



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations



Legal Office

Work of the FAO Development Law Branch (LEGN) in the areas of veterinary legislation

Regional Seminar for Member States of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
(COMESA) on the Regional Harmonization of Legislation in the Veterinary Domain
Lusaka, Zambia, 3 - 7 July 2017



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About LEGN

[LEGN] advises the Organization and its Members on legal and institutional means to promote and regulate national development and international cooperation in the food and agriculture sector, through law reform activities, legal research, data collection and capacity building in the areas of land, water, fisheries, plants, animals, food, forestry, wildlife, biodiversity and the environment as well as other issues related to food and agriculture (trade, biotechnology...)” –

FAO Administrative Manual

[The Committee] recognized the contribution of the Development Law Service in the context of UN System coordination on matters of global importance, as well as in supporting Members' efforts towards sustainable development in the light of the role of legal frameworks and the dissemination of information in the achievement of the global development agenda.

FAO CCLM – 104th Session (24-28 April 2017)



LEGN Mandate

- **advice and assistance**
Technical assistance on legislative drafting
www.fao.org/legal/advserv/advice-e.htm
- **information**
Online legislative database (FAOLEX)
faolex.fao.org/faolex
- **research**
Legislative studies & legal papers
www.fao.org/legal/pub-e.htm
- **international instruments**
Development and implementation at the national level
- **capacity development**
Training of government officials, NGOs, CSOs, parliamentarians, judiciary, lawyers, paralegals

