On 27–28 July 2018, the Agriculture Ministers of the G20 members, met in Buenos Aires to discuss how to achieve a sustainable food future.

In this context, the Ministers adopted a declaration, which supports the OIE in its activities relating to:

- *Observatory on implementation of OIE standards*
- *Antimicrobial resistance*

Ministers’ Declaration
Experts’ obligations

In order to strengthen governance and safeguard the highest integrity and public confidence in its activities, the OIE revamped the Confidentiality Undertaking and Declaration of Interests forms applicable to members of the different expert bodies (including Specialist Commissions, Working Groups, *ad hoc* groups and Reference Centres).

These new forms are available on the OIE website.
We, the Ministers in charge of livestock, animal production and health of Afghanistan, Albania, Bangladesh, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Egypt, Georgia, Guinea, Italy, Mongolia, Niger, Senegal, Sudan, and Zambia, together with the high level representatives from 28 PPR-infected and at risk countries, gathered in Brussels upon invitation by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), in collaboration with the European Union (EU) and the African Union Commission, and in the presence of representatives of the African, Asian and Middle East Regional Economic Communities, resource partners, private sector, civil society and non-governmental organisations;

1. Strongly reaffirm our political commitment in combatting the peste des petits ruminants (PPR), towards its global eradication, as this animal disease directly threatens the livelihoods of the poorest people of our countries with significant losses in our local economies;

2. Confirm that we are fully part of the international consensus aiming at PPR eradication by 2030, according to the PPR Global Control and Eradication Strategy adopted in Abidjan in April 2015, during the PPR Ministerial Conference;

3. Commend FAO and OIE for joining their forces in implementing this strategy, in collaboration with the European Union, African Union Commission, African, Asian and Middle East Regional Economic Communities, PPR infected and at risk countries and scientific, technical and financial partners, including civil society, non-governmental organisations and the private sector;

4. Emphasize that, considering the risks to our livestock, we have already mobilized our human and financial resources at national level, as much as possible. As the spread of the disease does not respect borders, we are working in coordination with the African Union Commission, the African, Asian and the Middle East Regional
5. Support the conclusion of the Stakeholder Forum on PPR held on 6 September 2018 and we underline that pastoralists and farmers are at the frontline of the fight against the disease. They are the sentinels of PPR outbreaks and will be the first beneficiaries of PPR eradication. In this regard, the veterinary services, including public and private veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals, are at the heart of disease eradication and will receive all the means of intervention that we can bring together.

6. Urge resource partners and the development community in general to join our efforts to fill the critical funding gaps to effectively eradicate PPR. While the majority of the allocated resources – 61% – have been provided by affected and at risk countries, there is still a gap of USD 340 million to preserve critical investments and eradicate a pest that is causing more than USD 2.1 billion in economic losses per year. Therefore, we strongly encourage resource partners to walk with us the last mile to definitively eradicate PPR within the expected time limit.
Memorandum of Understanding signed by FAO, OIE and WHO

to strengthen their long-standing partnership

On 30 May 2018, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the World Health Organization (WHO) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agreeing to step up joint action to combat health threats associated with interactions between humans, animals and the environment, with a strong focus on tackling antimicrobial resistance.

This MOU supports the Tripartite Concept Note of April 2010 describing the collaborative strategy amongst the three organisations as well as the strategic document of October 2017.
Conclusions and recommendations

Influenza activity - 2017

During this period, individual animal cases and outbreaks of equine influenza were reported by the People’s Republic of China (China), Ireland, Israel, Japan, the United Kingdom (UK) and the United States of America (USA).

Sources of viruses characterised

Equine influenza A (H3N8) viruses were isolated and/or characterised from outbreaks in China, Ireland, Japan, the UK and the USA.

Field data

In Japan, the Animal Quarantine Service diagnosed 114 stock horses imported from Canada as positive for equine influenza. All of the imported horses had been vaccinated twice with a five-week interval. The second vaccination was administered 10 days prior to departure. The vaccines had not been updated in line with OIE recommendations and included the old American lineage strain, A/equine/Kentucky/1/1997.
One hundred and four of the 114 horses had pyrexia and/or nasal discharge. Five horses died in the quarantine period. However, the remaining infected animals recovered quickly and the experimental challenge of five naïve yearlings did not indicate that this virus was unusually virulent.

