

OIE Animal Welfare Perspective

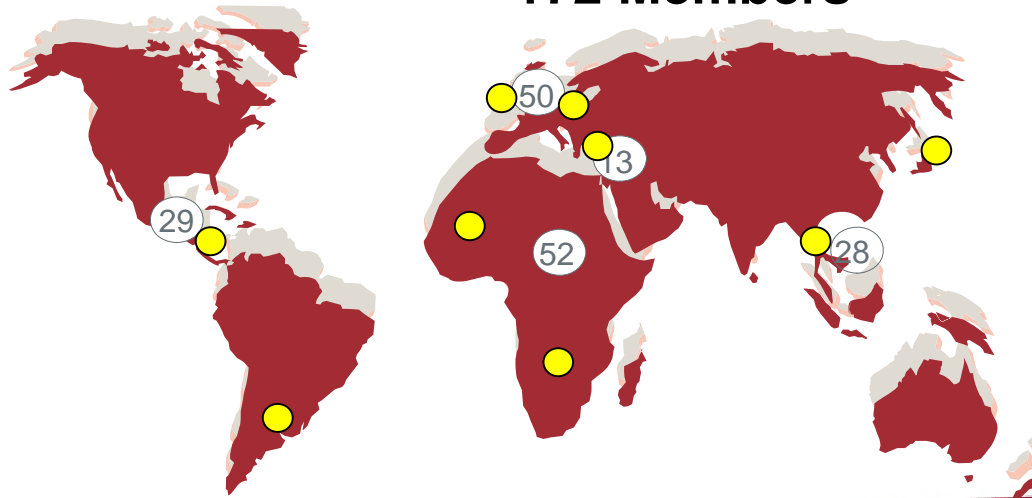
Update to NIAA Animal Health & International Trade Committee

Dave Harlan, Cargill
April 2, 2008

OIE Background

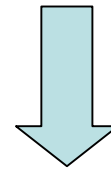
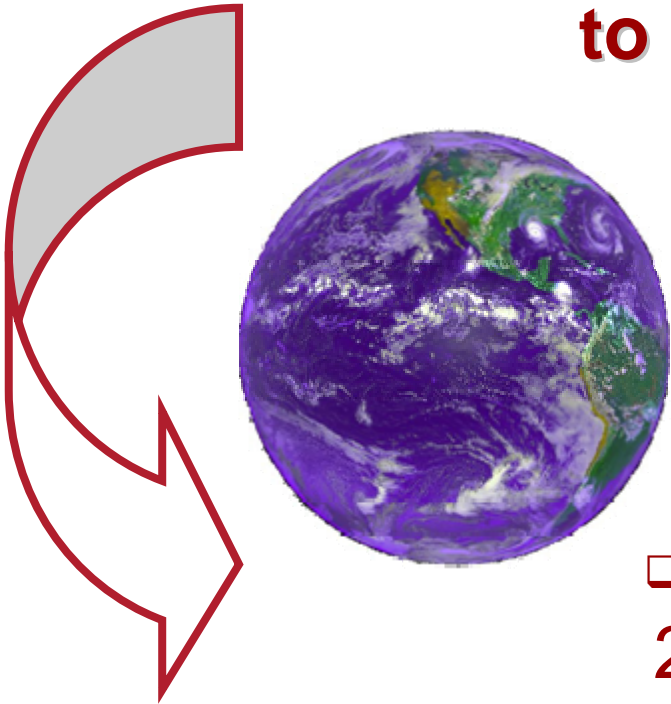
- Established in 1924 –animal disease panzootic in Europe
- Intergovernmental organisation – predates the UN
- Regions: Africa, America, Asia-Pacific, Europe and Middle East
- Permanent Regional Representations: Bamako (Mali), Buenos Aires, Tokyo, Sofia (Bulgaria) and Beirut
- Sub-regional Offices: Thailand, Botswana, Panama, Belgium

172 Members



The OIE's Global Objectives

□ the OIE was created in 1924
**to prevent animal diseases from
spreading
around the world**



□ the 4th Strategic Plan (2005-2010) extends the mandate to
**“the improvement of animal
health all over the world”**

OIE objectives

Historical

ANIMAL HEALTH INFORMATION:

- **to ensure transparency in the global animal disease and zoonosis situation**
- **to collect, analyse and disseminate scientific veterinary information**

OIE objectives (Cont.)

New objectives

ACTIVITIES OF VETERINARY SERVICES

- **to provide expertise and encourage international solidarity in the control of animal diseases**
- **to improve the legal framework and resources of national Veterinary Services**

OIE objectives (cont.)

New objectives

INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

- **within WTO mandate, to safeguard world trade by publishing health standards for international trade in animals and animal products**
- **to provide a better guarantee of the safety of food of animal origin, *and***
- **to promote animal welfare, through a science-based approach**

Why did the OIE take a strategic engagement on animal welfare?

- Animal health is a key factor of animal welfare
- Animal welfare can improve productivity, which assists food security and economic development
- Due to its longstanding mandate to improve animal health globally and its well accepted democratic procedures for standard-setting, the Members considered OIE to be well placed
 - to provide international leadership
 - to publish international animal welfare standards.

Challenges

- A complex issue with diverse scientific, ethical, cultural, religious and political dimensions
 - OIE adopts a scientific basis, taking into account other dimensions
- OIE must address AW on a global basis
 - standards need to be applicable by all 172 OIE Members



OIE Approach

- ❑ Texts must be broadly applicable to OIE Member Countries with diverse socio-economic, cultural and religious contexts.
- ❑ ‘Guiding Principles’, then generic texts
- ❑ The OIE adopts an outcomes-based rather than a ‘systems-based’ approach,

OIE Animal Welfare timeline

May 2000 68th GS
2001-2005 OIE Strategic Plan



Apr 2002
Animal Welfare first meeting



May 2002 70st GS
Recommendations adopted



Oct 2002
Permanent Working Group on Animal Welfare 1st meeting



May 2003 71st GS
PAWWG recommendations adopted in *Terrestrial Code*.



Feb 2004
1st Global Conference on Animal Welfare.



May 2005 73rd GS
International Committee adopted animal welfare standards



Standard setting procedure



1st OIE Global Conference on Animal Welfare (2004)

Categories of Animal Welfare Issues

- Space and environment
- Management, handling and transport
- Pain, fear and distress
- Injury and disease
- Food, water and malnutrition

OIE Animal Welfare Standards (May 2005)

5 Standards Adopted into OIE Code

- Transport of animals by land
- Transport of animals by sea
- Transport of animals by air
- Slaughter of animals for human consumption
- Killing of animals for disease control purposes

Implementation

The OIE will hold a 2nd Global Conference on 20-22 October with the main goal of helping Members implement the OIE animal welfare standards.



2nd global
conference on
**animal
welfare**

Acknowledgement

Dr. Leopoldo Stuardo
International Trade Department
World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)
l.stuardo@oie.int

WWW.OIE.INT