

87 SG/11B

Reports
**of the Meetings of the OIE Regional Commissions
held during the 87th General Session**
Paris, 27 May 2019

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**REPORT OF THE MEETING
OF THE OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION
FOR AFRICA**

Paris, 27 May 2019

The OIE Regional Commission for Africa met on 27 May 2019 at the Maison de la Chimie, Paris, at 2:00 p.m. The meeting was attended by 93 participants, including Delegates and observers from 33 Members of the Commission, 1 observer country, and representatives from 8 international or regional organisations:

Members of the Commission: Algeria, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Central African Rep., Chad, Congo (Rep. of the ~), Congo (Dem. Rep. of the ~), Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Mali, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, and Zimbabwe.

Observer countries: France.

International/regional organisations: AU-IBAR¹, CEBEVIRHA², EISMV³, GALVmed⁴, IEC⁵, SADC⁶, The Donkey Sanctuary, and WAEMU⁷.

The meeting was chaired by Dr Honoré Robert N'lemba Mabela, President of the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa and Delegate of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Dr Botlhe Michael Modisane, Past-President of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates and Delegate of South Africa, and seconded by Dr Karim Tounkara, OIE Regional Representative for Africa.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The Agenda, described in the Appendix, was unanimously adopted.

¹ AU-IBAR: African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources

² CEBEVIRHA: Economic Commission on Cattle, Meat and Fish Resources in CEMAC

³ EISMV : *Ecole Inter-Etats des Sciences et Médecine Vétérinaires de Dakar*

⁴ GALVmed: Global Alliance for Livestock Medicines

⁵ IEC : International Egg Commission

⁶ SADC: Southern African Development Community

⁷ WAEMU: West African Economic and Monetary Union

2. Outcomes of the 23rd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa held in Hammamet, Tunisia, from 25 February to 1 March 2019

Dr Alemayehu Mekonen Anbessie, Delegate of Ethiopia to the OIE, briefly presented the outcomes of the 23rd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa, held in Hammamet, Tunisia, from 25 February to 1 March 2019. It was attended by a total of 124 participants, including OIE Delegates and/or representatives from 39 Members of the region and representatives from regional and international organisations, as well as private-sector representatives, including private veterinary organisations from the region and from the host country.

Dr Anbessie briefly reviewed the agenda of the Conference, highlighting some of the topics presented and outcomes of discussions, including those related to the development of the Seventh Strategic Plan. Full details are available in the report of the Conference.

He then commented on the two recommendations adopted by the Regional Commission regarding Technical Item 1, entitled “*Veterinary paraprofessionals: their governance and role in improving animal health and welfare in Africa*”, and Technical Item 2, entitled “*PVS Pathway as an advocacy tool for increased investment in Veterinary Services in Africa*”. Both recommendations will be presented to the World Assembly of Delegates for endorsement at the 87th General Session.

Finally, he reminded Delegates that the report of the Conference, including the recommendations, was available on the Delegates’ website.

3. Confirmation of the venue of the 24th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa to be held in February 2021

Dr Botlhe Michael Modisane reiterated his country’s offer to host the 24th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa in February 2021. Exact dates will be defined at a later stage in consultation with the OIE Director General.

4. Selection of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be included in the agenda of the 24th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa

The Regional Commission selected the following technical item (with questionnaire to Members) for inclusion in the agenda of the 24th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa:

“African horse sickness and equine influenza: current situation in Africa and disease control measures”

5. Selection of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be proposed for inclusion in the agenda of the 89th General Session of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates to be held in May 2021

The Regional Commission suggested the following technical item (with a questionnaire to Members) for inclusion in the agenda of the 89th General Session of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates:

“Global collaboration for response to contemporary animal health emergencies, including agro-crime”

6. Developing the OIE Seventh Strategic Plan

In the context of the development of the OIE Seventh Strategic Plan, the Delegates of the Region were presented with the preliminary results of the on-line open consultation undertaken by the OIE earlier this year. The results were presented by Ms Nathaly Monsalve, Chargée de Mission from the OIE Regional Activities Department through an interactive presentation during which Delegates were invited to actively comment on the preliminary results. The objective of this session was to get a greater understanding of the regional priorities to be taken into account in the development of the next Strategic Plan. Dr Michael Modisane and Dr N'lemba Mabela facilitated the discussions. The draft Seventh Strategic plan will be discussed at the 2019 September Council meeting and then circulated to Members for comments.