Multidisciplinary



Participatory



Independent



Tailor-made





LEGN Priorities

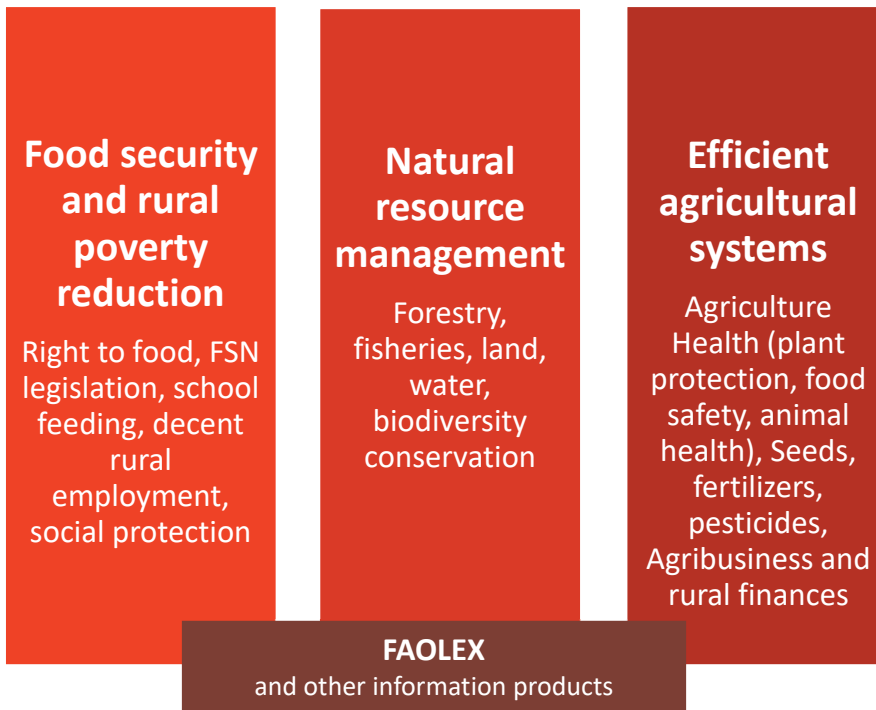
Organization and prioritization

LEGN personnel organize their work around three key priority areas



Responsiveness to realize mandates & objectives

the Strategic Framework, Regional Initiatives and Programme of FAO





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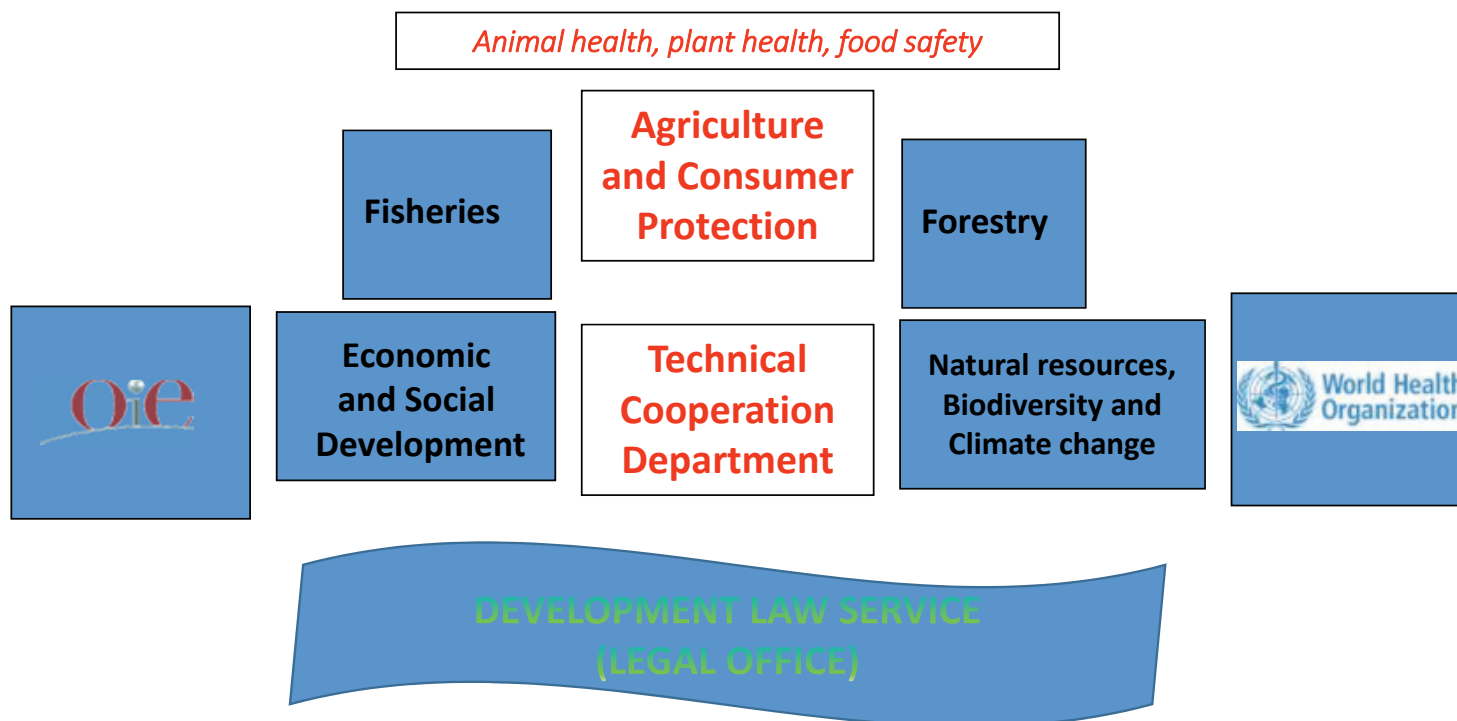
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LEGN Activities to showcase

- Legislative assistance in the veterinary sector
 - Legislative work in multi-sectorial areas
 - Legal research
 - Legal information

