

ANNUAL REPORT



EASTERN AFRICA 2015

WORLD ORGANISATION
FOR ANIMAL HEALTH (OIE)

Taj Tower

4th Floor

Upper Hill Road

P.O. Box 19687 - 00202

Nairobi Kenya

Tel: +254 - 20 271 34 61

www.oie.int

www.rr-africa.oie.int

Pictures on cover :

<p><i>Representative of the VS of South Sudan visiting the livestock export quarantine station of Djibouti during the OIE - FAO Inter-Regional Rift Valley Fever Conference (April)</i></p> <p><i>Picture © P. Bastiaensen (2015)</i></p>	<p><i>The then OIE Deputy-Director General, Dr. Monique Eloit, delivering her opening address at the OIE - GALVmed - AVTA Regional Conference on Veterinary Para-Professionals in Pretoria, South Africa (October)</i></p> <p><i>Picture © Marina Domingos - Monsonis (2015)</i></p>	<p><i>The OIE Sub-Regional Representative for Southern Africa, Dr. Moetapele Letshwenyo, at the OIE information booth during the FAO - OIE International Conference on PPR in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire (April)</i></p> <p><i>Picture © P. Bastiaensen (2015)</i></p>
<p><i>The then Vice-President of the OIE Council, Dr Michael Modisane (South Africa), delivering his opening address at the 21st OIE Regional Conference for Africa in Rabat, Morocco (February).</i></p> <p><i>Picture © P. Bastiaensen (2015)</i></p>	<p><i>The OIE Sub-Regional Representative for Eastern Africa, Dr. Walter Masiga, being interviewed by the local press following an AU-IBAR workshop on animal welfare, held in Naivasha, Kenya (July)</i></p> <p><i>Picture © P. Bastiaensen (2015)</i></p>	<p><i>Group of national focal points for veterinary products after a visit to the Uganda National Drug Authority (NDA) laboratory in Kampala (during the OIE regional training of focal points) December.</i></p> <p><i>Picture © P. Bastiaensen (2015)</i></p>
<p><i>Group of Deans of Veterinary Colleges and Faculties of southern and eastern Africa at the launch of their 4th annual meeting, held in Nairobi, Kenya (August)</i></p> <p><i>Picture © Grace Omwega (2015)</i></p>	<p><i>Overview of participants at the 29th annual Conference of the Ethiopian Veterinary Association in Addis Ababa (September)</i></p> <p><i>Picture © P. Bastiaensen (2015)</i></p>	<p><i>Group photograph with the OIE Delegate of South Sudan, following the official country visit to Juba (August).</i></p> <p><i>Picture © P. Bastiaensen (2015)</i></p>

2 0 1 5

EASTERN AFRICA



World Organisation for Animal Health OIE
12, rue de Prony
75017 P A R I S FRANCE

oi@oie.int www.oie.int

4

OIE Regional Representation for Africa
Parc de Sotuba Park
P.o.box 2954
B A M A K O MALI

+ 223 20 24 60 53 + 223 20 24 05 78 (fax)

rr.africa@oie.int www.rr-africa.oie.int

Sub-Regional Representation for Eastern Africa
4th floor, Taj Tower
Upper Hill Road, Upper Hill
P.o.box 19687
N A I R O B I 00202 KENYA

+ 254 202 713 461

srr.eastern-africa@oie.int www.rr-africa.oie.int

ACRONYMS

AAHS	Aquatic Animal Health Services	
AAT	African Animal Trypanosomosis	
AFD	<i>Agence Française de Développement</i>	France
AGISAR	Advisory Group on Integrated Surveillance of Anti-microbial Resistance	WHO
AHC	Animal Health Certification	
AHIAD	Animal Health Information and Analysis Department	OIE
AHS	African horse sickness	
ANSES	<i>Agence nationale de sécurité sanitaire de l'alimentation, de l'environnement et du travail</i>	France
APAW	African Platform on Animal Welfare	IBAR
ARIS	Animal Resources Information System	IBAR
ASF	African Swine Fever	
AU(C)	African Union (Commission)	AU
AVTA	African Veterinary Technicians Association	
BHP	Bee Health Project	ICIPE
BMGF	Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	
BSE	Bovine spongiform encephalopathy	
bTB	Bovine Tuberculosis (<i>Mycobacterium bovis</i>)	
BVM	Bachelor in Veterinary Medicine	
CAC	Codex Alimentarius Commission	FAO/WHO
CAVS	College of Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences	UoN
CBPP	Contagious Bovine Pleuro-Pneumonia	
CCC	PPR Control Coordination Committee	IGAD
CIRAD	<i>Centre de Coopération Internationale en Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement</i>	France
COCTU	Coordinating Office for the Control of Trypanosomiasis in Uganda	Uganda
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa	
CPW	Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management	
CSF	Classical Swine Fever	
CVO	Chief Veterinary Officer	
DAFF	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	South Africa
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo	
DVS	Department or Directorate of Veterinary Services	
EA	East Africa	
EAC	East African Community	
EAREN	Eastern African Regional Epidemiology Network	
EARLN	Eastern African Regional Laboratory Network	
EC	European Commission	EU
ECTAD	Emergency Centre for TAD	FAO
EDF	European Development Fund	EC
EEAS	European External Action Services (formerly RELEX)	EC
EISMV	<i>Ecole Inter-Etats de Sciences et Médecine Vétérinaires</i>	
ENSO	EI-Niño Southern Oscillation	
EUS	Epizootic Ulcerative Syndrome	
EVA	Ethiopian Veterinary Association	
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation (of the United Nations)	UN
FDA	Food and Drug Administration	USA
FMD	Foot-and-Mouth Disease	
GALVmed	Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines	
GARC	Global Alliance for Rabies Control	
GCC	Gulf Cooperation Council	
GF-TAD	Global Framework for the progressive control of TAD	
grabTB	Global Research Alliance for bTB	
IBAR	Inter-african Bureau for Animal Resources	AU
ICCF	International Conservation Caucus Foundation	
ICIPE	International Centre for Insect Pathology and Ecology	
ICPALD	IGAD Centre for Pastoral Areas and Livestock Development	IGAD
IDS	Institute of Development Studies (University of Sussex)	UK
IGAD	Inter-Governmental Authority on Development	REC
ILRI	International Livestock Research Institute	
IOC	Indian Ocean Commission	REC
KALRO	Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organisation (formerly KARI)	Kenya
KARI	Kenya Agricultural Research Institute	Kenya
KRA	Kenya Revenue Authority	Kenya
KSU	Kansas State University	USA

