

# 5<sup>th</sup> WOAH regional workshop on Dog Population Management for the Caucasus and Central Asia

## 5-й региональный семинар ВОЗЖ по управлению популяцией собак для стран Кавказа и Центральной Азии

2 - 4 December 2025  
Almaty, Kazakhstan

2–4 декабря 2025 г.  
Алматы, Казахстан



World  
Organisation  
for Animal  
Health

Organisation  
mondiale  
de la santé  
animale

Organización  
Mundial  
de Sanidad  
Animal



# WOAH Regional Platform on Animal Welfare for Europe

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5th WOAH regional workshop on Dog Population Management for the Caucasus and Central Asia

2-4 December 2025 - Almaty, Kazakhstan



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## Global Animal Welfare Strategy Vision

**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.**

# Global Animal Welfare Strategy

## Strategic pillars



DEVELOPMENT OF  
ANIMAL WELFARE  
STANDARDS



CAPACITY  
BUILDING AND  
EDUCATION



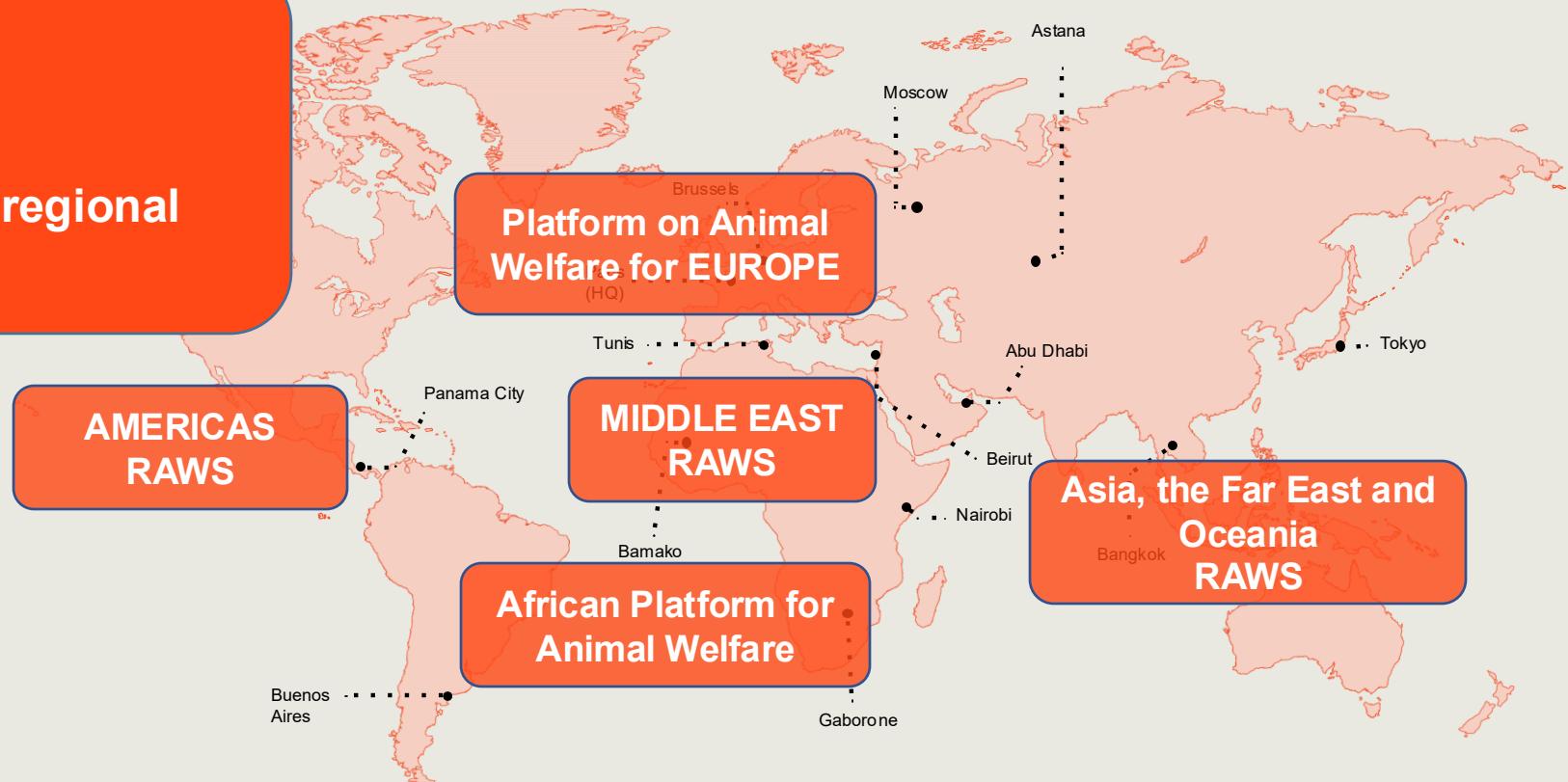
IMPLEMENTATION  
OF ANIMAL  
WELFARE  
STANDARDS AND  
POLICIES



COMMUNICATION  
WITH  
GOVERNMENTS,  
ORGANISATIONS  
AND THE PUBLIC

# Regional Animal Welfare Strategies (RAWS)

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



• Regional and subregional representations

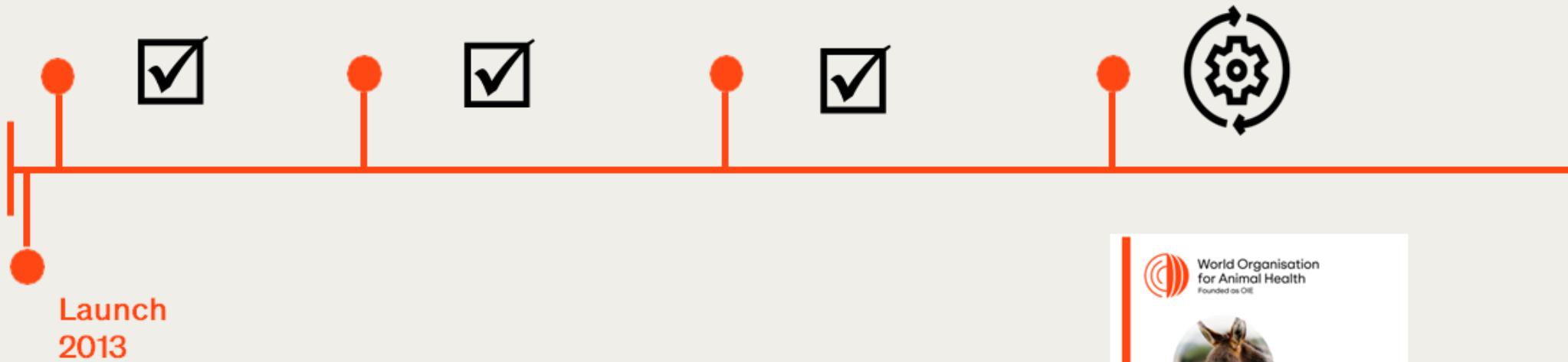
# WOAH Regional Platform on Animal Welfare for Europe

