

OIE Regional Commission
for Asia, the Far East and Oceania

Second Regional Work Plan
Framework
2016-2020

Second Regional Work Plan Framework 2016-2020

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OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania
Second Regional Work Plan Framework 2016-2020

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Chapter 1. - Regional Directions

1.1 Introduction

- The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) Regional Commissions, by nature, are not considered as implementing bodies, but rather as advisory bodies of the OIE. The Bureau of each Regional Commission shall be composed of a President, two Vice-Presidents and a Secretary General. The Bureau is responsible for representing the Regional Commission in between OIE institutional meetings (i.e. annual General Session of the World Assembly of Delegates and biannual Conference of each Regional Commission).
- The Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania establishes a work plan to guide prioritisation of activities within the Region aligned with the OIE Strategic Plan.
- The First Regional Work Plan Framework 2011-2015 was prepared in accordance with the OIE Fifth Strategic Plan and adopted at the 27th Conference of the Regional Commission in 2011. The Regional Commission has provided an annual report against this Work Plan to its Members at the Regional Commission meeting during the General Session.
- At the Regional Commission meeting during the 82nd General Session in 2014, it was agreed to develop a new Regional Work Plan Framework for the next five years to ensure continuing alignment with the regional priority and the OIE Sixth Strategic Plan 2016-2020, which was subsequently adopted at the 83rd General Session in May 2015.
- The Second Regional Work Plan provides a framework of actions for regional activities over the period 2016-2020. The Regional Work Plan is a ‘living document’ and will be reviewed by the Regional Commission on a regular basis to monitor its progress and adjusted as necessary in light of any new developments.

1.2 Vision

1. The Regional Commission will pursue the OIE’s global vision, “Protecting animals; preserving our future”, leading to economic prosperity and social and environmental well-being.
2. The Regional Commission will be an active and influential contributor to the delivery of OIE strategic objectives, by providing effective, coordinated and targeted input to OIE standards, recommendations, policies and programmes on behalf of Members.
3. The Regional Commission will promote scientific excellence in the Region and be a key source of expert knowledge to inform development of OIE standards and implementation of OIE programmes within the Region.
4. The Regional Commission will ensure that Members be provided with regionally-adapted activities and support of the OIE through close collaboration with the OIE Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific, the Sub-Regional Representation for South East Asia, and OIE Headquarters.

Chapter 2. - Regional Objectives and Work Plan Components

2.1 Transparency and Communication in Animal Diseases Information

Objective: Communicate timely and accurate information on animal diseases, including zoonoses and emerging and re-emerging diseases, to ensure transparency.

- a. The Regional Commission will continue to advocate for improvements to disease notification in the Region, including diseases of aquatic animals and wildlife, so that the first indications of significant disease events in the territory of a Member can be made immediately to the OIE.
- b. The Regional Commission will advocate for enhancing transparency and communication to improve relationships and trust between stakeholders, including trading partners, and the general public.
- c. The Regional Commission will encourage the best use of scientific data modelling and modern information technologies.

2.2 Contribution to the Development of Scientifically-Based Standards and Guidelines

Objective: Encourage Members to participate in the development of international standards and guidelines as well as in the OIE's decision-making process with particular reference being given to the needs of the Region.

- a. The Regional Commission will strengthen the coordination among Members to develop regional or sub-regional common positions on key issues regarding OIE policies and programmes, if appropriate.
- b. The Regional Commission will provide advice on the specific conditions and needs of the Region so that the OIE can revise and enrich as appropriate the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code and the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code.
- c. The Regional Commission will recommend experts in the Region as members of OIE Specialist Commissions, Working Groups and *ad hoc* Groups to expand Region's input into OIE risk analysis and standard-setting process.

2.3 Capacity Building for National Veterinary Services

Objective: Strengthen the capacities of national Veterinary Services of Members to help achieve improvements in animal and veterinary public health and animal welfare, and encourage Members to make appropriate use of the OIE standards and guidelines.