The meeting officially ended at 6:00 p.m.

.../Appendix

**MEETING OF THE
OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR AFRICA**

Paris, 27 May 2019

Agenda

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Outcomes of the 23rd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa held in Hammamet, Tunisia, from 25 February to 1 March 2019
3. Confirmation of the venue of the 24th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa to be held in February 2021
4. Selection of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be included in the agenda of the 24th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa
5. Selection of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be proposed for inclusion in the agenda of the 89th General Session of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates to be held in May 2021
6. Developing the OIE Seventh Strategic Plan

**REPORT OF THE MEETING
OF THE OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION
FOR THE AMERICAS**

Paris, 27 May 2019

The OIE Regional Commission for the Americas met on 27 May 2019 at the Maison de la Chimie, Paris, at 2:00 p.m. The meeting was attended by 105 participants, including Delegates and observers from 27 Members of the Commission and representatives from 13 international or regional Organisations:

Members of the Commission: Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Curacao, Dominican Rep., Ecuador, France, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, United States of America and Uruguay.

International/regional Organisations: ALA¹, CARICOM², CVP³, EU DG SANTE⁴, FAO⁵, HealthforAnimals, ICFAW⁶, IICA⁷, IMS⁸, OIRSA⁹, PAHO-PANAFTOSA¹⁰, WAP¹¹ and WTO¹².

The meeting was chaired by Dr Mark Trotman, President of the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas and Delegate of Barbados, seconded by Dr Luis Osvaldo Barcos, OIE Regional Representative for the Americas.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The Agenda, described in the Appendix, was unanimously adopted.

¹ ALA: Latin American Poultry Association

² CARICOM: Caribbean Community

³ CVP: Permanent Veterinary Committee of the Southern Cone

⁴ EU DG SANTE: Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety of the European Commission

⁵ FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

⁶ ICFAW: International Coalition for Farm Animal Welfare

⁷ IICA: Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture

⁸ IMS: International Meat Secretariat

⁹ OIRSA: *Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria*

¹⁰ PAHO: Pan American Health Organization - PANAFTOSA: Pan American Foot and Mouth Disease Center

¹¹ WAP: World Animal Protection

¹² WTO: World Trade Organization

2. Outcomes of the 24th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas held in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, from 19 to 23 November 2018

Dr Mark Trotman provided a brief overview of the outcomes of the 24th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas, held in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, from 19 to 23 November 2018. It was attended by 89 participants, including Delegates from 23 Members, 1 observer country and representatives from regional and international organisations, together with representatives from the private sector and private veterinary organisations from several countries in the region and the host country.

Dr Trotman briefly reviewed the agenda of the Conference, highlighting the different topics presented and outcomes of discussions, including: development of the Seventh Strategic Plan; follow-up of the recommendations adopted at the latest conferences of the Regional Commission; the animal disease situation in the region; and details about African Swine Fever in Europe (situation, measures and policy coordination under the Global Framework for Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs) for Europe), among other issues of relevance to the region.

Dr Trotman also gave details of the two Technical Items presented: Technical Item 1 on “*The role of private veterinarians in Official Veterinary Service programmes: mechanisms for interaction, accreditation and quality control in a globalised world*” and Technical Item 2 on the “*Sustainability of Veterinary Services: experiences and challenges*”. He explained that, as the two topics were complementary in nature, the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas had decided to formulate a single recommendation to encompass the discussions on both Technical Items. This recommendation will be presented to the World Assembly of Delegates for endorsement at the 87th General Session.

To conclude, he said that the final report, including the recommendation and list of participants, had been sent to Members and was available on the Delegates’ website.

3. Confirmation of the dates and venue of the 25th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas to be held in 2020

Dr Mercedes Lucía Flores Cancino, Delegate of Peru to the OIE, reiterated her country’s offer to host the 25th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas.

She also confirmed that, this time, the Conference will be held in September 2020 instead of November 2020, the traditional month for holding conferences of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas. It will be held in Cuzco.

Exact dates will be defined at a later stage in consultation with the OIE Director General.

