

RENEWAL
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH
AND
THE INTERNATIONAL COALITION FOR ANIMAL WELFARE

WHEREAS, the World Organisation for Animal Health (hereinafter referred to as the "OIE") is an intergovernmental organisation recognised by the World Trade Organization as a reference organisation for international standards concerning the sanitary safety of international trade of animals and products of animal origin and zoonoses, and is in charge of improving animal health, veterinary public health and animal welfare worldwide, as well as transparency of the global animal disease situation;

WHEREAS, the International Coalition for Animal Welfare is a non-profit, non-governmental organization representing non-governmental animal welfare organisations from all over the world at the OIE (hereinafter referred to as "ICFAW");

WHEREAS, both the OIE and ICFAW (hereinafter referred to collectively as the "Parties" and individually as a "Party") have accumulated a breadth of experience in policy development and implementation in various contexts, and have developed significant know-how and practices within their own areas of expertise;

WHEREAS, the Parties have extensive experience in animal health, veterinary public health and animal welfare, are able to combine intellectual and technical support, and to engage in capacity building and technical assistance on those topics;

TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION the specific methods and character of the activities of each of the Parties as determined by their statutory objective, their mandates and the provisions of the relevant international instruments;

RECOGNISING the need to develop and strengthen their cooperation in order to benefit from complementarities; and

CONSIDERING THAT, the Parties formalized a basis for cooperation and collaboration on matters of common interest through a Memorandum of Understanding dated 29 June 2018 (the "2018 MoU")

CONSIDERING THAT, the 2018 MoU is due to expire in a few months and the Parties wish to extend the MoU for an additional four-year period;

NOW THEREFORE, the Parties are interested in continuing their collaboration and therefore have agreed to enter into this Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as the “MoU”), which will supersede the 2018 MoU:

ARTICLE 1

MODALITIES OF COOPERATION

1. Mutual consultation and cooperation. When appropriate, the OIE and ICFAW shall exchange views on relevant policy issues within their respective competence and shall consult with each other on matters of common interest, with a view to achieving their respective objectives, including the following activities of mutual interest:

- Participating in the standard-setting process for animal welfare standards;
- Collaborating in support of the OIE Regional Animal Welfare Strategies and Platforms through the ICFAW Regional Working Groups and OIE Regional and Subregional Representations.
- Contributing to relevant activities to strengthen the role and responsibilities of the Veterinary Services in relation to animal welfare;
- Contributing to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and animal welfare outcomes;
- Supporting the development of scientific and technical material and events aimed at promoting best practices for animal welfare related topics;
- Contributing to relevant capacity building activities in support of implementation of animal welfare standards such as training seminars for OIE Animal Welfare Focal Points, veterinarians and veterinarian paraprofessionals;
- Sharing of positions on issues of common interest to Animal Welfare NGOs, as represented by ICFAW, and the OIE.

Other areas of cooperation or activities may be identified and jointly agreed upon by the Parties during the implementation of this MoU.

2. Exchange of information and documents. Subject to their respective internal regulations regarding the safeguarding of confidential information, the OIE and ICFAW will, as necessary and appropriate, exchange information and documents concerning matters of common interest. Such information that is not in the public domain shall be used by the Parties solely for the purposes

of their collaboration. The Parties will also exchange their catalogue of publications to enable each Party to request items relating to its activities published by the other Party. Where appropriate, the Parties will exchange free copies of documents and publications on topics of common or individual interest. The Parties will benefit from the concessionary rates applied to their members or affiliated organisations for orders of publications.

3. Technical cooperation. The OIE and ICFAW shall, in the interest of their respective activities, seek each other's expertise and observations to optimise the effects of such activities. Should the activities of the OIE and of ICFAW in fields of common interest so dictate, either Party may request the cooperation of the other whenever the latter Party is in a position to help develop the former's activities. The OIE and ICFAW shall endeavour, insofar as possible and in compliance with their constituent instruments and the decisions of their competent bodies, to respond favourably to such requests for cooperation in accordance with procedures and arrangements to be mutually agreed upon.
4. Reciprocal representation. The Parties will extend to each other invitations for participation in all meetings, seminars and conferences during which matters of common interest are to be discussed and where observers are allowed.

ARTICLE 2

IMPLEMENTATION

The OIE and ICFAW may, if necessary, enter into additional arrangements for the implementation of this MoU.

ARTICLE 3

LEGAL AND FINANCIAL ASPECTS

1. Nothing in this MoU shall give rise to financial obligations upon either Party.
2. To the extent any activity may give rise to financial obligations, a separate agreement shall be concluded subject to the Parties' respective internal rules and policies, prior to such activity being undertaken.
3. The Parties will mutually agree on preparation and issuance of any publications pertaining to joint activities arising from this MoU. If a Party (the "Publishing Party") prepares and issues publications on its own which refers to joint activities involving both Parties, the other Party shall be given the opportunity to comment on the content before the publication is issued

and the Parties will agree on any further amendment to the text. The copyright to the publication shall remain with the Publishing Party. The copyright of any contribution made to the publication by the other Party (the "Contributing Party") will be retained by the Contributing Party who hereby grants to the Publishing Party a worldwide, non-exclusive, sub-licensable, royalty-free license to use such copyright for purposes of publication.

4. The collaboration of the Parties shall be duly acknowledged in any publication resulting from this MoU, unless a Party notifies that it does not wish to be associated with the publication. The wording of the acknowledgement shall be agreed between the Parties.

ARTICLE 4

USE OF THE PARTIES' NAMES AND EMBLEMS

Except as provided in this MoU and/or any subsequent agreement, neither Party shall use the other Party's name, acronym and/or emblem, without the prior written consent of that other Party.

ARTICLE 5

LIABILITY

Each Party shall be solely responsible for the manner in which it carries out its part of the collaborative activities under this MoU and/or any subsequent agreement. Thus, neither Party shall be responsible for any loss, accident, damage or injury suffered or caused by the other Party, or that other Party's employees, consultants or sub-contractors, in connection with, or as a result of, the collaborative activities under this MoU and/or any subsequent agreement, unless such loss, accident, damage or injury suffered by one Party results from gross negligence or willful misconduct of the other Party.

ARTICLE 6

GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. This MoU will enter into force on 29 June 2022.
2. This MoU shall have a four-year term. At the end of this term, this MoU may be renewed in writing by mutual consent of the Parties.
3. This MoU may be amended by mutual consent expressed in writing.

4. Either Party may also terminate this MoU by giving six months' notice to the other Party.
5. Termination will not affect the implementation of ongoing activities which have been decided by the Parties prior to the date of termination, unless otherwise agreed by the Parties in writing.
6. Any dispute arising out of the interpretation or implementation of the provisions of this MoU shall be settled amicably through consultation or negotiation between the Parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Director General of the World Organisation for Animal Health and the Chair of ICFAW have signed the present MoU in duplicate, in English, on 10 February 2022.



Monique Eloit
Director General
World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)



Roly Owers
Chair
International Coalition for Animal
Welfare

