Training of national focal points of the OIE for animal welfare.

9th - 11th November 2010.
Addis Ababa. Ethiopia.

OIE Sub-Regional Representation for Eastern Africa and the Horn of Africa.

Regional seminar sponsored by the OIE and the European Union (European Commission) in the framework of DG SANCO BTSF - Africa "Better training for safer food."
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In his opening speech, the OIE Regional Representative for Africa thanked the Government and the people of Ethiopia. He expressed the hope for Africa to improve the living conditions of the poorest. He noted that animal welfare is part of animal health and, on request of Member States of the OIE in 2000, the OIE, recognized by the WTO as a rule-making body on issues related to animal health, has set the first standards on animal welfare.

Animal welfare is a complex issue with implications on cultural, political, technical and economic levels. Livestock breeders take it increasingly into account because a well-treated animal yields products of better quality and quantity. In advanced countries, the animal welfare is a request coming from consumers. The fact to take it into account increases the added-value of a product. Animal welfare is part of the values of veterinary ethic and requires veterinary specialists to teach it and apply it. The OIE has chosen three collaborating centres Italy, New Zealand / Australia, Chile / Uruguay to conduct the needed researches for its needs of standardization. In Africa, the 2nd world conference on animal welfare was held in Egypt in 2009.

The overall level of poverty has decreased in Asia but in Africa it has rather increased. Africa is lagging behind in controlling animal diseases. Diseases impoverish farmers, have an impact on food safety and limit access to regional and international markets. We must address these animal diseases and animal welfare rules that are codified year after year.

The OIE considers that must be created in each Member State the ability to identify diseases and to fight against. This capability is part of the good governance.

Regarding animal welfare, goals advocated by the OIE are to modernize the rules of animal welfare in member countries, to have veterinary services in accordance with the standards adopted by the 177 Member States and finally, to harmonize legislations at regional level.

The OIE Sub-Regional Representative informed the participants that the OIE Regional Office in Nairobi is new and this seminar is the first it organizes. The decision to hold it in Ethiopia is not a coincidence because the country is home of one of the largest cattle population in Africa with 51.8 million heads. Since 1985, Ethiopia has recorded no outbreaks of rinderpest and this eradication has been achieved in a very short spell of time. Ethiopia has been declared very soon free from rinderpest by the OIE.
In his opening address of the seminar, the State Minister of Agriculture said that animal welfare is a cross-cutting issue between animal health, agribusiness, food safety, food quality and trade. Ethiopia has the largest domestic and wild animal population in Africa with 51.8 million cattle, 63 million sheep and goats, 6.4 million horses, 2.3 million camels, not to mention other species. This stock represents 30 percent of GNP. The people of Ethiopia depend on livestock and its products. Livestock as a capital is truly established.

In terms of trade, Ethiopia has a major role to play in terms of export and must remain vigilant with regard to animal welfare because its partners want healthy animals and with a nice conformation. Abuse of animals is expressed in various ways: transport in unsuitable conditions, control of stray dog unacceptable, inhumane killing in slaughterhouses, unsuitable housing in farms.

The Minister says that he insists, in his administration, animal welfare should be a constant in work programs. The OIE took animal welfare into consideration, in particular, rules are included in the terrestrial animal health code.

He recalled that his country annually contributes financially to the functioning of the OIE and that the OIE delegate of Ethiopia is the President of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa. He is honoured that the OIE has chosen Addis Ababa to hold this first African seminar on animal welfare. He invited participants to visit Ethiopia and to enjoy its hospitality and recommends Debre Zeit with the oldest veterinary college in the country (National Veterinary Institute), PANVAC of African Union, the Institute for the technology of milk and meat.

Finally, it encourages participants to actively participate in the discussions and looks forward to putting the recommendations into practice in its services. He was pleased to see such number of female representatives, indicating that Africa is changing and that women take their place.

He pronounced the official opening of the seminar.
SESSION 1
Structure and functioning of the OIE.

General presentation of the OIE.
Dr Abdoulaye Bouna Niang.

The entire organization is presented: administrative and technical structures, commissions, working and ad hoc groups, regional bureaux, collaborating centres and world reference laboratories ...

Good governance and evaluation of veterinary services
(The OIE PVS tool, gap analysis).
Dr Daniel Bourzat.

The assessment tool of the veterinary services, in other words PVS for "performance, vision and strategy", is presented to national focal points for animal welfare. The objectives developed for the evaluation of veterinary services are listed. The principles of an evaluation (which is not an audit) is based on a review of 46 critical competencies which are a more operational translation of guidelines of chapters 3.1. (Veterinary Services) and 3.2. (Evaluation of Veterinary Services) of the terrestrial animal health code.

The entire procedure of the setting up of an assessment mission is detailed from the formal request made on a voluntary basis by the national delegate to the Director General of the OIE up to the final confidential report. Confidentiality is preserved until the country decides otherwise.
The state-of-play of formal requests, missions carried out, pending missions since the establishment of the process is presented.
The PVS evaluation is recognized by international donors.

Then, the PVS pathway as a whole is presented on a diagram from the diagnosis (evaluation of veterinary services), the prescription (gap analysis) to the treatment (strategic plan, modernization of legislation, public-private partnership, investments, veterinary training, laboratories). And finally, the follow-up missions to assess the state-of-progress in the upgrading of veterinary services.

Details about gap analysis process are provided. The origin of the process is recalled and its purpose for the benefit of a country. The process is naturally adapted to the specificity and level of advancement of a country as regards its compliance with the guidelines of the OIE.
This gap analysis aims to confirm the priorities for modernization of the veterinary services, to identify the costs of the modernization, to facilitate the preparation of an investment plan and in some cases it can review the existing strategic plan of a country.
The state-of-play of the missions related to the gap analysis is presented. On this point, the objectives of the OIE have been delayed mainly due to lack of experts to be trained. However, with regard to these missions, Africa is one step ahead compared to the rest of the world.
Missions related to the veterinary legislation are discussed at the end of the presentation. The guidelines, available online on the OIE website, are presented in their entirety by the speaker. The missions are planned to improve the veterinary legislation of a country. They aim to clarify needs and defining the conditions under which improvements can be made. Objectives, expected results, how missions are conducted ... are detailed for a good understanding of the participants. The presentation on this theme ends with the presentation of figures. The OIE is lagging behind the mission requests expressed by countries due to lack of experts in this area that OIE must train and certify.

