

WOAH and WOAHA mandate on animal welfare

Regional Platforms and Regional strategies

Tomasz Grudnik
WOAH Sub-Regional Representation in Brussels

Multi-regional Whole Journey Scenario workshop on long-distance transport
by land and sea between Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa

7 - 9 November 2023, Tunis, Tunisia



World Organisation
for Animal Health
Founded as OIE



Co-funded by
the European Union



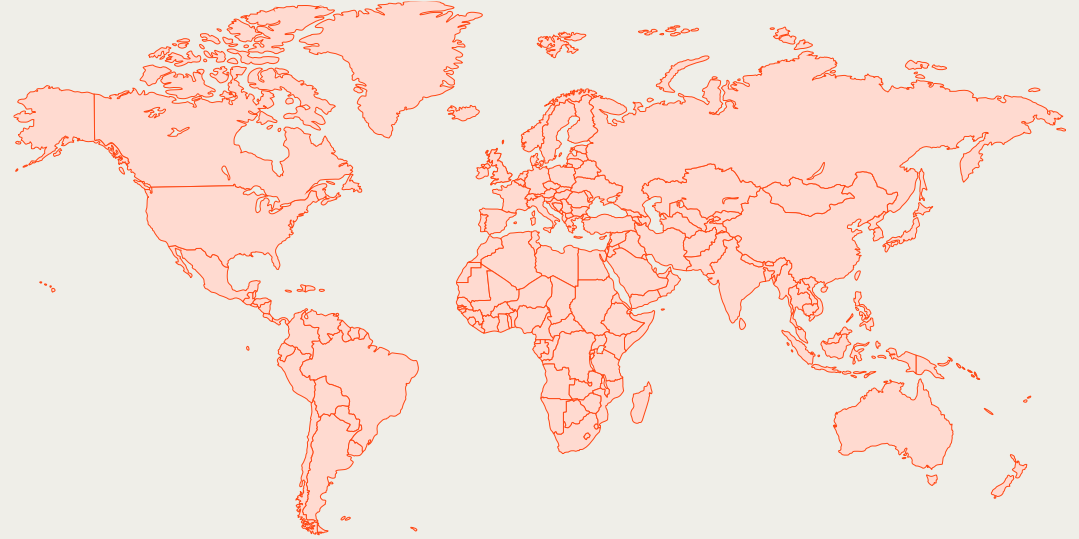
Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra





World Organisation for Animal Health

Founded as OIE



- **intergovernmental organization with focus on transparently disseminating information on animal diseases, improving animal health and welfare globally and thus build a safer, healthier and more sustainable world.**
- **183 Member Countries**
- **5 Regional and 8 Sub-Regional Offices**



Global Animal Welfare Strategy

*A world where the welfare of animals is respected,
promoted and advanced,
in ways that complement the pursuit of animal health,
human well-being, socio-economic development and
environmental sustainability.*

(May 2017)





Regional Animal Welfare Strategies (RAWS)

- Regional priorities
- Regional partners
- Governance
- Actions plans addressing regional needs

AMERICAS
RAWS

OIE Platform on Animal
Welfare for EUROPE

MIDDLE EAST
RAWS

African Platform for Animal
Welfare

Asia, the Far East and
Oceania
RAWS

Continents Profile



WOAH Platform on animal welfare for Europe

Platform on Animal Welfare for Europe

(launched in December 2013)

to improve animal welfare in all 53 countries of Europe
and empower Veterinary Services to take action on
animal welfare in compliance with OIE standards



