



Organization World Organisation
Mandate Organisation
de la Santé des Animaux
pour la Santé Mondiale
Animale Health des Terres
Animal

The Mission, Organisation and Functioning of the World Organisation for Animal Health (Office International des Epizooties-OIE) with special focus on OIE Regional Commission for Africa

Presented at OIE Regional Information Seminar for Newly appointed OIE Delegates

By

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Historical Background

- Rinderpest outbreak in Belgium 1920.
- OIE office created on 25 Jan 1924 with 28 member countries.
- Mandate: provide international cooperation & coordination against spread of animal diseases.
- By 2004 core mandate of OIE: "Improvement of Animal health throughout the world"



Historical cont'd

Today OIE has :

- Current membership of 175 comprising Member Countries and Territories;
- Permanent relationship with 36 other Regional and International Organization; and
- Regional sub-regional representation on every continent.



Distribution of Membership for the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)



The Vision of the OIE:

"The OIE will strive to become the pre-eminent world reference for animal health by accessing and producing comprehensive scientific knowledge and consensus on it. This knowledge will promote the improvement of international animal diseases for the benefit of animal production and trade world-wide and for the protection of public health".



The Mission of the OIE

"To convert international scientific data on animal health into information and transform information into knowledge products that meet the needs of Member Countries."



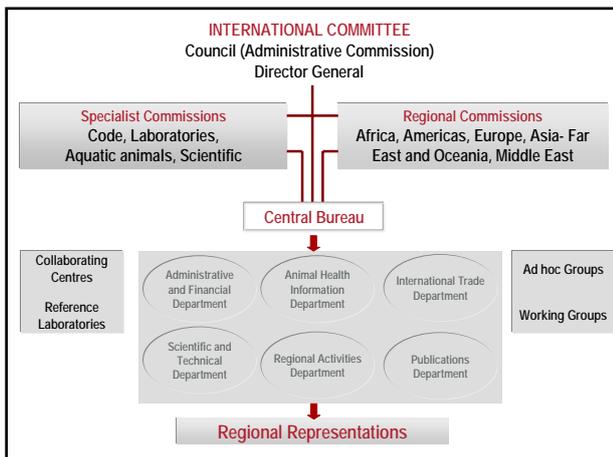
Mission Objectives (Specific Missions) of the OIE

- To ensure transparency in the global animal diseases including zoonoses situation;
- To collect, analyse and disseminate relevant scientific information, especially on disease control methods and animal welfare;
- To provide expertise and encourage international solidarity in the control of animal diseases including zoonoses;
- Within the mandate under the WTO SPS Agreement, to ensure safety of world trade in animals and animal products by publishing relevant health standards for such trade;



Mission objectives cont'd

- To improve the legal framework, competency and resources of the national Veterinary Services, and particularly the international good components;
- To influence policy design, research and governance on worldwide issues concerning animal health and animal welfare;
- To provide a better guarantee of the safety of the food of animal origin from hazards originating in animal production; and;
- To promote animal welfare through a science based approach.



GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- Comprises all the 75 delegates ;
- Meets at least once a year in May in Paris;
- Voting by Delegates within the Assembly respects the democratic principle of 'one country one vote'.



Council (Administrative Commission)

- The President of World Assembly,
- The Vice-President,
- The Past President,
- and six delegates;
- Meets twice a year in May and Feb & represents the General Assembly between sessions.



Specialist Commissions

- The role of OIE specialist commissions is to use current scientific information to study problems of epidemiology, prevention and control of animal diseases and zoonoses,
- To develop and revise OIE's international standards and;
- To address scientific and technical issues raised by Member Countries and Territories.



There are Four specialist commission:

- Terrestrial Animal health Standards Commission ("Terrestrial Code Commission").
- Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases ("Scientific Commission").
- Biological Standards Commission ("Laboratories Commission").
- Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission ("Aquatic Animals Commission")



Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission ("Terrestrial Code Commission")

- Founded in 1960.
- Ensures that the recommendations of Terrestrial Animal Health Code on protection of international trade and surveillance methods for animal diseases and zoonoses are based on current scientific information.
- Works with internationally renowned experts.
- Collaborates with Aquatic Health Standards and biological standards and scientific commissions on issues of harmonisation.



The Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases ("Scientific Commission")

- Founded in 1946;
- Assists in identifying the most appropriate strategies and measures for disease prevention and control;
- Examines Member Country submissions regarding their animal health status for those countries that wish to be included on OIE list of freedom from certain diseases and infections.



The Biological Standards Commission ("Laboratories Commission")

- Founded in 1949.
- Responsible for establishing or approving methods for diagnosis of diseases of mammals, birds and bees.
- Responsible for recommendation of the most effective biological products e.g. Vaccines
- Oversees the production of the Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals.
- Also selects OIE Reference laboratories for Disease and Terrestrial Animals.
- Promotes the preparation and distribution of standards reagents for diagnostic testing.



Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission (Aquatic Animals Commission)

- Founded in 1960.
- Compiles information on aquatic animal diseases (amphibians, crustaceans, fish and molluscs, and methods for controlling them).
- Produces the Aquatic Animal health Code & Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals.
- Organises Scientific meetings on diverse topics of importance to aquaculture.



- **Terrestrial Animal Health Code**
- **Aquatic Animal Health Code**
- **Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals**
- **Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals**



Reference Laboratories

- OIE has a global network of 187 reference Labs. With 161 experts covering over 100 diseases / topics in 36 countries.
- Designated to pursue all scientific and technical problems relating to OIE named lists of diseases.
- Work as centres of excellence and expertise and standardisation of diagnostic techniques for designated diseases.



Reference Laboratories Cont'd

- Also provide scientific and technical training for personnel from OIE Member Countries and Territories.
- Coordinate Scientific and Technical Studies in collaboration with other laboratories or organisations.
- Guidelines for applicants for designation as OIE Ref. Labs have been developed.
- OIE encourages Twinning of less advanced Labs in Third World with those in more advanced countries of the North and West.



OIE Reference Laboratories



Countries with six or more OIE Reference Laboratories

Country	Number of Reference Laboratories
Australia	8
Canada	15
France	16
Germany	12
Italy	9
Japan	13
South Africa	6
United Kingdom	30
United States of America	25

Collaborating Centres

- The OIE has 35 collaborating centres covering 33 topics in 20 Member Countries.
- The OIE Collaborating Centres are centres of excellence of expertise in a specific designated spheres of competence relating to the management of general questions on animal health issues (e.g. epidemiology, risk analysis, vaccine development).



OIE Collaborating Centres



Working Groups

- OIE permanent Working Groups are responsible for continually reviewing developments in their fields, and for keeping OIE Member Countries informed of current issues through scientific meetings, seminars, workshops and training courses. The Working Groups currently operating are:
 - Working Group on Wildlife Diseases.
 - Working Group on Animal Welfare.
 - Working Group of Food Safety.



Working Group on Wildlife Diseases

- Founded in 1994.
- This Working Group informs and advises the OIE on all health problems relating to wild animals, whether in the wild or in captivity.
- It has prepared recommendations and oversees numerous scientific publications on the surveillance and control of the most important specific wildlife diseases.
- The Working Group comprises world-leading scientific experts in their subject areas.



Working Group on Animal Welfare

- A permanent working group on Animal Welfare was established in 2002 to coordinate and manage the animal welfare activities of the OIE.



Working Group on Food Safety

- A permanent working group on food safety was established in 2002 to coordinate and manage the animal production food safety activities of the OIE.



Ad Hoc Groups

- Ad Hoc Groups are convened as required by the Director General of the OIE to examine scientific and technical issues.
- Comprising leading specialists from OIE Member Countries, their reports serve as guides for the Specialist Commissions and the International Committee informing recommendations and making decisions.