4. Selection of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be included in the agenda of the 25th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas

The Regional Commission selected the following technical item (with a questionnaire to Members) for inclusion in the agenda of the 25th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas:

“Public-Private Partnerships”

Furthermore, the Regional Commission suggested the following additional Technical Item (without a questionnaire for Members) for inclusion in the Agenda of the Conference:

“Border biosecurity”

5. Selection of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be proposed for inclusion in the agenda of the 89th General Session of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates to be held in May 2021

The Regional Commission suggested the following technical item (with a questionnaire to Members) for inclusion in the agenda of the 89th General Session of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates:

“Capacity analysis for the progressive implementation of International Veterinary Electronic Certification e-CVI 2050 at global level”

6. Proposal of a Member of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas to join the Council

Dr Mark Trotman reminded participants that the Delegate of Mexico had stepped down, leaving vacant his position as representative of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas on the Council, which required a partial election to be held.

Following a discussion involving several Delegates, Dr Nimia Lissette Gómez Rodríguez, Delegate of the Dominican Republic, was proposed, for a two-year period, until the election for the next three-year mandate of the Council, which will be held in May 2021.

This proposal will be presented to the World Assembly for election.

7. Proposal of Members of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas to serve on the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas

Following the nomination of Dr Nimia Lissette Gómez Rodríguez to join the OIE Council, the Delegates of the Americas proposed that Dr Jaspinder Komal, current Secretary General of the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission and Delegate of Canada, take the position of Vice-President left vacant by Dr Nimia Lissette Gómez Rodríguez. Dr Wilmer José Juárez Juárez, Delegate of Nicaragua to the OIE, has been proposed to replace Dr Jaspinder Komal as Secretary General of the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas. The Bureau shall be constituted as follows:

President: Dr Mark Trotman (Barbados)

Vice-President: Dr Javier Ernesto Suárez Hurtado (Bolivia)

Vice-President: Dr Jaspinder Komal (Canada)

Secretary General: Dr Wilmer José Juárez Juárez (Nicaragua)

This proposal will be presented to the World Assembly for election.

8. Regional actions to prevent the entry and spread of African Swine Fever

The Regional Commission decided to address strategies for preventing the entry and spread of African Swine Fever in the Americas under GF-TADs. To this end, the planning of actions in the region was discussed. The results of all these actions will be presented at the forthcoming Conference of the Regional Commission.

9. Developing the OIE Seventh Strategic Plan

In the context of the development of the OIE Seventh Strategic Plan, the Delegates of the Region were presented with the preliminary results of the on-line open consultation undertaken by the OIE earlier this year. The results were presented by Dr François Caya, Head of the OIE Regional Activities Department, through an interactive presentation during which Delegates were invited to actively comment on the preliminary results. The objective of this session was to get a greater understanding of the regional priorities to be taken into account in the development of the next Strategic Plan. Dr Hugo Federico Idoyaga Benítez, Vice-President of the OIE Council and Delegate of Paraguay, as well as Dr Mark Trotman facilitated the discussions. The draft Seventh Strategic plan will be discussed at the 2019 September Council meeting and then circulated to Members for comments.

The meeting officially ended at 6:30 p.m.

.../Appendix

**MEETING OF THE
OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE AMERICAS**

Paris, 27 May 2019

Agenda

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Outcomes of the 24th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas held in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, from 19 to 23 November 2018
3. Confirmation of the dates and venue of the 25th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas to be held in 2020
4. Selection of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be included in the agenda of the 25th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas
5. Selection of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be proposed for inclusion in the agenda of the 89th General Session of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates to be held in May 2021
6. Proposal of a Member of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas to join the Council
7. Proposal of Members of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas to serve on the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas
8. Regional actions to prevent the entry and spread of African Swine Fever
9. Developing the OIE Seventh Strategic Plan

**REPORT OF THE MEETING
OF THE OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION
FOR ASIA, THE FAR EAST AND OCEANIA**

Paris, 27 May 2019

The OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania met on 27 May 2019 at the Maison de la Chimie, Paris, at 2:00 p.m. The meeting was attended by 80 participants, including Delegates and observers from 29 Members of the Commission and 2 observer countries/territories and representatives from 5 international or regional organisations:

Members of the Commission: Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China (People's Rep. of ~), Chinese Taipei, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Korea (Rep. of ~), Korea (Dem. People's Rep. of ~), Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, United States of America and Vietnam.

Observer countries/territories: France and Hong Kong SAR.

International/regional organisations: HealthforAnimals, ICFAW¹, NACA² and WSAA³.

The meeting was chaired by Dr Tashi Samdup, Vice-President of the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania and Delegate of Bhutan, seconded by Dr Mark Schipp, President of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates and Delegate of Australia, with the support of Dr Hirofumi Kugita, OIE Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The Agenda, described in the Appendix, was unanimously adopted.

