Mandate of OIE Reference Centres
Capacity Building Support and Networking

Regional Seminar on the OIE Laboratory Twinning Programme: Concepts and Perspectives

Johannesburg, South Africa,
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Neo J. Mapitse
Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres

GENERAL OVERVIEW
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• Definition
• Geographical spread
  • Globally
  • Africa Region
• Mandate and Terms of Reference
• Activities and achievements
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Governance structure of the OIE

- World Assembly of Delegates
- Council
- Director General
- Headquarters
- Specialist Commissions
  - Code, Aquatic Animals, Laboratories, and Scientific
- Reference Laboratories
- Collaborating Centres
- Regional Representations
- Regional Commissions
- Working Groups
  - Ad hoc Groups
Governance structure of the OIE

Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission
“Code Commission”
- Responsible for ensuring that the Code reflects current scientific information.

Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases
“Scientific Commission”
- Assists in identifying the most appropriate strategies and measures for the following:
  - disease surveillance
  - disease prevention and control
  - examining Members’ request regarding their official animal health status, for countries that wish to be included on the OIE official list of countries or zones free from certain diseases

Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission
“Aquatic Animals Commission”
- Compiles information on diseases of fish, molluscs, crustaceans and amphibians and recommends appropriate prevention and control methods for these diseases.

Biological Standards Commission
“Laboratories Commission”
- Establishes or approves methods for:
  - diagnostic of diseases of mammals, birds and bees
  - defining quality criteria of biological products such as vaccines, used for disease control purposes
- Advises the Director General in supervising the global network of OIE Reference Centres (277 worldwide in 5/2012).
The OIE Priority Missions

• Transparency of animal diseases situation worldwide
• **Scientific excellence**;
• International support to developing countries and the role played by VS;
• Support to good veterinary governance and capacity building;
• Safety of international trade of animals and animal products;
• Food safety and
• Animal welfare.
The OIE Network of Expertise

Strengthen the OIE`s expertise capabilities to respond more effectively to Members requirements

• Established due to growing OIE Members demands to provide advice on:
  • Technical and scientific matters
  • Basis for setting of international standards
• International points of reference for disease diagnosis, prevention and control
• Constitutes the central core of the OIE`s scientific excellence
The OIE Network of Expertise

Strengthen the OIE’s expertise capabilities to respond more effectively to Members requirements

- Ensuring transparency in the global animal disease situation including zoonoses:
  - The network must improve **early warning** in the event of outbreaks of **animal diseases**, including **zoonoses** and the knowledge of the **animal health situation** in the **world**, with regard to OIE – listed diseases and to **emerging** and **re-emerging** diseases that are not listed
# The OIE Network of Reference Centres

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NJ M1  Cross reference to resolutions of 79 GS
OLE, 10-Jun-11
OIE Reference Laboratories

- Principal mandate is to function as a world reference centre of expertise on designated pathogens or diseases;

- to pursue all the scientific and technical problems relating to a named disease or specific topic.

- The Expert : leading and active researcher to provide scientific and technical assistance and expert advice.
Africa-based OIE Reference Laboratories

- African Horse Sickness
- African Swine Fever
- Bluetongue
- Contagious bovine pleuro-pneumonia
- Control of veterinary products in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Echinococcosis / Hydatidosis
- Foot-and-Mouth Disease
- Lumpy Skin Disease
- Sheep and goat pox
- Rabies
- Rift Valley Fever

12 in 4 countries!
Principal Mandate of RL

• To use, promote and disseminate diagnostic methods validated according to OIE Standards;
• To recommend the prescribed and alternative tests or vaccines as OIE Standards;
• To develop reference material in accordance with OIE requirements, and implement and promote the application of OIE Standards;
• To store and distribute to national laboratories biological reference products and reagents;
• To develop, standardise and validate according to OIE Standards new procedures for diagnosis and control of the designated pathogens or diseases;
Mandate (contd)

• To develop, standardise and validate according to OIE Standards new procedures for diagnosis and control of the designated pathogens or diseases;

• To provide diagnostic testing facilities, and, where appropriate, scientific and technical advice on disease control measures to OIE Member Countries;

• To carry out and/or coordinate scientific and technical studies in collaboration with other laboratories, centres or organisations including through Twinning;
Mandate (contd)

• To collect, process, analyse, publish and disseminate epizootiological data relevant to the designated pathogens or diseases;

• To provide scientific and technical training for personnel from OIE Member Countries;

• To maintain a system of quality assurance, biosafety and biosecurity relevant for the pathogen/ disease concerned

• To organise and participate in scientific meetings on behalf of the OIE;
Mandate (contd)

• To establish and maintain a network with other OIE RL designated for the same pathogen or disease and organise regular inter-laboratory PT to ensure comparability of results;

• To organise inter-laboratory PT with labs other than OIE RL for the same pathogens and diseases to ensure equivalence of results;

• To place expert consultants at the disposal of the OIE.
2011 Report of activities

- Based on 161 out of 182 Reference Laboratories and 36 out of 38 Collaborating Centres for terrestrial animal diseases or topics;