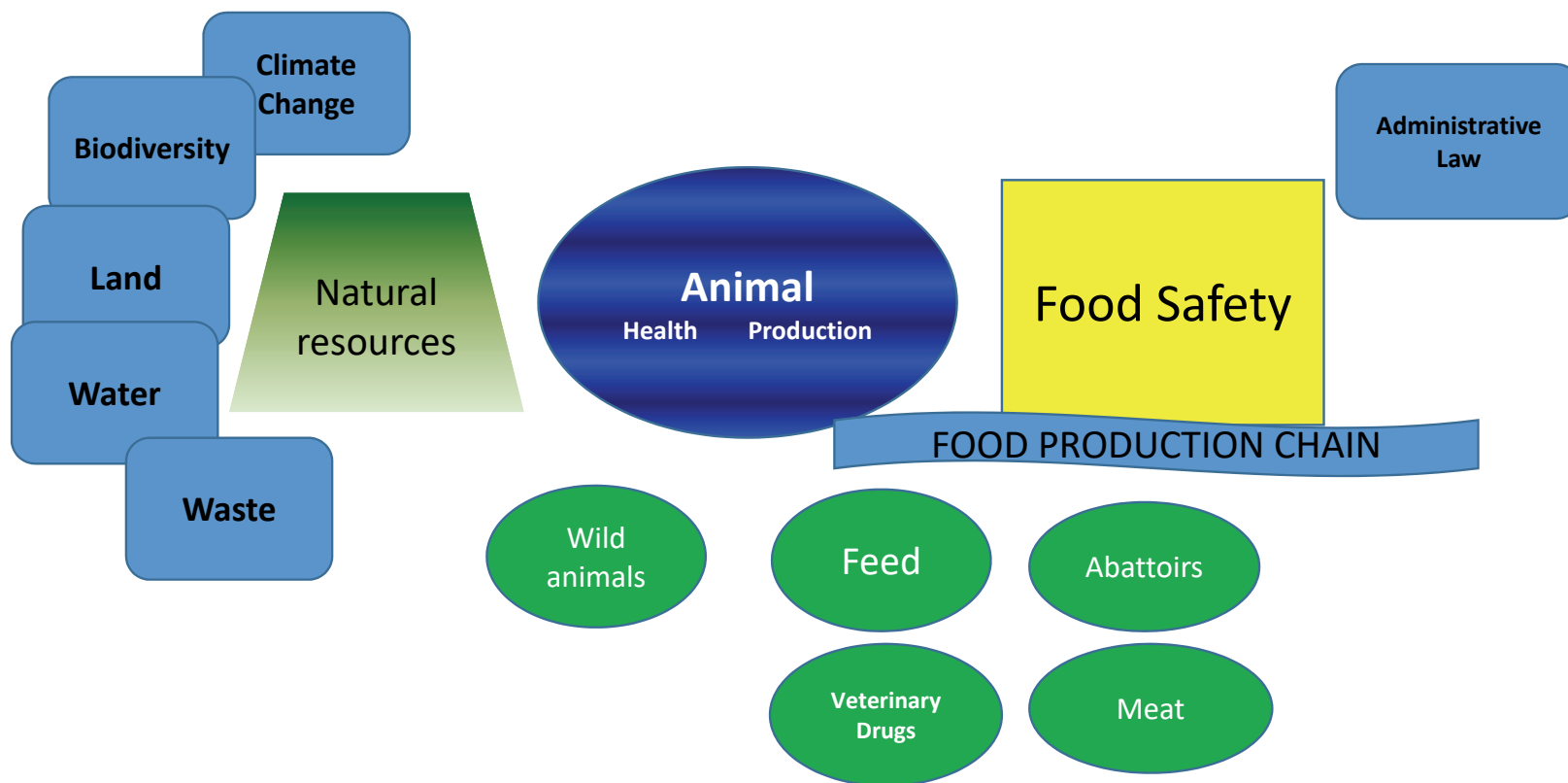


Holistic coordinated approaches





Legislative areas of intervention relevant for the livestock sector





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The work of LEGN in the veterinary sector

- Animal Production
- Animal Genetic Resources
- Animal Identification
- Animal Health
- Animal Welfare
- Products of Animal Origin
- Slaughterhouses
- Meat Inspection
- Dairy Sector
- Feed
- Veterinary Drugs
- Veterinarian Profession and Paraveterinarians
- Prevention and Control Measures for Specific Diseases
 - BSE
 - Brucellosis
 - Avian Influenza
 - Swine Fever
 - FMD



Highlights of LEGN's support activities on animal health legislation in the African region

- Formulation of a regional animal health regulation in CEMAC countries
- Analysis of the COMESA SPS regulation
- Formulation of Animal Health and Animal Production Acts in Ghana
- Support to the reform of animal health legislation in Djibouti
- Support for the veterinary laboratories initiative in the framework of the VetGov Program: analysis and update of veterinary laboratories legislation in Kenya
- Support for the review and update of (i) animal health and (ii) veterinary professions legislation in Angola
- Support for the revision of veterinary drugs legislation in Mozambique
- Revision of draft animal health legislation in Namibia
- Support for the drafting of an animal identification and traceability law and regulations in Swaziland
- Support for the drafting of an animal health and production act in Capo Verde;
- Support for the drafting of veterinary profession legislation in Egypt and in Rwanda;

Other relevant activities not in the African Region

- Proposed model regulation on the prevention and control of BSE and regional and national legislation on Food & Mouth disease for the Andean Community



