

# FINAL REPORT 2021



24 → 28 PARIS  
MAI MAYO 2021  
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## C O N T E N T S

	Page	Paragraph
List of abbreviations	vii	
<b>Introduction</b>	3	1 – 8
<b>General Session preparatory activities</b>	3	9 – 10
<b>Pre-General Session Information Webinars on standards proposed for adoption</b>	3	11 – 17
• Current animal health situation worldwide: analysis of events and trends	5	18 – 36
• Working Group on Wildlife	8	37 – 38
• Working Group on Antimicrobial Resistance	8	39 – 40
<hr/> <b>■ MONDAY 24 MAY 2021 ■</b> <hr/>		
<b>Meetings of the Regional Commissions</b>	9	41
<hr/> <b>■ TUESDAY 25 MAY 2021 ■</b> <hr/>		
<b>Opening Session</b>	9	42 – 47
<a href="#"><u>FIRST PLENARY SESSION</u></a>		
• Adoption of the Agenda and Programme	11	48 – 49
• Nomination of the Sub-Commission for the Agenda	11	50
• Nomination of the Credentials Committee	12	51 – 53
<b>Activities of the Specialist Commissions</b>		
• Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission	12	54 – 79
TECHNICAL ITEM: <b>Lessons identified from before and during the pandemic: How the OIE can support Veterinary Services to achieve One Health resilience</b>		
	28	80 – 92
<hr/> <b>■ WEDNESDAY 26 MAY 2021 ■</b> <hr/>		
<a href="#"><u>SECOND PLENARY SESSION</u></a>		
<b>Activities of the Specialist Commissions (contd)</b>		
• Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases	30	93 – 109
• Biological Standards Commission	32	110 – 112
• Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission	35	113 – 152
• Launch of the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Strategy (2021-2025)	43	153 – 177

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■ THURSDAY 27 MAY 2021 ■

---

[THIRD PLENARY SESSION](#)

**Presentation of proposed Resolutions drafted during plenary sessions**

<b>Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 24</b> <i>Amendments to the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code</i>	46	178
<b>Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 25</b> <i>Amendments to the OIE Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals</i>	46	179
<b>Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 27</b> <i>Amendments to the OIE Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals</i>	46	180
<b>Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 29</b> <i>Designation of OIE Collaborating Centres</i>	46	181
<b>Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 31</b> <i>How the OIE can support Veterinary Services to achieve One Health resilience</i>	46	182
<b>Draft Technical Resolutions adopted during the online voting period (before the General Session)</b>	46	183 – 184
<b>Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 13</b> <i>Recognition of the Foot and Mouth Disease Status of Members</i>	46	
<b>Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 14</b> <i>Endorsement of Official Control Programmes for Foot and Mouth Disease of Members</i>	46	
<b>Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 15</b> <i>Recognition of the Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia Status of Members</i>	46	
<b>Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 16</b> <i>Endorsement of Official Control Programmes for Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia of Members</i>	46	
<b>Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 17</b> <i>Recognition of the Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy Risk Status of Members</i>	46	
<b>Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 18</b> <i>Recognition of the African Horse Sickness Status of Members</i>	46	
<b>Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 19</b> <i>Recognition of the Peste des Petits Ruminants Status of Members</i>	47	
<b>Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 20</b> <i>Recognition of the Classical Swine Fever Status of Members</i>	47	
<b>Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 21</b> <i>Endorsement of Official Control Programmes for dog-mediated rabies of Members</i>	47	

	<b>Page</b>	<b>Paragraph</b>
<b>Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 28</b> <i>Designation of OIE Reference Laboratories for terrestrial animal diseases</i>	47	
<b>Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 30</b> <i>Register of diagnostic kits validated and certified by the OIE</i>	47	
<b>Activities and Recommendations of the Regional Commissions</b>	47	185 – 189
<b><u>FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION</u></b>	48	190
<b>Presentation of the OIE activities in 2019 and 2020</b>	48	191 – 202
<b>Draft Administrative Resolutions adopted during the online voting procedure (Before General Session)</b>	48	192 – 193
<b>Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 1</b> <i>Approval of the Annual Report of the Director General on the Activities of the OIE in 2019 and 2020</i>	48	
<b>Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 2</b> <i>Approval of the Report of the Director General on the Management, Activities and Administrative Work of the OIE in 2020</i>	48	
<b>Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 4</b> <i>Acknowledgements to the Members and Partners that made Voluntary Contributions or Subsidies to the OIE, or contributed in the Organisation of OIE Meetings and for the Provision of Personnel</i>	48	
<b>Resolutions drafted during First Administrative Session</b>		
<b>Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 3</b> <i>Approval of the Financial Report for the 94th Financial Year of the OIE (1 January – 31 December 2020)</i>	49	203
<b>Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 9</b> <i>Renewal of the Appointment of the External Auditor</i>	49	204 – 205
<b>Presentation of future OIE activities</b>	49	206 – 226
<b>Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 11</b> <i>Seventh Strategic Plan of the OIE for the period 2021–2025</i>	52	227
<b>Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 8</b> <i>Planned Work Programme for 2022</i>	52	228
<b>Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 5</b> <i>Modification of the 2021 Budget</i>	52	229
<b>Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 6</b> <i>OIE Budgetary Income and Expenses for the 96th Financial Year (1 January to 31 December 2022)</i>	52	230
<b>Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 7</b> <i>Financial Contributions from OIE Members for 2022</i>	52	231
<b>Modalities of holding OIE General Sessions</b>	52	232 – 235
<b>Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 10</b> <i>Modalities of holding OIE General Sessions</i>	53	236
<b>Activities of the Council</b>	53	237

	Page	Paragraph
<hr/>		
<b>■ FRIDAY 28 MAY 2021 ■</b>		
<hr/>		
<a href="#"><u>SECOND ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION</u></a>		
<b>Election of the Directeur General</b>	53	238 – 247
<b>Elections of members of the OIE Council, the Regional Commissions and the Specialist Commissions</b>	54	248
• Election of the President of the Assembly	54	249 – 250
• Election of the Vice-President of the Assembly	54	251
• Election of the Members of the Council	54	252 – 253
• Election of the Members of the Regional Commissions	55	254
• Election of the Members of the Specialist Commissions	55	255 – 256
– Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission	56	257
– Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases	56	258
– Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission	57	259
– Biological Standards Commission	56	260 – 261
<b>Activities of the Specialist Commissions (contd)</b>		
• Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission		
<b>Adoption of the Proposed new Chapter 7.Z.</b>		
<i>on Animal welfare and laying hen production systems</i>	58	262 – 264
<a href="#"><u>FOURTH PLENARY SESSION</u></a>	59	265 – 267
<b>Presentation of proposed Resolutions drafted during plenary sessions</b>	59	268
<b>Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 26</b>		
<i>Amendments to the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code</i>	59	269
<b>Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 22</b>		
<i>First addendum to Resolution No. 15 of 29 May 2020: “Procedures for Members for the official recognition and maintenance of animal health status of certain animal diseases or risk status of bovine spongiform encephalopathy and for the endorsement of official control programmes”</i>	59	270
<b>Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 23</b>		
<i>First addendum to Resolution No. 16 of 29 May 2020: “Costs to be covered by Members applying for the official recognition of animal health status of certain animal diseases or risk status of bovine spongiform encephalopathy and the endorsement of official control programmes”</i>	59	271
<b>Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 12</b>		
<i>Appointment of the Director General</i>	60	272

	<b>Page</b>	<b>Paragraph</b>
<b>Dates of the 89th General Session (May 2022)</b>	60	273
<b>Technical Items for the 89th General Session (May 2022)</b>	60	274
<b>Transfer of office to the new President</b>	60	275 – 278
<b>Closing Session</b>	60	279 – 280
 <b><u>RESOLUTIONS</u></b>		
<a href="#"><u>No. 1</u></a> Approval of the Annual Report of the Director General on the Activities of the OIE in 2019 and 2020	65	
<a href="#"><u>No. 2</u></a> Approval of the Report of the Director General on the Management, Activities and Administrative Work of the OIE in 2020	66	
<a href="#"><u>No. 3</u></a> Approval of the Financial Report for the 94th Financial Year of the OIE (1 January – 31 December 2020)	67	
<a href="#"><u>No. 4</u></a> Acknowledgements to the Members and Partners that made Voluntary Contributions or Subsidies to the OIE, or contributed in the Organisation of OIE Meetings and for the Provision of Personnel	68	
<a href="#"><u>No. 5</u></a> Modification of the 2021 Budget	69	
<a href="#"><u>No. 6</u></a> OIE Budgetary Income and Expenses for the 96th Financial Year (1 January to 31 December 2022)	71	
<a href="#"><u>No. 7</u></a> Financial Contributions from OIE Members for 2022	73	
<a href="#"><u>No. 8</u></a> Planned Work Programme for 2021-2022	74	
<a href="#"><u>No. 9</u></a> Renewal of the Appointment of the External Auditor	75	
<a href="#"><u>No. 10</u></a> Modalities of holding General Sessions	76	
<a href="#"><u>No. 11</u></a> Seventh Strategic Plan of the OIE for the 2021-2025 period	78	
<a href="#"><u>No. 12</u></a> Appointment of the Director General	79	
<a href="#"><u>No. 13</u></a> Recognition of the Foot and Mouth Disease Status of Members	80	
<a href="#"><u>No. 14</u></a> Endorsement of Official Control Programmes for Foot and Mouth Disease of Members	85	
<a href="#"><u>No. 15</u></a> Recognition of the Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia Status of Members	86	
<a href="#"><u>No. 16</u></a> Endorsement of Official Control Programmes for Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia of Members	88	
<a href="#"><u>No. 17</u></a> Recognition of the Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy Risk Status of Members	89	
<a href="#"><u>No. 18</u></a> Recognition of the African Horse Sickness Status of Members	91	
<a href="#"><u>No. 19</u></a> Recognition of the Peste des Petits Ruminants Status of Members	93	
<a href="#"><u>No. 20</u></a> Recognition of the Classical Swine Fever Status of Members	95	
<a href="#"><u>No. 21</u></a> Endorsement of Official Control Programmes for dog-mediated rabies of Members	97	

	<b>Page</b>
<a href="#">No. 22</a> First addendum to Resolution No. 15 of 29 May 2020 on the “Procedures for Members for the official recognition and maintenance of animal health status of certain animal diseases or risk status of bovine spongiform encephalopathy and for the endorsement of official control programmes.”	98
<a href="#">No. 23</a> First addendum to Resolution No. 16 of 29 May 2020 on the “Costs to be covered by Members applying for the official recognition of animal health status of certain animal diseases or risk status of bovine spongiform encephalopathy and the endorsement of official control programmes.”	99
<a href="#">No. 24</a> Amendments to the OIE <i>Aquatic Animal Health Code</i>	100
<a href="#">No. 25</a> Amendments to the <i>Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals</i>	101
<a href="#">No. 26</a> Amendments to the OIE <i>Terrestrial Animal Health Code</i>	102
<a href="#">No. 27</a> Amendments to the <i>Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals</i>	106
<a href="#">No. 28</a> Designation of OIE Reference Laboratories for terrestrial animal diseases	108
<a href="#">No. 29</a> Designation of OIE Collaborating Centres	110
<a href="#">No. 30</a> Register of diagnostic kits validated and certified by the OIE	112
<a href="#">No. 31</a> How OIE can support Veterinary Services to achieve One Health Resilience	113
 <b><u>REPORTS OF THE MEETINGS OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS HELD DURING THE 88th GENERAL SESSION</u></b>	
• Regional Commission for <a href="#">Africa</a>	119
• Regional Commission for the <a href="#">Americas</a>	125
• Regional Commission for <a href="#">Asia, the Far East and Oceania</a>	131
• Regional Commission for <a href="#">Europe</a>	137
• Regional Commission for the <a href="#">Middle East</a>	145

### List of abbreviations

ALA	:	Latin American Poultry Association
AOAD	:	Arab Organization for Agricultural Development
AU-IBAR	:	African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources
CaribVET	:	Caribbean Animal Health Network
CVA	:	Commonwealth Veterinary Association
CVP	:	Permanent Veterinary Committee of the Southern Cone
ECOWAS	:	Economic Community of West African States
EFSA	:	European Food Safety Authority
ENACSA	:	<i>Servicio Nacional de Calidad y Salud Animal, Paraguay</i>
EU ADIS	:	Animal disease information system of the EU
FAO	:	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GF-TADs	:	Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases
ICFAW	:	International Coalition for Animal Welfare
ICIPE	:	International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology
ICMM	:	International Committee of Military Medicine
ICRC	:	International Committee of the Red Cross
IEC	:	International Egg Commission
IICA	:	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture
OIRSA	:	Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria
PANVET	:	Pan American Association of Veterinary Sciences
RSPCA	:	Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
SG-CAN	:	General Secretariat of the Andean Community
SSAFE	:	Safe Supply of Affordable Food Everywhere
UNEP	:	United Nations Environment Programme
UNODA	:	United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs
WAEMU	:	West African Economic and Monetary Union
WHO	:	World Health Organization
WRO	:	World Renderers Organisation

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# **FINAL REPORT OF THE SESSIONS**



## INTRODUCTION

1. The 88th General Session of the World Assembly of Delegates<sup>1</sup> of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) was held from 24 to 28 May 2021 by videoconference, and was chaired by Dr Mark Schipp (Australia), President of the Assembly.
2. The decision to hold the General Session virtually was taken by the OIE Council in coordination with the OIE Director General in light of the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) global pandemic. The OIE *Basic Texts* neither foresee nor rule out the possibility, under unprecedented and exceptional circumstances, of holding the General Session virtually.
3. One hundred and sixty-five Members participated in the General Session.
4. The Director General of the OIE, Dr Monique Eloit, participated in the sessions in a consultative capacity and served as Secretary General.
5. Dr William B. Karesh (United States of America), Chair of the OIE Working Group on Wildlife, participated in the General Session as Rapporteur for the Technical Item.
6. The Presidents of the OIE Specialist Commissions participated in the Plenary Sessions.
7. Dr Jean-Philippe Dop, Deputy Director General “Institutional Affairs and Regional Activities”, and Dr Matthew Stone, Deputy Director General “International Standards and Science”, facilitated the smooth running of the sessions.
8. Several Guests of Honour also participated in the Opening Session through pre-recorded video statements or live speech.

## GENERAL SESSION PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES

9. In light of the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) global pandemic, the decision to hold the General Session virtually was taken by the OIE Council, in coordination with the OIE Director General, during the Council meeting that took place on 29 and 30 September 2020. It is important to note that the OIE *Basic Texts* neither foresee nor exclude the possibility of holding the General Session virtually under unprecedented and exceptional circumstances such as those currently being experienced. The Council was regularly consulted and informed of the progress of the preparations for the General Session, a notable instance being during its meeting in March 2021.
10. To optimise the limited time allocated to this virtual General Session, the OIE used an innovative approach to facilitate preparing for and holding the 88th General Session virtually. This approach was implemented incrementally and accompanied by a comprehensive communication programme, which aimed to share as much information as possible with OIE Members ahead of the General Session.

### **Pre-General Session Information Webinars on standards proposed for adoption**

11. A series of pre-General Session Information Webinars were held during the week beginning 12 April 2021, to inform OIE Members about the new and revised texts that would be proposed for adoption by the Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission (hereafter the Aquatic Animals Commission), the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission (hereafter the Code Commission) and the Biological Standards Commission, respectively. A total of nine Webinars (three for each Commission) were delivered in three different time zones to facilitate the participation of all OIE Members.

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<sup>1</sup> Hereafter “the Assembly”

12. The Webinars provided an overview of the new and revised texts that would be proposed for adoption at the virtual General Session for the *Aquatic Animal Health Code* (hereafter the *Aquatic Code*), the *Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals* (hereafter the *Aquatic Manual*), the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (hereafter the *Terrestrial Code*) and the *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals* (hereafter the *Terrestrial Manual*). The purpose of these Webinars was to ensure that OIE Members understood what would be proposed for adoption and the rationale for these proposals so they could prepare their positions for the General Session.
13. The Webinars only presented information that had been published in Part A of the February 2021 reports of the Aquatic Animals Commission, the Code Commission and the Biological Standards Commission, respectively. Members of each respective Commission delivered these presentations. Participants were invited to submit questions throughout these Webinars.
14. At the end of each Webinar, a video presentation by Dr Stone outlined the process to submit, in writing, Member positions and the adoption process during the week of the virtual General Session.
15. During the period from 3 to 14 May 2021, OIE Delegates were invited to submit comments or positions on some of the General Session working documents and to indicate, in advance, their wish to take the floor during the General Session. Delegates were invited to do so through a dedicated page for Delegates on the General Session website. All comments posted during this period were made available to all OIE Delegates.
16. Before the General Session, from 17 to 25 May, OIE Delegates were invited to adopt some administrative and technical resolutions. A remote voting system was deployed to allow Delegates to securely cast their votes electronically. The following resolutions were proposed for adoption during this period:

RESO	TITLE
<a href="#">No. 1</a>	Approval of the Annual Report of the Director General on the Activities of the OIE in 2019 and 2020
<a href="#">No. 2</a>	Approval of the Report of the Director General on the Management, Activities and Administrative Work of the OIE in 2020
<a href="#">No. 4</a>	Acknowledgements to the Members and Partners that made Voluntary Contributions or Subsidies to the OIE, or contributed in the Organisation of OIE Meetings and for the Provision of Personnel
<a href="#">No. 13</a>	Recognition of the Foot and Mouth Disease Status of Members
<a href="#">No. 14</a>	Endorsement of Official Control Programmes for Foot and Mouth Disease of Members
<a href="#">No. 15</a>	Recognition of the Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia Status of Members
<a href="#">No. 16</a>	Endorsement of Official Control Programmes for Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia of Members
<a href="#">No. 17</a>	Recognition of the Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy Risk Status of Members
<a href="#">No. 18</a>	Recognition of the African Horse Sickness Status of Members
<a href="#">No. 19</a>	Recognition of the Peste des Petits Ruminants Status of Members
<a href="#">No. 20</a>	Recognition of the Classical Swine Fever Status of Members
<a href="#">No. 21</a>	Endorsement of Official Control Programmes for dog-mediated rabies of Members
<a href="#">No. 28</a>	Designation of OIE Reference Laboratories for terrestrial animal diseases
<a href="#">No. 30</a>	Register of diagnostic kits validated and certified by the OIE

17. Although not on the agenda of this General Session, the animal health situation report and the reports on the activities of the two OIE Working Groups were shared with OIE Delegates.

## **Current animal health situation worldwide: analysis of events and trends**

(Doc. [88 SG/2](#) • [Video](#) • [Interactive presentation](#))

18. The report on the current animal health situation worldwide, summarised in a video presentation by Dr Paula Cáceres, Head of the World Animal Health Information and Analysis Department (WAHIAD), focused on some indicators of country reporting followed by a brief description of four animal diseases for which epizootic situations were observed in 2020 and early 2021; it concluded with an update on the OIE-WAHIS platform. The video was developed using an interactive presentation, which was shared with Members, allowing them to discover and explore the data.
19. As was the case for some other General Session working documents, the report on the animal health situation worldwide (SG/2) was subject to comments from Members from 3 to 14 May. Dr Cáceres provided the following responses to the comments submitted on-line.
20. A comment was made by Australia, noting that only 2% of the over 3000 immediate and follow up notifications received by the OIE during the reporting period were for aquatic animals. In that context, Australia wished to know what activities the OIE would be undertaking to improve and encourage reporting of aquatic animal diseases.
21. Dr Cáceres informed Members that, based on the feedback collected during recent years, a number of strategies had already been implemented by WAHIAD to improve reporting of aquatic animal diseases. These included an e-learning course developed for aquatic animal Focal Points; new maps integrated into OIE-WAHIS, including Exclusive Economic Zones, allowing Focal Points to report outbreaks in maritime zones; a support desk established to help Focal Points with any issues related to the new platform, providing permanent and personalised support; and an improved OIE-WAHIS back office, developed to support Members and simplify the reporting of notifications.

Dr Cáceres highlighted the fact that the first OIE Aquatic Animal Health Strategy was being launched at the 88th General Session, with a view to improving aquatic animal health and welfare worldwide. She stated that the Strategy had four overarching objectives and described a number of activities within each objective, including an activity to identify barriers to transparency of disease reporting with the aim of developing approaches to address them. She added that this work would build on ongoing activities such as the launch of the new OIE-WAHIS.

22. Additionally, Australia had thanked the OIE for its dedication to improving reporting systems with OIE-WAHIS and looked forward to the continual improvement of the new platform by incorporating feedback from Members.
23. Dr Cáceres thanked Australia for the encouragement and support regarding the development of the new OIE-WAHIS platform. The OIE confirmed its commitment to continuing to identify the needs of OIE Members and, accordingly, to continually improving the OIE-WAHIS platform. She stated that the ongoing evolution of the platform was of the utmost importance to ensure that it maintained its position as the relevant reference database for animal disease events. As had always been the case since the beginning of this renovation project, the OIE expected OIE-WAHIS to be a constantly evolving system. To this end, the OIE would: continue to support Members through the OIE-WAHIS support desk; maintain the OIE-WAHIS Key Users Committee, to collect the initiatives put forward by OIE Focal Points; and collect new initiatives through the training courses conducted by the OIE. Dr Cáceres emphasised that these evolutions, as well as the ongoing development of the remaining modules, required not only feedback from key users but also the continued financial support of Members and funding partners.

24. Japan expressed its appreciation for the WAHIAD's extensive work in summarising the global animal disease situation, noting that such an analysis was highly relevant for Members when developing prevention and control strategies for animal and zoonotic diseases.

As described in the report, high pathogenicity avian influenza (HPAI) subtype H5N8 severely affected some parts of the globe, including Asia in the recent winter season. Japan considered it critical for Members to be well prepared for the next HPAI season, by using the lessons learnt from the current H5N8 epidemic and enhancing global collaboration to tackle this challenge. In this regard, Japan expected the OIE's initiative to facilitate early warning, including the provision of information and a global alert based on a scientific assessment. At the same time, Japan reiterated the importance of each Member ensuring transparency by timely reporting and information sharing, reinforcing national biosecurity and strengthening international collaboration in research. In this way, Japan believed that preparedness and resilience for global animal health challenges would be improved.

25. Dr Cáceres acknowledged the appreciative comments by Japan and agreed on the importance of transparency associated with early detection and reporting. Indeed, she considered these actions formed the basis for OIE Members to move forward in addressing the challenges posed by the different epidemics, such as HPAI. In this regard, the OIE confirmed its commitment to continuing its work on the active search for non-official animal health information and encouraging early notification by its Members. In this connection, the OIE wished to thank WHO and the Australian government for their collaboration, facilitating the Epidemic Intelligence from Open Source (EIOS) and Intelliriver/IBIS platforms, respectively, both of them essential for the OIE's work on early detection. Finally, Members were invited to consult the regular reports on avian influenza published on the OIE website.
26. The European Union (EU) thanked the OIE for presenting the animal health situation in the world and welcomed the increased transparency of OIE Members, noting also that further efforts could be made in terms of timely and transparent reporting at the global level.

The EU remarked that the African swine fever (ASF) map in the report did not consider the regionalisation of ASF, displaying the whole country of Italy as infected whereas the disease was limited to Sardinia, where a positive trend had been observed in recent years. The EU informed the Assembly that this information was available in the OIE 6-monthly reports and suggested this be reflected on the map. In addition, the EU welcomed the successful collaboration on the global initiative for the control of ASF under GF-TADs<sup>2</sup> and reinforced its cooperation with other regions.

27. Dr Cáceres acknowledged the comments of the EU and emphasised the efforts by the OIE and OIE Members to improve the transparency and timeliness of animal health reporting. She also acknowledged that the map in the report presented the situation at a national scale, not only for Italy, but for the whole world. She pointed out that the ability to represent regionalisation was one of the major improvements of OIE-WAHIS, and invited Members to consult the dashboard "Disease situation" in OIE-WAHIS, where a more detailed representation of regional disease status could be found, including a more detailed depiction of the status of Italy. In addition, she appreciated the close cooperation of Europe in GF-TADs through actively sharing information and experience with other regions, particularly on ASF.

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<sup>2</sup> GF-TADs: Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases

28. Regarding SARS-CoV-2, the EU noted that the report referred to the risk of farmed mink escaping into the wild and the potential for a virus reservoir becoming established in wildlife populations. The EU further noted that there were no reports in the EU of escaped farmed mink that subsequently tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 and referenced the recent EFSA<sup>3</sup> scientific report that had concluded there was a very low risk of wild mustelids becoming a reservoir for SARS-CoV-2 or for SARS-CoV-2 infection becoming endemic in wild mustelids in Europe.
29. Dr Cáceres clarified that the report referred to two separate events, one involving mink that escaped from farms in The Netherlands and the other concerning a wild mink that tested positive in the United States of America. The case reported in the United States of America represented the first mink to test positive for SARS-CoV-2 in the wild, raising concerns over the potential threat of the establishment of a wildlife reservoir. While the OIE was aware that no positive case in feral mink had been reported in The Netherlands, these events demonstrated the risk of establishment of a wildlife reservoir and the importance of vigilance.
30. The EU highlighted the important efforts by the EU on surveillance, specifically for HPAI and ASF, in both the domestic and wildlife sectors, as reflected in the report. The EU informed that maintaining this surveillance in the medium to long term would require significant human and financial resources. Therefore, the EU invited the OIE to explore ways to further promote sustainable surveillance by its Members to enhance transparency of the disease situation for OIE-listed diseases on a global level.
31. Dr Cáceres congratulated the EU countries for the excellent quality of the information reported to the OIE in a timely manner and on an ongoing basis, especially for HPAI and ASF. She agreed on the importance of surveillance in domestic and wild species, noting that the recommendations and principles of surveillance, available in Chapter 1.4. Animal Health Surveillance of both the *Terrestrial Code* and *Aquatic Code*, were the basis for guiding Members in designing and assessing the quality of surveillance systems in their countries. One of the main objectives of the OIE Observatory was in fact to better understand the difficulties encountered in implementing these standards in order to better support Members in this respect.
32. The EU congratulated the OIE for launching Release 1 of the new OIE-WAHIS platform, which embedded an interoperability functionality essential for EU ADIS<sup>4</sup>. The EU explained that complete bi-directional interoperability would be addressed in Release 2 of ADIS. The EU noted that it was essential that the evolution of OIE-WAHIS continue to ensure future compatibility with ADIS.
33. Dr Cáceres reiterated the extensive and fruitful collaboration that had been taking place over the years between the European Commission and the OIE to implement interoperability between OIE-WAHIS and ADIS. As mentioned in the report and in the video, the OIE reinforced its commitment to promoting interoperability between these two systems, as well as to expanding the connection with other global, regional or national platforms in the future.
34. The EU noted that the inclusion of “voluntary reports for non-OIE-listed diseases in wildlife” with compulsory information on OIE-listed diseases in the same OIE-WAHIS platform could be misleading. The EU expressed concern that Members could feel compelled to provide voluntary information on non-listed diseases for transparency and that this could lead to international trade complications. The EU stated that the OIE should not collect any information on non-OIE-listed diseases in OIE-WAHIS (unless notified as emerging diseases).

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<sup>3</sup> EFSA: European Food Safety Authority

<sup>4</sup> EU ADIS: Animal disease information system of the EU

35. Dr Cáceres explained that the OIE was aware of the potential negative implications that the reporting on non-OIE-listed diseases in wildlife could have, for instance by evoking trading partner reactions. As in the past, and to avoid any trade implications as much as possible, the future OIE-WAHIS-*Wild* interface would continue to remain separate to clearly differentiate between the information reported through official reports and that reported through voluntary reports. However, she restated the importance of detecting and reporting events in wildlife populations that could represent a potential threat for animal and public health, as well as for biodiversity. In this context, the monitoring of wildlife populations for morbidity and mortality events, and identification of associated pathogens even when not OIE-listed diseases, was of pivotal importance for early recognition of emerging threats. She concluded that the ongoing review, which aimed to improve wildlife disease surveillance and reporting, both for OIE-listed diseases and for those on the OIE wildlife disease list, was part of the OIE Wildlife Health Framework, being presented during the 88th General Session through the Technical Item and endorsed in Resolution No. 31.
36. Finally, Dr Cáceres thanked all those Members that had expressed their support for the report.

### **Working Group on Wildlife**

(Doc. [88 SG/13/GT1](#) • [Video](#))

37. The report of the Working Group on Wildlife, summarised in a video presentation by Dr Marcela Uhart, member of the Working Group, presented an overview of the Working Group's activities since the previous General Session as well as the outcome of the annual Working Group meeting, which was held virtually from 1 to 4 December 2020.
38. The activities of the Working Group during the reporting period mainly focused on: wildlife surveillance at national level; facilitating the rapid transport of wildlife diagnostic specimens to laboratories for confirmatory testing and characterisation; noteworthy wildlife issues and disease occurrences; supporting the OIE's core mission of promotion of Veterinary Services; improving the functioning of the network of the OIE National Focal Points for Wildlife; and contributing to the Concept Note for an OIE Wildlife Health Framework.

### **Working Group on Antimicrobial Resistance**

(Doc. [88 SG/13/GT2](#) • [Video](#))

39. The report of the Working Group on Antimicrobial Resistance, summarised in a video presentation by Dr Tomoko Ishibashi, Chair of the Working Group, provided an overview of the Working Group's activities since the previous General Session as well as the outcomes of the bi-annual Working Group meetings, which were held virtually from 13 to 15 October 2020 and from 6 to 9 April 2021.
40. The activities of the Working Group during the reporting period mainly focused on the development of species-specific Technical Reference Documents listing Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance, namely for poultry, swine and aquatic species. Besides these activities, the Working Group provided support and guidance on the development of the OIE AMU – a global database on antimicrobial agents intended for use in animals.

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■ **MONDAY 24 MAY 2021** ■

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### **Meetings of the Regional Commissions** ([Reports](#))

41. The meetings of the OIE Regional Commissions took place on Monday 24 May in different time zones. The participants comprised the members of each Regional Commission, representatives of International and Regional organisations and members of staff of OIE regional offices and the Headquarters. Agendas included several topics of regional interest such as the outcomes of Regional Conferences, the selection of technical items, and updates on key regional activities. A closed session was reserved in each meeting for Delegates to discuss the candidates to be proposed for the elections on Friday 28 May 2021.

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■ **TUESDAY 25 MAY 2021** ■

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### **Opening Session**

42. The Opening Ceremony started with a video recording of ministerial statements on the importance of the One Health approach and the role the OIE should play in the international negotiations. The following Ministers contributed to the video (in order of appearance):

- **Honourable Ms Mia Mottley**  
Prime Minister  
of Barbados
- **Honourable Ms Angela Thokozile Didiza**  
Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development  
of South Africa
- **Honourable Mr João Bartolomeu da Cunha**  
Secretary of State for Agriculture and Livestock  
of Angola
- **Honourable Dr Abdullah bin Mohammed Belhaif Al Nuaimi**  
Minister of Climate Change and Environment  
of the United Arab Emirates
- **Honourable Dr Syahrul Yasin Limpo**  
Minister of Agriculture  
of Indonesia
- **Honourable Mr Jean-Yves Le Drian**  
Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs  
of France

43. Dr Mark Schipp (Australia), President of the Assembly, welcomed the participants.

44. In his address, the President paid tribute to the Delegates and colleagues who had died during the past year and asked participants to observe a minute's silence in their memory.

The President noted how quickly the OIE had adapted to the health situation and thanked the OIE staff for their work during this challenging year.

He emphasised that the One Health framework provided opportunities for the OIE to strengthen partnerships and collaborations to address global issues related to animal health and welfare, in line with the OIE's Seventh Strategic Plan.

In his address, he underlined the importance of collaboration as key to the effectiveness and impact of the One Health approach, including for wildlife health, international trade and standards compliance, as well as for other challenges such as antimicrobial resistance.

Regarding the approach to wildlife health, he noted that the OIE Wildlife Health Framework provides an important basis for monitoring and reducing emerging and zoonotic diseases.

Also in the context of the One Health framework, the President acknowledged the OIE's collaboration with WHO<sup>5</sup> and FAO<sup>6</sup>, and more recently with UNEP<sup>7</sup>.

The President noted the progress made on the implementation of the OIE Observatory to collect data on the relevance and impact of the OIE's standards, paving the way for effective solutions and for better implementation of these standards.

In closing, he called the Assembly's attention to the value of Veterinary Services as influential and effective contributors to addressing challenges such as antimicrobial resistance, food insecurity and the prevention of future pandemics. He also thanked OIE Members for their contributions and their continued active engagement with the OIE in order to address the changes that lie ahead in the decades to come. Finally, he expressed his thanks for the support he had received during his term as President of the World Assembly of OIE Delegates.

45. In her address, Dr Monique Eloit, Director General of the OIE, reminded the Assembly that many countries were still impacted by the COVID-19 crisis and took the opportunity to acknowledge all those who had suffered as a result. She noted the resilience of the OIE in addressing various challenges throughout 2020: ensuring continuity of service despite activities coming to a halt overnight; supporting the response to the COVID-19 crisis despite its being essentially a human health crisis; and solidarity within the Organisation even though the offices were closed and expatriated staff members were separated from their families.

She noted that the OIE Headquarters and the Regional and Sub-Regional Representations had quickly adjusted to the situation by, for example, replacing previously planned workshops by webinars through the use of digital technologies, thereby enabling an appropriate level of activities to be maintained. In particular and starting in April 2020, the OIE put in place an "Incident Management Approach", contributed to the animal and environmental workstream of the WHO's R&D Blueprint, and entrusted the OIE Working Group on Wildlife with the development of a new approach for wildlife health. She also highlighted the tremendous work undertaken by all OIE Departments, and in particular by the Human Resources Unit and the Digital Transformation & Information Systems Department, to accompany staff in the transition to teleworking, as well as the work of the Events Coordination Unit in restructuring its activities and contributing to the digitalisation of the 88th General Session.

Dr Eloit thanked the Council members and the Delegates for their support in implementing the Adapted Procedure in May 2020 as a replacement for the General Session. She also thanked the OIE's staff for their enthusiasm and dedication throughout these difficult times. She noted that, considering the lessons learned during 2020, the OIE had revisited some of its programmes and prioritised certain activities to provide Members with the best possible support.

Lastly, the Director General expressed the hope that the virtual format of the General Session as well as the numerous virtual events organised during the previous weeks would meet the expectations of all the Delegates.

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<sup>5</sup> WHO: World Health Organization

<sup>6</sup> FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

<sup>7</sup> UNEP: United Nations Environment Programme

46. Ms Inger Andersen, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), gave the address summarised below.

Ms Andersen expressed her thanks for the invitation to participate in the General Session and congratulated Dr Schipp on his term as President of the World Assembly.

She emphasised that the three planetary crises of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution threaten peace and prosperity, and we need to clearly understand that human, animal and planetary health are one and the same.

She mentioned that COVID-19 as a good example of how the degradation of natural environments and unsustainable use of animal resources can result in the unprecedented transmission of diseases from animals to humans. Linked to this, she highlighted the importance of a One Health approach with an increased focus on environmental health. She reminded the Assembly that planetary health is the foundation for all health.

Related to this, Ms Andersen noted the adoption of a resolution at the UN Environment Assembly on environment and health as a key part of UNEP's medium-term strategy on One Health, and made particular reference to the nature, chemical and pollution workstreams.

Ms Andersen welcomed the opportunity for the UNEP to join the FAO-OIE-WHO Tripartite Alliance as a member, to promote transformative actions targeting the causes of the destruction of nature, and she indicated her wish to strengthen the bilateral partnership with the OIE. She also welcomed the spirit of collaboration and engagement shown by the OIE in the fields of antimicrobial resistance and wildlife health. She emphasised that the UNEP would contribute to this important partnership through its networks, data and scientific expertise.

Ms Andersen also indicated what could be done by the international community to improve the health of the planet. In this regard, she referred to: (i) the UN Food Systems Summit as an opportunity to transform food systems, (ii) the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, aimed at protecting nature and the services rendered by ecosystems, and (iii) the Conference of Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change to set new commitments to reduce collective risks.

In conclusion, she stated that collaborative efforts and partnerships were essential to secure human, animal, and environment health.

47. Following these presentations, Dr Schipp declared open the 88th General Session of the Assembly.

## FIRST PLENARY SESSION

### **Adoption of the Agenda and Programme**

(Docs. [88 SG/7](#) and [88 SG/8](#))

48. The President asked whether the participants had any comments on the agenda.
49. In the absence of any comments, the Assembly adopted the agenda and the programme for the General Session.

