Global capacity for sustainable surveillance of emerging zoonoses
Topics for discussion

- OIE objectives
- OIE and the WTO SPS Agreement
- Notification Obligations and Disease Information
- OIE international standards
- Reference laboratories and Collaborating Centers
- Good governance, how to evaluate
- Key elements for sustainable surveillance
The OIE objectives

ANIMAL HEALTH INFORMATION:

to ensure transparency in the global animal disease and zoonosis situation

Conduct surveillance, collect, analyse and disseminate animal health information according to Member’s obligations
OIE reporting obligations

- OIE Members have international reporting obligations as laid down in the Codes
  - to make available to other members, through the OIE, whatever information is necessary to minimize the spread of important animal diseases and to assist in achieving better worldwide control of these diseases
  - OIE Members have to report the presence of any listed disease, as well as the detection of any epidemiological event of significance
INTERNATIONAL SPREAD

• Has international spread been proven on 3 or more occasions? OR
• Are more than 3 countries with populations of susceptible animals free of the disease or facing impending freedom (based on Code provisions, especially Appendix 3.8.1)? OR
• Do OIE annual reports indicate that at least 3 countries with susceptible populations are reporting absence of the disease?

EMERGING DISEASES

(A newly recognised pathogen or known pathogen behaving differently)

• Is there rapid spread or apparent zoonotic properties?

ZOONOTIC

• Has transmission to humans been proven? (with the exception of artificial circumstances) AND
• Is human infection associated with severe consequences? (death or prolonged illness)

SIGNIFICANT SPREAD IN NAIVE POPULATIONS

• Does the disease exhibit significant mortality at level of a country or zone? OR
• Does the disease exhibit significant morbidity at the level of a country or zone?

INCLUDE

EXCLUDE

EXCLUDE

INCLUDE
WAHIS, is the new OIE’s world animal health information system.

An access (login, password) is given to each Delegate.

Provides countries with a simpler and quicker method to meet obligations on sanitary information (immediate, follow-ups and 6 mo.)

The system uses maps and geo-coordinates for “event” location.
The WAHID Interface provides access to all data held within OIE's new World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS). It replaces and significantly extends the former web interface named Handistatus II System.

A comprehensive range of information is available from:
- Immediate notifications and follow-up reports submitted by Member Countries in response to exceptional disease events occurring in these countries as well as follow-up reports about these events.
- Six-monthly reports describing the OIE-listed disease situations in each country.
- Annual reports providing further background information on animal health, on laboratory and vaccine production facilities, etc.

To start, select one of the headings on the left. You can then explore available information:
- by country (or group of countries),
- by disease,
- focusing on control measures, or
- comparing the animal health situation between two countries.
WAHID: Disease distribution maps

Choose Disease:
- Terrestrial: Highly path. avian influenza
- Aquatic: --- Aquatic ---

By six-month period  By Month  Year: 2007  Period: Jan-Jun  OK

Disease distribution maps

[Map showing disease distribution globally]
The OIE objectives

INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

within its WTO mandate, to safeguard world trade by establishing health standards for international trade in animals and animal products

to provide a better guarantee of the safety of food of animal origin, and to promote animal welfare, through a science-based approach
Standard-setting organisations

- **food safety**
  - CODEX

- **animal health**
  - OIE

- **plant health**
  - IPPC

OIE = World Organisation for Animal Health

Codex = Joint FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission

IPPC = International Plant Protection Convention (FAO)
OIE international standards

• OIE develops and publishes
  • health standards for trade in animals and animal products
  • biological standards for diagnostic tests and vaccines
• adopted by OIE Members during General Session each May, no other pathway for adoption
• Veterinary Authorities should base their animal health regulations on OIE standards in order to harmonize the sanitary aspects of international trade
The OIE Codes and Manuals

- Terrestrial Animal Health Code
- Aquatic Animal Health Code
- Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals
- Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals
Principles in the Codes

• WTO obligations complied with if Codes used correctly

• importing country assumed to be free of a specific disease or with a control programme for that disease

• measures take into account
  □ assessment of risk factors in real world situation
  □ quality of veterinary services / competent authorities
  □ zoning and compartmentalisation
  □ disease surveillance and timely notification

→ credible health certification for traded commodities
Approach in the Terrestrial Code

• approach very similar to that in Aquatic Code
• generic (horizontal) chapters
  • general definitions
  • obligations and ethics in international trade
  • disease notification
  • general guidelines on surveillance
  • import risk analysis methodology
  • evaluation of veterinary services
  • animal identification and traceability
  • import/export procedures
Approach in the Terrestrial Code

- specific disease chapters, with recommendations on:
  - live animals
  - genetic material
  - products of animal origin (meat, milk, hides / skins)

- in each chapter, articles on
  - description of pathogen / disease
  - determining status of a country, zone or compartment
  - ‘safe’ commodities irrespective of status (when possible)
  - recommendations on ‘unsafe’ commodities
Approach in the Terrestrial Code

• appendices
  • collection and processing of semen and embryos/ova
  • disease surveillance - general and disease specific
  • inactivation of pathogens and vectors
  • animal welfare
  • food safety
  • antimicrobial resistance

• model veterinary certificates for
  • live animals
  • products of animal origin
Updating international standards
How to improve compliance

• Direct inquiries with CVOs
• OIE editorials
• Bilateral Equivalency Agreements
• WTO-SPS Committee: notification of trade concerns
• Effect of multinationals
• OIE Mediation mechanism
The OIE objectives

ACTIVITIES OF VETERINARY SERVICES

- to provide expertise and encourage international solidarity in the control of animal diseases
- to improve the infrastructure, legal framework and resources of the Veterinary Services
Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centers

- 160 Reference Laboratories
- 20 Collaborating Centers
- in 29 Countries
- covering 83 diseases or topics
- 137 experts
Joint network of reference laboratories
OIE PVS TOOL

OIE Tool for the Evaluation of Performance of Veterinary Services
Good Governance of Vet. Services requires:

- Appropriate legislation, adequate resources, and political commitment to implementation allowing for:
  - Early detection, Transparency, Notification
  - Rapid response to animal disease outbreaks to eradicate or to effectively control including:
    - Biosecurity (borders and production sector)
    - Compensation (improved notification)
    - Vaccination when necessary
Surveillance is the key to early detection, transparent notification and rapid response

- Building and maintaining efficient epidemiological surveillance networks covering the entire national territory are critical
- Ability to cover all animal diseases, including zoonoses and emerging diseases in domestic animals as well as in wildlife
- Relevant for natural occurrence and intentional events
- Good Governance includes public/private partnerships (important to have the understanding and support of livestock producers, animal health workers and industries)
Sustainable surveillance and transparent reporting

- **Technical ability**
  - competent veterinary infrastructure
  - laboratory network capable of handling and testing
  - awareness program for veterinarians, farmers, para-professionals

- **Political will**
  - at decision-making levels
  - local incentives
  - compensation