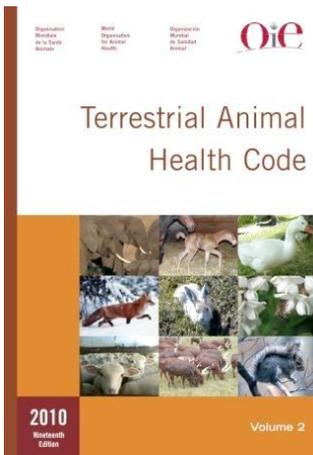
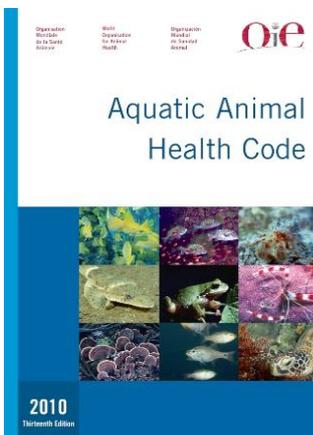


Organisation Mondiale de la Santé Animale    World Organisation for Animal Health    Organización Mundial de Sanidad Animal



# Regional information seminar for newly appointed OIE Delegates from Africa and Middle-East.



**7 - 9 June 2011.  
Nairobi. Kenya.**

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

August 2011



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. "

WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH



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appointed OIE Delegates from Africa and  
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Report of the seminar.

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World Organisation for Animal Health OIE

12, rue de Prony  
75017 P A R I S  
FRANCE

[www.oie.int](http://www.oie.int)

[oie@oie.int](mailto:oie@oie.int)

Regional Representation of the OIE for Africa

Parc de Sotuba  
P.O. BOX 2954  
BAMA KO  
MALI

[www.rr-africa.oie.int](http://www.rr-africa.oie.int)

[rr.africa@oie.int](mailto:rr.africa@oie.int)

Sub-regional Representation of the OIE for Eastern  
and the Horn of Africa

P.O. BOX 19687 00202  
NAIROBI  
KENYA

[www.rr-africa.oie.int](http://www.rr-africa.oie.int)

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# SESSION 1

## Official opening of the seminar.

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

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Dr Masiga thanked the newly appointed Delegates for attending the meeting in his welcome remarks, informing them that the speakers were those who best know the OIE and would elaborate the principles and mechanisms of the organisation very well.

He noted that the OIE Sub-regional Representation for Eastern and the Horn of Africa was the youngest OIE Representation and that Dr Bernard Vallat had been right in identifying Kenya to host it. Indeed, economically and geographically, Kenya lies at the heart of the most important region of Africa with regard to livestock and wildlife populations. Kenya is also home to many international organizations with which the new representation will interact.

Finally, Dr. Masiga thanked the Kenya Government for agreeing to host the Representation, the director of AU-IBAR for hosting the office for one year and the European Union for financially supporting the workshop through the BTSF programme as well as supporting livestock activities in Africa for many years. He also noted the contribution of the European Union to the eradication of Rinderpest from Africa.

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**Dr. Bernard Rey, Delegation of the European Union in Kenya.**

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Dr. Bernard Rey stated that he also belonged to the brotherhood of veterinarians.

He informed the meeting that the European Union had supported the workshop through the EU-funded BTSF program which was established to address sanitary and phytosanitary issues that were important to the EU to facilitate access to European markets and improve the safety of domestic consumers ... In this regard, the EU has supported the establishment of OIE regional offices by providing financial resources.

He reminded the meeting that it was important for the European Union to see countries being part of a regional integration process. The Union will soon sign economic partnership agreements with countries.

Finally, he stressed that the European Union has a role to play within the regional economic communities.

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**Dr Bernard Vallat, Director General of the OIE.**

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Dr Bernard Vallat began by stating that the inauguration of the OIE Sub-Regional Office in Nairobi was to be considered as an historic event and that the agreement between the Government of Kenya and the OIE was a win – win partnership.

He advised that the OIE Headquarters in Paris would spare no effort to support the activities of

the office, either directly or through the OIE Regional Representation for Africa in Bamako, Mali.

He emphasised that the sub-region had an important role to play in regional trade with the Middle East. Strengthening this commercial role would be one way to alleviate poverty in this sub-region of Africa.

He informed the meeting that Delegates would learn their rights as well as their duties during the three-day training. This information would also be useful in aiding them to better protect their rights with regard to international trade.

Dr Vallat stated that the two most important requirements for the OIE were: (i) the obligation of transparency in the sanitary situation of a country and (ii) the payment of the annual financial contribution to the OIE.

Finally, Dr Vallat emphasised that the policy of the structural adjustment programmes of the 1980's focused on public veterinary services and literally destroyed the sector. Veterinary services include two aspects, the private and the public sector, and excessive privatisation of veterinary services had been a disaster.

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**Mr. Kenneth Lusaka, Permanent Secretary for the Ministry for Livestock Development.**

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The Permanent Secretary informed the Delegates that the seminar was important because the information in the workshop would be useful for guidelines in their work, as the role of Delegates in the OIE would be discussed during the seminar.

He then emphasised that while he and the Minister had political and policy roles, technical responsibility lay with the Director of Veterinary Services.

He informed the meeting of a number of successes that Kenya has achieved, such as livestock traceability, which has been a key contributor to the success of regional trade between partners such as Somalia, Sudan and the countries of Middle East.

He expressed concern that structural adjustment programs implemented in the 1980s severely affected Kenya. For example, privatization was imposed without due preparation, and ultimately, livestock was severely affected with far reaching consequences extending to the present day.

He stated that apart from the speaker presentations, the seminar would be a platform for participants to exchange information and experiences.

In addition, he appreciated all efforts that had been made to strengthen the position of the sub-region, which was good for the member countries. He reaffirmed the importance of the continuous financial support of the European Union.

Finally, he stated that he was glad that the Government of Kenya had agreed for Nairobi to host the OIE Sub-regional Representation for Eastern and the Horn of Africa.

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# SESSION 2

## Background and aim of the seminar.

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### **Background and aim of the seminar.**

**Dr. Yacouba Samaké, OIE Regional Representative for Africa, Mali.**

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Dr. Samaké informed the meeting that the EU-funded BTSF program (Better Training for Safer Food) covered 52 countries in Africa and Liberia (which is not a OIE member State).

He focused on the recent positive improvements in Africa, especially in politics in countries such as Niger and Guinea.

He evoked some critical issues facing Africa such as the food crisis and sharp increase in the population in years to come.

This notwithstanding, he intimated that there had been good agricultural production in some countries, as well as a decrease in infant mortality and increase in the role of women in society (a woman Prime Minister in Mali). In addition, the annual contributions to OIE by African member countries have improved, and livestock has continued to contribute to human development in the continent. However, there will be sanitary problems arising from increasing trade in livestock and livestock products as a result of human population growth.

The OIE has always clarified that veterinary services are considered to be a global public good. One of the OIE's mandates is to improve the governance of veterinary services and, in this regard, the organisation emphasises relationship between the private and public sectors, the compliance of veterinary services with international standards, the improvement of veterinary legislation and the provision of adequate human resources in veterinary services.

Dr. Samaké outlined the missions carried out within the BTSF programme.

He also presented the OIE mandate as contained in the 4<sup>th</sup> and the 5<sup>th</sup> Strategic Plans.

He emphasised that Delegates may request assistance from the OIE Regional and sub-regional Representations in Africa, which are ready to assist them and their national focal points in their daily activities.

He concluded that objectives of this seminar were:

- To provide relevant information to Delegates on the mandate of the OIE and its activities, as well as its operational procedures.
- To help them clearly understand their rights and responsibilities as well as those of their focal points.
- To improve their participation in the process of OIE standards setting.
- And to encourage the implementation of OIE standards on a national level as well as with business partners.

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## SESSION 3

# The missions of the OIE, its organisation and functioning.

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**Overview of the OIE: Mandate, Structure, International Relations, 4<sup>th</sup> OIE Strategic Plan and major changes in the 5<sup>th</sup> Strategic Plan (2011-2015).**

**Introducing the new vade-mecum of the OIE.**

**Dr. B. Vallat, Director General of the OIE.**

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Dr Vallat began by providing the audience with general information on the OIE, its history and its original mandate.

