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SWAZILAND



Regional Information seminar for OIE Delegates (Africa)
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Veterinary Authority


**DEPARTMENT OF
VETERINARY AND
LIVESTOCK SERVICES**

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE




Presentation Outline

- Introduction –role of delegate in Swaziland
- Advantages of OIE membership
- Challenges
 - Legislation/Policy challenges
 - Reporting challenges
 - Investment challenges
 - Other challenges
- Suggestions/ Possible solutions




Role of Director/Delegate

- Techo- political
- Formulation and implementation of animal health and production policies/ legislation
- Facilitate increase in trade whilst observing OIE Standards
- Converging point for multiple stakeholders (politicians, farmers, industry, global citizenry)
- Must be assertive, well conversant with OIE standards, WTO, Veterinary Technology Advancements, Global Thinking and domestic stakeholders needs
- To serve the people of Swaziland and by extension the global citizenry.



Competent Authorities

Competence	Veterinary authority	Other
(terrestrial) Animal health	✓	
(aquatic) Animal health	✓	Department of Agriculture and Extension (Fisheries Section)
(wildlife) Animal health	✓	Ministry of Natural Resources King's Office (CITES)
Animal health (food safety)	✓	Ministry of Health
Animal health (veterinary drugs)	✓	
Animal welfare	✓	Prime Ministers Office (Royal Swaziland Police)



Focal points

Competence	Designated	Name
Animal diseases notification	✓	Dr Sihle Mdluli
Aquatic animal health	✓	Mr Freddy Magagula
Wildlife	✓	Dr Patrick Dlamini
Animal production food safety	✓	Dr Bernard Dlamini
Veterinary drugs and biologicals	✓	Dr Zizwe Cindzi
Animal welfare	✓	Dr Bernard Dlamini (VPH) Dr Prince Danso (Field)

Role of the OIE Delegate



- Rights and obligations of OIE Member countries and of the OIE Delegates
- Involvement in the WTO-SPS Agreement with focus on international trade of animals and animal products
- Involvement in the OIE PVS process for the assessment / evaluation of Veterinary Services
- Notification requirements to the OIE (immediate and 6-monthly)
- Involvement in national / zonal disease freedom recognition processes
- Annual declarations of disease/infection freedom
- Responses to draft OIE standards and guidelines and appointment of focal points
- Attendance of OIE regional commission and world assembly meetings
- Administrative responsibilities towards OIE
- Financial responsibilities towards OIE

Advantages



- OIE is the greatest ally and mentor for the DVLS
- OIE alerts system keeps DVLS abreast with global animal disease occurrences
- OIE literature/publications are a rich source of animal health/production information
- Strong link with other international organization and sharing of information and strategies
- Various evaluations including PVS and Gap analysis provides basis for trust between Veterinary Services
- OIE Standards are a guidance and benchmark for international trade

Legislation/ Policy Challenges



- Rate of new standards formulation is fast yet national legislation formulation mechanisms are slow
- Related challenge – fast turnover of politicians – no institutional memory
- Inadequate budget and political support/understanding
- Multiplicity of sanitary standards, trade requirements and /or mechanisms of compliance

Reporting challenges



- Unavailability of report uploading function in WAHIS means report cannot be prepared offline
- Linking wildlife and domestic animals reports in WAHIS delays submission of the 6 months report
- Many reports on the same subject (OIE, SADC, AU)
- Overwhelming electronic communication

Investment and other Challenges



- Animal production not significantly improving therefore no justification for investment in new animal health programs
- Sensationalist/ Alarmist local media
- New delegates are not given user friendly guidelines on the operations of the OIE
- Corruption – politicians, technicians/ professionals, industry

Suggestions



- Create report uploading option in WAHIS to enable those with difficult internet connection to report
- Delink the wildlife report from the domestic animals report
- Develop a pocket guide on the operations of the OIE and avail to delegates
- Avoid insignificant or cosmetic changes to the OIE standards for adoption of changes into national legislation takes long

Suggestions Cont.



- OIE Sub- regional offices to lobby politicians especially at REC meetings
- OIE to continue capacity building for delegates and focal points
- Support delegates from developing countries to participate actively in standard setting meetings.
- Collaboration between OIE and allies to avoid 'group-think' and limitation of diversity of possible solutions

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Thank you, Ngiyabonga