

# The Official

Bulletin 2022-1

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Animal health

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## ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMMES

### ► WOA H

## Third WOA H Animal Welfare Global Forum

### Animal welfare and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

#### KEYWORDS

#animal welfare, #conference, #Sustainable Development Goal (SDG), #WOAH Global Animal Welfare Strategy, #World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).



Photo by [Gregory Hayes](#) on [Unsplash](#)

*The Animal Welfare Global Forum, a key activity of the [Global Animal Welfare Strategy \(GAWS\)](#) of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH, formerly OIE) [1], aims to bring together representatives from the global animal welfare community to foster dialogue on complex animal welfare topics. The Third WOA H Animal Welfare Global Forum, held virtually on 26 and 28 April and 4 May 2021, explored whether improvements in animal welfare can contribute to the achievement of the [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#).*

The SDGs envision a future in 2030 without poverty and hunger; a future that is protected from the worst effects of climate change and loss of biodiversity. Despite the SDGs having a broad scope, any reference to the contribution of domesticated animals, wild animals, and aquatic animals is limited, and animal welfare is not mentioned at all. Since one of the objectives of the WOA H Seventh Strategic Plan (2021–2025) [2] is to contribute to achieving the SDGs, this Global Forum held by WOA H in 2021 opened up a dialogue on the role of animals and their health and welfare in achieving these goals.

Organised in collaboration with the Swedish Agricultural University (SLU), the WOA H Forum explored whether improvements in animal welfare can contribute to the achievement of the SDGs and vice versa. A key part of the Forum measured how participants viewed the relationship between animal welfare and each of the SDGs, using a

semi-quantitative scoring system, along with qualitative comments. The methodology used had been developed by the SLU in a previous forum [3].

The programme included several presentations to immerse participants in the topic, including break-out group sessions. Divided into small groups, participants were asked, individually and then as a group, to score the link between animal welfare and the SDGs and vice versa, and to discuss the rationales for their scores.

Over all, the scoring indicated a strong positive impact on animal welfare from achieving the SDGs, and a positive impact on the SDGs by improving animal welfare, in four of the SDGs: Numbers 3: 'Good health and well-being'; 12: 'Responsible consumption and production'; 14: 'Life below water'; and 15: 'Life on land'. Moreover, scoring for SDGs 5: 'Gender equality'; 7: 'Affordable and clean energy'; and 10: 'Reduced inequalities', indicated a weak positive impact.

In her closing remarks, the Director General of WOA, Dr Monique Éloit, noted that the final results of this study would be considered by WOA in its work programme on animal welfare, to achieve the objectives of the WOA Seventh Strategic Plan and contribute to the SDGs.

## [Report of the third WOA Animal Welfare Global Forum](#)

### [Reports of the first two sessions of the Forum](#)

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1. World Organisation for Animal Health (2017). - [OIE Global Animal Welfare Strategy](#).
2. World Organisation for Animal Health (2021). - [OIE Seventh Strategic Plan for the period 2021-2025](#). Document 88 SG/14. Rev. February 2021.
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## ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMMES

### ► PARTNERS

### Activities of the One Health High-Level Expert Panel

#### KEYWORDS

#One Health, #Tripartite (FAO/WOAH/WHO), #United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), #World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).



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*Since the establishment of the One Health High-Level Expert Panel in May 2021, the experts have met every three months to present and review their efforts in working together on the One Health definition and theory of change, an inventory of best practices, surveillance and early warning, and factors driving spillovers and spread of re/emerging zoonotic diseases.*

Through their collaboration, the Panel have provided a comprehensive [definition of One Health](#). The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH, formerly OIE), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) welcome the definition, which serves to provide a common understanding on what it takes for a One Health approach to improve health for humans, animals and ecosystems.

The Panel's meetings also provide a platform for feedback from the members on initiatives taken up by the Tripartite Alliance (FAO, WOAH and WHO) and UNEP, such as the Global Plan of Action for One Health (GPA) – a workplan to support One Health approaches in individual countries. Thanks to the Panel's collective experience and knowledge, the four partner organisations have improved the draft GPA, which is expected to be published in spring 2022.

In the coming months, the Panel will be focusing its energies on a One Health advocacy paper outlining a theory of change describing dimensions of change, outputs, outcomes and the impacts sought in adopting a One Health approach to tackle health threats at the interfaces between humans, animals and ecosystems. They will also work

on hazards analysis of the drivers of spillovers.

Throughout the course of 2021, the advice and contributions of the Panel members have inspired the four partners' determination to emphasise One Health in health policies and practices across the globe. In 2022, the partner organisations are counting on the same energy and commitment from the Panel.

