

# Follow up on the recommendations of the 25<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Regional Commission for Africa

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26th Conference of WOAHA Regional  
Commission for Africa  
4-7 February 2025

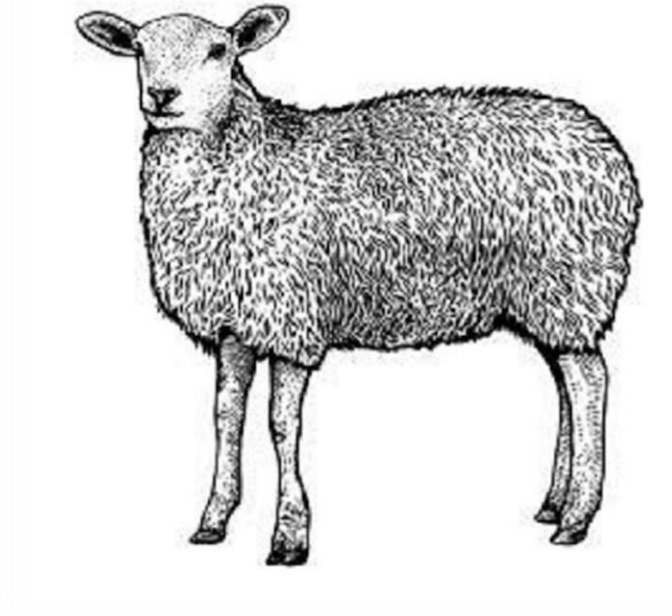
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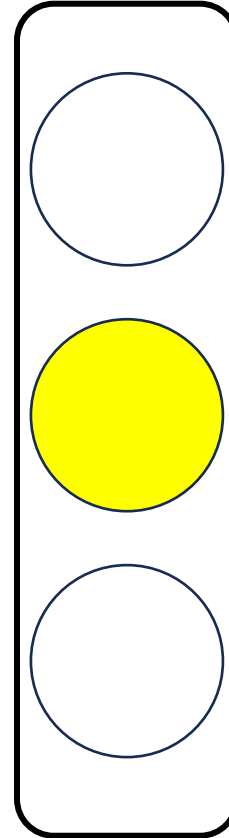
# Recommendations from the Technical Item 1 of the 25th Conference of the Regional Commission for Africa

Gaborone, Botswana, 21-24 February 2023

## *Eradication of PPR: Results and Perspectives*

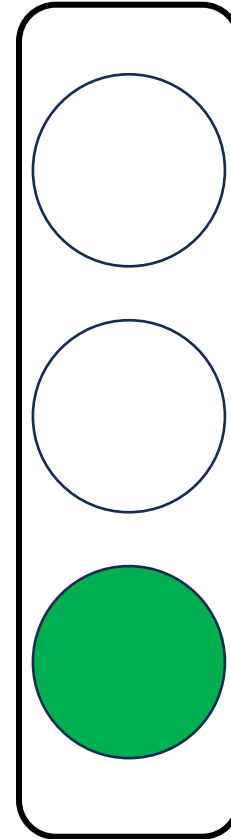


1. WOAHA continue to provide support to its Members in strengthening their Veterinary Services and mainly with respect to the control and eradication of PPR through the **implementation of the PVS Pathway with a PPR specific content** to **assess the Members' specific needs** to control this disease, including **training on WOAHA official recognition procedures**



- PVS Missions in Africa with a specific PPR content:
- **Burundi, Cameroon, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Nigeria, Zambia,**
- Procurement for sero-surveillance kits for Rwanda, vaccination and cold chain equipment for Ethiopia and Kenya ongoing. The data from the vaccination programs done with VSF support been conducted.
- Support provided by PRAPS project for Sahel countries and OHRT project to Central Africa

2. Members and Regional Economic Communities (**REC**) enhance efforts in **collaboration and coordination** to **enforce regulations and procedures** to **control both internal and cross-border animal movements**. This should be supported by the regular **sharing of information on nomadic, transhumant and trade-related movements of animals**

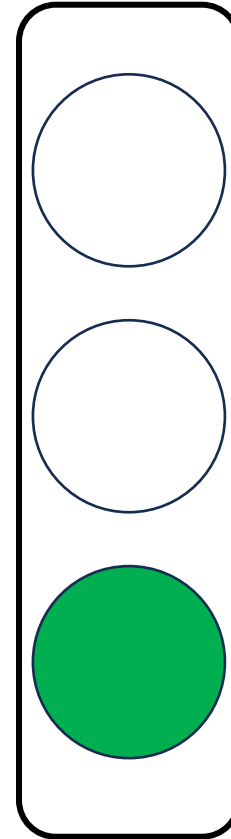


**Annual Coordination meeting led by AU IBAR with REC, IOs and regional Orgs, Partners etc allows for exchange of information, sharing updates on activities related to TADs including PPR.**