Regional Representations

- The OIE maintains Representation in the following regions: Africa, America, Asia and Pacific, Eastern Europe, Middle East;
- Considered as decentralised Executive bodies of the OIE.
- The goal is to provide regionally adapted services to OIE Members so that they may strengthen the surveillance, prevention and control of animal diseases in the region.



The OIE Regional Representation for Africa:

- Established in 2001;
- Has HQs in Bamako, Mali;
- Since then, Sub-Regional several Representations have been established:

Region	Location
Southern Africa	Gaborone Botswana
Western Africa	Bamako Mali
Eastern Africa	Nairobi Kenya
Northern Africa	Tunis Tunisia



The OIE has created five Regional Commissions;

Role

- Constituted by Delegates, entrusted with Policy Development at Regional Level.
- The Commissions study specific problems encountered by Veterinary Services and organize cooperation activities such as conferences, seminars, workshops at regional level.
- Advocacy for regional interests and influence on decisions of General Assembly.
- These Commissions cover the following regions: Africa, Americas, Europe, Middle East, Asia and, Far East and Oceania.



Cont'd

- A Regional Commission Conference is organized once every two years in one of the countries of the region. These conferences are devoted to technical items and to regional cooperation in the control of animal diseases.
- Regional programmes may be developed to reinforce surveillance, prevention and control of major animal diseases, especially for regions where the OIE maintains a Regional or Sub - Regional Representation.
- Regional Commissions report on their activities and submit recommendations to the International Committee.
- In May 2009, elections for the Bureau (President, Vice-President and Secretary General) of the Regional Commissions were held for a three-year term.



The OIE Regional Commission for Africa

- Bureau set up in 2001, renewed in 2003 and 2006.
- The current Bureau was elected in 2009. It consists of the following delegates elected in May, 2009:
 - i) President: Dr William Olaho-Mukani
 - ii) 1st Vice-President. Dr. Daouda Bangoura
 - iii) 2nd Vice-President Dr. Mokhtar Fall
 - iv) Secretary General Dr. Marosi Molomo



Cont'd

The Conferences for OIE Regional Commission for Africa have been held in the following cities and countries of Africa:

City	Country	Year
Pretoria	South Africa	Jan. 1997
Dakar	Senegal	Jan. 1999
Arusha	Tanzania	Feb. 2001
Maputo	Mozambique	Feb. 2003
Khartoum	Sudan	Feb. 2005
Asmara	Eritrea	Feb. 2007
Ndjamena	Tchad	Feb. 2009



TECHNICAL ITEMS PROPOSED TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OR TO REGIONAL COMMISSIONS

Pretoria (South Africa) – January 1997

- The role of Veterinary Services in public health.
- Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia: diagnosis and prevention.

Dakar (Senegal) – January 1999

- The effect of structural adjustment programmes on the delivery of veterinary services in Africa.
- Indications for the implementation of stamping-out measures for animal disease control in Africa.



TECHNICAL ITEMS Cont'd

Arusha (Tanzania) - January 2001

- The role of para – veterinarians in the delivery of veterinary services in Africa.
- Antibiotic resistance, especially in poultry production.

Maputo (Mozambique), 18-21 February 2003

- The importance of livestock movement control and identification to the promotion of animal disease control & facilitation of trade.
- The role of animal disease control in poverty alleviation and food security strategies in Sub-Saharan Africa.



TECHNICAL ITEMS Cont'd

Khartoum (Sudan) 2005

- Socio – economic and animal health impact of transhumance.
- The implications of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) for the livestock industry in Africa.

Asmara (Eritrea) 2007

- Strategy for strengthening national epidemiological surveillance systems in Africa.
- Harmonisation of the registration and control of veterinary medicinal products in Africa.



TECHNICAL ITEMS Cont'd

N'Djamena 2009

- Challenges faced by African products of animal origin in accessing world markets.
- Impact of brucellosis on the livestock economy and public health in Africa.

These Technical Items are discussed and recommendations made to the International Committee.

The next OIE Regional Commission Committee meeting will be held in Kigali, Republic of Rwanda, in Feb. 2011.



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION**

