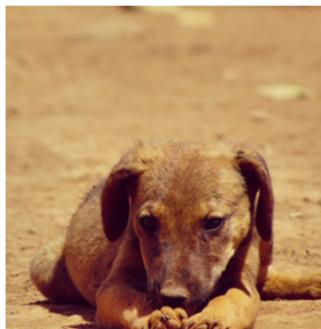




WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH
Protecting animals, preserving our future

ANNUAL REPORT



EASTERN AFRICA 2017



Pictures on cover :

<p><i>Smelling of biological pest control candidates against honeybee pests at the International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE) in Kasarani, Kenya (July)</i></p> <p><i>Picture © Communication (icipe) 2017</i></p>	<p><i>Cattle crossing the road, Kericho area, Kenya (September)</i></p> <p><i>Picture © N. J. Bastiaensen (2017)</i></p>	<p><i>CVOs attending the closing ceremony of the VETGOV Programme at the AU Commission Headquarters. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (July)</i></p> <p><i>Picture © P. Bastiaensen (2017)</i></p>
<p><i>Brainstorming PVS “evolution” at the 22nd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa in Swakopmund, Namibia (February)</i></p> <p><i>Picture © J. Merot (oie) 2017</i></p>	<p><i>Selfie-time: Deans from veterinary schools from Mozambique and Bosnia-Herzegovina. Sixth annual meeting of the ESAVEE. Lusaka, Zambia (June)</i></p> <p><i>Picture © P. Bastiaensen (2017)</i></p>	<p><i>2018 World Rabies Day charity marathon kicks off in Kisumu, Kenya (September)</i></p> <p><i>Picture © N. J. Bastiaensen (2017)</i></p>
<p><i>OIE regional training workshop on the OIE procedures for the endorsement of national official control programmes with regard to FMD and PPR (July)</i></p> <p><i>Picture © P. Bastiaensen (2017)</i></p>	<p><i>Vaccination campaign against canine rabies in Siaya County, western Kenya, Kenya (April)</i></p> <p><i>Picture © Rabies Free Kenya (2017)</i></p>	<p><i>Visit of the National Veterinary Laboratory in Bujumbura, Burundi (August)</i></p> <p><i>Picture © S. Wakhusama (2017)</i></p>

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EASTERN AFRICA

ACRONYMS

AFD	<i>Agence Française de Développement</i>	France
AFSCAN	African Small Companion Animal Network	WSAVA
AGES	<i>Agentur für Gesundheit und Ernährungs Sicherheit GmbH</i>	Austria
AHS	African horse sickness	
AMR	antimicrobial resistance	
AMU	antimicrobial use	
ANAW	African Network for Animal Welfare	
AP	action plan	
APAW	African Platform on Animal Welfare	AU
ASF	African swine fever	
AU(C)	African Union (Commission)	AU
AVA	African Veterinary Association	
AVSF	<i>Agronomes et Vétérinaires Sans Frontières</i>	
AWSA	Animal Welfare Strategy for Africa	AU
BSE	Bovine spongiform encephalopathy	
BSL	bio-safety level	
BTR	biological threat reduction	
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme	AU
CAR	Central African Republic	
CBPP	Contagious bovine pleuro-pneumonia	
CDC	Centres for Disease Control and prevention	USA
CIRAD	<i>Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement</i>	France
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa	REC
CPD	continuing professional development	
CSF	Classical swine fever	
CVA	Commonwealth Veterinary Association	
CVO	Chief Veterinary Officer	
DG SANTE	Directorate General for Health and Food Safety	EC
DHIS2	District Health Information System 2.0	WHO
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo	
DVM	Doctor in Veterinary Medicine	
DVS	Department of Veterinary Services	
EA	East Africa	
EAC	East African Community	REC
EBO-SURSY	<i>Projet de renforcement des capacités et surveillance de la maladie à virus Ebola</i>	OIE
EC	European Commission	EU
ECCAS	Economic Community of Central African States	REC
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States	REC
ECTAD	Emergency Centre for TADs	FAO
EISMV	<i>Ecole Inter-Etats de Sciences et Médecine Vétérinaires</i>	UCAD
ENSO	El Niño / Southern Oscillation	
ESAVEE	Eastern and Southern Africa VEEs	
EU	European Union	
EUS	Epizootic Ulcerative Syndrome	
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation (of the United Nations)	UN
FELTP	Field Epidemiology and Laboratory Training Programme	USA
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
GHSA	Global Health Security Agenda	
GIZ	<i>Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit</i>	Germany
GLAD	Global Livestock Advocacy for Development	ILRI
GRAP	Global Rinderpest Action Plan	FAO, OIE
HPAI	Highly pathogenic avian influenza	
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
IGAD	Inter-Governmental Authority on Development	REC
ILRI	International Livestock Research Institute	
IOC	Indian Ocean Commission	REC
ISS	<i>Istituto Superiore di Sanità</i>	Italy
JEE	Joint External Evaluation	WHO
KEMRI	Kenya Medical Research Institute	Kenya
KVA	Kenyan Veterinary Association	Kenya
LIVE2AFRICA	Livestock for Livelihoods project	AU-IBAR
LSD	Lumpy skin disease	
NADDEC	National Animal Disease Diagnostics and Epidemiology Centre	Uganda
NAHDIC	National Animal Health Diagnostic Investigation Centre	Ethiopia

NAP	National Action Plan	
NAPHS	National Action Plan for Health Security	WHO
NCEP	National Centers for Environmental Prediction	USA
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	USA
NRECC	National Rabies Elimination Coordination Committee	Kenya
NVI	<i>National Veterinar Institutet</i>	Sweden
NVI	National Veterinary Institute	Ethiopia
NWS	National Weather Service	USA
OER	online educational resources	
OHCEA	One Health Central and Eastern Africa	
OIE	World Organisation for Animal Health	
P&D	Partners & Donors	PVS
PAN-SPSO	Participation of African National in SPS Organisations	IBAR
PANVAC	Pan-African Veterinary Vaccine Centre	AU
PARACON	Pan-African Rabies Control Network	GARC
PATTEC	Pan-African Tsetse and Trypanosomosis Eradication Campaign	AU
PCP	Progressive Control Pathway	FMD
PG	Project Grant	STDF
PPG	Project Preparation Grant	STDF
PPP	Public-private partnership	
PPR	<i>Peste des petits ruminants</i>	
PRAPS	<i>Projet d'Appui au Pastoralisme dans le Sahel</i>	World Bank
PRINT VETLEG	Promoting Regional Integration in the harmonization of Veterinary Legislation in Africa	AU-IBAR
PVS	Performance of Veterinary Services	OIE
REC	Regional Economic Community	
REEVmed	<i>Réseau d'Etablissements d'Enseignement Vétérinaire dans la Méditerranée</i>	
RoSS	Republic of South Sudan	South Sudan
RVF	Rift valley fever	
SADC	Southern African Development Community	
SARE	Step-wise Approach to Rabies Elimination	GARC
SAVC	South African Veterinary Council	South Africa
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
SST	Sea Surface Temperature	NOAA
STDF	Standards and Trade Development Facility	WTO
SUA	Sokoine University of Agriculture	Tanzania
SVSDC+R	Strengthening Veterinary Services in Developing Countries and Rabies pilot project	OIE
TAD	Transboundary animal disease(s)	
TBT	technical barrier(s) to trade	WTO
TiLV	Tilapia lake virus	
TMEA	Trade-Mark East Africa	
TTX	table-top exercise	
TVLA	Tanzania Veterinary Laboratories Agency	Tanzania
UCAD	Université Cheikh Anta Diop	Senegal
UK	United Kingdom	UK
UN	United Nations	
UNZA	University of Zambia	Zambia
UoG	University of Gondar	Ethiopia
USA	United States of America	
VCT	Veterinary Council of Tanzania	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)	
WAAW	World Antibiotic Awareness Week	WHO
WAEMU	West African Economic and Monetary Union	REC
WAHIS	World Animal Health Information System	OIE
WAS	World Aquaculture Society	
WCO	World Customs Organisation	
WHO	World Health Organisation	UN
WRD	World Rabies Day	
WSAVA	World Small Animal Veterinary Association	
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 Eastern 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 institutional cooperation 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 2017 represented the second year of implementation of the 6th OIE Strategic Plan, with programmes and activities – following a first year of institutional restructuring – getting to cruise speed.

