

Annual Report 2012



Oie

Editorial

Message from the Director General



This illustrated annual report supplements the 'statutory' reports that the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) publishes for its Member Countries.

It summarises all the activities carried out and highlights new actions undertaken to improve the way the OIE fulfils its mandate 'to improve animal health and welfare in the world'.

It will be seen, for example, that in 2012 the OIE continued to implement its capacity-building programme for national Veterinary Services through the many different facets of the PVS Pathway (PVS = Performance of Veterinary Services): 150 Member Countries have, on a strictly voluntary basis, already joined this programme for good governance and progress, which also includes numerous training seminars organised with the support of the OIE's 11 regional offices on behalf of the relevant senior officials in all Member Countries. In 2012, emphasis was also placed on strengthening the excellence of veterinary service provision by

taking steps to ensure that the initial training that veterinarians receive throughout the world meets minimum standards of quality. To this end, the OIE published recommendations on the minimum competencies to be acquired by graduating veterinarians, irrespective of the country. The regulatory framework for veterinarians at a national level and professional ethics are subjects of particular concern to the OIE, which offers support for Member Countries wishing to create a Veterinary Statutory Body (VSB) or bring their existing VSB into line with international standards.

The quality of epidemiological data collection and the transparency of the world animal health situation have been strengthened by the launch of WAHIS 2, the world animal health information system linking the OIE and its 178 Member Countries, this new version incorporating specific new functions relating to wildlife diseases (*WAHIS-Wild*).

Animal welfare issues continued to be a focus of attention, and

the first standards applicable to animal production systems were adopted and published in 2012.

The OIE's network of scientific excellence continued to expand throughout the world. A total of 236 Reference Laboratories and 41 Collaborating Centres on various scientific topics have already been designated as OIE Reference Centres by the World Assembly of Delegates.

The OIE continued to strengthen its partnerships with public and private international organisations with common goals. Examples include the Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI), regarding the health conditions governing movement of horses for international competitions (e.g. the Olympic Games), and the G8 Global Partnership and the World Bank Global Food Safety Partnership to help strengthen food safety worldwide.

The OIE's publicly stated positions regarding risks related to animal health, including those with an

impact on public health, are increasingly being listened to and acted upon by the international community.

To expand our readership and facilitate access to our publication, we are introducing a technical innovation that will give anyone reading this document direct access to our multimedia content, using a computer or even a cell phone.

– If you are reading the annual report in PDF format on a computer with Internet access, simply click on the icon to watch a video on the OIEVideo YouTube channel. For example, click on the following icon to see our institutional video:



– If you are reading a printed copy of the annual report, you can access the OIEVideo YouTube channel by scanning the bar code with your cell phone. For example, scan the following bar code to see our institutional video:



I trust that you will find this report interesting.

Bernard Vallat
Director General of the OIE



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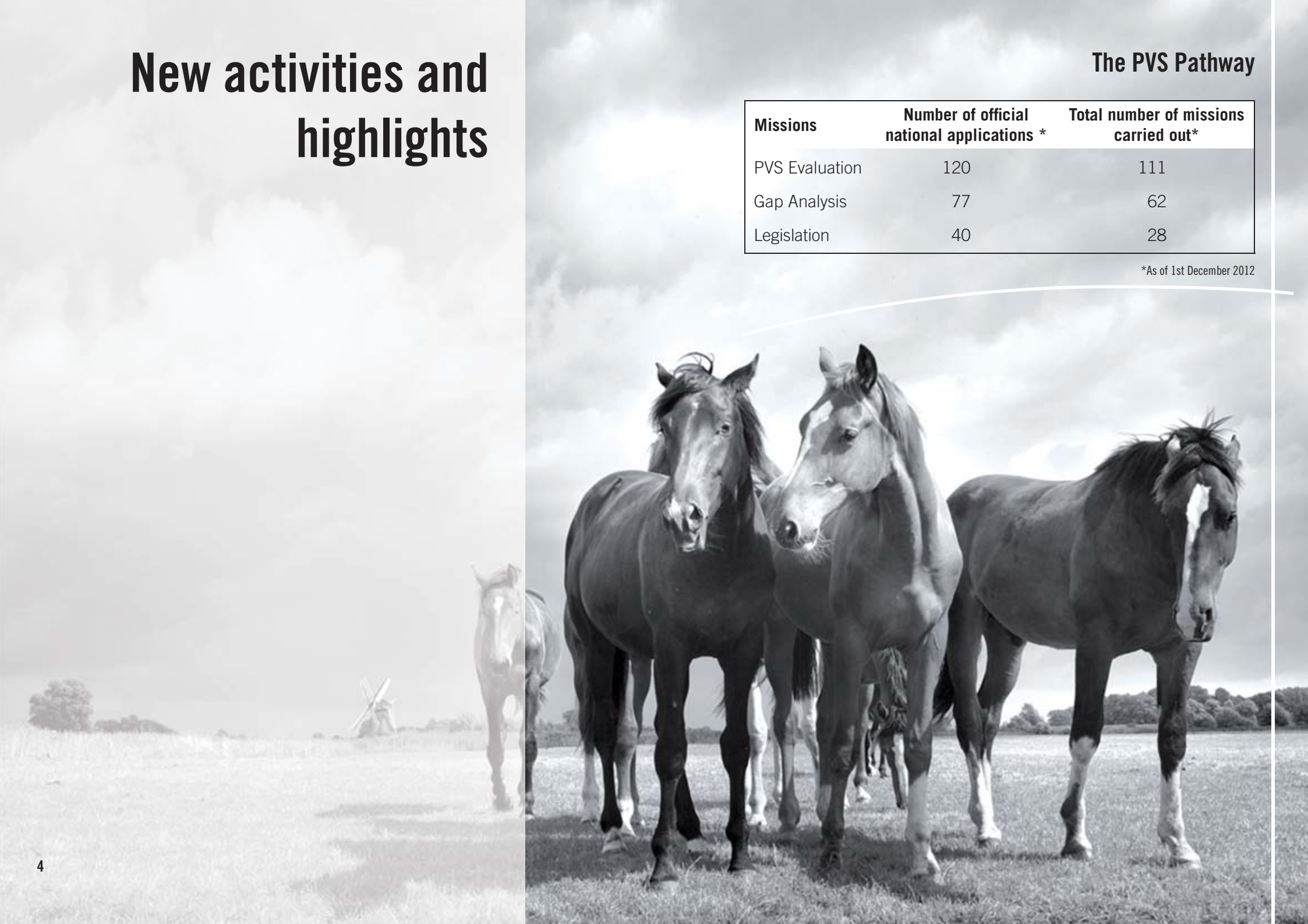


New activities and highlights

The PVS Pathway

Missions	Number of official national applications *	Total number of missions carried out*
PVS Evaluation	120	111
Gap Analysis	77	62
Legislation	40	28

*As of 1st December 2012



Moratorium on rinderpest research

A year after the official declaration of the eradication of rinderpest, the OIE and FAO called on countries to comply with the global moratorium on research using live rinderpest virus in laboratories.

With the support of the Global Partnership group linked to the G8, the OIE and FAO are working together to bring about the destruction of potentially dangerous virus samples and biological materials currently stored in more than 40 laboratories across the world, some of which are under insufficient levels of biosecurity, and to store the virus in a limited number of laboratories subjected to controls. The two organisations have urged countries to respect the moratorium and to submit all future proposals for research to them for approval, in accordance with the resolutions passed in 2011. The OIE and FAO are working to develop a standard procedure covering applications for authorisation and the rules that must be complied with.

The President of the Fédération Equestre Internationale, HRH Princess Haya, becomes the Organisation's Goodwill Ambassador

Princess Haya will help to raise awareness among the international community of the Organisation's missions and objectives.

