General presentation of the OIE

Workshop for OIE National Focal Points on Animal Welfare
23-25 November, Beirut, Lebanon

Dr Ghazi Yehia
OIE Regional Representative for the Middle East
THE OIE IN BRIEF
CHRONOLOGY

An intergovernmental organisation preceding the United Nations

1924
Creation of the Office International des Epizooties (OIE)

1945
Creation of the United Nations

2003
World Organisation for Animal Health

In 2010

Headquarters in Paris (France)

5 Regional Representations

6 Sub-Regional Representations
177 Member Countries in 2010

Africa 52 – Americas 30 – Asia, the Far East and Oceania 35
Europe 53 – Middle-East 20

Some countries belong to more than one region
Financing of the OIE

**Statutory contributions**
- 6 categories of statutory contributions
  - Member Countries on the United Nations’ list of “Least Developed Countries” benefit from a 50% reduction of their statutory contribution
  - Part of the Members’ statutory contributions is compulsorily used to finance the Organisation’s Regional Representations operations

**Voluntary contributions**
- World Animal Health and Welfare Fund
- Funding by countries hosting OIE offices in support of their activities
- Specific donations e.g. grants to buy buildings

Currently, the main donors to the World Fund are: Australia, Canada, European Union, France, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America, World Bank,
STRUCTURE OF THE OIE
Governance structure of the OIE

- World Assembly of Delegates
- Council
- Director General
- Headquarters
- Regional Representations
- Specialist Commissions (Code, Aquatic Animals, Laboratories, and Scientific)
- Reference Laboratories
- Collaborating Centres
- Regional Commissions
- Working Groups
- Ad hoc Groups
Governance structure of the OIE 2/13

World Assembly of Delegates

- Highest authority of the OIE; formulates decisions by means of Resolutions
- Comprises all national Delegates to the OIE
- Meets at least once a year
- Elects the members of the OIE Council
- Elects the members of the Specialist Commissions

- Adopts the OIE standards published in the Codes and Manuals
- Approves the official disease status of Members and the list of OIE Collaborating Centres and Reference Laboratories
- Elects the Director General for a five-year term of office
  » one Member = one vote
Members of the Council are elected for a three-year term of office

The current Council was elected for the period 2009 – 2012

Represents the World Assembly of Delegates in the interval between General Sessions

Examines technical and administrative items to be presented to the World Assembly of Delegates for approval:

- Comments on the OIE technical programme of work
- Approves the OIE provisional budget and its implementation
Governance structure of the OIE 4/13

The Council 2/2

May 2010

President

Dr Carlos Correa Messuti (Uruguay)

Past President

Dr Barry O’Neil (New Zealand)

Vice-President

To be elected

Members

Dr Brian R. Evans (Canada)
Dr Florência Cipriano (Mozambique)
Dr Rachid Bouguedour (Algeria)
Dr Tenzin Dhendup (Bhutan)
Dr Nikolay Vlasov (Russia)
Dr Nasser Eddin Al-Hawamdeh (Jordan)
The OIE is managed by the OIE Headquarters in Paris, placed under the responsibility of a Director General elected by secret ballot by the World Assembly of Delegates.

In 2010, Dr Bernard Vallat was elected Director General of the World Organisation for Animal Health for a third five-year term.
Governance structure of the OIE 6/13

Director General

- Deputy Director General
  - Administration, Management, Human Resources and Regional Actions
    - Human Resources unit
    - Budget unit
    - Accounts unit
    - Regional Activities Department
  - Administration, Logistics and Publications Department

- Deputy Director
  - General Animal Health, Veterinary Public Health and International Standards
  - Scientific and Technical Department
    - Animal Health Information Department
  - International Trade Department

Regional and Sub-Regional Representations

Communication Unit

Legal adviser

World Fund Coordination
The Specialist Commissions are elected by the World Assembly of Delegates for a period of three years.

