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WOAH's tools to improve emergency management capacities and capabilities of Veterinary Services

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Organisation Mondiale de la Santé Animale | World Organisation for Animal Health | Organización Mundial de Sanidad Animal

Oie

Disaster prevention and preparedness

Prévention des catastrophes et préparation préalable

Prevención de desastres y preparación



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Protéger les animaux, protéger notre avenir - Proteger los animales, garantizar el futuro - Protect the animals, preserve our future



Guidelines for Simulation Exercises

A consistent set of good practices for preparing, delivering, and learning from animal health and welfare and veterinary public health simulation exercises for Veterinary Services



Emergency Management

A Cost-Benefit Analysis of Preparing National Veterinary Services for Transboundary Animal Disease Emergencies

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Abstract

The natural, accidental, or deliberate release of pathogens into livestock populations carries with it a range of consequences for society, from zoonotic disease outbreaks, to changes in food security and economic welfare. An important contribution to mitigating the risk of disease outbreaks comes from having well-prepared emergency response plans and agencies with the capacity to put those plans into operation. In the case of animal disease, national Veterinary Services (VS) take a central role. Unknown and

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The gulf between emergency plans and the resources needed: a global review

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Summary
 Preparedness for an animal emergency event reduces a country's economic and production losses and decreases animal disease threats to neighbouring countries. Investing in animal disease preparedness reduces economic expenditures during an emergency as well as in recovery. An essential component of animal disease preparedness is a national contingency plan that is fit for purpose. This useful document should be frequently updated and can be modified with new information from self-assessments and after-action reports, which should identify resource needs and improvements to be made. National contingency plans are recommended in global international guidance and by animal health and



WOAH PVS Evaluation Critical Competencies

II-5. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

DEFINITION

The authority and capability of the VS to be prepared and respond rapidly to a sanitary emergency threat (such as a significant disease *outbreak* or food safety emergency).

LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT

1. The VS have no field network or established procedure to determine whether a sanitary emergency threat exists or the authority to declare such an emergency and respond appropriately.
2. The VS have a field network and an established procedure to determine whether a sanitary emergency threat exists, but lack the legal and financial support to respond effectively. The VS may have basic emergency management planning, but this usually targets one or a few diseases and may not reflect national capacity to respond.
3. The VS have the legal framework and financial support to respond rapidly to sanitary emergency threats, but the response is not well coordinated through an effective chain of command. They have national emergency management plans for some exotic *diseases*, but they are not updated/tested.
4. The VS have the legal framework and financial support to respond rapidly to sanitary emergencies through an effective chain of command (e.g. establishment of a *containment zone*). The VS have national emergency management plans for major exotic *diseases*, linked to broader national disaster management arrangements, and these are regularly updated/tested such as through simulation exercises.
5. The VS have national emergency management plans for all diseases of concern (and possible emerging infectious diseases), incorporating coordination with national disaster agencies, relevant *Competent Authorities*, producers and other non-government stakeholders. Emergency management planning and response capacity is regularly tested, audited and updated, such as through simulation exercises that test response at all levels. Following emergency events, the VS have a formal 'After Action Review' process as part of continuous improvement.

