019](#), and intended to complete global governance on AMR together with the Global Leaders Group on AMR (GLG) and the already mentioned MSPP. The QJS-AMR, based on previous work done from 2019 to 2024, and under the leadership role of UNEP, having previous experience in setting up and managing panels of this kind, established [a process and associated timescale](#), which was published on the QJS-AMR website. After generating a series of reflection documents¹², an online questionnaire was sent out to the respective memberships of the Quadripartite organisations and networks in July 2025. This served to create [the draft zero of the foundational document](#) for the IPEA, which was then released to the public in August. Open consultations were then run in September, via the MSPP, asking for written feedback. Based on this, a [new draft was released in October](#), followed by a first-ever joint consultation of UN Member States by the Quadripartite. A jointly agreed information document about this consultation was sent to the respective memberships of the four organisations, following institutional channels. Only written feedback was admitted, being limited to UN Member States, with wide and transparent dissemination of consultation outputs afterwards, to the memberships of the four organisations. All this feedback is under analysis, with a view to the establishment of the IPEA as soon as possible, in 2026.

WOAHA, in coordination with its Quadripartite partners, has also been engaging with the multisectoral organisation committee in charge of preparing the [Fifth High-level Ministerial Meeting on AMR](#), planned for June 2026.

In 2025, WOAHA continued its actions to increase AMR **awareness and understanding**.

A communication campaign was developed for the launch of the 9th Antimicrobial Use (AMU) Report, during WOAHA's 92nd General Session in May 2025. Outputs included: a story on the website ([Less antimicrobial use in animals: a win for everyone](#)), various social media posts on the content of the report, including a [video explainer](#). During the General Session, a post on the AMU Report had the highest reach on [Instagram](#) and was the most engaging on [Facebook](#). The AMU report launch on LinkedIn had the highest engagement rate out of all the posts: 63%; the average time spent on the article and report combined was 5% higher than the average time spent for webpages

¹² [Summary Document on Establishing an IPEA; Thought starter on Key Elements for Establishing an IPEA; Reference paper on Models to Inform the Development of ToR of the IPEA](#)

published and pushed during the General Session. Overall, the content on AMR posted on social media between April and September 2025 reached over 5 million people, with 8.2 million impressions, 8.6 million video views and 386,000 users engaged. To complement the communication campaign, a new factsheet was produced to present and facilitate the dissemination of key findings of the report to technical and non-expert audiences. Insights and figures from the AMU Report were included in the State of the World's Animal Health (pp. 96-102), the new flagship publication launched by WOAAH in May 2025, where AMR-related issues had a central space, both in the report and in the dissemination key messages.

In partnership with [EU-JAMRAI-2](#)¹³, WOAAH released two videos highlighting the impact of antimicrobial misuse and abuse in farm and companion animals: [AMR impacts animal health and food safety too](#), and [How superbugs can make antibiotics ineffective for your pets too](#).

During World Antimicrobial Awareness Week (WAAW) 2025, themed *Act Now, Protect Our Present, Secure Our Future*, WOAAH emphasised the immediate need for coordinated, cross-sectoral action to address AMR. To underscore the urgency, WOAAH highlighted the findings of the EcoAMR report on the economic and public health impacts of AMR. A video series, including a [compilation video](#), was promoted alongside AMR evergreen materials. Street interviews in Thailand and South Africa captured the public's level of understanding and misconceptions about AMR. Overall, these social media activities garnered over 36 million views, with engagement increasing by 279%. On WOAAH's website, particularly on the WAAW webpage and two blog posts in *The Animal Echo*, engagement rose by 1015%, suggesting growing audience interest.

To further expand the campaign reach, the Director General's opinion piece, [We must invest in animal health to beat the looming superbug crisis](#), was published in *The Telegraph*, one of the main media outlets in the United Kingdom with a global audience. In addition, to culminate the campaign, WOAAH's Director General and the World Bank's Global Director, Agriculture and Food, jointly wrote the blog post, [When it comes to animal health, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure](#).

In collaboration with Quadripartite partners, several WAAW activities were also implemented to engage some of the priority target audiences: the media and young people.

In 2025, WOAAH continued its actions around the **strengthening of surveillance**, not only around antimicrobial use in animals ([ANIMUSE](#)), but also on the detection and removal of [substandard and falsified veterinary products among](#) our membership. The development of an online alert and report system, following the three-year V-SAFE pilot experience with more than 80 of WOAAH's Members, has been the main focus of WOAAH's activities in this space during 2025. TRUVET (Track and Report Unsafe Veterinary products) is the name given to WOAAH's system to be officially launched at the 93rd General Session. Results from the V-SAFE pilot experience are being compiled and are due to be submitted for publication in a peer-review journal during the first quarter of 2026.

To complement our support to Members, a technical group of experts developed guidelines on post-market surveillance and recommendations to follow at the most critical steps of manufacturing and distribution practices. The work kicked off in July 2024 and was completed in November 2025; two guidelines are expected to be published during first semester of 2026.

¹³ EU-JAMRAI-2: European Joint Action on Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare-Associated Infections (second edition)

In the area of AMU data collection at field level, in 2025 WOAHA completed the development of guidelines on monitoring AMU in aquaculture at field level. This document, developed by an international group of experts, is planned for publication during the first semester of 2026. In advance of that, two pilot experiences on its implementation were initiated in South-East Asia.

Following the release in 2024 of a series of awareness materials on AMR in companion animals, the second priority area of the specific roadmap on AMR was activated in 2025, namely to strengthen knowledge through surveillance activities, leading ANIMUSE to become the global reference database for both AMR and AMU surveillance purposes in companion animals, as AMR in these species does not fall under the remit of FAO. A consultancy work was initiated to map data sources and establish a plan for WOAHA to collect AMR data, and report on the global situation of AMR in companion animals (cats & dogs) starting in 2027.

Actions to **support good governance and capacity building** continued in 2025 with more than 300 people trained around the world on specific topics such as AMU, AMR and aquatic animals, surveillance and reporting of substandard and falsified veterinary medicines, as well as on the quality, management and use of veterinary products other than antimicrobials (i.e. antiparasitic drugs, vaccines, etc.). WOAHA continued its transition towards the definition of outcome-driven programmes, setting quantitative objectives to be achieved within a given time frame, with progressive deployment in all regions.

A fair proportion of our actions in supporting good governance and capacity building have been developed by WOAHA in its capacity as a core member of the Quadripartite on AMR, reinforcing WOAHA's position in the delivery of the Global Action Plan on AMR, within the One Health spectrum, in collaboration with our partners: FAO, UNEP and WHO. These included the continued development of [AMR Multi-Partner Trust Fund \(MPTF\)](#) funded projects, at global and national level. WOAHA's teams in conjunction with the Regional and Sub-Regional Representations concerned have been strongly supporting Members throughout the programme since its inception. Further details of progress and the main achievements are easily accessible through the full [activity report for 2024](#) published on the Quadripartite on AMR website.

Work continued on implementing a comprehensive M&E Framework for the Global Action Plan, initially published in June 2019, and including a new cycle of the annual survey, known as the [Tracking AMR Country Self Assessment Survey \(TrACSS\)](#).

WOAHA continued to support the work of the [AMR Multi-Stakeholder Partnership Platform](#) (MSPP), as a part of the global governance structures on AMR. With more than 200 members, organised in five different clusters, this collaborative coordination mechanism aims to be an inclusive, international and multi-stakeholder forum that convenes governments, UN entities and Specialised Agencies, global and regional intergovernmental organisations, international and regional financial institutions, philanthropic donors, civil society organisations and networks, academic and research organisations and private sector entities. The 13 action groups of the MSPP delivered a series of outstanding reports and documents, all gathered on the [MSPP website](#).

In collaboration with GALVmed and the United Kingdom's Veterinary Medicines Directorate, and with the support of the Bill Gates Foundation, WOAHA has been assessing the value of a regulatory self-assessment tool for veterinary medicines (VRM-SAT). Various communication materials were disseminated throughout our membership, and several pilot experiences were carried out. This is part of a larger effort to support our membership in the [improvement of regulation](#) around veterinary medicines.

Further and more detailed information about WOA's activities on AMR are available on the WOA's [Global AMR portal](#).

While our Regional and Sub-Regional Representation websites ([Africa](#), the [Americas](#), [Asia and the Pacific](#), [Europe](#) and the [Middle East](#)) also provide extensive information about WOA's activities on AMR at regional and sub-regional level, the main highlights for 2025 are summarised below:

- WOA strengthened AMR stewardship across Africa through coordinated technical, policy and advocacy actions. In Northern Africa, the launch of four AMR MPTF consultations in Tunisia advanced national alignment with One Health AMR priorities. The first consultation was completed and validated through a national feedback workshop. In Eastern Africa, WOA provided technical leadership in defining regional AMR strategies, delivering targeted workshops and launching e-learning modules on One Health AMR stewardship. Regional dialogue on vaccination and alternatives to antimicrobials strengthened collaboration between governments, as regulators, industry and research institutions, supporting a more sustainable approach to disease prevention and a reduced reliance on antimicrobials. Lastly, in West and Central Africa, evidence-based AMR action was reinforced through applied research under the PRAPS-2 project, including studies on antibiotic effectiveness against contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP). These findings informed field level treatment strategies, while complementary doctoral research strengthened regional knowledge based on combined control strategies involving vaccination against CBPP and treatment with effective antibiotics.
- In the Americas, regular AMR coordination calls with Quadripartite and regional organisations improved alignment of activities and more efficient use of resources. The REASONS ('improved access and legislation to veterinary products') project was officially launched to improve access to and regulations for alternatives to antimicrobials in freshwater aquaculture, as a way of reducing antimicrobial resistance, involving three regional Members and two Collaborating Centres. Furthermore, and in cooperation with the Spanish Agency for Medicines and Health Products (AEMPS), training was organised to strengthen national capacities for antimicrobial use data collection and analysis.
- The [Asia Pacific AMU-AMR Workshop for Aquaculture](#) enhanced regional understanding of AMU-AMR challenges and monitoring approaches in aquaculture, and, as mentioned before in this report, WOA introduced the field-level AMU monitoring guidelines for aquatic animals – an alternative approach to generate reliable data that supports national policies and contributes to AMR mitigation – during [the workshop in 2025](#).
- In the Middle East, a five-year regional AMR programme was developed, while technical support to pilot countries for integrating AMR into Veterinary Services' strategies were included in MPTF files for Egypt and Lebanon.

2.4.1.4 Rabies

WOA continues to support its Members in the prevention and control of dog-mediated rabies, in alignment with the Global Strategic Plan to end human deaths from dog-mediated rabies by 2030 (Zero by 30).

Despite resource constraints, efforts have been made to address various gaps through regular dialogues with Members in the regions. Throughout the year, WOAHA organised and supported multiple capacity-building sessions through regional or country level workshops with the objective of improving the capacity of Veterinary Services to control dog-mediated rabies. These engagements provided the groundwork for tailored action plans to address the identified needs, marking a step towards Zero by 30 across the endemic regions. WOAHA mobilised technical support for Members according to their needs, provided access to quality-assured vaccines, strengthened laboratory networks, and supported multistakeholder collaboration and implementation of National Strategic Plans (NSPs). By the end of 2025, four Members had achieved and maintained WOAHA endorsement of official control programmes for dog-mediated rabies (Namibia, Philippines, Tanzania, Zambia), and 15 Members had self-declared freedom from rabies to WOAHA (Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Portugal, Slovenia and Sweden).

- WOAHA rabies vaccine bank

The WOAHA rabies vaccine bank remains a cornerstone of support for Members implementing mass dog vaccination (MDV) programmes. The vaccine bank provides access to high quality dog rabies vaccines at a consistent and affordable price, supporting both planned vaccination campaigns and emergency response.

In 2025, 19 Members requested a total of 2.3 million rabies vaccine doses, and 1.5 million doses (65%) were donated to 16 Members in Africa and three Members in the Asia and the Pacific region. Almost 54% of the vaccine donations were provided to support Members in Africa. Notably, vaccines were supplied for the first time to Senegal, Tanzania and Zimbabwe, helping to build momentum and encourage long-term MDV planning. In Africa, 822,000 vaccines were delivered to 14 Members. Of these, 162,000 vaccine doses (19.7%) were donated to six Western African Members (Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Guinea, Senegal and Togo). Notably, a strong example of cross-border collaboration was Senegal supporting WOAHA in delivering vaccines to its neighbouring country Gambia (2000 doses). In Southern Africa, 450,000 vaccine doses (54.7%) were donated to six Members (Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe) and, in Central Africa, 210,000 vaccine doses (25.5%) were donated to two Members (Cameroon and Gabon).

In the Asia and the Pacific region, two Members benefited from the vaccine bank and received 45% of the vaccines donated in 2025. In Timor-Leste, following its first dog-mediated rabies outbreak since 2023, WOAHA responded promptly by delivering 50,000 vaccine doses to support its vaccination campaigns in high-risk areas. Simultaneously, emergency vaccines were provided to Indonesia for MDV in areas bordering Timor Leste. In addition, WOAHA continued its support for Indonesia's annual systematic MDV through another delivery of 200,000 vaccine doses. This response was made possible through the support of Australia's DFAT (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade) for the second consecutive year, reinforcing efforts to contain the outbreak and prevent further spread.

The donation of these vaccines was possible thanks to the generosity of the German Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and Australia's DFAT.

- Support for the development and implementation of regional and national control programmes for the elimination of dog-mediated rabies

In the Africa region, with the support of the BMZ, efforts were focused on encouraging Members in West, Central, and Southern Africa to prioritise rabies control efforts.

In West and Central Africa, capacity-building activities for animal health professionals and frontline Veterinary Service providers included training on rabies alongside other priority transboundary animal diseases. As the same personnel are often responsible for managing both livestock and zoonotic diseases, these efforts helped to ensure a more efficient and comprehensive approach to field response. Training was provided on the collection and management of suspected rabies samples, active surveillance and outbreak investigations. In the case of Cameroon, the launch of the Rabies Control and Elimination (RACE) project in 2024 marked a significant step towards operationalising the NSP. In 2025, the project continued by strengthening rabies surveillance, expanding dog vaccination efforts and improving access to human post-exposure prophylaxis across eight departments in four provinces. During the year, more than 98,000 dogs were successfully vaccinated.

WOAH provided support to review, and update NSPs using the [United Against Rabies \(UAR\) template](#) for Togo, Chad, Gabon, and the Central African Republic (CAR). Building on this progress, in 2025 WOAHA facilitated a multidisciplinary stakeholder meeting in Chad and CAR to finalise their respective NSPs. Both countries were committed to pilot their NSPs, which was a major step toward implementation. Technical support was provided by the RACE implementing partners (i.e. Institut Pasteur, France, and the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute).

In Southern Africa, support was provided to review or revise NSPs using the UAR template for Zimbabwe, Malawi, Tanzania and Mozambique. In Namibia, a Member with a WOAHA-endorsed rabies control programme, significant progress was made in rabies elimination efforts by vaccinating approximately 180,000 dogs in the eight regions of the Northern Communal Areas (NCA). The vaccination coverage is expected to be higher than the previous years. These vaccination campaigns were complemented by regular community awareness initiatives and capacity-building programmes for animal health technicians on dog capture, vaccination and monitoring. In hard-to-reach areas, large-scale oral rabies vaccine (ORV) trials were implemented. To further strengthen understanding of ORV and its integration into national campaigns across Africa, an international training programme was organised in November 2025. Hosted by Namibia's Veterinary Services in collaboration with the WOAHA Reference Laboratory, Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut, Germany, the training programme brought together veterinary experts and public health officials from Botswana, Madagascar, Malawi and South Africa.

Efforts to strengthen rabies control in the North African region were advanced through the support of the Italian Ministry of Health for a new [RabTool project](#), launched in April 2025. The project aims to foster regional collaboration and accelerate progress towards the global goal of zero dog-mediated human rabies deaths by 2030. Through the project, technical support is provided to Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia by the WOAHA Reference Laboratory, *Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale delle Venezie* (IZSVe), Italy. The area of focus is on reviewing and updating NSPs, strengthening surveillance and improving stakeholder communication.

For Eastern Africa, WOAHA is progressing on multiple fronts including supporting consultancy work in Somalia for developing its NSP and Eritrea, which completed its dog census. Additionally, a sub-regional consultancy was conducted to assess the implementation of NSPs and rabies elimination efforts across 11 countries. This assessment will be helpful to identify country-specific needs to facilitate needs-based support for rabies elimination initiatives. To improve surveillance in the region, a three-day training workshop was held in April 2025 in collaboration with the Global Alliance for Rabies Control and Mission Rabies, to strengthen data standards for rabies surveillance and vaccination. In Tanzania, 11 veterinary professionals from Burundi, Comoros, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda received training on improving data collection and analysis through digital platforms, along with the practical application of field-based mobile tools. This also provided a platform for Members to share their experience in applying for WOAHA endorsement of their national rabies control programme and to encourage other Members to pursue similar efforts.

Efforts to improve laboratory capacities continued in South Asia through the South Asia Rabies Laboratory Network (SA-RABNET), a platform that connects national rabies laboratories in this region. WOAHA organised two network meetings, in March 2025 and in October 2025 in collaboration with Karnataka Veterinary, Animal and Fisheries Sciences University in India, a WOAHA Reference Laboratory. The highlight of discussions at these meetings concerned improving access to inter-laboratory proficiency testing and understanding the procedures for sending suspected rabies samples to the WOAHA Reference Laboratory. Forty-eight animal health professionals from South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) member countries (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka) attended.

To reinforce development and implementation of the regional strategy in Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries, a meeting was organised in February 2025 with the objective of finalising an implementation plan for the ASEAN Rabies Elimination Strategy (ARES), bringing a together participants from 10 ASEAN countries. The meeting was a key step towards aligning activities with the Global Strategic Plan and the UAR recommendations and the plan's first regional implementation cycle, with a special focus on improving dog vaccination coverage, Integrated Bite Case Management and cross-border coordination.

Apart from providing support to the regional initiative and vaccine donations, WOAHA provided some Members with further support. For example, Bali, Indonesia, continued to face challenges to MDV due to the large free-roaming dog population. In response, WOAHA supported an initiative to better understand the population structure of both owned and free-roaming dogs, an essential step towards improving the efficiency of MDV. Elsewhere, support with reviewing or revising NSPs using the UAR template was provided to Laos, Pakistan and Timor-Leste.