For further information on the activities of the One Health High-Level Expert Panel,  
please visit the [WHO website](#)



## ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMMES

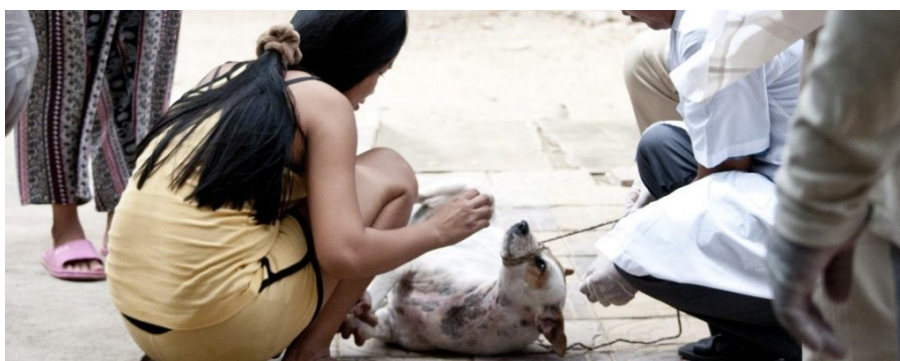
### ► WOA

## One Health capacity-building at WOA

### A way forward to support Members

#### KEYWORDS

#capacity building, #declaration, #One Health, #training, #Veterinary Services, #WOAH PVS Pathway, #workshop, #World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).



*The One Health High-Level Expert Panel (OHHLEP) has developed an operational definition of One Health which recognises the links and interdependence of the health of humans, domestic and wild animals, and plants and the environment, and mobilises multiple sectors, disciplines and communities.*

Welcoming this definition, together with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH, formerly OIE) has also underlined **the urgency of considering Veterinary Services as part of the health workforce and as an essential component of One Health resilience.**

[Joint Tripartite \(FAO, WOA, WHO\) and UNEP Statement, 1 December 2021](#)

*How is WOA supporting its Members in strengthening their competencies to match up to this challenge?*



Capacity building plays a crucial role in supporting the reinforcement of the WOAHO Members' Veterinary Services through the **WOAH PVS Pathway**<sup>(1)</sup> and the **WOAH Training Platform**.<sup>(2)</sup>

While the PVS Pathway provides institutional and country-tailored services for the Competent Authorities, the Training Platform delivers learner-centred opportunities for individuals. The two initiatives, combined and mutually supported, guarantee a simultaneous competency-oriented top-down and bottom-up approach to capacity building.

## The PVS support for One Health

The PVS evaluation mission, gap analysis and strategic planning help to identify the strengths and weaknesses of Veterinary Services (including interactions with other sectors), define priorities and develop a national sustainable improvement plan integrated with governmental processes and with optimised use of resources. **More resilient Veterinary Services contribute to Global Health** with a strengthened capacity to prevent, detect and respond to pandemic threats. The PVS-targeted support increases such capacity by addressing specific aspects, i.e. legislation, laboratories, education, workforce assessment and development and public-private partnership. All

these services consider One Health needs and are instrumental to its implementation.



The [International Health Regulations \(IHR\)/PVS national bridging workshops](#) are WHO/WOAH coordinated events bringing together public health and animal health services to improve collaboration on prevention, detection and response to zoonotic diseases and other health events at the animal-human interface.

## A One Health learning framework

While developing a full competency package on One Health in its competency-based learning framework, in 2022 the WOAHO training platform will deliver eLearning modules on leadership in Veterinary Services, in which the capacities of veterinary leaders to sustain the role of Veterinary Services in global health systems are exercised and strengthened.



Similar opportunities are offered by the [Global Laboratory Leadership Programme \(GLLP\)](#), an initiative by the WHO, WOAHO, FAO, US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (USCDC), European Centre for

Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) and US Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) that is intended to strengthen laboratory capacity to play a critical role in the prevention, detection and control of diseases.

Finally, new opportunities will be offered through the WOA-WHO collaborative Learning Framework to 'Build lifelong learning for the One Health workforce', an initiative implemented by a collaboration between the [WHO Academy](#) and WOA-Training Platform. Reinforcing One Health capacity amongst the animal and human health and environmental workforce of national health systems in WOA- and WHO Member States, this collaborative approach is intended to generate new knowledge and bring innovation in health training and learning, promoting a One Health cultural change to inspire a collaborative mindset.

## | The One Health capacity-building future is now

All these initiatives will be conveyed into the **FAO/WOA-WHO/UNEP Global Plan of Action for One Health**, expected in the first quarter of 2022, as concrete tools for the effective implementation, at global, regional, national and community levels, of multisectoral collaboration to protect the health of humans, animals, plants and ecosystems.

(1) The [WOAH Performance of Veterinary Services \(PVS\) Pathway](#) is the WOA-'s flagship capacity-building platform for the sustainable improvement of national Veterinary Services. It empowers national Veterinary Services by providing them with a comprehensive understanding of their strengths and weaknesses using a globally consistent methodology based on international standards – a useful external perspective that can reveal gaps, inefficiencies and opportunities for innovation.

(2) The [WOAH Platform for the Training of Veterinary Services](#) is a mechanism that brings together providers of technical and educational expertise, primarily the WOA- Reference Centres. The WOA- Platform Secretariat, hosted at École Nationale des Services Vétérinaires (WOA- Collaborating Centre for Training of Official Veterinarians based in Lyon, France), is in charge of leading, coordinating and monitoring WOA- training activities.

