**Presentation Outline**

- Introduction — role of delegate in Swaziland
- Advantages of OIE membership
- Challenges
  - Legislation/Policies challenges
  - Reporting challenges
  - Investment challenges
  - Other challenges
- Suggestions / Possible solutions

**Role of Director/Delegate**

- Technical-political
- Formulation and implementation of animal health and production policies / legislation
- Facilitate increase in trade whilst observing OIE Standards
- Converging point for multiple stakeholders (politicians, farmers, industry, global citizenry)
- Must be assertive, well conversant with OIE standards, WTO, Veterinary Technology Advancements, Global Thinking and domestic stakeholders needs
- To serve the people of Swaziland and by extension the global citizenry.

**Competent Authorities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competence</th>
<th>Veterinary authority</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Terrestrial (animal health)</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aquatic (animal health)</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Department of Agriculture and Extension (Fisheries Section)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildlife (animal health)</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Ministry of Natural Resources (King’s Office (CITES))</td>
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<tr>
<td>Animal health (food safety)</td>
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<td>Ministry of Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>Animal health (veterinary drugs)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Animal welfare</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Prime Ministers Office (Royal Swaziland Police)</td>
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**Focal points**

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<tr>
<th>Competence</th>
<th>Designated</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Animal diseases notification</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Dr. Sihle Mdluli</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aquatic animal health</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Dr. Freddy Mupagala</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildlife</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Dr. Patrick Dlamini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal production food safety</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Dr. Bernard Dlamini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterinary drugs and biologicals</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Dr. Zizwe Cindzi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal welfare</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Dr. Bernard Dlamini (VPH) / Dr. Prince Danso (Field)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Role of the OIE Delegate

- Rights and obligations of OIE Member countries and of the OIE Delegates
- Involvement in the WTO-SPS Agreement with focus on international trade of animals and animal products
- Involvement in the OIE PVS process for the assessment / evaluation of Veterinary Services
- Notification requirements to the OIE (immediate and 6-monthly)
- Involvement in national / zonal disease freedom recognition processes
- Annual declarations of disease/infection freedom
- Responses to draft OIE standards and guidelines and appointment of focal points
- Attendance of OIE regional commission and world assembly meetings
- Administrative responsibilities towards OIE
- Financial responsibilities towards OIE

Advantages

- OIE is the greatest ally and mentor for the DVLS
- OIE alerts system keeps DVLS abreast with global animal disease occurrences
- OIE literature/publications are a rich source of animal health/production information
- Strong link with other international organization and sharing of information and strategies
- Various evaluations including PVS and Gap analysis provides basis for trust between Veterinary Services
- OIE Standards are a guidance and benchmark for international trade

Legislation/ Policy Challenges

- Rate of new standards formulation is fast yet national legislation formulation mechanisms are slow
- Related challenge – fast turnover of politicians – no institutional memory
- Inadequate budget and political support/understanding
- Multiplicity of sanitary standards, trade requirements and/or mechanisms of compliance

Reporting challenges

- Unavailability of report uploading function in WAHIS means report cannot be prepared offline
- Linking wildlife and domestic animals reports in WAHIS delays submission of the 6 months report
- Many reports on the same subject (OIE, SADC, AU)
- Overwhelming electronic communication

Investment and other Challenges

- Animal production not significantly improving therefore no justification for investment in new animal health programs
- Sensationalist/ Alarmist local media
- New delegates are not given user friendly guidelines on the operations of the OIE
- Corruption – politicians, technicians/professionals, industry

Suggestions

- Create report uploading option in WAHIS to enable those with difficult internet connection to report
- Delink the wildlife report from the domestic animals report
- Develop a pocket guide on the operations of the OIE and avail to delegates
- Avoid insignificant or cosmetic changes to the OIE standards for adoption of changes into national legislation takes long
Suggestions Cont.

- OIE Sub-regional offices to lobby politicians especially at REC meetings
- OIE to continue capacity building for delegates and focal points
- Support delegates from developing countries to participate actively in standard setting meetings.
- Collaboration between OIE and allies to avoid “group-think” and limitation of diversity of possible solutions

Contacts

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Thank you, Ngiyabonga