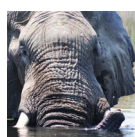


» COVER PICTURES



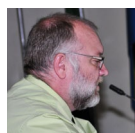
Dr Patrick Dlamini from Swaziland during a workshop on the FAO-OIE Progressive Control Pathway for FMD in Gaborone, Botswana (March)
Picture © P. Bastiaensen (2011)



Elephant in the Okavango delta in north Botswana (October)
Picture © J. Daamen (2011)



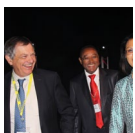
Dr Bonaventure Mtei receives a present from the Under Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture of Swaziland, Mr. Sabelo Masuku, after having hosted the OIE training course on diseases of honeybees in Ezulwini, Swaziland (June)
Picture © N. Mapitse (2011)



Dr Patrick Bastiaensen delivering an address during the SADC Sub-Committee meeting on Epidemiology and Informatics (EIS) in Arusha, Tanzania (April)
Picture © F. Kivaria (2011)



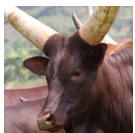
Dr. Maria Eugenia Da Silva, Food safety officer of the Angolan Ministry of Agriculture during the OIE training course on veterinary legislation in Gaborone, Botswana (October)
Picture © P. Bastiaensen (2011)



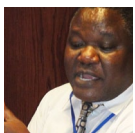
Dr. Bernard Vallat and the Hon. Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Mrs. Tina Joemat-Peterson (right) at the World Veterinary Congress in Cape Town, South Africa (October)
Picture © A. Vallat (2011)



Dr Bernard Mbeha, OIE Focal point for aquatic diseases during the OIE training course on diseases of fish in Grahamstown, South Africa (September)
Picture © Q. Rouhani (2011)



Ankolé cattle in Rwanda, the venue for the 20th Conference of the Regional Commission for Africa, in Kigali (February)
Picture © N. Mapitse (2011)



Prof. Philemon Wambura, Dean of the Sokoine University of Agriculture's Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in Tanzania during the second annual OIE meeting of Deans in Cape Town, South Africa (October)
Picture © P. Bastiaensen (2011)



Commemorating the 250th anniversary
of the veterinary profession

WORLD VETERINARY YEAR

World Organisation for Animal Health OIE

12, rue de Prony
75017 P A R I S, FRANCE

oie@oie.int
www.oie.int

Regional Representation for Africa

Parc de Sotuba Park
P.o.box 2954
B A M A K O, MALI

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

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

Sub-Regional Representation for Southern Africa

Botswana Ministry of Agriculture
Mmaraka Road, Plot 4701
P.o.box 25662
G A B O R O N E, BOTSWANA

+ 267 391 44 24
+ 267 391 44 17 (fax)

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

» ACRONYMS

AAHRI	Aquatic Animal Health Research Institute	TH
AAHS	Aquatic Animal Health Services	
ACIAR	Australian Center for International Agriculture Research	
AFD	Agence Française de Développement	France
AfDB	African Development Bank	
AFRO	Regional Office for Africa	WHO
AH	Animal health	
AHS	African horse sickness	
AI	Avian influenza	
AIMS	Agricultural Information Management System	FANR
ALIVE	Partnership for Africa Livestock Development, Poverty Alleviation and Sustainable Growth in Africa	
APFS	Animal production food safety	
ARC	Agricultural Research Council	ZA
ASF	African swine fever	
AU	African Union	
AUC	African Union Commission	AU
BNVL	Botswana National Veterinary Laboratory	BW
BSE	Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy	
BTB	Bovine tuberculosis	
BTOR	Back-to-office report	
BTSF	Better Training for Safer Food	DG SANCO
BVI	Botswana Vaccine Institute	
DVTD	Department of Veterinary Tropical Diseases	UP
BW	Botswana	
CAR	Central African Republic	
CBPP	Contagious bovine pleuro-pneumonia	
CDC	Centres for Disease Control and prevention	US
CEM	Contagious equine metritis	
CESME	Centro Studi Malattie Esotiche	IT
CIRAD	Centre de Coopération Internationale en Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement	France
CIRDES	Centre International de Recherche Développement sur l' Elevage en zone Subhumide	Burkina Faso
CORUS	Coopération pour la Recherche Universitaire et Scientifique	France
CTICC	Cape Town International Convention Centre	ZA
CVL	Central Veterinary Laboratory	
DAP	Department of Animal Production	BW
DG SANCO	Directorate General Health and Consumer	EC
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo	
EC	Eastern Cape (province)	ZA ALIVE
EC	Executive Committee	ALIVE
EC	Executive Committee	GF-TAD
EC	European Commission	EU
ECTAD	Emergency Centre for TAD	FAO
EIS	Epidemiology and Informatics (sub-committee)	LTC
ELISA	Enzyme-linked immune-sorbent assay	
ENVL	Ecole Nationale Vétérinaire de Lyon	FR
EPT	Emerging Pandemic Threats	USAID
EU	European Union	
EUFMD	EU Commission for FMD	
EUR	Euro	
EUS	Epizootic ulcerative syndrome	
FANR	Directorate Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources	SADC
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation (of the United Nations)	
FAT	Fluorescent antibody test	
FDA	Food and Drug Administration	US
FI	Fisheries (department)	FAO
FIMA	Fisheries – aquaculture (division)	FI
FMD	Foot-and-Mouth Disease	
FS	Food safety	
GA	General assembly	ALIVE
GA	General assembly	GF-TAD
GALVMED	Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines	
GF-TAD	Global Framework for the progressive control of TAD	
HACCP	Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points	
HPAI	Highly pathogenic avian influenza	

IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency	
IBAR	Inter-african Bureau for Animal Resources	AU
ILRI	International Livestock Research Institute	
IRCM	Integrated Regional Coordination Mechanism	IBAR
ISS	Instituto Superiore de Sanita	IT
IT	Italy	
IT	Information technology	
KAZA	Kavango – Zambezi	TFCA
LDC	Least developed country	
LIMS	Livestock Information Management System	AIMS
LoA	Letter of Agreement	
LTC	Livestock Technical Committee	SADC
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture	
MoH	Ministry of Health	
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding	
NAI	Notifiable Avian Influenza	
NG	Nigeria	
NICD	National Institute for Communicable Diseases	ZA
NVI	National Veterinary Institute Norway	
NVRI	National Veterinary Research Institute	NG
OIE	World Organisation for Animal Health	
OVI	Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute	ARC
PANVAC	Pan-african Vaccine Institute	AU
PCP	Progressive Control Pathway	FMD
PDR	People's Democratic Republic	
PPR	Peste des petits ruminants	
PT	Proficiency test(ing)	
PVS	Performance of Veterinary Services	OIE
QA	Quality-assurance	
RAHC	Regional Animal health Centre	
REC	Regional Economic Community	
RR	Regional Representation	OIE
RVF	Rift valley fever	
SA	Southern Africa	
SACIDS	Southern African Centre for Infectious Diseases Surveillance	
SADC	Southern African Development Community	
SADCAVEE	SADC Association of VEE	
SARAWS	Southern Africa Regional Animal Welfare Strategy	OIE
SAT	Southern Africa Type	FMD
SC	Sub-Committee	LTC
SEARG	Southern and Eastern Africa Rabies Group	
SMS	Short Messaging Service	
SPINAP AHI	Support Programme for Integrated National Action Plans for Avian and Human Influenza	IBAR
SPS	Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary (agreement)	WTO
SRR	Sib-Regional Representation	OIE
STDF	Standards and Trade Development Facility	WTO
†	(metric) tonne	
TAD	Transboundary animal disease(s)	
TAHC	Terrestrial Animal Health Code	OIE
TBD	Tick-borne disease(s)	
TCP	Technical Cooperation Programme	FAO
TFCA	Trans-frontier conservation area	
TH	Thailand	
UK	United Kingdom	
UMA	Union du Mahgreb Arabe	
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme	
UNZA	University of Zambia	ZM
UP	University of Pretoria	ZA
UPEI	University of Prince Edward Island	Canada
US	United States (of America)	
USA	United States (of America)	
USAID	US Agency for International Development	US
USD	US Dollar	
VACNADA	Vaccines against neglected animal diseases in Africa	IBAR
VEE	Veterinary educational establishment(s)	
VETGOV	Veterinary Governance in Africa	IBAR
VLA	Veterinary Laboratories Agency	UK
VLSP	Veterinary Legislation Support Programme	OIE

VPH	Veterinary public health	
VSB	Veterinary statutory body(ies)	
WAHID	World Animal Health Information Database	OIE
WAHIS	World Animal Health Information System	OIE
WAHWF	World Animal Health and Welfare Fund	OIE
WC	Western Cape (province)	ZA
WHO	World Health Organisation	
WRD	World Rabies Day	
WSD	White spot disease	
WTO	World Trade Organisation	
WVA	World Veterinary Association	
WVC	World Veterinary Congress	WVA
ZA	(Republic of) South Africa	
ZAR	South African Rand	ZA

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» INTRODUCTION

The OIE Sub-Regional Representation for Southern Africa (SRR-SA) was set up in 2005, in Gaborone, Botswana. The SRR-SA covers 15 countries of SADC, of which the Secretariat is also based in Gaborone.

The year 2011, as was the case in previous years, was a very active and busy one, not only in terms of disease outbreaks in the sub-region but also in terms of capacity-building interventions by the OIE SRR-SA where 7 major capacity-building events were organised benefitting at least 145 participants from 36 countries from the SADC region and the rest of Africa.

FMD continued to be the top most reported recurrent disease in the region. Unfortunately, the region also saw a first occurrence of White Spot Disease (WSDV) in Mozambique and Contagious metritis (CEM) in South Africa.

The year 2011 was also the year of the global eradication of rinderpest, the 250th anniversary of the veterinary profession and the 30th World Veterinary Congress held in our region, i.e. in Cape Town in October.

Unfortunately, the team also had to come to terms with the retirement of the OIE Sub-Regional Representative, Dr. Bonaventure Mtei after six (6) years of service at the end of the year. The Deputy-Representative, Dr. Neo Mapitse, took over as acting Representative on December 1st, 2011.

2011 was also the year in which the two partners in the *Regional Animal Health Centre for Southern Africa*, FAO and AU-IBAR seriously reduced their portfolio of activities and staff from 15 in January to 8 in December 2011.








