



World Organisation  
for Animal Health  
Founded as OIE

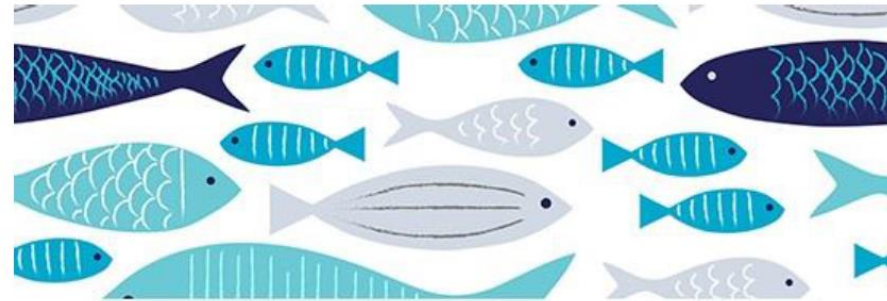


Organisation mondiale  
de la santé animale  
Fondée en tant qu'OIE

The Second Aquatic Animal Health Workshop for Central Asia and Transcaucasian countries and  
Central Asia and  
Transcaucasian Aquatic Animal Health Network

Tashkent (Uzbekistan)

24th – 26th April 2024



# The WOAHA World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS)

*M.Latini WOAHA SRR Central Asia*

# WOAH mandate and missions



Since its creation in 1924, the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH, founded as OIE) has been the **mandated international body collecting data on, observing, and analysing animal diseases** throughout the world.

# WOAH missions : transparency and scientific information

- **Ensure transparency on the animal disease situation worldwide**

Each Member undertakes to report the animal diseases that it detects on its territory. WOAH then disseminates the information to other Members, who can take the necessary preventive action

- **Collect, analyse and disseminate veterinary scientific information**

WOAH collects and analyses the latest scientific information on animal disease control. This information is then made available to the Members to help them to improve the methods used to control and eradicate these diseases

- ...

# Legal basis for animal disease notification to WOAH



## NOTIFICATION OF DISEASES, AND PROVISION OF EPIDEMIOLOGICAL INFORMATION

### Article 1.1.1.

For the purposes of the *Aquatic Code* and in terms of Articles 5, 9 and 10 of the OIE Organic Statutes, Member Countries shall recognise the right of the *Headquarters* to communicate directly with the *Competent Authority* of its *territory* or *territories*.

All *notifications* and all information sent by the OIE to the *Competent Authority* shall be regarded as having been sent to the country concerned and all *notifications* and all information sent to the OIE by the *Competent Authority* shall be regarded as having been sent by the country concerned.

### Article 1.1.2.

1. Member Countries shall make available to other Member Countries, through the OIE, whatever information is necessary to minimise the spread of important *diseases* of *aquatic animals* and their *pathogenic agents* and to assist in achieving better worldwide control of these *diseases*.
2. To achieve this, Member Countries shall comply with the *notification* requirements specified in Articles 1.1.3. and 1.1.4.
3. For the purposes of this chapter an 'event' means a single *outbreak* or a group of epidemiologically related *outbreaks* of a given *disease* that is the subject of a *notification*. An event is specific to a pathogen and strain, when appropriate, and includes all related *outbreaks* reported from the time of the immediate *notification* through to the final report. Reports of an event include *susceptible species*, number and geographical distribution of affected *aquatic animals* and *epidemiological units*.

