Activities & programmes
Official acts
Expert reports
Animal health
WOAH 2021 Activity Report

Animal health is everyone’s health

KEYWORDS

#animal health, #One Health, #World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).

Activity Report of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH, founded as OIE) for 2021:

Our vision. Animal health is everyone’s health

Who we are. Working towards a healthier world

Our impact on animal health systems

Helping research for better preparedness
Leveraging technology to support Veterinary Services
Innovating for wildlife health

Our response to health crises

Giving animal health a voice
Encouraging global cooperation
Tackling disease outbreaks
Our footprint beyond animal health

Preventing biothreats (interview)
Engaging for climate
Animal health through an economic lens
WOAH holds the 16th annual World Fund Advisory Committee Meeting

Since 2006, the World Animal Health and Welfare Fund (World Fund), a multi-donor trust fund, has been supporting the work of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH). The World Fund, through which WOAH collects voluntary contributions, and enables the Organisation to implement its vital programmes and deliver its mandate.

The World Fund Advisory Committee is made up of representatives of WOAH Members, intergovernmental organisations, philanthropic foundations, and the private sector, which also contributes to the World Fund. The Committee is a forum for partners to learn about WOAH’s priorities and investment needs, and to share information on their own institutions’ specific interests in animal health.

This year, more than 40 external participants attended the virtual meeting on 20 January 2022. Chaired by Dr Hans Wyss, Delegate of Switzerland to WOAH, the Committee reviewed the World Fund’s performance in 2021 and learned about the Organisation’s priorities in 2022 for implementation of its Seventh Strategic Plan.

2021 was the second-best year in the World Fund’s history, in terms of total value and number of new grants signed, confirming continued interest in WOAH activities and in the management of the Fund.
During the meeting, participants expressed strong support for WOAH’s strategic outlook and emphasised the Organisation’s long-standing role in international One Health leadership. Following a proliferation of One Health initiatives in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, WOAH must work to ensure that efforts are coordinated, well-targeted, and non-duplicating, taking advantage of the guidance provided by the OneHealth High-Level Expert Panel (OHHLEP).

The World Organisation for Animal Health values its partnerships with World Fund donors, and WOAH’s Engagement and Investment Department is more than happy to arrange bilateral discussions with any partners interested in working with WOAH.

Thank you
First session of the Sub-Committee on Livestock of the FAO Committee on Agriculture (COAG)

16–18 March 2022

KEYWORDS

#Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), #livestock sector, #One Health, #World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).

In June 2021, after years of intense discussion, the FAO Conference, the supreme governing body of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, established the COAG’s Sub-Committee on Livestock(1) [1].

The Sub-Committee on Livestock, with the acronym COAG:LI, is a statutory body reporting to the Committee on Agriculture (COAG) and through it to the Council and to the Conference. The sessions of the COAG:LI are biennial.

All members of the COAG are members of the COAG:LI, meaning 133Member Nations out of a total of194. The Sub-Committee is open to other UN agencies and key actors of the livestock sector. The World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) was invited to participate in this first session as Observer, and contributed to three topics, One Health, peste des petits ruminants (PPR) and antimicrobial resistance (AMR). The WOAH delegation was led by DrJean-Philippe Dop, Deputy Director General for Institutional Affairs and Regional Activities. He underlined that ‘Each of our organisations holds the pieces for making One Health a comprehensive illustration for sustainably balancing and optimising the health of people, animals and ecosystems’.
At the beginning of the session, the Bureau of the COAG:LI was nominated. It is chaired by HECarlos Bernardo Cherniak, Permanent Representative of Argentina to the UN Rome-based agencies.

After three full days of in-depth exchanges, the Sub-Committee endorsed its report addressing the following items:

- sustainable livestock for food security, nutrition and poverty reduction, including agri-food systems, small-scale livestock producers, climate change and ecosystem services
- the One Health approach
- holistic and evidence-based reporting on the livestock sector
- the multi-year programme of the COAG:LI.

The session was closed by Ms Maria-Helena Semedo, Deputy Director-General of FAO, who emphasised the ‘historical moment’ of this first meeting of a UN global body entirely dedicated to the livestock sector.

