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The role of Veterinary Services in Food Safety and the responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents in veterinary medicine



Development of Public-Private Partnerships
to support Veterinary Services

Rabat,
16 Feb. 2015

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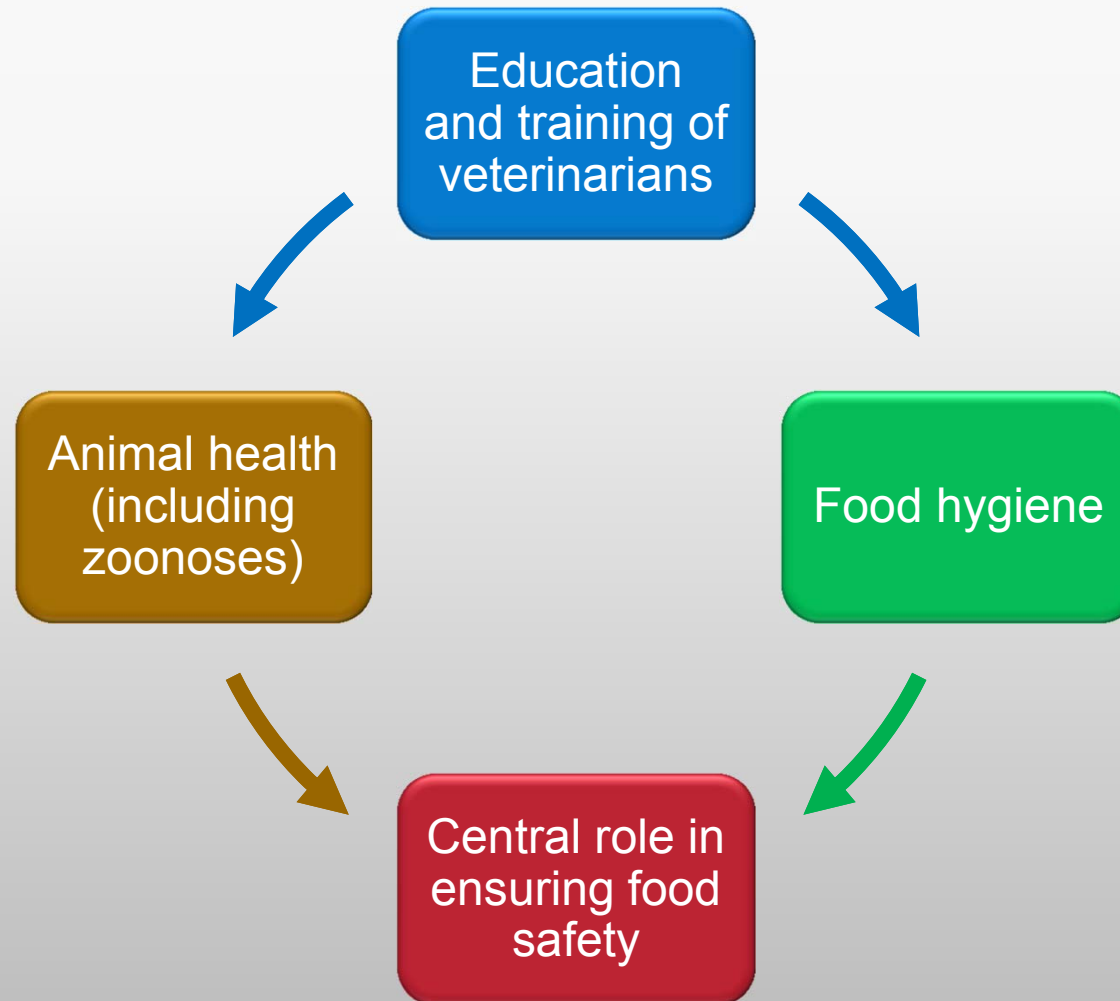
1. The role of veterinary services in food safety (Code chapter 6.1.)
2. The responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents in veterinary medicine (Code chapter 6.9.)
3. Governance of Veterinary Medicinal Products

Background

- Role of ***Veterinary Services*** traditionally extended from farm to slaughterhouse, where veterinarians have a dual responsibility:
 - epidemiological surveillance of animal diseases;
 - ensuring the safety and suitability of meat.

