

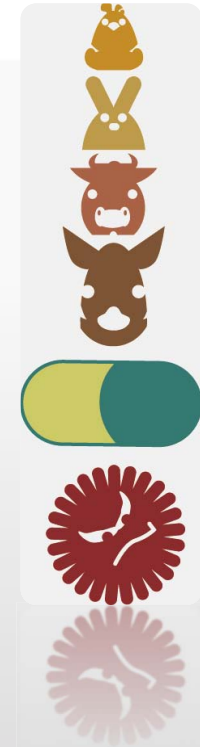


**Elisabeth Erlacher –Vindel**

Acting Head of the Scientific and Technical Department  
World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)

# History of Focal Point Seminars and Terms of Reference for OIE Focal Points for Veterinary Products

Regional Seminar for OIE National Focal Points for  
Veterinary Products Maputo, Mozambique,  
3 – 5 December 2013



**3rd Cycle**

**First part:**



**History of Focal  
Point Seminars**



# Introduction

- The OIE has launched a global programme of capacity building for OIE Delegates and OIE National Focal Points.
- One of the objectives is to provide good governance concepts to the main actors of National Veterinary Services.
- Among the elements of governance, the OIE grants great importance to the good management of veterinary products, from both animal and public health points of view.



# History of Focal Point Seminars

During the 76th General Session in May 2008, the World Assembly of Delegates has:

- re-iterated the importance of the **Focal Point for information on animal diseases**
- requested to nominate Focal Points on **other subjects**

The appointment of Focal Points to the OIE should be only done by the **National Delegate.**



# History of Focal Point Seminars

- Delegates were requested to nominate focal points for :
  - u Animal disease notification
  - u Wildlife
  - u Aquatic animal diseases
  - u Animal welfare
  - u Animal production food safety
  - ➔ **Veterinary products**
- Communication and Laboratories added later



# History of Focal Point Seminars

- Veterinary products
  - include diagnostics, vaccines and veterinary drugs
  - are key elements that enable detection, prevention and control of animal diseases



# History of Focal Point Seminars

- **The Resolution on Veterinary Products** ([No. 25](#)) adopted by the OIE Member Countries at the 77th OIE General Session in **May 2009** promotes a coherent strategy related to veterinary products and strengthens OIE involvement in this field



## Resolution No. 25

### Recommendations to OIE Members

- 4. Nominate a national focal point** for OIE on matters related to veterinary products according to the suggested Terms of Reference and encourage his/her participation in training sessions and appropriate international gatherings and meetings.





## The OIE Fifth Strategic Plan (2011-2015)

highlights the importance of Focal Points:

- *The World Assembly of Delegates has established a system of national focal points in several areas of the OIE's work. **Focal points** are established under the authority of the Delegate of each OIE Member. They assist the OIE Delegate and act as a direct contact point with the OIE in their respective areas.*



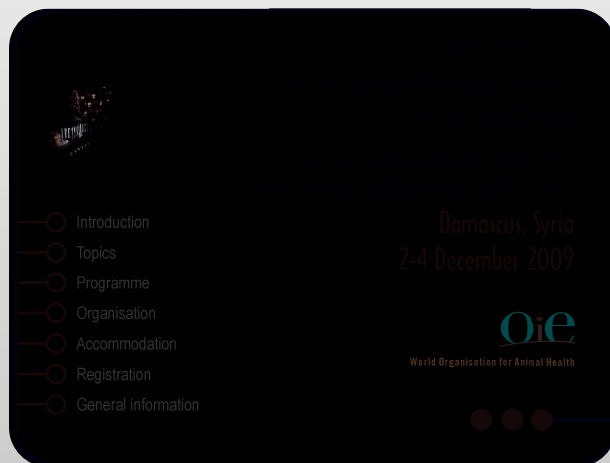
## The OIE Fifth Strategic Plan (2011-2015)

and confirms OIEs engagement to support their activities:

*The OIE will continue to strengthen the network of focal points in their respective areas of competence, mainly through training courses and workshops at the Regional and Sub-Regional levels.*

# History of Focal Point Seminars

- **OIE Conference on Veterinary Medicinal Products in Africa**  
Dakar (Senegal), 25–27 March 2008



- **OIE Conference on Veterinary Medicinal Products in the Middle East**  
Damascus (Syria), 2–4 December 2009



