



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

## **COOPERATION AGREEMENT**

**BETWEEN**

**THE ARAB  
MAGHREB UNION**

**AND**

**THE WORLD ORGANISATION FOR  
ANIMAL HEALTH (OIE)**

**The World Organisation for Animal Health**, hereinafter referred to as the OIE, represented by its Director General, Dr Bernard Vallat,

and

The Arab Maghreb Union, hereinafter referred to as the AMU, represented by its Secretary General, Mr Habib Ben Yahia,

Whereas the development of animal production and trade in animals and animal products requires a situation with a high sanitary level,

Whereas strengthening of the Veterinary Services is a key element in ensuring the correct application of measures to protect animal health and public health.

In view of the respective mandates of the OIE and the AMU,

Mindful of their common interest in supporting the efforts of their respective members in promoting regional cooperation

**Wishing** to broaden and harmonise their efforts for reciprocal information, consultation and cooperation;

The two Parties have agreed as follows.

## **Article 1 – Aims**

The aim of the present Cooperation Agreement is to ensure optimal collaboration between the OIE and the AMU, with a view to coordinating their efforts and the activities they pursue in sectors falling within their respective mandates.

## **Article 2 – Consultations**

2.1 The OIE and the AMU will regularly consult each other on matters potentially of mutual interest. In particular:

- a) Technical cooperation in the field of animal health;
- b) Strengthening of Veterinary Services in member countries of the AMU and of the epidemiological surveillance network in the Mediterranean region;

- c) Dissemination of the OIE sanitary information system on animal diseases and zoonoses;
- d) Promotion and harmonisation of legislation relating to animal health and veterinary public health in AMU countries;
- e) Exchange of information, in particular on their respective work programmes of mutual interest;

2.2 When particular circumstances so require, the OIE and the AMU will conduct specific consultations to select whatever means they consider appropriate to improve the effectiveness of their respective activities in areas of mutual interest related to animal health and veterinary public health.

### **Article 3 – Reciprocal information**

Subject to any arrangements that may be required to safeguard the confidentiality of certain documents, the OIE and the AMU will exchange their publications relating to matters of common interest, to promote the development of their activities and the dissemination of their work.

### **Article 4 – Cooperation**

4.1 For the purposes of this Cooperation Agreement, the OIE and the AMU agree to cooperate with each other through their competent bodies.

4.2 This cooperation will relate to all matters of common interest relating to the field of animal health and veterinary public health, and may include:

- The organisation of workshops, meetings and seminars focusing on information in the field of animal disease surveillance and control and on risk analysis methods;
- The organisation of workshops, meetings and seminars on procedures for harmonising the registration and control of veterinary medicinal products.

4.3. The development and implementation of joint projects in the aforementioned sectors and fields of common interest will be the subject of special provisions defining the practical, technical and financial arrangements for the participation of each Party. The OIE Sub-Regional Representation based in Tunis, Tunisia, will be called upon to work with the AMU Headquarters for this purpose.

## **Article 5 – Participation in OIE and AMU events**

- 5.1 The OIE will be invited to participate, as an observer, in technical events of the AMU relating to programmes or matters of common interest, in accordance with the conditions laid down in the Charter of the AMU and the regulations in force.
- 5.2 The AMU will be invited to participate, as an observer, in technical meetings of the statutory organs of the OIE relating to programmes or matters of common interest, in accordance with the conditions laid down in the OIE regulations in force.

## **Article 6 – Implementing provisions**

The Director General of the OIE and the Secretary General of the AMU will regularly consult on matters relating to the present Cooperation Agreement and may, where appropriate, agree on any additional provisions needed to improve its implementation.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the representatives of the OIE and the AMU have signed the present Cooperation Agreement in two original copies, in Arabic and in French.

**For the World Organisation  
for Animal Health**

**Dr Bernard VALLAT**

**Director General**

**Date : 24th of May 2011**

**For the Arab Maghreb Union**

**Habib BEN YAHIA**

**Secretary General**

**Date : 24th of May 2011**