

# International regulatory information system: The WOAH World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS)

Kigali, 2–4 October 2023

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# 1. WOAH Standards and requirements for disease reporting

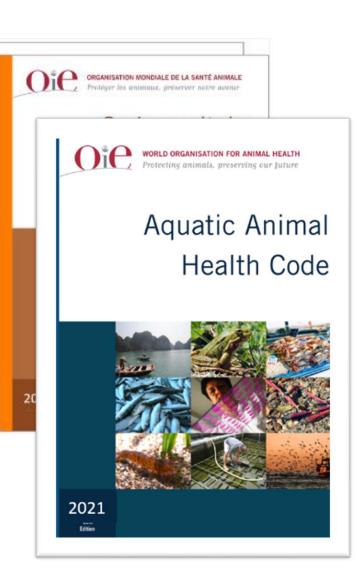
- 1. WOAH Standards and requirements for disease reporting
- **2.** Disease reporting through WAHIS: Early Warning and Monitoring modules
- 3. Information dissemination: WAHIS public interface

## **WOAH** mandate and missions



Since its creation in 1924, the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH, founded as OIE) has been the mandated international body collecting data on, observing, and analysing animal diseases throughout the world.

# Legal basis for animal disease notification to WOAH



### NOTIFICATION OF DISEASES, AND PROVISION OF EPIDEMIOLOGICAL INFORMATION

#### Article 1.1.1.

For the purposes of the *Aquatic Code* and in terms of Articles 5, 9 and 10 of the OIE Organic Statutes, Member Countries shall recognise the right of the *Headquarters* to communicate directly with the *Competent Authority* of its *territory* or *territories*.

All notifications and all information sent by the OIE to the Competent Authority shall be regarded as having been sent to the country concerned and all notifications and all information sent to the OIE by the Competent Authority shall be regarded as having been sent by the country concerned.

#### Article 1.1.2.

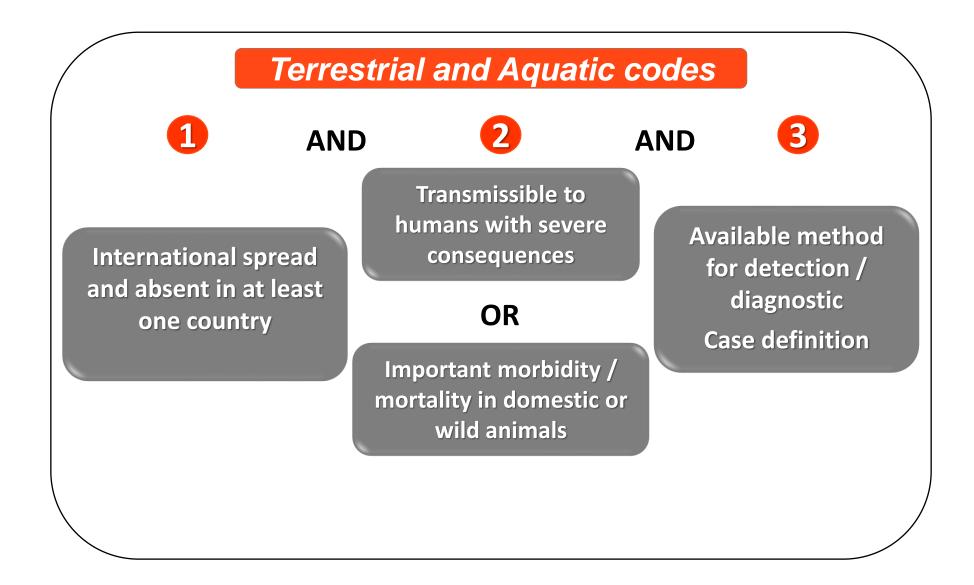
- Member Countries shall make available to other Member Countries, through the OIE, whatever information is necessary to minimise the spread of important diseases
  of aquatic animals and their pathogenic agents and to assist in achieving better worldwide control of these diseases.
- 2. To achieve this, Member Countries shall comply with the notification requirements specified in Articles 1.1.3. and 1.1.4.
- 3. For the purposes of this chapter an 'event' means a single outbreak or a group of epidemiologically related outbreaks of a given disease that is the subject of a notification. An event is specific to a pathogen and strain, when appropriate, and includes all related outbreaks reported from the time of the immediate notification through to the final report. Reports of an event include susceptible species, number and geographical distribution of affected aquatic animals and epidemiological units.