Their role is to use relevant scientific information to:

- study epidemiological issues, especially the prevention and control methods of animal diseases
- develop, update and propose OIE’s international standards and guidelines for adoption by the World Assembly
- address scientific and technical issues raised by Members, with the exception of bilateral trade problems, for which the OIE has an in-house mediation procedure should the relevant Members request it
### Governance structure of the OIE 8/13

<table>
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<th>Specialist Commissions 2/2</th>
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| **Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission**  
“Code Commission”  
Responsible for updating the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* annually; proposes new standards for adoption by the World Assembly of Delegates.  
Responsible for ensuring that the Code reflects current scientific information. |
| **Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases**  
“Scientific Commission”  
Assists in identifying the most appropriate strategies and measures for the following:  
- disease surveillance  
- disease prevention and control  
- examining Members’ request regarding their official animal health status, for countries that wish to be included on the OIE official list of countries or zones free from certain diseases |
| **Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission**  
“Aquatic Animals Commission”  
Compiles information on diseases of fish, molluscs, crustaceans and amphibians and recommends appropriate prevention and control methods for these diseases.  
| **Biological Standards Commission**  
“Laboratories Commission”  
Establishes or approves methods for:  
- diagnostic of diseases of mammals, birds and bees  
- defining quality criteria of biological products such as vaccines, used for disease control purposes  
Oversees production and adoption of the *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals*.  
Advises the Director General in supervising the global network of OIE Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres (227 worldwide in 2010). |
The OIE has set up five Regional Commissions to express specific issues Members in the different regions face.

The Bureau of these Commissions counts four Delegates elected by the World Assembly of Delegates for a three-year term of office. It represents the Members between the Regional Commissions’ meetings.

The following regions host Regional Commissions:

- Africa
- Americas
- Asia, the Far East and Oceania
- Europe
- Middle East

Each Regional Commission holds a Conference every two years in one of the countries of the region. Each Commission also meets every year on the margin of the World Assembly of Delegates.

The Conferences focus on technical items and on regional cooperation relating to animal disease control.

The Commissions can fully be considered as regional institutions.
These representations closely collaborate with Regional Commissions and are directly under the Director General’s authority.
OIE Working Groups are responsible for constantly reviewing developments in their field of competence and for keeping OIE Specialist Commission and the Director General informed of current issues through scientific meetings.

The fields of competence are:

- Animal welfare
- Animal production food safety
- Wildlife

Their membership is submitted to the World Assembly of Delegates.

Ad hoc Groups

These Groups are set up by the Director General as and when needed:

- to prepare recommendations for submission to Specialist Commissions and Working Groups
- with internationally renowned scientists who often belong to OIE Reference Centres
Governance structure of the OIE 12/13

The Delegate

- Nominated by his/her Government
- Usually the Chief Veterinary Officer of his/her country
- Member of the World Assembly of Delegates (which meets in General Session)
- National focal point for the OIE in the country
- Official national and international status

  » Responsible for negotiating international veterinary standards on behalf of his/her country
  » Notifies the OIE of the animal disease situation in his/her country
Focal Points are nominated by the Delegate for each of the following fields:

- Aquatic animal diseases
- Wildlife
- Animal disease notification
- Veterinary products
- Communication
- Animal welfare
- Animal production food safety

NB: It is planned to propose focal points for Veterinary Laboratories shortly.
Reference Laboratories 1/2

Expert centres for animal diseases

- Develop, perform and validate diagnostic tests
- Store and distribute reference reagents
- Organise laboratory proficiency testing of other Members’ laboratories
- Coordinate scientific and technical studies

- Provide scientific and technical training to Members
- Are under the responsibility of an expert of reference
- The list of Reference Laboratories is validated by the World Assembly of Delegates annually
The OIE’s scientific network 2/4

