Regional Seminar for WOAH Focal Points for Veterinary Laboratories

Geelong, Australia, 19-21 October 2026

Day 1 (19 October): Face-to-face

Geelong (AE) time		**Facilitator/Speaker** **Maho Urabe, WOAH RRAP &** **Caitlin Holley, ACDP**
9:00-9:10	**Opening remarks** - Host country	WOAH Delegate of Australia (video)
9:10-9:45	**Introduction & Icebreaker** - Participant introduction - Icebreaker activity - Seminar introduction	WOAH & ACDP
9:45-10:00	**WOAH updates** - Institutional updates (e.g., the 8th Strategic Plan) - Reference Centre System	Mariana Delgado, WOAH HQ
	Technical session 1: WOAH standards and science behind them	**Mariana Delgado, WOAH HQ**
10:00-10:15	WOAH Standards and the role of specialist commissions	Valentyna Yatsyshyn, WOAH HQ
10:15-10:45	Updates on the WOAH Manual and discussions of Biological Standards Commission	Dr Joseph O'Keefe, member of Biological Standards Commission (Virtual)
	Break & Group photo	
11:15-11:30	Case study on Reference Centre involvement in standard setting and developing guidelines	Dr David Williams, ACDP
11:30-11:45	Case study on Member consultation process	Dr Nantaporn Wandee, Thailand
11:45-13:00	Interactive Exercise & Discussion: Preparing comments on WOAH Standards	All, facilitated by WOAH
13:00-14:00	**Lunch**	
	Technical session 2: Quality assurance and	**ACDP**

	quality management	
14:00-15:00	Introduction to Quality Management in veterinary diagnostic laboratories	Lee Trinidad, ACDP Kim Newberry, ACDP (TBC)
15:00-15:30	Scene-setting for group activity and assigning groups.	Lee Trinidad, ACDP Gemma Clark, ACDP (TBC)
15:30-15:50	Break	
15:50-16:50	Interactive group activity – scenario based on identified challenges and improvement pathways.	All, facilitated by ACDP
16:50-17:00	Reflection and wrap-up of Day 1	

Day 2 (20 October): face-to-face

	Technical Session 3: Harmonisation of diagnostic testing at national and regional level	**ACDP**
9 :00- 9:40	Ensuring the validity of test results	Kim Newberry, ACDP
9:40-10:10	Case Studies on National NQC programs - Indonesia - Korea RO	Dr Sri Handayani Irianingsih, Indonesia Dr. Jaejo Kim, Korea RO
10:10-10:40	Case studies on developing National and Regional PT programs - Australia (Regional) - Indonesia (National)	James Hollier, ACDP Dr Sri Handayani Irianingsih, Indonesia
10:40-11:00	**Break**	
11:00-11:50	Participating in EQA and ILC programs - PT participant (Vietnam) - ILC example (ACDP) - ILC example (PNG)	Dr Nguyen Dang Tho, Vietnam Kim Newberry, ACDP Bridgit Fabila Kavana, Papua New Guinea
11:50-12:20	Panel discussion	All, facilitated by ACDP
12:20-13:00	Group activity extend on activity outcomes from Technical Session 2	All, facilitated by ACDP

13:00-14:00	**Lunch**	
	Technical Session 4: Interactive workshop session	**ACDP**
14:00-15:00	*Continued...Group activity extend on activity outcomes from Technical Session 2.* Summary of outcomes from interactive QA workshop	All, facilitated by ACDP
15:00-15:20	**Break**	
15:20-15:50	Reflection and Wrap-up	Lee Trinidad, ACDP
15:50 - evening	Field trip briefing Field trip 	

Day 3 (21 October) – Joined by WOAH Reference Centre (RC) Representatives and Aquatic FPs

Hybrid except for sessions indicated as "On-site participants only"

Zoom registration link: https://oie.zoom.us/meeting/register/WvBVzKxvQPSu4lvq0LMxSw

9:00-9:10	Welcome to RC participants and brief recap of Day 1 and Day 2	WOAH/ ACDP
	Technical Session 5: Laboratory networks and Research collaboration	**Dr Charlene Fernandez, Singapore & Dr Tshering Choden, Bhutan**
9:10-10:10	Strengthening laboratory networks and technical collaboration in the region - Laboratory preparedness: updates on FMD diagnosis and other laboratory-related activities - Pacific Animal Health Laboratory Network - South Asia Rabies Laboratory Network	 Dr Jijun He, Lanzhou Veterinary Research Institute, FMD RL Dr Anaïs Desoutter, New Caledonia Dr Pragya Koirala, Nepal

	(SA-RABNET) - Asia Pacific Aquatic Animal Health Network: AP AquaNet Q&A and panel discussion	 Dr Nick Moody, ACDP
10:10-10:40	Strengthening collaboration for research and development - STAR-IDAZ - Validation of rapid test kits – process and collaboration Q&A	 Maddy Newman, STAR-IDAZ Dr Axel Colling and Dr Tristan Reid, ACDP
10:40-11:00	**Break**	
11:00-11:30	Mentimeter facilitated discussion:  Strengthening collaboration and coordination - At national/territorial/regional/global level - Among different stakeholders	
	Technical Session 6: Capacity building programmes	**Pondpan Suwanthada, WOAH RRAP & Bolortuya Purevsuren, WOAH SRR-SEA**
11:30-12:30	Capacity building opportunities provided by RCs - Training on Sample Collection for Avian Influenza and Environmental Surveillance - ACDP laboratory capacity building and regional proficiency testing programs - Brucellosis regional PT - Capacity Building for AMR Surveillance:	 Dr Witthawat Wiriyarat, Mahidol University Dr Phoebe Readford, ACDP Dr Reka Kanitpun NIAH Thailand Dr Yuta Hosoi, NVAL

	NVAL's Regional Hands-on Training Programme - Hands-on training on several transboundary animal diseases Q&A	Dr Jinming Li, CAHEC
12:30-13:00	**On-site participants only** Opportunities for Member-RC Collaboration: Interactive Session	
13:00-14:00	**Lunch**	
14:00-15:10	Workforce Development and Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) - Discussion outcomes • What does an inclusive and resilient veterinary laboratory workforce look like in practice? • What barriers prevent talented people from entering, staying and progressing in the profession? • What can laboratory leaders, institutions and networks do to create supportive and enabling workplaces?	CSIRO and WOAH
15:10-15:30	**Break**	

15:30-16:40	**WOAH's support programme** - Updates on Laboratory Twinning Projects and Evaluations - PVS (Insights from PVS Evaluations/ PVS pathway activities) - BioPreveil Foundations – a participatory approach to sustainable laboratory design - Beyond Silos: Supporting the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on Biosafety and Biosecurity through Laboratory Capacity Building Q&A Mentimeter facilitated discussion 	Mariana Marrana Emergency Preparedness and Resilience Department, WOAH HQ Valentyna Sharandak Capacity Building Department, WOAH HQ Keith Hamilton Emergency Preparedness and Resilience Department, WOAH HQ Waroonsiri Charoenlarp, SRR-SEA
16:40 -17:00	**On-site participants only** **Closing Session** - Seminar evaluation - Key take-home messages on FP Seminar ➢ WOAH ➢ ACDP ➢ Participants - Closing remarks	Maho Urabe, WOAH RRAP & Caitlin Holley, ACDP Dr Tomoko Ishibashi, WOAH ACDP
18:00-20:00	**Reception**	