- In many countries, role of ***Veterinary Services*** has been extended to include subsequent stages of the “*farm to fork*” food chain.

Central role in food safety



Central role in food safety

- Several other professional groups are involved in supporting integrated food safety approaches throughout the food chain.
- *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* Chapter 6.1 provides guidance to OIE Member Countries on the role and responsibilities of the **Veterinary Services** in food safety to assist them in meeting food safety objectives in national legislation and requirements of importing countries.

Approaches to food safety

- Food safety & quality are best assured by considering the whole food chain
 - ▶ **integrated, multidisciplinary approach**
- Eliminating or controlling hazards at source is more efficient in reducing or eliminating the risk of unwanted health effects than relying on control of the final product
 - ▶ **preventive approach**

Approaches to food safety

- Approaches to food safety have evolved from controls based on **good practices** (Good Agricultural Practice (GAP), Good Hygienic Practice, etc.), via food safety systems based on **Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP)** to risk-based approaches using **food safety risk analysis**

Risk-based management systems

- Development of risk-based systems influenced by World Trade Organization (WTO) SPS Agreement
 - sanitary and phytosanitary measures shall be based on an assessment of risks to human, animal or plant life or health
 - It takes into account risk assessment techniques developed by relevant international organisations.
- ***Risk assessment*** should be functionally separated from ***risk management*** to avoid interference from economic, political or other interests.

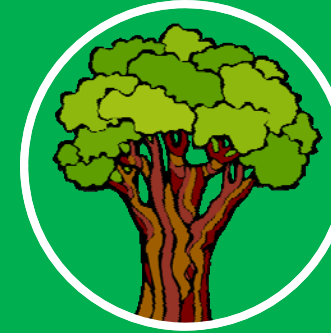
The “three sisters”



Food Safety
CODEX



Animal health
& zoonoses
OIE



Plant health
IPPC

Standard-setting organisations recognised by WTO

Codex = Codex Alimentarius Commission (FAO/WHO)

OIE = World Organisation for Animal Health

IPPC = International Plant Protection Convention

Codex and OIE

- OIE and Codex collaborate closely in standards development and recommendations of OIE and Codex should be read in conjunction
- For example, OIE participated actively in the development of Codex *Risk Assessment Guidelines on antimicrobial resistance, Guidelines for the control of Campylobacter and Salmonella in chicken meat.*

Redefinition of responsibilities

- Traditionally, **food operators** held responsible for *food quality* and **regulatory agencies** charged with assuring *food safety*.
- **Food operators** now given **primary responsibility** for both the *quality* and *safety* of the foods they place on the market.
- Role of **supervisory authorities**
 - **develop food standards** (both processing and end product standards);
 - **monitoring** to ensure that food operators' control systems are appropriate, validated and operated in such a way that standards are met.
- **In cases of non-compliance**, regulatory agencies responsible to ensure that **sanctions are applied**.

Role in Application of Risk Analysis

- **Veterinary Services** play essential role in application of the risk analysis process and the implementation of risk-based recommendations for regulatory systems.
- Each country should establish its health protection objectives for animal health and public health through consultation with stakeholders (livestock producers, processors and consumers), in accordance with the social, economic, cultural, religious and political contexts of the country.
- These objectives should be put into effect through national legislation and steps taken to raise awareness of them both within the country and to trading partners.

Functions of *Veterinary Services*

- contribute to achievement of health protection objectives through
 - direct performance of some veterinary tasks;
 - auditing of animal and public health activities
 - ▶ conducted by other government agencies, private sector veterinarians and other stakeholders.
- In addition to veterinarians, several other professional groups (e.g. analysts, epidemiologists, food technologists, human and environmental health professionals, microbiologists and toxicologists) are involved in ensuring food safety throughout the food chain.

Close cooperation and effective communication between all involved is essential to achieve the best results from the combined resources.

Delegation of tasks

- When veterinary or other professional tasks are delegated to individuals or enterprises outside the **Veterinary Authority**, *clear information on regulatory requirements* and a *system of checks* should be established to monitor and verify performance of the delegated activities.
- The **Veterinary Authority** retains the final responsibility for satisfactory performance of delegated activities.