1<sup>st</sup> Action Plan  
2014 - 2016

2<sup>nd</sup> Action Plan  
2017 - 2019

3<sup>rd</sup> Action Plan  
2021 - 2023

4<sup>th</sup> Action Plan  
2024 - 2026



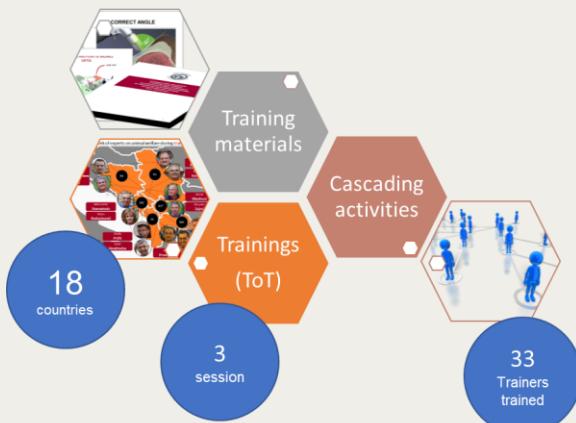
to improve animal welfare in all 53 countries of Europe  
and empower Veterinary Services to take action on  
animal welfare in compliance with  
WOAH standards



# Priority topics



## Slaughter of animals



- New revised standard adopted during the 91<sup>st</sup> WOAH General Assembly of Delegates- May 2024

TAHC – Chapter 7.5. Animal welfare during slaughter

- Developing on- line training module

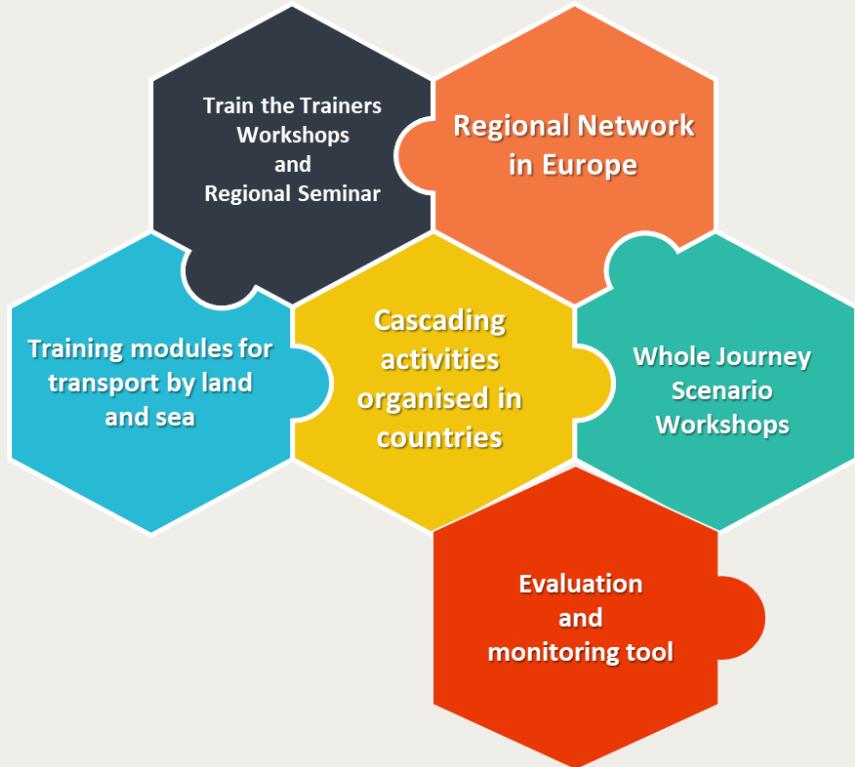
The WOAH Platform for the Training of Veterinary Services

- Dissemination of training materials

Webinars, train the trainers, dedicated workshops

- Development of a self-assessment and monitoring tool on slaughter

# Transport of animals



**Network of WOAH National Contact Points on long-distance transportation in Europe**

## **Whole Journey Scenario Workshops:**

- **within Europe**
- **multi regional Europe / Middle East / North Africa**

**Self-assessment and monitoring tool on transport - concept note**

# Disaster Management and Risk Reduction

WOAH workshop on Disaster Management and Risk Reduction

January 2024, Lisbon



## “Collective power”

Sharing knowledge, experiences and strengthening collaboration  
Developing a network of National Contact Points on DMRR  
Engagement of Civil Protection with Veterinary Services



Online Regional Meeting on DMRR for EUROPE

WOAH Workshop on Response Plan Development for Disaster Management and Risk Reduction 2025



