



Organisation Mondiale de la Santé Animale    World Organisation for Animal Health    Organización Mundial de Sanidad Animal



## Aquatic Animal Health Programmes their benefits for global food security (Panamá), 28-30 June 2011

### OBJECTIVES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Gillian Mylrea, Deputy Head, OIE International Trade Dept., Paris  
OIE Regional Seminar for OIE Focal Points for Aquatic Animals  
Grahamstown  
19-23 September 2011



### Conference Objectives

- To help to improve aquatic animal health worldwide and thereby, help alleviate poverty and hunger;
- To assist national authorities for aquatic animal health and welfare to address important threats and challenges;
- Explain how compliance with OIE standards and guidelines can help Member countries and regional organisations to meet these goals;
- To raise awareness of the OIE support available to Members through the OIE PVS Pathway and associated initiatives;



### Conference Objectives

- To continue advocating on behalf of Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services as a Global Public Good and to encourage governments and donors to make needed investments;
- To provide compelling messages for VS/AAHS to help convince decision-makers of the need for investment;
- To raise awareness of the key importance of quality education for veterinarians and aquatic animal health professionals to improve aquatic animal health programs;



### Conference Objectives

- To raise awareness of the need for research in some key areas, such as nutrition, sustainably sources of feed and disease prevention for aquaculture species;
- To advocate for applied research to support sustainable aquaculture development while avoiding unwanted impacts on the environment.



### Recommendations (1)

**The OIE is encouraged to:**

- cooperate with governments and with relevant international and regional organisations to increase awareness of the need for aquatic animal health programmes; improve disease reporting and foster cooperation between veterinary and other relevant authorities at the national and international level;
- strengthen collaboration with donors and with regional and international organisations, such as FAO, to advocate for the key role of veterinarians and aquatic animal health professionals in the prevention and control of disease and to encourage governments and donors to invest in VS and AAHS as a Global Public Good;
- continue taking steps to make the PVS Pathway, appropriately adapted to national aquatic animal health systems, more accessible to governments that wish to strengthen AAHS, including through the conduct of pilot evaluations of AAHS at the request of OIE Members;



### Recommendations (2)

**The OIE is encouraged to:**

- continue providing capacity building support to National Delegates to help them to comply with their rights and obligations, and to Aquatic Animal Focal Points under the authority of National Delegates, to strengthen the capacities of OIE Members, particularly developing countries, to participate in the standard-setting process;
- continue encouraging governments, relevant regional and international organisations and donors, to provide sufficient resources for aquatic animal health governance and programs, and for applied research relevant to these programmes, including into aquatic animal feed, welfare, therapeutics and vaccines;
- promote twinning projects that can strengthen early diagnosis; reporting, prevention and management of aquatic animal diseases; and other appropriate elements of capacity building;



## Recommendations (3)

### The OIE is encouraged to:

- address the particular needs of veterinarians working with aquatic animals as part of its recommendations on the Day 1 competencies of graduating veterinarians, including by asking the Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission to prepare recommendations on the content of the curriculum for Day 1 and Specialist Veterinarians.



## Recommendations (1)

### To OIE Members:

- Countries where aquaculture is an important or growing sector should consider requesting an OIE PVS evaluation of their AAHS, with the objective of improving competencies and general compliance with OIE standards and guidelines;
- Independent of entering the PVS Pathway, Members should take steps to improve compliance with OIE standards and guidelines, notably on the diagnosis and reporting to the OIE of aquatic animal diseases; on the use of therapeutic tools, such as antimicrobials, and on the formation of public-private partnerships;
- Those Members who have not yet done so should nominate national Focal Points for Aquatic Animals under the authority of the OIE Delegate and support participation of nominated Focal Points in OIE regional capacity building seminars and other relevant activities;



## Recommendations (2)

### To OIE Members:

- The OIE National Delegate should take steps to ensure that the OIE standards and recommendations on the prudent use of antimicrobial agents are respected in his/her country;
- OIE Reference Centres should, as part of their mandate, continue to comply with and promote the application of OIE standards, and provide services to OIE Members;
- Members with an OIE Reference Centre for aquatic animal diseases should provide sufficient resources to enable the Centre to adequately fulfil its mandate and duties;
- OIE Members, especially those with OIE Reference Centres, should give favourable consideration to participating in the OIE Twinning Programme;



## Recommendations (3)

### To OIE Members:

- Governments should support and encourage applied research on key questions related to aquatic animal health programmes, including on: relevant aspects of feed for use in aquaculture; aquatic animal welfare; and ecologically sustainable tools for the prevention and control of important aquatic animal diseases; and
- Governments should, as appropriate, comply with their WTO SPS obligations with respect to aquatic animal health certification for international trade.



Thank you for your attention

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