In China, equine influenza was confirmed in Hubei and Hebei provinces. No vaccination data were available.

In Europe, equine influenza virus infections were confirmed in Ireland and the UK but not in France, Germany or Sweden. The clinically affected horses on five affected premises in the UK (four in 2017, one in early 2018) were unvaccinated or of unknown vaccination history. In Ireland equine influenza cases were confirmed in both vaccinated and unvaccinated horses but only 9% of the horses on the two affected premises had up to date vaccination records.

In the USA, outbreaks were detected throughout the year with over 135 confirmed cases from 22 states. The affected horses were primarily sport and show horses. No vaccination data were available.

In South America no equine influenza outbreaks were reported in 2017.

**Characterisation of viruses identified in 2017**

Viruses isolated/identified from outbreaks in China, Ireland, Japan, the UK and the USA were characterised genetically by sequencing of the haemagglutinin (HA). The neuraminidase (NA) genes were sequenced for viruses from China, Ireland, the UK (2018 virus) and the USA.

Viruses from the UK and the USA were antigenically characterised by the haemagglutination inhibition (HI) assay using post-infection ferret antisera and chicken red blood cells.

**Genetic characterisation**

All HA sequences obtained from viruses were of the American lineage (Florida sublineage).

The viruses detected in Japan and the USA were characterised as clade 1 viruses as were the viruses detected in the UK in the first quarter of 2018. These viruses in Japan, UK and USA were very similar to clade 1 viruses.
identified in 2016. However, viruses isolated in Florida and New York had a substitution Q189K previously observed in A/equine/Pennsylvania/1/2007.

Viruses detected in China, Ireland and the UK in 2017 were characterised as clade 2 viruses. The viruses in Ireland and the UK were similar to viruses from those countries in 2015 and 2016 in that compared to the Florida clade 2 reference strain, they had the substitution A144V. This is in contrast to viruses identified in mainland Europe in recent years which had the substitution I179V. The viruses detected in China were similar to viruses detected in 2015 and distinguishable from those circulating in Europe by the substitution A144T.

The NA gene sequences of the viruses from clade 1 and clade 2 were similar to those of viruses identified in 2016.

**Antigenic characterisation**

HI data available for viruses isolated in 2017, and antigenic cartography analyses thereof, show that the viruses of the two clades of the Florida sublineage continue to remain antigenically closely related to the recommended vaccine viruses of that lineage. However, the viruses isolated in New York and Florida with the substitution Q189K cluster separately to other clade 1 viruses.

**Conclusions**

All viruses isolated and characterised in 2017 were from clades 1 and 2 of the Florida sublineage and were similar to those identified in 2016. However, in 2018 surveillance will continue to determine if there is an increase in the prevalence of clade 1 viruses with the antigenic motif Q189K which to-date has only been detected sporadically.

**Level of surveillance and updating of vaccines**

The panel continues to emphasize the importance of increased surveillance and investigation of vaccination breakdown in different countries. Rapid submission of viruses to Reference Laboratories is essential if antigenic and genetic drift is to be monitored effectively on a global basis.

Although vaccines that have been updated to include a virus from clade 2, in accordance with the recommendations of 2010 to 2017, are now widely available many current vaccines contain outdated strains. The updating of vaccines with epidemiologically relevant viruses is necessary for optimum protection.

**Recommendations (March 2018)**

These are unchanged from those made each year since 2010.

It is not necessary to include an H7N7 virus or an H3N8 virus of the Eurasian lineage in vaccines as these viruses have not been detected in the course of the most recent surveillance and are therefore presumed not to be circulating.

Vaccines should contain both clade 1 and clade 2 viruses of the Florida sublineage.
• Clade 1 continues to be represented by A/eq/South Africa/04/2003-like or A/eq/Ohio/2003-like viruses but more recent clade 1 viruses are available from the OIE Reference Laboratories.

• Clade 2 continues to be represented by A/eq/Richmond/1/2007-like viruses but more recent clade 2 viruses are available from the OIE Reference Laboratories.