### **Nomination of the Sub-Commission for the Agenda**

50. The Assembly appointed Dr Komla Batassé Batawui (Togo) and Dr Christianne Brusckhe (The Netherlands), elected members of the Council.

### **Nomination of the Credentials Committee**

51. Considering that some resolutions were proposed for adoption before the General Session, the Council had previously appointed Dr Hugo Federico Idoyaga Benítez (Paraguay) and Dr Botlhe Michael Modisane (South Africa), members of the Council, to prepare the list of Delegates accredited by their Governments to participate in the debates and to vote, based on the countries that were up to date with their contributions.
52. In accordance with the decisions of the Council, the Credentials Committee communicated to the President the list of Delegates who, owing to their country's arrears of statutory contributions due to the OIE, were ineligible to take part in the elections.
53. In addition, Dr Botlhe Michael Modisane (South Africa) and Dr Mark Schipp (Australia) were appointed as scrutineers for the elections.

### **Activities of the Specialist Commissions**

#### **Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission**

(Doc. [88 SG/12/CS1](#) • [Video](#))

54. Dr Etienne Bonbon, President of the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission (Code Commission) reminded Members that due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent postponement of the 2020 General Session no new or revised standards for the *Terrestrial Code* had been adopted since 2019. He informed the Assembly that due to the limitations imposed by the virtual format of the General Session and the large number of standards being proposed for adoption, he would only be addressing the new and revised texts that would be proposed for adoption.

Dr Bonbon stated that the Commission had met four times since he last reported to the Assembly at the 2019 General Session. These meetings took place from 11 to 19 September 2019 and from 4 to 13 February 2020 at OIE Headquarters, and virtually from 1 to 10 September 2020 and from 2 to 11 February 2021. He expressed his gratitude to the members of the Code Commission, Dr Gaston Funes (First Vice-President), Dr Masatsugu Okita (Second Vice-President), Dr Lucio Ignacio Carbajo Goñi, Prof. Salah Hammami and Dr Bernardo Todeschini (Commission members) for their expert contributions, dedication, and commitment to the Commission's work throughout the last two years, including their participation in *ad hoc* Group meetings and representing the Commission at regional or international meetings.

55. On behalf of the Commission, Dr Bonbon thanked the members of the other Specialist Commissions for their advice and support and acknowledged the strengthened collaboration and coordination among the four Specialist Commissions in the standard-setting process. He assured the Assembly that the Code Commission would continue to strengthen coordination and linkages among the Specialist Commissions. He also expressed his appreciation for the contribution of *ad hoc* Group experts and individual experts who had provided scientific advice.
56. Dr Bonbon also commended the staff at OIE Headquarters for the support they had provided to the Commission and *ad hoc* Groups.
57. Dr Bonbon particularly noted the additional efforts made by Commission members and the OIE Secretariat to maintain the high level of productivity of the Code Commission despite the challenges of working in a virtual modality.
58. Dr Bonbon expressed his appreciation for the large number of comments submitted by Members and by international organisations that have a cooperation agreement with the OIE on texts that had been circulated for comments. He stressed that the standard-setting process could only be effective with the input of Members through their comments.

Dr Bonbon highlighted the specific process implemented this year to allow Members to indicate their positions prior to the General Session on the texts that were to be proposed for adoption, and he commended the OIE Secretariat for enabling this procedure in light of a complex and time-bound session due to the virtual format. Dr Bonbon acknowledged the positions received, which had variously expressed support, opposition or comments on some of the texts, with the vast majority being expressions of support. He noted that the comments had been made available to all Delegates through the General Session website, and he invited Members to intervene when the specific item was presented to the Assembly. He stressed the importance of having clear positions ready for the General Session and thanked the Delegates for having sent their positions, but highlighted that there was no room at this stage for detailed comments, which should preferably have been sent when the standards were circulated for comments, especially as many rounds of comments had taken place before considering a text to be proposed for adoption. However, he assumed that those last comments would nevertheless be looked at by the Code Commission at its next meetings.

Dr Bonbon informed Delegates that the new and revised chapters to be proposed for adoption could be found in Annexes 3 to 21 of Document 88 SG/12/CS1.

Concluding his introductory remarks, Dr Bonbon reminded the Assembly that the work programme of the Code Commission and the new and revised texts circulated for comment had been circulated to Members in Part B of the Code Commission's February 2021 report and that they had been invited to submit comments to OIE Headquarters before 9 July 2021.

#### 59. **Chapters proposed for adoption**

Dr Bonbon indicated that the remainder of his presentation would focus on presenting the new and revised texts of the *Terrestrial Code* that were to be proposed for adoption. He explained to the Assembly that, considering that some of the changes proposed in Chapter 1.3. 'Diseases, infections and infestations listed by the OIE' were the result of discussions on some disease-specific chapters, notably Chapter 8.Y. and Chapter 10.4. on avian influenza, he would present the revised Chapter 1.3. after presenting the other new and revised chapters.

#### 60. **User's Guide**

Dr Bonbon informed the Assembly that amendments to the User's Guide were proposed in point 3 of Section B for consistency with terminology used throughout the *Terrestrial Code*, and in point 5 of Section C to include a reference to Chapter 2.2. 'Criteria applied by the OIE for assessing the safety of commodities', given that this chapter had been revised and adopted in 2018. Dr Bonbon noted that the amended text had been circulated four times to Members.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

#### 61. **Glossary**

Dr Bonbon informed the Assembly that amendments were proposed to the definitions for 'epidemiological unit', 'captive wild [animal]', 'feral [animal]', 'wild [animal]' and 'Poultry'.

Dr Bonbon stated that the Code Commission had agreed with Members' proposals to amend the Glossary definition for 'epidemiological unit' to include the possibility that an epidemiological unit could consist of only one animal and noted that the amended definition had been circulated five times to Members.

Dr Bonbon noted that the Code Commission had proposed a revision to the Glossary definition for ‘captive wild [animal]’ in response to comments received and that, as part of this revision, minor amendments had also been introduced to the definitions for ‘feral [animal]’ and ‘wild [animal]’ for alignment. He noted that the Code Commission had requested the support of the OIE Working Group on Wildlife for these revisions, and that the amended definition for ‘captive wild [animal]’ had been circulated four times to Members and those for ‘feral [animal]’ and ‘wild [animal]’ three times.

Dr Bonbon explained that the revision of Chapter 10.4. ‘Infection with avian influenza viruses’ included the revision of the definition for ‘poultry’ contained in its Article 10.4.1., and that after several rounds of comments on the amended text, the Commission proposed to replace the Glossary definition for ‘poultry’ by the revised definition in the chapter. He explained that the revised definition provided more clarity on the different kinds of birds covered by the definition, based on their epidemiological significance. Dr Bonbon noted that the amended text had been circulated to Members for comments on two occasions as part of the revised Chapter 10.4., and two additional times as a proposed modification to the Glossary.

Dr Bonbon presented the revised Glossary definitions to the Assembly.

Montenegro, on behalf of the 53 Members of the OIE Europe Region, thanked the Code Commission for its work on the Glossary definitions, and expressed Europe’s support for the adoption of the revised Glossary as presented.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

**62. Chapter 1.1. Notification of diseases, infections and infestations, and provision of epidemiological information**

Dr Bonbon informed the Assembly that the Code Commission had proposed amendments to Chapter 1.1. to address certain inconsistencies in the notification by Members through OIE-WAHIS, to ensure consistency with other relevant chapters in the *Terrestrial Code* and to improve the text’s grammar and readability. He noted that the revised chapter had been circulated five times to Members.

Belgium, speaking on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, thanked the OIE for its work on this chapter and for addressing the comments submitted. It supported the adoption of the revised chapter. It also requested that, once the chapter was adopted, relevant changes should be made in OIE-WAHIS to align with the revised wording in the chapter. It also requested that OIE-WAHIS should avoid overly alarmist language in notification messages.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

**63. Article 1.4.3. of Chapter 1.4. Animal health surveillance**

Dr Bonbon reminded the Assembly that a significantly revised Chapter 1.4. ‘Animal health surveillance’ had been adopted in 2019.

Dr Bonbon explained that because of the discussions on the revision of the Glossary definition for ‘epidemiological unit’, the Commission had proposed amendments to Article 1.4.3., and he noted that the amended text had been circulated three times to Members.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

**64. Chapter 1.6. Procedures for self-declaration and for official recognition by the OIE**

Dr Bonbon highlighted that the revision of this chapter had been undertaken in coordination with the Scientific Commission to harmonise provisions on the official recognition of status by the OIE in disease-specific chapters.

Dr Bonbon explained that amendments were proposed so that common provisions concerning procedures applicable to the diseases for which the OIE grants official status recognition should be addressed in this chapter, instead of being repeated in the disease-specific chapters. He noted that the revised Chapter 1.6. had been circulated six times to Members.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

**65. Chapter 3.1. Veterinary Services**

Dr Bonbon informed the Assembly that significant work had been undertaken to revise the chapters in Section 3 relating to the quality of Veterinary Services and its evaluation, which included the revision of this and other, related items undertaken by the *ad hoc* Group on Veterinary Services.

Dr Bonbon explained that the revision of Chapter 3.1. Veterinary Services included important changes in its structure and focused its scope around the quality principles for Veterinary Services, which had led the Commission to also propose to change the title of the Chapter to ‘Quality of Veterinary Services’. He noted that the revised Chapter 3.1. had been circulated four times to Members.

Dr Bonbon presented the revised text to the Assembly.

New Zealand recalled that at the 2018 General Session, the QUADS countries (Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States of America) had expressed interest that the Glossary definitions for ‘Veterinary Services’, ‘Veterinary Authority’ and ‘Competent Authority’ be updated before further work be undertaken on chapters relating directly to these three definitions. New Zealand noted that this position had been reaffirmed at the 2019 General Session. New Zealand emphasised that as these definitions impacted the interpretation of this chapter, as well as other chapters, New Zealand would not support the adoption of the revised chapter until the abovementioned Glossary definitions were revised.

The United Kingdom, speaking on behalf of the 53 Members of the OIE Europe Region, thanked the Code Commission for its work and supported the adoption of the revised chapter as presented.

Dr Bonbon thanked the Members of the Europe Region for their support. In response to New Zealand, Dr Bonbon explained that the revision of Section 3 had been a priority for the Code Commission and supported by the Members, and the chapters were now ready for adoption. He noted that the three Glossary definitions that were currently under revision would need further rounds of comments, and did not consider that the amendments under consideration affected the interpretation of the revised texts being presented for adoption.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted with one abstention (New Zealand).

**66. Chapter 3.2. Evaluation of Veterinary Services**

Dr Bonbon informed the Assembly that the revision of Chapter 3.2. included significant changes. He explained that the proposed revised chapter was much shorter and focused on the main objectives and types of evaluation of Veterinary Services, and that the Commission had also sought alignment with the revised Chapter 3.1. He noted that the revised Chapter 3.2. had been circulated four times to Members.

Dr Bonbon presented the revised text to the Assembly.

Latvia, speaking on behalf of the 53 Members of the OIE Europe Region, thanked the Code Commission for its work and supported adoption of the revised chapter as presented.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

**67. Proposed new Chapter 3.X. Introduction to recommendations for Veterinary Services**

Dr Bonbon reported that, considering the whole content of Section 3 and the value of aligning it with some other sections of the *Terrestrial Code*, the Code Commission had agreed to propose the inclusion of a new, introductory Chapter 3.X. entitled 'Introduction to recommendations for Veterinary Services'. He explained that this new chapter introduced the concept of Veterinary Services, their role and importance, and summarised the overall structure of Section 3. He noted that the proposed new Chapter 3.X. had been circulated four times to Members.

Dr Bonbon added that, if the Assembly adopted the proposed amendments to Chapters 3.1. and 3.2. and the proposed new Chapter 3.X., the Commission would propose changing the title of Section 3 to 'Veterinary Services' to cover better all the chapters in this section.

Dr Bonbon presented the proposed new Chapter 3.X. 'Introduction to recommendations for Veterinary Services' to the Assembly.

Austria, speaking on behalf of the 53 Members of the OIE Europe Region, thanked the Code Commission for its work and supported adoption of the new chapter as presented.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

**68. Chapter 3.4. Veterinary Legislation**

Dr Bonbon informed the Assembly that Chapter 3.4. Veterinary Legislation had been thoroughly reviewed by the *ad hoc* Group on Veterinary Legislation in January 2018 to address some deficiencies and lack of clarity, to include concepts relevant to the OIE Biological Threat Reduction Strategy and to incorporate feedback from the OIE's work with Members on the assessment and development of veterinary legislation through the OIE Veterinary Legislation Support Programme, within the OIE PVS Pathway. He noted that the revised chapter had been circulated five times to Members.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

**69. Proposed new chapter on official control programmes for listed and emerging diseases (Chapter 4.Y.)**

Dr Bonbon presented a proposed new chapter on official control programmes for listed and emerging diseases and informed the Assembly that drafting of this chapter had been initiated in February 2016. He reminded Delegates that initially, the focus of the chapter had been on control plans in response to outbreaks of listed diseases, but it had evolved during the review process to now provide recommendations for the preparation, development and implementation of official control programmes for listed and emerging diseases.

Dr Bonbon noted that the proposed new chapter had been circulated eight times to Members and highlighted the active engagement of Members in providing comments on this important chapter. He thanked the Scientific Commission, the Working Group on Wildlife and the *ad hoc* Group on Veterinary Emergencies for the advice provided throughout the process.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

**70. Articles 4.4.6. and 4.4.7. of Chapter 4.4. Zoning and compartmentalisation**

Dr Bonbon reminded Delegates that during the last revision of Chapter 4.4., which had been adopted in 2018, some Members had proposed to include in Article 4.4.6. the concept of ‘temporary protection zone’ as a tool to minimise the impact that a disease introduction would have on an entire country or zone, and that at that time, the Code Commission had agreed not to address these requests but rather to discuss further how to clarify and incorporate this concept into the *Terrestrial Code*.

Dr Bonbon informed the Assembly that the Code Commission and the Scientific Commission had discussed this concept and agreed on amendments to Articles 4.4.6. and 4.4.7. that would improve the practical function of the ‘protection zone’ as a risk management strategy when an increased risk was considered to be temporary, to minimise the impact that a disease introduction would have on an entire country or zone. Dr Bonbon noted that the proposed revised texts for Articles 4.4.6. and 4.4.7. had been circulated three times to Members.

Dr Bonbon presented the revised Articles 4.4.6. and 4.4.7. of Chapter 4.4. ‘Zoning and compartmentalisation’ to the Assembly.

China (People’s Rep. of) suggested a review of the wording of points 2 and 4 (b) of Article 4.4.7., as it considered that the points were contradictory with regard to the animal health status of a containment zone, and that the text should clearly ban international trade of animals and their products originating from within a containment zone.

Liechtenstein, speaking on behalf of the 53 Members of the OIE Europe Region, thanked the Code Commission for its work and supported adoption of the revised chapter as presented.

Australia, speaking on behalf of the 32 Members of the OIE Asia, the Far East and Oceania Region, acknowledged the work of the Code Commission, in particular the inclusion of a temporary protection zone. Australia noted that given that several significant transboundary diseases had spread in the region in the last few years, strategies to assist the preparedness, control and eradication of such diseases were essential, whilst also maintaining trade where possible.

Dr Bonbon acknowledged the support expressed by Members. In response to China (People's Rep. of), Dr Bonbon explained that a containment zone was always considered as an infected zone, even if it could include an area with no occurrence of cases. He emphasised that the free status of the containment zone should be recovered in accordance with specific conditions. Regarding the text of Article 4.4.7., Dr Bonbon reminded the Assembly that the article had been revised at the request of numerous Members and in agreement with the Scientific Commission, with the aim of avoiding confusion in the naming of zones. Dr Bonbon noted that commodities could be traded from a containment zone if relevant risk mitigation measures had been applied and certified. He also stated that whether from within or outside the containment zone, the origin should always be certified.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

**71. Proposed new chapter on animal welfare and laying hen production systems (Chapter 7.Z.)**

Dr Bonbon presented a proposed new chapter on animal welfare and laying hen production systems and highlighted that it was the last 'animal production systems chapter' developed as planned by the former OIE Working Group on Animal Welfare.

Dr Bonbon explained that the proposed new chapter had been drafted by the OIE *ad hoc* Group on Animal Welfare and Laying Hen Production Systems in 2016, and that it followed the logic and format of the *Code* chapters on welfare and animal production systems, took into consideration the recent advances in animal welfare science in this area and had been enriched by discussions during successive rounds of comments.

Dr Bonbon noted that the proposed new chapter had been circulated five times to Members, during which time the draft text had been amended to include new scientific evidence and to take into consideration the diversity of production systems around the world. He pointed out that, at its February 2021 meeting, the Commission had agreed that, although some Members had expressed divergent opinions, no new rationale had been received during the last round of comments that would justify further modifications to the proposed text.

Dr Bonbon emphasised that there had been a tremendous amount of work to develop this chapter and highlighted that the Code Commission agreed that the proposed text was well balanced between different views and contexts for implementation and that it would provide OIE Members with a new welfare standard to enable the continuous development of country-specific animal welfare recommendations.

Dr Bonbon reiterated that the *Terrestrial Code* is not a legal text that would impose Members new legal obligations or stop production in case of non-compliance. Dr Bonbon also clarified that it is a recommendation for the Members to develop better animal welfare conditions in their production systems.

Dr Bonbon presented the proposed new chapter on animal welfare and laying hen production systems (Chapter 7.Z.) to the Assembly.

Ireland, speaking on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, acknowledged the work done by the OIE on this chapter, but stated that the EU could not support the adoption, as it considered that the comments provided by the EU had not been taken into account.

The EU did not agree that some provisions were only referred to as 'desirable', such as sufficient space for the expression of locomotory and comfort behaviours; substrate for comfort and foraging behaviours; and nesting areas and perches. The EU reported that access

to such facilities was scientifically based and proven to work in practice. As a consequence, it considered that the new draft chapter would not lead to any real improvements in the welfare of laying hens. The EU requested that the word ‘desirable’ be replaced by ‘should’ in the points mentioned above, as this would encourage countries to gradually converge with these international recommendations, leading to a progressive improvement in the welfare conditions of laying hens in the mid to long term.

The United Kingdom commended the work of the OIE on the development of this chapter but expressed its concerns noting that there were still important aspects that should be considered and included in the recommendations, such as motivated behaviours, provision of substrate, facilities to encourage foraging or dust bathing and access to perches and nesting areas. However, the United Kingdom understood that the implementation of these requirements could be challenging for some Members. Therefore, taking a pragmatic approach, the United Kingdom expressed its support for adoption of the chapter as it considered that it represented a clear improvement for the welfare of the laying hens. The United Kingdom requested that the chapter continue to be revised to reflect the scientific evidence.

Chile thanked the OIE for the development of this chapter. However, Chile asked that discussions continue regarding the recommendations included in the chapter. Chile noted that types of production systems differed widely among OIE Members depending on the country and region. Therefore, some of the recommendations in the proposed chapter could have significant adverse impacts as it was not clearly stated in the draft that the recommendations could be used in all types of production systems. Chile remarked that 98% of the egg production could be affected if they needed to change their production systems. Chile therefore suggested that the proposed changes submitted to the Commission should be made to the text, as it considered that these changes would allow flexibility for the production systems currently in place around the world.

The United States of America congratulated the OIE and supported the adoption of this chapter as it considered it to be important for the commercial sector to have an OIE animal welfare standard for laying hen production systems. The United States of America would prefer to use text in Chapter 7.Z. that unambiguously supported the use of all types of production systems covered within the proposed chapter. However, noting the comments from some other Members, the United States of America would also support the removal of specific text regarding which numerous countries had expressed concern. Specifically, the United States of America noted that it was willing to support some changes to the text, thereby setting aside the differences of opinions expressed by some countries and allowing for flexibility with current management systems around the world. Specifically, the United States of America proposed amending Articles 7.Z.10. Dust bathing areas, 7.Z.11. Foraging areas, 7.Z.12. Nesting areas, and 7.Z.13. Perches, by deleting the first sentence, beginning with ‘Access to’, and starting all aforementioned articles with ‘If provided’.

New Zealand indicated its preference that conditions outlined in Articles 7.Z.10. to 7.Z.13. should use the term ‘should’, rather than being indicated as being ‘desirable’, noting that this would bring this chapter in line with other animal welfare chapters. However, if this current wording were retained New Zealand would encourage this chapter to be reviewed in the future.

The International Egg Commission stated that egg producers had the goal of feeding the world while taking care of the welfare of their animals. The International Egg Commission indicated that the egg industry involved two million farmers worldwide, many of whom had small- to medium-sized farms, and therefore also had an important role in ensuring livelihoods. The International Egg Commission highlighted that OIE animal welfare

standards should be applicable across the world, and avoid creating differences between rich and poor countries, when implemented. The International Egg Commission favoured the development of global animal welfare standards that considered the current scientific information and were not too prescriptive.

Mexico congratulated the OIE on the development of this draft. However, it would not support the adoption of the chapter as presented, as it felt that the chapter did not consider all production systems. Mexico suggested that discussions be continued to find other possible management options.

Senegal, speaking on behalf of the 54 Members of the Africa Region, supported the adoption of this important chapter on the welfare of laying hens.

Colombia thanked the OIE and the experts that participated in the development of the draft. Colombia supported the previous interventions regarding the need to consider the different production systems around the world. Colombia requested that the draft be circulated again to discuss further the articles on dust bathing areas, foraging areas, nesting areas and perches, where some further amendments needed to be made.

Canada congratulated the Commission on the development of this very important chapter. Canada recognised that it had been a difficult task given the divergent views and positions that the Commission needed to consider and hoped that all countries could agree on the need for an international welfare standard for the laying-hen industry to help guide improvements over time for all production systems. Therefore, Canada supported the adoption of the chapter as presented. However, it would be comfortable with some minor revisions if that would help to ensure consensus and the adoption of the chapter.

India congratulated the OIE for this work and supported the interventions of the United States of America and the International Egg Commission. India supported the modifications proposed by the United States of America, as deleting the word ‘desirable’ would provide more flexibility for the standard’s implementation.

Argentina thanked the Code Commission and recognised its efforts to cover the different production systems that existed worldwide. However, listening to the comments of some Members, Argentina considered that further efforts were still required to fulfil Members’ expectations. Argentina agreed with the comments of Chile, Mexico and the International Egg Commission that recommendations should address all production systems currently used in the countries of the Americas Region. Argentina supported the modifications proposed by the United States of America regarding the deletion of the word ‘desirable’ in the articles covering the recommendations on dust bathing areas, foraging areas, nesting areas and perches.

Guatemala recognised the efforts of the OIE to develop this chapter. Guatemala supported the interventions of Chile, Mexico, Argentina and the International Egg Commission on the impact of the implementation of this chapter on the egg industry. Therefore, it would like to have the opportunity to continue discussions on this draft.

Dr Bonbon thanked the Members and the international organisation that had expressed their opinions and comments on this important draft chapter. He highlighted the efforts made and the process followed in the development of this balanced draft chapter, to find wording that would allow for progressive global implementation of the recommendations for better welfare for laying hens. He also recalled that the implementation of the recommendations was not expected to be immediate, and that this was also the case for all the standards of the OIE.

In view of the numerous opposing positions of Members, Dr Bonbon stressed that there were no simple amendments that could be made to the text that would be acceptable to all and therefore proposed to keep the text unchanged and seek Members' formal opinions on the version as presented.

The President noted the opposing positions of some Members and proposed that the draft standard be initially subject to the adoption procedure through voting by a show of hands. Noting that the number of objections and abstentions was significant, and that the virtual platform did not allow for a clear count with respect to the two-thirds majority required, it was agreed to defer the adoption of the proposed new chapter until Friday 28 May, when it would be put to a vote during the Second Administrative Session using the electronic voting platform that would be available at that time.

On Friday 28 May, during the Second Administrative Session, the President called for a vote on the adoption of the text. In the vote:

- 53 OIE Members supported adoption (Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Barbados, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, China (People's Rep. of), Côte d'Ivoire, Curaçao, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Georgia, Indonesia, Iraq, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Mali, Moldova, Mongolia, Namibia, New Caledonia, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Oman, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, and Vietnam).
- 41 OIE Members opposed adoption (Belgium, Belize, Benin, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Korea (Rep. of), Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Myanmar, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, and The Netherlands).
- There were 22 abstentions (Afghanistan, Bahrain, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chile, Eswatini, Haiti, Iceland, Iran, Israel, Mauritius, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Nepal, Nicaragua, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, and Zambia).

The proposed new Chapter 7.Z. on animal welfare and laying hen production systems was not adopted, as the support did not reach the two-thirds majority required by the General Rules.

## 72. **Proposed new chapter on infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin (Chapter 8.Y.)**

Dr Bonbon presented a proposed new chapter on infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin and informed the Assembly that this chapter had been developed following requests from Members to assess the most relevant species of trypanosomes of African origin against the criteria for the inclusion of diseases, infections and infestations in the OIE list. He explained that the chapter had been developed by an *ad hoc* Group, and the recommendations had been reviewed by the Code Commission and the Scientific Commission. He noted that the proposed new chapter had been circulated four times to Members.

Dr Bonbon highlighted that at its last meeting, the Commission had noted a comment concerning the naming of the chapter and pathogens but, considering that the chapter was close to being proposed for adoption, the Commission had, in agreement with the Scientific Commission, decided not to include the suggested change at this stage, and would review this in the future, noting that the suggested change would also require harmonisation with the *Terrestrial Manual*.

Dr Bonbon presented the proposed new chapter on infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin (Chapter 8.Y.) to the Assembly.

Senegal, speaking on behalf of the 54 Members of the OIE Africa Region, highlighted that naming diseases by geographical location should be discouraged in international standards, especially as trypanosomes can also occur outside the African continent. The region considered that the reference to ‘African origin’ indirectly stigmatised animals and animal products from Africa, with potential negative impacts on international trade from the region. Therefore, the 54 Members of the OIE Africa Region did not support adoption of Chapter 8.Y. unless the name was changed.

Australia, speaking on behalf of the OIE Asia, the Far East and Oceania Region, requested that the name ‘infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin’ should be changed throughout the chapter, including the title, for a number of reasons. Firstly, the OIE should avoid creating disease names that have geographical indicators of little or no scientific or technical value. The current approach would unnecessarily create a new disease term ‘animal trypanosomes of African origin’ which was not specific or useful for the purpose of the *Terrestrial Code*. In addition, point 4 of Article 8.Y.1. clearly defined the range of trypanosomes targeted by species name. Lastly, although the trypanosomes targeted by this chapter were known to be first found in Africa, some of these parasites had spread to other continents. For example, *Trypanosoma vivax* also occurred in Central and South America.

Spain, speaking on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, supported the position expressed by Senegal on behalf of the 54 Members of the OIE Africa Region. The EU did not consider the name of the disease, as proposed, to be in line with best practices developed by WHO in close collaboration with the OIE and FAO for naming new infectious diseases that were agreed in 2015. The EU requested that the name be amended in the title and throughout the chapter.

Barbados expressed support for the intervention made by Senegal on behalf of the 54 Members of the OIE Africa Region requesting that the title of this chapter be changed to remove reference to the geographical location. It noted that there could be serious ramifications in terms of how countries reacted to outbreaks when reference was made to the geographical location in the name of the infection.

Argentina added its support to the interventions made by previous Members requesting that the title of this chapter be changed to avoid reference to a particular geographical location.

The African Union–Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) thanked the Code Commission and the Scientific Commission for their work on this chapter. It shared the same sentiments as those expressed by the previous interventions that the title of the chapter needed to be changed given that there was no scientific value in referring to a geographical location in the title. AU-IBAR noted that such a reference could lead to serious ramifications for the African continent and requested that the title of the chapter be changed to remove the geographical reference.

The World Renderers Organization (WRO) requested that the Code Commission consider the inclusion of rendered products such as tallow and meat-and-bone meal as safe commodities, given that there was no scientific evidence that these products were not safe for trade with regard to the trypanosomes species of concern.

Dr Bonbon thanked Members for their comments and confirmed that he agreed with the comments to remove reference to the geographical region in the name of the infection. Notwithstanding, he reminded the Assembly that the chapter had been circulated four times for comments, and emphasised that it would have been preferable if Members had provided comments on this point when the chapter was circulated for comment rather than just before the General Session.

Dr Bonbon proposed to change the title of the chapter to ‘Infection with *Trypanosoma brucei*, *T. congolense*, *T. simiae* and *T. vivax*’. He also proposed to replace ‘infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin’ with ‘infection with *Trypanosoma brucei*, *T. congolense*, *T. simiae* and *T. vivax*’, and to replace ‘animal trypanosomes of African origin’ with ‘the pathogenic agent’ throughout the text, with the exception of the third paragraph of Article 8.Y.7., where ‘animal trypanosomes of African origin’ would be replaced with ‘salivarian trypanosomes’ for clarity.

Dr Bonbon noted that he would also consider this proposal when presenting the revised Chapter 1.3. Diseases, infections and infestations listed by the OIE later in the session.

In response to the WRO, Dr Bonbon indicated that this request would be considered by the Code Commission at its September meeting.

The President presented the revised text, with the aforementioned changes, to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

**73. Article 9.4.5. of Chapter 9.4. Infestation with *Aethina tumida* (Small hive beetle)**

Dr Bonbon informed the Assembly that the Code Commission had reviewed this article at its February 2020 meeting in response to a comment concerning the recommendations for the importation of individual consignments containing a single live queen bee accompanied by a small number of associated attendants, and explained that the Commission had consulted OIE Reference Laboratory experts to support its discussions during this revision. He noted that the revised article had been circulated three times to Members.

France, speaking on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, thanked the Commission for its work. Regarding the change of the radius from 100 km to 50 km in point 2 of the article, France commented that the smaller radius would increase the likelihood of small hive beetle entering a region that is not under surveillance and possibly delay detection. Given this, he stressed that the reduction of the radius should be compensated by increased surveillance in the region in question as this would mitigate the risk of both undetected presence of the beetles and suboptimum preparation of any consignments.

China (People’s Rep. of) expressed its concern regarding the smaller radius and recommended it revert to 100 km. It stressed that the publication referenced in the February 2021 report of the Commission refers to the flying distance of bees and not small hive beetles. It also noted that the disease is harmful and that prevention and control is extremely difficult.

In response to the comments from the EU and China (People’s Rep. of), Dr Bonbon reiterated the explanation provided in the February 2021 report of the Commission, highlighting that this article describes the measures for safe trade of live bees and not for free status of the disease. He proposed not to make any additional amendments to this article. He proposed that the Commission review these comments at its next meeting in September 2021 to review how the proposed change may impact notification and surveillance of this disease.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

74. **Chapter 10.4. Infection with avian influenza viruses**

Dr Bonbon informed the Assembly that the Code Commission had agreed at its February 2017 meeting on the need for a major revision of Chapter 10.4. and that the *ad hoc* Group on Avian Influenza had met three times to undertake a comprehensive review of the chapter and to address comments received on the revised text. He highlighted that, during this process, the *ad hoc* Group had assessed low pathogenicity avian influenza against the listing criteria in Chapter 1.2.

Dr Bonbon reported that, following the modification of the listed disease in Chapter 1.3., the title of the chapter had been amended to ‘Infection with high pathogenicity avian influenza viruses’. He explained that the impact of this modification on the obligations for notification and the surveillance requirements was a central part of the discussion, and that several amendments had been made to the text in consequence, resulting also in the other changes in the OIE-listed diseases in Chapter 1.3., as previously discussed. Dr Bonbon also highlighted the inclusion of a new article on safe commodities, two new articles defining a compartment free from high pathogenicity avian influenza and providing the recommendations for its establishment, and certain amendments to the recommendations for safe trade. He noted that the revised chapter had been circulated five times to Members.

Dr Bonbon presented the revised Chapter 10.4. ‘Infection with avian influenza viruses’ to the Assembly.

Sweden, speaking on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, commended the work done to revise this important chapter and supported the new focus on HPAI in commercial poultry, while not neglecting relevant low pathogenicity avian influenza (LPAI) strains. It welcomed this chapter’s balanced and risk-based approach and its trade-facilitating direction and expressed confidence that the revised chapter would contribute to safe international trade. Sweden expressed support for the adoption of this revised chapter and asked the OIE to confirm when the revised chapter, if adopted, would come into force.

Japan, speaking on behalf of the 32 Members of the OIE Asia, the Far East and Oceania Region, thanked Dr Bonbon for his work and expressed support for the adoption of the revised chapter and related article in Chapter 1.3. which focused on HPAI while retaining LPAI with zoonotic potential with severe consequences in the OIE list. In addition, Japan expressed concerns that the provisions for notification of LPAI strains were ambiguous and might discourage a Member’s immediate notification, resulting in a lack of early detection and under-reporting. Japan highlighted the importance of continuing LPAI monitoring and ensuring transparency, especially in relation to human health and a One Health perspective. Japan noted that it expected the OIE to actively encourage and support Members to notify in a timely manner, either as an OIE-listed disease or as an emerging disease, by providing clear guidance on the notifiability of LPAI strains based on its analysis of world animal health status and facilitate information sharing among Members.

China (People’s Rep. of) suggested a review of the wording of several articles, as it considered that the use of the phrase ‘originated from’ was insufficiently clear to ensure the sanitary status of commodities being traded, as it could allow for commodities of a ‘lower status’ origin to be transferred to a ‘higher status’ and then be exported which would pose a higher risk.

Georgia, speaking on behalf of the 53 Members of the OIE Europe Region, thanked the Code Commission for its work and supported the adoption of the revised chapter as presented.

Dr Bonbon thanked the Members for the support expressed. In response to Japan, Dr Bonbon recognised the risk of under-reporting of LPAI, but also highlighted that this was already the case, but mainly because of the overly negative impact that those notifications had on trade. He thought that the changes being proposed would have a positive effect on notifications, and emphasised that the revised text clearly stated that a country could not be considered as HPAI free without having monitoring for LPAI in place. He also reminded the Assembly that any AI strains that change geographical range, host or behaviour should be notified as an emerging disease, and that Members obligations to notify an emerging disease were critical, as this information would allow further consideration for listing.

In response to China (People's Rep. of), Dr Bonbon noted that the *Terrestrial Code* used 'originates from' as a convention. He explained that it was considered that the animal health status of a zone applied to its whole population and the commodities derived thereof, and this also applied to those introduced into that country or zone if the importation had been made in compliance with the relevant provisions of the *Terrestrial Code*.

Dr Bonbon proposed to leave the text unchanged, as he considered that the text, as presented, provided the best way to address the complex issue of avian influenza globally. He reiterated that as for all chapters that had been substantially revised, comments would be considered at the next meeting of the Code Commission.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

**75. Chapter 10.5. Avian mycoplasmosis (*Mycoplasma gallisepticum*)**

Dr Bonbon informed the Assembly that the Code Commission had reviewed Chapter 10.5. 'Avian mycoplasmosis (*Mycoplasma gallisepticum*)' at its February 2020 meeting, to align it with proposed amendments to the corresponding chapter in the *Terrestrial Manual*. He pointed out that the Commission had consulted OIE Reference Laboratory experts during this revision. He noted that the revised chapter had been circulated three times to Members.

The President presented the revised Chapter 10.5. 'Avian mycoplasmosis (*Mycoplasma gallisepticum*)' to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

**76. Articles 14.7.3., 14.7.7., 14.7.24. and 14.7.34. of Chapter 14.7. Infection with peste des petits ruminants virus**

Dr Bonbon informed the Assembly that, at its September 2018 meeting, the Code Commission had agreed to harmonise the provisions for official recognition and maintenance of free status and for endorsement and maintenance of official control programmes in disease-specific chapters, and that, subsequently, at its February 2019 meeting, the Commission had agreed to use Chapter 14.7. as a model to present the relevant amendments to Members. He noted that the revised articles had been circulated four times to Members.

Dr Bonbon explained that, once these changes were adopted, similar changes would then be made to other disease-specific chapters with provisions for official recognition of status.

Dr Bonbon presented the revised text to the Assembly.

Dr Bonbon noted that in response to a Member comment submitted regarding Article 14.7.24., he proposed to amend the text to avoid point 1 (f) and point 2 (b) being perceived as one of the processes listed in points 1 and 2. Therefore, he proposed to delete point 1 (f) and point 2 (b), and to add ‘AND the necessary precautions were taken after processing to avoid contact of the commodities with any potential source of PPRV’ as standalone text at the end of the article.