### Article 1.1.3.

The *Competent Authority* shall, under the responsibility of the Delegate, send to the *Headquarters*:

1. in accordance with relevant provisions in the *disease*-specific chapters, *notification*, through the World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS) or by fax or e-mail within 24 hours of any of the following events:
  - a. first occurrence of a *listed disease* in a country, a *zone* or a *compartment*;
  - b. recurrence of a *listed disease* in a country, a *zone* or a *compartment* following the final report that declared the *outbreak* ended;
  - c. first occurrence of a new strain of a *pathogenic agent* of a *listed disease* in a country, a *zone* or a *compartment*;
  - d. a sudden and unexpected change in the distribution or increase in incidence or virulence of, or morbidity or mortality caused by the *pathogenic agent* of a *listed disease*, present within a country, a *zone* or a *compartment*;
  - e. occurrence of a *listed disease* in a new host species;
2. weekly reports subsequent to a *notification* under point 1 above, to provide further information on the evolution of the event which justified the *notification*. These reports should continue until the *disease* has been eradicated or the situation has become sufficiently stable so that six-monthly reporting under point 3 will satisfy the obligation of the Member Country. For each event notified, a final report should be submitted;
3. six-monthly reports on the absence or presence and evolution of *listed diseases* and information of epidemiological significance to other Member Countries;
4. annual reports concerning any other information of significance to other Member Countries.

# Criteria for inclusion on the WOAH lists of diseases

## *Terrestrial and Aquatic codes*

**1**

International spread  
and absent in at  
least one country

**AND**

**2**

Transmissible to  
humans with severe  
consequences

**OR**

Important morbidity /  
mortality in domestic  
or wild animals

**AND**

**3**

Available method  
for detection /  
diagnostic  
Case definition

# Member representatives

Official representative = Delegate ...

Supported by 8 FPs

- **Animal Disease Notification**
- **Aquatic Animals**
- Wildlife
- Veterinary laboratories
- Animal welfare
- Veterinary products
- Food of animal origin sanitary safety
- Communication