Manufacturers producing vaccines for a strictly national market are encouraged to liaise with Reference Laboratories. The selected viruses should induce responses which are immunogenically relevant to the equine influenza viruses circulating nationally. Sequence determination of both HA and NAs should be completed before use.

Reference reagents

Freeze-dried post-infection equine antisera to A/eq/Newmarket/1/93 (American lineage H3N8) and A/eq/South Africa/4/2003 (Florida clade 1, sublineage of the American lineage) are available from the European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines (EDQM). A new antiserum against the Florida clade 2 reference strain A/eq/Richmond/1/2007 has recently been produced and standardised internationally. It will also be available from EDQM in the future. These sera have been assigned Single Radial Haemolysis values through an international collaborative study and can be used as primary reference sera for the assay.

Recent virus strains, including suitable vaccine candidates for clades 1 and 2, are available from the OIE Reference Laboratories. In the event that an OIE Reference Laboratory cannot supply suitable vaccine candidates for both clades, they will assist the vaccine company to source the viruses from an alternative OIE Reference Laboratory.

Small quantities of ferret antisera for antigenic characterisation are available from the OIE Reference Laboratories in the UK and Ireland.

http://dx.doi.org/10.20506/37.3.2907

OIE Reference Laboratories for Equine Influenza

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COOPERATION AGREEMENTS

New cooperation agreements

Memorandum of Understanding between the International Coalition for Animal Welfare (ICFAW) and the OIE

Memorandum of Understanding between the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the OIE

All the cooperation agreements between the OIE and intergovernmental organisations and other international nongovernmental organisations
Renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding between the OECD and the OIE

In light of their initial Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), dated 7 September 2016, which was due to expire, the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) have decided to continue their collaboration through a new MoU, which replaces the initial MoU. The new MoU was signed on 31 August 2018 for a five-year term and extends the areas of collaboration to potential activities focusing on best practices, policies and economic evaluations to enhance the quality, effectiveness and impact of international standards.

All the cooperation agreements between the OIE and intergovernmental organisations and other international nongovernmental organisations...
The World Assembly of Delegates is the highest authority of the OIE. It comprises the Delegates of all Member Countries and meets at least once a year. The General Session of the Assembly lasts five days and is held every year in May in Paris.

Final report of the 86th General Session, 20–25 May 2018

Final reports of General Sessions since 2003
Resolutions adopted by the World Assembly of the Delegates of the OIE during the 86th General Session, 20–25 May 2018

No. 1 Approval of the Annual Report of the Director General on the Activities of the OIE in 2017

No. 2 Approval of the Report of the Director General on the Management, Activities and Administrative Work of the OIE in 2017

No. 3 Approval of the Financial Report for the 91st Financial Year of the OIE (1 January to 31 December 2017)

No. 4 Acknowledgements to the Members and Partners that made Voluntary Contributions or Subsidies to the OIE, or contributed in the Organisation of OIE Meetings and for the Provision of Personnel

No. 5 Modification of the 2018 Budget

No. 6 OIE Budgetary Income and Expenses for the 93rd Financial Year (1 January to 31 December 2019)