May 2010

190 Reference Laboratories
101 diseases or topics

Reference Laboratories 2/2
• Assist in the development of procedures to update and promote international standards and guidelines on animal health and welfare
• Coordinate scientific studies
• Organise training seminars
• Organise and host technical meetings in collaboration with the OIE
The OIE’s scientific network

37 Collaborating Centres in 21 countries
35 topics

May 2010
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
Permanent institutional cooperation with public global partner organisations 1/2

In 2010

WHO - World Health Organization
FAO - Food and Agriculture Organization

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS
International Food Standards

WTO - World Trade Organization
IPPC - International Plant Protection Convention
World Bank
CABI - CAB International
ILRI - International Livestock Research Institute
Public global partner organisations 2/2

ICMM – International Committee of Military Medecine

WMO – World Meteorological Organization

WIPO – World Intellectual Property Organization

WCO – World Customs Organization

ICES – International Council for the Exploration of the Sea

ICLAS – International Council for Laboratory Animal Science

UNEP – United Nations Environment Programme

CBD – Convention on Biological Diversity

BTWC – Biological and Toxins Weapons Convention
Technical and scientific cooperation with global private sector bodies 1/2

IMS  International Meat Secretariat
IDF  International Dairy Federation
FEI  Fédération Equestre Internationale
SSAFE  Safe Supply of Affordable Food Everywhere initiative
IEC  International Egg Commission
IFAH  International Federation for Animal Health
IFAP  International Federation of Agricultural Producers
Global private sector bodies 2/2

IABs  International Association for Biologicals

WVA  World Veterinary Association

WAVLD  World Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians

IPC  International Poultry Council

IATA  International Air Transport Association

WSPA  World Society for the Protection of Animals
Technical and scientific cooperation with regional public organisations 1/2

European Commission
Andean Community
AOAD
IICA
AU-IBAR
OIRSA
IDB

CEBEVIRHA
PVC
SPC
PAHO
ECOWAS
SADC

IDB
Regional public organisations 2/2

ASEAN - Association of the South East Asian Nations

SAARC - South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation

WAEMU - West African Economic and Monetary Union

SEAFDC - Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center
FIFTH STRATEGIC PLAN
2011 - 2015
A mandate far wider than when the OIE was created

The OIE was created in 1924.

To prevent the spread of animal diseases throughout the world.

The 4th Strategic Plan 2006-2010 extended the OIE’s mandate to “The improvement of animal health worldwide.”
First, continuing to consolidate major objectives of the 4th Strategic Plan

- 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

Improve animal health and welfare worldwide
Improve animal health, veterinary public health, animal welfare, and consolidate the animal’s role worldwide
Fifth Strategic Plan 2011-2015
Reinforcing priority missions 4/14

Food security
• Food security (from quantitative and qualitative perspective) is a key public health concern
• Healthy animals guarantee food security and food safety

Food safety
• Need for a global supply of safe food
• The Veterinary Services must play a key role in protecting consumers
Animal welfare: a strategic commitment by the OIE

- Animal health is a key component of animal welfare
- The OIE is recognised worldwide as the leader in developing international standards on animal welfare
Fifth Strategic Plan 2011-2015
Reinforcing priority missions 6/14

Good governance of Veterinary Services

- Need for suitable legislation and its implementation through effective national animal health systems
- Need to guarantee surveillance, early detection and rapid response to disease outbreaks thanks to a national chain of command and good diagnostic capacities
- A responsibility of governments
- Alliances between the public and private sector (farmers, private veterinarians, consumers) are key
- Support to the quality of Services through the use of OIE PVS tool (evaluation and gap analysis of international standards)
- Initial and continuing veterinary education
- Applied research
Fifth Strategic Plan 2011-2015
Reinforcing priority missions 7/14

Capacity building

- The Delegates and their competent team in particular the national focal points
- The Regional Representations
  strengthening of teams, to organise support to Delegates and focal points
- Developing relations between the Regional Representatives and the elected Bureaux of the Regional Commissions
- Continuing with the capacity building programmes for Delegates and focal points through a global permanent calendar of meetings organised by the OIE and its regional and sub-regional offices
Fifth Strategic Plan 2011-2015
Reinforcing priority missions 8/14