Functions of *Veterinary Services* at the farm level

- play a key role in ensuring that animals are kept under **hygienic conditions** and in the **early detection, surveillance** and **treatment** of animal diseases, including conditions of public health significance.
- may also provide livestock producers with **information, advice** and **training** on how to avoid, eliminate or control food safety hazards or how to use antimicrobials
 - e.g. drug and pesticide residues, mycotoxins, environmental contaminants, in primary production, including through animal feed

Producers' organisations, particularly those with veterinary advisors, can provide awareness and training as they are in regular contact with farmers and understand their priorities.

Meat inspection (1)

Control and/or reduction of biological hazards of animal and public health concern by ***ante- and post-mortem meat inspection is a core responsibility of the Veterinary Services***

- Should have primary responsibility for development of relevant inspection programmes.
- Wherever practicable:
 - inspection procedures should be risk-based;
 - management systems should reflect international standards.
- The ***Veterinary Authority*** should provide for flexibility in the delivery of the meat inspection service

Meat inspection (2)

- The *Codex Alimentarius Code of Hygienic Practice for Meat*
 - constitutes the primary international standard for meat hygiene;
 - incorporates a risk-based approach to application of sanitary measures throughout the meat production chain
- Code Chapter 6.2: control of biological hazards of animal and public health importance through *ante-* and *post-mortem* meat inspection complements the *Codex Code*

Meat inspection (3)

- Countries may adopt different administrative models, involving degrees of delegation to officially recognised competent bodies operating under the supervision and control of the **Veterinary Authority**.
- If personnel from the private sector used to carry out *ante* - and *post-mortem* inspection activities, the **Veterinary Authority** should specify competency requirements for such persons and verify their performance.

Meat inspection (4)

- ***Veterinary Authority*** should have systems for the monitoring inspection procedures and exchange of information gained.
- ***Animal identification*** and ***animal traceability*** systems should be integrated in order to be able to trace slaughtered animals *back* to their place of origin, and products derived from them *forward* in the meat production chain.

Coordination with others



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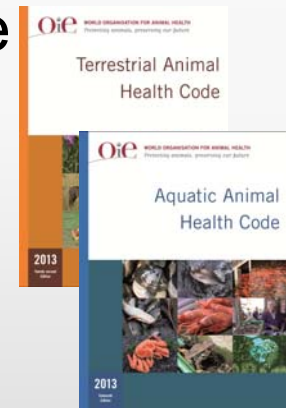
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Update on OIE Standards and Guidelines

Terrestrial and Aquatic Code “Chapters” cover

- Harmonisation of national antimicrobial resistance surveillance programmes
- Monitoring of the quantities and usage patterns
- **Responsible and prudent use**
- Risk assessment (linked the use of antimicrobial agents in animals)
- OIE List of Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance

Updated and adopted between 2012 and 2014

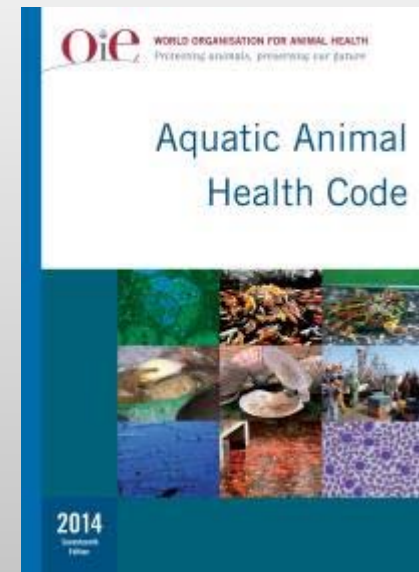


http://www.oie.int/index.php?id=169&L=0&htmfile=chapitre_antibio_use.htm

Update on OIE Standards and Guidelines

A similar approach was taken for aquatic animals:

- **Adopted in May 2011** by OIE Member Countries for inclusion in the Aquatic Code.
 - Chapter 6.3. Principles for responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents in aquatic animals



<http://www.oie.int/en/international-standard-setting/aquatic-code/>

Chapter 6.9. Responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents in veterinary medicine