KVA	Kenyan Veterinary Association	Kenya
LEAP	Partnership : Livestock Environmental Assessment & Performance	FAO
LEGS	Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards	
LiDeSA	Livestock Development Strategy for Africa	AUC
LITS	Livestock Identification and traceability system	
MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries	Uganda
MERS-CoV	Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus	
MSc	Master of Science	
MTR	mid-term review (mission, report)	
NADDEC	National Animal Disease Diagnostics and Epidemiology Centre	Uganda
NAHDIC	National Animal Health Diagnostic Investigation Centre	Ethiopia
NDA	National Drug Authority	Uganda
NEQ	Network of Export Quarantines	IGAD
NIP	National Indicative Programme	EDF
NVI	<i>National Veterinar Institutet</i>	Sweden
OHCEA	One Health Central and Eastern Africa	
OIE	World Organisation for Animal Health	
PAN-SPSO	Participation of African National in SPS Organisations	IBAR
PANVAC	Pan-African Veterinary Vaccine Centre	AU
PARACON	Pan-African Rabies Conference	GARC
PATTEC	Pan-African Tsetse and Trypanosomosis Eradication Campaign	AU
PCP	Progressive Control Pathway	FMD
PPR	<i>Peste des petits ruminants</i>	
PS	Principal Secretary	
PVS	Performance of Veterinary Services	OIE
RAHN	Regional Animal Health Network	EA
RCM	rinderpest-containing material(s)	
REC	Regional Economic Community	
RoSS	Republic of South Sudan	
RVF	Rift valley fever	
SADC	Southern African Development Community	
SAT-3	Southern Africa Type (3)	FMD
SAVC	South African Veterinary Council	
SEAAVEE	Southern and Eastern Africa Association of VEE	
SEGA	<i>Surveillance Epidémiologique et Gestion des Alertes</i>	IOC
SMP AH	Standard Methods and Procedures / Animal Health	IBAR
SPS	Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary (Agreement)	WTO
SRR	Sub-Regional Representation	OIE
STDF	Standards and Trade Development Facility	WTO
STSD	Surveillance of Trade-Sensitive Diseases	IGAD / AU-IBAR
SUA	Sokoine University of Agriculture	Tanzania
SVSDC+R	Strengthening Veterinary Services in Developing Countries and Rabies project	OIE
TAC	BHP Technical Advisory Committee	ICIPE
TAD	Transboundary Animal Disease(s)	
TBT	Technical Barriers to Trade	WTO
TEC	PPR Technical Experts Committee	IGAD
TFA	Trade Facilitation Agreement	WTO
TVLA	Tanzania Veterinary Laboratories Agency	
UK	United Kingdom	
UN	United Nations	
UoN	University of Nairobi	Kenya
USA	United States of America	
VCT	Veterinary Council of Tanzania	
VEE	Veterinary Educational Establishment(s)	
VETGOV	Strengthening Veterinary Governance in Africa programme	IBAR, FAO, OIE
VLSP	Veterinary Legislation Support Programme	OIE
VMP	veterinary medicinal product(s)	
VPP	Veterinary Para-Professional(s)	
VS	Veterinary Statutory Body(ies)	
WAD	World Animal Day	
WAHID	World Animal Health Information Database	OIE
WAHIS	World Animal Health Information System	OIE
WHO	World Health Organisation	UN
WTO	World Trade Organisation	UN

CONTENT

INTRODUCTION	9
GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE OF THE REPRESENTATION	11
PRODUCTION STATISTICS FOR THE SUB-REGION	12
DISEASE SITUATION REPORT	14
TECHNICAL PROGRESS REPORT	15
<i>GOOD GOVERNANCE OF VETERINARY SERVICES</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>CAPACITY BUILDING</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>ASSISTANCE WITH REGARD TO DISEASE STATUS</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>TRANSPARENCY ON DISEASES NOTIFICATION</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>TWINNING AND REFERENCE LABORATORIES</i>	<i>23</i>
<i>ISSUES OF GROWING IMPORTANCE IN THE REGION</i>	<i>24</i>
<i>MEETINGS & CONFERENCES</i>	<i>25</i>
REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR AFRICA ACTIVITIES	31
<i>NEW APPOINTMENTS</i>	<i>31</i>
ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT	33
<i>AGREEMENTS & HOSTING</i>	<i>35</i>
<i>OFFICIAL VISITS & COURTESY VISITS</i>	<i>36</i>
FINANCIAL REPORT	37
CONCLUSIONS AND 2016 OUTLOOK	38

INTRODUCTION

The activities of the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for East Africa and the Horn of Africa (OIE SRR-EA) started in January 2010. The Representation now covers 13 OIE Member Countries in eastern Africa (including the Republic of South Sudan) and liaises with both the East African Community (EAC) and the *Inter-Governmental Authority on Development* (IGAD). A Cooperation Agreement with the latter was signed in December 2014. An updated Cooperation Agreement with the African Union *Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources* (AU-IBAR) was signed in May 2015 and a draft Cooperation Agreement with the *Indian Ocean Commission* (IOC) was approved by the OIE Council in September 2015 and will be endorsed in May next year.

Since the first of September, the office is strengthened by the appointment of Dr. Sam Wakhusama as Deputy-Representative.

The annual budget of the Representation for 2015 increased by 34%, largely due to the opportunity to organise the Inter-regional conference on Rift Valley fever in the Horn of Africa and the Middle East (Djibouti, April), the 4th meeting of Deans and Principals of Veterinary Faculties and Schools in Southern and Eastern Africa (Kenya, August) and the training of OIE focal points for veterinary products from English-speaking Africa and the Middle East (Uganda, December).

The office still spearheads the development of the official OIE website for Africa : www.rr-africa.oie.int (including the mobile website). A dedicated website for the VETGOV programme was launched on August 28th : www.rr-africa.oie.int/vetgov.html

The office also coordinated the technical aspects of the first OIE continental conference on the role of the veterinary para-professionals in Africa, held in Pretoria (October), in close partnership with GALVmed and the *Africa Veterinary Technicians Association* (AVTA). It also coordinated the two regional seminars on harmonization of veterinary legislation at community level, held in Tunisia (UMA) and Lesotho (SADC).

The office remains involved in a considerable number of continental, regional and national programmes, the most important being the continental *Veterinary Governance in Africa* (VETGOV) programme (with IBAR and FAO). Furthermore, the office is looking forward to additional financial means through the approval of the combined *Strengthening Veterinary Services in Developing Countries and Rabies Pilot project* (SVSDC+R), funded by the European Parliament, through the European Commission Delegation in Nairobi. This funding should be available in early 2016.

This report can be downloaded from the OIE Africa website (in Acrobat Reader format – PDF)



<http://www.rr-africa.oie.int/docspdf/en/2015/OIESRREAREPORTANNUAL2015.pdf>



WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH
Protecting animals, preserving our future

STAFF

	Position (nationality)	Name	Starting date
	Representative (Kenya)	Walter N. Masiga	01.01.2010
	Deputy-Representative (Kenya)	Samuel Wakhusama	01.09.2015
	Programme Officer (Belgium)	Patrick X. Bastiaensen	01.01.2013
	Administrative and Financial Assistant (Kenya)	Grace Omwega	16.10.2010
	Secretary (Kenya)	Loise Ndungu	01.09.2010

GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE OF THE REPRESENTATION

The Sub-Regional Representation covers 13 countries of East Africa and the Horn of Africa, most of which are Member States of the *East African Community* (EAC), based in Arusha, Tanzania and / or the *Inter-Governmental Authority on Development* (IGAD), based in Djibouti City, Djibouti. The Seychelles and Tanzania are also Member States of the *Southern African Development Community* (SADC) and are therefore also covered by the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for Southern Africa, based in Gaborone (Botswana).



- Burundi
- Comoros
- Djibouti
- Eritrea
- Ethiopia
- Kenya
- Rwanda
- Seychelles
- Somalia
- South Sudan
- Sudan
- Tanzania
- Uganda

PRODUCTION STATISTICS FOR THE SUB-REGION

In terms of terrestrial animals, data are incomplete due to missing information from some Member Countries. Nevertheless, it can reliably be concluded that the Region hosts around 158 million head of cattle (with the Federal Republic of Ethiopia having the highest number at 54 million) and 274 million small ruminants (source : OIE-WAHID, 2015, data from 2014 annual reports).

OIE Members	Cattle (,000)	Sheep (,000)	Goats (,000)	Pigs (,000)	Camelids (,000)	Equines (,000)	Poultry (,000)
<i>Burundi</i>							
<i>Comoros</i>	64	96		-	-		335
Djibouti	40	400	600	-	50	7	
<i>Eritrea</i>	1,900	2,500	4,500	5	300	500	1,500
Ethiopia	53,990	25,489	24,061	<1	2,245	9,005	50,377
Kenya	17,504	17,266	29,729	306	2,986		32,326
<i>Rwanda</i>	1,132	798	2,702	1,011	<1	<1	4,803
<i>Seychelles</i>	<1	<1	<1		-		346
<i>Somalia</i>	5,200	13,500	12,500	-	6,200		
South Sudan*	(11,814)	(13,000)	(14,000)				
Sudan	30,191	39,446	31,290	-	4,792	1,557	39,304
Tanzania	22,800	7,000	15,600	2,010			60,000
Uganda	14,031	4,198	15,311	4,257		3,840	42,977
Region (2014)	158,667	123,646	150,342				
Increase compared to 2013	1,8 %	3,2 %	1,5 %				

Figures in italic are based on previous reports as data for 2014 are missing.