¹ ICFAW: International Coalition for Animal Welfare

² NACA: Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific

³ WSAA: World Small Animal Veterinary Association

2. Organisation of the 31st Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania to be held in Sendai, Japan, from 2 to 6 September 2019

Dr Norio Kumagai, Secretary General of the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania and Delegate of Japan, confirmed that his country was willing and honoured to hold this important regional event and invited all Delegates to attend the conference, which would be held in Sendai City from 2 to 6 September 2019.

He reported briefly on the various arrangements that Japan had made to start organising the conference. Dr Kumagai provided general information about the event, assuring the participants that they would be provided with all the details in a timely manner.

3. Selection of Technical Item II (without questionnaire) to be included in the agenda of the 31st Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania

The Regional Commission selected the following technical item (without questionnaire to Members) for inclusion in the agenda of the 31st Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania:

“Strengthening the cooperation on African Swine Fever prevention and control in the Asia-Pacific region”

A second general topic was proposed:

“Development of standards for management and control of aquatic animal diseases (and antimicrobial use) and the use of compartments to support the application of these standards”

Although not a Technical Item, this topic will also be included in the agenda of the Regional Conference.

4. Selection of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be proposed for inclusion in the agenda of the 89th General Session of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates to be held in May 2021

The Regional Commission suggested the following technical item (with a questionnaire to Members) for inclusion in the agenda of the 89th General Session of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates:

“The future of animal health and its contribution to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals”

Animal health and veterinarians play a critical role in global food systems and the health and welfare of the globe and its citizens. The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are the global objectives expected to guide the actions of the international community between 2016-2030. This Technical Item could help to refine and consolidate how the OIE makes significant and meaningful contributions towards many of the SDGs through the effective discharge of its core responsibilities in animal health and the veterinary profession.

5. Discussion on regional positions for the OIE General Session

Dr Him Hoo Yap, member of the OIE Council and Delegate of Singapore, reminded participants that, in March 2019, the President of the Bureau of the Regional Commission had sent a letter to all OIE Delegates in the region calling for proposals for regional common positions to be presented at the plenary discussion of the OIE General Session, based on “the coordination procedure for developing regional positions” adopted at the Regional Commission meeting in May 2017. He reiterated that the proposals submitted by Members had been compiled and circulated to all regional Delegates several times for their consideration and comments.

Dr Yap then introduced a list of proposals for regional common positions put together by the Regional Core Group, which considered all Members’ comments received so far.

There was discussion among the Delegates regarding the proposals, some of which were unanimously approved by the Regional Commission to be put forward at the plenary of the 87th General Session on behalf of the 36 OIE Members of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania.

Dr Yap concluded by thanking all Delegates of the region for their active participation in the coordination procedure and expressed the hope that the region continues to work to strengthen regional coordination and collaboration in order to develop regional positions on key issues.

6. Proposal of Members of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania to join the Bureau of the Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania

Dr Mark Schipp reminded participants that the Delegate of Cambodia had stepped down, leaving vacant his position as President of the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania, and the Delegate of the People’s Republic of China had also stepped down, leaving vacant his position as Vice-President of the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania, which required a partial election to be held.

Following a discussion involving several Delegates, Dr Norio Kumagai was unanimously proposed as President, leaving vacant the position of Secretary General. Dr Quaza Nizamuddin Hassan Nizam, Delegate of Malaysia, was selected to be proposed as Vice President and Dr Alireza Rafiepoor, Delegate of Iran, was unanimously proposed as Secretary General. These positions will be for a two-year period, until the election for the next three-year mandate of the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania, which will be held in May 2021.

This proposal will be presented to the World Assembly for election.

7. Developing the OIE Seventh Strategic Plan

In the context of the development of the OIE Seventh Strategic Plan, the Delegates of the Region were presented with the preliminary results of the on-line open consultation undertaken by the OIE earlier this year. The results were presented by Dr John Stratton, Deputy Head of the OIE Regional Activities Department, through an interactive presentation during which Delegates were invited to actively comment on the preliminary results. The objective of this session was to get a greater understanding of the regional priorities to be taken into account in the development of the next Strategic Plan. The regional members of the OIE Council and Dr Tashi Samdup facilitated the discussions. The draft Seventh Strategic plan will be discussed at the 2019 September Council meeting and then circulated to Members for comments.

The meeting officially ended at 5:30 p.m.