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



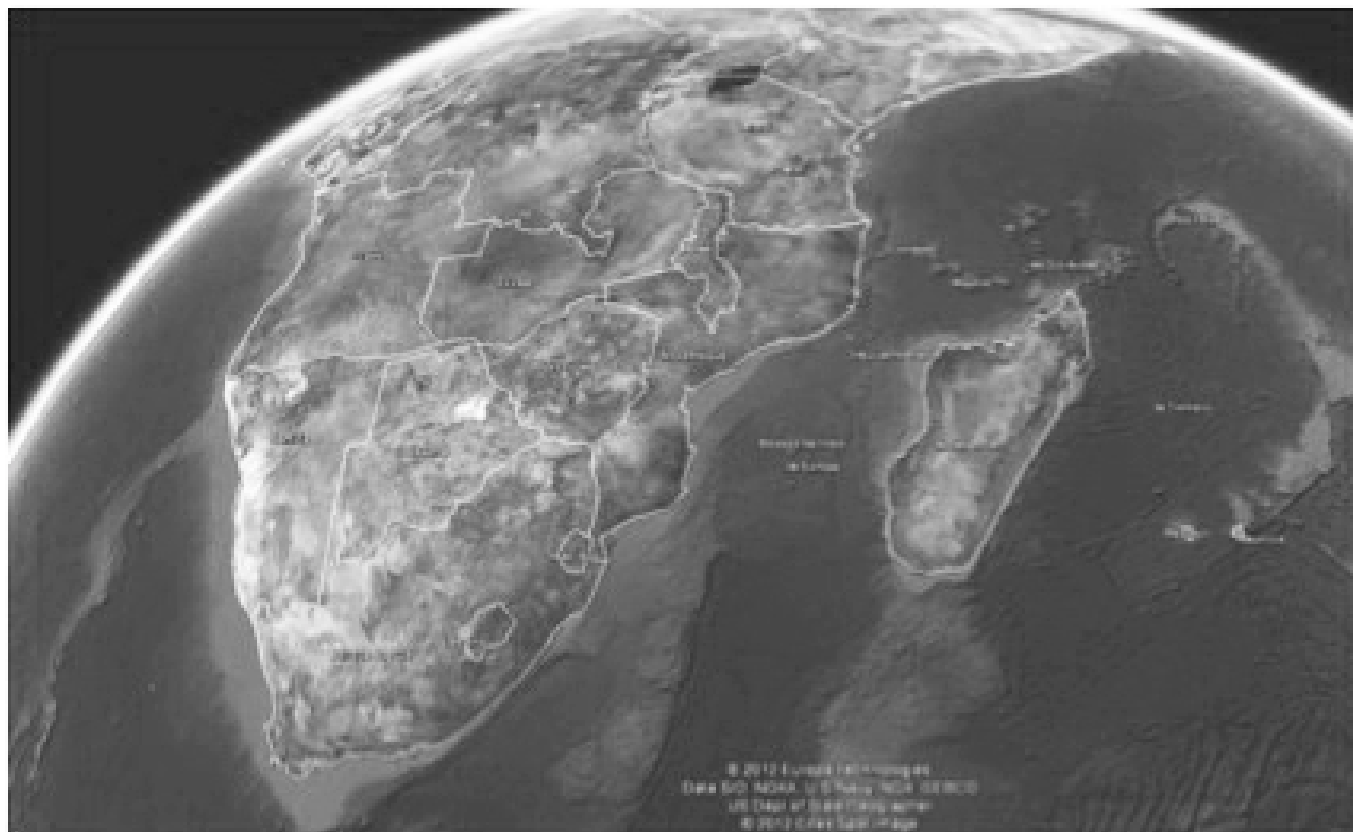
<http://www.rr-africa.oie.int/docspdf/en/2010/OIESRRSAREPORTANNUAL2011.pdf>

» STAFF

	Position (nationality)	Name	Starting date
	Representative (retired) (Tanzania)	Bonaventure J. Mtei	01.01.2006
	Deputy Representative (acting Representative) (Botswana)	Neo J. Mapitse	01.08.2010
	Programme Officer (Belgium)	Patrick X. Bastiaensen	22.04.2007
	Administrative and Financial Assistant (Botswana)	Mpho G. Mantsho	01.06.2009
	Secretary (Botswana)	Nomsa Thekiso	01.02.2006

» GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE OF THE REPRESENTATION

The Sub-Regional Representation covers 15 countries of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), of which the Executive Secretariat is also based in Gaborone, Botswana.



Angola
Botswana
DRC
Lesotho
Madagascar

Malawi
Mauritius
Mozambique
Namibia
Seychelles

South Africa
Swaziland
Tanzania
Zambia
Zimbabwe

» PRODUCTION STATISTICS FOR THE SUB-REGION

In terms of terrestrial animals, the SADC hosts around 61 million heads of cattle with the United Republic of Tanzania having the highest at 18.6 million, 84 million small ruminants and 322 million poultry, with 50 million birds being produced in the Republic of South Africa (source : WAHID, 2011, data from the 2010 annual reports).

The reason why these figures are based on WAHIS reports is that it is still not possible to retrieve reliable and updated information on livestock data from the SADC institutions and bodies, years after they have been given massive (European) financial support to establish e.g. the Agricultural Information Management System (AIMS) and the sub-set database Livestock Information Management System (LIMS).

Member States	Cattle (,000)	Sheep (,000)	Goats (,000)	Pigs (,000)	Equines (,000)	Poultry (,000)
Angola	3,939	0,869	6,479	2,871	0,022	17,125
Botswana	2,651	0,186	0,884	0,005	0,195	73 421
DRC	0,750	0,904	4,052	0,969	-	20,067
Lesotho	0,733	1,632	0,770	0,109	0,293	8 455
Madagascar	9,881	0,783	1,373	1,408	0,001	32,117
Malawi	1,070	0,214	3,894	1,862	-	44,382
Mauritius	0,006	0,001	0,023	0,016	0,004	0,969
Mozambique	1,251	0,520	3,417	0,520	0,042	12,172
Namibia	2,438	2,693	2,132	0,054	0,286	0,964
Seychelles (new)	0,001	0,000	0,001	0,073	0,000	0,346
South Africa	11,547	26,575	5,025	1,837	0,471	50,792
Swaziland	0,620	0,016	0,449	0,039	0,014	1,936
Tanzania	18,626	3,398	12,782	1,587	0,310	33,049
Zambia	2,576	0,470	0,783	0,760	0,003	12,013
Zimbabwe	5,335	0,531	3,250	0,174	0,389	15,000
SADC Region	61,424	38,792	45,314	12,284	2,030	322,808

Figures in italic are based on previous reports as data for 2010 are missing

In terms of aquatic animals, the FAO statistics provide insight into the aquaculture¹ production types and volumes of SADC Member States (source : FAO FIGIS, 2009).

Member States	fresh and brackish water	
	Quantity (t)	Value (USD)
SADC		
Angola	210	530 000
Botswana	-	-
DRC	2 970	7 435 000
Lesotho	108	898 000
Madagascar	2 830	5 052 000
Malawi	1 620	5 435 000
Mauritius	103	446 000
Mozambique	116	290 000
Namibia	22	44 000
Seychelles	-	-
South Africa	1 590	5 874 000
Swaziland	73	131
Tanzania	202	1 110 000
Zambia	8 505	25 515 000
Zimbabwe	2 2 652	6 329 000
SADC Region	21 000	59 389 000

Member States	marine aquaculture	
	Quantity (t)	Value (USD)
SADC		
Angola	-	-
DRC	-	-
Madagascar	3 601	486 000
Mauritius	335	1 908 000
Mozambique	444	2 258 000
Namibia	644	426 000
Seychelles	-	-
South Africa	2 829	2 447 000
Tanzania	5 520	168
SADC Region	9 842	7 722 000

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

» DISEASE SITUATION REPORT

The primary objective of the OIE is to prevent the spread of animal diseases in the world. This it does through one of its key missions of guaranteeing transparency of animal diseases situation, hence the purpose of establishing the World Animal Health information System (WAHIS). The Sub-Regional Representation strongly emphasises timely and accurate notification obligations of OIE Member Countries and advocates judicious use of available scientific animal health information for decision making for disease prevention and containment. Non-official information e.g. from mass media on animal disease outbreaks or abnormal epidemiological events is followed up for verification with the national veterinary authorities concerned through a so-called “rumour” file. Usually, soft pressure exerted on the OIE Delegate, either by the Sub-Regional Representation in Gaborone or the Animal Health Information Department in Paris leads to subsequent submission of an immediate notification, leaving very few rumours that are not (eventually) officially acknowledged.

Country	Disease	Species	Month	Notified to OIE	Resolved
Botswana	Foot and mouth disease	Cattle	March	Yes	06/06/2011
Botswana	Foot and mouth disease	Cattle	May	Yes	Continuing
Botswana	Foot and mouth disease	Cattle	June	Yes	Continuing
Botswana	Foot and mouth disease	Cattle	Sept.	Yes	Continuing
Congo (D.R.)	Anthrax		April	Yes	30/06/2011
Lesotho	Anthrax		Nov. 2010	Yes	21/02/2011
Mauritius	Bovine tuberculosis	Cattle	Nov.	Yes	Continuing
Mozambique	Foot and mouth disease		Sept. 2010	Yes	Continuing
Mozambique	White spot disease	Prawns	Sept.	Yes	Continuing
Namibia	Foot and mouth disease	Cattle	Dec.	Yes	Continuing
Namibia	Rift Valley fever		June	Yes	Continuing
Namibia	Rift Valley fever		May 2010	Yes	25/02/2011
South Africa	African horse sickness	Horses	March	Yes	23/06/2011
South Africa	Contagious equine metritis	Horses	May	Yes	Continuing
South Africa	Epizootic ulcer. syndrome	Fish	Feb.	Yes	Continuing
South Africa	Foot and mouth disease	Cattle	Feb.	Yes	18/07/2011
South Africa	Foot and mouth disease		Aug. 2010	Yes	10/01/2011
South Africa	High. path. avian influenza	Ostriches	April	Yes	Continuing
South Africa	Rift Valley fever		Jan.	Yes	30/08/2011
Swaziland	African horse sickness	Horses	Jan.	Yes	07/02/2011
Zambia	Foot and mouth disease			No	-
Zimbabwe	Foot and mouth disease		June 2010	Yes	26/05/2011

Official notifications and informal reports on OIE listed diseases : new outbreaks recorded in 2011 and 2010 outbreaks declared resolved in 2011 or still continuing in 2011. Sources : WAHID and OIE SRR-SA.

From January – December 2011, a total of seven countries submitted 16 immediate notifications on exceptional epidemiological disease events involving 9 different diseases with foot and mouth disease (FMD) being on top of the list. FMD was reported by Botswana (4), Namibia (1) and South Africa (1), while earlier outbreaks (2010) in Mozambique remain unresolved.

African swine fever (ASF) was reported from Tanzania during the month of December 2010 and since then the disease has moved northward from the border with Malawi and as per March 2011 ASF is now in Rujewa, Mbarali District. ASF was present in DRC, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia though there was no data provided South Africa, Tanzania and Zambia.

African Horse Sickness (AHS) is considered endemic in most countries and cases were reported either as exceptional epidemiological events in controlled countries or zones of countries such as in Swaziland and South Africa during the months of January and March 2011 respectively. The disease was reported to occur in other areas of South Africa, Namibia and Lesotho.

Other diseases reported were anthrax in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Zambia involving cattle, Namibia and South Africa wild species including buffalo (*Sycerus caffer*), Rift valley fever (RVF) in DRC, Namibia and with continuing outbreaks (135) in South Africa. Malawi recorded presence of infection but without clinical diseases. Contagious equine metritis (CEM) occurred for the first time in South Africa, whilst highly pathogenic avian influenza (AI) was also reported in South Africa (in ostriches).

Epizootic Ulcerative Syndrome (EUS) was reported from the Republic of South Africa, following previous years' notifications by Botswana, Namibia and Zambia. This disease of fresh-water (fin) fish affects a large number of species and is caused by a fungus (oomycete) *Aphanomyces invadans*. While the three previous discoveries occurred in the Chobe-Zambezi river basin, this new discovery was made in the far end of South Africa, in a dam on the Palmiet River, close to Grabouw in the Western Cape. Namibia suspected presence of disease during the year but no data was made available.

In late September, Mozambique made an immediate notification of White Spot Disease (WSD) affecting farmed Giant tiger prawns (*Penaeus monodon*) kept in a closed aquaculture salt water system at Inhassunge village, Zambezia Province. Currently WSD is known to occur in shrimp farms in Taiwan and other shrimp farming countries of South East Asia, Middle East, North, Central and South America. This is yet another first occurrence of an aquatic disease being reported in Southern Africa after the EUS which was reported a few years back.