For more detailed information please visit the website of the FAO Sub-Committee on Livestock

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(1) ‘Livestock’ refers to all terrestrial animals used for food and agriculture.

REFERENCES

The Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF–TADs) deals with important infectious diseases such as African swine fever, foot and mouth disease (FMD) and peste des petits ruminants (PPR). It is governed by the Management Committee (MC), its decision-making body. The MC is co-chaired by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).

Dr Jean-Philippe Dop leads the delegation from WOAH, accompanied by Dr Montserrat Arroyo and Dr Neo Mapiitse. The FAO is represented by Dr Keith Sumption, who leads the delegation, in addition to Dr Madhur Dhingra and, until recently, Dr Berhe Tekola. The Global Secretariat assists in organising MC meetings and following up on recommendations, and consists of a mixed team from both FAO and WOAH: Dr Bouda Ahmadi and Dr José Urdaz from FAO and Dr Alexandre Fediaevsky from WOAH.
Since the COVID pandemic, the MC has changed from biannual, two-day, physical meetings to monthly, two-hour, virtual meetings, which have proven to be a very effective way to keep momentum and to allow the two delegations to build mutual trust, despite the absence of in-person contact. However, with the adoption of the GF–TADs strategy for 2021–2025, the MC is considering reducing the frequency of meetings to bimonthly, and will reintroduce one to two physical meetings per year.

The Management Committee guides the implementation of the GF–TADs strategy

The MC discussed the next steps for the implementation of the GF–TADs strategy for 2021–2025. First, a work plan will be developed in three steps. The first step will include the activities of TAD working groups and a regional GF–TADs platform; the second step will include activities conducted by FAO or WOAH in contexts other than GF–TADs but which nonetheless contribute to the strategy’s outputs; and the final step will involve contributions made by external partners, particularly at the regional level.

To accompany the implementation of the GF–TADs strategy and develop specific guidance, the MC decided to establish a Partnerships and Financing Panel (PFP) and has invited potential participants to answer an open call for expressions of interest. The MC also provided recommendations on the work plans that should be developed and submitted by the Foot and Mouth Disease Working Group (FMDWG) and the Peste des Petits Ruminants Global Eradication Programme (PPR Secretariat) by the end of March 2022. The main recommendations included:

- connecting all the activities and expected outcomes of the global strategy and specific TADs strategies
- including all relevant activities of FAO and WOAH
- indicating which activities were undertaken by FAO or WOAH, and which were joint activities
- including timeline and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) components.
The MC followed up on the implementation of previous recommendations, in particular those that involved:

- updating the terms of reference of the joint PPR Secretariat
- the action plan to achieve the global absence of circulation of FMD serotypeC
- the potential synergies between FMD and PPR groups, in particular regarding the provision of support experts to help countries to develop and assess their own national control programmes.

The MC also promotes the sharing of findings between groups. It held one such forum after the FMD Roadmap meeting in December 2021 for the Middle East, and organised another before a PPR sub-regional follow-up meeting in the Gulf countries and Yemen in January 2022.

The MC also discussed the possibility of organising an inter-regional meeting on lumpy skin disease between Europe and the Asia–Pacific region, and encouraged discussion of the development of an action plan for highly pathogenic avian influenza, according to recommendations from the 12th Global Steering Committee of the GF–TADs, to increase coordination and support for controlling this disease.

https://doi.org/10.20506/bull.2022.2.3322
Antimicrobial resistance – reducing environmental contamination

KEYWORDS

#antimicrobial resistance (AMR), #environmental impact, #Interagency Coordination Group (IACG), #World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).

The Global Leaders Group (GLG) on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) was established in November 2020 following a recommendation of the Interagency Coordination Group on AMR to strengthen global political momentum and leadership on AMR[1]. The inaugural meeting of the GLG took place in January 2021.

The GLG consists of world leaders and experts from across sectors working together to accelerate political action on AMR. The mission of the GLG on AMR is to collaborate globally with governments, agencies, civil society and the private sector through a One Health approach, and to advise on and advocate for prioritised political actions for the mitigation of drug-resistant infections through responsible and sustainable access to, and use of, antimicrobials.
The GLG on AMR has, since its inauguration, issued several information notes, statements and calls to action, including a call to action on reducing antimicrobial discharges from food systems, manufacturing facilities and human health systems into the environment[2].