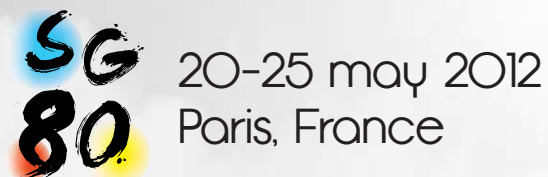
'The OIE strives to protect the health of all animals globally in a universal manner based on sound science and standards, taking a global approach to animal health and seeking a global approach to animal welfare', notably declared HRH Princess Haya.

Second version of WAHIS

Six years after the launch of its World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS), and with the aim of increasing the transparency of information on animal health and improving the efficiency and speed of its dissemination worldwide, the OIE has launched a new version of the system. Among the most important changes introduced in this new version is the integration of a section specifically for notifying wildlife diseases. In particular this new section enables Members to enter compulsory information on OIE-listed diseases affecting wildlife species and also to declare, on a voluntary basis, certain diseases specific to wildlife but not included on the 'official' OIE List.

International Conferences in 2012

The recommendations adopted at these conferences form the basis for future global policies to be applied within the framework of the subjects discussed.



The World Assembly of OIE Delegates, representing 178 Member Countries, elected Dr Karin Schwabenbauer as the President of the OIE for a three-year term of office. Dr Schwabenbauer (Germany) is the first woman to have been elected to this position in the history of the Organisation. She succeeds Dr Carlos Correa Messuti (Uruguay) who was elected in 2009.

The Delegates also elected, or re-elected, seven other Members of the Council, along with the members of the five Regional Commissions and four Specialist Commissions, likewise for a three-year term of office.

A Technical Item on the 'One Health' concept, a major issue of great interest to the international community in the animal health and public health fields, was discussed during the Session. The study showed intersectoral collaboration to be crucial for implementing this approach and confirmed the importance of controlling zoonotic diseases at their source in animals.



The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) presented a detailed strategy to achieve worldwide control of foot and mouth disease (FMD), a devastating disease of livestock. Over 100 countries participating in the event supported the strategy, which targets three parallel objectives:

- FMD control in Member Countries, and even its progressive elimination,
- Strengthening of Veterinary Services and their infrastructure,
- Better prevention and control of other major diseases of livestock in parallel with the actions taken to control FMD.

The Conference was held in Bangkok with the support of Government of Thailand and the Thai Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives.



THIRD OIE GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON ANIMAL WELFARE
Implementing the OIE standards – addressing regional expectations
Kuala-Lumpur (Malaysia), 6-8 November 2012

The Conference enabled Member Countries to reaffirm their desire to promote OIE international standards on animal welfare. Considering the economic, cultural or social differences between countries, and especially developing countries, the Organisation made a commitment to support Members in the implementation of OIE standards and advocated the adoption of regional strategies, which would need to be backed up by effective national Veterinary Services.

HRH Princess Haya, President of the Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI), spoke publicly for the first time in her capacity as OIE Goodwill Ambassador in a video message broadcast during the Conference.

Access the video:



World awards

World Veterinary Day Prize

The World Veterinary Day Prize 2012 was presented to the National Veterinary Association of Turkey.



The OIE honours its experts

Every year, the OIE grants honorary awards to members of the veterinary community for outstanding services to veterinary science and to the OIE.



Dr Teruhide Fujita (Japan) received the Gold Medal



Dr James Steele (United States of America) received the Meritorious Service Award represented by a member of his family



Dr Amirbekov Mulojan (Tadjikistan) received the Meritorious Service Award



Dr Nigel Ferris (United Kingdom) received the Meritorious Service Award.

Interview Her Royal Highness Princess Haya

Her Royal Highness Princess Haya, appointed as the OIE's Goodwill Ambassador in September 2012, highlights the importance of animal welfare and explains why the OIE's work of preventing and controlling animal diseases is crucial to the equestrian world.



You delivered a first video speech as Goodwill Ambassador at OIE's Third Global Conference on Animal welfare in Kuala Lumpur, in your opinion what is the main message the world should receive on this important matter?

My work as a UN Messenger of Peace brings me into direct contact with many major humanitarian issues, while my work with both the International Olympic Committee and the FEI obviously has a more sports-oriented perspective, so I am very honoured that the OIE has given me this opportunity to play an active role in supporting its efforts to create a better, healthier world for our animals.

The OIE's role in establishing the standards and approach taken to improve animal health and welfare globally is crucial, and especially at a time when the world faces the challenges of climate change, globalisation and an ever-growing population to feed.

Animal health is absolutely central to animal welfare and a key component to animal production, food security, public health including through food safety and alleviation of poverty. Today one billion underprivileged people worldwide rely solely on animals for their livelihoods.

Animals are essential to many aspects of human life, and the OIE strives to protect the health and welfare of all animals globally in a universal manner based on sound science and standards.

By adopting standards to prevent and control animal diseases, and to eliminate animal cruelty, the OIE is helping to ensure sustainable development and solidarity on an international level.

In an interview with Elle Magazine (French edition) you said that horses are key to equality, can you explain how these animals represent of universal values?

Sport improves lives, and breaks down barriers between people and nations. Equestrian sport especially does that and from a gender perspective empowers women as it is one of the few sports in which men and women compete against each other on an equal footing.

Horses also teach us a great deal about the mutual trust between humans and animals and the harmony of that relationship in the sporting and working context. These values were highlighted during the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic equestrian events, which were a wonderful showcase for our sport in front of a

capacity crowd on-site and hundreds of millions of viewers around the world.

Horses are extremely special creatures in sport, leisure and work and the close bond mankind has with them will always exist.

OIE is working with FEI on the official definition and creation of a category of lower disease risk horses. Do you think all countries will agree to the conditions proposed by FEI and OIE in due course?

The joint work between the OIE and FEI on the creation of a sub-population of high-health, high performance sport horses is key. There is a growing awareness that a number of government import and export protocols that protect against disease threats amongst the general horse population do not take into account the meticulous veterinary care of elite level, sport horses which, according to OIE principles, considerably diminishes the real risk of disease transmission.

The OIE and FEI jointly called for new protocols for the movement of these 'high health, high performance' sport horses at the 80th General Session of the World Assembly of OIE Delegates (20-25 May 2012).

Defining and creating this sub-population of horses to reflect the high health status of top level, international sport horses will better

facilitate cross-border movement and make it easier for national Veterinary Services to handle. The existing FEI regulatory approach already provides a high level of veterinary supervision, and our aim is that competition horses travelling internationally will be viewed by governments as animals that have a substantially reduced health risk. We are upgrading that further with clear biosecurity advice protecting horses from contamination during competitions that will benefit the entire equine industry.

The FEI is working in close collaboration with the OIE to find a clear and safe solution that will greatly improve the current situation.

As the number of international equestrian events continues to see massive growth, and as the popularity of equestrian sport increases around the world, we are confident that many countries will agree to these new protocols for the international movement and biosecurity rules applicable to this special sub-population of horses.

OIE is developing the conditions of national official freedom, voted by all OIE Member Countries, from important horse diseases (e.g. African horse sickness). Will this new procedure be useful to FEI?

The FEI was a member of an OIE working group for developing the conditions to officially declare a country's freedom from certain diseases and we

are looking forward to seeing all the hard work of the group and the OIE come to fruition. The FEI will play a full role on any further expert groups if required. Presently many high health horses are being tested for diseases that have never occurred in their countries of origin, but that country has never declared its freedom from that disease.

The national official freedom procedure is intrinsically linked to the successful movement of healthy, high performance horses around the world, and its adoption would greatly benefit all those involved in the global equestrian community.