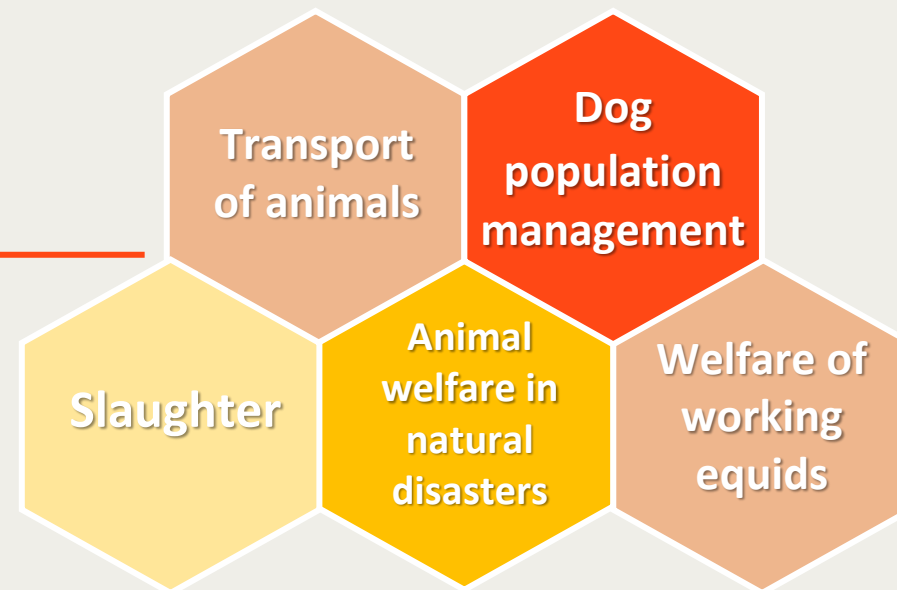
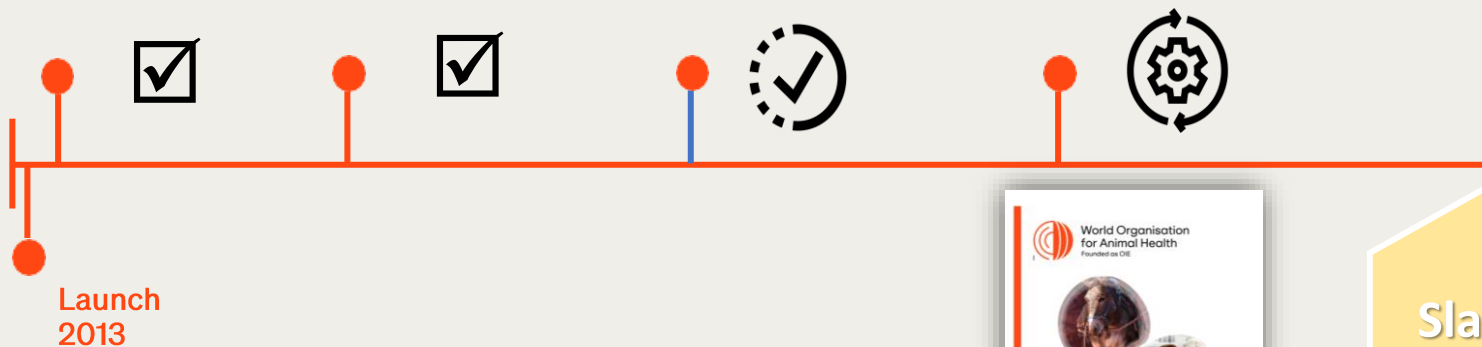
WOAH Platform on animal welfare for Europe

