The World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH)

Corporate Presentation  Last update 2022
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WOAH in brief
An international technical and science-based Organisation

World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH)

- **1924**: Creation: Office International des Epizooties (OIE)
- **1945**: Creation of the United Nations
- **2003**: New common name: World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)
- **2022**: New common acronym: WOAH
Under the direct authority of the Director General collaborate closely with Regional Commissions
Our network

We collaborate with partners and Members to achieve results for animals, humans and the planet.

182 Members

75+ official partners

300+ Reference Centres of expertise
Financing WOAH

*Our financing is spread out from different sources*

- **Statutory contributions**
  - Divided into 6 categories chosen by the countries
  - 50% reduction for Member Countries on the United Nations’ list of ‘Least Developed Countries’

- **Voluntary contributions**
  - World Animal Health and Welfare Fund
  - Co-funding from countries hosting WOAH Offices
  - Specific donations

- **Other income**
  - Publications
  - Fees related to official recognition of status for certain diseases
  - Various services
Our donors and partners
Our identity
Who we are

We are the global authority on animal health: we work to ensure the health of animals, recognising that animal health impacts everyone’s health.

• We were founded in 1924 as the Office International des Épizooties in response to a devastating cattle-plague epidemic, called rinderpest.

• Since then, we have focused on the complexities of animal health and its impact on human and environmental health, and we have strived to develop and disseminate animal health knowledge.
What we do

We disseminate information on animal diseases and develop science-based strategies to limit their impacts on society.

• We monitor the emergence and evolution of animal diseases of domestic and wild animals, to help countries address them before they become a threat to public health.

• Collecting, verifying and sharing data and knowledge on diseases that affect terrestrial and aquatic animals from the country-level has been at the core of our mission since our creation.
What is our impact?

We are building a better future through better animal health.

• Because human societies interact with animals daily, both domestic and wild, their health concerns are also our own. We support the Veterinary Services across the world through our programmatic work, and develop animal health standards, guidance, and recommendations so that veterinarians around the world can control health risks for both animals and humans.

• We provide millions of vaccines against priority diseases from our vaccine banks to ensure the safety of animals, and safeguard the food security and livelihoods of vulnerable regions.
Our vision, mission and purpose

1. Our vision
   Our vision is to help create a future in which humans and animals benefit and support each other, for a healthier, more sustainable world.

2. Our mission
   Our mission is to improve animal health globally, thereby ensuring a better future for all.

3. Our purpose
   Our purpose is to contribute to a more sustainable world, so that livelihoods are transformed, economies are boosted and the future is safer and healthier for everyone.
We help policy-makers and governments create a future in which humans and animals benefit and support each other so that livelihoods are transformed, economies are boosted and the world is safer and healthier for everyone.

We do that by improving animal health, globally.
Our structure
Governance structure: World Assembly of Delegates
World Assembly of Delegates

Highest authority of WOAH

- Composed of all national Delegates of WOAH
- Convenes at least once a year in May

Adopts the Standards published in the WOAH Codes and Manuals

1 Member = 1 vote
The Delegate

National Representative for WOAH

- Responsible for negotiating international veterinary standards
- Notification to the OIE of the national animal disease situation
- National representative with international status

Appointed by the national government
(most frequently, the country’s Chief Veterinary Officer)
National Focal Points

8 areas of expertise

Aquatic animals  Communication
Wildlife          Animal welfare
Animal disease notification  Animal production food safety
Veterinary products-AMR      Veterinary Laboratories

Appointed by the Delegate
National Focal Points

Assist the Delegate to
- Comment on draft standards proposed by the OIE
- Prepare and implement appropriate legislation

Technical contact points for the OIE regional offices and Headquarters
- Under the authority of the Delegate

Information exchange and international networking
Governance structure:
Council

- World Assembly of Delegates
  - Council
    - Specialist Commissions
    - Ad hoc Groups
      - Working Groups
    - Director General
    - Headquarters
      - Regional and Sub-Regional Representations
    - Regional Commissions
      - Collaborating Centres
      - Reference Laboratories

Authority Relations

Functional Relations
Council

Represents the World Assembly of Delegates

- Members elected by WOAH Delegates

Functions

- Examines the technical and administrative documents prepared by the Director General and submitted to each Member Country prior to the World Assembly of Delegates

- Approves WOAH’s provisional budget and monitors its implementation

- Represents the World Assembly of Delegates between General Sessions

3-year Term 2021-2024
Council

Constitution
Governance Structure: Regional Commissions

- World Assembly of Delegates
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    - Ad hoc Groups
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Authority Relations