In Europe, WOAHA continued the momentum for regional collaboration specifically on dog population management (DPM) and wildlife rabies control through combining key events. The 1st GF-TADs Regional Conference in Serbia included a dedicated rabies session by the Standing Group of Experts on rabies, while the 5th WOAHA Regional Workshop for the Caucasus and Central Asia, held in Kazakhstan, gathered six countries and partners to share progress, challenges and priorities on DPM. Technical sessions covered humane capture, dog behaviour, rabies control tools, and utility of WOAHA standards and the Self-assessment and Monitoring System for Dog-population Management (SAM4DPM).

- Communication

In 2025, the rabies page on the WOAHA website recorded 278,157 views (an increase of 165% compared to the previous year), indicating a strong demand for information on rabies from the general public. In September 2025, and particularly in the week leading up to World Rabies Day on 28 September, WOAHA disseminated content through social media platforms, WOAHA's global website and *The Animal Echo*, WOAHA's knowledge sharing platform. Content during this period focused on addressing misinformation, improving public understanding of rabies, highlighting WOAHA's field activities and showcasing Members' efforts to control rabies. Engagement increased across platforms during World Rabies Day, including on the Director General's LinkedIn account, which gained 584 new followers. Overall, WOAHA's social media channels recorded an increase of nearly 600 followers during this period, reflecting the continued effectiveness of targeted rabies communication and awareness-raising efforts.

- Rabies diagnostic support

Through the WOAHA Rabies Reference Laboratory Network (RABLAB), which consists of 14 WOAHA Reference Laboratories for rabies, WOAHA continues to support Members in improving laboratory capacity, harmonisation of diagnostic approaches and strengthening of rabies surveillance.

Key outputs in 2025 included continuing coordination of Reference Laboratories, technical exchanges with other WOAHA disease laboratory networks, and the development and dissemination of guidance on the use of [point-of-care diagnostic tests for rabies](#). This guidance aims to support countries in understanding the appropriate role of lateral flow devices within surveillance systems. RABLAB also contributed to training and capacity building, regional laboratory strengthening, and key activities of the United Against Rabies Forum.

- United Against Rabies Forum

The [United Against Rabies \(UAR\) Forum](#) continued to serve as a global, multi-stakeholder platform, supporting progress towards the elimination of dog-mediated human rabies. Membership continued to expand, bringing together partners from across sectors and regions to support coordinated action, with 97 member organisations and representatives from 41 countries.

During 2025, the UAR Forum consolidated and expanded a suite of practical tools and guidance to support national and regional rabies control efforts. Key outputs included the [Monitoring and Evaluation Framework](#) and indicators of the 'Zero by 30' strategy, launch of the [National Strategic Plan Library, guidance on planning and implementing cross-cutting approaches for rabies control](#), regular dissemination of [newsletters](#) and the [Scientific Watch Bulletin on Rabies](#), new episodes of the [Rabies Today podcast](#), targeted communication tools such as the [#28DaysLater social media toolkit](#), and a [webinar on the use of point of care tests for rabies surveillance](#). The UAR Forum continued to support networking and information-sharing across the rabies community through the ongoing maintenance of the [Partnership Map](#), access to [training and learning opportunities](#), and the promotion of [jobs and opportunities](#) shared by member organisations. During 2025, three United Against Rabies Country Partnership programmes continued, supporting Guinea, Liberia and Malawi in the implementation of rabies control and prevention activities.

The [annual UAR Forum stakeholder meeting](#) provided an opportunity for stakeholders to review progress, share experiences and identify persistent challenges, particularly related to surveillance gaps, uneven uptake of available tools and the need for improved coordination and visibility of ongoing activities. Looking ahead, the UAR Forum will continue to prioritise strategic support to countries with strong potential to achieve elimination milestones, strengthen engagement with partners such as UNICEF to leverage experience on community engagement and advocacy, and explore opportunities for sustainable resource mobilisation in support of the 'Zero by 30' goal.

2.4.1.5 Tuberculosis

WOAHA continues to lead efforts to replace the depleting international standard bovine tuberculin (ISBT) and avian tuberculin (ISAT) to strengthen diagnostics, while advancing One Health capacity building under the [Roadmap for Zoonotic Tuberculosis](#). In 2025, the WOAHA *ad hoc* Group continued to meet regularly to review results from guinea pig trials to calibrate candidate tuberculin for ISBT. Based on the final experiments, it was finally recommended to launch a new call for candidates to replace ISBT as the current candidates were not suitable as a replacement for ISBT.

For ISAT, the producers of two shortlisted candidates manufactured their products and shipped them to a WOAAH Reference Laboratory, *Agence Nationale de Sécurité Sanitaire de l'Alimentation, de l'Environnement et du Travail*, France, to verify whether they met the required technical specifications of the ISAT. Based on the results, the two candidates will be processed by the Animal and Plant Health Agency, United Kingdom, for further experiments in 2026 by the WOAAH Reference Laboratories for *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* complex.

WOAH also worked closely with FAO and WHO to coordinate activities under the [Roadmap for Zoonotic Tuberculosis](#). In September 2025, the Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific, in collaboration with WOAAH China Animal Health and Epidemiology Center (CAHEC), organised the [Regional Hands-on Training on Zoonotic TB Diagnosis](#) in Qingdao, People's Republic of China (1-5 September), targeting laboratory technicians and veterinarians from Bangladesh, Cambodia, Fiji, Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines and Sri Lanka. The objective of this training was to build capacity in molecular and culture-based diagnostics for bovine and zoonotic TB surveillance, while fostering regional networks under the [Roadmap for Zoonotic Tuberculosis](#). This training followed recommendations from the 2024 precursor workshop on zoonotic TB (zTB) and brucellosis control for advancing One Health strategies beyond traditional test-and-slaughter approaches.

Following the publication of guidelines on alternative strategies to control *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* complex infection in livestock in 2024, WOAAH continued to promote biosecurity recommendations through an [infographic](#) on controlling bovine tuberculosis.

2.4.1.6 Wildlife health

- Wildlife health framework evaluation and revision

An external evaluation of the Wildlife Health Framework was conducted to identify strengths and weaknesses, and to assess effectiveness, relevance, efficiency coherence and sustainability of the Framework to improve and to support the revision of the upcoming strategy. In parallel, a consultation of WOAAH Members was conducted over the past year through a one-hour interactive session at each Regional Commission meeting to collect feedback from WOAAH Delegates both on the achievements of the current Framework and on their needs and vision for the upcoming strategy. The results of these consultations and of the evaluation combined with a series of surveys and partner consultations and Foresight exercises provided valuable inputs to refining the current approach to tackling wildlife health both globally and nationally.

Wildlife health is increasingly recognised as a core component of animal health in various regions. For instance, building on five years of wildlife health network development in Asia and the Pacific, wildlife stakeholders and activities were regularly integrated into One Health platforms and activities, with growing cross-sectoral engagement. This reflects a shift towards more integrated and functional One Health implementation. This integration in One Health platforms is also progressing in the Middle East, and in the Americas a dedicated coordination group was established by WOAAH. Furthermore, a Regional Implementation Plan for the Wildlife Health Programme, focusing on priority topics relevant for the Europe region, was launched in 2025.

- WOAAH Workshops' programme for national Focal Points for Wildlife

A consultancy to evaluate the effectiveness, relevance, efficiency, coherence, sustainability and impact of the WOAAH Wildlife Focal Point training programme was carried out from April to August 2025. The conclusions were presented by the consultants during a webinar open to all WOAAH staff on 17 September 2025.

In Europe, a workshop was organised for the national Focal Points for Wildlife targeting priority topics for the region, including surveillance, outbreak response, and wildlife health management under a One health approach (as well as launching the regional Implementation Plan of the Wildlife Health Programme).

- ZOOSURSY Project

The ZOOSURSY Project (€ 20 million, for 5 years, funded by the EU to strengthen capacity in terms of surveillance and knowledge for emerging and re-emerging zoonotic diseases in 17 African countries), which was launched in October 2024, is now in full implementation mode. The Project coordination team is being reinforced with the addition of a Project Officer based at WOAHA Headquarters, two technical field coordinators based at the Nairobi Office and in West Africa. In addition, a Communication Officer and a Scientific Policy Adviser will soon join the team. In 2025, five sub-grants were signed with the Consortium partners (CIRAD¹⁴, IRD¹⁵, Institut Pasteur, University of Helsinki and Helmholtz Institute for One Health). Two training programmes focusing on the ALERT educational tool were organised in Sierra Leone and Côte d'Ivoire, respectively, to provide stakeholders involved in surveillance systems with an innovative approach to better engage multisectoral partners in integrated animal diseases surveillance.

In total, the project associates 107 partners; follow the link to access an interactive map of all ZOOSURSY partners: <https://public.flourish.studio/visualisation/25331097/embed>

- Network of Collaborating Centres on wildlife health “WOAH WildNet”

The network of Collaborating Centres on wildlife health, which met once in person in 2025, has now been formalised as an active network under the name [WOAH WildNet](#). It has its own Terms of Reference ([ToR](#)), and has two co-chairs and 22 members, including the three Collaborating Centres recognised at WOAHA's 92nd General Session [see Section 2.5.1.](#)

A paper outlining the network's intentions and planned collaborations has been submitted to a scientific journal. Meanwhile, the network has been active online, supporting guidelines and standard operating procedure (SOP) development. Precisely, an SOP on outbreak investigation is under preparation, and the network is also preparing the curriculum for training national Focal Points for Wildlife, with a new cycle starting in 2026. The network will play a key role in delivering these training sessions. In their respective regions, Collaborating Centres delivered training and seminars, individually or in collaboration with other centres.

¹⁴ CIRAD: French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development

¹⁵ IRD: French National Research Institute for Sustainable Development



Figure 11. Map of Collaborating Centres for Wildlife Health that are members of WOAH's WildNet

- International Alliance against Health Risks in Wildlife Trade

WOAH applied and was selected to be the new secretariat of the International Alliance against Health Risks in Wildlife Trade initiated by the German government and GIZ/BMZ¹⁶. This Alliance gathers more than 500 Members and 180 organisations and allows knowledge generation and dissemination while also offering in-country support. WOAH envisions hosting an Alliance Secretariat that will continue to facilitate the exchange of information, expertise and best practices among Alliance Members and between Memberships, leading to impactful action and results. The Secretariat will support the coordination of activities to address the needs of countries and partners, while supporting the robust delivery of projects to reduce health risks in wildlife trade.

WOAH presented this initiative at the CITES CoP20 during a side event organised by NParks, Singapore, which hosts the WOAH Collaborating Centre for Wildlife Trade and Wildlife Health.

- Collaboration and partnerships

Through the Tartanet Project (Morocco and Tunisia), implemented by IZZE and the N4H Initiative (Mongolia), the Wildlife Health Framework is providing concrete support to WOAH Members to address key wildlife health issues, via upstream prevention actions aimed at zoonotic outbreak prevention and innovative ways to develop a wild species-specific sentinel model for AMR monitoring in the environment.

- Guidelines and standards

Complementing the Wildlife legislation review in terrestrial animals conducted in 2022, the wild aquatic animal legislation review completed in 2025 showed that there are many gaps in legislation for Veterinary Services and their animal health management partners to address wild aquatic animal health issues in a coordinated and comprehensive manner. Both reports highlighted the urgent need to address these gaps to provide animal health services with the proper framework and therefore financial resources to be able to embrace a holistic approach in animal health management. The piloting of a dedicated questionnaire for wildlife health legislation was administered in Madagascar after being tested in Guyana and Rwanda in 2024.

¹⁶ GIZ/BMZ: *Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit*/Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (Germany)

- Wildlife health data management

Development of the new information system for wildlife health was initiated in 2025 with delivery planned in 2026. This new system engages new data providers and will allow real-time information sharing on wildlife health. It is fully aligned with WOA's digitalisation and data enhancement processes and will also contribute to the epidemic framework and all on-going data integration processes.

- Science and knowledge

Several publications were launched in different journals outlining the work of the WOA's wildlife team in collaboration with different partners to advance science-based knowledge in support of WOA's Membership:

- [Guidelines for addressing disease risks in wildlife trade;](#)
- [Innovative tools for One Health surveillance: ALERT, a collaborative serious game;](#)
- [Promoting stakeholder awareness, collaboration, and engagement in One Health surveillance with a serious game;](#)
- Theory of Change for Building Stronger Wildlife Health Surveillance Systems Globally, <https://doi.org/10.20944/preprints202407.1055.v3>.

2.4.2 Transboundary animal diseases (TADs)

2.4.2.1 Strategic global context

The Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases ([GF-TADs](#)) is a joint partnership with FAO which, since 2004, has offered a platform to coordinate efforts to tackle TADs. The mechanism addresses at global level five priority diseases: ASF, FMD, HPAI, PPR and the Rinderpest post eradication programme.

In addition, each of the regions may identify the relevant priority diseases for its context and conduct activities jointly between FAO/WOA or independently.

In 2025, the GF-TADs Management Committee recognised the importance of each organisation developing its own activities that can contribute to the common objectives of the strategy and decided to conduct in 2026 a review of the GF-TADs, with the focus on its governance and coordination aspects.

Regional GF-TADs activities

- [Africa](#)

Priority diseases include ASF, FMD, PPR, CBPP and Rift Valley fever (RVF).

In Africa, WOA strengthened preparedness, surveillance and control for priority TADs across the region through integrated capacity building, strategic frameworks and regional coordination under the GF-TADs mechanism.

In West and Central Africa, surveillance and response capacity for priority diseases, including PPR, Newcastle disease and rabies, was reinforced through targeted training of animal health professionals and frontline veterinary personnel. These efforts strengthened capabilities for sample management, active surveillance and outbreak investigation, thus contributing to more effective detection and control of TADs.

At a continental level, WOAHA advanced strategic coordination on priority TADs under the GF-TADs framework. In 2025, the fifth session of the GF-TADs Standing Group of Experts on ASF for Africa addressed vaccination issues and modalities for mobilisation of resources to implement the Continental ASF Strategy, leading to the proposed Lomé Declaration on the use of vaccines in the control of ASF. In parallel, targeted training strengthened training on FMD diagnostics, surveillance and outbreak response in Eastern Africa while supporting progression along the Progressive control Pathway for Foot and Mouth Disease (PCP-FMD) and WOAHA standards that facilitate trade under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

For CBPP, WOAHA translated one of the recommendations of the GF-TADs SGE for Africa into operational improvements by providing training on abattoir surveillance to improve data collection and surveillance, thereby addressing a gap identified by WOAHA's Scientific Commission.

- [Americas](#)

Priority Diseases include ASF, classical swine fever (CSF), FMD, HPAI and New World screwworm.

In the Americas, the impact of regional priority animal diseases such as screwworm and avian influenza in wild birds and mammals was addressed through a series of webinars, which increased regional preparedness and visibility. Regional and sub-regional GF-TADs partner organisation meetings strengthened strategic alignment and collaboration on five regional priority diseases.

Under the GF-TADs framework, new and active Standing Groups of Experts on New World Screwworm, avian influenza, and transboundary swine diseases (ASF and CSF) reinforced coordinated technical action across the region.

Significant progress was achieved in FMD control, with Bolivia and Brazil obtaining official recognition of their status as FMD free countries without vaccination.

WOAHA's active participation in the 4th Meeting of the Hemispheric Committee for FMD eradication and the 51st Meeting of the South American Commission for the fight against FMD, further supported sustained regional momentum towards eradication.

- [Asia and the Pacific](#)

Priority diseases include ASF, FMD, HPAI, lumpy skin disease (LSD) and PPR.

In the Asia and the Pacific region, WOAHA continued to manage the secretariat of the South-East Asia and China FMD campaign (SEACFMD), with 2025 marking the end of the Roadmap 2021–2025 and the endorsement of a new and dynamic SEACFMD Roadmap 2026–2030 to better tackle FMD in the region.

In 2025, WOAHA became an Associate Member of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Animal Health and Zoonoses (ACCAHZ), an ASEAN body which will be key in the coming years to roll out ASEAN TADs strategies (ASF, LSD, PPR) and the ASEAN Rabies Elimination Strategy.

WOAHA also conducted a series of capacity-building activities, including Regional Hands-on training sessions on laboratory diagnostics, epidemiological surveillance, and outbreak management of priority TADs to support Members and improve control and eradication efforts in the region.

- [Europe](#)

Priority diseases include ASF, FMD, HPAI, LSD, PPR, and rabies in wildlife.

WOAH reinforced its leadership in implementing the GF-TADs framework, translating regional priorities into regional results. A major milestone was the high-level GF-TADs Conference in Belgrade, which demonstrated the alignment of regional actions with regional priorities, including priority transboundary diseases. It resulted in endorsed conclusions and recommendations to strengthen regional ownership and coordinated implementation of GF-TADs objectives.

WOAH further enhanced regional preparedness and disease control capacity through targeted technical sessions and workshops, including for FMD, PPR, rabies, LSD and ASF. These activities facilitated peer-to-peer exchange and dissemination of best practices (e.g. recovery pathway on regaining FMD free status in Germany, Hungary and Slovakia).

A key operational achievement was the development of a dedicated IT module for priority animal diseases. This tool strengthens evidence-based decision-making, improves data quality and timeliness, and enhances regional coordination in full alignment with the global GF-TADs strategic framework.

The re-emergence of PPR in European countries previously recognised by WOA as free elevated the disease to a high regional priority in 2024–2025. Under the GF-TADs Europe framework, targeted webinars in March and July 2025 strengthened Members' capacities in terms of surveillance, diagnostics, transparency and preparedness, thereby supporting early detection and a coordinated response.

WOAH supported regional preparedness and response to FMD through technical webinars addressing the global spread of the SAT-2 serotype and recent outbreaks in Germany, Hungary and Slovakia. Regular FMD/PPR Roadmap meetings enhanced regional coordination, updated strategic roadmaps and enabled gap analysis to guide risk-based interventions.

While LSD remains largely controlled in Southeast Europe, outbreaks in France and Italy in 2025 renewed regional vigilance. Through the 14th Meeting of the Standing Group of Experts on LSD and a joint PPR/LSD webinar, Members reaffirmed vaccination as the cornerstone of control and strengthened regional coordination to sustain disease prevention gains.

- [Middle East](#)

Priority diseases include brucellosis, FMD, HPAI, PPR and RVF.

In April 2025, the WOA Regional Representation for the Middle East, in collaboration with FAO and the European Commission for Foot-and-Mouth Disease (EuFMD) organised a roadmap meeting in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, to review Members' FMD and PPR control plans and their status on the Progressive Control Pathway for FMD (PCP-FMD) and the PPR Monitoring and Evaluation self-assessment Tool (PMAT). The meeting was organised under the GF-TAD umbrella. A new Regional Advisory Group was elected and held its first review meeting.