- New reporting template being considered to derive more consistent information from the Reference Centres
2011 Report of RL activities

% of Labs carrying out activity (2011)

- PPT & publications: 84%
- Collaborative studies: 58%
- Scientific meetings: 36%
- Provision of Dx facilities: 64%
- Training: 72%
- Consultant experts: 86%
- Maintain QA, B&B: 88%
- Data (collect, analy, dissem): 73%
- R&D new procedures: 88%
- Prep & supply Int Ref Stds: 71%
- (Harmonise methods) PT: 62%
- (Harmonise methods) Networking: 51%
- Reagents (prod, testing, distr): 92%
- Tests in use/available: 97%

General activities

Specific OIE activities
COLLABORATING CENTRES
Collaborating Centres

• Principal mandate is to function as a world centre of research, expertise, standardisation of techniques and dissemination of knowledge on a specialty;

• Centres of expertise in a specific designated sphere of competence relating to the management of general questions on animal health issues (for example epidemiology, risk analysis, training, veterinary drugs etc.)

• provide their expertise internationally
World distribution of the OIE-Collaborating Centres

OIE-Collaborating centres
- 1 collaborating centre
- 2 or 3 collaborating centres
- more than 3 collaborating centres
- no OIE-collaborating centre

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Africa-based OIE Collaborating Centers

• Training Veterinary Officials, Diagnosing Infectious Animal Diseases and Zoonoses in Tropical Africa
  Ecole Inter-Etats des Sciences et Médecine Vétérinaires (EISMV) de Dakar

• Surveillance and Control of Animal Diseases in Africa
  Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute

• Training in Integrated Livestock and Wildlife Health and Management
  University of Pretoria

3 in 2 countries!
2011 Report of CCs activities

% of CC carrying out activity (2011)

- Publications: 90%
- Coord, collaboration on studies: 65%
- Organisation of meetings: 46%
- Scientific & technical training: 90%
- Place Experts for OIE: 87%
- Networking: 90%
- Develop relevant procedures: 72%
- research, expertise, stdsn diss techqs: 94%
The Pathway to designation of an OIE Reference Centre

1. Application for Reference Centre status received by DG from Delegate
2. Dossier number assigned and logged (Scientific and Technical Department oversees the whole process)
3. Application referred to corresponding Regional Commission (only for Collaborating Centres) *
4. Opinion sought from the most relevant Specialist Commission (and Working Group, if needed)* (specialty listing below, not exhaustive)

- Terrestrial animal disease diagnosis
- Biotechnology
- Veterinary medicinal products
- Vaccines
- Veterinary laboratory capacity

- Food and feed safety
- Animal welfare
- Legislation
- Veterinary education and training

- Terrestrial Animal Health Commission
- Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases

- Aquatic animal disease control
- Aquatic animal disease diagnosis

- Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases
- Wildlife
- Animal-human-ecosystems interface

- WG Animal Welfare
- WG Animal Production Food Safety
- WG Wildlife Diseases

5. OIE Council
6. World Assembly

* Order of consultation by Commissions depends on the meeting calendar
Reference Centres in Capacity Building

- The International Committee of the OIE adopted, during the 70th General Session, Resolution No. XXI that identified *The Role of OIE Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres in Capacity Building for Developing Countries*;
Some examples

Types of laboratories used for additional tests - Congo Basin
Some examples

Percentage of IDENTIFY targeted diseases

- Diseases for which tests were available in national laboratories
- Diseases for which OIE prescribed or alternative tests were available in national laboratories
Some examples

Percentage of IDENTIFY targeted diseases for which advanced tests were available, Congo Basin

- Diseases for which tests were available in national laboratories
- Diseases for which advanced tests were available in national laboratories
ABOUT

OIE BLUETONGUE REFERENCE LABORATORIES NETWORK

A worldwide network of OIE Bluetongue Reference Laboratories has been instituted under the auspices of the OIE with the aim to improve the knowledge of bluetongue epidemiological situation and to facilitate international trade of live ruminants.

It is a web-based system where laboratory and epidemiological information, including bluetongue virus (BTV) strain genetic characterization (sequences), are made available. It includes a GIS application to facilitate the representation of epidemiological relevant data.

Contact Person

Dr Rossella Lelli
Head of the
Italian Reference Laboratory
for Foreign Diseases
Tel.: +39 0861 332 230
Fax: +39 0861 332 231
e-mail: r.lelli@izs.it

Dr Giovanni Savini
OIE BT Reference Expert
Head of the Virology Unit
Tel.: +39 0861 332 440
Fax: +39 0861 332 251
e-mail: g.savini@izs.it

Dr Paolo Calisti
Epidemiologist
Italian Reference
Laboratory for Foreign Diseases
Tel.: +39 0861 332 241
Fax: +39 0861 332 251
e-mail: p.calisti@izs.it
Thank you for your attention

World Organisation for Animal Health

Organisation mondiale de la santé animale

Organización Mundial de Sanidad Animal

n.mapitse@oie.int

www.mr-africa.oie.int

www.oie.int