- a. The Regional Commission will encourage Members to improve their Veterinary Services through the use of the OIE PVS Pathway, including the PVS Tool and PVS Tool: Aquatic for the evaluation of Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services, the PVS Gap Analysis and PVS follow-up.

- b. The Regional Commission will encourage the application of OIE standards by Members and, to this end, recommend updating Veterinary Legislation so to improve the governance and the ability to meet the standards and guidelines contained in the relevant OIE Codes and Manuals.
- c. The Regional Commission will encourage Members to utilise National Focal Points and its network in the respective areas of competence, mainly through active participation in training courses and workshops at regional and sub-regional level.
- d. The Regional Commission will address cooperation between Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services and encourage stronger integration of aquatic animal health issues in activities of the Regional Commission.
- e. The Regional Commission will encourage the regional activities to facilitate the introduction of the agreed Regional Animal Welfare Strategy (RAWS) Action Plan, and review the progress regularly.
- f. The Regional Commission will advocate the OIE guidelines on Veterinary Education and encourage twinning arrangements between Veterinary Education Establishments (VEE) and between Veterinary Statutory Bodies (VSB).

2.4 Prevention, Control and Eradication of Animal Diseases including Zoonoses

Objective: Provide scientifically-based standards, guidelines and recommendations to Members on measures for the prevention, control and eradication of animal diseases including zoonoses and emerging and re-emerging diseases, taking into account the economic, social and environmental impacts of such measures on the Region.

- a. The Regional Commission will promote and support regional coordination and cooperation activities required to control animal diseases, including information sharing, training and exercise on preparedness and response for emergency situations. The South East Asia and China Foot and Mouth Disease (SEACFMD) campaign can serve as a model for other regional priority diseases.
- b. The Regional Commission will strengthen the regional initiatives to control transboundary animal diseases in the context of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO)/OIE Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs), and continue to work towards the regional eradication or control of diseases adversely affecting animal and veterinary public health, food security or trade, or with negative impacts on poverty.
- c. The Regional Commission will support the development, in the context of the GF-TADs, of common strategies for the control of transboundary animal diseases such as Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI), Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), Classical Swine Fever (CSF), Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) and Rabies, and encourage Members in the implementation.
- d. The Regional Commission will address aquatic animal health issues as a priority for the Region and strengthen its activities on aquatic animal diseases in collaboration with relevant partners active in this field, namely the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA) and FAO.
- e. The Regional Commission will strengthen cooperation and information exchange in relation to border control in the Region.

2.5 Ensuring the Scientific Excellence of Information and Advice

Objective: Ensure the scientific excellence and timeliness of information and advice available to national Veterinary Services and other interested parties in all area covered by the OIE's mandate.

- a. The Regional Commission will promote the strengthening of the regional network of OIE Reference Centres in the Region and will encourage the dissemination of their knowledge through twinning arrangements between them and candidate centres.
- b. The Regional Commission will encourage research into local and regional marketing systems including the transportation and dynamics of pathogens along value chains.

2.6 Cooperation with Partner Agencies in the pursuit of “One Health” Concept

Objectives: Strengthen cooperation with partner agencies in the implementation of the “One Health” framework to reduce animal and public health risk at the animal-human-ecosystems interface.

- a. The Regional Commission will continue to work and exchange information with partner agencies and organisations including the World Health Organization (WHO), FAO, and the wildlife sector in the development of interdisciplinary approaches to support efficient animal production and protect animal, human and the environmental health.
- b. The Regional Commission will contribute to international programmes for the management of health risks at the human-animal-ecosystems interface such as the Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA) and the Global Action Plan on antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

Chapter 3. – Activities for Achievement of the Regional Objectives

3.1 Core Values

The core values underpinning this plan include collegial and cooperative approaches such as the sharing of information to the extent possible and appropriate in areas of scientific decision-making and risk-based approaches, and an appreciation of Veterinary Services as a global public good.

