

**REPORT OF THE MEETING  
OF THE  
OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR AFRICA**

**Paris, 22 May 2017**

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The OIE Regional Commission for Africa met on 22 May 2017 at the Maison de la Chimie, Paris, at 2:00 p.m. The meeting was attended by 113 participants, including Delegates and observers from 37 Members of the Commission, 5 observer countries, and representatives from 9 international or regional organisations:

Members of the Commission: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Congo (Rep. of the), Congo (Dem. Rep. of the), Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Senegal, Seychelles, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

Observer countries: Canada, France, Italy, United States of America, and the United Kingdom.

International/regional organisations: AVA<sup>34</sup>, AVSF<sup>35</sup>, AU-IBAR<sup>36</sup>, ECCAS<sup>37</sup>, CIRAD, Euro-Arab Veterinary Association, FAO, Indian Ocean Commission, and WAEMU<sup>38</sup>.

The meeting was chaired by Dr Komla Batawui (Togo), President of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa, Dr Botlhe Michael Modisane (South Africa), President of the World Assembly of Delegates, and Dr Karim Tounkara, OIE Regional Representative for Africa.

Dr Komla Batawui gave a special welcome and congratulated the newly appointed OIE Delegates attending the meeting.

## **1. Adoption of the Agenda**

The Agenda, described in the Appendix, including two additional presentations (from the FAO and a short intervention from Dr Mark Schipp, on behalf of the Credentials Sub-Commission), was unanimously adopted.

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<sup>34</sup> AVA: African Veterinary Association

<sup>35</sup> AVSF: *Agronomes et Vétérinaires Sans Frontières*

<sup>36</sup> AU-IBAR: African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources

<sup>37</sup> ECCAS: Economic Community of Central African States

<sup>38</sup> WAEMU: West African Economic and Monetary Union

## **2. Short intervention from the OIE Council**

Dr Mark Schipp, in his capacity as Member of the Credentials Sub-Commission, which was adopted by the World Assembly in the morning session, informed Delegates that, following the resolution adopted by the Assembly, those Delegates from countries with arrears of five years or more would forfeit the right to vote at the General Session and would not be eligible to receive the per diem usually allocated for participation in the General Session.

He noted that, while the OIE Basic Texts stated that countries should be ineligible to vote after two years' arrears, the Council had decided to extend the time for settling arrears to five years.

Dr Schipp invited any Delegates concerned to resolve this situation as soon as possible in order to recover their good standing and hence the right to vote in OIE elections.

Finally, making reference to future elections in the region, Dr Schipp urged the Regional Commission to propose candidates from countries in good standing.

## **3. OIE Regional Roadmap implementation - challenges faced by the region**

Dr Moetapele Letshwenyo, OIE Sub-Regional Representative for Southern Africa, on behalf of all OIE Representatives in the region, provided participants with details on the OIE Regional Roadmap, its development and the challenges faced by the region.

He began his presentation by explaining that the OIE Sixth Strategic Plan (2016-2020), approved by OIE Delegates in May 2015, had been translated into a Regional Roadmap to be implemented by Regional and Sub-Regional Representations.

He added that, based on an inclusive approach involving all stakeholders and following a review of the activities of Regional and Sub-Regional Representations and OIE Headquarters, the Regional Roadmap had been developed at the annual meeting of Regional and Sub-Regional Representations in Paris in October 2016.

Dr Letshwenyo provided details on the reasons for developing a Regional Roadmap, namely to support the OIE Headquarters Roadmap, to harmonise activities among the regions, to incorporate the specific needs of each region, and to strengthen collaboration within and between the regions and between the Regional and Sub-Regional Representations, the Regional Commissions, and OIE Headquarters.

To conclude, Dr Letshwenyo said that, while fully committed to implementing the activities identified for the three strategic objectives and three cross-cutting areas, the Africa region faced many challenges, the main ones being:

- financial, relating to the low payment rate of statutory annual contributions;
- limited human resource capacity with regard to the number of specialist animal health experts, in some cases due to retirement or attrition;
- inadequate resources for the implementation of PVS Gap Analysis recommendations;
- limited availability of specialist infrastructure for animal health ; and
- inadequate coordination capacity of animal health organisations operating in Africa.