Latvia, speaking on behalf of the 53 Members of the OIE Europe Region, thanked the Code Commission for its work and supported adoption of the revised chapter as presented.

The President presented the revised text, with the aforementioned changes, to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

#### 77. **Chapter 15.2. Infection with classical swine fever virus**

Dr Bonbon informed the Assembly that the revision of Chapter 15.2. ‘Infection with classical swine fever virus’ had been undertaken in response to comments submitted by Members, experts and the *ad hoc* Group on Classical Swine Fever to ensure relevant alignment with Chapter 15.1. ‘Infection with African swine fever virus’, which was adopted in 2019. He highlighted that the Commission also included harmonisation changes, as the Code Commission had done with PPR, during this process.

Dr Bonbon explained that the proposed revised chapter included several new articles, such as an article on safe commodities, an article on the direct transfer of pigs within a country from an infected zone to a free zone for slaughter, and a new article recommending provisions for the importation of fresh meat from domestic and captive wild pigs from an infected country or zone. He noted that the revised chapter had been circulated five times to Members.

Dr Bonbon presented the revised Chapter 15.2. ‘Infection with classical swine fever virus’ to the Assembly.

Australia stated that it could not support the adoption of the chapter as proposed and explained that the fourth paragraph of Article 15.2.1. required further explanation because the status for classical swine fever was officially recognised by the OIE, and notifications of infection in wild and feral pigs did not necessarily include the relevant information to allow an assessment that Article 15.2.2. had been complied with. Australia emphasised that compliance should be confirmed by the OIE as part of the notification or through further assessments, as required.

China (People’s Rep. of) acknowledged the work of the Code Commission in updating Chapter 15.2. and harmonising it with Chapter 15.1. ‘Infection with African swine fever’. However, China (People’s Rep. of) wished to note that whether the infection of wild or feral pigs with classical swine fever virus (CSFV) affected the CSF status of a country or zone could not be determined by just the separation of domestic pig populations from wild and feral pig populations, without considering the possibility of indirect transmission of CSFV through vehicles and personnel. Therefore, it requested that relevant information be added to the fourth paragraph in Article 15.2.1. on notification of infection in wild and feral pigs to include an assessment of the risk of indirect transmission.

China (People’s Rep. of) also expressed concern that the proposed amendment to point 3 of Article 15.2.18. expanded the scope of safe products from a limited number of pork products to all pork products. Although the proposed changes were harmonised with Article 15.1.23.

in Chapter 15.1. ‘Infection with African swine fever virus’, China (People’s Rep. of) noted that there were no research data supporting the effectiveness of virus inactivation for CSFV. Therefore, China (People’s Rep. of) recommended retaining the existing provisions in point 3 of Article 15.2.18.

Austria, speaking on behalf of the 53 Members of the OIE Europe Region, thanked the Code Commission for its work, and expressed Europe’s support for the adoption of the revised Chapter 15.2., as presented.

Dr Bonbon agreed with Australia that the official recognition of CSF-free status of a country or zone was granted by the OIE and proposed to replace ‘CSF’ with ‘free’, and to add ‘as recognised by the OIE’ after ‘country or zone’ in the fourth paragraph of Article 15.2.1.

Dr Bonbon noted a translation error in the Spanish version of the fourth paragraph of Article 15.2.1. and proposed to delete ‘Sin embargo’ at the beginning of the second sentence so that the text was aligned with the English and French versions. Dr Bonbon highlighted that this last change would apply only to the Spanish version.

Dr Bonbon also noted that it was possible that when a Member applied to be officially recognised by the OIE as CSF-free for a country or zone, the disease might already be present in the wild and feral pig population. In such cases the provision in point 7 of Article 15.2.2. would be assessed by the OIE as part of recognition of free status, and this would also be re-assessed each year as part of the annual reconfirmation process. Dr Bonbon explained that there was no need for a systematic formal reconfirmation of status each time there was a notification of CSFV in the wild or feral pig population.

Regarding the comment from China (People’s Rep. of) on Article 15.2.18., Dr Bonbon reiterated previous explanations provided by the Code Commission that specifying different styles of ham was not needed as these were not commodities with universally recognised methods of production. For the purposes of the *Terrestrial Code*, it is clearer to only describe the specific risk mitigation measures required.

The President presented the revised text, with the aforementioned changes, to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted with one abstention (Australia).

**78. Articles 1.3.1., 1.3.2., 1.3.6. and 1.3.9. of Chapter 1.3. Diseases, infections and infestations listed by the OIE**

Regarding the revised Article 1.3.1., Dr Bonbon explained that following the decision to amend the new Chapter 8.Y. and its adoption, he proposed to amend the revised Article 1.3.1. by replacing ‘Infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin (*T. vivax*, *T. congolense*, *T. simiae* and *T. brucei*)’ with ‘Infection with *Trypanosoma brucei*, *T. congolense*, *T. simiae* and *T. vivax*’. Consequently, he noted that it was also proposed to delete ‘Trypanosomosis (tsetse-transmitted)’ from Article 1.3.2.

Regarding the revised Article 1.3.6., Dr Bonbon explained that to reflect the changes proposed to Chapter 10.4. ‘Infection with avian influenza viruses’ and to the revised Glossary definition for ‘poultry’, the Code Commission had proposed to amend two listed diseases of Article 1.3.6. and to add, ‘Infection of domestic and captive wild birds with low pathogenicity avian influenza viruses having proven natural transmission to humans associated with severe consequences’. He noted that the revised Article 1.3.6. had been circulated three times to Members.

Dr Bonbon informed the Assembly that the Code Commission had agreed to amend Article 1.3.9. to add 'Infection of dromedary camels with Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus', in agreement with the Scientific Commission's conclusion that it met the listing criteria, in accordance with Chapter 1.2. He noted that the amended Article 1.3.9. had been circulated four times to Members.

The President presented the revised text, with the aforementioned changes, to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

In response to questions raised by a Member regarding the entry into force of the changes proposed, Dr Stone confirmed to the Assembly the following day that while changes to the international standards adopted by resolution came into force the day following the General Session (as noted in the relevant resolutions), any modifications to the OIE List in that chapter came into force on 1 January of the following year, as stated in Chapter 1.3.

79. The Assembly noted the report of the Code Commission.

#### TECHNICAL ITEM

##### **Lessons identified from before and during the pandemic: How the OIE can support Veterinary Services to achieve One Health resilience**

(Doc. [88 SG/9](#) • [Video](#))

80. Dr William B. Karesh, President of the OIE Working Group on Wildlife, presented highlights of the Technical Item, 'Lessons identified from before and during the pandemic: How the OIE can support Veterinary Services to achieve One Health resilience', in a video which had previously been made available to all OIE Members on the OIE website. He highlighted that the Technical Item drew on evidence gathered from surveys, studies and consultations (including an after-action review on the OIE's activities and performance during its response to the pandemic) to inform recommendations for the OIE's future work programme. The Technical Item also used data from PVS Pathway mission reports and from OIE-WAHIS. Key areas covered by the Technical Item were lessons identified from the OIE's involvement in the response to COVID-19 and the following: vulnerabilities to One Health resilience, which were identified as including a lack of attention to wildlife health management, and its inadequate integration into animal health and One Health strategies; weaknesses in OIE Members' capacity to put emergency management measures into operation (leading to a lack of preparedness); and chronic systemic weaknesses in the sustainability of diagnostic laboratory systems.
81. The Technical Item was published on the OIE website to allow Members to make comments. A drafting group discussed the accompanying draft Resolution No. 31 'How the OIE can support Veterinary Services to achieve One Health resilience' on 19 May 2021. This group included Delegates or their nominated experts from Australia, Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, France, Georgia, the Philippines, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Thailand, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America.
82. Dr Karesh presented a summary of the Technical Item and the outcomes of the resolution drafting group to the Assembly for discussion. He noted that written comments, supporting the Technical Item and the advancement of One Health, had been received from several countries. He thanked the drafting group for their work which had enhanced the resolution and reinforced recommendations around multisectoral collaboration, the role of research and knowledge sharing and the need to integrate wildlife health management into One Health strategies.

83. The United Kingdom thanked Dr Karesh and shared the outcomes of the 2021 G7 meeting of Chief Veterinary Officers (CVOs) at which the role of Veterinary Services in wildlife health had been discussed and three themes had been addressed: wildlife surveillance, actionable intelligence sharing and risk communication<sup>8</sup>. The G7 CVO meeting outcomes highlighted the following: the value of using existing structures and resources; the need to share actionable information on wildlife health by building trust and promoting the benefits of shared intelligence; and the advantage of using a One Health approach to collaborate with wider, non-veterinary stakeholders. The G7 CVOs agreed to explore how improvements to wildlife health could support Global Health Security, One Health and international trade.
84. Portugal, speaking on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, congratulated Dr Karesh and the authors of the Technical Item and fully supported the report and its conclusions. The EU welcomed the OIE's initiatives on emergency management and the Wildlife Health Framework and looked forward to contributing to their success. The EU recognised the OIE's role as the leading international organisation on animal health and zoonoses, including wildlife health and re-emerging zoonoses at the human–animal–ecosystem interface, and fully supported integrating wildlife health into the OIE's programmes and activities. The EU encouraged the OIE to continue its transdisciplinary One Health collaboration with partners such as WHO, FAO and UNEP. The EU welcomed Resolution No. 31 and proposed some suggestions for further refinement of Consideration 6.
85. France welcomed the Technical Item, highlighting its relevance and quality, and thanking Dr Karesh for his presentation. France then informed the Assembly of an international initiative for preventing zoonotic disease emergence, called PREZODE, which had been established by France<sup>9</sup>. France described the cost/benefit of investing in prevention, highlighting the importance of investing in research, and the development of innovative health surveillance systems. PREZODE would work through international multisector networks, aiming to build resilient socio-ecosystems which reduce the risk of zoonotic disease emergence, whilst preserving biodiversity and fighting poverty and food insecurity. The year 2021 would be devoted to preparing the structure of PREZODE and raising funds, and a global consultation would take place through regional workshops. PREZODE was scheduled to be launched in 2022.
86. Indonesia thanked the OIE and the authors of the Technical Item, which comprehensively set out how to achieve One Health resilience. Indonesia supported the conclusions to integrate emergency management, wildlife health and sustainable veterinary laboratories and systems for managing emerging diseases into its core work programme to support Veterinary Services to adapt, withstand and recover from emergency events such as pandemics. Indonesia highlighted the importance of sharing best practices and experiences to implement One Health.
87. Australia thanked Dr Karesh and commended the OIE on its response to the COVID-19 pandemic, where it had supported its Members by providing leadership. Australia recognised that the OIE had been a vital voice for Veterinary Services throughout the crisis. Australia suggested that the resolution should include a definition of 'One Health' and 'One Health resilience' as there was not a common understanding of their meaning. Inclusion of these definitions would empower all OIE Members to support the resolution with a strong commitment. Australia would be exploring how to contribute to this essential body of work of the OIE and encouraged other OIE Members to support the OIE in the implementation of the resolution.

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<sup>8</sup> <https://www.g7uk.org/g7-chief-veterinary-officers-meeting-may-2021-chairs-summary/>

<sup>9</sup> <https://prezode.org/>

88. India welcomed the OIE's commitment to advance One Health in the post-COVID-19 world and re-iterated that Veterinary Services were an essential component of One Health resilience. In the COVID-19 response, India drew upon its veterinary institutions to support public health, such as through veterinary laboratories testing human specimens. India highlighted its work in the digitalisation of livestock systems and its strong desire to take the One Health mission forward through sharing of best practices.
89. Argentina acknowledged the importance of advancing multisectoral work on One Health resilience. Argentina agreed with the comments made by Portugal, speaking on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, on the wording of Consideration 6 of Resolution No. 31, noting that not all food production systems are unsustainable and that controlled legal trade in commodities should not be a risk for zoonotic disease spread. In addition, Argentina noted that in general, conservation did not depend on Veterinary Services and proposed that governmental environmental institutions should also be encouraged to integrate One Health into their strategies.
90. Senegal stated that the conclusions and recommendations of the Technical Item were relevant and should be supported by OIE Members. In Senegal, the Veterinary Services had contributed to the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic in the fields of elaboration of strategies, diagnosis and certification of companion animals for export and the production of communication material. Senegal added that it was important to promote a One Health approach for the management of emerging zoonotic diseases, and to continue to strengthen the capacity of Veterinary Services, diagnostic laboratories, and wildlife surveillance. Senegal concluded that the Wildlife Health Framework would make an important contribution to achieving a One Health approach.
91. Dr Karesh thanked countries for their constructive comments. He noted the leadership of several OIE Members in initiating and taking forward One Health initiatives at national and international level. He encouraged all OIE Members to engage in these efforts and to take a leadership role in One Health approaches.
92. Dr Stone clarified that the comments on Resolution No. 31, particularly on Consideration 6, would be included in an updated draft which would be provided to the Assembly on Thursday 27 May, well ahead of adoption. He noted that several initiatives were working on a definition of 'One Health', including the One Health High-Level Expert Panel, recently appointed by WHO, FAO, the OIE and UNEP, and the *Lancet* One Health Commission with which the OIE was collaborating. The Code Commission would be asked to develop a definition of the One Health approach, considering the outcomes of the One Health High-Level Expert Panel, for inclusion in the *Terrestrial Code*.

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■ WEDNESDAY 26 MAY 2021 ■

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**SECOND PLENARY SESSION**

**Activities of the Specialist Commissions (contd)**

**Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases**

(Doc. [88 SG/12/CS3](#) • [Video](#))

93. Dr Cristobal Zepeda, President of the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases (Scientific Commission) thanked the other members of the Scientific Commission and the members of the *ad hoc* Groups for their valuable contributions to the work of the Commission during the past challenging year. He expressed his appreciation for the support provided by the staff at the Status and Science Departments at the OIE Headquarters. The excellent support and professional expertise provided by both Departments was noted with sincere appreciation.

94. Dr Zepeda summarised the activities of the Scientific Commission, including the outcomes of the regular Scientific Commission meetings held virtually in September 2020 and February 2021. Dr Zepeda reminded the Delegates that the reports of the two meetings were available on the OIE website.
95. Dr Zepeda requested the Assembly to authorise the Scientific Commission to recognise, without further Assembly consultation, the establishment or lifting of a protection zone for those diseases on the OIE List which are subject to official recognition of animal health or risk status. He mentioned that, following the adoption of *Terrestrial Code* Chapter 4.4. 'Zoning and compartmentalisation', the two resolutions describing the procedure and the cost related to the recognition of a protection zone would be presented for adoption by the Assembly during the Fourth Plenary Session.
96. The President indicated that the draft resolutions relating to animal health status recognition had been presented for adoption by the Assembly using the adapted procedure before the General Session, and that the results obtained through the electronic voting process would be presented by the President of the Assembly during the Third Plenary Session.
97. After a presentation on the report by the President of the Scientific Commission, the President of the Assembly opened the floor for discussion.
98. France, speaking on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, welcomed the development by the OIE of the standard operating procedure (SOP) for determining if a pathogenic agent of terrestrial animals met the OIE definition for an emerging disease, and of a guidance document on the interpretation of the definition of emerging diseases included in the Glossary of the *Terrestrial Code*. The EU expressed its support for the transparency and consistency in the notification of emerging diseases by OIE Members and recognised the importance of engaging Members in the elaboration of such guidance. The EU requested that the SOP and guidance document be circulated among Members for comments prior to publication on the OIE website.
99. Brazil congratulated the Scientific Commission for its excellent work and particularly expressed its appreciation for the work related to the evaluation of applications for official recognition of animal health status. Brazil mentioned its ongoing work and planned projects for successful maintenance of its official animal health status for CSF and foot and mouth disease (FMD).
100. Senegal commended the President of the Scientific Commission for his excellent presentation and for the valuable work performed by the Scientific Commission, and recommended grouping all animal trypanosomoses into a single *Terrestrial Code* chapter.
101. The International Council for Laboratory Animal Science (ICLAS) expressed its wish to strengthen its collaboration with the OIE in the field of ethics and the welfare of animals used for scientific purposes and to promote animal care and use in education, testing and diagnostic work, especially in the context of the COVID-19 crisis and the One Health approach. ICLAS offered its expertise in contributing towards the development and revision of OIE standards, in the framework of the ICLAS and OIE Agreement of 2008.
102. Argentina, speaking on behalf of the Members of the Comité Veterinario Permanente del Cono Sur (CVP), thanked Dr Zepeda for his presentation. Argentina acknowledged with appreciation the ongoing work relating to the revision of the FMD chapter of the *Terrestrial Code* and expressed its interest in participating in the *ad hoc* Group for the ongoing review of this chapter.
103. The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) supported the development of the SOP for emerging diseases and noted the growing interface between wildlife and domestic animals. The SOP would help COMESA Members deal with emerging diseases in a timely manner.

104. The President of the Scientific Commission thanked the Members for their comments.
105. With respect to the development of the SOP for emerging diseases, Dr Zepeda noted the support of COMESA and invited Dr Stone to address the EU's request for Member consultation on the emerging disease SOP and guidance document.
106. Dr Stone highlighted the importance of SOPs in standardising practices and strengthening OIE activities. He noted that the Assembly had the opportunity to direct the activities of the OIE through the standards and resolutions it adopted. He explained that SOPs were developed taking into account the advice of the Council for administrative matters and in consultation with the Specialist Commissions for scientific matters to ensure consistency with the directions of the Assembly as received in standards and resolutions. Dr Stone noted that Members were free at any stage to send the OIE any comments on SOPs and associated guidance documents once they had been published on the OIE website.
107. Dr Zepeda, in response to the concern raised by Senegal, noted that the Scientific Commission had extensively discussed how best to address animal trypanosomoses in the OIE standards. Dr Zepeda confirmed that the scope of these chapters would be kept as proposed.
108. Dr Zepeda congratulated Brazil for its achievements on the official recognition of its animal health status and particularly in the gradual cessation of vaccination against FMD in the country. He also thanked Argentina for offering the support of the CVP in the revision of the FMD standards.
109. The Assembly noted the report of the Scientific Commission.

### **Biological Standards Commission**

(Docs [88 SG/12/CS2 A](#) – [88 SG/12/CS2 B](#) • [Video](#))

110. Prof. Emmanuel Couacy-Hymann, President of the Biological Standards Commission, reminded Members that due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent postponement of the 2020 General Session, no new or revised standards for the *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals (Terrestrial Manual)* had been adopted since 2019.
111. Prof. Couacy-Hymann thanked the other Members of the Commission. Appreciation was expressed for the contribution of the other regular participant, Dr Steven Edwards, Consultant Editor of the *Terrestrial Manual*, as well as specialist contributions by OIE experts from Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres, and others. He also commended the staff of the Science Department and the Antimicrobial Resistance and Veterinary Products Department at the OIE Headquarters for their support to the work of the Commission.
112. Prof. Couacy-Hymann informed Delegates that the new and revised chapters to be proposed for adoption were presented in Doc. 88 SG/12/CS2 A.

### ***OIE MANUAL OF DIAGNOSTIC TESTS AND VACCINES FOR TERRESTRIAL ANIMALS (mammals, birds and bees)***

113. In March 2021, the 38 chapters that had been reviewed and approved by the Biological Standards Commission for circulation to Members were made available via a web link in the February 2021 report, which can be found both on the Delegates' website and on the Commission's webpage of the OIE public website, for consultation as the final versions that are proposed for adoption. A separate link to the chapters alone is also available on the Delegates' website. Prof. Couacy-Hymann summarised the review processes for the revised and new chapters in seven tranches, with comments invited from Members and partners.

114. Senegal commended the Commission on the huge effort it had undertaken in the revision of these standards. Regarding Chapter 2.1.2. *Biotechnology advances in the diagnosis of infectious diseases*, Senegal requested that for PPR diagnosis, the Commission promote the development of tests to differentiate infected from vaccinated animals (DIVA tests).

Regarding PPR diagnosis, Prof. Couacy-Hymann informed the Assembly that a number of laboratories were currently undertaking research on how to differentiate antibodies resulting from vaccination from those resulting from infection. The DIVA (detection of infection in vaccinated animals) tests used for this purpose are currently not available for PPR. A number of research teams are working on this issue in the hope that DIVA tests can be developed in the future especially as countries are beginning to undertake eradication programmes.

115. Poland, speaking on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, congratulated the Biological Standards Commission for its essential work. In particular, the EU commended the Commission for its continued efforts to update the *Terrestrial Manual*. The EU thanked the Commission for having taken into account most of its comments and it supported the adoption of these standards as proposed.

Regarding Chapter 3.4.12. *Lumpy skin disease (LSD)*, the EU raised concerns about the DIVA PCR methods used to distinguish vaccine strains from field strains, and the challenges encountered in recent years with correctly identifying new recombinant field strains that have emerged in certain parts of the world. Correct identification of LSD virus strains has wide implications for disease notification, country status and international trade. For the provisions of the *Terrestrial Code* to be operational, the *Terrestrial Manual* must provide adequate guidance on how to reliably distinguish LSD virus vaccine strains from field strains. The EU therefore requested the OIE to address the wider issue of recombinant LSD virus strains and their repercussions for disease control and trade.

116. Prof. Couacy-Hymann noted the concerns of the EU, and agreed that there an increasing number of recombinant strains were being found in the field. Prof. Couacy-Hymann confirmed that the Commission was committed to addressing as a priority the issue of emerging recombinant LSD virus strains, their correct diagnosis and notification in collaboration with the Scientific and Code Commissions. The issue will discussed at the next Commission meeting in September 2021.
117. The Terrestrial Animal Health Code Commission (Code Commission) had received a number of Member comments on the draft Chapter 8.Y. 'Infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin. The Code Commission had proposed changing the title of the chapter to "Infection with *Trypanosoma brucei*, *T. congolense*, *T. simiae* and *T. vivax*", and the proposal had been adopted by the Assembly the previous day. Following the style of titles in the *Terrestrial Manual*, the Biological Standards Commission, in consultation with the OIE Reference Laboratory expert, proposed to amend the title of Chapter 3.4.16. to "Nagana: infections with salivarian trypanosomoses (excluding *Trypanosoma evansi* and *T. equiperdum*)" and to make corresponding amendments to the text where necessary.
118. The President of the Assembly asked for more information on the term "Nagana". Prof. Couacy-Hymann explained the word is from the Zulu language (South Africa) and is trypanosomosis in livestock; it is known by animal producers and veterinarians. As the President of the Code Commission had stated the previous day, numerous comments had been received; following consultation among the Commission and with experts, the title proposed was agreed by consensus.

119. For Chapter 3.5.8. ‘Equine piroplasmiasis’, Australia did not support the proposal to change the rating of the indirect fluorescent antibody test (IFAT) and the competitive enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (C-ELISA) given in column 5 (confirmation of clinical cases) of Table 1 from “recommended” to “not appropriate for this purpose”. Australia suggested that such a change was not consistent with other recommendations in the chapter that highlighted the difficulties associated with diagnosis of these diseases and recommending use of multiple testing modalities, both serological and agent identification, for confirmation of disease status.
120. Prof. Couacy-Hymann did not agree that there was any inconsistency between the existing text or the inclusion of serological methods for confirmation of clinical cases: the IFAT and C-ELISA ratings had been proposed for deletion from Table 1 because the demonstration of antibodies by C-ELISA or IFAT in horses did not necessarily mean that the animals were affected with clinical disease. The serological assays, which are recommended for detecting carrier animals, are not suitable for detecting clinical disease as they cannot differentiate between an ongoing infection and a past infection.
121. Previously the Biological Standards Commission had been asked for advice on the *Terrestrial Code* chapter on equine piroplasmiasis in relation to articles defining requirements for importation of horses and had agreed that Veterinary Authorities should require the presentation of an international veterinary certificate attesting that the animals had been subjected to a serological and agent identification test with molecular techniques for the detection of *Theileria equi* and *Babesia caballi*. The Commission emphasised that positive serology findings without clinical or pathological signs would require a combination of tests to confirm infection in a subclinically infected carrier. A combination of polymerase chain reaction (PCR) and serological tests is essential to determine whether an animal is free from infection.
122. Therefore, Prof. Couacy-Hymann proposed to leave Table 1 unchanged and to amend the text and to add a sentence (lines 109–112) as follows:
- Therefore, a combination of PCR and serological tests are is essential to determine whether an individual animal is actually free from infection. On the other hand, microscopy and PCR, which may be used in combination, are essential for confirming clinical cases associated with current infection.
123. Australia did not agree with the proposed modifications. Australia did not believe that the concerns raised about inconsistencies in the text of this chapter and Table 1 had been addressed in the Commission’s proposal. In particular, Australia noted the new changes in Table 1 on the recommendations of test types for confirmation of clinical cases of equine piroplasmiasis. Both serological tests IFAT and C-ELISA have been changed from “recommended” to “not appropriate”, while PCR and microscopic examination are now recommended methods to confirm clinical cases. The reliability of PCR and microscopic examination as diagnostic tests depends on the level of parasitaemia. That level is highly dynamic and variable, and can even be low in clinical cases when sampling is performed. Australia emphasised that a number of studies have highlighted a disparity in results between C-ELISA, microscopy and PCR for detection of equine piroplasmiasis in both subclinical and acutely infected horses. Australia maintained that, due to the epidemiology of equine piroplasmiasis, a combination of PCR and serological testing is essential to most accurately determine an animal’s piroplasmiasis status, even in clinical cases. Australia therefore did not support that serological tests for equine piroplasmiasis are listed as “not appropriate” for confirmation of clinical cases.

124. Prof. Couacy-Hymann stated that the Commission had worked to address what is a complex issue: the diagnostic methods are used according to the level of advancement of the disease in animals. The existence of clinically infected animals with high parasitology loads alongside subclinical carrier animals dictates which diagnostic tests should be used and in what combination. The President believed that the issue had been addressed through the amendments proposed. He asked Australia to allow the chapter to be adopted and gave an assurance that the Commission would revisit this chapter at its next meeting in September.
125. The President presented the 38 chapters for adoption. They were adopted with one abstention (Australia for Chapter 3.5.8. Equine piroplasmiasis) and with the changes agreed as described above.
126. The President indicated that the draft Resolutions relating to OIE Reference Laboratories and the OIE Register of diagnostic tests had been presented for adoption by the Assembly following the adapted procedure before the General Session and that the results obtained through the electronic voting process, along with the proposal for adoption of the Resolution on the newly designated Collaborating Centres, would be presented during the Third Plenary Session.
127. The Assembly noted the Report of the Biological Standards Commission

### **Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission**

(Doc. [88 SG/12/CS4](#) • [Video](#))

128. Dr Ingo Ernst, President of the Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission (Aquatic Animals Commission), reminded members that, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent postponement of the 2020 General Session, no new or revised standards for the *Aquatic Code* or *Aquatic Manual* had been adopted since 2019. He informed the Assembly that due to the virtual format of the General Session, he would only be addressing the new and revised texts proposed for adoption.
129. Dr Ernst stated that the Commission had met four times since he last reported to the Assembly, at the 2019 General Session. These meetings were from 25 September to 2 October 2019 and from 19 to 26 February 2020 at the OIE Headquarters in Paris, and virtually from 26 August to 2 September 2020 and from 17 to 24 February 2021. He expressed his gratitude to the members of the Aquatic Animals Commission, Dr Alicia Gallardo Lagno (Vice-President), Dr Edmund Peeler (Vice-President), Dr Kevin William Christison (Member), Dr Hong Liu (Member) and Dr Atle Lillehaug (Member) for their expert contributions and commitment to the work of the Commission, including their participation in *ad hoc* Group meetings and representing the Commission at regional or international meetings.
130. Dr Ernst commended Reference Centre experts, *ad hoc* Groups and experts from OIE Members for their contribution to the work of the Commission. He also commended the staff at OIE Headquarters for the support they had provided to the work of the Commission and *ad hoc* Groups.
131. Dr Ernst recognised the additional work required of Commission members and the OIE Secretariat to maintain a high level of productivity given the challenges of working in a virtual modality.
132. Dr Ernst thanked those Members that had submitted comments on texts to be proposed for adoption. He noted the importance of the contributions of experts from OIE Members in improving the quality of the standards and encouraged all Members to contribute to this work.
133. Concluding his introductory remarks, Dr Ernst emphasised that, where relevant, all comments on a specific disease had been taken into consideration in the corresponding *Aquatic Code* and *Aquatic Manual* chapters to ensure alignment.

134. Dr Ernst informed Delegates that the new and revised chapters to be proposed for adoption in the *Aquatic Code* and *Aquatic Manual* could be found in Annexes 2 to 16 of Document 88 SG/12/CS4.

### **AQUATIC CODE**

#### **135. Texts proposed for adoption**

Dr Ernst indicated that the remainder of his presentation would focus on presenting the new and revised texts of the *Aquatic Code* and *Aquatic Manual* to be proposed for adoption. He commenced with texts to be proposed for the *Aquatic Code*.

Montenegro, speaking on behalf of the 53 Members of the OIE Europe Region, expressed its support for all the revised and new texts presented for adoption.

#### **136. Glossary**

Dr Ernst reported that the Aquatic Animals Commission had proposed amendments to the Glossary definitions for ‘aquatic animal products’ and ‘vector’, and a new Glossary definition for ‘aquatic animal waste’.

Dr Ernst explained that the Commission had proposed a new Glossary definition for ‘aquatic animal waste’ given that the term is used extensively in the new draft Chapter 4.X. ‘Biosecurity for aquaculture establishments’, as well as in Chapter 4.7. ‘Handling, disposal and treatment of aquatic animal waste’. He advised that amendments to the definition for ‘aquatic animal products’ were proposed to align with the new definition of ‘aquatic animal waste’. Dr Ernst also stated that once the new Glossary definition for ‘aquatic animal waste’ is adopted, the definition for ‘aquatic animal waste’ in Chapter 4.7. on handling of waste will be deleted and that the term ‘waste’ will be amended to the defined term ‘aquatic animal waste’ where appropriate elsewhere in the *Aquatic Code*. Dr Ernst noted that the definitions had been circulated three times for Member comments.

Dr Ernst advised that the Commission has proposed revisions to the definition of ‘vector’ to clarify that vectors for a specified pathogenic agent cannot also be listed as a susceptible species. He explained that the definition now also clarifies that for an organism to be considered a vector it must have been demonstrated to transmit a pathogenic agent to susceptible species. Dr Ernst noted that the definition of ‘vector’ had been circulated two times for Member comments.

Dr Ernst presented the amendments to the definitions for ‘aquatic animal products’ and ‘vector’ and a new definition for ‘aquatic animal waste’, to the Assembly.

The World Renderers Organization (WRO) expressed its concern that the term ‘aquatic animal waste’ is a depreciative term for a valuable by-product that can be rendered or used in the production of commodities of value. It requested that the term ‘aquatic animal waste’ be replaced by ‘aquatic animal by-product’.

Dr Ernst explained that the OIE Glossary definitions are developed for the specific purpose of the *Aquatic Code* and for the interpretation of their use within the *Code*. Dr Ernst explained that the definition for ‘aquatic animal waste’ had been developed to define waste as material intended for disposal and to distinguish it from material that is further utilised, manufactured or traded. He noted that by-products are within the definition of ‘aquatic

animal products’ as they are – to paraphrase the definition of ‘aquatic animal product’ – ‘...parts of aquatic animals, or manufactured goods containing material derived from aquatic animals that are intended for sale or trade’. Dr Ernst reiterated that the definitions of ‘aquatic animal waste’ and ‘aquatic animal products’ had been developed precisely to address the concerns raised by the representative of the WRO.

The Andean Community (CAN) noted that definitions are essential for the understanding of the chapter and are used by international and regional organisations. The CAN noted that the definition of ‘aquatic animal products’ implies viable parts are useful and tradeable while non-viable parts are not tradeable. They requested that non-viable products be more clearly defined for the purposes of regional standard setting.

Dr Ernst noted that the Commission had chosen not to describe ‘aquatic animal waste’ or ‘aquatic animal products’ as types of materials but rather to develop the definitions based on intended use because in different circumstances there could be different decisions as to the designation of a commodity as waste or as a primary or secondary product which could be re-utilised.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

#### 137. **Biosecurity for Aquaculture Establishments (New Chapter 4.X.)**

Dr Ernst reported that this new chapter was a fundamentally important chapter for inclusion in Section 4 of the *Aquatic Code* on disease prevention and control. He advised that this chapter would provide Members with sound guidance to support biosecurity, and included general principles on aquatic animal biosecurity, and addressed disease transmission pathways, risk assessment, mitigation measures and the key components of a biosecurity plan. Dr Ernst noted that the new chapter had been circulated six times for Member comments and that Members’ input had been valuable in developing sound guidance applicable across the diversity of aquaculture enterprises.

Dr Ernst informed the Assembly that the Commission proposed an editorial correction in Article 4.X.4., first line, changing the order of words ‘physical’ and ‘management’ to read: ‘Biosecurity is a set of management and physical measures...’. He informed the Assembly that this change was proposed to align with usage elsewhere in the chapter.

Dr Ernst presented the new Chapter 4.X. ‘Biosecurity for Aquaculture Establishments’, with the aforementioned changes, to the Assembly.

Chile thanked the Commission and supported the chapter’s adoption. Chile noted that the development of this chapter was an outcome of the OIE Global Conference on Aquatic Animal Health held in Chile in 2019. Chile indicated its support for any subsequent projects that would result from adoption of the chapter.

South Africa, speaking on behalf of the 54 Members of the African Union and the OIE Africa Region, supported this new standard on biosecurity and noted that the chapter would assist in improving productivity.

The President presented the new chapter, with the aforementioned changes, to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

138. **Listing of infection with decapod iridescent virus 1 (DIV1)**

Dr Ernst reported that the Aquatic Animals Commission had agreed to propose the addition of infection with decapod iridescent virus 1 (DIV1) to the crustacean diseases listed by the OIE in Article 1.3.3. of the *Aquatic Code*. He informed the Assembly that the recently described virus had caused mass mortality in prawn aquaculture and had been found to meet the OIE criteria for listing. Dr Ernst noted that the revised Article 1.3.3., and the assessment of DIV1 against the listing criteria, had been circulated four times for Member comments.

Dr Ernst presented the listing of infection with DIV1 to the Assembly.

Chinese Taipei expressed its support for the listing of infection with DIV1, especially given the importance of this disease in the Asia region and the importance of shrimp production. Chinese Taipei expressed its willingness to support the Commission through providing information on the susceptibility of species to DIV1 and the provision of positive controls for validation of diagnostic tests by Members.

Indonesia expressed its support for the listing of infection with DIV1 and recognised the significant economic impacts this disease had had on Members.

Dr Ernst thanked the Delegates of Chinese Taipei and Indonesia for their expressions of support, and Chinese Taipei for its offer to share information and provide positive controls. Dr Ernst noted that the availability of positive controls was a common issue with emerging diseases that may limit the development and validation of diagnostic tests necessary for surveillance activities.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

139. **Model Article on disinfection of eggs (Article 10.X.13.) for infection with salmonid alphavirus, infectious haematopoietic necrosis, viral haemorrhagic septicaemia and infection with infectious salmon anaemia virus (Article 10.4.17.)**

Dr Ernst advised that the proposed revisions to this article on importation of disinfected eggs had been initiated by the Commission in February 2019 in response to requests from Members to improve clarity. He stated that the changes were relatively minor but were important to improve clarity by adding a reference to Chapter 4.4. on disinfection of salmonid eggs, to provide clarification regarding testing of milt and ovarian fluid to assess prevalence of infection in broodstock and clarify the risk mitigation measures the importing country should request from the exporting country. Dr Ernst noted that the Model Article had been circulated four times for Member comments.

Dr Ernst presented the revised text to the Assembly.

Uruguay raised the question of the disinfection of eggs of non-salmonid species, noting that this information was important to minimise associated risks in trade.