In December 2025, the WOA Regional Representation for the Middle East organised a workshop entitled "Empowerment of the Public–Private Partnership (PPP) to control PPR in the Middle East region). The workshop was held in Amman Jordan. The workshop emphasised the added-value gained from involvement of the private sector in the government plans for controlling TADs and the value of investing in animal health.

2.4.2.2 African swine fever (GF-TADs)

African swine fever (ASF) continues to be a priority for WOAAH and its Members. WOAAH is committed to supporting Members' efforts to reduce the global impact of the disease by improving their capacity to manage ASF, enhancing regional and international coordination and cooperation, and supporting business continuity.

- GF-TADs initiative for the global control of ASF

In 2025, WOAAH continued to implement activities under the [GF-TADs initiative for the global control of ASF \(Global Initiative\)](#), in collaboration with FAO and other technical partners. Launched in July 2020, the [Global Initiative](#) seeks to achieve the global control of ASF.

A key ongoing activity for WOAAH, FAO and partners is the review of the current strategy and its update for the period 2026–2030, based on the latest scientific knowledge, the evolving needs of Members, and lessons learned from implementing the current Global Initiative. The review process was officially launched at the 3rd Meeting of the Global Coordination Committee for ASF (GCC-ASF), which was held on the margins of WOAAH's 92nd General Session in May 2025. The meeting focused on reviewing the progress of the current Global Initiative (2020–2025) and providing insights into the strategic focus of the next Global Initiative (2026–2030), including the definition of technical priorities on which the ASF Working Group and partners may focus to better support Members. The GCC-ASF recommended that the next Global Initiative reflect regional realities and offer practical, field-level solutions, especially in contexts where eradication is not yet feasible in the short or medium term.

In each of the four regions of Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Pacific and Europe, a Standing Group of Experts (SGE) is in place to bring together experts and policymakers within to strengthen regional cooperation and efforts against ASF. In April 2025, the [24th meeting](#) of the SGE-ASF for Europe was held in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and focused on biosecurity in pig establishments. In June 2025, the [10th meeting](#) of the SGE-ASF for Asia and the Pacific took place in Thailand, with a focus on alternatives to traditional ASF disease control. In September 2025, the [1st SGE meeting](#) on transboundary swine diseases (ASF/CSF) for the Americas was held in Panama, with the main objective of resuming the activities of the SGE and merging efforts for prevention and control of ASF and CSF. In October 2025, the [5th meeting](#) of the SGE-ASF for Africa was held in Togo, with a focus on ASF vaccines and vaccination. As a new approach, in September 2025, the [1st GF-TADs Regional Conference](#) of Standing Groups of Experts on priority transboundary animal diseases in Europe was held in Belgrade, Serbia, where ASF was among the topics discussed.

- Strengthening ASF vaccine monitoring and laboratory diagnostics for ASF

In May 2025, Section C of [Terrestrial Manual Chapter 3.9.1](#) on the manufacture of safe and efficacious vaccines for ASF was adopted by the Assembly during WOAAH's 92nd General Session.

Following the adoption of standards on ASF vaccines, WOAAH updated its [statement](#) encouraging vaccine manufacturers and Members to consider these standards when developing and evaluating ASF vaccine candidates for regulatory approval. Additionally, in response to Members' requests, WOAAH launched a consultancy to develop a set of guidelines on the field evaluation of ASF vaccines and how to conduct post-vaccination monitoring, in accordance with WOAAH international standards. The primary target audience for the guidelines includes Competent Authorities involved in the regulatory approval of veterinary vaccines and Veterinary Services responsible for the implementation of ASF control strategies. The first draft of the guidelines developed by the consultants was peer-reviewed by an [ad hoc Group](#) that met in July 2025. The guidelines are expected to be published in the first half of 2026.

WOAH continues to work closely with its network of seven ASF Reference Laboratories, which have played a pivotal role in guiding the development of standards for ASF vaccines and supporting Members in their diagnostic and surveillance activities. In 2025, the ASF Reference Laboratory Network committed to consolidating existing resources, including genomic data, proficiency testing, standard reagents, and training materials. In addition, the Network is updating the existing [point-of-care \(PoC\) testing guidelines](#).

- Technical support for the implementation of regional and national strategies for the prevention and control of ASF

WOAH organised or participated in several national or regional ASF meetings, workshops and projects in 2025, including the following:

- PVS Evaluation Follow-up mission with ASF specific content in Mongolia in September 2025, to monitor progress in the performance of the Veterinary Services against WOAHS international standards.
- Participation in the webinar series delivered through the [African Swine Fever training platform of the Inter-Agency Group for Latin America and the Caribbean](#).

2.4.2.3 Foot and mouth disease

WOAH continued to support Members on the implementation of Global FMD Control Strategy activities by strengthening coordination with FAO through the joint FMD working group. The regional roadmap meetings, regional advisory groups and various Progressive Control Pathway for Foot and Mouth Disease (PCP-FMD) tools, including WOAHS Reference Laboratories for FMD, were used as the platforms and resources to support Members.

The changing epidemiological situation of FMD, notably the re-emergence of FMD virus in parts of Europe normally free of the disease, emphasised the need to reinforce global FMD control efforts through continuous coordination, surveillance, capacity building and policy support.

In this context, the 1st GF-TADs Regional Conference of Standing Groups of Experts on priority transboundary animal diseases in Europe was held in Belgrade, Serbia. The conference was aimed at strengthening regional cooperation and coordination in the control of TADs and provided an opportunity to share knowledge, experience and science-based best practices among Veterinary Authorities and experts. The conference also addressed the challenges posed by the re-emergence of FMD and PPR in Europe.

- Strengthening laboratory capacity for FMD

The WOAHS/FAO Reference Laboratory Network for FMD continued to actively support all the regional roadmap meetings by providing updates on the global FMD situation and information on vaccine matching and selection. During its annual meeting, held in Istanbul, Türkiye, the Network highlighted as key events the occurrence of two FMD incursions in Europe (the first in Germany followed by cases in Hungary and Slovakia) and the exotic SAT1/1 topotype expanding into new areas in the Middle East, causing outbreaks in Kuwait, Türkiye and Azerbaijan, and its persistence in Iraq. The ongoing WOAHS Laboratory Twinning project between the United Kingdom (Pirbright Institute) and the FMD National Reference Laboratories of Kenya and Jordan aims to build improved diagnostic capacity for FMD. This initiative will allow more Members in the respective regions to access high-quality FMD diagnostic testing and technical expertise.

- Regional approach to FMD control

WOAH and FAO reinforced the regional roadmap approach in 2025. These regional coordination meetings, co-organised by WOA and FAO, are important as they provide an opportunity to take stock of the progress made by Members along the PCP, ensure continuous evaluation and monitoring of the FMD situation, increase cooperation between participating Members through the harmonisation of policies and strategies within the region and support the efficient use of existing tools and guidelines. In the Middle East (Riyadh, Saudi Arabia) and Western Eurasia (Dushanbe, Tajikistan), joint GF-TADs FMD/PPR Roadmap meetings took place, and new Regional Advisory Groups were elected. These meetings allowed the update of the national roadmap for participating Members. In addition, two Regional Advisory Groups (Southern Africa Development Community and Eastern Africa) have participated in hybrid meetings to discuss the Advisory Groups' Terms of Reference, Governance and Modus Operandi. These meetings also allowed consultations of plans to progress along the PCP that were submitted by two Members of these regions.

In May 2025, the SEACFMD Epidemiology Network (EpiNet) met in China (People's Rep. of), this being the first in-person gathering of EpiNet focal points since the COVID-19 pandemic. Building on the 2022 virtual joint EpiNet and LabNet meeting, this gathering brought together experts to assess the current FMD situation, analyse epidemiological trends, and shape the next SEACFMD Roadmap beyond 2025.

In 2025, WOA Members continued to use the Self-Assessment Tool allowing them to assess the level of implementation of FMD measures in anticipation of the Regional Roadmap meetings. In the continuity of this work, and in order to streamline the preparatory work for Members, the GF-TADs FMD Working Group (FMD-WG) revised the Outbreak Management Questionnaire to avoid overlaps with other Questionnaires. The FMD-WG, with the support of the regional offices and experts, continued to provide technical recommendations on Members' submitted control plans. In 2025, one Member of the Africa Region (Somalia) advanced to PCP-FMD Stage 1, following approval of its Risk Assessment Plan by the Regional Advisory Group. Another Member (Malawi) advanced to PCP-FMD Stage 2, following approval of its Risk-Based Strategic Plan.

WOAH continued to deliver training and provide guidance to Members on the procedures and requirements for official status recognition. Two in-person workshops on WOA procedures for official status recognition took place in Central Asia and in South Africa, respectively, further strengthening regional coordination. In 2025, Brazil and Bolivia were recognised as having their entire territories free from FMD without vaccination after decades of efforts for FMD control and eradication. To enhance the visibility of FMD-free Members, WOA updated the FMD status web page.

WOAH continues to provide Members whose status has been suspended or whose control programmes have been withdrawn with guidance on the standards and procedure for reinstatement of official status. In 2025, three Members (Germany, Hungary and Slovakia) had their FMD-free status reinstated following outbreaks in Europe. Training on WOA procedures for official recognition of FMD-free status and endorsement of FMD control programmes was also provided in 2025, including regional training sessions held in Issyk Kul, Kyrgyzstan, for Central Asia and in Johannesburg, South Africa, for Africa.

- Revision of the next Global FMD Control Strategy

To reduce the impact of FMD worldwide, FAO and WOAHA launched the Global FMD Control Strategy, endorsed in 2012 and continuing until 2027. In June 2025, the FMD-WG met at WOAHA Headquarters to discuss the plan for the revision of the next Global FMD Control Strategy, with a view to ensuring that it reflects evolving global and regional contexts, lessons learned and the need for stronger coordination and ownership. Based on regional needs, the working group supported a more holistic approach, including broader health systems, cross-cutting activities, joint meetings and synergies between FMD and other priority TADs.

2.4.2.4 Peste des petits ruminants

WOAHA and FAO continued their collaboration under the GF-TADs framework for the implementation of the PPR Global Control and Eradication Strategy ([PPR GCES](#)).

- Global activities

The 8th Meeting of the PPR Advisory Committee (AC) was held in May 2025 and enabled AC members to review progress and provide strategic guidance for implementation of the PPR Global Eradication Programme (GEP) II/III Blueprint and ensure effective oversight. The AC members expressed concern about sustaining political and financial commitment and suggested greater effort was needed in areas such as monitoring programme success, advocacy and resource mobilisation.

The 6th Meeting of PPR Vaccine Producers was held in Türkiye in November 2025. The meeting emphasised the urgent need for improved diagnostic tools and DIVA¹⁷ vaccine technologies to support eradication efforts. In reference to the discussions at the WOAHA Animal Health Forum during the 92nd General Session, the experts emphasised the need to include Target Product Profiles (TPPs) in the *Terrestrial Manual*, to define essential vaccine characteristics such as efficacy, safety, and differentiation capabilities.

The 8th Meeting of the PPR Global Research and Expertise Network (GREN) was held in Qingdao, China (People's Rep. of) in November 2025. The meeting reviewed GREN's activities over the years and emphasised the need for stronger communication and visibility to enhance public awareness and stakeholder engagement for eradication. Research priorities identified included transmission studies in wildlife, DIVA and thermostable vaccine development, epidemiological modelling, and socioeconomic analyses linked to epistemic approaches.

- Support to regional activities

WOAHA, in collaboration with FAO and AU-IBAR, contributed to the activities of the Pan-African PPR Secretariat, which was launched in Ethiopia in February 2025 on the sidelines of the [26th Conference of the WOAHA Regional Commission for Africa](#). These activities were undertaken as Phase I of the EU-supported project (€ 8 million) progressed towards completion in 2026 and preparations advanced for the anticipated implementation of Phase II (€ 50 million), with a possible one-year overlap. During 2025, a series of regional stakeholder, Regional Roadmap (RRM) and Regional Advisory Group (RAG) meetings were organised across Central, Eastern, Southern and Western Africa, supporting coordination, awareness-raising and the harmonisation of PPR eradication efforts, including the validation of regional guidelines for PPR vaccine registration. A Vaccine Strategy Document is currently being finalised, and additional regional strategy meetings and awareness-raising activities on WOAHA standards, procedures and the PPR epistemic are planned for 2026.

¹⁷ DIVA: differentiating infected from vaccinated animals

In addition, WOAHA organised PPR activities together with FAO under the GF-TADs umbrella in Mongolia (epi-system workshop), Saudi Arabia (Middle East roadmap meeting) and Tajikistan (West Eurasia roadmap meeting).

- Strengthening laboratory diagnostics for PPR

The secretariat of the WOAHA PPR Reference Laboratory Network remained active through the organisation of regular [technical webinars](#), an [annual workshop](#), the dissemination of an [annual newsletter](#) and by organising proficiency testing and PPR diagnostic training workshops. The Network's secretariat, composed of the four WOAHA PPR Reference Laboratories and AU-PANVAC¹⁸, was joined by FAO/IAEA¹⁹, with the objective of strengthening coordination and collaboration between WOAHA and FAO laboratory networks supporting PPR laboratory activities. The Network also expanded to a total of 27 members, following the inclusion of ADAFSA²⁰ (United Arab Emirates) and SCVL²¹ (Mongolia).

- Other capacity-building activities

Following the finalisation of the revised PPR Monitoring and Assessment Tool (PMAT) in 2025, FAO and WOAHA continued developing an e-learning module to support Members in effectively using the tool to monitor progress in their PPR control and eradication activities along the stages of the PPR GCES. In parallel, a digital version of the PMAT is being finalised to facilitate country-level assessments, streamline PMAT submission and review by the Regional Advisory Groups, and provide the Global and Regional GF-TADs Secretariats with an overview of common gaps and priorities. The PMAT is also being translated into French and Russian to further improve accessibility for Members.

Seven PVS missions with a PPR-specific component were conducted in 2025. The resulting reports are linked to the PMAT, as they provide objective field verification of PMAT staging and include targeted recommendations that inform National Strategic Plans (NSPs). WOAHA will continue to support Members in the annual completion of the PMAT questionnaire and in the development and refinement of their NSPs. In addition, WOAHA continues to encourage Members that have never reported PPR to implement the required surveillance and other activities necessary to comply with WOAHA standards for official PPR-free status and to initiate the procedures for official recognition. Training on WOAHA procedures for official recognition of PPR-free status and endorsement of PPR control programmes was also provided in 2025, including regional training sessions in Indonesia, for Asia and the Pacific, and in Kyrgyzstan, for Central Asia.

Through the Regional Sahel Pastoralism Support Project (PRAPS-2) project, technical support is provided for PPR control in Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and Chad, including updating of national strategic plans for PPR, post-vaccination monitoring, use of epidemiological surveillance tools, and national and regional training. All Members involved in PRAPS-2 have developed harmonised, technically validated NSPs and demonstrated best vaccination practices, including vaccine quality control, post-vaccination seromonitoring and reporting. Capacity-building activities continued in 2025, with the use of an animal health personnel training manual developed by WOAHA, as well as through national, regional and academic training initiatives. These included degree-granting training and specialisation of veterinarians at the Inter-State School of Veterinary Sciences and Medicine (EISMV) in Senegal, a workshop on the state of implementation of PPR NSPs, and two regional training sessions related to the Integrated Veterinary Data Management Platform and integrated epidemiological surveillance of animal diseases linked to animal mobility in PRAPS-2 countries.

¹⁸ AU-PANVAC: Pan-African Veterinary Vaccine Centre of the African Union

¹⁹ FAO/IAEA: Joint FAO/International Atomic Energy Agency Centre of Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture

²⁰ ADAFSA: Abu Dhabi Agriculture and Food Safety Authority

²¹ SCVL: State Central Veterinary Laboratory

In addition, the OHRT²² and BMZ²³ TADs projects covering Cameroon, Namibia, Kenya and Ethiopia continued in 2025. In Kenya, these projects helped to strengthen the veterinary workforce and also supported the implementation of the national PPR vaccination campaign, which concluded in June 2025.

- Support for vaccine access

The [WOAH PPR vaccine bank](#) has continued to give Members the opportunity to access, at a negotiated price, quality vaccines in accordance with an international procurement procedure. In 2025, Mauritania purchased vaccines from the vaccine bank.

- Other activities

The feasibility of achieving the 2030 target for the global eradication of PPR is under review by WOA and FAO, in consultation with Members and experts from the PPR Advisory Committee and PPR GREN. To inform this process, a survey was circulated to PPR-infected countries and relevant experts to gather their views. The resulting data will be discussed by core members of the PPR Advisory Committee and further discussed by FAO and WOA.

2.4.2.5 Lumpy skin disease

The emergence and spread of lumpy skin disease (LSD) in new areas of the Asia and the Pacific region have underscored the urgent need to strengthen regional preparedness and response. In response, WOA implemented key interventions, including the development of the [ASEAN LSD Prevention and Control Strategy \(ALPCS\)](#), the production of two vaccination awareness videos, one for livestock owners ([Protecting farmers' livelihoods through LSD vaccination](#)) and the other for animal health personnel ([Guidance on using good-quality vaccines for LSD control for animal health staff](#)), and a [policy brief on LSD with a focus on vaccination](#).

The Regional [LSD Workshop for Asia and the Pacific](#), held in Manila, Philippines, from 8 to 10 July 2025, brought together stakeholders from WOA Members to strengthen capacity and regional collaboration for the prevention and control of LSD and other transboundary animal diseases (TADs). The programme comprised regional plenary sessions and dedicated sub-regional sessions for ASEAN and South Asia, providing technical updates, supporting strategic planning, and promoting cross-border cooperation.

The ASEAN session advanced the development of an implementation plan and monitoring and evaluation framework for the ALPCS, and included a dedicated session on preparing dossiers for self-declaration of LSD-free status, aligned with the goal of eliminating LSD from the region by 2030. The South Asia session focused on identifying priority cross-border issues, potential actions for LSD and other TADs, and mechanisms for sub-regional collaboration.

In addition, WOA, in collaboration with the China Animal Health and Epidemiology Centre (CAHEC), organised a regional hands-on training programme on LSD diagnostics in Qingdao, China (People's Rep. of), from 18 to 22 August 2025, strengthening laboratory capacity among participants from eight countries. WOA also supported a proficiency testing programme for LSD diagnosis, in collaboration with the WOA LSD Reference Laboratory in Belgium, involving six laboratories in South-East Asia.