**4. Outcomes of the 22nd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa held in Swakopmund, Namibia, in February 2017**

Dr Komla Batasse Batawui, President of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa and Delegate of Togo, informed participants of the outcomes of the 22nd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa.

Dr Batawui explained that the Conference had provided an opportunity to propose a new format for these institutional events, including a poster session, a panel discussion and working group sessions. The new dynamic was very well received by Delegates from the region and other participants.

He noted with particular concern the low level of participation from Member Countries of the region and took the opportunity to remind them that Regional Conferences were statutory events. Therefore, it is part of the OIE Delegates' obligations to attend those meetings in which issues of relevance for the region, including recommendations to be proposed for endorsement by the World Assembly of Delegates are discussed.

Dr Batawui briefly commented on the main outcomes of the Conference highlighting, among others:

- The importance for Members of the Bureaux of the Regional Commissions to clearly understand and apply their role and prerogatives as per stated in the OIE Basic Text, as well as the need for the Members of the Bureaux of the Regional Commissions to take into account that they are key actors in the work of the OIE, thus, they should act as a bridge between the OIE and the countries of the region in order to support the implementation of OIE's activities at national level, and to collaborate on the improvement of the technical and/or financial contribution of the countries to the OIE activities;
- Member Countries should enhance surveillance and control efforts and observe the principle of transparency, including timely and detailed reporting through WAHIS, in order to successfully manage diseases in the Region;
- African Delegates should continue and even improve their much appreciated written inputs in the OIE standard-setting process as well as their most valuable verbal interventions each year during the meeting of the General Session of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates;
- Member Countries having an officially recognised status or an endorsed official control programme should provide the relevant information supporting annual reconfirmation in November each year, including any supporting information deemed necessary, as prescribed in the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*;
- Political will and commitment are key to support disease control and eradication. Thus, the Regional Commission for Africa should sensitise high level authorities to support Veterinary Services in preparing their official control programmes and reaching and maintaining disease free status;
- The two technical items developed during the conference – (i) “Pastoralism: opportunities for livestock and challenges for Veterinary Services” (with questionnaire) and (ii) Unfolding the Global Strategy for the Control and Eradication of peste des petits ruminants (PPR) in Africa” (without questionnaire) – were particularly timely themes. Recommendations will be submitted for endorsement by the World Assembly of Delegates at the 85th General Session;

- Awareness of the issue of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) was raised; countries were exhorted to consider the implementation of good farming practices as the first step to reduce the use of antimicrobial agents, without waiting for alternatives to the use of these agents, such as vaccines and probiotics, for which the development is not guaranteed;
- Participants were requested to reflect on the possible evolution of the OIE PVS Pathway. On the basis of working groups and an open discussion, they considered how to enhance the value of PVS Pathway to countries. The results of the discussions served as a cornerstone for the current debate on improving the OIE PVS Pathway, further discussed during the OIE PVS Pathway Think Tank Forum in Paris in April 2017.

**5. Selection of the venue of the 23rd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa to be held in February 2019**

The Delegate of Cameroon expressed the wish for his country to host the Conference.

The proposal was unanimously accepted.

The precise dates of the Conference will be soon decided between the Host Country and the OIE in order to launch the organisation of the Conference well in advance.

**6. Selection of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be included in the agenda of the 23rd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa**

The Regional Commission proposed the following technical item (with a questionnaire to Members) for inclusion in the agenda of the 23rd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa:

- The PVS Pathway as an advocacy tool for increased investment in Veterinary Services in Africa

**7. Selection of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be proposed for inclusion in the agenda of the 87th General Session of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates to be held in May 2019**

The Regional Commission proposed the following technical item (with a questionnaire to Members) for inclusion in the agenda of the 87th General Session of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates:

- Adoption of the ‘One Health’ approach as an unavoidable path for prevention and control of emerging and reemerging diseases

**8. Proposal of a Member of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa to join the OIE Council**

Dr Botlhe Michael Modisane, President of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates and Delegate of South Africa, reminded participants that the Delegate of Uganda had stepped down, leaving vacant his position as representative of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa on the OIE Council, which required an election to be held.