The annual budget of the Representation for 2017 was reduced by some 25%, primarily because of lower level commitments to regional training courses and workshops and linked to this, the operational closure of the European Union funded programme, *Strengthening Veterinary Governance in Africa* programme (VETGOV), at the end of July 2017.

Nonetheless, several capacity-building events were organised by this office, in particular the OIE regional training workshop on the OIE procedures for the endorsement of national official control programmes with regard to *foot-and-mouth disease* (FMD) and *peste des petits ruminants* (PPR). This workshop, held in Kigali, targeted English-speaking senior officials from Africa, except from the *Southern African Development Community* (SADC) region, already covered in 2016.

The office also co-organised (with the Gaborone office) the last regional training programme on harmonisation of veterinary legislation at Regional Economic Community (REC) level, organised with the support of AU-IBAR, for the Member States of the *Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa* (COMESA) in Lusaka. It also co-organised the sixth coordination meeting of Deans and Principals of Veterinary Faculties and Schools in Southern and Eastern Africa (Lusaka).

The office not only assumes the maintenance and continuous updating of the official OIE website for Africa : www.rr-africa.oie.int (including the mobile website : m.africa.oie.int), but has also pursued the process of upgrading the website (defining the terms of references and technical specifications for the new website), following extensive (electronic) consultation with users from within the OIE and outside the OIE.

The office remains involved in a considerable number of continental, regional and national programmes, the most important being the continental *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 not only enables the OIE to continue the roll-out of the PVS Pathway missions in Africa, but also supports several regional coordination and capacity-building events, the establishment of an 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 2030.

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



www.rr-africa.oie.int/docspdf/en/2017/OIESRREAREPORTANNUAL2017.pdf

STAFF

	Position (nationality)	Name	Starting date
	Representative (Kenya)	Samuel Wakhusama	01.01.2017
	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 (31.08.2017)

GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE OF THE REPRESENTATION

The Sub-Regional Representation covers 13 countries of Eastern 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 also covered by the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for Southern Africa, based in Gaborone (Botswana).

The Comoros (since 2017), 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.



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 now hosts close to 170 million head of cattle (with the Federal Republic of Ethiopia having the highest number at almost 60 million) and almost 300 million small ruminants, of which there are 71 million in the Sudan alone. There could be as much as 26 million camelids (dromedaries mostly) in the region, as well as 16 million equids (donkeys mostly). Totals are only presented if deemed reliable (source : OIE-WAHIS, 2017, data from 2016 annual reports).

OIE Members	Cattle (,000)	Sheep (,000)	Goats (,000)	Pigs (,000)	Camelids (,000)	Equines (,000)	Poultry (,000)
Burundi	599	208	1,572	290	-	-	1,444
<i>Comoros</i>	<i>51</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>121</i>	-	-	5	544
Djibouti	40	400	600	-	50	7	-
Eritrea	2,329	2,572	5,632	5	385	500	2,700
<i>Ethiopia</i>	<i>59,487</i>	<i>30,698</i>	<i>30,200</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>1,209</i>	<i>11,006</i>	<i>59,495</i>
Kenya	17,543	17,270	29,745	307	2,986	¹ 1,800	32,645
Rwanda	1,214	637	2,486	1,384	<1	<1	5,239
<i>Seychelles</i>	<i><1</i>	-	<i>5</i>	<i>5</i>	-	-	<i>108</i>
Somalia	5,300	12,470	16,165	-	7,100	110	3,887
South Sudan	<i>11,831</i>	<i>17,592</i>	<i>13,569</i>	-	-	<i>360</i>	<i>15,000</i>
Sudan	30,632	40,612	31,481	-	4,830	8,369	² 46,652
Tanzania	25,800	5,010	16,670	1,850	<1	310	71,428
Uganda	14,452	4,324	15,771	4,384	-	3,840	47,433
Region (2017)	169,279	131,818	164,017	8,259	16,562	26,308	286,575
Region (2016)	165,153	132,626	158,671				281,741
Region (2015)	158,667	123,646	150,342				-
Increase compared to 2016	2.5 %	(0.6 %)	3.4 %				1.7 %

Where OIE data are absent, figures in italic are based on FAOSTAT data (estimates, often based on imputation methodology) for 2016.

¹ Donkeys only, based on the 2009 census. Source: Kwoba N. Emmah (2017) "Assessment of the gaps between the new OIE standard on the welfare of working equids and common practices in Kenya" (P. Bastiaensen & L. Stuardo, eds). OIE Bulletin 2017-2, 122 - 128.

² No WAHIS data for 2016 for the Sudan, data from 2015 were used.

In terms of aquatic animals, the FAO statistics provide insight into the aquaculture³ production types and volumes of OIE Member Countries (source : 2015 FAO Fishery and Aquaculture Statistics : <http://www.fao.org/figis>). The 2016 statistics were not available at the time this report was prepared. Note that Uganda alone produces more 77% of the region's aquaculture production, in tonnes, and 71% in value. The annual increase in production between 2014 and 2015 (more than 7%) is indicative of the exponential growth of the sector, much higher than for any of the terrestrial (livestock) species produced.

OIE Members	Aquaculture production
	Quantity (t)
Burundi	1,326
Comoros	-
Djibouti	-
Eritrea	-
Ethiopia	90
Kenya	18,658
Rwanda	4,847
Seychelles	0
Somalia	-
South Sudan	20
Sudan	4,500
Tanzania	3,992
Uganda	117,590
Region (2015)	151,023
Region (2014)	141,720
Region (2012)	130,000
Annual increase compared to 2014	7.1 %

³ **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 licenses, 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 2017, relatively few (3) immediate notifications by few countries (2) from the sub-region were submitted to the OIE :

■ Uganda reported bird flu outbreaks in domestic poultry and wild fowl on January 15th as *Highly pathogenic influenza A viruses (infection with) (non-poultry including wild birds)* (H5N8), and *Highly pathogenic avian influenza* (H5), leading to an immediate ban on the export of poultry from Uganda by most surrounding countries, a ban which is only slowly and partially being lifted. Dead waterfowl were reported from the shores and islands in Lake Victoria in Masaka and Wakiso districts, making it likely that other countries sharing the Lake's shores (Kenya and Tanzania) might have been affected as well, but despite extensive surveillance, none of the two countries reported any type of avian influenza to the OIE.

■ On the 22nd of September, Tanzania reported an outbreak of anthrax in wildlife, killing 32 hippopotamus in the Iringa region (Idodi, along the Ruaha river).

■ Without having submitted an immediate notification, the Republic of Djibouti changed its disease status for *peste des petits ruminants* (PPR) from "absent" in the 2015 annual report to "present" in the 2016 annual report hinting at the detection of direct or indirect evidence of the circulation of the virus in the country.