AFRICAN UNION  
**INTERAFRICAN BUREAU  
FOR ANIMAL RESOURCES**

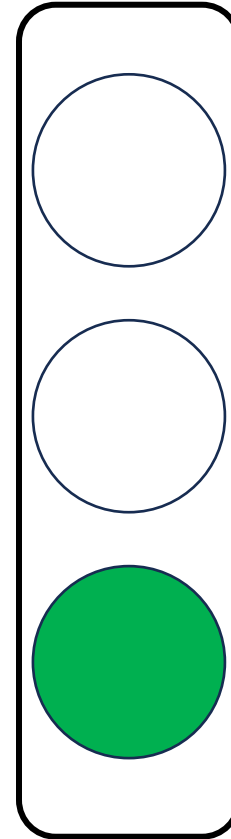
3. WOAHA, FAO, AU-IBAR and RECs to continuously **raise awareness** on the PPR-GCES, the pan-African PPR Strategy and the respective regional PPR strategies among Members and policy makers, to enhance ownership, buy-in and continued support as well as the appropriate alignment and harmonisation of national PPR eradication activities, including vaccination strategies as espoused in the recently launched **PPR-GEP Blueprint** to eradication, **which needs to be widely disseminated**



PPR Advocacy,  
Recognition, Prevention  
and Response Videos  
developed and expectation  
to publish in 2025

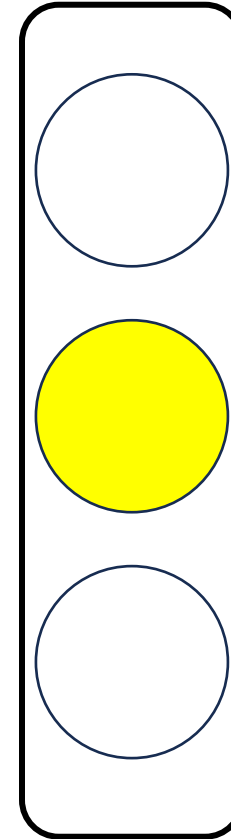
Episystem guidelines  
completed

4. Members in consultation with WOA, FAO, AU-IBAR, development partners and respective RECs prioritise the **review and implementation of their national PPR strategic and investment plans** in alignment with the global PPR GEP Blueprint, GF-TADs Strategy and regional priorities and in the spirit of **cooperation under the GF TADs, apply for WOA endorsement of their official control programmes;**

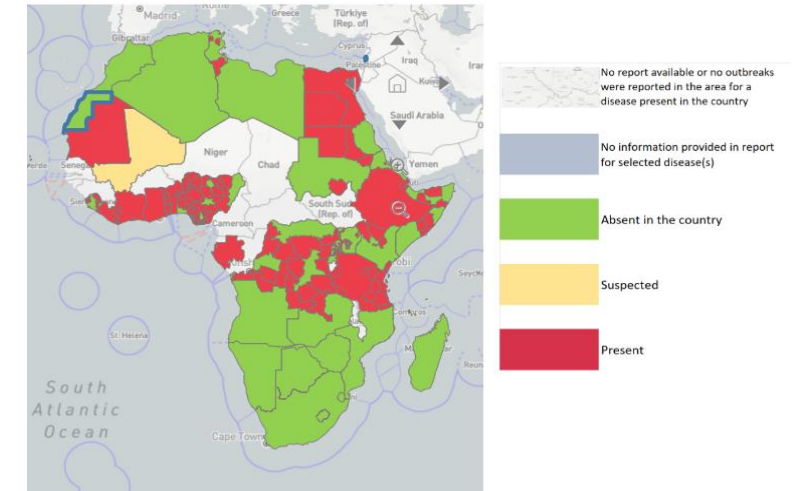


EU Support to the Eradication of PPR from Africa (Pan African PPR program)  
Second Inter-Regional Economic Community Meeting on Coordination of Peste des Petits Ruminants Eradication Initiatives in Africa 17th – 18th December 2024: The inter-partnership/Inter-REC meeting aims to strengthen continental and regional coordination and harmonisation for the eradication of PPR and the control of other priority small ruminant diseases

