

# ANNUAL REPORT



## EASTERN AFRICA 2016



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Pictures on cover :

<p><i>Training of OIE Focal Points for Animal Disease Notifications on WAHIS. Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt (November)</i></p> <p><i>Picture © P. Bastiaensen (2016)</i></p>	<p><i>Vaccination of dogs during the World Rabies Day celebration in Shanzu, Mombasa, Kenya (September)</i></p> <p><i>Picture © N. J. Bastiaensen (2016)</i></p>	<p><i>Roleplay on how to brief your boss during the training of OIE Focal Points for Veterinary Communication. Mombasa, Kenya (September)</i></p> <p><i>Picture © P. Bastiaensen (2016)</i></p>
<p><i>Visit of a cattle market in Tanzania during OIE PVS Evaluation follow-up mission (July)</i></p> <p><i>Picture © M. Carron (2016)</i></p>	<p><i>Picture of the OIE Representatives in Africa after the farewell speech of Dr. Walter Masiga. Paris, France (October)</i></p> <p><i>Picture © L. Barcos (2016)</i></p>	<p><i>Buffaloes spotted during the training of OIE Focal points for wildlife. Lake Nakuru National Park, Kenya (November)</i></p> <p><i>Picture © F. Diaz (2016)</i></p>
<p><i>African Union Review and Assistance Conference on the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004) in Africa. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (April)</i></p> <p><i>Picture © P. Bastiaensen (2016)</i></p>	<p><i>Intern working on future standard setting on the welfare of reptiles : crocodile farm in the vicinity of Mombasa, Kenya (August)</i></p> <p><i>Picture © E. Kwoba (2016)</i></p>	<p><i>Dr Samuel Wakhusama during a speech at the occasion of the farewell well reception organised for the outgoing Representative, Dr Walter Masiga</i></p> <p><i>Picture © P. Bastiaensen (2016)</i></p>

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EASTERN AFRICA



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# ACRONYMS

AAHS	Aquatic Animal Health Services	
AFD	<i>Agence Française de Développement</i>	France
AGAH	Animal Health Division (under Agriculture Department)	FAO
AGISAR	Advisory Group on Integrated Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance	WHO
AHS	African horse sickness	
AMR	antimicrobial resistance	
AMU	antimicrobial use	
ANAW	African Network for Animal Welfare	
APAW	African Platform on Animal Welfare	IBAR
ASF	African Swine Fever	
AU(C)	African Union (Commission)	AU
BHP	Bee Health Project	ICIPE
BSE	Bovine spongiform encephalopathy	
BVM	Bachelor in Veterinary Medicine	
CBPP	Contagious Bovine Pleuro-Pneumonia	
CBT	commodity-based trade	
CDC	Centres for Disease Control and prevention	USA
CEBEVIRHA	<i>Commission Economique du Bétail, de la Viande et des Ressources Halieutiques</i>	ECCAS
CECC	PPR Control and Eradication Coordination Committee	IGAD
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora	
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa	REC
CRECC	County Rabies Elimination Coordination Committee	Kenya
CSF	Classical Swine Fever	
CVO	Chief Veterinary Officer	
DVM	Doctor in Veterinary Medicine	
DVTD	Department of Veterinary Tropical Diseases	UP
UP	University of Pretoria	
EA	East Africa	
EAC	East African Community	REC
EAREN	Eastern African Regional Epidemiology Network	
EARLN	Eastern African Regional Laboratory Network	
ECCAS	Economic Community of Central African States	REC
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States	REC
ECTAD	Emergency Centre for TAD	FAO
EMPRES	Emergency Prevention System for animal and plant pests and diseases	FAO
EPT2	Emerging Pandemic Threats project (phase 2)	USA
EUS	Epizootic Ulcerative Syndrome	
EVA	Ethiopian Veterinary Association	
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation (of the United Nations)	UN
FMD	Foot-and-Mouth Disease	
GALVmed	Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines	
GARC	Global Alliance for Rabies Control	
GF-TAD	Global Framework for the progressive control of Transboundary Animal Diseases	FAO, OIE
HORN	One Health Regional Network for the Horn of Africa	
HSU	Health Surveillance Unit	IOC
IBAR	Inter-african Bureau for Animal Resources	AU
ICIPE	International Centre for Insect Pathology and Ecology	
ICPALD	IGAD Centre for Pastoral Areas and Livestock Development	IGAD
IDRC	International Development Research Centre	Canada
IGAD	Inter-Governmental Authority on Development	REC
IOC	Indian Ocean Commission	REC
KALRO	Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organisation	Kenya
KEMRI	Kenya Medical Research Institute	Kenya
KRA	Kenya Revenue Authority	Kenya
KSU	Kansas State University	USA
KVA	Kenyan Veterinary Association	Kenya
KWS	Kenya Wildlife Service	Kenya
LEAP	Partnership : Livestock Environmental Assessment & Performance	FAO
LITS	Livestock Identification and traceability system	
LSD	Lumpy skin disease	
LVIF	Livestock Vaccine Innovation Fund	IDRC
MOOC	Massive open online course	
MSc	Master of Science	

NADDEC	National Animal Disease Diagnostics and Epidemiology Centre	Uganda
NAHDIC	National Animal Health Diagnostic Investigation Centre	Ethiopia
NAP	National Action Plan (AMR)	
NEALCO	Northern and Eastern Africa Livestock Council	
NRECC	National Rabies Elimination Coordination Committee	Kenya
NVI	National Veterinary Institute	Ethiopia
NVI	<i>National Veterinar Institutet</i>	Sweden
NWHC	National Wildlife Health Centre	USA
OFFLU	Global network of expertise on animal influenza	FAO, OIE
OHCEA	One Health Central and Eastern Africa	
OIE	World Organisation for Animal Health	
OSU	Ohio State University	USA
PAN-SPSO	Participation of African National in SPS Organisations	IBAR
PANVAC	Pan-African Veterinary Vaccine Centre	AU
PAT	Palestinian Autonomous Territories	
PATTEC	Pan-African Tsetse and Trypanosomosis Eradication Campaign	AU
PCR	Polymerase Chain Reaction	
PG	Project Grant	STDF
PPP	Public-private partnership	
PPR	<i>Peste des petits ruminants</i>	
ProMED	Programme for the Monitoring of Emerging Diseases	
PVS	Performance of Veterinary Services	OIE
RAHN	Regional Animal Health Network	EA
REC	Regional Economic Community	
REDISSE	(West Africa) Regional Disease Surveillance Systems Enhancement (project)	World Bank
RIWA	Rabies in West Africa (conference)	
RoSS	Republic of South Sudan	
RVCM	rinderpest-virus containing material(s)	
RVF	Rift valley fever	
SADC	Southern African Development Community	
SARE	Step-wise Approach to Rabies Elimination	GARC
SAVC	South African Veterinary Council	
SEAAVEE	Southern and Eastern Africa Association of VEE	
SEGA	<i>Surveillance Epidémiologique et Gestion des Alertes</i>	IOC
SENASA	<i>Servicio Nacional de Sanidad y Calidad Agroalimentaria</i>	Argentina
SLOF	Sharon Live On Foundation	Kenya
SPS	Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary (Agreement)	WTO
SRR	Sub-Regional Representation	OIE
STDF	Standards and Trade Development Facility	WTO
SUA	Sokoine University of Agriculture	Tanzania
SVSDC+R	Strengthening Veterinary Services in Developing Countries and Rabies project	OIE
TAC	BHP Technical Advisory Committee	ICIPE
TEC	PPR Technical Experts Committee	IGAD
TVLA	Tanzania Veterinary Laboratories Agency	
UEM	Universidade Eduardo Mondlane	Mozambique
UK	United Kingdom	
UN	United Nations	
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme	UN
UNSCR	United Nations Security Council Resolution	UN
UoG	University of Gondar	Ethiopia
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
VSB	Veterinary Statutory Body(ies)	
WAEMU	West African Economic and Monetary Union	REC
WAHIAD	World Animal Health Information and Analysis Department	OIE
WAHIS	World Animal Health Information System	OIE
WCO	World Customs Organisation	
WHO	World Health Organisation	UN
WRD	World Rabies Day	
WSU	Washington State University	USA
WTO	World Trade Organisation	UN
ZDU	Zoonotic Disease Unit	Kenya

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# INTRODUCTION

The activities of the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for East Africa and the Horn of Africa (OIE SRR-EA) started in January 2010. Today, the Representation covers 13 OIE Member Countries in eastern Africa and liaises with the East African Community (EAC), the *Inter-Governmental Authority on Development* (IGAD) and the *Indian Ocean Commission* (IOC). The latter was approved by the OIE World Assembly in May 2016 and the Cooperation Agreement between the two Organisations was signed in September 2016.

