

OIE-WAHIS 3rd Strategic Advisory Committee meeting

OIE Headquarters, Paris, France, 11 December 2019



The OIE has once again brought together its major partners and donors to ensure that innovative and strategic thinking, direction and priorities continue to guide the constant evolution of OIE-WAHIS.

Since 2016, in the framework of the 6th Strategic Plan (2016-2020) the OIE has been developing an ambitious project in order to upgrade its World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS). WAHIS is a fundamental part of the OIE's mandate and a vital tool for 182 OIE Members and a few non OIE-Members, which serves as the worldwide early warning system to inform the international community about animal disease threats, including emerging diseases that can spread rapidly if not reported and controlled.

The new WAHIS, which will be called OIE-WAHIS in the future, is currently redesigned and upgraded in a technologically advanced and user-friendly form, providing even stronger capacities to improve animal health, strengthen food security, protect human health, prevent trade disruptions and enhance economic growth.

As a part of OIE-WAHIS governance, in December 2017, the Strategic Advisory Committee met for the first-time in order to provide medium and long-term strategic advice to ensure innovative and

strategic thinking, directions and priorities will continue to guide the constant evolution of OIE-WAHIS. On 12 December 2018, the second meeting of OIE-WAHIS Strategic Advisory Committee was held in the OIE Headquarters. It focused on the progress of the project and aimed particularly at collecting Committee members' inputs and contributions on the next steps, including the change management strategy, how to foster the use of the new tool and its new functionalities by an ever-increasing number of users, what orientations to take in terms of interconnectivity and interfacing.

On 11 December 2019, the third meeting of OIE-WAHIS Strategic Advisory Committee was held in Paris in the OIE Headquarters. It was the opportunity to inform Committee Members on how OIE-WAHIS will become a major component in the development of OIE's role in data governance as part of the new 7th Strategic Plan, which covers 2021-2025. Two major objectives for the upcoming years for the OIE would be to: (i) develop the OIE data strategy and improve data management; (ii) improve accessibility and visibility of data for stakeholders uses.

The third meeting of OIE-WAHIS was an occasion to see the significant advancement of the project made since last year, and an opportunity to discuss with Members on OIE-WAHIS the OIE approach to data protection policy and interconnectivity in the context of global digital governance, and address the upcoming OIE-WAHIS launch strategy including the change management aspects (user mobilization, training, communication and user support).

This Committee gathers national Delegates and/or their representatives from the five regions of the OIE, as well as representatives of the WHO and FAO (within the framework of the Tripartite cooperation developed with the OIE), representatives of scientific and academic partners, as well as representatives of foundations and other partners. It is chaired by the Director General of the OIE (see the list of members in the appendix).

Exchanges among Committee members allowed to provide recommendations on: (i) the OIE-WAHIS project and expansion of interconnection strategy while ensuring data protection, (ii) further reinforcement of the OIE institutional communication strategy and advocacy around the project and associated events.

Members of the OIE-WAHIS Strategic Advisory Committee were presented with the next major milestones to be achieved: (i) successfully launch OIE-WAHIS Release 1 (first quarter of 2020) and Release 2 (third trimester of 2020); (ii) start OIE-WAHIS maintenance phase; (iii) perform continuous improvement and system evolution.

OIE-WAHIS Strategic Advisory Committee recognised the significant advancement made on the OIE-WAHIS development and OIE's strong commitment to launch OIE-WAHIS platform in the first quarter of 2020.

Appendix

List of OIE-WAHIS Strategic Advisory Committee Members

ORGANISATION / COUNTRY	POSITION / TITLE
Advisory Committee Chair	Director General, OIE
Australia	President of the OIE Council, Delegate of Australia
United Arab Emirates	Member of the OIE Council, Delegate for the United Arab Emirates
Canada	OIE Delegate for Canada
Japan	Delegate of Japan
Russia	Delegate of Russia
Singapore	OIE Delegate of Singapore
Swaziland	Delegate of Swaziland
Switzerland	Delegate of Switzerland, Multilateral Relations Sector
United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Director, Animal Production and Health Division
World Health Organization (WHO)	Global Capacities Alert & Response
World Trade Organization (WTO)	Agriculture and Commodities Division
European Union (EU), Directorate General Health & Food safety (DG SANTE)	Directorate General, Crisis Management in Food, Animals and Plants
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	Livestock team - Agricultural Development Global Growth and Opportunity
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (US-CDC)	Director, One Health Office
Defense Threat Reduction Agency (US DTRA)	Cooperative Biological Engagement Program
Agency for International Development (USAID)	Director, Global Health Security and Development
Academia Representative	Institute of Infection and Global Health University of Liverpool (UK)

■ January 2020