3.2 Specific Activities

(Regional Core Group)

1. Communication and coordination amongst the Regional and Sub-Regional Representations and Members in the Region will be enhanced by the establishment of a Regional Core Group, consisting of the President, Vice-Presidents and Secretary General of the Regional Commission, members of the OIE Council from the Region and a few regional Delegates approved by the Regional Commission. The Regional Representation will be the Secretariat for the Regional Core Group.
2. The Regional Core Group will
 - 1) hold a meeting at least once a year prior to the General Session to help determine regional or sub-regional common positions on key issues, and when appropriate by e-mail or teleconference to discuss and provide advice to the Regional Commission and the Regional and Sub-Regional Representations on their programmes and activities;
 - 2) enhance information sharing among Members on OIE-related matters using the email network;
 - 3) inform the members of the region, through the secretariat, of relevant OIE issues, news and upcoming events and stimulate active participation of members;
 - 4) provide the opportunity for member's feedback at regional level on all issues of significance relevant to the OIE and provide the OIE with these inputs in order to ensure that regional needs are closely considered by the OIE;
 - 5) improve regional participation in the OIE standard setting process;
 - 6) strengthen collaboration with other OIE Regional Commissions by exchanging respective representatives to attend relevant meetings;
 - 7) monitor and review the Regional Work Plan biannually.

(Transparency and Communication in Animal Disease Information)

3. The Regional Commission members will
 - 1) improve disease notification, including diseases of aquatic animals and wildlife, so that the first indications of significant disease events in the territory of a member can be made immediately to the OIE.

(Contribution to the Development of Scientifically-Based Standards and Guidelines)

4. The Regional Commission members will

- 1) make comments on OIE documents (e.g. country comments on the Reports of Specialist Commissions) and share their comments within the Region utilising Regional Delegates' Site;
- 2) recommend experts suitable for nomination to Specialist Commissions, Working Groups or *ad hoc* Groups to the OIE in accordance with the relevant procedures, where they exist, in order to actively participate and represent the Region.

(Capacity Building for National Veterinary Services)

5. The Regional Commission members will

- 1) actively engage with the OIE PVS Pathway for Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services;
- 2) promote the participation of National Focal Points in training courses and workshops for National Focal Points in the Region and strengthen the network among National Focal Points in the country as well as in the Region;
- 3) promote the introduction and implementation of the RAWs Action Plan;
- 4) promote the regional network of VEE consistent with OIE policies.

(Prevention, Control and Eradication of Animal Diseases including Zoonoses)

6. The Regional Commission members will

- 1) support and participate in the strengthening the regional strategies and roadmaps for HPAI, FMD, CSF, PPR and Rabies, and implement specific activities aiming at controlling these diseases in the Region, under the close collaboration with the GF-TADs Regional Steering Committee, as well as Sub-Regional GF-TADs meetings for ASEAN, SAARC and SPC;
- 2) promote the application for the OIE official Disease Status or the OIE Endorsed Official Disease Control Programme, as well as the publication of self-declaration of disease-freedom;
- 3) strengthen specific programmes for addressing aquatic animal diseases relevant to Asian aquaculture to mitigate the impacts in collaboration with relevant partners active in the field, particularly the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia Pacific (NACA) and FAO;
- 4) promote the mutual collaboration among neighboring countries on border control of animals and animal products to establish more effective measures for disease prevention and control.

(Ensuring the Scientific Excellence of Information and Advice)

7. The Regional Commission members will

- 1) promote capacity of national veterinary services by organising and participating in hands-on trainings and workshops utilising scientific excellence of OIE Reference Centres in the Region;
- 2) encourage the laboratory twinning projects in collaboration with OIE Reference Centres in the Region.

(Cooperation with Partner Agencies in the Pursuit of “One Health” Concept)

8. The Regional Commission members will

- 1) promote multisectoral collaboration in the country with the support of the FAO-OIE-WHO tripartite partnership under the One Health concept;
- 2) adopt and implement the National Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance in collaboration with tripartite partners.