() Figures for South Sudan are based on 2010 data from the FAO and WFP (FAO/WFP crop and food security assessment mission). Totals are presented if deemed reliable.*

In terms of aquatic animals, the FAO statistics provide insight into the aquaculture¹ production types and volumes of OIE Member Countries (source : 2012 FAO Fishery and Aquaculture Statistics : <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i3740t.pdf>). The 2013 statistics were not available at the time this report was prepared. Note that Uganda alone produces more than 70% of the region's aquaculture production-value.

OIE Members	Aquaculture production
	Quantity (t)
Burundi	160
Comoros	
Djibouti	
Eritrea	
Ethiopia	38
Kenya	21,488
Rwanda	516
Seychelles	-
Somalia	
South Sudan	
Sudan	1,980
Tanzania	9,917
Uganda	95,906
Region (2012)	130,000

¹ **Aquaculture** is understood to mean the farming of aquatic organisms including fish, molluscs, crustaceans and aquatic plants. Farming implies some form of intervention in the rearing process to enhance production, such as regular stocking, feeding, protection from predators, etc. Farming also implies individual or corporate ownership of the stock being cultivated. For statistical purposes, aquatic organisms which are harvested by an individual or corporate body which has owned them throughout their rearing period contribute to aquaculture while aquatic organisms which are exploitable by public as a common property resource, with or without appropriate licences, are the harvest of fisheries

DISEASE SITUATION REPORT

The primary objective of the OIE is to prevent the spread of animal diseases in the world. This it does through one of its key missions of guaranteeing transparency of animal diseases situation, hence the purpose of establishing the *World Animal Health information System* (WAHIS). The Sub-Regional Representation strongly emphasises timely and accurate notification obligations of OIE Member Countries and advocates judicious use of available scientific animal health information for decision making for disease prevention and containment. Non-official information e.g. from mass media on animal disease outbreaks or abnormal epidemiological events is followed up for verification with the national veterinary authorities.

■ South Sudan attempted to file an immediate notification (FMD SAT-3), on January 5th, 2015. Unfortunately, due to the outstanding issue with agreed borders between South Sudan and Sudan, the immediate notification was submitted but not disseminated through WAHID, but it was presented at the 21st Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa.

■ At the beginning of April, it was learned that a possible outbreak of Rift Valley Fever in camels (with clinical cases) and corresponding cases in humans occurred in the north of Kenya. The claim was later officially denied by the Kenyan authorities, though the OIE has no knowledge of what caused the mortalities.

Still in Kenya, the country submitted its first immediate notification in 8 years (2007 : RVF, ASF, PPR), confirming the anthrax outbreak in Nakuru National Park which killed hundreds of buffaloes and other wildlife in July and which had been extensively covered by national and regional media houses at the time. The immediate notification was posted on August 28th, 2015. Kenya, later that same week (August 30th, 2015) also reported the outbreak of African swine fever in Gitaru, Kikuyu, and Kiambu counties. The first outbreak was reported on the 10th of July.

■ In respect of disease rumours, the OIE office in Nairobi has been looking into a rumour of mass mortality in finfish in some of the tributaries of the Congo River in the Democratic Republic of Congo. On December 15th 2014, a former OIE focal point for aquatic animal diseases contacted the OIE Programme Officer in Nairobi claiming to have been informed about this “epizootic” manifested by lesions (wounds) and/or ulcers. The office launched an appeal for information on the EC funded SARNISSA Network (<http://www.sarnissa.org>) and advised the appropriate services at the Paris and FAO Rome headquarters. Taking advantage of the OIE Global Conference on Aquatic Animal Diseases, held in January in Ho-Chi-Minh City, Vietnam, the OIE Director General and the FAO Assistant Director General for Fisheries reviewed the information received to date. The suspicion that this disease might be EUS or *Epizootic Ulcerative Syndrome* (EUS, now renamed infection with *Aphanomyces invadans*), an OIE listed disease, convinced FAO to launch an investigation. The FAO mission started on March 13th, 2015 and was conducted by two regional experts, Dr. Bernard Mudenda (from the University of Zambia and twinning candidate laboratory on EUS) and Dr. David Huchzermeyer, private consultant (Sterkspruit Veterinary Clinic). Later that year, following confirmation, the OIE Delegate of the Democratic Republic of Congo reported outbreaks in the second half-year report for 2014 (WAHID). It is to be noted that this disease threatens the rivers systems and lakes of the eastern Africa region. In the course of 2015, an OIE intern in this office, Dr Moses Olum visited inland fisheries governmental and non-governmental stakeholders in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda (bordering Lake Victoria) and concluded that “...the knowledge gap on EUS of the various custodians of the fish industry is evident. Most of the information on this disease, available to government officials has been acquired from international trainings or trainings by international organizations (...) From the findings of this work, knowledge gained from trainings by senior officials is not passed on to junior officials who most of the time handle the real field situations (...) Cross border disputes such as those witnessed between Uganda and Kenya over the Mgingo Island can hamper joint efforts in disease surveillance, terms of information sharing on fish diseases and diagnostic assistance. Such disputes can also facilitate illegal trade in fish and fish products as well as contaminated fishing gear which can pose additional risks of disease outbreaks”. http://www.rr-africa.oie.int/docspdf/en/2015/OLUM_1.pdf

TECHNICAL ISSUES

GOOD GOVERNANCE OF VETERINARY SERVICES

In terms of PVS initial and follow – up evaluation missions, all OIE Member States in the region, except for Somalia, have benefited from PVS (initial) evaluation. The situation in Somalia remains too insecure to warrant a PVS mission at this moment. The latest Member Country, the *Republic of South Sudan* (RoSS), has not applied for a PVS Evaluation mission (yet), but the same security concerns exist, despite the signing of a peace agreement in late 2015.

■ The PVS report from the Seychelles (initial PVS, July 2011) remains the only report from the region to be available online. As a result of a discussion held during the OIE Conference in Rabat, Ethiopia lifted the confidentiality on both PVS reports (evaluation and gap-analysis) paving the way for further investments in veterinary services under the European Commission's 11th EDF NIP for Ethiopia in support of efficient and effective Public-Private Animal Health Services.

■ From the eligible countries (i.e. except Somalia and RoSS) all but one (Comoros) have benefited from a PVS Gap Analysis mission. The mission to the Comoros has been repeatedly postponed not to interfere with the electoral process in that country and may now take place in the second half of 2016.

■ Veterinary legislation identification missions have been conducted in Tanzania and Kenya in November 2015, bringing the total number of missions to 7 (out of 11 eligible countries), i.e. Burundi, Comoros, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda. Both Djibouti and Eritrea have applied for such support :

http://www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/mandates/en_veterinary_services_pvs.html

■ No new applications (besides Seychelles, done in 2011) have been submitted from this region for the evaluation of *aquatic animal health services* (AAHS).

■ In his capacity as a PVS expert, the Programme Officer participated in two PVS missions in the Kingdom of Swaziland (PVS Evaluation follow-up mission and PVS Gap analysis mission).

- 12 countries applied for PVS evaluation
- 11 PVS evaluation missions conducted
- 10 PVS gap-analysis missions conducted
- 7 PVS veterinary legislation support missions conducted
- 1 memorandum of understanding on veterinary legislation support signed (Uganda)

CAPACITY BUILDING

■ The fourth annual meeting of the Deans of the *Southern and Eastern Africa Association of Veterinary Educational Establishments* (SEAAVEE), financially supported by the OIE, was held in Nairobi Kenya, from August 10 – 11th, 2015. The meeting was hosted by the *College of Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences* (CAVS) of the *University of Nairobi* (UoN). Chaired by its Dean, Prof. Charles Mulei, the group which for the first time, also included Malawi, and reviewed progress made since the February 2014 meeting in Pretoria.