Financial matters

In 2012, the OIE's consolidated budget totalled 20 million Euros and included

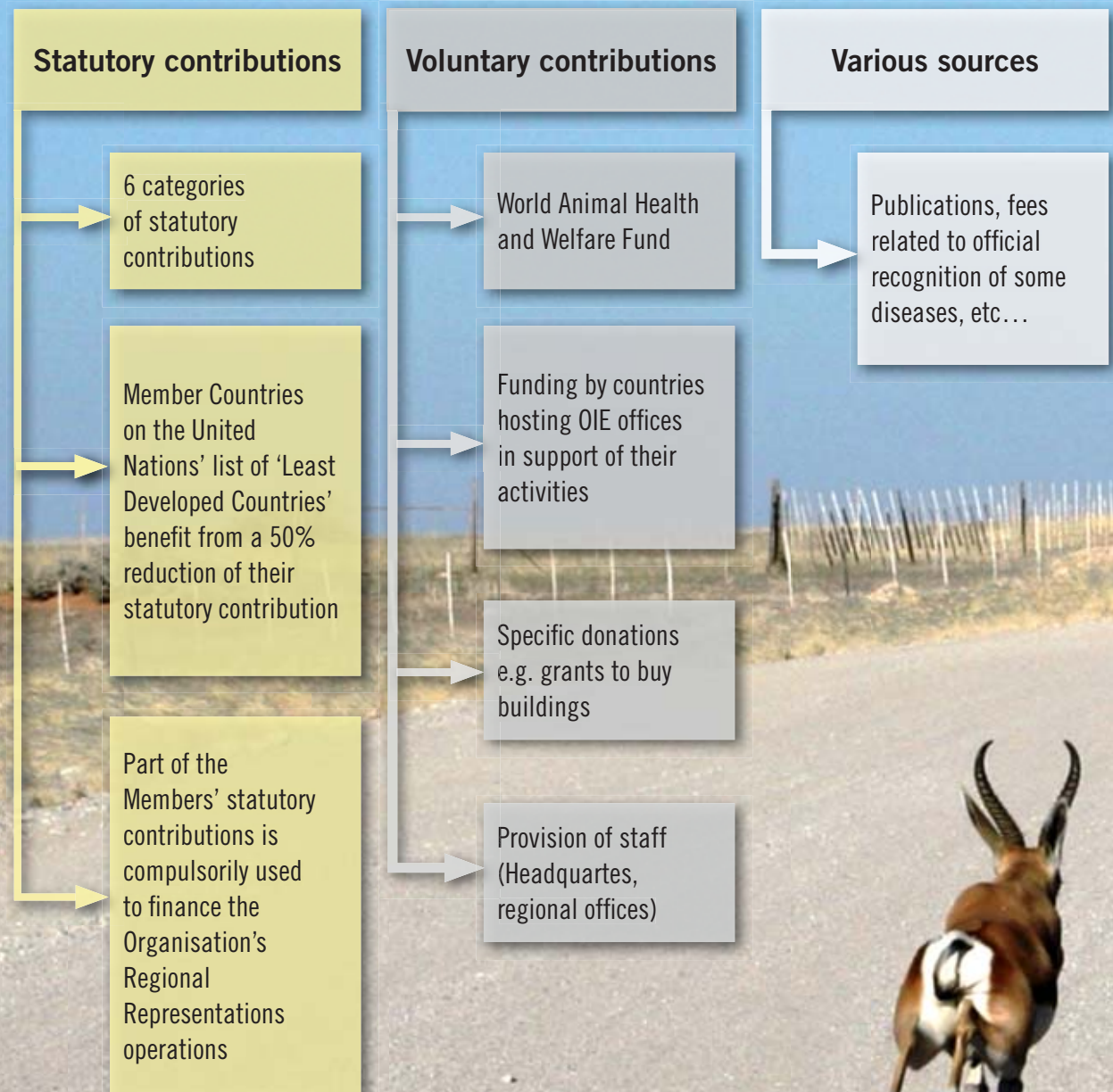
- Member Countries' statutory contribution
- Member Countries' voluntary contributions
- subsidies paid into the World Fund by various donors
- other revenue from various sources

(publications, fees related to official recognition of disease status, etc...)

The OIE's resources also include in-kind support provided by Members, such as

- the provision of buildings free of charge to house some of the regional and sub-regional offices,
- the provision of technical or administrative staff,
- the provision by the 277 OIE Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres worldwide of scientific and educational services free of charge, representing substantial in-kind support for the fulfilment of the OIE's mandate.

In this way, the cost of services provided by the OIE remains modest.



World Animal Health and Welfare Fund

The resources allocated to the World Fund are devoted as a priority to improving the governance of national animal health systems, especially the Veterinary Services, and strengthening their compliance with OIE standards. It co-finances global, regional and national capacity-building activities, with priority being given to the national Veterinary Services, and in particular Delegates to the OIE and their close collaborators designated as OIE national 'Focal Points' in the field of animal disease notification, wildlife, aquatic animals, veterinary products, animal production food safety, animal welfare, communication and laboratories.

The governments of Australia, Canada, France, Italy, Spain, Switzerland the United Kingdom, and several public Agencies of the United States of America, the European Union (through the European Commission) and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation all contributed to the World Fund in the year 2012 (see Appendix 35).

In 2012, the World Fund was thus able to ensure the smooth running of the various OIE programmes throughout the world, including: 38 regional workshops and seminars for the benefit of 1414 participants, namely an average of about 37 participants per seminar (see page 35).

- The strengthening of national veterinary scientific communities in developing countries through the programme of twinning with OIE Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres (32 twinning projects have been validated; see page 20) and,
- The quality of veterinary education worldwide (preparation and dissemination of recommendations on 'Day 1 competencies' of veterinarians and a basic core curriculum for veterinary education establishments),
- Support for Veterinary Statutory Bodies,
- Modernisation of existing national veterinary legislation,
- Certain types of communication activities.



The World Fund also finances all activities relating to the PVS Pathway (see page 27).

Furthermore, in 2012, at the request of the People's Republic of China, the OIE organised training (16-20 April 2012) for senior officials of the Federal Government and all provinces on using the OIE PVS tool for PVS self-evaluations in China. The training course session brought together 62 senior Chinese officials.

In December 2011, expert officials from 24 European Union Member States had undergone similar training designed to facilitate their self-evaluation.

Vaccine banks

OIE regional vaccine banks for foot and mouth disease and for rabies saw a considerable increase in activity in 2012. To date, the main donor associated with this World Fund activity has been the European Union through the regional cooperation 'Highly Pathogenic and Emerging and Re-Emerging Diseases' (HPED) programme, which targets 18 countries in Asia. As an additional support for this programme, the STANDZ programme funded by AusAID (the Australian Agency for International Development) provides support notably in the form of small grants for national vaccination campaigns.

In 2012, 400,000 doses of foot and mouth disease vaccine were delivered to Laos (200,000 doses) and Myanmar (200,000 doses), and 50,000 and 200,000 doses of rabies vaccine were supplied to Laos and Vietnam, respectively (the cost of vaccines and their transport to the airport of destination was defrayed by the OIE with financial support from the European Union).

Support for Member Countries in the Asia, Far East and Oceania region through the OIE's high quality regional vaccine banks will continue in 2013. The plan is also to extend this system to other regions and other animal diseases.

	Country	Doses delivered (2012)
Foot and mouth disease	Laos	200,000
	Myanmar	200,000
Rabies	Laos	50,000
	Vietnam	200,000

World animal health information

Between 1 January and 31 December 2012, a total of 832 reports from 97 countries were published, relating to 63 different diseases; 166 of the reports were immediate notifications.

Tracking non-official information

The OIE has a team devoted entirely to the processing of the animal disease notifications and the comprehensive six-monthly and annual reports submitted by Member Countries. It also makes active searches for information on epidemiological events from other sources, including the media, members of the public, private networks, the Internet and others. In 2012, the active search for non-official information processed 57 items of information, as a result of which 16 official immediate notifications or follow-up reports were received from national Delegates in response to the OIE's enquiries on the subject.

The OIE shares this information with its partners, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) on the OIE/WHO/FAO joint platform GLEWS (*Global Early Warning System*).

Main diseases for which immediate notifications were received

Number of immediate notifications received between 1 January and 31 December 2012





Highly pathogenic avian influenza H5N1

After having reached a plateau in 2010 and 2011, the number of countries or territories that notified H5N1 virus in poultry or wild birds declined in 2012.