<https://doi.org/10.20506/bull.2022.1.3296>



## ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMMES

### ► WOAHPUBLICATIONS

## Responsible and prudent use of anthelmintic chemicals to help control anthelmintic resistance in grazing livestock species

### KEYWORDS

#antiparasitic resistance, #WOAH publication, #parasitic worm, #World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).



World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH)  
2021

40 pages

ISBN: 978-92-95121-15-7

*Antiparasitic resistance is an important challenge across the world, including all World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH, formerly OIE) regions. This type of resistance poses a significant threat to animal health and welfare and can result in production losses in food-producing species, thus presenting a serious concern for food security.*

The results of two surveys that were conducted in Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Pacific, Europe and the Middle East in 2020 and 2021, to assess antiparasitic agents and resistance and the prudent use of anthelmintic chemicals, respectively, are incorporated into this document, which focuses on anthelmintic resistance in grazing livestock.

The WOAH Headquarters would like to acknowledge the involvement of the WOAH Delegates and their respective Focal Points for Veterinary Products who responded to the surveys, as well as the five WOAH Regional Representations for carrying out both surveys in coordination with the WOAH Antimicrobial Resistance and Veterinary Products Department.

[ [View the document](#) ]

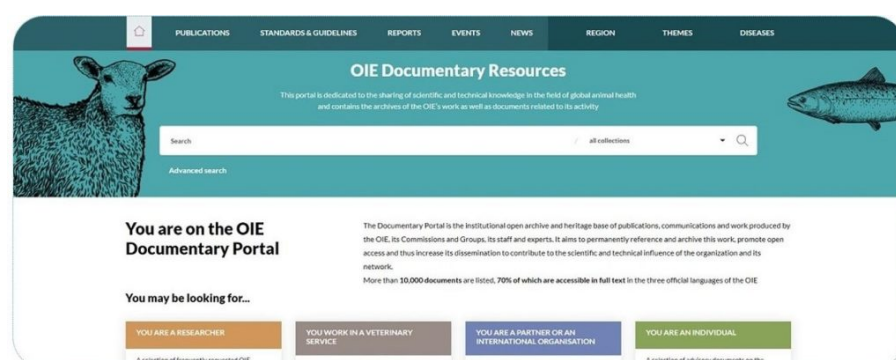
## ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMMES

### ► WOA

## WOAH Documentary Portal: a new design for easier access to resources

### KEYWORDS

#documentation science, #World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).



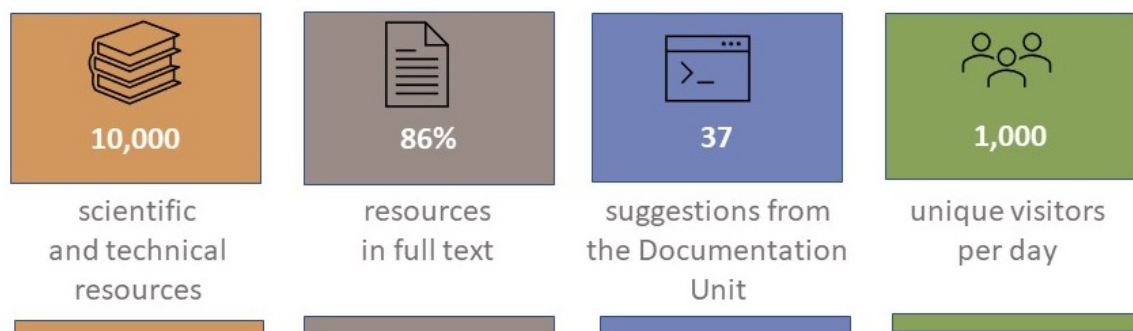
<https://doc.oie.int>

## Sharing scientific and technical information

To support its missions of ensuring transparency, collecting and disseminating scientific information, and encouraging international solidarity, the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH, formerly OIE) is continuing to strengthen its tools for sharing animal health information. Following the launch of the redesigned [WAHIS interface](#) and the [WOAH's new website](#), the documentary portal has, in turn, been overhauled to offer users content and navigation tools adapted to their needs.

The [WOAH Documentary Portal](#) is now an open-access archive of the WOAH's official texts and organisational records, including publications, communications of the Organisation and its experts, and documents relating to its activities. The portal indexes these documents, archives them permanently, makes them freely available and facilitates their re-use, thereby extending the reach of the scientific and technical expertise of WOAH and its network.

More than 10,000 scientific and technical resources are available for consultation, 90% of which come directly from WOAH. They include documents from the General Sessions, international standards, guidelines, reports, conference proceedings, books, and flagship publications such as the [Scientific and Technical Review](#).



## A more user-friendly interface and additional features

The new application is based on a document management system that handles the entire document processing chain, from data entry to data distribution. All the data is stored in interlinked tables, making it possible to move from one piece of information to another. In addition, the system's search function allows users to carry out searches at different levels of detail.

- The home page now includes recommended content for target audiences, topical information, and links to the most recently added documents, with users having the option to subscribe to [RSS feeds](#). It will simplify access to resources, for example, the main collections are now accessible via the menu bar. In addition, the search box allows users to search for documents using words from the title or summary.
- The search results page has been improved, and users can now directly download the full text of the record in the three languages of WOAHA and refine results using different filters (date, country, type of document) to increase their relevance. In addition, metadata can be exported, in either RIS or txt format.
- Each record includes a detailed description and includes features that allow users to cite the document, export metadata or share it on social media.

