Office International des Épizooties
World Organisation for Animal Health
created in 1924 in Paris
The Challenge of International Biosecurity and the OIE Standards and Actions

Meeting of the State Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and toxic weapons and on their destruction.
UN, Geneva, 6-10 December, 2004

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World Organization for Animal Health (Office International des Epizooties)
12 Rue de Prony, Paris, France (http:www.oie.int)
The OIE, FAO and WHO work together for the prevention, early detection, and control of animal diseases, including zoonoses.
167 Member Countries (May 2004)

Americas: 29 – Africa: 50 – Europe: 49 – Middle East: 13 – Asia: 26
International relationships

Institutional cooperation:
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- World Trade Organization (WTO)
- Codex Alimentarius
- International Plant Protection Commission (IPPC)
- International Dairy Federation (IDF)
- International Equestrian Federation (IEF)
- World Bank
- International Federation for Animal Health (IFAH)
- International Association for Biologicals (IABs)
- World Veterinary Association (WVA)
- International Meat Secretariat (IMS)
- International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)
- Other Regional Organisations (AU-IBAR, PAHO, OIRSA, IICA)

Technical and scientific cooperation with more than 20 regional organisations and international professional associations
OIE’s Mission

- To promote transparency in the animal health situation throughout the world
- To promote the safety of world trade in animals and animal products
- To improve the legal framework and resources of national Veterinary Services
- To collect, analyse and disseminate veterinary information
- To strengthen international coordination and cooperation in the control of animal diseases
OIE Information System Promotes Transparency and Knowledge of Global Animal Disease Status in Order to Minimize Disease Spread
Source of Early Warning Disease Reports

• Reports from Member Countries
• Reports from OIE Reference Laboratories with Member Country verification
• Active search of unofficial sources, such as scientific publications and ProMed, and lay publications, with Member Country verification
• Improved Member Country surveillance is encouraged and supported by FAO and OIE
Within 24 Hours, the Following will be Reported to the OIE:

- First occurrence or re–occurrence of a disease listed by the OIE in a disease free country or zone
- Changes in the epidemiology of a disease i.e. host range, pathogenicity, new strain, zoonotic impact
- A sudden and unexpected increase in morbidity or mortality caused by an existing disease
- An emerging disease with significant morbidity/mortality or zoonotic potential
OIE
Early Warning System
Global Early Warning System (GLEWS)

- Joint initiative OIE/FAO/WHO
- Animal disease tracking
- Emergency response
- Trends analysis predictions
- Capacity building of Veterinary Services
- List of priority animal diseases, zoonoses and emerging diseases
OIE’s WTO mandate

- SPS Agreement recognises OIE as one of three reference organisations for international standards (three sisters)
  - for food safety, the standards established by Codex (*)
  - for animal health and zoonoses, the standards developed under the OIE
  - for plant health, the standards developed under the IPPC
OIE Standards

- Develops and publishes health standards for animals and animal products
- Develops and publishes biological standards
OIE Standards

- Terrestrial Animal Health Code (the Terrestrial Code)


- Aquatic Animal Health Code (the Aquatic Code)

- Manual of Standards for Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals (the Aquatic Manual)
OIE Codes

- Recommend sanitary measures to be used by veterinary or other competent authorities
- Establish health regulations for the safe importation of animals and animal products while avoiding unjustified sanitary barriers
Animal Health Codes, Disease Chapters

- 79 Terrestrial and 45 aquatic animal diseases
- Definition of disease-free country or zone
- Requirements for surveillance
- States there should be free movement of animals and products between free countries/zones
- Procedures for safe importation of live animals, semen, embryos and animal products from an infected country or zone

- Requirements for disease reporting
- Standards for Veterinary Services
- Obligation and ethics in international trade
- Requirements for disease surveillance and monitoring
- Guidelines for zoning and regionalisation
- Procedures for establishing disease free country or zone
- Risk analysis methods
- International transfer and laboratory containment of animal pathogens (Chapter 1.4.6)
OIE, in cooperation with the FAO, supports laboratory capacity building and harmonization of diagnostic testing and vaccination through use of:

- Standard methods – OIE *Manuals*
- Reference Laboratories / Collaborating Centres
- International Reference Sera
- Quality assurance guidelines
OIE Manuals

- Describe internationally agreed laboratory methods
  - for disease diagnosis
  - for production and control of biological products
- ‘prescribed’ and ‘alternative’ tests for OIE listed diseases, and ‘other diseases of importance’ for terrestrial animals
- diagnostic tests for OIE listed diseases of aquatic animals
OIE Manuals

- Individual chapters for 100 terrestrial and 35 aquatic animal diseases
- Chapters contain description of:
  - Disease
  - Agent identification procedure
  - Serological procedures
  - Vaccines (when available)
- Sampling methods, including surveillance
- Good Laboratory Practices
- Validation of diagnostic assays
- Human safety in the veterinary microbiology laboratory, including agent biosecurity (Chapter 1.1.6)
- Shipment of diagnostic specimens
- Tests for sterility and freedom from contaminants
- Veterinary vaccine production
• 154 OIE Reference Laboratories
• 15 OIE Collaborative Centres
• Expertise in 92 Animal Diseases and zoonoses
• In 31 Member Countries
• Involving 150 world renowned experts
Purpose

Facilitate standardisation of diagnostic tests by designating a source of expertise and standard reagents
OIE Reference Laboratories

Functions and responsibilities

1. Act as a centre of expertise for a disease and standardisation of methodology

2. Storage and distribution of standard strains and diagnostic standard antisera, antigens and other reagents

3. Development of new diagnostic methods

4. Collection, processing and analysis of epizootiologial data
OIE Reference Laboratories

Functions and responsibilities

5. Provision of technical assistance to the OIE
6. Training in specific areas
7. Organisation of scientific meetings on behalf of the OIE
8. Co-ordination of collaborative studies
9. Publication and dissemination of the relevant information
Management and Technical Requirements for Laboratories Conducting Tests for Infectious Animal Diseases

- Quality assurance standard developed by the OIE to provide guidance to veterinary diagnostic laboratories doing tests in order to provide reliable results
Conclusions and Recommendations

- The recent episodes of emerging and re-emerging animal and human diseases have emphasised the important role of the OIE’s world-wide disease information system, especially its Early Warning system.

- The disruption to trade caused by such diseases, whether occurring naturally, accidentally or deliberately, and the resulting social, economic, food security and food safety implications that may occur in one location, can have a serious impact on global trade and thus affect all countries.

- The disease surveillance and reporting standards and procedures advocated by the OIE protect Member Countries against the threat of a bioterrorist incident.
• However, effective global veterinary biosecurity can only be achieved if all OIE and OIE Member Countries conscientiously adopt and comply with the standards and guidelines of the OIE, train stakeholders and ensure the availability of adequate human and material veterinary resources.
Conclusions and Recommendations (contd)

It is recommended that:

- The OIE standards, as set out in the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* and the OIE *Aquatic Animal Health Code*, should be used for harmonisation of legislation for the international transfer and laboratory containment of animal pathogens;

- The OIE guidelines, as recommended in the OIE *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals* and in the *Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals*, should be rigorously applied for the safe management of biological agents used in veterinary microbiology and diagnostic laboratories; and that

- **Member Countries should comply with OIE guidelines, standards and recommendations relating to detection and prompt notification of diseases of domestic livestock and wild animals.**
Conclusions and Recommendations (contd)

In the event that wild animals become involved in a disease outbreak, by chance or by design, it is recommended that:

- Effective planning mechanisms for timely responses to an exotic disease incursion should be accorded to wildlife with the same degree of attention that is now given solely to domestic livestock.