He directed that Dr. Samaké should visit Liberia and request the country to join the OIE.

He reported the status of the annual financial contributions to the OIE, informing the meeting that the scale ranges between 15 000 Euros and 150 000 Euros p.a., assessed on a country by country basis. The least developed countries pay half of the 15 000 Euros per year. Finally, he outlined the various sources of funds of the OIE.

He detailed the role of the World Assembly of Delegates and emphasised that decisions are taken democratically. He explained that from its inception, the OIE had decided to work only with Delegates and in this regard had no national offices. He presented the structure of the OIE and the role of its various departments.

Dr. Vallat gave preliminary information on the role of the four specialized commissions and that of the five OIE regional commissions. He emphasized that decisions were taken by Delegates themselves during the World Assembly of Delegates. He also reviewed the role of the three working groups, ad hoc groups, and OIE world reference laboratories and collaborating centres.

He outlined relations between other international and regional organizations with the OIE. There are agreements between the OIE and these organisations and Delegates may deal directly with OIE partners. In this regard, the OIE will always support requests made by a Delegate to OIE partners.

Dr. Vallat described the 5<sup>th</sup> Strategic Plan (2011-2015) and stressed the need for young veterinary graduates to work in their countries in future. It is fundamental that zoonoses are maintained in the mandates of veterinary services. Finally, he emphasised that veterinary services are more effective if they are independent of the Ministry of Health.

<b>Discussion</b>
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During the discussion, Dr Vallat explained that the purpose of establishing ad-hoc groups was to assist OIE specialized commissions in the work of standard setting.

The Director General was very clear on the fact that he was the only one to sign letters of invitation to attend OIE meetings. In this regard, invitation letters to focal points must be signed by him.

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## **SESSION 4**

# Rights and responsibilities of OIE Delegates.

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**Statutory aspects. Rights and responsibilities. Provisions in terms of immunity.**  
**Dr. M. Gonzales, Deputy Head of the OIE Regional Activities Department, OIE**

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Dr Gonzales concisely described the duty of a Delegate, from their appointment to their replacement, as well as their rights and responsibilities during the World Assembly of Delegates.

She reminded the meeting that it was mandatory for member countries to pay the contributions to the OIE.

Finally, she also explained the working relationship between Delegates and the OIE Regional and sub-regional Representations regarding the organization of seminars and symposia.

<b>Discussion</b>
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Dr. Vallat explained that application of visas to France should be supported by documentation sent by the OIE to all Delegates. However, some staff members in French Embassies may not be conversant of the arrangement between the OIE and the French government regarding visa issuance. The Delegates should explain this arrangement to Embassy staff as necessary.

A country which wishes to host an official continental meeting, such as the OIE Regional Commission for Africa, should make a request during the OIE Regional Commission for Africa meeting. This request should be forwarded for decision to the General Session of the OIE in May. The Regional Commission for Africa meeting is held every two years.

For a technical meeting a simple commitment negotiated with the OIE Regional or sub-regional Representation level is sufficient.

Dr Vallat further stated that the OIE is a unique international organization, because each member country is represented by a technician, usually the Director of Veterinary Services. This is different, for example, from the WHO. He stated further that the OIE is not a political organization.

He also stated that the minister of a country is not allowed to vote, because only the Delegate has this right. However, a Minister may on invitation make a speech during the opening ceremony of the General Session in Paris. The Delegate must inform the Minister of this

provision. Dr. Vallat further informed the meeting that the Council had decided that a maximum of 10 Ministers could speak during the opening ceremony in Paris.

There may be local problems that prevent a country from paying its annual financial contribution to the OIE. Sometimes, after a reshuffle of senior officials, a country stops paying, simply because this commitment is not explained to new senior officials. The OIE always attaches legal documents to the annual call for contributions, and everything is sent to the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and to Delegates. Delegates are expected to clearly explain these provisions to the higher hierarchy.

Finally, when a Minister does not want the OIE Delegate to attend all meetings proposed by the OIE Headquarters in Paris, it is ultimately the duty of the Delegate to justify the importance of the meeting to the country.

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## **SESSION 5**

# **The OIE Regional Commissions.**

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**OIE Regional Commission for Africa.**

**Dr. Berhe Gebreegziabher, former President of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa, Ethiopia.**

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Dr. Gebreegziabher stressed the importance of the Sub-regional Representation in Nairobi in terms of support to African countries in the sub-region.

He emphasised the key role of a Delegate in mobilizing the various skills to carry out his activities and implement the OIE rules (he was himself the Delegate of Ethiopia). In this regard, he pointed out the importance of Delegates designating and training focal points to assist them in their activities.

He also pointed out the importance of the Sub-regional Representation in Nairobi working with the Delegates in achieving the objectives of the OIE (improving animal health worldwide ...), and the role of civil society in this field.

He urged countries to comply with OIE rules. To this end, he recalled the existence of the PVS pathway which is to improve veterinary services with provisions contained in the OIE codes and manuals.

Regarding the transparency of the global health situation, an "historical" objective of the OIE, he invited countries to provide comprehensive reports in a timely manner.

Finally, he indicated that VET2011 is not yet over and that countries can still propose activities by the end of the year.

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**OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East.**

**Dr. Kassem Al-Qahtani, President of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East, Qatar.**

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Dr Al-Qahtani advised participants that, in general, veterinarians have very little knowledge of the OIE.

He made a clear distinction between the work of the OIE Regional Commission and the OIE Regional Representation, which should not be confused.

He advised that in his region, the OIE Regional Commission comprised 20 member countries, who met every two years and aimed to improve the fight against animal diseases and zoonoses in the region. The last OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East was held in Doha, Qatar, in 2009 and the next will be in Beirut in 2011.

Finally, he stated that during the General Session in Paris in 2011, during the afternoon devoted to the OIE Regional Commissions, a presentation was made on Vet2011, information was given on the GF-TADs mechanism; the OIE world reference laboratories and collaborating centres; the world animal health information system Wahis in the region, and finally the work of FAO in the region.

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## **SESSION 6**

### **Interactions**

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**Interaction between regional representations and national veterinary services.**

**Dr. W. Masiga, OIE Sub-regional Representative, Kenya.**

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After a quick presentation on the historical background of the OIE, its mission and its organizational structure, Dr. Masiga described the workings of the Regional Representations and the Regional Commissions of the OIE. He emphasised that both entities work closely with the Delegates.

He described the composition of the new bureau of the Regional Commission for Africa, following the recent resignation of its chairman.

In conclusion, he listed the technical topics presented and discussed during the eight previous OIE Regional Commissions for Africa.

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**Relations between the OIE and regional and international organizations (regional economic communities, WTO ...).**

**Dr. B. Mtei, OIE Sub-regional Representative, Botswana.**

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Dr. Mtei began with a short reminder of the mandate of the OIE, its goals, and its six missions. He reiterated the role of the OIE, recognized by the WTO, as a standard setting body for matters relating to animal health and welfare.

Regarding cooperation with the OIE, he reported that only three agreements were signed before 2000, 22 agreements during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Strategic Plan (2000-2005) including agreements with the WHO, FAO and WTO, 20 agreements during the 4<sup>th</sup> Strategic Plan (2006 - 2010) and 6 agreements during the 5<sup>th</sup> Strategic Plan (2011-2015) including agreements with ISO, UNESCO, GFSI.

He mentioned the principles of cooperation with the OIE, also advising that there were global, intergovernmental, regional, as well as arrangements with the private sector.

More specific agreements exist, however, such as those between FAO and OIE in 2004 for the GF-TADs, a mechanism to combat transboundary animal diseases, between WHO and OIE for GLEWS, a network dedicated to alerts in animal health, and between WHO and FAO for the One Health initiative.

He ended his presentation by showing the progression of the OIE, which started in 1924 with 28 countries and now comprises 178 countries with a large number of representations all around the world.