## Open data

With the new Documentary Portal, WOAHA is committing to the principles of:

- [FAIR data](#): data that is **F**indable, **A**ccessible, **I**nteroperable and **R**eusable
- [cOAlition S](#): an international initiative that promotes [open science](#).

Under the WOAHA's [open-access](#) policy, and in accordance with [Plan S](#), WOAHA international standards, reviews, reports and guidelines will be available under a Creative Commons licence from 2022 onwards, unless restrictions apply, in which case this will be clearly indicated.

It is expected that the content of the Documentary Portal will be fully indexed by the main search engines, and that its [OAI-PMH](#) repository will be completed in 2022. Its re-use, citation and bibliometric features will be improved over time.

<https://doi.org/10.20506/bull.2022.1.3297>

## ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMMES

### ▶ WOAHP PUBLICATIONS

## Compartmentalisation guidelines – African swine fever

### KEYWORDS

#African swine fever (ASF), #compartmentalisation, #guidelines, #WOAH publication, #World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).



World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH, formerly OIE)  
2021

ISBN: 978-92-95115-64-4

This set of guidelines aims to assist World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) Members and pig-industry stakeholders in the practical implementation of compartmentalisation<sup>(1)</sup> specifically for African swine fever (ASF).

The private sector and Veterinary Authorities are the main target audience of this document. However, it will also benefit third parties and technical service providers, such as auditors and private veterinarians, involved in the implementation and maintenance of compartments. It is expected that government policy-makers and intergovernmental organisations concerned with the animal health and pig industry will also find it useful.

This initiative was made possible through the generous support of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

[ [See the guidelines](#) ]

[ [See the outcome-based biosecurity checklist for ASF-free compartments](#) ]

(1) According to the [Terrestrial Animal Health Code](#), 'compartment' means 'an animal subpopulation contained in one or more establishments, separated from other susceptible populations by a common biosecurity management system, and with a specific animal health status with

respect to one or more infections or infestations for which the necessary surveillance, biosecurity and control measures have been applied for the purposes of international trade or disease prevention and control in a country or zone’.



## ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMMES

### ► PARTNERS

## One Earth – One Health: how can we mitigate future pandemics?

### High-level dialogue at the IUCN World Conservation Congress

#### KEYWORDS

#conference, #International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), #One Health, #wildlife health, #World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).



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*The World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) participated in the high-level dialogue event 'One Earth – One Health: how can we mitigate future pandemics?' at the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) World Conservation Congress, held from 3 to 11 September 2021 in Marseille, France, and adopted a resolution on 'Promoting human, animal and environmental health, and preventing pandemics through the One Health approach and by addressing the drivers of biodiversity loss'.*

The high-level Panel on One Health consisted of Mr Jean-Yves Le Drian, French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs; Prof. Jon Paul Rodriguez, Chair of the IUCN Species Survival Commission; Dr Radhika Murti, Director of the IUCN Global Ecosystem Management Programme; Dr William Karesh, Executive Vice President for Health and Policy, EcoHealth Alliance; Dr David Nabarro, Strategic Director of For Sustainable Development (4SD); and Ms Ingrid-Gabriela Hoven, Managing Director of Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ). The World Organisation for Animal Health was represented by Dr Chadia Wannous, One Health Coordinator.

The Panel discussed the need for a [One Health approach](#), particularly at the national level, in response to the emergence of COVID-19. Experts presented the drivers behind emerging infectious diseases and their impacts on human health, the environment and wildlife. A moderated expert panel subsequently discussed the priority

solutions at the national level, in line with a One Health approach, that will be needed to prevent and mitigate the impacts of future pandemics. Finally, the potential role of IUCN's One Programme in supporting the implementation of these national priority actions was described. Opportunities for new action and new partnerships were also identified.

One of the outcomes of the event was a document, which outlined the key priority 'solutions' and potential roles for the IUCN and its Members in advancing One Health from a conservation viewpoint, as discussed by the Panel at the event and then expanded by the Panel afterwards. The solutions are divided into the following seven categories that overlap in their scope:

- addressing drivers of the emergence of zoonoses
- research into the mechanisms of spillover events of emerging infectious diseases (EIDs)
- domestic animal and wildlife production and trade
- leadership and cultural changes
- national capacity building for One Health
- communication and information sharing
- post-COVID recovery.

The involvement of WOAHA was indicated in several of these actions. Therefore, after the Congress, WOAHA and IUCN held two follow-up meetings to discuss the way forward and identify areas of collaboration.

During these meetings, WOAHA presented and discussed the Wildlife Health Framework [1] and related action packages, including a review of related standards and guidelines, the WOAHA global review of legal frameworks and regulations on wildlife (including the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law), WOAHA *Ad hoc* Group work on developing guidelines to reduce the risk of disease emergence along the wildlife trade chain, and [the future WOAHA wildlife disease information system \(WAHIS-Wild\)](#).