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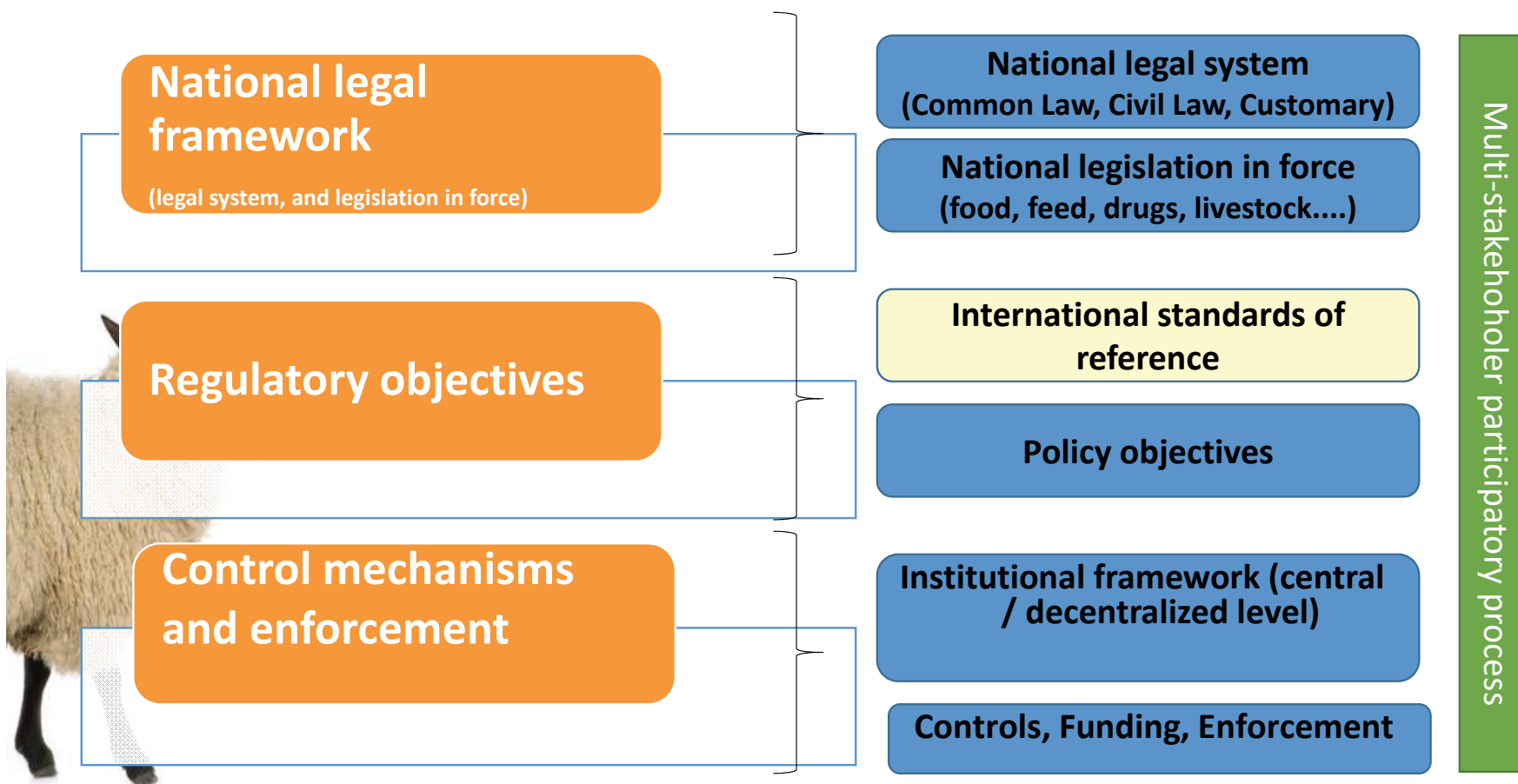
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LEGN's support for the drafting of a regional regulation on animal health for the CEMAC

- Funding: FAO (technical cooperation project)
- Partners: CEBEVIRHA (*Communauté Economique du Bétail, de la Viande et des Ressources Halieutiques*)/CEMAC in close collaboration with the ministries in charge of livestock in the 6 member countries
- Expected results: A new regional regulation on animal health and safety of food of animal origin with direct applicability to the Member states; A plan of action for the implementation of the regional regulation; Launching of a process to raise awareness on the new regional regulation
- Resources:
 - 4 national consultants (animal health, veterinary drugs, food safety, legal) for each country
 - 4 international consultants (same areas as above)
 - 5 FAO officers (3 Animal health and production officers (HQ, regional and sub-regional office), 1 food Safety officer and 1 Legal officer)
 - 6 FAO country offices
 - 1 Project coordinator from CEBEVIRHA
- Timeframe: 18 months



What to consider prior to legislative drafting?