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**Role and responsibility of delegates and focal points.**

*Dr Walter Masiga.*

The delegate.
The speaker details the rules for appointing the national delegate, its responsibility with respect to the OIE and to his country.
He is the unique interlocutor of the OIE.
His rights and responsibilities are indicated. He has the right to vote and to represent his country. He must guarantee the payment of his country's financial contribution to the functioning of the OIE, transferred three times a year to the headquarters of the OIE in Paris.
As far as animal health is concerned, he has the responsibility to inform the international community in accordance with the terrestrial animal health code of the OIE. The legislation of animal health in the country must take into account the rules of the OIE.
He ensures that veterinary services comply with the standards of the OIE.

The national focal points.
The rules of nomination of focal points by delegates are reminded by the speaker. There are focal points in six areas with a new additional one regarding communication.
The terms of reference of the focal points are the subject of a slide, as well as the presentation of the activities of focal points under the authority of the national delegate.
Regarding notification of animal health data, the relevant focal point must ascertain that the reporting is comprehensive. This focal point could be an epidemiologist for example.
The speaker mentions the interest to create a network of focal points, such as for aquatic diseases or for animal welfare. Regarding the focal point for food safety, his responsibilities are the same, as well as the focal point for wildlife ...
By way of conclusion, the focal point must keep the delegate abreast, so that the delegate can transmit relevant information to the OIE. The focal point must establish a dialogue with national authorities and prepare comments for his delegate.

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**Rights and responsibilities of focal points for animal welfare.**

*Dr Marosi Moloso.*

The speaker informs the audience that seven standards related to animal welfare were adopted in 2005 in Paris at the World Assembly of Delegates.
She emphasizes the notion of common responsibility for all focal points, including the focal point for animal welfare, the need to create a network and at the end, the fact that focal points for animal welfare must work with the national delegates.
OIE standards for animal welfare.
Dr Sarah Kahn.

The speaker provides the following information: At the OIE headquarters in Paris, animal welfare is administered by the International Trade Department. Probably because the impact of animal welfare is closely linked to international trade. Ditto for food safety and its relationship to international trade.

Animal welfare is not part of the WTO SPS agreement. When a dispute will occur between two countries related to animal welfare and brought to the WTO, thus it will be judged according to the terms of the TBT agreement and not to the SPS agreement.

Animal welfare is not directly related to animal or human health. If the link animal welfare affecting animal health is established, the converse relationship is not obvious.

The relationship between animal welfare and animal health, however, explains the involvement of the OIE as the world spearhead animal health.

The Code Committee for terrestrial animals sets standards in relation to animal welfare.
For aquatic animals, there are few standards in the code for aquatic animals set by the Aquatic Committee.

As far as the OIE is concerned, the chronology of events that helped develop the concept of animal welfare was as follows:
2000: first recognition as a strategic priority by the 3rd OIE Strategic Plan.
2003: adoption of general principles.
2005: adoption of the first standards on transport, slaughter and stamping-out for cattle.
2008: 2nd World Conference for the establishment of standards.
2009: animal welfare of livestock in farming systems, cattle then broilers.
2010: farmed fishes, stunning and slaughter of fishes. Standards for animal research and for education-related needs.

In chapter 7.1. of the terrestrial animal health code, the words "animal welfare" are defined and have been adopted by the delegates. The definition is linked with the situation of the animal. The definition is a quite long because it is linked with technical, cultural, religious ... approaches.

Standards for transport.
Mainly by land.
Chapters 7.2. and 7.3. of the animal health code. Importance to understand animal behaviour to reduce stress and enhance the skills of people in charge of animal welfare. The responsibilities of each players are expressed (owners, transporters, competent authorities, veterinary surgeons on the field (in slaughterhouses, market places) ....
Requirements exist regarding the documentation needed to accompany animals. Ditto for the type of facilities for the boarding and disembarking of animals.

Standards for the slaughter of animals.
Chapter 7.5. of the animal health code.
Are described the way to handle animals and their movement, their killing, the design of places of slaughter and maintenance, management of pregnant females, stunning, bleeding, unacceptable methods ....
Standards for the slaughter of animals during outbreaks of diseases.
Chapter 7.6. of the animal health code. The OIE wants countries to write contingency plans, which should include rules for the slaughter and quick burial of animals. In these plans, the presence of specialists should be foreseen to address problems that are not necessarily veterinary problems (logistics, transportation, burial ...), to avoid causing problems to human health. During a crisis, military forces are sometimes in charge of the field operations. The responsibility of the specialists task-force is included in chapter 7.6.
To control outbreaks of animal disease, recommended and non recommended methods for the slaughter of animals are listed.

Standards for the control of stray dogs.
Chapter 7.7. of the animal health code. The objective is to avoid zoonosis, including rabies, with an annual death toll of 50 000 human beings worldwide. There is a link between the ecology of dogs and human behaviour.
The definition of a stray dog is given. It’s a dog that no one looks after in a responsible manner.
The objectives of the control of the population of stray dogs are given. And also the responsibility and competency of different actors (veterinary authorities, other government actors, private sector, NGO, local governments, owners of dogs ...).
When performing field monitoring, the authorities should create working groups to gather the dog owners, those who run the shelters, those who will kill dogs ... to clearly define the roles.
The control measures also take into account sensitisation of the population, registration of dogs and their identification, control of their reproduction, handling, euthanasia, environmental control, control of the movement of dogs ....
The code addresses the recommended practices or not for euthanasia and for the disposal of carcasses.

Standards for the use of animals for research purposes.
Issue of limited importance in most countries of this seminar. So it has not been developed by the speaker. She invites participants to discuss of it with her individually if needed.

Standards for the breeding of fishes.
It has not been developed by the speaker. She invites participants to discuss of it with her individually if needed.

In the future, the OIE wishes to assist Member States to implement the standards without focusing on the continuous development of new standards and to increase the active participation of collaborating centres (and to create others, particularly in Africa thanks to its twining program).

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Discussions.