In 2012, as in 2011, highly pathogenic avian influenza H5N1 was considered endemic in Egypt and Indonesia.



15 Members

- Bangladesh
- Israel
- Cambodia
- Japan
- China (People's Rep. of)
- Korea (Rep. of)
- Hong Kong (SAR – PRC)
- Mongolia
- Myanmar
- India
- Indonesia
- Nepal
- Iran
- Palestinian autonomous territories
- Vietnam



12 Members

- Bangladesh
- Israel
- Bhutan
- Iran
- Cambodia
- Myanmar
- China (People's Rep. of)
- Nepal
- Hong Kong (SAR-RPC)
- Chinese Taipei
- India
- Vietnam

OIE standards

The OIE international animal health standards are prepared in collaboration with Member Countries and are democratically adopted (one country – one vote). These annually updated standards are designed to prevent and control animal diseases, including zoonoses, and ensure the sanitary safety of international trade in terrestrial and aquatic animals and their products. The standards are published in two *Codes* and two *Manuals*.

Access the video on OIE standard-setting process:



The role of the OIE's Specialist Commissions is to collect the latest scientific information in order to study the epidemiology of animal diseases and their respective control methods, to develop and revise the Organisation's international standards for submission to the World Assembly of Delegates and to address scientific and technical issues raised by Members, in particular in the field of prevention and control of terrestrial and aquatic animal diseases, including zoonoses, as well as in the field of safety of international trade in animals and products of animal origin.

Election of members of the Regional Commissions and Specialist Commissions for a three-year term of office

REGIONAL COMMISSIONS	President	Vice-Presidents		Secrétaire General
Africa	<i>Dr Marosi Molomo</i> (Lesotho)	<i>Dr Adam Hassan Yacoub</i> (Chad)	<i>Dr Theogen Rutagwenda</i> (Rwanda)	<i>Dr Ahmed Chawky Karim Boughalem</i> (Algeria)
Americas	<i>Dr John Clifford</i> (United States of America)	<i>Dr Guilherme Henrique Figueiredo</i> (Brazil)	<i>Dr Miguel Ángel Arañón Robles</i> (Guatemala)	<i>Dr Mark Trotman</i> (Barbados)
Asia, the Far East and Oceania	<i>Dr Zhang Zhongqiu</i> (People's Republic of China)	<i>Dr Davinio Cathagan</i> (Philippines)	<i>Dr Sen Sovann</i> (Cambodia)	<i>Dr Matthew Stone</i> (New Zealand)
Europe	<i>Dr Ago Pärtel</i> (Estonia)	<i>Dr Ivan Bisiuk</i> (Ukraine)	<i>Dr Lucio Ignacio Carbajo Goñi</i> (Spain)	<i>Dr Nihat Pakdil</i> (Turkey)
Middle East	<i>Dr Kassen Al Qahtani</i> (Qatar)	<i>Dr Ali Abdullah Al Sahmi</i> (Oman)	<i>Dr Abdulghani Y. Al Fadhl</i> (Saudi Arabia)	<i>Dr Salah Fadhil Abbas</i> (Iraq)

SPECIALIST COMMISSIONS	President	Vice-Presidents			Membres	
Terrestrial Animal Health Standards	<i>Dr Alejandro Thiermann</i> (United States of America)	<i>Dr Etienne Bonbon</i> (France)	<i>Dr Stuart MacDiarmid</i> (New Zealand)	<i>Dr Jorge Caetano</i> (Brazil)	<i>Dr Salah Hammami</i> (Tunisia)	<i>Dr Toshiyuki Tsutsui</i> (Japan)
Aquatic Animal Health Standards	<i>Dr Frank Berthe</i> (France)	<i>Dr Huang Jie</i> (People's Republic of China)	<i>Dr Victor Manuel Vidal</i> (Mexico)	<i>Dr Alicia Gallardo Lagno</i> (Chile)	<i>Dr Ingo Ernst</i> (Australia)	<i>Dr Brit Hjeltnes</i> (Norway)
Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases	<i>Dr Gideon Brückner</i> (South Africa)	<i>Dr Kris de Clercq</i> (Belgium)	<i>Dr Yong Joo Kim</i> (Republic of Korea)	<i>Dr Hassan Aidaros</i> (Egypt)	<i>Dr Sergio Duffy</i> (Argentina)	<i>Dr Thomas Mettenleiter</i> (Germany)
Biological Standards	<i>Dr Vincenzo Caporale</i> (Italy)	<i>Dr Hualan Chen</i> (People's Republic of China)	<i>Dr Rodolfo Rivero</i> (Uruguay)	<i>Dr Paul Townsend</i> (United Kingdom)	<i>Dr Beverly Schmitt</i> (United States of America)	<i>Dr Peter Daniels</i> (Australia)



The OIE procedure for developing and updating international standards that it issues is rapid and responsive and means that the texts can be constantly improved as new scientific information becomes available. In this respect, numerous chapter of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*, the *Aquatic Animal Health Code*, the *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals* and the *Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals* were updated in 2012.

Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission

Innovative standards on animal welfare

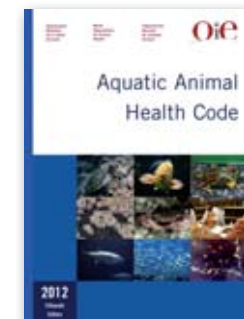
In 2012, new general guiding principles on animal welfare in the sphere of animal production systems and a new chapter on the welfare of beef cattle were incorporated into the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*. The new chapter on welfare of beef cattle provides criteria and indicators for assessing their welfare, including the nutritional quality of feed, appropriate lighting for cattle that do not have access to natural light, bedding and numerous other aspects relating to the conditions of management.

This opens the way for the adoption of standards on the welfare of other species of farmed animals.



Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission

In May 2012, the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE adopted new or revised chapter on the following texts in the *Aquatic Animal Health Code*: Glossary of the *Aquatic Code*, Notification of diseases and epidemiological information, Criteria for including aquatic animal diseases on the OIE List, OIE List of diseases, Import risk analysis, Communication, Monitoring of the quantities and usage patterns of antimicrobial agents used in aquatic animals, Development and harmonisation of national antimicrobial resistance surveillance and monitoring programmes for aquatic animals, Welfare of farmed fish during transport, Welfare aspects of stunning and killing of farmed fish for human consumption and Killing of farmed fish for disease control purposes.



Improved Animal Welfare Programme (IAWP)

The Improved Animal Welfare Programme began in June 2012 with the development of a strategy, an action plan and a budget on a three-year basis.

The purpose of the programme is to help improve the welfare of animals intended for human consumption during their transport and slaughter in several Member Countries in the Asia-Pacific and Middle East regions. A first training of trainers session, held in Indonesia at the end of October, provided comprehensive information for future national trainers, the aim being to achieve a better understanding of OIE animal welfare standards and support their implementation by the operators involved, in particular those in the private sector. Other sessions are planned for Indonesia and other countries.

Veterinary education

The OIE, in collaboration with an expert group comprising deans of veterinary schools from all five continents developed a list of 'Day 1' minimum competencies for all veterinary graduates worldwide.

Inter-agency collaboration at international level

The OIE continued to work closely with the other international organisations, including the World Trade Organization (WTO) and in particular its Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (the SPS Committee), the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC), the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

Scientific and technical activities

Veterinary products

At the initiative of the OIE, an Outreach Forum, in connection with the International Cooperation on Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Registration of Veterinary Medicinal Products (VICH), was created and held its first meeting in Brussels (Belgium) in 2012. With the support of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the OIE's role as a facilitator between VICH and the non-VICH countries within the framework of this Forum has gathered momentum. A survey was carried out to assess the needs of countries for translation of current VICH Guidelines and for training, and to determine their expectations with regard to participation in VICH.

Schmallenberg virus

The OIE organised an *ad hoc* meeting of experts to analyse existing knowledge on this new virus and to provide information for its Members and other interested parties in the form of a new OIE Fact Sheet.