²² OHRT: One Health approach towards Rabies and Transboundary Diseases control

²³ BMZ: German Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development

In 2025, the Sub-Regional Representation for Brussels organised three events under the umbrella of GF-TADs that included the subject of LSD: [Special Group of Experts on LSD-14 and PPR in Europe](#), online, on 5th March 2025, [the webinar on PPR and LSD in Europe under the GF-TADs umbrella on 3rd July 2025](#) and the Special Group of Experts on LSD-14 within the [1st GF-TADs Regional Conference of Standing Groups of Experts on priority transboundary animal diseases in Europe on 22-25 September 2025, Belgrade, Serbia](#). For all the GF-TADs activities listed above the experts from affected and at-risk countries provided detailed overviews of their surveillance efforts, control measures, and early lessons learned. The Reference Laboratories offered insights into disease diagnostics, genome sequencing, and challenges in tracing outbreaks. The European Commission highlighted emergency support mechanisms and emphasised the importance of regional coordination, rapid vaccination and transparent communication. FAO and WOAHA representatives underscored ongoing support to their members, from training and simulation exercises to laboratory capacity building and policy guidance. The events reaffirmed the strength of the GF-TADs platform as a key regional mechanism for information exchange, early warning and harmonised action against TADs.

In 2025, the Sub-Regional Representation for North Africa in 2025 organised an LSD technical session in the framework of the 31st Meeting of the Joint Permanent Committee (JPC) of the Mediterranean Animal Health Network (REMESA) was held in La Valletta, Malta, on 17 and 18 December. The session focused on the management and control of LSD, with particular attention to vaccination strategies, surveillance, and laboratory capacity. It was agreed on the need to strengthen early detection and timely notification, enhance information sharing with international partners, promote collaboration with reference laboratories when national sequencing capacity is lacking, reinforce training on Capripox virus diagnostics, explore the potential role of REMESA in supporting vaccine procurement or the establishment of a vaccine bank, improve communication to farmers on the use and benefits of live attenuated vaccines, and strengthen regional and cross-border cooperation through the sharing of sequencing results to better identify circulating strains.

2.4.2.6 Rinderpest post-eradication

The number of WOAHA Members holding rinderpest virus-containing materials (RVCM) as of December 2024 remained the same as that reported in 2022 and 2023. Eleven Members still hold RVCM, seven of which host FAO-WOAH-designated Rinderpest Holding Facilities (RHF). Among the latter, one additional Rinderpest Holding Facility was designated by FAO-WOAH in May 2025, in India.

Among the other four Members (i.e. those still holding RVCM but not hosting an RHF), Russia has submitted an RHF application, which is under review by the FAO-WOAH Rinderpest Secretariat. Iran, South Africa and Türkiye have not yet taken the decision to destroy or sequester their RVCM. In November 2025, in accordance with the requirements of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*, WOAHA launched its annual survey of Members that hold RVCM outside designated RHF. WOAHA has actively engaged in discussions with the four Members concerned to advocate for compliance with WOAHA Resolution No. 21 of 2017 by taking a decision regarding the destruction or sequestration of their respective RVCM. The global distribution of RVCM in WOAHA Members is illustrated in the map below (Figure 12).

WOAH continues to pay close attention to the situation of HPAI in dairy cows, and in March 2025 published a [case definition](#) for notification of HPAI in cattle as an emerging disease, which was updated in October 2025. Based on the new case definition, an update on the [WOAH statement regarding HPAI in cattle](#) was published.

WOAH progressed with the two-year implementation framework on avian influenza (May 2023 – May 2025) to address the recommendations adopted in [Resolution No. 28](#) at the 90th General Session, and significant progress has been made in addressing all 19 of the recommendations.

As requested by our Members, WOAHA published a [technical guideline](#) for effectively designing and implementing avian influenza surveillance programmes in small poultry systems (backyard) in resource-limited settings.

Lastly, the WOAHA Wildlife Working Group issued a new [statement on the impact of HPAI on wildlife worldwide](#).

- OFFLU (WOAH-FAO network of expertise on animal influenza) and WOAHA scientific network activities

WOAH continued to coordinate the OFFLU network, while also hosting the OFFLU Secretariat and maintaining the OFFLU website. During 2025, the OFFLU network regularly met virtually to discuss and share data on circulating animal influenza threats.

Throughout the year, the [OFFLU](#) network continued to actively exchange [epidemiological and virological data](#) on circulating avian influenza threats, to enhance understanding of the current global situation. The network contributed animal influenza data to the and [September 2025 WHO Vaccine Composition Meeting](#). The network published an [avian influenza matching technical report in September 2025](#). This report provides information on the antigenic characteristics of circulating H5 viruses and on studies, including vaccine challenge trials, that can support decisions when designing or modifying vaccination programmes. In October 2025, the OFFLU Applied Epidemiology Technical Activity group published a [guidance document for high pathogenicity avian influenza virus risk mitigation in cattle](#).

The OFFLU proficiency testing panel for the year 2025 was received by WOAHA/FAO Reference Centres and was designed to assess the capability of the laboratories to detect and characterise isolates of avian influenza. The round was coordinated by the Australian Centre for Disease Preparedness (ACDP), a WOAHA Reference Laboratory.

In June 2025, the OFFLU network held a special half-day side meeting alongside the 11th International Symposium on Avian Influenza in St. John's, Canada, attended by around 120 influenza experts. The meeting marked 20 years of OFFLU and aimed to inform attendees of OFFLU activities, review current actions, identify gaps, and discuss future directions through a series of presentations and active discussions. The [meeting summary](#) is available on the OFFLU website. A new-look OFFLU [website](#) was launched in August 2025.

A new OFFLU governance structure with updated [modus operandi](#) and [new Steering Committee](#) members was established to function from November 2025. The reports of the OFFLU Steering and Executive Committee meetings held in [March](#), [July](#) and [October 2025](#) are available online.

- Advocacy and communication

In 2025, WOAAH was mentioned in online conversations around avian influenza more frequently than any other organisation, making WOAAH the number one in terms of share of voice in animal disease. This increase can be seen through the high amount of traffic to the WOAAH's avian influenza disease page, which saw 1,356,176 page views – the best performing of all WOAAH's webpages. In 2025, the monthly HPAI situation reports published on WOAAH's global site were viewed by over 33,000 people and the webpage for HPAI in cattle had 86,928 page views.

- GF-TADs avian influenza global strategy

GF-TADs [Global Strategy for the Prevention and Control of High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza \(2024–2033\)](#) was published in February 2025 to guide efforts to mitigate the impact of the disease over the next decade. In order to share the content and outputs of this new strategy, a [technical webinar was organised in March 2025](#). The new strategy has been developed to respond to the global challenges by adopting a One Health approach for sustainable poultry sector transformation to prevent outbreaks, protect livelihoods, safeguard biodiversity and reduce public health risk. The strategy provides a framework for global and regional coordination to support countries in the effective implementation of national plans that reflect the evolution of the disease and new scientific advances in prevention and control, adapted to their specific context. Implementation of the strategy will be coordinated and monitored by a GF-TADs HPAI Working Group consisting of FAO and WOAAH staff.

- Regional coordination and capacity-building activities

WOAH is committed to assisting Members with developing and implementing sustainable and OH-based national control programmes for the control of avian influenza. In 2025, this was achieved throughout the year, by organising and supporting several virtual and in-person training sessions and meetings with WOAAH regional offices, with the objective to improve the capacity of Veterinary Services to control avian influenza under the OH approach.

In the Americas, specific webinars covering recent avian influenza outbreaks were provided for Members and relevant stakeholders, providing access to expert guidance and updated information, aimed at strengthening their emergency preparedness and informed decision-making. As part of World Wildlife Day celebrations, a webinar was organised to provide an update on the HPAI situation and its impact on wildlife in the region, from a biodiversity and One Health perspective. Under the GF-TADs framework, the [Third Meeting of the Standing Group of Experts on Avian Influenza](#) was held in February 2025 virtually. The regional representation for Americas participated in the Seventh Workshop of the South American Network of Avian Influenza and Newcastle Disease Diagnostic Laboratories (RESUDIA) in May 2025. The Workshop involved the Heads of Laboratories of eight Members, international and regional organisations, and vaccine-producing companies. Discussions highlighted the need to continue coordinated efforts to strengthen communication among national laboratories and to better understand training and support needs that WOAAH Reference Centres could contribute to.

In 2025, WOAAH continued to support Members in Europe in addressing HPAI through coordinated actions under the GF-TADs framework. HPAI was a key topic during the [1st GF-TADs Regional Conference for Europe, held in Belgrade, Serbia](#), in September 2025, where a dedicated session brought together Delegates, Animal Health Officers, technical experts, and partners to review the evolving epidemiological situation in the region. Discussions focused on prevention, preparedness, surveillance, and response measures, with particular attention to the increasing complexity of HPAI dynamics at the wildlife–domestic animal interface. The session facilitated the exchange of practical experience and lessons learned, including approaches to early detection and rapid response, biosecurity, risk management and communication, and intersectoral

collaboration in line with the One Health approach. The discussions contributed to regionally relevant [conclusions and recommendations](#), aligned with global GF-TADs priorities and WOAAH standards, and supported Members in strengthening their capacities to manage HPAI risks and mitigate the impact of outbreaks on animal health, livelihoods and safe trade.

In the Asia and the Pacific region, the scientific network on avian influenza and other avian diseases organised a [Regional Workshop for Avian Disease Prevention and Control in Sapporo, Japan](#), in August 2025 and continued to support Members to strengthen regional efforts to control avian viral and bacterial infectious diseases, with a particular emphasis on avian influenza. This workshop was attended by representatives from Members across the Asia and the Pacific region, along with experts from WOAAH Reference Laboratories and national laboratories for avian diseases. A session at the regional workshop discussed the integration of One Health in avian disease surveillance, prevention and control. WOAAH Wildlife Health Networks also contributed to sharing information between sectors involved in multi-species outbreaks of avian influenza in wildlife. The workshop also featured breakout sessions for each sub-region in Asia and the Pacific to discuss strengthening capacities for avian disease prevention and control, and to propose an action plan for the region and each sub-region, in reference to the Global HPAI Strategy (2024–2033).

In the Middle East region, WOAAH continued to provide support and join the regional dialogue on avian influenza preparedness and continuity of poultry production. Under the GF-TADs framework, it was suggested to establish an HPAI standing group of experts specific to the region.

In the Africa region, diagnostic capacity was further strengthened through WOAAH laboratory twinning on avian influenza between Guinea and Canada.

2.4.2.8 Registration of diagnostic kits

In accordance with Resolution No. XXIX adopted at the 71st General Session in 2003, WOAAH maintains its register of certified diagnostic kits. Activities relating to this register were frozen after the 91st General Session, for a period of at least 24 months.

This decision enabled WOAAH's team to convene a multidisciplinary group of experts in the form of an *ad hoc* group to:

- Assess the added value, feasibility and framework for a new WOAAH registration system for diagnostic kits;
- Ensure adoption, long-term sustainability and positive impact Of a new registration system;
- Explore the value of setting minimum validation criteria needed for reliable registration of diagnostic kits, facilitating accessibility for Members regardless of their regulatory capacity;
- Determine the roles and responsibilities of WOAAH Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres relating to:
 - diagnostic kit recognition procedures
 - the development of validation training and guidance packages
- Assist in the design and implementation of mechanisms that could facilitate regulatory harmonisation of diagnostic kits.

The first meeting of this group of internationally recognised experts, in fields including diagnostic test validation, regulation, diagnostic kit research, development and manufacturing, quality control/reference laboratories, animal disease surveillance, veterinary public health and One Health, took place in November 2025.

2.4.3 Animal welfare

The WOAHA [Global Animal Welfare Strategy](#) continues to provide guidance for WOAHA's activities in animal welfare. The work programme for 2025 included activities under the four strategic pillars of the Strategy. Key outputs are described below:

Pillar 1: Development of animal welfare standards

The Code Commission progressed its work to revise the following chapters of the *Terrestrial Code*:

- Chapter 7.1. 'Introduction to the recommendation for animal welfare' was revised to include the 'Five domains concept' and was adopted at the 92nd General Session.
- Chapters 7.2. 'Transport of animals by sea', Chapter 7.3. 'Transport of animals by land' and Chapter 7.4. 'Transport of animals by air' are in the process of being comprehensively revised.
- Chapter 7.6. 'Killing of animals for disease control purposes' is in the process of being comprehensively revised.
- Article 7.5.30. of Chapter 7.5. 'Animal welfare during slaughter' is being revised.

For more details, please refer to the relevant 2025 [reports](#) of the Code Commission.

Pillar 2: Capacity building and education

A capacity-building project for selected WOAHA Members in South-East Asia was launched in 2025. The project aims to develop and implement tools to support Members in the implementation of recommendations in Chapter 7.13. 'Animal welfare and pig production systems' and Chapter 7.6. 'Killing of animals for disease control purposes' of the *Terrestrial Code*. In 2025, two Training of Trainers workshops on animal welfare in pig production systems were held in Vietnam and one workshop on killing animals for disease control purposes was held in Laos.

A network of the four WOAHA Collaborating Centres on Animal Welfare was established, including the development of the network's Terms of Reference and a five-year work plan. The objective of this network is to provide support to WOAHA Members from a globally coordinated perspective.

Workshops for WOAHA national Focal Points for Animal Welfare were conducted for French-speaking Members of the WOAHA Africa region in Togo and for Members of the WOAHA Asia and the Pacific region in Japan.

Phase one of the Observatory Thematic Study on 'Animal welfare during transport by land and sea' was completed. Phase two is being finalised and will be published in March 2026 (see Section 2.2.5. Observatory).

Pillar 3: Communication

The Seventh WOAHA Animal Welfare Global Forum, entitled 'Regional Animal Welfare Strategies and Platforms (RAWS&P); A key tool for the global implementation of WOAHA animal welfare standards', was held in Paris, France, in November 2025. The Forum provided an opportunity to support WOAHA Members and Regional Representations in the development of their respective RAWS&P by identifying priorities and challenges in their development and to learn from those regions that had successfully implemented their RAWS&P.

WOAH representatives also participated in a number of events hosted by partner organisations, including the International Society for Applied Ethology World Conference and the World Dairy Summit of the International Dairy Federation.

Pillar 4: Implementation of animal welfare standards and policies

The WOAHA Regional Animal Welfare Strategy Advisory Group for Asia and the Pacific progressed implementation of its [Third Action Plan \(2024–2028\)](#).

A Workshop to develop the Regional Strategy on Animal Welfare for the Americas Region was held in Uruguay and provided a forum to discuss the regional strategy and develop an action plan.

More information about WOAHA's animal welfare activities is available on the [WOAHA website](#).

2.4.4 Aquatic animal health

The [WOAHA Aquatic Animal Health Strategy \(AAHS\)](#) has been implemented over the past four years (2021–2025) and aims to improve aquatic animal health and welfare worldwide. The strategy guides actions to strengthen four areas: standards, capacity building, resilience and leadership.

In 2025, WOAHA continued to address the highest priority needs in aquatic animal health and focused resources on activities identified in the AAHS. The key highlights are presented below:

- Standards

The Aquatic Animals Commission developed new, and revised existing standards in the *Aquatic Code* and *Aquatic Manual* to ensure they are scientifically sound, meet WOAHA Members' needs to manage risks, facilitate safe trade and improve aquatic animal health and welfare (see Section 2.2.2.4. for details).

- Focal Point training programmes

In 2025, in-person training workshops for national Focal Points for Aquatic Animals were conducted for Focal Points for the Europe region and the Middle East region. These workshops provided a forum to engage with Members, to foster collaboration and knowledge sharing among Members and partners in the aquaculture sector, to identify regional needs and priorities, and to promote the implementation of WOAHA standards for improved aquatic animal health.

- Regional aquatic animal health networks

The establishment of WOAHA regional aquatic animal health networks has proven to be an effective mechanism to operationalise the AAHS to meet regional needs and strengthen collaboration. Established regional networks in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Central Asia and Transcaucasia and the Middle East continued to implement their respective work plans during 2025.

- Engaging WOAHA's scientific networks

The WOAHA network of Collaborating Centres for aquatic animal health continued to implement its work plan during 2025 and was expanded to include some WOAHA Reference Laboratory experts to facilitate collaboration among these Centres and to strengthen support for WOAHA Members for aquatic animal disease diagnosis and control.

- Increasing the use of the WOAAH PVS Pathway

The PVS Pathway supports Members with implementing WOAAH international standards on aquatic animal health and welfare and continuous improvement of their Aquatic Animal Health Services. Efforts to engage Members in requesting PVS missions resulted in the completion of two PVS Evaluations of the Aquatic Animal Health Services in 2025 (Sri Lanka and Fiji). About ten requests will be processed for implementation in 2026 and beyond.

- Use of antimicrobials in aquatic animals and AMR

WOAH developed an e-learning module on 'Stewardships on AMR in aquatic animals' which provides Members with didactic information on technical matters relating to AMR and the responsible use of antimicrobials in aquaculture. The module is available on the [WOAH Training Platform](#) in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese.

The first WOAAH regional workshop dedicated to AMU monitoring in aquaculture at field level was held in Thailand in December 2025.

2.4.5 Emergency management and preparedness

- Overall programme overview

WOAH's emergency management programme is closely linked to its Biological Threat Reduction programme. It aims to take an all-hazards approach to emergency management, including risks from deliberate and accidental release of pathogens, as well as the more common risks of naturally occurring outbreaks.

Over the past decade, WOAAH has conducted several studies – which have been published in peer-reviewed journals – to better understand global gaps in emergency management capacity for Veterinary Services and has invested in activities and guidance to help close these gaps. The programme therefore takes an evidence-based approach to designing its work programme.

Taking a multisectoral approach, in addition to partnerships with the public health sector, WOAAH has strengthened partnerships with the security and law enforcement sectors at international level, whilst also actively encouraging its Members to foster collaborative relationships with these sectors at national level using tools and methodologies such as the agro-crime roadmap.

WOAH has published guidelines to encourage WOAAH Members to prepare for emergencies; this includes guidance on contingency plans and simulation exercises. The organisation also develops guidance in response to emerging issues; for example, WOAAH developed guidance on misinformation and disinformation and is working in other areas such as the investigation of events where there is a suspicion of deliberate release. On the ground, WOAAH has been involved in running disease outbreak simulation exercises; these have taken place at international and regional levels.

One of the recommendations of WOAAH's Post-COVID After Action Review was to develop an Incident Management System (IMS) to support the organisation (which has a turnover of senior management and staff) to respond in a systematic and repeatable way to emergencies. WOAAH has acted on this recommendation; the IMS is now in place and was activated on several occasions in 2025.