Ensure diseases are reported as per WOAAH standards on behalf of the delegate



## Term of Reference: WOAAH Focal Points for animal disease notification

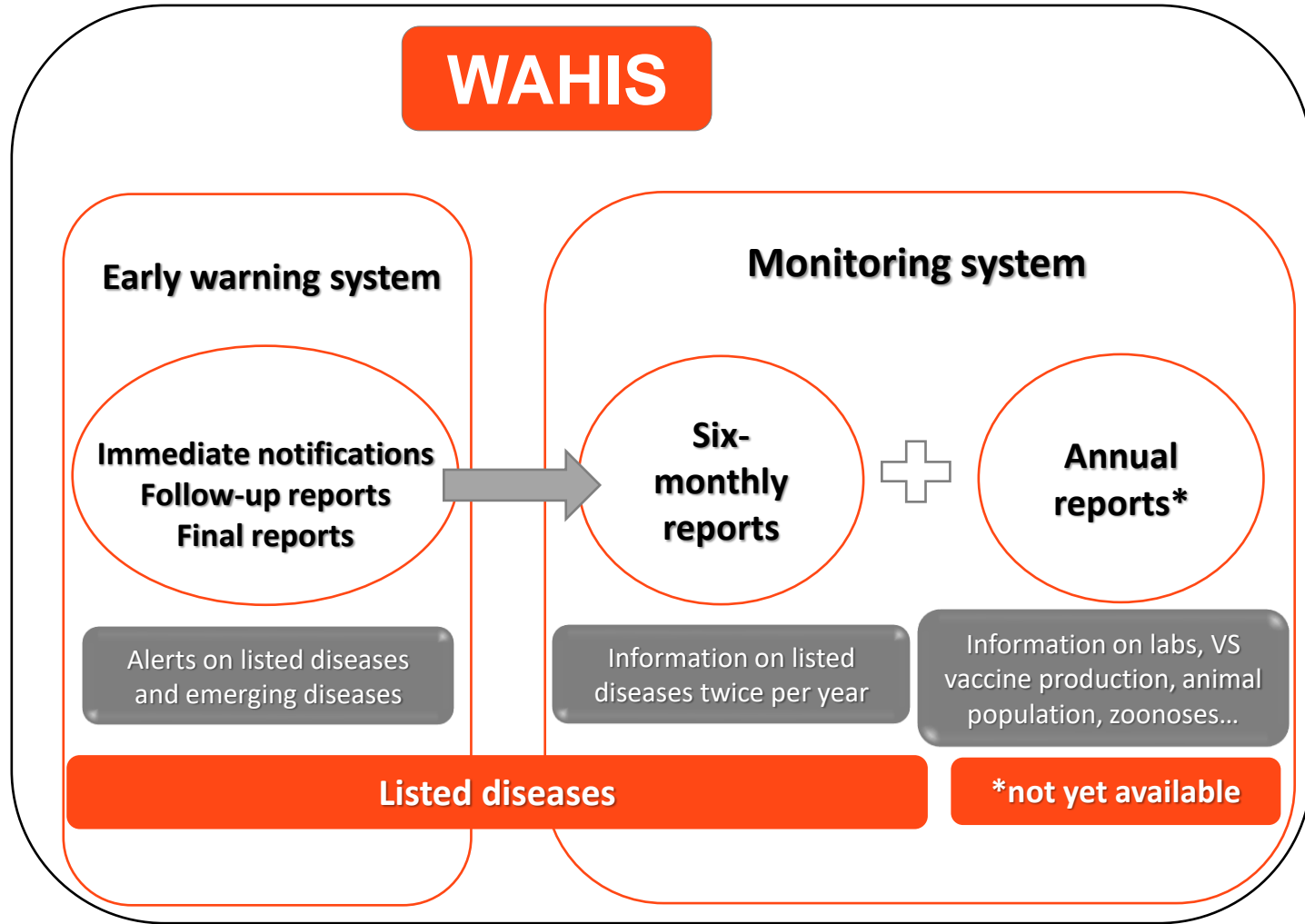
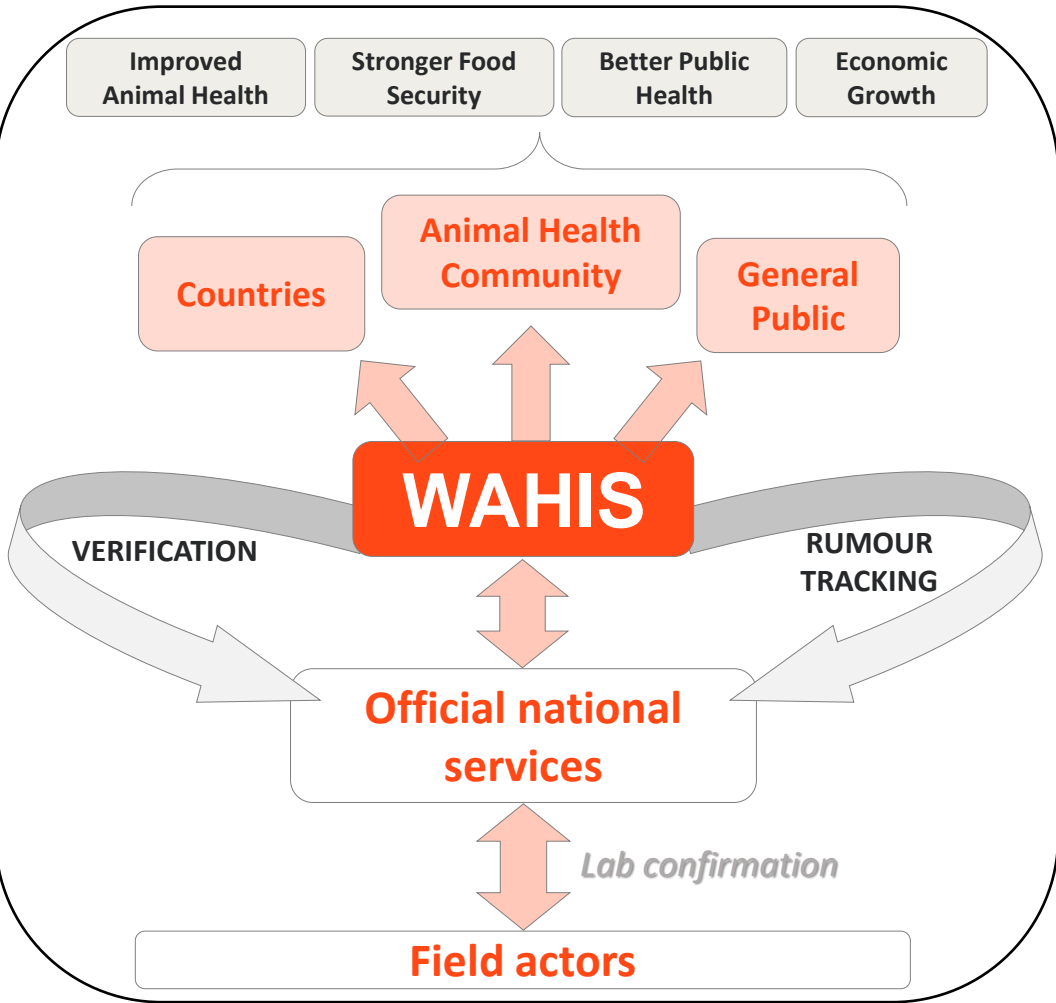
- **Information providers** to WOAAH and, through WOAAH, to the rest of the world
  - Ensure the **submission of information** on animal diseases (WAHIS listed diseases)
  - Act as a **direct contact point** with the WOAAH World Animal Health Information and Analysis Department on matters related to information on animal diseases

