OIE Standards on Animal Welfare, and Capacity Building Tools and Activities to Support their Implementation

Workshop on animal welfare
Organized by EC/TAIEX in co-operation with the RSPCA and State Veterinary Department
Baku, Azerbaijan, 10-11 March 2014

Dr Nadège Leboucq
World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)
An intergovernmental organisation founded in 1924

- Creation of the Office International des Epizooties (OIE)
- Creation of the United Nations
- World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)
The OIE in a nutshell

178 Member Countries in 2013

(one Member = one vote)
The OIE in a nutshell

Core mandate and missions

- Transparency of world animal disease situation (including zoonoses)
- Collect and publish veterinary scientific information, notably animal disease prevention and control methods
- Sanitary safety of international trade in animals and their products under the mandate given by the WTO
The OIE in a nutshell

**Fifth Strategic Plan**

Improve animal health, veterinary public health, **animal welfare**, and consolidate the animal’s role worldwide

Animal welfare: OIE global leadership since 2002
The OIE international Standards

Official reference for WTO under the SPS Agreement
Transparent standard setting process
• Adopted by consensus of OIE Members

• Volume 1 – horizontal chapters
• Volume 2 – Disease specific chapters

Section 7 – Animal Welfare
Animal welfare OIE definition (glossary)

means how an animal is coping with the conditions in which it lives. An animal is in a good state of welfare if (as indicated by scientific evidence) it is healthy, comfortable, well nourished, safe, able to express innate behaviour, and if it is not suffering from unpleasant states such as pain, fear and distress. Good animal welfare requires disease prevention and veterinary treatment, appropriate shelter, management, nutrition, humane handling and human slaughter/killing.

Animal welfare refers to the state of the animal; the treatment that an animal receives is covered by other terms such as animal care, animal husbandry, and humane treatment.
### Animal Welfare of Animal Production System

- **Chapter 7.1.** Introduction to the recommendations for animal welfare
- **Chapter 7.2.** Transport of animals by sea
- **Chapter 7.3.** Transport of animals by land
- **Chapter 7.4.** Transport of animals by air
- **Chapter 7.5.** Slaughter of animals
- **Chapter 7.6.** Killing of animals for disease control purposes
- **Chapter 7.7.** Stray dog population control
- **Chapter 7.8.** Use of animals in research and education
- **Chapter 7.9.** Animal welfare and beef cattle production systems
- **Chapter 7.10.** Animal welfare and broiler chicken production systems

### Welfare of Farmed Fish

- **Chapter 7.1.** Introduction to recommendations for the welfare of farmed fish
- **Chapter 7.2.** Welfare of farmed fish during transport
- **Chapter 7.3.** Welfare aspects of stunning and killing of farmed fish for human consumption
- **Chapter 7.4.** Killing of farmed fish for disease control purposes

**Adopted in 2012 and 2013**
New Chapter:
(draft version under discussion)

Chapter 7.X.
Animal Welfare and Dairy Cattle Production Systems

New OIE’s ‘approaches’ (pipeline):
Working animals
Disaster management
OIE Delegate and National Focal Points

1. Committee, Commissions, Delegates

2. Specialist Commissions

3. Review

4. Advice of experts or other Specialist Commissions

5. Draft text

6. Delegates

7. World Assembly

8. Adoption

Once adopted, OIE standards are applicable in all OIE member countries
OIE Capacity building tools and activities

OIE seminars for Newly Appointed Delegates
→ Brussels, 18-20 March 2014

OIE seminars for National Focal Points (AW)
→ Kiev / Ukraine, March 2012
→ Teramo / Italy, March 2014
→ Next: 2016

Need for a regional approach to help implement OIE standards on AW
The OIE collaborates with governments, donors and other stakeholders
OIE PVS Pathway

is a **continuous process** aiming to **sustainably** improve compliance of Veterinary Services with **international standards and their sustainable efficiency**
OIE International Standards on the Quality of Veterinary Services

- **Section 3** (quality of Veterinary Services) added in the 17\textsuperscript{th} edition (2008)

- **Current edition** (2013):
  - TAHC (Veterinary Services):
    - Chapter 3.1 (VS)
    - Chapter 3.2 (evaluation of VS)
  - AAHC (AAHS):
    - Chapter 3.1 (quality of AAHS)
Veterinary Services should conform to these principles, regardless of political, economic or social situation.

OIE definition of Veterinary Services comprises public and private sector veterinarians and vet para-professionals.

Conformance important to credibility:
- For health status claim
- For international health certification
OIE Capacity building tools and activities

"Diagnosis"

- PVS Evaluation

"Prescription"

- PVS Gap Analysis
- Public / Private Partnerships
- Veterinary Education
- Laboratories

"Treatment"

- Veterinary Legislation
- PVS Pathway Follow-Up Missions

"Treatment" includes capacity building, specific activities, projects, and programs.

The OIE collaborates with governments, donors, and other stakeholders.
OIE Capacity building tools and activities

A tool for the Good Governance of Veterinary Services

Chapter 3.1. – Veterinary Services

Chapter 3.2. – Evaluation of Veterinary Services
Evaluation of Veterinary Services

Objective: The evaluation should demonstrate that the ‘Veterinary Services have the capability for effective control of the sanitary and zoosanitary status of animals and animal products’.

Key elements to be covered:
- Adequacy of resources
- Management capability
- Legislative and administrative infrastructures
- Independence in the exercise of official functions
- History of performance, including disease reporting.
The OIE PVS tool - Structure

4 fundamental components

- Human, Physical, Financial Resources
- Technical Capability and Authority
- Interaction with Interested Parties
- Market Access

Animal welfare
External Coordination (municipalities)

47 Critical competencies

- A definition
- 5 Levels of advancement (1 → 5)
- Indicators
- References to the Code
### The OIE PVS tool – Example of CC

#### II.13 Animal Welfare

The authority and capability of the VS to implement the animal welfare standards of the OIE as published in the Terrestrial Code.

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Terrestrial Code reference(s):
Section 7 on Animal welfare.
The OIE collaborates with governments, donors and other stakeholders
The PVS Gap Analysis

1. Determine and confirm **country priorities**

2. Define the **expected results** (for the priorities)

3. Determine the **activities** to achieve the results

4. Determine the human, physical and financial **resources**

**VS Annual budget** for the next 5 years (including exceptional investments)

↔ Cost of compliance
## II.13 Animal Welfare

The authority and capability of the VS to implement the animal welfare standards of the OIE as published in the *Terrestrial Code*.

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What does it imply in terms of:
- Activities
- Human, physical and financial Resources
OIE Capacity building tools and activities

The OIE collaborates with governments, donors and other stakeholders

OIE PVS Legislation Support Programme (includ. AW)

OIE Twinning Programme for VSB and Vet Education Establishments
OIE Capacity building tools and activities

‘Treatment’ phase
– Veterinary Education
- Veterinary Statutory Body

- Initial and continuous Veterinary Education is a key tool for global governance
- The current quality of veterinary education is not acceptable in many countries
- VSB have a key role to play in veterinary education
OIE Capacity building tools and activities

‘Treatment’ phase – Veterinary Education

Need for:

- minimum requirements
- harmonisation of curriculum
- quality control and recognition procedures
- more involvement of Veterinary statutory body
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‘Treatment’ phase – Veterinary Education

- World Conferences of Deans (October 2009 / May 2011 → Recommendations)
- OIE day-1 competences (2012)
- Model of core curriculum (2013)
- Post-graduate and continuing education for graduate veterinarians (under development)
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‘Treatment’ phase – Veterinary Education

Twinning programmes for VEE: (Under development)

- On the model of lab twinning Parent / candidate VEE
- Reference: Day-1 competencies / core curriculum model
- Guide available
OIE Capacity building tools and activities

- ‘Treatment’ phase – VSB

Twinning programmes for **VSB** (Under development)

- On the model of lab twinning Parent / candidate VSB

- Reference: Article 3.2.12 of the TAHC (evaluation of VSB)

- Guide available
The OIE collaborates with governments, donors and other stakeholders
OIE Capacity building tools and activities

OIE PVS Evaluation Follow-Up Missions

- Conducted every 3 to 5 years, this mission measures the progress that countries have made during the implementation of the PVS Pathway in sustainably improving their compliance with the OIE’s standards on quality.

- It assesses and monitors progress using the Desired Level of Advancements established during the PVS Gap Analysis.
The OIE collaborates with governments, donors and other stakeholders.

Case of Azerbaijan

OIE Capacity building tools and activities

"Diagnosis"
- PVS Evaluation

"Prescription"
- PVS Gap Analysis
  - including Veterinary Services’ Strategic Priorities

"Treatment"
- Capacity Building, Specific Activities, Projects and Programs
- Veterinary Legislation
- Public / Private Partnerships
- Veterinary Education
- Laboratories
- PVS Pathway Follow-Up Missions

2008
- "Diagnosis"
- PVS Evaluation

2011
- "Prescription"
- PVS Gap Analysis
  - including Veterinary Services’ Strategic Priorities
- "Treatment"
- Veterinary Legislation
- Public / Private Partnerships
- Veterinary Education
- Laboratories
- PVS Pathway Follow-Up Missions

The OIE collaborates with governments, donors and other stakeholders.
Case of Azerbaijan

AW not assessed during the OIE PVS evaluation in 2008 (Critical competence on AW added to the Tool in 2010)

However, CC I.1 findings – No personal, no unit dedicated to Animal Welfare

General Recommendations: To reorganize SVS Headquarters by establishing units and employing qualified personnel and training them [...] in animal welfare.
Need more information? www.oie.int
OIE AW initiatives in the regions

2009 - Regional AW Strategy for Asia

Under devlpt (2013-2014)

Regional initiative adapted to each region

2012 - Regional AW Strategy for Americas

Under devlpt - Southern African Animal Welfare Action Plan
OIE regional Platform on AW for Europe

OIE Regional Seminar for National Focal Points on Animal Welfare (Kiev/Ukraine, March 2012)

25th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe (Fleesense/Germany, Sept 2012)

OIE Workshop for National Focal Points on Animal Welfare (Teramo/Italy, March 2013)
OIE regional Platform on AW for Europe

81 OIE General Session (Paris, France, May 2013)

OIE Regional Commission for Europe:
✓ Endorsement of the Concept Note
✓ Composition of the Steering Group

First meeting of the Steering Group (Paris, December 2013)

✓ Validation of a three-year Action Plan for (2014-2016)
OIE regional Platform on AW for Europe

Steering Group

OIE HQs (Chair)
EC / DG SANCO

Serbia
Russia
Turkey
Spain
Ireland

OIE AW CC in the region
IZSAM « G. Caporale » Teramo

a donor organisation
active in Eastern Europe

OIE RR-EE Sofia
OIE Representation Moscow
OIE SRR Brussels (Secretariat)

- **Strategic Objective:**
  - To empower VS to take actions on Animal Welfare, in compliance with the OIE Standards

- **Specific Objectives:**
  - To raise awareness and achieve high level of understanding;
  - To progressively advance with the implementation of the OIE Standards on AW
  - To encourage the participation in the OIE standard setting process

- **Scope:**
  - Transport of animals by land (OIE TAHC Chapter 7.3)
  - Slaughter of animals for human consumption (OIE TAHC Chapter 7.5)
  - Stray dog population control (OIE TAHC Chapter 7.7)
Activities of the OIE Platform (2014-2016)

- Website of the Platform (currently: www.rr-europe.oie.int)
- Documents in Russian language
- Workshops on stray dog management (Balkans)
- Awareness campaigns on stray dogs (all)
- Trainings on transport and slaughter (Central Asia)
- Training on transport (Russian speaking countries)
- Governance activities (SG meetings and Newsletters)
Current website of the Platform

OIE Regional Platform on animal welfare for Europe

About the Platform

The recent Seminars for OIE National Focal Points on animal welfare from Europe have confirmed the present role of the OIE in animal welfare and called on the OIE to develop a sustainable regional mechanism to facilitate the implementation of the OIE standards on animal welfare by all OIE member countries of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe. This initiative for capacity building programs and exchange of best practices is now known as OIE Platform on animal welfare for Europe.

The general objectives of the OIE Platform on animal welfare for Europe are to define activities that can directly contribute to the work of Veterinary Services and empower them to take further actions to implement the OIE standards on animal welfare. More specifically, objectives will target to:

- Raise awareness and achieve high level of understanding of animal welfare in the European region;
- Progressively advance with the implementation of the OIE standards on animal welfare;
- Encourage the participants in the OIE standards setting process.

The Concept Note of the Platform was officially endorsed during the 81st OIE General Session in Paris (France) in May 2013.

Key documents:
- Concept Note

Governance of the Platform

In accordance with the Concept Note, the Governance of the Platform is entrusted to a Steering Group, composed of OIE Delegates from non-EU and EU countries, a representative of the European Commission, the OIE Regional and Sub-Regional Representatives of the European Region and a representative of the OIE Collaborating Centre on animal welfare for Europe.

The Steering Group meets every 6 months, or more regularly, under the chairmanship of the OIE Headquarters. Meetings take place in different countries from Europe on rotational principle.

Secretariat of the Steering Group is provided by the OIE Sub-Regional Representation in Brussels.

The first meeting of the Steering Group of the OIE Platform on animal welfare for Europe was held in the OIE Headquarters on 20-22 November 2013.

Collaboration with other stakeholders from the region will be carefully identified and will be consulted on an ad hoc basis considering the optimal implementation of the Action plan. Priority in that respect will be given to partner organizations recognized by the OIE World Assembly of Delegates.

Key documents:
- List of members of the Steering Group
- Action plan of the Platform

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Sub-Regional Representation in Brussels
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email: rr.brussels@oie.int

26th Regional Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe, 22-26 September 2014, Bern / Switzerland

What’s New?

- First meeting of the OIE Regional Platform on animal welfare for Europe:
  - Press release (24/12/2013)
  - Read more on the OIE Regional Platform webpage

- World Veterinary Day Award. The selected theme for 2013 is "Vaccination" (see http://www.oie.int/en/for-the-media/press-releases/details/article/world-veterinary-day-award-2013/)

Current website of the Platform

www.rr-europe.oie.int
Thank you for your attention!