No. 7 Financial Contributions from OIE Members for 2019

No. 8 Planned Work Programme for 2018-2019

No. 9 Renewal of the Appointment of the External Auditor

No. 10 No resolution

No. 11 Memorandum of Understanding OIE and ICFAW

No. 12 Memorandum of Understanding between the OIE and COMESA
No. 13  Accession of Saint Lucia to the OIE
No. 14  Amendments to the *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals*
No. 15  Taking an annual price index into account when calculating the annual contributions of OIE Members
No. 16  Designation of OIE Reference Laboratories for terrestrial animal diseases
No. 17  Suspension of OIE Reference Laboratory status for terrestrial animal diseases
No. 18  Procedures for the designation of OIE Collaborating Centres
No. 19  Register of diagnostic kits validated and certified by the OIE
No. 20  Designation of Facilities as Approved for Holding Rinderpest Virus Containing Material
No. 21  List of antimicrobial agents of veterinary importance
No. 22  Recognition of the Foot and Mouth Disease Status of Members
No. 23  Endorsement of Official Control Programmes for Foot and Mouth Disease of Members
No. 24  Recognition of the Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia Status of Members
No. 25  Endorsement of Official Control Programmes for Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia of Members
No. 26  Recognition of the Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy Risk Status of Members
No. 27  Recognition of the African Horse Sickness Status of Members
No. 28  Recognition of the Peste des Petits Ruminants Status of Members
No. 29  Recognition of the Classical Swine Fever Status of Members
No. 30  Designation of OIE Reference Laboratories for aquatic animal diseases
No. 31  Suspension of OIE Reference Laboratory status for aquatic animal diseases
No. 32  Amendments to the *Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals*
No. 33  Amendments to the OIE *Aquatic Animal Health Code*
No. 34  Amendments to the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*
No. 35  No resolution
No. 36  Implementation of OIE standards by OIE Member Countries: state of play and specific capacity-building needs

All the resolutions adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE since 2001
The OIE has set up five Regional Commissions to express specific problems facing its Members in the different regions of the world. These Commissions can be seen as fully fledged regional institutional bodies. Regional Commissions report on their activities and submit recommendations to the World Assembly of Delegates.

**Recommendations endorsed by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 24 May 2018**

**30th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania**
1. How to implement farm biosecurity: the role of government and private sector
2. Surveillance and risk mitigation measures for illegal and unregulated movement of animals across borders or through markets

**14th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East**
1. Sustainable strengthening of the epidemi-surveyveillance systems in Middle East Member Countries
2. Addressing challenges in the Middle East at the human-animal interface under the One Health concept
During the 86th General Session of the World Assembly of Delegates of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) held from 20 to 25 May 2018, cycle elections were successfully conducted for members of the Council, the Bureaux of the Regional Commissions and of the Specialist Commissions. Of significant importance is the fact that members of the four Specialist Commissions were, for the first time, elected following the new selection process adopted by the Assembly the year before.

Following the independent evaluation by an evaluation committee of eligible applications received in response to a call for nominations, a list of candidates drawn up by the Council was placed at the disposal of the Delegates 60 days before the General Session. A finalised list of candidates for each region was then discussed at the meetings of the Regional Commissions and the Presidents presented the results the day prior to the elections.

The elections took place during the administrative session in a sequential manner for each position, primarily electronically and by show of hands when a unique candidate was proposed for a position. Newly-elected members will serve a term of three years and are eligible for re-election. The candidates who were not elected will be called upon to contribute their expertise through participation in ad hoc groups as required.

On the occasion of the elections, Dr Mark Schipp, who was elected as President of the Council, outlined three key areas around engagement and participation, transparency and strengthening the veterinary voice. These major pillars of work will serve for the development of the OIE Seventh Strategic Plan (2021–2025).
Bureaux of the Regional Commissions

Members of the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission (Code Commission)

Members of the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases (Scientific Commission)

Members of the Biological Standards Commission

Members of the Aquatic Animals Health Standards Commission (Aquatic Animals Commission)

General organisation
OFFICIAL ACTS

NEW DELEGATES

31 December 2018
MAURITANIA
Dr Baba Doumbia
Directeur, Services vétérinaires, Ministère du développement rural

13 December 2018
CUBA
Dr Yobani Gutiérrez Ravelo
Director General, Dirección de Sanidad Animal, Ministerio de la Agricultura

10 December 2018
PAKISTAN
Dr Khurshid Ahmad
Animal Husbandry Commissioner, Ministry of National Food Security and Research

27 November 2018
EGYPT
Dr Mahmoud Mohamed Ali Abdelhakim
Chief Researcher, CVO and Chairman, General Organization for Veterinary Services (GOVS), Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation

14 November 2018
CHINESE TAIPEI
Dr Wen-Jane Tu
Chief Veterinary Officer, Deputy Director General, Bureau of Animal and Plant Health Inspection and Quarantine (BAPHIQ), Council of Agriculture, Executive Yuan

5 November 2018
TANZANIA
Dr Hezron Emmanuel Nonga
1 November 2018
SERBIA
*Dr Emina Milakara*
Chief Veterinary Officer, Acting Director, Veterinary Directorate, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management