The discussion helped clarify the following points :

- An officer can be a focal point in many areas. It is the responsibility of delegates to nominate focal points. However, it is easier for a focal point to work in his field of expertise, but the delegate decides.
- The OIE is vigilant on the interference between political and technical matters. Many times, the Regional Representative for Africa has had to convince official executives of a country on the need to appoint such or such officer because the delegate alone could not.
- The rights of focal points is an important issue. The OIE do not interfere with the legislation of a country. There is a national law. The OIE can convince to ensure that veterinary services play a more important role in the regulation. The OIE encourages delegates to give access to information to focal points, because some delegates did not share information with focal points.
- What is expected from the focal points is stated in their terms of reference, which can be downloaded from the website of the OIE (http://www.rr-africa.oie.int/fr/RC/fr_focal_points.html). For the OIE, the delegate is the only contact point in a country. But the delegate can not be everywhere because he has a lot of responsibilities. Animal welfare issue comes from western countries (for the purpose of trade whether we consider private standards or public standards) and concerns are sometimes far from those for Africa. The OIE should take into account these areas if we do not want to marginalize Africa. The OIE's role is to assist countries.
- There are 120 focal points for 177 countries, there is still a margin for significant progress in terms of their appointment. The implementation of standards must begin now. We must not underestimate the difficulty to apply these new standards.
- In the SADC region, there are good examples regarding the respect of animal welfare. We will see examples in similar countries (eg Tanzania and South Africa).
- Reference laboratories and collaborating centres of the OIE and their areas of expertise are listed on the OIE website (http://www.oie.int/fr/OIE/organisation/fr_CC.htm?e1d8). Their designation by the OIE depends on the nature of the laboratory, its technical level, the presence of relevant experts ...
- The focal point for animal welfare can witness a terrible act of abuse on an animal. It will be possible for him to react if there is a strong national legislation, legislation that can be improved with the help of the OIE in the framework of missions related to the veterinary legislation. The legislation should strengthen the role of veterinary officers.
- The methods recommended to stun animals including during a religious slaughter have been presented by the speaker.
- There is a large gap between the OIE standards and the situation in Africa. Perception of the importance of animal welfare is far from being a reality in Africa, where human welfare is a much greater concern. This makes it difficult for African countries to take into account the theme of the seminar and there is a great need for tools to accomplish, in the best way, the task entrusted to focal points.
- Arguments to convince policy makers nevertheless exist. It is the responsibility of focal points to improve mentalities, but changes are fast today. For example, the 1st world conference on animal welfare in 2004 was chaired by an African. The animal welfare is set out in the pillars of CAADP (Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme). The WAEMU has succeeded in having a legislation on veterinary medicines harmonized at a regional level, it is possible to go even further in terms of regional harmonization of legislation. Finally, within the African cosmology an animal is a living being, we must kill it to live and in Africa, the tradition also considers that an animal must not suffer.
- The idea that the OIE could work pro-actively with the regional economic communities was expressed, it would help the implementation of standards in countries.
- However, beginning with a national legislation is the key point. It must comply with the OIE international standards, but must be adapted to national environment. But it is true that sometimes it is difficult to reconcile both, for example as regards the duration of animal transportation, where two different departments are involved in animal management and drivers' management.
- If the European Union tries to have a more quantitative legislation, the OIE, on the contrary, is more qualitative because it has to take into consideration 177 countries, and therefore has to be more flexible.
AFEO area (Asia, Far East, Oceania) covers Japan, China, Myanmar, Cambodia, Burma ... with real differences between countries.
The speaker has presented a work done in this great region with support from the Australian Government.

The process has begun in November 2007. Then, adoption of the strategy (the RAWS, i.e. regional animal welfare strategy) during the OIE Regional Commission in 2008 and during the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE in Paris. Then a plan was put in place in 2009. So, the strategy is planed in the long term.

The vision of the regional animal welfare strategy, mainly focused on farm animals (for food, for work), is to have an area where animal welfare can make progress step by step, along with socio-economic development.
The strategy is not imposed by the global market, by countries or by Europeans' way of thinking. The strategy is relevant for the region and has been defined by the region AFEO itself.
The countries of the region AFEO vary in size, language, religious background, socio-economic context (some countries are part of G7), do not share the same priorities (food security for some of them), are different as far as benefit to the region is concerned (some countries are importers ...). So there was a lot of challenges to design a comprehensive strategy. The strategy takes into account all these differences.

The objectives of the strategy:
1 / Promotion of animal welfare by understanding what it is. It must begin with children, for a cultural change.
2 / Coordination at a regional level and getting a commitment of Member States to apply the standards of animal welfare of the OIE. On the long run, the change must be cultural, but should exist in the means put in place (legislation, marketing system, slaughter ...).
3 / Research and Development. Research is most of the time applied in Europe, Australia, .... rarely in South America, never in Africa.
4 / Development of sustainable mechanisms to coordinate the above.

An action plan was adopted by the OIE Regional Commission for Asia in 2008. It includes meetings, coordinating groups, involvement of decision makers, sometimes ministers (high turnover even for them, hence the difficulty to obtain a sustainable involvement), and strong involvement of the focal points for animal welfare in the countries.

The action plan develops the strategy in a practical way. It is consistent with the OIE standards. All standards are not necessarily applied in all countries, but the idea is to enforce them gradually. It
would be unrealistic otherwise.
The speaker mentioned the involvement of the OIE collaborating centre in Australia / New Zealand.

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**Work of regional commissions and regional representations**
- interaction with veterinary services.

Dr Walter Masiga.

He has developed the following points:

**Background of the OIE.**
Rinderpest led to the creation of the OIE in 1924. The mandate was originally to fight against the spread of epizootics. Today, the mandate is to improve animal health and animal welfare.

**The vision of the OIE.**
The focal points should promote the vision of the OIE. The Organisation must become the global benchmark for the animal health and welfare by producing scientific knowledge. The improvement of animal health aims at developing animal production and facilitating trade.

**The mission of the OIE.**
To turn animal health data into information and knowledge able to meet the needs of Member States.

**The objectives of the OIE:**
- Transparency in the global health situation.
- Provide expertise.
- Fostering international solidarity.
- Improve legal frameworks.
- Improve the competence of veterinary services.

**The OIE Regional Representations.**
The OIE has Regional Representations on all continents. They are an extension of the headquarters in Paris and their role is to provide services to the region in which they operate. In Africa, there are 4 Regional Representations.

**Regional Commissions of the OIE.**
There is one regional commission per continent. They have their own activities and submit recommendations to the World Assembly of Delegates in Paris. Regional programs can be developed.
The OIE Regional Commission for Africa is chaired by Dr. Berhe Gebreeziabher, OIE Delegate of Ethiopia. In 2009, the previous one was held in Chad, in 2010 it will be held in Rwanda.
Themes of the regional commissions were shown on a slide (see presentation). Two themes, one related to the census of livestock and its importance in the control of animal diseases, and the other related to the diseases of camels will be discussed in Rwanda.
The speaker presents his organisation, the WSPA (World Society for the Protection of Animals) www.wspa-international.org.