The year 2016 has been marked by the implementation of the 6<sup>th</sup> OIE Strategic Plan, jointly with the commencement of the first 5-year term of the new OIE Director General, Dr. Monique Eloit, elected in May 2016, and considerable institutional restructuring, as illustrated by the new organisation chart of the OIE (next page). It also marked – at the end of December – the retirement of the current OIE Sub-Regional Representative for Eastern Africa, Dr. Walter Masiga after a career spanning almost 50 years.

For the second year in a row, the annual budget of the Representation for 2016 again increased, by 75%, largely due to the opportunities offered by the two main funding streams, both from the European Union, i.e. the *Strengthening Veterinary Governance in Africa* programme (VETGOV) and the *Strengthening Veterinary Services in Developing Countries and Rabies Pilot* project (SVSDC+R), which have greatly facilitated the organisation of several capacity-building events by this office for OIE national focal points for veterinary communication (Mombasa), animal disease notification (Sharm el-Sheikh) and wildlife (Nakuru). The office also coordinated the two regional training programmes on harmonisation of veterinary legislation at community level, organised with the support of AU-IBAR, for the Member States of the *Economic Community of West African States* (Lomé) and the *East African Community* (Arusha). IT also co-organised the fifth coordination meeting of Deans and Principals of Veterinary Faculties and Schools in Southern and Eastern Africa (Maputo).

The office not only spearheads the maintenance and continuous updating of the official OIE website for Africa : [www.rr-africa.oie.int](http://www.rr-africa.oie.int) (including the mobile website : [m.africa.oie.int](http://m.africa.oie.int) ), but has also initiated the process of upgrading the website (defining the terms of references and technical specifications for the new website). The office remains involved in a considerable number of continental, regional and national programmes, the most important being the continental *Strengthening of Veterinary Governance in Africa* (VETGOV) programme (with IBAR and FAO) and – increasingly – 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 became available and allowed the launch of the OIE Rabies Vaccine Bank, along with the implementation of a national pilot project aimed at the elimination of rabies from a limited number of counties in Kenya by 2025.

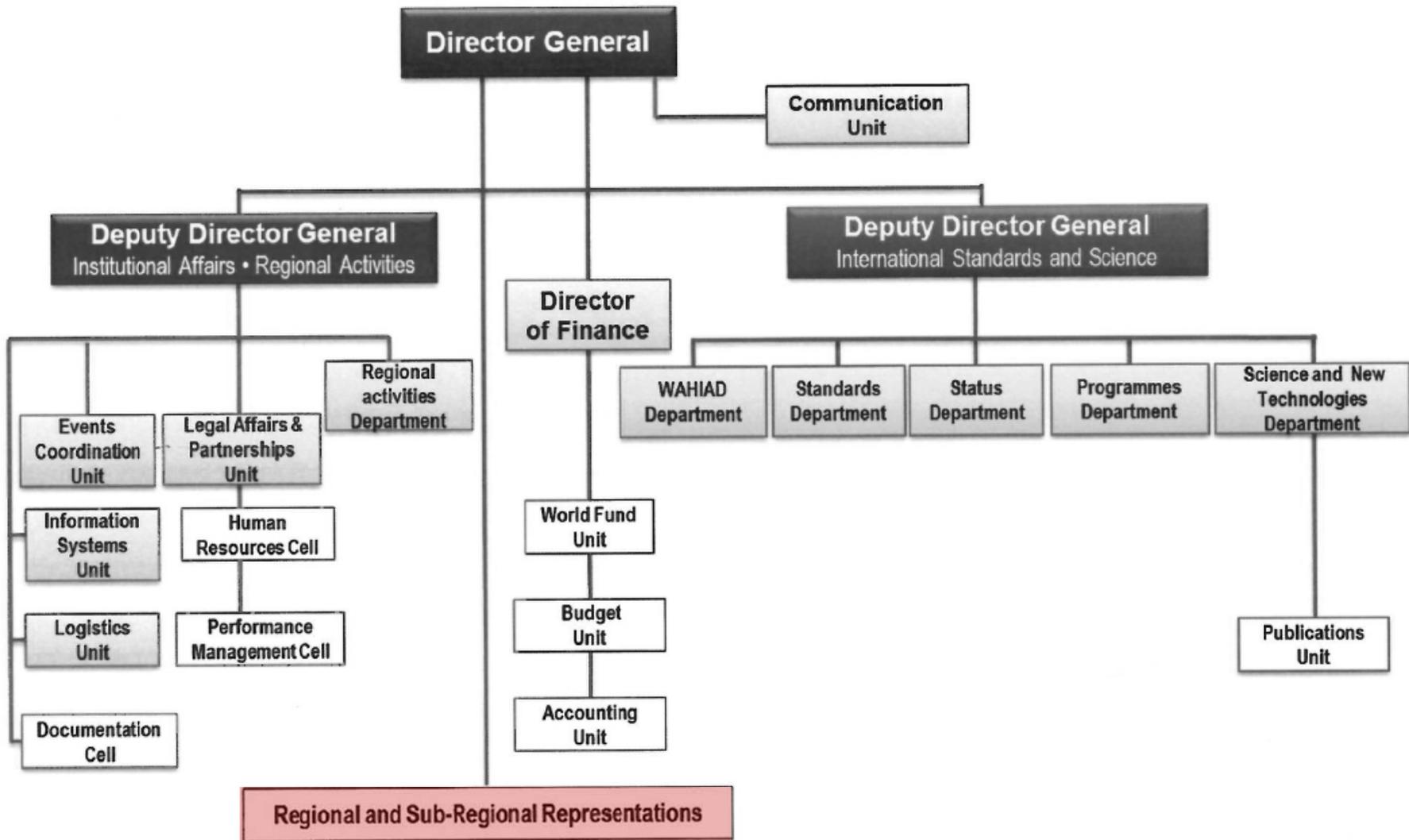
This report can be downloaded from the OIE Africa website (in Acrobat Reader format – PDF)



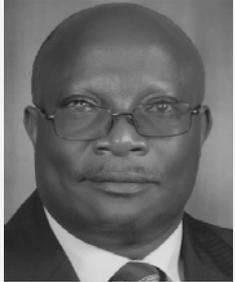
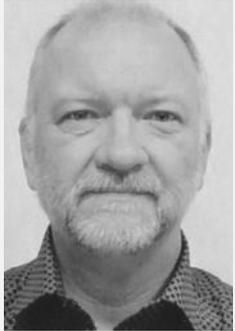
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*Protecting animals, preserving our future*



## STAFF

	Position (nationality)	Name	Starting date
	Representative <i>(part time)</i>  (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 Comoros and the Seychelles are Member States of the *Indian Ocean Commission* (IOC), based in Port Louis, Mauritius. Two other Member States of the IOC, Madagascar and Mauritius, are covered by the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for Southern Africa, based in Gaborone (Botswana).

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 in Gaborone.



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

# PRODUCTION STATISTICS OF THE REGION

In terms of terrestrial animals, data are becoming increasingly representative and updated due to renewed reporting to WAHIS by some Member Countries. The Region hosts around 165 million head of cattle (with the Federal Republic of Ethiopia having the highest number at 56 million) and 290 million small ruminants, of which 70 million in the Sudan (source : OIE-WAHIS, 2017, data from 2015 annual reports). Totals are only presented if deemed reliable.