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## **SESSION 7**

### World veterinary year.

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**Vet2011. World Veterinary Year.**

**Dr. Kechrid Faouzi OIE Sub-regional Representative, Tunisia.**

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Dr. Faouzi presented a number of illustrated slides with old engravings explaining the history of the city of Lyon, the life of Claude Bourgelat and ultimately the first veterinary school in the world.

He gave a detailed presentation on Claude Bourgelat, the visionary, founder of the first veterinary school in the world, inventor of the comparative biology (animal - man) and creator of the first ethics of the veterinary profession.

He then noted the progress of the Vet2011 events, stating that it was still possible to organise events and funds were still available. The deadline for requesting for funds is October 10, 2011, even if the event is held after this date. The celebration of the end of the year VET2011 will take place during the World Veterinary Congress in Cape Town in October and the Dr. Faouzi strongly encouraged all Delegates present at the seminar to attend the Congress.

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# SESSION 8

## Animal health standards.

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**International standards of the OIE for aquatic and terrestrial animals: Codes, manuals and guidelines. Standards development process. Participation of OIE Members. Dispute Settlement: WTO SPS agreement and the mediation of the OIE.**

**Dr. A. Thiermann, President of the commission du code, technical adviser of the Director General of the OIE, OIE.**

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Dr. Thiermann congratulated the African continent for speaking with one voice during the General Sessions in Paris. He said that other parts of the world, including South America, would like to emulate Africa.

He continued his presentation by stating that the WTO member countries have rights and obligations, and that the WTO had given real weight to the standards developed by the OIE. Thus, based on the OIE terrestrial code or the aquatic code, one country can challenge another.

The WTO aims to remove barriers that could hinder trade and reduce international competition. He indicated however, that some countries still protect themselves by emphasizing the protection of the health of their animals, plants, or the health of their human population.

It was during the Uruguay Round, which turned the GATT into WTO, that the SPS agreement was signed, removing all non-tariff barriers that countries had been using inappropriately.

Dr. Thiermann advised that, when international health standards exist, it is compulsory to comply with them. Any dispensation to this principle must be based on proofs/ science evidences. In other words, the risk, said to exist, must be demonstrated. All countries have the same rights and obligations on these issues. One cannot impose sanitary measures on exporters if nothing is done at home.

Risk analysis is a complicated subject, difficult to carry out in practice. A country must not hesitate to liaise with regional offices (IBAR, REC, OIE) or directly with the OIE Headquarters to request the necessary expertise to carry out a risk analysis.

The four OIE specialised commissions are to prepare standards that will be voted on by Delegates during the World Assembly of Delegates. Dr. Thiermann showed the chart describing the adoption process for OIE standards. The process takes about 2 years, unlike other international organizations such as Codex, for which a standard can be adopted in as many as 10 years. The process requires a very short time and Delegates should be vigilant in order to react on time. The OIE Regional Offices in Africa in particular, can facilitate the understanding of proposed standards.

Dr. Thiermann presented the calendar that Delegates of must keep in mind:

- The code commission meets during September and comments from Delegates are expected by OIE headquarters by early August.

- The code commission meets during February and comments from Delegates are expected by OIE headquarters by early January.

Dr. Thiermann emphasised a fundamental point. The strict compliance with an OIE standard ensures total safety regarding export (of an animal or food product ... as the case may be). No conflict will exist. This is due to the fact that the experts, who have discussed the issue and proposed a particular standard, have taken risk analysis into account.

He then explained that the code consists of two books, the first which contains horizontal standards (risk monitoring, quality of veterinary services ...) and the second which contains vertical standards (by disease).

The credibility of a country relies on its compliance with international standards but also depends more generally, on the application of principles of good governance of veterinary services. Dr. Thiermann listed those principles : strengthening the capacity of veterinary services, designation of focal points, implementation of the PVS pathway, taking advantage of the twinning program, requesting missions for veterinary legislation and participation in training ...

In this regard, he mentioned information related to the PVS pathway, indicating that the entire continent of Africa was ahead of the rest of the world in this exercise.

He pursued the issue of the mediation between two countries in case of trade disputes. The procedure for conflict resolution is long and expensive, and concludes with a single winner. In practice, countries use mediation when trade disputes could lead to huge economic losses (BSE, hormones ...). There is also an informal procedure to resolve conflicts.

With regard to the OIE, the organisation is not strictly involved in dispute resolution, but can act as a mediator and look for consensus. The OIE facilitates the selection of experts who should be neutral in the conflict and ensures that the parties agree on the rules. Dr. Thiermann mentioned, however, that the OIE was not a court dealing with trade disputes.

He concluded by saying that one article in the code relating to rules for registration of disease in the OIE list will be checked again because Delegates did not have enough time to give their opinion.

## Discussion

Teschen/ Talfan disease (paralytic encephalomyelitis of pigs or contagious swine paralysis) was removed from the OIE list because it no longer meets the criteria of the new decision tree, and not because it is no longer widespread geographically. It still, however, appears in the manual with regard to diagnosis and vaccine production.

The code will be correctly understood by different Delegates if animal health standards take into account the context of their countries.

Regarding Rift Valley Fever, some countries have banned intra-regional trade, despite the fact that the entire region has the disease. These measures of protection are thus unjustified and non compliant with the OIE code and the SPS agreement. The code should be read by importing countries because it indicates how to cancel the risk with respect to trade in meat

and milk.

Some Delegates intimated that all decisions are not always based on science, with policy sometimes dictating the law.

The importance of the support that can be provided by Sub-regional Representations in Africa was raised by some Delegates, particularly in terms of provision of information for good decision making.

Dr. Thiermann indicated that there are 46 and not 42 critical competencies in the PVS tool for the assessment of veterinary services. There is need for care because some critical competencies are in fact divided into two.

During a mediation procedure, the various costs are actually identified at the beginning (e.g. cost of experts ...). The sharing of the costs is also determined, whether it will be distributed over the two countries or borne by one. Dr. Thiermann indicated that there is a fund available to the OIE for such situations.

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## **SESSION 9**

### **Notification of animal diseases.**

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**Notification of diseases and transparency. Mandate of the OIE and registration process of a disease on the OIE list. Obligation to notify the OIE. The World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS): reports of immediate notification and follow-up, interim and annual reports. WAHID.**

**Dr. A. Maillard, technical assistant, Sub-regional Representation, Kenya.**

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Dr. Maillard said that his entire presentation would be an illustration of the OIE objective related to the transparency of the global sanitary situation.

The first part of his presentation was a detailed development of the legal basis of the notification of animal diseases by member countries to the OIE and by the OIE to member countries. This started with the 1924 international arrangement and its appendix (Organic Statute) and was later specified in chapter 1.1 of the terrestrial animal health code.

These theoretical elements gave way to practical information on notification, that is, what information is specifically requested from the Delegates of member countries, or what has to be sent to the OIE and when.

Dr. Maillard then demonstrated, in a concrete manner, how to make notifications on the OIE website, and how to download the various instruction manuals that explain how to complete the notification or semi-annual reports.

He explained how the OIE improves its objective of transparency through search and analysis of informal information. This can lead to a notification from the Delegates when such information is validated.

He further explained that the way data can be used is made available to the public. Wahid is the part of the OIE global animal health information system that is available to the public. Dr. Maillard demonstrated what could be obtained by using all available inquiries on the OIE website.

Finally, Dr. Maillard fully illustrated the outcomes of diseases reporting, by region, by diseases, the state of play of the search of informal information, outcomes of the visits of the OIE website ..., over a span of several years

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**Improved notification in wildlife: WAHIS 2 and WAHIS-Wild.  
Dr. A. Maillard, technical assistant, Sub-regional Representation, Kenya.**

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This presentation was an extension of the presentation on the OIE global animal health information system but emphasised information originating from wildlife.

The entire presentation was an illustration of the OIE objective related to the transparency of the global health situation.

A transparent sanitary situation of a country can have significant economic consequences through the banning of imports. This kind of decision can unfortunately be taken inappropriately when notifying wildlife outbreaks unconnected with livestock. This is the challenge of wildlife diseases notification: to comply with the transparency requirement by showing that a better understanding of the disease situation in both domestic and wild animals, leads to better risk analysis for importing countries and less unjustified trade barriers

Dr. Maillard reported on what had to be notified to the OIE and how it was to be notified.