Participating in the 2024 EU Civil Protection  
Planning participation for the next one 2026

## Welfare of working Equids

- Workshop on the welfare of working equids

June 2024, Madrid back to back with NEP AW meeting

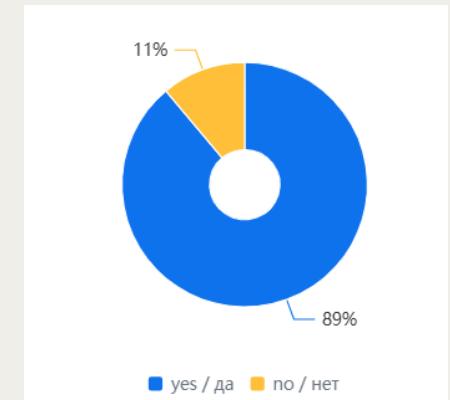


- Online event on the welfare of working equids

29 April 2025

- Importance of working in collaboration for progressively improving the welfare of working equids
- raising awareness of WOAH standards on the welfare of working equids
- sharing knowledge resources
- engagement with local partners

Is there a need for WOAH to assist members in the implementation of standards and requirements on the welfare of working equids?



## Governance

- Concept Note, ToRs, Action Plans
- WOAH Regional Commission for Europe
- Regional Core Group
- Steering Group (Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Israel, Ireland, Portugal)

## Stakeholders and partners

- annual coordination meetings
- active engagement in activities

## Communication

- developing a communication strategy
- website updates
- annual newsletters
- Russian translations

## Monitoring and evaluation

- tools within each priority topic
- overall indicators
- external consultant – review



# Communication



Platform on Animal Welfare for Europe

INTRODUCTION

Our Platform on Animal Welfare for Europe was created in 2012, with a view to bringing animal welfare issues to Europe & providing a sustainable communication mechanism for regional activities to support and improve Veterinary Services to take actions and improve our standards on animal welfare. The Platform is a regional initiative of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) and the Regional Commission for Europe. The Secretariat of the Platform is ensured by the Sub-Regional representation of WOAH.

About the Platform   Action Plans   Activities   Quarterly Update and Newsletter

Last news and events

World Organisation for Animal Health   WOAH Platform on Animal Welfare for Europe   2024 Annual Report of the Regional Platform   Strengthening the transversal nature of animal welfare

World Organisation for Animal Health

1<sup>st</sup> QUARTERLY PLATFORM UPDATE 2025

What has your favourite Platform been up to in the last month?

Time to share with you, dear colleagues, our main work and engagements of the past quarter:

- Regional workshop on animal welfare during slaughter
- WOAH workshop on developing national action plans for animal welfare
- 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of WOAH regional network of National Contact Point on long-distance transportation in Europe (NCP)
- Annual Report - 2024
- Second meeting WOAH Platform on animal welfare for Europe perspectives - video
- Welcome package for Animal Welfare focal points
- Share With Us!
- Upcoming Activities

Continue reading for more information!

Events

Regional workshop on animal welfare during slaughter, Tirana - Albania, 11-12 February 2025

Beautiful Tirana kindly hosted our first in-person workshop on animal welfare during slaughter since 2018. 32 participants, WOAH members and invited guests from the region, gathered to identify capacity-building needs to support the development of comprehensive national training programs on animal welfare during slaughter.

The workshop emphasized the importance of harmonized training programs, exchange of best practices, focusing on structured collaboration and regional approach.

