



**World Organisation  
for Animal Health**  
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**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN  
THE WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH (WOAH)  
AND  
THE WORLD BANK GROUP (WBG)**

*[Administrative Document]*



**World Organisation  
for Animal Health**  
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## **1 – Fact Sheet on the World Bank Group (WBG)**

**Description:** The World Bank Group (WBG) was created following the Bretton Woods Conference in 1944. Over time, it expanded through the establishment of additional institutions to address diverse development and investment needs of its member countries. (<https://www.worldbank.org>).

Today, the WBG is a family of the following five international organisations:

- International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), established in 1944 and provides debt financing based on sovereign guarantees.
- International Development Association (IDA), established in 1960, provides concessional financing, including interest-free loans and grants, primarily to the world's poorest countries.
- International Finance Corporation (IFC), established in 1956, provides investment, advisory, and asset management services to the private sector.
- International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID), established in 1965, which works with governments and investors to reduce investment risk by offering international arbitration and conciliation services.
- Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), established in 1988, provides political risk insurance and credit enhancement to investors and lenders.

The term “World Bank” generally refers to IBRD and IDA, while “World Bank Group” refers collectively to all the institutions. Each institution operates under its own Articles of Agreement and governance arrangements adopted by their member countries.

The World Bank is a member of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group and is governed by its 189 Members. Governance is provided by the Boards of Governors and Boards of Executive Directors representing the Member (189). Generally, the governors are Members' Ministers of Finance or Ministers of Development. They meet once a year at the Annual Meetings of the Boards of Governors of the WBG.

The Memorandum of Understanding with WOHAI will only include an arrangement with IBRD, IDA, and IFC.

**Mission and objectives:** The WBG's mission is to end extreme poverty and to promote shared prosperity on a livable planet. IBRD and IDA achieve this mission by providing loans, concessional financing, guarantees, technical assistance, and knowledge-sharing services to, or for the benefit of, its Members and through partnerships with other organisations. IFC is the largest global development institution focused on the private sector in emerging markets. Using capital, expertise, and influence, IFC aims to create markets and opportunities in developing countries through promoting opportunities for the private sector.

The WBG has an interest in collaborating with public and private entities to improve the effectiveness of development assistance, thereby contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

**Headquarters:** Washington, United States of America.

**Partners and Stakeholders:** The WBG collaborates with national governments, regional and international organisations, development banks, private sector entities, academia, and civil society. It maintains partnerships and engagements with international organisations and standard-setting bodies, including Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), World Trade Organization (WTO), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), World Health Organization (WHO), among many others.

**Previous collaboration with WOA:** The WBG and WOA have a long-standing history of cooperation. This was formalised through an MoU which was signed on 30 May 2001 between the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and the International Development Association (IDA), together with WOA. The previous agreement aimed to coordinate their action on combating animal diseases as well as improve the safety of food of animal origin, enhance food security, facilitate sustainable international trade, and contribute to poverty alleviation.

**2 – Draft Memorandum of Understanding**

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**Memorandum of Understanding**

**among**

**INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT  
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION  
INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CORPORATION**

**and**

**WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH**

**on**

**STRENGTHENING GLOBAL ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE SYSTEMS**

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This Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) is among the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (“IBRD”), the International Development Association (“IDA”), and the International Finance Corporation (“IFC”) (collectively, the “World Bank Group”), on the one hand, and the World Organisation on Animal Health whose statutory name is *Office International des Epizooties* (“WOAH”), on the other hand (together hereinafter referred to as the “Participants” and each a “Participant”).