Scientific excellence

- Strengthening of OIE Collaborating Centres and Reference Laboratories networks

- Developing laboratory twinning schemes and specific laboratory support projects to extend the OIE network, especially in developing countries

- These schemes contribute to reinforcing the veterinary scientific community in developing countries in order to facilitate their involvement in controlling animal disease worldwide and in negotiating the continuous up-date of international standards of the OIE and Codex Alimentarius
Fifth Strategic Plan 2011-2015
Reinforcing priority missions 9/14

Influence on animal health management worldwide

- development of ambitious OIE communication strategies
- continued efforts to persuade multilateral and bilateral organisations that compliance of Veterinary Services with OIE quality standards is a real public good at a national and world level and a global investment priority
- strengthening the OIE’s regional and global influence on animal health governance policies and promoting scientific research and veterinary education policies
- Global use of the PVS pathway
Fifth Strategic Plan 2011-2015
Reinforcing priority missions 10/14

Influence on national policies

• Convincing governments of the importance of the OIE Delegate

• Convincing governments that they should invest more in animal disease surveillance and prevention, since this represents a low-cost form of insurance compared with the high costs linked with the management of sanitary crisis

• Carrying out economic studies at a worldwide level, to demonstrate that prevention is cheaper than crisis management

• Helping the Delegates of developing countries to increase their participation in the standard-setting process and in meetings of the WTO SPS Committee, of the Codex Committees and of the OIE

• Organisation of regional and national seminars for the training of Veterinary Services and their partnerships with the private sector
OIE PVS Pathway for efficient Veterinary Services

- Evaluation PVS
  « diagnosis »

- PVS Gap Analysis
  « prescription »

OIE works with governments, stakeholders and donors (if needed)

- Veterinary Services Strategic Plan
- Modernisation of legislation
- Public/private Partnerships
- Country / Donors Investment / Projects
- Veterinary Education
- Laboratories

PVS Follow-Up Evaluation mission
Fifth Strategic Plan 2011-2015
Reinforcing priority missions 12/14

- Promote animal and veterinary public health policies
- Develop and spread an international communication strategy on OIE objectives
- Reinforce Veterinary Services capacities in the field of communication
- Send appropriate messages to the general public, decision-makers and OIE partners
Fifth Strategic Plan 2011-2015
New actions 13/14

One Health
A worldwide strategy for managing risks at the animal-human interface ecosystems

Veterinary education
International recognition of veterinary qualifications and promotion of professional excellence throughout the world
OIE Worldwide Conference of Deans of veterinary education establishments and permanent follow-up
Relation between animal production and the environment
New sanitary and environmental risks need to be anticipated

Impact of climate and environmental change on the emergence of animal diseases
Relationship between animal production systems and climate change
The Strategic Plans implemented through the Director General’s work programme will continue to show that, since 1924, OIE activities are a global public good for the International Community, and that the cost to Members is negligible compared to the services it provides.
OIE PUBLICATIONS AND WEB SITE
Publications

- Scientific and Technical Review - every 4 months
- Terrestrial animal Health code – once a year
- Aquatic Animal Health Code – once a year
- Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals
- World Animal Health - once a year
- Bulletin - every 3 months
- Technical Items, information brochures, thematic publications - variable frequency
On the OIE website
www.oie.int

- Disease alerts
- Global animal disease situation
- International Standards on Animal Health and Welfare (*Codes*, Manuals), Guidelines, Recommendations, etc.

- *Scientific and Technical Review*

- General and scientific information on OIE activities
- Editorials from the Director General, press releases
- Media Resources
Thank you for your attention

Organisation mondiale
de la santé animale

World Organisation
for Animal Health

Organización Mundial
de Sanidad Animal