For complete information about the event, please read our website [LINK](#)

World Organisation for Animal Health

Regional Platform on Animal Welfare for Europe

Annual report - 2024

# The regional workshop on the development of national animal welfare action plans

13 February 2025, Tirana, Albania



- A need for a comprehensive, long-term, and sustainable approach to implementing WOAH animal welfare standards
- Support for targeted Members in the development of national Action Plans on Animal Welfare.
- A pilot initiative – follow-up to be explored



# Priority topics





# Dog population Improving Members' capacity management

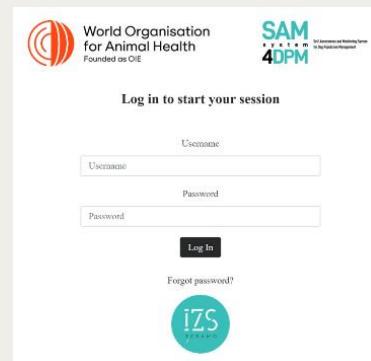
- Regional roadmaps on dog population management

**Balkan Roadmap  
(objective 2026)**

- targeted support to address specific needs of countries
- continue with roadmaps workshops every 2 years
- measure progress

**West Eurasia Roadmap  
(objective 2030)**

- **Self-Assessment and Monitoring For Dog Population Management (SAM4DPM)**



Regular support for the SAM4DPM self-assessment rounds

Periodic flash thematic meetings (2024 - 2026)

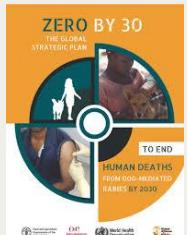


# Dog Population Management and free-roaming dog control priority topics since 2014

## Regional roadmaps

launched with to achieving full compliance with WOAH TAHC Chap. 7.7 on dog population management

| <b>Balkans<br/>by 2026</b>  | <b>Central Asia and Caucasus<br/>by 2030</b>  |
|---|---|
| Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Kosovo*, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia and Türkiye | Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan<br><br>Belarus, Moldova, Russia, Ukraine<br>countries joined the initiative |



Fully in line with the FAO/WOAH/WHO “Zero by 30”  
Global Strategic Plan to end human deaths from dog-mediated rabies by 2030



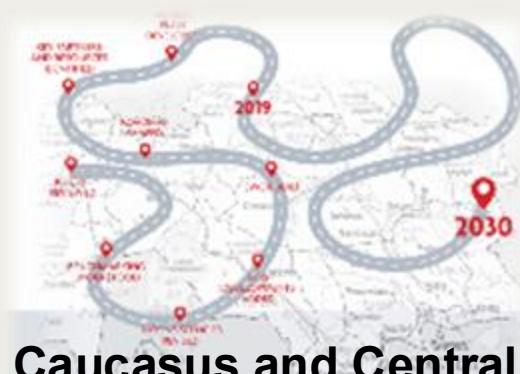
Self-Assessment and Monitoring System  
for Dog Population Management



### BALKANS

since 2014

- ✓ 5 meetings
- ✓ 4 self-assessment rounds



### Caucasus and Central Asia

since 2015

- ✓ 4 meetings
- ✓ 2 self-assessment rounds

#### Main achievement/impacts:

- **Strong countries commitment** and progressive wider interest of other Regions
- **Regular self-assessment & monitoring** in support to the progression of the Roadmaps
- **Data used for the WOAH Observatory** (2022 Annual Report)

Experience extended outside the Europe region: North Africa (Algeria, Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia) and Middle East (Bahrain)



# Regional roadmap on dog population management for West Eurasia

the regional Vision to become fully compliant with WOAH TAHC Chapter 7.7. on dog population management by 2030



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# Regional roadmap on dog population management for Caucasus and Central Asia

1st SDWE Workshop  
(June 2015, Kyrgyzstan)

2nd SDWE Workshop  
(September 2017, Uzbekistan)

3rd SDWE Workshop  
(June 2019, Georgia)

4th SDWE Workshop  
(September 2023, Georgia)

5th DPMCCA Workshop  
(December 2025, Kazakhstan)

1<sup>st</sup> assessment - SAM Tool 2017



1<sup>st</sup> round



2<sup>nd</sup> round



# World Organisation for Animal Health



# Self-Assessment and Monitoring System for Dog Population Management



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# 4<sup>th</sup> WOAH regional workshop on dog population management for the Caucasus and Central Asia (2023)