In November, bovine tuberculosis was notified to the OIE by Mauritius as a result of the discovery of tuberculosis in 4 dairy cows by veterinary officials in August of the same year. The affected animals were stamped out following a positive tuberculin test. Bovine Tuberculosis is reported as limited to some areas in DRC. Clinical TB was also reported in Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania (wild) and Zambia. Swaziland confirmed infection but no clinical disease, in domestic animals ■

TECHNICAL PROGRESS REPORT

GOOD GOVERNANCE OF VETERINARY SERVICES

CAPACITY BUILDING

ASSISTANCE WITH REGARD TO DISEASE STATUS

INTERVENTIONS ON OIE CONTRIBUTIONS

TRANSPARENCY ON DISEASES NOTIFICATION

TWINNING AND REFERENCE LABORATORIES

ISSUES OF GROWING IMPORTANCE IN THE REGION

MEETINGS & CONFERENCES

» GOOD GOVERNANCE OF VETERINARY SERVICES

With the submission of an official request by the Republic of Angola on June 1st, to receive a PVS evaluation mission, only the Republic of South Africa has yet to request an external OIE PVS evaluation.

The PVS reports of Botswana and Namibia are in the public domain downloadable on the main OIE website :

<http://www.oie.int/support-to-oie-members/pvs-evaluations/oie-pvs-evaluation-reports/> and on the OIE Africa website :

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

In terms of gap-analysis, Botswana, Dem. Rep. of Congo, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Tanzania and Zambia have already undergone this second phase process.

The Programme Officer, Dr. P. Bastiaensen, conducted a gap-analysis of veterinary services in Kenya, in July 2011 and a follow-up PVS mission in Lao P.D.R. in August 2011.

In terms of veterinary legislation review(s), Madagascar has benefited from a (pilot) mission, and Mauritius and Zambia have benefited from the (consolidated) mission, while the DRC and Malawi have submitted official applications and are waiting for the missions to be fielded. These countries have been requested to renew their requests since their initial applications were submitted in 2007/8. The invitation was extended to Swaziland for a new request.

-
- 14 countries applied for PVS (+1)
 - 13 PVS missions conducted (+1)
 - 9 countries applied for gap-analysis missions (+ 2)
 - 9 gap-analysis mis-sions conducted (+ 4)
-

In terms of evaluations of *aquatic animal health services* (AAHS), Mozambique and the Seychelles have submitted requests. A letter was sent out on May 3rd, encouraging SADC Member States (except Angola and South Africa, see above) to apply for such an evaluation. It is as a result of this mailing that the Seychelles sent in an application.

An appeal to update information on VEEs and VSBs on the Africa website has been fairly successful. The appeal was launched on 1st of February 2011 to the OIE Delegates and several updates have been made, enabling us to considerably improve our knowledge base of these institutions.

The OIE SRR SA has also suggested around 10 candidates for training on OIE PVS evaluations and gap analysis so as to build capacity within the region ■



» CAPACITY BUILDING

The OIE Sub Regional Representation for Southern Africa participated in the OIE Regional Training Seminar for OIE Delegates in Africa on the PVS Pathway. The seminar took place on 14 February 2011 at the Serena Hotel in Kigali, Rwanda and was organized by the OIE Regional Activities Department in Paris and the Regional Representation for Africa in Bamako. The Gaborone office was represented by the three technical officers, Drs Mtei, Mapitse and Bastiaensen, the latter presented an overview of the analysis of PVS reports, conducted under the framework of the IRCM for the SADC Secretariat. The training course benefited OIE delegates and or their alternates from 11 OIE Member Countries in the SADC region namely Angola, DRC, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, Seychelles, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Proceedings of the three training seminars, held in 2010 were printed and dispatched to participants and speakers in January 2011. They are the information seminar for OIE Delegates (French and English), the training seminar for focal points for wildlife (English) and the training seminar for focal points for aquatic animal diseases (French and English).

The OIE SRR SA participated in the OIE Global Conference on Wildlife Animal Health and Biodiversity. The Conference took place from 23-25 February 2011 at the Maison de la Chimie in Paris, France. The Gaborone office was represented by the three technical officers, Drs Mtei, Mapitse and Bastiaensen. With support from the IDENTIFY project, the Conference was also attended by OIE Member Countries from the Congo basin.

The OIE Representation participated in the OIE Regional Training Seminar for OIE *Focal Points for Animal Production Food Safety* (APFS).

The seminar took place from 4 to 6 April 2011 in the coastal resort of Hammamet, Tunisia and was organized by the OIE International Trade Department in Paris and the Sub-Regional Representation for Northern Africa in Tunis. The Gaborone office was represented by Dr. P. Bastiaensen, who presented an overview of the DG-SANCO programme “Better Training for Safer Food”. The training course benefited OIE delegates or their assigned representatives from 11 OIE Member Countries in the SADC region: Angola, DRC, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, Seychelles, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The OIE Representation attended the OIE Regional Training Seminar for Chairpersons of Veterinary Statutory Bodies (VSB), on April 14 and 15th at the Hotel de l’Amitié (Laico) in Bamako, Mali and was organized by the OIE Regional Activities Department in Paris and the Regional Representation for Africa in Bamako. The Gaborone office was represented by two technical officers, Drs Mapitse and Bastiaensen. The training course benefited Presidents and/or Registrars of VSBs from 11 OIE Member Countries in the SADC region: Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. As a result of this meeting, a “Bamako Declaration” was adopted which paves the way for future cooperation between VSBs, between VSBs and Veterinary Educational Establishments (VEE) and between VSBs and the OIE.

The SADCAVEE working group (*SADC Association of Veterinary Educational Establishments*) met for its second regional meeting, in Cape Town, South Africa, as a side meeting to the World Veterinary Congress on October 8 and 9th, 2011. To enable this meeting a Letter of Agreement (LoA) has been signed between the University of Pretoria (UP) and the OIE-SRR SA for the latter to facilitate the participation of Deans of Veterinary Faculties and Schools, as well as Registrars of VSBs, to partake in the SADCAVEE meeting and also in the Congress itself. The said LoA was signed on 30 May 2011 for an amount of EUR 30,000 and is now in force.

As a result of the Conference of the *Southern and Eastern Africa Rabies Group* (SEARG) in Maputo, Mozambique, earlier this year, a request was submitted to the RAHC to fund a SADC-wide proficiency testing exercise for the diagnosis of rabies using the recommended FAT test. The OIE accepted to fund this exercise using the *World Animal Health and Welfare Fund*, and in particular contributions from the US-based *Centres for Disease prevention and Control* (CDC). A LoA was signed on 30 May 2011 for an amount of ZAR 60,000 (approximately EUR 4,008) and is now in force.

- Progressing along the FMD Progressive Control Pathway in Southern Africa
- Training of IDENTIFY focal points on conditioning, packaging and forwarding of biological samples
- Training of OIE focal points for aquatic animal diseases on diseases of fish
- Training of OIE focal points for reporting of animal diseases on diseases of honeybees
- Training of OIE focal points for veterinary products and for food safety on veterinary legislation
- Training of OIE focal points for wildlife on surveillance and notification to the OIE of diseases of wildlife
- Veterinary Educational Establishments in Southern and Eastern Africa

The Kingdom of Swaziland hosted participants from OIE Member countries of the SADC region and experts from relevant OIE Reference Laboratories on diseases of honey bees for a training seminar conducted from June 14 – 17, 2011 for OIE national focal points for animal disease notification to the OIE. The meeting was graced by the Kingdom of Swaziland's top Ministry of Agriculture officials including Hon Minister Clement Dlamini, Permanent Secretary, Dr Robert Thwala who is past President of OIE Regional Commission for Africa and currently a member of the OIE Working Group on Animal Production Food Safety, the Director of the Department of Agriculture responsible for Apiculture and the OIE Delegate for Swaziland Dr Roland Dlamini. The workshop has generated some interest and there are requests for the proceedings of the seminar.

The OIE SRR SA partly organized and participated in a training workshop on OIE standards on collection and shipping of pathological specimens in Nairobi, Kenya for the IDENTIFY project countries of the Congo Basin. The Director of Veterinary Services of Kenya, the head of the central Veterinary Laboratory Kabete officiated at the workshop. Participants included technical officers responsible for specimen reception and shipping to reference laboratories and a few heads of the veterinary laboratories. The newly established State of South Sudan also benefited from the training. Reference material including the *Manual, OIE Atlas of animal diseases and the OIE Quality standards and Guidelines for Veterinary Laboratories: Infectious Diseases* were issued to each participating country.

The OIE SRR SA participated in the OIE Global Conference on Rabies Control. The Conference took place 7-9 September 2011, Incheon–Seoul (Republic of Korea). The Gaborone office was represented by Dr B. Mtei. With support from the IDENTIFY project, the Conference was also attended by OIE Member Countries from the Congo basin.

Around 30 veterinary officers, aquaculture officers and aquaculture professionals participated in a 5-days OIE advanced training course on diseases of finfish, hosted by the *Department of Ichthyology and Fisheries Diseases* of Rhodes University in Grahamstown (Eastern Cape), South Africa from September 19 – 23, 2011. The training seminar was facilitated by Rhodes University staff, OIE staff and Prof. Larry Hammell from the OIE Collaborating Centre for *Epidemiology and Risk Assessment of Aquatic Animal Diseases* at Atlantic Veterinary College (UPEI) in Charlottetown, Canada.

The Deans of faculties and schools of veterinary medicine or sciences of southern and eastern Africa met for the third time since 2009, as a side–event of the *World Veterinary Congress* in Cape Town, South Africa. The first day of the meeting enabled participants to further the agenda with regard to the quality and the quantity of graduating veterinary surgeons in the years to come. This meeting, financially supported by OIE since 2009, brought together Deans from Angola, Kenya, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The second day of the meeting was dedicated to consultations with representatives of the Veterinary Statutory Bodies (veterinary councils) from

Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

A first pilot - training seminar of the OIE on veterinary legislation was concluded at the *Botswana National Veterinary Laboratory* in Sebele, north of Gaborone, on Wednesday 2 November 2011. The seminar, focusing on veterinary legislation in southern Africa (OIE Members in the SADC region), was a first attempt by the OIE to strengthen capacity in the field of legislation, as part of the *Veterinary Legislation Support Programme (VLSP)* of the OIE, launched in 2008, and best known for its legislative support missions to member countries and territories. The invitation for the three-day seminar included the OIE Delegate, the Focal points for animal production food safety and for veterinary products, as well as registrars/ chairpersons of veterinary statutory bodies and legal advisors to the veterinary authorities or the line-ministries in the SADC region. Overall, the seminar was attended by 75 participants and speakers, representing 13 out of the 15 SADC Member States (only Zambia and Mauritius were not represented). Speakers – a healthy mix of veterinarians and lawyers - travelled from various parts of the world (Afghanistan, Belgium, Canada, France, Mali, Senegal, South Africa, Sweden, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe and the USA) to deliver the 60+ presentations. Presentations were in majority delivered in two or three language groups, in order to promote interaction and avoid language-based bias, keeping in mind that legislative drafting is very different from region to region (civil law, common law, religious law, customary law...). Participants were exposed to reference materials and areas of critical concern when reviewing and drafting national veterinary legislation.