## Term of Reference : WOAHA Focal Points for Aquatic Animals

- To establish a network of aquatic animal health experts
- To establish and maintain a dialogue (...) to facilitate cooperation and communication (...)
- to support the optimal collection and submission of aquatic animal health data



# WOAH disease surveillance system : WAHIS



**WAHIS : Surveillance modules and information flow**

\*New version of annual report module still under development

# Reporting requirements: alerts

Articles 1.1.3. and 1.1.4. of the *Terrestrial and Aquatic Codes*

Immediate notifications and weekly follow-up reports on exceptional events:

- first occurrence or recurrence of a listed disease in a country or zone
- first occurrence of a new strain of a pathogenic agent of a listed disease
- sudden and unexpected change in the epidemiological distribution of a listed disease
- occurrence of a listed disease in a new host species.

Within 24 hours !

# Reporting requirements: alerts

## WAHIS notification procedures

### Event

Single outbreak or group of epidemiologically related outbreaks of a given disease that is the object of a notification.

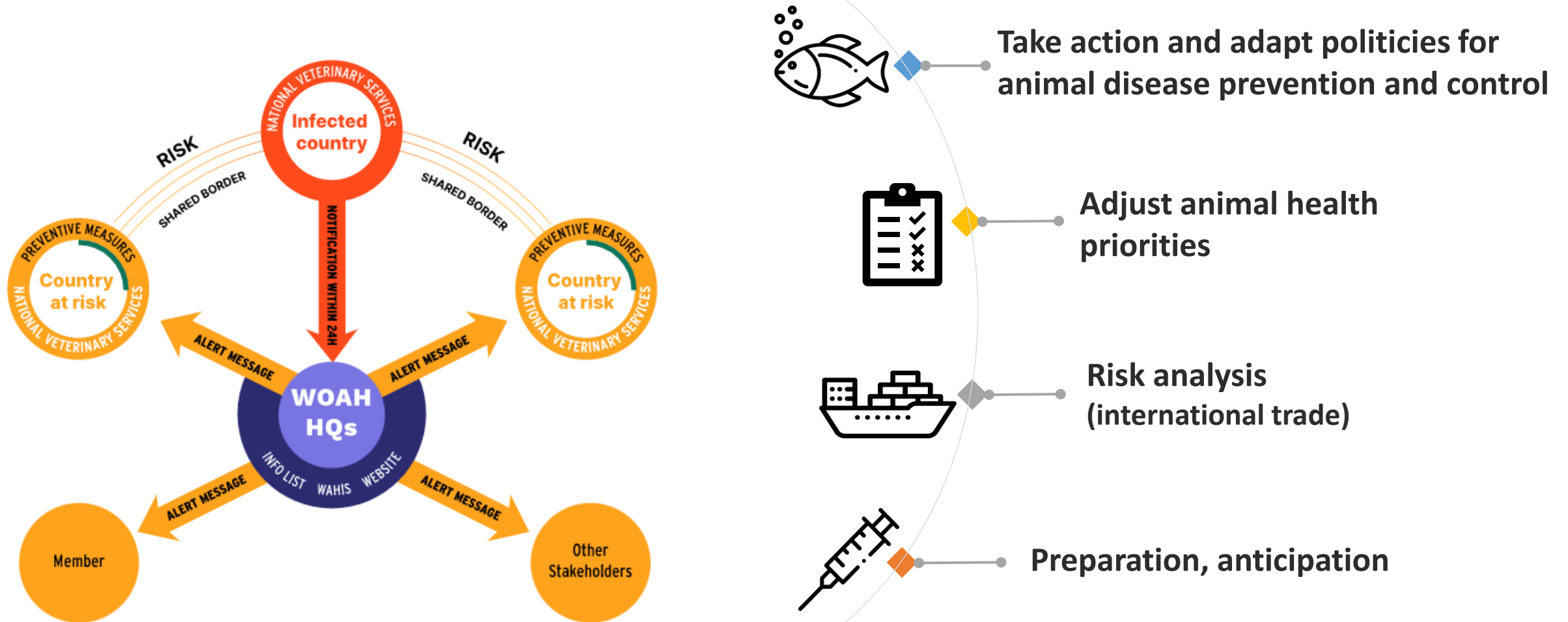
An event includes all related outbreaks reported from the immediate notification through to the final report.

### Outbreak

Occurrence of one or more cases in an epidemiological unit.

# Reporting requirements: importance of the alert

## National, regional and global levels



## Reporting requirements: follow-up reports

- Articles 1.1.3. and 1.1.4. of the *Terrestrial and Aquatic Codes*

### Why it is important to keep your ongoing events updated:

- **Transparency** – WOAHA's mandate
- Opening **trade** after a disease event
- (Re)gaining **official disease status** of freedom
- Making a **self-declaration** of freedom
- **Data consistency** with six-monthly reports

# Reporting requirements : six-monthly reports

Articles 1.1.3 of the *Terrestrial and Aquatic Codes*

**2 semestrial reports (terrestrial and aquatic animals)** providing for each of the WOAH-listed diseases :

- Occurrence code (present, absent, no information...)
- Control measures
- Quantitative data

# Reporting objective: make animal health data publicly available

## WAHIS

### Prompt dissemination

Ensures prompt dissemination of information on potentially devastating outbreaks



### Facilitates decision making

Facilitates decision making in terms of international trade of animals and animal products



### Reliable data

Provides open-access, high-quality, reliable data



# WAHIS in an interconnected world

## Data sharing in a One Health context

WAHIS is the global reference platform for validated official data on animal diseases of epidemiological significance in both domestic and wild species → data source for many other information systems (including FAO, EFSA, PAHO, CDC).

## Interconnection WAHIS-ADIS

WAHIS is being interconnected with the European Union Animal Disease Information System (ADIS) which will enable a unique reporting interface for European countries.

## Implementation of a datahub for data sharing

Implementation of an opensource datahub including WAHIS data and data from other WOAHA information systems (including ANIMUSE, Disease official Status data, PVS data).



## Conclusions

- WAHIS => data from **official veterinary services**, based on WOAHA Standards and validated before publication
- World **reference database** for animal diseases of epidemiological significance; populates other sanitary information systems
- Data used for **international trade (WTO)**, **scientific research**, **disease control** programs, press and media
- System under **continuous improvement**