This call to action on discharges into the environment addresses the disposal of untreated or inappropriately managed waste and runoff from different sources such as human health systems, food systems and manufacturing facilities, because these can contain biologically active antimicrobials, antimicrobial-resistant organisms, unmetabolised antimicrobials and antimicrobial resistance determinants (e.g. resistance-conferring genes) that contaminate the environment.

The call to action is timely, as evidence builds on how this contamination of the environment can contribute to the spread of AMR. It highlights the necessity for strengthened governance and oversight, a fundamental requirement of activities to mitigate AMR. It points out the importance of containing at source and improving discharge management. Preventing environmental contamination is pivotal. The call to action emphasises surveillance, innovation and research across public and private sectors into cost-effective and greener waste management technologies.

https://doi.org/10.20506/bull.2022.2.3323

REFERENCES

The Antimicrobial Resistance Multi-Partner Trust Fund (AMR MPTF) was established in 2019 and has now raised more than US$26million. The Fund strengthens the actions of the former ‘Tripartite plus’, now the ‘Quadripartite’, in the fight against antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

The Quadripartite, comprising the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH, founded as OIE); World Health Organization (WHO); and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), supports the implementation of national action plans against AMR in Cambodia, Ethiopia, Ghana, Indonesia, Kenya, Morocco, Peru, Senegal, Tajikistan and Zimbabwe.

The AMR MPTF Steering Committee met on 9 February 2022 for the seventh time. As the Fund’s decision-making body, the Committee agreed on the following:

- the inclusion of UNEP as a member of the AMR MPTF Steering Committee;
- approval of concept notes from the following countries: Bangladesh, Madagascar, Mongolia and Tunisia. These four countries will now develop project proposals to become future Fund beneficiaries;
- revision of the Fund’s terms of reference and reflections on resource mobilisation and mid-term evaluation.
The AMR MPTF is a vital mechanism in putting the Quadripartite's decisions on AMR into action, and provides a unique opportunity for countries to access support through a OneHealth approach.
Launch of the French translation of the *Compendium of International Organisations’ Practices*

**KEYWORDS**

#international standard, #Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), #World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).

In 2020 and 2021, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) compiled a compendium of good practices for developing effective international instruments, i.e. legal instruments, and therefore, for the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), our standards. It compiles data on the experiences of international organisations that are part of the Partnership of International Organisations for Effective International Rulemaking, which is a partnership of around 50 standard-setting international organisations that has been in operation since 2017.

The original English version of the compendium was published in September 2021 under the title *Compendium of International Organisations’ Practices – Working Towards More Effective International Instruments*. The World Organisation for Animal Health actively contributed to the development of this compendium and coordinated the drafting of Chapter 2, which looks at strengthening the implementation of international instruments.

To mark the launch of the French translation of the compendium, WOAH participated in a half-day study session co-organised by the OECD and the Institute of International Studies at the Université Panthéon-Assas in Paris, France. Dr. Jean-Philippe Dop, Deputy Director General for Institutional Affairs and Regional Activities of WOAH, had discussions with representatives of other international organisations, academics and lawyers to take a critical look at the issues raised by the Compendium and at the future of international organisations. They also discussed the importance of dispute-management mechanisms for Organisations that develop technical standards, such as the standards of the World Trade Organization’s Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Agreement. The analyses developed
during the event have contributed to reflections on current and future global environmental, geopolitical and healthcare crises.

The World Organisation for Animal Health continues to be involved in the International Organisations Partnership and is working with the OECD to co-organise the 9th Annual Meeting of International Organisations, which will take place at WOAH Headquarters in December 2022.
WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE HEALTH OF HUMANS, ANIMALS, PLANTS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

One Health Joint Plan of Action (2022–2026)

KEYWORDS

#One Health, #pandemic, #Quadripartite (FAO/WHO/UNEP), #World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).

The Quadripartite\(^0\) has developed the One Health Joint Plan of Action (2022–2026) (OH JPA) as a response to Members’ requests to assist in preventing future zoonotic pandemics and to promote health sustainably through the One Health approach.