He then presented on the improvement of wildlife disease reporting to the OIE since its inception in 1924. The OIE has always considered wildlife diseases, but the successive improvements of the global animal health information system have finally tried to be more accurate in terms of reporting, in other words, to better distinguish wildlife diseases from livestock diseases.

He presented the wildlife annual report through an Excel file that each Delegate had yet to send to the OIE until a particular module of the global animal health information system, named Wahis - wild, would allow for an online direct entry.

This new module Wahis - wild, the latest evolution of the global animal health information system which will be operational in 2011, will allow for notification using the Latin name of the wildlife species.

Lastly, Dr. Maillard described the role of focal point for wildlife diseases and showed how the terms of reference could be downloaded in pdf format from the OIE website for Africa.

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# SESSION 10

## Animal health strategy.

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### **Glanders in the Middle East.**

**Dr. G. Yehia, OIE Regional Representative, Lebanon.**

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Dr. Yehia presented information on contagious equine metritis, equine influenza, equine rhinopneumonitis, equine viral arthritis and West Nile fever.

He then raised the issue of Glanders, making a brief clinical description, and mentioning the lack of treatment and vaccination for what is a zoonosis.

He referred to the relevant chapter of the terrestrial animal health code (12.10) in particular as regards the definition of a country free from Glanders.

He reported on missions carried out in the Middle East in 2010, in the presence of an expert on the OIE Reference Laboratory and the OIE Regional Representative for the Middle East.

He presented a program for the region with three objectives: (i) inventory of the disease in three countries, (ii) improvement of the differential diagnosis (iii) and culling of animal with a positive test to stop the spread of the disease.

Kuwait imposes testing on its race horses when they go abroad, and has adequate legislation on the subject and practices of quarantine.

Dr. Yehia giving an example of Bahrain explained that animals with negative tests were imported into Bahrain and were negative on their arrival, but one year later, two of these horses which had been subsequently exported to Qatar were serologically positive without symptoms. An investigation was launched in the vicinity where the two horses were found serologically positive and 15 other horses were identified as positive.

In 2004, horses from Syria were contaminated by the disease in the United Arab Emirates. A very large epidemiological survey was conducted at that time.

There is a smuggling problem of horses between Iran and Turkey (infected) with no control and therefore no animal health certificate for export issued. The death of a fraudulently imported animal is never reported and this therefore may start the spread of the disease.

Dr. Yehia concluded by emphasizing the importance of sanitary requirements of export certificates which must comply with OIE standards. He further noted the lack of precise knowledge on movements of horses.

<b>Discussion</b>
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The signing of the export health certificate is possible by accredited private veterinarians, and as such, they are part of the veterinary services as defined by the OIE code. It is the notion of "sanitary mandate".

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**Rift valley fever in Kenya.**

**Dr. Peter Ithondeka, Delegate of Kenya.**

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Dr. Ithondeka began his presentation with an overview of the Rift Valley fever disease (clinical signs, mortality ...), its presence in wildlife and also in the camel.

He briefly recalled the history of the disease mentioning that it was identified for the first time, in Kenya, in 1912. Many outbreaks have taken place in Kenya up to 2006/ 07, with a cycle occurrences every 5 or 15 years. Dr. Ithondeka presented a figure showing the distribution of cases from 1912 to 2006. He also presented a map of Kenya showing outbreaks from 1912 to 2006, clearly showing the parts of the country that have never known disease. He stated that surveillance of the disease is organised on animal and human populations.

He then focused on the response of Kenya to this zoonosis. A working group has developed a contingency plan containing all aspects including meteorological ones. A committee, including other institutions, has been created within the Directorate of Veterinary Services. Quarantine measures have been deemed to be ineffective because mosquitoes can not be quarantined. Reinforced surveillance is provided on sites where the disease is considered to be most likely to occur again.

KWS (Kenya Wildlife Service) is responsible for serological surveillance in wildlife (giraffe, buffalo, eland ...).

Sentinel herds have been established in areas considered to be at risk of recurrence of the disease. Sheep and goats are used for this purpose with blood samples obtained every 2/ 3 months.

In 2008, 2.5 million doses of vaccine were used on goats, sheep, cattle and camels.

Vector control was made possible thanks to the use of pyrethroids (pour on or wash spray).

A campaign has involved sensitisation, communication and public awareness. Religious people, police forces and staff of slaughterhouses... were targeted. Personnel were trained and radio programmes were broadcasted. A national working group is responsible for these aspects.

In the 1950's outbreaks, there were 500 000 abortions in sheep and 100 000 deads. In the 1998 outbreak, 89 000 human cases were reported with 480 deaths.

Tools for decision-making consist of contingency planning, surveillance protocol and protection of personnel, simulation exercises, vaccination protocol, protocol for vector control, quarantine protocol and closure of slaughterhouses, use of sentinel herds, progressive shift from passive surveillance to active surveillance ....

If heavy rains are forecasted, it may be required to request Parliament for additional budget. However, this can lead to very difficult situations if the agreement is given and thereafter, it does not rain. It is true that the weather forecasts in Africa are very difficult and unreliable, and have nothing to do with those in Europe. In 2007, to prevent over-reaction, a study was launched in collaboration with ILRI (International Livestock Research Institute).

A study on camels was also carried out and in addition to abortions and the presence of rains camels can be good indicators of the occurrence of the disease.

Regarding vaccinations, in 2007, 2 millions animals were vaccinated and only 0.6 million in

2010.

A study on wildlife was carried out in 1997 and 896 serum samples were collected in 16 species of wild animals.

Similarly, a study on birds and monkeys was carried out in 1979.

Dr. Ithondeka concluded by presenting the current map of the distribution of Rift Valley fever in Africa.

## Discussion

Some Delegates reaffirmed the idea that human beings should no longer act as sentinels for the disease.

The disease is endemic due to the persistence of the virus in the eggs of certain mosquitoes. It therefore exists even with a regular and effective vaccination.

The risk analysis should be well carried out. It should prevent unjustified bans on trade. A Delegate said that heated milk, cooked meat, matured carcasses, are requirements of the OIE code, and should not constitute a risk when they are marketed.

The biggest risk is when human beings are in close contact with sick animals or with infected meat. Human beings do not benefit from any form of vaccination.

One Delegate informed the meeting that the NGO GALVmed was in the process of developing a recombinant vaccine.

The Delegate of Mauritania informed the session that his country is familiar with the disease because it has experienced outbreaks since 1980 and most recently in 2010. Antibodies were found in camels. Mauritania uses the principle of sentinel herds, but Delegates wondered whether this was effective in the prevention of the disease. Dr. Ithondeka said that he could not answer this question, and recognized that the sentinel herds were among the traditional tools for detecting the disease.

He finally informed the meeting that the Smithburn vaccine strain is commonly used.

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# SESSION 11

## The quality of veterinary services – The PVS pathway.

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**Good governance of veterinary services. Evaluation of the performance of veterinary services (PVS/ gap analysis/ strategic plans by country/ guidelines on veterinary legislation / follow-up mission).**

**Dr. M. Gonzales, Deputy Head of the OIE Regional Activities Department, OIE.**

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The concept of good governance is specified through explanations provided on the notion of global public good and the concept of "One Health".

In this context, Dr. Gonzales carefully detailed the whole PVS pathway: The initial assessment of veterinary services, the gap analysis and the veterinary legislation were reviewed and gave information on their principles, the documentation used in mission and the missions organization.

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**Designation and role of national focal points of the OIE. Capacity building programs.**

**Dr. M. Gonzales, Deputy Head of the OIE Regional Activities Department, OIE.**

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Dr. Gonzales reminded Delegates that the designation of national focal points had been validated by Delegates themselves during the 76<sup>th</sup> World Assembly of Delegates in Paris. As such, each year, the Director General of the OIE requests Delegates to ensure the designation of focal points and to communicate the list.