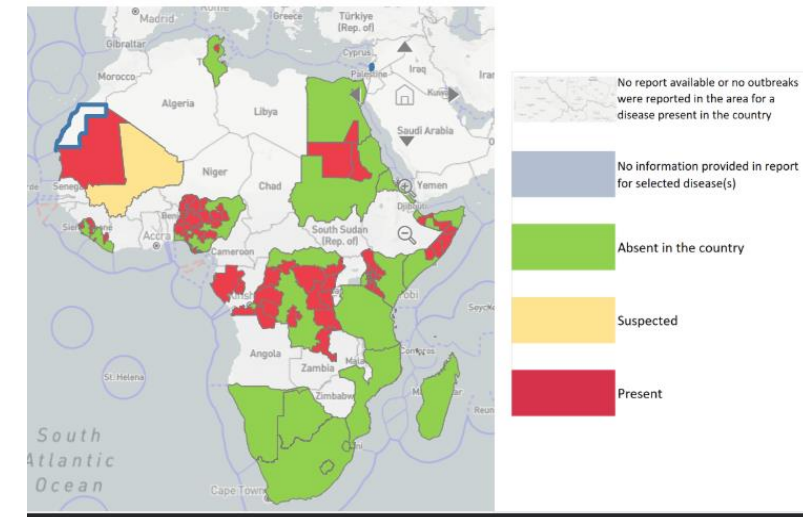
5. **Members** improve knowledge of their PPR epidemiological situation, by monitoring the trends of PPR in their ecosystem through coordinated surveillance activities and **submit reports to WOAHA in compliance with the requirements of the TAHC** regarding the **notification** of diseases and provision of epidemiological information. This knowledge should support decision making to target the animal populations at risk for PPR eradication activities, in line with the ecosystem approach;



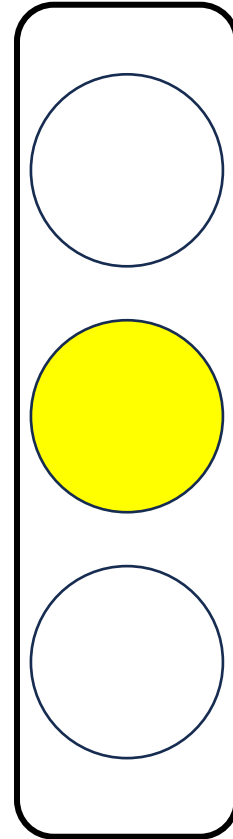
Jan-Dec 2023



Jan-Dec 2024



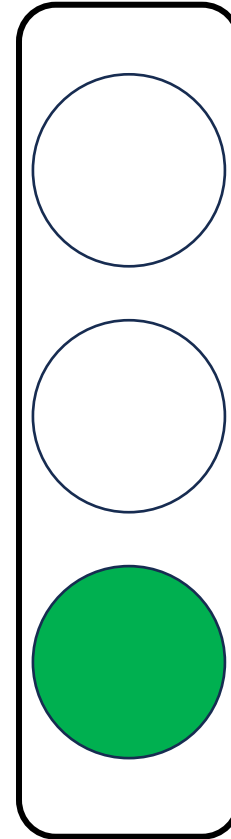
6. Members **improve** their PPR **diagnostic capacity** through participation in relevant activities among them, through membership and **participation in WOAHPPR Reference Laboratory Network**



Laboratories in **Senegal and Tanzania** have been supported under WOAHPPR Laboratory Twinning Programmes to strengthen their capacity for PPR laboratory diagnosis.



7. Members ensure the use of **quality vaccines including taking advantage of WOAHA vaccine bank** mechanism as an additional WOAHA tool supporting disease control and eradication through the facilitation of procurement of high-quality vaccines at special negotiated prices



AU\_PANVAC continued to support Members:

Information on AU-PANVAC Certified PPR vaccine batches up to

**30.02.2025:**

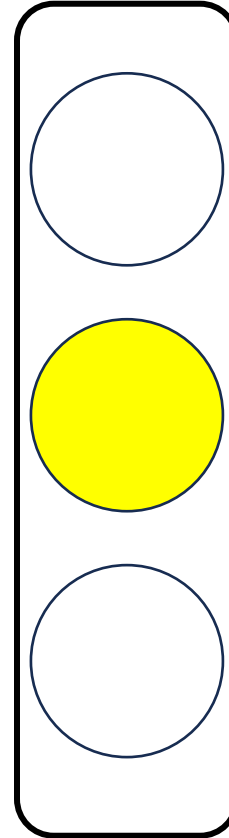
<https://aupanvac.org/certified-vaccines-batches/>