The OH JPA outlines the commitment of the four organisations to collectively advocate and support the implementation of One Health at all levels. It builds on, complements, and adds value to existing global and regional One Health initiatives aimed at strengthening capacity to address complex multi-dimensional health risks with more resilient health systems.

It provides a framework for action and proposes a set of activities to advance and sustainably scale up the One Health approach. It aims at strengthening collaboration, communication, capacity building, and coordination equally across all sectors responsible for addressing health concerns at the human–animal–plant–environment interface.

The objective of the OH JPA is to achieve a world better able to prevent, predict, detect and respond to health threats and to improve the health of humans, animals, plants, and the environment while contributing to sustainable development.
The OH JPA is built around six interdependent Action Tracks that collectively contribute to achieving sustainable health and food systems, reducing global health threats and improving ecosystem management. Each Action Track consists of a set of actions with specific activities, deliverables, and timeline.

- **Action Track 1**: Enhancing One Health capacities to strengthen health systems
- **Action Track 2**: Reducing risks from emerging and re-emerging zoonotic epidemics and pandemics
- **Action Track 3**: Controlling and eliminating endemic and neglected zoonotic and vector-borne diseases
- **Action Track 4**: Strengthening the assessment, management, and communication of food safety risks
- **Action Track 5**: Curbing the silent pandemic of antimicrobial resistance
- **Action Track 6**: Integrating the environment into One Health

The steps include organising information sessions for Members to share the plan and develop its implementation, monitoring and evaluation (M&E), and costing framework.

(1) The Quadripartite is composed of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Health Organization (WHO).

Contact person at the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH): Dr Chadia Wannous, One Health Global Coordinator

https://doi.org/10.20506/bull.2022.2.3324
The Official 2022-2

ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMMES

G20 Joint Finance–Health Task Force

KEYWORDS

#G20, #One Health, #pandemic, #Quadripartite (FAO/WOAH/WHO/UNEP), #World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).

In coordination with its Quadripartite partners, the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) has been actively engaged in the G20 Joint Finance–Health Task Force (JFHTF) of the Indonesia’s G20 Presidency.

The G20 JFHTF brings together finance and health officials from G20 member or observatory countries as well as representatives of invited international organisations, with the aim of enhancing dialogue and global cooperation on issues related to pandemic prevention, preparedness and response. It also promotes the exchange of experiences and best practices, while developing coordination arrangements between Finance and Health Ministries, promoting collective action, assessing and addressing health emergencies that cross borders, and encouraging effective stewardship of resources for pandemic prevention, preparedness and response, all the while adopting a One Health approach.

In 2022, WOAH participated in the second (26 January 2022) and third (1 April 2022) meetings of the G20 JFHTF. At the third meeting, WOAH and the Quadripartite presented the One Health Joint Plan of Action, which was positively received and supported by the country representatives at the meeting. All participating countries agreed that the One Health approach should underpin frameworks for prevention, preparedness and response and that the Quadripartite is the relevant partnership to guide multisectoral approaches at the national, regional and global levels.

https://bulletin.woah.org/
(1) The Quadripartite is composed of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
The role of public–private partnership in preventing the next pandemic

8th Global One Health Summit, 30 March 2022

KEYWORDS

#conference, #One Health, #public–private partnership, #World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), #World Veterinary Association (WVA).

The Director General of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), Dr Monique Éloit, took part in the Eighth Global One Health Summit, which took place on 30 March 2022. The Summit was hosted by the World Veterinary Association (WVA) as part of its Annual Congress held in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

The Summit provided the opportunity to deliver an important message, urging the veterinary profession to engage with One Health issues, and highlighting the importance of public–private partnerships.

In these times of extreme challenges, including wars and unrest, climate change and biodiversity loss, and of course the COVID-19 pandemic, it has become more evident than ever that we urgently need to work together to leave a better world for future generations.

Early disease detection, prevention and risk reduction are key in addressing these issues. The partnership between the WVA and WOAH is an asset for advocating this approach with high-level decision-makers and all concerned stakeholders.
The Summit was also the occasion for a bilateral meeting with the WVA President-elect, Dr Rafael Laguens, and WVA Immediate Past President, Dr Patricia Turner, to define more precisely the areas of mutual interest for collaboration. Among the areas mentioned were education and training for health professionals to strengthen the world’s Veterinary Services, as well as antimicrobial resistance (AMR), including AMR in pets.