The Deans, amongst other issues, resolved that there is a need for a continuous flow of information from one Deans' meeting to the next. Deans are regularly changed and the proposal was made for Deans hosting the up-coming meeting to take up the chairmanship to ensure a successful implementation of agreed activities in-between (annual) meetings. Further discussions evolved around harmonization of credit units, OIE guidelines and recommendations, twinning programmes, the inclusion or exclusion of ethno-veterinary science in/from the curriculum, the need to formally establish the SEAAVEE to assist in harmonization and quality control of veterinary education in the region, the need to re-establish the e-mail platform, no longer used, and to work with the South African Veterinary Council on issues of regional accreditation and self-evaluation practices and matrixes.

The meeting was attended by Deans and Principals of Veterinary Faculties and Schools/Colleges from Angola, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe, as well as by observers from the Kenya Veterinary Board, the *One Health Eastern and Central Africa* (OHCEA) academic network and the OIE.

<http://www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/news/20150811.html>

■ The Representative participated in the one-day information seminar for new OIE Delegates, held on May 23rd, 2015 in Paris, France

■ Though nobody from the office participated, the Nairobi office coordinated the two regional training programmes on harmonisation of veterinary legislation at community level, organised with the support of AU-IBAR, under the *Strengthening of Veterinary Services in Africa* (VETGOV) project. The first seminar was held in Tunis, Tunisia from June 8 – 12th, 2015 and brought together the five Member States of the *Arab Maghreb Union* (Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia). The second seminar was held in Maseru, Lesotho from July 6 – 10th, 2015 and brought together the fifteen Member States of the *Southern African Development Community* (SADC).

■ The inaugural continental conference for *Veterinary Para-Professionals* (VPP) took place in Pretoria, South Africa, from October 13 - 15th, 2015. It was organised by the OIE and the *African Veterinary Technicians Association* (AVTA), with the financial and technical support of the *Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines* (GALVmed) and the South African *Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries* (DAFF) in a bid to improve the quality of the field work conducted in Africa by strengthening the linkages and collaboration between veterinarians and VPP. The meeting benefited from the financial support of the European Commission through the *Strengthening of Veterinary Services in Africa* (VETGOV) project. The conference, which was organized and coordinated by the Nairobi office, in close collaboration with the Gaborone office and the OIE headquarters, brought together some 100 participants, including a selection of African representatives of the national associations / federations of VPP (many countries have several associations, for different VPP such as nurses, meat inspectors, laboratory technicians, field technicians, inseminators, etc.) as well as the representative of the veterinary authority (the Director of Veterinary Services) and the veterinary statutory body (Veterinary Council or Board).

Following three days of intense debate, the Conference participants resolved to support the veterinary para-professionals to establish independent national, regional and/or sector-wide associations, able and competent to represent the profession(s) in the Veterinary Statutory Body or Bodies; to convince National Veterinary Statutory Bodies to include veterinary para-professionals in their decision making bodies, beyond the mere registration or listing of these para-professionals; and to convince them to define conditions and admission criteria for continuing education and post-graduate education for veterinary para-professionals; and to take necessary steps for the enactment and enforcement of required legislation to that effect.

In turn, the OIE was tasked with developing minimum day-one competences and minimum core training curricula for the various categories of para-professionals that exist. This will entail the scope and the level of qualification. In addition the OIE was tasked to encourage the participation of representatives of national, regional and continental associations of veterinary para-professionals in the fourth OIE Global Conference on Veterinary Education, to be held in Thailand in June 2016.

<http://www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/news/20151015.html>

http://www.rr-africa.oie.int/conferences/vpp/en_blog.html

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/oie-photos/sets/72157659416107910>

■ The fourth cycle in the ongoing training of OIE National Focal Points for Veterinary Products was held in Entebbe, Uganda from December 1 – 3rd, 2015 and was organised and coordinated by this office, in close cooperation with the OIE *Scientific and Technical Department*. The three-day training seminar was attended by some 65 participants, including national OIE Delegates and OIE Focal Points for veterinary products from 31 English-speaking countries from Africa and the Middle-East, i.e. Afghanistan, Angola, Bahrain, Botswana, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Iran, Iraq, Kenya, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe and the host country Uganda. Some participants (focal points) were from the Ministries responsible for health and local government, showing the diversity of this assignment between member countries.

The meeting was attended by the OIE Delegates from Bahrein, Eritrea, The Gambia and Uganda.

Besides the OIE Regional and Sub-Regional offices (Beirut, Gaborone, Nairobi) and head office staff (*Scientific and Technical Department*, Paris) contributions were made by four OIE Reference Centres on veterinary products (ANSES France, AU-PANVAC Ethiopia, EISMV Senegal and FDA United States), as well as invited regional and international experts from Jordan, Kenya, Uganda and the UK. The host country Uganda was allocated an additional 10 national participants (from MAAIF, NDA and COCTU).

www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/news/20151203.html

ASSISTANCE WITH REGARD TO DISEASE STATUS

■ As a result of a side meeting at the OIE Regional Conference in Rabat (February 2015) with the OIE Director General, the Deputy-Head of the OIE Animal Health Information Department and the OIE Programme Officer for Eastern Africa, both OIE Delegates from Sudan and South Sudan, agreed on the use of country maps in which three hitherto contested areas are excluded for the respective national territories until such time as both countries reach an agreement. Following extensive testing and transfers of historical data, the new maps were officially launched on April 15th, 2015.

■ From April 23 – 24th, 2015, Drs. G. Yehia and P. Bastiaensen paid a visit to the new livestock export quarantine facility *“The Berbera United Quarantine”* established in Berbera, Somalia (Somaliland), and operated by the *“Global Company for General Investment”*, to verify the facility’s compliance with the OIE International Standards, with the aim of facilitating animal trade between Somalia and the Middle East, especially *Gulf Cooperation Council* (GCC) Member States. The facility was recently established in a perimeter barbed wire fence and is located near the Berbera Harbor (4 kms), in an isolated area, with no contact with pastoralist livestock.

■ From August 24 – 26th, the OIE Nairobi office conducted an official country visit to OIE’s newest Member Country, the Republic of South Sudan, in a bid to show support of the OIE for the ongoing reforms in the country and to bring the country’s veterinary officials up to speed on matters of importance to the OIE mandates and activities. The two officials discussed various topics of interest to the governance of Veterinary Services, including the PVS pathway, the activities and training of OIE focal points, the reporting to the OIE through WAHIS, and the establishment of a veterinary statutory body in South Sudan.

The visit was followed by a joint OIE / AU-IBAR assessment of the VETGOV programme conducted in the Republic, in particular the ongoing pilot project (grants programme) on advocacy for a veterinary policy and veterinary legislation for South Sudan. A similar AU-IBAR & OIE Joint technical backstopping mission was conducted in São Tomé & Príncipe from April 14 – 17th, 2015.

■ The Nairobi office has been requested to provide the Government of Kenya with comments on the draft Veterinary Policy, under public review at the time. The document, which primarily aims to resolve coordination and chain-of-command issues resulting from the devolution process, initiated by the 2010 Constitution, and foreseen in its Fourth Schedule, was reviewed and comments submitted in writing to the OIE Delegate on July 24th, 2015.

■ On December 16th, 2015, the OIE office provided the IGAD *Centre for Pastoral Areas and Livestock Development* (ICPALD) written comments on its recently published IGAD Guidelines on Animal Health Certification. The publication was scrutinized by the OIE International Trade Department and comments communicated to this office for onward transmission.

■ On December 18th, 2015, the OIE office provided the OIE Delegate of South Sudan with written comments and suggestions on the draft Veterinary Policy, currently being developed with assistance of the VETGOV Project.

■ Regarding the official recognition of disease freedom by the OIE (pathway principle), none of the Members are recognised as free from any of the six diseases.

http://www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/mandates/en_disstatus.html

- AHS Freedom
- BSE Freedom
- CBPP Freedom
- CSF Freedom
- FMD Freedom
- PPR Freedom

■ In a very positive move, a joint FAO, OIE, DVS-Kenya visit of the *Kenyan Agriculture and Livestock Research Organisation* (KALRO, formerly known as KARI) institute in Muguga, was conducted on July 30th, 2015, regarding the destiny of remaining rinderpest containing materials (RCM) at KALRO. There is a commitment from both DVS in Kabete (diagnostic labs) and KALRO in Muguga (research labs) to partially destroy all RCMs and transfer the remainder to AU-PANVAC in Debre Zeit, Ethiopia. In addition to the materials present in Muguga, there are also some 450,000 doses of rinderpest vaccines stored in Kabete. These will be destroyed. On December 3rd, 2015, the OIE acknowledged receipt of the written commitment of the Kenyan Veterinary Authority to deal with the remaining stocks of rinderpest containing materials.

