



*“Dear colleagues and partners,
As WOA’s Sub-Regional Representative in Brussels, I am pleased to present this edition of the quarterly newsletter, offering an overview of key regional developments, technical activities and upcoming initiatives.
Across the region, addressing shared animal health challenges requires sustained cooperation, the exchange of scientific knowledge and strong coordination among countries and institutions. This newsletter aims to keep our regional community informed of ongoing work, highlight progress and opportunities for engagement, and facilitate the exchange of experiences and knowledge across Europe. We hope it will serve as a useful resource for staying connected with regional developments and strengthening our collective efforts.”*

Dr. Lajos Bognár Sub-Regional Representative Brussels



REGIONAL FOCUS

32nd Conference of the Regional Commission for Europe

Riga, Latvia | 20–25 September 2026

The Regional Conference brought together WOA Members and partners to address key animal health, One Health and animal welfare challenges across Europe. Discussions covered a broad range of regional topics, including the implementation of the WOA 8th Strategic Plan 2027–2031, governance, preparedness, antimicrobial resistance and regional cooperation. The two Technical Items, focusing on biosecurity and emergency preparedness and response to peste des petits ruminants (PPR) and sheep pox and goat pox (SGP), were discussed, leading to the adoption of two recommendations to strengthen regional disease prevention and response capacities.



THEMATIC HIGHLIGHTS

ANIMAL WELFARE: Developing the Platform's next Action Plan

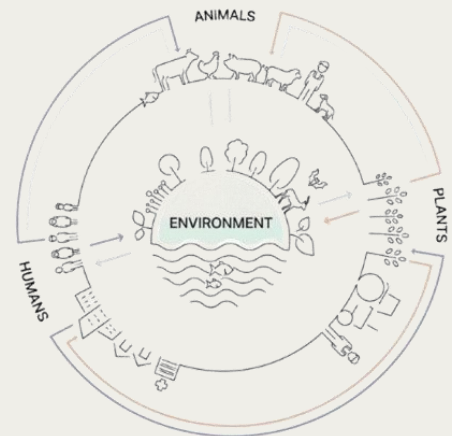
Over the past months, we have held consultations and meetings with regional partners and stakeholders to gather input and initiate the collection of information needed to define the objectives and targets of the Platform's 5th Action Plan (2027–2029). Building on the Platform's five priority areas—animal transport, welfare during slaughter, dog population management, animal welfare in disasters and working equids—this process aims to identify regional needs, establish clear targets and define concrete actions to strengthen animal welfare across Europe. We expect to share a draft of the Action Plan with partners by December 2026 and will keep our regional network informed as the process progresses.

Explore more of the Platform's activities and initiatives [here](#).

GF-TADs: Strengthening regional cooperation on transboundary diseases

Rabies — 28–29 September 2026 | Brussels

The 8th Standing Group of Experts on Rabies for Europe brought together 32 participants from European countries and partner organisations under the GF-TADs framework. The meeting, themed "*From Elimination to Resilience: Sustaining Rabies Elimination in the European Region*", focused on vaccination campaigns, surveillance systems and cross-border cooperation.



WILDLIFE / ONE HEALTH: Connecting wildlife health and One Health

WOAH and its regional partners continue to work towards the implementation of the Wildlife Health Strategy for Europe 2026–2027, strengthening regional cooperation and promoting a coordinated One Health approach. Looking ahead, One Health Day 2026 in Brussels will bring together European and international partners to advance the implementation of the One Health approach, with a particular focus on vector-borne disease surveillance and prevention.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

NOVEMBER

- 3: One Health Day 2026 — Brussels
- 3–6: National Bridging Workshop on One Health — Cyprus
- 17–19: Seminar Seminar on Risk Communication, Disinformation and Misinformation for Priority Animal Diseases and Biological Threats in Europe — Moldova

Please visit our website

[Brussels - Sub-Regional Representation](#)



SHARE WITH US

Share with us, and the rest of the community your experience, best practices or challenges!