Dr. Gonzales said that the focal points themselves do not attend certain training to which they are invited, resulting in a significant loss of effort and resources. The OIE always checks the existence of the focal point when organizing a training course. If the person who registers online to attend a training course is not the person known in the database, the OIE requests Delegate to confirm the participation of the registered person.

The role of focal points was explained to the newly appointed Delegates because everything is done under the authority of the Delegate.

Dr. Gonzales then described the different focal points:

The focal point for sanitary information management is responsible for the notification of sanitary information to the OIE. He/ She is the contact point with the sanitary information department of the OIE Headquarters. He/ She is preferably an epidemiologist and has access to Wahis interface.

The focal point for aquatic animal diseases is responsible for establishing a network of expertise on the subject in his/her own country. He/ She liaises with the relevant authorities to have the sanitary information and notifies the OIE accordingly.

The role is similar in all focal points: animal welfare, food safety, wildlife diseases and veterinary drugs.

An important responsibility for focal points is to prepare comments related to drafts on revised or new standards proposed by the specialized commissions for the attention of the Delegate. Dr. Gonzales reiterated the deadlines for reporting comments of the Delegates to the OIE : early August for the September meeting of the code commission, and early January for the February meeting of the code commission.

The focal point for communication is the contact point for the Communication Department of the OIE Headquarters. He/ She should facilitate the communication of OIE actions in the country to make them understood. He/ She should establish a network of experts on the subject in his country.

Dr. Gonzales concluded with a summary of actions that the focal points have in common :

- Notification on Wahis: focal points for sanitary information management and aquatic animal diseases.
- Dialogue with the competent authorities: focal points for sanitary information management, aquatic animal diseases, food safety, diseases of wildlife.
- Preparing comments on draft standards: focal points for aquatic animal diseases, animal welfare, food safety, wildlife diseases, veterinary products, communication.

She ended her presentation by describing the Excel spreadsheet on training programs for newly appointed Delegates and focal points for the five continents that can be found on the OIE website (Delegate's site).

### Discussion

The Delegates specifically requested to be copied in all print and e-mail communication sent to a focal point.

It was recommended that the OIE continues to develop its training program for focal points as it is important to always have trained officers, and because the focal points turn-over is frequent in countries.

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## SESSION 12

### Expertise of the OIE.

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#### **Expertise of the OIE.**

**Dr. A. Maillard, technical assistant, Sub-regional Representation, Kenya**

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Dr. Maillard explained that the presentation would illustrate the objective of the OIE to promote scientific information, that is, that the OIE's role is to collect, analyze and disseminate scientific information throughout the world.

The network of expertise of the OIE prepares guidelines, recommendations ... and OIE

disseminates only strictly accurate scientific information. Ultimately, the goal is to assist member countries in their management of animal diseases.

He explained that the growing need for scientific information of member countries had led to the establishment of different structures which would be detailed later.

He reviewed the role, composition, and mandate of the four specialized commissions of the OIE (the terrestrial animal health standards commission, the scientific commission for animal diseases, the biological standards commission, the aquatic animal health standards commission).

He then raised the issue of three working groups designed to keep up to date scientific knowledge in their respective fields such as giving relevant information to the various committees. These are the working groups on wildlife, on animal welfare and on food safety (during the production phase).

The ad hoc groups are temporarily set up to study in depth a question submitted by the Director General of the OIE. Dr. Maillard presented some of the ad hoc groups that have existed.

He showed that on the OIE website, in the restricted part dedicated to Delegates, all commissions reports ... were accessible and downloadable.

He also presented the missions, activities and geographical distribution of OIE world reference laboratories and collaborating centres.

Dr Maillard explained carefully the OIE twinning program between national laboratories and OIE world reference laboratories or collaborating centres. The goal of the twinning is to develop a project that the OIE may fund to improve a specific capacity of the national laboratory. The inventory of completed and ongoing twinning projects was presented. Dr. Maillard demonstrated how to download the OIE documents on the web.

Finally, Dr. Maillard presented OFFLU, the expertise network launched in 2004 on avian influenza, now extended to all influenzas. He outlined the support available to OIE Delegates as well as all the material offered on the OFFLU website.

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## **SESSION 13**

### **Regional strategy.**

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**Work programme of the OIE Regional Representation for Africa.**  
**Dr. Yacouba Samaké, Regional Representative for Africa, Mali.**

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The OIE Regional Representative for Africa detailed the major missions of the OIE. He emphasised the importance of the entire PVS pathway which Delegates could very easily benefit from (veterinary legislation, strengthening the capacity of veterinary services, ...).

He described the link between the 5<sup>th</sup> OIE Strategic Plan and the comprehensive Africa agriculture development programme (CAADP).

He reiterated the contribution of veterinary services to the implementation of OIE standards. Veterinary services have a role to play in food supply of people, in reducing hunger in the world...

Dr. Samake reported the proceedings of the annual meetings of the Regional and sub-regional Representations and in particular the outcome of the last meeting in 2010.

He presented the relationship maintained between the OIE and the Regional Economic Communities.

He finally outlined activities implemented by the Regional Representation was drawn up.

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**Work programme of the OIE Regional Representation for the Middle-East.  
Dr. G. Yehia, Regional Representative for Middle-East, Lebanon.**

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The Regional Representation for the Middle East was inaugurated in 2006.

Dr. Yehia said that collaboration with the FAO Regional Animal Health Centre (the RAHC) was in a stalemate due to lack of funding.

He outlined all training courses organized for OIE national focal points: aquatic diseases in Dubai in 2010, animal welfare, food safety in Tunis in 2010 to name a few.

He informed the meeting that the OIE focal points for veterinary products training course will soon be held in Morocco and that for the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East in Beirut.

Dr. Yehia stated that he looked forward to future collaboration with FAO on Foot and Mouth disease.

Finally, he reported the progress of OIE twinning programmes between two laboratories.

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## **SESSION 14**

# **Information and communication.**

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**Information and communication. OIE websites.  
Dr. A. Maillard, technical assistant, Sub-regional Representation, Kenya.**

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Dr. Maillard stated that his presentation would be entirely illustrated in order to be particularly practical to Delegates. The main purpose was to show where they could obtain information produced by the OIE and the nature of this information, in order to help them better satisfy the objectives of the OIE in their daily work, or find useful documentation to justify the interest of a particular action developed by the OIE.

He therefore explained the entire website of the OIE

Dr. Maillard gave a similar but briefer presentation on the OIE website for Africa and for Middle-East. With respect to the OIE website for Africa, he presented the home page on actions developed by the program BTSF, i.e. the European program of DG SANCO.

The specific section for OIE Delegates on the OIE website, accessible only by code and password, was described.

A brief description was made on the vade-mecum for the attention of Delegates, but also accessible to the public.

Dr. Maillard described all OIE publications available. Some documents can be bought online while many are free and downloadable as pdf files. He showed some interesting examples of pdf documents.

He concluded his presentation by outlining other free documents available at the OIE, including OIE and veterinary services presentations, understanding the process of setting standards, reporting of health data to the OIE ... for example documentation for the attention of the public that Delegates may use to sensitize the public.

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## **SESSION 15**

### **Closing of the seminar.**

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Dr. Masiga informed the audience that the Director General of the OIE and the Minister for Livestock Development of Kenya had just inaugurated the new offices of the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for Eastern and the Horn of Africa.

Dr. Masiga thanked the President, the Government and the people of Kenya for accepting to host the sub-regional representation in Nairobi, the Director General of the OIE for choosing Kenya as the headquarters of the sub-region, Drs Thiermann and Gonzales for their presentations and the Delegates for having spared time to attend the seminar.

He congratulated Dr Samake for being appointed the new regional representative for Africa. And expressed gratitude for his colleagues Drs. Yehia, Mtei, and Kechrid for taking time to attend the workshop and make presentations.

He also thanked interpreters, personnel of Crown Platza Hotel, the event organizer, and the staff of the OIE Sub-Regional Representation in Nairobi, namely Ms Ndungu and Ms Omwega.