Dr Ernst informed the Assembly that the Commission had received queries on the disinfection of eggs of non-salmonid species. The Commission had invited Members to provide egg disinfection protocols for non-salmonid species that they could share with Members and assess whether they would be suitable for inclusion in the *Aquatic Code*. Dr Ernst noted that

for many non-salmonid species, it is fry and not eggs that are traded, or where egg disinfection protocols are available, they have not been sufficiently evaluated and standardised. Dr Ernst invited Members to submit to the Commission any scientific information or industry standards for assessment by the Commission.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

**140. Article 10.9.2. of Chapter 10.9. Infection with spring viraemia of carp virus**

Dr Ernst stated that the revised list of susceptible species for spring viraemia of carp virus had been adopted at the 87th General Session in May 2019. However, the Commission had since reviewed additional scientific evidence on the susceptibility of zebrafish (*Danio rerio*) to infection with SVCV and agreed that zebrafish met the criteria for listing as susceptible to infection with SVCV. He noted that the revised article had been circulated two times for Member comments.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

**141. Article 10.10.2. of Chapter 10.10. Infection with viral haemorrhagic septicaemia virus**

Dr Ernst informed the Assembly that the list of susceptible species in Article 10.10.2. had been revised after consideration of the work of the *ad hoc* Group on Susceptibility of Fish Species to Infection with OIE-listed Diseases in accordance with the criteria in Chapter 1.5. ‘Criteria for listing species as susceptible to infection with a specific pathogen’, and Member comments. He also informed the Assembly that there had been substantial changes to this article following the *ad hoc* Group’s assessments – from 12 to more than 70 species.

Dr Ernst noted that the revised article had been circulated three times for Member comments.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

**142. Articles 11.3.1. and 11.3.2. of Chapter 11.3. Infection with *Bonamia ostreae***

Dr Ernst informed the Assembly that the Commission has revised Article 11.3.1. to ensure consistency with the other amended mollusc disease-specific chapters. He also explained that the list of susceptible species in Article 11.3.2. had been revised after consideration of the work of the *ad hoc* Group on Susceptibility of Mollusc Species to Infection with OIE-listed Diseases in accordance with the criteria in Chapter 1.5. ‘Criteria for listing species as susceptible to infection with a specific pathogen’, and Member comments. Dr Ernst informed the Assembly that of the six species currently listed as susceptible to infection with *B. ostreae*, three species met the criteria for listing as a susceptible species, and the remaining three currently listed species did not meet the criteria and were therefore proposed to be deleted from the article.

Dr Ernst noted that the revised articles had been circulated once for Member comments.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

#### **AQUATIC MANUAL**

##### **143. Infection with *Gyrodactylus salaris* (Chapter 2.3.3.)**

Dr Ernst informed the Assembly that this chapter had been comprehensively revised to update scientific information, with support from the OIE Reference Laboratory expert for infection with *G. salaris*, and reformatted into a new template developed by the Commission. He explained that the new template aimed to improve the ease of use, and the quality and consistency of information presented in the chapters. Dr Ernst noted that the revised chapter had been circulated two times for Member comments.

Dr Ernst presented the revised text to the Assembly.

Finland, speaking on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, proposed that the text of Section 1. Scope be modified to state that *G. salaris* is found in both fresh and brackish waters, noting that this point is included in Section 2.3.5. Environmental factors, which states that '*Gyrodactylus salaris* is a cold-water adapted parasite and mainly lives in freshwater'.

Dr Ernst agreed that there was an issue with the use of the term 'freshwater'. He recalled that 'freshwater' had been included in response to a Member comment and agreed that this was problematic because the parasite can occur in brackish water. Dr Ernst proposed an alternative, to delete the word 'freshwater' from Section 1, which would also be consistent with the contents of Section 1 in the other disease-specific chapters. Dr Ernst noted that environmental tolerances were included in Section 2.3.5. of the chapter.

The President presented the revised text, with the aforementioned amendments, to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

##### **144. Infection with salmonid alphavirus (Chapter 2.3.6.)**

Dr Ernst informed the Assembly that this chapter had been comprehensively revised to update scientific information and reformatted by the Commission in close cooperation with the OIE Reference Laboratory expert for infection with SAV. He noted that the revised chapter had been circulated two times for Member comments.

Dr Ernst also informed the Assembly that the Commission had identified spelling mistakes in Table 6.3., which would be corrected: 'Atlantic' for real-time PCR and isolation of SAV in cell culture, and 'ventricle' for isolation of SAV in cell culture.

The President presented the revised text, with the aforementioned amendments, to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

**145. General information (diseases of fish) (Chapter 2.3.0.)**

Dr Ernst informed the Assembly that the Commission had identified the need to update the introductory chapters on general information for each host species group (i.e. amphibians, crustaceans, fish and molluscs) in the *Aquatic Manual*, and that Chapter 2.3.0. ‘General information’ (for fish diseases) was the first of these chapters to be updated. He explained that the changes to the chapter were intended to align with disease-specific chapters so that routine methods would be included in the introductory chapter rather than being repeated for each disease.

Dr Ernst acknowledged the contribution of all the OIE Reference Laboratories for diseases of fish in the Commission’s revision of this chapter. Dr Ernst noted that the revised chapter had been circulated two times for Member comments.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

**146. Sections 2.2.1. and 2.2.2. of Chapter 2.4.3. Infection with *Bonamia ostreae***

Dr Ernst informed the Assembly that the proposed amendments to Sections 2.2.1. and 2.2.2. had been made to align the articles with the advice of the *ad hoc* Group on Susceptibility of Mollusc Species to Infection with OIE-listed Diseases, which had applied the criteria in accordance with Chapter 1.5. ‘Criteria for listing species as susceptible to infection with a specific pathogen’ of the *Aquatic Code*. He noted that the revised articles had been circulated once for Member comments.

The President presented the revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

**147. New draft Chapter 2.1.X. Infection with *Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans***

Dr Ernst informed the Assembly that the work on the new chapter had started in February 2019 when the Commission reviewed a new draft Chapter 2.1.X. ‘Infection with *Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans*’, which had been developed by experts using the new disease chapter template. In the absence of an OIE Reference Laboratory for *B. salamandrivorans*, the chapter had been drafted by experts from a research institution. Dr Ernst noted that the new chapter had been circulated four times for Member comments.

Dr Ernst presented the revised text to the Assembly.

Finland, speaking on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, proposed that the level of validation of the real-time PCR test given in Table 4.1. be changed from ‘2’ to ‘3’ for all three purposes to reflect the proposed change in the text in Section 4.4.1.

Dr Ernst confirmed that there was an error and that the correct level of validation of the real-time PCR test given in Table 4.1. should be ‘3’ and proposed to change the text of Table 4.1. accordingly.

The President presented the revised text, with the aforementioned amendment, to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

**148. Infection with spring viraemia of carp virus (Chapter 2.3.9.)**

Dr Ernst informed the Assembly that this chapter had been comprehensively revised to update scientific information and reformatted by the Commission in close cooperation with the OIE Reference Laboratory experts for infection with SVCV. He noted that the revised chapter had been circulated three times for Member comments.

Dr Ernst also informed the Assembly that the title of Section 4.4.1. 'Real-time PCR' should be 'Real-time RT-PCR' and proposed that this amendment be made in the proposed chapter.

Dr Ernst presented the revised text, including the aforementioned amendment, to the Assembly.

Finland, speaking on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, suggested deleting the words 'or *in-situ* hybridisation' from the title of Section 3.5.3. 'Samples for histopathology, immunohistochemistry or *in-situ* hybridisation', as that method is neither recommended in Table 4.1. nor is it mentioned in the text.

Dr Ernst informed the Assembly that the heading 'Samples for histopathology, immunohistochemistry or *in-situ* hybridisation' was a heading common to all *Aquatic Manual* chapters following the application of the new chapter template. The strong preference of the Commission was to maintain consistency of chapter structure and headings in accordance with the new template for *Aquatic Manual* chapters. Dr Ernst proposed that in this instance, rather than changing the heading, it be left as it is, and that the Commission undertake a review of the way information is presented in this section for all of the revised *Aquatic Manual* chapters.

The President presented the revised text, with the aforementioned amendment, to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

**149. Chapter 2.3.4. Infection with infectious haematopoietic necrosis virus**

Dr Ernst informed the Assembly that this chapter had been comprehensively revised to update scientific information and reformatted by the Commission in close cooperation with the OIE Reference Laboratory experts for infection with IHNV. He noted that the revised chapter had been circulated two times for Member comments.

Dr Ernst also informed the Assembly that the title of Section 4.4.1. 'Real-time PCR' should be 'Real-time RT-PCR' and proposed that this amendment be made in the proposed chapter.

The President presented the revised text, including the aforementioned amendment, to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

**150. Chapter 2.3.10. Infection with viral haemorrhagic septicaemia virus**

Dr Ernst informed the Assembly that this chapter had been comprehensively revised to update scientific information and reformatted by the Commission in close cooperation with the OIE Reference Laboratory experts for infection with VHSV. He noted that the revised chapter had been circulated two times for Member comments.

The President presented revised text to the Assembly for adoption.

The revised text was adopted unanimously.

151. **Reference Centres**

Dr Ernst expressed his ongoing appreciation for the support and expert advice provided to the OIE by the Reference Centres.

Dr Ernst informed the Assembly that the Commission had approved the application from Utrecht University, the Norwegian Veterinary Institute and the University of Liverpool for a new OIE Collaborating Centre for The Economics of Animal Health. This Collaborating Centre application had also been endorsed by the Biological Standards and Scientific Commissions, and was included in the Resolution on the designation of new OIE Collaborating Centres that would be proposed for adoption during this General Session.

152. The Assembly noted the report of the Aquatic Animals Commission.

**Launch of the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Strategy (2021-2025)**

153. The President opened the session to launch the new OIE Aquatic Animal Health Strategy and introduced the Director General.

154. In her opening remarks, the Director General highlighted the difficulty that many Veterinary Services face in dealing with aquatic animal health events and the need for Veterinary Services to increase their competencies in this sector given that, for more and more countries, the social, economic and nutritional importance of the aquaculture sector requires that aquatic animal health be given equal attention to that given to the terrestrial livestock sector.

155. She reminded the Assembly of her commitment to develop an OIE Aquatic Animal Health Strategy, made at the OIE Global Conference on Aquatic Animal Health held in Chile in April 2019. She was proud to present the Aquatic Strategy and indicated that it provides the basis upon which the OIE will develop an action plan and subsequently initiate projects in dialogue with interested partners. She encouraged Members to engage in the process.

156. Dr Eloit acknowledged the considerable work invested by the members of the Aquatic Animals Commission in the development of the strategy and hoped they would continue to be engaged in the follow-up of its implementation.

157. The Vice-President of the Aquatic Animals Commission, Dr Alicia Gallardo Lagno, recalled the importance of the global conference hosted by Chile in the development of the Strategy's objectives and activities. Dr Gallardo explained that the recommendations from the conference had been used as part of the guidance for the Commission when developing the strategy.

158. Dr Ernst emphasised the need for this new strategy given that humans eat more aquatic animals than ever – world per capita fish consumption is double that of the 1960s; more aquatic animals are farmed than ever – half of all fish for human consumption are grown in aquaculture; and more aquatic animals are traded than ever – the value of seafood exports has more than doubled in the last 10 years. Yet, aquatic animal diseases threaten the sustainable growth of the aquaculture sector and, consequently, our food supply. Dr Ernst highlighted that this threat is shared and therefore requires collaborative actions by the OIE and its Members, in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, to protect and improve aquatic animal health worldwide. Dr Ernst stated that the strategy will be important to improve aquatic animal health and welfare worldwide, contributing to sustainable economic growth, poverty alleviation and food security, thereby supporting the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

159. Dr Ernst reminded the Assembly that OIE Members and partners had been consulted throughout the development process and that their feedback had been incorporated into the strategy. Input from Members and partners was not only gathered at the OIE Global conference in Chile, but also through regional conferences, scientific networks and through a survey that was sent to all OIE Members.
160. Dr Ernst informed the Assembly that the strategy has four objectives, each of the objectives being underpinned by several defined activities that will contribute to achieving these objectives. He introduced the four objectives: standards, capacity building, resilience and leadership. He stressed that the strategy builds on the current strengths of the OIE.
161. Dr Ernst explained that the OIE would implement activities but would work in partnership with Members, OIE Regional Commissions, the OIE Aquatic Animals Commission, OIE Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres, and partner organisations. Dr Ernst stated that the role that the different parties play would vary, as each activity would require different resources and expertise and would be aimed at different beneficiaries.
162. In his closing remarks, Dr Ernst informed the Assembly that the strategy was ambitious; and that ambition would require new resources. The strategy indicates where there are opportunities for investment in specific activities. Dr Ernst encouraged interested Members and Partners to explore those opportunities. He reiterated that the strategy is a means for the OIE Community to create real change but requires a shared commitment from Members. He concluded that with the abundant resources available across the OIE community, aquatic animal health and welfare can be improved worldwide.
163. The President opened the floor for interventions on the new strategy.
164. Norway congratulated the OIE and the Aquatic Animals Commission on an excellent presentation and their good work on developing the strategy for aquatic animal health and welfare. Norway highlighted that aquaculture has grown substantially over recent decades but that aquatic animal diseases and poor animal welfare are threatening the sustainability of the industry, which indicated the obvious need for this strategy. Norway was convinced that the strategy is a necessary tool by which to improve aquatic animal health and welfare, and that it will support a more sustainable aquaculture industry.
165. Portugal, speaking on behalf of the 27 Member States of the EU, congratulated the Aquatic Animals Commission for its ongoing work and commended the Commission for the development of this comprehensive new strategy for aquatic animal health. The EU supports the objectives of the strategy. Portugal also expressed the EU's strong interest in, and commitment to, aquatic animal health matters and pledged its support for the implementation of the strategy.
166. Chile thanked the OIE for organising the 2019 OIE Global Conference on Aquatic Animal Health in Chile which was the start of this new strategy. Chile was happy to see the recommendations from the conference reflected in the strategy and appealed to all OIE Members to support its implementation.
167. China (People's Rep. of) expressed its appreciation for the hard work and commitment of the OIE and the Aquatic Animals Commission, and offered its commitment to share its experience and knowledge with other Members to improve aquatic animal health and welfare.

168. The United Kingdom welcomed the launch of the strategy and regarded this as an important step forward noting that ensuring aquatic animal health is crucial to food security. The United Kingdom reported that growth in aquatic animal production will also increase disease risks, but was confident that this new initiative will secure a more sustainable growth in aquaculture worldwide.
169. Indonesia welcomed the new strategy and informed the Assembly that it aligns well with a recently launched national aquatic animal health strategy for Indonesia.
170. Canada congratulated the OIE on the launch of the new strategy and emphasised that this strategy will enhance the capacity of aquatic animal health services and will strengthen aquatic animal health and welfare. Canada stated that the aquatic sector has a vital role to play in antimicrobial stewardship as part of the global effort to reduce antimicrobial resistance. Canada is looking forward to collaborating with the OIE and its Members in the implementation of this strategy.
171. Uruguay supported the launch of the strategy and noted that it will support Members to increase production of species currently being farmed and will also support the production of new species. Uruguay noted that the strategy should also assist in preventing the transboundary spread of diseases.
172. South Africa congratulated the Commission on the huge amount of work invested in the development of the strategy and stated that the actions of the strategy will contribute to safer production of aquatic animals and address food security.
173. The Democratic Republic of the Congo congratulated the OIE on a job well done and was happy to see that some of its recommendations from the 2019 Global Conference had been addressed in the strategy. The Democratic Republic of the Congo stressed the importance of sustainability, collaboration and a focus on small-scale producers. The Democratic Republic of the Congo also emphasised the need for a framework to help Members improve aquatic animal health training, and prevention and control of diseases.
174. Cameroon congratulated the Commission on its work and expressed its hope that this strategy would help to solve the problem of epizootic ulcerative fish syndrome which is currently raging in the countries of the Congo Basin.
175. The Andean Community (CAN) thanked the OIE for this strategy and stated that strengthening aquatic animal health is essential for food security and the export of aquatic animal products and ornamental fish.
176. Dr Ernst thanked the Members and the international organisations for their interventions and support for the strategy. He reflected on some comments: the importance of collaboration between the private and public sectors, the need to address antimicrobial resistance; the need to address emerging diseases for sustainability; and the indications of support by Members to assist in the implementation of the strategy.
177. Dr Gallardo also thanked the Members and acknowledged their commitment to aquatic animal health and their pledges of continued support for the strategy. She recognised the need to support sustainable production by small-scale producers.

■ THURSDAY 27 MAY 2021 ■

**THIRD PLENARY SESSION**

**Presentation of proposed Resolutions drafted during plenary sessions**

**Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 24  
Amendments to the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code**

178. The President submitted Draft Resolution No. 24 for adoption. The Resolution was adopted unanimously. The text appears under Resolution No. 24 at the end of this report.

**Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 25  
Amendments to the OIE Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals**

179. The President submitted Draft Resolution No. 25 for adoption. The Resolution was adopted unanimously. The text appears under Resolution No. 25 at the end of this report.

**Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 27  
Amendments to the OIE Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals**

180. The President submitted Draft Resolution No. 27 for adoption. The Resolution was adopted unanimously. The text appears under Resolution No. 27 at the end of this report.

**Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 29  
Designation of OIE Collaborating Centres**

181. The President submitted Draft Resolution No. 29 for adoption. The Resolution was adopted unanimously. The text appears under Resolution No. 29 at the end of this report.

**Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 31  
How the OIE can support Veterinary Services to achieve One Health resilience**

182. The President submitted Draft Resolution No. 31 for adoption. The Resolution was adopted unanimously. The text appears under Resolution No. 31 at the end of this report.

**Draft Technical Resolutions adopted during the online voting period**

183. The President divulged the results of the voting on the technical resolutions that had been proposed for adoption before the General Session.

RESO	TITLE	YES	NO	ABS	RESULTS
<a href="#">No. 13</a>	Recognition of the Foot and Mouth Disease Status of Members	129	0	1	ADOPTED
<a href="#">No. 14</a>	Endorsement of Official Control Programmes for Foot and Mouth Disease of Members	129	0	1	ADOPTED
<a href="#">No. 15</a>	Recognition of the Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia Status of Members	128	0	2	ADOPTED
<a href="#">No. 16</a>	Endorsement of Official Control Programmes for Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia of Members	128	0	2	ADOPTED
<a href="#">No. 17</a>	Recognition of the Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy Risk Status of Members	128	1	1	ADOPTED
<a href="#">No. 18</a>	Recognition of the African Horse Sickness Status of Members	128	0	2	ADOPTED

<a href="#">No. 19</a>	Recognition of the Peste des Petits Ruminants Status of Members	130	0	0	ADOPTED
<a href="#">No. 20</a>	Recognition of the Classical Swine Fever Status of Members	127	0	3	ADOPTED
<a href="#">No. 21</a>	Endorsement of Official Control Programmes for dog-mediated rabies of Members	129	0	1	ADOPTED
<a href="#">No. 28</a>	Designation of OIE Reference Laboratories for terrestrial animal diseases	130	0	0	ADOPTED
<a href="#">No. 30</a>	Register of diagnostic kits validated and certified by the OIE	129	0	1	ADOPTED

184. The President congratulated Members that had been granted a new status or had had their official control programme endorsed by the Assembly.

### **Activities and Recommendations of the Regional Commissions**

(Docs [88 SG/11A](#) and [B](#))

185. The President reminded participants that all the reports of the meetings of the Regional Commissions that took place on Monday 24 May 2021, in different time zones, were made available on the Delegates' page of the General Session website from Wednesday 26 May (Doc. 88 SG/11B).
186. He also reminded participants that the recommendations of the Conferences of Regional Commissions held since June 2019 had been made available for the past 2 weeks on the Delegates website (Doc. 88 SG/11A).
187. Due to the adaptation to a virtual format (reduced agenda) of the 25th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas, held on 22 and 23 September 2020, the 29th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe, held on 9 and 10 November 2020, and the 24th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa, held from 9 to 11 February 2021, the two traditional technical items that would normally have been presented and discussed for the elaboration of recommendations, to be presented to the World Assembly of Delegates for endorsement, were not included in the agendas. Thus, no recommendations were developed.
188. The President then asked if there were any comments.
189. There were no comments from participants. The President confirmed that the Assembly had noted the reports and endorsed the recommendations of the 31st Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania, held in Sendai, Japan, from 2 to 6 September 2019 and the 15th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East, held in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, from 10 to 14 November 2019.

### **FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION**

190. Only the Delegates of Members eligible to vote, as validated by the Credentials Committee, were able to participate in the adoption of resolutions. Before the beginning of the session, the President confirmed that the quorum was reached.

### **Presentation of the OIE activities in 2019 and 2020**

(Doc. [88 SG/1](#) · [88 SG/3](#) · [88 SG/4](#) · [88 SG/15](#) · [88 SG/16](#))

191. The report on OIE activities in 2019 and 2020 (88 SG/1) and the report on the management, activities and administrative work of the OIE in 2020 (88 SG/3) were subject to comments from Members before the General Session. The OIE did not receive any questions in advance.

**Draft Administrative Resolutions adopted during the online voting procedure**

192. The President certified that, since 130 Delegates had voted during the online procedure, the quorum had been reached (92 required).
193. The President divulged the results of the voting on the administrative resolutions proposed for adoption before the General Session.

RESO	TITLE	YES	NO	ABS	RESULTS
<a href="#">No. 1</a>	Approval of the Annual Report of the Director General on the Activities of the OIE in 2019 and 2020	130	0	0	ADOPTED
<a href="#">No. 2</a>	Approval of the Report of the Director General on the Management, Activities and Administrative Work of the OIE in 2020	130	0	0	ADOPTED
<a href="#">No. 4</a>	Acknowledgements to the Members and Partners that made Voluntary Contributions or Subsidies to the OIE, or contributed in the Organisation of OIE Meetings and for the Provision of Personnel	129	0	1	ADOPTED

194. Dr Eloit then briefly presented income and expenditure relating to the Regular Budget account, the World Animal Health and Welfare Fund (World Fund) and the accounts of the Regional and Sub-Regional Representations, as described in the Financial Report (Doc. 88 SG/4). She invited Members to review the [financial summary report](#) that had been developed to support their understanding of the Organisation’s financial performance.
195. In particular, she highlighted that the COVID-19 pandemic had impacted the implementation of OIE activities, resulting in a reduction of expenses compared with previous years. For the Regular Budget, low disbursement had resulted in a surplus of EUR 649 000 in 2020. The OIE proposed that the main part of this surplus be used in 2021 to support numerous information technology investments in order to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the Organisation. She noted that such investments, centred firmly on data and innovation, were strongly aligned with a number of the Strategic Objectives of the OIE’s Seventh Strategic Plan.
196. The 88 SG/4 report was subject to comments from Members before the General Session. The OIE did not receive any questions in advance.
197. The Assembly noted the report of the Auditors, Dr Botlhe Michael Modisane (South Africa) and Dr Hugo Federico Idoyaga Benítez (Paraguay), confirming the proper management of the OIE accounts.
198. The Assembly noted the report of the External Auditor appointed by the OIE, Mr Didier Selles, and his recommendations.
199. The President gave the floor to the Delegates for spontaneous comments.
200. Senegal and Togo congratulated the Director General for her clear and informative presentation. With regard to the presentation of 2020 expenses, Senegal requested that in future, greater investments be made in the areas of digital transformation and communication. He took the opportunity to highlight numerous communication tools developed by the Organisation in recent years to increase the visibility of the OIE.
201. Dr Eloit responded by first thanking Senegal and Togo for their encouraging remarks. She confirmed that significant investments would be made in 2021 and 2022 for digital transformation and communication. Dr Eloit also recognised the growing number of communication tools developed by the OIE, among which, she referred to the newly launched

OIE website. She emphasised that the substantial information technology investments made in the past year had enabled the OIE to organise many virtual meetings in 2020, allowing the Organisation to maintain close contact with its Membership. The Director General declared that the new OIE-WAHIS, a significant long-term investment for the Organisation, would have a positive impact on global health transparency.

202. The President certified that the quorum had been reached, as 131 Delegates were connected (92 being the minimum required).

**Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 3**  
**Approval of the Financial Report for the 94th Financial Year of the OIE (1 January – 31 December 2020)**

203. The President submitted Draft Resolution No. 3 for adoption. The Resolution was adopted unanimously. The text appears under Resolution No. 3 at the end of this report.

**Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 9**  
**Renewal of the Appointment of the External Auditor**

204. The President proposed that the Assembly renew the appointment of Mr Didier Selles as External Auditor of the accounts of the OIE, for a further year.
205. The President submitted Draft Resolution No. 9 for adoption. The Resolution was adopted unanimously. The text appears under Resolution No. 9 at the end of this report.

**Presentation of future OIE activities**  
(Docs [88 SG/5](#) • [88 SG/6A](#) • [88 SG/6B](#) • [88 SG/14](#))

206. Dr Eloit presented the strategic orientations proposed for the OIE, the work programme for the current year and upcoming years, and the corresponding budgets. Dr Eloit recalled the various steps that had led to the development of the Seventh Strategic Plan, including an extensive consultation with stakeholders. She explained that the Seventh Strategic Plan comprised a vision statement encompassing the values of the OIE and paving the way towards a more modern and agile organisation, both fit for purpose and capable of responding to the rising complexities of an interconnected world.
207. Dr Eloit presented the Planned Working Programme for 2022 (SG/6A), the modification of the 2021 Budget (SG/5), and the 2022 Budget Estimates (SG/6B).
208. Dr Eloit explained that the 2021 Budget (SG/5) for the Regular Budget had been modified to take into account revised implementation modalities as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic as well as to cover the first year of activities of the Seventh Strategic Plan. She noted that the balanced budget takes into account the surplus from 2020.
209. Dr Eloit stated that the 2022 Budget for the Regular Budget captured the financial costs for the OIE of activities under the Seventh Strategic Plan, including the second year of its implementation. She noted that, during 2022, the Organisation will continue to shape the framework for its modernisation through the continued roll-out of business-focused digital projects as well as other efforts to enhance organisational transversality, foster horizontal collaboration and increase efficiencies.
210. Dr Eloit referred to the financial summary report, which provided detailed information on these documents to support Members' understanding of the financial documents and facilitate their consideration of the financial resolutions to be adopted.
211. Finally, the Director General presented the contribution scale for 2022, recalling Resolution No. 15 of 24 May 2018 relating to "Taking an annual price index into account when calculating the annual contributions of OIE Members". She emphasised that no increase in contributions was being proposed despite the adoption of a new strategic plan.

212. The President gave the floor to the Delegates for spontaneous comments.
213. Senegal congratulated the OIE for its Seventh Strategic Plan, which had been developed in an inclusive and participatory manner. He put forward minor suggestions for the titles of two strategic objectives. He confirmed his support for an increased communication budget for the OIE to ensure enhanced visibility for the Organisation. He also asked the Director General a question about the new format of the General Session and expressed his preference for in-person meetings.
214. Australia thanked the Director General for her comprehensive presentation. It queried whether the envisaged cost savings on printed publications would result in the OIE no longer printing and sending hard copy versions of the OIE *Codes* to its Members.
215. Japan expressed its appreciation for the Director General's presentation on the overview of the OIE activities, both current and future. It recalled the successful implementation of OIE activities during 2019 and 2020 despite the global challenges arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. Japan confirmed its continued commitment and support to the OIE and its Seventh Strategic Plan. Japan underlined the importance of, among others, global transparency in the world's animal health status through the newly launched OIE-WAHIS and recognised the OIE's extensive work in summarising the global animal disease situation. Japan informed the Assembly that the HPAI subtype H5N8 was severely affecting some parts of the globe, including Asia, and urged Members to prepare in advance for the next HPAI season, taking stock of lessons learned from the current epidemic and by enhanced global collaboration. He advocated for the OIE to play a leading role in early warning, including global alert, and to provide relevant information based on the analyses conducted. In closing, Japan reiterated the importance for all OIE Members to ensure global transparency through timely and accurate reporting, reinforcement of national biosecurity measures and strengthened international collaboration; such efforts would improve the preparedness and resilience of global animal health.
216. The Director General responded to Senegal's question regarding the format of future General Sessions by stating that the OIE supports the contention that in-person meetings foster linkages between the OIE and its Members, but also among the Members. She signalled that draft Resolution No. 10 on the modalities of holding General Sessions would provide the OIE with an opportunity to present to the OIE Council new modalities for hosting General Sessions. The revised approach would enable increased participation and opportunities for greater efficiencies.
217. The Director General clarified that hard copies of the OIE's *Codes* and *Manuals* would remain available to its Members. The needs for hard copies would be progressively evaluated and adapted to the needs of the membership.
218. In response to the statement from Japan, the Director General thanked Japan for its continued support and reminded the Assembly that global transparency is largely dependent on the good will of its Members. She stated that the OIE would continue to provide relevant tools and training to ensure that Members understood the importance of and undertook measures to ensure global transparency.
219. The United Kingdom confirmed its support for the Seventh Strategic Plan based on the recognised need for the OIE to maintain its relevance in a very changing world. In particular, this related to efforts to improve transparency and reflect advances in technology, especially in the digital sector. Considering the growing global human population leading to increasing trade in animals and their products, the United Kingdom asserted that the work of the OIE had never been so important. In closing, the United Kingdom reiterated its full commitment to support the OIE's values and to continue to work together with the OIE and its Members to improve collaboration and better respond together to future challenges.

220. Canada congratulated the OIE on the Seventh Strategic Plan and thanked the Director General for her clear and complete presentation. Canada highlighted its appreciation for the innovative and forward-thinking priorities outlined in the Strategic Plan, which provided a clear roadmap both for the OIE and its Members in the future. Canada underlined that the transformation of digital platforms was a critical area that would provide enhanced data to inform decision making. With regard to the area of scientific expertise, Canada encouraged a strategic approach to the engagement of OIE Collaborating Centres. Canada reminded the Assembly that it had OIE Collaborating Centres on both aquatic animal health and wildlife health, two areas of future work that had been spotlighted during the General Session. Canada closed its intervention by asking the Director General for her vision on how the OIE would benefit from the expertise in OIE Reference Centres to support advancements in these strategic areas.
221. Argentina congratulated the Director General for her clear and transparent report. Argentina confirmed its support for the Seventh Strategic Plan and particularly signalled the work on digital transformation, and the development and implementation of a gender policy for the OIE. Argentina solicited guidance from the OIE to support Veterinary Services to better engage with national environment, wildlife and public health agencies to operationalise the One Health approach at national level.
222. In response to the query raised by Canada, the Director General reiterated to the Assembly the OIE's commitment to strengthen collaboration with its Reference Centres. She stated that the ongoing work to review the OIE Science System would provide the framework for revising the OIE's ways of working with OIE Reference Centres. She drew attention to the pilot currently in place that engages a Consortium of OIE Collaborating Centres on the Training of Veterinary Services to support the development of the OIE Training Platform. She anticipated that the OIE, in collaboration with its Specialist Commissions, would present the modalities for more dynamic and enhanced interaction with OIE Reference Centres in early 2022.
223. The Director General took note of the request of Argentina for guidance on how to engage with different sectors at the national level and recalled the message announced by Ms Inger Andersen, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), during the Opening Ceremony. The Director General affirmed her commitment to creating an exemplary dynamic at the international level, which would then support national efforts. She called upon the OIE Regional and Sub-Regional Representatives to ensure that the communication flow with Members on the work being undertaken at the global level is shared with all Members.
224. Tunisia congratulated the Director General for her presentation and confirmed Tunisia's support and adherence to the Seventh Strategic Plan. In particular, Tunisia noted the importance placed on scientific expertise in strategic objective 1. He requested that the Director General consider waiving costs linked to official recognition of animal health status, particularly for developing countries, in order to encourage their efforts and support opportunities for trade.
225. The Director General replied that the issue of fees for official recognition of animal health status had been raised several times during the past years. She emphasised that all sources of income, including the fees for official recognition of animal health status, were essential for the OIE in order to have a balanced budget. She informed the Assembly that this issue would be discussed at the next Council meeting in September 2021.
226. The President certified that the quorum had been reached, as 131 Delegates were connected (92 being the minimum required).

**Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 11  
Seventh Strategic Plan of the OIE for the period 2021–2025**

227. The President submitted Draft Resolution No. 11 for adoption. The Resolution was adopted unanimously. The text appears under Resolution No. 11 at the end of this report.

**Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 8  
Planned Work Programme for 2022**

228. The President submitted Draft Resolution No. 8 for adoption. The Resolution was adopted unanimously. The text appears under Resolution No. 8 at the end of this report.

**Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 5  
Modification of the 2021 Budget**

229. The President submitted Draft Resolution No. 5 for adoption. The Resolution was adopted unanimously. The text appears under Resolution No. 5 at the end of this report.

**Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 6  
OIE Budgetary Income and Expenses for the 96th Financial Year (1 January to 31 December 2022)**

230. The President submitted Draft Resolution No. 6 for adoption. The Resolution was adopted unanimously. The text appears under Resolution No. 6 at the end of this report.

**Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 7  
Financial Contributions from OIE Members for 2022**

231. The President submitted Draft Resolution No. 7 for adoption. The Resolution was adopted (126 votes in favour, 0 votes against and 5 abstentions). The text appears under Resolution No. 7 at the end of this report.

**Modalities of holding OIE General Sessions**

232. The Director General reminded the Assembly that, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 88th General Session had had to be postponed, and she expressed her gratitude to the Members for having accepted the Adapted Procedure in May 2020.
233. The Director General stressed that, due to the ongoing pandemic, the 88th General Session was being held virtually in May 2021.
234. She indicated that in this context the format and practical arrangements of General Sessions should be revisited in light of the available digital technology. She stated that the OIE *Basic Texts*, in particular Article 39 of the General Rules, offered the possibility of greater flexibility in adjusting the General Sessions' modalities. She underlined that Article 39:
- gave such power to the Council in exceptional circumstances, as for example those encountered in 2020 and 2021; and
  - must be read as offering the possibility for the Assembly to decide, through a resolution, to validly meet and take decisions, in normal circumstances, not only in physical/in-person meetings, but also in virtual/remote meetings, by correspondence/written procedure, at another location than Paris (in the case of in-person meetings) and at another period of time than May.
235. The Director General indicated that if the Assembly agreed with this proposal, and based on the lessons learnt from the 88th General Session, the OIE would make in September some proposals to the Council regarding the modalities of the 2022 General Session. She mentioned that such proposals would aim at revisiting agenda items and more generally arrangements for the General Sessions through, for example, the simplification of certain presentations and the organisation of meetings in parallel to the plenary session.

**Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 10  
Modalities of holding General Sessions**

236. The President submitted Draft Resolution No. 10 for adoption. The Resolution was adopted unanimously. The text appears under Resolution No. 10 at the end of this report.

**Activities of the Council  
(Doc. 88 SG/18)**

237. The Assembly noted the President's report on the Activities of the Council.

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■ **FRIDAY 28 MAY 2021** ■

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**SECOND ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION**

**Election of the Director General**

238. As an opening remark the President recalled the operational context of the 88th General Session, organised remotely. Consequently, all elections were organised through a secure remote electronic voting system and were overseen by an independent legal expert. The President informed the Assembly that candidates for the post of Director General of the OIE had been examined in February 2020 and in March 2021 by the Council. There were two candidates, namely:
- Dr Monique Eloit (France)
  - Dr Oday Shihab Ahmed Al-Abbadi (Iraq)
239. The Credentials Committee reported that 126 Members were participating at the 88th General Session and were eligible to participate in the deliberations of the Assembly.
240. Dr Jean-Philippe Dop, endorsed by Mr Nicola Bonucci, an independent legal expert, explained the election procedure: election by secret ballot, in the sole presence of official and accredited Delegates or their alternates, with three rounds if necessary. Mr Bonucci confirmed that the voting procedure was fair, open and transparent. To be elected, a candidate must receive at least two-thirds of the votes cast in the first round, an absolute majority in the second round or a simple majority in the third round.
241. The President checked the number of participants, and indicated that the quorum was reached and that the vote could take place. He also asked if there were any other candidates; no nominations were proposed.
242. Dr Al-Abbadi and Dr Eloit were each given 10 minutes to present their respective intents to the Delegates.
243. The ballot was then declared open, after the candidates had been invited to leave the virtual meeting.
244. Dr Mark Schipp (Delegate of Australia) and Dr Botlhe Michael Modisane (Delegate of South Africa) were designated as scrutineers.
245. After voting had taken place, the President declared that Dr Eloit had received the required majority of the votes cast and was appointed as the Director General of the OIE for a period of five years, namely until 30 June 2026. He then invited the candidates to return to the meeting to inform them of the result of the voting. He congratulated Dr Eloit on her re-election.

246. Dr Eloit thanked the Delegates for placing their trust in her to continue leading the OIE for a new term. She assured the World Assembly that she would continue to promote the OIE and looked forward to several more years of working together.
247. Dr Al-Abbadi also congratulated Dr Eloit on her re-election.