I-9. EMERGENCY FUNDING

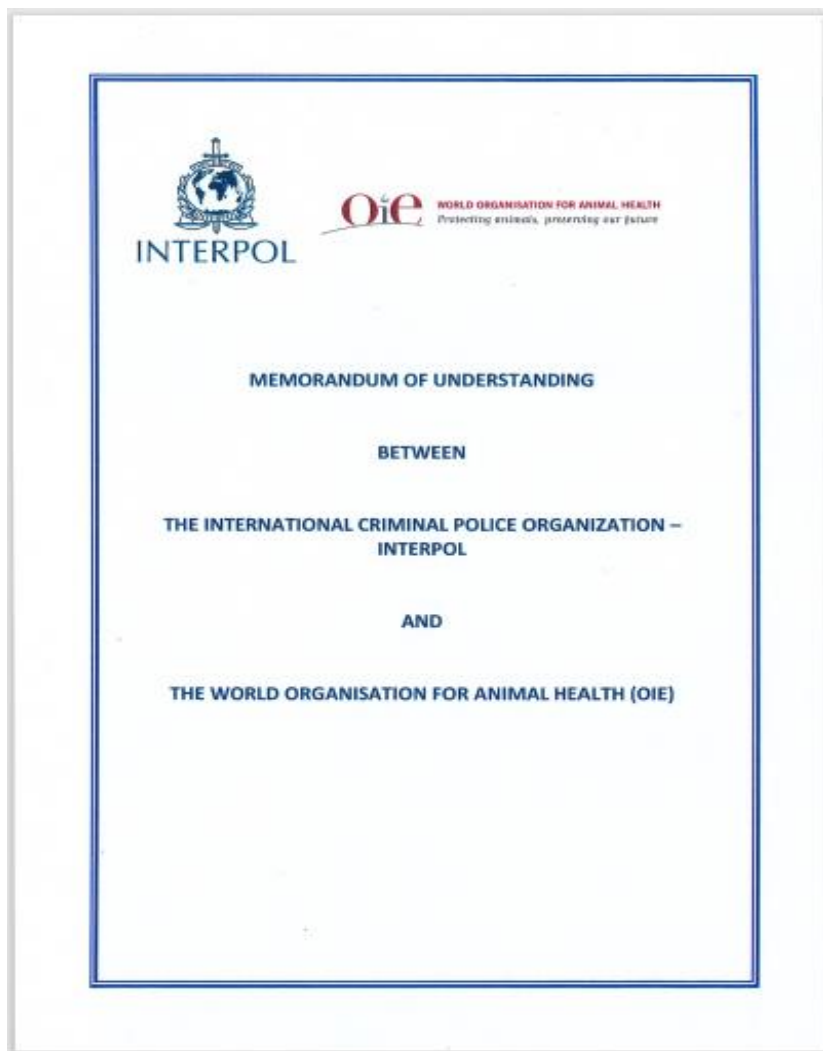
DEFINITION

The capability of the VS to access extraordinary financial resources in order to respond to emergency situations or newly emerging issues, as measured by the ease with which contingency and related funding (i.e. arrangements for compensation of producers in emergency situations) can be made rapidly available when required.

LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT

1. No emergency funding arrangements exist.
2. Emergency funding arrangements with limited resources have been established, but these are inadequate for likely emergency situations (including newly emerging issues).
3. Emergency funding arrangements with limited resources have been established; additional resources may be approved but approval is through a political process.
4. Emergency funding arrangements with adequate resources have been established; their provision must be agreed through a non-political process on a case-by-case basis.
5. Emergency funding arrangements with adequate resources have been established and their rules of operation documented and agreed with interested parties.

Health Security Interface



Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction



Guidance

Countering disinformation and misinformation in animal health emergencies



Guidelines for Simulation Exercises

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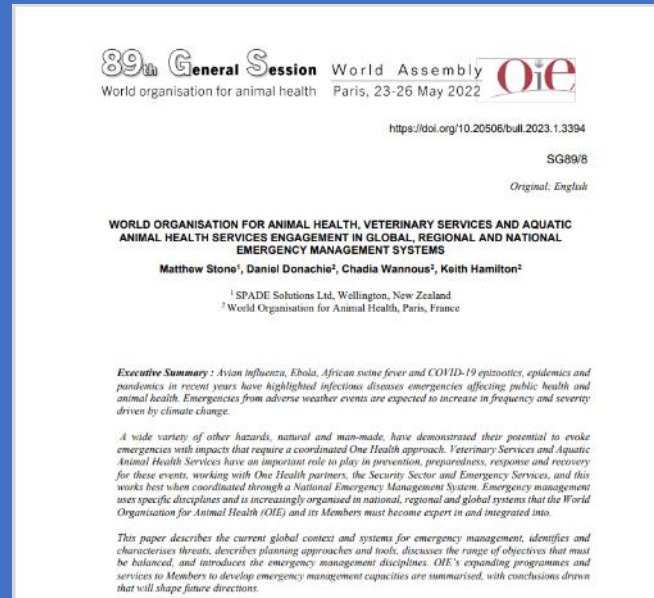


Guidelines for investigation of suspicious biological events

For National Veterinary Services



Technical Item - Resolution 28 (GS 2022)



-1-

RESOLUTION No. 28

World Organisation for Animal Health, Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services engagement in global, regional and national emergency management systems