#### Article 1.1.3.

The Competent Authority shall, under the responsibility of the Delegate, send to the Headquarters:

- in accordance with relevant provisions in the <u>disease</u>-specific chapters, <u>notification</u>, through the World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS) or by fax or e-mail within 24 hours of any of the following events:
  - a. first occurrence of a listed disease in a country, a zone or a compartment;
  - b. recurrence of a *listed disease* in a country, a *zone* or a *compartment* following the final report that declared the *outbreak* ended;
  - c. first occurrence of a new strain of a pathogenic agent of a listed disease in a country, a zone or a compartment;
  - d. a sudden and unexpected change in the distribution or increase in incidence or virulence of, or morbidity or mortality caused by the *pathogenic agent* of a *listed disease*, present within a country, a *zone* or a *compartment*;
  - e. occurrence of a listed disease in a new host species;
- weekly reports subsequent to a notification under point 1 above, to provide further information on the evolution of the event which justified the notification. These
  reports should continue until the disease has been eradicated or the situation has become sufficiently stable so that six-monthly reporting under point 3 will satisfy
  the obligation of the Member Country. For each event notified, a final report should be submitted;
- 3. six-monthly reports on the absence or presence and evolution of listed diseases and information of epidemiological significance to other Member Countries;
- 4. annual reports concerning any other information of significance to other Member Countries.

# Criteria for inclusion on the WOAH lists of diseases



# Member representatives involved in disease notification

Official representative = Delegate ...

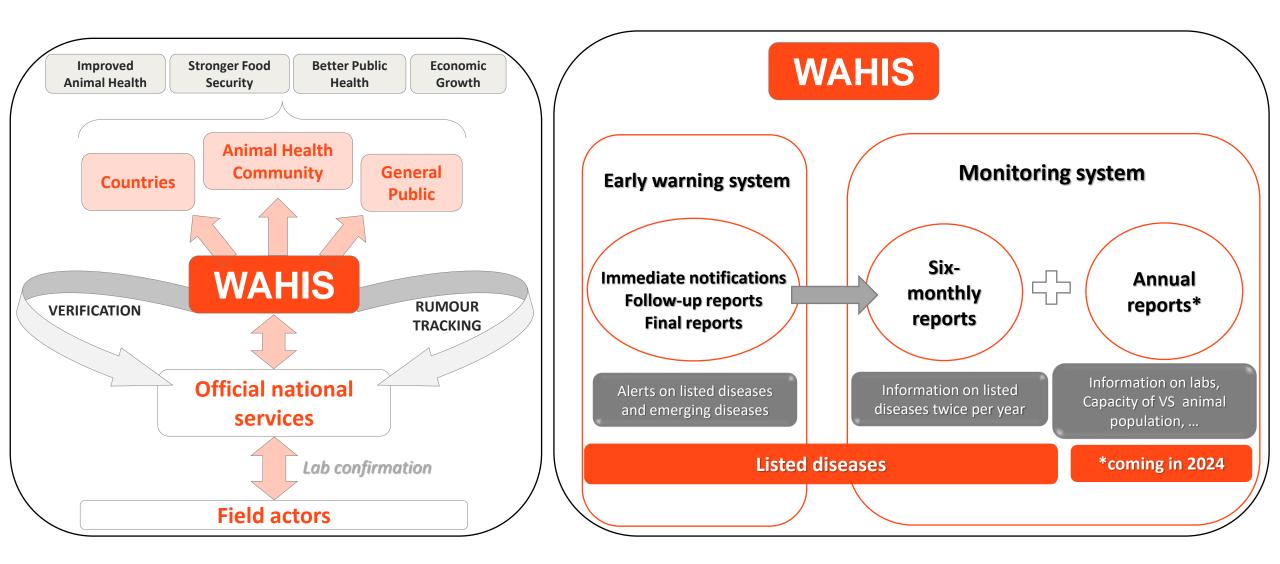
Supported by 8 FPs

- Animal Disease Notification
- Aquatic Animals
- Wildlife
- Veterinary laboratories
- Animal welfare
- Veterinary products
- Communication

Ensure diseases are reported as per WOAH standards on behalf of the delegate



# **WOAH disease surveillance system: WAHIS**



**WAHIS: Surveillance modules and information flow** 

<sup>\*</sup>New version of annual report module still under development



# 2. Disease reporting through WAHIS: Early Warning and Monitoring modules

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# Reporting requirements: alerts

Articles 1.1.3. and 1.1.4. of the *Terrestrial* and *Aquatic Codes* 

Immediate notifications and weekly follow-up reports on exceptional events:

- first occurrence or recurrence of a listed disease in a country or zone
- first occurrence of a new strain of a pathogenic agent of a listed disease
- sudden and unexpected change in the epidemiological distribution of a listed disease
- occurrence of a listed disease in a new host species.

Within 24 hours!

# Reporting requirements: alerts

# WAHIS notification procedures

## **Event**

Single outbreak or group of epidemiologically related outbreaks of a given disease that is the object of a notification.