The Director General of WOAH also met the President of the Veterinary Association of the United Arab Emirates. An additional meeting with the Dean of the Veterinary College of Abu Dhabi, along with teachers and students, provided the chance to discuss career prospects and a wide range of professional opportunities. Areas of growing interest to which veterinary expertise can successfully contribute include camelid diseases, marine fauna and animal behaviour, among others.
Activities of the One Health High-Level Expert Panel

Annual Report 2021

KEYWORDS

#One Health, #Quadripartite (FAO/WOAH/WHO/UNEP), #World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).

*The One Health High-Level Expert Panel (OHHLEP) was launched in May 2021, with the support of the Governments of France and Germany within the framework of the Alliance for Multilateralism, to provide the Quadripartite with evidence-based scientific and policy advice to address the challenges raised at the animal–human–environment interface using the One Health approach.

A thorough selection process choosing from more than 700 applicants led to the appointment of 26 international experts representing a broad range of disciplines and sectors relevant to One Health.*
The Quadripartite welcomes the first OHHLEP annual report, which documents the work of the Panel over its first ten months of operation, according to the work plan agreed at the first OHHLEP meeting in May 2021. This includes the first key OHHLEP product, a comprehensive working definition of OneHealth.

The report also outlines OHHLEP priorities for 2022, which include analysis of scientific evidence on the drivers contributing to spillover and subsequent spread of zoonotic diseases, and the development of a risk management framework, a One Health Theory of Change to move One Health from concept to practice, and the proposal for an optimised One Health surveillance system, all of which will be used to improve systems to better prevent, predict, detect, and respond to global health threats at all levels.

(1) The Quadripartite is composed of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH, founded as OIE), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Health Organization (WHO).

Contact person at the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH): Dr Chadia Wannous, OneHealth Global Coordinator
An extraordinary meeting of the Council of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH, founded as OIE) took place virtually on 7 December 2021. This meeting was held at the request of the Council members as a follow-up to the WOAH regular budget-related discussions of the previous meeting.

The WOAH Council was given a detailed and quantified presentation of strategies to ensure sustainable funding of the Seventh Strategic Plan from the WOAH regular budget from 2023. Among the various options proposed, the Council agreed that the most sustainable way to increase income to the regular budget was through a 30% increase of statutory contributions over the next three years. An explanatory note accompanied by the full minutes of the Council meeting was accordingly sent to all Delegates at the beginning of 2022.

During its virtual March meeting (8–10 March 2022), as is customary, the WOAH Council validated the various documents related to technical and administrative matters to be addressed by the World Assembly of Delegates during the 89th WOAH General Session, held in May 2022.

The Council met face-to-face for the first time in more than two years on 19 and 20 May 2022 at WOAH Headquarters in Paris. This meeting focused on fine-tuning preparations for the 89th General Session. As a first step, the Council agreed
to propose an increase in statutory contributions for the year 2023.
The World Organisation for Animal Health launches its refreshed brand identity

Press release

KEYWORDS

#communication, #press release, #World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).

The global authority on animal health unveils its new narrative, identity, and logo, providing more clarity to its critical mandate.

Since 1924, the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH; founded as Office International des Épizooties) has been at the forefront of tackling animal health challenges alongside its 182 Members worldwide. The Organisation works across borders to improve animal health and welfare globally, creating a safer future with its vast expertise, particularly in setting International Standards.

On 28 May 2022, the Organisation previously known as the OIE revealed a new brand image, which will allow the use of its full name, World Organisation for Animal Health, with the matching acronym WOAH (OMSA in French and Spanish).

As the interdependence of animal health systems with human health, livelihoods and ecosystems has never been more apparent, the rebrand comes at a crucial moment. The impacts of disease outbreaks have become more important and highly publicised. The need for international coordination and mobilisation is clear, not only to those working in the global health sector, but also increasingly to policymakers and the general public.