## Remaining challenges

- absence of a national Action Plans
- shortness in human, technical and financial resources
- lack of essential training and educational opportunities for operators
- weak attitude towards responsible ownership
- insufficient number of shelters



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## 4<sup>th</sup> WOAH regional workshop on dog population management for the Caucasus and Central Asia (2023)

WOAH support

- (a) technical assistance for the drafting of the National Action Plan
- (b) regular support for the SAM4DPM self-assessment round



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# **5<sup>th</sup> WOAH regional workshop on Dog Population Management for the Caucasus and Central Asia**

2-4 December 2025, Almaty, Kazastan

## **Overall objective**

To assist countries in achieving the agreed Vision of full compliance with the WOAH standard on DPM by 2030

## **Key objectives**

- to assess the current level of progress towards the full implementation of the new TAHC Chapter 7.7
- further support the development and implementation of National Action plans and Dog Population Control Programs (with a rabies component), in compliance with the WOAH Terrestrial Animal Health Code
- improve the technical expertise of the personnel carrying out dog population management activities at municipal/local level



## Agenda's Main points

### Plenary introduction session

- WOAH Platform for Animal Welfare in Europe
- Terrestrial Animal Health Code, Chapter 7.7
- Dog population management programs
- SAM4DPM

### Overall situation and tailor-made support

### Country reports on current dog population management and rabies situation

- Veterinary Services national plan
- EU regulation

### Working Group Session: challenges, needs, and priority activities

### Horizontal topics

- Tools and methodologies for the assessment of dog behaviours and humane methods for catching and handling free-roaming dogs
- NGO perspective and projects
- Individual country interviews

### Filed visit

### Public health aspect

One - Health approach to dog-mediated public health risks.”  
WOAH tools for rabies control programs

### Next steps



# 4th Action Plan for 2024 - 2026

## DOG POPULATION MANAGEMENT

2024

2025

2026

regional workshops on dog population management

6<sup>th</sup> workshop for the Balkan countries

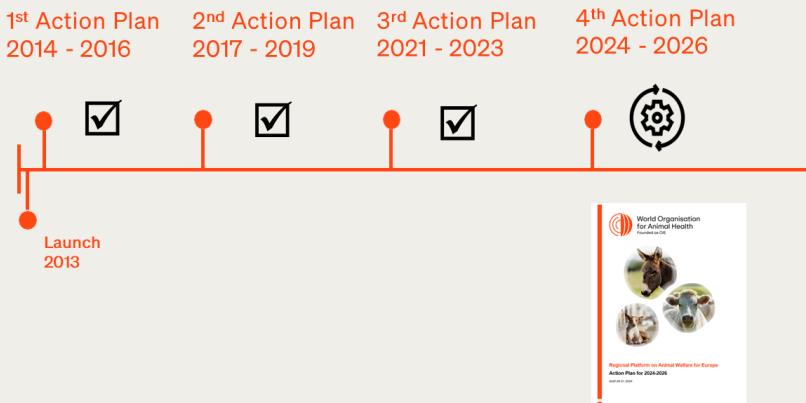


7<sup>th</sup> workshop for the Balkan countries (2026)



5<sup>th</sup> workshop for the West-Eurasian  
(Central Asia and Caucasus) (2025)

Regular support for the SAM4DMP self-assessment rounds



- Ensure continuity, respond to Members' evolving needs, and align with the WOAH Strategic Plan and Global Animal Welfare Strategy.

## • Indicative Timeline:

- Q4 2025 – Q1 2026: Preparation
  - roadmap for developing the plan by SG
- Q2 – Q3 2026: Consultation
  - Animal welfare focal points
  - Stakeholders
  - Online survey
- Q3 – Q4 2026: Drafting and Review
  - Regional Conference (September 2026)
- Q1 - Q2 2027: Validation and Launch
  - Regional Commission meeting at GS May 2027

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