Schmallenberg virus was officially characterised for the first time in November 2011, in Germany, in dairy cows. In February 2012, numerous countries in Europe subsequently reported outbreaks of Schmallenberg virus infection to the OIE as an emerging disease.

Horses used in Equestrian Competitions

A meeting organised jointly by the Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI) and the OIE was held in Mexico City (Mexico) in June 2011. A Brainstorming Group subsequently held a meeting at the OIE Headquarters in Paris in March 2012, to elaborate a strategic framework for collaboration. The aim is to define and characterise a special sub-population of horses temporarily participating in international competitions. These horses are under constant veterinary supervision and generally are in a higher health status than leisure or working horses.

The two Organisations continued their partnership by organising a regional workshop on the subject in Panama from 11 to 13 December 2012. Other important events have already been scheduled with the same objective.

Publication of the 'Biological threat reduction strategy': demonstrating the OIE commitment

The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) has published its 'Biological Threat Reduction Strategy – Strengthening Global Biological Security', which focuses on strengthening existing national health systems (to be able to immediately detect and deal with natural outbreaks of disease and to improve laboratory biosecurity) and on the development of good links between these systems so as also to reduce the risk of deliberate or accidental release using the same methods and strategies.

The OIE continued to hold observer status and to with the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (BTWC). The Director General of the OIE delivered a statement on the opening day of the Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, held in Switzerland in December 2012, and urged the members of the Convention to strengthen their Veterinary Services, in view of their key role in conducting animal health surveillance and providing a rapid response to disease occurrences and biosecurity incidents.

All the animal pathogens that have already been developed as bioweapons or have the potential for use as such are listed by the OIE within the framework of its mandate. The OIE takes the threat posed by the accidental or deliberate release of animal pathogens very seriously.

Indeed, animal pathogens have the potential for use as bioweapons or for bioterrorism because they have a high impact, are cheap, easy to acquire and propagate and can be readily smuggled across poorly controlled borders.

The OIE network of scientific expertise

Twinning between laboratories in the field of aquatic animal health

The vast majority of inter-laboratory OIE twinning projects were previously for terrestrial animal diseases. Only one project was active in the field of aquatic animal health. In 2012, three new proposals were approved by the Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission when it met in September 2012.

Other twinning between laboratories projects

As of 1 December 2012, eight twinning projects had been completed, 32 were in progress and 20 project applications were in preparation.

In 2012, two twinning projects developed under the technical auspices of the OIE were supported by funding from sources other than the OIE (either from the Candidate's own government or from other donors), and two similarly self-funded projects are in preparation.

Twinning between laboratories worldwide

The twinning initiative provides for twinning between existing OIE Reference Laboratories or Collaborating Centres and candidate laboratories in developing and in-transition countries. This initiative is intended to achieve a more balanced geographical distribution of OIE Reference Centres related to terrestrial and aquatic animals and give developing and in-transition countries easier access to scientific and diagnostic expertise. It also seeks to strengthen the excellence of the veterinary scientific communities in these countries to facilitate their participation in the scientific preparation of OIE standards.

The OIE Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases and the official recognition of OIE Members' animal disease status

Founded in 1946, the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases is tasked with identifying the most appropriate strategies and measures for disease prevention and control. It is also responsible for examining applications from Members requesting to be included in the list of Members with a recognised disease status in terms of one of four priority diseases: foot and mouth disease (FMD), bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP) and, from 2013, African horse sickness. Members may also, if they wish, apply for official endorsement by the OIE of their national control programme for foot and mouth disease.

Foot and mouth disease

The first national control programmes for FMD were endorsed by the OIE. The programmes submitted by Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia were officially endorsed.

Regarding official recognition of FMD status, in 2012 the only new zone to have been recognised as FMD free where vaccination is not practised was a zone in the Altiplano region of Bolivia.

Bovine spongiform encephalopathy

In 2012, regarding BSE, the OIE recognised Croatia and Nicaragua as having 'a controlled BSE risk'. Austria, Belgium, Brazil and Colombia were recognised as having 'a negligible risk'.

Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia

No applications submitted by Member Countries were approved in 2012.

African horse sickness

This year, a procedure for officially recognising the African horse sickness status of countries was adopted. Member Countries can now apply for official recognition of their status in terms of this disease. The OIE's first decisions in this respect will be taken by the World Assembly in May 2013.

The OIE/FAO network of expertise on animal influenza (OFFLU)

OFFLU continues to expand in terms of both scope of action and size, and now includes experts from networks specialising in equine influenza, swine influenza and avian influenza.

In 2012, OFFLU organised two meetings of the Steering Committee/ Executive Committee to give strategic direction and coordinate the various technical activities. Eleven technical activities are underway and several projects are already delivering concrete outputs that will ultimately reduce the risks posed by animal influenza viruses to public health, animal health and agriculture.

The OFFLU annual technical meeting was held in London in April 2012, back-to-back with the International Avian Influenza Symposium. More than 50 influenza experts from various countries participated in this meeting to discuss and present various on-going research activities and issues.

Since the creation of OFFLU, the OIE Headquarters has hosted the Secretariat for the network, in close partnership with FAO.



A petri dish containing a bacterial culture with several distinct colonies of varying sizes and colors (purple, pink, white) on a light-colored agar surface. The dish is held by a gloved hand, and the background is a soft, out-of-focus blue.

12 new Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres in 2012

OIE Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres are known collectively as OIE Reference Centres.

A new official method of counting OIE Reference Laboratories was introduced in May 2011. Each disease is now considered separately and the laboratories in question must therefore submit a separate annual report for each disease. For example, Reference Laboratories for both avian influenza and Newcastle disease are now counted as two distinct Laboratories and must submit separate reports.

The OIE now has 277 Reference Centres in its worldwide network of scientific expertise.

11 applications for the status of OIE Reference Laboratory were accepted in 2012, bringing the total number of OIE Reference Laboratories to 236.

These laboratories are as follows:

Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia

Botswana National Veterinary Laboratory, Gaborone, Botswana.

Porcine reproductive & respiratory syndrome

Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, China Animal Disease Control Center, Beijing, People's Republic of China.

Newcastle disease

National Diagnostic Center for Exotic Animal Diseases, China Animal Health and Epidemiology Center, Ministry of Agriculture, People's Republic of China.

Rabies

Diagnostic Laboratory for Rabies and Wildlife Associated Zoonoses, Department of Virology, Changchun Veterinary Research Institute, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Changchun, People's Republic of China.

Rabies Research Laboratory, Division of Viral Disease, QIA, MIFAFF, Gyeonggi, Republic of Korea.

Avian mycoplasmosis

MYCOLAB (Laboratorio para diagnóstico de micoplasmas), Centro nacional de sanidad Agropecuaria, CENSA, San José de las Lajas, Provincia Mayabeque, Cuba.

The Laboratories Commission

This Commission oversees the production of the *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals* (the *Terrestrial Manual*), recognised as an international standard text by the SPS Agreement of the World Trade Organization. The Commission also selects candidates for the status of OIE Reference Laboratory for diseases of terrestrial animals and checks that laboratories that have already been awarded this status are fulfilling their mandate. The Commission promotes the preparation and distribution of high-quality reagents and vaccines that meet OIE standards.

Epizootic haemorrhagic disease

Agence nationale de sécurité sanitaire de l'alimentation, de l'environnement et du travail (Anses), Maisons-Alfort Laboratory for Animal Health, France.

Paratuberculosis

Anses, Niort Laboratory, France.

Enzootic bovine leukosis

Institute of Virology, Centre for Infectious Diseases, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Leipzig University, Germany.

Myxomatosis

Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale della Lombardia e dell'Emilia Romagna 'Bruno Ubertini', Brescia, Italy.

Swine influenza

Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale della Lombardia e dell'Emilia Romagna 'Bruno Ubertini', Brescia, Italy

Division Viral Disease and Epidemiology Research Division, National Institute of Animal Health, National Agriculture and Food Research Organization, Ibaraki, Japan.