To continue carrying out its mandate effectively, WOAH endeavours to further increase awareness of its thematic work,
expertise, and unique positioning by actively advocating for global animal health and welfare issues and providing science-based solutions. Collaboration is the key to achieving these goals, which is why WOAH strives to foster solidarity among all its Members, and create substantial networks of expertise with easy access to knowledge and data.

By improving animal health globally, livelihoods are transformed, economies are boosted, and the world becomes a safer, healthier place. WOAH seeks to be a leader in building a more sustainable world, one that fully embraces the interdependence of health systems.

Learn more...
New cooperation agreements

KEYWORDS

#agreement, #Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), #HealthforAnimals, #International Coalition for Animal Welfare (ICFAW), #International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), #WOAH Representation, #Quadripartite (FAO/WHO/UNEP/UNEP), #United Arab Emirates, #United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), #World Health Organization (WHO), #World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).

- The World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) signed a quadripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) regarding their cooperation to combat health risks at the animal-human-ecosystems interface in the context of the One Health approach and including antimicrobial resistance. Through this MOU, the Tripartite includes UNEP as an equal partner and becomes the Quadripartite.

Joint FAO/WHO/UNEP press release dated 18 March 2022: UNEnvironment Programme joins alliance to implement OneHealth approach

- WOAH and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) signed an MOU for an indefinite period of time.

- WOAH and HealthforAnimals renewed their MOU for a further four-year period.

- WOAH and the International Coalition for Animal Welfare (ICFAW) renewed their MOU for a further four-year period.
WOAH and the Abu Dhabi Agriculture and Food Safety Authority (ADAFSA) amended and extended their initial agreement relating to hosting of the **WOAH Sub-Regional Representation in AbuDhabi** until 31 December 2022.
In accordance with the Basic Texts of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), honorary awards can be made to members of the veterinary community for outstanding services to veterinary science and to the Organisation.

- The Gold Medal is granted to one person annually in recognition of their outstanding service in the field of veterinary science and their contribution to the scientific and technological development of the Organisation's activities.
- The Meritorious Service Award is granted annually to a maximum of three personalities in recognition of their scientific, technical and administrative contribution to the control of animal disease, animal welfare and/or to veterinary public health.

The World Organisation for Animal Health recognises the winners of the veterinary achievement awards in 2020. Due to the pandemic, the award ceremonies have been postponed and will resume once the annual General Sessions are held again in person. Until then, the Organisation’s President Dr Hugo Federico Idoyaga Benitez and Director General Dr Monique Éloit would like to officially acknowledge the achievement of the four award recipients and commend the leading role they have played in animal and public health, which has enabled us to work towards a healthier and more sustainable world. The persons selected by the WOAH Council to receive the awards are the following:

- Dr Gideon Brückner (South Africa) for the Gold Medal
- Prof. Dr Grace Chu-Fang Lo (Chinese Taipei) for the Meritorious Service Award
- Dr Jean-Luc Angot (France) for the Meritorious Service Award
- Dr Muhammad Afzal (Pakistan) for the Meritorious Service Award
EXPERT REPORTS

A year in the life of the WOAH Specialist Commissions standard-setting work

KEYWORDS


This article briefly describes the standard-setting activities of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) Specialist Commissions during the first year of a new term (2021–2024).

WOAH International Standards


WOAH Specialist Commissions and the standard-setting process

WOAH regularly updates its international standards in accordance with its standard-setting process, based on the latest scientific knowledge. The Specialist Commissions play a key role in the standard-setting processes, working in collaboration with the WOAH Scientific Network and other relevant experts. The development and revision of the Terrestrial Code is led by the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission (TAHSC), in collaboration with other
Specialist Commissions, in particular the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases (SCAD). The development and revision of the Terrestrial Manual is led by the Biological Standards Commission (BSC), in collaboration with other Specialist Commissions. The development and revision of the Aquatic Code and Aquatic Manual is led by the Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission (AAHSC), in collaboration with other Specialist Commissions.

In 2021, at the annual WOAH General Session, elections were held for the six members of each of the four WOAH Specialist Commissions to serve a three-year term (May 2021 until May 2024).

