

### *Terms of Reference for the OIE National Focal Point on Wildlife*

During the 76<sup>th</sup> General Session in May 2008 the importance of the focal point for information on animal diseases was re-iterated and Delegates were also requested to nominate additional focal points for wildlife, veterinary products, animal production food safety, animal welfare and aquatic animal diseases.

As detailed in the final report of the 76<sup>th</sup> OIE General Session in May 2008, the responsibilities of the focal points are under the authority of the OIE Delegate. Any information transmitted to the OIE from the different focal points needs to be transmitted under the designated authority of the OIE Delegate. This practice would equally apply, if focal points are located in other Departments or Ministries not under jurisdiction of the Veterinary Authority, as from a legal perspective the OIE considers the official OIE Delegate to be the unique representative of the country.

#### *Details on proposed tasks of the national focal point for wildlife:*

1. to establish a network of wildlife experts within his country or to communicate with the existing network;
2. to establish and maintain a dialogue with the Competent Authority for wildlife in his country, and to facilitate cooperation and communication among several authorities where responsibility is shared;
3. under the authority of the OIE Delegate of his country, to support the optimal collection and submission of wildlife disease information to the OIE through WAHIS (immediate notifications and follow-up reports, six-monthly reports, and annual questionnaires) to enable the OIE Delegate to more efficiently manage his OIE Member obligations;
4. to act as a contact point with the OIE Animal Health Information Department and the Scientific and Technical Department on matters related to information on wildlife including wildlife diseases;
5. to receive from the OIE Central Bureau copies of the reports of the Working Group on Wildlife Diseases, selected reports of the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases and other relevant reports, should they address discussion points on wildlife or the livestock-wildlife interface and conduct the in-country consultation process with recognised wildlife and animal health experts on draft texts of standards proposed in those reports as well as draft standards proposed by the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission when dealing with wildlife diseases; and
6. to prepare comments for the Delegate on each of the relevant meeting reports reflecting the scientific view and position of the individual OIE Member Country or Territory and/or the region including comments on the proposals for new OIE standards and guidelines related to wildlife.