



**World Organisation
for Animal Health**
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**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH (WOAH)
AND
THE GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR LIVESTOCK VETERINARY MEDICINES
(GALVmed)**

[Administrative Document]



**World Organisation
for Animal Health**
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1 – Fact Sheet on the Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines (GALVmed)

Description: The Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines (GALVmed) is a not-for-profit product development and market access partnership dedicated to improving the availability, accessibility, and adoption of quality veterinary vaccines, medicines, and diagnostics for small-scale livestock producers in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. GALVmed works with global and local animal health companies, research institutions, governments, and civil society to adapt existing products or develop new solutions that address critical gaps in livestock disease control. (www.galvmed.org).

GALVmed functions as a veterinary product development partnership globally, combining donor funding with private-sector engagement to develop sustainable, market-based solutions that do not rely on long-term subsidies.

Mission and Objectives: GALVmed in its mission contributes to improving livestock health within a sustainable economic framework, transforming the lives of small-scale livestock producers by:

- Understanding constraints to animal health and how to overcome them;
- Engaging the animal health industry; and
- Ensuring awareness, availability, and adoption of effective animal health interventions.

Strategic Objectives: GALVmed's 2030 Strategy, developed in 2022, guides its activities and investments through 2030 with the aim of making high-impact animal health products available through the private sector and supporting functional markets for small-scale livestock producers. Key strategic objectives include:

- Removing barriers to market entry across the animal health product value chain.
- Developing innovative platforms to address last-mile supply chain challenges.
- Partnering with animal health companies of all sizes capable of delivering quality products at scale.
- Targeting enabling environment and regulatory efforts to barriers directly affecting product delivery.
- Positioning GALVmed as the primary partner for industry-led R&D and commercialization for small-scale producers.

GALVmed's integrated approach is structured around three complementary core areas of work:

- **Product Development:** development of vaccines, pharmaceuticals, and diagnostics for major livestock diseases affecting small-scale producers, including improvements such as heat tolerance, cost reduction, and user-friendly formulations.
- **Market Development:** support for sustainable market creation through pilot projects, awareness-building, and the development of distribution and vaccination networks, enabling private manufacturers to scale delivery of products such as Newcastle Disease and East Coast Fever vaccines.
- **Enabling Environment:** policy, regulatory, and advocacy efforts to harmonize veterinary product registration, improve regulatory systems, and facilitate cross-border access to animal health products.

Headquarters:

- **United Kingdom (Head Office):** Edinburgh, Scotland, UK.
- **Africa Office:** International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), Nairobi, Kenya.

Foundation: GALVmed was founded in 2004, originally known as the *Global Alliance for Livestock Vaccines* (GALV), as a non-profit organization aimed at developing and facilitating access to veterinary

vaccines, medicines and diagnostics for small holders farmers in low-income countries; and formally launched in 2005, with initial seed funding from the UK Department for International Development (DFID), now the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO). From 2008 onwards, major funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the UK Government enabled GALVmed to implement large-scale delivery programmes.

Structure and Governance: GALVmed is governed by a Board supported by five committees. Three committees are advisory, providing guidance to the Board (Technical Scientific, Commercial Development and Impact, Monitoring and Evaluation). Some aspects of day-to-day accountability and governance are delegated to the other two committees: Finance & Risk and Human Resources. Each committee has its own terms of reference and membership.

The Board sets strategic direction and ensures accountability, with oversight provided by the Members of GALVmed, who represent public bodies, private institutions, pharmaceutical companies, and non-governmental organizations.

Partners and collaboration with WOA: GALVmed operates through an extensive global alliance of over 200 partners, including intergovernmental organizations, regulatory authorities, governments, civil society organizations, and the private sector. Key partners include the African Union, FAO, WOA, national veterinary regulatory authorities, and leading NGOs.

WOA has been a longstanding strategic partner, holding observer status in GALVmed's governance meetings and collaborating through multiple formal agreements and joint operational activities. The two organisations' mutual interest lies in supporting the provision of quality veterinary products and services to small-scale livestock producers thereby contributing to animal health and related food safety and security. There have been three formal collaboration agreements, MoUs or Exchange of Letters, signed by the two institutions and numerous joint or collaborative operational activities undertaken in the last 15 years.

2 – Draft Memorandum of Understanding

<p style="text-align:center">MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH AND THE GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR LIVESTOCK VETERINARY MEDICINES</p>

WHEREAS, the World Organisation for Animal Health, whose statutory name is *Office International des Epizooties*, (hereinafter referred to as "WOAH") is an intergovernmental organisation recognised by the World Trade Organization as a reference organisation for international standards concerning the sanitary safety of international trade of animals and products of animal origin and zoonoses, and is in charge of improving animal health, veterinary public health and animal welfare worldwide, as well as transparency of the global animal disease situation;

WHEREAS, the Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines, (hereinafter referred to as "GALVmed") is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee and a registered charity whose mission is to improve the livelihood of resource-poor farmers by providing animal-health tools within a sustainable economic framework, thereby protecting livestock and improving human lives.