The first meeting of each of the newly elected Specialist Commissions was held during September 2021. Specific to standard-setting work, each Commission continued to progress standard-setting work already in progress, to consider requests for new work, and review and re-prioritise respective work plans for its respective three-year term. New and revised draft texts were circulated for comments by Members and international partner organisations. Adhoc Groups were convened or expert consultations conducted, at the request of Specialist Commissions, to inform its work.

At the February 2022 meeting of the AAHSC, BSC and TAHSC, each Commission reviewed comments received and agreed on final texts to be proposed for adoption.

During the 89th General Session, in May 2022, the World Assembly of Delegates discussed and adopted the new and revised texts proposed by the respective Specialist Commission. The adopted texts will be incorporated into the 2022 editions of the Aquatic Code and Terrestrial Code and the updated versions of the Aquatic Manual and the Terrestrial Manual, which are available on the WOAH website in August and July, respectively.

The standard-setting process will continue when the Commissions meet in September 2022.

Report of the meeting of the WOAH Biological Standards Commission (BSC) held from 7 to 11 February 2022.

Report of the meeting of the WOAH Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission (Code Commission) held from 1 to 11 February 2022.

Report of the meeting of the WOAH Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases (SCAD) held from 7 to 23 February 2022.

Report of the meeting of the WOAH Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission held on 24 and 27 January, and 16 to 23 February 2022.

More information about WOAH Specialist Commissions
Activities of WOAH 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).

Working Group on Antimicrobial Resistance

Founded in 2019, this Working Group was established to support the implementation of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) 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 WOAH 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 WOAH 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.


More information about WOAH Working Groups

https://bulletin.woah.org/
Activities of *ad hoc* groups

**KEYWORDS**

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

*Ad hoc* groups are convened to support the work of World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH, founded as OIE) Specialist Commissions.

Meeting calendar and reports are available [here](https://bulletin.woah.org/).
Kazakhstan – Suspension of ‘FMD-free zone where vaccination is not practised’ status

Following an immediate notification received from the Delegate of Kazakhstan to the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) on an outbreak of foot and mouth disease (FMD) in Shetskiy, Qaraghandy, the ‘FMD-free zone where vaccination is not practised’ status of Zone5 of Kazakhstan including central and eastern parts of Karaganda region and southern parts of Akmola and Pavlodar regions as recognised by the WOAH World Assembly of Delegates in terms of Resolution No.13 in May2021, is suspended with effect from 3January2022.

In addition, following a letter received from the Delegate of Kazakhstan informing WOAH about the start of vaccination against FMD, the ‘FMD-free zone where vaccination is not practised’ status of Zone1 (consisting of West Kazakhstan, Atyrau, Mangystau and south-western part of Aktobe region), Zone2 (including north-eastern part of Aktobe region, southern part of Kostanay region and western part of Karaganda region), Zone3 (including northern and central parts of Kostanay region, western parts of North Kazakhstan and Akmola regions) and Zone4 (including central and eastern parts of North Kazakhstan region and northern parts of Akmola and Pavlodar regions) as recognised by the World Assembly of Delegates in terms of Resolution No.11 in May2022, is suspended with effect from 9June2022.

Updated information
Contact: WOAH Status Department
Indonesia – Suspension of ‘FMD-free country where vaccination is not practised’ status

Following an immediate notification received from the Delegate of Indonesia to the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) on an outbreak of foot and mouth disease (FMD) in Mojokerto, Sidoarjo, Gresik, and Lamongan districts in the province of Jawa Timur, the ‘FMD-free country where vaccination is not practised’ status of Indonesia as recognised by the WOAH World Assembly of Delegates in terms of Resolution No.13 in May 2021, is suspended with effect from 12April2022.

Updated information

Contact: WOAH Status Department
Kazakhstan – Suspension of ‘CSF-free’ status

KEYWORDS
#classical swine fever, #disease status, #Kazakhstan, #World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).

After careful consideration of information provided by the Delegate of Kazakhstan to the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) to the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases (Scientific Commission) to assess the country’s compliance with the Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code) provisions for the maintenance of its ‘classical swine fever (CSF)-free’ status, the Scientific Commission concluded that Kazakhstan does not fully comply with the requirements of Article 15.2.3. of the Terrestrial Code. The ‘CSF-free’ status of Kazakhstan as recognised by the World Assembly of Delegates in terms of Resolution No.18 in May2022, is suspended with effect from 14June2022.