.../Appendix

**MEETING OF THE
OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA,
THE FAR EAST AND OCEANIA**

Paris, 27 May 2019

Agenda

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Organisation of the 31st Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania to be held in Sendai, Japan, from 2 to 6 September 2019
3. Selection of Technical Item II (without questionnaire) to be included in the agenda of the 31st Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania
4. Selection of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be proposed for inclusion in the agenda of the 89th General Session of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates to be held in May 2021
5. Discussion on regional positions for the OIE General Session
6. Proposal of Members of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania to join the Bureau of the Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania
7. Developing the OIE Seventh Strategic Plan

**REPORT OF THE MEETING
OF THE OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION
FOR EUROPE**

Paris, 27 May 2019

The OIE Regional Commission for Europe met on 27 May 2019 at the Maison de la Chimie, Paris at 2:00 p.m. The meeting was attended by 113 participants, including Delegates and observers from 48 Members of the Commission and representatives from 8 international or regional organisations:

Members of the Commission:

Albania, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Rep., Denmark, Estonia, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldavia, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom and Uzbekistan.

International/regional organisations:

AnimalhealthEurope, CIRAD¹, EC², EEC³, Four Paws, FVE⁴, IDF⁵ and WFO⁶

The meeting was chaired by Dr Maris Balodis, President of the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe and Delegate of Latvia, seconded by Dr Ulrich Herzog, Vice-President of the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission and Delegate of Austria, and with the support of Dr Budimir Plavšić, OIE Regional Representative in Moscow.

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Agenda, described in the Appendix, was unanimously adopted.

¹ CIRAD: French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development

² EC: European Commission

³ EEC: Eurasian Economic Commission

⁴ Federation of Veterinarians of Europe

⁵ International Dairy Federation

⁶ World Farmers' Organisation

2. Update on the implementation of the Regional Work Plan Framework 2017-2020 of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe

Dr Ulrich Herzog provided an overview of the work of the Regional Core Group (RCG) of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe and the activities implemented following the 86th General Session, highlighting the implementation of the Regional Work Plan Framework over the past year.

He began by providing participants with a historical overview of the RCG, its Terms of Reference and a Regional Work Plan Framework for the 2017-2020 period and defined regional priorities. He explained that the Regional Work Plan Framework would be reviewed regularly according to needs and new developments, and listed six strategic objectives adopted at the meeting of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe in 2017: 1. Contributing to the development of scientifically-based standards and guidelines; 2. Establishing trust through transparency and communication; 3. Ensuring education, capacity and sustainability of Veterinary Services; 4. Prevention, control and eradication of animal diseases; 5. Antimicrobial resistance and “One Health” Policy; 6. Promotion of animal welfare, together with a relevant set of activities to achieve those objectives.

Dr Herzog then provided a detailed update on their implementation, which had been reviewed and evaluated by the Regional Core Group at its 7th meeting (Bern, Switzerland, 17-18 December 2018) and 8th meeting (Madrid, Spain, 29-30 April 2019). The main points highlighted were: 1) the positive impact of increased human resources in the OIE Regional and Sub-Regional Representations in the smooth implementation of regional activities, including during both RCG meetings and the need to allocate resources for ongoing work; 2) the support from Russia for translating relevant chapters (for adoption) of the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*; 3) the relaunch of the regional website which, as of September 2019, should be up and running; 4) the active participation of Members of the region in the GF-TADs-related activities in general and, more specifically, in the Standing Groups of Experts (SGE) on African Swine Fever and Lumpy Skin Disease as well as the recently established SGE for rabies in the Balkans supported by the EC; 7) the implementation of the OIE Strategy on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) and the Prudent Use of Antimicrobials, and 8) the implementation of the actions of the OIE Regional Animal Welfare Platform.

Dr Herzog informed participants that all information regarding the work of the Regional Core Group was available on a dedicated webpage. Finally, Dr Herzog provided a list of proposed speakers to deliver speaking notes on the four OIE *Code* chapters and User's Guide (*Aquatic Code*) selected by the RCG for a common position on behalf of the 53 Members of Europe.

3. Outcomes of the 28th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe held in Tbilisi, Georgia, from 17 to 21 September 2018

Dr Ulrich Herzog presented the main outcomes of the 28th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe, held in Tbilisi (Georgia) on 17-21 September 2018. Full details are available in the report of the Conference.