Chronic wasting disease

Prion Disease Research Laboratory, Division of Foreign Animal Disease, Animal, Plant and Fisheries Quarantine and Inspection Agency (QIA), Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (MIFAFF), Gyeonggi, Republic of Korea.

Equine babesiosis (piroplasmosis)

Animal Disease Research Unit (ADRU), Agricultural Research Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Co-located at the College of Veterinary Medicine Washington State University Pullman, United States of America.

Foot and mouth disease

National Veterinary Services Laboratories, USDA-APHIS-VS, Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory, Plum Island Animal Disease Center, Greenport, NY, United States of America.

1 new application for the status of OIE Collaborating Centre was approved by the World Assembly, bringing their total number to 41:

OIE Collaborating Centre for Zoonoses of Asia-Pacific at the Harbin Veterinary Research Institute, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, People's Republic of China.

The National Wildlife Health Center, Madison, Wisconsin, United States of America formed a consortium with the current OIE Collaborating Centre at the Canadian Cooperative Wildlife Health Centre, University of Saskatchewan, Canada to establish an OIE Collaborating Centre for Research, Diagnosis and Surveillance of Pathogens in Wildlife.

Regional activities

The OIE's regional activities include providing the logistics for capacity-building programmes for national Veterinary Services and their partners throughout the world for the benefit of all Member Countries. Through the programmes it carries out in the field, the OIE creates a network of national decision-makers to ensure that its standards and guidelines are applied worldwide.





The Regional Activities Department provides support for the process of bringing national Veterinary Services into compliance with the OIE's standards of quality, the overall aim being to improve sanitary governance worldwide. In addition, at the request of individual countries, the OIE offers to carry out a Gap Analysis coupled with the preparation of a national strategic plan to strengthen the Veterinary Services' compliance, and thus provide Member Countries with the support they need to prepare investment programmes to be presented to their governments and, if necessary, to interested donors.

PVS Pathway missions carried out between 1 January and 1 December 2012

Missions	Official requests	Total number of missions conducted
PVS Evaluation	4	4
GAP Analysis	6	10
Legislation	4	6

As of today, five years on from the launch of this programme, nearly 150 countries have undergone a first diagnosis of their status carried out by independent OIE-certified experts using various forms of the PVS tool. By the end of 2012, 69% that had already undergone a PVS Evaluation had asked the OIE to carry out a PVS Gap Analysis mission and 35% had already submitted a formal request for support with modernising their legislation.

Three pilot 'One Health' missions have taken place in countries seeking a formal analysis of the coordination of their activities between the Veterinary Services, the Public Health Services and the Services in charge of managing ecosystems.

National Focal Points on seven key topics

In May 2008, during the 76th General Session of the OIE, the World Assembly of Delegates requested that all Member Countries designate national Focal Points for each of the following key topics: notification of animal diseases, wildlife, animal production food safety, veterinary products, animal welfare, communication and aquatic animals. Focal Points for Laboratories are currently being nominated.

Training workshops for Focal Points are held roughly every two years for each topic in each of the five OIE regions. In 2012 the Regional Activities Department arranged 17 workshops for national decision-makers providing support for the Delegate.

To date, more than 779 senior national Veterinary Service staff around the world have benefited from these workshops.

Federating new national Delegates through training

The OIE also places special emphasis on training newly appointed national Delegates by regularly organising seminars to explain the rights and obligations of OIE Members, the role of Delegates in the Organisation and the OIE's objectives and missions. Three such seminars were organised in 2012 for 42 new Delegates.

In 2012 the OIE has continued to take part in various global programmes:

- The implementation of agreements: the Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs), with FAO, and the Global Early Warning system (GLEWs), with FAO and WHO, were actively pursued, including the development of disease surveillance policies, strategies and methods and the sharing of scientific and epidemiological information.
- The ALive platform in Africa in collaboration with FAO, AU-IBAR and interested donor agencies.
- The OIE participated in meetings of the WTO Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) Working Group and Policy Committee.

The Regional Commissions

The OIE has five Regional Commissions, considered as full regional bodies, to address specific issues facing Member Countries in the different regions and to take better account of their economic and cultural features.

The Regional Commissions meet regularly to ensure that recommendations to be presented to the World Assembly of OIE Delegates are suitably adapted to the specific economic, cultural and epidemiological context of each region.

Each Regional Commission holds a plenary Conference once every two years and issues recommendations which are then submitted to the World Assembly of Delegates for approval and subsequent implementation.

In 2012, the Regional Commissions for Europe and the Americas each held a Conference:

The 25th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe

held in Fleesensee, Germany, from 17 to 21 September 2012,

The 21st Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas

held in Bridgetown, Barbados, from 26 to 29 November 2012.

OIE Offices



Publications



In 2012, the OIE actively pursued its policy of participation and visibility in the publishing world (electronic and printed format) including through the sale or free provision of scientific works on topics related to animal health and welfare.

En 2012 the best-selling publications were:

- *The Atlas of Transboundary Diseases*
- *Animal Health and Biodiversity. Preparing for the Future, Proceedings of the OIE Global Conference on Wildlife*
- *Review 31 (1): Antibiotic resistance in animal and public health*

Most of the OIE's publications are available online on the OIE website (www.oie.int/en/). Printed copies of OIE publications can easily be ordered through the online bookshop (web.oie.int/boutique/index.php?lang=en).

Digitalisation of the OIE archives

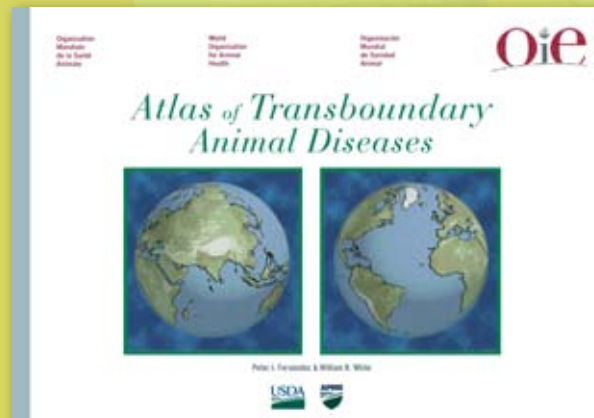
The documents resulting from the digitalisation of the OIE's historical archives, which began in 2010 and continued in 2011, are being incorporated into the OIE document database. To date they include: all the articles of the *Scientific and Technical Review* since 1981, all OIE resolutions from 1921 to 2011, all OIE recommendations from 1963 to 2011, the editions of the *Terrestrial Code* from 1971 to 2011, the editions of the *Aquatic Code* from 1995 to 2011, and the digitalised archives of *World Animal Health* from 1981 to 1995.

The reports of the Conferences of the Regional Commissions since 1952 (1st Asia Conference) and the statistics on animal diseases (or the animal health situation) in Member Countries published in the *Bulletin* from 1927 to 1981 are currently being incorporated into the database. Detailed lists of contents for all 98 volumes of the *Bulletin* from 1927 to 1982 were digitised in 2012.

In 2012, the OIE presented its publications at 19 national and international scientific events.

Atlas of Transboundary Diseases: an OIE's 'best-seller'

The Atlas of Transboundary Diseases is intended to assist Veterinary Service field personnel involved in animal disease surveillance and diagnostics in identifying important transboundary diseases of livestock. The book provides a compilation of illustrations of clinical signs and post-mortem lesions associated with 29 OIE notifiable animal diseases, supplemented by technical summaries describing each of the diseases. Input for this reference volume comes from the OIE's global network of veterinary epidemiologists and diagnostic experts and the support of APHIS-USDA.



Administration



Member Countries

At the end of 2012, the OIE had a total of 178 Member Countries.

Diversity within the OIE

In 2012, the OIE had 147 permanent staff of 46 nationalities worldwide, with 33 different nationalities represented at the OIE Headquarters in Paris (France). These staff members receive constant support from the 277 OIE Reference Centres around the world.