■ In 2016, Uganda had reported a *Rift Valley fever* (RVF) outbreak in humans to the WHO (March 11th). This was quickly followed by an immediate notification to the OIE, on April 1st, based on one single goat on a farm in Kamuganguzi subcounty, showing clinical signs of RVF and PCR confirmed presence of RVF virus. On June 13th, 2016, the Kabale Regional Referral Hospital again reported a (laboratory-confirmed) human case, originating from the same district, Kabale, in the south of the country, 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 23rd, a final report was submitted, closing the event. In late November 2017 however, another outbreak of RVF was reported by the Government of Uganda (but again not reported to the WHO), this time from the central part of the country (districts of Mityana and Kiboga). This outbreak was still ongoing as per 31st of December 2017, but without any declarations or notifications made of animal cases to the OIE.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

GOOD GOVERNANCE OF VETERINARY SERVICES

- 12 countries applied for PVS evaluation
- 11 PVS evaluation missions conducted
- 11 PVS gap-analysis missions conducted
- 3 PVS evaluation follow-up missions conducted
- 10 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 (Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda)



■ In terms of PVS initial and follow – up evaluation missions, all OIE Member States in the sub-region, except for Somalia and South Sudan, have benefited from PVS (initial) evaluation, at least. The situation in Somalia does not meet the conditions to organise such evaluation as of yet. South Sudan has not applied for a PVS evaluation mission (yet). In the course of 2017, both Burundi and Uganda submitted a request for a PVS Evaluation follow-up mission to be conducted in 2018. Ethiopia is expected to do the same for a follow-up mission to be conducted in 2019. The OIE is currently preparing a national PVS training to assist Ethiopia in rolling out a self-evaluation system in its 9 States.

■ Following the decisions by OIE Delegates from Kenya and Burundi to allow full disclosure of their OIE PVS Pathway reports, reports from Burundi, Kenya and the Seychelles are now available online. Confidentiality of the PVS Pathway reports from the Comoros has been lifted and the reports are also now available for Partners and Donors (P&D), along with reports from Ethiopia, the Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda.

■ From the eligible countries (i.e. except Somalia and South Sudan) all countries have now benefited from a PVS Gap Analysis mission.

■ Veterinary legislation identification missions have now been conducted in all but one of the eligible countries (i.e. except Somalia and South Sudan). The mission to Eritrea, requested since 2012, has been repeatedly postponed (by the national authorities) and may now take place in 2018.

CAPACITY BUILDING

■ The sixth annual meeting of the Deans of the *Southern and Eastern Africa Association of Veterinary Educational Establishments* (SEAAVEE), now rebranded *Eastern and Southern Africa Veterinary Educational Establishments* (ESAVEE) was held in Lusaka, Zambia, from June 20 – 21st. The meeting, the last one to be financially supported by the OIE, was hosted by the *University of Zambia* (UNZA). The meeting was attended by all Deans and Principals (or their representatives) of Veterinary Faculties and Schools/Colleges from Angola, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. For the first time, a representative of a similar network of Deans of *Veterinary Educational Establishments (VEE) in the Mediterranean* (REEV-med) attended the meeting and offered an opportunity to exchange past experiences, lessons learned and future directions between the two networks

www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/news/20170622.html

■ Together with the Gaborone office, the Nairobi office coordinated the last of seven regional training programmes on harmonisation of veterinary legislation at the *Regional Economic Community* (REC) level, organised with the support of AU-IBAR, under the *Strengthening of Veterinary Services in Africa* (VETGOV) project. The seminar was held in Lusaka, Zambia from July 3 – 7th and brought together 15 of the 19 Member States of the *Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa* (COMESA) :

www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/news/20170707.html

■ Rwanda kindly hosted the last in a series of OIE workshops on training of senior veterinary staff in Africa on the OIE procedures for recognition of countries or zones as disease free; or the endorsement by the OIE of their national official control programmes (against FMD, PPR, CBPP). The three-day training course, held from July 18 – 20th, was attended by OIE Delegates and senior epidemiologists or disease control officers from English-speaking countries in western, northern and eastern Africa, i.e. Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Libya, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda. Only Liberia did not make it to the meeting. Based on the animal health profile of the invited countries, the workshop focused on the OIE procedures for the endorsement by the OIE of national official control programmes against *foot-and-mouth disease* (FMD) and/or *peste des petits ruminants* (PPR).

www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/news/20170720.html

ASSISTANCE WITH REGARD TO DISEASE STATUS

■ Given the few immediate notifications submitted by Member Countries in the region in 2017, there were also few requests for assistance in terms of disease control. On January 25th, this office drew up a memo for the Kenyan Department of Veterinary Services, providing the OIE perspective on the reporting of the avian influenza outbreaks by Uganda on January 15th and the options for maintaining trade of live poultry and poultry products in the face of the outbreak, as per Terrestrial Animal Health Code standards.

■ A country visit to Burundi was conducted from August 15 – 17th. 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 Burundi, including specific animal disease challenges. In the case of Burundi, these are mainly *Lumpy Skin Disease* (LSD) reported to the OIE in August 2016 and the preparedness with respect to the H5N8 outbreaks in neighbouring Uganda (2017).

The threat posed by two finfish diseases, *Epizootic Ulcerative Syndrome* (EUS), infection with *Aphanomyces invadans* and *Tilapia Lake Virus* (TiLV) in Lake Tanganyika was also highlighted to government officials and stakeholders.

■ A country visit to the Comoros Union was conducted from August 29 – 31st. 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 the Union of the Comoros, including the persistent challenges of the country's Veterinary Services to report to the OIE using the WAHIS interface.

■ The Nairobi office also co-organised the OIE training of senior veterinary staff in Africa on the OIE procedures for recognition of countries or zones as disease free; or the endorsement by the OIE of their national official control programmes (against FMD, PPR, CBPP). Refer to the above section on capacity building.

www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/news/20170720.html

■ Regarding the above-mentioned official recognition of disease freedom by the OIE (pathway principle), none of the Members are recognised as free from any of the six diseases (AHS, BSE, CBPP, CSF, FMD and PPR), nor has any of these countries obtained an endorsement by the OIE of an official national disease control programme.

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

■ The Nairobi office was indirectly involved in the preparation (terms of reference) of a study on *“Cost-benefit and feasibility analysis for establishing a foot and mouth disease (FMD) free zone in Rukwa region in Tanzania”*, commissioned by the *Standards and Trade Development Facility* STDF (Project STDF/PPG/516) and executed by a consortium consisting of the Royal Veterinary College and the University of Liverpool in the United Kingdom and Sokoine University of Agriculture, and the Department of Veterinary Services, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Development, in Tanzania.

www.rr-africa.oie.int/docspdf/en/2017/STDF_PPG_516_CBA_FMD_Tanzania_FINAL.pdf

The OIE support to the elimination of rabies from Kenya

The “Strengthening Veterinary Services in Developing Countries + Rabies pilot” (www.rr-africa.oie.int/svs.html) project has a component on rabies that aims 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.



Patently waiting.... Picture (c) Rabies free Kenya twitter account (ZDU Kenya) 2016.

In the course of 2017, the OIE supported the 2017 *World Rabies Day* (WRD) events in Kisumu, Kenya and supported the vaccination of 72,683 dogs in Siaya County in western Kenya, as recorded by the end of December 2017.

The project also facilitated the establishment of a “Rabies free Kenya” website (www.rabiesfreekenya.org) and a toll-free lines (+254 (0) 800-723-175 for Siaya County and +254 (0) 800-723-176 for Makueni County) for reporting dog bites in humans.

The Zoonotic Disease Unit, with the (financial) support of the OIE, WHO, the *Kenya Medical Research Institute* (KEMRI) and *Washington State University* (WSU) continued rolling out the enhanced passive and active human and animal rabies surveillance (dog ecology study). Parts of the data gathered from the project were presented to participants during the World Rabies Day in a scientific conference held in Kisumu, Kenya, on 27 September 2017.