1 November 2018
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
*Dr Jack Shere*
Chief Veterinary Officer, Deputy Administrator, United States Department of Agriculture – Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service – Veterinary Services (USDA–APHIS–VS)

17 October 2018
AFGHANISTAN
*Dr Said Majdood Raihan*
Acting Director General, Livestock and Animal Health General Directorate, Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock

17 October 2018
SUDAN
*Dr Ahmed Sheikh Eldin*
Chief Veterinary Officer, Undersecretary, Ministry of Animal Resources

1 October 2018
GERMANY
*Dr Dietrich Rassow*
Chief Veterinary Officer, Director for Animal Health and Animal Welfare, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture
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7 September 2018
PERU
Dr Mercedes Lucia Flores Cancino
Directora General, Dirección de Sanidad Animal, Servicio Nacional de Sanidad Agraria (SENASA)

3 September 2018
COLOMBIA
Dr Deyanira Barrero León
Gerente General, Instituto Colombiano Agropecuario (ICA), Ministerio de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural

1 September 2018
ARGENTINA
Dr Matías Nardello
Director Nacional de Sanidad Animal, Servicio Nacional de Sanidad y Calidad Agroalimentaria (SENASA), Ministerio de Agroindustria

28 August 2018
BELARUS
Dr Ivan Smilhin
Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Food of the Republic of Belarus, Director of the Department of Veterinary and Food Supervision, Ministry of Agriculture and Food

27 August 2018
TURKMENISTAN
Dr Myratgeldi Gelenov
Acting Head, State Veterinary Service, Ministry of Agriculture and Water Economy

14 August 2018
SIERRA LEONE
Dr Amadu Tejan Jalloh
Deputy Director, Animal Health, Livestock and Veterinary Services Division, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security

9 August 2018
ISRAEL
Dr Tamir Goshen
Acting Director, Veterinary Services and Animal Health, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

7 August 2018
NIGERIA
Dr Olaniran Alabi
Chief Veterinary Officer, Director, Veterinary and Pest Control Services, Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

6 August 2018
BANGLADESH
Dr Hiresh Rajan Bhowmik
Director General, Department of Livestock Services, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock

6 August 2018
CHAD
Dr Nodjimadji Rirabe
Directrice des Services vétérinaires, Ministère de l’élevage et des productions animales

30 July 2018
HAITI
Dr Haim Joseph Corvil
Coordonnatrice de l’Unité de protection sanitaire (UPS), Ministère de l’agriculture, des ressources naturelles et du développement rural

18 July 2018
KAZAKHSTAN
Dr Tursyn Kabduldanov
Deputy Chairman, Committee for Veterinary Control and Supervision, Ministry of Agriculture

17 July 2018
CHILE
Dr David Héctor Guerra Maldonado
Jefe de División de Protección Pecuaria, Servicio Agrícola y Ganadero (SAG), Ministerio de Agricultura
2 July 2018
MONGOLIA
Dr Tumendemberel Dorjnyam
Chief Veterinary Officer, Director General, General Authority for Veterinary Services, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry

1 July 2018
AZERBAIJAN
Dr Galib Abdulaliyev
Head of Veterinary Division, Senior State Veterinary, State Food Safety Agency, Ministry of Agriculture

1 July 2018
UGANDA
Dr Anna Rose Ademun Okurut
Acting Commissioner, Animal Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries

30 June 2018
CONGO (REP. OF THE)
Dr Tobi N’Kaya
Directeur général de l’élevage, Direction générale de l’élevage, Ministère de l’agriculture, de l’élevage et de la pêche

29 June 2018
THAILAND
Dr Sorravis Thaneto
Director General, Department of Livestock Development (DLD), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives

30 May 2018
COSTA RICA
Dr Federico Chaverri Suárez
Director General, Servicio Nacional de Salud Animal (SENASA), Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería
25 May 2018
SAINT LUCIA
Dr Auria King-Cenac
Chief Veterinary Officer, Veterinary and Livestock Services Division, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Physical Planning, Natural Resources and Cooperatives
Saint Lucia

