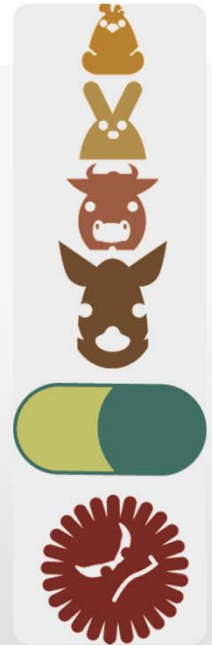


**Dr Elisabeth Erlacher-Vindel**

Head of Science and New Technologies Department  
World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)

# History of Focal Point workshops and Terms of Reference for OIE Focal Points for Veterinary Products



# Introduction

- The OIE has a global programme of capacity building for OIE Delegates and OIE National Focal Points.
- One of the objectives is to provide good governance concepts to the main actors of National Veterinary Services.
- Among the elements of governance, the OIE grants great importance to **the good management of veterinary products, from both animal and public health points of view.**

# The Delegate

*National Representative for the OIE*



- Responsible for negotiating international veterinary standards
- Notification to the OIE of the national animal disease situation
- National representative for international disease status

**Appointed by the national government**

*(most frequently, the country's Chief Veterinary Officer)*

# History of Focal Points

During the 76th General Session in May 2008, the World Assembly of Delegates has:

- re-iterated the importance of the **Focal Point for information on animal diseases**
- requested to nominate Focal Points on **other subjects**

**The appointment of Focal Points to the OIE should be only done by the National Delegate.**

# National Focal Points

*8 areas of expertise*

**Aquatic animals**

**Communication**

**Wildlife**

**Animal welfare**

**Animal disease notification**

**Animal production food safety**

**Veterinary products-AMR**

**Veterinary Laboratories**

**Appointed by the Delegate**

# Focal Points

- **Veterinary products**
  - include diagnostics, vaccines and veterinary drugs
  - are key elements that enable detection, prevention and control of animal diseases
  - **Antimicrobial resistance is currently the main focus**

# Focal Point Seminars (regular WHO participation)

- **OIE Conference on Veterinary Medicinal Products in Africa**  
Dakar (Senegal), 25–27 March 2008



- **OIE Conference on Veterinary Medicinal Products in the Middle East**  
Damascus (Syria), 2–4 December 2009

# History of Focal Point Seminars:

## ➤ First cycle

- Training workshops (**first cycle**) for OIE National Focal Points for Veterinary Products have been organised:
  - ✦ Europe, (Serbia), July 2010
  - ✦ Americas, (Colombia), September 2010
  - ✦ Africa, (South Africa), November 2010
  - ✦ Asia (Cambodia), June 2011



## ➤ First cycle

The first cycle training provided basic knowledge

- on the **mandate and activities** of the OIE;
- **on the rights and responsibilities** of the OIE Delegates and their Focal Points;
- on the **Terms of Reference** of Focal Points;

and also addressed the needs and expectations of Focal Points on Veterinary Products.

# History of Focal Point Seminars:

## ➤ Second cycle

- **Second cycle** for OIE National Focal *Points* for *Veterinary Products*
  - ✦ Africa (Senegal), Septembre 2011
  - ✦ Middle East and Africa (Morocco), Dec.2011
  - ✦ Africa (Kenya), Mars 2012
  - ✦ Asia (Thailand), July 2012
  - ✦ Americas (Brazil), October 2012
  - ✦ Europe (Austria), November 2012

## ➤ Second cycle

- **VICH** (International cooperation on harmonisation of technical requirements for Registration of Veterinary Products).
- The use of veterinary products and the issues of **residues** and **antimicrobial resistance (AMR)**.
- The **control of drugs and the quality of vaccines**.

# History of Focal Point Seminars

## ➤ Third Cycle

- Algiers (Algeria), 1 - 3 October 2013
- Maputo, Mozambique, 3 - 5 December 2013
- Ottawa, Canada, 25 - 27 August 2014
- Ohrid, Macedonia, 18 - 20 November 2014
- Tokyo, Japan, 3-5 December 2014

## ➤ Third Cycle

- Diagnostic test validation methods and kits
- **Antimicrobial resistance**
- **Collection of quantitative data on the use of antimicrobial agents and the establishment of an OIE database**
- Anti-parasitic drugs
- Veterinary products in general and good governance

## ➤ Forth cycle

- 4<sup>th</sup> cycle OIE Focal Points for Veterinary Products training seminars :
  - December 2015, Uganda ➔ Africa EN
  - March 2016, Japan ➔ Asia/Pacific
  - April 2016, Senegal ➔ Africa FR
  - October 2016, Hungary ➔ Europe
  - November 2017 Lebanon ➔ Middle East

## ➤ Forth cycle

- **antimicrobial resistance** including the **Global Action Plan and Tripartite activities**,
- the **OIE database on the use of antimicrobial agents**, and the situation in the aquatic sector;
- **antiparasitics and challenges**
- **quality of veterinary medicinal products**
  - counterfeit medicines,
  - registration/authorisation system
  - implementation of VICH guidelines

## ➤ 5<sup>th</sup> Cycle

- **Antimicrobial resistance**
  - update on Tripartite activities,
  - implementation of National Action Plans,
  - Relevant Resolutions and OIE strategy,
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> round OIE database on the use of antimicrobial agents in animals
- **Registration/authorisation of Veterinary Medicinal Products**
  - regulatory convergence
  - VICH: general principles, guidelines, update on Outreach Forum.
- **Antiparasitic resistance and challenges**
- **Quality of veterinary products**



# Terms of Reference for OIE Focal Points for Veterinary Products



# Termes of Reference: General part

The responsibilities of the focal points are under the authority of the OIE Delegate.

