Animal disease notification and transparency

Regional Information Seminar for Recently Appointed OIE Delegates
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WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH
Protecting animals, preserving our future

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General Mandate of the OIE

In 1924 the OIE has been created by 28 countries in response to the Rinderpest epizootic in Europe

General Mandate:
*To improve animal health worldwide*

Main objectives:
- **Transparency**
- **Scientific information**
- **International solidarity**
- **Sanitary safety**
- **Promotion of VS**
- **Food safety**
- **Animal welfare**
Legal framework

- An obligation in the OIE Organic Statutes, signed and ratified by founding countries.
- By deciding to join the OIE, a Member agrees to fulfil its international commitment to notify to the OIE as laid down in the Chapters 1.1. of the OIE’s *Terrestrial and Aquatic Codes* (“Notification and Epidemiological Information”)

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*Terrestrial Animal Health Code*  
*Aquatic Animal Health Code*
Meaning of notification

The procedure by which:

- The Veterinary Authority informs OIE Headquarters:

- The OIE Headquarters informs all Veterinary Authorities:

  of the suspicion or confirmation of an outbreak of a disease or other epidemiological event, according to the provisions of the OIE’s Codes.
Basic disease monitoring-reporting system

OIE Country Members ↔ OIE

Central Veterinary Authorities

Regional/Local Official Veterinary Services

Farmers and Vets in the field

Laboratories

Abattoirs
OIE list of notifiable diseases for terrestrial animals

Criteria for listing diseases (infections):

- Capacity for international spread
- Zoonotic potential
- Capacity for significant spread within naïve populations
- Emerging disease

Similar criteria apply

The OIE list for 2014 includes 116 diseases for terrestrial and aquatic animals
Official disease status

• Not to confuse with the OIE list of notifiable diseases!

• Since 1998, the OIE has the mandate from the WTO to officially recognise disease-free areas of countries for trade purposes.

• The procedure for the official recognition of disease status by the OIE is voluntary and applies currently to six diseases:

  • African horse sickness
  • Foot and mouth disease
  • Bovine spongiform encephalopathy
  • Peste des petits ruminants
  • Classical swine fever
  • Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia
  • Rinderpest
Types of reports

OIE’s early warning system

- **Immediate notification**
  of disease, infection or unusual epidemiological events
- **Weekly reports**
  Follow-ups to the immediate notification
- **Final report**
  - if the outbreaks have ended
  - if the situation becomes endemic

OIE’s monitoring system

(To monitor OIE Listed diseases)

- **Six-monthly report**
- **Annual report**
Reasons for immediate notification within 24 hours


1. first occurrence of a listed disease, infection or infestation in a country, a zone or a compartment;
2. re-occurrence of a listed disease, infection or infestation in a country, a zone or a compartment following a report declared the outbreak ended;
3. first occurrence of a new strain of a pathogen of a listed disease, infection or infestation in a country, a zone or a compartment;
4. a sudden and unexpected increase in the distribution, incidence, morbidity or mortality of a listed disease, infection and infestation prevalent within a country, a zone or a compartment;
5. an emerging disease with significant morbidity or mortality, or zoonotic potential;
6. evidence of change in the epidemiology of a listed disease, infection or infestation (including host range, pathogenicity, strain) in particular if there is a zoonotic impact;
OIE’s monitoring system

Six-monthly report
on the absence or presence of OIE listed diseases

Part 1: Qualitative information
- disease occurrence;
- control, prophylaxis and prevention measures;
- indication of the type of template to use to notify diseases or infections/infestations present in the country
Six-monthly report
on the absence or presence of OIE listed diseases

Part 2: Quantitative information

- **Template 1:** By first administrative division and by month;
- **Template 2:** For the whole country by month;
- **Template 3:** By first administrative division for the six months period;
- **Template 4:** For the whole country for the six-months period.
OIE’s monitoring system

Annual report

For OIE-listed diseases: the sum of information from six-monthly reports of a given year

and:

- Non OIE-listed diseases;
- Human resources in Veterinary Services;
- National Reference Laboratories;
- Livestock census (by first administrative division);
- Zoonoses (human cases and deaths);
- Production of vaccines.
An access (login, password) is given to each Delegate. He/she has the possibility to create an access to his/her nominated National Focal Points on:
- animal disease notification;
- aquatic animal diseases;
- wildlife;

Address: www.oie.int/wahis/
General presentation of WAHIS

OIE
World Animal Health Information System

- 24h Immediate notifications & follow-up reports
- 6m Six-monthly reports
- 12m Annual report

WAHIS
General presentation of WAHIS

**OIE**
World Animal Health Information System

- **24h**: Immediate notifications & follow-up reports
- **6m**: Six-monthly reports
- **12m**: Annual report

**WAHIS**

**WAHID**
World Animal Health Information Database
General presentation of WAHIS

OIE
World Animal Health Information System

Immediate notifications & follow-up reports

Six-monthly reports

Annual report

WAHIS

WAHID INTERFACE

OIE-info List

OIE Website

World Animal Health Information Database

World Animal Health Publication
Ten major specificities of WAHIS

... give strength to the system

- Official source
- Verification process
- Management of an interactive system

Information highly reliable

Better explanation of the information provided

Improving transparency

Great source of disease information

- Monitoring system
- Early warning
- Grouping outbreaks
- Surveillance in both domestic & wild species

- Trust
- Rumours tracking
- Verification process

- All information is publicly available
- Additional information from annual report

Better explanation of the information provided
Search for non-official animal health information and rumours

Identification of the discovered health event

Analyse the credibility of the source

Evaluation of the relevance of the information

Non-relevant information

Verification

Official confirmation by Delegate

Denial by Delegate

Immediate notification/historical data correction
Increase of the number of countries notifying immediately by themselves
WAHIS capacity building for Focal Points

• **Training on WAHIS:**
  - For Focal Points on Animal Disease Notification
  - For Wildlife Focal Points

• **Objectives:**
  - Development of their skills in understanding the notification obligations requirements and WAHIS use
  - Encourage them to increase their coordination role in animating their national animal disease surveillance systems and in collecting data
WAHIS capacity building for Focal Points
WAHIS capacity building for Regional & Sub-Regional Representations: train the trainers

For selected officers

Basic support on the use of WAHIS for the Region of Europe:

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WAHIS capacity building for Regional & Sub-Regional Representations: train the trainers

“Train the Trainer” Workshop addressed to Regional and Sub-Regional Representations selected officers

28-30 October 2013
Conclusions

• Country members have as an obligation notifying OIE listed diseases

• Internal disease surveillance systems are essential to detect the diseases that trigger the reporting process

• OIE Delegates have to dispose with nominated National Focal Points able to support them in their obligation for timely and quality disease notification

• OIE Delegates have to encourage his/her National Focal Points to attend regularly the trainings organized by the OIE

• OIE Delegates supported by their NFP are key players in the process of ensuring of transparence of the animal health situation.

• For support on the use of WAHIS and questions related to animal disease notification in the OIE Headquarters: information.dept@oie.int
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Thank you for your attention!