### **Elections of members of the OIE Council, the Regional Commissions and the Specialist Commissions**

248. In accordance with the Statutes, the President checked the number of participants and the list of delegates eligible to vote. As the number of participants connected to the electronic voting platform exceeded the quorum of 92 present, the votes could take place. Dr Schipp and Dr Modisane were designated as scrutineers.

### **Election of the President of the Assembly**

249. The President asked the Assembly to present the candidatures for this election. The only candidature was that put forward by the Delegate of United Arab Emirates, i.e. that of Dr Hugo Federico Idoyaga Benítez (Paraguay), supported by several other Delegates, including the Delegates of Argentina and Canada.

After the voting, the President declared that Dr Idoyaga Benítez had been elected as President of the Assembly.

250. Dr Eloit congratulated Dr Idoyaga Benítez on his election. She also thanked Dr Schipp for his Presidency and his support for the preparation of the Seventh Strategic Plan. She then paid tribute to Dr Modisane for his commitment as President and then as Past President.

### **Election of the Vice-President of the Assembly**

251. The candidates were as follows:

Dr Christianne Brusckke (The Netherlands)  
Dr Majid Al Qassimi (United Arab Emirates)

After voting had taken place, the President declared that Dr Brusckke had been elected Vice-President of the Assembly.

### **Election of the Members of the Council**

252. Following consultations during the meetings of the Regional Commissions, the President asked the Assembly to present their candidates for this election.

253. The following were elected as Members of the Council:

– For the Africa Region:

Dr Daniel Komla Batawui (Togo)  
Dr Roland Xolani Dlamini (Eswatini)

– For the Americas Region:

Dr Yobani Gutierrez Ravelo (Cuba)

- For the Asia, the Far East and Oceania Region:

Dr Him Hoo Yap (Singapore)

- For the Europe Region:

Dr Konstantin Savenkov (Russia)

- For the Middle East Region:

Dr Majid Al Qassimi (United Arab Emirates)

### **Election of the Members of the Regional Commissions**

254. The Assembly adopted the following proposals for the five Commissions as follows:

#### Regional Commission for Africa

President : Dr Honoré Robert N’lemba Mabela (Dem. Rep. of the Congo)  
Vice-President : Dr Letlhogile Modisa (Botswana)  
Vice-President : Dr Mbargou Lo (Senegal)  
Secretary General : Dr Anna Rose Ademun Okurut (Uganda)

#### Regional Commission for the Americas

President : Dr Jaspinder Komal (Canada)  
Vice-President : Dr Wilmer Juarez Juarez (Nicaragua)  
Vice-President : Dr Ximena Melon (Argentina)  
Secretary General : Dr Arnold Dwarkasing (Curaçao)

#### Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania

President : Dr Baoxu Huang (China, People’s Rep. of)  
Vice-President : Dr Tony Zohrab (New Zealand)  
Vice-President : Dr Masatsugu Okita (Japan)  
Secretary General : Dr Ye Tun Win (Myanmar)

#### Regional Commission for Europe

President : Dr Maris Balodis (Latvia)  
Vice-President : Dr Ulrich Herzog (Austria)  
Vice-President : Dr Vesna Dakovic (Montenegro)  
Secretary General : Dr Vasili Basiladze (Georgia)

#### Regional Commission for the Middle East

President : Dr Fajer Sabah Al Salloom (Bahrain)  
Vice-President : Dr Sanad Al Harbi (Saudi Arabia)  
Vice-President : Dr Abdul Hakim Mahmoud Ali (Egypt)  
Secretary General : Dr Elias Ibrahim (Lebanon)

### **Election of the Members of the Specialist Commissions**

255. The President stated that a list of candidates drawn up by the OIE Council following the evaluation of candidates by the Evaluation Committee had been placed at the disposal of Delegates 60 days before the General Session. He reminded the Assembly that each Regional Commission had had the opportunity to examine these lists and express its preferences. He proposed that voting take place for each of the Specialist Commissions, position by position, starting individually with the President and each Vice-President, and then the three members together, to which the Assembly agreed. It was pointed out that there was no hierarchy between the two Vice-Presidents.

256. For each Specialist Commission, the results of the elections were as follows:

257. **Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission**

**President**

The only candidature was for Dr Etienne Bonbon (France).

After voting had taken place, the President declared that Dr Bonbon had been elected as President.

**First Vice-President**

The candidates were as follows:

Dr Gaston Funes (Argentina)  
Dr Salah Hamami (Tunisia)  
Dr Kiyokazu Murai (Japan)

After voting had taken place, the President declared that Dr Funes had been elected as First Vice-President.

**Second Vice-President**

The candidates were as follows:

Dr Salah Hammami (Tunisia)  
Dr Kiyokazu Murai (Japan)

After voting had taken place, the President declared that Dr Hammami had been elected as Second Vice-President.

**Members (3)**

The President called for Delegates to withdraw candidates in view of the long list of candidates.

The final list of candidates for election was the following:

Dr David Swayne (United States of America)		Dr Toni Tana (New Zealand)
Dr Bernardo Todeschini (Brazil)		Dr Vijaya Kumar (India)
Dr Jian Li (China [People's Rep. of])		Dr Lucio Carbajo Goñi (Spain)
Dr Kiyokazu Murai (Japan)		Dr Sloboden Chokrevski (North Macedonia)
Dr Banshi Sharma (Nepal)		

After voting had taken place, the President declared that Dr Murai, Dr Goñi and Dr Todeschini had been elected as Members of the Commission.

258. **Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases**

**President**

The only candidature was for Dr Cristobal Zepeda (United States of America).

After voting had taken place, the President declared that Dr Zepeda had been elected as President.

**First Vice-President**

The candidates were as follows:

Dr Trevor Drew (Australia)  
Dr Kris De Clerq (Belgium)  
Dr Caroline Dubé (Canada)

After voting had taken place, the President declared that Dr De Clerq had been elected as First Vice-President.

### **Second Vice-President**

The candidates were as follows:

Dr Trevor Drew (Australia)  
Dr Caroline Dubé (Canada)

After voting had taken place, the President declared that Dr Drew had been elected as Second Vice-President.

### **Members (3)**

The candidates were as follows:

Dr Muhammad-Bashir Bolajoko (Nigeria)		Dr Fernanda Mejia Salazar (Mexico)
Dr Baptiste Dungu (South Africa)		Dr Carolyn Anne Benigno (Philippines)
Dr Clement Meseko (Nigeria)		Dr Xinyan Zhai (China [People's Rep. of])
Dr Mischeck Mulumba (Zambia)		Dr Silvia Bellini (Italy)
Dr Musa Tibin Musa (Sudan)		Dr Fevziye Ipek Keskin (Turkey)
Dr Caroline Dubé (Canada)		

After voting had taken place, the President declared that Dr Bellini, Dr Dungu and Dr Mulumba had been elected as Members of the Commission.

## **259. Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission**

### **President**

The candidates were as follows:

Dr Alicia Gallardo Lagno (Chile)  
Dr Ingo Ernst (Australia)

After voting had taken place, the President declared that Dr Ernst had been elected as President.

### **First Vice-President**

The candidates were as follows:

Dr Alicia Gallardo Lagno (Chile)  
Dr Fiona Geoghegan (Ireland)  
Dr Edmund Peeler (United Kingdom)

After voting had taken place, the President declared that Dr Gallardo Lagno had been elected as First Vice-President.

### **Second Vice-President**

The candidates were as follows:

Dr Fiona Geoghegan (Ireland)  
Dr Edmund Peeler (United Kingdom)

After voting had taken place, the President declared that Dr Geoghegan had been elected as Second Vice-President.

### **Members (3)**

The candidates were as follows:

Dr Kevin Christison (South Africa)  
Dr Muhammad Hafeez-ur-Rehman (Pakistan)  
Dr Hong Liu (China [People's Rep. of])  
Dr Edmund Peeler (United Kingdom)  
Dr Espen Rimstad (Norway)

After voting had taken place, the President declared that Dr Christison, Dr Rimstad and Dr Liu had been elected as Members of the Commission.

## 260. **Biological Standards Commission**

### **President**

The candidates were as follows:

Dr Emmanuel Couacy-Hymann (Côte-d'Ivoire)  
Dr Joseph S. O'Keefe (New Zealand)

After voting had taken place, the President declared that Dr Couacy-Hymann had been elected as President.

### **First Vice-President**

The candidates were as follows:

Dr John Pasick (Canada)  
Dr Joseph S. O'Keefe (New Zealand)  
Dr Ann Cullinane (Ireland)

A second round was held as the required majority had not been reached on the first round.

After the second round of voting had taken place, the President declared that Dr Cullinane had been elected as First Vice-President.

### **Second Vice-President**

The candidates were as follows:

Dr Pasick (Canada)  
Dr O'Keefe (New Zealand)

After voting had taken place, the President declared that Dr Pasick had been elected as Second Vice-President.

### **Members (3)**

The candidates were as follows:

Dr Sabrina Galdo Novo (Argentina)		Dr Satoko Kawaji (Japan)
Dr Christian Mathieu (Chile)		Dr Praveen Malik (India)
Dr Chris Oura (Trinidad and Tobago)		Dr Joseph S. O'Keefe (New Zealand)
Dr Qurban Ali (Pakistan)		Dr Donald King (United Kingdom)
Dr Debbie Eagles (Australia)		

After voting had taken place, the President declared that Dr O'Keefe, Dr Oura and Dr Kawaji had been elected as Members of the Commission.

261. The President indicated that for all Commissions those candidates not elected would continue to be called upon to contribute their expertise through participation in *ad hoc* groups as required.

## **Activities of the Specialist Commissions (contd)**

### **Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission**

#### **Adoption of the Proposed new Chapter 7.Z. on Animal welfare and laying hen production systems**

262. The President indicated that as a secret vote was not required for a decision of this type the next vote would be open and therefore not anonymous.
263. There were 121 Members connected to the electronic voting platform and a quorum was therefore reached.

Results:

Yes:	53
No:	41
Abstentions:	22

264. The President announced that in the absence of the required two-thirds majority the proposed new Chapter 7.Z. of the *Terrestrial Code* on Animal welfare and laying hen production systems was not adopted.

**FOURTH PLENARY SESSION**

265. Following the elections during the Second Administrative Session, the Delegate of Barbados took the floor on behalf of the 31 Members of the Americas Region. He noted concern with the procedures for the conduct of the elections of the members of the Specialist Commissions, as announced in the past days, and without adequate advance notice.
266. According to the Members of the Region, this procedure ignored the long-standing, established practice whereby the Regional Commissions select, from the list of qualified experts, those they have agreed on as candidates for election to the Specialist Commissions.
267. Dr Matthew Stone, Deputy Director General “International Standards and Science” took the floor noting that the procedures in the guidance documents for the Delegates clearly outlined the election processes and that these reflected the roles and responsibilities as laid down in the Basic Texts (Article 16 of the General Rules). Only a Delegate who has nominated a candidate is entitled to nominate or withdraw the said candidate, and nominations can only be confirmed by the Council or the Assembly. The process undertaken by the Regional Commissions is only to coordinate voting preferences.

**Presentation of proposed Resolutions drafted during plenary sessions**

268. The President announced that the quorum was reached.

**Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 26  
Amendments to the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code***

269. The President submitted Draft Resolution No. 26 for adoption. The Resolution was adopted. There were no objections and no requests for the floor. One Member (Democratic Republic of the Congo) abstained. The text appears under Resolution No. 26 at the end of this report.

**Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 22  
First addendum to Resolution No. 15 of 29 May 2020: “Procedures for Members for the official recognition and maintenance of animal health status of certain animal diseases or risk status of bovine spongiform encephalopathy and for the endorsement of official control programmes”**

270. The President submitted Draft Resolution No. 22 for adoption. There were no objections, abstentions or requests to take the floor. The Resolution was adopted unanimously. The text appears under Resolution No. 22 at the end of this report.

**Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 23  
First addendum to Resolution No. 16 of 29 May 2020: “Costs to be covered by Members applying for the official recognition of animal health status of certain animal diseases or risk status of bovine spongiform encephalopathy and the endorsement of official control programmes”**

271. The President submitted Draft Resolution No. 23 for adoption. There were no objections, abstentions or requests to take the floor. The Resolution was adopted unanimously. The text appears under Resolution No. 23 at the end of this report.

**Adoption of Draft Resolution No. 12  
Appointment of the Director General**

272. The President submitted Draft Resolution No. 12 for adoption. There were no objections, abstentions or requests to take the floor. The Resolution was adopted unanimously. The text appears under Resolution No. 12 at the end of this report.

**Dates of the 89th General Session (May 2022)**

273. The Assembly decided that the 89th General Session of the OIE would take place from 23 to 26 May 2022.

**Technical Items for the 89th General Session (May 2022)**

274. The OIE Director General informed the Assembly that, in accordance with the Council, the selection of technical items for the General Session would be reviewed at the September 2021 Council meeting, based on the suggestions put forward by the Regional Commissions.

**Transfer of office to the new President**

275. President Mark Schipp congratulated Dr Idoyaga Benítez on being elected President of the OIE Assembly. He drew the Assembly's attention to the challenges that the Organisation must address, within the context of the Seventh Strategic Plan. He wished President Idoyaga Benítez every success during his tenure.
276. For health reasons, President Idoyaga Benítez was temporarily indisposed and was not able to take the floor at the closing of the General Session.
277. The Director General thanked Dr Schipp. She noted that lessons would be learned from this session to benefit the next session. She congratulated all of the newly elected Delegates and experts and thanked the Assembly for the honour of having been re-elected. In the context of Dr Stone's forthcoming departure from the OIE, she emphasised the importance of the role of the Deputy Director General in the conduct of a number of critical operations for the OIE, particularly with regard to the steering of the OIE through this past year.
278. Dr Modisane was invited to speak on the ending of his tenure on the Council. He thanked all his colleagues and the Director General for the substantial support they had given him during his time as President and Past-President.

**Closing Session**

279. The President thanked the Delegates, the Rapporteurs and the other participants for the quality of the debates. He congratulated the Director General, the staff of the Headquarters and Regional and Sub-Regional Representations, the translators and the technicians for the outstanding organisation of the General Session. He also thanked the interpreters and ended his address by declaring the 88th General Session closed.
280. He invited the Delegates to attend the 89th General Session in May 2022.

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.../Resolutions/Regional Commission Reports

# **RESOLUTIONS**

**Adopted by the World Assembly of OIE Delegates  
during their 88th General Session**

**24 – 28 May 2021**



## LIST OF RESOLUTIONS

- [No. 1](#) Approval of the Annual Report of the Director General on the Activities of the OIE in 2019 and 2020
- [No. 2](#) Approval of the Report of the Director General on the Management, Activities and Administrative Work of the OIE in 2020
- [No. 3](#) Approval of the Financial Report for the 94th Financial Year of the OIE (1 January – 31 December 2020)
- [No. 4](#) Acknowledgements to the Members and Partners that made Voluntary Contributions or Subsidies to the OIE, or contributed in the Organisation of OIE Meetings and for the Provision of Personnel
- [No. 5](#) Modification of the 2021 Budget
- [No. 6](#) OIE Budgetary Income and Expenses for the 96th Financial Year (1 January to 31 December 2022)
- [No. 7](#) Financial Contributions from OIE Members for 2022
- [No. 8](#) Planned Work Programme for 2021-2022
- [No. 9](#) Renewal of the Appointment of the External Auditor
- [No. 10](#) Modalities of holding General Sessions
- [No. 11](#) Seventh Strategic Plan of the OIE for the 2021-2025 period
- [No. 12](#) Appointment of the Director General
- [No. 13](#) Recognition of the Foot and Mouth Disease Status of Members
- [No. 14](#) Endorsement of Official Control Programmes for Foot and Mouth Disease of Members
- [No. 15](#) Recognition of the Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia Status of Members
- [No. 16](#) Endorsement of Official Control Programmes for Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia of Members
- [No. 17](#) Recognition of the Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy Risk Status of Members
- [No. 18](#) Recognition of the African Horse Sickness Status of Members
- [No. 19](#) Recognition of the Peste des Petits Ruminants Status of Members
- [No. 20](#) Recognition of the Classical Swine Fever Status of Members
- [No. 21](#) Endorsement of Official Control Programmes for dog-mediated rabies of Members
- [No. 22](#) First addendum to Resolution No. 15 of 29 May 2020 on the “Procedures for Members for the official recognition and maintenance of animal health status of certain animal diseases or risk status of bovine spongiform encephalopathy and for the endorsement of official control programmes.”
- [No. 23](#) First addendum to Resolution No. 16 of 29 May 2020 on the “Costs to be covered by Members applying for the official recognition of animal health status of certain animal diseases or risk status of bovine spongiform encephalopathy and the endorsement of official control programmes.”

- [No. 24](#) Amendments to the OIE *Aquatic Animal Health Code*
  - [No. 25](#) Amendments to the *Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals*
  - [No. 26](#) Amendments to the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*
  - [No. 27](#) Amendments to the *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals*
  - [No. 28](#) Designation of OIE Reference Laboratories for terrestrial animal diseases
  - [No. 29](#) Designation of OIE Collaborating Centres
  - [No. 30](#) Register of diagnostic kits validated and certified by the OIE
  - [No. 31](#) How OIE can support Veterinary Services to achieve One Health Resilience
-

RESOLUTION No. 1

**Approval of the Annual Report of the Director General  
on the Activities of the OIE in 2019 and 2020**

In accordance with Article 6 of the Organic Rules of the OIE,

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES

To approve the Annual Report of the Director General on the Activities of the OIE in 2019 and 2020 (88 SG/1).

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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2021  
in view of an entry into force on 29 May 2021)

RESOLUTION No. 2

**Approval of the Report of the Director General on the Management,  
Activities and Administrative Work of the OIE in 2020**

In accordance with Article 6 of the Organic Rules,

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES

To approve the Report of the Director General on the Management, Activities and Administrative Work of the OIE in 2020 (88 SG/3).

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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2021  
in view of an entry into force on 29 May 2021)

RESOLUTION No. 3

**Approval of the Financial Report for the 94th Financial Year of the OIE  
(1 January – 31 December 2020)**

In application of Article 15 of the Organic Statutes and Article 6 of the Organic Rules of the OIE,

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES

To approve the Financial Report for the 94th Financial Year of the OIE (1 January – 31 December 2020) (88 SG/4).

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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2021  
in view of an entry into force on 29 May 2021)

RESOLUTION No. 4

**Acknowledgements to the Members and Partners that made  
Voluntary Contributions or Subsidies to the OIE,  
or contributed in the Organisation of OIE Meetings and for the Provision of Personnel**

Having noted the voluntary contributions or subsidies received by the OIE in 2019 and 2020 and the meetings organised by the OIE in 2019 and 2020,

THE ASSEMBLY

REQUESTS

The Director General to sincerely thank:

1. Argentina, Australia, Bahrain, Canada, China (People's Rep. of), Colombia, Cyprus, Djibouti, Egypt, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Panama, Qatar, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and Uzbekistan;

The European Union, the World Bank and the World Health Organization;

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Donkey Sanctuary, Four PAWS, the International Coalition for Working Equids, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the International Fund for Animal Welfare, the International Horse Sports Confederation, the PEW Charitable Trusts, and the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals;

for their voluntary contributions or subsidies to support the execution of the programmes of the OIE in 2019 and 2020.

2. Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia y Herzegovina, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China (People's Rep. of), Colombia, Congo (Rep of), Cote d'Ivoire, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Georgia, Greece, Indonesia, Iran, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Myanmar, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Russia, Senegal, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Thailand, the Netherlands, Togo, Tunisia, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, Uzbekistan, Vietnam and Zambia;

for their contribution to the organisation of OIE Regional Conferences, seminars and workshops that were held during 2019 and 2020.

3. Argentina, Brazil, Canada, France, Italy, Kenya, Korea (Rep. of), Norway, Panama, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom and the United States of America;

for the provision of personnel paid directly by their country to support the implementation of the programmes of the OIE in 2019 and 2020.

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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2021  
in view of an entry into force on 29 May 2021)

RESOLUTION No. 5

**Modification of the 2021 Budget**

In accordance with Article 15 of the Organic Statutes and Article 6.h of the Organic Rules of the OIE,

Considering the positive result achieved at 31 December 2020 (94th Financial Year), providing an accumulated surplus of EUR 585 000 for the year 2021,

Considering the variation in expenses and income for the 95th Financial Year (1 January to 31 December 2021),

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES

To modify Resolution No. 3 of 29 May 2020 and replace paragraphs 1 and 2 of the said Resolution with the following paragraphs:

1. The budget of the 95th Financial Year, corresponding to the period from 1 January to 31 December 2021, is set in terms of income at an amount of EUR 15 790 000, supplemented by the accumulated surplus of EUR 585 000, and expenses at an amount of EUR 16 375 000:

**1.1. Income**

<b>Sections</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount EUR</b>
Section 1	OIE Members' contributions established according to the categories provided in Article 11 of the Organic Statutes of the OIE and in accordance with Article 14 of the Organic Rules of the OIE	11 114 000
	Extraordinary contributions	884 000
	<b>Sub-total Section 1</b>	<b>11 998 000</b>
Section 2	Registration fees (General Session, conferences)	-
	Publication sales	20 000
	Fees for evaluation of sanitary status applications	100 000
	World Fund overheads	800 000
	Internal contributions	710 000
	Other operating revenue	1 719 000
	<b>Sub-total Section 2</b>	<b>3 349 000</b>
Section 3	Investment income	20 000
	Extraordinary income	-
	Recovery of subsidies	33 000
	Cancellation of provisions	390 000
	<b>Sub-total Section 3</b>	<b>443 000</b>
<b>Total of Sections 1 to 3</b>		<b>15 790 000</b>
<b>Accumulated surplus – allocation of the 2020 result</b>		<b>585 000</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>16 375 000</b>

## 1.2. Expenses

### 1.2.1 Expenses by budgetary section

<b>Budgetary sections</b>	<b>Amount EUR</b>
1. Purchases	529 900
2. Outside services	3 875 700
3. Taxes	25 000
4. Staff costs	9 590 900
5. Administrative expenses and financial charges	1 160 000
6. Extraordinary expenses	-
7. Depreciation and amortisation expenses	1 193 500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16 375 000</b>

### 1.2.2 Expenses by field of activity

<b>Field of Activity</b>	<b>Amount EUR</b>
1. Assembly and Council	460 000
2. General Directorate and Administration	3 200 000
3. Communication	795 500
4. Information Systems	1 880 500
5. Animal Health Information	1 808 000
6. Publications	460 700
7. International Standards and Science	3 170 000
8. Regional Activities	754 000
9. Missions and organisation of various meetings	478 000
10. General expenses	1 077 800
11. Regional and Sub-Regional Representations	1 097 000
12. Depreciation and amortisation expenses	1 193 500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16 375 000</b>

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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2021  
in view of an entry into force on 29 May 2021)

RESOLUTION No. 6

**OIE Budgetary Income and Expenses for the 96th Financial Year  
(1 January to 31 December 2022)**

In accordance with Article 15 of the Organic Statutes and Article 6.h of the Organic Rules of the OIE,

THE ASSEMBLY

DECIDES

That the budget for the 96th Financial Year, corresponding to the period from 1 January to 31 December 2022, shall be set in terms of income and expenses at an amount of EUR 16 310 000, established as follows:

**1. Income**

<b>Sections</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount EUR</b>
Section 1	OIE Members' contributions established according to the categories provided in Article 11 of the Organic Statutes of the OIE and in accordance with Article 14 of the Organic Rules of the OIE	11 269 750
	Extraordinary contributions	875 390
	<b>Sub-total Section 1</b>	<b>12 145 140</b>
Section 2	Registration fees (General Session, conferences)	120 000
	Publication sales	20 000
	Fees for evaluating disease status dossiers	100 000
	World Fund overheads	1 000 000
	Internal contributions	694 860
	Other operating revenue	1 767 000
	<b>Sub-total Section 2</b>	<b>3 701 860</b>
Section 3	Investment income	20 000
	Extraordinary income	
	Recovery of subsidies	33 000
	Cancellation of provisions	410 000
	<b>Sub-total Section 3</b>	<b>463 000</b>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16 310 000</b>

## 2. Expenses

### 2.1. Expenses by budgetary section

<b>Budgetary section</b>	<b>Amount EUR</b>
1. Purchases	541 000
2. Outside services	3 910 100
3. Taxes	25 000
4. Staff costs	9 588 500
5. Administrative expenses and financial charges	1 049 000
6. Extraordinary expenses	-
7. Depreciation and amortisation expenses	1 196 400
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16 310 000</b>

### 2.2. Expenses by field of activity

<b>Field of Activity</b>	<b>Amount EUR</b>
1. Assembly and Council	726 100
2. General Directorate and Administration	2 901 000
3. Communication	673 500
4. Information Systems	2 256 400
5. Animal Health Information	1 743 000
6. Publications	405 100
7. International Standards and Science	3 070 500
8. Regional Activities	801 500
9. Missions and organisation of various meetings	534 000
10. General expenses	1 010 500
11. Regional and Sub-Regional Representations	992 000
12. Depreciation and amortisation expenses	1 196 400
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16 310 000</b>

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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2021  
in view of an entry into force on 29 May 2021)

RESOLUTION No. 7

**Financial contributions from OIE Members for 2022**

In accordance with Article 11 of the Organic Statutes and Article 14 of the Organic Rules,

CONSIDERING

The need to meet the budgetary expenses of the OIE for 2022,

Resolution No. 8 dated 1 June 2001 related to contributions by the Least Developed Countries (LDC),

Resolution No. 11 of 30 May 2014 creating two categories of extraordinary contributions,

Resolution No. 15 of 24 May 2018 related to taking an annual price index into account when calculating the annual contributions of OIE Members,

THE ASSEMBLY

DECIDES

- 1) that the annual contributions from Members of the OIE be established for the 2022 Financial Year as follows:

Category	Annual total contribution
1 <sup>st</sup> category	223 075 EUR
2 <sup>nd</sup> category	178 460 EUR
3 <sup>rd</sup> category	133 845 EUR
4 <sup>th</sup> category	89 230 EUR
5 <sup>th</sup> category	44 615 EUR
6 <sup>th</sup> category	26 769 EUR

that the OIE will call for only 50% of the total contributions due, in accordance with the six-category scale, from the Members classified as LDCs (Least Developed Countries) by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

- 2) that Members, while retaining the choice of category in which they are registered, may if they wish opt for one of the two extraordinary categories for 2022, in which case, the Members concerned shall be exempt from their statutory contribution for the year in question.

The two extraordinary categories of contribution of a lump sum are as follows:

Category A: EUR 500 000 minimum

Category B: EUR 300 000 minimum

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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2021  
in view of an entry into force on 29 May 2021)

RESOLUTION No. 8

**Planned Work Programme for 2022**

Considering the Seventh Strategic Plan of the OIE, established for the 2021-2025 period,

THE ASSEMBLY, ON THE PROPOSAL OF THE COUNCIL

1) DECIDES

To approve the Planned Work Programme for 2022 (88 SG/6-A), subject to prioritisation by the Council to ensure that expenditure remains within the allotted budget.

2) RECOMMENDS THAT

Members provide the necessary support to allow the Planned Work Programme to be carried out, in the form of payment of both regular contributions and, when possible, voluntary contributions to the Regular Budget and/or to the World Animal Health and Welfare Fund, or any other form of support to OIE activities.

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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2021  
in view of an entry into force on 29 May 2021)

RESOLUTION No. 9

**Renewal of the Appointment of the External Auditor**

In accordance with Article 12.1. of the Financial Regulations concerning the appointment of the External Auditor and the renewal of his mandate,

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES

To renew for a period of 1 year (2021) the appointment of Mr Didier Selles as External Auditor of OIE Accounts.

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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2021  
in view of an entry into force on 29 May 2021)

RESOLUTION No.10

**Modalities of holding General Sessions**

HAVING REGARD TO

The Adapted Procedure adopted in 2020,

Article 39 of the General Rules of the OIE,

CONSIDERING THAT

1. The OIE was obliged to put in place, in extremis and as a primary response to the unprecedented restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, temporary arrangements to ensure continuity of decision-making,
2. The OIE therefore postponed the 88th General Session and, on the recommendation of the Council, put in place a special written procedure in May 2020 (named *Adapted Procedure*) for the purpose of adopting certain resolutions by the Assembly in a timely fashion,
3. The pandemic has generally speaking also accelerated the introduction of new digital working tools and methods which has improved the OIE's agility and efficiency,
4. The General Rules do not preclude the possibility for a General Session to be held virtually/remotely. Article 39 provides that "*Except when the Assembly at a previous session, or in exceptional circumstances the Council, decides otherwise, the annual session of the Assembly (named "General Session") shall be held in the month of May in Paris*",
5. In light of modern information and communication technologies, the "place" of a meeting can be interpreted not only as a physical place but also as a "virtual place" using remote videoconferencing technologies,
6. The COVID-19 pandemic, which still prevents large physical meetings in 2021, is deemed to amount to such exceptional circumstances,
7. In this regard, the Council, in order to ensure the legitimate functioning of the Assembly during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, and mindful of the necessity to provide all Members with the opportunity to fully participate in discussions and decision-making, decided to use the possibility offered by article 39 of the General Rules to hold the 88th General Session virtually/remotely and to put in place special arrangements adapted to this format,
8. Article 39 of the General Rules must also be read as offering the possibility to the Assembly to decide, through a resolution, to validly meet and take decisions, in normal circumstances, not only in physical/in-person meetings, but also in virtual/remote meetings, by correspondence/written procedure, at another location than Paris (in case of in-person meetings) and at another period of time than May,
9. It is desirable, in the general interest of all concerned, and in light of Article 39's object and purpose of providing flexibility, that the Assembly afford the OIE with the flexibility, in normal circumstances, to adjust the location and time of the General Session, and make other arrangements which enhance agility and efficiency,

THE ASSEMBLY

DECIDES

1. To authorise the OIE, in normal circumstances, with the prior endorsement of the Council:
  - a) to conduct the General Session through physical or virtual / hybrid format when the conduct of physical/in-person meetings is deemed not possible, practical or desirable; and accordingly,
  - b) to alter the location, time, duration, agenda items and more generally the arrangements of the General Session from past practice when there is a legitimate reason, such as but not limited to, focusing on agenda items of substantive content, improving time management, or achieving other types of efficiency gains.
2. In the event the General Session is held through virtual or hybrid means, all requirements set out in Chapter 13 of the OIE General Rules remain unchanged and applicable except to the extent that they are inconsistent with the nature of the virtual or hybrid format and related arrangements, in which case (i.) the relevant provisions of the Basic Texts will be suspended to the extent necessary<sup>10</sup>, and (ii.) special arrangements and adequate security measures considered necessary should be put in place to verify the identity of participants and, whenever applicable, their credentials, and to ensure reliable and secure remote voting when required.

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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2021  
in view of an entry into force on 29 May 2021)

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<sup>10</sup> This will affect notably the relevant provisions of the following articles of the General Rules:  
- Article 46 (organisation of the seating of Delegations); and  
- Article 52 (ballot)

RESOLUTION No.11

**7<sup>th</sup> Strategic Plan of the OIE (2021-2025)**

CONSIDERING

The document 88 SG/14 that introduces the draft 7<sup>th</sup> Strategic Plan of the OIE, established for the 2021-2025 period,

THE ASSEMBLY

DECIDES

To approve the 7<sup>th</sup> Strategic plan of the OIE.

REQUESTS

The Director General to prepare annual work programmes, based on the guidelines of this 7<sup>th</sup> Strategic Plan, with the corresponding budgets and contribution mechanisms, which will be submitted every year to the approval of the Assembly.

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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2021  
in view of an entry into force on 29 May 2021)

RESOLUTION No. 12

**Appointment of the Director General**

HAVING REGARD TO

The Basic Texts of the OIE, particularly Article 8 of the Organic Statutes, Article 11 of the Organic Rules and Article 26 of the General Rules,

CONSIDERING

1. The postponement of the 88th General Session of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates to May 2021,
2. Resolution No. 6 adopted through the 2020 Adapted Procedure and which approved the exceptional extension of the mandate of Dr Monique Eloit until the 88<sup>th</sup> General Session (2021),
3. The result of the election which took place on 28 May 2021,

THE ASSEMBLY

DECIDES

To appoint Dr Monique Eloit as Director General of the OIE for a period of five years, i.e. until 30 June 2026.

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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 28 May 2021  
in view of an entry into force on 29 May 2021)

RESOLUTION No. 13

**Recognition of the Foot and Mouth Disease Status of Members**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 62nd General Session, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (the Assembly) established a procedure for annually updating a List of Members and zones recognised as free from foot and mouth disease (FMD) according to the provisions of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)*,
2. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 15, which specified and updated the procedure for Members to follow to achieve official recognition and maintenance of status for certain animal diseases, including FMD,
3. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 16, which specified and updated the financial implications for Members applying for evaluation of official recognition of animal health status to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE in the evaluation process,
4. During the 79th General Session, the Assembly noted that an explanatory document outlining the standard operating procedures for official animal health status evaluations had been compiled by the OIE Headquarters for the benefit of Members,
5. During the 85th General Session, the Assembly noted a complete revision of the standard operating procedures providing further details on the process of official status recognition. The document has been published on the OIE website,
6. During the 86th General Session, the Assembly noted an explanatory document outlining the standard operating procedure for official recognition of animal health status of non-contiguous territories as part of a Member already having an OIE official animal health status. The document has been published on the OIE website,
7. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegates of Members. The OIE is not responsible for publication and maintenance of Members' or zonal animal health status based on inaccurate information or untimely reporting to the OIE Headquarters of changes in epidemiological status or other significant events subsequent to the time of declaration of freedom from FMD,

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES THAT

1. The Director General publish the following List of Members recognised as FMD free where vaccination is not practised, according to the provisions of Chapter 8.8. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Albania	Dominican Republic	Japan	Poland
Australia	El Salvador	Latvia	Portugal <sup>14</sup>
Austria	Estonia	Lesotho	Romania
Belarus	Eswatini	Lithuania	San Marino
Belgium	Finland <sup>12</sup>	Luxembourg	Serbia <sup>15</sup>
Belize	France <sup>13</sup>	Madagascar	Singapore
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Germany	Malta	Slovakia
Brunei	Greece	Mexico	Slovenia
Bulgaria	Guatemala	Montenegro	Spain <sup>16</sup>
Canada	Guyana	New Caledonia	Suriname
Chile	Haiti	New Zealand	Sweden
Costa Rica	Honduras	Nicaragua	Switzerland
Croatia	Hungary	North Macedonia (Rep. of)	The Netherlands
Cuba	Iceland	Norway	Ukraine
Cyprus	Indonesia	Panama	United Kingdom <sup>17</sup>
Czech Republic	Ireland	Peru	United States of America <sup>1</sup>
Denmark <sup>11</sup>	Italy	Philippines	Vanuatu

2. The Director General publish the following List of Members recognised as FMD free where vaccination is practised, according to the provisions of Chapter 8.8. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Paraguay, Uruguay

3. The Director General publish the following List of Members having FMD free zones<sup>19</sup> where vaccination is not practised, according to the provisions of Chapter 8.8. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Argentina: one zone designated by the Delegate of Argentina in a document addressed to the Director General in January 2007;

the summer pasture zone in the Province of San Juan as designated by the Delegate of Argentina in a document addressed to the Director General in April 2011;

Patagonia Norte A as designated by the Delegate of Argentina in a document addressed to the Director General in October 2013;

Bolivia: one zone in the Macro-region of the Altiplano designated by the Delegate of Bolivia in documents addressed to the Director General in November 2011;

one zone consisting of the Department of Pando as designated by the Delegate of Bolivia in a document addressed to the Director General in August 2018;

Botswana: four zones designated by the Delegate of Botswana in documents addressed to the Director General in August and November 2014 as follows:

- one zone consisting of Zones 3c (Dukwi), 4b, 5, 6a, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13;
- one zone consisting of Zone 3c (Maitengwe);
- one zone covering Zone 4a;
- one zone covering Zone 6b;

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<sup>11</sup> Including Faroe Islands and Greenland.

<sup>12</sup> Including Åland Islands.

<sup>13</sup> Including French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Réunion, Saint Pierre and Miquelon.

<sup>14</sup> Including Azores and Madeira.

<sup>15</sup> Excluding Kosovo administered by the United Nations.

<sup>16</sup> Including Balearic Islands and Canary Islands.