- Incident Management System (IMS)

Following the mandate from Members at the 89th General Session, WOAAH's IMS was delivered in February 2025. The IMS will support WOAAH to fulfil its mandate, improve its internal coordination during incidents and its coordination with partners (such as FAO, WHO and INTERPOL²⁴), clarify roles during incidents, and address gaps in an emergency management culture in the Organisation. The IMS was tested and refined prior to finalisation with a simulation

²⁴ INTERPOL: International Criminal Police Organization

exercise involving staff from across Headquarters and regional offices, and has since been activated in response to the FMD reemergence in Western Europe in March 2025, and again in October 2025 for the RVF outbreaks in West Africa. The processes and procedures of the IMS facilitated a smoother and more coordinated response effort with improved internal communication. Key resources were produced during these incidents including (but not limited to): key messages for law enforcement on FMD (produced with INTERPOL), internal/external situation reports, FAQs, and risk communication messages translated into multiple local languages in connection with the RVF outbreaks. By taking a structured approach to incident response, WOAAH was also able to identify and log ways in which it could improve its support to Members in the future, such as in response to mis- and disinformation. The IMS will continue to evolve, with staff training planned for 2026 (including drills and a simulation exercise), along with ongoing optimisation of the documentation. WOAAH will also look for opportunities to support its Members in enhancing their own IMS, including through the development of guidelines on the use of IMS for national Veterinary Services.

- Global Conference on Biological Threat Reduction

In October 2025, WOAAH hosted its Third Global Conference on Biological Threat Reduction, held in Geneva, Switzerland. The Conference aimed to address the evolving landscape of biological threats, with the following objectives:

- **Learn from the past and prepare for the future:** Address the dynamic landscape of biological threats by examining historical events and current challenges, and anticipating future threats; build on previous conferences by reflecting on recommendations and showcasing advancements in WOAAH Member capabilities;
- **Strengthen international efforts in biological threat reduction:** Enhance global and national cooperation on biological threat reduction through tangible commitments from national, regional and international entities;
- **Foster multi-sectoral partnerships in global health security:** Promote knowledge sharing and actionable collaboration across diverse disciplines;
- **Identify innovative strategies:** Promote collaboration between animal health and other sectors, to develop and share innovative strategies for addressing present and future biological threats.

The Conference brought together a diverse, multi-sectoral audience of 484 participants, who included representatives from Veterinary Services, law enforcement, defence, disarmament, public health, academia, the private sector, investment and development partners and others. Sixty-two Members were officially represented by a Delegate or a Delegate nominee. The Conference programme was structured as a mix of plenary sessions, some with presentations and others as panel discussions, and interactive side events. Recordings and presentations from the plenary sessions are available on the [Conference website](#).

The discussion emphasised the need for sustained investment to support national Veterinary Services in their frontline role against biological threats, the importance of Veterinary Services taking these threats seriously, and the need for security partners to leverage their expertise by integrating them into national and international biosecurity policies and frameworks. Lastly, a call for commitments to action in biological threat reduction was made, resulting in a total of 71 commitments from WOAAH Members, partners and other stakeholders. WOAAH intends to follow-up on the commitments and highlight these efforts where possible to its network and facilitate the sharing of experiences.

- Emergency management standards

In 2025, WOAAH convened the *ad hoc* Group on Veterinary Emergencies to review a draft chapter on emergency management for inclusion in the *Terrestrial Code*. This initiative was in line with Resolution 28 of the 89th General Session of the World Assembly of Delegates, which recommended integrating emergency management into WOAAH's international standards, as well as with the outcomes of the 2023 WOAAH Global Conference on Emergency Management. Recognising the transversal nature of emergency management, the Group proposed developing a new chapter and, over several meetings, finalised its structure and draft content. The draft was completed during the Group's meeting in [June 2025](#), reviewed by the Code Commission in September 2025, and shared with Members for comments. The Code Commission will review these comments at its meeting in February 2026 and determine the chapter's next steps

- FIRABioT In Africa

Through the FIRABioT²⁵ project, WOAAH significantly strengthened biosafety, biosecurity and preparedness for high consequence animal health threats across Africa. The project reinforced Members' capability to manage biological threats effectively, and engaging non-Veterinary Services stakeholders, such as law enforcement.

FIRABioT, with technical support from EuFMD, trained Trainers on Simulation Exercises to strengthen biological threat preparedness and encourage cross sectoral collaborations.

WOAH and INTERPOL have for several years been partnering at the animal health and security interface to support their respective Members in preventing, preparing for, and responding to agro-crime incidents. In November 2025, a strategic planning workshop on tackling Agro-Crime for Veterinary Services and Law Enforcement was successfully conducted.

These efforts delivered practical tools and capacity-building measures to enhance biological threat preparedness at both national and regional levels, including enhancing multi-sectoral coordination, raising awareness and tackling misinformation and disinformation.

Across Eastern Africa, laboratory and field preparedness against biological threats was reinforced under the FIRABioT project, strengthening biosafety and biosecurity standards, disease detection capacity and inter-sectoral response readiness through the adoption of manuals, guidelines and innovative tools like ALERT, illustrating the synergies between programmes.

2.5. International collaboration

2.5.1. Scientific Networks

2.5.1.1 Collaborating Centres

In 2025, four new Collaborating Centres and one new member of a Collaborating Centre consortium were designated by the Assembly, bringing the total number of WOAAH Collaborating Centres to 80 (Figure 13).

The following new WOAAH Collaborating Centres were approved:

- WOAAH Collaborating Centre for Advanced Training in Livestock Health, World Veterinary Education in Production Animal Health (WVEPAH), Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Université de Montréal, Québec, CANADA
- WOAAH Collaborating Centre for One Health, International Livestock Research Institution (ILRI), Nairobi, KENYA
- WOAAH Collaborating Centre for Wildlife Trade and Wildlife Health, Centre for Wildlife Forensics, National Parks Board, Animal & Plant Health Centre, SINGAPORE

²⁵ FIRABioT: Fortifying institutional resilience against biological threats

- WOAH Collaborating Centre for Wildlife Health Surveillance and Epidemiology, Thailand National Wildlife Health Center (Thailand-NWHC), and the Monitoring and Surveillance Center for Zoonotic Diseases in Wildlife and Exotic Animals (MoZWE), Faculty of Veterinary Science, Mahidol University, THAILAND
- WOAH Collaborating Centre for Research, Diagnosis and Surveillance of Wildlife Pathogens, a consortium formed by the Wildlife Conservation Society, Bronx, New York, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and the current WOAH Collaborating Centre consortium hosted by the Canadian Cooperative Wildlife Health Centre, Department of Veterinary Pathology, Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan, CANADA and the National Wildlife Health Center, US Geological Survey, US Department of Interior, Madison, Wisconsin, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

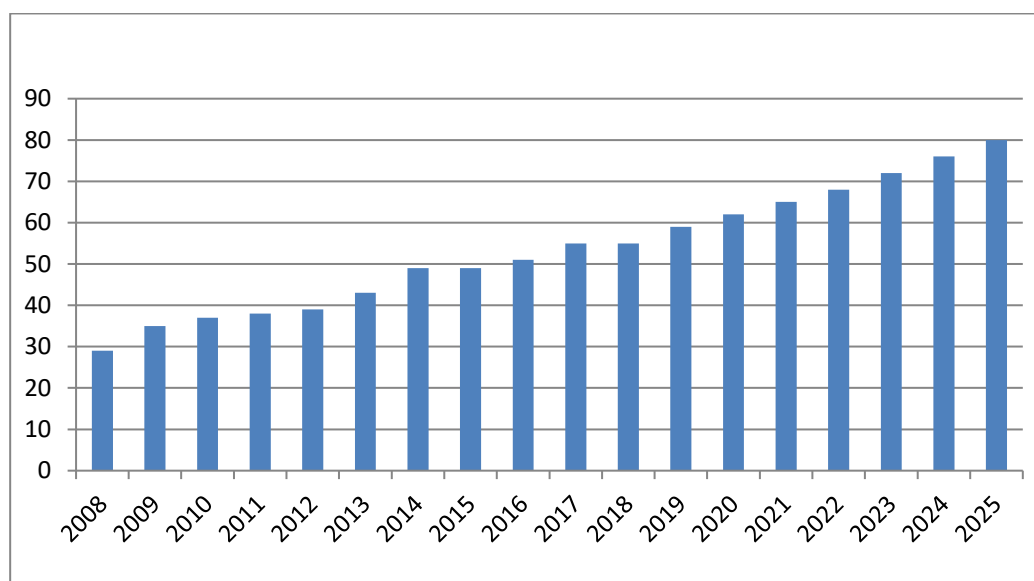


Figure 13. Number of Collaborating Centres, by year

The list of WOAH Collaborating Centres is available [online](#).

2.5.1.2 Reference Laboratories

In 2024, five new applications for WOAH Reference Laboratory status were approved, and eight Reference Laboratories withdrew from the list. This brought the total number of WOAH Reference Laboratories to 270 (Figure 14).

The following new WOAH Reference Laboratories were approved:

- WOAH Reference Laboratory for infection with decapod iridescent virus 1, Division of Maricultural Organism Disease Control and Molecular Pathology, Yellow Sea Fisheries Research Institute (YSFRI), Chinese Academy of Fishery Sciences, CHINA (PEOPLE'S REP. OF)
- WOAH Reference Laboratory for equine piroplasmiasis, Indian Council of Agricultural Research-National Research Centre on Equines (ICAR-NRCE), Haryana, INDIA
- WOAH Reference Laboratory for infection with *Aphanomyces invadans* (epizootic ulcerative syndrome) Aquatic Animal Health Laboratory, Exotic & Aquatic Animal Health Division, ICAR-National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources, Lucknow, INDIA
- WOAH Reference Laboratory for equine rhinopneumonitis, Equine Research Institute, Japan Racing Association, Tochigi, JAPAN

- WOAHA Reference Laboratory for African swine fever, Centro de Investigación en Sanidad Animal (CISA), Instituto Nacional de Investigación y Tecnología Agraria y Alimentaria (INIA) del Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC), Madrid, SPAIN

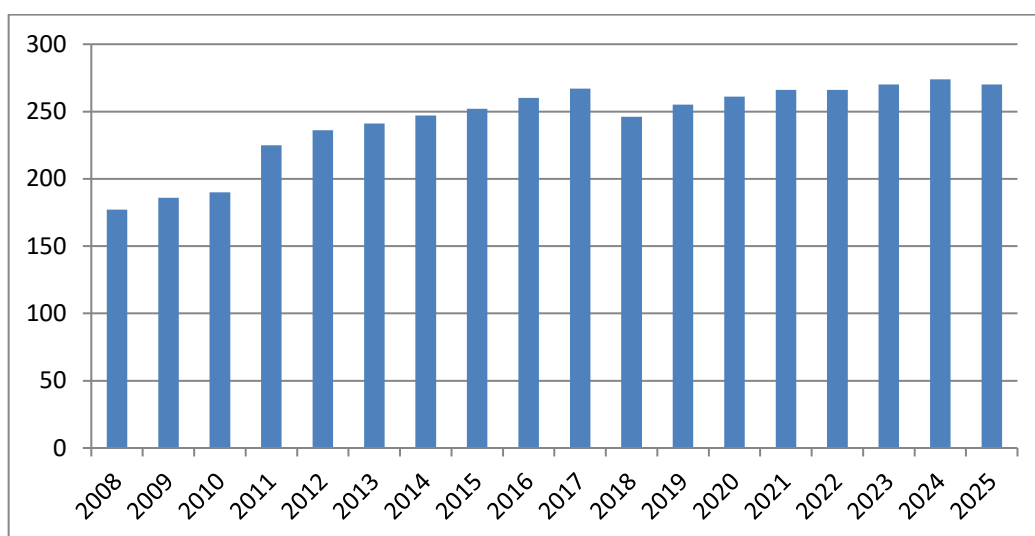


Figure 14. Number of Reference Laboratories, by year

Note: In 2011, WOAHA Headquarters adopted a new way of counting Reference Laboratories. Previously laboratories designated for two or more related diseases were counted as one laboratory; since 2011, each laboratory has been designated individually for a single disease, and this partly accounts for the apparent large increase between 2010 and 2011. The list of WOAHA Reference Laboratories is available [online](#).

2.5.1.3 STAR-IDAZ

In 2025, WOAHA strengthened global coordination of animal health research through the STAR IDAZ International Research Consortium (IRC), supporting the implementation of WOAHA global strategies and the One Health approach by improving alignment between research priorities, policy needs and funding agendas.

The STAR IDAZ IRC expanded to 36 partner organisations and supports four Regional Networks, bringing together animal health research organisations and funders from more than 55 countries. This growth enhanced global representation and reinforced collaboration among public research funders, international organisations and private-sector partners. It contributed to more coherent global research coordination, identifying and raising awareness on shared research priorities thus moving research towards real-world solutions for animal health. During the year, three STAR IDAZ Executive Committee meetings and seven Regional Network meetings facilitated strategic exchange, coordination and knowledge-sharing across regions.

Throughout 2025, expert Working Groups and targeted consultations enabled STAR IDAZ to translate research priorities into policy-relevant outputs. Research roadmaps, executive summaries and thematic reports were produced to synthesise priority research gaps and support evidence-based decision-making by funders and programme owners. Key outputs addressed critical areas, including animal health [diagnostics](#), [brucellosis vaccines](#), [One Health research funding](#), [tick vaccines](#), [coronavirus](#) preparedness – with dedicated research [roadmaps](#) covering disease control strategies, diagnostics, and vaccine development – and updated [foot and mouth disease](#) research roadmaps, informed by Global FMD Research Alliance scientific discussions.

Under the [WOAH Aquatic Animal Health Strategy](#) (Action 4.5), STAR IDAZ expanded its activities to the aquaculture sector in 2025. In collaboration with the WOAHA Aquatic Animals Commission and WOAHA Reference and Collaborating Centres, the Consortium identified the highest priority research areas for aquatic animal health. Key outputs included a [finfish survey](#) report, a [workshop report](#) and a [policy brief](#), while draft reports for molluscs and crustaceans were prepared following global expert consultations.

In addition, in December 2025, three [innovation accelerator webinars](#) were organised for the first time, to assist the global animal health research community move from discovery to delivery.

These activities were complemented by the publication of the 2025 STAR IDAZ [State of the Art Report](#), which provides a comprehensive overview of global research progress, gaps and priorities across STAR IDAZ priority diseases and cross-cutting themes. All reports are available for consultation at: <https://www.star-idaz.net/reports/>.

Through these combined efforts, STAR IDAZ IRC contributed directly to the implementation of global strategies, reinforcing WOAHA's role at the science–policy interface. By ensuring that animal health research priorities remain responsive to global and regional needs, STAR IDAZ supported coordinated global research efforts to accelerate the development and delivery of disease control tools and strategies.

2.5.2 Other networks

- **AQMENET**

In 2025, the Aquaculture Middle East Network (AQMENET), established by WOAHA in 2022, significantly advanced regional coordination and technical capacity for sustainable aquaculture across its 13 Members.

A regional survey provided a structured baseline assessment and identified key priorities, notably strengthening diagnostic capacity, aquatic biosecurity, risk assessment, and the urgent need to develop antimicrobial use (AMU) monitoring systems. These findings informed the refinement and endorsement of the 2025–2028 AQMENET Strategic and Action Plan during the Regional Workshop held in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (26–29 October 2025), which combined governance meetings of the Steering and Technical Committees with targeted training for National Focal Points and a field visit to the National Aquatic Reference Laboratory.

The workshop reinforced regional governance, enhanced technical competencies in aquatic disease management and WOAHA reporting, validated the development of a structured regional training programme, and established concrete follow-up actions, including AMU reporting support, laboratory networking, and systematic monitoring of training outcomes to ensure sustained implementation and measurable impact.

- **CAMENET**

In 2025, there was enhanced regional collaboration, governance and technical focus, including on priority themes such as camel welfare. The CAMENET network supported the facilitation of a camel movement workshop and the roadmap to develop an electronic health certificate. The network supported training in brucellosis diagnosis and the development of vector-borne disease control awareness.

- **REMESA**

In collaboration with the Joint FAO/WOAH Secretariat (based in Tunis, Tunisia) and the co-presidency of Mauritania and Malta, the 30th and 31st Joint Permanent Committee (JPC) meetings of REMESA, the Mediterranean Animal Health Network, were held respectively in Nouakchott, Mauritania, on 2-3 July 2025 and in La Valette, Malta, on 17-18 December 2025.

The JPC meetings provided a valuable opportunity for REMESA members to strengthen their relationships and engage in discussions on key common issues. The meetings served as a platform for members to inform one another on the major epidemiological events that have occurred over the previous six months and to share updates on the activities and initiatives underway. The new meeting format structured around targeted technical sessions resulted in many specific recommendations on the diseases currently facing members.

During the governance session, the revision of the basic texts initiated in Marrakesh in January 2025 and supported by a questionnaire sent to members, was finalised. The proposed revision (based on legal consultancy recommendations) of the technical and financial framework established between WOAHA and Italy for the scientific and technical support to REMESA (STOR) was validated. A transition agreement will be defined to enable STOR to resume activities for the benefit of members in 2025.

2.5.3 Technical Partnerships

- **Codex Alimentarius Commission**

WOAH and the Codex Alimentarius Commission regularly participate in each other's standard-setting activities, as relevant, to ensure an integrated approach to standard setting for the entire food chain. In 2025, WOAHA continued to monitor the work of the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene, the Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems and the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods and provided updates on relevant WOAHA activities to each of these Committees and commented on documents under review by Codex, as relevant.

- **International Air Transport Association**

WOAH has been actively engaged with the International Air Transport Association (IATA) for the past 20 years, having been a member of the IATA Live Animals and Perishables Board (LAPB) since 2006 and has had a Collaboration Agreement with IATA since 2008.

In 2025, IWOAH participated in relevant meetings of the LAPB to ensure harmonisation between WOAHA standards on animal welfare and transport by air and the IATA Live Animal Regulations.

- **International Horse Sports Confederation (IHSC)**

The year 2025 marked the beginning of the new WOAHA–IHSC Collaboration Agreement (2025–2029), focusing on consolidating previous achievements and launching new initiatives to facilitate safe international horse movement. Three hybrid Technical Committee meetings were held in March, June, and October, respectively, to review progress and coordinate technical aspects. Significant advancements were made in revising WOAHA standards for equine diseases, with the adoption of updated *Terrestrial Code* and *Manual* chapters on African horse sickness (AHS), dourine, Eastern and Western equine encephalomyelitis (EEE/WEE), and equine infectious anaemia (EIA). IHSC experts have been actively involved in the ongoing revision of other *Terrestrial Code* chapters on horse diseases, such as Japanese encephalitis (JE) and Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis (VEE), and will continue to be involved in the upcoming revisions of chapters on West Nile virus and digital horse passports.