1.15 million doses of PPR vaccine doses delivered/donated by WOAHA Vaccine Bank to:

Kenya: in 2023

6 PRAPS countries: 32.2 million doses in 2022

8. WOAHA, in collaboration with FAO, AU-IBAR, AU-PANVAC and RECs, **develop vaccination guidelines** to facilitate post vaccination monitoring and evaluation of national PPR vaccination programmes, with the aim of cessation of vaccinations two years before any application of official recognition of PPR free status or by 2028 in order to achieve PPR eradication by 2030

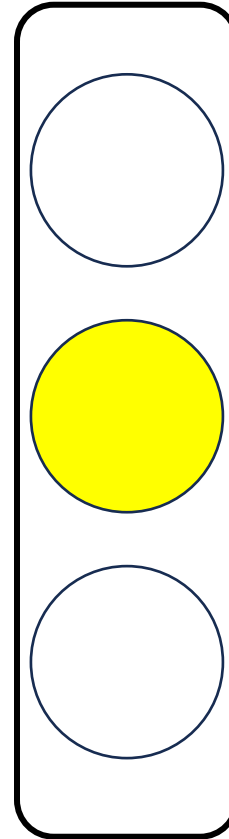


PMAT e-learning modules, digitization of the tool and publishing is being developed

The episystem guidelines on vaccination have been developed but not circulated yet.

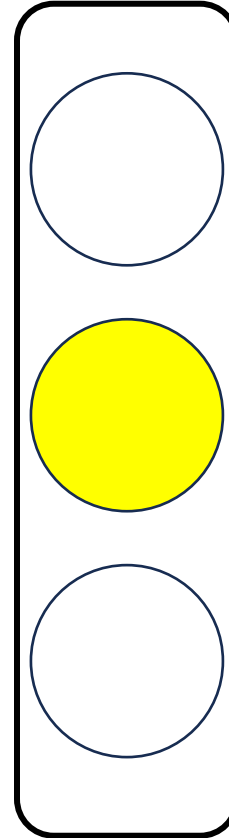
The existing Post Vaccination Monitoring and Evaluation guidelines need to be revised to be in line with episystem approach

9. **WOAH Reference Centres** and  
Members **expedite the validation of  
the DIVA vaccines and the  
regulatory approvals for field use  
respectively;**



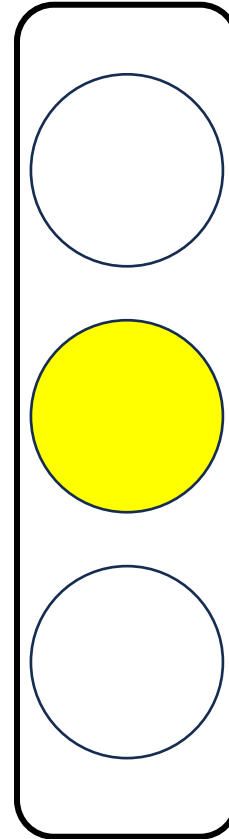
Discussions ongoing through the PPR  
GREN network for both DIVA vaccines  
and tests to be developed and  
validated.

10. WOAH, in collaboration with partners, encourage Governments to continue to commit to, and support PPR control and eradication by **allocating necessary resources (financial, structural and human)** as well as **supportive legislation** to foster proper implementation of relevant strategies or programmes including, among others, cooperation with farmers, targeted vaccination, post-vaccination monitoring and movement control;



PRAPS project is sensitizing veterinary services for allocation of more resources for PPR eradication.

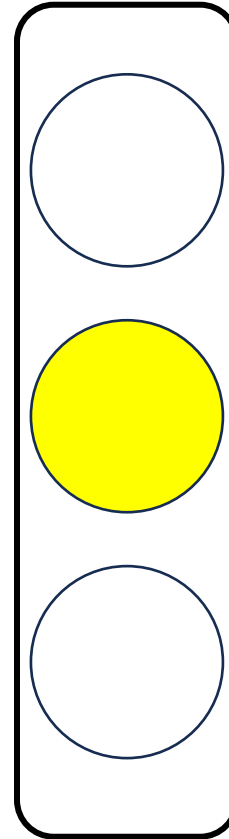
11. Members enhance the engagement and involvement of stakeholders in PPR control and eradication activities beyond the conventional partners. In particular, efforts should be made to leverage on and reach out to sheep and goat farming communities, of private sector animal health service providers, farmers associations, community based organisations, and service providers in other community focused sectors, to better deliver PPR control and eradication interventions



The PMAT tool is available for all countries to conduct own assessments and prioritize interventions for progression.