Functional Relations
Regional Commissions

Address specific local issues

- Can be fully considered as regional institutions
- Board composed of 4 Delegates elected for a 3-year term of office by the World Assembly
- RegionalCommissionConferences
  - Every 2 years
  - In one of the countries of the region
- Recommendations submitted to the World Assembly for approval and implementation by the Director General
- Meet annually during the World Assembly
Governance structure: Regional Commissions

- World Assembly of Delegates
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      - Reference Laboratories

Authority Relations
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Functional Relations
Specialist Commissions

- Elected by the World Assembly of Delegates

Functions

- Study epidemiological and scientific issues
- Animal disease prevention and control methods
- Develop, update and propose international standards and guidelines for adoption by the World Assembly of Delegates
- Study scientific and technical issues raised by Members, excluding trade issues for which the Director General may propose mediation

3-year Term

- 2021
- 2024
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commission</th>
<th>Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission</td>
<td>• Annually updates the WOAH Terrestrial Code and specific standards, recommendations and guidelines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Code Commission</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases</td>
<td>• Supports strategies and identification measures for</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scientific Commission</td>
<td>• Disease surveillance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Disease prevention and control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Submits corresponding proposals to the Code Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Examines Members’ requests regarding their animal health status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission</td>
<td>• Annually updates the WOAH Aquatic Code and Manual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aquatic Animal Commission</td>
<td>• Formulates recommendations relating to the prevention and control of diseases of fish, molluscs, crustaceans and amphibians</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biological Standards Commission</td>
<td>• Develops diagnostic methods for diseases in mammals, birds and bees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biological Commission</td>
<td>• Defines quality criteria of biological products, including vaccines</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Oversees the development of the Terrestrial Manual</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Supports the Director General in supervising the global network of WOAH Reference Centres</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Governance structure: Ad hoc and Working Groups

- World Assembly of Delegates
- Council
- Specialist Commissions
- Director General
- Ad hoc Groups
- Working Groups
- Headquarters
- Regional and Sub-Regional Representations
- Regional Commissions
- Collaborating Centres
- Reference Laboratories

Authority Relations

Functional Relations
Ad hoc and Working Groups

Internationally renowned experts from the Reference Centres

World Assembly of Delegates

Forms

Permanent

Working Groups

Recommendations

Regularly update progress made in the field of expertise: (Until May 2017)

- Animal welfare
- Food safety
- Wildlife

Director General

Forms

One-off

Ad hoc Groups

Prepare recommendations on specific topics:

Examples:
- Veterinary paraprofessionals
- Veterinary legislation
- Tilapia lake virus

Advise on current issues

Provide recommendations

Specialist Commissions
Governance structure: Director General and Headquarters

Authority Relations

Functional Relations
Director General

Since 1 January 2016

- Elected in May 2015 by the World Assembly of national Delegates
- 1st woman elected to this position

Second 5-year Term

- Implementation of the 6th Strategic Plan 2016-2020
- Implementation of the 7th Strategic Plan 2021-2025

Dr Monique Éloït
Governance Structure: Headquarters

Under the authority of the Director General

Dr Monique Éliot
Director General

Mr Gerrit Beger
Communication Department

Ms Emily Tagliaro
Engagement and Investment Department

Ms Audrey Thery
Digital Transformation & IS\(^1\) Department

1. Digital Transformation & Information Systems Department
2. World Animal Health Information and Analysis Department
3. Antimicrobial resistance & Veterinary Products Department
Governance Structure: Director General and Headquarters
Regional and Sub-Regional Representations

Under the direct authority of the Director General
Collaborate closely with Regional Commissions
Africa
www.rr-africa.woah.org

Regional and Sub-Regional Representations

Regional Representative
Dr Karim Tounkara
Bamako (Mali)

Sub-Regional Representatives
- Southern Africa: Dr Moetapele Letshwenyo
- North Africa: Dr Rachid Bouguedour
- Eastern Africa and Horn of Africa:
  Dr Samuel Wakhusama

Regional Commission
54 members

A country can be a member of several Regional Commissions
Regional and Sub-Regional Representations

Regional Representative

Dr Luis O. Barcos
Buenos Aires (Argentina)

Sub-Regional Representative

- Central America: Dr Catya I. Martínez Rivas

Regional Commission

32 members

A country can be a member of several Regional Commissions
Asia, Far East, Oceania

Regional and Sub-Regional Representations

Regional Representative

Dr Hirofumi Kugita
Tokyo (Japan)

Sub-Regional Representative

- South East Asia: Dr Ronello C. Abila

Regional Commission

36 members

A country can be a member of several Regional Commissions
## Middle East

**www.rr-middleeast.woah.org**

### Regional and Sub-Regional Representations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regional Representative</th>
<th>Sub-Regional Representative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr Ghazi Yehia</td>
<td><em>Abu Dhabi</em> Dr Mohamed Alhosani</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beirut (Lebanon)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### Regional Commission