The discussion identified several areas to explore for IUCN collaboration, including participation in a review of current wildlife health guidance, the revision and updating of wildlife disease surveillance guidance, and, in particular, supporting the dissemination and communication of updated guidelines for wildlife trade [2] and wildlife disease surveillance [3] to all IUCN Members and stakeholder groups.

In the area of information sharing, there is an opportunity to enhance joint analysis and interoperability between the IUCN and WOAHA databases. The IUCN has several databases that could be of use to WOAHA and its Members, including red-listed species, red-listed ecosystems and protected areas ([IUCN Conservation Tools](#)). The aim is to use this comprehensive set of information for risk analysis and analytical work that could drive policy and behaviour changes to protect wildlife and achieve One Health.

This exchange has also highlighted the need to revise the 2012 memorandum of understanding between WOAHA and IUCN to integrate the proposed new areas of work and strengthen the partnership for One Health.

Visit the website of the [International Union for Conservation of Nature](#)

Visit the website of the [World Organisation for Animal Health](#)

<https://doi.org/10.20506/bull.2022.1.3298>

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3. World Organisation for Animal Health (2015). – [Guidelines for wildlife disease surveillance: an overview](#).

## ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMMES

### ▶ PARTNERS

### G20 Joint Finance and Health Ministers' meeting

#### KEYWORDS

#declaration, #G20, #One Health, #pandemic, #World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).



*On 29 October 2021, G20 Finance and Health Ministers met for their first joint virtual meeting under the Italian G20 Presidency. The Director General of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) gave a statement, underscoring the fact that pandemic prevention, preparedness and response require a One Health approach and that the contribution of national Veterinary Services is essential.*

The Finance and Health Ministers agreed to release a [joint communiqué](#), announcing the further strengthening of coordination between Finance and Health Ministries through the establishment of a Joint Finance and Health Task Force. WOAH will be part of this task force, the aim of which is to enhance collaboration and global cooperation on all issues related to pandemic prevention, preparedness and response. The task force will also promote the exchange of experiences and best practice, developing coordination arrangements between Finance and Health Ministries, promoting collective action and encouraging effective stewardship of resources to address the existing gaps in financing for pandemic preparedness and response.

## ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMMES

### ► PARTNERS

## Facing global crises together: Better international rulemaking for better results

### 8th Annual Meeting of International Organisations

#### KEYWORDS

#cooperation, #international organisation, #international standard, #Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), #Partnership of International Organisations for Effective International Rulemaking, #World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).



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*The Partnership of International Organisations (IOs) for Effective International Rulemaking, comprising 50 IOs, was set up by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) within the framework of the work performed by its Regulatory Policy Committee to promote international regulatory cooperation.*

The IOs involved in the Partnership work together to exchange information, experiences, and best practices in the areas of development of international instruments, implementation and evaluation of these instruments, stakeholder engagement and coordination across IOs. These efforts aim to support the greater use of international instruments, and strengthen the quality, evidence base and consistency of international rules.

On 13–14 September 2021, the 8th Annual Meeting of IOs, co-hosted by the OECD and the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), brought together 42 IOs.

#### [Event webpage](#)

Mr Mathias Cormann, Secretary-General of the OECD, launched two key reports of the IO Partnership, that together aim to foster better and more effective international co-operation among governments with the support of a more

effective rules-based international order:

- *International Regulatory Co-operation* provides guidance to governments on co-operating in their rulemaking, particularly through international organisations.
- The *Compendium of International Organisations' Practices* brings together the experiences of some 50 IOs helping the user to understand international rulemaking practices and governance arrangements, and to improve international instruments through several key principles.



## REFERENCES

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## ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMMES

### ► PARTNERS

## FAO/WOAH Guidelines for the Control and Prevention of Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) in Wildlife Populations

### KEYWORDS

#Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), #Global Strategy for the Control and Eradication of Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR-GCES), #peste des petits ruminants (PPR), #Peste des Petits Ruminants Global Eradication Programme (PPR-GEP), #Peste des Petits Ruminants Global Research and Expertise Network (PPR-GREN), #World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).



© Wildlife Conservation Society

World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) & Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)  
2021

20 pages

ISBN: 978-92-95115-89-7

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.20506/PPR.2943>

These guidelines are intended to help countries in the development and implementation of PPR eradication programmes, including objectives, policies and strategies that can be adapted to the full range of national needs, and that facilitate the integration of the wildlife sector into the national strategic plan. Integration will enhance the conservation of wildlife populations, and facilitate management of diseases at the wildlife–livestock interface. Establishing a multisectoral coordination mechanism is essential to ensure good governance and effective collaboration in achieving PPR eradication goals.

The purpose of these guidelines is to provide a conceptual framework that can be tailored to a particular national and epidemiological context. In addition, they can be adapted for any disease at the wildlife–human–livestock

interface.

