



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization



GLOBAL ANTI-RABIES EFFORTS: HUMAN AND ANIMAL VACCINES AND ERADICATION PROGRAMMES

OIE, WHO, FAO, and UNEP mark World Rabies Day 2021 (WRD2021) in the Russian Federation

28 September 2021, Moscow

Dear colleagues,

Tripartite Plus Alliance* in the Russian Federation is organising the second joint WRD event to promote the elimination of Rabies and welcomes all stakeholders, partners, and profile experts to the One Health European network.

It is our pleasure to invite you to commemorate the World Rabies Day on 28 September 2021.

RABIES IS ENTIRELY PREVENTABLE

In 2015 the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), World Health Organization (WHO), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and Global Alliance for Rabies Control (GARC) established the United Against Rabies Collaboration and Forum and created a comprehensive global strategy **Zero by 30: The Global Strategic Plan to end human death from dog-mediated rabies by 2030**.

The estimated cost of rabies is approximately US\$ 8.6 billion per year, of which 54% is for productivity losses due to premature deaths, 37% is for treatment of humans bitten by dogs suspected of being rabid and only 2% is spent on dog vaccination and population control. The cost of dog vaccination – the most effective measure of rabies control – is a negligible component of the losses due to the disease. For a relatively low budget, the disease could be eliminated, with thousands of lives saved.

Rabies results in 100 % mortality once it shows symptoms, thus after exposure to rabies virus (contact or bite of a rabid animal) it is important to apply a set of measures: wound treatment immediately after bite, post-exposure immunoprophylaxis: vaccine and immunoglobulins. However, in order to stop the rabies spread by 2030, it is much more effective and resource-saving to keep stray dog populations under control and free of the

rabies infection by vaccination rather than fight for the lives of infected people. Only joint efforts by public health, environmental and veterinary specialists will result in fully protecting human lives.

Please find below the final programme. We count on your active participation.

Kind regards,



Dr Budimir
Plavsic
OIE Regional
Representative
for Europe in
Moscow



Dr Melita Vujnovic

WHO
Representative to
the Russian
Federation



Oleg Kobiakov

Director FAO Liaison
Office with the Russian
Federation



Vladimir
Moshkalo
UNEP
Representative
in Russia

WHAT IS RABIES?

The Rabies RNA virus' main natural reservoirs are dogs, foxes, coyotes, raccoons, raccoon dogs, mongooses, bats. In Europe, red foxes are responsible for the rabies disease persistence. The urban rabies is transmitted mainly by dogs. **Western and Central European countries are officially rabies-free. However, Eastern European and Asian countries of the European Region of OIE, WHO and FAO are still facing rabies and urgent control measures are needed to enable achieving the goal of zero human dog-mediated rabies deaths by 2030.**

Infection with rabies virus is a notifiable disease. In the Terrestrial Animal Health Code, which is one of the key OIE publications, one can find recommendations for dealing with rabies infection.

In 2012, the OIE established the OIE Rabies Vaccine Bank for facilitating the procurement of high-quality dog vaccines to be manufactured in accordance with OIE International standards. It allowed rapid deliveries of vaccines in response to urgent requests. Over 2mln doses of rabies vaccine were delivered to 13 countries during 2018, and the mechanism is working to ensure the best solution for countries.

The introduction of the oral rabies vaccine into veterinary practice and conducting oral vaccination of foxes resulted in the elimination of the disease in most of European countries.

The rabies vaccine developed by Louis Pasteur fundamentally changed medicine. He carried out first vaccine development experiments on chickens to protect them from chicken cholera in the 1870s. He was also involved in developing the vaccine against anthrax in sheep, goats, and cows. It was only in 1885, while studying rabies in dogs, that he tested the first human vaccine. The date of Louis Pasteur's death – 28 September - was chosen by WHO to be commemorated as the World Rabies Day.

Louis Pasteur paid great attention to the question of how vaccines affect organisms. In 1887, he invited Russian scientist Ilya Mechnikov, famous for his phagocytic theory of immunity, for which he received the Nobel Prize along with Paul Ehrlich in 1908, to work at his institute. This collaboration brought a deeper understanding of the vaccine impact on the infection in organisms.