CEMAC work - methodology

Step 1. Diagnosis, baseline assessment, first orientations

1a. Baseline assessment from an institutional and legal point of view (collection of existing national and regional texts and analysis of the role of existing institutions, looking at opportunities, gaps and overlaps)

1.b Formulation of recommendations (form and substance)

1.c 1 regional workshop

Step 2. Legislative drafting process

2.a From the recommendations, lawyers and technician discuss the regulatory points/objectives

2.b Provide legal proposals in line of the legal and normative structure of CEMAC

3.c Comply with basic principles (compliance with constitutional norms, international conventions, international standards, established community norms)



CEMAC work - methodology

Step 3. Improving and validation
of the text

3.a 6 national workshops

3.b Consolidation of the document in light of the outcome of the national workshops

3.b 1 regional validation workshop

Step 4. Finalization and
submission

4.a Consolidation of comments and recommendations provided during the validation workshop

4.b Final review by the international legal expert

4.c Technical clearance by AGAH, AGN and LEGN and submission of the text to the CEBEVIRHA



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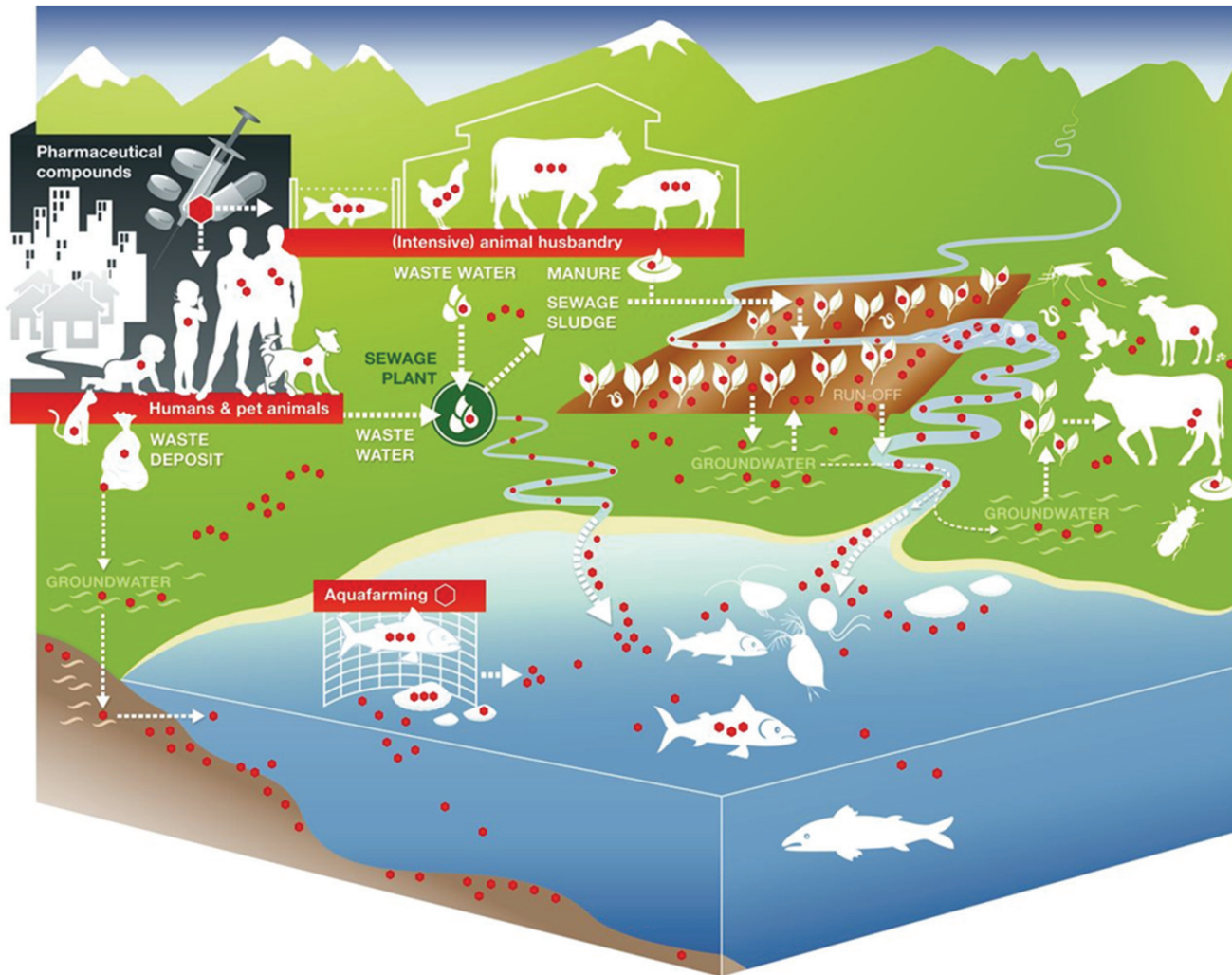
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Highlights of LEGN's role in FAO's multidisciplinary one health approach: Anti-Microbial Resistance