[ [View the document](#) ]

## ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMMES

### ▶ JOINT ACTIONS

## A new strategy to join forces for the control of transboundary animal diseases

### KEYWORDS

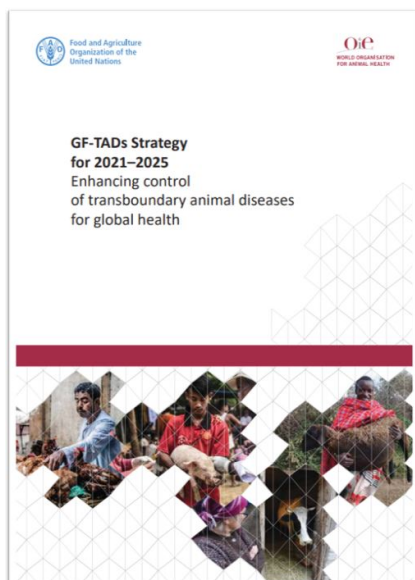
#disease control, #Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), #Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs), #strategy, #transboundary animal disease, #World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).



*The Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs), spearheaded by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), has proven its usefulness over the years. Recently, the necessity to coordinate efforts for the control of transboundary animal diseases (TADs) has become even more urgent with the spread of animal health threats; for example, the Americas have experienced African swine fever (ASF) after a long period of freedom from the disease, lumpy skin disease is disseminating in Asia, and outbreaks of highly pathogenic avian influenza are severely affecting Africa, Europe and Asia.*

In the Americas, the GF-TADs Regional Steering Committee has been working for several years to coordinate efforts to increase awareness of and preparedness for ASF. For this purpose, and in line with the model used in Europe, a Standing Group of Experts on ASF was established in 2019, bringing together leading countries with regional organisations and private stakeholders. When ASF was confirmed in July 2021 in the Dominican Republic, followed by Haiti in August 2021, the key players from the region were ready to cooperate immediately under a well-coordinated emergency mechanism. In addition, they adopted the five-pillar [Regional Framework for the containment and prevention of ASF spread in the Americas](#), which consists of more than 75 actions that support the two infected countries and strengthen capacities and awareness throughout the region. The rapid mobilisation of all players around a structured plan was the key to success. This plan addressed short- and mid-term priorities, the engagement of all sectors concerned and the recognition of the broader context in which the Veterinary Services

intervene. Inter-regional collaboration is also part of GF-TADs, and Asia and Europe shared their strategic and practical experiences in coordinating support for ASF-affected countries. This example illustrates the importance of considering the different objectives and specificities of a coordination mechanism such as GF-TADs.



Based on the outcomes of the third external evaluation [1] and recent experiences shared by the five regions, the GF-TADs Management Committee adopted the GF-TADs Strategy for 2021-2025 [2] and presented it during the [12th Global Steering Committee Meeting \(held virtually on 2 November and 2 December 2021\)](#) to more than 100 participants, who welcomed its three objectives to: establish strategies for priority TADs at the regional and sub-regional levels, develop capacities to prevent and control TADs, and improve the sustainability of priority TAD strategies through multi-disciplinary partnerships.

Despite the constraints that remain in place due to COVID-19, 2022 has started with a shared hope among all GF-TADs stakeholders for intensified coordination in the control of TADs, which remains instrumental in ensuring food security, sustainable development of livestock and the livelihoods of millions of farmers around the world.

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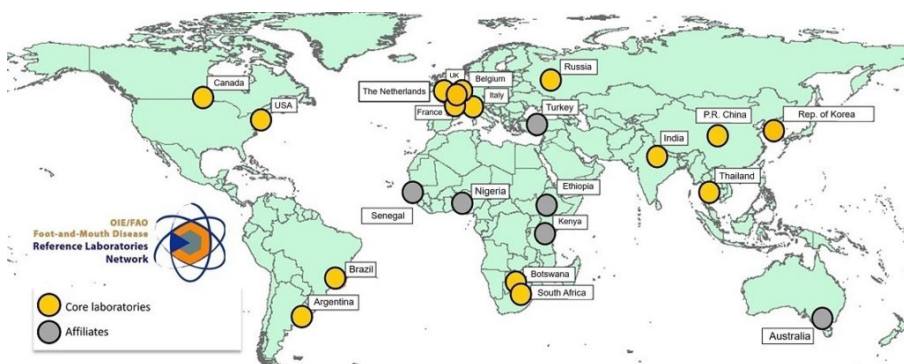
## ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMMES

### ▶ REFERENCE CENTRES

## News from the WOA/FAO Reference Laboratory Network for FMD

### KEYWORDS

#Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), #foot and mouth disease (FMD), #reference centre, #Reference Laboratory, #The Pirbright Institute, #WOAH/FAO FMD Reference Laboratories Network, #World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).



[www.foot-and-mouth.org](http://www.foot-and-mouth.org)

*The 16th annual meeting of the WOA/FAO Reference Laboratory Network for Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) was held virtually in November 2021.*

Headline events during 2021 included the introduction of the O/EA-2 topotype into Southern Africa, where cases represent the first occurrence of serotype O anywhere in the region since 2000, and the continued spread of the O/ME-SA/Ind-2001e lineage in West and South-East/East Asia. The network also reviewed progress in the development of harmonised approaches to assess the performance of FMD vaccines, and discussed new open-access 'dashboard' tools that will facilitate the display of data collected from the partners, including a new [database of FMDV sequences](#).