OIE Members	Cattle (,000)	Sheep (,000)	Goats (,000)	Pigs (,000)	Camelids (,000)	Equines (,000)	Poultry (,000)
Burundi	440	215	1,571	287	-	-	1,638
<i>Comoros</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>122</i>	-	-	5	<i>520</i>
Djibouti	40	400	600	-	50	7	-
<i>Eritrea</i>	<i>2,090</i>	<i>2,290</i>	<i>1,825</i>	-	<i>370</i>	-	<i>1,400</i>
Ethiopia	56,706	29,332	29,113	<1	2,164	9,861	56,867
Kenya	17,543	17,270	29,748	306	2,986	-	32,644
<i>Rwanda</i>	<i>1,144</i>	<i>631</i>	<i>2,532</i>	<i>1,015</i>	-	-	<i>4,952</i>
<i>Seychelles</i>	<i>&lt;1</i>	-	<i>5</i>	<i>5</i>	-	-	<i>130</i>
Somalia	5,300	12,470	16,165	-	7,100	110	3,887
South Sudan	<i>11,817</i>	<i>16,750</i>	<i>13,550</i>	-	-	-	<i>15,000</i>
Sudan	30,191	39,846	31,029	-	4,792	8,344	46,652
Tanzania	25,800	9,200	17,100	2,670	330	<1	72,000
Uganda	14,031	4,198	15,311	4,257	-	<i>3,840</i>	46,051
<b>Region (2016)</b>	<b>165,153</b>	<b>132,626</b>	<b>158,671</b>				<b>281,741</b>
<b>Region (2015)</b>	<b>158,667</b>	<b>123,646</b>	<b>150,342</b>				<b>-</b>
<b>Increase compared to 2015</b>	<b>4,0 %</b>	<b>7,3 %</b>	<b>5,6 %</b>				

Where OIE data are absent, figures in italic are based on FAOSTAT data (estimates) for 2014.

In terms of aquatic animals, the FAO statistics provide insight into the aquaculture<sup>1</sup> production types and volumes of OIE Member Countries (source : 2014 FAO Fishery and Aquaculture Statistics : <http://www.fao.org/figis> ). The 2015 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	165
Comoros	
Djibouti	
Eritrea	
Ethiopia	85
Kenya	23,855
Rwanda	1,584
Seychelles	-
Somalia	-
South Sudan	20
Sudan	1,980
Tanzania	3,007
Uganda	111,023
Region (2014)	141,720
Region (2012)	130,000
Annual increase compared to 2012	4,5 %

<sup>1</sup> **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.

In the course of 2016, good progress was made in the number of notifications and the number of countries submitting notifications to the OIE :

■ For the first time since WAHIS was established in 2005, Burundi submitted an immediate notification to the OIE, i.e. it reported an *African swine fever* (ASF) outbreak on March 4<sup>th</sup>, followed by a *lumpy skin disease* (LSD) outbreak, affecting cattle, on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016. In total 5 follow-up reports were submitted and the ASF outbreak was declared closed on April 1<sup>st</sup>, whilst the LSD outbreak was declared closed on August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

■ Uganda reported a *Rift Valley fever* (RVF) outbreak in humans to the WHO on March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016. This was quickly followed by an immediate notification to the OIE, on April 1<sup>st</sup>, based on one single goat on a farm in Kashenyi village, Kicumbi parish, Kamuganguzi subcounty, showing clinical signs of RVF and PCR confirmed presence of RVF virus. On June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016, the Kabale Regional Referral Hospital again reported a (laboratory-confirmed) human case, originating from the same district, Kabale, barely 2 months after it was declared free. This information was picked up by the local press, the FAO and ProMED but was apparently not communicated to the WHO. No new notifications were submitted to the OIE and on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, a final report was submitted, closing the event.

■ For the second time in 8 months, Kenya reported an *African swine fever* (ASF) outbreak on March 8<sup>th</sup>, this time from Kiambu county, in central Kenya followed later that year (August 5<sup>th</sup>) by a notification of reoccurrence of heartwater in camelids (*Ehrlichia ruminantium*) killing some 257 dromedaries in the county of Moyale. A total of 10 follow-up (and final) reports have been submitted since and the heartwater outbreak was declared closed on October 4<sup>th</sup>. The ASF outbreak is still ongoing.

On July 29<sup>th</sup>, Kenya reported a first occurrence of infectious haematopoietic necrosis (in rainbow trout, *Oncorhynchus mykiss*) in the county of Kieni East. The introduction of infectious haematopoietic necrosis was probably due to the importation of infected trout eggs. The diagnosis has been made by the Aquatic Medicine Laboratory, University of Life Sciences in Norway. The outbreak was declared closed on December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

# 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 Evaluation report from the Seychelles (initial PVS, July 2011) remains the only report from the region to be available online. Other countries have allowed the OIE to share their reports with technical agencies and donor organisations on a dedicated database, i.e. Uganda (3 reports), Tanzania, Kenya and Ethiopia (2 reports each), and Sudan, Comoros and Burundi (1 report each).

■ From the eligible countries (i.e. except Somalia and RoSS) all countries have now benefited from a PVS Gap Analysis mission. The last one, the mission to the Comoros, took place in December 2016.

■ Veterinary legislation identification missions have now been conducted in all but one of the eligible countries (i.e. except Somalia and RoSS). The mission to Eritrea has been repeatedly postponed due to the military situation in the country in the course of 2016. The VLSP Agreement with Uganda came to a close in 2016.

■ No new applications (besides Seychelles, done in 2011) have been submitted from this region for the evaluation of *aquatic animal health services* (AAHS), despite a letter, sent out on April 6<sup>th</sup> to the OIE Delegates of Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda, urging them to consider applying for such mission in light of the imminent threat of spill-over of *Epizootic Ulcerative Syndrome* (EUS) from the Congo river basin, as reported in last year's annual report (Democratic Republic of Congo), and in light of the apparent lack of preparedness of aquatic animal health services countries bordering the economically very important Lake Victoria, based on the outcomes of a study conducted by an OIE intern in 2015.

■ In his capacity as a PVS expert, the Programme Officer participated in one PVS mission in the Republic of Liberia (PVS Gap analysis mission, team leader). The OIE Deputy Representative participated as an observer in the PVS Evaluation follow-up mission (observer) in Tanzania. Both missions took place in July 2016.

- 12 countries applied for PVS evaluation
- 11 PVS evaluation missions conducted
- 11 PVS gap-analysis missions conducted
- 3 PVS evaluation follow-up missions conducted
- 11 PVS veterinary legislation support missions conducted
- 1 memorandum of understanding on veterinary legislation support signed in 2013 and completed in 2016 (Uganda)
- 3 PVS veterinary laboratory support missions conducted

## ***CAPACITY BUILDING***

■ The Deputy-Representative participated in the one-day information seminar for new OIE Delegates, held on May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016 in Paris, France

■ 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 Lomé, Togo from June 20 – 24<sup>th</sup> and brought together 14 Member States of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) :

[www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/news/20160701.html](http://www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/news/20160701.html)

The second seminar was held in Arusha, Tanzania from August 8 – 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016 and brought together all 5 Member States of the East African Community (EAC). This meeting was co-organised and attended by all OIE Nairobi technical staff (3) :

[www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/news/20160812.html](http://www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/news/20160812.html)

■ The fifth 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 Maputo, Mozambique, from August 11 – 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The meeting was hosted by the *Eduardo Mondlane University* (UEM) and 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, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe, as well as by observers from SPANA and the OIE. The group reviewed progress made since the August 2015 meeting in Nairobi in terms of curricular reviews to meet the requirements of the OIE Recommendations on the competencies of graduating veterinarians (day-one competencies) and the OIE Guidelines on the veterinary education core curriculum. The recommendations of the recently concluded 4<sup>th</sup> OIE Global Conference on Veterinary Education, held in Bangkok, Thailand in June 2016 were also shared and discussed.

[www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/news/20160812.html](http://www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/news/20160812.html)

■ The first cycle of the training for OIE Communication Focal Points was held in Mombasa, from September 27 – 29<sup>th</sup>. The three-day training seminar was attended by some 25 participants, including one national OIE Delegate (Kenya) and English-speaking OIE Focal Points from 19 countries from Africa, i.e. Botswana, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Lesotho, Libya, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zimbabwe and the host country Kenya. The Republic of Kenya was allocated an additional 5 national participants. Besides the OIE Sub-Regional offices (Tunis, Nairobi) and head office staff (Communication Unit, Paris) contributions were made by a team of communication experts from a private communication agency (on behalf of OIE) and public health emergency communication experts (on behalf of the WHO). The general objective of the seminar was to provide the national focal points in charge of veterinary communication with all the necessary information to enable them support their national OIE Delegates in the field of communication, in line with their Terms of Reference, as well as Chapter 3.3 of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code. The agenda of the seminar was therefore specifically developed to train these focal points on the management of national communication systems and of operational communication campaigns, in line with OIE standards.