The Technical Committee followed research efforts on AHS vaccines, with three promising DIVA-compliant candidates under development, and discussions initiated on exploring options for an AHS vaccine bank. Advocacy activities intensified through regional workshops and global events, including a follow-up workshop in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, a sub-regional meeting in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, and presentations at the summits of the Federation of Ibero-American Equine Veterinary Associations (FIAVE) in Paraguay and the Federation of European Equine Veterinary Associations (FEEVA) in Germany. These engagements promoted harmonised standards, zoning tools (e.g. equine-disease-free zone [EDFZ]), and digital traceability solutions such as the FEI²⁶ HorseApp.

In the Americas, the second phase of the consultancy project successfully tested a harmonised health certificate and sanitary protocol during an FEI event in Paraguay, confirming compliance with WOAAH standards. The pilot of the FEI HorseApp demonstrated strong potential for real-time horse tracking, although challenges such as border delays, infrastructure gaps, and documentation inconsistencies were identified. Recommendations included incorporating welfare standards for land transport in the harmonised protocol for horse movements in South America, establishing priority border channels, and enhancing digital tools. Future steps will focus on regional validation, protocol refinement and continued advocacy to strengthen infrastructure and harmonise health requirements globally.

▪ **World Trade Organization Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures**

In its capacity as an international organisation having observer status for meetings of the World Trade Organization (WTO) Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Committee), WOAAH participated in the 91st, 92nd and 93rd regular meetings of the SPS Committee, as well as SPS Thematic workshops during 2025.

Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF)

In its capacity as a founding partner of the WTO Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF), WOAAH participated in the STDF Working Group meetings and related activities during 2025, including several STDF Practitioner Groups for knowledge sharing.

²⁶ FEI: International Equestrian Federation (*Fédération Equestre Internationale*)

3. OVERVIEW OF ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

3.1 Institutional governance

3.1.1 Activities of the statutory bodies

3.1.1.1 *World Assembly of Delegates*

The 92nd General Session of the World Assembly of Delegates of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) was held in Paris, France, from 25 to 29 May 2025, under the presidency of Dr Susana Pombo (Portugal). The Session brought together 132 Members in person, observers from 4 non-member countries or territories, and representatives of 38 international and regional organisations. Eighteen Guests of Honour, including Ministers and senior representatives of multilateral institutions, participated in the Opening Ceremony.

Key discussions and decisions

The Assembly reviewed and adopted a wide range of administrative and technical resolutions. These included approval of the Director General's reports on WOAHA activities and management for 2024, endorsement of the 2025 adjusted budget and the 2026 budgeted work programme, and renewal of the mandate of the External Auditor. The Assembly also approved memoranda of understanding and intent with key partners, and provided a mandate related to WOAHA's headquarters real estate.

Members adopted 29 resolutions covering animal health status recognition and endorsement of official control programmes for priority diseases, including foot and mouth disease, peste des petits ruminants, African horse sickness, classical swine fever, and dog-mediated rabies. Amendments to the Terrestrial and Aquatic Animal Health Codes and to the associated Manuals were also adopted, alongside the designation of new WOAHA Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres.

Strategic and technical focus

The Director General presented her report on 2024 activities in the context of the Seventh Strategic Plan and outlined progress in the development of the Eighth Strategic Plan (2026–2031). The proposed strategic orientations emphasise adaptable international standards, strengthened capacity building, and positioning animal health as a central component of global health and sustainability, supported by enablers such as strong governance, data leadership, people-centred management, and enhanced performance and accountability.

A major technical highlight of the Session was the Animal Health Forum on Vaccines and Vaccination, held under the theme "Veterinary vaccines and vaccination – from science to action: reflections for change". Discussions focused on improving vaccine development, access and use, and culminated in the adoption of a dedicated resolution to guide future action.

Governance, collaboration and recognition

The Assembly took note of the work programme and initial recommendations of the Governance Review Committee, which aims to strengthen WOAHA's legal and governance frameworks through a phased and inclusive process. Regional activities highlighted the value of collaboration, networking and expertise-sharing in strengthening Veterinary Services worldwide.

Honorary Awards were presented to distinguished members of the veterinary community in recognition of their outstanding contributions to veterinary science and to WOAHA's mission.

3.1.1.2 Council

The Council convened three times in 2025 under the presidency of Dr Susana Pombo. The meetings took place from 4 to 6 March (virtual meeting), on 22 and 23 May (face-to-face in Paris) and from 7 to 9 October 2025 (face-to-face in Paris).

At its March meeting, the Council supported the preparation of the 92nd General Session (2025), validated its programme and reviewed administrative, institutional, financial and technical working documents. The Council was informed of WOAAH's new organisational chart and agreed on the importance of ensuring that the Regional and Sub-Regional Representations be made more visible on the chart. The Council also discussed WOAAH's approach to gender, acknowledged the urgency of the Headquarters' pension fund's reform, and was updated on the Headquarters' real estate study. Additionally, the Council also approved the 2024 report on the progress in implementing the 7th Strategic Plan and welcomed the approach relating to the development of the 8th Strategic Plan.

The May meeting focused on the finalisation of the preparation of the 92nd General Session, notably the logistical arrangements of the animal health forum on vaccines and vaccination. The Council also decided to conduct the partial elections without the use of technology in light of certain unforeseeable technical limitations of the electronic voting system. The Council accepted the strategic direction elaborated for the 8th Strategic Plan, and reviewed administrative, financial and technical working documents and related resolutions.

At the October meeting, Dr Baba Soumaré, Deputy Director General for Global Framework Coordination and Capacity Building, was introduced to the Council. The Council discussed the modalities for holding the 93rd General Session (2026), which would take place at a new venue, the *Centre des nouvelles industries et technologies* (CNIT) in the Paris area, and discussed WOAAH's approach to advocacy and communication to increase WOAAH's visibility, strengthen Veterinary Services and modernise the Organisation. The Council also reviewed the first draft of the 8th Strategic Plan and the resource mobilisation strategy, and was further updated on the Headquarters' real estate study.

WOAH regularly encouraged its Council members to engage with Members at the regional level. In addition to their participation in key events in their respective regions, the Council members maintained regular contact with Delegates to prepare for and report on Council meetings and to consult them on relevant issues, notably through Regional Core Group (RCG) meetings. These informal consultations continue to support the effective implementation of WOAAH's strategic initiatives.

As decided by the Assembly at the 92nd General Session (2025), the minutes of the Council meetings as from October 2025 are to be published on the WOAAH website.

3.1.1.3 Regional Commissions

The five Regional Commissions of WOAAH are represented by their respective Bureaus, which are institutional elected bodies and key actors in the work of the Organisation. The Bureaus of the Regional Commissions act as a bridge between WOAAH and the Members of its respective regions. They exercise an advisory role by ensuring that regional needs are well communicated to and addressed by the Organisation. Their role and internal rules are available in their [Terms of Reference](#).

The Regional Commissions meet every two years in a Member of the region, within the framework of the Conference of the Regional Commission. These Conferences provide a platform for Delegates to discuss issues related to animal health, welfare and production, and food safety within the Region. These Conferences also allow Members to discuss national and regional priorities, as well as key strategies that will inform the Organisation's future strategies and planning. In 2025, three face-to-face Conferences were successfully organised: the 26th Conference of the Regional Commission for Africa, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 4 to 7 February, the 34th Conference of the Regional Commission for Asia and the Pacific, held in Jakarta, Indonesia, from 22 to 25 September, and the 18th Conference of the Regional Commission for the Middle East, held in Larnaca, Cyprus, from 24 to 28 November.

The three Conferences addressed key regional priorities through comprehensive agendas developed in collaboration with the respective Regional Core Groups. They provided an opportunity for the Director General to review the main activities and services delivered by WOAAH to its Members, emphasise the Organisation's collective assets and tools, highlight the strategic value of WOAAH membership and outline future activities aimed at strengthening support for Members. As the first regional institutional meetings attended by the Director General, these three Conferences also enabled her to engage closely with Members, gain a deeper understanding of region-specific situations and challenges, and obtain valuable insight into Members' needs and expectations. Additionally, the Conferences emphasised WOAAH's modernisation process, including the revision of its governance, and reinforced advocacy efforts to better position animal health and Veterinary Services on the global agenda. Discussions also included two technical items, enabling each Regional Commission to examine priority issues. These included contagious bovine pleuropneumonia and continental market unification in Africa, vaccines and transboundary animal disease prevention in Asia and the Pacific, and the socio-economic impact of transboundary animal diseases and compensation policies in the Middle East. Each Regional Commission developed and adopted recommendations, on these priority issues, to be submitted to the Assembly for endorsement at the 93rd General Session, in May 2026.

The following main points were highlighted consistently by Members across the three Regional Conferences: the need to modernise and reinforce Veterinary Services through WOAAH tools, capacity building and regional networks; the need for improved disease surveillance, timely and complete reporting, and stronger early warning systems, including making better use of WAHIS; the importance of translating commitments into concrete actions through One Health collaboration, evidence-based decision-making and engagement with standard setting; the importance of raising the profile of animal health on political agendas in recognition of its role in food security, public health, trade and socio-economic resilience.

The final reports of these three Conferences are available on the respective regional websites ([Africa](#), [Asia and the Pacific](#), and [the Middle East](#)).

Attendance at the Conferences was excellent. The Africa Conference brought together 120 participants, including WOAAH Delegates and representatives from 37 Members of the region, as well as senior officials from 12 regional and international organisations. The Asia and the Pacific Conference had 101 participants, including WOAAH Delegates and representatives from 20 Members of the region, and senior officials from seven regional and international organisations. The Middle East Conference was attended by 73 participants, including WOAAH Delegates and representatives from nine Members of the region, along with senior officials from three regional and international organisations. Representatives of the private sector and private veterinary organisations from the regions and the host countries were also present at all three Conferences.

As in previous years, WOAAH organised the meetings of the Regional Commissions held within the framework of the General Session in 2025. Two meetings were held per region: the first virtually, prior to the 92nd General Session, and the second face-to-face on the Sunday of the General Session. These meetings aimed to ensure the Regional Commissions were effectively prepared for the General Session, facilitate strategic discussions, including on regional positions concerning matters of regional and global importance, and address key internal topics, including selecting candidates for the partial elections and technical items for future Regional Conferences.

3.1.2 Activities of the Regional Core Groups

The Regional Core Group (RCG) is a coordination and communication mechanism established by each of WOAAH's five regions to facilitate dialogue within the region and to support the work of the Regional Commission. The RCG is composed primarily of the four members of the Bureau of the Regional Commission and the members of the Council representing that region. In some regions, the RCG includes additional observers to ensure better regional representativeness.

The main tasks of the RCG are to: support the coordination, preparation and follow-up of Regional Commission meetings; engage with WOAHA governance processes; contribute to aligning regional priorities with global decision-making; and ensure better coordination between the work of the Bureau, the Council and WOAHA (at regional and Headquarters levels) to better address regional needs and facilitate regional contributions to the Organisation's work.

Since the establishment of this communication mechanism, there has been a noticeable improvement in intra-regional communication with the formalisation of internal communication between the members of the Bureau of the Regional Commission and the corresponding regional members of the Council. WOAHA Members have become more actively involved in the development of agendas for conferences and meetings of their respective Regional Commissions. The involvement of Members ensures that the topics included in the agendas are in line with regional needs and expectations. In 2025, Africa, Asia and the Pacific and Middle East RCGs actively engaged in the development of the agendas for their respective Regional Conferences.

In addition, the RCG has become a space for dialogue that enables Regional Commissions to prepare their participation in key events such as the General Session; facilitates discussions on issues of regional interest, including decisions taken at the regional level and the submission of proposals, requests or feedback to WOAHA; and strengthens relationships within the region, including with WOAHA Regional and Sub-regional offices and Headquarters, ensuring more coordinated and inclusive work. In 2025, the RCGs again played a central role in strengthening regional coordination, governance engagement, and strategic alignment within WOAHA. Through regular meetings and structured consultations, the RCGs supported the formulation of regional positions on the Governance Review Committee recommendations.

Lastly, this communication mechanism facilitates the active involvement of the regions in the Organisation's strategic discussions, ensuring that regions are systematically consulted and that their needs are shared and noted by WOAHA to inform its strategies. In 2025, the RCGs actively participated in discussions related to the development of the 8th Strategic Plan, providing clear, region-specific input on their expectations and priorities to inform the development of the Strategic Plan.

3.1.3 Relations with Members

Throughout 2025, the WOAHA General Directorate conducted a wide range of high-level bilateral meetings with representatives from WOAHA Members. These included Ministers, Vice-Ministers, and State Secretaries from Argentina, Brazil, Botswana, Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, France, Georgia, Italy, Indonesia, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Latvia, Mauritania, Morocco, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, Spain, South Africa, Tunisia, and Zimbabwe. These meetings provided essential opportunities to discuss Member priorities, strengthen collaboration, and advance the Organisation's strategic objectives in support of veterinary services and animal health systems.

Additionally, the General Directorate engaged in bilateral exchanges with diplomats from the embassies of Tunisia, Peru, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Saudi Arabia, Kazakhstan, France (to the FAO), and Senegal. This further reinforced the dialogue with Members through diplomatic channels.

These encounters are essential to WOAHA's work, enabling direct dialogue with Members and ensuring that WOAHA's activities and strategic priorities remain relevant and responsive to their needs. They help to strengthen relationships, build trust and facilitate knowledge sharing between national authorities, WOAHA leadership and regional representatives. Such engagement also reinforces WOAHA's role as a key partner in assisting Members to achieve sustainable improvements in animal health and welfare and to strengthen Veterinary Services, including recognition of their key role in global health.

The Director General also represented WOAAH at major international events, including French Agriculture Week (France), the Ministerial Conference on One Health for North Africa and the Middle East (Tunisia), the 40th World Veterinary Association (WVA) Congress –(Washington DC USA), the G20 Agriculture Ministerial (South Africa), the Asia and the Pacific Regional Conference (Indonesia), the World Food Forum and FAO 80th Anniversary (Italy), the World Dairy Summit (Chile), the WOAAH Global Conference on Biothreats (Switzerland), the G7 CVO Forum (Canada), COP 30 (Brazil), the Middle East Regional Conference (Cyprus) the European CVO Meeting (Under the Denmark Presidency of the EU -Brussels). Participation in these strategic gatherings ensured high-level visibility and strengthened engagement with Members across all regions.

At the regional level, WOAAH's Regional and Sub-Regional Representatives also actively engaged with Members during events organised in their respective regions. These interactions allowed them to gain a deeper insight into the specific needs and expectations of their respective regions, encouraging closer cooperation and active involvement of Members in WOAAH activities.

3.1.4. Partnerships and Agreements

In line with the objective of targeting collaboration for impact, as outlined in the 7th Strategic Plan, WOAAH has continued to monitor existing institutional collaboration agreements, while also engaging in collaboration with new organisations whose mandates are complementary to that of WOAAH. In 2025, the Organisation renewed its Memorandum of Understanding with the International Alliance for Biological Standardization (IABS) and signed a Memorandum of Intent with the European Space Agency (ESA). The Quadripartite partners (FAO, UNEP, WHO, WOAAH) reaffirmed their shared commitment to advancing the One Health approach through a revised Memorandum of Understanding.

WOAH has also been working on the renewal and updating of cooperation agreements, as well as on the development of new ones, which will be submitted for endorsement by the Council prior to their adoption by the Assembly at its 2026 General Session. These include agreements with the Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines (GALVmed), the International Meat Secretariat (IMS), the Wildlife Disease Association (WDA), and the World Bank Group (WBG).

Furthermore, and in accordance with the Council's recommendations, a review and regular monitoring process of existing institutional collaboration agreements is underway. This aims to assess, categorise, and prioritise them in order to ensure their continued relevance and strengthening, or, alternatively, to adapt their focus to the Organization's objectives and priorities. The establishment of a dedicated WOAAH department, along with the revitalisation of the Partnership Task Force, will be key to driving this process and reinforcing collaboration agreements with institutional partners and private sector entities.

In follow-up to Resolution 5 (2025) related to the governance review, proposals have been made to enhance the efficiency of the approval process for these agreements through the adoption of a tiered, risk-based approach. Work is also ongoing on the development of a policy document on WOAAH's relationships with entities that are neither States, intergovernmental organisations, nor part of WOAAH's expert network, in order to support the transparency of its collaborative operations with such entities.

3.1.5 Governance Review Committee

The Governance Review Committee (GRC or Committee) convened seven times (three in-person/hybrid and four virtual meetings) in 2025 to develop its work programme, to recommend initial proposed adjustments to WOAAH's governance arrangements, and to commence Phase 1 of its work programme, in accordance with Assembly Resolutions No. 12 (2024) and No. 5 (2025). Throughout Phase 1 of its work programme, GRC members with the support of the Secretariat conducted consultations with regional WOAAH Members to brief Delegates on the Committee's work and to gather regional feedback on proposals reviewed by the Committee. In November 2025, the Governance Review Committee also decided to establish two GRC subgroups to prioritise work on, respectively, recommendations on the organisation and governance of WOAAH's technical bodies and the codification of WOAAH's mandate.

WOAH Headquarters, under the leadership of the Legal Affairs Unit, provided dedicated secretariat and legal support to the GRC throughout this period. This support included production of the Committee's draft meeting minutes, Secretariat information papers, draft GRC working documents for the General Session, and support to the GRC Chair to preside over GRC meetings and regularly report to the Council on the GRC's activities. A total of 28 information papers providing analytical input, including feasibility assessments and financial considerations were prepared to support informed and evidence-based deliberations by the Committee.

In support of sustained Member feedback and effective programming, WOAHA published all GRC meeting minutes, working documents and information papers on the WOAHA Delegate Portal, developed materials for regional consultations, and coordinated the Committee's work programme to enable continued Member input and ensure that interlinked institutional, technical and financial governance issues were considered in a cohesive and effective manner by both the Committee and WOAHA Membership.

Finally, WOAHA provided logistical and administrative support to regional consultations on the Committee's work, developed global and regional webpages, and published regular updates on the GRC in the WOAHA *Newsletter*, strengthening transparency and communication with Delegates and external stakeholders on the Organisation's governance review process.

3.2. General administration

3.2.1 Organisational Chart

WOAHA initiated the update and implementation of a new organisational structure to strengthen its capacity to deliver on its strategic priorities in an increasingly complex global environment. This evolution reflects the Organisation's commitment to enhancing coherence, efficiency, and impact across its functions, while maintaining its core mandate in standard setting, scientific expertise, and support to Members. One of the main modifications to the organisational chart is the creation of a new Directorate responsible to develop and coordinate the global frameworks and capacity building activities of the Organisation. Another key change in the organisational chart is the creation of the Cabinet, bringing together strategic functions such as advocacy, communication (including internal communication), engagement and investment, and performance management. This adjustment aims to ensure stronger alignment between WOAHA's technical work and its external positioning, as well as to reinforce the Organisation's ability to influence global agendas, mobilise resources, and communicate with clarity and consistency.