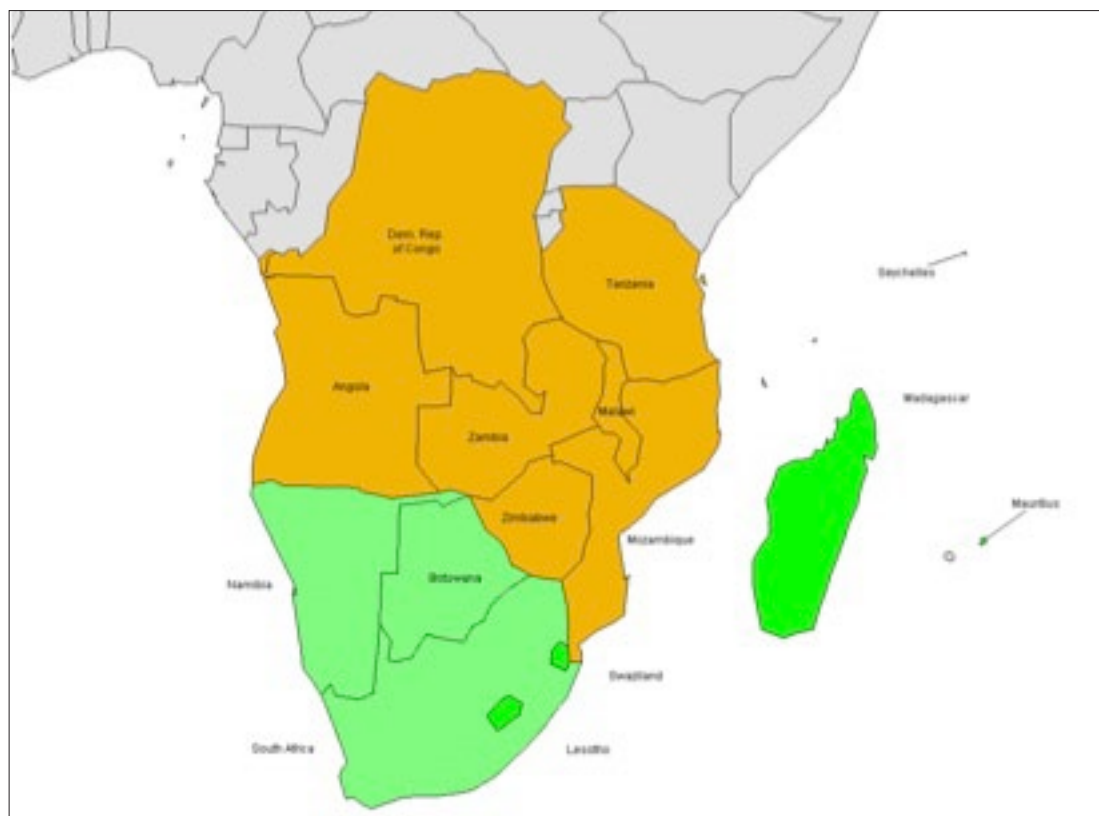
The second round of training for OIE national Focal Points for wildlife (for French-speaking participants) was held in Gaborone from November 28th to December 1st, 2011. The first training workshop had been held in Bamako, Mali in 2010. This second cycle training was organised jointly with the OIE and the *Canadian Cooperative Wildlife Health Centre*, one of the three OIE collaborating centres for wildlife. In total 16 participants attended from, Bénin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, CAR, Chad, Comoros, Congo, DRC, Equatorial Guinea, Morocco, Niger, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Seychelles and Togo.

	Country	FMD PCP	Honeybee Diseases	Shipping samples	Fish diseases	Veterinary legislation	Wildlife diseases
	[OIE Members in SADC]	Gaborone	Ezulwini	Kabete	Grahamstown	Sebele	Gaborone
1	Angola	1	2	1	2	3	
2	Botswana	1	2		1	4	
3	D.R.C.	2	1		1	4	1
4	Lesotho		2		2	3	
5	Madagascar		2		1	4	
6	Malawi	2	2		1	3	
7	Mauritius		2				
8	Mozambique	1	2			2	
9	Namibia		2		2	3	
10	Seychelles	1	1		1	3	1
11	South Africa				3	3	
12	Swaziland	1	9		1	3	
13	Tanzania	2	2	1	1	4	
14	Zambia	1	2		2		
15	Zimbabwe	2	2		2	4	
16	Benin						1
17	Burkina Faso						1
18	Burundi						1
19	Cameroun			1			1
20	C.A.R.			1			1
21	Comores						1
22	Congo			1			1
23	Equatorial Guinea						1
24	Morocco						1
25	Niger						1
26	S.Tome & Principe						1
27	Senegal						1
28	Tchad						1
29	Togo						1
30	Gabon			1			
31	Ethiopia			1			
32	Kenya			9			
33	South Sudan			1			
34	Sudan			1			
35	Rwanda			1			
36	Uganda			1			
		14	33	20	20	43	16
Total							146

Number of participants per country for the 6 training sessions and seminars, organised by the Sub-Regional Representation in 2011.

» ASSISTANCE WITH REGARD TO DISEASE STATUS

The OIE Sub-Regional Representation co-organised a meeting with the FAO ECTAD unit on the *Progressive Control Pathway* (PCP) for *Foot-and-Mouth Disease* (FMD). Over 70 FMD experts, diagnostic experts and epidemiologists attended two consecutive seminars, the first of which was organized by the FAO, with the support of the *Botswana Vaccine Institute* (BVI), the *European Commission for Foot and Mouth Disease* (EU-FMD), and the Kingdom of the Netherlands, through the FAO Trust Fund. The second part of the workshop, jointly organized by OIE and FAO with funding from both the *World Animal Health and Welfare Fund* (OIE budget: 33,000 EUR) and EU-FMD (FAO), focused on raising the level of understanding of OIE Delegates and their national epidemiologists from southern Africa, on how their national control programmes and strategies should be aligned with the regional goals (roadmaps) and global objectives.



Map of SADC Member Countries' OIE status with regard to Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) : free on a nation-wide basis (solid green), free on a zonal basis (striped green), no OIE recognition (orange).

The Representation also prepared two sets of poster materials: one for *World Veterinary Day* (April 30th), dedicated to *rabies* (also used for *World Rabies Day*, September 28th). Overall, 2,500 posters have been printed in English, French and Portuguese and have been dispatched to Member Countries. Likewise, a poster on *rinderpest* eradication was designed and printed to commemorate the global eradication of this cattle disease. The posters, in three languages have been distributed to the SADC Member States, as well as to the other RR and SRRs in Africa.

The OIE Sub-Regional Representation's fund-raising efforts for a Vet-2011 publication on the history and achievements of the veterinary profession in Southern Africa failed to reach the target. For this publication, private funding was sought with a target of about 60,000 EUR. Unfortunately, only EUR 11,000 could be raised from pledges. As a result, the activity had to be cancelled and the interested sponsors as well as the Vet-2011 Committee were informed accordingly.

The OIE Sub-Regional Representation is involved in the preparation of a regional strategy on animal welfare in accordance with implementation of the OIE 5th Strategic Plan 2011-2014 which requires Sub OIE Regional and Sub Representations to emulate the example set by South East and the Oceania to develop Animal Welfare strategies taking into account local conditions. A concept note was developed and presented to the SADC LTC at its May meeting in which it was agreed that a draft *Southern Africa Regional Animal Welfare Strategy* (SARAWS) should be presented at the next LTC of April 2012.

The OIE Sub-Regional Representation is involved in the preparation of a regional progressive (roll-back) strategy against *Peste des Petits Ruminants* in southern Africa. On June 7 and 8th, 2011, SADC called a meeting of senior veterinary officials in Chingola, Zambia, on the border with the Democratic Republic of Congo, with the aim to present, debate and agree on a common approach to halt and eventually eradicate PPR from the region.

The OIE SRR SA participated in three planning meetings and the actual commemoration of the *World Rabies Day* on the 28th September 2011. The OIE SRR SA (including FAO ECTAD and AU IBAR) contributed financially towards the procurement and printing of advertising materials for the WRD and presented a speech on behalf of the RAHC to a gathering in Gaborone. The speech was a slight modification of the master speech distributed by the RR A, Dr Y. Samaké to his SRRs. The SRR SA also sent out communication reminder to the epidemiologists of the OIE SADC Member Countries to take the opportunity to commemorate the WRD in the spirit of “*One Health*”. The same was done to the Directors’ of Veterinary Laboratories of the IDENTIFY beneficiary countries of the Congo Basin.

The OIE Sub-Regional Representation has assisted in translating and circulating a questionnaire regarding the development of an OIE Technical Series book on veterinary aspects of *beekeeping*, and prepared by the South African Agricultural Research Council (Dr. Mike Allsopp).

The outbreak of *White Spot Disease* in shrimp in Mozambique has eventually led to a joint FAO-OIE mission, but not through the CMC-AH which does not seem (on FAO side) to cover aquatic diseases. The mission was therefore an OIE-FAO/FIMA mission, led by Drs. Marc Le Groumellec on OIE side and Rohana Subasinghe on FAO side. They visited Mozambique from November 10 - 15 2011. The team took a closer look at the circumstances of the introduction of this new disease (originating from Asia) and made several recommendations aiming at preventing, containing and controlling this disease of crustaceans which has ravaged production in South Asia, South-East Asia and East-Asia, including Japan, China and South Korea since the nineties. The experts assessed not only the circumstances of the outbreak at the production-site, but also overall diagnostic capability, available legislation, surveillance and awareness amongst industry stakeholders and political decision-makers.

Regarding the official recognition of disease freedom by the OIE (pathway principle), only a few Members are recognised as free from FMD and CBPP, either on a country or zonal basis. There are no Members with an OIE recognition for BSE

Following the official declaration of global eradication of rinderpest, Members are no longer required to declare freedom from the disease. Indeed on May 25th, 2011, the national Delegates of the OIE Members declared that rinderpest, one of the deadliest diseases of cattle and of several other animal species, is now eradicated from the surface of the earth.

At the OIE’s 79th annual General Session in Paris, France the Delegates unanimously adopted Resolution 18/2011 which officially recognized, following thorough control by the OIE with the support of FAO, that all 198 countries & territories with rinderpest-susceptible animals in the world are free of the disease. Hence, *no more deaths from rinderpest!* ■

- FMD Freedom (country) (without vaccination)
 - Lesotho
 - Madagascar
 - Mauritius
 - Swaziland
- FMD Freedom (zone) (without vaccination)
 - Botswana
 - Namibia
 - (S. Africa, suspended)
- CBPP Freedom (country)
 - Botswana



» INTERVENTIONS ON OIE CONTRIBUTIONS

The OIE Delegates of Member countries with arrears were consulted and urged to settle their outstanding contributions before the 79th World Assembly in May 2011.

On November 9th, 2011, a letter was submitted to the Minister in charge of livestock and animal health matters of the following countries : Mauritius, Namibia and Swaziland, to request the Hon. Ministers to consider increasing the country's voluntary contribution to the OIE by one or two contribution-categories, e.g. from category 6 to category 5 or category 4. Category 6, as per the 79th General Session, represents an amount of EUR 17,800 per annum, while category 5 represents an amount of EUR 29,650 and category 4 an amount of EUR 59,250. None of the afore-mentioned countries are listed by the UNDP as *least developed countries* (LDCs). As a new member, the Seychelles are not being targeted by this initiative for the time being.



» 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 screen-shot combines the reporting status of SADC member countries for 2009, 2010 and 2011 (as recorded on January 10, 2012).

Year: 2009			Year: 2010			Year: 2011		
Country	Six-monthly reports	Annual Reports	Country	Six-monthly reports	Annual Reports	Country	Six-monthly reports	Annual Reports
Angola	2	1	Angola	2	1	Angola	0	0
Botswana	2	1	Botswana	2	1	Botswana	1	0
Congo (Dem. Rep. of the)	2	1	Congo (Dem. Rep. of the)	2	1	Congo (Dem. Rep. of the)	1	0
Lesotho	2	1	Lesotho	2	1	Lesotho	1	0
Madagascar	2	1	Madagascar	2	1	Madagascar	1	0
Malawi	2	1	Malawi	2	1	Malawi	1	0
Mauritius	2	1	Mauritius	2	0	Mauritius	1	0
Mozambique	2	1	Mozambique	2	1	Mozambique	1	0
Namibia	2	1	Namibia	2	1	Namibia	1	0
Seychelles	0	0	Seychelles	2	1	Seychelles	1	0
South Africa	2	1	South Africa	2	1	South Africa	0	0
Swaziland	2	1	Swaziland	2	1	Swaziland	1	0
Tanzania	2	1	Tanzania	2	1	Tanzania	0	0
Zambia	2	1	Zambia	2	1	Zambia	1	0
Zimbabwe	2	1	Zimbabwe	2	1	Zimbabwe	0	0

WAHID © Reporting summary on January 10, 2012

Countries have 30 days to submit their six-monthly reports (i.e. by January 31st, 2012) and two months for the annual report (i.e. by February 28th, 2012). Despite these generous deadlines, some countries continue to submit their six-monthly reports late. On February 28th, the second 6 months reports for all countries, except Malawi, were still outstanding while no annual reports had been submitted.