The draft PMATs (2023/24) indicate progress by some countries from stage 2 to stage 3 (4 members), stage 1 to stage 2 (1 member)

12. **Members** that have never reported PPR and do not vaccinate against the disease implement the necessary activities to ensure compliance with the relevant WOAHP standards with regard to official PPR free status and subsequently undertake the procedures and processes for submission of an application to WOAHP for the official recognition of their PPR free status



EU program led by AU-IBAR projects to support member states that have never reported PPR such as Cape Verde, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles and some countries in SADC to progress with provision of evidence to WOAHP for PPR status recognition

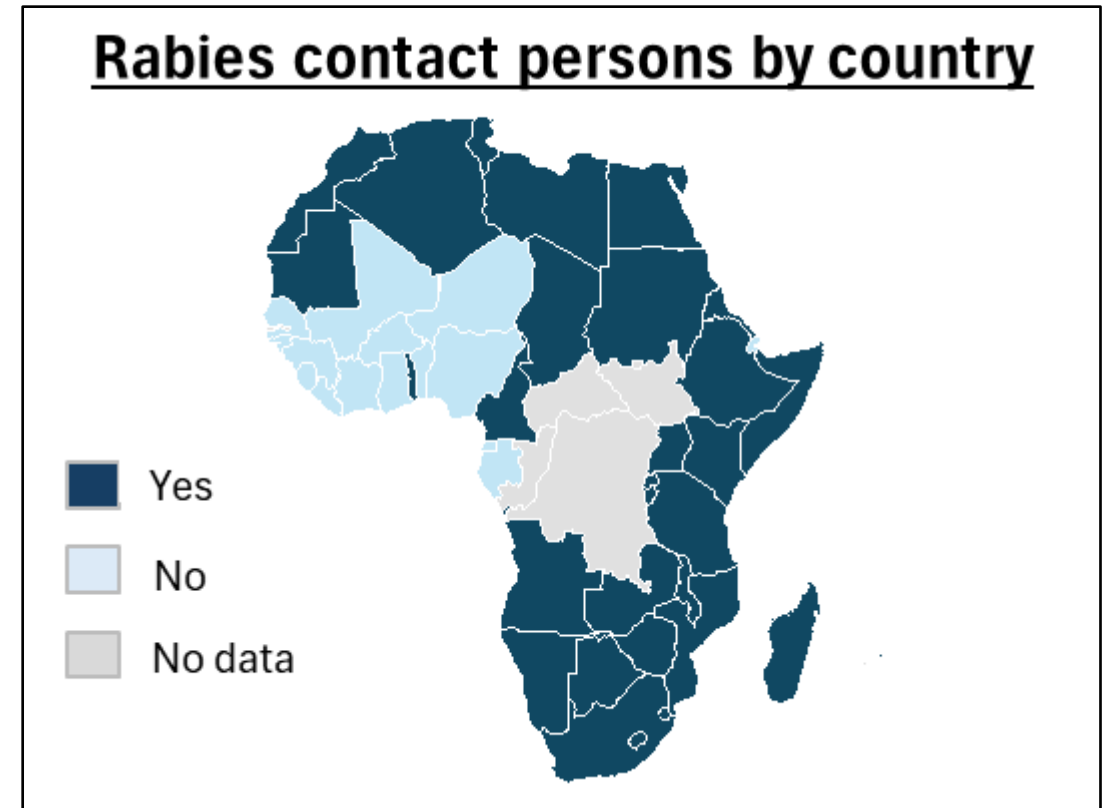
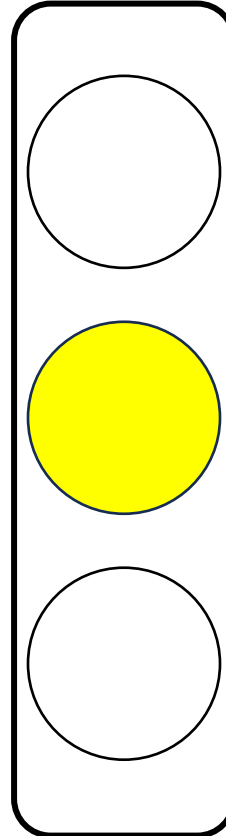
# Recommendations from the Technical Item 2 of the 25th Conference of the Regional Commission for Africa