[www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/news/20160929.html](http://www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/news/20160929.html)

■ The fourth cycle of training of OIE National Focal Points for notification of animal diseases to the OIE, was held in the resort of Naama Bay, Sharm El-Sheikh, in the South Sinai Governorate of Egypt. From November 1 – 3<sup>rd</sup>, some 35 English-speaking participants from Africa and the Middle East (Afghanistan, Angola, Bahrain, Botswana, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Turkey, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe) took part in the three-day course. In addition, the training was attended by representatives from one non-member territory, the *Palestinian Autonomous Territories* (PAT), and from the African Union (*Inter-african Bureau for Animal Resources*).

The training covered a multitude of presentations and practical exercises on the second version of WAHIS, using questionnaires, simulations and mock-reports on notifiable (listed and emerging diseases), as well as non-notifiable diseases (e.g. of wildlife) to make the training content user-friendly. Using their own laptops, participants reviewed the various approaches (and errors-to-avoid) in submitting immediate notifications and follow-up reports, monthly and six-monthly reports and the annual reports, for terrestrial and aquatic animal diseases. To this effect the OIE uses a training version of the online *World Animal Health Information System* (WAHIS) user interface. OIE Focal Points from Lebanon and South Africa were invited to prepare presentations on their experiences using WAHIS for the notification of terrestrial and aquatic diseases respectively

[www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/news/20161103.html](http://www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/news/20161103.html)

■ The fourth cycle of training of OIE National Wildlife Focal Points was held in Lake Nakuru National Park, in the Rift Valley of Kenya. From November 22 – 24<sup>th</sup>, some 25 English-speaking participants from Africa and the Middle East (Bahrein, Botswana, Gambia, Ghana, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Nigeria, Oman, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe) took part in the three-day course.

The OIE *Science and New Technologies* (SNT) and the *World Animal Health Information and Analysis* (WAHIAD) Departments in Paris delivered the course. In addition to OIE staff from the Paris head office and regional staff from Beirut, Gaborone and Nairobi, contributions were made by two OIE Reference Centres on wildlife (DVTD, South Africa and NWHC, United States), as well as invited regional experts from Kenya (Kenya Wildlife Services, KWS and the “*Preparedness and Response*” project). The participants also benefited from a video link presentation from the *Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora* (CITES) in Geneva, with which the OIE signed a cooperation agreement in December 2015. National focal points from Kenya, Lebanon, Nigeria, Oman, Rwanda and Tanzania made presentations on specific challenges to wildlife disease surveillance and progress made since the last OIE training of focal points.

The training course was centered around biodiversity, wildlife disease surveillance strategies, wildlife mortality outbreak investigation and wildlife disease diagnostics, with practical exercises conducted in 5 working groups, as well as a specific, interactive session on the surveillance of bovine tuberculosis in wildlife. On the last day, participants were invited to review the use of the wildlife diseases reporting system of the OIE World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS-Wild).

With some of the participants having a long-standing track record in managing animal health in some of the world’s most renowned conservation areas, the workshop turned out to be of a very high technical standard, with vibrant exchanges between scientists and field veterinarians.

[www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/news/20161124.html](http://www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/news/20161124.html)

## ***ASSISTANCE WITH REGARD TO DISEASE STATUS***

■ On November 22<sup>nd</sup>, a Kenyan newspaper quoted the Kenyan Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries as saying there had been an outbreak of rinderpest in neighbouring Tanzania :

[www.dhahabu.co.ke/2016/11/22/livestock-farmers-kenya-warned-deadly-rinderpest-disease/](http://www.dhahabu.co.ke/2016/11/22/livestock-farmers-kenya-warned-deadly-rinderpest-disease/)

This led to an international alert at OIE and FAO levels, prompting the Minister, the Hon. Willy Bett to release a statement stating that this was a misinterpretation of comments he made in Mombasa during the Agricultural Sector Intergovernmental Forum earlier that week. The information was apparently based on rumours of an anthrax outbreak in wild animals in Tanzania, as confirmed later that week by an immediate notification of the republic of Tanzania (November 29<sup>th</sup>). This office liaised with both OIE Delegates to push for official clarifications and the above-mentioned communiqué.

■ Towards the end of the year, it was also learned that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia imposed a temporary trade ban on imports of live animals from Somalia on December 12<sup>th</sup>, justified by the presence of FMD and RVF, a claim denied by the OIE Delegate of Somalia who argues that the ban is based on the discovery of antibodies against FMD and RVF, due to the erroneous vaccination of animals. This office has been in contact with both the OIE Delegate and the line-Minister of the Federal Government of Somalia as well as the regional veterinary authorities of Somaliland, most affected by the ban.

■ The office also participated in the National WTO seminar on the Agreement on *sanitary and phytosanitary* measures (SPS) in the Comoros Union, also funded through a STDF *Project Grant* (PG) aimed at assisting the Union in preparing a SPS Strategy in view of its accession to the WTO in 2018. The project, which was initiated in April 2014 and ends in March 2017 is implemented at national level through the local *United Nations Development Programme* (UNDP) office, which liaises with the various competent authorities.

■ On May 11<sup>th</sup>, FAO colleagues assisted Kenya in the destruction and sequestration of *rinderpest virus containing material* (RVCM). Both DVS in Kabete (diagnostic labs) and KALRO in Muguga (research labs) destroyed all RVCMs and transferred the remainder to AU-PANVAC in Debre Zeit, Ethiopia, the officially accredited FAO/OIE Holding Facility for RVCMs in Africa.

■ A country visit to the Sudan was conducted from August 21 – 24<sup>th</sup>. The objective of the mission was to conduct a general country-visit to the veterinary authority in order to appraise the OIE-SRR for Eastern Africa on OIE related activities in Sudan, including possible remaining *rinderpest virus containing materials* (RVCMs) in Sudan.

■ 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, nor has any of these countries obtained an endorsement by the OIE of an official national disease control programme (see insert box on the right).

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

[www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/mandates/en\\_disstatus.html](http://www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/mandates/en_disstatus.html)

## The OIE support to the elimination of rabies from Kenya

The “Strengthening Veterinary Services in Developing Countries + Rabies pilot” (SVSDC+R) project has a component on rabies which aim is to reduce the number of human deaths caused by dog-mediated rabies. In eastern Africa, the project is implemented in Kenya on a pilot basis to support the Government of Kenya in implementing its *Strategic Plan for the elimination of rabies in Kenya* (2014-2030). Kenya, through the established *Zoonotic Diseases Unit* (ZDU), benefits by accessing quality rabies vaccines from the OIE Rabies Vaccine Bank and administers them in identified pilot counties to control rabies in accordance with the *Stepwise Approach to Rabies Elimination* (SARE), in order to move from an endemic state to a disease free status.



Boy bringing his best friend to the vaccination clinic. Picture (c) Matthew Muturi (ZDU Kenya) 2016.

In the course of 2016, the project achieved the following :

- Supported the establishment of the Kenya *National rabies elimination coordination committee* (NRECC) on 5<sup>th</sup> August and the Siaya *County rabies elimination coordination committee* (CRECC) on 18<sup>th</sup> August;
- Supported the 2016 *World Rabies Day* (WRD) events in Mombasa;
- Facilitated the first supply of 200,000 doses of rabies vaccine from the OIE Rabies Vaccine Bank on 30<sup>th</sup> November; and
- Vaccinated a total of 15,000 dogs in Siaya County in western Kenya, by the end of December.

The project has facilitated the establishment of a “Rabies Free Kenya” website ( [www.rabiesfreekenya.org](http://www.rabiesfreekenya.org) ) and a toll-free line for reporting dog bites in humans. With the collaboration of the *Kenya Medical Research Institute* (KEMRI) and *Washington State University* (WSU), the project also undertakes a dog ecology study in Siaya County.