WHEREAS, GALVmed and WOAH (hereinafter referred to collectively as the "Parties" and individually as a "Party") share common objectives and wish to collaborate to further their common goals and objectives within their respective mandates and governing rules and regulations;

WHEREAS, the Parties have accumulated a breadth of experience in policy development and implementation in various contexts, and have developed significant know-how and practices within their own areas of expertise;

WHEREAS, the Parties have extensive experience in animal health, veterinary public health and animal welfare, are able to combine intellectual and technical support, and to engage in capacity building and technical assistance on those topics;

TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION the specific methods and character of the activities of each of the Parties as determined by their statutory objectives, their mandates and the provisions of the relevant international instruments;

RECOGNISING the need to develop and strengthen their cooperation in order to benefit from complementarities while avoiding unnecessary duplication and overlapping;

CONSIDERING THAT, the Parties formalised a basis for cooperation and collaboration on matters of common interest, through a Memorandum of Understanding signed on 29 October 2014 which expired (hereinafter referred to as the "2014 MoU");

CONSIDERING THAT, following the expiry of the 2014 MoU the Parties formalised a new basis for cooperation and collaboration on certain matters through an exchange of letters signed on 30 September 2022 (hereinafter referred to as "2022 Exchange of Letters");

CONSIDERING THAT, the Parties wish to terminate the 2022 Exchange of Letters in order to strengthen their collaboration through the establishment of a broader legal framework for their collaboration; and

CONSIDERING THAT, the Parties hereby agree to terminate the 2022 Exchange of Letters;

NOW THEREFORE, the Parties are interested in continuing their collaboration and therefore have agreed to enter into this Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as the “MoU”), which will supersede the 2022 Exchange of Letters:

ARTICLE 1 PURPOSE OF THE MOU

The purpose of this MoU is to establish a revised framework for continuing the cooperation between the Parties, within their respective competencies and subject to their respective rules and regulations, to enable the Parties to pursue more effectively their common interests and objectives.

ARTICLE 2 AREAS OF COOPERATION

When appropriate, the Parties shall exchange views on relevant policy issues within their respective competence and shall consult regularly with each other on matters of common interest, such as developing and implementing sustainable disease prevention and control strategies where vaccination plays a pivotal role and creating an enabling environment that ensures that quality veterinary products are correctly administered by competent workforce and effectively reach small-scale producers in low and middle-income countries. The Parties shall engage in joint resource mobilisation efforts and explore funding mechanisms, including but not limited to public-private partnerships, with a view to achieving their objectives and coordinating their positions and activities. This will include the following illustrative list of topics and activities of mutual interest, subject to availability of resources:

- Addressing strategic challenges in animal vaccines and vaccination through collaborative activities aligned with resolution No. 29 adopted during WOAHA’s 92nd General Session.
- Promoting and supporting the implementation of animal vaccine-related commitments from 79th United Nations General Assembly political declaration on antimicrobial resistance.
- Contributing to the scientific basis for and the operationalisation of WOAHA standards and guidelines for vaccines and vaccination to safeguard animal health and welfare, facilitate trade, ensure public health and food security, promoting environmentally and animal welfare sound livestock raising practice.
- Fostering an enabling policy and regulatory environment in Africa that promotes sustainable availability, accessibility, and adoption of affordable, quality, safe, and efficacious veterinary products.
- Strengthening the capacities of the veterinary workforce in Africa to develop effective animal health management and disease control and to promote sustainable and welfare-based livestock practices.
- Identifying opportunities for collaboration on projects addressing vaccine availability challenges, supply chain bottlenecks, and other constraints along the vaccine value chain in Africa.
- Exploring expansion of collaborative activities to other regions, by exploring joint mobilisation of additional resources.

Other areas of cooperation or activities may be identified and jointly agreed upon by the Parties during the implementation of this MoU.

Within the context defined above, meetings will be encouraged and convened on an ad hoc basis as deemed necessary by the Parties to address priority matters of common interest, discuss technical and

operational issues and review progress of work undertaken by the Parties related to further the objectives of this MoU.

ARTICLE 3 MODALITIES OF COOPERATION

1. **Exchange of information and documents.** Subject to their respective internal regulations regarding the safeguarding of confidential information, the Parties will, as necessary and appropriate, exchange information and documents concerning matters of common interest. Such information shall be used by the Parties solely for the purposes of their collaboration.
2. **Technical cooperation.** The Parties shall, in the interest of their respective activities, seek each other's expertise and observations to optimise the effects of such activities. Should the activities of the Parties in fields of common interest so dictate, either Party may request the cooperation of the other whenever the latter Party is in a position to help develop the former's activities. The Parties shall endeavour, insofar as possible and in compliance with their constituent instruments and the decisions of their competent bodies, to respond favourably to such requests for cooperation in accordance with procedures and arrangements to be mutually agreed upon.
3. **Reciprocal representation.** The Parties will extend to each other invitations for participation in all meetings, seminars and conferences during which matters of common interest are to be discussed and where observers are allowed.
4. **Personnel arrangements.** Subject to their relevant internal regulations, WOA and GALVmed may examine the possibility of organising staff exchange programs or making other arrangements to strengthen their knowledge network, especially by including each other's staff in formal or informal staff development initiatives.