Annex 1. – Review of Regional Objectives and Work Plan Components

No.	Objectives and Work Plan Components	Alignment with OIE 6th Strategic Plan* ¹	Regional Priority
2.1	Transparency and Communication in Animal Diseases Information		
	Communicate timely and accurate information on animal diseases, including zoonoses and emerging and re-emerging diseases, to ensure transparency.	SO-2, CA-A	High
a	The Regional Commission will continue to advocate for improvements to disease notification in the Region, including diseases of aquatic animals and wildlife, so that the first indications of significant disease events in the territory of a Member can be made immediately to the OIE.	SO-2	High
b	The Regional Commission will advocate for enhancing transparency and communication to improve relationships and trust between stakeholders, including trading partners, and the general public.	SO-2	High
c	The Regional Commission will encourage the best use of scientific data modelling and modern information technologies.	SO-2, CA-A	Medium
2.2	Contribution to the Development of Scientifically-Based Standards and Guidelines		
	Encourage Members to participate in the development of international standards and guidelines as well as in the OIE’s decision-making process with particular reference being given to the needs of the Region.	SO-1, CA-A, CA-B	High
a	The Regional Commission will strengthen the coordination among Members to develop regional or sub-regional common positions on key issues regarding OIE policies and programmes, if appropriate.	SO-1, CA-B	Medium
b	The Regional Commission will provide advice on the specific conditions and needs of the Region so that the OIE can revise and enrich as appropriate the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code and the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code.	SO-1, CA-B	High
c	The Regional Commission will recommend experts in the Region as members of	SO-1, CA-A,	High

	OIE Specialist Commissions, Working Groups and <i>ad hoc</i> Groups to expand Region's input into OIE risk analysis and standard-setting process.	CA-B	
2.3	Capacity Building for National Veterinary Services		
	Strengthen the capacities of national Veterinary Services of Members to help achieve improvements in animal and veterinary public health and animal welfare, and encourage Members to make appropriate use of the OIE standards and guidelines.	SO-1, SO-3	High
a	The Regional Commission will encourage Members to improve their Veterinary Services through the use of the OIE PVS Pathway, including the PVS Tool and PVS Tool: Aquatic for the evaluation of Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services, the PVS Gap Analysis and PVS follow-up.	SO-3	High
b	The Regional Commission will encourage the application of OIE standards by Members and, to this end, recommend updating the Veterinary Legislation so to improve the governance and the ability to meet the standards and guidelines contained in the relevant OIE Codes and Manuals.	SO-1	High
c	The Regional Commission will encourage Members to utilise National Focal Points and its network in the respective areas of competence, mainly through active participation in training courses and workshops at regional and sub-regional level.	SO-3	High
d	The Regional Commission will address cooperation between Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services and encourage stronger integration of aquatic animal health issues in activities of the Regional Commission.	SO-1, SO-3	High
e	The Regional Commission will encourage the regional activities to facilitate the introduction of the agreed RAWs Action Plan, and review the progress regularly.	SO-1	High
f	The Regional Commission will advocate the OIE guidelines on Veterinary Education and encourage twinning arrangements between VEE and between VSB.	SO-3	High
2.4	Prevention, Control and Eradication of Animal Diseases including Zoonoses		
	Provide scientifically-based standards, guidelines and recommendations to Members on measures for the prevention, control and eradication of animal diseases including zoonoses and emerging and re-emerging diseases, taking into account the economic, social	SO-1, CA-A	High