In terms of immediate notifications, 9 out of the 15 OIE member countries reported a total of 16 epidemiological events, related to 293 outbreaks in the course of 2011 (recorded on January 10, 2012). Most of these outbreaks (138) are related to Rift Valley Fever outbreaks (in most cases, 135, reported from South Africa), as well as HPAI (44), AHS (46) and FMD (53). Most FMD outbreaks were typed as SAT-2.

Seventy-five (75) outbreaks are allegedly still active at this point in time. The average number of follow-up reports submitted in 2011 is 7 (6.9), which is a tremendous improvement as compared to 2010 (2.6). The highest number of follow-up reports (24) was submitted by Botswana (FMD). All events reported in 2009 and 2010 are now closed and/or resolved with the exception of the 2010 and 2009 FMD outbreaks in Mozambique and Angola.

Informal contacts and follow-up of rumours with OIE Delegates have led to various immediate notifications and follow-up/final reports. The Zambia focal point for animal diseases notifications was contacted to update the FMD SAT type O situation in WAHIS and a request directed to Angola, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe to make a follow up reports on open FMD events was made to the SADC FANR 4th Stakeholders Assembly during a brief OIE presentation on the SADC animal health status Jan – Jun 2011.

Immediate notifications (16)

- FMD (6)
- RVF (2)
- AHS (2)
- Anthrax (1)
- BTB (1)
- CEM (1)
- EUS (1)
- HPAI (H5N2) (1)
- WSD (1)

A ProMED posting on tuberculosis in Mauritius in October led to an enquiry by the SRR-SA and eventually to an immediate notification in November 2011.

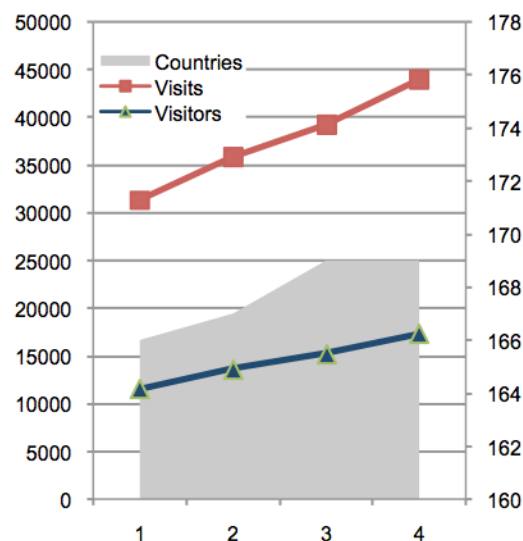
Regarding transparency in the broad sense of the word, a poll was posted on the website on February 1st in order to gauge the interest of users to receive information through other electronic channels, such as Facebook, a mobile – enabled webpage (WAP) or through SMS. The response to the poll was very low and therefore considered unsuccessful to justify further follow up action. Meanwhile website postings are accompanied by the “I LIKE” (thumbs up) button which enables users to refer the news items to their respective Facebook pages, greatly increasing the exposure of these news postings. The website enjoys increasing numbers of visitors, in part due to the “forced” visits imposed by the online registrations for seminars, which attracts extra traffic. Based on past reporting the annual evolution of visits in 2011 was as follows, which is an average of 46 visitors per day and 20

new individual visitors per day:

Quarter (2011)	1	2	3	4
Visits ²	31,364	35,888	39,230	43,960
Individual visitors	11,534	13,597	15,192	17,314
Countries of origin	166	167	169	169

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 the USA, United Kingdom, Belgium (included the European Commission), Italy and Canada. Prominent African visitors are from South Africa, Morocco, Senegal, Algeria, Sudan and Egypt.

²On December 31st, 2011.



» TWINNING AND REFERENCE LABORATORIES

The region still boasts the highest number of OIE Reference Laboratories in Africa. Overall, nine (9) diagnostic facilities for eight (8) diseases are recognized in two (2) laboratories :

Disease	Expert	Institution	Country
Foot and mouth disease	Dr O. G. Matlho	Botswana Vaccine Institute	Botswana
Foot and mouth disease	Dr R. M. Dwarka	Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute	S. Africa
Lumpy Skin Disease	Dr Alison Lubisi	Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute	S. Africa
Rift Valley Fever	Dr Alison Lubisi	Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute	S. Africa
Bluetongue	Dr Alison Lubisi	Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute	S. Africa
African Horse Sickness	Dr Alison Lubisi	Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute	S. Africa
Sheep and goat pox	Dr Alison Lubisi	Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute	S. Africa
African Swine Fever	Dr Alison Lubisi	Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute	S. Africa
Rabies	Dr Claude Sabeta	Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute	S. Africa

Four OIE twinning agreements with southern African laboratories are now operational: two with the Botswana NVL (avian influenza and Newcastle disease; and *Trichinella* spp) and one with the South Africa ARC-OVI (avian influenza and Newcastle disease).

Another twinning agreement proposal was officially submitted on August 30, 2010. It proposes twinning on the diagnosis of EUS between the OIE Reference Laboratory for EUS at Kasetsart University in Bangkok, Thailand and the Microbiology Department at the University of Zambia, as recommended during the Maputo meeting (June 2008) on aquatic animal diseases and international standards. The twinning is being prepared, while waiting for the endorsement of the agreement by the Thai Government.

A special case is the south-south twinning agreement between ARC-OVI in South Africa and NVRI in Plateau State, Nigeria, whereby OVI is the parent laboratory on the diagnosis of rabies (OIE Reference Laboratory).

- CBPP : BNVL (BW) – CESME (IT) : closed
- NAI : OVI (ZA) – VLA (UK)
- NAI : BNVL (BW) – VLA (UK)
- *Trichinella* : BNVL (BW) – ISS (IT)
- Rabies : NVRI (NG) – OVI (ZA)
- EUS : UNZA (ZM) – AAHRI (TH) : approved

In 2010, USAID launched a multi-component programme “the Emerging Pandemic Threats Programme (EPT)” intended to address several aspects related to human health threats from emerging potentially pandemic pathogens. It is made up of six individual, but closely interconnected projects: PREDICT, PREPARE, PREVENT, RESPOND, IDENTIFY, and DELIVER. The IDENTIFY project, assigned to a joint effort by FAO, OIE and WHO, with a specific mandate “to strengthen diagnostic capacities across “hot spots” through the development and strengthening of laboratory networks spanning animal and human sectors”.

The IDENTIFY Project is pushing for Tanzania to consider a twinning project with either France (CIRAD) or United Kingdom (Pirbright) on Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR). The disease is affecting Tanzania and DRC and threatening to spread to the rest of southern African countries. A meeting in Chingola, Zambia in which six affected and at risk countries (Angola, DRC, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia) benefitting from the SADC TADs Project recommended building diagnostic capacity within the region through a twinning project. A joint meeting of SADC epidemiologists and veterinary laboratories experts has also recommended Tanzania to undergo a twinning to build such capacity to serve the region. No specific recommendation of a parent reference laboratory was made. Processes and procedures on twinning have been shared with the Central Veterinary Laboratory in Dar es Salaam.

Within the framework of the IDENTIFY activities, follow-up on twinning between CIRDES (Burkina Faso) and CIRAD (France) on African Animal Trypanosomosis (AAT) was made in collaboration with RR Africa (Bamako). All relevant supporting letters have been availed.

The OIE IDENTIFY Regional Focal Point participated in a USAID EPT partners planning meeting in Kinshasa DRC from 25 -28 July 2011. The purpose was to develop and share proposed activities for the year three (Y3) for the Congo Basin Region. Networking with other EPT project was another added objective. An opportunity was made to meet and discuss with FAO and WHO AFRO IDENTIFY regional focal points. The output was developed into Y3 planning which has to have more focus on country based interventions and the OIE plan was submitted in October 2011 to USAID. A visit was made to the Kinshasa CVL to meet with the Head of the laboratory and view the developments therein. Substantial improvements were noted including improvements to issues relating to laboratory information, and quality control.

More information: http://www.rr-africa.oie.int/IDENTIFY/en_index.html

Implementation of year-3 activities that were supposed to start from October 2011 were delayed due to - amongst others - changes that were required by the donors on the format and outlining, including key performance indicators of the work plan.

As far as Collaborating Centers are concerned, there are now two centers recognized by the OIE, based at the Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute (Pretoria) and at the University of Pretoria in South Africa:

Topic	Expert	(Lead) Institution	Country
Surveillance and Control of Animal Diseases in Africa	Dr Anthony "Tony" Musoke	Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute, Agricultural Research Council	S. Africa
Training in Integrated Livestock and Wildlife Health and Management	Prof. J.A.W."Koos" Coetzer	Department of Veterinary Tropical Diseases, Faculty of Veterinary	S. Africa

The *Department of Ichthyology and Fisheries Sciences* of the University of Rhodes in South Africa submitted an application to the OIE Regional Commission Conference in Kigali to be recognized as OIE Collaborating Centre for the training of veterinarians on aquatic animal diseases, which was endorsed by the OIE Delegates present at the Conference. Unfortunately, the proposal was not further considered at this year’s General Session because the proposal was received in Paris after the February 10th deadline. Meanwhile, on further reflection, the Department withdrew its application and instead resolved to request for a twinning project with an appropriate collaborating centre. Indeed, as the Grahamstown aquatic animal diseases seminar offered an opportunity for the staff to interact with the OIE Delegate for South Africa, the OIE staff present and the expert of the OIE Collaborating Centre in Canada, it became clear that Rhodes University would very likely benefit more from a twinning agreement with the Collaborating Centre in Canada and Norway, than from a fast-track recognition as a Collaborating Centre. ■

More information: http://www.rr-africa.oie.int/en/en_index_annex55.html

» ISSUES OF GROWING IMPORTANCE IN THE REGION

Beyond purely disease-related issues, which characterize the livestock sector in Southern Africa, several cross-cutting issues render this part of Africa exceptional, in particular:

a) Wildlife and conservation: the region is home to the continent's major conservation areas and game parks going through a profound restructuring as *transfrontier conservation areas* (TFCA's), challenging existing or potential domestic animal disease status within and across countries. The presence of wildlife, susceptible to or acting as a reservoir for major diseases of domesticated animals is closely linked to these challenges, for instance foot-and-mouth disease and African swine fever. Pressure is building to obtain preferential trade status for countries harbouring SAT-type infected wildlife, mainly African buffalo (*Syncerus caffer*), claiming it is impossible to eradicate the virus from the ecosystem without eradicating the wildlife with it. The signatures in late August of the *Kavango-Zambezi trans-frontier conservation area* (or KAZA) by 5 Heads of State has blown life into the largest proposed conservation area in the world, encompassing major parts of Namibia, Botswana, Zambia, Angola and Zimbabwe. A total surface area of 280,000 km² (Italy has a surface area of approximately 300,000 km²), it harbours the largest population of elephants in the world, multiple land use but also 1,000,000 people with their livestock, many of which are integrated in export of beef systems, based on zonal freedom of FMD.