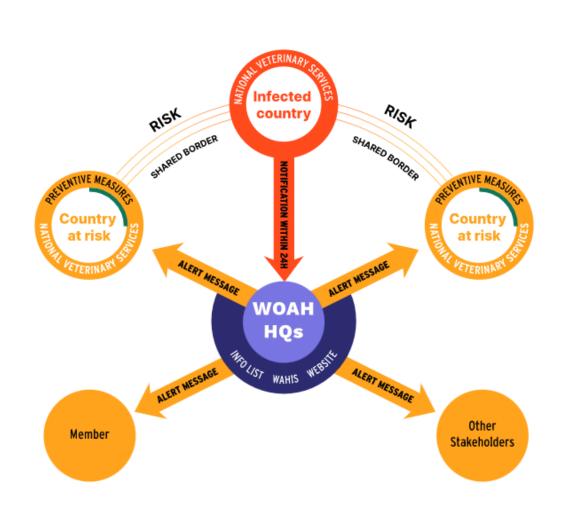
An event includes all related outbreaks reported from the immediate notification through to the final report.

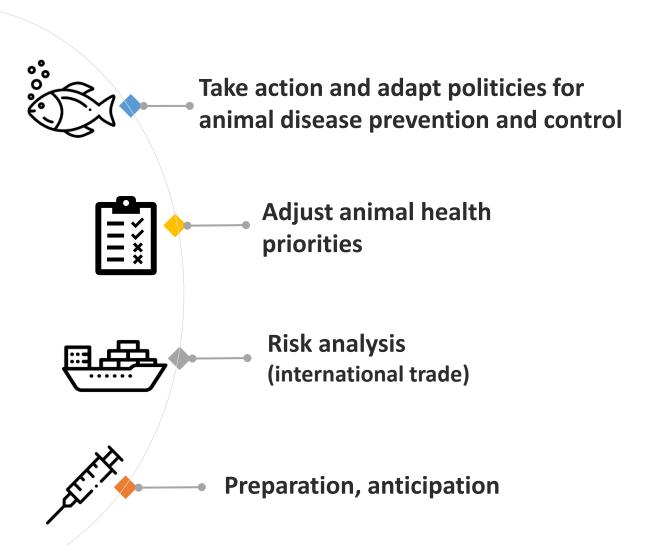
## **Outbreak**

of Occurrence of one or more cases in an epidemiological unit.

# Reporting requirements: importance of the alert

# National, regional and global levels





# Reporting requirements: follow-up reports

• Articles 1.1.3. and 1.1.4. of the *Terrestrial* and *Aquatic Codes* 

# Why it is important to keep your ongoing events updated:

- Transparency WOAH's mandate
- Opening trade after a disease event
- (Re)gaining official disease status of freedom
- Making a self-declaration of freedom
- Data consistency with six-monthly reports

# Reporting requirements: six-monthly reports

Articles 1.1.3 of the *Terrestrial* and *Aquatic Codes* 

2 semestrial reports (terrestrial and aquatic animals) providing for each of the WOAH-listed diseases:

- Occurrence code (present, absent, no information...)
- Control measures
- Quantitative data

# Reporting objective: make animal health data publicly available

# **WAHIS**

# Prompt dissemination

Ensures prompt dissemination of information on potentially devastating outbreaks

# Facilitates decision making

Facilitates decision making in terms of international trade of animals and animal products



## Reliable data

Provides open-access, highquality, reliable data







# 3. Information dissemination: WAHIS public interface

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# Verification and validation before publication

## WAHIAD staff check for:

- completeness and consistency of data submitted by countries
- epidemiological consistency over time
- compliance with WOAH Standards and WAHIS procedures
- presence of data entry errors

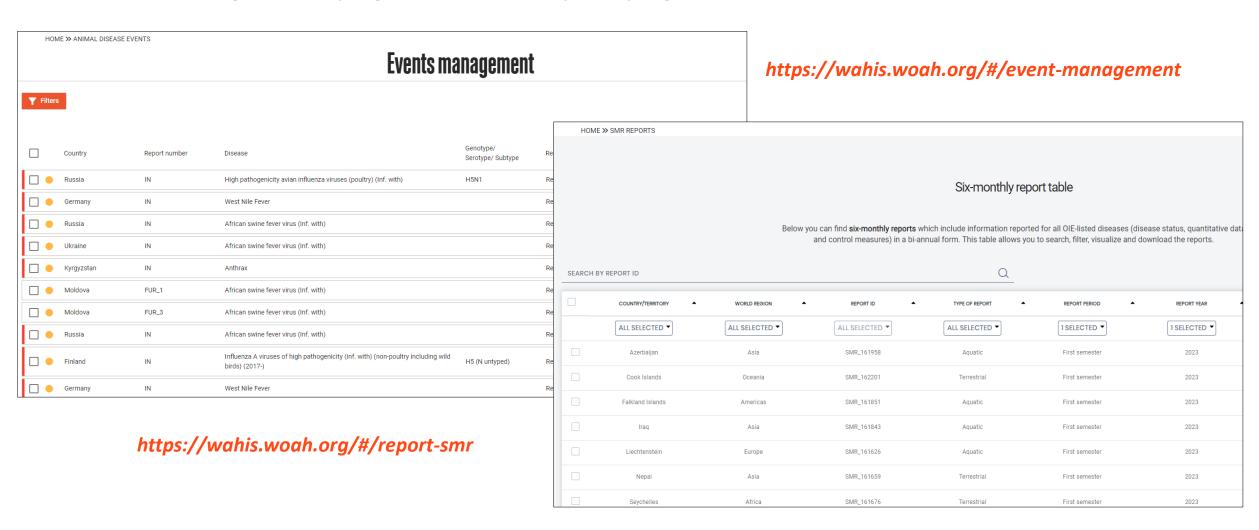
Clarification requested from reporting country if needed