	and environmental impacts of such measures on the Region.		
a	The Regional Commission will promote and support regional coordination and cooperation activities required to control animal diseases, including information sharing, training and exercise on preparedness and response for emergency situations. The SEACFMD campaign can serve as a model for other regional priority diseases.	SO-1, CA-C	High
b	The Regional Commission will strengthen the regional initiatives to control transboundary animal diseases in the context of the FAO/OIE GF-TADs, and continue to work towards the regional eradication or control of diseases adversely affecting animal and veterinary public health, food security or trade, or with negative impacts on poverty.	SO-1, CA-C	High
c	The Regional Commission will support the development, in the context of the GF-TADs, of common strategies for the control of transboundary animal diseases such as HPAI, FMD, CSF, PPR and Rabies, and encourage Members in the implementation.	SO-1, CA-C	High
d	The Regional Commission will address aquatic animal health issues as a priority for the Region and strengthen its activities on aquatic animal diseases in collaboration with relevant partners active in this field, namely the NACA and FAO.	SO-1, CA-C	High
e	The Regional Commission will strengthen cooperation and information exchange in relation to border control in the Region.	SO-1, SO-3	High
2.5	Ensuring the Scientific Excellence of Information and Advice		
	Ensure the scientific excellence and timeliness of information and advice available to national Veterinary Services and other interested parties in all area covered by the OIE's mandate.	SO-3, CA-A,	High
a	The Regional Commission will promote the strengthening of the regional network of OIE Reference Centres in the Region and will encourage the dissemination of their knowledge through twinning arrangements between them and candidate centres.	SO-3, CA-A	High
b	The Regional Commission will encourage research into local and regional	SO-1, SCA-A	High

	marketing systems including the transportation and dynamics of pathogens along value chains.		
2.6	Cooperation with Partner Agencies in the pursuit of “One Health” Concept		
	Strengthen cooperation with partner agencies in the implementation of the “One Health” framework to reduce animal and public health risk at the animal-human-ecosystems interface.	SO-1, CA-C	High
a	The Regional Commission will continue to work and exchange information with partner agencies and organisations including the WHO, FAO, and the wildlife sector in the development of interdisciplinary approaches to support efficient animal production and protect animal, human and the environmental health.	SO-1, CA-C	Medium
b	The Regional Commission will contribute to international programmes for the management of health risks at the human-animal-ecosystems interface such as the GHSA and the Global Action Plan on AMR.	SO-1, CA-C	Medium

¹ Strategic Objectives: 1. Securing animal health and welfare by appropriate risk management (SO-1); 2. Establishing trust through transparency and communication (SO-2); 3. Ensuring the capacity and sustainability of Veterinary Services (SO-3). Cross-cutting Areas: A. Scientific excellence (CA-A); B. Diversity, inclusiveness, engagement, transparency (CA-B); C. Governance (CA-C).

Annex 2. – Review of Specific Activities

No.	Specific Activities	Alignment with OIE 6th Strategic Plan* ²	Regional Priority	Progress (Achieved / Partially Achieved / Not Achieved)	Evaluation / Recommendation* ³
Regional Core Group					
1	Communication and coordination amongst the Regional and Sub-Regional Representations and Members in the Region will be enhanced by the establishment of a Regional Core Group, consisting of the President, Vice-Presidents and Secretary General of the Regional Commission, members of the OIE Council from the Region and a few regional Delegates approved by the Regional Commission. The Regional Representation will be the Secretariat for the Regional Core Group.	SO-2, CA-B, CA-C	High		
2	The Regional Core Group will	-	-		
1)	hold a meeting at least once a year prior to the General Session to help determine regional or sub-regional common positions on key issues, and when appropriate by e-mail or teleconference to discuss and provide advice to the Regional Commission and the Regional and Sub-Regional Representations on their programmes and activities;	CA-C	High		
2)	enhance the information sharing among Members on OIE-related matters using the email network;	SO-2	Medium		
3)	inform the members of the region, through the secretariat, of relevant OIE issues, news and upcoming events and stimulate active participation of members;	SO-2, CA-C	Medium		
4)	provide the opportunity for member's feedback at regional level on all issues of significance relevant to the OIE and provide the OIE with these inputs in order to ensure that	SO-2, CA-C	Medium		