The WSPA is an allance with 1 000 organizations in 156 countries, 15 international offices; It is an observer at the United Nations and at the Council of Europe and has an agreement with the OIE.
The Africa office is in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania.
9 international organizations agreed to integrate the strategy related to animal welfare of the OIE : WSPA, CIWF, IFAW, RSPACA ... (see presentation).

There  are  20  organizations  for  animal  welfare  in  Africa out of 280, large enough to play a significant role in the implementation of standards. 15 are located in South Africa. Some of them focus on legislation, most on the improvement of the living conditions of animals.

The speaker recalls that the animals are used for the benefit of human beings. Animal welfare is a ethic issue which increases in credibility and importance. Increasing the understanding that an animal is a sensible being is difficult in Africa because human beings suffer and the status of the animal sometimes is inferior to the one of man. The animal welfare is indeed of less important priority for politicians and civil society. We must increase its importance.
The laws are not satisfactory. They come from the past and may still be important. However, they have to be implemented when they exist. An update of the legislation has been made in Zimbabwe, in this sense, we must congratulate this country for his effort.
The abuse on animals in Africa will increase in the coming years as the human population will grow fast and the use of land will become an issue of cardinal importance.
We must admit the existence of several other problems in Africa : a lack of sensitisation in animal welfare, inappropriate production systems have sometimes been imported, massive urbanization exist with loss of traditional methods of rearing animals, animals are bred today under conditions very different from the past.

But animal welfare in Africa can be improved through the law. Legislation is a key component of the OIE.
Abuse on animals can be stopped with the help of laws. In addition, to apply standards of animal welfare, we must fill the gaps regarding skills, resources, knowledge for instant for the veterinary services.

In this regard, NGO can contribute greatly to improving the situation. There are both international NGO and local NGO. Sometimes international NGO have different capability compared to local NGO.

Regarding international NGO.
They can advocate, but Governments will adopt what is appropriate for themselves. Advocacy on animal welfare is made in various forums, for example on climate change, in relation to religion, to environment ...
NGO can support national authorities to update the legal framework and expertise can be provided. They can provide reference models on legislation, for instance, as it has already been done previously.
They have an impact on the control of stray dogs. Trainings are available for the implementation of
guidelines. Ditto for the slaughter of animals. Ditto for slaughters on a large scale in the event of sanitary crises. Ditto for the use of animals for research purposes. They may support veterinary services to strengthen their capacity, provide advice on use of local resources to improve animal welfare or work with members of the Government on animal welfare. They can sometimes facilitate access to funds. Education and sensitization are the key points to changing behaviour. Training should be focused on target groups. Work is done regarding university curriculum (or college curriculum) in providing veterinarians with a deeper knowledge on the principles of animal welfare. Finally, the public is sensitised through information campaigns.

As far as local NGO are concerned. They are important partners for the implementation of standards on animal welfare on a national level. Some problems can be solved by local NGO, for example, compliance with rules in slaughterhouses of a country. NGO are making inquiries about specific cases of abuse and inform the national authorities. As far as regulation is concerned, NGO can help to put pressure on national policymakers. However, their impact remains limited because infrastructure and financial resources are lacking to address many questions. The speaker concluded his presentation by stating that collaboration between the OIE, NGO and national veterinary authorities must be increased as much as possible.

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**Work of producers’ organisations in supporting the implementation of the OIE standards.**

Mr Abbas Sheikh Mohammed of Kenya Livestock Marketing Council.

He expresses the idea that there is a lot of debates on whether the animal welfare is a real issue or not. However, the severe drought in Kenya last year has resulted in the rapid disposal of some animals, that had to be slaughtered. Producers’ organisations can sensitize their members and intervene in favour of animal welfare because they have representatives in parliament. They can work with veterinarians against abuses on animals. Finally, they can raise funds to improve animal welfare. However, we must admit that there are very few associations of producers in the East African region. The IFAWP is working with the OIE and is present in the region.

He says, by way of recommendations, that animal welfare will first be implemented through a good management of animals (appropriate cares ...). He adds that more resources must be available to be effective in this regard, best practices should be encouraged and standards must be accessible to Africa and not derived from European patterns.

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**Transport of cattle and sheep by sea over long distances.**

Dr Jean Paul Girot.

Dr. Girot developed a horse clinic near Paris. For 20 years, he is the private veterinarian of Agha Khan and has transported horses all around the world by air, sea and land. It has a land agency in Dubai. Due to his absence, Dr. Bourzat ensures its presentation. He has a limited experience in this field but has organised transport of cattle and deers from New Caledonia to Asia.

Dr. Bourzat recalled that the OIE has defined a standard regarding the transport of animals by sea.
His presentation begins on the fact that we must deal with all kind of risks that can occur during transport of animals by sea. For this, risks must be identified. Otherwise economic sanctions are the price to pay. The level of risk must be assessed taking into account factors that are known to have no impact (they can be managed), or those known to have an impact (a particular management procedure is needed with an insurance policy because nothing can be predicted).

Risk factors are related to the fact that animals of different origin are combined and mixed (the disease is therefore highly concentrated), that live animals are not used to being confined, and the sea is not flat ... so, as a result, there is important and unusual stress. The physiological status of animals may also change during transport (parturition). It must be remembered that the management will be done during the trip and the boat will not return to the harbour. The boat must be seen as a floating farm.

When reducing the risk, animal welfare is a component of all reflections. Three levels have to be considered:

a / Boat.

It has to be inspected. Protective equipments to control the effects of panic have to be seen. Problems of ventilation and drainage of manure on 10 to 15-day crossing, freshwater, physical access to the animals ... have to be taken into account. There will be no loading until the inspection has not been made (by maritime official and certified veterinarian).

Animal Welfare. The fixed equipment has to be verified, equipment having a role with respect to animal welfare, to prevent injuries (foot, fracture, injury, horns) and protective equipment against the weather, sea and other animals.

Ventilation. Audit of the ventilation, assessment of the capacity to renew the whole volume of air according to standards. The audit must be made before departure. Control of spare parts ...

Drainage of effluent. To take into account the environmental issue to prevent discharges in the sea. Accessible means when animals are on board.

It should be possible to walk on either side of the cage of animals. The doors should be sliding. To be sure of the lock gates. Soil quality to grab the feet and avoid slipping, but able to evacuate water and urine.