The project is part of a broad coalition of several other technical organisations and institutions supporting the Kenyan *Strategic Plan for the elimination of rabies in Kenya* (2014-2030), amongst which the *African Network for Animal Welfare* (ANAW), the UN’s *Food and Agriculture Organisation* (FAO), the *Global Alliance for Rabies Control* (GARC), the *One Health Central and East Africa* (OHCEA) network, Sanofi–Pasteur, *Sharon Live On Foundation* (SLOF), the *US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention* (CDC), *Washington State University* (WSU), the Wellcome Trust and World Animal Protection.

## 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 2014, 2015 and 2016 (as recorded on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017).

Country	2014		2015		2016	
	6-monthly reports	Annual reports	6-monthly reports	Annual reports	6-monthly reports	Annual reports
Burundi	0	0	2	1	0	0
Comoros	2	0	1	0	0	0
Djibouti	2	1	2	1	1	0
Eritrea	2	0	1	0	0	0
Ethiopia	2	1	2	1	0	0
Kenya	4	1	4	1	4	0
Rwanda	4	0	0	0	0	0
Seychelles	4	0	0	0	0	0
Somalia	2	0	2	1	1	0
South Sudan	1	0	1	0	0	0
Sudan	4	1	4	1	2	0
Tanzania	2	1	2	1	1	0
Uganda	2	1	2	1	0	0

WAHID © Reporting summary on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017. Member Countries have until January 31<sup>st</sup> to submit their second half-year report (July – December 2016) and until March 31<sup>st</sup> to submit their annual report 2016.

In terms of immediate notifications, as pointed out in the first section of this report (disease situation report), seven immediate notifications were submitted to the OIE in the course of 2016 (submitted by Burundi, Kenya and Uganda).

The immediate notifications, up by 210 % in comparison to 2015, pertained to African swine fever, heartwater, infectious haematopoietic necrosis (in rainbow trout), lumpy skin disease and Rift valley fever.

### Reporting rate 2011

- 6-month reports 92%
- annual reports 92%

### Reporting rate 2012

- 6-month reports 95%
- annual reports 75%

### Reporting rate 2013

- 6-month reports 92%
- annual reports 75%

### Reporting rate 2014

- 6-month reports 88%
- annual reports 46%

### Reporting rate 2015

- 6-month reports 73%
- annual reports 61%

### Reporting rate 2016 <sup>(to date)</sup>

- 6-month reports 27%
- annual reports N/A



The website clocked 206,282 visits (hits) on December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016. A total of 199 countries have now visited the website, for a total of 68,308 individual visitors (since 2008). This represents 125 hits and 37 individual visitors per day over the year 2016, compared to 125 and 45 respectively, in 2015.

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
2016	206,282	28%	68,308	199
<i>Average</i>	<i>125 p. day</i>	-	<i>37 p. day</i>	--

The growth of the website in terms of visitors is stagnating, from + 43% in 2014 to + 28% in 2016, warranting the proposed modernisation of the website in 2017.

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, Germany, Italy, the United Kingdom and the USA. Prominent visitors from Asia are China and India. Regional visitors hail from Algeria, Benin, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Egypt, Ethiopia, Mauritania, Morocco, Nigeria, Senegal, Seychelles, South Africa and Tanzania.

## 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 2016, new expressions of interest came in from the Embakasi-based National Reference Laboratory for FMD (Kenya) and the Muguga-based *Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organisation* (KALRO), the latter exploring the possibility for accreditation for *contagious bovine pleuro-pneumonia* (CBPP).

The laboratory twinning programmes being conducted in the region are:

Parent laboratory	Candidate laboratory	Disease / syndrome
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

The twinning agreement between the OIE Reference Laboratory at the *Istituto Superiore di Sanita*, in Rome (Italy) and the *Tanzania Veterinary Laboratories Agency* (TVLA, in Temeke, Dar es Salaam) in Tanzania on the diagnosis of *Trichinella* spp. came to a close at the end of the year and a formal closing workshop is scheduled for January 25 – 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017. The same TVLA in Tanzania will enter into another twinning agreement with the OIE Reference Laboratory for brucellosis at the *Servicio Nacional de Sanidad y Calidad Agroalimentaria* (SENASA) in Argentina, as approved in late 2015.

In addition, the office has facilitated the application of the *International Centre for Insect Pathology and Ecology* (ICIPE), based in Kasarani, Nairobi as OIE Collaborating Centre for the “Surveillance and control of honeybee diseases in Africa”. The application is pending (the OIE Biological Standards Commission and the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases are to meet in February 2017).

Twinning agreements between *Veterinary Educational Establishments* (VEE) in the region are:

Supporting VEE	Beneficiary VEE
Ohio State University (USA)	University of Gondar (UoG) Ethiopia
Kansas State University (USA)	Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) Tanzania.

A third proposal, between the University of Guelph in Canada and the Egerton University in Kenya was not endorsed by the OIE.

Also, a proposal for a *Veterinary Statutory Body* (VSB) twinning project between the *South African Veterinary Council* (SAVC) and the *Veterinary Council of Tanzania* (VCT) was not pursued, due to changes in the policy of the OIE in respect of this type of twinning system.

## ***ISSUES OF GROWING IMPORTANCE IN THE REGION***

The major and growing concerns in the region are related to the following 6 issues (in alphabetical order, not by order of importance) :

■ The welfare of donkeys, an animal species most often associated with physical abuse, rather than food-related welfare concerns, has over the past months become the subject of controversy, to the extent that many technical meetings on animal health and welfare in the arid and semi-arid lands of Africa (Sahel, and Horn of Africa, mostly) have had to debate the issue. The issue being that Chinese consumers have developed an interest in donkey hides due to their medicinal properties - gelatine produced from the hides is used as a medicine to treat common colds and insomnia - leading some to fear for the collapse of donkey populations and the predictable consequences for vulnerable communities who rely on these animals for draught power. This has led some African governments, like Niger and Burkina Faso, to ban the export of donkeys, but others – like Kenya – have recently approved the licensing of specialised slaughterhouses for donkeys.

Many look at the OIE to take a position in this debate, a very sensitive issue indeed, as the OIE does not pass judgement on the suitability of food sources (dogs in Asia and parts of Africa, frogs legs in France, etc...) nor does it intervene in issues of offtake (or harvesting) of animal populations for slaughter.

It only seeks to ensure that if slaughter (has to) take place, it takes place in the best possible conditions of animal welfare. Hence, a possible avenue for the involvement of the OIE in this matter could be the extension of the definition of slaughter animals to include donkeys so that welfare requirements under Chapter 7.5. on the *Slaughter of animals* would also apply to donkeys.

■ The fight against *antimicrobial resistance* (AMR) is now well - anchored in the work programmes of Veterinary Services in the region, who increasingly liaise with relevant phytosanitary services and public health services to develop policies and strategies to mitigate the effects of AMR, to start with the *National Action Plans* (NAP) foreseen in the 2015 WHO Global Action Plan against AMR, and due by June 2017, as well as the annual data-collection on *antimicrobial use* (AMU) in livestock, for which the global database is administered by the OIE.

■ *Peste des Petits Ruminants* (PPR), widespread in the region (except for Djibouti and the Seychelles), is now the focus of the global initiative to eradicate it from the continent and the world by 2030. Following the development of a continental strategy by the African Union, IGAD too has embarked on the roll-out of its regional strategy for the control and eradication of PPR and other small ruminant diseases in the Horn of Africa.

■ *Rift Valley Fever* (RVF), almost ten years after the last major outbreaks of 2006-2007, remains the focus of heightened surveillance, knowing that inter-epizootic periods average 10 years. In March 2016, the disease manifested itself in Uganda, close to the border with Rwanda, but no other outbreaks were reported in the region.

