

Workshop on Strengthening Preparedness and Response to Biological Threats in Europe

23-25 March 2026, Paris, France

Fernando de Abreu

World Organisation for Animal Health



World Organisation
for Animal Health

Participants

28 WOAAH Member Countries: Albania, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, and the United Kingdom

- European Commission (DG SANTE, DG HOME, European External Action Service)
- FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation)
- Europol
- INTERPOL
- ANSES (French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health and Safety)
- EuFMD (European Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease)
- EU CBRN Centre of Excellence
- Boehringer Ingelheim/Health for Animals
- International Poultry Council
- Dianetis
- French General Secretariat for Defence and National Security
- Portuguese Army



62

Participants

28

WOAH
members



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Workshop Objectives

- Raise awareness of biological threats in Europe, on current and emerging risks.
- Provide a platform for experience and knowledge sharing, drawing on cross-sectoral expertise.
- Improve collaboration from Veterinary Services, Public Health, Law Enforcement, Defence, and intelligence actors.
- Facilitate collaborative discussions to identify an action plan for regional preparedness and response.



Agenda Structure

- Session 1: The threat landscape in Europe
 - Session 2: Surveillance and early detection
 - Session 3: Emergency preparedness
 - Session 4: Emergency response and recovery
 - Session 5: Risk and crisis management communication
 - Session 6: Emerging technologies: threats and opportunities
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- Workshop 1: Tackling agro-crime
 - Workshop 2: Biological threat simulation exercises
 - Workshop 3: Countering disinformation and misinformation
 - Workshop 4: Regional action planning



Workshop Outcomes

- Improved **understanding of the biological threat** landscape in Europe, including emerging and deliberate threats, in relation to animal health
- Deepened understanding of the role of Veterinary Services in biological threat reduction across the **full prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery cycle**.
- **Cross-sectoral collaboration** between veterinary services, law enforcement, public health, the military, and the private sector was strengthened through shared knowledge and direct engagement.
- **Regional action plans and simulation exercise** development were put in motion, translating workshop discussions into concrete priorities for follow-up.
- **Network** of experts in biological threat reduction across WOA member countries and multiple organisations was broadened.



Thank

12, rue de Prony, 75017 Paris, France
T. +33 (0)1 44 15 19 49
F. +33 (0)1 42 67 09 87

woah@woah.int
www.woah.org



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