Under **Resolution 4/2015**, the conference requested FAO to support related regional, national and local efforts as well as deepen its partnership in this effort with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) – focusing in particular on helping lower-income countries develop the capacity to respond to the AMR challenge

The **FAO Action Plan on AMR** addresses four major Focus Areas:

- improve awareness on AMR and related threats;
- develop capacity for surveillance and monitoring of AMR and AMU (antimicrobial use) in food and agriculture;
- strengthen governance related to AMU and AMR in food and agriculture;
- promote good practices in food and agricultural systems and the prudent use of antimicrobials.



Support to FAO work on AMR

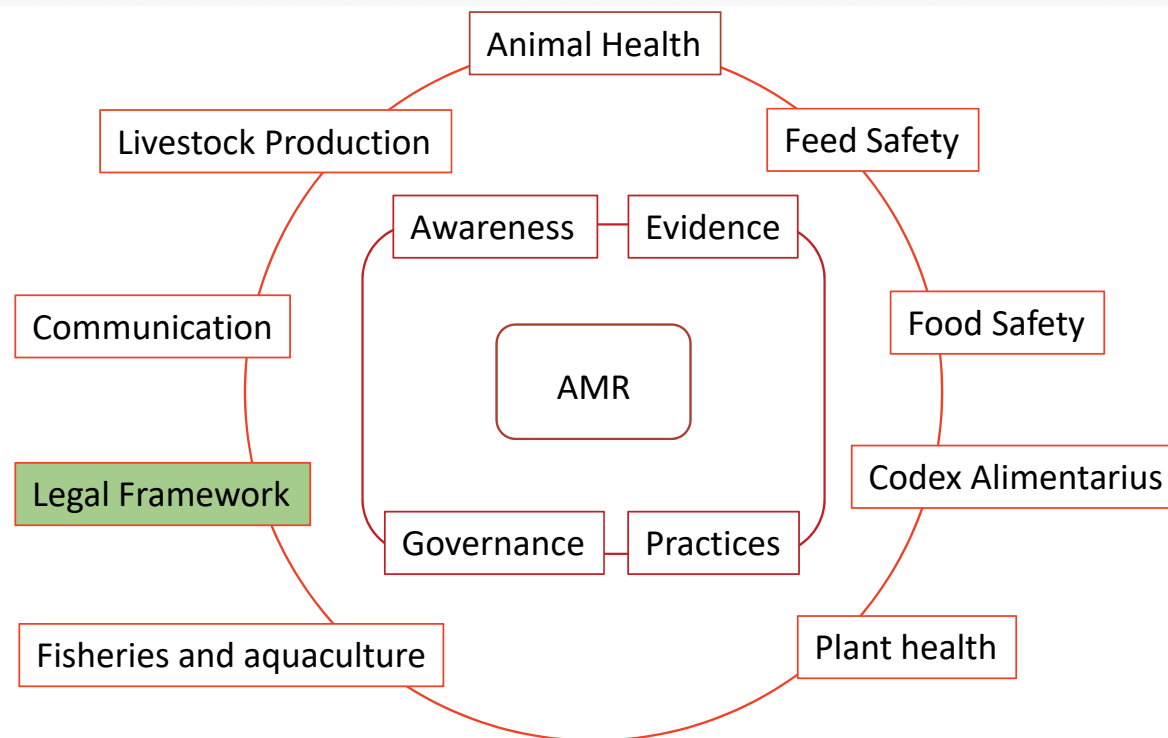
Antimicrobial usage in humans, animals and agriculture, and resulting dispersion of antimicrobial residues into aquatic and terrestrial environments (●●)
(Berkner et al., 2014)