Dr. Samaké thanked the President of the Republic of Kenya, his government and his people. He expressed the pleasure that he had been present among the newly appointed Delegates, and concluded by congratulating Dr. Masiga and his team for organizing the successful seminar.

Dr. Gonzales speaking in behalf of the Director General of the OIE, expressed her gratitude to Dr Vallat for his vision for the veterinary profession in developing a great program - the PVS pathway. She emphasized the fact that the OIE headquarters in Paris would be nothing without her colleagues in the field who contribute immensely to the OIE activities.

She concluded her speech by thanking the Delegates for their support and for attending this seminar noting that it was not always easy for them to travel so far from their offices given their heavy workloads.

She expressed the hope that the contents of the seminar would be very useful for them and closed the regional information seminar for OIE newly appointed Delegates at 2PM.

## Appendix 1: Agenda of the seminar.

Day-1: Tuesday, 7 June 2011 – Chairperson: Dr Yacouba Samaké		
Time:	Inaugural session	Speaker/Time
08:00 – 09:00	Registration of participants	
09:00 –	Inauguration and opening	
– 10:00	Context and objectives of the seminar	Dr Yacouba Samaké, OIE Regional Representative for Africa
Time: 10:00 – 10:30	Coffee Break	
Time: 10:30 – 11:30	Topic: The OIE missions, organisation and functioning	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– General presentation of the OIE: Mandate, structure, international relationships</li> <li>– OIE 4th Strategic Plan and main changes to the OIE 5th Strategic Plan (2011-2015)</li> <li>– Presentation of the new OIE Vademecum</li> </ul>	Dr Bernard Vallat, Director General of the OIE / 60 min
Time: 11:30 – 12:00	Topic: Rights and obligations of OIE Delegates	
	Statutory Aspects Rights and Responsibilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– During the General Sessions of the World Assembly of Delegates</li> <li>– With respect to payment of Contributions</li> <li>– With respect to maintaining permanent relations with the OIE</li> <li>– During the Regional Conference</li> <li>– With the Regional Representation</li> </ul> Immunity provisions Governmental representation	Dr Mara Gonzalez, Deputy Head of the OIE Regional Activities Department / 30 min
Time: 12:00 – 13:00	Topic: OIE Regional commissions	
	OIE Regional Commission for Africa	Dr Berhe Gebreegzabher, President of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa / 30 min
	OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East and Regional activities / programmes of the OIE Regional Representation for the Middle East	Dr Kassem Al-Qahtani, President of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East / 30 min
Time: 13:00 – 14:30	Lunch	
	Chairperson: Dr Ghazi Yehia	
Time: 14:30 – 15:30	Topic: Interactions	
	Interaction between the Regional Representations and the national Veterinary Services	Dr Walter Masiga, OIE Sub-Regional Representative for East Africa / 30 min
	External relations between the OIE and the regional and international organisations (RECs, WTO...)	Dr Bonaventure Mtei, OIE Sub-Regional Representative for Southern Africa / 30 min
Time: 15:30 – 16:00	Coffee Break	
Time: 16:00 – 17:00	Topic: World veterinary year	
	Vet2011. World veterinary year	Dr Fauzi Kechrid, OIE Sub-Regional Representative for North Africa / 60 min
Time: 19:30	Official reception hosted by OIE	

<u>Day-2: Wednesday, 8 June 2011 – Chairperson: Dr Faouzi Kechrid</u>		
Time: 09:00 – 10:00	Topic: Health standards	
	OIE international standards for terrestrial and aquatic animals: Codes, Manuals and Guidelines Standard setting procedure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Elaboration of standards</li> <li>– Participation of members</li> <li>– Objectives: prevention and control of diseases, safe trade, safe production, animal welfare</li> </ul>	Dr Alejandro Thiermann, Technical Advisor to the Director General of the OIE, or Dr Mara Gonzalez, Deputy Head of the OIE Regional Activities Department / 40 min
	Dispute settlement: WTO/ SPS Agreement and OIE mediation procedure	Dr Alejandro Thiermann, Technical Advisor to the Director General of the OIE, or Dr Mara Gonzalez, Deputy Head of the OIE Regional Activities Department / 20 min
Time: 10:00 – 10:30	Coffee Break	
Time: 10:30 – 11:30	Topic: Animal disease notification	
	Disease notification and transparency <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– OIE mandate and disease listing procedure</li> <li>– Obligations of notification by Members to the OIE: the World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS): Immediate notification and follow-up reports, six-monthly and annual reports</li> <li>– WAHID outputs</li> </ul>	Dr Antoine Maillard, Chargé de Mission, OIE Sub-Regional Representation for East Africa / 60 min
Time: 11:30 – 12:00	Topic: Animal health strategy	
	Glanders in the Middle East	Dr Ghazi Yehia, OIE Regional Representative for the Middle East / 30 min
Time: 12:00 – 13:00	Topic: The quality of veterinary services – The PVS Pathway	
	Good governance of Veterinary Services Evaluation of Performance of Veterinary Services (OIE-PVS tool / PVS Gap Analysis, country strategic plans / guidelines on veterinary legislation / PVS follow-up evaluations)	Dr Mara Gonzalez, Deputy Head of the OIE Regional Activities Department / 60 min
Time: 13:00 – 14:30	Lunch	
Time: 14:30	Topic: Field visit	
	Two options : visit of Farmers' choice or the Dairy show	
<u>Day-3: Thursday, 9 June 2011 – Chairperson: Dr Bonaventure Mtei</u>		
Time: 09:00 – 09:30	Topic: The quality of veterinary services – The PVS Pathway	
	Designation and role of OIE national focal points. Capacity building programmes	Dr Mara Gonzalez, Deputy Head of the OIE Regional Activities Department / 30 min
Time: 09:30 – 10:00	Topic: OIE expertise	
	OIE expertise <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres</li> <li>– Ad-hoc groups and working groups</li> <li>– Specialist commissions</li> <li>– Scientific conferences</li> </ul>	Dr Antoine Maillard, Chargé de Mission, OIE Sub-Regional Representation for East Africa / 30 min

	- OFFLU	
Time: 10:00 – 10:30	Coffee Break	
Time: 10:30 – 11:30	Topic: Regional strategy	
	Regional activities / programmes of the OIE Regional Representation for Africa	Dr Yacouba Samaké, OIE Regional Representative for Africa / 30 min
	Regional activities / programmes of Sub-Regional Representation	Dr Walter Masiga, OIE Sub-Regional Representative for East Africa / 30 min
Time: 11:30 – 12:00	Topic: Animal disease notification (contid)	
	Improvement of notification in wild animals: WAHIS 2 and <i>WAHIS-Wild</i>	Dr Antoine Maillard, Chargé de Mission, OIE Sub-Regional Representation for East Africa / 30 min
	Discussion	
Time: 12:30– 14:00	Lunch	
	Chairperson: Dr Walter Masiga	
Time: 14:00 – 15:00	Topic: Animal Health Strategy (contd)	
	RVF in Kenya	Dr Peter Ithondeka, Delegate of Kenya to the OIE / 30 min
	Zoning and compartmentalization. Example in Botswana	Dr Kgoseitsile Phillemon-Motsu, Delegate of Botswana to the OIE / 30 min
Time: 15:00– 15:30	Topic: Information and communication	
	Information and communication. OIE websites	Dr Antoine Maillard, Chargé de Mission, OIE Sub-Regional Representation for East Africa / 30 min
Time: 15:30– 16:00	Final Session	
	Discussion	
	Conclusions and closing	

## Appendix 2 : List of participants.

### **Bénin**

Dr Richard Hounga Lokossou,  
Director of Livestock,  
Ministry of Agriculture,  
Livestock, Fisheries  
B.P.2041  
Cotonou  
BENIN  
[lokossourichard@yahoo.fr](mailto:lokossourichard@yahoo.fr)  
Tel: +229 97811720  
Fax: +229 21 33 54 08

### **Burundi**

Dr Nkezebahizi Emmanuel  
Directeur Général de l'Élevage,  
Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Élevage  
P.O.  
[nkezaba@yahoo.fr](mailto:nkezaba@yahoo.fr)  
+25777761840