TRANSPARENCY ON DISEASE NOTIFICATION

The Sub-Regional Representation actively insists on the notification requirements of OIE member countries and will contact OIE delegates when rumours of important new outbreaks or epidemiological events are not followed by official notifications to OIE in a reasonable lapse of time. The following table combines the reporting status of OIE Member Countries for 2013, 2014 and 2015 (as recorded on March 1st, 2016).

Country	2013		2014		2015	
	6-monthly reports	Annual reports	6-monthly reports	Annual reports	6-monthly reports	Annual reports
Burundi	0	0	0	0	2	0
Comoros	0	0	2	0	1	0
Djibouti	2	0	2	1	1	0
Eritrea	2	0	1	0	0	0
Ethiopia	2	1	2	1	1	0
Kenya	4	1	4	1	2	0
Rwanda	2	1	0	0	0	0
Seychelles	6	1	4	0	0	0
Somalia	0	0	2	0	0	0
South Sudan	-	-	1	0	1	0
Sudan	4	1	4	1	2	0
Tanzania	2	0	2	1	1	0
Uganda	2	1	2	1	0	0

WAHID © Reporting summary on March 1st, 2016. Member Countries have until January 31st to submit their second half-year report (July – December 2015) and until March 31st to submit their annual report 2015.

In terms of immediate notifications, as pointed out in the first section of this report (disease situation report), three immediate notifications were submitted to the OIE in the course of 2015 (submitted by South Sudan in January 2015 and by Kenya, twice, in August 2015). The immediate notifications pertained to FMD, anthrax and African swine fever, respectively.

Reporting rate 2011	
• 6-month reports	80%
• annual reports	92%
Reporting rate 2012	
• 6-month reports	52%
• annual reports	75%
Reporting rate 2013	
• 6-month reports	81%
• annual reports	55%
Reporting rate 2014	
• 6-month reports	83%
• annual reports	50%
Reporting rate 2014 ^(to date)	
• 6-month reports	25%
• annual reports	N/A



The website clocked 160,672 visits (hits) on December 31st, 2015. A total of 193 countries have now visited the website, for a total of 54,900 individual visitors (since 2008). This translates in 115 hits and 32 individual visitors per day over the last 30 days' period and represents 125 hits and 43 individual visitors per day over the year 2015, compared to 95 and 33 respectively, in 2014.

Year	Visits	Growth %	Individual visitors	Countries of origin
2010	31,364	-	11,534	166
2011	43,960	40%	17,314	169
2012	59,829	36%	23,911	176
2013	80,497	35%	27,292	182
2014	115,194	43%	39,298	187
2015	160,672	39%	54,900	193
<i>Average</i>	<i>125 p. day</i>	-	<i>43 p. day</i>	--

Visitors mostly originate from the (Sub-) Regional Representations' host countries, as well as the headquarters (Botswana, Mali, Tunisia, Kenya and France) and from developed nations such as Belgium (included the European Commission), Canada, Italy, the United Kingdom and the USA. Prominent African visitors are from Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Egypt, Ethiopia, Mauritania, Morocco, Nigeria, Senegal, Seychelles, South Africa and Sudan.

The layout of the Africa website has undergone some changes, some visible, some hidden, mainly on the homepages, as requested by the OIE Communication Unit, which did a thorough audit of the website in 2014. Further upgrading of the website will continue in 2016.

Only one electronic newsletter, highlighting new postings on the OIE website, was sent out on February 17th, 2015. Following problems with the mass-mailing of the second newsletter, the quarterly circulation of this newsletter has been suspended until further notice.

TWINNING AND REFERENCE LABORATORIES

The Sub-Regional Representation is actively lobbying for the recognition of a first reference centre in eastern Africa. Candidates are laboratories and centres of expertise which are currently benefiting (or have benefited) from the OIE twinning programme.

In addition, the office supports the initiatives of the *International Livestock Research Institute* (ILRI) and the *International Centre for Insect Pathology and Ecology* (ICIPE), both based in Nairobi and Addis Ababa, to apply for recognition as Collaborating Centres in their respective fields of expertise.

The twinning programmes currently approved and / or being conducted in the region are :

Parent laboratory	Candidate laboratory	Disease / syndrome
Istituto Superiore di Sanita, Rome (Italy)	TVLA (Temeke) Tanzania	<i>Trichinella</i> spp.
CIRAD, Montpellier (France)	TVLA (Temeke) Tanzania	Peste des petits ruminants
Institute for Animal Health, Pirbright (UK)	NAHDIC (Debre Zeit) Ethiopia	Foot-and-mouth disease
National Veterinary Institute (NVI) Uppsala (Sweden)	NADDEC (Entebbe) Uganda	Surveillance linkages in ASF and FMD

Two twinning agreements came to a close in 2015 : UK - Sudan (brucellosis) and Spain – Kenya (African swine fever). A new twinning agreement on brucellosis between Argentina (parent) and Tanzania (candidate) has recently been approved.

A proposal for a *Veterinary Statutory Body* (VSB) Twinning Project between the *South African Veterinary Council* (SAVC) and the *Veterinary Council of Tanzania* (VCT) has been submitted to the OIE. Given the scope of the twinning proposal (legislation), the OIE had suggested that the twinning agreement be preceded by an identification mission, conducted under the auspices of the OIE *Veterinary Legislation Support Programme* (VLSP). This mission took place in November 2015 and the twinning agreement is expected to be signed in early 2016.

A proposal for a *Veterinary Educational Establishment* (VEE) Twinning Project between *Kansas State University* (KSA) in the United States of America and *Sokoine University of Agriculture* (SUA) in Tanzania is currently under consideration.

ISSUES OF GROWING IMPORTANCE IN THE REGION

The major and growing concerns in the region are related to three diseases

■ *Rift Valley Fever* (RVF), almost ten years after the last major outbreaks of 2006-2007, is the subject of heightened alertness, knowing that inter-epizootic periods average 10 years. Various initiatives have been undertaken in 2015 to raise awareness in East Africa on the imminent re-appearance of this disease, the main one being the Inter-regional Conference for the Middle East and the Horn of Africa on Rift Valley Fever : “*new options for trade, prevention and control*”, held in Djibouti from April 21 – 23rd, 2015. The proceedings are available for download.

www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/news/20150422.html

www.rr-africa.oie.int/docspdf/en/2015/RVF/REPORT.pdf

The US-based *El Niño/Southern Oscillation (ENSO) Diagnostic Discussion Group*, convened under the US *National Weather Centre* has been very useful in monitoring the risks (and locations) of a new RVF episode. This has led, from September onwards (the beginning of the risk period) to the publication of weekly bulletins, which were shared by this office with the OIE Delegates of the countries of the Horn of Africa and interested parties (IGAD, FAO-ECTAD, etc...) on a weekly basis.

■ *Peste des Petits Ruminants* (PPR) is not new to the region; all countries in Eastern Africa report it, except for Djibouti and the Seychelles. Following the development of a continental strategy by the African Union, IGAD has embarked on the development of a regional strategy for the control and eradication of PPR and other small ruminant diseases in the Horn of Africa. This strategy was developed throughout 2014 with the active participation of the OIE and was presented at the FAO / OIE International Conference on PPR control and eradication, which was held from March 31st – April 2nd, 2015 in Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire.

■ Based on repeated rumours of mass mortality in finfish in some of the tributaries of the Congo River in the Democratic Republic of Congo, reported to this office in late 2014, it is now confirmed that this river basin is affected by *Epizootic Ulcerative Syndrome* (EUS, now renamed *Infection with *Aphanomyces invadans**). The likely introduction of this disease into the Congo River basin is a direct threat to the lakes and rivers of the Great Lakes Region of Eastern Africa (Burundi, Rwanda and Uganda). Please refer to the Disease Situation Report on page 14 for more information.