Predict choking panic. Take into account the size of the cages and animal density. To be able to complete a clinical examination of an animal.

Provide an isolation stall corresponding to 0.25% of empty cage on each deck (for nursery and isolation).

Fodder and fresh water. Assess the needs of animals in function of species, add one day for disembarking and a reserve of 25% (or 4 days if case of vagaries of the sea). Predict weight of feed, 3% of body weight of a sheep per day of transportation. Storage in two separate areas in case of fire, fire, pollution ... The concentrate feed can be flammable and self-ignite by fermentation. Therefore provide storage in a dry atmosphere. For drinking water, avoid sources of pollution. Provide pumping for all bridges. Arrange the troughs for filling from the outside. Provide automatic watering to minimize water tanks.

B / Human resources.

The master of manoeuvre is responsible for all interventions on animals. It is a veterinarian responsible for administrative documents. He supervises the sailors in charge of animals. The presence of a veterinarian must be made compulsory when the trip is longer than 4 days. The
veterinarian proceeds to a daily inspection of all parks.

C / Livestock.

Planning an expedition.
The animals are placed in homogeneous groups (by age, height and sex) and are inspected before boarding. The green light is given by the official veterinary authority. One animal out of 10 is inspected. In case of problems, the number of animals inspected has to be increased. Animals are screened from the farm.
The required documents are prepared according to the laws of the importing country: for instance certificate of animal welfare, animal health certificate, shipment certificate, pedigree, voucher of insurance.
There are three categories of animals: animals in correct condition, animals with a problem (the wounded, blind animals ...), animals in good condition but with special needs (eg pregnant females). Medics will be foreseen. Animals that will be treated on board will be recorded (part of the insurance compact).
Provide a system for incineration, destruction or storage of corpses.
Loading is facilitated by special equipment. It should be completed as quick as possible and without stress, so with a continuous movement of animals with gently sloping walkways. The loading plan in one direction, allows the rapid disembarking in the other direction. Avoid loading animals in the dark. No loading of animals with a crane.
During the journey, the veterinarian faces a classic management of a large herd. If euthanasia is necessary, a method complying with the animal welfare must be adopted. No disposal of corpses within 12 nautical miles of the land.
For disembarking, the same requirements must be respected. It is supervised by the competent authorities and performed by competent persons.
In case of problems like denial to disembarking. The OIE recommends to take into account first and foremost animal welfare. The importing competent authorities must provide with a quarantine after disembarking of animals. The quarantine also protects the national herd and public health. The reasons for the denial to disembarking must be explained.
In terms of documentation, the road map, details of loading, the list of animals and their identification ... (report of the master of manoeuvre on arrival, report forwarded to the insurers) are needed.
In terms of responsibility, animal welfare is the responsibility of all (vendor, shipper, subcontractors...). The two countries should agree on a minimum of rules related to animal welfare, certification of equipment ...

Conclusion.
Animal health and animal welfare at sea represent a risk to be managed with strict procedures.
In the appendix of the presentation, technical specifications are included.

Experience in Ethiopia.
Dr Berhe Gebreegziabher.

1 / The OIE Delegate gives a comprehensive overview of the animal health component of his country.
Regarding the animal health situation in Ethiopia:
Rinderpest has been eradicated since 1995 and the country has been declared officially free from
rinderpest in 2008.
For CBPP, a vaccine is produced locally, the disease is monitored regularly.
For FMD, serotypes O, SAT 1, SAT 2, A and C are present.
RVF has never been identified in Ethiopia. There is a national contingency plan. The disease exists in
neighbouring countries, however, the risk is significant.
PPR is endemic, identified in 1989 for the first time and has a strong impact in the lowlands.
Other diseases : CCPP is common in Ethiopia, Kenya and Sudan, poxvirus infections,
trypanosomiasis ...

In terms of capacity for laboratories, diagnostic in animal health is available in the national
reference laboratory in Sebeta.

Presence of an institute for the production of vaccines, since 1963. It currently practices cost
recovery (covering also salaries) without any government grant. It produces 17 types of livestock
and poultry vaccines.

The market for veterinary drugs is established with clear rules with control of all products imported
or exported, registration of drugs ...

There are three distinct categories of staff in charge of livestock : veterinarians, animal health
assistants, animal health technical agents (will be suppressed). Meat inspectors and laboratory
technicians must be added. There is also the group of community animal health workers.

The Veterinary University of Addis Ababa was established in 1979 and trains veterinary surgeons.

There are 7 border inspection posts and 2 are being created.

2 / Compliance with rules related to animal health and to SPS agreement.

Compliance with rules related to animal health and to SPS agreement must be seen at several levels
in Ethiopia : through the strengthening of federal capacities in epidemiological surveillance of
animal health, the development of a SPS certification system, the implementation of prerequisite
programs (2 slaughterhouses HACCP hygiene-based control), the establishment of a quarantine
procedure to meet exporters’ rules, erecting rules for animal welfare during transport and slaughter,
the early detection of diseases allowing a rapid response, by having a strict control of veterinary
medicines through a system of traceability of livestock on a national basis, the establishment of
residue control on meat.

3 / Challenge and constraints.

As far as constraints are concerned, there is a fragile legal framework and inadequate skills in the
veterinary services that constitute a problem for the compliance with the SPS agreement. Hence
some difficulties to export meat and live animals on the basis of stringent SPS requirements.

4 / The way forward.

The idea is to adopt the pending regulations to increase the reporting rate of diseases with high
quality information, to pursue the ongoing development of professional skills and, finally, to
improve existing infrastructure.
Experience in Tanzania.
Dr Issak Luambano.

The speaker recommended that all breakthrough in animal welfare has a comparative advantage for livestock breeders and that it can be translated into standards consistent with the OIE standards. He concluded by stating that the less complex they are, the quicker they are put in place.

He then describes the mechanism for the dissemination of useful standards for animal welfare in a community, starting with a step of awareness (first stage of adoption), then a step to further stimulate interest, then follows an evaluation step of what will be implemented (the indicators can be defined, the farmer can judge the benefit of this innovation), then the phase of the trial (the farmer sets up innovation of animal welfare), and at the end, the standard is adopted by the community.

This theory is implemented at his level, in his daily work. He indicates that he explains the concept of animal welfare to farmers who come to see him, with arguments showing that animals are capable of fully producing if they are in a physical and psychological good fit. For the maximum production, animal welfare is essential. It is possible, he says, to get 30 litres of cow milk a day if we improve the conditions of welfare. He explained that in the same way, in rural areas, people do not know what rabies is or vaccination is and that they should be sensitised to adopt vaccination.