	regional needs are closely considered by the OIE;				
5)	improve regional participation in the OIE standard setting process;	SO-1, CA-B	High		
6)	strengthen collaboration with other OIE Regional Commissions by exchanging respective representatives to attend relevant meetings;	SO-1, CA-B	Low		
7)	monitor and review the Regional Work Plan biannually.	CA-B	Medium		
Transparency and Communication in Animal Disease Information					
3	The Regional Commission members will	-	-		
1)	improve disease notification, including diseases of aquatic animals and wildlife, so that the first indications of significant disease events in the territory of a member can be made immediately to the OIE.	CA-B	Medium		
Contribution to the Development of Scientifically-Based Standards and Guidelines					
4	The Regional Commission members will	-	-		
1)	make comments on OIE documents (e.g. country comments on the Reports of Specialist Commissions) and share their comments within the Region utilising Regional Delegates' Site;	SO-1	Medium		
2)	recommend experts suitable for nomination to Specialist Commissions, Working Groups or <i>ad hoc</i> Groups to the OIE in accordance with the relevant procedures, where they exist, in order to actively participate and represent the Region.	SO-1, CA-A, CA-B	High		
Capacity Building for National Veterinary Services					
5	The Regional Commission members will	-	-		
1)	actively engage with the OIE PVS Pathway for Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services;	SO-1, SO-3	High		
2)	promote the participation of National Focal Points in training courses and workshops for National Focal Points in the Region and strengthen the network among National	SO-3	High		

	Focal Points in the country as well as in the Region;				
3)	promote the introduction and implementation of the RAWS Action Plan;	SO-1	High		
4)	promote the regional network of VEE consistent with OIE policies.	SO-3	High		
Prevention, Control and Eradication of Animal Diseases including Zoonoses					
6	The Regional Commission members will	-	-		
1)	support and participate in the strengthening the regional strategies and roadmaps for HPAI, FMD, CSF, PPR and Rabies, and implement specific activities aiming at controlling these diseases in the Region, under the close collaboration with the GF-TADs Regional Steering Committee, as well as Sub-Regional GF-TADs meetings for ASEAN, SAARC and SPC;	SO-1, SO-2, CA-B, CA-C	High		
2)	promote the application for the OIE Official Disease Status or the OIE Endorsed Official Disease Control Programme, as well as the publication of self-declaration of disease-freedom;	SO-1	High		
3)	strengthen specific programmes for addressing aquatic animal diseases relevant to Asian aquaculture to mitigate the impacts in collaboration with relevant partners active in the field, particularly the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia Pacific (NACA) and FAO;	SO-1	High		
4)	promote the mutual collaboration among neighboring countries on border control of animals and animal products to establish more effective measures for disease prevention and control.	SO-1	High		
Ensuring the Scientific Excellence of Information and Advice					
7	The Regional Commission members will	-	-		
1)	promote capacity of national veterinary services by	SO-3, CA-A	High		

	organising and participating in hands-on trainings and workshops utilising scientific excellence of OIE Reference Centres in the Region;				
2)	encourage the laboratory twinning projects in collaboration with OIE Reference Centres in the Region.	SO-3	High		
Cooperation with Partner Agencies in the Pursuit of "One Health" Concept					
8	The Regional Commission members will	-	-		
1)	promote multisectoral collaboration in the country with the support of the FAO-OIE-WHO tripartite partnership under the One Health concept;	SO-1, CA-C	Medium		
2)	adopt and implement the National Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance in collaboration with tripartite partners.	SO-1, CA-C	High		

² Strategic Objectives: 1. Securing animal health and welfare by appropriate risk management (SO-1); 2. Establishing trust through transparency and communication (SO-2); 3. Ensuring the capacity and sustainability of Veterinary Services (SO-3). Cross-cutting Areas: A. Scientific excellence (CA-A); B. Diversity, inclusiveness, engagement, transparency (CA-B); C. Governance (CA-C).

³ To be biannually reviewed by Members at the Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania.