WORLD ORGANIZATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH /OIE/-
ENGAGEMENT WITH ANIMAL WELFARE AND THE
VETERINARY PROFESSION

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WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH
Protecting animals, preserving our future
1. OIE in brief;

2. Governing structure of the OIE;

3. Priority tasks;

4. OIE international standards;

5. Animal Welfare;

6. OIE Platform on Animal Welfare for Europe;

7. OIE publications and website.
1. OIE - in brief

- An intergovernmental organisation established in 1924;
- Goal: improving animal health worldwide.

1924
- Creation of the Office International des Epizooties (OIE)

1945
- Establishment of the United Nations

2003
- New Name: World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)

Headquarters in Paris (France)

- 5 Regional Representations
- 8 Sub-Regional Representations and Sub-Regional Offices
1. OIE - in brief

180 Member Countries

Certain countries belong to more than one region
2. Governing structure of the OIE

The World Assembly of Delegates
The highest authority of the OIE

Council
Composed of the President of the World Assembly, the Vice-President, the Past President and six Delegates

Director General
Dr. Bernard Vallat

Specialist Commissions
Terrestrial animals, Laboratories, Aquatic animals, Scientific

Regional Commissions
Africa, Americas, Europe, Asia-Far East and Oceania, Middle East

Headquarters

Collaborating Centres; Reference Laboratories

Regional Representations and Sub Regional Representations
Africa, Americas, Asia and the Pacific, Eastern Europe, Middle East

Ad hos Groups and Working groups
2. Governing structure of the OIE

Regional and Sub-Regional Representations

Under the direct authority of the Director General
Collaborate closely with Regional Commissions
3. Priority tasks

“To improve animal health worldwide”

1. Improve animal health management worldwide
2. Good Governance of Veterinary Services – strong and quality Veterinary Services
3. Food Security and Safety
4. OIE international standards
5. Scientific excellence
6. Animal welfare
7. PVS Pathway
8. Communication
3. Priority missions

2. Good Governance of Veterinary Services – strong and quality Veterinary Services

- Develop **suitable veterinary legislation** and ensure its effective implementation in national animal health systems in accordance with OIE standards and with appropriate financial and human resources;

- Guarantee surveillance, early detection and rapid response to disease outbreaks through a **clear national chain of command** and effective **early diagnosis capacities**;

- Promote **partnerships** between public and private sectors-Farmers, private veterinarians, consumers

- Utilise **the OIE PVS Tool** to evaluate country compliance with international standards

- Provide **initial and continuing veterinary education** in accordance with OIE guidelines;

- Conduct applied research programmes.
3. Priority tasks

Good Governance of Veterinary Services – strong and qualified Veterinary Services

1. Veterinary Authority and Veterinary Services-

Definitions:

- "Veterinary Authority- means the Governmental Authority of a Member Country, comprising veterinarians, other professionals and para-professionals, having the responsibility and competence for ensuring or supervising the implementation of animal health and welfare measures, international veterinary certification and other standards and recommendations in the Terrestrial Code in the whole territory."

- "Veterinary Services- means the governmental and non-governmental organisations that implement animal health and welfare measures and other standards and recommendations in the Terrestrial Code and the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code in the territory. The Veterinary Services are under the overall control and direction of the Veterinary Authority. Private sector organisations, veterinarians, veterinary paraprofessionals or aquatic animal health professionals are normally accredited or approved by the Veterinary Authority to deliver the delegated functions."

Chapter 3.1, OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code

http://www.oie.int/index.php?id=169&L=0&htmfile=chapitre_1.3.1.htm
The Veterinary Services shall conform to these fundamental principles, regardless of the political, economic or social situation of their country.
3. Priority tasks

4. OIE international standards

Safeguard world trade by publishing health standards

OIE standards are recognized by the WTO as reference international sanitary rules (SPS Agreement)

These rules can be used by Member Countries to protect their territories from the introduction of diseases and pathogens, without setting up unjustified sanitary barriers

- Terrestrial
- Aquatic
5. Animal Welfare

Evolution of the OIE animal welfare agenda

- **2000**: AW recognized as a strategic priority in the 3rd OIE Strategic Plan 2001-2005;
- **2002**: Adoption by the General Assembly of National Delegates of a Resolution leading to the creation of a permanent working group (AWWG);
- **2003**: Adoption of general principles;
- **2004**: First Global Conference on Animal Welfare (Paris, France);
- **2005**: Adoption of the first Animal Welfare Standards:
  - The transport of animals (by land, by sea, by air);
  - The slaughter of animals for human consumption;
  - The killing of animals for disease control purposes.
- **2008**: Second OIE Global Conference on AW (Cairo, Egypt).
5. Animal Welfare