In his conception of things, the challenges that can be faced in disseminating the rules on animal welfare are manifold, among others there is the lack of adequately trained professionals, the fact to ensure that veterinarians are the only one to deal with education on animal welfare when the issue is fundamentally a cross-cutting issue.

In conclusion, he stated on what should be necessarily taken into account to make progress on the issue of animal welfare. First, to establish a link between animal welfare and a community. If human rights are not respected, the animal rights will not be respected. To educate livestock owners. To establish work programs with communities knowing that animal welfare must be addressed in a participatory manner. To strengthen the capacity of veterinarians so that they are aware of the methodology.

He ended his speech with the idea that the veterinarians alone cannot make it and we should not forget that, regarding this cross-cutting issue, everybody is responsible.

Experience in Tunisia. Control of the population of stray dogs.
Dr Malek Zrelli.

He explained the problem of stray dogs with respect to public health. They are the source of three major zoonosis: rabies, hydatidosis, leishmaniosis.

National authorities have reacted by defining an integrated control strategy, including population control of stray dogs. This program is outlined below.

1 / National programme for the eradication of rabies.
The program was launched in 1981. In 1987, vaccination became compulsory around outbreaks. In 1991, the decision is taken to organise a free annual vaccination of dogs performed by the veterinary services.

Today, the program has three components : vaccination by the veterinary services, sensitisation of the population and health cares given to persons bitten by dogs, and finally, the control of the
population of stray dogs.

In 1991, with the organisation of the vaccination, the number of human rabies cases has declined sharply, stabilized in 2 to 3 cases per year up to 2008. Today there are 425,000 dogs vaccinated each year.

The program faces constraints. The vaccinated animals rate do not increase any more since 1991, and some dogs cannot be vaccinated. The program is expensive, with costs of post-exposure treatments amounting nearly 2 million USD compared to 30,000 people treated after exposure with an animal which could be contaminated. The control of stray dogs has stagnated, with a ceiling of 70,000 dogs slaughtered every year. However, the speaker reiterated that the results are positive with only two to three human rabies cases per year up to 2008.

To try to improve the effectiveness of the program, its strategy has been revised in particular with regards to the control of stray dogs. A survey of the population dogs in rural, semi urban and urban areas was carried out and yielded a figure of 600,000 dogs. The structure of the canine population is now known. 1/3 of dogs are below one-year old. The survey has shown that 8% of dogs have no owners. The balance is made up of dogs rather rambling but with an owner. Over 90% of human rabies cases are due to stray dogs.

Method and outcomes of the new program:
- Objective: to reduce the population of stray dogs, to increase immunization coverage, to empower dog owners.
- Method: sterilization, euthanasia and shooting. Sterilization is carried out by NGO and by the staff of the veterinary school of Tunis. Captures are made with the lasso, the animals are castrated, vaccinated and then placed in a shelter. In this new program, the tourist areas are preferred. Local mayors are responsible for reducing the population of stray dogs by means of euthanasia or shooting. The animals are captured by citizens and they receive a incentive. Euthanasia of stray dogs after capture is done by using the T61. Culling by rifle shots is the responsibility of the national guard, national police or hunters who are paid and supervised. They are trained to ensure that the death of an animal is immediate. The shooting campaigns are organized between April and June, from 0:00 to 4:00 am. 70,000 dogs are reported to be slaughtered every year.

In terms of accompanying measures (following the 2008 survey), we must consider:
- The fact to withdraw outside food for these dogs, the fact to close the landfill, to establish schedules for the collection of household waste with involvement of the media for communication, the fact to put outside garbage bags just before their collection and installation of specific sites for dust bins of the restaurants.
- Installation of collars for vaccinated dogs allowing to recognize them at night, and to avoid to slaughter them.

No case of rabies in human has been seen in 2009 and 2010. It is the overall outcome of the program in addition with various support measures to improve the situation. The goal now is to consolidate these excellent results.

In conclusion, the speaker stated that reducing rabies imposes to reduce the stray dog population. Slaughter is not the only method. It is a means but not sufficient and the public awareness regarding animal welfare is important. The public awareness has been increased by the possibility to communicate directly during the beauty contest for dogs and cats.
The speaker, in the preamble of his speech, said that he will speak mainly on the experience of the veterinary school of Dakar, fairly recent on the issue of animal welfare.

1 / Teaching animal welfare in veterinary school.

He recalls the various uses of livestock in Africa: food, transport, agriculture, economic role. Dogs are used for surveillance, cats to eliminate pests, dogs for hunting and the company of humans, various animals for teaching purposes and for researches in medical and veterinary matters ...

In veterinary schools, students handle animals, sometimes they euthanized animals, animals of all species. Animal welfare is disseminated into courses without making a specific discipline. In the curriculum, specific teachings exist in some veterinary schools like in Pretoria. At Masters and PhD level, there would not really be special education on animal welfare (compared to Europe).

The EISMV, the veterinary school of Dakar, is presented. It was created in 1968 by 15 Member States. It is considered as a regional public good by the African Development Bank. It is a centre of excellence for the WAEMU, a collaborating centre of the OIE for the training of veterinary officials and animal diseases and zoonosis control. Its teaching is relevant to African realities. The school has based its values on the following: ensuring animal welfare, respect professional ethics, foster regional integration, be a centre of excellence, protect the environment.

In the EISMV in the veterinary curriculum, during initial training, animal welfare is embedded into several disciplines, such as food safety, infectious diseases, animal science, animal physiology, anatomy ... As a result, students do not necessarily perceive clearly animal welfare because it does not belong to a specific course.

In-depth training at EISMV, in the same way, animal welfare is diluted in several trainings. Notions of animal welfare can be found: in post-graduate trainings (3 masters of which 2 in veterinary public health (epidemiology and health risk, training of veterinarians). In doctoral trainings (pastoralism, biotechnology and animal production, biotechnology and health animal), and finally, in on-going trainings for professionals (drugs, management of sanitary crisis, statistics). To give additional details, in the master related to the training of veterinary officials, a module deals with animal protection and not with animal welfare. Words are important at this level because there is a particular sensitivity for some teachers. This master has gathered, for its first edition last year, 6 participants coming from 6 countries.

Finally, and more particularly, there is an instruction on animal welfare in the blacksmith optional course organised with collaboration of the NGO World Horse Welfare. (www.worldhorsewelfare.org).