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 include 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 2015, 2016 and 2017 (as recorded on March 1st, 2018).

Country	2015		2016		2017	
	6-monthly reports	Annual reports	6-monthly reports	Annual reports	6-monthly reports	Annual reports
Burundi	2	1	2	1	0	0
Comoros	2	1	2	0	2	0
Djibouti	2	1	2	1	2	1
Eritrea	2	1	2	1	2	1
Ethiopia	2	1	2	0	1	0
Kenya	4	1	4	0	4	0
Rwanda	0	1	2	1	0	0
Seychelles	0	0	0	0	0	0
Somalia	2	1	2	1	1	0
South Sudan	1	0	0	0	0	0
Sudan	4	1	4	1	4	0
Tanzania	2	1	2	1	2	0
Uganda	4	1	3	1	2	0

WAHIS © Reporting summary on March 31st, 2018. Member Countries have until January 31st to submit their second half-year report (July – December 2017) and until March 31st to submit their annual report 2017. Data for 2015 and 2016 have been updated, compared to last year's report (late submission of reports).

In terms of immediate notifications, as pointed out in the first section of this report (disease situation report), only three immediate notifications were submitted to the OIE in the course of 2017, submitted by Tanzania (1) and Uganda (2).

The immediate notifications pertained to anthrax (in wildlife, Tanzania) and highly pathogenic avian influenza (H5N8) in Uganda, both in poultry and non-poultry, including wild birds.

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 62%

Reporting rate 2015

- 6-month reports 81%
- annual reports 85%

Reporting rate 2016

- 6-month reports 85%
- annual reports 61%

Reporting rate 2017 (to date)

- 6-month reports 62%
- annual reports 15%



Four bespoke sub-sites to the OIE Africa website were established by this office in the course of 2017, to highlight specific events or projects :

World Wildlife Day website (3 March) : www.rr-africa.oie.int/wwd/2017

World Veterinary Day website (29 April) : www.rr-africa.oie.int/wvd/2017/index_en.html

SVSDC+R Project website : www.rr-africa.oie.int/svs.html

EBO-SURSY Project website : www.rr-africa.oie.int/ebo-sursy.html

The website clocked 265,029 visits (hits) on December 31st, 2017. A total of 205 countries have now visited the website, for a total of 86,002 individual visitors (since 2008). This represents 161 hits and 48 individual visitors per day over the year 2017, compared to 125 and 37 respectively, in 2016.

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
2017	265,029	28%	86,002	205
<i>Average</i>	<i>161 p. day</i>	-	<i>48 p. day</i>	--

The growth of the website in terms of visitors is stagnating, from + 43% in 2014 to + 28% in 2016 and again in 2017, warranting the proposed modernisation of the website in 2018. Visitors mostly originate from the (Sub-) Regional Representations' host countries, as well as the headquarters (France, Botswana, Tunisia, Kenya and Mali, in decreasing order) and from developed nations such as Belgium (included the European Commission), Italy, the United Kingdom and the USA (in alphabetical order). Regional visitors hail from South Africa, Algeria, Morocco and Senegal mostly (in decreasing order).

TWINNING AND REFERENCE LABORATORIES

In May 2017, the Bee Health Laboratory of the *International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology* (ICIPE) in Nairobi was recognised by the OIE as Collaborating Centre for Bee health in Africa (continental mandate). This is the first OIE Reference Centre in the Eastern Africa region. It is also the first OIE Collaborating Centre of its kind (honeybees) in the world.

Institution	Division	Designation
International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE)	Bee Health Laboratory Duduville, Kasarani Nairobi, Kenya	OIE Collaborating Centre Bee health in Africa

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
Institute for Animal Health, Pirbright (UK)	AU-PANVAC (Debre Zeit) Ethiopia	Working as a BSL-3 rinderpest holding facility
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 2016 and a formal closing workshop took place from January 25 – 27th, 2017.

The same TVLA in Tanzania was supposed to 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, but this agreement has been postponed due to lack of funds. The twinning is now expected to start in May 2018.

Also, following an OIE PVS veterinary legislation identification mission, focusing on the veterinary profession, conducted in November 2015, 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 further negotiated in Pretoria, South Africa, from 5 - 6 June 2017 with the technical support of both the OIE Nairobi and Gaborone offices. A draft contract and budget were agreed upon by the end of the year and the agreement will be signed in early 2018, for a start-up in May 2018.

Twinning agreements between *Veterinary Statutory Bodies* (VSB) in the region are therefore:

Supporting VSB	Beneficiary VSB
South African Veterinary Council (SAVC)	Veterinary Council of Tanzania (VCT)

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.

ISSUES OF GROWING IMPORTANCE IN THE REGION

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

■ The fight against *antimicrobial resistance* (AMR) is an issue of growing interest especially following the FAO-OIE-WHO tripartite agreement to have joint priorities for collaboration in sharing responsibilities and coordinating global activities to address health risks at the animal-human-ecosystems interfaces, among which activities aimed at developing science-based guidelines and standards to address *antimicrobial use* (AMU) and combating *antimicrobial resistance* (AMR). This is reflected in the number of meetings and workshops that were attended by this office in Johannesburg, Khartoum, Machakos and Nairobi, organised by organisations such as FAO, GALVmed, Health *for* Animals, OIE and ReAct, along with the communication campaign supported during World Antibiotic Awareness Week (November). It is anticipated that AMR will become a topic of more interest in the coming years and as such, this may call for a dedicated staff at the Nairobi office to address the issue.

■ The welfare of *donkeys*, an animal species that is currently facing a global concern due to increased trade in their skin and meat potentially leading to the decimation of the animal population, is also raising a lot of concern in the sub-region. This global trade of donkeys, particularly for their skin, is mainly because of the insatiable demand for a traditional Chinese medicine called *Ejiao*, claimed to have anti-aging properties among other cures. The subject has raised a lot of discussion in many animal welfare workshops in the region but there is very little the OIE can do to intervene in the trade apart from promoting welfare standards for equines.

Besides the welfare of the donkeys, there was enhanced interest in animal welfare issues in general in the sub-region and in the continent at large. With oversight support from the FAO and OIE, organizations such as The Brooke Hospital for Animals, World Animal Protection, The Donkey Sanctuary, World Horse Welfare, *African Network for Animal Welfare* (ANAW) among others came together under the auspices of AU-IBAR to establish the *African Platform for Animal Welfare* (APAW). APAW has steered the development of the *Animal Welfare Strategy for Africa* (AWSA) and Action Plan (AP) which was launched on 24 and 25 July in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. This Strategy for Africa has been formulated through a consultative and participatory approach with African Member states, *Regional Economic Communities* (RECs) and key animal welfare organisations across the continent and worldwide.

■ *Peste des Petits Ruminants* (PPR), widespread in the region, except for Burundi (absent) and the Seychelles (never reported), 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. AU-IBAR is supporting a selection of African countries in the preparation of *national action plans* (NAPs) in line with the *Global Eradication Programme* (GEP) and first 5-year action plan (2017–2021) of the Joint FAO – OIE Secretariat in Rome, Italy. Whereas general awareness of PPR at country level is being enhanced –also through some excellent joint FAO – OIE communication efforts, it would seem little is undertaken in operational terms (e.g. vaccination) to actually meet the 2030 deadline.