<sup>17</sup> Including Guernsey (incl. Alderney and Sark), Isle of Man, Jersey and Falkland Islands (Malvinas). (A dispute exists between the Government of Argentina and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) [see resolution 2065 (XX) of the General Assembly of the United Nations]).

<sup>18</sup> Including American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands.

<sup>19</sup> For detailed information on the delimitation of zones of Members recognised as FMD free, enquiries should be addressed to the Director General of the OIE.

one zone covering Zone 3b designated by the Delegate of Botswana in a document addressed to the Director General in August 2016;

one zone covering Zone 7 designated by the Delegate of Botswana in a document addressed to the Director General in August 2018;

Brazil: State of Santa Catarina designated by the Delegate of Brazil in a document addressed to the Director General in February 2007;

three zones of Brazil as designated by the Delegate of Brazil in a document addressed to the Director General in August 2020 as follows:

- State of Paraná;
- State of Rio Grande do Sul;
- one zone (Block 1) including the States of Acre and Rondônia and 14 municipalities in the State of Amazonas and five municipalities in the State of Mato Grosso;

Chinese Taipei: one zone covering Taiwan, Penghu and Matsu areas, as designated by the Delegate of Chinese Taipei in a document addressed to the Director General in September 2019;

Colombia: one zone designated by the Delegate of Colombia in documents addressed to the Director General in November 1995 and in April 1996 (Area I - Northwest region of Chocó Department);

one zone designated by the Delegate of Colombia in documents addressed to the Director General in January 2008 (Archipelago de San Andrés and Providencia);

Ecuador: one zone consisting of the insular territory of the Galapagos, as designated by the Delegate of Ecuador in a document addressed to the Director General in August 2014;

Kazakhstan: five zones as designated by the Delegate of Kazakhstan in a document addressed to the Director General in August 2018 as follows:

- Zone 1 consisting of West Kazakhstan, Atyrau, Mangystau and south-western part of Aktobe region;
- Zone 2 including north-eastern part of Aktobe region, southern part of Kostanay region and western part of Karaganda region;
- Zone 3 including northern and central parts of Kostanay region, western parts of North Kazakhstan and Akmola regions;
- Zone 4 including central and eastern parts of North Kazakhstan region and northern parts of Akmola and Pavlodar regions;
- Zone 5 including central and eastern parts of Karaganda region and southern parts of Akmola and Pavlodar regions;

Malaysia: one zone covering the provinces of Sabah and Sarawak as designated by the Delegate of Malaysia in a document addressed to the Director General in December 2003;

Moldova: one zone designated by the Delegate of Moldova in a document addressed to the Director General in July 2008;

Namibia: one zone designated by the Delegate of Namibia in a document addressed to the Director General in February 1997;

- Russia: one zone designated by the Delegate of Russia in documents addressed to the Director General in August 2015 and March 2016;
4. The Director General publish the following List of Members having FMD free zones<sup>20</sup> where vaccination is practised, according to the provisions of Chapter 8.8. of the *Terrestrial Code*:
- Argentina: two separate zones designated by the Delegate of Argentina in documents addressed to the Director General in March 2007 and October 2013, and in August 2010 and February 2014;
- Bolivia: one zone covering the regions of Chaco, Valles and parts of Amazonas and Altiplano as designated by the Delegate of Bolivia in documents addressed to the Director General in October 2013, February 2014 and August 2018;
- Brazil: one zone consisting of two merged zones designated by the Delegate of Brazil in documents addressed to the Director General in August 2010, September 2017 and September 2019, covering the States of Alagoas, Amapá, Amazonas, Bahia, Ceará, Espírito Santo, Goiás, Mato Grosso, Mato Grosso do Sul, Maranhão, Minas Gerais, Pará, Paraíba, Pernambuco, Piauí, Rio de Janeiro, Rio Grande do Norte, Roraima, São Paulo, Sergipe, Tocantins and Distrito Federal, with the exclusion of the municipalities of the States of Amazonas and Mato Grosso that are part of the zone of Block 1 (free from FMD where vaccination is not practised) as addressed to the Director General in August 2020;
- Chinese Taipei: one zone consisting of Kinmen County as designated by the Delegate of Chinese Taipei in a document addressed to the Director General in September 2017;
- Colombia: three separated zones designated by the Delegate of Colombia in documents addressed to the Director General in September 2019 as follows:
- Zone I (Northern border) consisting of Departments of La Guajira, Cesar and part of the Department of Norte de Santander;
  - Zone III (Trade) consisting of the Departments of Atlántico, Córdoba, Magdalena, Sucre and part of Antioquia, Bolívar and Chocó Departments;
  - Zone IV (Rest of the country), consisting of the Departments of Amazonas, Caldas, Caquetá, Cauca, Casanare, Cundinamarca, Guainía, Guaviare, Huila, Meta, Nariño, Quindío, Putumayo, Risaralda, Santander, Tolima, Valle del Cauca, Vaupés and part of Antioquia, Bolívar, Boyacá, and Chocó Departments,
- one zone consisting of two merged zones designated by the Delegate of Colombia in documents addressed to the Director General in September 2019 and in August 2020, which includes Zone II (Eastern border) and the former high surveillance zone covering the Departments of Arauca and Vichada and the municipality of Cubará of the Department of Boyacá;
- Ecuador: one zone consisting of the continental Ecuador, as designated by the Delegate of Ecuador in a document addressed to the Director General in August 2014;

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<sup>20</sup> For detailed information on the delimitation of zones of Members recognised as FMD free, enquiries should be addressed to the Director General of the OIE.

Kazakhstan: five separate zones designated by the Delegate of Kazakhstan in documents addressed to the Director General in August 2016 as follows:

- one zone consisting of Almaty region;
- one zone consisting of East Kazakhstan region;
- one zone including part of Kyzylorda region, northern part of South Kazakhstan region, northern and central parts of Zhambyl region;
- one zone including southern part of Kyzylorda region and south-western part of South Kazakhstan region;
- one zone including south-eastern part of South Kazakhstan region and southern part of Zhambyl region;

Russia: two zones of Russia as designated by the Delegate of Russia in documents addressed to the Director General in August 2020 as follows:

- Zone-South including Southern and North Caucasian Federal Districts, consisting of 13 Subjects: Rostov Oblast, Stavropol Krai, Krasnodar Krai, Volgograd Oblast, Astrakhan Oblast, Republic of Kalmykia, Chechen Republic, Republic of Ingushetia, Republic of Dagestan, Kabardino-Balkarian Republic, Karachay-Cherkess Republic, Republic of North Ossetia-Alania, Republic of Adygea;
- Zone-Sakhalin consisting of the Island of Sakhalin and the Kurile Islands;

Turkey: one zone designated by the Delegate of Turkey in a document addressed to the Director General in November 2009.

AND

5. The Delegates of these Members shall immediately notify the OIE Headquarters if FMD occurs in their countries or free zones within their territories.

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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2021  
in view of an entry into force on 29 May 2021)

RESOLUTION No. 14

**Endorsement of Official Control Programmes for Foot and Mouth Disease of Members**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 79th General Session, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (the Assembly) adopted Resolution No. 19 establishing a new step in the procedure for recognising the foot and mouth disease (FMD) status of a Member, namely the endorsement by the OIE of an official control programme for FMD being in compliance with the provisions of the chapter on FMD in the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)*,
2. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 15, which specified and updated the procedure for Members to follow to achieve endorsement of their official control programme for FMD,
3. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 16, which specified and updated the financial implications for Members applying for endorsement of their official control programme for FMD to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE in the evaluation process,
4. During the 79th General Session, the Assembly noted that an explanatory document outlining the standard operating procedures for official animal health status evaluations had been compiled by the OIE Headquarters for the benefit of Members,
5. During the 85th General Session, the Assembly noted a complete revision of the standard operating procedures providing further details on the process of official status recognition. The document has been published on the OIE website,
6. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegates of Members. The OIE is not responsible for publication and maintenance of the endorsement of Members' official control programme for FMD based on inaccurate information or non-reporting to the OIE Headquarters of significant changes in the implementation of relevant measures in the Member subsequent to the time of endorsement of the official control programme for FMD,

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES THAT

1. The Director General publish the following List of Members with an endorsed official control programme for FMD, according to the provisions of Chapter 8.8. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

China (People's Rep. of)	Mongolia	Namibia
India	Morocco	Thailand
Kyrgyzstan		

2. The Delegates of these Members shall notify the OIE Headquarters the occurrence of FMD, changes in the epidemiological situation and other significant events in their countries or territories in accordance with Chapter 1.1. of the *Terrestrial Code*.

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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2021  
in view of an entry into force on 29 May 2021)

RESOLUTION No. 15

**Recognition of the Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia Status of Members**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 71st General Session, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (the Assembly) established a procedure for annually updating a List of Members and zones recognised as free from contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP) according to the provisions of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)*,
2. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 15, which specified and updated the procedure for Members to follow to achieve official recognition and maintenance of status for certain diseases, including CBPP,
3. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 16, which specified and updated the financial implications for Members applying for evaluation of official recognition of animal health status to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE in the evaluation process,
4. During the 79th General Session, the Assembly noted that an explanatory document outlining the standard operating procedures for official animal health status evaluations had been compiled by the OIE Headquarters for the benefit of Members,
5. During the 85th General Session, the Assembly noted a complete revision of the standard operating procedures providing further details on the process of official status recognition. The document has been published on the OIE website,
6. During the 86th General Session, the Assembly noted an explanatory document outlining the standard operating procedure for official recognition of animal health status of non-contiguous territories as part of a Member already having an OIE official animal health status. The document has been published on the OIE website,
7. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegates of Members. The OIE is not responsible for publication and maintenance of Members' or zonal animal health status based on inaccurate information or untimely reporting to the OIE Headquarters of changes in epidemiological status or other significant events subsequent to the time of declaration of freedom from CBPP,

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES THAT

1. The Director General publish the following List of Members recognised as CBPP free according to the provisions of Chapter 11.5. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Argentina	France <sup>21</sup>	Portugal <sup>22</sup>
Australia	India	Russia
Bolivia	Italy	Singapore
Botswana	Mexico	South Africa
Brazil	New Caledonia	Switzerland
Canada	Paraguay	United States of America
China (People's Rep. of)	Peru	Uruguay
Eswatini		

2. The Director General publish the following List of Members having a CBPP free zone<sup>23</sup> according to the provisions of Chapter 11.5. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Namibia: one zone located south of the Veterinary Cordon Fence, designated by the Delegate of Namibia in a document addressed to the Director General in October 2015.

AND

3. The Delegates of these Members shall immediately notify the OIE Headquarters if CBPP occurs in their countries or free zone within their territories.

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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2021  
in view of an entry into force on 29 May 2021)

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<sup>21</sup> Including French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Mayotte and Réunion.

<sup>22</sup> Including Azores and Madeira.

<sup>23</sup> For detailed information on the delimitation of the zone of the Member recognised as CBPP free, enquiries should be addressed to the Director General of the OIE.

RESOLUTION No. 16

**Endorsement of Official Control Programmes  
for Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia of Members**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 82nd General Session, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (the Assembly) adopted Resolution No. 31 establishing the endorsement by the OIE of an official control programme for contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP), in accordance with the relevant provisions of the chapter on CBPP in the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)*,
2. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 15, which specified and updated the procedure for Members to follow to achieve endorsement of their official control programme for CBPP,
3. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 16, which specified and updated the financial implications for Members applying for endorsement of their official control programme for CBPP to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE in the evaluation process,
4. During the 79th General Session, the Assembly noted that an explanatory document outlining the standard operating procedures for official animal health status evaluations had been compiled by the OIE Headquarters for the benefit of Members,
5. During the 85th General Session, the Assembly noted a complete revision of the standard operating procedures providing further details on the process of official status recognition. The document has been published on the OIE website,
6. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegates of Members. The OIE is not responsible for publication and maintenance of the endorsement of Members' official control programme for CBPP based on inaccurate information or non-reporting to the OIE Headquarters of significant changes in the implementation of relevant measures in the Member subsequent to the time of endorsement of the official control programme for CBPP,

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES THAT

1. The Director General publish the following List of Members with an endorsed official control programme for CBPP, according to the provisions of Chapter 11.5. of the *Terrestrial Code*:  
  
Namibia.
2. The Delegate of this Member shall notify the OIE Headquarters the occurrence of CBPP, changes in the epidemiological situation and other significant events in its country or territory in accordance with Chapter 1.1. of the *Terrestrial Code*.

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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2021  
in view of an entry into force on 29 May 2021)

RESOLUTION No. 17

**Recognition of the Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy Risk Status of Members**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 67th General Session, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (the Assembly) established a procedure for annually updating a List of Members and zones, categorised by their bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) risk according to the provisions of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)*,
2. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 15, which specified and updated the procedure for Members to follow to achieve official recognition and maintenance of status of certain diseases, including BSE risk status,
3. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 16, which specified and updated the financial implications for Members applying for evaluation of official recognition of BSE risk status to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE in the evaluation process,
4. During the 79th General Session, the Assembly noted that an explanatory document outlining the standard operating procedures for official animal health status evaluations had been compiled by the OIE Headquarters for the benefit of Members,
5. During the 85th General Session, the Assembly noted a complete revision of the standard operating procedures providing further details on the process of official status recognition. The document has been published on the OIE website,
6. During the 86th General Session, the Assembly noted an explanatory document outlining the standard operating procedure for official recognition of animal health status of non-contiguous territories as part of a Member already having an OIE official animal health status. The document has been published on the OIE website,
7. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegates of Members. The OIE is not responsible for publication and maintenance of Members' or zonal risk status based on inaccurate information or untimely reporting to the OIE Headquarters of changes in epidemiological status or other significant events subsequent to the time of declaration of the BSE risk status,

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES THAT

1. The Director General publish the following List of Members recognised as having a negligible BSE risk in accordance with Chapter 11.4. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Argentina	Czech Republic	Latvia	Poland
Australia	Denmark	Liechtenstein	Portugal <sup>25</sup>
Austria	Estonia	Lithuania	Romania
Belgium	Finland <sup>24</sup>	Luxembourg	Serbia <sup>26</sup>
Bolivia	Germany	Malta	Singapore
Brazil	Hungary	Mexico	Slovakia
Bulgaria	Iceland	Namibia	Slovenia
Canada	India	New Zealand	Spain <sup>27</sup>
Chile	Ireland	Nicaragua	Sweden
Colombia	Israel	Norway	Switzerland
Costa Rica	Italy	Panama	The Netherlands
Croatia	Japan	Paraguay	United States of America
Cyprus	Korea (Rep. of)	Peru	Uruguay

2. The Director General publish the following List of Members recognised as having a controlled BSE risk in accordance with Chapter 11.4. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Chinese Taipei	France
Ecuador	Greece

3. The Director General publish the following List of Members with zones<sup>28</sup> recognised as having a negligible BSE risk in accordance with Chapter 11.4. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

China (People's Rep. of): a zone designated by the Delegate of China (People's Rep. of) in a document addressed to the Director General in November 2013, consisting of the People's Republic of China with the exclusion of Hong Kong and Macau.

United Kingdom: one zone consisting of Northern Ireland as designated by the Delegate of the United Kingdom in a document addressed to the Director General in September 2016;

one zone consisting of Jersey as designated by the Delegate of the United Kingdom in a document addressed to the Director General in August 2019.

4. The Director General publish the following List of Members with zones<sup>5</sup> recognised as having a controlled BSE risk in accordance with Chapter 11.4. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

United Kingdom: one zone consisting of England and Wales as designated by the Delegate of the United Kingdom in documents addressed to the Director General in September and October 2016;

one zone consisting of Scotland as designated by the Delegate of the United Kingdom in documents addressed to the Director General in September and October 2016 and in December 2018.

AND

5. The Delegates of these Members shall immediately notify the OIE Headquarters if BSE occurs in their countries or zones within their territories.

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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2021  
in view of an entry into force on 29 May 2021)

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<sup>24</sup> Including Åland Islands.

<sup>25</sup> Including Azores and Madeira.

<sup>26</sup> Excluding Kosovo administered by the United Nations.

<sup>27</sup> Including Balearic Islands and Canary Islands.

<sup>28</sup> For detailed information on the delimitation of the zones of the Members recognised as having a negligible or controlled BSE risk, enquiries should be addressed to the Director General of the OIE.

RESOLUTION No. 18

**Recognition of the African Horse Sickness Status of Members**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 80th General Session, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (the Assembly) adopted Resolution No. 19, which amended the chapter of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code) on African horse sickness (AHS). These standards provide a pathway for Members or zones to be recognised by the OIE as free from AHS,
2. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 15, which specified and updated the procedure for Members to follow to achieve official recognition and maintenance of status for certain animal diseases, including AHS,
3. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 16, which specified and updated the financial implications for Members applying for evaluation of official recognition of animal health status to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE in the evaluation process,
4. During the 79th General Session, the Assembly noted that an explanatory document outlining the standard operating procedures for official animal health status evaluations had been compiled by the OIE Headquarters for the benefit of Members,
5. During the 85th General Session, the Assembly noted a complete revision of the standard operating procedures providing further details on the process of official status recognition. The document has been published on the OIE website,
6. During the 86th General Session, the Assembly noted an explanatory document outlining the standard operating procedure for official recognition of animal health status of non-contiguous territories as part of a Member already having an OIE official animal health status. The document has been published on the OIE website,
7. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegates of Members. The OIE is not responsible for publication and maintenance of Members' or zonal animal health status based on inaccurate information or untimely reporting to the OIE Headquarters of changes in epidemiological status or other significant events subsequent to the time of declaration of freedom from AHS,

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES THAT

1. The Director General publish the following List of Members recognised as AHS free according to the provisions of Chapter 12.1. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Algeria	Cyprus	Kuwait	Portugal <sup>32</sup>
Andorra	Czech Republic	Latvia	Qatar
Argentina	Denmark	Liechtenstein	Romania
Australia	Ecuador	Lithuania	Singapore
Austria	Estonia	Luxembourg	Slovakia
Azerbaijan	Finland <sup>30</sup>	Malta	Slovenia
Belgium	France <sup>31</sup>	Mexico	Spain <sup>33</sup>
Bolivia	Germany	Morocco	Sweden
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Greece	New Caledonia	Switzerland
Brazil	Hungary	New Zealand	The Netherlands
Bulgaria	Iceland	North Macedonia (Rep. of)	Tunisia
Canada	India	Norway	Turkey
Chile	Ireland	Oman	United Arab Emirates
China (People's Rep. of) <sup>29</sup>	Italy	Paraguay	United Kingdom <sup>34</sup>
Chinese Taipei	Japan	Peru	United States of America <sup>35</sup>
Colombia	Kazakhstan	Philippines	Uruguay
Croatia	Korea (Rep. of)	Poland	

AND

The Delegates of these Members shall immediately notify the OIE Headquarters if AHS occurs in their countries or their territories.

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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2021  
in view of an entry into force on 29 May 2021)

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<sup>29</sup> Including Hong Kong and Macau.

<sup>30</sup> Including Åland Islands.

<sup>31</sup> Including French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Mayotte, Réunion, Saint Barthélemy, Saint Martin, Saint Pierre and Miquelon.

<sup>32</sup> Including Azores and Madeira.

<sup>33</sup> Including Balearic Islands and Canary Islands.

<sup>34</sup> Including Cayman Islands, Guernsey (incl. Alderney and Sark), Isle of Man, Jersey, Saint Helena and Falkland Islands (Malvinas). (A dispute exists between the Government of Argentina and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) [see resolution 2065 (XX) of the General Assembly of the United Nations]).

<sup>35</sup> Including American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands.

RESOLUTION No. 19

**Recognition of the Peste des Petits Ruminants Status of Members**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 81st General Session, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (the Assembly) adopted Resolution No. 29, which amended the chapter of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)* on peste des petits ruminants (PPR). These standards provide a pathway for Members or zones to be recognised by the OIE as free from PPR,
2. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 15, which specified and updated the procedure for Members to follow to achieve official recognition and maintenance of status for certain animal diseases, including PPR,
3. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 16 which specified and updated the financial implications for Members applying for evaluation of official recognition of animal health status to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE in the evaluation process,
4. During the 79th General Session, the Assembly noted that an explanatory document outlining the standard operating procedures for official animal health status evaluations had been compiled by the OIE Headquarters for the benefit of Members,
5. During the 85th General Session, the Assembly noted a complete revision of the standard operating procedures providing further details on the process of official status recognition. The document has been published on the OIE website,
6. During the 86th General Session, the Assembly noted an explanatory document outlining the standard operating procedure for official recognition of animal health status of non-contiguous territories as part of a Member already having an OIE official animal health status. The document has been published on the OIE website,
7. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegates of Members. The OIE is not responsible for publication and maintenance of Members' or zonal animal health status based on inaccurate information or untimely reporting to the OIE Headquarters of changes in epidemiological status or other significant events subsequent to the time of declaration of freedom from PPR,

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES THAT

1. The Director General publish the following List of Members recognised as PPR free according to the provisions of Chapter 14.7. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Argentina	Denmark	Liechtenstein	Portugal <sup>38</sup>
Australia	Ecuador	Lithuania	Romania
Austria	Estonia	Luxembourg	Russia
Belgium	Eswatini	Madagascar	Singapore
Bolivia	Finland <sup>36</sup>	Malta	Slovakia
Bosnia and Herzegovina	France <sup>37</sup>	Mauritius	Slovenia
Botswana	Germany	Mexico	South Africa
Brazil	Greece	New Caledonia	Spain <sup>39</sup>
Canada	Hungary	New Zealand	Sweden
Chile	Iceland	Norway	Switzerland
Chinese Taipei	Ireland	North Macedonia (Rep. of)	The Netherlands
Colombia	Italy	Paraguay	United Kingdom <sup>40</sup>
Croatia	Korea (Rep. of)	Peru	United States of America <sup>41</sup>
Cyprus	Latvia	Philippines	Uruguay
Czech Republic	Lesotho	Poland	

2. The Director General publish the following List of Members having a PPR free zone<sup>42</sup> according to the provisions of Chapter 14.7. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Namibia: one zone located south of the Veterinary Cordon Fence, designated by the Delegate of Namibia in a document addressed to the Director General in November 2014.

AND

3. The Delegates of these Members shall immediately notify the OIE Headquarters if PPR occurs in their countries or free zone within their territories.

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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2021  
in view of an entry into force on 29 May 2021)

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<sup>36</sup> Including Åland Islands.

<sup>37</sup> Including French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Réunion, Saint Barthélémy, Saint Martin, Saint Pierre and Miquelon.

<sup>38</sup> Including Azores and Madeira.

<sup>39</sup> Including Balearic Islands and Canary Islands.

<sup>40</sup> Including Cayman Islands, Guernsey (incl. Alderney and Sark), Isle of Man, Jersey, Saint Helena and Falkland Islands (Malvinas). (A dispute exists between the Government of Argentina and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) [see resolution 2065 (XX) of the General Assembly of the United Nations]).

<sup>41</sup> Including American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands.

<sup>42</sup> For detailed information on the delimitation of the zone of the Member recognised as PPR free, enquiries should be addressed to the Director General of the OIE.

RESOLUTION No. 20

**Recognition of the Classical Swine Fever Status of Members**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 81st General Session, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (the Assembly) adopted Resolution No. 29, which amended the chapter of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)* on classical swine fever (CSF). These standards provide a pathway for Members or zones to be recognised by the OIE as free from CSF,
2. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 15, which specified and updated the procedure for Members to follow to achieve official recognition and maintenance of status for certain animal diseases, including CSF,
3. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 16 which specified and updated the financial implications for Members applying for evaluation of official recognition of animal health status to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE in the evaluation process,
4. During the 79th General Session, the Assembly noted that an explanatory document outlining the standard operating procedures for official animal health status evaluations had been compiled by the OIE Headquarters for the benefit of Members,
5. During the 85th General Session, the Assembly noted a complete revision of the standard operating procedures providing further details on the process of official status recognition. The document has been published on the OIE website,
6. During the 86th General Session, the Assembly noted an explanatory document outlining the standard operating procedure for official recognition of animal health status of non-contiguous territories as part of a Member already having an OIE official animal health status. The document has been published on the OIE website,
7. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegates of Members. The OIE is not responsible for publication and maintenance of Members' or zonal animal health status based on inaccurate information or untimely reporting to the OIE Headquarters of changes in epidemiological status or other significant events subsequent to the time of declaration of freedom from CSF,

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES THAT

1. The Director General publish the following List of Members recognised as CSF free according to the provisions of Chapter 15.2. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Argentina	Germany	Paraguay
Australia	Hungary	Poland
Austria	Ireland	Portugal <sup>45</sup>
Belgium	Italy	Slovakia
Bulgaria	Kazakhstan	Slovenia
Canada	Latvia	Spain <sup>46</sup>
Chile	Liechtenstein	Sweden
Costa Rica	Luxembourg	Switzerland
Croatia	Malta	The Netherlands
Czech Republic	Mexico	United Kingdom <sup>47</sup>
Denmark	New Caledonia	United States of America <sup>48</sup>
Finland <sup>43</sup>	New Zealand	Uruguay
France <sup>44</sup>	Norway	

2. The Director General publish the following List of Members having CSF free zones<sup>49</sup> according to the provisions of Chapter 15.2. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Brazil: one zone composed of the States of Rio Grande do Sul and Santa Catarina as designated by the Delegate of Brazil in a document addressed to the Director General in September 2014;

one zone covering the States of Acre, Bahia, Espírito Santo, Goias, Mato Grosso, Mato Grosso do Sul, Minas Gerais, Rio de Janeiro, Rondônia, São Paulo, Sergipe and Tocantins, Distrito Federal, and the municipalities of Guajará, Boca do Acre, South of the municipality of Canutama and Southwest of the municipality of Lábrea in the State of Amazonas as designated by the Delegate of Brazil in a document addressed to the Director General in September 2015 and in October 2020;

one zone consisting of the State of Paraná as designated by the Delegate of Brazil in a document addressed to the Director General in October 2020;

Colombia: one zone designated by the Delegate of Colombia in a document addressed to the Director General in September 2015;

the central-eastern zone as designated by the Delegate of Colombia in a document addressed to the Director General in October 2020;

Ecuador: one zone consisting of the insular territory of the Galapagos as designated by the Delegate of Ecuador in a document addressed to the Director General in October 2018.

AND

3. The Delegates of these Members shall immediately notify the OIE Headquarters if CSF occurs in their countries or free zones within their territories.

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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2021  
in view of an entry into force on 29 May 2021)

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<sup>43</sup> Including Åland Islands.

<sup>44</sup> Including French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Mayotte and Réunion.

<sup>45</sup> Including Azores and Madeira.

<sup>46</sup> Including Balearic Islands and Canary Islands.

<sup>47</sup> Including Guernsey (incl. Alderney and Sark), Isle of Man and Jersey.

<sup>48</sup> Including Guam, Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands.

<sup>49</sup> For detailed information on the delimitation of the zones of the Members recognised as CSF free, enquiries should be addressed to the Director General of the OIE.

RESOLUTION No. 21

**Endorsement of Official Control Programmes  
for dog-mediated rabies of Members**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 84th General Session, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (the Assembly) adopted Resolution No. 26, which confirmed Members' commitment towards the elimination of dog-mediated rabies by 2030,
2. During the 87th General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 27 establishing the endorsement by the OIE of an official control programme for dog-mediated rabies, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the chapter on infection with rabies virus in the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)*,
3. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 15, which specified the procedure for Members to follow to achieve endorsement of their official control programme for dog-mediated rabies,
4. Through the Adapted Procedure 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 16, which specified the financial implications for Members applying for endorsement of their official control programme for dog-mediated rabies to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE in the evaluation process,
5. During the 79th General Session, the Assembly noted that an explanatory document outlining the standard operating procedures for official animal health status evaluations had been compiled by the OIE Headquarters for the benefit of Members,
6. During the 85th General Session, the Assembly noted a complete revision of the standard operating procedures providing further details on the process of official status recognition. The document has been published on the OIE website,
7. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegates of Members. The OIE is not responsible for publication and maintenance of the endorsement of Members' official control programme for dog-mediated rabies based on inaccurate information or non-reporting to the OIE Headquarters of significant changes in the implementation of relevant measures in the Member subsequent to the time of endorsement of the official control programme for dog-mediated rabies,

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES THAT

1. The Director General publish the following List of Members with an endorsed official control programme for dog-mediated rabies, according to the provisions of Chapter 8.14. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Namibia

Philippines

2. The Delegates of these Members shall notify the OIE Headquarters the occurrence of dog-mediated rabies, changes in the epidemiological situation and other significant events in their countries or territories in accordance with Chapter 1.1. of the *Terrestrial Code*.

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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2021  
in view of an entry into force on 29 May 2021)

RESOLUTION No. 22

**First addendum to Resolution No. 15 of 29 May 2020 on the  
“Procedures for Members for the official recognition and maintenance of animal health status of  
certain animal diseases or risk status of bovine spongiform encephalopathy and for the  
endorsement of official control programmes”**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the Adapted Procedure 2020, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (Assembly) adopted Resolution No. 15, which described the procedures that Members should follow to achieve the official recognition and maintenance of animal health status of certain animal diseases or risk status of bovine spongiform encephalopathy and for the endorsement of official control programmes,
2. During the 88th General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 26, which introduced in the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)* the revised concept of a protection zone, allowing a Member to establish a protection zone as a temporary measure in response to an increased risk of disease to preserve the animal health status of an animal population in a free country or a free zone,

THE ASSEMBLY

DECIDES

1. To delegate to the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases the authority to recognise, without further Assembly consultation, the establishment or lifting of a protection zone in relation to those diseases on the OIE List which are subject to official recognition of animal health or risk status. Such recognition will rely on evaluation of documented evidence provided by that Member that the protection zone has been established in accordance with the provisions of the *Terrestrial Code* and, for circumstances unforeseen by the *Terrestrial Code*, reflecting epidemiological risk management principles,
2. That financial participation of Members to the cost of the procedures for the establishment of a protection zone is determined by a specific Resolution,
3. This Resolution No. 22 complements Resolution No. 15 adopted during the Adapted Procedure 2020, which remains in force.

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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 28 May 2021  
in view of an entry into force on 29 May 2021)

RESOLUTION No. 23

**First addendum to Resolution No. 16 of 29 May 2020 on the  
“Costs to be covered by Members applying for the official recognition of animal health status of certain animal diseases or risk status of bovine spongiform encephalopathy and the endorsement of official control programmes”**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the Adapted Procedure 2020, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (Assembly) adopted Resolution No. 16, which described the financial obligations due by Members applying for the official recognition of animal health status of certain animal diseases or risk status of bovine spongiform encephalopathy and the endorsement of official control programmes,
2. During the 88th General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 22 delegating the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases the authority to recognise, without further Assembly consultation, in relation to those diseases on the OIE List which are subject to official recognition of animal health or risk status, the establishment of a protection zone, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)* and, for circumstances unforeseen by the *Terrestrial Code*, reflecting epidemiological risk management principles,

THE ASSEMBLY

DECIDES

1. Application for establishment or lifting of a protection zone will not be subject to any cost recovery provision,
2. This Resolution No. 23 complements Resolution No. 16 adopted during the Adapted Procedure 2020, which remains in force.

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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 28 May 2021  
in view of an entry into force on 29 May 2021)

RESOLUTION No. 24

**Amendments to the OIE *Aquatic Animal Health Code***

CONSIDERING THAT

1. The current content of the *Aquatic Animal Health Code (Aquatic Code)* is the result of modifications made by the World Assembly of Delegates during previous OIE General Sessions;
2. It is necessary to update the *Aquatic Code* in accordance with the recommendations in Part A of the February 2021 report of the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission (Annexes 2 to 8 of Document 88 SG/12/CS4), after consultation with the World Assembly of Delegates.

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES

1. To adopt the updates to the *Aquatic Code* proposed in Annexes 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 of Document 88 SG/12/CS4 in English, French and Spanish, each text being authentic.
2. To adopt the updates to the *Aquatic Code* proposed in Annex 3 of Document 88 SG/12/CS4 in English, French and Spanish, each text being authentic, with the following modifications:  
  
In Annex 3 (New Chapter 4.X. Biosecurity for Aquaculture Establishments):
  - a) In Article 4.X.4., first line, changing the order of the words "physical" and "management" to read: "Biosecurity is a set of management and physical measures..."
3. To ask the Director General to publish the adopted texts in a revised edition of the *Aquatic Code* with appropriate numbering and formatting.

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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2021  
in view of an entry into force on 29 May 2021)

RESOLUTION No. 25

**Amendments to the OIE *Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals***

CONSIDERING THAT

1. The current content of the OIE *Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals* (the *Aquatic Manual*) is the result of modifications made by the World Assembly of Delegates at previous OIE General Sessions,
2. It is necessary to update the *Aquatic Manual* in accordance with recommendations in Part A of the February 2021 report of the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission (Annexes 9 to 16 of Document 88 SG/12/CS4), after consultation with the World Assembly of Delegates.

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES

1. To adopt the updates to the *Aquatic Manual* proposed in Annexes 10, 11, 12 and 16 of Document 88 SG/12/CS4 in English, the text being authentic;
2. To adopt the updates to the *Aquatic Manual* proposed in Annexes 9, 13, 14 and 15 of Document 88 SG/12/CS4 in English, the text being authentic, with the following modifications:
  - 2.1. Annex 9 (Chapter 2.2.3.)
    - a) In Section 1., to delete “freshwater” before “ectoparasite”
  - 2.3. Annex 13 (Chapter 2.1.X.)
    - a) In Table 4.1., for real-time PCR, change the level of validation from “2” to “3” for all three purposes
  - 2.4. Annex 14 (Chapter 2.3.9.)
    - a) In the heading of Section 4.4.1., to add “RT-” before “PCR”
  - 2.5. Annex 15 (Chapter 2.3.4.)
    - a) In the heading of Section 4.4.1., to add “RT-” before “PCR”
3. To ask the Director General to publish the adopted text in the online version of the *Aquatic Manual* with appropriate numbering and formatting.

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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2021  
in view of an entry into force on 29 May 2021)

RESOLUTION No. 26

**Amendments to the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code***

CONSIDERING THAT

1. The current content of the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (the *Terrestrial Code*) is the result of modifications made by the World Assembly of Delegates at previous OIE General Sessions;
2. It is necessary to update the *Terrestrial Code* in accordance with recommendations in Part A of the February 2021 report of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission (Annexes 3 to 21 of Document 88 SG/12/CS1), after consultation with the World Assembly of Delegates.