1st Action Plan
2014 - 2016

2nd Action Plan
2017 - 2019

3rd Action Plan
2021 - 2023

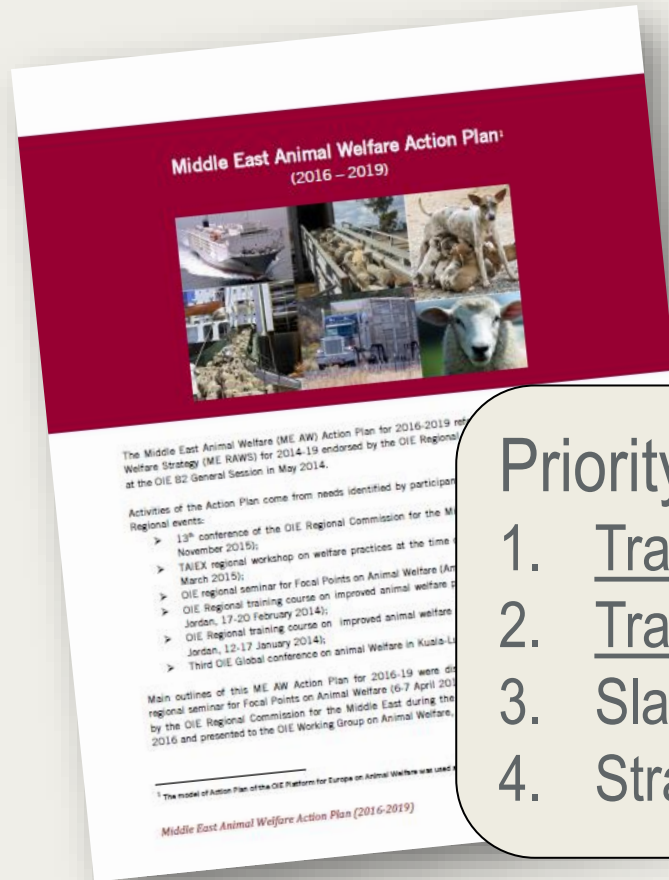
4th Action Plan
2024 - 2026





Middle East Animal Welfare Action Plan

(2016 – 2019)



to empower
Veterinary Services to take actions in
Animal Welfare in compliance with
OIE standards

Priority topics

1. Transport of animals by sea
2. Transport of animals by land
3. Slaughter of animals
4. Stray dog population control



Transport of animals





OIE training
modules for
transport by land
and sea

Training materials

Animal welfare - transport by land (ENG/RUS/ARB)

1. Introduction to animal welfare
2. Animal behaviour
3. Use of animal behaviour in handling.
4. Planning and preparations
5. Loading and transport by land
6. Unloading and resting
7. Transport of poultry
8. Responsibilities and competencies
9. Animal welfare in transport and meat quality

Animal welfare - transport by sea (ENG/ARB)

4. Planning and preparations
5. Loading and transport by sea
6. Unloading

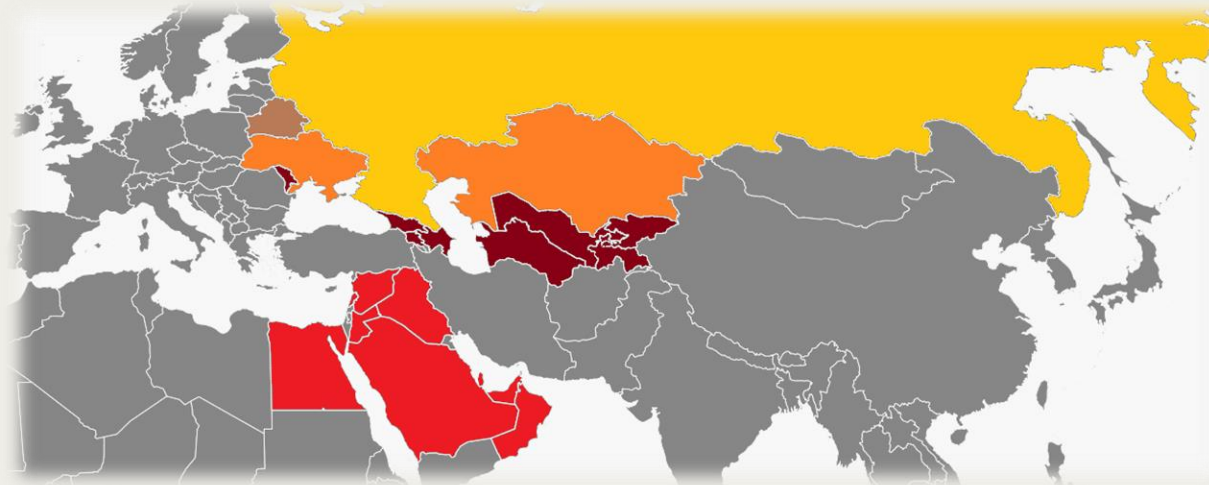


Centre for Animal Welfare and Ethics University of Queensland in Australia
OIE Collaborating Center on Animal Welfare Science and Bioethical Analysis.