The OIE Council in 2012

During the 80th General Session, the OIE World Assembly, representing the Organisation's 178 Member Countries, elected Dr Karin Schwabenbauer (Germany) as President for a three-year term of office. Dr Schwabenbauer is the first woman to have been elected to this position in the history of the OIE. She succeeds Dr Carlos Correa Messuti (Uruguay), who was elected in 2009.

Members of the Council



**President
of the World Assembly of Delegates**
Dr Karin Schwabenbauer
(Germany)



Vice-President
Dr Joud Berrada
(Morocco)



Outgoing President
Dr Carlos A. Correa Messuti
(Uruguay)



Dr Brian R. Evans
(Canada)



Dr Evgeny Neplokonov
(Russia)



Dr Botlhe Michael Modisane
(South Africa)



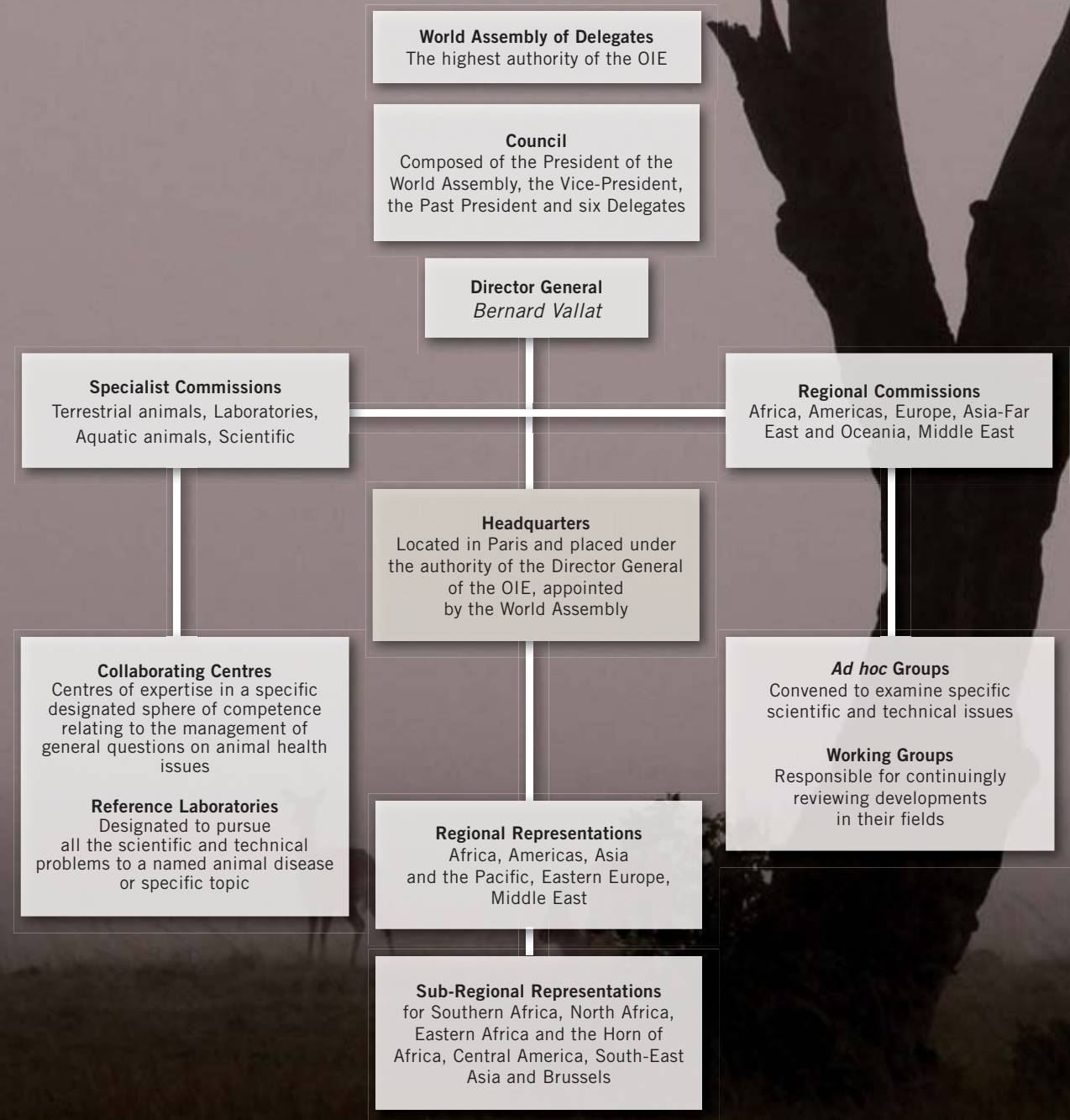
Dr Toshiro Kawashima
(Japan)



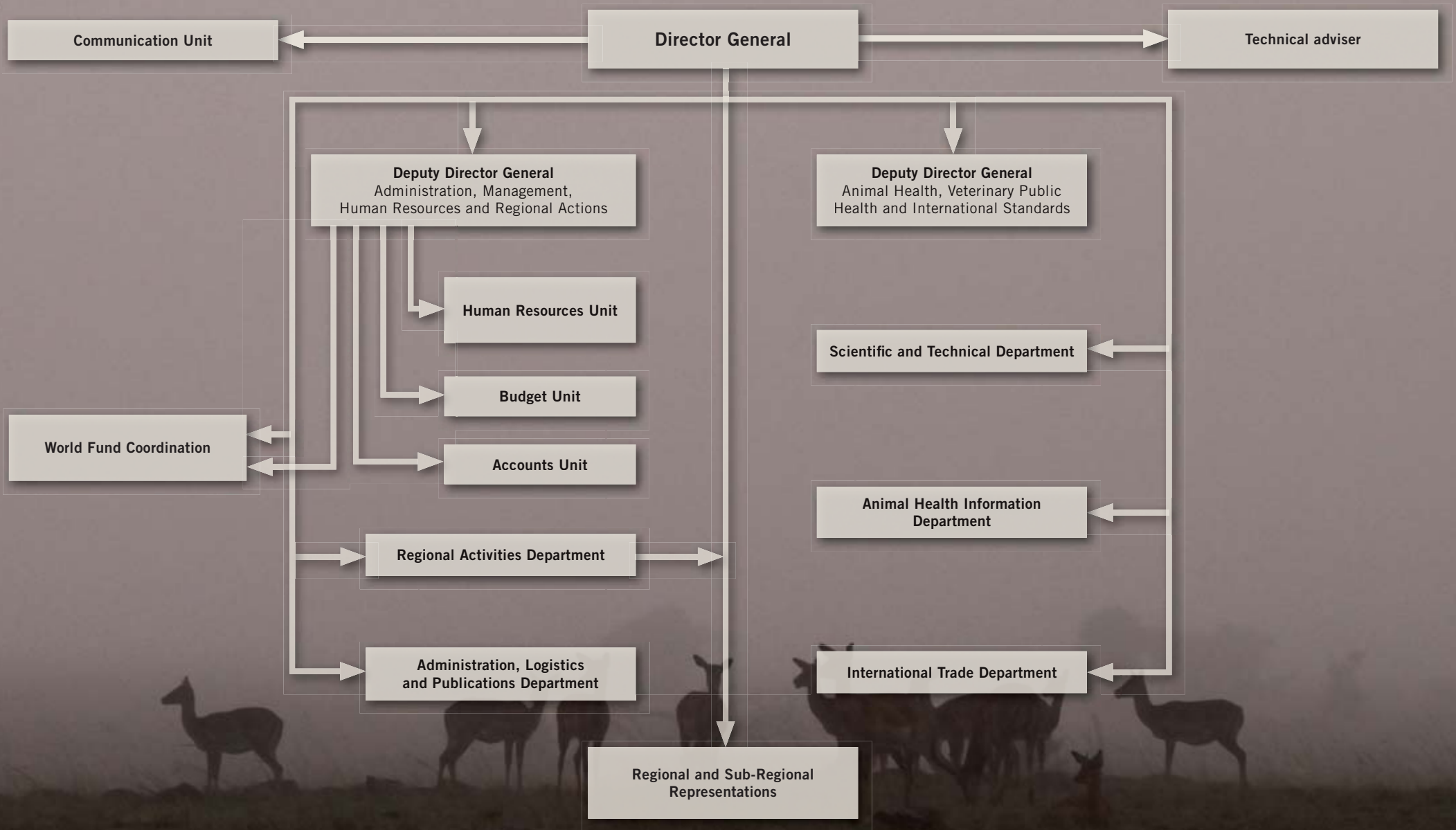
Dr Mark Schipp
(Australia)