- **20 members**

*A country can be a member of several Regional Commissions*
Regional and Sub-Regional Representations

**Europe**

www.rr-europe.woah.org

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regional Representative</th>
<th>Sub-Regional Representatives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dr Budimir Plavšić</strong></td>
<td>• Dr Estelle Hamelin: Brussels (Belgium)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Moscow (Russia)</em></td>
<td>• Dr Mereke Taitubayev: Nur-Sultan (Kazakhstan)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Regional Commission**

53 members

*A country can be a member of several Regional Commissions*
Governance structure: Director General and Headquarters

- World Assembly of Delegates
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  - Regional Commissions
  - Collaborating Centres
  - Reference Laboratories

Authority Relations

Functional Relations
Collaborating Centres

Centres of excellence on horizontal topics

1. Contribute to the development of procedures to update and promote OIE international standards and guidelines

2. Coordinate scientific studies

3. Provide technical training

4. Organise and host scientific meetings in collaboration with WOAH
Collaborating Centres

Centres of excellence on horizontal topics
Reference Laboratories

**Expert Centres for animal diseases**

1. Under the responsibility of an expert
   
   • Develop, perform and validate [diagnostic tests](#)
   
   • Store and distribute [reference reagents](#)

   • Conduct laboratory [proficiency tests](#) of samples from other Members’ laboratories

   • Coordinate [technical](#) and [scientific](#) studies

   • Organise technical and scientific [training](#) for Member Countries

   • List of Reference Laboratories validated annually by the World Assembly of Delegates
Reference Laboratories

*Expert Centres for animal diseases*

![World Distribution of WOAH Reference Laboratories](image-url)
Seventh Strategic Plan 2021-2025
Strategic Objective 1

Scientific expertise

Our goal is to leverage relevant scientific expertise to address multisectoral animal health and welfare issues

- At the core of the mandate of WOAH is the objective to promote and coordinate collaboration to develop international animal health policy supported by scientific evidence. WOAH is uniquely placed to identify and prioritise areas where scientific knowledge requires further development, through feedback received from its Members on its standards and the implementation of global control strategies on priority diseases.

- This knowledge, in turn, informs capacity building within the network of WOAH expertise to respond to identified emerging global priorities.
Data governance

Our goal is to implement digital transformation through a WOAH Data Strategy

- WOAH is responsible for the collection, analysis and dissemination of a large volume of official data, through different platforms and processes.
- WOAH data supports both national decision-makers and the international community in making evidence-based decisions. Yet managing data to provide added value is becoming an increasingly complex and digitally driven task. It requires organisations that are responsible for collecting, managing and disseminating data to do so from a structured and strategic perspective, in line with best international practices.
- The development of a strong digital culture will be crucial to driving innovative data use, in order to support the digital transformation of WOAH.
Strategic Objective 3

Responding to Members’ needs

Our goal is to drive a high level of support to WOAH Members through standards and capacity-building

• WOAH Members’ national Veterinary Services are responsible for the day-to-day management of animal health and welfare and veterinary public health at national level. As the cornerstone of effective global governance of animal health systems, Veterinary Services require both international harmonisation and strong national capacity.

• Consequently, WOAH will continue to revise and improve its standard-setting process to better support the strengthening of animal health systems worldwide, by delivering international standards and guidelines based on the best available evidence.
Collaboration with Partners

Our goal is to optimise cooperation with partners to better respond to global challenges

• Responding to the major global challenges of tomorrow will require the involvement of multiple stakeholders, including public–private partnerships. As a result, the role of WOAH in responding to future major global challenges cannot be underestimated. Conversely, it is crucial for WOAH to strengthen its network of strategic partners if it is to carry out its missions effectively.

• Through its activities, WOAH has developed a wide number of relationships with a variety of stakeholders that are essential to the delivery of its mandate.

• Through these relationships, WOAH will continue to raise awareness of its mission and advocate for a sense of shared responsibility for safeguarding animal health and welfare, while aiming to gain a better understanding of other perspectives.
Efficiency and agility

Our goal is to be recognised as an efficient and agile organisation underpinned by modern internal processes and tools

- Following the end of the implementation of the 6th Strategic Plan (2016-2020) modernisation efforts will intensify to ensure that services of WOAH are adequately supported by implementing effective and efficient business policies and ensuring adequate resources.
- While remaining agile and responsive, WOAH will continue to provide its Members with transparent insight on its management and results. It will further strengthen its structure and systems in support of sustained accountability.
- At the same time, the Organisation will drive continuous improvement from strategic to operational levels. This will effectively strengthen its capacity to adapt, refine and align its services and programmes in support of long-term goals.
Thank you

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