Evolution of the OIE animal welfare agenda

- **2009**: Adoption of new standards:
  - Control of stray dog populations
  - Welfare of farmed fish during transport
- **2009**: First meetings of the ad hoc Groups on AW & livestock production systems (beef cattle and broiler chickens);
- **2010**: Adoption of new standards:
  - Welfare aspects of stunning and killing of farmed fish for human consumption
  - Use of animals for research and education
- **2011**: No consensus on the adoption of Chapter: Animal Welfare and Broiler Chicken Production Systems
- **2012**: Adoption of new standards: Animal Welfare and Beef Cattle Production Systems;
- **2012**: Third OIE Global Conference on Animal Welfare (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)
- **2013**: Adoption of new standards: Animal Welfare and Broiler Chicken Production Systems
5. Animal Welfare

OIE Standards on Animal Welfare

- The OIE is the world reference organisation for developing international standards on animal welfare
- Promote animal welfare by using a science-based approach

**Terrestrial Animal Health Code**

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**Aquatic Animal Health Code**

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New Chapter: (a draft version is under discussion)

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

New OIE’s approaches:
Working animals and disaster management
5. Animal Welfare

OIE Initiatives with focus on Animal Welfare

- Global Conferences on AW (Recommendations)

- Capacity Building programme:
  - PVS Pathway
  - OIE Workshops for National Focal Points on Animal Welfare
  - Improved Animal Welfare Programme (IAWP)
  - Twining programmes

- Veterinary education
  - OIE recommendations on the level of Competence of veterinary graduates
  - Veterinary Education Core Curriculum (OIE Guidelines)

- Regional Animal Welfare Strategies (RAWS)

- OIE Platform on Animal Welfare for Europe
6. OIE Platform on Animal Welfare for Europe

- OIE Regional Seminar for National Focal Points on Animal Welfare (*Ukraine, March 2012*)
  - An idea for common initiative

- 25th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe (*Germany, Sept 2012*)
  - A Concept Note document
  - Technical item 2: “Steps towards a common animal welfare approach in Europe”

- 81st OIE General Session – OIE RC for Europe (*Paris, 2013*)
  - Adoption of the Concept Note
6. OIE Platform on Animal Welfare for Europe

Steering Group (SG) composition

- **Members**
  - OIE: HQs (Chair), RR in Sofia, RR in Moscow and SRR in Brussels (Secretariat)
  - 3 (non EU) Member countries (Serbia, Russia and Turkey)
  - 2 (EU) Member countries (Ireland and Spain)
  - European Commission – (DG SANCO)
  - OIE Collaborating Centre on AW – (IZSAM Teramo)
  - Donor – France (decision taken during the SG2)

- **Observers**
  - OIE Member countries with an interest on AW
  - Partners, having cooperation agreement with the OIE

- **First meeting of the Steering Group** (*Paris, December, 2013*)
  - *Validation of a three year Action Plan for (2014-2016)*

- **Ultimate goal**
  - To improve Animal Welfare in Europe;

- **Strategic objective**
  - To empower VS to actions in Animal Welfare

- **Specific objectives**
  - To raise awareness and achieve high level of understanding of AW in Europe;
  - To progressively advance with the implementation of the OIE standards on AW;
  - To encourage the participation of Member Countries from Europe in the OIE standards setting process.

- **Priority topics**
  - Stray dog population control;
  - Slaughter of animals for consumption;
  - Transport of animals.

- **Website of the OIE Platform**: [http://rpawe.oie.int/](http://rpawe.oie.int/) (2014-2016);


- **Organisation of**:
  - Workshops on stray dog population control (SDB1 in 2014 and SDB2 in 2016);
  - Awareness campaigns on stray dogs (2015-2016);
  - “Train the trainers” workshops on transport and slaughter (2015);
  - “Train the trainers” workshops on transport (2016).

- **Governance activities of the Platform** (meetings of the Steering Group and Newsletters).
7. OIE Publications and Website

OIE Website: www.oie.int

Standards
Press
Publications
Early disease alerts

Editorials of the Director General

Social Media

New

OIE Facebook Page

> 3,700

Publications

New

CODES
- Terrestrial
- Aquatic

Once a year

MANUALS
- Terrestrial
- Aquatic

BULLETIN
- Technical Items,
  Information brochures,
  Specialised publications

SCIENTIFIC & TECHNICAL REVIEW
- 3 times a year

WORLD ANIMAL HEALTH
- Once a year
Conclusion

OIE activities are a global public good
Thank you for your attention

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