Appendices

Worldwide organisation



Headquarters organisation chart





OIE Working Groups

On Animal Welfare

On Wildlife Diseases

On Animal Production Food Safety

Ad hoc Groups that met in 2012

On the OIE List of Aquatic Animal Diseases (Finfish Team)

On Veterinary Legislation

On Veterinary Education

On Evaluation of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Status of Member Countries

On Epidemiology

On Schmallenberg Virus

On Notification of Animal Diseases and Pathogenic Agents

On BSE Risk Status Evaluation of Member Countries

On the recognition of Classical Swine Fever (CSF) in the list of diseases with official status

On Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR)

On diseases of honey bees

On Antimicrobial Resistance

On Rabies Vaccine Quality

On the Scientific Partnerships among OIE Reference Centres: Networking

On Biosafety and Biosecurity in Veterinary Laboratories

On Validation of Diagnostic Assays

On Vaccine Quality related to Classical Swine Fever

On Rift Valley Fever

On new approaches to diagnosis: Applied Genomics

On Zoonotic Parasites

On responsible use of antimicrobials in Aquatic Animals

On Evaluation of Aquatic Animal Health Services

On Evaluation of Veterinary Services

Competence-building

Seminars for recently appointed Delegates

Asia and the Pacific

Tokyo (Japan), 7-8 February

Europe

Paris (France), 19 May

Fleesensee (Germany), 17 September

Training workshops for Focal Points

Animal production food safety

Asia and the Pacific

Tokyo (Japan),

31 novembre-2 November

Wildlife

Europe

Pravets (Bulgarie), 23-25 January

Asia and the Pacific

Colombo (Sri Lanka), 23-26 April

Animal welfare

Europe

Kiev (Ukraine), 6-8 March

Middle East

Beirut (Lebanon), 4-6 December

Aquatic animal diseases

Africa

Accra (Ghana), 20-22 March

Asia and the Pacific

Bangkok (Thailand), 10-12 October

Veterinary products

Africa

Mombasa (Kenya), 20-22 March

Asia and the Pacific

Bangkok (Thailand), 10-13 July

Americas

Sao Paulo (Brazil), 1-3 October

Europe

Vienna (Austria), 20-22 November

Notification of animal diseases

Europe

Paris (France), 9-11 October

Veterinary laboratories (pilot seminars)

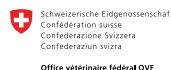
Asia and the Pacific

Pakchong (Thailand), 21-23 August

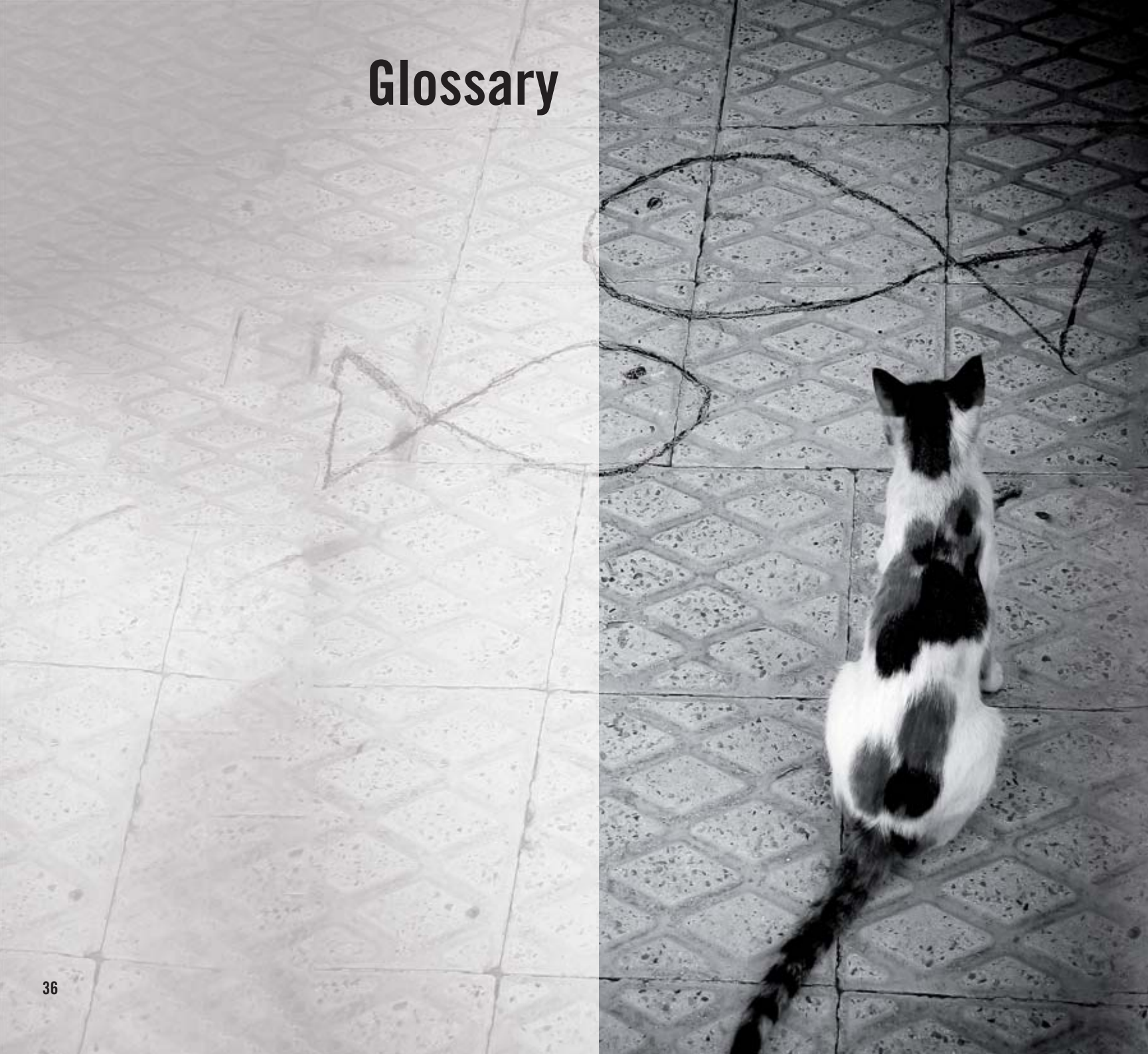
Americas

Tecamac (Mexico), 13-15 November

Donors and Partners



Glossary



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ALive :

African Livestock platform

AU-IBAR:

African Union – Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources

AusAid:

Australian Agency for International Development

BWC:

Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on their Destruction

CBD:

Convention on Biological Diversity

Codex Alimentarius Commission:

Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme

FAO:

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

FEI:

Fédération Équestre Internationale

GF-TADs:

Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases

GLEWS:

OIE/FAO/WHO Global Early Warning and Response System

Global Partnership:

G8 Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction

IPPC:

International Plant Protection Convention

OFFLU:

OIE/FAO Network of expertise on animal influenza

PVS Pathway:

OIE Performance of Veterinary Services programme

SPS Agreement:

WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

STANDZ:

Stop Transboundary Animal Diseases and Zoonoses

VICH:

International Cooperation on Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Registration of Veterinary Medicinal Products

WAHID:

OIE World Animal Health Information Database on animal diseases, including zoonoses

WAHIS:

OIE World Animal Health Information System

WHO:

World Health Organization

WTO:

World Trade Organization

Zoonoses:

animal diseases transmissible to humans