Saint Lucia joined the OIE on 26 May 2018, following the unanimous approval at the Administrative Session of the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE of its application for accession submitted on 10 October 2017. Saint Lucia thus became the 182nd OIE Member Country and the 31st Member of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas. The Caribbean island of Saint Lucia gained independence from the United Kingdom in 1979 and is a member of the Commonwealth. The Government of Saint Lucia designated Dr Auria King-Cenac as its permanent Delegate to the OIE.
ACUTE HEPATOPANCREATIC NECROSIS DISEASE

Designated reference expert: Dr Grace Chu-Fang Lo

International Center for the Scientific Development of Shrimp Aquaculture (CDSA), National Cheng Kung University (NCKU)
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This new OIE Reference Laboratory has a long-standing programme of work on shrimp diseases. Currently, CDSA’s research includes the new, rapidly spreading shrimp disease acute hepatopancreatic necrosis disease (AHPND), which is caused by a pathogenic strain of the opportunistic marine bacterium Vibrio parahaemolyticus. This pathogenic strain acquires a plasmid that expresses a deadly toxin. To develop potentially useful measures to control AHPND, the laboratory often partners with public institutions and the private sector of OIE Member Countries to collaborate on the pathogenesis of AHPND in shrimp, and for studies on microbiome dynamics during possible outbreaks of AHPND in shrimp grow-out ponds.

CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE (CWD)

Designated reference expert: Dr Sylvie L. Benestad

Norwegian Veterinary Institute, National Reference Laboratory for TSE in animals
This new OIE Reference Laboratory has extensive experience in diagnosis of the transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSE) in small ruminants, cattle and cervids, and is the only Norwegian laboratory testing for TSE. The laboratory has a large collaborative network in Europe and North America and is particularly active in research, working on epidemiological studies and the characterisation of TSE strains. The TSE laboratory's activities are subjected to quality assurance and are accredited under ISO/IEC 17025 by the Norwegian Accreditation Agency (NA).

HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA AND LOW PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA (POULTRY) AND NEWCASTLE DISEASE

Designated reference expert: Dr Viktor N. Irza

Federal State-Financed Institution ‘Federal Centre for Animal Health’ (FGBI ‘ARRIAH’)
Yur’evets, Vladimir, 600901
Russia

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E-mail: mail@arriah.ru; irza@arriah.ru
Website: www.arriah.ru

This new OIE Reference Laboratory is located in the Federal Centre for Animal Health (FGBI ‘ARRIAH’), which operates under the auspices of the Federal Service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance (Rosselkhoznadzor). The laboratories are also National Rosselkhoznadzor Reference Laboratories for avian influenza and Newcastle disease. They provide diagnostic services, undertake epidemiological studies and research projects, and conduct national proficiency tests (ring trials). The laboratories are accredited under ISO/IEC 17025 by the Russian Federal Service for Accreditation. The scope of activities includes OIE compliant molecular, genetic, virological and serological methods. The laboratories are prepared to offer assistance in diagnostics and epidemiological studies to neighbouring countries.

INFECTIOUS BURSAL DISEASE
Designated reference expert: Dr Xiaomei Wang

Division of Avian Immunosuppressive Disease
Harbin Veterinary Research Institute (HVRI)
Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS)
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This new OIE Reference Laboratory focuses on diagnosis, epidemiology, research into prevention and control, and other services relating to infectious bursal disease (IBD). Two vaccines and two IBD diagnosis kits have been developed. The laboratory also undertakes national and international research projects focused on the pathogenicity and immunological mechanisms of IBD. The laboratory has been accredited to ISO 17025 by the China National Accreditation Service for Conformity Assessment (CNAS).

INFECTIONOUS HAEMATOPOIETIC NECROSIS

Designated reference expert: Prof. Hong Liu

Animal and Plant Inspection and Quarantine Technical Centre
Shenzhen Exit & Entry Inspection and Quarantine Bureau
General Administration of Quality Supervision
Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ) of P.R. China
Room 907 of 1011 building
Fuqiang Road
Futian Qu
Shenzhen
Guangdong Province, 518045
This new OIE Reference Laboratory undertakes research on emerging and exotic aquatic animal diseases in China, especially viral diseases, focusing mainly on pathogenicity, genomics, epidemiology and rapid detection methods. The Laboratory provides technical support for the national entry–exit quarantine competent authority and domestic fishery agencies in disease surveillance, investigation and analysis of exotic and emerging diseases, epidemiological analysis, import risk assessment of aquatic animals and their products, and in drawing up aquatic animal quarantine trade protocols and contract terms.