He suggested Delegates to take into consideration the information provided by Dr Schipp at the beginning of the meeting regarding the countries in arrears and to keep in mind OIE Basic Text before making proposals for a Member of the Commission to join the Council.

Following a discussion involving several Delegates, Dr Kamal Tag El Sir El Sheikh, Delegate of Soudan, was unanimously proposed as Member of the OIE Council for a one-year period, until the election for the next three-year mandate of the Council, which will be held in May 2018.

This proposal will be presented to the World Assembly for endorsement.

**9. Proposal of Members of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa to join the Bureau of the Regional Commission for Africa as Vice-President and Secretary General**

Dr Batawui reminded participants that the Delegate of Algeria and the Delegate of Cameroun had stepped down, leaving vacant their respective positions as Vice-President and Secretary General of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa, which required an election to be held.

Following a discussion involving several Delegates, the following persons were unanimously proposed, for a one-year period, until the election for the next three-year mandate of the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission, which will be held in May 2018:

**Vice-President:** Dr Djamila Hadj Amar, Delegate of Algeria;

**Secretary General:** Dr Mahamat Guindé, Delegate of Chad.

These proposals will be presented to the World Assembly for endorsement.

**10. Preliminary outcomes of the PVS Pathway Think Tank Forum**

Dr Patrick Bastiaensen, Programme Officer, OIE Sub-Regional Representation for Eastern Africa and the Horn of Africa, described the OIE PVS Pathway Think Tank Forum, which had been held at OIE Headquarters in Paris from 4 to 6 April 2017. He confirmed that it had clearly met its stated purpose of providing an “opportunity to work together to review and plan for the strategic evolution of the OIE PVS Pathway in improving animal health and welfare globally”, with its three days of highly successful, interactive, stimulating and productive discussion.

He explained that the 74 participants had been divided into four roughly equal-sized stakeholder groups representing: (i) Member Countries; (ii) OIE staff; (iii) PVS Pathway experts and (iv) OIE partners (including donors). Each group had focused on four or five concepts or options of greatest relevance to the group for evolving the PVS Pathway. Dr Bastiaensen gave a brief summary of the concepts that had been considered and commended the excellent feedback received from all participants on the detailed preparations, the interactive and innovative format and delivery, and the positive, open and convivial atmosphere throughout.

Dr Bastiaensen said that the report was being finalised and that outcomes would be shared with all Member Countries and interested parties, with the evolution of the OIE PVS Pathway to be rolled out intensively over the next 12 months. He added that, while the specifics would be confirmed over the coming weeks, the overall aim would be to provide OIE Member Countries, staff, experts and partners with a more tailored, flexible approach to their PVS Pathway engagement that was more responsive to their particular needs.

In conclusion, he said that such an evolution was completely appropriate, given the long standing of the PVS Pathway and its stable and robust basic tools and methods. As the great majority of countries already possess a solid baseline of PVS Pathway evaluation and planning information, more highly tailored approaches will further assist them in moving forward with the OIE to improve animal health globally.

**11. Update on the activities related to the Global Strategy for the Control and Eradication of Peste des Petits Ruminants**

Dr Jean-Jacques Soula, OIE Coordinator of the joint FAO-OIE PPR Secretariat began his presentation by underlining that peste des petits ruminants (PPR) was a devastating viral disease that had spread steadily, since it was first identified in 1942, to more than 70 countries in Africa, the Middle East and Asia. It has a heavy impact on the lives of some 300 million of the world’s poorest families whose livelihoods depend on sheep and goats.

The control and eventual eradication of the disease by 2030 will make a major contribution to achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular ending poverty (SDG1) and ending hunger and malnutrition (SDG2).

Dr Soula added that, in April 2015, participants in an international conference held by FAO and the OIE in Abidjan, approved the PPR Global Control and Eradication Strategy (PPR-GCES), which was endorsed by FAO and OIE member countries, in 2015 and 2016, through the supreme governing bodies of the two organisations. Accordingly, the joint FAO-OIE PPR Secretariat was established in 2016 and the PPR Regional Roadmap consultation process was conducted in 76 infected or at-risk countries, divided into nine regions.