■ *Rift Valley Fever* (RVF), now ten years after the last major outbreaks of 2006-2007, remained the focus of heightened surveillance, knowing that inter-epizootic periods average 10 years. The (bi)monthly ENSO reports produced by the *El Niño/Southern Oscillation* (ENSO) Discussion Group and issued by the United States' *National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration* (NOAA) Climate Prediction Center / *National Centers for Environmental Prediction* (NCEP) / *National Weather Service* (NWS) and the International Research Institute for Climate and Society have made no mention of any excessive above or below averages (in particular of *sea surface temperatures* or SSTs) that would warrant an alert.

■ *Tilapia Lake Virus* (TiLV), an emerging disease of freshwater finfish, is being added to the list of fish diseases threatening the livelihoods of fishing communities in the Great Lakes region, primarily Lakes Victoria, Kivu and Tanganyika. In the case of Burundi, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda, the threat is aggravated by the fact that according to Dong *et al.* 2017 : *Urgent update on possible worldwide spread of tilapia lake virus (TiLV)*, at least one company in Thailand shipped TiLV-contaminated tilapia fingerlings, to farms in these countries.

www.rr-africa.oie.int/dropbox/files/BIOTEC.pdf

Whereas the direct risk of spread into the natural (aquatic) environment is limited where these fingerlings are destined for pond-based production systems, the connectivity with river and lake waters through effluents from the ponds, all of which rely on surface waters for their water supply, constitutes an important risk factor. It must also be pointed out that Lake Tanganyika is a direct tributary to the Congo River, currently already infected with *Epizootic Ulcerative Syndrome* (EUS) or infection with *Aphanomyces invadans* (including confirmed cases in the DRC and CAR).

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 2017.

Meetings and events organised by the Sub-Regional Representation :

Capacity building		
Date	Title	Country
July 3 - 7	Joint AU-IBAR, FAO and OIE regional seminar for the Secretariat and the Member States of the <i>Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa</i> (COMESA) on “regional harmonisation of veterinary legislation” (co-organised and attended).	Zambia
July 18 – 20	Regional training workshop on the OIE procedures for the endorsement of national official control programmes with regard to <i>foot-and-mouth disease</i> (FMD) and <i>peste des petits ruminants</i> (PPR). (organised and attended).	Rwanda
December 6 – 8	Regional Seminar for OIE National Focal Points for Veterinary Medicinal Products – 5th Cycle (English-speaking participants from Africa) co-organised and attended	Swaziland

Coordination meetings		
Date	Title	Country
January 12	8 th VETGOV coordination meeting between AU-IBAR, FAO (ECTAD) and the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for Eastern Africa, hosted by AU-IBAR	Kenya
May 9 - 11	Joint GALVmed / OIE stakeholder workshop on the harmonization of the registration of veterinary medicinal products in the SADC Region (co-organised and attended).	South Africa
June 5 – 6	Drafting workshop for the finalisation of a twinning agreement between the <i>South African Veterinary Council</i> (SAVC) and the <i>Veterinary Council of Tanzania</i> (VCT)	South Africa

Coordination meetings *(continued)*

Date	Title	Country
August 2	9 th VETGOV coordination meeting between AU-IBAR, FAO (ECTAD) and the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for Eastern Africa, hosted by OIE	Kenya
October 10	10 th VETGOV coordination meeting between AU-IBAR, FAO (ECTAD) and the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for Eastern Africa, hosted by OIE	Kenya
November 14 - 16	Joint SAVC / OIE workshop on “Veterinary Statutory Bodies: Working towards mutual recognition of veterinary professionals in the SADC region” (co-organised and attended).	South Africa
November 17	Meeting with OER Africa on the development of a (online) training-module pertaining to international standard-setting in animal health and welfare and the role of the OIE	South Africa
December 5	Side meeting to review the recommendations of the May 2017 joint GALVmed / OIE stakeholder workshop on the harmonization of the registration of veterinary medicinal products in the SADC Region (Johannesburg).	Swaziland

Visits to country authorities

Date	Outcomes	Country
January 24 - 25	Stakeholders consultative workshop on the development of a One Health Policy / Policy Statements for Kenya (Zoonotic Disease Unit, ZDU)	Kenya
January 25	Briefing with the Kenya Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (State Department for Livestock) on the applicable OIE standards and notifications in respect of the HPAI outbreaks in Uganda.	Kenya
February 3	2 nd meeting 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	Kenya
February 6 – 7	National stakeholder workshop on AMR and One Health in the Sudan (FAO)	Sudan
March 3	Closing meeting of the GHSA <i>Joint External Evaluation</i> (JEE) of the IHR-2005 implementation in Kenya	Kenya
July 23 - 25	Official country visit by the OIE Dep. Director General	Kenya
July 25 - 28	Official country visit by the OIE Dep. Director General	Ethiopia
August 15 - 17	Official country visit by the OIE Reg. Representation	Burundi
August 29 - 31	Official country visit by the OIE Reg. Representation	Comoros
September 20 - 22	Fact-finding mission of the OIE Public - Private Progress project (Financial Directorate)	Kenya
September 19 - 20	Fact-finding mission of the OIE Public - Private Progress project (Financial Directorate)	Uganda
September 27 - 28	<i>Kenya Veterinary Association</i> (KVA) Scientific Conference on rabies and World Rabies Day events	Kenya
November 14	<i>World Antibiotic Awareness Week</i> (WAAW) at the University of Nairobi (CPD Programme) “ <i>Seek Professional Advice from Qualified Veterinary Professionals Before Giving Antibiotics to Animals</i> ”	Kenya

Meetings and events attended by the Sub-Regional Representation :

Capacity building		
Date	Title	Country
January 25 - 26	Closing workshop of the OIE twinning project on <i>Trichinella</i> infections in pigs in Tanzania under mentorship of the <i>Istituto Superiore di Sanita</i> (ISS) of Rome, Italy and the <i>Agentur für Gesundheit und Ernährungs Sicherheit GmbH</i> (AGES) of Innsbruck, Austria.	Tanzania
October 3 - 4	WHO and WHO-AFRO Training workshop for WHO staff (planners) on <i>National Action Plans for Health Security</i> (NAPHS)	Kenya
October 5	Masterclass on “Advocacy and Communication for Livestock Development” GLAD Project (ILRI)	Kenya
November 21 - 23	FAO / OIE Regional Rinderpest Regional Tabletop Exercise (TTX) to test the Global Rinderpest Action Plan (GRAP) in Africa.	Kenya

Coordination meetings

Date	Title	Country
January 23	Briefing by the Kenya <i>Zoonotic Disease Unit</i> (ZDU) on the past pilot rabies vaccination campaign conducted in Siaya county, supported by the OIE	Kenya
January 25	Steering Committee meeting of the Indian Ocean <i>Epidemiological Surveillance and Alert Management</i> (SEGA) One Health project phase III (Indian Ocean Commission) Final evaluation mission (per conference call)	Comoros (Kenya)
February 8 - 9	1 st Meeting of the Directors of Rabies Control Programmes in East Africa (GARC, CDC)	Kenya
February 14	1 st Veterinary Education Reflection Group (AU-IBAR, FAO, OIE) meeting	Kenya
March 6 – 8	<i>Africa Platform for Animal Welfare</i> (APAW) stakeholder meeting (development of the <i>African Animal Welfare Strategy</i> , AAWS)	Kenya
March 20 - 21	8 th Steering Committee Meeting of the <i>Strengthening of Veterinary Governance in Africa</i> (VETGOV) programme.	Egypt
March 22	6 th Steering Committee Meeting of the <i>Participation of African Nations in the SPS Organisations</i> (PAN-SPSO) project.	Egypt
April 11 – 12	Launch of the Regional Livestock Policy Hub for the COMESA Region (AU-IBAR)	Mauritius
April 24 - 25	Validation of workshop on the regional animal health strategy and regional animal health contingency plans for the IGAD	Uganda
May 3 - 5	9 th Pan African CVO meeting on Africa's coordinated common position on animal health standards in preparation for the 85 th OIE General Session (AU-IBAR)	Kenya
May 10 - 11	6 th Steering Committee Meeting of the <i>Surveillance of Trade-Sensitive Diseases</i> (STSD) project (AU-IBAR, IGAD).	Djibouti
June 20 - 21	6 th annual meeting of the Eastern and Southern Africa Veterinary Educational Establishments (ESAVEE)	Zambia