- Participants agreed to develop the OIE Seventh Strategic Plan as a logical follow-up to the achievements of the Sixth Strategic Plan. Delegates and partners have been invited to actively contribute to the development of the Seventh Strategic Plan once the OIE has launched the consultation process.

- The Members have been encouraged to further improve their transparency and data accessibility on animal diseases.
- Four proposals for designation of new OIE Collaborating Centres were unanimously approved by the OIE Regional Commission for Europe, helping to reinforce the network of OIE Collaborating Centres, with priority topics to support the OIE Seventh Strategic Plan.
- The participants were encouraged to continue contributing to data collection on antimicrobial agents intended for use in animals and to publish their related data and national reports.
- The OIE Regional Commission for Europe expressed its support to the OIE Platform on Animal Welfare and called for a start to the process of identifying priority topics with a view to developing the Third Action Plan (2020-2022).
- The Members have been encouraged to make better use of the *PVS tool*, including the PVS Aquatic Tool, and to take this opportunity to strengthen their collaboration with the human health sector. The OIE will hold a PVS Pathway training workshop to help Eastern European countries to fully leverage the recommendations of PVS Pathway reports and has begun a consultation on the use of the PVS Pathway by European Union Member States.
- The Members reiterated the importance of improved inter-organisational and intersectoral cooperation to ensure preparedness, early detection and diagnosis, as well as transparency in reporting, with active involvement of all stakeholders.
- The participants proposed to review the process of identifying subjects for Technical Items, to allow flexibility in addressing emerging issues.
- The recommendations of the two Technical Items developed during the Conference will be proposed for endorsement by the World Assembly of Delegates at the 87th General Session.

4. Confirmation of the dates and venue of the 29th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe to be held in 2020

Dr Silvio Borrello, Delegate of Italy to the OIE, reiterated his country's offer to host the 29th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe.

He also confirmed that, this time, the Conference will be held in November 2020 instead of September 2020, the traditional month for holding conferences of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe. It will be held in Catania, Italy.

Exact dates will be defined at a later stage in consultation with the OIE Director General.

5. Selection of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be included in the agenda of the 29th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe

The Regional Commission selected the following technical item (with questionnaire to Members) for inclusion in the agenda of the 29th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe:

“Long distance transport of live animals: OIE standards and best practices including societal perception and communication aspects”

6. Selection of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be proposed for inclusion in the agenda of the 89th General Session of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates to be held in May 2021

The Regional Commission suggested the following technical item (with a questionnaire to Members) for inclusion in the agenda of the 89th General Session of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates:

“Electronic certification and related technologies for animal and animal products trade: opportunities and challenges”

7. Update on the OIE platform on animal welfare for Europe

Dr Ulrich Herzog briefly mentioned the three main current developments:

- An external evaluation of the OIE Platform was conducted from January to April 2019. The report will be finalised shortly and will be made available on the website of the OIE Platform (<https://awp.oie.int>). The report recognises that the Platform has delivered the planned activities in an effective and efficient way; the current activities and scope remain relevant; however, improvements in monitoring the impact of the activities are needed.
- The draft Terms of Reference of the Platform, to complement the initial Concept Note adopted in 2013. The objective is to clarify the procedures applicable to the Platform, including the composition of its Steering Group, which should be chaired by a Member of the Bureau of the Regional Commission for Europe.
- The draft Third Action Plan of the Platform for 2020-2022. The list of priority topics in the Second Action Plan for the 2017-2019 will not be amended. The emphasis will be put on activities relating to transportation and the development of assessment and monitoring tools.

These developments were already presented at the meeting of the RCG in Madrid, Spain (29-30 April) and at the meeting of the Steering Group of the Platform in Lyon, France (15-16 May). The work on the Terms of Reference and the Third Action Plan will continue in the subsequent RCGs and General Sessions, until their final approval and adoption at the meeting of the Regional Commission for Europe during the 88th General Session in May 2020.

8. Application for an OIE Collaborating Centre consortium for Animal Welfare between the *Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale de Abruzzi and Molise* (IZSAM) and the Swedish Centre for Animal Welfare (SCAW)

Dr Lena Hellqvist Björnerot, Deputy Chief Veterinary Officer of Sweden, jointly with Dr Silvio Borrello, presented to the Regional Commission a proposal that the Swedish Centre for Animal Welfare (SCAW) join the *Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale de Abruzzi and Molise* (IZSAM), the current OIE Collaborating Centre for Animal Welfare, to form an OIE Collaborating Centre consortium for Animal Welfare. The two institutes have signed a Memorandum of Understanding detailing how the consortium would function.