CONSIDERING THAT

1. The Technical Item at the OIE's 89th General Session presented the OIE, Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services engagement in global, regional and national emergency management systems;
2. The OIE plays an important role individually, and collectively with other international partners (particularly the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations [FAO], the United Nations Environment Programme [UNEP], World Health Organization [WHO], and more recently, in relation to agro-crime, the International Criminal Police Organization [INTERPOL]), in promoting prevention and preparedness and in global coordination of emergencies that affect animal health and welfare, and veterinary public health;



WOAH Global Conference on Emergency Management

Tackling shared threats for a safer world

- Global Conference - 3-5 April 2023, Paris
- First WOAHA 'mass gathering' after worldwide pandemic lock down
- Co-financed by four historic WOAHA resource partners: the United States Department of Defense, Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA); Global Affairs Canada's Weapons Threat Reduction Program; the UK Ministry of Defence; European Union
- Veterinary Services (Delegates and emergency management experts), Law Enforcement officials, security sector
- Objectives:
 - Highlight all hazards approach to emergencies
 - Strengthen multisectoral networks
 - Promote gender equality
 - Present outcomes of joint WOAHA-FAO-INTERPOL work



This event is supported by funding from:



Canada



Counter Proliferation
& Arms Control Centre



Co-funded by
the European Union



Up to **350 participants** per day in person (44% female, 56% male),
90 watching online

Call for Action:

- **Reinforce a whole of society approach**
- **Recognise the value of Veterinary Services** (in partnership with others) in managing emergencies
- **Sustain preparedness for emergencies**
- **Share data and scientific evidence freely and fairly** to support emergency management systems
- **Integrate resource mobilisation** to emergency preparedness
- **Adapt to new threats and continue to learn** from real events and exercises



April 2023



**GLOBAL CONFERENCE
ON EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT**

Calls for Action

Multisectoral and international cooperation to mitigate biological threats, whether natural, accidental or deliberate, has improved. However, gaps remain and further progress and support is needed across all of society and government including to take the One Health approach.

There should be universal recognition of the benefits of investing in the emergency management capacity of Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services, and that further efforts are needed to strengthen the functional relationship between health and other sectors, such as security (including Law Enforcement).

Greater efforts should be made to adopt an inclusive and sustainable all-hazards approach to emergency management through education, planning, partnerships and networks, and resources.

FAIR* and open access to data and scientific evidence are required to support national, regional and international epidemic intelligence and emergency management systems.

The process of mobilising, prioritising and receiving resources should be better integrated into emergency preparedness (e.g. contingency planning and exercising), and resource mobilisation mechanisms need to be fit for purpose to ensure timely response, whilst being able to adapt to opportunities and local needs.

Emergency management must keep up to date by anticipating new challenges including cybersecurity, misinformation and disinformation, and by learning from preparedness activities and real events.

*Findable. Accessible. Interoperable. Reusable



World Organisation
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Upcoming emergency management activities



Guidance for national incident management systems

- Ad hoc Group on Veterinary Emergencies (November 2024)

Advocacy and whole of government response to emergencies

- Academic study to identify and develop solutions to better engage Veterinary Services in whole-of-government frameworks for emergencies (2024-2025)





Emergency Management Standards

- Mandated by Members in 2022 WOAHA General Session Technical Item Resolution
- Proposal accepted by Code commission in February 2024
- *Ad hoc* Group convened in June 2024
 - Terrestrial Code reviewed
 - Recommended developing a chapter on emergency management
 - Chapter outline drafted
- Report due to be reviewed by WOAHA Code Commission (September 2024) and plan to draft content in December 2024
- Report reviewed by Code Commission in February 2025





WOAH Competency-based Training Framework

- Competency package on Emergency and Disaster Management (CP6)
- WOAH Collaborating Centre Network on Veterinary Emergencies – e-learning

WOAH Training Platform

for the reinforcement of Veterinary Services worldwide

Cybersecurity

- **Academic study:** vulnerability assessment for animal health and cyberthreats (2024-2025)
- **Ad hoc Group** on Cybersecurity and Animal Health to develop guidance (2025)
 - Guidance publication and dissemination



Global Summit on Biological Threat Reduction 28-30 October 2025, Geneva, Switzerland

- Reflect historical experiences and current challenges
- Strengthen international efforts in biothreat reduction
- Foster multi-sectoral collaboration for innovative strategies
- Shape WOAHA's future biothreat reduction strategy





- [Philippines: the impact of emergencies on animal health \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)





Any
questions?

