

DRAFT JULY 6, 2015

OIE GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON BIOLOGICAL THREAT REDUCTION

Paris, France, 30 June – 2 July 2015

THE PARTICIPANTS OF THE OIE GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON BIOLOGICAL THREAT REDUCTION
RECOMMEND THAT

1. The strength and governance of national animal and public health services must be improved globally to reduce the threats and consequences of infectious diseases that result from nature, accidents, and malicious intent. To achieve this, public and private sector investments in animal and public health systems should be considered as a priority in all countries.
2. International and national simulation exercises should engage the security sector, and the public and animal health sectors, including the relevant private sector stakeholders to the fullest extent possible.
3. The OIE should consider further expanding and deepening its collaboration with other international organizations, with an emphasis on those agencies working to reduce risks from biological disasters where there is a recognized alignment with the mission of the OIE and the OIE's Biological Threat Reduction Strategy. This should include the United Nations Secretary General's Mechanism (UNSGM), Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), United Nations Office of Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), UN Resolution 1540 Committee, INTERPOL, the Sendai Framework, the World Customs Organization (WCO) and the Global Partnership against weapons of mass destruction.
4. The OIE should consider drafting more detailed standards to provide guidance to reduce risks from deliberate and accidental releases of pathogens from animal sources.
5. The OIE should develop international guidance for veterinarians and the veterinary education community, in collaboration with law enforcement experts, on forensic investigation and response to infectious animal disease outbreaks where criminal activity is suspected.
6. The donor community and agencies should consider providing additional support to the joint OIE-WHO PVS-IHR operational framework for good governance at the human animal interface, which is based on adherence to the One Health concept and compliance with intergovernmental standards for the quality of national health systems. This should result in the involvement of a greater number of countries in national bridging workshops and relevant follow-up.
7. The OIE should encourage its network of Reference Centres to regularly review and analyze potential emerging biological threats.
8. The OIE and the FAO should continue their advocacy for Member Countries to accelerate the destruction of all rinderpest virus containing material or its transfer to a limited number of approved holding facilities before May 2018.
9. The OIE should continue to provide guidance on sustainable implementation of laboratory biosafety and biosecurity standards, including for the safe production, handling and rapid transport of biological material. This should account for the country situation and the

resources available for laboratory infrastructure utilising the PVS Laboratory tool and revisions to the OIE Manual, which consider a risk management approach.

10. The OIE, with the support of the donor community, should continue to support twinning programs for laboratories, veterinary statutory bodies and veterinary education establishments as a means of building capacity, engaging next generation leaders, strengthening international scientific networks, and reducing biological threats.
11. International organizations, agencies and donors should encourage the evolution of public and private sector partnerships (with farmers, private sector veterinarians, paraprofessionals, relevant stakeholders and local community leaders) for effective prevention, preparedness, response and recovery planning and the establishment of trust at the community level.
12. International organisations, agencies and donors involved in advancing compatible health and security objectives should strive to speak with one voice in their engagement with global and national leaders, to:
 - a. Promote opportunities for cost savings through the balanced sharing of resources between animal and public health sectors;
 - b. Demonstrate the significant social and economic benefits of investing in animal and public health systems (which comply with intergovernmental standards and have sufficient capacity) to achieve health and food security and greater political stability.
13. The OIE should continue advocating Member Countries to achieve and demonstrate the standards for the quality of veterinary services, including undertaking PVS pathway assessments and follow up, and respecting the standards adopted in the Terrestrial and Aquatic Animal Health Code for effective disease control, safe trade and electronic certification.
14. The OIE should continue its efforts, in collaboration with veterinary education establishments, to refine the day one competencies, consider ethics as integral to education curricula, and develop on-line continuing education and learning tools, making them available to all Member Countries.
15. The continued public and private sector investments in animal and public health systems and advancements in scientific knowledge, technology and diagnostic methods development should be fully considered to improve rapid detection, disease confirmation and reporting in order to reduce the magnitude, duration and consequences of disease occurrences.
16. Efforts should be made on the part of both the animal and public health sectors to improve the quality and quantity of data that is collected and shared in order to provide for more meaningful and robust analyses.
17. The OIE, in collaboration with the health and security communities, should consider holding similar conferences in the future to build on the cooperation, insights and engagement arising from the Global Conference on Bio Threat Reduction on a rotational basis. It is proposed that the next conference is hosted by INTERPOL.