He went on to explain that, in 2016, following an inclusive and peer-reviewed drafting process, FAO and the OIE had launched the PPR Global Eradication Programme (PPR-GEP) for the period 2017-2021. It includes components on stakeholder involvement, strengthening Veterinary Services, support for diagnostic and surveillance systems, vaccination campaigns and control of other small ruminant diseases. A pledging conference will be held in the coming months in order to mobilise additional resources and plug the financial gaps with on-going projects and programmes.

Dr Soula concluded by saying that PPR-GEP was a flagship programme for FAO and OIE, as PPR eradication was linked directly to major global challenges like food and nutrition security, poverty alleviation, resilience, women's empowerment and migration control.

Dr Soula also showed a communications video on PPR eradication.

## **12. Overview of the financial situation of the OIE Regional and Sub Regional Representations in Africa**

Dr Alain Dehove, Director of Finance of the OIE, began his presentation by reviewing the mechanism for the collection of Member Countries' statutory contributions and the portion reserved for the operation of the Regional Representations.

He explained that, in 2016, the theoretical amount of statutory contributions represented only 74% of general budget revenues for the year (€ 10.7 million). In the case of Africa, 40 countries contributed under category 6, seven under category 5, four under category 4 and two under category 3. Statutory contributions provided only 11% of the revenues of the OIE Regional and Sub-Regional Representations, while 11% came from voluntary contributions from host countries, 66% from the World Fund (70% in 2015) and 12% from other voluntary contributions and other sources of revenue, totalling a budget of around EUR 6 million.

Dr Dehove went on to express concern about the annual accounts of the Regional Representation in Bamako and the Sub-Regional Representations in Gaborone and Nairobi which, in 2016, were once again in deficit.

Finally, the Director of Finance emphasised that, as the OIE's 12 Regional and Sub-Regional Representations (including four in Africa) were now recognised as a key component of the network supporting the Organisation's missions, their operation should not rely chiefly on voluntary contributions. He pointed out that this was one of the reasons that had led the Director General to request an increase in statutory contributions in 2018.

Dr Modisane exhorted Delegates to make a commitment for paying outstanding contributions. He highlighted the importance of sensitising national governments on this issue so to avoid going to the next stage which means the country being restraint of vote.

**13. Update on the implementation of the Project on Strengthening Veterinary Services in Developing Countries and Rabies Control (SVSDC + Rabies)**

Dr Samuel Wakhusama, OIE Sub-Regional Representative for Eastern Africa and the Horn of Africa, on behalf of all OIE Representatives in the region, gave a presentation on the implementation of the Project on Strengthening Veterinary Services in Developing Countries and Rabies Control (SVSDC + Rabies) whose ultimate goal is to make progress towards building African Veterinary Services that deliver effective governance, health safety, food security and food safety for their citizens.

He began by explaining that the SVSDC project, funded by the European Union, had two components and five result areas and had been signed on 24 December 2015, under a direct management grant contract of the European Union (EU), for an implementation period of 36 months.

Dr Wakhusama summarised the components and results as follows.

Component 1: Strengthening Veterinary Services

- Result 1: Enhance the legislative framework of African Veterinary Services through the implementation of regional seminars. Five seminars for OIE national focal points have been held.
- Result 2: Gradually bring national Veterinary Services up to the standards of the OIE through the implementation of OIE PVS Pathway missions and of their recommendations. Twelve PVS Pathway missions have been scheduled for the entire period of the project. For the time being, all upcoming missions are funded through the Reinforcing Veterinary Governance in Africa (VET-GOV) programme to maximise expenditure before the programme ends in July 2017.
- Result 3: Develop a PVS Pathway-based tool to enable Regional Economic Communities (RECs) to exploit data from national PVS Pathway missions conducted in their Member States to develop, for instance, regional investment plans. Development of a PVS Pathway-based tool is underway. The database will serve as an internal tool to consolidate data contained in OIE PVS Pathway mission reports and will facilitate the follow-up of country progress.