Prof. Hong Liu has worked in aquaculture for over 20 years.

**INFECTIOUS HAEMATOPOIETIC NECROSIS AND VIRAL HAEMORRHAGIC SEPTICAEMIA**

Designated reference expert: Dr Kyle Garver

Pacific Biological Station – Aquatic Animal Health Laboratory (PBS-AAHL)
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British Columbia
Canada

Tel. +1-250 756 73 40
E-mail: Kyle.Garver@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

The Pacific Biological Station is a government facility operating under the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Canada. It houses the national reference laboratories for infectious haematopoietic necrosis virus (IHNV) and viral haemorrhagic septicaemia virus (VHSV), which conduct regulatory diagnostics under the National Aquatic Animal Health Programme to prevent aquatic animal diseases from being introduced to or spread in Canada. In this role, the laboratories administer proficiency panels and control samples for IHNV and VHSV real-time reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction (RT-qPCR) testing, work towards the standardisation of diagnostic methods, and perform confirmatory testing. In addition, through maintenance of a biosafety level 2 aquarium facility, the laboratories conduct research on endemic aquatic viral diseases, with investigations focused on evaluating strain virulence, host response, development of diagnostic tools and vaccine efficacy studies. The laboratories’ activities are subjected to quality assurance and are accredited under ISO/IEC 17025 by the Standards Council of Canada.

**KOI HERPESVIRUS DISEASE**
**THE OFFICIAL 2018-2**

**Designated reference expert: Dr Sven M. Bergmann**

German Reference Laboratory for KHVD, Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut (FLI), Federal Research Institute for Animal Health, Institute of Infectology
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Germany

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This new OIE Reference Laboratory is located at the Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut (FLI), the Federal Research Institute for Animal Health in Germany, which is an independent higher federal authority operating under the auspices of the Federal Ministry for Food and Agriculture. The laboratory, which is the German reference laboratory for koi herpesvirus disease (KHVD), is in direct contact with government and federal state authorities regarding the classical, serological and molecular diagnosis of KHVD (including high throughput sequencing). It designs plans for KHVD eradication, and is involved in the development of vaccines against the disease.

The Reference Laboratory also develops new test methods for the molecular, histological and serological detection of KHV, and conducts national proficiency tests (ring trials) for quality assurance procedures for animal disease diagnosis. The laboratory has extensive experience in diagnosing diseases of fish, molluscs and crustaceans. It is accredited for diagnostic techniques for notifiable diseases of fish, covering a wide range of diagnostic methods.

**SALMONELLOSIS**

**Designated reference expert: Dr Min-Su Kang**

Avian Bacteriology Laboratory, Avian Disease Research Division, Animal and Plant Quarantine Agency (APQA), Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (MAFRA)
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The Animal and Plant Quarantine Agency (APQA) is a government institute that is responsible for protecting animal
health, animal welfare and plant health, and for undertaking animal and plant quarantine inspections in the Republic of Korea. This new OIE Reference Laboratory for salmonellosis is also the national reference laboratory for *Salmonella* in poultry. The laboratory develops new diagnostic methods and vaccines and conducts molecular epidemiological studies. The laboratory also performs confirmatory tests for the diagnosis of *Salmonella* infections in animals, and provides scientific and technical assistance and training to personnel from diagnostic laboratories in the Republic of Korea and other OIE Members of the Asia-Pacific region.