Gaborone, Botswana, 21-24 February 2023

***Elimination of dog-mediated human rabies by 2030 in Africa –  
national strategies, legal framework,  
tools to track the progress***

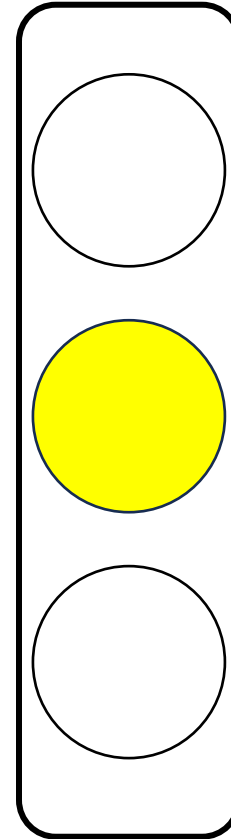


1. Nominate a '**National Rabies Point of Contact**' with the main responsibility to advocate for a rabies elimination policy, monitor the implementation of the national strategic plans or official rabies control programme for dog-mediated rabies elimination in their country and support the regional coordination;



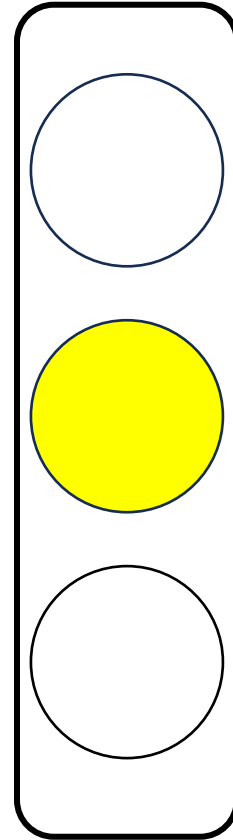


2. With the support of WOAHA RR&SRRs, WOAHA Ref Labs, the Tripartite [QPT] partners and UAR forum **update or develop a national strategic plan or official rabies control programme** for dog-mediated rabies elimination based on One Health approach, utilising the UAR Forum roadmap and available tools, while including a sustainable operational plan with adequate financial resources;



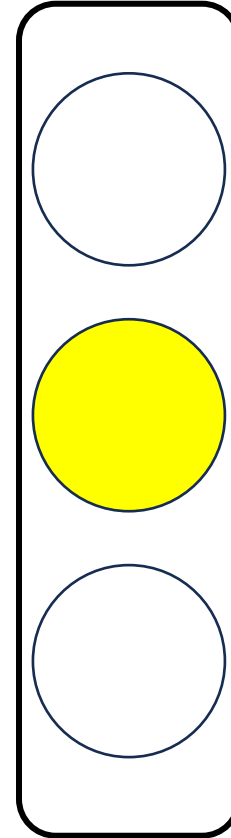
- NSPs or OCP: Most Members have developed NSPs/OCPs
- Member Countries have developed NSPs
- Some NSPs are still in drafting process
- A few Members have completed NSPs but pending validation and inter-ministerial endorsement
- Members encouraged to seek WOAHA support for rabies NSP development

3. Members are encouraged to **submit official control programmes** for dog-mediated rabies for WOAHA endorsement, in compliance with the relevant chapters of the Terrestrial Code notably for the vaccination programmes and the management of dog populations, to prioritise rabies elimination at national level



- **Zambia's** official control programme for dog-mediated rabies was endorsed in 2023 to increase Africa Members to two after **Namibia**.
- Members intending to submit official dossier for WOAHA endorsement should contact relevant Sub-Regional Representatives

4. Members **scale up dog vaccinations by using high-quality vaccines** in a strategic manner and **promote responsible dog ownership** for a **successful dog population management programme** in order to achieve vaccination of at least 70% of the at-risk dog population; and consider the **support of the WOAHA vaccine bank**

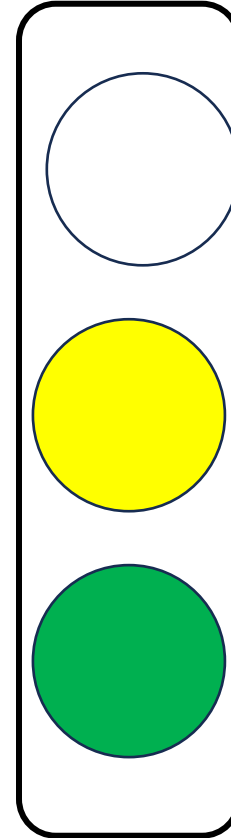


- **Use of quality vaccines and WOAHA vaccine Bank (2024)**
  - Burkina Faso – 50,000
  - Cameroon – 250,000
  - Guinea – 100,000
  - Mauritania - 30,000
  - Namibia – 100,000
- Members encouraged to request support for dog population estimation and vaccines
- Support for piloting of ORV in Namibia

