



World Organisation
for Animal Health
Founded as OIE

South Asia Rabies Laboratory Network (SA-RABNET)

A Regional Platform

Draft Terms of Reference (ToR)

Virtual Workshop on Proposed South Asia Rabies Laboratory Network

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Background

WOAH RRAP with the technical support of WOAHA Reference Laboratory for Rabies in India organized virtual training on brain sampling and diagnosis of rabies in 2020

WOAH RRAP with the technical support of WOAHA Reference Laboratory for Rabies in India organized virtual training on rabies serology in 2021

Members requested further technical support on advanced diagnosis, surveillance and proficiency testing

Felt necessary to have a platform to connect the national laboratories with WOAHA Reference Laboratory

Proposed South Asia Rabies Laboratory Network (SA-RABNET) will be a regional platform for the National Lead Rabies Laboratories (NLRLs)

Vision



End human deaths from dog mediated rabies in South Asia through collaboration in diagnostics, surveillance, research, and information sharing

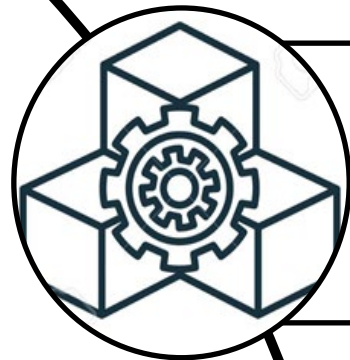
Goal



Enhance animal rabies surveillance and disease reporting through improved collaboration and coordination amongst national lead rabies laboratories towards more effective rabies control in South Asia



Objectives of SA-RABNET



To provide a platform for sharing of information and experiences amongst the National Lead Rabies Laboratories (NLRLs) of the SAARC Members on rabies diagnosis, surveillance and control



To facilitate building capacity for rabies diagnosis, surveillance and control and other technical assistance to the Network members



To encourage collaborative activities on rabies diagnosis, surveillance and control



To foster partnerships and collaborations with other regional and international rabies laboratories or Networks

Members of the Network

1

Laboratory Director / Head of NLRLs of the SAARC MSs as nominated by the WOAAH Delegate/competent authority as the case may be

2

The WOAAH National Focal Points (NFPs) for Veterinary Laboratory of the SAARC MSs if different from above

3

Laboratory Director/ Head of Regional Rabies Reference Laboratory (KVAFSU, Bengaluru, India)

Secretariat the Network



WOAH RRAP in Tokyo, Japan will serve as the interim Secretariat of the Network with the support of KVAFSU for an initial 1-3 years after which MSs are expected to take over the management of the Network

Operation of the Network

- The Network will be managed by the NLRLs of SAARC MSs
- The Chair of the Network will be selected as decided by the Members at the Network meeting
- The Chair shall serve for one year period and will rotate amongst the Members as decided during the Network meeting
- The Network will meet regularly, at least twice a year virtually and/or physically
- Observers from academia, research organizations, private sector, public health, NGOs, associations, etc. can be invited to specific meetings of the Network if their inputs are needed for the meeting and if approved by the Members
- WOAHH RRAP will provide secretarial, and if needed some financial support to the Network for an initial 1-3 years after which MSs are expected to take over the management of the Network
- After Members take over the role of the Secretariat, the Chair and the Secretariat could be from same country for efficient functioning of the Network
- KVAFSU (WOAHH Reference Laboratory for Rabies) will provide technical expertise to the Network activities

Sustainability of the Network




Initially, WOAHA and KVAFSU will take lead and provide necessary support to make the Network operational



Once established, Member States are responsible for mobilizing resources to ensure the sustainability of the Network. WOAHA and KVAFSU will continue to provide support to Members in the activities of the Network

Amendment

The Terms of Reference for the Network will be reviewed as necessary
as proposed by Members



**“We have to
improve surveillance
and diagnosis, in
order to prove the
burden of rabies.”**

Professor Louis Nel, CEO of the
Global Alliance for Rabies Control


Health for Animals
global animal medicines association