'Train-the-Trainer' Workshops

- 'Train-the-Trainer' Workshops on animal welfare during long distance transport by land (Kazakhstan - 2016/2017, Belarus - 2017, Russia - 2017)
- Regional Seminar on animal welfare during long distance transport (Moldova - 2018)
- 'Training of Trainers' Workshops on animal welfare during long transport by land and by sea for Middle East (Jordan, Egypt - 2017/2018, Oman - 2019)



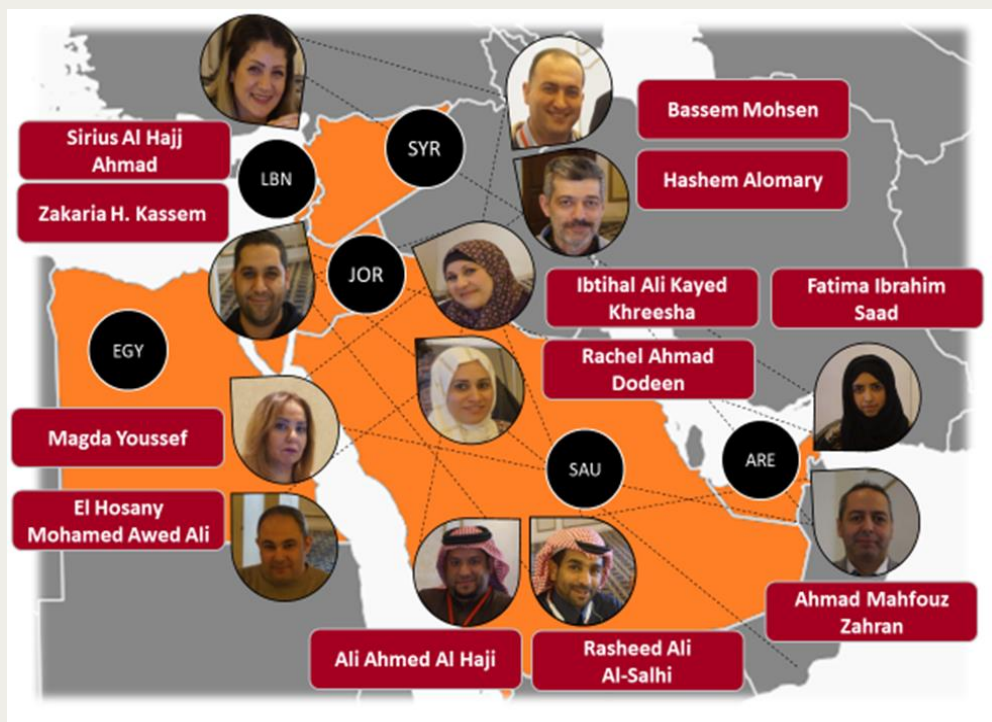


Regional 'Training of Trainers' Workshop on animal welfare during long transport by land and by sea for Middle East

Train the Trainers
Workshops
and
Regional Seminar

November 2017 – March 2018

February – May 2019





Cascading
activities
organised in
countries

Cascading activities organized in countries



- dedicated workshops (veterinary services, governmental authorities, business operators)
- training session for CA
- dedicated modules included in Continuing Professional Development Programs



“Whole Journey Scenario” workshops

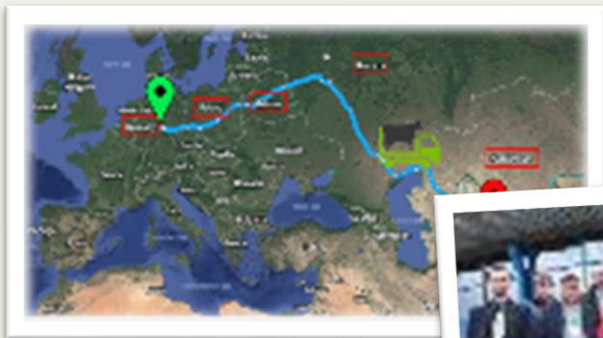
- **Objective** to help countries **improve animal welfare during long distance and cross-border transport** in compliance with WOAH standards for the whole duration of the journey along the specific route
- **Focus** on the **responsibilities of the Competent Authorities** over the entire journey
- **Opportunity** to **share best practices and strengthen collaboration** between Competent Authorities and other authorities