**VIRAL HAEMORRHAGIC SEPTICAEMIA**

Designated reference expert: **Dr Hyoung Jun Kim**

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The National Fishery Products Quality Management Service (NFQS) is the competent authority for quarantine of aquatic animals imported into and exported from the Republic of Korea. The new OIE Reference Laboratory for viral haemorrhagic septicaemia (VHS), hosted by the NFQS, provides expertise on validation of molecular methods for VHS diagnosis. In addition, it provides scientific and technical support as well as training in diagnosis for VHS and fish rhabdoviral diseases. The laboratory also offers, at the international level, high quality diagnostic services using molecular and virological tools. The laboratory undertook a research project jointly with the OIE Reference Laboratory for VHS in Denmark that led to the development of a novel reverse-transcriptase polymerase chain reaction, which had the same sensitivity of detection as the cell culture method. The test has been submitted for consideration by the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission for inclusion in the [chapter on VHS in the OIE Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals](#).
Activities of Specialist Commissions

Report of the meeting of the Biological Standards Commission (BSC) held from 3 to 6 September 2018.

Report of the meeting of the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases (SCAD) held from 10 to 14 September 2018.

Report of the meeting of the Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission held from 11 to 18 September 2018.

Report of the meeting of the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission (Code Commission) held from 11 to 20 September 2018.

More information about OIE Specialist Commissions...
Activities of the OIE Working Group on Wildlife

Report of the meeting of the OIE Working Group on Wildlife held from 12 to 15 December 2017.

More information about OIE Working Groups...
Activities of Ad hoc Groups

Ad hoc groups are convened to support the work of OIE Specialist Commissions.

Reports are available here.
ANIMAL HEALTH

OFFICIAL DISEASE STATUS

Recognition of the disease status of Members or endorsement of official control programmes

- Recognition of the **Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD)** Status of Members: Resolution no. 22 dated 22 May 2018
  
  Updated information

- Endorsement of Official Control Programmes for **Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD)** of Members: Resolution no. 23 dated 22 May 2018
  
  Updated information

- Recognition of the **Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia (CBPP)** Status of Members: Resolution no. 24 dated 22 May 2018
  
  Updated information

- Endorsement of Official Control Programmes for **Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia (CBPP)** of Members: Resolution no. 25 dated 22 May 2018
  
  Updated information

- Recognition of the **Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE)** Risk Status of Members: Resolution no. 26 dated 22 May 2018
  
  Updated information

- Recognition of the **African Horse Sickness (AHS)** Status of Members: Resolution no. 27 dated 22 May 2018
  
  Updated information

- Recognition of the **Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR)** Status of Members: Resolution no. 28 dated 22 May 2018
  
  Updated information
Recognition of the Classical Swine Fever (CSF) Status of Members:
Resolution no. 29 dated 22 May 2018
In 2001, Mauritius was officially recognised by the OIE as a foot and mouth disease (FMD)-free country where vaccination is not practised. However, following a notification received from the Delegate of Mauritius to the OIE, reporting outbreaks of FMD in his country, the FMD-free status of Mauritius was suspended, with effect from 7 July 2016.

According to the provisions of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code, and considering that more than two years have elapsed since its status was suspended, Mauritius is no longer able to comply with the requirements for recovery of its FMD-free status. Consequently, the OIE has withdrawn its FMD status.

Contact: OIE Status Department
Japan was officially recognised as a classical swine fever (CSF)-free country by the OIE in 2015. Following an immediate notification received from the OIE Delegate of Japan on an outbreak of CSF in Gifu City, the ‘CSF free country’ status of Japan was suspended with effect from 3 September 2018.

According to the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the suspension of an officially recognised disease status, the country has two years to recover its previously recognised status by complying with the relevant requirements of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code.

Contact: OIE Status Department
Colombia – Suspension of ‘FMD free zone where vaccination is practised’ status

Following an immediate notification received from the OIE Delegate of Colombia on an outbreak of FMD in the department of Boyacá, the approval of the containment zone is withdrawn and the ‘FMD free zone where vaccination is practised’ status of Colombia, as recognised by the OIE World Assembly of Delegates in terms of Resolution No. 22 in May 2018, is suspended with effect from 17 September 2018.

Following an immediate notification received from the OIE Delegate of Colombia on an outbreak of FMD in the department of Cesar, the suspension of the above-mentioned status of Colombia is amended to take effect from 10 August 2018.

Contact: OIE Status Department
The OIE is an international organisation created in 1924 with a mandate from its 182 Member Countries to improve animal health and welfare. Its activities are permanently supported by 301 centres of scientific expertise and 12 regional offices with a presence on every continent.

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