#### **WHEREAS:**

- (A) The IBRD, IDA, and IFC are international development institutions established by their respective articles of agreement or convention adopted by their member countries. The World Bank Group’s mission is to end extreme poverty and boost shared prosperity on a livable planet. IBRD and IDA achieve this mission by providing loans, concessional financing, guarantees, technical assistance, and knowledge-sharing services to, or for the benefit of, its member countries and through partnerships with other organizations. IFC is the largest global development institution focused on the private sector in emerging markets. Using capital, expertise, and influence, IFC creates markets and opportunities in developing countries. The World Bank Group has an interest in collaborating with public and private entities to improve the effectiveness of development assistance, thereby contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.
- (B) The WOAH, whose statutory name is *Office International des Epizooties*, is an intergovernmental organization focused on transparently disseminating information on animal diseases, improving animal health globally and, thus, building a safer, healthier, and more sustainable world.
- (C) On May 30, 2001, IBRD, IDA and the WOAH entered into a Memorandum of Understanding to coordinate their actions aimed at combating animal diseases and in doing so, improve the safety of food of animal origin, improve food security, facilitate sustained international trade and thus contribute to poverty alleviation (“2001 Memorandum of Understanding”).
- (D) The Participants wish to enter into a new Memorandum of Understanding to advance shared goals in strengthening global animal health and welfare systems.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Participants enter into this MOU to describe their mutual intention to collaborate and cooperate on the common objectives described below.

#### **ARTICLE 1 Objectives**

- 1.1. The objective of this MOU is to establish a framework for collaboration between the Participants to advance shared goals in strengthening global animal health and welfare systems and contribute to sustainable development and global health security. Animal health and welfare systems address domestic and wild animals as well as terrestrial and aquatic animals.
- 1.2. The Participants intend to cooperate towards the following specific objectives:
  - (a) promote and support investment in resilient and sustainable animal health and welfare systems across public and private sectors;
  - (b) contribute to poverty alleviation, improve rural livelihoods and enhance food safety and security and nutrition through stronger animal health and welfare systems;
  - (c) support climate change mitigation and adaptation through climate-smart and environmentally sustainable animal health and welfare systems;

- (d) foster the sustainability and safe trade of terrestrial and aquatic animals, and their respective products, and support relevant members improve their alignment with WOAH international standards and, thereby, contribute to preventing and addressing illegal trade;
  - (e) strengthen prevention, preparedness, and response to global health security threats through a One Health approach, focusing on building resilient systems, addressing priority diseases, food safety and antimicrobial resistance (AMR), and cross-cutting issues such as governance, multisectoral coordination mechanisms, innovation, science and data; and
  - (f) promote equity, inclusion, diversity and gender-responsive approaches in animal health and welfare systems.
- 1.3. This MOU is not intended to interfere with or contravene with the Participants' independent decision-making regarding their respective administration and operations. The Participants only take part in the activities under this MOU in accordance with their respective internal policies and procedures.

## ARTICLE 2 **Areas of Collaboration**

2. The Participants intend to collaborate in the following areas:
- (a) **Capacity Development:** Strengthen the capacities of relevant members meet the common objectives, in particular by supporting both public and private animal health and welfare systems, including the integration of a One Health approach to promote multisectoral collaboration across animal, human, and environmental health sectors.
  - (b) **Innovation and Knowledge Generation:** Promote research, science-based practices, data driven decision-making, as well as the piloting and scaling of solution-driven innovations, relevant to the common objectives.
  - (c) **Programme and Project Collaboration:** Develop, implement and coordinate bilaterally or with other relevant partners, programmes and projects to support the common objectives.
  - (d) **Standards and Global Governance:** Facilitate an increased role and leadership for low- and middle-income countries in the implementation of WOAH international standards, guidelines and recommendations linked to the common objectives.
  - (e) **Knowledge Sharing and Dissemination:** Produce, disseminate and strengthen use of global knowledge, data, and analytical work on topics linked to the common objectives.
  - (f) **Support relevant members in designing and implementing global, regional and national programmes and projects supporting the common objectives.**
  - (g) **Communication and Outreach:** Conduct joint communication and outreach efforts.
  - (h) **Resource Mobilization and Partnership Building:** Utilize and leverage each Participant's relevant networks, technical expertise, databases, indicators and insights, and institutional capacities to attract resources and ensure the success of the common objectives, without imposing funding obligations on either Participant.
  - (i) **Other areas as may be mutually decided by the Participants.**

ARTICLE 3  
**Modalities of Collaboration**

- 3.1. To operationalize their collaboration, the Participants intend to:
- (a) Communicate on a regular basis at strategic, technical and regional levels in order to meet the common objectives and explore synergies and opportunities for collaboration;
  - (b) Collaborate on the organization and carrying out of events and activities, with a view to achieving the common objectives;
  - (c) Participate and contribute to relevant events or meetings organized by the other Participant; and
  - (d) Inform, contribute and exchange relevant information, data, reports and knowledge with the other Participant.
- 3.2. The Participants intend to hold regular coordination meetings and regularly consult on the development, monitoring, review and evaluation of the progress and implementation of activities initiated under this MOU.
- 3.3. The Participants acknowledge that, depending on the modality of collaboration, activities implemented under this MOU may require separate agreements or arrangements.