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES

1. To adopt the updates to the *Terrestrial Code* proposed in Annexes 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18 and 19 of Document 88 SG/12/CS1 in English, French and Spanish, each text being authentic;
2. To adopt the updates to the *Terrestrial Code* proposed in Annexes 6, 16, 20 and 21 of Document 88 SG/12/CS1 in English, French and Spanish, each text being authentic, with the following modifications:
  - 2.1. In Annex 6 (Chapter 1.3.)
    - a) In Article 1.3.1., replace “Infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin (*T. vivax*, *T. congolense*, *T. simiae* and *T. brucei*)” with “Infection with *Trypanosoma brucei*, *Trypanosoma congolense*, *Trypanosoma simiae* and *Trypanosoma vivax*”
  - 2.2. In Annex 16 (Chapter 8.Y.)
    - a) In the title of the chapter,  
replace “ANIMAL TRYPANOSOMES OF AFRICAN ORIGIN” with “*TRYPANOSOMA BRUCEI*, *T. CONGOLENSE*, *T. SIMIAE* AND *T. VIVAX*”
    - b) In Article 8.Y.1., point 1,  
replace “*Infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin is*” with “This chapter addresses”
    - c) In Article 8.Y.1., point 4,  
replace “*infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin*” with “*infection with Trypanosoma brucei, T. congolense, T. simiae and T. vivax*”
    - d) In Article 8.Y.1., point 6,  
replace “*infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin*” with “*infection with T. brucei, T. congolense, T. simiae and T. vivax*”
    - e) In Article 8.Y.1., point 7, the first paragraph,  
replace “*infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin*” with “*infection with T. brucei, T. congolense, T. simiae and T. vivax*”

- f) In Article 8.Y.1., point 7 b),  
replace “*infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin*” with “*infection with T. brucei, T. congolense, T. simiae and T. vivax*”
- g) In Article 8.Y.1., point 7 c),  
replace “*infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin*” with “*infection with T. brucei, T. congolense, T. simiae and T. vivax*”
- h) In Article 8.Y.1., point 8,  
replace “*infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin*” with “*infection with T. brucei, T. congolense, T. simiae and T. vivax*”
- i) In Article 8.Y.2., the first paragraph,  
replace “*animal trypanosomes of African origin*” with “*infection with T. brucei, T. congolense, T. simiae and T. vivax*”
- j) In Article 8.Y.3., the title of the article,  
replace “*infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin*” with “*infection with T. brucei, T. congolense, T. simiae and T. vivax*”
- k) In Article 8.Y.3., the first paragraph,  
replace “*infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin*” with “*infection with T. brucei, T. congolense, T. simiae and T. vivax*”
- l) In Article 8.Y.3., the last paragraph,  
replace “*infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin*” with “*infection with T. brucei, T. congolense, T. simiae and T. vivax*”
- m) In Article 8.Y.4., the title of the article,  
replace “*infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin*” with “*infection with T. brucei, T. congolense, T. simiae and T. vivax*”
- n) In Article 8.Y.4., the first paragraph,  
replace “*infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin*” with “*infection with T. brucei, T. congolense, T. simiae and T. vivax*”
- o) In Article 8.Y.5., the first paragraph,  
replace “*infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin*” with “*infection with T. brucei, T. congolense, T. simiae and T. vivax*”
- p) In Article 8.Y.6., the title of the article,  
replace “*infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin*” with “*infection with T. brucei, T. congolense, T. simiae and T. vivax*”
- q) In Article 8.Y.6., point 1,  
replace “*infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin*” with “*infection with T. brucei, T. congolense, T. simiae and T. vivax*”
- r) In Article 8.Y.6., point 3,  
replace “*animal trypanosomes of African origin*” with “*the pathogenic agent*”
- s) In Article 8.Y.7., the first paragraph,  
replace “*infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin*” with “*infection with T. brucei, T. congolense, T. simiae and T. vivax*”

- t) In Article 8.Y.7., the third paragraph,  
replace “animal trypanosomes of African origin” in the first sentence with “salivarian trypanosomes”, and “animal trypanosomes of African origin” in the third sentence with “the pathogenic agent”
- u) In Article 8.Y.7., the fourth paragraph,  
replace “animal trypanosomes of African origin” with “the pathogenic agent”
- v) In Article 8.Y.8., point 2,  
replace “animal trypanosomes of African origin” with “the pathogenic agent”
- w) In Article 8.Y.8., point 2 a), the first paragraph,  
replace “animal trypanosomes of African origin” with “*infection with T. brucei, T. congolense, T. simiae and T. vivax*”
- x) In Article 8.Y.8., point 2 a), the second paragraph,  
replace “animal trypanosomes of African origin” with “the pathogenic agent”
- y) In Article 8.Y.9., the first paragraph,  
replace “animal trypanosomes of African origin” with “the pathogenic agent”
- z) In Article 8.Y.9., the second paragraph,  
replace “animal trypanosomes of African origin” with “the pathogenic agent”
- aa) In Article 8.Y.9., the third paragraph,  
replace “*infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin*” with “*infection with T. brucei, T. congolense, T. simiae and T. vivax*”
- bb) In Article 8.Y.9., the fourth paragraph,  
replace “*infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin*” with “*infection with T. brucei, T. congolense, T. simiae and T. vivax*”
- cc) In Article 8.Y.9., the seventh paragraph,  
replace “*infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin*” with “*infection with T. brucei, T. congolense, T. simiae and T. vivax*”
- dd) In Article 8.Y.9., the eighth paragraph,  
replace “*infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin*” with “*infection with T. brucei, T. congolense, T. simiae and T. vivax*”
- ee) In Article 8.Y.9., the ninth paragraph,  
replace “*infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin*” with “*infection with T. brucei, T. congolense, T. simiae and T. vivax*”
- ff) In Article 8.Y.9., point 1),  
replace “*infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin*” with “*infection with T. brucei, T. congolense, T. simiae and T. vivax*” in the first, second and third sentences; and in the last sentence, after “the presence of”, replace “trypanosomes” with “the pathogenic agent”

- gg) In Article 8.Y.9., point 4 a),  
replace “animal trypanosomes of African origin” with “the pathogenic agent”
  - hh) In Article 8.Y.9., point 4 c) ii),  
replace “infection by animal trypanosomes of African origin” with “infection with *T. brucei*, *T. congolense*, *T. simiae* and *T. vivax*”
  - ii) In Article 8.Y.9., point 4 c) iii),  
replace “infection by animal trypanosomes of African origin” with “infection with *T. brucei*, *T. congolense*, *T. simiae* and *T. vivax*”
  - jj) In Article 8.Y.9., point 5 a),  
replace “infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin” with “infection with *T. brucei*, *T. congolense*, *T. simiae* and *T. vivax*”
  - kk) In Article 8.Y.9., point 6, the third paragraph,  
replace “infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin” with “infection with *T. brucei*, *T. congolense*, *T. simiae* and *T. vivax*”
  - ll) In Article 8.Y.10., the first paragraph,  
replace “infection with animal trypanosomes of African origin” with “infection with *T. brucei*, *T. congolense*, *T. simiae* and *T. vivax*”
- 2.3. In Annex 20 (Chapter 14.7.)
- a) In Article 14.7.24., point 1,  
delete point f)
  - b) In Article 14.7.24., point 2,  
delete point b)
  - c) In Article 14.7.24., after point 2,  
add:  
“AND  
The necessary precautions were taken after processing to avoid contact of the commodities with any potential source of PPRV.”
- 2.4. In Annex 21 (Chapter 15.2.)
- a) In Article 15.2.1., the fourth paragraph,  
replace “CSF” with “free” and add “as recognised by the OIE” before “provided”
  - b) In the Spanish version only, in Article 15.2.1., the fourth paragraph,  
delete “Sin embargo” at the beginning of the second sentence
3. To ask the Director General to publish the adopted texts in a revised edition of the *Terrestrial Code* with appropriate numbering and formatting.

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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 28 May 2021  
in view of an entry into force on 29 May 2021)

RESOLUTION No. 27

**Amendments to the  
*Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals***

CONSIDERING THAT

1. The *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals (Terrestrial Manual)*, like the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*, is an important contribution to the international harmonisation of sanitary standards related to terrestrial animals and animal products,
2. Members were asked for the comments of their specialists for each new or revised chapter of the *Terrestrial Manual* before it was finalised by the Biological Standards Commission,

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES

1. To adopt the following texts for the *Terrestrial Manual*:
  - 1.1.1. Management of veterinary diagnostic laboratories
  - 2.1.2. Biotechnology advances in the diagnosis of infectious diseases
  - 3.1.3. Bluetongue (infection with bluetongue virus)
  - 3.1.7. Epizootic haemorrhagic disease (infection with epizootic haemorrhagic disease virus)
  - 3.1.8. Foot and mouth disease (infection with foot and mouth disease virus)
  - 3.1.10. Japanese encephalitis (vaccine section)
  - 3.1.11. Leishmaniosis
  - 3.1.12. Leptospirosis
  - 3.1.15. Paratuberculosis (Johne's disease)
  - 3.1.21. *Trypanosoma evansi* infection (surra in all species)
  - 3.1.23. Vesicular stomatitis
  - 3.2.7. Varroosis of honey bees (infestation of honey bees with *Varroa* spp.)
  - 3.3.3. Avian infectious laryngotracheitis
  - 3.3.4. Avian influenza (including infection with high pathogenicity avian influenza viruses)
  - 3.3.5. Avian mycoplasmosis (*M. gallisepticum*, *M. synoviae*)
  - 3.3.14. Newcastle disease (infection with Newcastle disease virus)
  - 3.4.2. Bovine babesiosis
  - 3.4.4. Bovine genital campylobacteriosis
  - 3.4.5. Bovine spongiform encephalopathy

- 3.4.8. Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (infection with *Mycoplasma mycoides* subsp. *mycoides*)
- 3.4.10. Haemorrhagic septicaemia (*Pasteurella multocida* serotypes 6:b and 6:e)
- 3.4.12. Lumpy skin disease
- 3.4.16. Animal trypanosomes of African origin (excluding infection with *Trypanosoma evansi* and *T. equiperdum*)

With the amendments approved by the Assembly:

In the title to replace “Animal” with “Nagana: infections with salivarian”, to delete “of African origin”, to delete “infection with” before “*Trypanosoma*”, and to amend the text of the chapter accordingly where necessary.

- 3.5.3. *Trypanosoma equiperdum* infection (dourine in horses)
- 3.5.5. Equine encephalomyelitis (Eastern, Western and Venezuelan)
- 3.5.8. Equine piroplasmiasis

With the amendments approved by the Assembly:

In lines 109 to 112: to delete “a combination of” after “Therefore,”; to replace “is” with “are” before “essential”; to add “individual” before “animal”; to delete “actually” before “free”; and to add the following sentence at the end of the paragraph: “On the other hand, microscopy and PCR, which may be used in combination, are essential for confirming clinical cases associated with current infection.”

- 3.6.1. Myxomatosis
- 3.6.2. Rabbit haemorrhagic disease
- 3.7.4. Contagious caprine pleuropneumonia
- 3.7.8. Ovine pulmonary adenocarcinoma (adenomatosis)
- 3.7.9. Peste des petits ruminants (infection with small ruminant morbillivirus) (**NB:** Vaccine section only)
- 3.8.1. African swine fever (infection with African swine fever virus) (**NB:** Introduction only)
- 3.8.6. Porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (infection with porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome virus)
- 3.9.2. Camelpox
- 3.9.5. Cysticercosis (including infection with *Taenia solium*)
- 3.9.6. *Listeria monocytogenes*
- 3.9.11. Zoonoses transmissible from non-human primates
- 3.x.xx Middle East respiratory syndrome (infection of dromedary camels with Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus)

- 2. To request the Director General to publish the adopted texts in the on-line version of the *Terrestrial Manual*.

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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2021  
in view of an entry into force on 29 May 2021)

RESOLUTION No. 28

**Designation of OIE Reference Laboratories for terrestrial animal diseases**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. The OIE's *Basic Texts* provide the Terms of Reference, designation criteria, and internal rules for OIE Reference Laboratories,
2. The Terms of Reference of the OIE Biological Standards Commissions include the responsibility to examine applications from Members relating to the creation of new OIE Reference Laboratories with activities corresponding to the Commission's scientific mandate and report its findings to the Director General,
3. All OIE Reference Laboratory applications are assessed using standardised criteria that include: the institution's ability, capacity and readiness to provide services; the scientific and technical standing of the institution concerned at the national and international levels; the quality of its scientific and technical leadership including internationally recognised expertise; the institution's prospective stability in terms of personnel, activity and funding; the technical relevance of the institution and its activities to OIE's programme priorities,
4. Details of the applicant laboratories that have been assessed by the OIE Biological Standards Commission are published in the reports of the meetings of the Commission,
5. All Reference Laboratory applications are endorsed by the OIE Council,
6. Proposals for a major change in an OIE Reference Laboratory follow the same procedure,
7. Article 4 of the Internal Rules for OIE Reference Centres states that "Applications endorsed by the Council shall be presented to the Assembly for approval",

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES

To designate the following new OIE Reference Laboratories for terrestrial animal diseases and add them to the list of OIE Reference Laboratories (available on the OIE web site):

*OIE Reference Laboratory for African swine fever*

National Surveillance and Research Center for Exotic Animal Diseases (National Reference Laboratory for African Swine Fever), China Animal Health and Epidemiology Center, Qingdao, CHINA (PEOPLE'S REP. OF)

*OIE Reference Laboratory for avian influenza*

Reference Laboratory for Veterinary Quality Control on Poultry Production, Animal Health Research Institute, Agricultural Research Center, Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation, Giza, EGYPT

OIE *Reference Laboratory for brucellosis* (*Brucella abortus*, *B. melitensis*)  
Department of Brucellosis Research, Animal Health Research Institute, Agricultural Research  
Center, Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation, Giza, EGYPT

OIE *Reference Laboratory for contagious equine metritis*  
Anses, Laboratory for Animal Health, Normandy site, Physiopathology and Epidemiology of  
Equine Diseases Unit, Dozulé, FRANCE

OIE *Reference Laboratory for bovine viral diarrhoea*  
National Reference Laboratory for Bovine viral diarrhoea/Mucosal Disease, Friedrich-Loeffler-  
Institut, Federal Research Institute for Animal Health, Insel Riems, GERMANY

OIE *Reference Laboratory for equine influenza*  
Equine Research Institute, Japan Racing Association, Tochigi, JAPAN

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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2021  
in view of an entry into force on 29 May 2021)

RESOLUTION No. 29

**Designation of OIE Collaborating Centres**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. The OIE's *Basic Texts* provide the Terms of Reference, designation criteria, and internal rules for OIE Collaborating Centres,
2. The Terms of Reference of each of the four elected OIE Specialist Commissions include the responsibility to examine applications from Members relating to the designation of new OIE Collaborating Centres with activities corresponding to the Commission's area of expertise,
3. All OIE Collaborating Centre applications are assessed by the appropriate OIE Specialist Commission using standardised criteria that include: the institution's ability, capacity and readiness to provide services; the scientific and technical standing of the institution concerned at the national and international levels; the quality of its scientific and technical leadership including internationally recognised expertise; the institution's prospective stability in terms of personnel, activity and funding; and the technical and geographical relevance of the institution and its activities to OIE's programme priorities,
4. Details of the applicant institutions that have been assessed by a Specialist Commission are published in the reports of the meeting of the Commission,
5. All Collaborating Centre applications are assessed by the corresponding Regional Commission and endorsed by the OIE Council,
6. Proposals for a major change in an OIE Collaborating Centre follow the same procedure,
7. Article 4 of the Internal Rules for OIE Reference Centres states that "Applications endorsed by the Council shall be presented to the Assembly for approval".

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES

To designate the following new OIE Collaborating Centres and add them to the list of OIE Collaborating Centres (available on the OIE web site):

*OIE Collaborating Centre for Good Beekeeping Management Practices and Biosecurity Measures in the Apiculture Sector*

Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale delle Regioni Lazio e Toscana, Rome, ITALY

*OIE Collaborating Centre for Economics of Animal Health*

University of Liverpool, Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Food Systems, Global Burden of Animal Diseases Programme, Institute of Infection, Veterinary and Ecological Sciences, Liverpool, UNITED KINGDOM

Norwegian Veterinary Institute, P.O. Box 750 Sentrum, 0106 Oslo, NORWAY

Utrecht University, Department of Population Health Services, Utrecht, NETHERLANDS

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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2021  
in view of an entry into force on 29 May 2021)

RESOLUTION No. 30

**Register of diagnostic kits validated and certified by the OIE**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 71st General Session of the OIE in May 2003, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. XXIX endorsing the principle of validation and certification of diagnostic assays for animal diseases by the OIE, and giving a mandate to the Director General of the OIE to set up the specific standard procedures to be used before the final decision on the validation and certification of a diagnostic kit is taken by the Assembly,
2. The Resolution has established that “fitness for purpose” should be used as a criterion for validation,
3. The aim of the OIE procedure for registration of diagnostic kits is to establish a register of recognised kits for OIE Members and for diagnostic kit manufacturers,
4. OIE Members need kits that are known to be validated according to OIE standards in order to enhance confidence in kits,
5. The OIE register of recognised diagnostic kits provides greater transparency and clarity of the validation process, and a means for recognising those manufacturers that validate and certify tests marketed in kit format,
6. According to the OIE Standard Operating Procedure, registration of the diagnostic kits included in the OIE Register has to be renewed every 5 years,
7. During the 74th General Session of the OIE in May 2016, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. XXXII on the importance of recognising and implementing OIE standards for the validation and registration of diagnostic assays by Members,

THE ASSEMBLY

DECIDES THAT

1. In accordance with the OIE procedure for registration of diagnostic kits and the recommendations of the OIE Biological Standards Commission, the Director General renews for a period of 5 additional years the inclusion in the OIE Register of the following diagnostic kit certified by the OIE as validated as fit for purpose:

Name of the diagnostic kit	Name of the Manufacturer	Fitness for purpose
Pourquier® IIF <i>Taylorella equigenitalis</i>	IDEXX Laboratories	Fit for the detection of <i>Taylorella equigenitalis</i> bacterial bodies from the swabs of the reproductive tract of stallions and mares for the following purposes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Certify freedom from infection or agent in individual animals or products for trade or movement purposes;</li><li>2. Estimate prevalence of infection to facilitate risk analysis (surveys, herd health schemes or disease control);</li><li>3. Control of infection in stallions and mares at the start of the breeding season.</li></ol>

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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2021  
in view of an entry into force on 29 May 2021)

RESOLUTION No. 31

**How the OIE can support Veterinary Services to achieve One Health resilience**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. The OIE is the leading international standard setting body for animal health and zoonoses. The organisation plays an important role individually, and collectively with other international partners (particularly the World Health Organization [WHO], the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations [FAO] and the United Nations Environment Programme [UNEP]), in promoting a One Health approach,
2. Veterinary Services play an essential role in the prevention of zoonotic disease emergence and in ensuring food security. They are fundamental to implementing a One Health approach,
3. Resilience encompasses *the ability to prepare and plan for, absorb, recover from, and more successfully adapt to adverse events*,
4. Animal health (including wildlife health), balanced ecosystems, and biodiversity contribute to achieving One Health. One Health considers the interconnectivity between the health of humans, animals, plants and their shared ecosystems,
5. Evidence gathered by the OIE through programme activities, OIE Collaborating Centres, analysis of PVS and OIE-WAHIS data, Member questionnaires, and surveys, and through stakeholder consultation has identified vulnerabilities in One Health resilience,
6. Increased contact between humans, wildlife and livestock as a result of human activities; in some areas, habitat loss, human encroachment into natural areas, and land-use change (such as agricultural expansion and deforestation); some food production systems which could be unsustainable; climate change; illegal wildlife or non-regulated trade; an increase in interconnections between countries as a result of globalization; and some patterns of consumption; are all factors contributing to increase the risk of zoonotic disease emergence and spread,
7. Wildlife is a vital resource, providing essential ecosystem services, a source of biodiversity, and economic revenue through tourism and trade. Managing the risk of disease emergence and protecting wildlife health should be complementary,
8. Although Veterinary Services have responsibilities regarding wildlife health, they are often not the lead agency, and multisectoral collaboration could be improved in areas such as surveillance, information sharing, and disease management. Veterinary Services need support because in many countries they face challenges in addressing wildlife health,
9. In consultation with Members, experts and key partners, the OIE has developed a Wildlife Health Framework, which aims (1) to improve OIE Members' ability to manage the risk of pathogen emergence in wildlife and transmission of zoonotic diseases at the human—animal—ecosystem interface, whilst taking into account the protection of wildlife, and (2) to support OIE Members to improve surveillance systems, early detection, notification and management of wildlife diseases,

10. The OIE developed the OIE Biological Threat Reduction Strategy following the 1st Global Conference on Biological Threat Reduction in June 2015 held in Paris, France, after which progress and new priorities were discussed during the 2nd OIE Global Conference in 2017 in Ottawa, Canada, including priorities in emergency preparedness and sustainable laboratories,
11. The OIE has identified gaps in the emergency management capacity of some Members, including a lack of available resources; a failure to integrate Veterinary Services into national emergency management frameworks; shortcomings in multisectoral collaboration; weaknesses in early warning systems and their link to action to prevent local outbreaks escalating further; and gaps in emergency planning and exercising,
12. Diagnostic laboratories (and their networks) are an essential component of health systems both in terms of supporting business as usual and response to emergencies. Evidence shows that, globally, diagnostic laboratories are facing multiple challenges which impact on their sustainability, undermining their performance, safety and security,
13. In partnership, the OIE, WHO, FAO and UNEP have established a One Health High Level Expert Panel to advise the four organizations on scientific evidence to support risk management at the human—animal—environment interface,
14. Several Heads of State and WHO have signalled their intention to work towards an international legal instrument for pandemic preparedness and response which would aim to foster a comprehensive, multi-sectoral approach to strengthen national, regional and global capacities and resilience to future pandemics.

#### THE ASSEMBLY

#### RECOMMENDS THAT

1. Members should seek to ensure that wildlife health management is integrated with national One Health and conservation strategies, including multisectoral information sharing; work closely with all relevant stakeholders, for example wildlife and environment authorities, during strategy design and implementation; and ensure that appropriate governance structures are established to support integration;
2. Members should support a greater global understanding of the epidemiology and impact of pathogens in wildlife through strengthening national surveillance systems and thereby improve the global understanding of the overall burden of animal disease; by complying with the mandatory requirement to report OIE Listed diseases in wildlife in accordance with the relevant chapters of the *Terrestrial* and *Aquatic Animal Health Codes*; by identifying and notifying emerging diseases in wildlife in accordance with requirements in Articles 1.1.4 and 1.1.6 of the *Terrestrial* and *Aquatic Animal Health Codes*; and, by voluntarily sharing data on non-OIE listed diseases in wildlife in their Annual Wildlife Health reports;
3. Members should encourage research and development, innovation and education, and share scientific knowledge to support One Health risk mitigation strategies;
4. Members should develop prevention strategies with stakeholders, in particular local communities and decision-makers, through a participatory approach to ensure empowerment of communities in developing innovative solutions and their adoption for the benefit of all;

5. Members should encourage collaboration, information sharing and coordinated action amongst international partners to support new and existing approaches to improve the prevention, early detection, and control of emerging zoonotic infectious diseases at national and international level;
6. Members should take a multisectoral approach to emergency management; consider all-hazards approaches to emergency planning which include terrestrial and aquatic animals, and wildlife; and regularly exercise their emergency plans, involving other sectors, to test them for fitness for purpose;
7. Members should continue to ensure that trade measures in response to an emerging disease have a scientific justification, and those relating to OIE-listed disease occurrences in wildlife are in accordance with OIE international standards;
8. Members should consider weaknesses in sustainability of laboratories and work with the OIE to develop solutions, including through engaging voluntarily in the OIE PVS Sustainable Laboratory evaluation and planning process, and availing themselves of the capacity development opportunities through the OIE Laboratory Twinning Programme, OIE Training Platform and the Global Laboratory Leadership Programme;
9. To achieve sustainability, Veterinary Services should consider their resource requirements and advocate for investments, with support of the PVS Pathway, in core functions including emergency management, laboratories and wildlife health management;
10. The OIE should continue to promote and advocate for the central role of Veterinary Services in One Health resilience;
11. The OIE should develop, integrate, and strengthen wildlife health management, emergency preparedness and management, and the sustainability of laboratories into its core programmatic work to support Members and improve global capacity;
12. The OIE should seek resources for and implement the OIE Wildlife Health Framework, recognising the need and encouraging the parallel development of the evidence base for policy interventions designed to achieve the required changes in behaviour and health risk management in wildlife trade supply chains;
13. The OIE should strengthen existing partnerships in the wildlife and environment sectors, including with UNEP, and, where appropriate, develop new partnerships to implement the Wildlife Health Framework;
14. The OIE should continue to engage in policy dialogue with Members and Partners, including multilateral fora, aimed at improving the understanding of the relationships between animal health (including wildlife health), animal welfare, veterinary public health, human health, and ecosystems health through the One Health approach and the contribution these make to achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals;
15. The OIE should closely follow and collaborate with the WHO, FAO and UNEP to ensure the international legal instrument for pandemic preparedness and response, if progressed, is well grounded in the One Health approach and promotes a continuous improvement approach to the intelligence systems, response mechanisms, evaluation processes and capacity development tools made available for our Members' benefit;
16. The OIE should continue to advocate the importance of including Veterinary Services, which are a global public good, in multisectoral cross government emergency management frameworks and provide support to Veterinary Services to better engage in such frameworks, for example by supporting advocacy;

17. The OIE should continue to work with partners, including CITES, INTERPOL and FAO and other key actors, to reduce disease risks from agro-crime and illegal and legal trade in wildlife;
  18. The OIE should consider long-term sustainability as a core objective in its capacity building programmes and encourage technical and development partners to adopt such considerations in programme design and management;
  19. The OIE should continue to work with partners to develop solutions to improve the sustainability of laboratories;
  20. The OIE should also continue to systematise the use of data in informing needs and monitoring and evaluating the impact of its activities and programmes in alignment with the 7th Strategic Plan to improve data governance;
  21. The OIE and its Members should embrace a holistic systems-based approach to One Health to seek solutions that optimise health outcomes for animals, humans and the environment, which considers the implications of other global threats such as climate change, and the other many challenges beyond the mandate of the OIE.
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(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2021  
in view of an entry into force on 29 May 2021)

# **REPORTS**

**of the Meetings of the OIE Regional Commissions  
held during the 88th General Session**

**Paris, 24 May 2021**

<a href="#">88 SG/11B/AF</a>	Report of the Meeting of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa
<a href="#">88 SG/11B/AM</a>	Report of the Meeting of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas
<a href="#">88 SG/11B/AS</a>	Report of the Meeting of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania
<a href="#">88 SG/11B/EU</a>	Report of the Meeting of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe
<a href="#">88 SG/11B/ME</a>	Report of the Meeting of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East

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

**Paris, 24 May 2021**

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The OIE Regional Commission for Africa met by videoconference on 24 May 2021 at 1:00 p.m. CEST. The meeting was attended by up to 101 participants, including Delegates and observers from 42 Members of the Commission, and representatives from 9 international or regional organisations:

Members of the Commission: Algeria, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cabo Verde, Central African Rep.,-Congo (Rep. of the ~), Congo (Dem. Rep. of the ~), Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

International/regional organisations: AU-IBAR<sup>50</sup>, CVA<sup>51</sup>, ECOWAS<sup>52</sup>, ICFAW<sup>53</sup>, ICIPE<sup>54</sup>, ICRC<sup>55</sup>, IEC<sup>56</sup>, UNODA<sup>57</sup>, WAEMU<sup>58</sup>.

Observers: Chairpersons and members of the OIE Biological Standards Commission and the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission

The meeting was chaired by Dr Honoré Robert N'lemba Mabela President of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa and OIE Delegate of the Democratic Republic of the Congo accompanied by Dr Karim Tounkara, OIE Regional Representative for Africa.

**1. Adoption of the Agenda**

The Agenda, described in the Appendix, was unanimously adopted. A short video then paid tribute to OIE Delegates, experts and staff who passed away since the last Regional Commission Conference in February 2019.

**2. Outcomes of the 24th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa held by videoconference from 9 to 11 February 2021**

Dr Honoré Robert N'lemba Mabela briefly presented the outcomes of the 24th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa held from 9 to 11 February 2021 (by Zoom) and to which a total of 175 participants attended, including OIE Delegates and/or representatives from 52 Members of the region and representatives from regional and international organisations, as well as representatives of regional key partners and donors.

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<sup>50</sup> AU-IBAR: African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources

<sup>51</sup> CVA: Commonwealth Veterinary Association

<sup>52</sup> ECOWAS: Economic Community of West African States

<sup>53</sup> ICFAW: International Coalition for Animal Welfare

<sup>54</sup> ICIPE: International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology

<sup>55</sup> ICRC: International Committee of the Red Cross

<sup>56</sup> IEC: International Egg Commission

<sup>57</sup> UNODA: United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs

<sup>58</sup> WAEMU: West African Economic and Monetary Union

Dr N'lemba Mabela quickly commented the agenda of the Conference highlighting some of the topics presented. All detailed information is available in the report of the Conference in the Regional website.

**3. Confirmation of the venue of the 25th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa to be held in February 2023**

Dr Letlhogile Modisa, Vice-President of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa and Delegate of Botswana, reiterated his country's offer to host the 25th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa in February 2023. Exact dates and venue will be defined at a later stage in coordination 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 Africa**

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

“Eradication of PPR: results and perspectives”

This selection was made following a short Zoom poll, out of a shortlist of 6 topics, submitted earlier by Tchad, Burkina Faso, Niger and Gabon.

**5. Proposal of three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means (*Scientific and Technical Review, Bulletin, scientific paper, technical item or during a specific activity/meeting*)**

The Regional Commission proposed the following three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means. This selection was made following a short Zoom poll, out of a shortlist of 6 pre-selected topics, also voted by OIE Members in April:

- Antimicrobial resistance, antimicrobial use
- Financing of veterinary services, public – private partnerships
- One Health and zoonotic diseases, zoonotic spill-overs from wildlife (reservoirs)

**6. PVS Pathway External Evaluation and the next steps**

Dr Barbara Alessandrini, Head of the Capacity-Building Department, briefly commented on the PVS external evaluation carried out in 2020 to assess the relevance of the programme to Members, its effectiveness, impact, and opportunities for improvement. She underlined that, the evaluation showed that PVS was a story of success, but also of frustration as Members were set for improvement through the PVS, but it was difficult to contextualise it, while the wealth of PVS data was not adequately used.

She also commented on the recommendations of the evaluation which provided inputs on increasing uptake, respect of the core principles, connection to other OIE functions, enhancing impact, and programme evolution.

Dr Alessandrini concluded by informing that the OIE response consisted in a mid-term strategy crossing through all the pathway steps, investing on new technologies and digitalization, aiming at increasing and facilitating access and participation in the programme activities, data use and sharing, needs and impact assessment, and at generating new synergies with the other OIE and partners' programmes.

**CLOSED SESSION FOR DELEGATES ONLY**

**7. Elections for Specialist Commissions**

Dr Matthew Stone, Deputy Director General "International Standards and Science", provided a brief update on the OIE's work to support OIE Specialist Commissions performance through a high-quality Common Secretariat driving standardised processes, as well as the implementation of a Performance Management Framework focused on continuous improvement and partnership, along with the evaluation of performance of all members of each Commission approaching the end of their term. He highlighted the open call and evaluation of candidates for election to the Specialist Commissions, being only the second time that OIE had made such a call, and briefed the Regional Commissions on how the voting for the elections would be performed on Friday 28 May.

**8. Elections of the OIE governance bodies**

Dr Jean-Philippe Dop, Deputy Director General "Institutional Affairs and Regional Activities", briefly presented the main aspects of the election process for the OIE governance bodies. He reminded the OIE cycle of elections, pointing out that the 88th General Session provided an opportunity to elect members of the Council and the Bureaux of the Regional Commissions as well as the Specialist Commissions (as already explained by Dr Stone). Dr Dop also provided key details to Delegates regarding the role of the Council and the Members of the Bureau of the Regional Commission in supporting the mandate of the OIE.

He reminded that elections to each governing body will be on Friday 28 May, by secret ballot and using the UK Engage Platform 2, as already explained during the regional trainings on related General Session virtual processes, organised by the OIE Regional Activities and Capacity Building Departments, which took place before the General Session. Drs Mark Schipp (Australia) and Michael Modisane (South Africa), both Council members, were appointed as scrutineers during the elections. In addition, an external legal expert will follow the whole process.

Each Regional Commission was invited to announce its nominations for the new Bureau and the Council immediately after the Regional Commission meeting, together with the final list of selected candidates for the Specialist Commissions.

**9. Proposal of candidates for the election of the Bureau of the Regional Commission, the OIE Council and the Specialist Commissions**

Dr Botlhe Michael Modisane, Past President of the World Assembly of Delegates and Delegate of the Republic of South Africa, chaired the discussions regarding the proposal of candidates to be presented to the World Assembly for election on Friday 28 May. Proposals as follows:

**Council:**

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed names:

Dr Daniel Komla Batawui (Togo)  
Dr Roland Xolani Dlamini (Eswatini)

**Bureau of the Regional Commission:**

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed names:

President: Dr Honoré Robert N'lemba Mabela (Democratic Republic of Congo)  
Vice-President: Dr Letlhogile Modisa (Botswana)  
Vice-President: Dr Mbargou Lo (Senegal)  
Secretary General: Dr Anna Rose Ademun Okurut (Uganda)

**Specialist Commissions:**

Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed name:

Prof. Salah Hammami (Tunisia) (proposed as Vice President)

Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed name:

Dr Kevin Christison (South Africa) (proposed as Member)

Biological Standards Commission

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed name:

Prof. Emmanuel Couacy-Hymann (Cote d'Ivoire) (proposed as President)

Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed names:

Dr Baptiste Dungu (South Africa) (proposed as Member)

Dr Misheck Mulumba (Zambia) (proposed as Member)

**10. Closing**

The meeting officially ended at 3.14 p.m. CEST.

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.../Appendix

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

**Paris, 24 May 2021  
(1:00 p.m. CEST)**

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**Agenda**

- 12:45 p.m.– 1:10 p.m. Zoom check-in and connecting
- 1:10 p.m.– 1:15 p.m. Adoption of the agenda (Dr Honoré Robert N'lemba Mabela, President of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa and Delegate of the Democratic Republic of the Congo)
- 1:15 p.m.– 1:30 p.m. Outcomes of the 24th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa held by videoconference from 9 to 11 February 2021 (Dr Honoré Robert N'lemba Mabela)
- 1:30 p.m.– 1:35 p.m. Confirmation of the venue of the 25th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa to be held in February 2023 (Dr Letlhogile Modisa, Vice-President of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa and Delegate of Botswana)
- 1:35 p.m.– 1:45 p.m. Selection of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be included in the agenda of the 25th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa (Dr Karim Tounkara, Regional Representative for Africa)
- 1:45 p.m.– 1:55 p.m. Proposal of three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means (*Scientific and Technical Review, Bulletin, scientific paper, technical item or during a specific activity/meeting*) (Dr Letlhogile Modisa)
- 1:55 p.m.– 2:05 p.m. PVS Pathway External Evaluation and the next steps (Dr Barbara Alessandrini, Head of the Capacity-Building Department)

**CLOSED SESSION FOR DELEGATES ONLY**

- 2:05 p.m.– 2:15 p.m. Elections for Specialist Commissions (Dr Matthew Stone, Deputy Director General "International Standards and Science")
- 2:15 p.m.– 2:25 p.m. Elections of the OIE governance bodies (Dr Jean-Philippe Dop, Deputy Director General "Institutional Affairs and Regional Activities")
- 2:25 p.m.– 3:10 p.m. Proposal of candidates for the election of the Bureau of the Regional Commission, the OIE Council and the Specialist Commissions (Dr Botlhe Michael Modisane, Past President of the World Assembly of Delegates and Delegate of the Republic of South Africa)
- 3:10 p.m.– 3:20 p.m. Closing ceremony chaired by Dr Honoré Robert N'lemba Mabela and personal message by Dr Botlhe Michael Modisane.
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**REPORT OF THE MEETING  
OF THE  
OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE AMERICAS**

**Paris, 24 May 2021**

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The OIE Regional Commission for the Americas met by videoconference on 24 May 2021 at 4:00 p.m. CEST. The meeting was attended by 80 participants, including Delegates and observers from 28 Members of the Commission and representatives from 10 International or Regional Organisations:

**Members of the Commission:** Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Curacao, Dominican Rep, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America, and Uruguay

**International/Regional Organisations:** ALA<sup>59</sup>, CaribVET<sup>60</sup>, CVP<sup>61</sup>, FAO<sup>62</sup>, IICA<sup>63</sup>, OIRSA<sup>64</sup>, PANVET<sup>65</sup>, SG-CAN<sup>66</sup>, SSAFE<sup>67</sup> and WRO<sup>68</sup>.

The meeting was chaired by Dr Mark Trotman, President of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas and Delegate of Barbados, supported 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, after the addition of topics regarding the activities of the OIE Council, a discussion on the draft Resolution 31 proposed for adoption during the 88th General Session, as well as a discussion on the inter-regional support of candidates, and a request regarding the procedure of evaluation of performance of all members of each Specialist Commission approaching the end of their term.

**2. Report on the activities of the OIE Council**

Dr Hugo Idoyaga Benítez, Vice-President of the OIE Council and Delegate of Paraguay, remarked the relevant work adapting the OIE procedures and activities under the pandemic conditions and reaching a fully functional virtual General Session.

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<sup>59</sup> ALA: Latin American Poultry Association

<sup>60</sup> CaribVET: Caribbean Animal Health Network

<sup>61</sup> CVP: Permanent Veterinary Committee of the Southern Cone

<sup>62</sup> FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

<sup>63</sup> IICA: Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture

<sup>64</sup> OIRSA: Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria

<sup>65</sup> PANVET: Pan American Association of Veterinary Sciences

<sup>66</sup> SG-CAN: General Secretariat of the Andean Community

<sup>67</sup> SSAFE: Safe Supply of Affordable Food Everywhere

<sup>68</sup> WRO: World Renderers Organisation

He highlighted the strategic decisions taken in order to maintain the OIE activities, including the development of the Seventh Strategic Plan, the OIE-WAHIS platform and the OIE Observatory, as well as other relevant projects.