Antimicrobial residues result in resistant bacteria. Resistant bacteria are increasingly found in Humans, animals and the environment



FAO Action Plan: a collective effort requested by the Member states

- UNGA 71st (2016) Political declaration on AMR
- FAO Council (153rd session) December 2015
- **FAO Conference Resolution 4/2015 (39th session)**
- 68th World Health Assembly Res. 68.7 “Global Plan on AMR” May 2014





Legislation – an essential component to ensure sustainability and coordinated action

The work of the Development Law Branch (LEGN)

Identification of
regulatory
elements relevant
for AMR

Recommendations to
mainstream AMU-
related obligations in
legislation

Support to
participatory
processes for legal
reform

LEGAL INFORMATION – FAOLEX



AMR-related legislative review

- Senegal
- Tanzania
- Zimbabwe
- Ethiopia
- Ghana
- Kenya

- Development of a legal assessment guidance
- Collection, creation of an electronic database and analysis of AMR-related legislation (inter alia, veterinary legislation, veterinary medicines legislation, food safety, feed and feed additives, animal production, aquaculture and fisheries, crop and vegetable production and pesticides, water quality, waste management and environmental protection, public health and medicines legislations and other relevant legislation)
- Identification of priority areas for legal reform

- Creation of a database of AMR-related legislation;
- Mid-2018: A new legislative study on AMR



Legislative studies and legal papers on line

Accessible free of charge from:

<http://www.fao.org/legal/publications/legislative-studies/en/>

The legal framework
for the management of
animal genetic resources

FAO
LEGISLATIVE
STUDY
89

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for the
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FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
Rome, 2008

Legislative and regulatory
options for animal welfare

FAO
LEGISLATIVE
STUDY
104

Jessica Vapnek
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FAO Legal Office

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
Rome, 2010



LEGISLATION FOR
VETERINARY DRUGS
CONTROL

by
Jim Fingleton

FAO LEGAL
PAPERS
ONLINE #38

August 2004

INSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL
MEASURES TO COMBAT
AFRICAN SWINE FEVER

by
Jessica Vapnek
FAO Development Law Service

FAO LEGAL PAPERS
ONLINE #1

May 1999



FAOLEX – Legal information

Accessible free of charge from:

<http://www.fao.org/faolex/en/>

Country profiles:

[Zambia](#)

The screenshot shows the FAOLEX website interface. At the top, there is a blue header with the FAO logo and the text "Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations". To the right of the header is a "Google Custom Search" box. Below the header is a navigation menu with links for "About FAO", "In Action", "Countries", "Themes", "Media", "Publications", "Statistics", and "Partnerships". There are also language options: العربية, 中文, English, Français, Русский, and Español.

The main content area is titled "FAOLEX Database". Below this title is a navigation bar with links for "Background", "Country Profiles", "Thematic Collections", "Associated Databases", and "Highlights Archive". A blue box contains a description: "FAOLEX is a comprehensive and up-to-date legislative and policy database, one of the world's largest electronic collection of national laws, regulations and policies on food, agriculture and natural resources management. Users of FAOLEX have direct access to the abstracts and indexing information about each text, as well as to the full text of the legislation and policies contained in the database."

Below the description is a search bar labeled "FAOLEX Document Search" with a search icon and a button for "ADVANCED SEARCH".

The "Browse by Domain" section features a grid of 15 categories, each with an icon and a label:

- POLICIES (document icon)
- LIVESTOCK (cow icon)
- LAND AND SOIL (land icon)
- CONSTITUTIONS (document icon)
- FISHERIES (fish icon)
- WATER (water drop icon)
- INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS (handshake icon)
- FORESTRY (trees icon)
- SEA (waves icon)
- AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (farm icon)
- FOOD AND NUTRITION (plate icon)
- ENVIRONMENT (globe icon)
- CULTIVATED PLANTS (plant icon)
- WILD SPECIES AND ECOSYSTEMS (sun and plant icon)
- MINERAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY (lightbulb icon)

At the bottom of the page, there are sections for "Highlights" and "Related Links".



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Legal Office

Thank you for your attention

Development Law Branch (LEGN)

For further information please contact:

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Legal Officer

Or visit the following websites:

www.fao.org/legal

www.fao.org/faolex