### **Djibouti**

Dr Moussa Ibrahim Cheick,  
Director of Livestock & Vet. Services  
Ministry of Agriculture  
P.O. Box 297  
DJIBOUTI  
[pace@intnet.dj](mailto:pace@intnet.dj)  
+253 35 13 01

### **Gambia**

Dr. Kebba Daffeh  
Chief Veterinary Officer  
Animal Health and Production Services  
Ministry of Agriculture  
Abuko  
GAMBIE  
[kebbadaffeh@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kebbadaffeh@yahoo.co.uk)  
[daffex@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:daffex@yahoo.co.uk)

### **Ghana**

Dr. Edward Augustus Mark Hansen  
Acting Director  
Ministry of Food & Agriculture  
P.O. Box M161  
Accra,  
GHANA  
Email: [drmarkhansen@hotmail.com](mailto:drmarkhansen@hotmail.com)  
+2333022775377

### **Kenya**

Dr Peter Maina Ithondeka,  
Director of Veterinary Services,

Ministry of Livestock Development  
P.O. Kabete  
00625 KANGEMI  
[peterithondeka@yahoo.com](mailto:peterithondeka@yahoo.com)

### **Madagascar**

Dr Bibias Armand Lalaonirina,  
Deleguee OIE de Madagascar  
Ministere de l'Élevage  
Rue Farafaty Ampandrianomby  
B.P.291  
Antananarivo 101  
MADAGASCAR  
[luddolalao@yahoo.fr](mailto:luddolalao@yahoo.fr)  
Tel: 00261331149482

### **Mauritania**

Dr Baba Doumbia,  
Director of Livestock Services,  
Ministry of Rural Development  
B.P. 40197  
Nouakchott  
Mauritanie  
[doumbia@mdr.gov.mr](mailto:doumbia@mdr.gov.mr)  
[Tel: +22245297679](tel:+22245297679)  
Fax: 22245241236

### **Qatar**

Dr. Kassam Al-Qahtani  
President of OIE Regional Commission of  
Middle East  
Ministry of Environment  
P.O. Box 20380  
QATAR DOHA  
[k-qahtani@hotmail.com](mailto:k-qahtani@hotmail.com)  
+97455856515  
Fax 0097444663163

### **Seychelles**

Dr Jimmy Melanie,  
Principal Veterinary Officer,  
Seychelles Agriculture Agency  
Independence House  
P.O. Box 166  
Victoria, Mahe  
SEYCHELLES  
[seyvet@seychelles.net](mailto:seyvet@seychelles.net)  
[pvo@email.sc](mailto:pvo@email.sc)

### **Somalia**

Dr Habiba Sheikh Hassan Hamud,  
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Forestry and

Range, Somalia  
Director of Veterinary Services  
P.O. Box 8403 GPO  
Nairobi  
KENYA  
habibahamud@yahoo.com  
+254 722 878678  
+252 615 178 424

#### **Uganda**

Dr Nicholas Kauta,  
Director Animal Resources,  
Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry &  
Fisheries  
P.O. Box 513  
ENTEebbe  
[nicholaskauta@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:nicholaskauta@yahoo.co.uk)

#### **Zambia**

Dr Joseph Mubanga,  
Director, Department of Veterinary and  
Livestock Development,  
Ridgeway 10101  
P.O. BOX 50060  
Lusaka  
ZAMBIA  
[aphhq@zamnet.zm](mailto:aphhq@zamnet.zm)  
[mumujos@yahoo.com](mailto:mumujos@yahoo.com)  
Tel: +260 211 256 679  
+260 969 500 515  
Fax +260 211 252608

#### **Zimbabwe**

Dr. Unesu Ushewokunze-Obatolu  
Director Veterinary Field Services  
Division, Ministry of Agriculture,  
Mechanization & Irrigation  
Development  
Bevan Building, 18 Borrowdale Rd  
Box CY 56, Causeway, Harare  
ZIMBABWE  
Tel: 263 473 86 45  
Mobile: 263 722 219 763  
Fax: +263-700327  
[newazvo@hotmail.com](mailto:newazvo@hotmail.com)  
[dvsf@mweb.co.zw](mailto:dvsf@mweb.co.zw)

#### **Observer**

#### **South Sudan (observer)**

Dr Agol Malak Kwai,  
Director General of Veterinary Services,  
Ministry of Animal Resources and Fisheries

P.O. Box 126  
SOUTH JUBA  
[agolkwai@yahoo.com](mailto:agolkwai@yahoo.com)

#### **WSPA CONSULTANT**

Dr. Charles Kimwele  
P.O. Box 7525-00100  
NAIROBI  
[ckimwele@wspa-international.org](mailto:ckimwele@wspa-international.org)

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#### **OIE Headquarters**

Dr. Bernard Vallat  
Director General  
World Organization for Animal Health  
12, Rue de Prony  
75017 Paris,  
France  
[b.vallat@oie.int](mailto:b.vallat@oie.int)

Dr. Mara Elma Gonzalez Ortiz  
Deputy Head  
Regional Activities Department  
OIE/Paris  
12, Rue de Prony  
75017 Paris, France  
Tel: + 33 (0) 145 15 18 88  
Fax: +33(0) 142 67 09 87  
[m.gonzalez@oie.int](mailto:m.gonzalez@oie.int)

Dr. Thiermann Alejandro J  
World Organization for Animal Health  
12, Rue de Prony  
75017 Paris, France  
[a.thiermann@oie.int](mailto:a.thiermann@oie.int)  
+331 4415 1869

#### **OIE Regional Representative for Africa**

Dr. Samake Yacouba  
Regional Representative/ Africa  
P.O. Box 2954  
BAMAKO  
MALI  
Tel. +223 2024 15 83  
Fax +223 2024 05 78  
[y.samake@oie.int](mailto:y.samake@oie.int)

#### **OIE SRR/Eastern and Horn of Africa**

Dr. Masiga Walter

SRR/Eastern & Horn of Africa  
Upper Hill Road  
P.O. Box 19687 00202  
NAIROBI, KENYA  
Tel: +254 – 20271 34 61  
[w.masiga@oie.int](mailto:w.masiga@oie.int)

Dr. Maillard Antoine  
SRR/ Eastern & Horn of Africa  
Upper Hill Road  
P.O. Box 19687 00202  
NAIROBI, KENYA  
Tel: +254 – 20271 34 61  
[a.maillard@oie.int](mailto:a.maillard@oie.int)

MS Grace Omwega  
SRR/Eastern & Horn of Africa  
Upper Hill Road  
P.O. Box 196870202  
NAIROBI, KENYA  
Tel: +254 20271 34 61

MS. Loise Ndungu  
SRR/Eastern & Horn of Africa  
Upperr Hill Road  
P.O. Box 19687 00202  
NAIROBI

#### **OIE Sub Regional representative S/Africa**

Dr. Mtei Bonaventure  
Sub-Regional Representative/SA  
Mmaeaka Road, Plot 4701  
P.O. BOX 25662  
GABORONE  
BOTSWANA  
Tel. +267 391 4424  
Fax +267 391 4417  
[b.mtei@oie.int](mailto:b.mtei@oie.int)

#### **OIE Sub Regional representative N/Africa**

Dr. Kechrid Faouzi  
Sub-Regional Representative

17 Avenue d'Afrique  
El Menzah V (2091)  
P.O. Box 1082 TUNIS  
TUNISIA  
Tel. +216 71 237 400  
Fax +216-71 237 339  
[F.kechrid@oie.int](mailto:F.kechrid@oie.int)  
[Faouzi.kechrid@yahoo.com](mailto:Faouzi.kechrid@yahoo.com)

#### **OIE Regional Representative for the Middle East**

Yehia Ghazi  
Regional Representation for the Middle East  
Old Road of Saida Kfarshima  
P.B. 3234 Beirut/Lebanon  
Hazmieh Beyrouth  
LEBANON  
Tel. +961 5 43 55 09  
Fax +961 5 43 55 08  
Mobile:+9613619154  
[g.yehia@oie.int](mailto:g.yehia@oie.int)  
[ghazi\\_yehya@hotmail.com](mailto:ghazi_yehya@hotmail.com)