Coordination meetings <i>(continued)</i>		
Date	Title	Country
July 25 - 26	IGAD Regional Workshop on Private Resources Allocation and Private Investment in the Livestock Sector	Kenya
July 28 - 29	VSBs in Africa mapping exercise (AU-IBAR)	Kenya
September 22	African Platform for Animal Welfare (APAW) Coordination Committee establishment (AU-IBAR)	Kenya
October 3 - 5	FAO-ECTAD Regional Meeting on AMR and antibiotic residues surveillance	Kenya
October 16	IGAD Regional PPR Control and Eradication Programme Partners' Meeting on Resources Mobilisation	Kenya
November 6 - 8	Lessons for the future – what the East Africa experts learned from fighting the Ebola epidemic in West Africa (EAC Secretariat and GIZ)	Kenya
November 9 – 10	Joint multi-sectoral experts meeting to review the response to avian influenza (bird flu) outbreak in the EAC Region (EAC Secretariat)	Uganda
December 6	9 th Steering Committee Meeting of the <i>Strengthening of Veterinary Governance in Africa</i> (VETGOV) programme.	Kenya
December 7	1 st Steering Committee Meeting of the <i>Livestock for Livelihoods</i> (LIVE2AFRICA) project	Kenya
December 8	6 th AU-IBAR Advisory Committee meeting	Kenya
December 11	New business/technical solutions to improve livestock vaccines access for smallholders in developing Countries. University of Lausanne and HEC Paris (interview, conference call)	Switzerland (Kenya)

Relevant OIE meetings

Date	Title
February 20 - 24	22 nd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa, Swakopmund, Namibia
March 28 - 30	1 st (closed) meeting of OIE Regional and Sub-Regional Representatives with the OIE Director General, Paris, France
April 4 - 6	PVS Think Tank forum, Paris, France
May 21 - 26	85 th OIE General Session, Paris, France
October 24 - 26	2 nd meeting (open) of OIE Regional and Sub-Regional Representatives with the OIE Director General, Paris, France
October 27	Training of OIE regional and headquarters staff on PVS Pathway, Paris, France
Oct. 31 – Nov. 2	2 nd OIE Global Conference on Biological Threat Reduction, Ottawa, Canada

Representation of OIE in other events not previously mentioned

Date	Title	Country
February 14	Veterinary Education Reflection Group (AU-IBAR, FAO, OIE) meeting	Kenya
March 6 - 7	Board meeting of the <i>Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines</i> (GALVmed)	Tanzania
March 9 - 10	Project drafting retreat 1 : Promoting Regional Integration in the harmonization of Veterinary Legislation in Africa (PRINT-VETLEG) AU-IBAR, FAO, OIE	Kenya
April 26	International Scientific Conference at the occasion of the joint Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the <i>Kenya Veterinary Association</i> (KVA) and the <i>Commonwealth Veterinary Association</i> (CVA)	Kenya
June 6 - 7	World Customs Organisation (WCO) Operational Workshop ACIM 2 “Combating counterfeiting and piracy”(Consumer Health and Safety)	Kenya
June 12 – 14	Global Animal Health Workshop (Health <i>for</i> Animals)	Kenya

Representation of OIE in other events not previously mentioned (<i>continued</i>)		
Date	Title	Country
June 27 - 28	First WHO Africa Health Forum	Rwanda
June 26 - 29	World Aquaculture Society Congress 2017	South Africa
June 30 - July 2	Aquaculture Biosecurity Special Session and Training Workshop (WAS 2017 side event)	South Africa
July 8	Project drafting retreat II : Promoting Regional Integration in the harmonization of Veterinary Legislation in Africa (PRINT-VETLEG) AU-IBAR, FAO, OIE	Zambia
July 24 - 25	Launch of the Africa Platform for Animal Welfare (APAW) and Africa Animal Welfare Strategy (AU-IBAR)	Ethiopia
July 26 - 28	VETGOV High-level closing meeting (AU-IBAR)	Ethiopia
Sept. 11 – 12	Sub-Regional Conference of the <i>Pan-African Rabies Control Network</i> (PARACON) GARC : Pre-PARACON meeting on the PARACON bulletin and the DHIS2 system	South Africa
Sept. 13 - 15	Sub-Regional Conference of the <i>Pan-African Rabies Control Network</i> (PARACON) GARC	South Africa
Sept. 18 - 19	4 th Action on Antibiotic Resistance (ReAct) Africa Annual Conference 2017	Kenya
October 2 - 3	ANAW Animal Welfare Conference 2017: “The Nexus between Animal Welfare, Environment and Development: Safeguarding our common destiny”	Kenya
November 29	AFSCAN Board and Ambassadors meeting III (<i>African Small Companion Animals’ Network</i>) WSAVA Foundation, ZOETIS	Uganda

REGIONAL COMMISSION ACTIVITIES

■ Some 26 years after the last Conference of the OIE Regional Commission was held in Windhoek, Namibia (1991), the 22nd Conference of the Regional Commission for Africa of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) took place in Swakopmund, Namibia, from 20 to 24 February 2017. The Conference, attended by some 80 participants, was chaired by Dr. Milton Maseke, OIE Delegate for Namibia, along with Dr Monique Eloit, OIE Director General, Dr. Bothle Michael Modisane, OIE Delegate of South Africa and President of the OIE (Council and World Assembly), Dr. Karim Tounkara, OIE Regional Representative for Africa, as well as Dr. Komla Daniel Batawui, OIE Delegate of Togo and President of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa.

Of the 21 African countries represented at the Conference, five were the countries of the Eastern Africa region : Eritrea, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan and Uganda. Moreover, several international and regional organisations, donor agencies and other observers participated in the Conference i.e. the *Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources* of the African Union (AU-IBAR), the *African Veterinary Association* (AVA), the United Nations *Food and Agriculture Organisation* (FAO), the FAO / OIE Secretariat of the *Global Eradication Programme* (GEP) for PPR, the Meat Board of Namibia, the European Commission (DG SANTE) and the *Inter-State School of Veterinary Medicine and Sciences* (EISMV).

Two particularly important and timely Technical Items were presented during the Conference namely:

- Technical item I (with questionnaire): *Pastoralism, opportunities for livestock and challenges for Veterinary Services* (Dr Oumar Alfaroukh Idriss, co-authored by Dr. Cyrus Nersy, both "*Projet Régional d'Appui au Pastoralisme au Sahel*", PRAPS Project, Mali).
- Technical item II (without questionnaire) *Unfolding the Global Strategy for the Control and Eradication of peste des petits ruminants (PPR) in Africa* (Dr Abdenacer Bakkouri, PPR expert, Morocco).