They provided a brief review of the consortium and said that full details were sent to Delegates in advance and, if needed, could be requested from the meeting rapporteurs.

The Commission approved this proposal.

9. Discussion on common positions for selected chapters of the OIE Codes (to be possibly proposed on behalf of the 53 Members of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe during the 87th General Session)

The Regional Commission agreed that a common position be put forward at the 87th General Session on behalf of the 53 Members of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe, on the following four items:

- Chapter 9.Y (killing of reptiles for their skins, meat and other products): support for the adoption of the latest version of this chapter. (Speaker Switzerland)
- Chapter 8.14 (infection with rabies virus): support for the adoption of this chapter, provided that the text, as regards Article 8.14.6, reverts back to the current wording of Article 8.14.7 and Article 8.14.9. Should this not be accepted, the OIE Regional Commission for Europe will not support the adoption of this chapter. (Speaker Israel)
- Chapter 15.1 (infection with African Swine Fever virus): support for the adoption of the latest version of this chapter. (Speaker Latvia)
- *Aquatic Code*: support all amendments to the *Aquatic Code*. (Speaker Norway)

10. Proposal of Members of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe to join the Council as member and the Bureau of the Regional Commission for Europe as Vice-President and Secretary General

Dr Maris Balodis reminded participants that the Delegates of Russia, Serbia and Belarus had stepped down, leaving vacant their positions as representative of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe on the Council, and Vice-President and Secretary General of the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe respectively, which required a partial election to be held.

Following a discussion involving several Delegates, the following Delegates were unanimously proposed, for a two-year period, until the election for the next three-year mandate of the Council and the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe, which will be held in May 2021:

Member of the Council: Dr Nikolay Vlasov (Russia)

Vice-President of the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe: Ms Vesna Dakovic (Montenegro)

Secretary General of the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe: Dr Ivan Smilhin (Belarus)

This proposal will be presented to the World Assembly for election.

11. Developing the OIE Seventh Strategic Plan

In the context of the development of the OIE Seventh Strategic Plan, the Delegates of the Region were presented with the preliminary results of the on-line open consultation undertaken by the OIE earlier this year. The results were presented by Dr Maroussia Clavel, Head of the OIE Performance and Change Management Cell, through an interactive presentation during which Delegates were invited to actively comment on the preliminary results.

The objective of this session was to get a greater understanding of the regional priorities to be taken into account in the development of the next Strategic Plan. The draft Seventh Strategic plan will be discussed at the 2019 September Council meeting and then circulated to Members for comments.

The meeting officially ended at 5:25 p.m.

.../Appendix

**MEETING OF THE
OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

Paris, 27 May 2019

Agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Update on the implementation of the Regional Work Plan Framework 2017-2020 of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe
3. Outcomes of the 28th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe held in Tbilisi, Georgia, from 17 to 21 September 2018
4. Confirmation of the dates and venue of the 29th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe to be held in 2020
5. Selection of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be included in the agenda of the 29th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe
6. Selection of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be proposed for inclusion in the agenda of the 89th General Session of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates to be held in May 2021
7. Update on the OIE Platform on Animal Welfare for Europe
8. Application for an OIE Collaborating Centre consortium for Animal Welfare between the *Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale de Abruzzi and Molise* (IZSAM) and the Swedish Centre for Animal Welfare (SCAW)
9. Discussion on common positions for selected chapters of the OIE *Codes* (to be possibly proposed on behalf of the 53 Members of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe during the 87th General Session)
10. Proposal of Members of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe to join the Council as member and the Bureau of the Regional Commission for Europe as Vice-President and Secretary General
11. Developing the OIE Seventh Strategic Plan

**REPORT OF THE MEETING
OF THE OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION
FOR THE MIDDLE EAST**

Paris, 27 May 2019

The OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East met on 27 May 2019 at the Maison de la Chimie, Paris at 2:00 p.m. The meeting was attended by 47 participants, including Delegates and observers from 14 Members of the Commission, 1 observer territory, and representatives from 4 international or regional organisations:

Members of the Commission: Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Turkey, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

Observer territory: Palestinian Autonomous Territories.

International/regional organisations: AOAD¹, the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Government of United Kingdom), FAO² and ICFAW³.