In parallel, several functions have been repositioned to improve coherence and operational effectiveness. Activities related to global frameworks and cross-sectoral approaches, including animal welfare and aquatic animal health strategy, have been aligned under a broader One Health perspective to strengthen integration and global engagement. Standard-related functions, including the support to Specialist Commissions, have been consolidated to reinforce the Organisation's normative mandate. Other adjustments, such as the regrouping of internal communication, documentation, and performance-related functions into dedicated departments and units, aim to enhance clarity of roles, streamline processes, and improve overall efficiency.

Overall, this organisational evolution is driven by the need to move towards a more integrated model that combines technical excellence with strategic coordination, global engagement, and performance accountability. It enables WOAHA to better position animal health within global priorities, while ensuring that its actions remain coherent, measurable, and aligned with the objectives of the 8th Strategic Plan.

3.2.2 Human Resources

Administrative and payroll management was carried out for approximately 270 staff members, distributed between WOAHA Headquarters and the Regional Offices, in a context without an integrated human resources information system (HRIS). In 2025, Headquarters recorded 35 recruitments, 24 departures, and 51 contract renewals. In the Regions, 24 contract renewals were completed from August to December, with no contract terminations. In addition, 84 salary index adjustments were processed during the year, involving contractual and payroll implications and requiring close coordination with the Budget Unit.

A significant data reliability exercise was conducted, resulting in the correction and regularisation of approximately 60 anomalies identified in the Master File used for human resources management (status, dates, grades, steps, assignments). In parallel, around 20 complex cases were reviewed and secured (social security, pensions, payroll anomalies, administrative oversights, insurance coverage).

The Health Insurance Access Project for the Regional Offices was launched in 2025 and further developed, with the objective of its implementation later in 2026. Monitoring will be undertaken throughout the year.

Beyond core administrative delivery, the Human Resources (HR) Unit also supported key people-management processes and various training actions have been implemented. Learning and development actions had been identified by managers to build the training plan for 2025 in a structured and professionalised manner and in line with the training budget of € 150,000. The training actions focused on a range of topics including project management, monitoring and evaluation, coaching in negotiating and communication skills (media, public speaking, crisis management, etc.), management training and coaching, IT tools and technical skills. In 2025, the training effort to support the continuous evolution of the Organisation was again substantial, representing a total of 3516 hours of training, including approximately 1560 hours of language courses, in which 78 staff members were enrolled, and 434 hours of theme-based training benefiting 147 staff members. In total, this represented 55.6% of the Organisation's staff members.

In addition, the project to develop an HRIS tool was launched in October 2025. The specifications were listed and described in a concept note that had been validated by the governance of the project in accordance with WOAHA's procurement rules. The project is divided into three phases to ensure smooth implementation and delivery of the tool.

In 2025, HR activities were managed in a context of high administrative workload and predominantly manual processes. Service continuity was fully maintained, processing reliability strengthened, and overall service quality improved.

Following the strengthening of the HR Unit and the stabilisation of staffing levels after a prolonged period of understaffing, the team has been able to consolidate WOAHA's core HR management functions while advancing key structural initiatives to support future development, including the implementation of an information system and the harmonisation of procedures.

3.2.3 Gender

As a result of the Gender Task Force (GTF) initiatives of the previous two years, WOAHA secured a Gates Foundation grant to fund two gender-dedicated posts (Strategic and Technical) for four years. The primary objective is to assist WOAHA in developing and implementing a gender mainstreaming (GM) strategy and an inclusion action plan. The grant is part of the Foundation's Sustaining Action for Gender Equality (SAGE) programme, which also supports the creation of a Community of Practice (CoP) on gender mainstreaming. This CoP offers an opportunity to explore potential partnerships and collaboration with various organisations, including SEBI (Supporting Evidence-based Solutions), LD4D (Livestock Data for Decisions), civil society groups, think tanks, research institutions, and the other members of the Quadripartite (WHO, FAO, UNEP).

In early 2025, six seminars (three online with WOA's regional and sub-regional offices) were organised to clarify gender mainstreaming concepts and initiate the WOA's Gender Strategy (GS) development process. These were followed by three staff-level workshops focused on the development of a draft Theory of Change (ToC), co-constructed with colleagues across the Organisation. This process highlighted the importance of addressing gender and inclusion within the workplace, which informed the integration of gender- and inclusion-related elements under Enabler 3 of the 8th Strategic Plan under development at the time. The ToC will be further refined following the finalisation of the Strategic Plan. The PVS Evaluation is being considered as an entry point to address gender and inclusion within the Veterinary Services. The PVS Manual for the experts conducting missions will be revised in order for experts to gather information on how gender and inclusion could be considered in the future during PVS missions. Hence, to better understand the PVS objectives and processes and Veterinary Services' systems as well as to assess how gender and inclusion as an approach and a tool could be mainstreamed within future PVS missions, an observation exercise for the PVS Evaluation Follow-up mission in Mongolia was organised, leading to some suggestions in the mission report.

Gender side events were organised at the 92nd General Session and during the Conferences of the Regional Commissions for Asia and the Pacific (Indonesia) and for the Middle East (Cyprus), co-organised by colleagues from Headquarters, the Regions and the Gender and Inclusion Task Force (GITF). These events provided an opportunity to collect Members' views on the content of the Gender Strategy and on how WOA can support change in the veterinary workforce.

Other activities led by colleagues, such as the 8th Strategic Plan working group, the HRIS, or the Observatory Coordination Committee, have included discussions around gender and inclusion.

Internal capacity building has also been promoted on the topic of anti-harassment during WOA's events. Before the organisation of major events led by WOA, focal points are designated, who receive practical guidance on how to receive complaints, integrate inclusive language and improve workplace behaviour.

Since September 2025, increased emphasis has been placed on the operationalisation of gender and inclusion within internal processes and workplace practices. During the reporting period, the focus has been on internal capacity-building, technical support to colleagues, and the integration of inclusion considerations into organisational practices. A key contribution was the design and delivery of an Inclusive Leadership session addressed to WOA's leaders and managers, combining conceptual inputs, organisational case studies, and an individual diagnosis on inclusive practices. Feedback collected from participants will inform future learning activities.

Inclusion initiatives beyond equality of women and men also saw the light in 2025. WOA participated in external coordination spaces, including the WHO Disability and Health Equity Network, thereby strengthening organisational awareness of disability-inclusive approaches. This participation was supported by an internal network of volunteer colleagues who regularly met to discuss how to improve accessibility within the Organisation. In parallel, an internal informal group on gender, sexual and relational diversity was launched to support dialogue, awareness and trust-building among staff.

In March 2025 *The Animal Echo* published an issue on gender including two articles. [The importance of a Gender Strategy for WOA - The Animal Echo](#); [How can WOA support women working in veterinary services? Focus on Nigeria - The Animal Echo](#); A sensitisation flyer "Recognising gender differences in Veterinary Services: unlocking success" for distribution at the 92nd General Session and Regional Conferences was designed.

In January 2025, a secretariat comprising the eight members of the Gender Task Force (GTF) was established and met monthly throughout the year, culminating in an all-staff GTF meeting in December. With the arrival of a Gender Technical Adviser, the Task Force was renamed the Gender and Inclusion Task Force (GITF), reflecting an expanded mandate to address inclusion more broadly within the Organisation and across Members and experts.

Looking ahead to 2026, the GITF will continue to drive work on improving gender equality and inclusion, including collaboration with other staff at WOAHA Headquarters and in the Regions.

3.2.4 General Services

Throughout 2025, the General Services Unit (GSU) remained a key enabler of the Organisation's operational continuity and strategic objectives, ensuring that infrastructure, risk management, services, and support functions were aligned with evolving institutional needs.

A key focus during the year was the strengthening of governance and operational oversight of general services. The Unit acted as the central coordination point between internal services, external service providers, and institutional stakeholders, ensuring consistent service delivery, improved coordination, and closer monitoring of contractual and operational performance. This approach contributed to greater efficiency, cost control, and risk mitigation across all general services activities.

In parallel, WOAHA maintained a strong emphasis on safety and security compliance. The implementation and monitoring of security procedures were reinforced for Headquarters operations, events and daily services. On-call arrangements ensured operational continuity and rapid response capacity outside normal working hours. These measures contributed to maintaining a controlled operational environment and reducing exposure to operational and security risks. In addition, specific security measures were also undertaken in the Regions. In response to the deteriorating security environment in certain regions and in the host countries of several regional offices (including Bamako, Beirut and Moscow), targeted actions were implemented. These included enhanced security monitoring, the strengthening of crisis management procedures, and the declaration of degraded security environments or the temporary closure of offices in 2025, thereby ensuring the safety and security of staff, experts and premises. Finally, security analyses were conducted for all expert missions (PVS, GAP, Training, etc.), and real-time monitoring was ensured, particularly for missions taking place in areas considered to be in a 'degraded climate'²⁷. In 2025, more than 60 missions were analysed and monitored.

Asset, procurement, and inventory management remained strategic levers in 2025. The General Services Unit oversaw purchasing and equipment management for the Headquarters, while further strengthening inventory controls to improve visibility over organisational assets. These efforts supported better planning, accountability and optimisation of resources, in line with internal control requirements.

The GSU also continued to enhance service quality and user support. Core functions such as reception, mail management, reprography and digitisation were maintained, with a focus on reliability, responsiveness and gradual process simplification. New reprographic equipment and materials were procured to modernise services and improve operational capacity. These activities contributed to smoother internal workflows and supported the Organisation's broader transition towards more efficient and digitalised working practices.

Event management at Headquarters represented a significant operational and strategic contribution in 2025. The Unit provided end-to-end logistical support for numerous institutional events, meetings and conferences, including room rentals and coordination with external partners. Particular attention was given to major events, notably the General Session, for which the Unit ensured close coordination with internal services, contractual compliance and the implementation of appropriate security and logistical arrangements.

²⁷ The expression 'degraded climate' refers (initially in military language, then in health and/or economic crisis preparation) to situations where all or part of an organised entity (army, company, system, government, etc.) must (or should) operate without their usual human and material resources, in the case, for example, of a war, an attack, or a major technological or natural disaster, a major health alert, or an economic or social situation that does not allow normal operation to be ensured, and which implies a strain on security.

Finally, the Unit continued to play a key role in the management and oversight of the Organisation's real estate assets, supporting the maintenance, use and strategic monitoring of premises in line with operational needs and long-term considerations. A real estate study was conducted by an external consulting firm and submitted to the Council, presenting several scenarios and recommendations for the Organisation's Headquarters in Paris. A resolution was adopted at the 2025 General Session of the Assembly taking into account the co-ownership of the building located at 14 rue de Prony and authorising the initiation of negotiations for the acquisition of the building situated at the rear of the courtyard.

Overall, the activities carried out in 2025 reflect a continued evolution of the General Services Unit toward a more structured, risk-aware and governance-driven model, balancing operational delivery with strengthened oversight, and compliance with and strategic support to the Organisation's mandate.

3.2.5 Information systems

In 2025, WOAHA focused on stabilising and strengthening the foundations required to deliver its digital ambitions following five guiding principles: (1) improved governance and delivery discipline, (2) cybersecurity uplift and risk reduction, (3) infrastructure and workplace reliability, and (4) acceleration of data management capabilities and flagship programmes (including WAHIS ecosystem initiatives).

A key structural milestone was the leadership transition and organisational adaptation in mid-2025, paired with continued team transformation to support an expanding project pipeline. Across the year, major procurements and delivery streams progressed to position WOAHA for stronger execution in 2026 – particularly where funding predictability and formalised governance are critical.

▪ 2025 context and guiding objectives

WOAHA's operational dependency on digital services continued to increase in 2025, alongside higher expectations for cybersecurity, compliance and supplier governance. In parallel, the volume and criticality of initiatives required more transparent prioritisation, clearer decision-making, and improved delivery predictability, notably to manage the balance between "run" (service continuity) and "build" (transformation).

▪ Key achievements and progress by domain

Throughout 2025, service continuity was maintained while strengthening governance and delivery discipline, improving cybersecurity posture, and accelerating data and digital platform foundations.

User support and operational responsiveness remained strong. The Service Desk handled high volumes while maintaining strong responsiveness and user satisfaction, with survey results indicating 99.3% "happy" sentiment from the responses collected (1536 surveys sent; 272 responses). Continued improvements were delivered through service level agreement (SLA)-aligned resolution practices, knowledge base enhancement and more systematic major-incident documentation.

Onboarding and user enablement scaled up throughout the year, including 57 induction training sessions for newcomers. This contributed to smoother adoption of WOAHA tools and reduced recurring support friction over time.

Cybersecurity objectives progressed through ongoing collaboration with the security provider and proactive endpoint remediation activities (including patching, phishing/spam handling and device lifecycle actions). This supported continuous improvement and more measurable monitoring of the security posture.

Project execution discipline was strengthened through both delivery outcomes and structural reinforcement. The Standard Online Navigation Tool project (SONT) went live on 23 April 2025, supported by reinforced governance, tighter scope control and strengthened change management. Delivery capacity constraints were also addressed through internal capability uplift and redistribution of project management responsibilities to improve resilience.

Portfolio visibility and prioritisation mechanisms were reinforced through the reintroduction of a monthly flash reporting cadence and the rebuilding of the IT project inventory. In parallel, the rollout of WOH's standard project management methodology was initiated with a clearer framing and workshop structure, supported by the establishment of a Change Management Committee and a champions network to drive adoption across the Organisation.

Data governance and architecture foundations advanced materially. The Fabric Lakehouse architecture was established, key workloads were migrated from legacy platforms and infrastructure costs were reduced by more than € 40,000 per year. Governed "gold" datasets and workflows were operationalised, including the migration of the WOH Master Disease dataset into Fabric with validation steps and auditable approval.

These foundations translated into concrete business enablement. A live web/social analytics dashboard was delivered, using automated ingestion and modelling from Meltwater and Matomo. Several workflows were automated, including the weekly WAHIS INFUR extraction and additional recurring data processes – improving timeliness, data quality and staff efficiency through reusable pipeline patterns.

Availability and performance objectives were achieved across major digital assets and key organisational moments. In 2025, *woah.org* reached 99.93% availability and recorded 7,727,198 visitors. Strategic platforms were delivered and operated at scale, including *The Animal Echo*, which launched and reached 2,206,884 visitors in 2025.

A further milestone was the delivery of the first WOH mobile application ("Aquatic Animal Diseases Field Guide"), launched in September 2025 and reaching 20,600 downloads.

▪ **Key challenges and risk management in 2025**

Two constraints remained visible throughout the year. First, as delivery volume increases, informal alignment becomes insufficient: predictable execution requires formal decisions on scope, priorities and funding, along with a governance cadence that prevents stop-start delivery. Second, supplier dependencies continue to materially impact timelines and service performance, reinforcing the need for tighter governance, measurable SLAs, and structured escalation mechanisms.

In addition, clearer data governance roles remain a prerequisite for faster adoption at scale, and rising security expectations require sustained investment in controls, processes and operating model maturity.

3.2.6 Coordination of events

WOH's Event Coordination Unit supported the delivery of numerous events and managed travel arrangements in support of organisational activities.

In 2025, a total of 1638 travel arrangements were processed, including 505 arrangements for staff members and 1133 for consultants, Members' representatives, and experts.

In addition to the wide range of events organised by WOH Departments and Regional Representations, two major events in 2025 were delivered with direct support from the Events Coordination Unit:

- The 92nd General Session of the World Assembly of Delegates, held in Paris, France, from 22 to 26 May, which brought together over 1100 participants.
- The Global Conference on Biological Threat Reduction, held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 28 to 30 October, with 484 participants.

3.2.7 Communication

In 2025, WOAAH rolled out several high-profile initiatives, thanks to effective collaboration with technical teams across the Organisation, boosting both positive dynamics and productivity. These efforts contributed to further cementing WOAAH's position as the global, leading expert voice on animal health.

State of the World's Animal Health report

In 2025, WOAAH published its first-ever flagship State of the World's Animal Health (SOWAH) report. Aligned with the opening of the Animal Health Forum during the 92nd General Session, the first edition focused on vaccination, highlighting – through case studies and expert insights – the critical role of vaccines and vaccination strategies in protecting global animal health. Drawing on WOAAH's core data systems (WAHIS, ANIMUSE, PVS IS, Observatory), the report also delivered an in-depth and multifaceted analysis of global trends, challenges and opportunities in animal health.

The launch of the report was accompanied by a press conference attended by more than 30 international journalists, generating extensive media coverage with over 400 news items published worldwide. A comprehensive communication and outreach plan further amplified the report's visibility and impact across key stakeholder audiences. Key achievements included:

- Reaching over 68 million people, engaging 15% of them, and resulting in over 5 K shares and 43.7 K new followers on social media;
- Over 2.47 million page views of the report on the global website, resulting in over 5.3 K downloads;
- 66% increase in WOAAH's share of voice on the topic of animal vaccination.

General Session

The General Session's communication strategy supported the event with a dynamic plan of activities and products that highlighted the main activities, topics and deliverables of the 92nd General Session, such as the State of the World's Animal Health report, the Animal Health Forum (AHF), the recognition of Official Disease Status, among others. It significantly increased visibility of animal health and welfare issues globally. Compared to 2024, achievements included:

- A 334% increase in audience reach;
- +297% in audience engagement on social media, resulting in 47.3 K new followers and nearly 200 K link clicks;
- A 467% boost in media coverage;
- A 211% rise in website visits, resulting in +368% page views.

Further opportunities exist in enhancing livestream visibility and content relevance to attract media attention.

Global Conference on Biothreat Reduction

The Global Conference on Biothreat Reduction offered a unique opportunity to elevate WOAHA as a brand and valuable partner in global security. Among other products developed and disseminated throughout the event, *The Fever*, a short fictional film advocating for cross-sectoral collaborations, delivered remarkable results:

- A total reach of 32 million across platforms;
- Instagram gained the most followers through this campaign, with 94% of the new followers gained on social media (+26.7 K);
- 82% of the audience viewed the video, indicating an impressively strong level of interest.

Overall Growth

WOAHA's visibility and engagement across platforms grew steadily throughout the year, with a significant increase towards the end of the year due to large-scale communication campaigns (the Global Conference, the launch of *The Fever* video, World Antimicrobial Awareness Week), resulting in a 264% growth on Instagram and an 82% growth on Facebook. LinkedIn grew at a similar rate compared to 2024 (+26%).