ARTICLE 4 IMPLEMENTATION

1. The Parties may, if necessary, enter into additional arrangements for the implementation of this MoU. The terms of such arrangements would be subject to the provisions of this MoU.
2. Any Annex to this MoU will be considered an integral part of this MoU.

ARTICLE 5 FINANCIAL ASPECTS

1. Nothing in this MoU shall give rise to financial obligations upon either Party.
2. To the extent any activity may give rise to financial obligations, a separate agreement shall be concluded subject to the Parties' respective internal rules and policies, prior to such activity being undertaken.

ARTICLE 6
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

1. The Parties recognise the importance of protecting and respecting intellectual property rights. This MoU does not grant the right to use any work created outside the framework of this MoU, of which one Party is the author or holds the intellectual property rights.
2. All intellectual property rights in materials developed jointly by the Parties will be jointly owned by the Parties. Intellectual property rights in any material made available by the Parties to be used to carry out the activities shall remain with the originating Party.
3. The Parties will mutually agree on preparation and issuance of any publications pertaining to joint activities arising from this MoU. If a Party (the “Publishing Party”) prepares and issues publications on its own which refers to joint activities involving both Parties, the other Party shall be given the opportunity to comment on the content before the publication is issued and the Parties will agree on any further amendment to the text. The copyright to the publication shall remain with the Publishing Party. The copyright of any contribution made to the publication by the other Party (the “Contributing Party”) will be retained by the Contributing Party who hereby grants to the Publishing Party a worldwide, non-exclusive, sub-licensable, royalty-free license to use such copyright for purposes of publication.
4. The collaboration of the Parties shall be duly acknowledged in any publication resulting from this MoU, unless a Party notifies that it does not wish to be associated with the publication. The wording of the acknowledgement shall be agreed between the Parties.

ARTICLE 7
CONFIDENTIALITY

1. The Parties may disclose to the public this MoU and information with respect to activities carried out under this MoU in accordance with the Parties’ relevant policies.
2. Any sharing of confidential information between the Parties will be subject to their respective policies and procedures relating to the disclosure of confidential information. Each Party will take any action to protect confidential and/or classified information of the other Party.

ARTICLE 8
USE OF THE PARTIES’ NAMES AND EMBLEMS

Except as provided in any subsequent agreement, neither Party shall use the other Party’s name, acronym and/or emblem, without the prior written consent of that other Party.

ARTICLE 9
LIABILITY

Each Party shall be solely responsible for the manner in which it or its personnel carries out its part of the collaborative activities under this MoU and/or any subsequent agreement. Thus, neither Party shall be responsible for any loss, accident, damage or injury suffered or caused by the other Party, or that other Party’s employees, consultants or sub-contractors, in connection with, or as a result of, the collaborative

activities under this MoU and/or any subsequent agreement, unless such loss, accident, damage or injury suffered by one Party results from gross negligence or wilful misconduct of the other Party.

ARTICLE 10
PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES

Nothing in or relating to this Agreement shall be deemed a waiver, express or implied, of any of the privileges and immunities of WOAAH and its staff.

ARTICLE 11
GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. This MoU will enter into force upon signature by the Director General of WOAAH and the Chief Executive of GALVmed.
2. The Parties shall endeavour to keep track of progress made in activities jointly agreed to, and to regularly monitor and evaluate the implementation of this MoU.
3. This MoU shall have a four-year term, which may be renewed in writing by mutual consent of the Parties. Each Party may suggest revisions to this MoU prior to renewal date or at any other appropriate time in order to update the content of this MoU.
4. This MoU may be amended by mutual consent expressed in writing.
5. Either Party may also terminate this MoU by giving six months' notice to the other Party.
6. Termination will not affect the implementation of ongoing activities, which have been decided by the Parties prior to the date of termination, unless otherwise agreed by the Parties in writing. The obligations enshrined in Articles 6-10 do not lapse upon expiry, termination of or withdrawal from this MoU.
7. Any dispute arising out of the interpretation or implementation of the provisions of this MoU shall be settled amicably through consultation or negotiation between the Parties.

[The Parties agree that this MoU will be concluded electronically via email exchange of scanned signed copies and that the signed copies exchanged in this manner shall be treated as originals.]

Or

[IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Director General of the World Organisation for Animal Health and the Chief Executive of the Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines have signed the present MoU, in English, on the dates appearing under their respective signatures.]

Emmanuelle Soubeyran
Director General
World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH)

Lois Muraguri
Chief Executive
Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines
(GALVmed)