### **DPM implementation:**

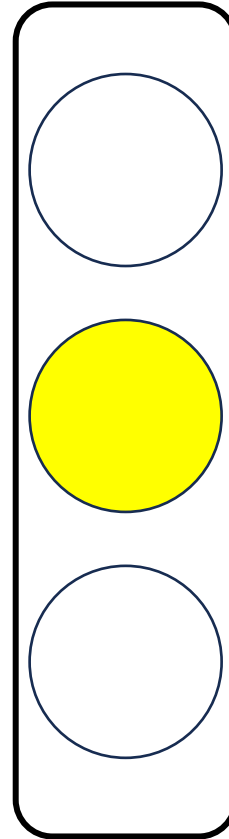
- Members are encouraged to develop dog population management plans
- Eritrea supported on Dog population estimation

5. **Advocate for more sustainable commitment, leadership and coordination by governmental authorities to prioritise rabies control** and mobilise policymakers from health, veterinary, and allied sectors at national and local levels to **ensure availability of resources** and therefore, sustainability in rabies control;



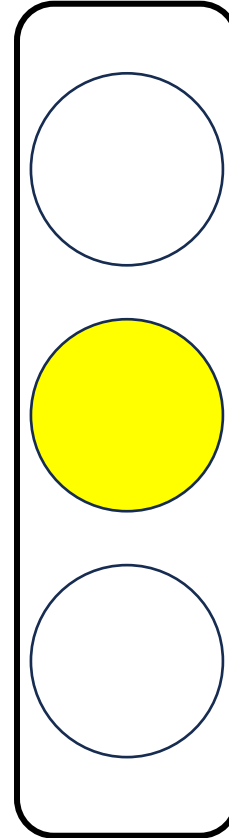
- **Advocacy:** Advocacy is being conducted ; some Members allocate resources for rabies control program
- The UAR Forum Stakeholders Meeting was held on the sidelines of the World One Health Congress (23-25 Sept 2024). It provided the opportunity for Members and partners to review the achievements, exchange insights and strategize further actions for collective actions to progress towards our ‘Zero by 30’ goal.
- During the 91GS, a rabies side event was identified areas for support for dog-mediated rabies control and elimination in West and Central Africa and to showcase the efforts made by Cameroon. Delegates from Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Chad, Togo, the Central African Republic, Namibia, Zambia, Madagascar, and Guinea participated in this discussion.

6. Members commit to **working in partnership with multi-disciplinary agencies**, the private sector, local communities, civil society, regional and international organisations following the **One Health approach**, to accelerate progress towards elimination of dog-mediated human rabies by 2030. This can be done through **media campaigns**, stakeholder meetings, partnerships with organisations and local communities;



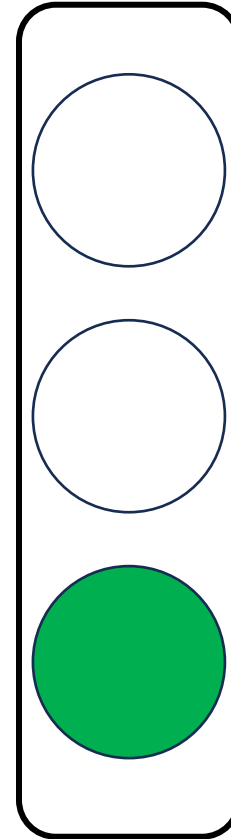
- WRD activities: WRD 2023 and 2024 were commemorated in majority of Members countries using OH approach as a tool for community advocacy.
- The Regional Quadripartite (FAO, UNEP, WHO and WOAHA) in Africa published joint communique to Members to support continental advocacy on Rabies. See [Joint Communique from Africa](#)
- Regional Quadripartite (FAO, UNEP, WHO and WOAHA) in Africa also contributed to development of the African Union One Health Zoonotic Disease Control Strategy

7. Members **Advocate for Public health authorities** to ensure **accessibility and availability of human post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP)** for animal bite cases and **promote integrated bite case management** to prevent human deaths from rabies;