Other issues of growing importance in the region are being addressed by this office through strategic partnerships (in alphabetical order) : animal welfare, anti-microbial resistance in farm animal production, geographical freedom from *African animal trypanosomosis* (AAT), rabies prevention, regional approaches to FMD control (PCP Roadmaps), veterinary para-professionals and community-based animal health workers and veterinary statutory bodies and veterinary education.

MEETINGS & CONFERENCES

Throughout the year, the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for Eastern Africa participated actively in various coordination platforms, together with our partner organisations, AU-IBAR and the FAO. The OIE SRR takes advantage of regional conferences and seminars organised by partner organisations and institutions to promote the OIE and its missions depending on the subject of discussion. The table below provides an overview of the main conferences, seminars, workshops and other meetings in which the Sub-Regional Representation participated in 2015. Official *back-to-office-reports* (BTOR) from these missions, meetings and conferences are available on request.

Meetings and events organised by the Sub-Regional Representation :

Capacity building		
Date	Title	Country
Dec. 1 – 3	OIE regional training course for focal points on veterinary medicinal products (VMP). Cycle IV.	Uganda

Visits to country authorities		
Date	Country	Outcomes
April 14 - 17	São Tomé & Príncipe	AU-IBAR & OIE Joint technical backstopping mission to (VETGOV Grants Programme / pilot policy projects). São Tomé.
April 23 - 24	Somalia	Inspection of the new Berbera II Quarantine Station in Berbera, Somaliland.
May 6 - 16	Swaziland	OIE PVS Evaluation follow-up mission, Manzini.
July 13 - 15	Tanzania	Government of Tanzania “ <i>Tanzania Livestock Modernisation Initiative</i> ” National stakeholder meeting, organised by the line-Ministry with the support of the International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF), the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) at Sussex University and the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), with financial support from the Government of Norway (unconfirmed) and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF). Dar es Salaam.
July 30	Kenya	Joint FAO, OIE, DVS-Kenya visit of the <i>Kenyan Agriculture and Livestock Research Organisation</i> (KALRO, formerly known as KARI) institute in Muguga regarding the destiny of remaining <i>rinderpest containing materials</i> (RCM) at KALRO. Muguga.
Aug. 24 - 28	South Sudan	Official country visit, Juba.
Oct. 1 - 2	Kenya	<i>Kenya Veterinary Association</i> (KVA) <i>World Animal Day</i> (WAD) event/celebrations. Nanyuki.
Nov. 1 - 11	Swaziland	OIE PVS Gap Analysis mission, Manzini.

Coordination meetings		
Date	Title	Country
Apr. 21 - 23	GF-TADs (FAO – OIE) Inter-regional Conference on Rift Valley Fever in the Horn of Africa and the Middle East : <i>“New options for trade, prevention and control”</i> .	Djibouti
Aug. 10 - 11	Fourth annual meeting of Deans of the SEAAVEE network: Southern and Eastern Africa Association of Veterinary Educational Establishments.	Kenya
Oct. 13 - 15	OIE – AVTA – GALVmed Regional conference on the role of veterinary para-professionals in Africa.	South Africa

Meetings and events attended by the Sub-Regional Representation :

Capacity building		
Date	Title	Country
May 6	Joint IGAD (ICPALD) – WTO training on SPS and TBT Agreements.	Kenya
May 23	OIE international information seminar for newly appointed OIE Delegates.	France
Oct. 6 – 9	OIE international training course for national focal points for animal disease notification : WAHIS (basic, new focal points).	France

Coordination meetings		
Date	Title	Country
Jan. 15 - 16	VETGOV Post <i>Mid-Term Review</i> (MTR) Retreat to coordinate the revision of the logframe and the budget in line with the recommendations of the MTR report. AU-IBAR / FAO-ECTAD / OIE-SRR.	Kenya
Feb. 5 - 7	Steering Committee meeting II of the Indian Ocean Epidemiological Surveillance and Alert Management (SEGA) project.	Reunion Island
Feb. 26	Steering committee meeting V of the PAN-SPSO project (AU-IBAR).	Kenya
Feb. 27	Advisory Committee meeting V of the African Union’s Inter-african Bureau for Animal Resources.	Kenya

Coordination meetings		
Date	Title	Country
Mar. 23 – Apr. 10	ARIS forum on animal welfare. AU-IBAR (virtual).	Kenya
Apr. 28	Preparatory meeting with AVTA, GALVMED and the South African Association of Veterinary Para-Professionals, in view of the October OIE Regional seminar on the role of veterinary para-professionals in Africa, to be held in Pretoria (refer to page 17).	South Africa
May 4	Steering committee meeting I of the STDF funded COMESA project "Breaking barriers, Facilitating Trade".	Zambia
May 4 - 7	AU-IBAR (PAN-SPSO) Annual CVO Meeting in preparation of the OIE General Session (common position).	Kenya
May 7 - 9	AU-IBAR Stakeholders Meeting to validate the <i>Livestock Development Strategy for Africa</i> (LiDeSa) results/M&E and Action Planning frameworks.	Kenya
May 11 - 14	Steering committee meeting IV of the Bee Health Project (ICIPE & AU-IBAR) Virtual meeting	Kenya
June 25	Steering Committee meeting V of the SMP-AH project. AU-IBAR and IGAD.	Ethiopia
June 26	3rd Steering Committee meeting III of the STSD project. AU-IBAR and IGAD.	Ethiopia
July 27 - 29	AU-IBAR Technical Meeting to develop and prioritize animal welfare key issues and key interventions areas for Africa.	Kenya
Sep. 3	Fifth coordination meeting between AU (IBAR), FAO (ECTAD) and OIE (SRR), hosted by the FAO.	Kenya
Sep. 7 - 9	Sixth Eastern Africa <i>Regional Animal Health Network</i> (RAHN) with Chief Veterinary Officers (CVOs) and Focal points for the regional epidemiology (EAREN) and laboratory (EARLN) networks.	Uganda
Sep. 10 - 11	First PPR road map meeting for the IGAD and EAC Member States	Uganda
Sep. 28 - 29	IGAD regional consultative meeting on Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS-CoV)	Sudan

Coordination meetings		
Date	Title	Country
Sep. 30 – Oct. 2	IGAD regional meeting to establish and launch a Regional Network for Export Quarantines (NEQ) Stations.	Sudan
Oct. 26 - 28	African Union (AU) Continental SPS Committee meeting.	Uganda
Nov. 5 - 6	AU-IBAR / VET-GOV Programme Engagement Workshop with Pan African Parliamentarians.	Kenya
Nov. 9 - 11	AU-IBAR / VET-GOV Programme Engagement Workshop with regional farmer organisations.	Kenya
Nov. 12	<i>Technical advisory committee</i> (TAC) meeting V of the EU funded <i>Bee Health Project</i> (BHP), jointly implemented by AU-IBAR and ICIPE.	Kenya
Nov. 16 - 17	IGAD <i>Livestock Identification and Traceability System</i> (LITS) and <i>Animal Health Certification</i> (AHC) meetings.	Kenya
Nov. 17 - 20	AU-IBAR / VET-GOV Programme Engagement Workshop with Permanent Secretaries (Ps) of the Ministries responsible for livestock development and the Ministries responsible for national planning and budget allocations.	Kenya
Nov. 18 – 19	IGAD Joint <i>Technical Experts Committee</i> (TEC) and <i>Control Coordination Committee</i> (CCC) for the IGAD Regional <i>Peste des Petits Ruminants</i> (PPR) Progressive Control and Eradication Strategy.	Kenya
Nov. 22 - 24	Inter-regional conference on livestock trade between the Horn of Africa and the Middle-East.	United Arab Emirates
Nov. 30 – Dec. 1	AU-IBAR Continental Consultative Stakeholders Conference on Animal Welfare. AU-IBAR.	Kenya