Updated information

Contact: WOAH Status Department

https://bulletin.woah.org/
OFFICIAL ACTS

NEW DELEGATES

7 September 2022
KUWAIT
Dr Waleed Eissa Al-Oud
Director of Animal Health Department, Animal Wealth Sector, Public Authority of Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources (PAAF)

31 August 2022
ECUADOR
Dr Wilson Patricio Almeida Granja
Director Ejecutivo de Agencia de Regulación y Control Fito y Zoosanitario, Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería

22 August 2022
MALAWI
Dr Julius Lufeyo Chiwanga Chulu
Chief Veterinary Officer, Department of Animal Health and Livestock Development

2 August 2022
GREECE
Dr Sofia Boutsini
Head of Animal Health Directorate, Ministry of Rural Development and Food

1 August 2022
MOLDOVA
Dr Alexandru Manciu
Deputy Director General, Agenţia Naţională pentru Siguranţa Alimentelor

22 July 2022
KYRGYZSTAN
Dr Ashirbai Zhusupov
Director of the Veterinary Service, Ministry of Agriculture

18 July 2022
MALAYSIA
Dr Akma binti Ngah Hamid
Director General, Department of Veterinary Services, Minister of Agriculture and Food Industries

6 July 2022
KUWAIT
Dr Yousef S N S SH Al Azemi
Head, Epidemiology and Zoonotic Diseases Section, Animal Health Department, Public Authority of Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources

20 June 2022
ZAMBIA
Dr Geoffrey Muuka
Acting Director, Department of Veterinary Services, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock

10 June 2022
PANAMA
Dr Cecilia Maricris Gonzalez de Escobar
Directora Nacional de Salud Animal, Ministerio de Desarrollo Agropecuario

30 May 2022
CHAD
Dr Mahamat Nour Mallaye Abakar
Directeur général des Services vétérinaires, Ministère de l’élevage et des productions animales

12 May 2022
KUWAIT
Dr Waleed Eissa Al-Oud
Director of Animal Health Department, Animal Wealth Sector, Public Authority of Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources (PAAF)

9 May 2022
TÜRKIYE
Dr Durali Koçak
Director General of Food and Control, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

3 May 2022
NEPAL
Mr Ram Nandan Tiwari
Director General, Department of Livestock Services
1 May 2022

VIETNAM
Mr Long Nguyen Van
Acting Director General, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
24 April 2022

SUDAN
Mr Elamir Mohamed
Undersecretary, Ministry of Animal Resources
19 April 2022

ALGERIA
Dr Fairouz Bendahmane
Directrice des Services vétérinaires, Ministère de l'agriculture et du développement rural
13 April 2022

CHILE
Mr Carlos Orellana Vaquero
Jefe de la División de Protección Pecuaria del Servicio Agrícola y Ganadero (SAG)
8 April 2022

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
Dr Étienne Nguertoum
Directeur général des Services vétérinaires, Ministère de l'élevage et de la santé animale
31 March 2022

TUNISIA
Dr Chedia Seghaier
Chargée de la gestion de la Direction générale des Services vétérinaires, Ministère de l'agriculture, des ressources hydrauliques et de la pêche
16 March 2022
NIGERIA
Dr Maimuna Abdullahi Habib
Director, Veterinary Services, Department of Veterinary and Pest Control Services, Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

10 March 2022
BOLIVIA
Dr Javier Ernesto Suárez Hurtado
Director General Ejecutivo, Servicio Nacional de Sanidad Agropecuaria e Inocuidad Alimentaria (SENASAG)

9 March 2022
GUINEA
Dr Mohamed Idriss Doumbouya
Directeur national des Services vétérinaires, Direction nationale des Services vétérinaires (DNSV), Ministère de l’agriculture et de l’élevage

1 January 2022
SOUTH SUDAN (REP. OF)
Dr Agol Kwai
Director General of Veterinary Services and Chief Veterinary Officer, Directorate of Veterinary Services, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries
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.