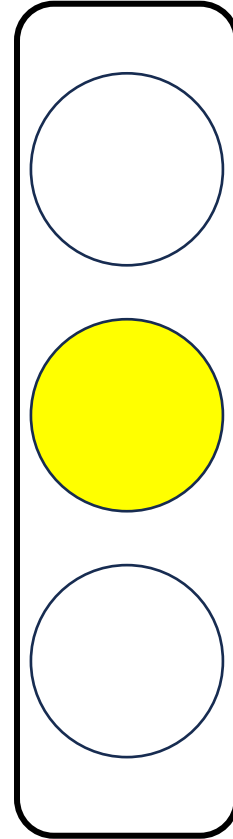
- [GAVI](#), the Vaccine Alliance has invited countries to apply for support to access affordable PEP for human bite cases.
- Members are encouraged to work within the One Health context of their countries to support these applications to access Rabies PEP from GAVI
- Madagascar and Côte d'Ivoire have been granted GAVI support for PEP

8. Members **Strengthen diagnostic capacity** of their **National Rabies Diagnostic Laboratory** to perform **confirmatory diagnostic** test according to WOAH international standards and, when necessary, **request the support of WOAH Rabies Reference Labs**, including through **WOAH laboratories twinning program**.



- Ongoing efforts to develop core cells for a South African Diagnostic Network by organising virtual training for laboratory personnels from Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Zambia, Angola, Botswana
- Rabies lab twinning project completed in Namibia,
- Twinning IPT Tunis – ANSES Nancy (ended in Dec 2023)
- OHRT project in Cameroon and Central Africa has strengthened diagnostic capacities of national laboratories
- UAR Country Partnership support to Malawi to build diagnostic capacity

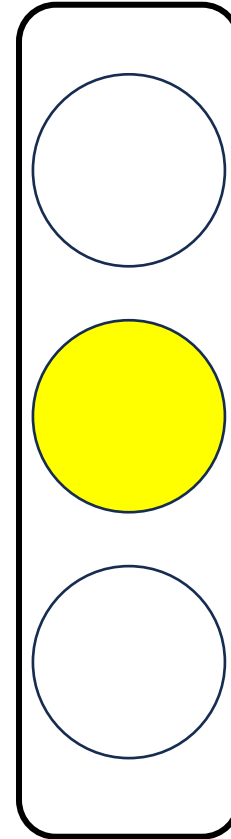
9. Members **Enhance laboratory-based rabies surveillance** by establishing **routine testing of suspected animals**, and **improve transparent data sharing between human and animal health sectors** and **reporting** of animal and human rabies cases by using standard case definitions for **reporting to national authorities and to WOA and WHO**



- **February 2024:** Conclusion of the 2-year twinning programme between WOA Reference Laboratory for rabies at the *Onderstepoort Veterinary Research (OVR)* Institute in Pretoria, South Africa (parent laboratory) to the *National Animal Health Diagnosis and Investigation Center (NAHDIC)* in Sebeta, Ethiopia (candidate laboratory)
- **Training of professionals of animal and human health sectors in rabies surveillance in Cameroon under OHRT project**

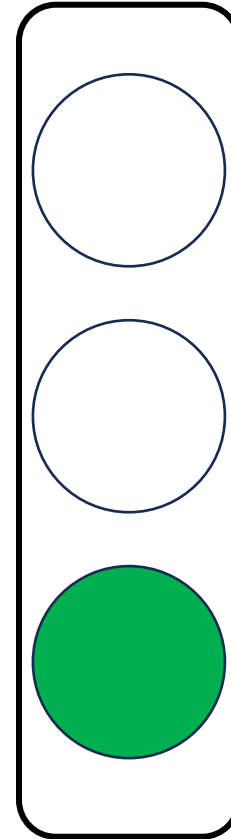


10. Members take advantage of the evaluation and capacity building WOAHA processes and tools such as the **PVS Pathway programme with Rabies Specific Content**, the **National Bridging Workshop** on Rabies and the Stepwise approach for Rabies Elimination (**SARE**). These tools will empower the Veterinary Services via a systems approach and building capacity in the One Health space;



- :
- Mauritania: PVS follow-up with a specific focus on Rabies – April 2024
- **UPDATE**
  - Tunisia: NBW on OH (Rabies was one of the priority diseases discussed) – December 2023
  - Tunisia: SARE self-assessment March 2023

11. Members' Veterinary Services **establish a coordination mechanism** with **public health authorities** and **local authorities to coordinate rabies elimination activities** and raise the profile of rabies **through the annual observation of World Rabies Day.**



- **WRD celebrations in 2024**



<https://rabiesalliance.org/world-rabies-day>