## History of Focal Point Seminars:

### ➤ First cycle

- Training workshops (**first cycle**) for OIE National Focal Points for Veterinary Products have been organised:
  - u Europe, (Serbia), July 2010
  - u Americas, (Colombia), September 2010
  - u Africa, (South Africa), November 2010
  - u Asia (Cambodia), June 2011



## ➤ First Cycle

The first cycle training provided basic knowledge

- on the **mandate and activities** of the OIE;
- **on the rights and responsibilities** of the OIE Delegates and their Focal Points;
- on the **Terms of Reference** of Focal Points;

and also addressed the needs and expectations of Focal Points on Veterinary Products.



## History of Focal Point Seminars:

### ➤ Second cycle

- **Second cycle** for OIE National Focal *Points for Veterinary Products*
  - u Africa (Senegal), Septembre 2011
  - u **Middle East and Africa (Morocco), Dec. 2011**
  - u Africa (Kenya), Mars 2012
  - u Asia (Thailand), July 2012
  - u Americas (Brazil), October 2012
  - u Europe (Austria), November 2012



## ➤ Second cycle

The second cycle focussed on

- **VICH** (International cooperation on harmonisation of technical requirements for Registration of Veterinary Products).
- The use of veterinary products and the issues of **residues** and **antimicrobial resistance (AMR)**.
- The **control of drugs and the quality of vaccines**.





## ➤ Second cycle

- Provided to participants the technical basis for the:
  - inspection system, monitoring plan, control of the distribution of **vaccines** and the tracking and identification of **counterfeit products**
- Strengthened awareness of Focal Points on the importance of **prudent and responsible use of veterinary drugs**, in particular with regard to residues and antimicrobial resistance.





# History of Focal Point Seminars

## ➤ Third Cycle

- Inter-Regional Seminar for OIE National Focal Points for Veterinary Products Algiers (Algeria) 1 – 3 October 2013
- Regional Seminar for OIE National Focal Points for Veterinary Products Maputo, Mozambique, 3 – 5 December 2013



## ➤ Third Cycle

Will cover

- Diagnostic test validation methods and kits
- Antimicrobial use and resistance
- Anti-parasitic drugs
- Veterinary products in general and good governance

**Second part:**



**Terms of Reference for  
OIE Focal Points for  
Veterinary Products**



# Terms of Reference

Terms of Reference (ToRs) for National Focal Points were:

- Established by OIE Headquarters for all Focal Points
- First sent to all OIE Delegates in March 2009



## Termes of Reference: General part

The responsibilities of the focal points are under the authority of the OIE Delegate.

- Any information transmitted to the OIE from the different focal points needs to be transmitted under the designated authority of the OIE Delegate
- This practice would equally apply, if focal points are located in other Departments or Ministries
- From a legal perspective the OIE considers the official OIE Delegate to be the unique representative of the country.



## Terms of Reference: Specific tasks

- **Establish a network of veterinary product experts** within his/her country or communicate with existing network;
- Establish and **maintain a dialogue with the Competent Authority** for veterinary products in his country, and to facilitate **cooperation and communication among** several authorities where responsibility is shared;



# Terms of Reference

- Under the authority of the OIE Delegate of his/her country, **monitor legislation** on and **control** of veterinary products to ensure that these are in support of OIE international standards, guidelines and recommendations;
- **Act as a contact point with the OIE** on matters related to veterinary products;



# Terms of Reference

- **Receive** from the OIE Headquarters information **on VICH (1) activities and copies of the reports of the Biological Standards Commission** and other relevant reports, should they address discussion points on veterinary products;
- **Conduct**, on request, the **in-country consultation process** with recognised veterinary product experts on draft texts of standards and/or on guidelines and recommendations proposed in those reports.

(1) VICH: International cooperation on harmonisation of technical requirements for Registration of Veterinary Products :





# Terms of Reference

- **Prepare comments for the Delegate** on each of the relevant meeting reports reflecting the scientific view and position of the individual OIE Member Country and/or the region, including comments on the proposals for new or revised **OIE standards**, guidelines and recommendations **related to veterinary products**.

# Thank you for your attention



## Any questions ?

**World Organisation for Animal Health**  
*Protecting animals, preserving our future*