Not entirely coincidentally, the University of Pretoria (DVTD) has launched a 20' video-film, intended to sensitise decision makers in Europe and the US on commodity-based trade of beef in the context of wildlife conservation. The documentary focuses on the OIE standard on commodity-based trade of deboned, matured and chilled beef as a means to reconcile wildlife conservation (in the Namibian portion of the KAZA TFCA) with the export of beef to the European Union. The interesting aspect of this documentary is that it lauds the OIE (non-geographical) standard on beef (Cap. 8.5. art. 25. of the TAHC) and criticizes the non-compliance of non-named importing countries with this standard. This is again a major breakthrough. The documentary (20') convincingly shows how wildlife conservancies and projected revenues from tourism do not always materialize and how animal husbandry will remain, for years to come, an essential feature of rural economies, even in these TFCA's.

b) Compliance to import requirements of the EU and commodity-based trade: several countries in southern Africa have managed to meet OIE requirements and therefore enable to export beef and derived products to lucrative western markets. At the same time, the region is increasingly challenging OIE standards that pertain to the inherent safety of processed meats and derived products, irrespective of the disease status of country or zone. The so-called *commodity-based trade* approach seeks to extend principles of HACCP and *Codex Alimentarius* to guarantee safe and better trade. Another major publication has re-

ignited the debate in 2011: Rich K. & Perry B. (2011) "Whither Commodity-based trade" in Development Policy Review. It states that even if the commodity-based trade approach was to receive the scientific go-ahead, it is unlikely that African farmers will benefit from improved market access, mainly because of quality issues and uncompetitive export volumes and pricing of animal commodities.

Another major breakthrough is that when stakeholders now refer to "*commodity based trade*", in particular with regards to FMD and beef, they now refer to the OIE Code definition, i.e. including the (new) fact that animals should have been vaccinated.

c) As elsewhere in Africa, southern Africa is increasingly swamped with veterinary drugs and biologicals from irresponsible suppliers, which represents a challenge in terms of registration of these products. There is no region-wide registration process in place and capacity to enhance documentation approach to registration, actual laboratory testing and residue control is lacking in most countries. There is currently ongoing work by SADC to develop a regional registration mechanism which the OIE SRR SA is following with interest : the SADC Guidelines SADC Regulations on veterinary medicines (ratified in July 2011). A second regional training seminar will be organized by the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for Eastern Africa in Mombasa, Kenya in March 2012. The seminar will unite all English-speaking Sub-Saharan African countries (focal points for veterinary products).

d) Aquatic animal biosecurity or the prevention and containment of aquatic diseases, is a fairly new concern in the region, but is gaining momentum as the aquaculture and riverine farming industry is taking off. The introduction of *Epizootic Ulcerative Syndrome* in the Chobe-Zambezi river basin (in 2006) and now also in the Western Cape (2011) as well as the recent occurrence of WSD in Mozambique is bound to trigger initiatives, both in terms of capacity building for effective policy and legislation frameworks to address the problem aquatic animal health in a more vigorous manner. Unfortunately, the proposal for funding through the STDF facility of the WTO, of a project, focusing on the public awareness aspects of EUS in the Zambezi river system (STDF/PG/320 - *Development and Dissemination of Training Materials for Enhancing Biosecurity in Aquaculture Operations to meet SPS standards in Low Income Economies in the Zambezi River Basin*) was not approved. Initiator of the project proposal was Iowa State University in the US, with support of the NVI in Oslo, Norway, FAO-FI in Rome and OIE.

e) *Peste des Petits Ruminants* is now finally regarded as an important emerging disease in southern Africa. On June 7 and 8th, 2011, SADC called a meeting of senior veterinary officials in Chingola, Zambia, on the border with the Democratic Republic of Congo, with the aim to present, debate and agree on a common approach to halt and eventually eradicate PPR from the region (please also refer to section A. 5. 5.). The regional strategy which resulted from this meeting includes making PPR a notifiable disease where currently is not, a comprehensive programme of epidemiological surveillance to be undertaken on both sides of the borders with DRC and Tanzania, the establishment of a protection zone along those same borders where all susceptible livestock will have to be vaccinated and the development of minimal laboratory capacity in all six states, based on the OIE-recommended competition-ELISA test. The strategy is intended to stop the disease/infection from spreading further south of the Luanda-Dilolo-Lumbubashi-Mpika-Mzuzu-Tunduma-Mtwara line across central Africa from the Atlantic to the Indian Ocean.

The OIE will assist in the identification of suitable candidate-laboratories, endorsed by SADC, for a twinning programme with one of the two OIE international reference laboratories. Given the vulnerability of goat-and sheep-keeping smallholders, Member States resolutely opted for a vaccination-based prevention and eradication strategy, rather than stamping-out, and adequate attention will be given to upstream advocacy of politicians and downstream awareness-raising of farmers and rural communities. Finally an appeal to governments and cooperating partners will be launched to support the roll-back of PPR from this region with adequate funding for at least the next 5 years.

The SADC ministers responsible for agriculture and food security resolved in July 2011, that member states of SADC should provide more resources to control PPR and support the initiatives for controlling the disease and other TADs.

f) Submission of a FAO regional TCP project has been recommended, as well as the establishment of a regional emergency fund in which it is hoped that all the countries south of the line indicated above where PPR has never been reported will contribute in support of PPR prevention and control in Southern Africa to keep the disease at bay. The strategy is still to be endorsed by the SADC *Livestock*

Technical Committee of all 15 Member States. The programme will be coordinated by the SADC Secretariat and progress monitored through the regular meetings of the statutory sub-committees on veterinary epidemiology and informatics, and laboratory services. A few days after the afore-mentioned meeting in Zambia, the OIE Programme Officer, , was requested to make a brief presentation of the outcomes of this meeting to the OIE *ad hoc group* on PPR, in a meeting at the OIE Headquarters in Paris.

The representatives of CIRAD and the IAEA re-affirmed their willingness to assist, not only as twinning partners, but also in e.g. regional proficiency testing exercises.

Meanwhile, recommendations of the afore-mentioned Chingola meeting are being implemented : Angola and DRC have conducted a bilateral meeting in October to draw up the actual implementation of the control programme along their common border as guided by the strategy developed in Chingola. Malawi has already sampled in high risk areas and the results were negative. Zambia conducted its second round of sampling by the end of October in the high risk areas. The SADC TADs project is working with GALVmed to assist countries in coming up with a dossier to assist in registration of the vaccine. In the meantime countries have indicated that they can proceed to vaccinate using other pieces of current legislation.

The Botswana Vaccine Institute is collaborating with GALVmed through AU – IBAR's VACNADA project to work on a thermo stable PPR vaccine. Related equipment was handed over in November 2011. ■

» MEETINGS & CONFERENCES

Throughout the year, the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for Southern Africa maintained close ties with the SADC Secretariat and was therefore involved in all the regional actions and initiatives related with the Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources (FANR) Directorate. OIE SRR participated actively in various coordination platforms set up by SADC, and donors of livestock projects like the EU and AfDB, together with our partner organisation, the FAO.

The OIE SRR takes advantage of regional conferences and seminars organised by partner agencies 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 2011. Official back-to-office-reports (BTOR) from these missions, meetings and conferences are available on request.

Missions carried out in 2011

Country	Dates		Purpose of the mission
Swaziland	15.02	16.02	Fact-finding mission in preparation of the OIE Sub-Regional Seminar on disease of bees, held in June. [Ms. Mpho Mantsho]
Mali	14.04	-	Inauguration of the new OIE Regional Representation for Africa in Sotuba, Bamako, Mali. Attended by Drs Mapitse & Bastiaensen.
Kenya	11.07	22.07	PVS gap analysis Kenya. Dr Bastiaensen, team leader
South Africa	10.08	12.08	Fact-finding mission in preparation of the OIE Sub-Regional Seminar on aquatic disease, held in Sept. [Ms. Mpho Mantsho]
Lao P.D.R.	29.08	08.09	PVS Follow-up evaluation. Dr Bastiaensen, team leader
Botswana	03.11	-	Launch of the new FMD (SAT) purified vaccine by BVI and Merial (and one-day symposium of FMD organised with the support of the French Embassy, BVI, Merial and SADC). Attended by Drs Mtei, Mapitse & Bastiaensen.
Botswana	18.11	-	Handover ceremony of equipments procured through the VACNADA project (implemented by GALVmed) for the BVI. Attended by Drs Mapitse and Bastiaensen

Meetings (and a proficiency testing exercise) organised with the support of the SRR in 2011

Country	Dates		Meeting
Mozambique	21.01	24.01	Conference of the Southern and Eastern Africa Rabies Group (SEARG), organised with financial support of the OIE SRR SA, attended by Dr Mtei, and Dr Mapitse, Maputo.
Botswana	14.03	18.03	The FMD progressive control pathway in Africa and achieving recognition of disease freedom of FMD in southern Africa. Co-organised with FAO. Gaborone.
Swaziland	10.06	14.06	OIE Regional Training Course for OIE Focal points for animal disease notification (diseases of honeybees). OIE Members in SADC. Ezulwini.
South Africa	21.06	21.07	Proficiency testing exercise for the diagnosis of rabies through FAT, coordinated by OVI. OIE Members in SADC (English). Onderstepoort, Pretoria (GP).
Kenya	09.08	11.08	OIE – FAO Regional Training Course for IDENTIFY Focal points on packaging and forwarding of biological samples. IDENTIFY Countries (Congo basin). Kabete, Nairobi.
South Africa	19.09	23.09	OIE Regional Training Course for OIE Focal points for aquatic animal diseases (diseases of finfish) OIE Members in SADC (English). Grahamstown (EC).
Botswana	28.09	-	World Rabies Day 2011 celebrations. Co-organised with FAO, IBAR and the MoA and MoH in Botswana. Gaborone.
South Africa	09.10	11.10	Second meeting of the Deans of Schools and Faculties of Veterinary Medicine or Sciences in East and Southern Africa. (English) Cape Town (WC).
Botswana	31.10	02.11	OIE Regional Training Course for OIE Focal points for veterinary products and for animal production food safety (veterinary legislation) OIE Members in SADC. Sebele, Gaborone.
Botswana	28.11	01.12	OIE Regional Training Course for OIE Focal points for wildlife (surveillance and notification to the OIE of diseases of wildlife). French-speaking African OIE Members. Gaborone.

Coordination meetings of the RAHC, organised with the support of the SRR during 2011

Botswana	20.01	-	Extra-Ordinary Coordination meeting of the Regional Animal Health Centre for Southern Africa (RAHC-SA) with FAO-ECTAD and AU-IBAR.
Botswana	08.02	-	13th Coordination meeting of the Regional Animal Health Centre for Southern Africa (RAHC-SA) with FAO-ECTAD and AU-IBAR.
Botswana	09.05	-	14th Coordination meeting of the Regional Animal Health Centre for Southern Africa (RAHC-SA) with FAO-ECTAD and AU-IBAR.
Botswana	09.09	-	15th Coordination meeting of the Regional Animal Health Centre for Southern Africa (RAHC-SA) with FAO-ECTAD and AU-IBAR.
Botswana	07.12	-	16th Coordination meeting of the Regional Animal Health Centre for Southern Africa (RAHC-SA) with FAO-ECTAD and AU-IBAR.