- Contribute to maintaining the efficacy and usefulness of antimicrobial agents used in animal and human medicine
- Is principally determined by the outcome of marketing authorisation and by the distribution, prescription and administration
- Recommendations are provided for each of the parties involved:
 - competent authority
 - veterinary pharmaceutical industry
 - wholesale and retail distributors
 - veterinarians
 - food-animal producers
 - animal feed manufacturers

To implement responsible and prudent use

Competent Authorities

- Ensuring regulation of production, import and distribution
- Granting marketing authorisation ► specify terms of authorisation (criteria for safety, quality, efficacy, etc.) and provide information to vets
- Combat manufacture, advertisement, trade, distribution and use of unlicensed/counterfeit products
- Quality control of products
- Control over prescription, supply, administration
- Ensure that the environmental impact of antimicrobial use is restricted to a minimum.

To implement responsible and prudent use

▪ **Distributors**

- For antimicrobial agents only by prescription and delivery from a veterinarian or other suitably trained person under veterinary supervision
- Detailed records

▪ **Veterinarians**

- Promotion of good farming practices to minimise the need for antimicrobial agents
- Prescription and delivery only to animals under their care; when necessary; precise indications (including withdrawal period)
- Appropriate choice (▶ target pathogens) of antimicrobial agents for efficacy of treatment
- Detailed records

To implement responsible and prudent use

▪ **Food animal producers**

- Implement health & welfare programmes with involvement of a vet.
- Use antimicrobial agents only by prescription and delivery by a well qualified veterinarian
- Comply with withdrawal periods

▪ **Animal feed manufacturers**

- Supply of medicated feed containing antimicrobial agents on prescription of a veterinarian or other suitable trained person authorised in accordance with the national legislation and under the supervision of a veterinarian;

▪ **Veterinary Statutory Bodies**

- To be established by law to define and control professional conduct and veterinary ethics of veterinarians.



▪ **To implement responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents in animals we need:**

- Good governance and quality veterinary services, including the private sector and laboratories
- Involvement of all stakeholders
- Measures for controls on importation, production, distribution and use
- Veterinary supervision for animal use is a priority and well qualified veterinarians are the solution
- International solidarity to support developing countries particularly in good governance aspects including Veterinary Service legislation

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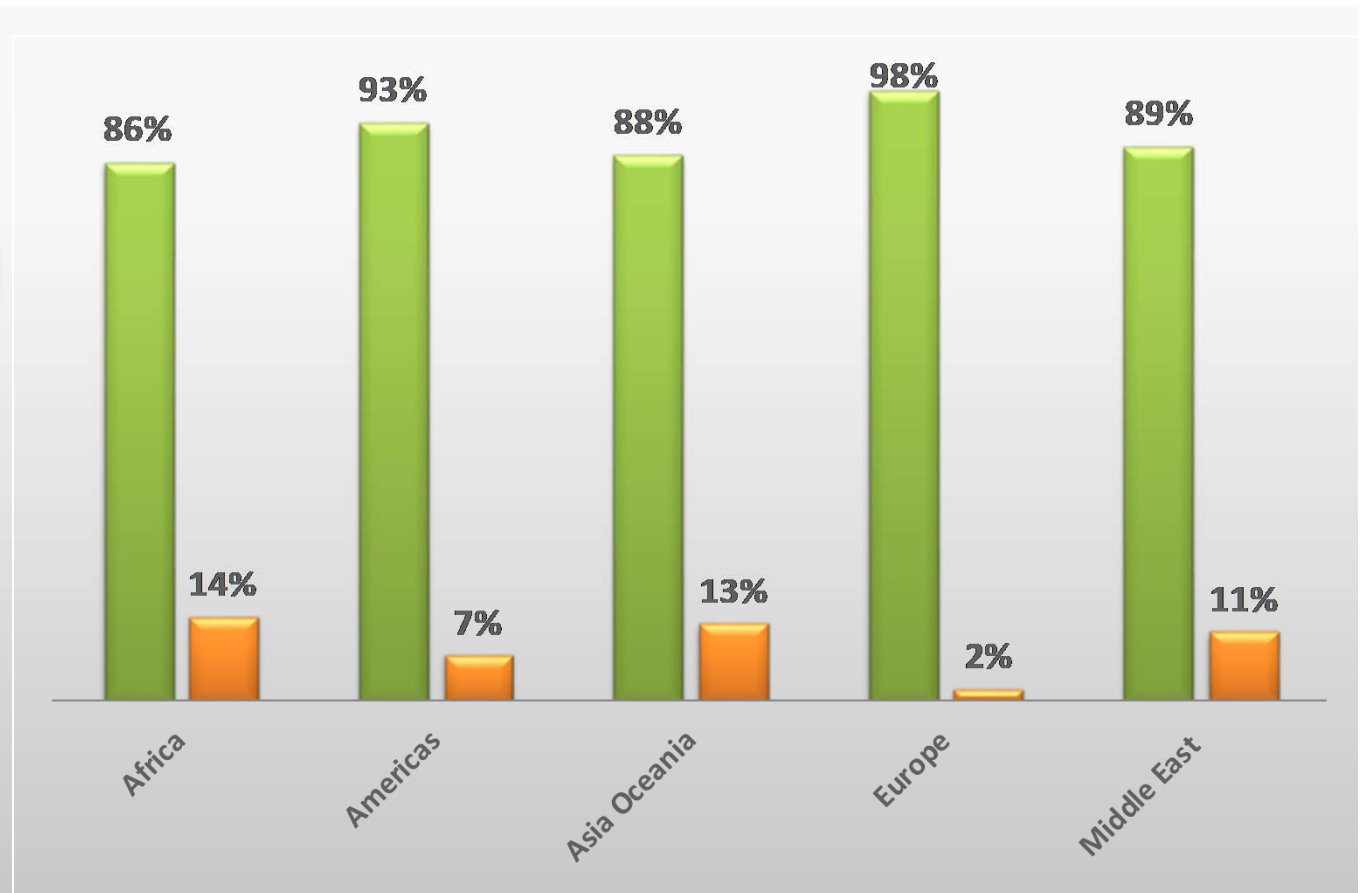
Governance for Veterinary Medicinal Products (VMPs)