- Any information transmitted to the OIE from the different focal points needs to be transmitted under the designated authority of the OIE Delegate
- This practice would equally apply, if focal points are located in other Departments or Ministries
- From a legal perspective the OIE considers the official OIE Delegate to be the unique representative of the country.

# Terms of Reference: Specific tasks

- **Establish a network of veterinary product experts** within his/her country or communicate with existing network;
- Establish and **maintain a dialogue with the Competent Authority** for veterinary products in his country, and to facilitate **cooperation and communication among** several authorities where responsibility is shared;

# Terms of Reference

- Under the authority of the OIE Delegate of his/her country, **monitor legislation** on and **control of veterinary products** to ensure that these are in support of OIE international standards, guidelines and recommendations;
- **Act as a contact point with the OIE** on matters related to veterinary products;

# Terms of Reference

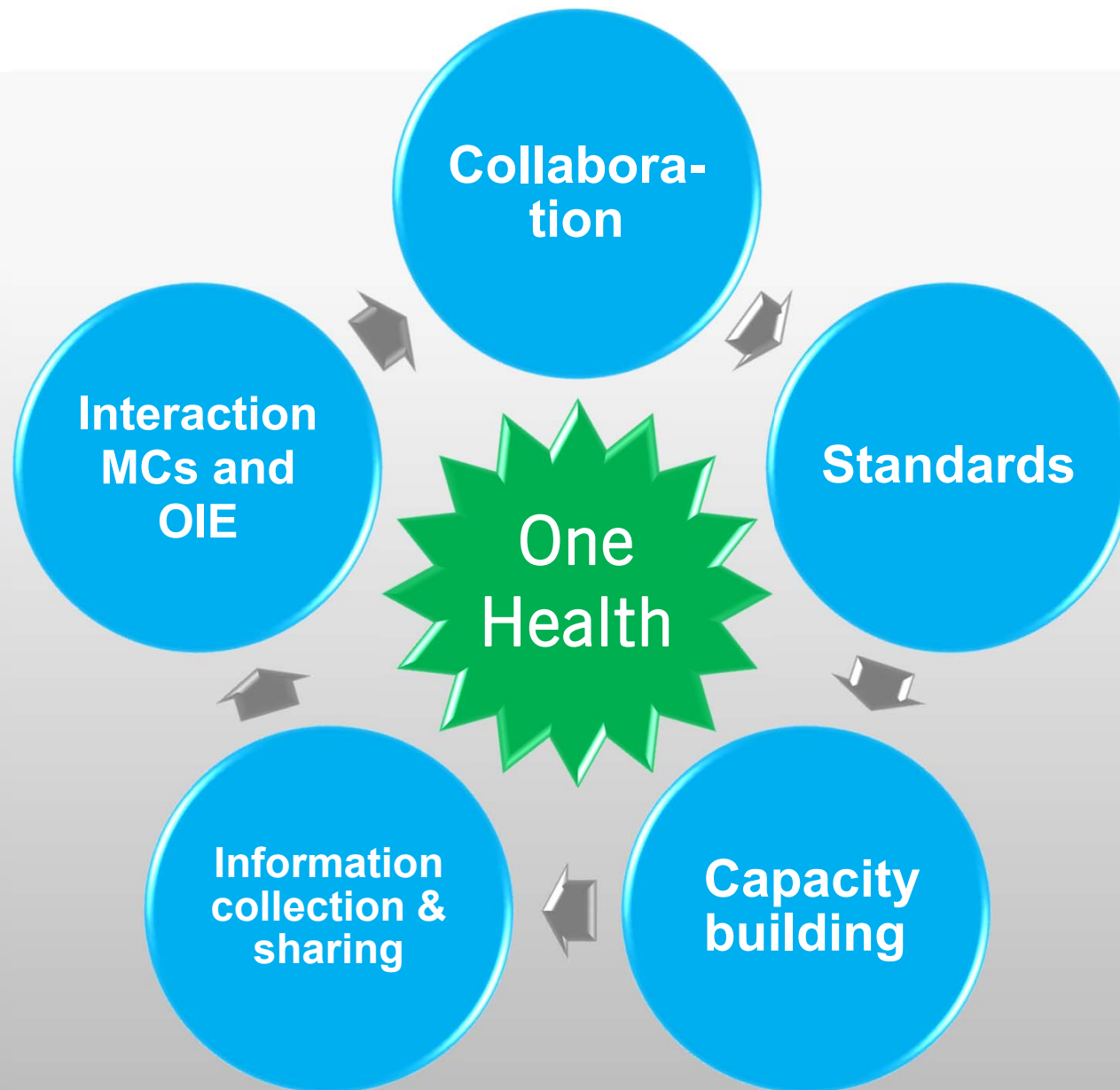
- **Receive** from the OIE Headquarters information **on VICH (1) activities and copies of the reports of the Biological Standards Commission** and other relevant reports, should they address discussion points on veterinary products;
- **Conduct**, on request, the **in-country consultation process** with recognised veterinary product experts on draft texts of standards and/or on guidelines and recommendations proposed in those reports.

(1) VICH: International cooperation on harmonisation of technical requirements for Registration of Veterinary Products :

# Terms of Reference

- **Prepare comments for the Delegate** on each of the relevant meeting reports reflecting the scientific view and position of the individual OIE Member Country and/or the region, including comments on the proposals for new or revised **OIE standards**, guidelines and recommendations **related to veterinary products**.

# Conclusion



# Thank you for your attention



Any questions ?



**WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH**  
*Protecting animals, preserving our future*

12 rue de Prony, 75017 Paris, France - [www.oie.int](http://www.oie.int) – [oie@oie.int](mailto:oie@oie.int)