Meetings attended by SRR staff representing the OIE during 2011

Country	Dates		Meeting
Tanzania	29.03	31.03	SADC Epidemiology and Informatics Sub-Committee meeting. Attended by Dr. Bastiaensen. Arusha.
Kenya	06.04	-	GF-TADs for Africa Steering Committee (SC) meeting. Attended by Dr. Mtei. Nairobi
Kenya	07.04	-	ALIVE Executive Committee (EC) and General Assembly (GA) meetings. Attended by Dr. Mtei. Nairobi
South Africa	02.05	04.05	Coopération pour la Recherche Universitaire et Scientifique (CORUS) FMD Meeting. Attended by Dr. Mapitse. Skukuza.
Botswana	10.05	12.05	SADC Livestock Technical Committee (LTC) meeting I. Attended by Drs Mapitse & Bastiaensen. Gaborone.
Botswana	16.05	-	Coordination meeting with FAO, OIE and SADC regarding proposed PPR meeting and strategy formulation. Attended by Drs Mtei, Mapitse and Bastiaensen. Gaborone
Zambia	06.06	08.06	SADC cross-border harmonisation meeting between Angola, DRC, Malawi, Zambia and Tanzania, with regard to PPR (Peste des Petits Ruminants). Attended by Drs. Mapitse and Bastiaensen. Chingola.
South Africa	22.06	24.06	SADC Joint Sub-Committee meeting: EIS and LABS. Attended by Dr Mapitse. Johannesburg
Congo (Dem. Rep.)	26.07	28.07	EPT Partners Year 3 Planning Meeting and visit to CVL Kinshasa. Attended by Dr Mapitse. Kinshasa.
Botswana	19.09	21.09	SADC FANR Food Safety 4th Regional Stakeholders Assembly. Attended by Dr. Mapitse. Gaborone
South Africa	11.10	13.10	30th World Veterinary Congress. Attended by Drs Mtei, Mapitse & Bastiaensen. CTICC, Cape Town
Belgium	15.10	-	Symposium of the Belgian Platform for Tropical Animal Health and Production (Be.TriopLive). Attended by Dr Bastiaensen. Sart-Tilman, Liège
Switzerland	17.10	-	WTO workshop on SPS coordination at national and regional levels. Attended by Dr. Bastiaensen. Geneva.
Botswana	03.11	05.11	SADC Livestock Technical Committee (LTC) meeting II. Attended by Drs Mapitse & Bastiaensen. Gaborone.
Botswana	08.11	10.11	SADC VPH & FS Sub Committee Meeting. Attended by Dr N. Mapitse. Gaborone.
Botswana	22.11	-	Conference of the Southern African Poultry Association. Attended by Dr. Bastiaensen. Mokolodi, Gaborone.

Meetings and conferences of the OIE, attended by staff from the SRR during 2011

Country	Dates		Meeting
Rwanda	14.02	-	OIE Regional Training Course for African OIE Delegates on the PVS Pathway [Mtei, Mapitse, Bastiaensen] Kigali.
Rwanda	15.02	18.02	19th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa. [Mtei, Mapitse, Bastiaensen] Kigali
France	23.02	25.02	OIE Global Conference on Wildlife Animal Health and Biodiversity. [Mtei, Mapitse, Bastiaensen] Paris
Gabon	07.03	09.03	IDENTIFY regional and HQ focal points project planning meeting [Mapitse] Libreville
Tunisia	04.04	06.04	OIE Regional Training Course for African OIE Focal Points for Animal Production Food Safety. [Bastiaensen] Hammamet
Mali	14.04	15.04	OIE Regional Training Course for Representatives of Veterinary Statutory Bodies (VSB) [Mapitse & Bastiaensen] Bamako
France	22.05	27.05	79th OIE General Session and Regional Commission for Africa meeting, Paris [Mtei & Mapitse]
Panama	27.06	30.06	OIE Global Conference on Aquatic Health [Mtei & Bastiaensen] Panama City
France	14.06	17.06	Gap-analysis training [Bastiaensen]. Paris
South Africa	14.07	15.07	First "One Health" Conference for Africa (SACIDS). [Mtei] NICD, Johannesburg
South Korea	06.09	08.09	OIE Global Conference on Rabies. [Mtei] Seoul
France	25.10	28.10	Annual meeting of the OIE Regional and Sub-Regional Representatives. Paris [Mtei, Mapitse, Bastiaensen]

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

OFFICIAL VISITS

AGREEMENTS & HOSTING

COMMISSIONED CONSULTANCIES

GF-TAD & REGIONAL

ANIMAL HEALTH CENTER

» ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

The SRR-SA began its activities in January 2006, with the appointment of a Sub-Regional Representative and a Secretary. In 2007, a Deputy Sub-Regional Representative was recruited, but subsequently resigned for personal reasons. A Programme Officer was seconded to the OIE by the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (France Cooperation) in April 2007. The team was further strengthened as from June 2009 with the recruitment of a full-time Administrative and Financial Assistant, and in August 2010, with a new Deputy-Representative, bringing the number of permanent staff members to 5.

The Programme Officer ended his assignment with the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (France Cooperation) in June 2010, but pursued his activities for the OIE as per July 2010 with French Development Agency (AFD) funding. The OIE Sub-Regional Representative Dr Bonaventure Mtei, age 63 retired on November 30th, 2011 (officially December 31st, 2011). Dr Neo Mapitse is acting Representative as per December 1st, 2011.

In terms of office environment, several important improvements have been implemented. In line with the approved budget for 2011, the Office procured communication, projection and multimedia equipment, as well as new hardware and software to improve work efficiency. In the course of June, all computer operating systems were migrated to Windows 7 and integrated with the Windows Server 2008 network. In addition, two leasing agreements were concluded: one for a heavy duty, networked, photocopy machine and another for a company vehicle. Both contracts cover 24 months. Electronic safes were installed to improve office security.

The development of a Manual of financial administrative procedures is progressing well and a draft version has been submitted for consideration.

Service provider contracts are ongoing, partially or entirely funded by the OIE, for (a) office cleaning services, (b) IT support services (c) VOIP-based telephone services and (d) website maintenance services.

As agreed in October 2010, the OIE Sub-Regional Representation requested and received the complete set of files from the OIE Regional Representation for the Americas in Buenos Aires, enabling it to develop its own online database of (African) experts. Since the OIE head office will be launching its global database in the first quarter of 2012, the further development of the Africa database has been suspended (for the time being) ■

» OFFICIAL VISITS, COURTESY VISITS

Designation	Organisation / Country	Month
Mr. Abubakr I. M. Hussein , rural finance and marketing expert on the feasibility study of the livestock export facilitation project envisaged by AU-IBAR.	AU-IBAR, Nairobi, Kenya	January
Mr. Gilles Roussey , first secretary of the French Embassy to Botswana and SADC	Ambassade de France, Gaborone, Botswana	February
Meeting with Mr Abdoul Karim Bah and Mrs. Mona Chaya , auditing the FAO-ECTAD unit (financial, organisational, institutional, techn.).	FAO, Rome, Italy	March
Ir. Anton Van Engelen and Mr. David Neven , FAO Consultants (beef sector study Botswana).	FAO, Gaborone, Botswana	May
ILRI fact-finding mission led by Dr Siboniso Moyo (ILRI Maputo) including Amos Omore (ILRI Nairobi), Doug Gray (ACIAR, Australia), Wayne Jorgenson (ACIAR, Australia), and Phineas Motseramu (DAP/MoA Botswana)	ILRI, Nairobi, Kenya	May
Dr John McDermott , ag. ILRI Director General.	ILRI, Nairobi, Kenya	July
Dr. Gavin Thomson (TAD-Scientific), commissioned by SADC for a study on increased market access for livestock and livestock products from the SADC region	TAD Scientific Pretoria, South Africa	September
Mr. John Carlsen , Team leader and Drs. René Flamsholt Christensen and Nicolas Denormandie , SPINAP – AHI final evaluation mission	Agriconsulting Europe Consortium, Brussels, Belgium	October
Delegation from AU-PANVAC, presided by Dr Karim Tounkara , Director and Drs. Chitsungo, Bodjo and Nwankpa , accompanied by the General Manager from BVI, Dr. George Matlho .	AU-PANVAC Debre-Zeit, Ethiopia	October
Dr. Yacouba Samaké , OIE Regional Representative for Africa.	OIE RR Africa, Bamako, Mali	November
Dr. Marc Artois , Professor, Ecole Nationale Vétérinaire de Lyon and Member of the OIE Working Group on Wildlife.	ENVL / Vet-Agro-Sup, Lyon, France	November

» AGREEMENTS & HOSTING

Agreement	Signatories	Starting date
MoU SADC Secretariat	OIE & SADC	2003
Grant Contribution Agreement	OIE, SADC & EC	2005
Hosting Agreement	OIE & Gov. of Botswana	2006
MoU RAHC Southern Africa	OIE & FAO	2009

» CONSULTANCIES AND LETTERS OF AGREEMENT

Designation	Purpose	Country
Dr. Carole Goulet	Translation of the cycle-2 Training Manual Wildlife Diseases Surveillance to French	Zimbabwe
Dr. Claude Sabeta	Organisation by the Agricultural Research Council (ARC) of South Africa (Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute) of a regional proficiency testing exercise on the diagnosis of rabies by FAT (SADC-wide)	South Africa
Prof. Gerry Swan	Organisation by the University of Pretoria of the second meeting of Deans of Schools and Faculties of Veterinary Medicine or Sciences in Southern and Eastern Africa (Cape Town, South Africa)	South Africa
Dr. Mike Allsopp	Scientific editing and review by Dr. Mike Allsopp of the Agricultural Research Council (ARC) of South Africa Sub Regional training seminar on diseases of honeybees for OIE focal points for animal diseases notification (Ezulwini, Swaziland)	South Africa
Mr. Qurban Rouhani	Organisation by Rhodes University (Department of Ichthyology and Fisheries Science) of a training on fish diseases for OIE focal points on aquatic animal diseases from the SADC region (Grahamstown, South Africa)	South Africa

» GF-TADs AND THE REGIONAL ANIMAL HEALTH CENTER



The official agreement between the parties to the Regional Animal Health Centre (RAHC) for Southern Africa (SA) is signed, at least as far as FAO and OIE are concerned, since February 2009. As far as Botswana is concerned, the Agreement has been endorsed by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Botswana since May 2009.

Due to the continued opposition of the African Union Commission's (AUC) legal services to the participation of AU-IBAR in this mechanism, foreseen since its conception in 2005, no further formalisation of the presence of AU-IBAR staff within the RAHC could be obtained in the course of 2011. Furthermore, AU-IBAR initiatives such as the Integrated Regional Coordination Mechanism (IRCM) seek to operationalize the AU's Abuja Treaty and strengthen linkages between AU institutions and their "building blocks" at Regional Economic Community level, meaning that AU-IBAR would rather integrate staff directly with the various REC's executive bodies (i.e. the SADC Secretariat). Hence, irrespective of challenges faced by IBAR (and FAO) in terms of operational funding to pursue participation in the RAHC framework, the former is likely to discontinue its presence in the RAHC for institutional reasons.

The closure of several projects and financing agreements handled by AU-IBAR and FAO-ECTAD in the course of 2011 has unfortunately led to a considerable down-scaling of the staff posted in Gaborone. Between January and December 2011, staff numbers were reduced from 13 to 7, including the retirement of Dr. Bonaventure Mtei.