The speaker then discussed the problem that occurred during the stranding of pilot whales in Senegal. If no emergency plan exists at the national level, EISMV was involved in creating a crisis unit to manage this type of problem.

Finally, to have the issue of animal welfare taken into more account, he recommended the implementation of actions: To have a network of actors. To train trainers in the field of animal
welfare useful if we want to teach this matter. To adapt the content of courses with the regional cultural sensitivities. To show that animal welfare is not competing human well-being. To develop post-graduate trainings to upgrade veterinarians. And finally, to strengthen the laws in developing countries.

2 / Research on animal welfare in Africa.

The speaker recalls some aspects of the difficult question of the use of animals in scientific researches. Animals are now considered as important for the testing of drugs (and their toxicity), they are used as a model for studying human pathogens, ...

However, the researchers gradually apply the principle of the 3"R"s : Reduce the number of animals, Refinement of experimental methods and Replacement of techniques using animals by non-animal techniques. Dissemination of alternative methods is described in his presentation, where are inserted addresses of websites where lots of information about it can be found.

He also indicates that young researchers are trained in animal experiments to the rules of laboratory animal welfare and that good research practices are being developed. However, he mentions the need to create an ethics committee.

He gives some examples where the issue of animal welfare has been the subject of research : Study of the impact of transport on Mbororo cattle. Study of the quality of meat after slaughter and transportation. Finally, in EISMV, it exists a study related to meat quality and stress during slaughter, one related to the perception of animal welfare in the society and one related to the stray dogs population in Senegal.

He ended his speech by stating that the veterinary profession is feminized in developed and developing countries and this could be one of the reasons why animal welfare becomes more important.

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**Experience in Tanzania.**

*Dr Stanslaus Kagaruki.*

A law on animal welfare was enacted in Tanzania in 2008. It cancels the previous provisions most often dating from before independence. This law can be downloaded on the Government of Tanzania's website. This law covers the following :

- Animal welfare regarding animal used for the traction (at work, at rest).
- Animals when tied.
- Transportation of animals. Problem of the design of specific vehicles to meet animal welfare rules.
- Appointment of inspectors for animal welfare for the supervision of the law (police, sanitary inspector).
- Appointment of other inspectors under the local authority, with professional identity card.
- Slaughter in human condition with stunning before slaughter and religious specificity.
Discussions.

The discussion helped clarify points or brought the following explanations:

- The OIE Regional Commission for Africa reports to the World Assembly of Delegates. It remains in contact with the veterinary services of Africa.
- The OIE Regional Representations are the means for the OIE to facilitate capacity building of veterinary services.
- The OIE promotes twinning for the benefit of veterinary services. The OIE will facilitate good governance of veterinary services. The OIE supports the efforts of some organisations working with veterinary services.
- The OIE standards recognize that religious slaughter is a necessity for some groups in the society. Relevant means exist and are adapted to meet the many religious requirements. The answer, however, deserves a development far more important than the few minutes that were spent.
- The OIE terrestrial animal health code has no standards on the animal welfare during natural disasters. The whole nation is responsible during the implementation of emergency plans. The World Assembly of Delegates could make a recommendation for such standards and the next African Regional Commission might propose it. However, emergency slaughter is done to avoid the cruel death during crisis. In fact, it falls within the rules of euthanasia covered by the OIE.
- The OIE does not make recommendations on the paper certificates for animal welfare. OIE just makes recommendations on animal health certificates for export.
- The denial to disembark animals in an importing country is rare. Documents are sent to the importing country before the departure of the boat. In such a case, the OIE may propose a mission to facilitate the settlement of a dispute on a friendly basis between the two partners before going to the WTO.
- The OIE, according to its 5th strategic plan, that will come into force in January 2011, puts a lot of strength on issues related to animal welfare.
- The OIE recognizes community animal health workers and has a definition in the terrestrial animal health code. The evaluation of veterinary services according to the PVS tool addresses the issue of community animal health workers in one of its sections. One year, the World Assembly of Delegates has made a technical presentation on this matter.
SESSION 3
Reports of the working groups.

The OIE, in preparation for this seminar, sent a questionnaire to all delegates to obtain their views on several issues dealing with animal welfare. 30 countries have responded and information of all questionnaires was combined. The result of this synthesis is presented in the appendix to this document. It has been distributed to participants in both languages during the seminar, on the first hand, to be used as an inventory of the situation in 2010, and, on the other hand, to help a focal point be aware of situations experienced by all focal points. This synthesis was used as a basis for the reflection carried out by the working groups.

For ease of organisation, two working groups were formed, one anglophone and one francophone. It was asked to launch an initial discussion on the following: "What activities do you consider most important to improve animal welfare, at national, regional and international level?"

Francophone group.

(this group listed in chronological order of importance, what seemed fully realistic to be implemented).

I / At the national level.
1 / To upgrade the legislation.
2 / To strengthen legislation and regulation.
   a/ Collection of existing laws.
   b / Revised regulatory basis by an ad hoc group composed of veterinarians, lawyers and others.
3 / To communicate and advocate.
   Authorities.
   NGO.
   Transporters.
   Slaughterhouse personnel.
   Breeders, etc..
4 / To improve infrastructures (slaughterhouses, transportation means, quarantine stations, etc.).

II / At the regional level.
1 / To sensitise and advocate regional organizations.
   a / Establishment of regional committees.
   b / Involvement of NGO.
2 / To improve infrastructures.
3 / To harmonise laws and regulations.
III / At the international level.
1 / To build capacities through:
   a / The training of trainers.
   b / supports regarding documentation in on-going training (about standards, software, etc.).
2 / To strengthen cooperation between regional and international NGO.
3 / To sustain the flow of information through sharing of experiences.

Anglophone group.

I/ National level.
   Awareness campaign.
   Identification of all stakeholders.
   Legislation to back up welfare issues.
   Establishment of status of AW in the country (Gap analyses).
   Training of people who deals with animals e.g. abattoir workers, breeders etc...
   Implementation and enforcement of legislations.
   Revision of university curriculum for the inclusion of animal welfare issues (as well as at different school level).
   Analysis of the national policy.
   Identification of possible areas where abuse of animals can occur.
   Provision of adequate resources.
   Design tools /mechanisms within veterinary authority to deal with AW issues (strengthening the veterinary authority).
   Improving the livelihood of stock owners.
   Involving NGO’s in AW issues.
   Capacity building.
   Lobbying for political acceptance of AW at national level.
   Include AW standards in national strategic plans.