The meeting was chaired by Dr Elias Ibrahim, President of the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East and Delegate of Lebanon, accompanied by Dr Fajer Al Salloom, Vice-President of the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission and Delegate of Bahrain, Dr Mahmoud Alhanatleh, Secretary General of the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission and Delegate of Jordan, Dr Majid Al Qassimi, member of the OIE Council and Delegate of the United Arab Emirates, assisted by Dr Ghazi Yehia, OIE Regional Representative for the Middle East.

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Agenda, described in the Appendix, was unanimously adopted.

¹ AOAD: Arab Organization for Agricultural Development

² FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

³ ICFAW: International Coalition for Animal Welfare

2. Organisation of the 15th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East to be held in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, from 10 to 14 November 2019

Dr Al Qassimi confirmed that his country was willing and honoured to hold this important regional event and invited all Delegates to attend the conference, which would be held in Abu Dhabi from 10 to 14 November 2019.

He reported briefly on the various arrangements that the United Arab Emirates had made to start organising the conference. Dr Al Qassimi provided general information about the event, assuring the participants that they would be provided with all the details in a timely manner.

3. Selection of a Technical Item (without questionnaire) to be included in the agenda of the 15th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East

The Regional Commission selected the following technical item (without questionnaire to Members) for inclusion in the agenda of the 15th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East:

“Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) for efficient sustainable animal health systems and Veterinary Services”

4. Selection of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be proposed for inclusion in the agenda of the 89th General Session of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates to be held in May 2021

The Regional Commission suggested the following technical item (with a questionnaire to Members) for inclusion in the agenda of the 89th General Session of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates:

“Practical application of biosecurity risk assessment at farm settings”

5. Proposition to establish an OIE Sub-Regional Representation in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Dr Jean-Philippe Dop, OIE Deputy Director General for Institutional Affairs and Regional Activities, presented the OIE Regional Commission with a proposal to designate a new OIE Sub-Regional Representation in Abu Dhabi.

Dr Dop provided the Commission with brief details on the countries to be covered by this Representation and the activities to be developed, while Dr Al Qassimi confirmed the United Arab Emirates commitment in supporting the OIE by allocating in-kind and financial resources for the new office.

Dr Dop also explained the rationale for establishing this new OIE Sub-Regional Representation.

According to the Article 33 of General Rules, the Commission was consulted and unanimously approved the proposal presented by Dr Dop. The Delegates warmly thanked Dr Al Qassimi and the Emirati Authorities for their offer which will provide a significant support to the OIE for the implementation of its activities for the benefit of the countries in the region.

This proposal will be presented to the World Assembly of Delegates for adoption.

6. Proposal of a Member of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East to join the Bureau of the Regional Commission for the Middle East as Vice-President

Dr Elias Ibrahim reminded participants that the Delegate of Saudi Arabia had stepped down, leaving vacant his position as Vice-President of the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East, which required a partial election to be held.

Following a discussion involving several Delegates, the recently appointed Delegate of Saudi Arabia, Dr Sanad Alharbi, was unanimously proposed, for a two-year period, until the election for the next three-year mandate of the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East, which will be held in May 2021.

This proposal will be presented to the World Assembly for election.

7. Developing the OIE Seventh Strategic Plan

In the context of the development of the OIE Seventh Strategic Plan, the Delegates of the Region were presented with the preliminary results of the on-line open consultation undertaken by the OIE earlier this year. The results were presented by Dr David Sherman, Chargé de Mission at the OIE Regional Activities Department, through an interactive presentation during which Delegates were invited to actively comment on the preliminary results. The objective of this session was to get a greater understanding of the regional priorities to be taken into account in the development of the next Strategic Plan. Dr Al Qassimi facilitated the discussions. The draft Seventh Strategic plan will be discussed at the 2019 September Council meeting and then circulated to Members for comments.

The meeting officially ended at 5:40 p.m.

.../Appendix

**MEETING OF THE
OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE MIDDLE EAST**

Paris, 27 May 2019

Agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Organisation of the 15th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East to be held in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, from 10 to 14 November 2019
3. Selection of a Technical Item (without questionnaire) to be included in the agenda of the 15th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East
4. Selection of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be proposed for inclusion in the agenda of the 89th General Session of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates to be held in May 2021
5. Proposition to establish an OIE Sub-Regional Representation in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
6. Proposal of a Member of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East to join the Bureau of the Regional Commission for the Middle East as Vice-President
7. Developing the OIE Seventh Strategic Plan