The WOA/FAO Reference Laboratory Network for FMD was established in 2004 as a forum to exchange laboratory and epidemiology data for FMD, as well as to harmonise and improve the quality of diagnostic testing carried out by national and international FMD laboratories. The network has been taken as a model in the creation of other WOA/FAO Reference Laboratory Networks for African swine fever, peste des petits ruminants and rabies. During the meeting, the [WOAH Reference Laboratory for FMD in the United Kingdom \(The Pirbright Institute\)](#) was elected to serve a further three-year term as the Network Secretariat.

**[More information on the WOA/FAO Reference Laboratory Network for Foot and Mouth Disease](#)**

## OFFICIAL ACTS

### ► COOPERATION AGREEMENTS

## New cooperation agreements

### KEYWORDS

#agreement, #Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), #South-East Asia, #World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).



[Memorandum of Understanding between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations \(ASEAN\) and the World Organisation for Animal Health \(WOAH\)](#)

13 May 2021

**[All the cooperation agreements between WOAH and intergovernmental organisations and other international non-governmental organisations](#)**



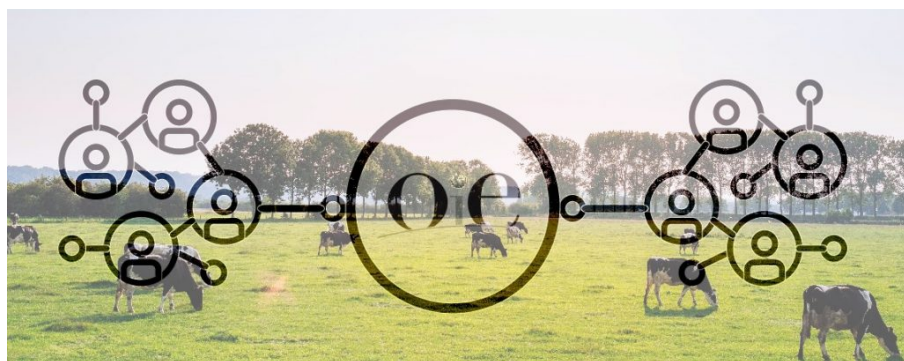
## EXPERT REPORTS

### ► SPECIALIST COMMISSIONS

## Activities of WOAH Specialist Commissions

### KEYWORDS

#WOAH Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission, #WOAH Biological Standards Commission, #WOAH Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases, #WOAH Specialist Commission, #WOAH Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission, #World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).



[Report of the meetings of the WOAH Biological Standards Commission \(BSC\)](#) held from 6 to 10 September 2021 and from 7 to 11 February 2022.

[Report of the meetings of the WOAH Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission \(Code Commission\)](#) held on 7-16 & 23 September 2021 and from 1 to 11 February 2022.

[Report of the meetings of the WOAH Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases \(SCAD\)](#) held from 13 to 24 September 2021 and from 7 to 23 February 2022.

[Report of the meetings of the WOAH Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission](#) held from 22 to 29 September 2021 and on 24 & 27 January & 16-23 February 2022.

**[More information about WOAH Specialist Commissions](#)**

## EXPERT REPORTS

### ▶ WORKING GROUPS

## Activities of WOA Working Groups

### KEYWORDS

#antimicrobial resistance (AMR), #wildlife, #wildlife disease, #wildlife health, #WOAH Working Group, #WOAH Working Group on Antimicrobial Resistance, #WOAH Working Group on Wildlife, #World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).



Photo by James Hammond on [Unsplash](#)

### Working Group on Antimicrobial Resistance

Founded in 2019, this Working Group was established to support the implementation of [The WOA Strategy on Antimicrobial Resistance and the Prudent Use of Antimicrobials](#) and the organisation's capacity to respond to global challenges according to its mandate.

♦ [Report of the meeting of the WOA Working Group on Antimicrobial Resistance](#) held from 26 to 28 October 2021.

### Working Group on Wildlife

Founded in 1994, this Working Group informs and advises WOA on all health problems relating to wild animals, whether in the wild or in captivity. It has prepared recommendations and oversees numerous scientific publications on the surveillance and control of the most important specific wildlife diseases.

♦ [Report of the meeting of the WOA Working Group on Wildlife](#) held from 15 to 18 June 2021.

**[More information about WOA Working Groups](#)**

## EXPERT REPORTS

### ► AD HOC GROUPS

### Activities of *ad hoc* groups

#### KEYWORDS

#WOAH Ad hoc Group, #WOAH Specialist Commission, #World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).



Photo: © François Diaz

*Ad hoc* groups are convened to support [the work of World Organisation for Animal Health \(WOAH\) Specialist Commissions](#).

Meeting calendar and reports are available [here](#).

## ANIMAL HEALTH

### ▶ WOAHP STATEMENT

## WOAH statement on monitoring white-tailed deer for SARS-CoV-2

3 December 2021

### KEYWORDS

#coronavirus, #COVID-19, #declaration, #mammal, #North America, #WAHIS, #surveillance, #wildlife, #World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).