As far as the GF-TADs agreement is concerned, the upcoming submission of the new GF-TADS for Africa 5-year Action Plan for the period 2012 – 2016 offers the opportunity for OIE, FAO and indeed AU-IBAR to explore a new type of collaboration centred on FAO-OIE managed Regional Animal Health Centres in Africa ■

Name	Position	Organisation
Bonaventure Mtei	Representative (<i>retired on Dec. 30, 2011</i>)	OIE
Neo Mapitse	Deputy-Representative (<i>acting since Dec. 1</i>)	OIE
Patrick Bastiaensen	Programme officer	OIE
Mpho Mantsho	Administrative and Financial Assistant	OIE
Nomsa Thekiso	Secretary	OIE
Susanne Münstermann	Regional Manager ECTAD (<i>left in Mar 2011</i>)	FAO
Grace Ssemakula	Financial and Administrative Assistant	FAO
Mtendere Mphatso	Operations Officer (<i>left in October 2010</i>)	FAO
Tsaone Gaelebale	Operations Assistant (<i>left in Sept. 2010</i>)	FAO
Mokganedi Mokopasetso	Project officer (<i>acting Manager</i>)	FAO
Nada Abu Samra	Project officer (<i>left in October 2010</i>)	FAO
Baboucarr Jaw	Representative	AU-IBAR
Gift Wanda	Regional Coordinator SPINAP-AHI (<i>left in Dec 2010</i>)	AU-IBAR
Nthapeleng J. Shai	Administrative Assistant (<i>left in Dec. 2010</i>)	AU-IBAR
Benjamin Lungu	Financial Assistant (<i>left in December 2010</i>)	AU-IBAR

List of OIE, FAO and IBAR staff who were present at the RAHC throughout or for part of 2011

» REGIONAL COMMISSION ACTIVITIES

The 19th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa took place from February 15 – 18th at the Serena Hotel in Kigali, Rwanda. Attended by the OIE Director-General, Dr Bernard Vallat, the Conference was co-chaired by the President of the Regional Commission for Africa, Dr. Berhe Gebreegziabher, the then OIE Delegate for Ethiopia and the host, Dr. Theogen Rutagwenda, OIE Delegate for Rwanda. The meeting was attended by 12 OIE Member Countries from the SADC region, i.e. Angola, DRC, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

A report of the Conference including the recommendations is available online on this link:

http://www.rr-africa.oie.int/docspdf/en/RC/19conf_Kigali2011RAPFIN.pdf

The annual meeting of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa at the General Session took place on May 23rd at the Maison de la Chimie in Paris, France. The meeting was attended by 13 OIE Member Countries from the SADC region. AU-IBAR and FAO presented reports of their various activities in the region and up-coming programs. The *Union du Maghreb Arab* (UMA) presented their action plan for veterinary health.

The President of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa was invited to all major capacity-building activities in Southern Africa and attended one event in person (Ezulwini, Swaziland) and two others (Grahamstown, South Africa and Gaborone, Botswana) by delegation to the first Vice President. Unfortunately, the President of the Commission and OIE Delegate for Niger was replaced by a new OIE Delegate on October 22nd and therefore left the Commission without a President until next year's May meeting in Paris, where a new President may be elected. This will then have been the fourth election of a President in as many years, which is not conducive for the activities and impact of the Africa Commission.

» OIE DELEGATES FROM THE REGION

Country	Position	Institution	Name	Surname
Angola	Director General of the Institute of Veterinary Services (ISV)	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	José	Antonio
Botswana	Director Animal Health	Ministry of Agriculture	Kgosietsile	Phillemon - Motsu
Dem.R. Congo	Director Department of Animal Production and Health	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Animal Husbandry	Honoré R.	N'Lemba Mabela
Lesotho	Director of Livestock Services	Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security	Marosi	Molomo
Madagascar	Director of the Animal Health and Phytosanitary Department	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries	Bibias	Lalaonirina
Malawi	Deputy Director Department of Animal Health and Livestock Development	Ministry of Agriculture	Patrick B.	Chikungwa
Mauritius	Director of Animal Husbandry	Ministry of Rural Development	Deodass	Meenowa
Mozambique	Director of the National Directorate of Veterinary Services	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Florência M.	Cipriano
Namibia	Chief Veterinary Officer	Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry	Albertina	Shilongo
Seychelles	Principal Veterinary Officer	Ministry of Environment , Natural Resources & Transport	Jimmy	Melanie
South Africa	Chief Director Partnerships	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Botho M.	Modisane
Swaziland	Permanent Secretary	Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives	Roland X.	Dlamini
Tanzania	Director of Veterinary Services	Ministry of Livestock Development and Fisheries	Win C.H.	Mleche
Zambia	Ag. Director of Veterinary Services	Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives	Joseph	Mubanga
Zimbabwe	Director of Field Veterinary Services	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Unesu	Ushewokunze-Obatolu (ag.)

OIE Delegates from the SADC Member States as per December 31st, 2011.

FINANCIAL REPORT

» FINANCIAL REPORT

The funding of the Sub-Regional Representation for 2011 was sourced from :

- the BTSF funding provided through the EC and DG SANCO to OIE (Paris)
- the IDENTIFY funding provided through FAO and USAID to OIE (Paris)
- the OIE funding provided through the *World Animal Health and Welfare Fund*

The Sub-Regional Representation's 2011 annual work plan and budget stood at EUR 820,080, most of which was funded through the above-mentioned BTSF programme :

Cost Item	Contribution BTSF	Contribution IDENTIFY	Contribution OIE	Total
	2011	2011	2011	2011
STAFF EXPENSES	0	50,400	88,000	138,400
WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES	350,000	180,000	30,000	560,000
MISSION EXPENSES	20,000	10,000	15,000	45,000
OPERATING COSTS	5,000	45,750	25,930	76,680
TOTAL (EUR)	375,000	286,150	158,930	820,080

The label 'OIE' refers to the contributions made by the World Animal Health and Welfare Fund, a trust fund, specifically established to support the OIE's activities towards compliance of developing and in-transition countries with international standards, as advocated by the Organisation.

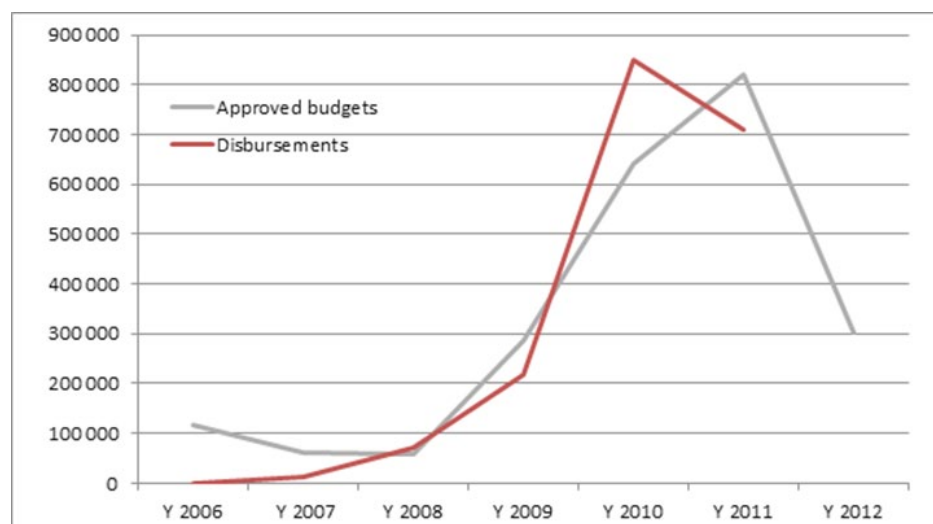
The label 'SANCO' refers to a project, directly funded by DG-SANCO (Directorate General of the European Commission for Health and Consumers) under the 'Better Training for Safer Food' programme, implemented in African countries by the OIE head office, with the participation of the Regional and Sub-Regional Representations.

The label 'IDENTIFY' refers to a project, funded by USAID as part of the "Emerging Pandemic Threats" (EPT) programme. IDENTIFY is jointly implemented by FAO, OIE and WHO and deals with increasing laboratory diagnostic capacity in 9 countries of the Congo river basin. This programme is coordinated from the Gaborone office as far as OIE is concerned (from Bamako for FAO-ECTAD and from Brazzaville for WHO-AFRO).

Extra-budgetary funding was provided by the French Development Agency through the secondment of a programme officer to OIE and a EUR 15,000 operational budget (from July 2010 – December 2011).

By December 31st , 2011, the state of disbursements, as compared to the previous years was as follows:

Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Approved budget	116 000	63 000	57 810	286 600	641 400	820 080
Disbursements	0	11 436	70 046	217 080	849 762	708 538
Uptake	0%	18%	121%	75 %	132 %	86 %



◀ **Evolution of the annual budget and disbursements since the inception of the SRR for Southern Africa.**

The expenditures per cost category in 2011 were as follows :

Cost Item	Budget	Expenditures	Uptake (%)
	2011	2011	2011
STAFF EXPENSES	138,400	143,447	104 %
WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES	560,000	433,140	77 %
MISSION EXPENSES	45,000	69,397	155 %
OPERATING COSTS	76,680	62,554	81 %
TOTAL (EUR)	820,080	708,538	86 %

» CONCLUSIONS AND 2012 OUTLOOK

The year 2011 has been a busy year for the Sub-Regional Representation. Training opportunities through workshops, seminars and other events have been the mechanisms used for the various capacity building programmes for the OIE Member Countries. The OIE Members were also sent for participation in trainings conducted in other OIE sub-regions of Africa such as North, West - Central, and Eastern Africa. This relationship between the various sub-regions enables our Members to participate in training sessions in other sub-regions in case they have missed one for their region or new focal points have been appointed to take up OIE responsibilities at national level.

The Sub-Regional Representation for Southern Africa offers technical support to the SADC Secretariat and the various livestock-related structures of SADC, such as its committees. The Sub-Regional Representation for Southern Africa participated in meetings with other partners to provide technical inputs to policy drives and strategies relating to animal health, food safety, zoonoses and animal welfare. This participation uses the combined strengths of our partner organisation, the FAO. Increasing interactions and collaborations were extended to other partners in various fields such as AU-IBAR and *GALVMed*, the latter of which is looking into issues of vaccine research and development of – amongst others - a thermo-stable PPR vaccine, important to this sub-region.

The sub-region has recently experienced a significant number of outbreaks of TADs, especially FMD. The Sub-Regional Representation for Southern Africa supports the Member Countries to develop and implement strategies to contribute to the global control of FMD through the *progressive control pathway* (PCP). The initial meeting of the Members without OIE recognition on FMD was an excellent step towards this goal, but countries will need further technical and financial support to achieve this goal. Recent developments in FMD vaccine production are welcome and will contribute to the FMD PCP, including vaccine banks for the sub-region.

Aquatic animal diseases are increasingly becoming important to the region and more especially in first determining the origins of these exotic diseases and put up measures to prevent introductions and spread within the region. Other TADs such as PPR and RVF are threatening

to spread to other areas where they have not been seen in a long time. The threat is even more so due to the climate changes resulting in floods and warmer winters thereby extending the range of vectors and exacerbating vector-borne diseases such as *lumpy skin disease* (LSD), *African horse sickness* (AHS), *bluetongue and tick-borne diseases* (TBD). The resultant increase in usage of anti-parasitic drugs and antimicrobials without proper control of their rational use and effective supporting legislation will be detrimental to animal health and food safety and will have a negative environmental impact as has been shown with honeybees.

Southern African countries performed relatively well in terms of evaluation and identifying gaps in view of strengthening of the capacity of their veterinary services through the OIE PVS Tool. The momentum should be maintained to strengthen legislation in order to address the gaps identified in animal health, welfare and food safety. The Sub-Regional Representation for Southern Africa was successfully engaged in laboratory capacity training and improvement of rabies diagnostics. Though the sub region in terms of laboratory capacity is arguably better positioned compared to other regions in Africa, further efforts will be deployed to improve diagnostic capacity and collaborations, with focus on the Congo Basin region, through OIE programmes in conjunction with other partners such as USAID's IDENTIFY Project.

The OIE SRR SA is very grateful for the support it receives from the 15 OIE Member Countries of SADC and for the financial support of the Government of Botswana, the European Commission (through the DG-SANCO funded "*Better training for safer food*" programme), the IDENTIFY Project of the EPT programme funded by USAID, the French Corporation as well as the technical inputs of our various partners and the *Southern Africa Development Community* (SADC) to name but a few. Along with the individual inputs of numerous technical experts, affiliated with the OIE or its reference laboratories, collaborating centres, PVS/VLSP programme or working groups/ad-hoc groups we extend our gratitudes.

Though 2012 may be a lean year with limited funding due to the effects of global financial crisis, the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for Southern Africa will endeavour to maintain the programmes initiated with the Member Countries ■



World Organisation for Animal Health
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