#### **INTERPRETERS**

Guilloune P. Girimana  
[ggirimana@gmail.com](mailto:ggirimana@gmail.com)

Patricia I Mugambi  
Freelance Intepreter  
P.O. Box 61052 00200  
NAIROBI-KENYA  
[Patricia.mugambi@gmail.com](mailto:Patricia.mugambi@gmail.com)

#### **OTHERS**

Dr. Allan Azegele  
Senior Assistant Director of Veterinary Services  
Department of Veterinary Services  
Ministry of Livestock development  
Private Bag Kabete  
Tel: 0722968989  
Email: [ae\\_allan@yahoo.com](mailto:ae_allan@yahoo.com)

### Appendix 3 : Assessment of the seminar.

Nine out of 13 Delegates filled the questionnaire for the assessment of the seminar. The outcome is as follows:

<b>Overall assessment of the event *</b>	
Content (Quality, up to date, relevant information, technical level)	34/36 (94%)
Structure / Format (Duration, timetable, activities, working plan)	33/36 (92%)
Organization (Logistics, venue, resources, assistance)	35/36 (97%)

\*For this series of questions, the total is 36

Comments: Satisfaction of all Delegates. The training seminar is recognized as providing sound basis for the Delegates.

<b>How would you rate the impact this event had or will have on: *</b>	
...your technical knowledge on the subject	31/36 (86%)
...your professional activities	33/36 (92%)
...strengthening regional / international networks	30/36 (83%)
...improving the work of your service / department / unit	34/36 (94%)

\*For this series of questions, the total is 36

Comments: The seminar was appreciated because it will improve the Delegates work during their careers. The weak point was its low impact on the regional or international network. However, information on notification of the sanitary situation justifies the need for setting up national networks of epidemiological surveillance.

<b>Logistics *</b>	
Invitations received in due time	35/36 (97%)
Flight travel arrangements ( <i>if applicable</i> )	35/36 (97%)
Hotel arrangements ( <i>if applicable</i> )	35/36 (97%)
Registration procedures	35/36 (97%)
Conference room	34/36 (94%)
Interpretation ( <i>if applicable</i> )	31/36 (86%)
Coffee breaks	35/36 (97%)
Cocktail	35/36 (97%)
Working documents	30/36 (83%)
Quality / speed of the computers and internet connection	33/36 (92%)

\*For this series of questions, the total is 36

Comments: Virtual unanimous congratulations regarding the organization of the seminar. Several weaknesses, however, (i) the lack of documentation provided before the meeting (except the CD-ROM immediately given before the end of the seminar and this was appreciated by most of Delegates), (ii) the fact that documents were not in French (though the presentations were made in both languages) and (iii) the interpretation was not unanimously appreciated by the participants.

<b>Lectures</b>		For evaluation of lectures please give your opinion on each aspect using a scale of 1 to 4. (1= Not satisfied to 4 = Fully satisfied)				
<b>Please rate only the lectures you attended</b>						
<b>Theme</b>	<b>Content</b> (Quality, up to date, relevant information, technical level)	<b>Presentation / Format</b> (Methodology, use of Time, clarity of didactic material)	<b>Performance of Speakers</b>	<b>Usefulness of this Lecture</b>	<b>Expectative Fulfilled</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>

<b>Context and objectives of the Seminar</b>						
Context and objectives of the Seminar						

All forms were not filled regarding this first point. When they were, the mark is 4. The background and objectives of the seminar were well presented and understood by participants.

<b>The OIE Missions, organisation and functioning</b>						
General presentation of the OIE: Mandate, structure, international relationships OIE 4 <sup>th</sup> Strategic Plan and main changes to the OIE 5 <sup>th</sup> Strategic Plan (2011-2015) Presentation of the new OIE vademecum						

Six Delegates completed the assessment forms for this presentation. All of them gave the mark of 4 out of 4 for all columns.

<b>Rights and obligations of OIE Delegates</b>						
Statutory Aspects Rights and Responsibilities						

Seven Delegates completed the assessment forms for this presentation. The mark 4 was given systematically to all the columns. The subject of the rights and obligations of Delegates was particularly well received.

<b>OIE Regional Commission</b>						
OIE Regional Commission for Africa						
OIE Regional Commission for Middle East						

Three Delegates gave a full level assessment for both presentations on the same subject. The presentation on the regional commission for the Middle East was as interesting as that of Africa for five Delegates. Three Delegates preferred the presentation related to Africa. But in all cases, Delegates said that to give information on OIE regional commissions is important, even if the presentation does not refer to their own home region.

<b>Interactions</b>						
Interaction between the Regional Representations and the national veterinary Services						
External relations between the OIE and the regional and international organisations (RECs, WTO)						

Two Delegates gave the highest mark for both presentations 4 out of 4. For both presentation, the highest scores were given to the usefulness of the presentations and the quality of the speakers.

<b>World veterinary year</b>						
Vet2911. World veterinary year						

This presentation was unanimously appreciated by the participants who gave the highest mark for each column and for this reason 4 out of 4.

<b>Health standards</b>						
OIE international standards for terrestrial and aquatic animals: Codes, Manuals and Guidelines Standard setting procedure. Dispute settlement: WTO/SPS Agreement and OIE mediation procedure						

Four Delegates gave the maximum mark 4 per column. For four other Delegates the second part of the presentation on dispute settlement was slightly more popular.

<b>Animal disease notifications</b>						
Disease notification and transparency						
Improvement of notification in wild animals: WAHIS 2 and WAHIS-Wild						

Five Delegates rated the highest mark for two presentations dealing with the notification of the health situation (the second being more focused on wildlife). Three Delegates gave a slight preference to the first presentation on the notification (principle, legal basis, practical, results ...).

<b>The quality of veterinary services The PVS Pathway</b>						
Good governance of Veterinary Services. Evaluation of Performance of Veterinary Services (OIE-PVS Gap analysis), country strategic plans/guidelines on veterinary legislation/PVS follow-up evaluations)						
Designation and role of OIE national focal points. Capacity building programmes						

Five Delegates rated the highest marks for two presentations dealing with the quality of veterinary services. For four Delegates, usefulness of the presentation and expectative fulfilled received the highest mark. The content of the presentations, however, received a good score.

<b>OIE expertise</b>						
OIE Expertise						

Six Delegates gave the highest mark for all columns.

<b>Regional strategy</b>						
Regional activities/ programmes of the OIE Regional representation for Africa						
Regional activities/ programmes of the OIE Regional Representation for the Middles East						

Slight differences in the assessment of Delegates on these two presentations dealing with similar topics. Marks vary between 3 to 4 per questionnaire.

<b>Animal Health Strategy</b>						
Glanders in the Middle East						
RVF in Kenya						

Both presentations were appreciated. However, more questionnaires were filled for the presentation on Rift Valley fever.

<b>Information and communication</b>						
Information and communication. OIE websites						

This presentation has been almost unanimously appreciated.

**The Delegates gave the following comments :**

- Seminar very useful for improving the performance of participants.
  - Important seminar for Delegates so as to help them understand their rights and obligations and to understand the OIE and its components.
  - Seminar to be held in the future, planned every two years.
  - Seminar a little bit theoretical, an practical exercise would have been interesting.
- What were the strengths of this seminar?
    - Distribution of CD ROM at the end of the seminar.
    - Experienced speaker.
    - Quantity of adequate and relevant information for Delegates.
    - Presentation such as : rights and responsibilities of Delegates, reporting and good governance of the veterinary services.
    - Presentations very clear and practical. The field visits were interesting.
    - The number of participants.
    - The organization of the seminar.

- The presentation in French and English presentation.
- What were the main weaknesses of this seminar?
  - Duration is too short.
  - Good governance of the veterinary services not developed enough.
  - Too much text on some PowerPoint presentations, so difficult to read.
  - No weak point.
- Do you have suggestions for improving the seminar.
  - This type of training should be organized again to reinforce capacity and allow Delegates to meet each other.
  - Delivery of documents before the seminar.