ARTICLE 4  
**Intellectual Property**

4. The Participants acknowledge that:
- (a) Nothing in this MOU is intended to grant a Participant the right to use intellectual property owned or controlled by the other Participant. The Participants intend to jointly decide in writing on the ownership and use of any intellectual property deriving from the activities under this MOU.
  - (b) They may not use the name, mark, or logo of the other Participant, or any variation thereof, without the prior written approval of said Participant.

ARTICLE 5  
**Publicity and Confidentiality**

5. This MOU may be publicly disclosed by the Participants. Such disclosure will be made subject to the Participants' respective disclosure or access to information policies. Any information shared between the Participants under this MOU that is designated as "CONFIDENTIAL" may require a separate binding non-disclosure agreement to be entered into between the Participants.

ARTICLE 6  
**Non-legally binding**

- 6.1. Nothing in this MOU is intended to create binding obligations under law.
- 6.2. This MOU is only intended to set out a summary of the understandings between the Participants. Nothing expressed or implied herein is intended (whether by operation of law or otherwise) to bind any Participant to perform or observe any of the provisions herein.

ARTICLE 7  
**Conflict of Interest**

- 7.1 The collaboration of the Participants under this MOU is not intended to confer a special advantage or preference to the WOAHA in competing with any other entities as regard the procurement of goods, works, or services by the World Bank Group or third parties, where such procurement results from or has a direct relationship to such activities. The Participants acknowledge that they have to ensure compliance with their respective regulations, rules and policies, including on procurement and conflict of interest.
- 7.2 The WOAHA acknowledges receipt of the IBRD's Procurement Regulations for Borrowers under Investment Project Financing, which sets forth the IBRD's rules on conflict of interest and unfair competitive advantage in relation to contracts under investment project financing.

ARTICLE 8  
**Privileges and Immunities**

8. Nothing in this MOU is intended to be a waiver of the privileges and immunities of any of the Participants or their officers and employees, as applicable, which privileges and immunities are hereby specifically reserved.

ARTICLE 9  
**Disagreements**

9. The Participants intend to resolve any disagreements arising out of this MOU amicably.

ARTICLE 10  
**Term and Termination**

- 10.1 The Participants intend to cooperate as set out in this MOU for a period of two (2) years from the date it is signed by the Participants, unless earlier terminated as provided herein or extended pursuant to mutual written declaration of the Participants. The initial term of the MOU is automatically renewed for an additional two (2) years unless either Participant decides otherwise.
- 10.2 The Participants may, if they wish to no longer collaborate as set out in this MOU, end their collaboration under this MOU by: (a) mutual written declaration of the Participants; or (b) a unilateral statement in writing (wet ink or electronic mail) by any Participant sixty (60) calendar days in advance of the intended end of their engagement to the other Participants. The termination is not anticipated to affect the implementation of ongoing activities, which have been decided by the Participants prior to the date of termination, unless otherwise agreed by the Participants in writing.
- 10.3 IBRD, IDA and the WOAHA mutually accept that the 2001 Memorandum of Understanding is terminated upon the signing of this MOU by the Participants.

ARTICLE 11  
**Notices, Communications, and Amendments**

11. The Participants intend that notices, communications, and amendments related to this MOU are made in writing (wet ink or electronic mail).

ARTICLE 12  
**Official Representatives and Addresses**

12. Unless notified otherwise, each Participant designates below its representative with overall responsibility for all activities and communication in connection with this MOU.

For IBRD and IDA:

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Signed electronically on  June, 2026

**INTERNATIONAL BANK  
FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND  
DEVELOPMENT/INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
ASSOCIATION**

**WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH**

By:  
Guangzhe Chen  
World Bank Group Vice President for Planet

By:  
Dr Emmanuelle Soubeyran  
Director General

**INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CORPORATION**

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