Relevant OIE meetings

Date	Title
Jan. 20 - 22	Third OIE Global Conference on Aquatic Animal Health ' <i>Riding the wave to the future</i> '. Ho-Chi-Minh City, Vietnam
Feb. 16	OIE Seminar "Development public-private partnerships to support Veterinary Services". Rabat, Morocco.
Feb. 17 - 19	21 st Conference of the Regional Commission for Africa , Rabat, Morocco
Mar. 31 – Apr. 2	FAO - OIE Global Conference on PPR Control and Eradication. Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire.
May 24 - 30	83 rd OIE General Session, Paris, France
Oct. 20 - 23	Annual meeting of OIE Regional and Sub-Regional Representations, Paris, France

Representation of OIE in other events not previously mentioned

Date	Title	Country
Jan. 27	ILRI Book launch : <i>Food safety and informal markets: Animal products in sub-Saharan Africa</i> , edited by Kristina Roesel and Delia Grace.	Kenya
Mar. 10	LEGS Book launch (<i>Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards</i>) Second edition	Kenya
Mar. 17	Inception workshop of the WHO-AGISAR pilot project on Integrated Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance in Uganda.	Uganda
Mar. 23	One day seminar on "One Health: Impacts, Measures and Metrics" VetWorks Eastern Africa in cooperation with the Livestock Development Group at the University of Reading (UK), with funding of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF).	Kenya
June 9 - 11	Launch of the <i>Pan-African Rabies Control Network (PARaCoN)</i> by GARC. Continental conference.	South Africa
Sep. 4 – 5	29 th Annual Conference of the <i>Ethiopian Veterinary Association (EVA)</i> .	Ethiopia

Representation of OIE in other events not previously mentioned

Date	Title	Country
Sep. 9	First Wildlife Forum at the XIV World Forestry Congress, organised by the <i>Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management</i> (CPW).	South Africa
Oct. 26 - 29	Scientific Meeting "One Health" SEGA Network (Indian Ocean Commission).	Mauritius
Nov. 9 - 13	<i>International Livestock Research Institute</i> (ILRI) in collaboration with the <i>Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation</i> (BMGF) Livestock Advocacy and Communication workshop.	Ethiopia
Dec. 8 - 10	<i>Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation</i> (BMGF) – sponsored workshop on “ <i>Accelerating bTB control in developing countries</i> ”, combined with the launch of the (global) research alliance : the <i>Global Research Alliance for bTB</i> or “grabTB.	Morocco
Dec. 16	Joint <i>World Customs Organisation</i> (WCO) – <i>Kenya Revenue Authority</i> (KRA) Session on the <i>Trade Facilitation Agreement</i> (TFA) : “ <i>Borders Divide – Customs Connect</i> ” organized in the margin of the WTO 10 th Ministerial Conference (MC-10).	Kenya

REGIONAL COMMISSION ACTIVITIES

■ The 21st Conference of the Regional Commission for Africa took place in Rabat (Morocco) from February 17 – 20th, 2015. The Conference, attended by some 120 participants, was chaired by Dr. Abderahman El-Abrak, OIE Delegate for Morocco, along with Dr Bernard Vallat, OIE Director General, Dr. Karin Schwabenbauer, OIE Delegate of Germany and President of the OIE (Council and World Assembly), Dr. Yacouba Samaké, OIE Regional Representative for Africa, as well as Dr. Marosi Molomo, OIE Delegate of the Kingdom of Lesotho and President of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa. A warm welcome was extended to Mrs Awilo Ochieng - Pernet, the President of the *Codex Alimentarius Commission* (CAC).

<http://www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/news/20150222.html>

■ The 83rd OIE World Assembly of Delegates was held in Paris from May 24 - 30th, 2015. The Delegate of South Africa, Dr. Botlhe Michael Modisane, was elected by the World Assembly as President of the OIE Council while the OIE Delegate of Uganda, Dr. Nicholas Kauta, was elected as Member of the OIE Council, as representative of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa. The OIE Regional Commission for Africa meeting also elected a new President to replace the outgoing President and Delegate of Lesotho, Dr. Marosi Molomo. It is the OIE Delegate from Togo, Dr. Komla Daniel Batawui.

<http://www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/news/20150530.html>

The eastern African region is represented in the Commission by Dr. Theogen Rutagwenda, Vice-President and OIE Delegate of Rwanda.

http://www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/RC/en_organisation.html

NEW APPOINTMENTS

■ The Government of Eritrea appointed Dr Yonas Woldu Tesfagaber as OIE Delegate in January 2015.

■ The Government of Somalia appointed Dr Ahmed Abdu Gedi as OIE Delegate in April 2015 and Dr. Farah Mohamed Ali in September 2015.

Country	Position	Institution	Name	Surname
Burundi	<i>Directeur de la Santé Animale</i>	<i>Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Elevage (MAE)</i>	Déogratias	Nsanganiyumwami
Comoros	<i>Chef de Service Santé Animale et Vétérinaire</i>	<i>Ministère de la Production, de l'Environnement, de l'Energie, de l'Industrie et de l'Artisanat (MPEEIA).</i>	Soulé	Miradji
Djibouti	<i>Directeur de l'Agriculture, de l'Elevage et des Services Vétérinaires</i>	<i>Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Elevage et de la Mer</i>	Moussa	Ibrahim Cheick
Eritrea	Director Technical Services Division	Ministry of Agriculture (MoA)	Yonas Woldu	Tesfagaber
Ethiopia	Director Animal and Plant Health Regulatory Directorate	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD)	Bewket	Siraw
Kenya	Director of Veterinary Services	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (MALF)	Kisa Juma	Ngeiywa
Rwanda	Director General of Animal Resources (Rwanda Agricultural Board)	Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources (MAAR)	Theogen	Rutagwenda
Seychelles	Principal Veterinary Officer	Ministry of Environment , Natural Resources & Transport	Jimmy	Melanie
Somalia	Director of Veterinary Services	Ministry of Livestock, Forestry and Range	Farah	Mohamed Ali
South Sudan	acting Director General of Veterinary Services	Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Industry.	Jacob	Korok
Sudan	Undersecretary and Chief Veterinary Officer	Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rangelands (MLFR)	Kamal	Tagelsir Elsheikh
Tanzania	Director of Veterinary Services	Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Development (MLFD)	Abdu	Hayghaimo
Uganda	Director Animal Health	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF)	Nicholas	Kauta

OIE Delegates from the east African Member States as per December 31st , 2015.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

■ The SRR-EA began its activities in January 2010, with the appointment of a Sub-Regional Representative and later that year a Secretary and an Administrative and Financial Assistant. A Programme Officer was seconded to the OIE by the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (*France Cooperation*) in June 2010. The Programme Officer ended his assignment with the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (*France Cooperation*) in July 2012. A second Programme Officer was appointed in January 2013, an OIE position supported by the *Agence Française de Développement* (AFD) or French Development Agency.

■ A new service provider for driving services to the Representative was hired from January 1st, 2015 and a first Deputy-Representative took office from September 1st, 2015.

■ In the course of March 2015, a professional librarian was hired to set up the archiving system of the OIE library (including a small database and labelling of books and periodicals).

■ The mid-term evaluation of the “*Strengthening Veterinary Governance in Africa*” (VETGOV) Project led to a report which was adopted in December 2014 and led the three implementing organizations to organize a two-day planning retreat in Naivasha, Kenya in January 2015. The meeting revisited the main recommendations of the MTE, revised the proposed new logical framework for the project, debated on the new activities to list and others to abandon, project milestones and eventually also the financial consequences, in terms of a financial reshuffle (at no additional cost). This resulted in the simultaneous submission to the EC Delegation in Nairobi of the three riders (amendments) and the joint revised logical framework, which were approved shortly afterwards.