*Recent scientific research has shown a high prevalence of SARS-CoV-2 infection within white-tailed deer populations in North America. This is the first time that the virus has been detected at population levels in wildlife.*

This discovery requires further research to determine if white-tailed deer could become a reservoir of SARS-CoV-2 and to assess other animal or public health implications. As they do not show clinical signs of infection, white-tailed deer should be monitored for the possibility that they might become a silent reservoir.

While there is currently no evidence of transmission of SARS-CoV-2 from white-tailed-deer to humans, there appears to have been multiple introductions of the virus into white-tailed deer populations by humans. We encourage countries to raise awareness of this issue with both hunters, and those living or working with wildlife, to avoid unnecessary interactions with wildlife and to avoid leaving any human waste or objects in forested areas that may be ingested or touched by deer and other wildlife.

Despite the broad circulation of SARS-CoV-2 in white-tailed deer populations, the virus does not appear to have significantly mutated. While this lessens concerns related to the emergence of new virus strains that may be harmful to humans, more information must be gathered to understand the effects of the virus's introduction to wildlife in the ecosystem. Therefore, the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) calls on countries and other

concerned parties to:

- encourage collaboration between national Veterinary Services and national wildlife authorities, whose partnership is key to promoting animal health and safeguarding human and environmental health;
- inform WOAHA of current wildlife surveillance and monitoring efforts for SARS-CoV-2, including relevant scientific studies concerning white-tailed deer or other cervids through [sarscov2@woah.org](mailto:sarscov2@woah.org);
- monitor, and where possible, test cervids populations in all regions to further understand the spread of infection within the white-tailed deer population and among other deer and wildlife species;
- share all genetic sequence data from animal surveillance studies through publicly available databases;
- report confirmed animal cases of SARS-CoV-2 to WOAHA through the [World Animal Health Information System \(WAHIS\)](#).

## Resources

- World Organisation for Animal Health (2021). – [Guidance on working with farmed animals of species susceptible to infection with SARS-CoV-2](#). Version 2.1.
- World Organisation for Animal Health (2021). – [OIE Wildlife Health Framework. Protecting wildlife health to achieve One Health](#). Version V17032021.
- World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) & International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) (2020). – [Guidelines for working with free-ranging wild mammals in the era of the COVID-19 pandemic](#). Version 25 August 2020.

## OFFICIAL ACTS

### ► NEW DELEGATES



**1 March 2022**

**DENMARK**

***Dr Charlotte Vilstrup***

Chief Veterinary Officer, Danish Veterinary and Food Administration, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries



**22 February 2022**

**ROMANIA**

***Dr László Csutak-Nagy***

Vicepresident, Under State Secretary, National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority

**16 February 2022**

**KAZAKHSTAN**

***Dr Samat Tyulegenov***

Head of Department of Planning Veterinary Measures and Monitoring of Public Services, Committee of Veterinary Control and Supervision, Ministry of Agriculture

**16 February 2022**

**MONGOLIA**

***Dr Batchuluun Damdinjav***

Acting Director General and Chief Veterinary Officer

**3 February 2022**

**BULGARIA**

***Prof. Dr Hristo Daskalov***

Executive Director of the Bulgarian Food Safety Agency and Chief Veterinary Officer of Bulgaria

**1 February 2022**

**SAINT LUCIA**

***Dr Sharmine Melville-Edwin***

Chief Veterinary Officer, Veterinary and Livestock Services Division, National Agricultural Diagnostic Facility,



Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security and Rural Development

**24 January 2022**

**BOLIVIA**

***Dr Robin Cuellar Roca***

Jefe Nacional de Sanidad Animal, Servicio Nacional de Sanidad Agropecuaria e Inocuidad Alimentaria (SENASAG)



**4 January 2022**

**BOTSWANA**

***Dr Letlhogile Oarabile***

Acting Director of Veterinary Services, Ministry of Agricultural Development and Food Security



**20 December 2021**

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

***Dr Rosemary Sifford***

Deputy Administrator, Veterinary Services, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA-APHIS-VS)

**11 December 2021**

**IRAN**

***Dr Seyed Mohammad Aghamiri***

Head of Iran Veterinary Organization (IVO), Ministry of Agriculture-Jahad



**8 December 2021**

**PAKISTAN**

***Mr Dr Muhammad Akram***

Animal Husbandry Commissioner, Ministry of National Food Security & Research, Shaheed-e-Millat Secretariat

**15 November 2021**

**MADAGASCAR**

***Dr Vincent Michel Rakotoharinome***

Directeur des Services vétérinaires, Ministère de l'agriculture et de l'élevage

**1 November 2021**

**BANGLADESH**

***Dr Monjur Mohammad Shahjada***

Director General, Department of Livestock Services (DLS), Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock

**10 September 2021**

**KOREA (DEM. PEOPLE'S REP. OF)**

***Dr Un Sil Ri***

Director of Anti Epidemic Department, Chief of Veterinary Services, Veterinary and Anti-Epizootic Department,  
Ministry of Agriculture

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**WOAH (founded as OIE) is a global organisation, working to ensure the health of animals across the world. Since 1924, we have focused on the complexities of animal health. We disseminate information on animal diseases and use science-based strategies to limit their potentially negative impact on society.**

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**World Organisation  
for Animal Health**  
Founded as OIE