II/ Regional level.
   Establishing networking mechanism, exchange of expertise in different welfare issues and harmonising animal welfare strategies.
   Create a common regional protocol/code for animal welfare.
   Create a regional AW working committee.
   Capacity building.
   Lobbying for political acceptance of AW at regional level.

III/ International level.
   International awareness campaign e.g. international animal welfare day.
   Formulation of more standard an animal welfare.
   Developing instruments for technical support.
   Lobbying for political acceptance of AW at international level.
   Engaging international donors for support to animal welfare issues.
Dr Abdoulaye Bouna Niang, OIE Regional Representative for Africa.

The OIE Regional Representative for Africa has found that this group was interesting due to its diversity, responsive to all presentations and being aware of the issues on animal welfare. He expressed the idea that the responsibility of the African continent was in the hands of Africans themselves and the time when other countries were doing things has ended. He recalled that the OIE considers the focal points as key partners, and that they are a driving force. They are a force to help ensure that the maximum of people are committed to the rules of animal welfare. He points out that now the participants all know what are the OIE expectations as far as they are concerned. The participants have been given a symbolic diploma which clearly states what the OIE would like them to be tomorrow. He reminds the participants that they have a role to play when formulating the policies of their countries and, as far as the OIE is concerned, each country has its importance and is equivalent (one country, one vote). In his last words, he thanks and pays tribute to several people present during the seminar. He informs on the next OIE Regional Commission for Africa to be held in Rwanda and thanks to the Government of Rwanda for agreeing to host it.

Dr Walter Masiga, OIE Sub-Regional Representative for Eastern Africa and the Horn of Africa.

The brief remark of Representative sub-regional focuses on the success of this meeting and the fact that other courses of this kind will be organised again.

Dr Berhe Gebreegziabher, OIE Delegate of Ethiopia.

Dr Gebreegziabher states, in his closing speech of the seminar, that his Government and himself, as an OIE delegate and President of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa, along with the secretary of the Regional Commission, Ms. Marosi, are satisfied. What has been learned and shared during this seminar should be increased and strengthened in the respective countries of participants. He extends his thanks to Dr Bernard Vallat, Director General of the OIE, and to his representatives, for his commitment in African causes. Dr. B. Vallat is very sensitive to the African cause, he says, he loves Africa and we all value him. He thanks also the OIE Regional Representative for Africa and the Sub-Regional Representative of the OIE for East Africa and Horn of Africa. He finally concludes by telling the participants "see you soon" but not "goodbye".
APPENDIX : Results of the questionnaire sent to the OIE delegates in preparation of the seminar.

1/ where the major animal welfare problems likely to occur in your country. (* nb of answers)

Transport of animals (101*) > Stray dog population control (95*) > Slaughter of animals (83*) > Killing for disease control (77*) > Use of animals for research and education (52*).

2/ what tools would help to resolve the following problems ?

Slaughter of animals: Tool : Strengthening of veterinary services. Tool : Education and training.
Use of animals for research and education. Tool : Legislation.

3/ Comments, constraints, concern.

General comments.
AW is not considered as a challenge of major importance for many stakeholders (i.e. livestock producers, meat producers …).
The link between AW and animal health or food safety not well understood.
AW in embryonic stages in most of countries.
Very little is known about the needs and tools available and needs for public awareness in AW.
Need to define animal well-being/ welfare in a more appropriate manner as the classical definitions are used in the highly developed countries.
Africa needs to define its own goals for animal well-being and its own time table.
Lack of staff in the VS to control the compliance with existing regulation.
Need of financial means to reinforce capacity of VS, communication strategic plan ...

Legislation.
Lack of regulation (i.e. transport of animals, slaughter of animals, use of animal for research and education, stamping-out has to be accompanied with compensation.).
Need to update the legislation.
Legislation might be established taking into consideration the wishes of population.
Need of a good implementation of all legislation on animal protection.
Need of a strong political will.

Infrastructures.
Lack of infrastructure of any kind or old or maladjusted (housing, slaughterhouse, …).
Need to strengthen animal husbandry and animal management practice to ensure that AW Pb are minimized.

Communication.
Need of communication strategies (to reach target groups).

Training.
Need of training for stakeholders (i.e. breeders, carriers, slaughter staff …).
Need of experts to assist during trainings.
Technical support.
Support on recommended measures (i.e. shooting and use of poisoned baits : rabies) to avoid not recommended measures (i.e. spaying/ neutering : stray dog population control)
Design for vehicles to comply with AW (i.e. loading and unloading, duration of transportation, right rest time, appropriate space for one animal, provide water and food during exportation process …). Designs for the vehicles seen in Australia.

Interaction.
Dialogue with religious groups to come upon an agreement (i.e. Halal requirements ).
Strengthening cooperation between Gvts/ NGOs/ World association.
Co-operation between Gvts and standard setting international bodies such as OIE.

4/ Additional work for the OIE to undertake in the field of AW.

Support.
Assist in the development of programs and activities for the promotion of AW.
Establish directory for the evaluation of the VS in AW field.

Training.
Help building capacity (i.e. veterinary personnel …).
AW might be a specific course in veterinary and animal science education.
Implement regular trainings and monitoring activities of focal points. Intensify the number of workshops.
Workshop on AW for national experts and decision makers.
Send experts in MS to exchange experience in AW field. Organize experience sharing visits.

Legislation.
Assist MS in legislation formulation, in updating legislation or in strengthening the legislation.
Ex of regulations (killing without pain), good practice during transport, animal traction.
Ensure correct implementation of the regulation.
Help in preparing guidelines to create national regulations.

Technical guidelines.
Help setting standards for Africa by Africans.
Model design for vehicle for the transport of animals.
Guidelines on biosecurity norms in farms.

International meeting.
Include animal welfare public awareness campaign in the World Veterinary Day.
Organize regular meetings between MS with specific AW problems or sharing them.
Take the lead in the creation of a regional committee for AW.
Formulate a regional AW stakeholders forum (i.e. sharing information and experience).

Communication.
Technical assistance in public awareness.
Establish a network within countries to communicate with other relevant network.
Communicate stories of success.
Lobbying and advocacy support for AW issues in developing countries.
Strategy of communication during stamping-out.
Assist in putting in place information campaign targeting the population.
Awareness dissemination through international radios, bulletins, website.
Provide with bulletins on AW.