'Whole Journey Scenario' workshops

Regional workshops

- Pilot 'Whole Journey Scenario' Workshop for Europe - April 2018, Poland
- Follow-up meeting - November 2021
- 'Whole Journey Scenario' workshop on animal welfare during transport for the Middle East - November 2019, Amman (Jordan)





‘Whole Journey Scenario’ workshops

Multi-regional workshops

- Multi-regional WJS workshop on long-distance transport by land and sea between Europe and the Middle East
June 2021 – Teleconference



Austria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovenia and Turkey
Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar,
Saudi Arabia, Syria, United Arab Emirates

Multi-regional WJS workshop
on long-distance transport by land and sea
between Europe, the Middle East and North
Africa - November 2022 – Cairo, Egypt



Multi-regional WJS workshop
on long-distance transport by land and sea
between Europe, the Middle East and North Africa
November 2023, Tunis – PLANNED



WJS & NCPT conclusions

- long distance transport is complex issue
- many animal welfare issues due to insufficient communication (technical and diplomatic channels for transmission of information are essential to facilitate info exchange among trading parties and CAs)
- Contact Points , 'Route Leaflet', follow-up workshops and 'route' meetings
- need for strengthening **communication** and **collaboration** between **Competent Authorities** and **all actors** involved in the transport of live animals
- importance of defining **responsibilities** (especially between departure port and destination)
- importance of appropriate planning and emergency **procedures**
- **Support** from WOAHA (workshops, trainings, development of IT tools, guidance documents and checklist)

Item 1 recommendations

11 recommendations (5 for members | 6 for WOAHA)

- **Members:**
 - Develop update legislation
 - Clearly identify **responsibilities** (through guidelines/**procedures**)
 - Procedures for **communication**
 - Inclusion of AW in veterinary school curricula
- **WOAHA:**
 - Capacity building
 - Advocacy to increase stakeholders' awareness
 - Technical **support** through revised, develops update standards
 - Provide relevant tools (one of them NCP on LDT)
 - Work closely with **all actors** for the implementation of standards
- **Common: collaboration** to support regional strategies



WOAH Annual Report 2022

Providing resources, tools and training
to the veterinary workforce

Annual Report, 2022

Animal transport: implementing welfare regulations in the field



“One of the key takeaways from this workshop was to start building a contact network, that will be very useful to exchange information and better detect issues before a shipment reaches its final destination”

... need a continuous cooperation between veterinary authorities of exporting, transit, and importing countries, so that they can exchange reports on animal welfare violations or poor implementation.”

“The workshop brought together representatives from European countries, who are mostly exporters, and Middle East countries, who are mostly importers of live animals. We identified a weakness point: the lack of communication and follow-up, once a trip has started.”



Regional
Network
in Europe

The network of WOAAH National Contact Points on long-distance transportation in Europe

[Terms of Reference of the National Contact Point on Long-Distance Transportation](#)
[\(29th Regional Conference, 9-10 November 2020\)](#)

WOAAH National Contact Points (*nominated by the Delegate*)

Main tasks - establishing operational communication links within the network of contact points in Europe to facilitate the exchange of the relevant information and solving problems arising with long-distance and cross border transport of animals in the region





Technical Item I (with questionnaire)

Long-distance transport of live animals: WOAH standards and best practices including societal perception and communication aspects



Catania, Italy 3-7 October 2022

Summary

- most of the Members have in place specific legislation on animal welfare during transport and generally aligned with WOAH standards,
- however, in many members certain crucial requirements are not included (specific responsibilities and mandatory documented training/practical experience for people in responsible for animals)
- major gaps for implementation of standards: limited budget and/or limited availability of resources and trained personnel
- suggested WOAH initiatives - developing training activities and provide additional guidance through revised and/or new standards in the Terrestrial Code and/or through other WOAH documents



TRANSPORT self-assessment and monitoring tool

Main points of the for self-assessment and monitoring tool

- Focus on transport by sea and land
- Define the elements of the chapters relevant to assess the level of implementation of the standards
- Propose a survey
- Methodology to analyze the survey
- Point of discussion – IT aspects: host and maintenance





Animal welfare is a journey not a destination



David Bayvel