Finally, he reminded Delegates on the need of stable positions for Council members candidatures, and thanked the Regional Commission, the Regional Representation, and the President of SENACSA<sup>69</sup>, Dr Juan Carlos Martin, for their support to his contribution to the OIE Council activities.

**3. Outcomes of the 25th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas held by videoconference, on 22 and 23 September 2020**

Dr Mark Trotman briefly presented the outcomes of the 25th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas held on 22 and 23 September 2020 (by videoconference) and to which a total of 226 participants attended, including OIE Delegates and/or representatives from 30 Members of the region as well as 16 representatives from regional and international organisations, and the private sector including private veterinary organisations from the region.

Dr Trotman quickly commented on the agenda of the Conference highlighting some of the topics presented. All detailed information is available in the report of the Conference.

Finally, he reminded Delegates that the report of the conference was available in the Regional website.

**4. Confirmation of the dates and venue of the 26th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas to be held in 2022**

Dr Eva Luz Martínez Bermúdez, Delegate of Peru, reiterated her country's offer to host the 26th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas in 2022.

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

**5. Confirmation of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be included in the agenda of the 26th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas**

The Regional Commission selected the following technical item (with questionnaire to Members) for inclusion in the agenda of the 26th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas:

“Emergencies and disasters management: Support from OIE Collaborating Centres”

**6. Proposal of three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means (*Scientific and Technical Review, Bulletin, scientific paper, technical item or during a specific activity/meeting*)**

The Regional Commission proposed the following three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means:

- Emergencies and disasters management: Creation of networks, and the support from OIE Collaborating Centres
- Transboundary animal diseases, the value of the activities carried out by Veterinary Services and their economic and social impact, under the framework of the UN Sustainable Development Goals

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<sup>69</sup> ENACSA: *Servicio Nacional de Calidad y Salud Animal, Paraguay.*

- Development of harmonised electronic certification systems and model certificates. Actions needed to support their implementation at the national, regional and global level

## CLOSED SESSION FOR DELEGATES ONLY

### 7. Elections for Specialist Commissions

Dr Matthew Stone, Deputy Director General "International Standards and Science", provided a brief update on the OIE's work to support OIE Specialist Commissions performance through a high-quality Common Secretariat driving standardised processes, as well as the implementation of a Performance Management Framework focused on continuous improvement and partnership, along with the evaluation of performance of all members of each Commission approaching the end of their term. He highlighted the open call and evaluation of candidates for election to the Specialist Commissions, being only the second time that OIE had made such a call, and briefed the Regional Commissions on how the voting for the elections would be performed on Friday 28 May.

### 8. Elections of the OIE governance bodies

Dr Jean-Philippe Dop, Deputy Director General "Institutional Affairs and Regional Activities", briefly presented the main aspects of the election process for the OIE governance bodies. He reminded the OIE cycle of elections, pointing out that the 88th General Session provided an opportunity to elect members of the Council and the Bureau of the Regional Commissions as well as the Specialist Commissions (as already explained by Dr Stone). Dr Dop also provided key details to Delegates regarding the role of the Council and the Members of the Bureau of the Regional Commission in supporting the mandate of the OIE.

He reminded that elections to each governing body will be on Friday 28 May, by secret ballot and using the UK Engage Platform 2, as already explained during the regional trainings on related General Session virtual processes, organised by the OIE Regional Activities and Capacity Building Departments, which took place before the General Session. Drs Mark Schipp (Australia) and Michael Modisane (South Africa), both Council members, were appointed as scrutineers during the elections. In addition, an external legal expert will follow the whole process.

Each Regional Commission was invited to announce its nominations for the new Bureau and the Council immediately after the Regional Commission meeting, together with the final list of selected candidates for the Specialist Commissions.

### 9. Proposal of candidates for the election of the Bureau of the Regional Commission, the OIE Council and the Specialist Commissions

Dr Mark Trotman chaired the discussions regarding the proposal of candidates to be presented to the World Assembly for election on Friday 28 May.

Proposals were as follows:

#### **Council:**

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed names:

- Dr Hugo Idoyaga Benítez (Paraguay) (proposed as President)
- Dr Yobani Gutiérrez Ravelo (Cuba) (proposed as Member)

**Bureau of the Regional Commission:**

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed names:

President:	Dr Jaspinder Komal (Canada)
Vice-President:	Dr Wilmer Juárez Juárez (Nicaragua)
Vice-President:	Dr Ximena Melón (Argentina)
Secretary General:	Dr Arnold Dwarkasing (Curaçao)

**Specialist Commissions:**

**Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission**

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed names:

Dr Bernardo Todeschini (Brazil)  
Dr Gastón Funes (Argentina) (proposed as Vice President)

**Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission**

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed name:

Dr Alicia Gallardo Lagno (Chile) (proposed as President)

**Biological Standards Commission**

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed names:

Dr Chris Oura (Trinidad and Tobago)  
Dr John Pasick (Canada) (proposed as Vice-President)

**Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases**

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed names:

Dr Cristóbal Zepeda (United States of America) (proposed as President)  
Dr Caroline Dubé (Canada)

**10. Other topics**

Dr Ximena Melón, Delegate of Argentina, required the Regional Commission to support a position to be raised by the Regional Commission for Europe, on the point 6 of Resolution 31. Dr Melón shall distribute the position to the Members for review and feedback.

In addition, Dr Melón informed Delegates about the exchanges with the Regional Commission for Europe, proposing the inter-regional support of candidates for the different positions.

Finally, Dr Diego De Freitas, Delegate of Uruguay, asked the Regional Commission to support a request made by CVP Members on the need of receiving all the documents, procedures and information related to the evaluation of performance of all members of each Specialist Commission approaching the end of their term. For that, the CVP Secretariat shall distribute a communication to Delegates requesting their support to the initiative.

The Regional Commission for the Americas decided that Dr Mark Trotman shall act as main negotiator with other Regional Commissions regarding the different positions in the Specialist Commissions, as already stated in the present report.

**11. Closing**

The meeting officially ended at 6:50 p.m. CEST.

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.../Appendix

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

**Paris, 24 May 2021  
(4:00 p.m. CEST)**

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**Agenda**

- 3:45 p.m.– 4:10 p.m. Zoom check-in and connecting
- 4:10 p.m.– 4:15 p.m. Adoption of the agenda (Dr Mark Trotman, President of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas and Delegate of Barbados)
- 4:15 p.m.– 4:25 p.m. Report on the activities of the OIE Council
- 4:25 p.m.– 4:35 p.m. Outcomes of the 25th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas held by videoconference, on 22 and 23 September 2020 (Dr Mark Trotman)
- 4:35 p.m.– 4:45 p.m. Confirmation of the dates and venue of the 26th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas to be held in 2022 (Dr Eva Luz Martínez Bermúdez, Delegate of Peru)
- 4:45 p.m.– 4:55 p.m. Confirmation of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be included in the agenda of the 26th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas (Dr Mark Trotman)
- 4:55 p.m.– 5:05 p.m. Proposal of three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means (*Scientific and Technical Review, Bulletin, scientific paper, technical item or during a specific activity/meeting*) (Dr Mark Trotman)

**CLOSED SESSION FOR DELEGATES ONLY**

- 5:05 p.m.– 5:15 p.m. Elections for Specialist Commissions (Dr Matthew Stone, Deputy Director General "International Standards and Science")
- 5:15 p.m.– 5:25 p.m. Elections of the OIE governance bodies (Dr Jean-Philippe Dop, Deputy Director General "Institutional Affairs and Regional Activities")
- 5:25 p.m.– 6:25 p.m. Proposal of candidates for the election of the Bureau of the Regional Commission, the OIE Council and the Specialist Commissions (Dr Mark Trotman)
- 6:25 p.m.– 6:45 p.m. Other topics
- 6:45 p.m.– 6:50 p.m. Closing
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**REPORT OF THE MEETING  
OF THE OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA, THE FAR EAST AND OCEANIA**

**Paris, 24 May 2021**

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The OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania met by videoconference on 24 May 2021, at 7:00 a.m. CEST. The meeting was attended by 64 participants, including Delegates and observers from 26 Members of the Commission and an observer country/territory and two representatives from 2 organisations:

Members of the Commission: Australia, 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, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor Leste and Vietnam.

Observers: Hong Kong SAR

International/regional organisations: The Pacific Community (SPC) and World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA)

The meeting was chaired by Dr Mark Schipp, President of the World Assembly of Delegates and Delegate of Australia, accompanied by 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.

**2. Organisation of the 32<sup>nd</sup> Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania to be held in September 2021**

Dr Sorravis Thaneto, Delegate of Thailand informed participants that due to the current sensitive sanitary situation, the Conference, initially planned to take place in Thailand, will be held virtually. He informed Delegates that Thailand will be working in close collaboration with the OIE colleagues to ensure the success of the Conference. Invitations and the draft programme should be sent soon to all Delegates.

**3. Proposal of three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means (*Scientific and Technical Review, Bulletin, scientific paper, technical item or during a specific activity/meeting*)**

Considering the number of proposals of strategic topics received from the region, the Regional Commission decided to select four topics (instead of three) to be proposed as topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means. Proposals were as follows:

- One Health: zoonoses prevention/One Health.
- Trade: digitalising trade documentation and border clearance processes.
- Disease specific topic: ASF vaccine development, production, monitoring and control over vaccine and ASF contingency plans.

- Disease prevention and control: investigating new or possible transmission of infectious animal diseases which increases the risk of transboundary infectious diseases.

#### **4. Proposal of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Regional Work Plan Framework 2021-2025**

Dr Hirofumi Kugita, Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific presented an update on the development of the 3<sup>rd</sup> regional work plan framework which has been drafted in consultation with the Regional Core Group to build from the previous 2 regional workplan frameworks and taking into consideration the Seventh OIE Strategic Plan.

The draft will now be circulated to all Members of the region for comments with the aim to adopt a final version at the 32<sup>nd</sup> Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania, to be held in September 2021.

#### **5. Discussion on regional positions for the OIE General Session**

Dr Him Hoo Yap, Member of the Council and Delegate of Singapore facilitated the discussion.

Dr Yap introduced a list of four proposals for regional common position, which was put together by the Regional Core Group considering all comments from Members.

There was discussion amongst the Delegates on the proposals and three of them were unanimously approved by the Regional Commission to be put forward at the plenary of the 88th General Session on behalf of the 32 OIE Members of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania.

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

### **CLOSED SESSION FOR DELEGATES ONLY**

#### **6. Elections for Specialist Commissions**

Dr Matthew Stone, Deputy Director General "International Standards and Science", provided a brief update on the OIE's work to support OIE Specialist Commissions performance through a high-quality Common Secretariat driving standardised processes, as well as the implementation of a Performance Management Framework focused on continuous improvement and partnership, along with the evaluation of performance of all members of each Commission approaching the end of their term. He highlighted the open call and evaluation of candidates for election to the Specialist Commissions, being only the second time that OIE had made such a call, and briefed the Regional Commissions on how the voting for the elections would be performed on Friday 28 May.

#### **7. Elections of the OIE governance bodies**

Dr Jean-Philippe Dop, Deputy Director General "Institutional Affairs and Regional Activities", briefly presented the main aspects of the election process for the OIE governance bodies. He reminded the OIE cycle of elections, pointing out that the 88th General Session provided an opportunity to elect members of the Council and the Bureaux of the Regional Commissions as well as the Specialist Commissions (as already explained by Dr Stone). Dr Dop also provided key details to Delegates regarding the role of the Council and the Members of the Bureau of the Regional Commission in supporting the mandate of the OIE.

He reminded that elections to each governing body will be on Friday 28 May, by secret ballot and using the UK Engage Platform 2, as already explained during the regional trainings on related General Session virtual processes, organised by the OIE Regional Activities and Capacity Building Departments, which took place before the General Session. Drs Mark Schipp (Australia) and Michael Modisane (South Africa), both Council members, were appointed as scrutineers during the elections. In addition, an external legal expert will follow the whole process.

Each Regional Commission was invited to announce its nominations for the new Bureau and the Council immediately after the Regional Commission meeting, together with the final list of selected candidates for the Specialist Commissions.

## **8. Proposal of candidates for the election of the Bureau of the Regional Commission, the OIE Council and the Specialist Commissions**

Dr Mark Schipp chaired the discussions regarding the proposal of candidates to be presented to the World Assembly for election on Friday 28 May. Proposals were as follows:

### **Council:**

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed names:

Dr Mark Schipp (Australia) as current President will take position of Past President on the Council (this position is not submitted to the vote of the Assembly)

Dr Him Hoo Yap (Singapore) was proposed as the second council member representing the region.

### **Bureau of the Regional Commission:**

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed names:

President:	Dr Baoxu Huang (PR China)
Vice-President:	Dr Tony Zohrab (New Zealand)
Vice-President:	Dr Masatsugu Okita (Japan)
Secretary General:	Dr Ye Tun Win (Myanmar)

### **Specialist Commissions:**

#### **Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission**

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed name:

Dr Kiyokazu Murai (Japan)

#### **Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission**

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed names:

Dr Ingo Ernst (Australia) (proposed as President)  
Dr Hong Liu (PR China)

#### **Biological Standards Commission**

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed names:

Dr Joseph O'Keefe (New Zealand) (proposed as President/Vice-President)  
Dr Satoko Kawaji (Japan)

### **Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases**

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed names:

Dr Trevor Drew (Australia) (proposed as Vice-President)

Dr Carolyn Benigno (Philippines)

The Regional Commission also took the opportunity to nominate the members of the Regional Core Group (RCG). According to the regional common practices, the Members of the Bureau of the Regional Commission, once elected by the World Assembly, will be automatically part of the RCG. Four additional Members were also accepted to join the RCG:

Ali Safar Maken Ali (Iran)

Coralie Lussiez (New Caledonia)

Nasrullah Nasrullah (Indonesia)

Atul Chaturvedi (India)

## **9. Closing**

The meeting officially ended at 9:30 a.m. CEST.

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.../Appendix

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

**Paris, 24 May 2021  
(7:00 a.m. CEST)**

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**Agenda**

- 6:45 a.m. - 7:10 a.m. Zoom check-in and connecting
- 7:10 a.m. - 7:15 a.m. Adoption of the agenda (Dr Mark Schipp, President of the World Assembly of Delegates and Delegate of Australia)
- 7:15 a.m. - 7:20 a.m. Organisation of the 32nd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania to be held in September 2021 (Dr Sorravis Thaneto, Delegate of Thailand).
- 7:20 a.m. - 7:30 a.m. Proposal of three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means (*Scientific and Technical Review, Bulletin, scientific paper, technical item or during a specific activity/meeting*) (Dr Schipp)
- 7:30 a.m. - 7:35 a.m. Proposal of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Regional Work Plan Framework 2021-2025 (Dr Hirofumi Kugita, Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific)
- 7:35 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. Discussion on regional positions for the OIE General Session (Dr Him Hoo Yap, Member of the Council and Delegate of Singapore)

**CLOSED SESSION FOR DELEGATES ONLY**

- 8:00 a.m. - 8:10 a.m. Elections for Specialist Commissions (Dr Matthew Stone, Deputy Director General "International Standards and Science")
- 8:10 a.m. - 8:20 a.m. Elections of the OIE governance bodies (Dr Jean-Philippe Dop, Deputy Director General "Institutional Affairs and Regional Activities")
- 8:20 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Proposal of candidates for the election of the Bureau of the Regional Commission, the OIE Council and the Specialist Commissions (Dr Schipp)
- 9:00 a.m.– 9:10 a.m. Closing
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**REPORT OF THE MEETING  
OF THE  
OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**Paris, 24 May 2021**

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The OIE Regional Commission for Europe met by videoconference on 24 May 2021 at 10:00 a.m. CEST. The meeting was attended by 111 participants, including Delegates and observers from 53 Members of the Commission and representatives from 3 international or regional organisations:

Members of the Commission: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Rep., Denmark, Estonia, Finland, North Macedonia (Rep. of), France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldavia, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom and Uzbekistan.

International/regional organisations: European Commission, ICMM<sup>70</sup>, and ICFAW/RSPCA<sup>71</sup>.

The meeting was chaired by Dr Maris Balodis, President of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe and OIE Delegate of Latvia, accompanied by Dr Budimir Plavsic, OIE Regional Representative for Europe.

**1. Adoption of the agenda**

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

**2. Outcomes of the 29th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe held by videoconference on 9 and 10 November 2020**

Dr Ulrich Herzog, Vice-President of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe and OIE Delegate of Austria, presented the main outcomes of the 29th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe held from 9 to 10 November 2020, by videoconference and to which a total of 140 participants attended, including OIE Delegates and/or representatives from 52 Members of the region (98,1%) and representatives from 10 regional and international organisations.

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<sup>70</sup> ICMM: International Committee of Military Medicine

<sup>71</sup> ICFAW/RSPCA: International Coalition for Animal Welfare/Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

Dr Herzog commented on the main topics from the agenda of the Conference highlighting key points including those mentioned by Dr Mark Schipp, President of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates as well as Dr Maris Balodis, President of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe and Delegate of Latvia in their respective opening remarks. He also referred to the most important aspects of the presentation of Dr Monique Eloit, OIE Director General, on challenges for the development and implementation of the Seventh OIE Strategic Plan in the post-pandemic world of COVID-19, and lessons learned by the OIE Regional Commission in emergency situations, presented by Dr Balodis, as well as the national experiences presented by Delegates of Austria, Uzbekistan, and the Netherlands.

He reminded Delegates that the report of the conference was available in the Regional website.

All detailed information is available in the report of the Conference.

**3. Confirmation of the dates and venue of the 30th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe to be held in 2022**

Dr Davide Lecchini, OIE Delegate of Italy, reiterated his country's offer to host the 30th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe in 2022, in Catania. Dr Lecchini suggested to organise it in late September. Exact dates will be defined at a later stage in coordination with the OIE Director General.

**4. Confirmation of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be included in the agenda of the 30th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe**

The Regional Commission confirmed that the technical item (with questionnaire to Members) "*Long distance transport of live animals: OIE standards and best practices including societal perception and communication aspects*", initially selected for the 29th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission, will be included in the agenda of the 30th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe.

**5. Proposal of three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means (*Scientific and Technical Review, Bulletin, scientific paper, technical item or during a specific activity/meeting*)**

The Regional Commission proposed, after several online consultations from April to May, including within the Regional Core Group, and with support of the electronic polling process, the following three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means:

- Pandemic preparedness: Planning, capacity building, zoonotic surveillance, coordination between Competent Authorities
- One Health: Coordination, communication and cooperation between Veterinary, Public Health and Environmental Protection services on priority topics
- Animal welfare: The implications on international trade and consumer expectations

**6. Application from UK/Netherlands/Norway for an OIE Collaborating Centre consortium on Economics of Animal Health**

Dr Christine Middlemiss, Delegate of United Kingdom, introduced Professor Jonathan Rushton from the University of Liverpool, who presented to the Regional Commission the application from UK/Netherlands/Norway for the OIE to consider a new OIE Collaborating Centre consortium for Economics of Animal Health. The consortium will be led by the Global Burden of Animal Diseases Programme at the University of Liverpool with two partners, the Norwegian Veterinary Institute, and the Utrecht University.

Professor Rushton provided a brief review of the proposal and said that full details had already been shared with Delegates.

The proposal was approved unanimously by the Regional Commission, after electronic poll of OIE Delegates or Accredited Delegates.

**7. Discussion on common positions for selected OIE Codes chapters (to be possibly proposed on behalf of the 53 Members of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe during the 88th General Session)**

The Regional Commission agreed that a common position be put forward at the 88th General Session on behalf of the 53 Members of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe, on the following 16 items:

1) *Terrestrial Animal Health Code:*

- Glossary: Europe supports the adoption of the revised glossary as presented (Speaker Montenegro).
- Chapter 1.3 (diseases listed by the OIE): Europe supports the adoption of the revised chapter 1.3 as presented (Speaker Latvia).
- Chapter 3.1 (quality of veterinary services): Europe supports the adoption of the revised chapter 3.1 as presented (Speaker United Kingdom).
- Chapter 3.2 (evaluation of veterinary services): Europe supports the adoption of the revised chapter 3.2 as presented (Speaker Latvia).
- Chapter 3.X (introduction to recommendations on veterinary services): Europe supports the adoption of the new chapter 3.X as presented (Speaker Austria).
- Chapter 4.4 (zoning and compartmentalization): Europe supports the adoption of the revised chapter 4.4 as presented (Speaker Switzerland).
- Chapter 10.4 (infection with avian influenza viruses): Europe supports the adoption of the revised chapter 10.4 as presented (Speaker Georgia).
- Chapter 14.7 (infection with peste des petits ruminants virus): Europe supports the adoption of the revised chapter 14.7 as presented (Speaker Latvia).
- Chapter 15.2 (infection with classical swine fever virus): Europe supports the adoption of the revised chapter 15.2 as presented (Speaker Austria).

2) *Aquatic Animal Health Code*: Europe supports the adoption of all revised Aquatic Code chapters as presented (Speaker Montenegro), namely:

- Annex 2 – Glossary.
- Annex 3 – Biosecurity for aquaculture establishments.
- Annex 4 – Disease of crustaceans listed by the OIE.
- Annex 5 – Model article 10.X.13.
- Annex 6 – Infection with Spring Viraemia of Carp virus.
- Annex 7 – infection with Viral Haemorrhagic Septicaemia virus.
- Annex 8 – infection with *Bonamia ostreae*.

**8. The third Action Plan for OIE Animal Welfare Platform for Europe (2021-2023): proposal for adoption by the Regional Commission.**

Dr Roberto Balbo, OIE Subregional Representative in Brussels, briefly presented the desired impact of the third Action Plan to improve animal welfare in Europe through a series of activities on identified priority topics (slaughter, transport, stray dog population control, welfare of animals in disasters and working equids).

The Regional Commission unanimously adopted the third Action Plan for OIE Animal Welfare Platform for Europe for 2021-2023.

**CLOSED SESSION FOR DELEGATES ONLY**

**9. Elections for Specialist Commissions**

Dr Matthew Stone, Deputy Director General "International Standards and Science", provided a brief update on the OIE's work to support OIE Specialist Commissions performance through a high-quality Common Secretariat driving standardised processes, as well as the implementation of a Performance Management Framework focused on continuous improvement and partnership, along with the evaluation of performance of all members of each Commission approaching the end of their term. He highlighted the open call and evaluation of candidates for election to the Specialist Commissions, being only the second time that OIE had made such a call, and briefed the Regional Commission on how the voting for the elections would be performed on Friday 28 May.

**10. Elections of the OIE governance bodies**

Dr Jean-Philippe Dop, Deputy Director General "Institutional Affairs and Regional Activities", briefly presented the main aspects of the election process for the OIE governance bodies. He reminded the OIE cycle of elections, pointing out that the 88th General Session provided an opportunity to elect members of the Council and the Bureaux of the Regional Commissions as well as the Specialist Commissions (as already explained by Dr Stone). Dr Dop also provided key details to Delegates regarding the role of the Council and the Members of the Bureau of the Regional Commission in supporting the mandate of the OIE.

He reminded that elections to each governing body will be on Friday 28 May, by secret ballot and using the UK Engage Platform 2, as already explained during the regional trainings on related General Session virtual processes, organised by the OIE Regional Activities and Capacity Building Departments, which took place before the General Session. Drs Mark Schipp (Australia) and Michael Modisane (South Africa), both Council members, were appointed as scrutineers during the elections. In addition, an external legal expert will follow the whole process.

Each Regional Commission was invited to announce its nominations for the new Bureau and the Council immediately after the Regional Commission meeting, together with the final list of selected candidates for the Specialist Commissions.

**11. Proposal of candidates for the election of the Bureau of the Regional Commission, the OIE Council and the Specialist Commissions**

Dr Maris Balodis chaired the discussions regarding the proposal of candidates to be presented to the World Assembly for election on Friday 28 May. Proposals were as follows:

**Council:**

The Delegates of the Region unanimously agreed on the following proposed names:

Dr Christianne Bruscke (The Netherlands) (as Vice President)  
Dr Konstantin Savenkov (Russian Federation)

**Bureau of the Regional Commission:**

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed names for the different positions:

President: Dr Maris Balodis (Latvia)  
Vice-President: Dr Ulrich Herzog (Austria)  
Vice-President: Ms Vesna Dakovic (Montenegro)  
Secretary General: Dr Vasili Basiladze (Georgia)

**Specialist Commissions:**

**Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission**

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed names:

Dr Etienne Bonbon (France) (proposed as President)  
Dr Lucio Carbajo Goni (Spain)

**Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission**

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed names:

Dr Fiona Geoghegan (Ireland) (proposed as Vice President)  
Dr Espen Rimstad (Norway)

**Biological Standards Commission**

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed names:

Dr Ann Cullinane (Ireland) (proposed as Vice President)  
Dr Donald King (UK)

**Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases**

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed names:

Dr Silvia Bellini (Italy)  
Dr Kris De Clercq (Belgium) (proposed as Vice President)

**12. OIE Animal Welfare Platform for Europe, selection of the new composition of the Animal Welfare Steering Group**

The Regional Commission decided on the new composition of the Animal Welfare Steering Group as follows:

- Ireland
- Israel
- Kazakhstan
- North Macedonia
- Portugal

**13. Selection of the New Composition of the RCG**

The Regional Commission decided on the new composition of Regional Core Group as follows:

- Belarus
- Ireland
- Spain
- Switzerland
- Uzbekistan

**14. Closing**

Dr Balodis thanked the Members of the Regional Commission for a productive session, their active approach in the process for selecting candidates for the election to take place on Friday and thanked the OIE for its high-level support. Prompted for closing comments, Dr Plavsic, on behalf of the OIE, congratulated Dr Balodis for his effective chairing of the meeting, and all 53 Members for a very productive start of the 88th General Session with an active participation in the Regional Commission meeting.

The meeting officially ended at 12:15 p.m. CEST.

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.../Appendix

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

**Paris, 24 May 2021  
(10:00 a.m. CEST)**

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**Agenda**

- 09:45 a.m.– 10:00 a.m. Zoom check-in and connecting
- 10:00 a.m.–10:05 a.m. Adoption of the agenda (Dr Maris Balodis, President of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe and Delegate of Latvia)
- 10:05 a.m. –10:20 a.m. Outcomes of the 29th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe held by videoconference on 9-10 November 2020 (Dr Ulrich Herzog, Vice-President of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe and Delegate of Austria)
- 10:20 a.m. – 10:25 a.m. Confirmation of the dates and venue of the 30th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe to be held in 2022 (Dr Davide Lecchini, Delegate of Italy)
- 10:25 a.m. – 10:35 a.m. Confirmation of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) (“*Long distance transport of live animals: OIE standards and best practices including societal perception and communication aspects*”) to be included in the agenda of the 30th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe (Dr Maris Balodis)
- 10:35 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Proposal of three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means (*Scientific and Technical Review, Bulletin, scientific paper, technical item or during a specific activity/meeting*) (Dr Maris Balodis)
- 10:45 a.m. – 10:55 a.m. Application from UK/Netherlands/Norway for an OIE Collaborating Centre consortium on Economics of Animal Health (Dr Christine Middlemiss, Delegate of United Kingdom, Professor Jonathan Rushton, University of Liverpool)
- 10:55 a.m.– 11:25 a.m. Discussion on common positions for selected OIE Codes chapters (to be possibly proposed on behalf of the 53 Members of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe during the 88th General Session) (Dr Maris Balodis)
- 11:25 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. The third Action Plan for OIE Animal Welfare Platform for Europe (2021-2023): proposal for adoption by the Regional Commission (Dr Roberto Balbo, OIE Subregional Representative in Brussels)

**CLOSED SESSION FOR DELEGATES ONLY**

- 11:30 a.m.– 11:40 a.m. Elections for Specialist Commissions (Dr Matthew Stone, Deputy Director General "International Standards and Science")
- 11:40 a.m.– 11:50 p.m. Elections of the OIE governance bodies (Dr Jean-Philippe Dop, Deputy Director General "Institutional Affairs and Regional Activities")
- 11:50 a.m.– 12:35 p.m. Proposal of candidates for the election of the Bureau of the Regional Commission, the OIE Council and the Specialist Commissions (Dr Maris Balodis)
- 12:35 p.m.– 12:45 p.m. OIE Animal Welfare Platform for Europe, selection of the new composition of the Animal Welfare Steering Group (Dr Roberto Balbo)
- 12:45 p.m.– 12:55 p.m. Selection of the New Composition of the RCG (Dr Maris Balodis)
- 12:55 p.m.– 1:00 p.m. Closing
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**REPORT OF THE MEETING  
OF THE  
OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR MIDDLE EAST**

**Paris, 24 May 2021**

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The OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East met on 24 May 2021 at 9:00 a.m. CEST by videoconference. The meeting was attended by 38 participants, including Delegates and observers from 15 Members of the Commission and one representative from a Regional Organisation:

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

International/regional organisations: AOAD<sup>72</sup>.

The meeting was chaired by Dr Elias Ibrahim, President of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East and Delegate of Lebanon accompanied 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.

**2. Organisation of the 16th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East to be held in November 2021**

Dr Ghazi Yehia, OIE Regional Representative for the Middle East informed participants that due to the current sensitive sanitary situation the Conference will be held virtually.

He briefly detailed the proposed topics to be included in the agenda as discussed with the Regional Core Group in order to ensure that regional needs are addressed.

**3. Decision regarding the Technical Items to be included in the agenda of the 16th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East**

Dr Fajer Al Salloom, Vice-President of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East and Delegate of Bahrain, informed participants that due to the virtual format of the 16th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East to be held in November 2021 and its reduced agenda, it was decided not to include technical items. She briefly detailed the proposed topics to be included in the agenda as discussed with the Regional Core Group to ensure that regional needs are addressed.

- a. The activities of the OIE RR and SRR 2020 - 2021

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<sup>72</sup> AOAD: Arab Organization for Agricultural Development

- b. The Socio-economics of animal health: Direct and indirect costs of animal diseases outbreaks. Lessons learnt in the region: RVF, Glanders, Avian Influenza, FMD new strains,
  - c. Outcomes and the way forward of the PPR and FMD pathways in the region
  - d. Regional planning on Rabies control
  - e. Revision of the BESST initiative outcomes.
  - f. Review of the previous meetings recommendations
  - g. Regional Laboratory networking
  - h. Water pollution impact on Aquaculture
  - i. AMR draft of a regional plan.
  - j. Collaboration with other regional and international agencies
  - k. Regional research and publications on Corona viruses
4. **Proposal of three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means (*Scientific and Technical Review, Bulletin, scientific paper, technical item or during a specific activity/meeting*)**

The Regional Commission proposed the following three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means:

- Update research on MERS CoV and other Corona viruses
- Impact of climate change on RVF virus activity
- Trade and movement of animals: the EDFZ and HHP approaches

5. **PVS Pathway External Evaluation and the next steps**

Dr Barbara Alessandrini, Head of the Capacity-Building Department, briefly commented on the PVS external evaluation carried out in 2020 to assess the relevance of the programme to Members, its effectiveness, impact, and opportunities for improvement. She underlined that, the evaluation showed that PVS was a story of success, but also of frustration as Members were set for improvement through the PVS, but it was difficult to contextualise it, while the wealth of PVS data was not adequately used.

She also commented on the recommendations of the evaluation which provided inputs on increasing uptake, respect of the core principles, connection to other OIE functions, enhancing impact, and programme evolution.

Dr Alessandrini concluded by informing that the OIE response consisted in a mid-term strategy crossing through all the pathway steps, investing on new technologies and digitalization, aiming at increasing and facilitating access and participation in the programme activities, data use and sharing, needs and impact assessment, and at generating new synergies with the other OIE and partners' programmes.

**CLOSED SESSION FOR DELEGATES ONLY**

**6. Elections for Specialist Commissions**

Dr Matthew Stone, Deputy Director General "International Standards and Science", provided a brief update on the OIE's work to support OIE Specialist Commissions performance through a high-quality Common Secretariat driving standardised processes, as well as the implementation of a Performance Management Framework focused on continuous improvement and partnership, along with the evaluation of performance of all members of each Commission approaching the end of their term. He highlighted the open call and evaluation of candidates for election to the Specialist Commissions, being only the second time that OIE had made such a call, and briefed the Regional Commissions on how the voting for the elections would be performed on Friday 28 May.

**7. Elections of the OIE governance bodies**

Dr Jean-Philippe Dop, Deputy Director General "Institutional Affairs and Regional Activities", briefly presented the main aspects of the election process for the OIE governance bodies. He reminded the OIE cycle of elections, pointing out that the 88th General Session provided an opportunity to elect members of the Council and the Bureaux of the Regional Commissions as well as the Specialist Commissions (as already explained by Dr Stone). Dr Dop also provided key details to Delegates regarding the role of the Council and the Members of the Bureau of the Regional Commission in supporting the mandate of the OIE.

He reminded that elections to each governing body will be on Friday 28 May, by secret ballot and using the UK Engage Platform 2, as already explained during the regional trainings on related General Session virtual processes, organised by the OIE Regional Activities and Capacity Building Departments, which took place before the General Session. Drs Mark Schipp (Australia) and Michael Modisane (South Africa), both Council members, were appointed as scrutineers during the elections. In addition, an external legal expert will follow the whole process.

Each Regional Commission was invited to announce its nominations for the new Bureau and the Council immediately after the Regional Commission meeting, together with the final list of selected candidates for the Specialist Commissions.

**8. Proposal of candidates for the election of the Bureau of the Regional Commission, the OIE Council and the Specialist Commissions**

Dr Elias Ibrahim chaired the discussions regarding the proposal of candidates to be presented to the World Assembly for election on Friday 28 May. Proposals as follows:

**Council:**

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed name:

Dr Majid Sultan Al Qassimi (United Arab Emirates) (proposed as Vice President)

**Bureau of the Regional Commission:**

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed names:

President: Dr Fajer Sabah Al Salloom (Bahrain)  
Vice-President: Dr Sanad Al Harbi (Saudi Arabia)  
Vice-President: Dr Abdul Hakim Mahmoud Ali (Egypt)  
Secretary General: Dr Elias Ibrahim (Lebanon)

**Specialist Commissions:**

**Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission**

The Delegates of the Region did not propose any candidate.

**Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission**

The Delegates of the Region did not propose any candidate.

**Biological Standards Commission**

The Delegates of the Region did not propose any candidate.

**Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases**

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed name:

Dr Fevziye Keskin (Turkey)

**9. Closing**

The meeting officially ended at 10:40 a.m. CEST.

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.../Appendix

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

**Paris, 24 May 2021  
(9:00 a.m. CEST)**

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**Agenda**

- 8:45 a.m.– 9:10 a.m. Zoom check-in and connecting
- 9:10 p.m.– 9:15 p.m. Adoption of the agenda (Dr Elias Ibrahim, President of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East and Delegate of Lebanon)
- 9:15 p.m. – 9:25 p.m. Organisation of the 16th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East to be held in November 2021 (Dr Ghazi Yehia, OIE Regional Representative for the Middle East)
- 9:25 p.m. – 9:35 p.m. Decision regarding the Technical Items to be included in the agenda of the 16th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East (Dr Fajer Al Salloom, Vice-President of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East and Delegate of Bahrain)
- 9:35 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. Proposal of three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means (*Scientific and Technical Review, Bulletin, scientific paper, technical item or during a specific activity/meeting*) (Dr Majid Al Qassimi)
- 9:45 a.m.– 9:55 a.m. PVS Pathway External Evaluation and the next steps (Dr Barbara Alessandrini, Head of the Capacity-Building Department)

**CLOSED SESSION FOR DELEGATES ONLY**

- 9:55 a.m.– 10:05 a.m. Elections for Specialist Commissions (Dr Matthew Stone, Deputy Director General "International Standards and Science")
- 10:05 a.m.– 10:15 a.m. Elections of the OIE governance bodies (Dr Jean-Philippe Dop, Deputy Director General "Institutional Affairs and Regional Activities")
- 10:15 a.m.– 10:50 a.m. Proposal of candidates for the election of the Bureau of the Regional Commission, the OIE Council and the Specialist Commissions (Dr Elias Ibrahim)
- 10:50 a.m.– 11:00 a.m. Closing
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