Component 2: Rabies control

- Result 4: At the national level, support the implementation of the national Strategic Plan to eliminate human rabies in Kenya, in collaboration with relevant partners. In August 2016, the National and County Rabies Elimination Coordination Committees (NRECC & CRECC) were launched and a rabies website was established. In addition, a toll-free line for reporting dog bites was commissioned in Western Kenya and a total of 200,000 doses of rabies vaccine were delivered to Kenya from the OIE Regional Rabies Vaccine Bank.
- Result 5: At the regional level, set up an OIE Regional Vaccine Bank for canine rabies in Africa and provide technical expertise for the development and implementation of regional strategies (in North Africa). Following the establishment of an OIE Regional Rabies Vaccines Bank, a total of 200,000 vaccine doses were sent to Tunisia, after which a vaccination campaign was launched. Workshops have been also planned to train vaccinator teams in dog handling and dog vaccination in the field.

The project has developed an array of project visibility materials.

Mirroring the activities carried out in Kenya and Northern Africa, in 2015 the OIE, with funding from the Federal Government of Germany, launched a project entitled “Technical Support for Namibia in Eliminating Rabies in Dogs” to undertake vaccination campaigns against dog-mediated human rabies in Northern Communal Areas (NCA). The project, managed by the OIE, has overseen the vaccination of 30,000 dogs, in addition to a campaign to enhance awareness of dog-mediated human rabies among 42,000 children in 119 schools from 11 constituencies in the Oshana region. The project, now in its second phase, starting on 6 April 2017, will run until May 2018 and will receive a total of 150,000 vaccine doses from the OIE Rabies Vaccines Bank.

#### **14. Proposal for designation of a new OIE Collaborating Centre for Bee Health in Africa**

Dr Kisa Juma Ngeiywa, Delegate of Kenya, presented the Regional Commission with an application for the OIE to consider the “International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE)” as an “OIE Collaborating Centre for Bee Health in Africa”.

He provided a brief review of the centre and its activities and said that full details could be found in the working document of the meeting.

The Commission approved Kenya’s proposal.

#### **15. Presentations by International and Regional Organisations**

##### ***Indian Ocean Commission***

Mr Hamada Madi, Secretary General of the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) gave a brief overview of the IOC, which has just signed an agreement with the OIE to establish cooperation in the fields of animal health and veterinary public health. He pointed out that the IOC was the only regional organisation in Africa composed entirely of islands. Its members are: Union of the Comoros, France on behalf of Réunion, Republic of Madagascar, Republic of Mauritius and Republic of Seychelles.

The Secretary General explained that the IOC disease monitoring project had sprung from a crisis that had never been forgotten: the chikungunya epidemic of 2006, which had caused real turmoil in the islands. In response, IOC members decided to take collective action to prevent and manage animal health crises more effectively. It led the IOC, with the support of the French Development Agency (AFD), to launch an Epidemiological Surveillance and Alert Management (SEGA) Network in 2009.

He went on to give a detailed explanation of the SEGA network, saying that it acted as a real watchdog. With more than 250 human and animal health professionals, it constantly monitored health, facilitated the exchange of information, helped to build human and material capacity, mobilised expertise in a crisis and, most important of all, took holistic action by linking human and animal health.

The Secretary General concluded by saying that proof of the practical value of the SEGA network was a charter signed by IOC members to ensure its sustainability.

##### ***African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR)***

Professor Ahmed El Sawalhy, Director of the African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR), began his presentation by informing participants that, since June 2016, AU-IBAR had continued to carry out interventions in partnership with member states, RECs, the African Union Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Centre (AU-PANVAC), the African Union, the OIE, FAO, national and international research institutions, academic institutions, national, regional and continental organisations of farmers and other stakeholder and non-governmental organisations.

He provided brief details on the different activities carried out by AU-IBAR highlighting, in particular, the implementation of the project on “Sustainable development of livestock for livelihoods in Africa” (Live2Africa) in support of the AU Livestock Development Strategy for Africa (LiDeSA), supporting member states in the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), East African Community (EAC), Southern African Development Community (SADC) and Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) in developing and validating their national livestock policies. In the area of advocacy, AU-IBAR engaged Pan African parliamentarians and built their capacity on sanitary and phytosanitary standards.

With regard to animal welfare, he said that, since 2015, AU-IBAR had been supporting the development of an African Animal Welfare Strategy (AAWS) and an action plan to be submitted to AU member states and RECs for validation, as well as for the establishment of an African Platform for Animal Welfare (APAW).