*** Tripartite Plus Alliance:** World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), World Health Organization (WHO), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

WORLD RABIES DAY IN RUSSIA, 2021

P R O G R A M M E

Key information:

- Date: 28 September 2021 (Tuesday)
- Time: 10.00 -13.00 (Moscow time) (09:00-12:00 CEST)
- Invited: national authorities in public health and veterinary, regional veterinary services, veterinary and medical practitioners, universities, academics, public health organisations, Eurasian Economic Union partners, environment specialists, specialists from Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) countries, Russian speaking professional communities.
- Languages: Russian and English
- Venue: Videoconference

Join the conference:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84683151472?pwd=OXZsU0NVYWVHk3hic3FYVE9zdk1zUT09>

Meeting ID: 846 8315 1472

Access code: 568253

The webinar starts at 10am Moscow time (9am CEST). We would be grateful if you join ZOOM meeting at least 10 minutes ahead the start, at 9:50am Moscow time (08:50am CEST). Please rename your display name as Surname_Name_Short name of your organization for Organizers to give you access to the conference (ex., Smith_Ivan_AgriUniv).

Webinar live stream will be available on **Vkontakte** <https://vk.com/whoinrussia>

Time	Session	Speakers	Duration
10.00-11:00	Part one: Plenary session (videoconference)		
	Host of the event - Dr Budimir Plavsic, OIE Regional Representative for Europe	Chairman of the webinar - Oleg Kobiakov, Director of the FAO Liaison Office with the Russian Federation	Moderator – Dr Marina Sokolova, Science officer, OIE RR in Moscow
10.00-10.05	Opening, house rules, programme details		5 min

10.05-10.30	1. Opening remarks	<p>Dr Maria Novikova, Director of the Veterinary Department of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation</p> <p>Dr Konstantin Savenkov, Deputy Head of the Federal Service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance (Rosselkhoznadzor)</p> <p>Other national representatives</p>	7 min each
10.30-11.00	2. Statements from International Organizations	<p>Dr Melita Vujnovic, WHO Representative to the Russian Federation.</p> <p>Dr Budimir Plavsic, OIE Regional Representative for Europe in Moscow</p> <p>Oleg Kobiakov, Director of the FAO Liaison Office with the Russian Federation</p> <p>Vladimir Moshkalo, UNEP Representative in Russia</p>	7 min each
11.00-13:00	Part two: Expert Session (videoconference)		
	1. Prophylaxis and Treatment of Rabies: History and Modern Developments	Dr Hervé Bourhy , Director of the Department of Global Health, Director of Rabies National Centre, Head of the Laboratory for Lyssavirus Epidemiology and Neuropathology, and Director of the WHO Collaboration Centre on Rabies, Pasteur Institute (France)	15 min
	2. WHO, OIE, FAO, and UNEP Joint Initiatives on Rabies Control	Dr Elkhan Gasimov , Division of Country Health Programmes, World Health Organization, Regional Office for Europe (Copenhagen, Denmark)	15 min
	3. Rabies Eradication Programmes in Russia	Dr Nikita Lebedev , Advisor to the Head of the Federal Service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance (Russia)	10 min
	4. Development of Local Human Vaccines and	Dr Artashes Movsesyants , Head of the Centre for Rabies Control, Head of the Expertise Centre for Immunoglobulin	10 min

	Immunoglobulins: National History and Modern Industry	Preparation Quality, Scientific Centre for Expert Evaluation of Medicinal Products, Ministry of Health (Russia)	
	5. Rabies Eradication Programmes in Europe	Dr Florence Cliquet , Research Director, ANSES Laboratory on Rabies Wildlife Diseases (France)	15 min
	6. Russian Kynological Federation's Support to the «Zero by 30» Global Strategy	Dr Eugeny Kuplyauskas , Advisor to the President of the Russian Kynological Federation (Russia)	10 min
	7. Stray dog control in Europe	Dr Paolo Dalla Villa , Technical Officer - Disaster Management and Animal Welfare, OIE Sub-regional Office (Brussels)	10 min
	8. Rabies Eradication: International Experience	Dr Artem Metlin , Head International Relations, Federal Centre for Animal Health, ARRIAH (Russia)	10 min
	9. Rabies statistics in Russia: wildlife and agriculture	Dr Anton Karaulov , Head of the Information Analysis Centre under the Department for Veterinary Surveillance, Federal Centre for Animal Health, ARRIAH (Russia)	10 min
	10. UNEP involvement in One Health / wildlife / urban frameworks	UNEP expert - tbc	10 min
	11. Wrap up and closing of the conference	Q&A, comments, conclusions, recommendations from panellists and experts	