Data as consistent and reliable as possible

## **Publication of information: WAHIS Public interface**

## Event management page and SMR report page



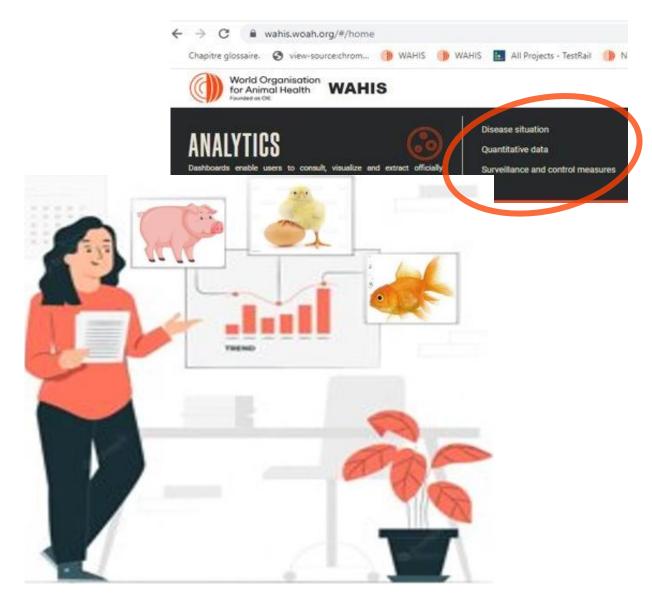
## **Publication of information: WAHIS Public interface**

## WAHIS Analytics: Interactive dashboards

Insights from WAHIS data, customizable according to user needs

Data aggregated from both early warning and six-monthly reports, providing a complete overview on:

- Disease situation
- Quantitative data
- Surveillance and control measures



# WAHIS in an interconnected world

## Data sharing in a One Health context

WAHIS is the global reference platform for validated official data on animal diseases of epidemiological significance in both domestic and wild species  $\rightarrow$  data source for many other information systems (including FAO, EFSA, PAHO, CDC).

### **Interconnection WAHIS-ADIS**

WAHIS is being interconnected with the European Union Animal Disease Information System (ADIS) which will enable a unique reporting interface for European countries.

## Implementation of a datahub for data sharing

Implementation of an opensource datahub including WAHIS data and data from other WOAH information systems (including ANIMUSE, Disease official Status data, PVS data).

# WAHIS update: What will happen in 2023 and 2024



## **Conclusions**

- WAHIS => data from official veterinary services, based on WOAH Standards and validated before publication
- World reference database for official information on animal diseases of epidemiological significance: data source for other sanitary information systems
- Data used for international trade (WTO), scientific research, disease control programs, press and media
- System under continuous improvement

# How does WOAH support Members in notifying data?



Training activities after Go-Live

### Support desk

https://wahis-support.woah.org



### Support materials

- F.A.Q. Click here
- Video tutorials <u>Click here</u>

### One-on-one training support

- Deepen understanding of new functionalities
- Highlight best practices between Focal Points
- Share difficulties with the trainers

## Additional support

Assist in data extraction and analysis

Production of disease distribution maps upon request

Provide support at regional level with WAHIS RR/SRR champions





## **WAHIS Catalogue of services**

https://wahis-support.woah.org





Request one to one virtual session for: (i) Immediate notification and follow up report; (ii) Six monthly report;



Request weekly data extraction from Immediate notification and follow-up reports



Request the guiding tour on WAHIS Public interface and Analytics



**Request more information about WAHIS APIs** 



Request to implement Annual map update or assist you to generate disease situation map



Are you interested to invite us to participate in your business event? Please let us know

# Thank you! Questions?

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