



Organisation Mondiale de Santé Animale
World Organisation for Animal Health
Organización Mundial de Sanidad Animal

Rights and Responsibilities to OIE of National Delegates and Focal Points

Workshop for OIE National Focal Points for Aquatic Animal Diseases
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Plan:

- Statutory aspects
- Rights and responsibilities
- Developing and updating of international standards
- National focal points roles

STATUTORY ASPECTS

Statutory aspects *Organic position*

- OIE is subject to the authority of the World Assembly of Delegates (International Agreement of 1924 – Article 2)
- Delegate is appointed by the Government of the Member Country or Territory and represents it to the World Assembly of Delegates (Organic Statutes – Article 6)

Statutory aspects *Organic position*



- The permanent Delegate is a technical representative chosen by the State taking into account its capabilities
- The permanent Delegate heads the Delegation of the Member Country or Territory to the World Assembly of Delegates (Organic Rules – Article 4)

RIGHTS AND RESPONSABILITIES

Rights & Responsibilities of Delegates
World Assembly of Delegates



- Delegates **exercise the right to vote** of the Member Country or Territory. May be accompanied by an alternate who, in the absence of the Delegate, enjoys the same prerogatives (Organic Rules – Article 5)
- The Delegate is a permanent Delegate who enjoys permanent and full rights to **represent the State** on the World Assembly of Delegates (General Session) and to maintain permanent relations along the year with the OIE.
- The Delegate is considered as empowered with national prerogatives to represent its country having permanently the corresponding national status.

Rights & Responsibilities of Delegates
Payment of contributions



The Delegate must guarantee the **regular payment** of the Member's compulsory contributions to the OIE.

He or she may respond the Headquarters to:

- **Call for Contributions for the next year (May)**

Then, if applicable:

- **Recall for Contributions (October)**

Rights & Responsibilities of Delegates
Maintaining permanent relations with OIE

Animal Health Information

- Present at **World Assembly of Delegates** a report on **animal health situation** and prophylaxis methods applied at country (General Rules – Article 50)
- Notify to OIE **animal diseases present in Member Country or Territory**, in accordance with Chapter 1.1. of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* and *Aquatic Animal Health Code*.

Rights & Responsibilities of Delegates
Maintaining permanent relations with OIE

OIE Standards

- Ensure that animal **health legislation** in his/her country is based on OIE reference standards or on a scientific risk analysis carried out in accordance with Section 2 of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* and the *Aquatic Animal Health Code*, and WTO/SPS Agreement.
- Ensures that, as far as possible, the resolutions of the World Assembly of Delegates are applied

Rights & Responsibilities of Delegates
Maintaining permanent relations with OIE

OIE Standards (2)

- Ensure that Veterinary Services are **kept updated on OIE standards**,
- Maintain informed the national animal disease diagnostic laboratories of the activities of the **OIE worldwide network of Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres**, in order to promote scientific and technical cooperation in this field.

Rights & Responsibilities of Delegates
Maintaining permanent relations with OIE



Focal points

- The Delegate is requested to **designate, if possible, national focal points** to comply with national obligations and to support him/her in the following fields:
 - **animal disease notification**,
 - **wildlife**,
 - **aquatic animals diseases**,
 - **veterinary products**,
 - **animal production food safety**,
 - **animal welfare**.

DEVELOPING AND UPDATING OF INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

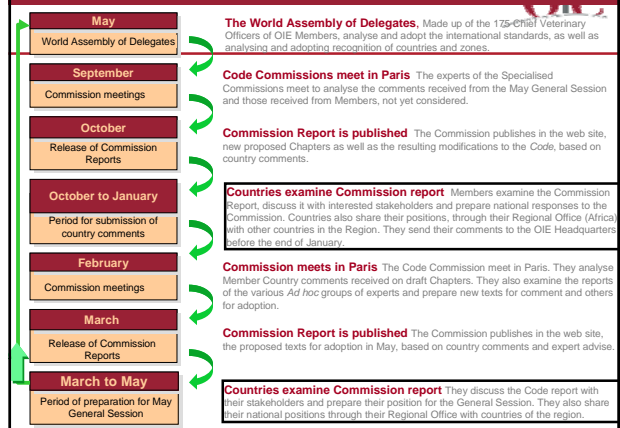
Developing and updating of international standards

- **issue / problem identified** by Delegates, OIE Commission, industry, scientist, individual
 - New scientific information, e.g. from research or disease outbreak
 - New diseases – emerging diseases
 - New approach to control, e.g. vaccination
- addressed by **appropriate Commission** as a new or revised standard
 - Using **Working Groups** and **Ad hoc** Groups for specialist tasks, e.g. animal welfare, BSE, epidemiology, avian influenza, tuberculosis...

Developing / updating of international standards



Understanding the elaboration and updating of standards



Critically important

- OIE Delegates should realise and accept their **responsibility to participate actively** in the debate and setting of international standards
- Once a standard is adopted the Delegate is **obligated to support** the adopted standard
- Focal points have an important role in the standard setting procedure, through the **preparation of comments for the Delegate** for new or revised OIE standards

NATIONAL FOCAL POINTS ROLES

Terms of Reference for the OIE National Focal Points



- During the 76th General Session in May 2008 the World Assembly of Delegates :
 - reiterated the importance of focal point for **animal diseases notification**
- requested to nominate additional focal points for:
 - **wildlife**
 - **veterinary products**
 - **animal production food safety**
 - **animal welfare**
 - **aquatic animals.**

Terms of Reference for the OIE National Focal Points



- **Activities** of the focal points in relation with OIE rights and obligations are under the authority of the OIE Delegate.
- **Information transmitted** to the OIE from focal points must be under the designated authority of the OIE Delegate either if focal points are:
 - **under jurisdiction** of the Veterinary Authority, or
 - located in other Departments or Ministries **not under jurisdiction** of Veterinary Authority
- From a legal perspective, the OIE considers the official OIE Delegate to be the **unique representative of the country.**

National Focal Point for Aquatic Animals



- Establish a **network** of aquatic animal health experts within his country or to communicate with existing network;
- Establish a **dialogue, cooperation and communication** with Competent Authority for aquatic animal health and relevant authorities;
- Support **collection and submission** of aquatic animal disease information to the OIE through WAHIS in relation with the Focal Point for terrestrial animal disease notification (when relevant).

National Focal Point for Aquatic Animals (contd)



- Act as a **contact point** with the OIE Animal Health Information Department in relation with terrestrial animal disease notification (when relevant)
- Receive reports of the Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission and other relevant reports, and conduct the **in-country consultation process**
- **Prepare comments** for the Delegate on relevant meeting reports, including comments on the proposals for new or revised OIE standards related to aquatic animals.

**Thank you for your
attention**