## 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 2016.

### Meetings and events organised by the Sub-Regional Representation :

Capacity building		
Date	Title	Country
June 20 – 24	Joint AU-IBAR, FAO and OIE regional seminar for the Secretariat and the Member States of the <i>Economic Community of West African States</i> (ECOWAS) on “regional harmonization of veterinary legislation” (organised, but not attended).	Togo
August 8 – 12	Joint AU-IBAR, FAO and OIE regional seminar for the Secretariat and the Member States of the <i>East African Community</i> (EAC) on “regional harmonization of veterinary legislation” (organised and attended).	Tanzania
September 27 - 29	OIE regional training course for focal points on veterinary communication (organised and attended).	Kenya
November 1 - 3	OIE regional training course for focal points on animal diseases notification (organised and attended).	Egypt
November 22 - 24	OIE regional training course for focal points on wildlife (organised and attended).	Kenya

Visits to country authorities		
Date	Country	Outcomes
Jan. 27 – Feb. 4	Nigeria	Support to the preparation and contribution to the national operational programming workshop for Nigeria of the <i>West Africa Regional Disease Surveillance Systems Enhancement</i> project (REDISSE) funded by the World Bank, Abuja.
March 15 – 16	Kenya	FAO Kenya – Kenya Ministry of Health – Kenya Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries national multi-stakeholder workshop on “ <i>Antimicrobial Use and Resistance in Kenya : Situation analysis towards developing a National Action Plan</i> ”, Nairobi.
May 3 – 7	Egypt	Preparatory visit to prepare the OIE regional training of OIE focal points for animal diseases notification (WAHIS) in Cairo and Sharm El-Sheikh
July 11 - 22	Liberia	OIE PVS Gap analysis mission, Monrovia.
July 18 - 29	Tanzania	OIE PVS Evaluation follow-up mission, Dar es Salaam.
August 5	Kenya	Launch of the <i>National Rabies Elimination Coordination Committee</i> (NRECC), tasked with implementing the 2014 National Strategic Plan for the Elimination of Human Rabies in Kenya (2014 – 2030), Nairobi
August 17 – 19	Kenya	Launch of the <i>Siaya County Rabies Elimination Coordination Committee</i> (CRECC), tasked with implementing the 2014 National Strategic Plan for the Elimination of Human Rabies in Kenya (2014 – 2030), Siaya
August 21 - 24	Sudan	Official OIE country visit, Khartoum.
September 3 – 4	Ethiopia	30th Annual Conference of the <i>Ethiopian Veterinary Association</i> (EVA).
September 28	Kenya	World Rabies Day event in Mombasa.
October 11	Kenya	<i>Government of Kenya</i> (GoK) AMR policy briefing meeting, co-organised and supported by FAO, Nairobi
October 12 – 13	Kenya	Sensitisation Workshop for County Directors of Veterinary Services on Cooperation on Animal Health, co-organised and supported by GALVmed, Nairobi
November 7 - 11	Comoros	National WTO seminar on the Agreement on <i>sanitary and phyto-sanitary</i> measures (SPS), funded by the STDF programme, Moroni

## Meetings and events attended by the Sub-Regional Representation :

Capacity building		
Date	Title	Country
March 21 - 25	WHO continental Epidemiology and Laboratory training on isolation, antibiotic susceptibility testing, molecular characterisation of AMR and ESBL producing food borne pathogens ( <i>Salmonella</i> spp and <i>E. coli</i> ), organised by the WHO Advisory Group on the Integrated Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance (AGISAR).	Kenya
May 21	OIE international information seminar for newly appointed OIE Delegates.	France
July 19 – Sept. 19	<a href="http://www.rue89.com">www.rue89.com</a> Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on 'Informing and communicating on social networks' (French)	France (virtual)
September 20 - 21	Pre-course online training by WHO on " <i>communication essentials</i> " for OIE communication focal points (English)	Switzerland (virtual)
Nov. 29 – Dec. 1	OIE Training Course (1st cycle) for national focal points for veterinary laboratories from Africa	Zimbabwe

Coordination meetings		
Date	Title	Country
February 10 - 11	3rd Steering Committee meeting of the Indian Ocean Epidemiological Surveillance and Alert Management (SEGA) project (Indian Ocean Commission).	Seychelles
March 9	7th VETGOV coordination meeting between AU-IBAR, FAO (ECTAD) and the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for Eastern Africa, hosted by the OIE.	Kenya
March 16 - 17	Joint <i>Northern and Eastern Africa Livestock Council</i> (NEALCO) Executive and Advisory Meeting.	Uganda
March 23	Board meeting of the <i>Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines</i> (GALVmed)	Kenya
March 30 - 31	<i>Africa Platform for Animal Welfare</i> (APAW) Task force meeting	Kenya
April 13 - 14	7th Steering Committee Meeting of the <i>Strengthening of Veterinary Governance in Africa</i> (VETGOV) programme.	Gabon
April 14	Roundtable donor conference " <i>Fish diseases control and biosecurity security governance for improved fish production and trade</i> " project.	Kenya

Coordination meetings (continued)		
Date	Title	Country
April 25	<i>Africa Platform for Animal Welfare (APAW)</i> Task force meeting	Kenya
April 26 – 28	8 <sup>th</sup> AU-IBAR (PAN-SPSO) Annual CVO Meeting and Meeting of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa in preparation of the OIE General Session (common position).	Kenya
May 2 - 3	Validation workshop of the IGAD Regional LITS legal framework	Uganda
May 9 - 10	6 <sup>th</sup> <i>Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)</i> meeting of the ICIPE / AU-IBAR <i>Bee Health Project (BHP)</i> .	Ethiopia
August 1 - 2	Validation workshop of the IGAD Regional Animal Welfare Strategy and Action Plan.	Ethiopia
August 11 - 12	5 <sup>th</sup> annual meeting of deans of veterinary schools and faculties in southern and eastern Africa (SEAAVEE)	Mozambique
August 31	<i>World Customs Organisation (WCO)</i> “ACIM” Operational workshop: “ <i>Combating Counterfeiting and Piracy</i> ”. Organised in conjunction with the <i>Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA)</i> .	Kenya
September 6 - 9	Joint <i>Northern and Eastern Africa Livestock Council (NEALCO)</i> Executive and Advisory Meeting.	Tanzania
September 14	Workshop on how to sustain the SEGA One Health Network of the <i>Indian Ocean Commission (IOC)</i> and enabling the signature by the Secretary General of the IOC of the Cooperation Agreement with the OIE.	Mauritius
September 16	<i>Africa Platform for Animal Welfare (APAW)</i> Task force meeting	Kenya
October 4 - 6	7 <sup>th</sup> annual coordination meeting of the EAREN and EARLN networks, combined with the RAHN meeting for Eastern Africa (CVOs’ meeting), co-organised by FAO-ECTAD Eastern Africa and AU-IBAR	Tanzania
October 18	Steering Committee meeting of the Partnership on One Health for the Indian Ocean (Indian Ocean Commission).	La Réunion (virtual)
November 15 - 16	IGAD/ICPALD joint PPR <i>Control and Eradication Coordination Committee (CECC)</i> and PPR <i>Technical Expert Committee (TEC)</i> meetings	Kenya

## Relevant OIE meetings

Date	Title
February 9 - 10	First (closed) meeting of OIE Regional and Sub-Regional Representatives with the new OIE Director General, Paris, France
February 18 – 19	Bilateral meetings of the Programme Officer with head office staff and departments. Paris, France
May 17 – 19	OIE follow up workshop on relevant international standards for dog rabies. Bangkok, Thailand
May 22	Information meeting on the rabies component of the new SVSDC+R project. Paris, France
May 25	Informal meeting to update each other on the ongoing and planned rabies-activities in the various OIE regions and at Paris level. Paris, France
May 22 - 27	84 <sup>th</sup> OIE General Session, Paris, France
June 22 – 24	4 <sup>th</sup> OIE Global Conference on Veterinary Education ‘Learning today, preserving our future’. Bangkok, Thailand
October 25 - 28	Annual meeting of OIE Regional and Sub-Regional Representatives with the OIE Director General, Paris, France
December 6 – 8	4 <sup>th</sup> OIE Global Conference on Animal Welfare ‘Animal Welfare for a Better World’. Guadalajara, Mexico

### Representation of OIE in other events not previously mentioned

Date	Title	Country
January 12 – 13	Regional launch meeting for the EPT-2 programme for eastern Africa (FAO ECTAD)	Kenya
February 18 – 21	<i>University of Gondar (UoG) - Ohio State University (OSU), OIE Veterinary Education Twinning Programme : UoG Faculty Retreat.</i>	Ethiopia
March 23 – 26	3 <sup>rd</sup> International Conference on <i>Rabies in West Africa</i> (RIWA).	Ghana
April 6 – 7	<i>African Union (AU) Review and Assistance Conference on the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004) in Africa.</i>	Ethiopia
June 15	FAO EMPRES Webinar on the African Swine Fever Regional Strategy for Africa	Italy (virtual)
June 28	One Health Commission Webinar on the One Health Approach for the Elimination of <i>Taenia solium</i> Taeniosis/Cysticercosis	USA (virtual)
August 15 – 16	1 <sup>st</sup> (African) Biosafety Leadership Summit : <i>“Leadership in the Face of Challenging regulatory environments”.</i>	Kenya
September 21	Webcast of the UN General Assembly high – level meeting on antimicrobial resistance.	USA (virtual)

# REGIONAL COMMISSION ACTIVITIES

■ The 84<sup>th</sup> OIE World Assembly of Delegates was held in Paris from May 22 - 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The annual meeting of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa took place on the Monday afternoon of May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016, attended by close to a 100 persons, representing member countries (34 out of the 54), regional and international organisations (AU-IBAR, AU-PANVAC, AU-PATTEC, FAO, WAEMU (UEMOA), ECCAS and CEBEVIRHA).