Requires sound pharmaceutical policy and regulations

- A favorable environment
 - Communication
 - Relationship authorities/authorities and authority/ stakeholders

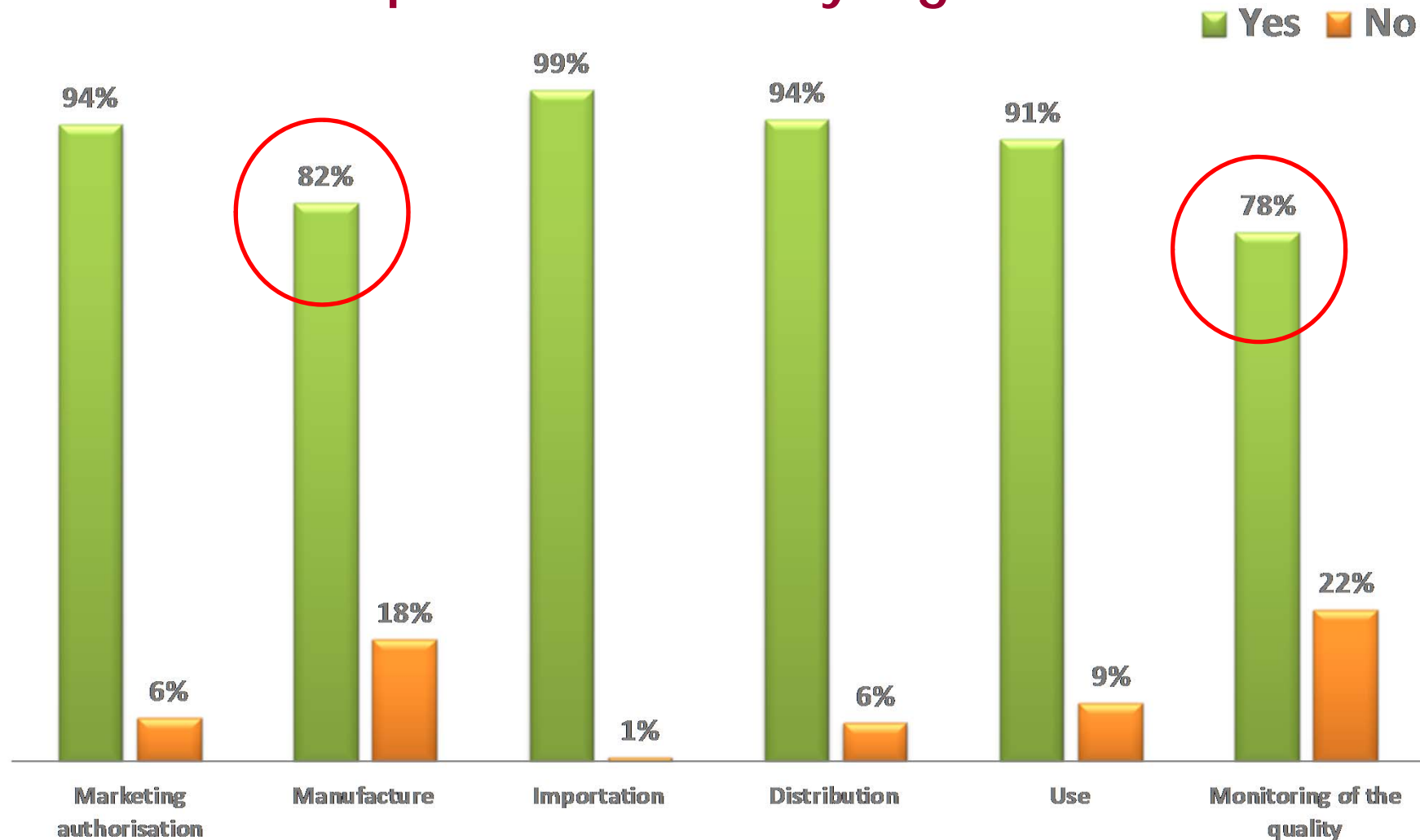


Proportion of OIE Member Countries having legislation covering Veterinary Medicinal Products



Analysis of the OIE survey on monitoring of the quantities of antimicrobial agents used in animals

Aspects covered by legislation



Analysis of the OIE survey on monitoring of the quantities of antimicrobial agents used in animals

Conclusions

- **OIE assists its Members in the governance of VMPs:**
 - Guidelines for the development of VMPs legislation available (**see chap. 3.4 Terrestrial Animal health Code**)
 - Development of Standards and guidelines (antimicrobial resistance)
 - Nomination of Focal points for VMPs in all countries
 - Trainings for FP for VMPs per region
 - Conferences
 - Support of VICH activities

Conclusions

- **OIE supports Member Countries by:**
 - strengthening Veterinary Services (with its non governmental component)
 - PVS tool and PVS gap analysis
 - legislation missions – assistance with the analysis of existing legislation and proposals for revision
 - development of twinnings
 - Day one education

For the media



- > OIE and WVA: new projects in the pipeline for 2015
- > The OIE boosts collaboration with the FVE
- > The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the World Customs Organisation (WCO) call for a reinforced collaboration

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Highlights

The OIE wishes you a Happy



Oie Videos

Overview

Application of compartmentalisation	Commodity-based approach
Introduction to Specialist Commissions	Standard-Setting: The Codes
	Devising import measures
	Legal rights and obligations

Terrestrial code

Access online

Terrestrial manual

Access online

Aquatic code

Access online

Aquatic manual

Access online

Specialists commissions & groups

Code Commission & Reports	Scientific Commission & Reports
Laboratories Commission & Reports	Aquatic Animal Commission & Reports
Working Groups & Reports	

Implications of private standards

Editorial

180 countries engaged in promoting animal health and welfare worldwide



The World Assembly of national Delegates of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) met for the 82nd time in May 2014 to consider and adopt the new ...

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Most recent issues:

- * One Health, Vol. 33 (2), August 2014
- * Animal welfare: focusing on the future, Vol. 33 (1), April 2014

Plurithematic issue: peer-reviewed papers

- > Bulletins online (OIE Magazine): Latest issue
- > Document database



Official disease status

OIE World Conferences

- > 30 June - 2 July 2015
- OIE Global Conference on Biological Threat Reduction



Thank you for your attention



Any questions ?

World Organisation for Animal Health
Protecting animals, preserving our future