Both technical items were followed by debates and interactions between the speakers, OIE Delegates, and technical experts, whether national, regional or international. Several other issues involving or affecting Member Countries of the Eastern Africa region were also presented and debated:

- The issue of climate change and emerging vector-borne diseases: the example of Rift Valley fever in West Africa, East Africa and the Indian Ocean (Alex Caron, CIRAD).
- The OIE PVS Pathway: beyond the myths (François Caya and John Stratton, OIE);
- The OIE PVS Pathway: uptake of PVS pathway mission recommendations by countries (Patrick Bastiaensen, OIE);
- The OIE strategy on antimicrobial resistance: contribution of Africa (Unesu Ushewokunze-Obatolu, DVS Zimbabwe);

In addition, for the first time, a poster session was organised, supporting some of the themes tackled by formal presentations during the plenary sessions. Posters presented were submitted by OIE Technical Departments, OIE Regional Representations, OIE Collaborating Centres and Reference Laboratories and OIE Member Countries, and dealt with such issues as the 6th Strategic Plan of the OIE, antimicrobial resistance, avian influenza, bovine tuberculosis, foot-and-mouth disease control, official OIE disease statuses and self-declarations, pastoralism, rabies, reporting of aquatic diseases to the OIE, RVF, and many more.

Recommendations adopted in Swakopmund were presented to the 85th World Assembly of Delegates in May 2017 for endorsement and then for implementation at regional and global level.

■ The 85th OIE World Assembly of Delegates was held in Paris from May 21 – 26th, 2017. The annual meeting of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa took place on the Monday afternoon of May 22nd, 2017. A total of 113 persons participated in the meeting, representing countries (36 out of the 54 Member Countries), regional and international organizations (AVA, AVSF, CIRAD, AU-IBAR, AU-PANVAC, AU-PATTEC, ECCAS, FAO, IGAD, the *Indian Ocean Commission* (IOC), WAEMU (UEMOA) and the World Bank).

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. Dr Moetapele Letshwenyo, OIE Sub-Regional Representative for Southern Africa, on behalf of all OIE Representatives in the region, provided participants with further details on the OIE Regional Roadmap and its development, and the challenges that the region faces. Dr Samuel Wakhusama, OIE Sub-Regional Representative for Eastern Africa, gave an update on the implementation of the "Strengthening Veterinary Services in Developing Countries + Rabies Control" (SVSDC + R) project.

"The PVS Pathway as an advocacy tool for increased investment in Veterinary Services in Africa" was selected as a technical item (with questionnaire) for the 23rd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa. *"Adoption of the 'One Health' approach as an unavoidable path for the prevention and control of emerging and re-emerging diseases"* was proposed for inclusion in the agenda of the 87th General Session (with questionnaire to Members).

With regard to vacant positions, and following a discussion between the Delegates, Dr Kamal Tag El-Sir El-Sheikh, Delegate of Sudan, was unanimously nominated as a Member of the Council of the OIE. As for the Regional Commission, Dr. Djamila Hadj Amar, Delegate of Algeria, was put forward as Vice-President and Dr. Mahamat Guindé, Delegate of Chad, as Secretary-General. These positions were endorsed by the World Assembly during its Friday morning administrative session. Other topics were discussed as well, such as an update on the organisation of the 23rd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa, to be held in Yaounde, Cameroon in February 2019.

The eastern African region is represented in the Commission by Dr. Theogen Rutagwenda, Vice-President and OIE Delegate of Rwanda, and by Dr Kamal Tag El-Sir El-Sheikh, Member of the OIE Council and OIE Delegate of the Sudan.

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

NEW APPOINTMENTS

■ The Government of Uganda appointed Dr Juliet Sentumbwe, Director Animal Resources, Department of Animal Production, Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries, as OIE Delegate on January 20th.

■ Following the protracted illness and later passing away of the OIE Delegate, Mr. Miradji Soulé on the 12th of April, the Government of the Union of the Comoros appointed Dr Youssouf Oussenî Moutroifi, Head of Animal Health of the Vice-Presidency, in charge of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, the Environment, Land-use and Urbanism, as OIE Delegate on February 28th.

■ The Government of Kenya appointed Dr Thomas Dulu, acting Director of Veterinary Services, as OIE Delegate on August 4th, and later appointed Dr Obadiah Njagi, confirmed Director of Veterinary Services, as OIE Delegate on November 14th.

Country	Position	Institution	Name	Surname
Burundi	<i>Directeur de la Santé Animale</i>	<i>Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Elevage</i>	Déogratias	Nsanganiyumwami
Comoros	<i>Responsable de la Santé Animale</i>	<i>Vice Présidence, en charge du Ministère de l'Agriculture, de la Pêche, de l'Environnement, de l'Aménagement du territoire et de l'Urbanisme</i>	Youssouf	Ousseni Moutroifi
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	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	Obadiah	Njagi
Rwanda	Director General of Animal Resources (Rwanda Agricultural Board)	Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources	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	Kamal	Tagelsir Elsheikh
Tanzania	Director of Veterinary Services	Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Development	Abdu	Hayghaimo
Uganda	Director of Animal Resources	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries	Juliet	Sentumbwe

OIE Delegates from the east African Member States as per December 31st, 2017.

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 Deputy-Representative took office on September 1st, 2015. Dr Walter Masiga, the first OIE Sub-Regional Representative retired from his position on December 31st, 2016 and was succeeded by Dr Samuel Wakhusama on January 1st, 2017. No replacement of the OIE Sub-Regional Representative is foreseen for the time being. The position of Office Secretary was terminated as per August 31st, 2017.

In June 2010, a Programme Officer was seconded to the OIE by the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (*France Cooperation*). 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. In October 2017, a private consultant was commissioned by the AFD to review the two consecutive AFD Financing Agreements with the OIE, both of which are relevant to the position of Programme Officer in the Nairobi office :

Financing Agreement CZZ-1570-01 (28 October 2010 - 31 April 2014)

Financing Agreement CZZ 1847 01 (18 February 2015 - 31 December 2017)

For most of the year 2017, the Representation benefited from two major funding sources :

■ The “*Strengthening Veterinary Governance in Africa*” (VETGOV) Project which has provided financial support to many of the PVS missions conducted on the continent, as well as many capacity-building initiatives and regional coordination efforts, and ended on July 31st, 2017. www.rr-africa.oie.int/vetgov.html

■ 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 was in part monitored through the steering mechanisms of the VETGOV project (until that project ended in July) www.rr-africa.oie.int/svs.html

ADVISORY TASKS AND SUPERVISION OF INTERNS

■ Upon request of the OIE International Standards and Sciences Directorate, the office (again) 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*”. The revised proposal was approved in March 2017.

■ Upon request of the OIE International Standards and Sciences Directorate, the office reviewed a new STDF *Project Grant* (PG) proposal on “*Mainstreaming SPS capacity building into the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) and other national policy frameworks*”, submitted by the COMESA Secretariat. This proposal was not approved in March 2017.

■ Upon request of the OIE International Standards and Sciences Directorate, the office was requested to harness Member Country support (at the General Session in May 2017) for an STDF *Project Grant* (PG) proposal, by the OIE, to “*Develop a framework to facilitate e-veterinary certification for international trade*”. If and when approved, this project will help developing Member Countries to better engage in international trade of animals and animal products by facilitating their understanding and potential use of e-veterinary certification. In Africa, both Nigeria and Zimbabwe committed to support the project application and its subsequent implementation.

■ Upon request of the STDF Secretariat, the office was requested to provide technical feedback on a draft report from the Republic of Rwanda, dealing with “*Meat Exports to DRC Strategy*”, prepared with support from *Trade Mark East Africa* (TMEA), and being considered for potential STDF PG or PPG support.

■ Upon request of the STDF Secretariat, the office was requested to provide comments on the possibility and usefulness of conducting a veterinary legislative review (as part of the OIE *Veterinary Legislation Support Programme*, VLSP) in the Republic of Liberia, in the framework of WTO SPS/TBT accession efforts, supported by the Swedish National Board of Trade.