In 2025, WOAHA surpassed its UN peers in the global animal health conversation, as well as in animal diseases. Our share of voice in the former increased by 588% and in the latter by 130%, compared to 2024.

- Our social media community grew by 33% in 2025, most significantly on Instagram;
- Post link clicks rose by 45% and video views by 51%;
- Popular topics included avian influenza in other species (e.g. seals), screwworm in South America, and African swine fever in Taiwan and Spain. There was also a lot of engagement around Brazil being declared free of foot and mouth disease.

Media coverage of WOAHA improved in quantity and quality. Several op-eds were secured in top-tier media such as *The Telegraph*, while many significant news outlets (Reuters, AFP, BBC, among others) covered WOAHA's news and actions. Mentions and audience engagement in strategic topics increased by 1203% and 622%, respectively, with leadership in biothreats and animal health overall.

Public website performance improved significantly, with visits up 107%, driven by search engine activity expansion.

Advancing the Global Communication Strategy

WOAHA launched its first Global Communication Strategy in 2025. This strategy builds on earlier work from 2020 to 2023, including a communication vision document, brand strategy and other strategic documents. With the support of the Director General, the Global Communication Strategy was approved by the Executive Committee and the necessary steps were taken by the Communication Department to operationalise the strategy. A key milestone was the establishment of the Strategic Committee on Advocacy and Communication (SCAC), designed to coordinate priority topics across departments and ensure alignment of messages, in line with the Organisation's ambition to "speak with one voice". At the same time, WOAHA invested in strengthening its global communication network by convening the first-ever Regional Communication Officer Workshop at Headquarters in Paris, bringing together the regional communication experts for joint training, coordination and strategic alignment.

3.2.8 Legal affairs

WOAH's Legal Affairs Unit plays an important role in ensuring the legal framework of the Organisation's operations and advises the General Directorate, all departments/units and regional offices on a wide range of operational matters, primarily in connection with complex contracts, litigation, procurement and relationships with Members and partners. Legal advice is also provided on issues relating to the Organisation's Basic Texts, privileges and immunities and other institutional matters.

In 2025, the Legal Affairs Unit contributed to several key areas, ranging from the management of elections to support to the Organisation's institutional bodies.

3.2.9 Performance management and internal control

3.2.9.1 Performance management

In 2025, WOAHA performance management activities focused on coordinating and supporting the development of the 8th Strategic Plan, to be presented for adoption at the 2026 General Session. Throughout the year, recognised best practices were applied, including structured data collection and consultation methods, the extraction of key trends and analytical input and efforts to ensure clear dissemination of information to key stakeholders, including WOAHA governance bodies. This approach was intended to support the development of a strategic framework that would enable the Organisation to measure progress, demonstrate results and continuously improve performance management during the implementation of strategic cycles.

The development of the 8th Strategic Plan followed a phased approach. Preparatory work included benchmarking with other organisations' strategies, a review of the implementation of the 7th Strategic Plan, alignment with key ongoing WOAHA institutional activities, and broader context analysis. Together, these elements helped ensure that the new strategic plan would be building on a strong and evidence-based foundation.

The first phase focused on designing the overarching framework and strategic directions, namely three strategic orientations and four enablers, through consultations with Regional Core Groups and WOAHA management. These directions were presented by the Director General at the 2025 General Session. The second phase consisted of elaborating the content under each orientation and enabler through workshops with Members and WOAHA staff. In the third phase, WOAHA drafted the 8th Strategic Plan, with several rounds of internal and external reviews. In November, WOAHA shared the draft with its Members, partners, staff and other stakeholders, resulting in hundreds of comments that were received, reviewed, consolidated and integrated into a revised version.

These approaches helped ensure that the upcoming Strategic Plan is a product of co-construction by Members, stakeholders and staff, providing a shared vision and framework for action for the period 2027–2031 for WOAHA to support Members in navigating the current animal health landscape.

In parallel and feeding into the ongoing development of the 8th Strategic Plan, WOAHA worked on identifying preliminary key strategic indicators, priority initiatives, and indicative implementation costs. These elements helped shape the direction of the strategic plan and will inform the development of implementation roadmaps and monitoring frameworks, following adoption of the Plan. Through these collective efforts, WOAHA laid the groundwork to support robust performance management for its next strategic cycle.

Beyond the Strategic Plan, WOAHA performance management activities continued to promote best practices across the Organisation and support gradual shifts towards results-based monitoring. One key achievement was the piloting of strategic indicators which, although indicative, provided valuable insights into perceptions of WOAHA activities and other key results under the implementation of the 7th Strategic Plan.

Overall, these combined efforts reinforced the central role of monitoring and evaluation as a key enabler of WOAHA's mission during the next strategic cycle and beyond.

3.2.9.2 Internal control

▪ Strengthening the internal control system

In 2025, the internal control system continued to be strengthened, with a focus on risk management, continuous improvement, and compliance with the requirements of donors and auditors. To this end, the follow-up of recommendations was consolidated in collaboration with the relevant departments. By the end of the year, 63% of recommendations had been implemented or closed, while 31% were in the process of being actioned.

The risk map was updated in consultation with operational managers, based on an analysis of incidents and the effectiveness of mitigation measures, resulting in a reassessment of the level of each risk.

In addition, support for teams continued to formalise and update internal policies and procedures, ensuring alignment with the Organisation's needs and ongoing developments. A training session on internal control, linked to procurement risks, was also conducted, integrated directly into the procurement training delivered by the procurement team.

▪ Strengthening the governance of the internal control system

An audit committee meeting was held in December 2025, with the integration of four new members who received individual briefings.

During this session, the committee approved the removal of a risk from the list of priority risks, following the work of the teams responsible for the related action plan. The risk concerned was thus downgraded from Level 1 (highest priority risk) to Level 4 (controlled risk, with the lowest criticality).

The committee also approved the 2026 audit plan, covering both internal and external audits, thereby strengthening the supervision and governance of the internal control framework.

3.3. Financial management

In 2025, WOAHA developed a resource mobilisation strategy for the Regular Budget structured on the following three axes: (i) institutionalising financial follow-up; (ii) enhancing statutory and extraordinary contribution messaging; and (iii) diplomatic engagement. This was centred not only on encouraging WOAHA Members to increase their statutory contributions, but also on the recovery of outstanding arrears.

In 2025, WOAHA continued to advance resource mobilisation efforts relating to voluntary contributions. Foundational work was undertaken to develop a comprehensive resource mobilisation strategy to accompany the development and implementation of the upcoming 8th Strategic Plan. This resource mobilisation strategy comprises five main axes: (i) increasing visibility and awareness; (ii) strengthening and retaining current investors; (iii) identifying and engaging new resource partners; (iv) leveraging joint resource mobilisation and strategic partnerships; and (v) strengthening organisational structure and capacity. This strategy will culminate in an action plan, supported by key performance indicators.

3.3.1 Budget and financial management

In 2024, the Organisation introduced a digital tool to enhance the monitoring of budgetary commitments and the follow-up of budget consumption (procure to pay, P2P). In 2025, improvements were made to the P2P tool alongside continued support to accompany colleagues in its effective and consistent use, with a view to strengthening its integration into daily management practices, with the following objectives: (i) digitalising commitments and purchase order management; (ii) enabling better monitoring of invoices and facilitating timely payments; (iii) improving budget management; (iv) strengthening financial oversight; and (v) enhancing the Organisation's ability to prepare for and respond efficiently to audits.

The two pilot regional offices that started to use P2P in 2024 encountered technical difficulties. Thus, the roll-out of the tool to other offices was postponed in order to conduct a thorough analysis of the current situation and address identified challenges, with the objective of ensuring a more effective and sustainable deployment.

The addition of a module for Projects in the P2P tool has been finalised. This Project module allows WOAAH to monitor grants funded through the World Fund, ensuring more comprehensive oversight of all funding sources and related contractual obligations. Training sessions are due to be provided for relevant WOAAH staff in early 2026.

Accounting and budgetary training sessions were delivered to relevant staff of regional offices in late 2025 and will continue in early 2026, with the aim of strengthening processes and improving the quality and reliability of accounting information.

3.3.2 Budget funding and implementation in 2025

Please refer to document 93 GS/Fin-01 for detailed information.

WOAH makes use of all sources of funds provided through Members' statutory contributions, voluntary contributions from Members and other resource partners and additional sources of revenue to implement the work programme and accomplish the 7th Strategic Plan.

The Organisation's budgetary framework comprises three components, each using a specific budgetary structure: the Regular Budget, World Animal Health and Welfare Fund (World Fund) Estimates, and Regional and Sub-Regional Representation Estimates.

— Regular Budget

The Regular Budget's income primarily consists of statutory contributions from the Organisation's 183 Members, which are used to fund the work programme. These contributions represent the most flexible and predictable source of funding for the Organisation, as they are mandatory dues that Members are required to pay.

Document 93 GS/Fin-01 provides detailed information on the Regular Budget, including analysis through seven key financial performance indicators.

— World Animal Health and Welfare Fund

WOAH's World Animal Health and Welfare Fund (World Fund) is a multi-donor trust fund collecting voluntary contributions to support the implementation of WOAAH's mandate and Strategic Plans, thereby complementing the Regular Budget. The voluntary contributions are garnered through the execution of grant agreements with Members (in addition to their statutory commitments) as well as international organisations, philanthropic foundations, the private sector and other, diverse funding sources.

A detailed analysis of the World Fund's financial performance is provided in document 93 SG Fin-01, which includes six standardised key financial performance indicators, enabling a comparative analysis and trend assessment.

In accordance with the Basic Texts, the Director General is supported in overseeing the World Fund by two dedicated committees: the Management Committee and the Advisory Committee, both of which convene annually.

The 18th Meeting of the Management Committee took place at WOAAH Headquarters on 22 May 2025. Chaired by the President of WOAAH, the Committee conducted an in-depth review of the World Fund's financial performance and WOAAH's financial sustainability. The Committee approved the submission of the World Fund accounts, which form integral components of documents 92 SG Fin-01, 92 GS/Fin-04 (2025 Budget), and 92 GS/Fin-05 (2026 Budgeted Work Programme, Income Estimates, and Related Contribution Scale) for endorsement by the Council. These documents were subsequently adopted by the Assembly during the General Session in May 2025.

The 20th Meeting of the Advisory Committee was held in Paris on 27 May 2025, during the 92nd WOAHA General Session. Chaired by Dr Hans Wyss, Delegate of Switzerland to WOAHA, the meeting was attended by 46 resource partner representatives. The meeting discussed the following two agenda items: (i) 2025 World Fund's financial performance review; and, (ii) 8th Strategic Plan 2026–2030 methodology overview and resource mobilisation. The Committee also appointed Dr Masa Okita as the next chair of the World Fund Advisory Committee.

These two committees play a critical role in ensuring the sound management and strategic direction of the World Fund, reinforcing WOAHA's commitment to transparency, fiscal responsibility and the continued success of its mission.

— Regional and Sub-Regional Representations

The financial situation of the different Regional and Sub-Regional Representations varies significantly. Their income primarily comes from voluntary contributions from the host country, a portion of the relevant Members' statutory contributions, and voluntary grants managed through the World Fund. For some Representations, their financial situation is particularly fragile. Over the past few years, it has become evident that these Representations are highly dependent on the grants made available through the World Fund. In this context, the discontinuation of voluntary contributions created a significant funding challenge for one Regional Representation, highlighting the vulnerability associated with this level of dependency and the need to explore alternative and more sustainable funding solutions.

3.3.3 2026 and 2027 Budget planning and implementation

In line with WOAHA's ongoing commitment to financial transparency and efficiency, the budgetary process for the revision of the 2026 budget and the preparation of the 2027 budget was improved in 2025, reinforcing planning, coordination and the overall robustness of the budget framework. This focus led to the development of key financial documents, namely 93 GS/Fin-04 (2026 Budget) and 93 GS/Fin-05 (2027 Budgeted Work Programme, Income Estimates, and Related Contribution Scale).

In view of technical challenges and the availability of human resources across the Organisation, the deployment of the accounting software and the P2P tool has been postponed until a later stage. An assessment of technical feasibility and staffing capacity will be carried out in 2026 to ensure a smooth and sustainable implementation.

3.3.4 Procurement

In 2025, WOAHA continued to strengthen its purchasing governance and compliance while managing a sustained volume of procurement procedures and supporting operational units.

A significant effort was devoted to internal training on procurement procedures. A total of 176 staff members were trained, including 115 at Headquarters (67% of Headquarters' staff) and 61 in the Regions (64% of regional staff), through 15 training sessions (11 in person and 4 remote). This contributed to increased awareness and improved application of procurement rules across the Organisation.

During the year, 70 procurement procedures were launched, resulting in the signing of 47 contracts and four contract amendments. The Procurement Unit directly managed and monitored 43 procedures, including 20 consultations of suppliers, 10 simplified consultations of suppliers, two negotiated procedures, five procedures via UGAP²⁸, and five procedures without prior competitive tendering. In total, 73 lots were analysed, reflecting the diversity and technical scope of the procurements handled. As part of formalised procedures exceeding € 200,000, two Tender Acceptance Committees (TAC) and three Contract Award Committees (CAC) were convened, ensuring compliance with internal governance requirements, as per WOAHA's Financial Policy Framework.

²⁸ UGAP - *Union des groupements d'achats publics* (association of public procurement groups), a public industrial and commercial entity subject to the French Public Procurement Code and compliant with WOAHA general procurement principles. Within the scope of its activity, UGAP carries out prior competitive tendering procedures exempting its public-sector customers from all competitive tendering.

A total of 113 bids were received in response to procurement procedures during the year, demonstrating market engagement and competitive participation.

In addition, two new Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) related to UGAP procedures were published on the Intranet, contributing to further clarification and standardisation of procurement practices.

Overall, 2025 reflected the continued consolidation of procurement processes, strengthened internal capacity and sustained operational support to the Organisation.

WOAH 2025 output indicators

These output indicators are organised by WOAAH budgetary chapter. They were originally introduced during the budget approval for 2025 at the May 2024 General Session ([2025 Budgeted Work Programme, Income Estimates and Related Contribution Scale](#)).

Output Indicator	Annual Target	2025 Achievement
Information Management		
# of published immediate notifications, follow-up, and six-monthly reports	400 immediate notifications	804
	2000 follow-ups	5873
	800 six-monthly	731 verified and published
% of service catalogue requests related to use of WAHIS completed within agreed internal key performance indicators (KPIs)	84 support requests completed	176 – 93.79% completion rate within KPIs
# and % of support requests completed within agreed internal KPIs	1073 support requests	1444 requests – 93.56% completed within required KPIs
# of tracking systems analysing and monitoring readership, as well as identifying key research topics in the animal health research community	1 tracking system	4
# of animal disease situation reports published during the year	44 animal disease situation reports	32
% of surveys conducted by WOAAH among Delegates and/ or Focal Points for which Members receive feedback	75%	48%
Standard-setting and implementation		
# of new or revised draft standards for the WOAAH international standards circulated for consultation to Members	50 standards	97
# of persons trained in the implementation of WOAAH standards and international trade by gender and region	90 trained	116
# of applications recommended for official recognition / endorsement of official control programme by WOAAH	30 applications	23 applications received
# of annual reconfirmations submitted and revised for maintenance of official recognition / endorsement of official control programme by WOAAH	380 reconfirmations	392
# of self-declarations published on WOAAH website	30 self-declarations	50

# of Observatory thematic studies/monitoring reports published	2 reports	3
% of Observatory recommendations implemented by WOAH (Completed and on track)	80%	80% Implementation between 01/2023 and 12/2025
Capacity building		
# of Members benefitting from a PVS activity (national, sub-regional, regional)	50 WOAH Members	98 participations in PVS activities ²⁹
# of PVS recommendations/strengths/ weaknesses processed into the PVS IS for qualitative analysis	400 recommendations	941 <i>Refers to PVS evaluations</i>
# of unique visitors to the PVS IS	700 visitors	14,833 visitors total, not unique
# of persons benefitting from a Workforce Development workshop by region and gender	600 participants	221 (100 F & 121 M) <i>Some planned activities postponed to 2026</i>
# of methodological and analytical tools developed to support Workforce Development	4 tools	4
# of eModules populating the WOAH Online Training Portal	10 e-Modules	56
# of trainees that attended 1) online training 2) face-to-face training	1000	1981 (52 face-to-face)
Number of tools developed for PPP implementation	3	3
Global Frameworks		
# of High-Level Events on AMR with active engagement from WOAH	5 events	6
# of AMR communication, educational, technical and advocacy materials released by WOAH	10 products	12
# of WOAH Members reporting to ANIMUSE, VSAFE-pilot surveillance systems, and TrACCs	170 Members for ANIMUSE	157
	60 Members for VSAFE-pilot	80
	170 Members (TrACCs)	184

²⁹ Some Members may have benefitted from more than 1 PVS activity. PVS activities included: 16 Evaluations, 4 Gap Analyses, 8 Veterinary Legislation Support Programmes, 4 Public–Private Partnerships, 10 National Bridging Workshops, 2 Joint External Evaluations, 6 Workforce Development workshops.

# of persons trained on WOAAMR standards and tools (virtual or presential) by region and gender	150 trained	300
# of meetings held by global and regional steering committees and advisory bodies focused on strategies for transboundary animal diseases (TADs)	1 GSC	0
	3 RSC	4
	30 TADs specific	39
# of TADs related strategies (both global and regional) developed and/or updated	1 developed or updated	1 updated
# of animal diseases-related networks and technical groups coordinated by WOAAMR	30 network meetings coordinated	45
# of One Health coordination and technical meetings organised by WOAAMR and the Quadripartite	25 meetings conducted	50
# of persons trained through national/regional workshops to implement OH Joint Plan of Action per region and gender	150 trained	500
# of results frameworks for global frameworks developed	10	6
# of joint products (e.g., guidelines, papers, strategies etc.), 1) developed, 2) implemented with international partners	6	At least 8
# of activities carried out by the WOAAMR network of Collaborating Centres on wildlife in support of WOAAMR's wildlife health framework	7	7
International Collaboration & Institutional Governance		
# of institutional governing bodies' meetings convened	1 General Session	1
	3 Council meetings	3
	2 or 3 Regional Commission Conferences	3
	10 Regional Core Group meetings	10
# of meetings of a group on governance dedicated to the revision of WOAAMR Basic Texts	4 meetings	4
# WOAAMR Partnership strategy and engagement plan for Public-Private Partnerships developed	1 strategic plan	1
Due diligence rules and process for engaging with public and private entities in place	1	<i>Reference to due diligence processes is included in the draft WOAAMR Framework for Engagement with the Private Sector.</i>