■ The new “*Strengthening Veterinary Services in Developing Countries*” project, a EUR 2.0 million grant from the European Parliament, was eventually merged with a second European Parliament grant of EUR 1.5 million for rabies control activities in Africa, to become a 3.5 million project referred to as the “*Strengthening Veterinary Services in Developing Countries + Rabies*” (SVS-DC+R) project. The project will run from February 2016 until January 2019 and will in part be monitored through the steering mechanisms of the VETGOV project. The project will be implemented under direct management by the EU –Delegation in Nairobi through a grant contract which was signed on December 23rd, 2015.

■ The OIE staff has been involved in the review of two new LEAP guidelines on (a) the Environmental Performance of Large Ruminant Supply Chain (draft guidelines for Assessment) and (b) the Draft Principles for the Assessment of Livestock Impacts on Biodiversity. More information on LEAP can be found here :

www.fao.org/partnerships/leap/en/

■ By request of the OIE International Trade Department, the OIE staff has also been involved in the review of three new or re-submitted applications to the *Standards and Trade Development Facility* (STDF) Secretariat from : Ethiopia, Nigeria and Tanzania.

■ This office also contributed to the revision of the *Collaborative Partnership on sustainable Wildlife management* (CPW) fact sheet n° 3 on Sustainable Wildlife Management and Animal Health. CPW is a voluntary partnership of international organizations with substantive mandates and programmes for the sustainable use and conservation of wildlife resources. The mission of the CPW is to promote conservation through the sustainable management of terrestrial vertebrate wildlife in all biomes and geographic areas and to increase cooperation and coordination on sustainable wildlife management issues among its members and partners. The OIE is a member of the CPW initiative.

www.fao.org/forestry/wildlife-partnership/en/

The fact sheet was launched on September 9th, 2015 at the first Wildlife Forum, being organised as part of the fourteenth World Forestry Congress (Durban, South Africa) and was attended by OIE Nairobi staff. Three-hundred copies of this fact sheet were printed in Nairobi, paid for by the OIE office and were distributed at the launch.

www.rr-africa.oie.int/docspdf/en/2015/CPW_FS3_Animal_Health.pdf

■ This year's OIE intern, Dr Moses Olum, BVM and candidate MSc (University of Nairobi) completed his three-months assignment in the course of July. He travelled inside Kenya and visited Uganda (Kampala and Entebbe) and Tanzania (Dar es Salaam) to collect information. He submitted two papers which were revised and approved by this office :

- The effects of the devolution on the provision of veterinary services in Kenya.
- Awareness of epizootic ulcerative syndrome (infection with *Aphanomyces invadans*) in the countries bordering Lake Victoria.

http://www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/library/en_library.html

AGREEMENTS & HOSTING

■ The revision of the Agreement with the African Union's *Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources* (AU-IBAR), which replaces the first agreement signed between the then *Office International des Epizooties* and the then *Organisation of African Unity* (now African Union) in 2001, was completed in early 2015, was subsequently approved by the OIE Council (meeting in February 2015) and officially signed by Dr. Bernard Vallat, OIE Director General and Prof. Ahmed El-Sawalhy, AU-IBAR Director, on May 29th, 2015, during the OIE General Session in Paris, France.

The agreement defines synergies between the animal health and welfare agendas of OIE at international level and AU-IBAR at continental level, in the areas of knowledge, data and information management and dissemination; legislation, standard setting, standard implementation, and trade; the veterinary profession and veterinary education; the strengthening of veterinary services; animal production and farming practices / animal welfare; as well as improved advocacy and policy guidance.

<http://www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/news/20150529.html>

■ Negotiations are underway with the *Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa* (COMESA), the *East African Community* (EAC) and the *Indian Ocean Commission* (IOC) for similar Cooperation Agreements. For the latter, a draft Agreement has already been endorsed by the OIE Council (meeting in October 2015) and by the IOC Council of Ministers and will probably be signed in early 2016, or at latest during the 2016 General Session.

Agreement with	Signatories	Starting date
AU-IBAR (renewal)	OIE & AU-IBAR	2015
IGAD Secretariat	OIE & IGAD	2014
Kenya (Hosting Agreement)	OIE & Gov. of Kenya	2011

OFFICIAL VISITS, COURTESY CALLS

Designation	Date
Acting Chairman of the <i>African Veterinary Technicians Association</i> (AVTA).	Jan. 29
University of Reading (UK) and Vetworks Eastern Africa, on the metrics of one health in reference to livestock resource allocations, priorities and service delivery.	Mar. 13
Minister for Livestock, Forestry, and Range of Somalia.	Apr. 7
Director of AU-IBAR, following Dr. Masiga's return to work.	Apr. 9
OIE Deputy Regional Representative for Africa	May 7
Outgoing Head of the Rural Development Department at the European Union Delegation (EEAS) in Nairobi.	July 21
Trustees of the UK-based animal welfare organisation The Brooke.	Nov. 6
Team of scientists of the Meru University of Science and Technology (Kenya) and the Western University of California (USA)	Nov. 17
Team of OIE veterinary legislation experts, conducting a VLSP identification mission in Kenya.	Nov. 20

FINANCIAL REPORT

The OIE Sub-Regional Representation's 2015 annual work plan and budget stood at EUR 248,900 :

Cost Item	Total
	2015
STAFF EXPENSES	93 400.00 €
OPERATING COSTS	44 300.00 €
WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES	76.000.00 €
MISSION EXPENSES	35 200.00 €
TOTAL (EUR)	248 900.00 €

Extra-budgetary funding was provided by the *French Development Agency* through the appointment of a Programme Officer to OIE and a EUR 10,000 operational budget (from January – December 2015).

By December 31st, 2015, the state of disbursements, as compared to the previous years, was as follows :

Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Approved budget	373 681	372 409	297 940	212 000	248 900
Disbursements	356 436	277 790	255 286	151 166	374 002
Uptake	95 %	75 %	86 %	71 %	150 %

The 2015 budget has been considerably exceeded by 50% because of the addition of two more regional seminars which had not initially been entrusted to this office, as well as the relative price increases of expenditures in KES and USD, when converted to the European currency, used by the OIE as the reference currency for budgeting purposes. The latter is the result of the European Central Bank's "*quantitative easing*" programme, intended to fight possible deflation within the Eurozone. On March 6th, 2015, the Euro (EUR) fell under the symbolic exchange rate of less than 100 KES / EUR, whilst it hit its lowest value against the USD in 11 years (1.05).

CONCLUSIONS AND 2016 OUTLOOK

Throughout 2015, the OIE office continued to perform its 'representative' duties as best as it could, given the limited human and financial resources available. Thankfully, the addition of Dr. Samuel Wakhusama as Deputy-Representative from September onwards provided a welcome relief from the work pressure, as reflected in the list of meetings, workshops and conferences that this office was able to attend (and sometimes to organise) from there onwards.

The efforts of the OIE office to intensively interact with the EC Delegation in Nairobi, and to liaise with the OIE World Animal Health and Welfare Fund in Paris, have borne fruit. Only days before the critical deadline expired on December 31st, a grant contract was signed enabling the implementation by the OIE of the *"Strengthening Veterinary Services in developing countries"* project, which now includes an additional pilot project on rabies control and elimination. In addition to the ongoing activities, conducted under the *"Strengthening Veterinary Governance for Africa"* (VETGOV) project, this new project is expected to boost the OIE's outreach activities on the continent as a whole, with numerous new capacity-building and PVS-related initiatives being rolled out in the next 36 months (until the end of December 2018). This includes the long-awaited establishment of a regional rabies vaccine bank for Africa.

Hence, 2016 is expected to see more 'implementation' than was the case in the two previous years, with no less than six national focal points' training courses being organized at continental level, three of which will be coordinated by this office.

2016 will also be the first year under new management as the new OIE Director General, Dr. Monique Eloit takes office on the first of January. The OIE office in Nairobi wishes to congratulate the outgoing Director General, Dr. Bernard Vallat on his retirement and to express its gratitude for all the time, effort and dedication he has given the Africa region during his 15 year tenure and which is best illustrated by the two photographs below, recalling the inauguration of the Nairobi-based OIE Representation in June 2011 (right) and the signing of a new cooperation agreement with the African Union in May 2015 (left).

Asante sana mzee Vallat





WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH

Protecting animals, preserving our future