The report of the President of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa was presented by Dr. Komla Daniel Batawui, Delegate of Togo and President of the Regional Commission. The report on OIE Council meetings was presented by Dr. Botlhe Michael Modisane, Delegate of South Africa and President of the World Assembly. Dr. Karim Tounkara, the OIE Regional Representative for Africa chaired the meeting.

The meeting was also the opportunity to share information on the activities and work programme of the OIE Regional Representation for Africa and the OIE Sub-Regional Representations for Southern, Northern and Eastern Africa. Additional topics were discussed, such as the update on the Organisation of the 22<sup>nd</sup> OIE Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa to be held in Swakopmund, Namibia in February 2017; status of disease notifications by Members in Africa; state of play on the implementation of recommendations of the 21<sup>st</sup> Conference of the OIE Regional Commission held in Rabat, Morocco in February 2015; animal health programmes and activities related to the strengthening of Veterinary Services in Africa; OFFLU – the importance of contributing avian influenza genetic sequence data; update on antimicrobial resistance, proposal for designation of a new OIE Collaborating Centre in Senegal; and presentations from regional and international organisations.

Dr Daniel Bourzat, outgoing Advisor to the Regional Representative in Africa, took the floor to announce his retirement. He thanked all Delegates and colleagues from Africa for their excellent collaboration during his career in Africa. Dr Karim Tounkara, on behalf of all participants, thanked Dr Bourzat for his excellent work in Africa.

<http://www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/news/20160527.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](http://www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/RC/en_organisation.html)

## *NEW APPOINTMENTS*

■ The Government of Ethiopia appointed Dr Mesrak Mokonnen Yetneberk, State Minister, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, as OIE Delegate on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

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	State Minister	Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries	Mesrak	Mokonnen Yetneberk
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 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016.*

# ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

■ The Sub-Regional Representation 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 *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 first Deputy-Representative took office from September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015. The OIE Sub-Regional Representative retired from his position on December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016.

■ The Representation benefits from two major funding sources : the “*Strengthening Veterinary Governance in Africa*” (VETGOV) Project which funds many of the PVS missions conducted on the continent, as well as many capacity-building initiatives and regional coordination efforts, and will end on July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017.

■ The “*Strengthening Veterinary Services in Developing Countries*” project, a EUR 2.0 million grant from the European Parliament, combined with a second European Parliament grant of EUR 1.5 million for rabies control activities in Africa. The project runs from December 2015 to December 2018 and is in part monitored through the steering mechanisms of the VETGOV project (until that project ends).

## *ADVISORY TASKS AND SUPERVISION OF INTERNS*

■ The OIE staff has been involved in the review of the new LEAP guidelines on the Environmental Performance of Pig Supply Chains. More information on LEAP : [www.fao.org/partnerships/leap/en/](http://www.fao.org/partnerships/leap/en/)

■ Upon request of the OIE International Standards and Sciences Directorate, the office reviewed the latest version of the STDF *Project Grant* (PG) proposal on “*Improving sanitary capacity and facilitating export of livestock and livestock products in Ethiopia*”.

■ Upon request of the AU-IBAR, in respect of the “Strengthening Veterinary Governance in Africa” (VETGOV) Project, the office was requested to provide an assessment of three project proposals, prepared as part of the AU-IBAR managed grant’s programme. Three policy innovation areas were specifically recommended by the 2014 mid-term review mission and the proposals which resulted from these recommendations covered the following technical areas :

- Piloting beef commodity based trade (CBT) in foot and mouth disease (FMD) vaccination areas of Zimbabwe;
- Provision of sustainable vet-services based within eastern Africa region through PPP model;
- Enhancing the quality and quantity of veterinary continual professional development in the EAC.

■ Upon request of the *International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology* (ICIPE), based in Kasarani, Nairobi (Kenya), the office submitted written comments on a draft application for recognition of ICIPE as an OIE Collaborating Centre. The application for recognition as Reference Centre for “*surveillance and control of honeybee diseases in Africa*” was officially submitted to the OIE in September 2016.

■ Upon request of the international Secretariat of the *Global Framework for the progressive control of Trans-boundary Animal Diseases* (GF-TADs), the office contributed to the preparation of the (pilot) revised performance indicators for the GF-TADs Secretariat in Rome.

■ Upon request of the *Inter-Governmental Authority for Development* (IGAD), the office contributed to the review of the draft Regional Animal Welfare Strategy and Action Plan (2016 – 2020) for the countries of the Horn of Africa. The Strategy was later endorsed during a stakeholders' meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

■ Upon request of the COMESA Secretariat, the office submitted comments on the draft *“Template and guidelines for assessing sanitary and phytosanitary documentation and procedure related trading costs at and behind borders”*, prepared under the auspices of the STDF – funded COMESA “Breaking barriers, facilitating trade” project.

■ Upon request of the OIE International Trade Department (Standards Department) the office reviewed the draft report on *“Mapping Aquatic Animal Diseases in Southern Africa”* (commissioned by the AU-IBAR project on Fisheries Governance, FISHGOV) and submitted through the African Member of the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission.

■ Upon request of the FAO (AGAH) the office undertook the peer review of the new manual of the Animal Production and Health Division of FAO entitled *“Rift Valley Fever Surveillance”*.

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■ Upon request of the OIE *World Animal Health Information and Analysis Department* (WAHIAD) the office undertook the peer review / testing of the draft online training module on the *World Animal Health Information System* (WAHIS) on OIE's new e-learning platform, hosted by the University of Iowa State (US, Center for Food Security and Public Health).

■ This year's OIE interns, Drs Maurine Cherotich and Emmah Kwoba, both BVM and candidates for an MSc in Veterinary Public Health at the University of Nairobi completed their consecutive three-months assignment in the course of July and September respectively. By the end of December three out of four papers had been submitted, which were revised and approved by this office :

- **Chepkwony Maurine Cherotich** (University of Nairobi) Laboratory capacity of both human and veterinary national tuberculosis reference laboratories in East Africa to diagnose *Mycobacterium bovis*.
- **Emmah Kwoba** (University of Nairobi) An assessment of the level of knowledge of, attitude to and compliance with OIE animal welfare standards of working equids in Kenya.
- **Emmah Kwoba** (University of Nairobi) Welfare indicators for the slaughter / killing of farmed crocodiles in Kenya (2016)

[www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/library/en\\_library.html](http://www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/library/en_library.html)

## AGREEMENTS & HOSTING

■ The signing, in September 2016, of an Agreement with the *Indian Ocean Commission* (IOC), paves the way for closer cooperation between the OIE and the 5 Member States of this island state economic community : the Comoros' Union, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles and the French over-seas territory (*Département Outre-Mer*) of Réunion island.

The primary mission of the Indian Ocean Commission is to strengthen the ties of friendship and solidarity between the populations of the Indian Ocean, to build regional projects focusing on sustainable development to protect these populations, improve their living conditions and preserve the natural resources on which they are strongly dependent. Its headquarters is based in Ebène, Mauritius, and includes a *Health Surveillance Unit* (HSU).

It is precisely in this area of health that the IOC has shown leadership with a One Health programme called *Epidemiological Surveillance and Alert Management* (SEGA in French) which brings together public health services and animal health services of Member States, in order to better address the many challenges that have hit the region over the past decade, to start with the epidemic of Chikungunya, followed by Rift Valley fever and other (often vector-borne) diseases at the interface between man, domestic animals, and wildlife (bubonic plague, dengue, leptospirosis, West Nile fever, rabies, etc ...).