■ Two reports, based on STDF-funded studies, for which this office had provided comments at an early stage of design of the terms of reference, were published and officially presented in the course of October 2017 :

Feasibility study for the establishment of FMD-free fresh meat
producing cattle subpopulations in Zimbabwe
Kevin Queenan, Barbara Häslér,
Royal Veterinary College London, UK
Jonathan Rushton,
University of Liverpool, UK

www.rr-africa.oie.int/docspdf/en/2017/STDF_PPG_550_Zimbabwe_CBT_Feasability.pdf

Cost-benefit and feasibility analysis for establishing a foot and mouth disease
free zone in Rukwa region in Tanzania
Barbara Häslér, Kevin Queenan
Royal Veterinary College, UK
Jonathan Rushton,
University of Liverpool, UK
James Mlangwa,
Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania

www.rr-africa.oie.int/docspdf/en/2017/STDF_PPG_516_CBA_FMD_Tanzania_FINAL.pdf

■ Upon request of the FAO Office of Evaluation and the OIE Performance Cell, entrusted with the Joint FAO/OIE Evaluation of the *Global Framework for the progressive control of Transboundary Animal Diseases* (GF-TADS), the SRR/EA office was visited by the external evaluation team on July 11th, 2017.

■ In January 2017, upon request of the *Inter-Governmental Authority for Development* (IGAD), the office contributed to the review of the draft *“Review of Policy on the Roles of Public and Private Sectors in the Supply and Provision of Animal Health Services in the IGAD Region and Development of a Regional Framework”*. The document was validated on January 30th, 2017.

■ In January 2017, upon request of the *Inter-Governmental Authority for Development* (IGAD), the office contributed to the review of the draft *“IGAD Regional Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) 5 year Strategy and Plan of Action 2016/17 - 2021/22”*. The document was validated on January 31st, 2017.

■ This year’s OIE intern, Dr. Arithi Mutembei, is a candidate Master of Public Health in Advanced Field Epidemiology (FELTP) and graduate fellow at the *International Livestock Research Institute* (ILRI) in Kenya. His internship lasted from May 1st to July 31st, studying the topic of country profiles, based on data mining of various OIE related sources of information, such as PVS reports, OIE official disease statuses, WAHIS reports and external sources (World Bank, FAO, WHO, etc...).

AGREEMENTS & HOSTING

■ The hosting of a regional seminar (on veterinary legislation) with the Executive Secretariat of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), based in Lusaka, Zambia and a meeting with the Secretary General of COMESA, H.E. Sindiso N. Ngwenya, during that seminar in Lusaka, on July 5th, greatly facilitated the finalisation, with COMESA's technical and legal advisors, of a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), which has already been approved by the COMESA Secretariat (in August 2017) and is awaiting endorsement by the OIE Council (in February 2018) and subsequent approval by the World Assembly of Delegates (in May 2018), after which it can be signed by the two parties and come into force.

The proposed areas of co-operation between OIE and COMESA are:

- Harmonisation of animal health, and welfare, legislation and regulations, in compliance with the OIE Terrestrial and Aquatic Animal Health standards (Codes and Manuals);
- Harmonisation of procedures for registration and control of veterinary medicines, including vaccines;
- Active contribution, by COMESA Member States, to the standard setting activities under the World Trade Organization Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phyto-sanitary Measures (as applicable to animals and animal products); and
- Active contribution, by COMESA Member States, to the standard setting activities under the OIE, in order to be responsive and adaptable to changing market conditions and consumer demands.
- Coordination and harmonisation of control of *Transboundary Animal Diseases* (TADs) and ensuring resilience to disease-related risks and shocks;
- Design and implementation of epidemiological surveillance, disease reporting and animal health information systems;
- Development of regional guidelines for trade in animals and animal products;
- Supporting existing OIE Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres in the COMESA region and support twinning agreements to increase the number of OIE Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres;
- Preparation of the relevant applications by COMESA Member States, for official recognition by the OIE of freedom from specific diseases at national or zonal level, with or without vaccination, in order to facilitate regional and international market access for animals and animal products;
- Strengthening of the Veterinary Services of COMESA Member States, based on outcomes of PVS Pathway missions, amongst others through support for the organisation of training courses in academic institutions in the veterinary field and the field of animal production food safety;

■ Negotiations are still underway with the *East African Community* (EAC) for a similar Cooperation Agreement, the last outstanding Agreement on the African continent.

Agreement with	Signatories	Starting date
COMESA Secretariat (<i>approved</i>)	OIE & COMESA	2018
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
Courtesy visit to the EU Delegation in Nairobi	Jan. 23
Video interview with the 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 its successful application as an OIE Collaborating Centre for diseases of honeybees in Africa. https://youtu.be/9kMpguF840k	Mar 29
Courtesy visit to the Secretary General of COMESA in Lusaka	Jul. 5
Joint FAO/OIE Evaluation of the <i>Global Framework for the progressive control of Transboundary Animal Diseases</i> (GF-TADS).	Jul. 11
Official visit by the OIE Deputy Director General	Jul. 24
Courtesy visit of the Director of WHO Secretariat for antimicrobial resistance.	Sep. 19

FINANCIAL REPORT

The OIE Sub-Regional Representation's 2017 annual work plan and budget stood at EUR 301,835 :

Cost Item	Total
	2017
STAFF EXPENSES	90,335.00 €
OPERATING COSTS	55,500.00 €
WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES	44,000.00 €
MISSION EXPENSES	44,000.00 €
OTHER TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES	68,000.00 €
TOTAL (EUR)	301,835.00 €

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 31st, 2017, the state of disbursements, as compared to the previous years, was as follows :

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Approved budget	372 409	297 940	212 000	248 900	434 000	301 835
Disbursements	277 790	255 286	151 166	374 002	446 776	269 895
Uptake	75 %	86 %	71 %	150 %	103 %	89 %

The 2017 budget has been underutilised by some 10%, primarily due a less-than-anticipated uptake by the Kenya rabies elimination sub-project, whereby vaccinations campaigns were considerably affected by the troubles surrounding the Kenyan elections. The budget for the cost category “workshops and conferences” (organised by this office) was overspent by some 26%.

CONCLUSIONS AND 2018 OUTLOOK

Although the approved annual budget of the Representation for 2017 was reduced by some 25%, primarily because of lower level commitments to regional training courses and workshops and linked to this, the operational closure of the European Union funded programme, *Strengthening Veterinary Governance in Africa* (VETGOV) programme, at the end of July 2017, the Representation did its best to carry out its mandates in serving the sub-region. It is proposed that with increased activities on AMR in coming years and enhanced activities on PPR-GEP and FMD-PCP, the centre will require more staffing and this will impact on budgetary allocation.

The year 2017 also marked the assumption to the office of Sub-Regional Representative of Dr. Samuel Wakhusama who replaced Dr. Walter Masiga, the first OIE Sub-Regional Representative 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.

2017 was also the second year of implementation of the 6th OIE Strategic Plan, under the skilful guidance of the OIE Director General, Dr. Monique Eloit, with support at the regional level from Dr. Karim Tounkara and staff from the sub-regional representations. The OIE offices, in close partnership with the Bureau of the Regional Commission for Africa, are to implement a regional roadmap for the Strategic Plan. Although considerable achievements have been realised in implementing this Plan in 2017, there are areas that will require extra effort in 2018 and years to come. These include identifying issues related to why Member Countries do not engage in the standard setting process, taking advantage of existing public-private partnerships and promote AMR-related activities in order to increase involvement from stakeholders, to name but a few.

2018 holds the promise of an exciting and active year, with several major activities lined up, such as the third FMD PCP Roadmap meeting for Eastern Africa (with the FAO), an innovative new training opportunity on OIE standards for safe international trade, and the third cycle of OIE focal points' training sessions on aquatic animal diseases.



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