In the spirit of the SEGA Network, to which the OIE has been providing technical advice since 2013, the two Organisations will cooperate in the following areas:

- The organisation of workshops, meetings and seminars focusing on information with regard to surveillance and control of animal diseases and risk analysis methodologies;
- The technical cooperation in the field of animal health;
- The exchange of scientific information and publications;
- The strengthening of national veterinary services and of epidemiological surveillance systems in the Member States of the IOC;
- The promotion of the *Performance of Veterinary Services* (PVS) tool;
- The dissemination of information on the occurrence or evolution of animal diseases and zoonoses, as well as on food safety;
- The organisation of specific missions in cases of major health events.

<http://www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/news/20160914.html>

■ Negotiations are still underway with the *Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa* (COMESA) and the *East African Community* (EAC) for similar Cooperation Agreements.

Agreement with	Signatories	Starting date
IOC Secretariat	OIE & IOC	2016
AU-IBAR (renewal)	OIE & AU-IBAR	2015
IGAD Secretariat	OIE & IGAD	2014
Kenya (Hosting Agreement)	OIE & Gov. of Kenya	2011

## OFFICIAL VISITS, COURTESY CALLS TO THE OIE

Designation	Date
Senior Programme Specialist, Livestock Health, of the <i>International Development Research Centre (IDRC)</i> , regarding the <i>Livestock Vaccine Innovation Fund (LVIF)</i>	Jan. 25
Outgoing FAO ECTAD Regional Manager for Eastern Africa and introduction of his successor	Mar. 1
Senior scientist of Kenyan national FMD reference laboratory of Embakasi, Nairobi, with regard to possible twinning / recognition as an OIE Reference Laboratory for FMD	Mar. 1
Programme Leader (Agriculture and Environment) of the <i>International Development Research Centre (IDRC)</i> , regarding the <i>Livestock Vaccine Innovation Fund (LVIF)</i>	Mar. 8
Country Representative of World Animal Protection on the rabies related activities, conducted in Kenya.	Apr. 25
Coordinator of the “ <i>Resilience and sustainability of small ruminant livestock</i> ” project, supported by the Global Farm Platform (Bristol University, UK).	Apr. 29
Coordinator of the Bee Health Project, Principal Research Scientist, and Head of Environmental Health Theme at ICIPE, the <i>International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology</i> , regarding the application of ICIPE as an OIE Collaborating Centre for the surveillance and control of honeybee diseases in Africa	Jun. 21
Chairman of the <i>Kenya Veterinary Association (KVA)</i> and the Deputy-Director of the <i>Department of Veterinary Services (DVS)</i> on the celebrations of <i>World Rabies Day (WRD)</i> in Kenya.	Jul. 5
CEO of the Kenya National Biosafety Authority and Chairman of the <i>Association of National Biosafety Agencies in Africa</i> .	Jul. 6
Chair of the WHO Working Group on zoonotic Neglected Tropical Diseases with respect to the activities in Africa on porcine cysticercosis and the proposed project on <i>One Health Regional Network for the Horn of Africa (HORN)</i> .	Nov. 17
Team Fleming Fund. Consultants to carry out a scoping exercise on how the Fleming Fund could support its activities at the national level, in Kenya.	Dec. 1
Team EMPRES Evaluation mission (FAO Consultants)	Dec. 5

# FINANCIAL REPORT

The OIE Sub-Regional Representation's 2016 annual work plan and budget stood at EUR 434,000 :

Cost Item	Total
	2016
STAFF EXPENSES	119,000.00 €
OPERATING COSTS	92,000.00 €
WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES	178,000.00 €
MISSION EXPENSES	45,000.00 €
<b>TOTAL (EUR)</b>	<b>434,000.00 €</b>

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

By December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016, the state of disbursements, as compared to the previous years, was as follows :

Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Approved budget	373 681	372 409	297 940	212 000	248 900	434 000
Disbursements	356 436	277 790	255 286	151 166	374 002	446 776
Uptake	95 %	75 %	86 %	71 %	150 %	103 %

The 2016 budget has been slightly exceeded by 3%, primarily because of the higher than expected expenditures for the three main regional seminars this office organised, including because 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.

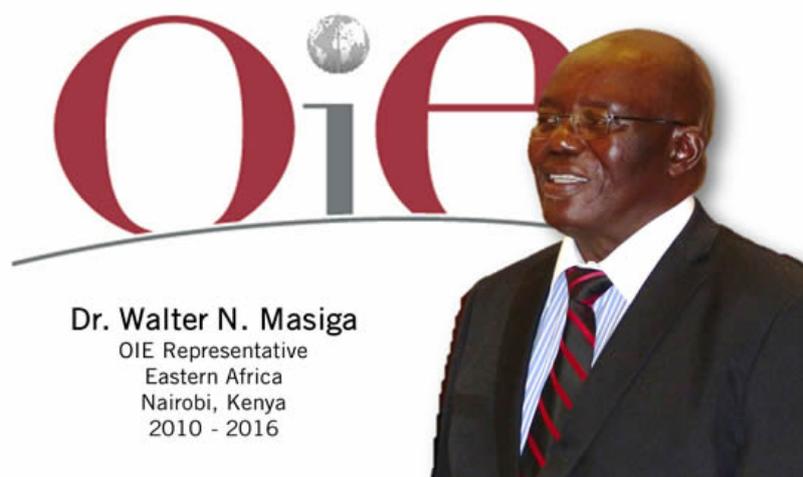
# CONCLUSIONS AND 2017 OUTLOOK

Largely due to a considerable increase in financial means, 2016 has been characterised by a particularly intensive work programme, with three major continental capacity-building events being organised by this office and conducted in Mombasa, Kenya (communication), Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt (animal disease notification) and Nakuru, Kenya (wildlife), along by several regional coordination meetings, such as e.g. the pursuit of the veterinary legislation seminars at REC levels (EAC, Arusha, Tanzania) and the coordination meetings of the deans and principals of veterinary schools and faculties in southern and eastern Africa (SEAAVEE, Maputo, Mozambique).

The *Strengthening Veterinary Services in developing countries* project, initiated in January 2016, includes a national pilot project on rabies control and elimination in Kenya, which is administered (but not directly implemented) by the OIE office in Nairobi. Thanks to the same project, the Africa region is now also benefiting from the OIE (canine) Rabies Vaccine Bank.

2016 was also the first year of implementation of the 6<sup>th</sup> OIE Strategic Plan, under the skilful guidance of the new OIE Director General, Dr. Monique Eloit, which we congratulate on her achievements to date, including a profound, but smoothly implemented institutional restructuring of the Organisation's executive instruments, and a drive to a more inclusive policy, reaching out to the OIE Regional Commissions and the OIE Regional Representations.

The Regional Representation for Africa, in Bamako, Mali, has also seen the appointment of Dr. Karim Tounkara, hitherto Deputy-Representative, who since January 2016, has been driving the implementation of the 6<sup>th</sup> Strategic Plan on the African continent, with great enthusiasm and initiative, in close cooperation and consultation with the three Sub-Regional Representatives.



The year 2016 also marked the retirement of Dr. Walter Masiga, the first OIE Sub-Regional Representative of the OIE for Eastern Africa, who came out retirement in 2010 to establish the OIE Nairobi office and dedicated his time and effort to the consolidation of this office for 7 years.

The OIE will forever be indebted to Dr. Masiga for his guidance and diplomatic craftsmanship during these early, and sometimes difficult, years during which the OIE tried to establish itself as a credible and trustworthy stakeholder in the region, a mission no doubt successfully accomplished today.

The upcoming year 2017 promises to be a key year for the implementation of the 6<sup>th</sup> strategic plan and the Africa roadmap, with the 22<sup>nd</sup> Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa taking place in Swakopmund, Namibia and the first capacity-building course (for eastern African countries) on official diseases status and endorsement by the OIE of national official control programmes against FMD and PPR, to be held in Kigali, Rwanda. Unfortunately, it will also signal the end of a very successful tripartite project, implemented with AU-IBAR and FAO-ECTAD since 2012, the VETGOV programme, for which there is as of yet no successor, designed around the the same type of synergistic cooperation.





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