Prof. Elsalwaly reported that, under the VET-GOV programme, AU-IBAR, in collaboration with the OIE and FAO, continued to support AU member states and RECs in developing national livestock policies. AU-IBAR is also a member of the FAO/OIE ad hoc group on an international preparedness plan for rinderpest.

He added that the AU-IBAR Standards and Trade Secretariat, designed to sustain the building of common African positions on international standards for animal health and food safety, was up and running.

The AU-IBAR Director concluded by informing participants that a revised draft Pan-African PPR Programme (2017-2021) had been developed to initiate the implementation of the Pan-African PPR strategy, aligned with the Global PPR Programme developed in 2016 by the FAO-OIE Global PPR Secretariat.

#### ***West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU)***

Dr Soumana Diallo, Representative of the WAEMU Commission, reported that, in connection with implementing the WAEMU Agricultural Policy, the WAEMU Commission had embarked on a number of reforms in the field of animal health, including zoonoses and food safety.

He explained that the reforms were aimed, first and foremost, at harmonising veterinary pharmaceutical legislation. The second area of reform is to build the capacity of Veterinary Services through the adoption of a WAEMU strategic plan to strengthen the Veterinary Services of Member States. In that regards, he referred to activities done in collaboration with the OIE, including among others, OIE PVS Evaluation and OIE PVS Gap Analysis missions as well as round tables to find potential donors for WAEMU members.

He then referred to the reform related to the safety of animals and animal-derived foodstuffs thanks to which a regional scientific committee to assess food safety risks and to provide scientific advice was established.

Dr Diallo went on to discuss the reform of support projects for the control and eradication of animal diseases. Through the Regional Fund for Agricultural Development (RFAD), the WAEMU Commission supports its Member States in controlling certain animal diseases, such as anthrax, Newcastle disease and rabies. With OIE support, it has also developed two studies to devise a regional strategy and coordinated national control programmes for CBPP and Newcastle disease.

Lastly, he reported on the adoption of a directive guaranteeing and organising the freedom of movement and right of establishment within WAEMU of veterinarians who are nationals of another WAEMU Member State, and establishing a College of Presidents of national orders of Veterinary Doctors that henceforth will be responsible for regulating veterinary practice within the WAEMU area.

***Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)***

Dr Berhanu Bedane, Animal Production and Health Officer from the FAO Regional Office for Africa, provided participants with brief details regarding FAO programmes and projects that contribute to the vision of eradicating hunger and malnutrition and eliminating poverty.

He highlighted the fact that, in Africa, all FAO programmes and projects were aligned with global priorities (Sustainable Development Goals) and continental priorities (Agenda 2063 and Malabo Declaration on Agriculture and Post-harvest Losses).

Dr Bedane noted that FAO's presence on the ground, through its country representations, allowed the organisation to deliver immediate support to all its Member States

Regarding progress made in Africa during the reporting period, Dr Bedane pointed to the: preparations for global control and eradication of peste des petits ruminants; progressive control of foot and mouth disease, tsetse and trypanosomosis; prevention and control of highly pathogenic avian influenza; introduction of modern technology in real-time disease reporting; promotion of the One Health concept; and management of emergency disease outbreaks.

The meeting officially ended at 6:20 p.m.

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**Agenda**

1. Adoption of the Agenda;
2. Short intervention from the OIE Council;
3. OIE Regional Roadmap implementation - challenges faced by the region;
4. Outcomes of the 22nd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa held in Swakopmund, Namibia, in February 2017;
5. Selection of the venue of the 23rd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa to be held in February 2019;
6. Selection of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be included in the agenda of the 23rd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa;
7. Selection of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be proposed for inclusion in the agenda of the 87th General Session of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates to be held in May 2019;
8. Proposal of a Member of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa to join the OIE Council;
9. Proposal of Members of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa to join the Bureau of the Regional Commission for Africa as Vice-President and Secretary General;
10. Preliminary outcomes of the PVS Pathway Think Tank Forum;
11. Update on the activities related to the Global Strategy for the Control and Eradication of Peste des Petits Ruminants;
12. Overview of the financial situation of the OIE Regional and Sub Regional Representations in Africa;
13. Update on the implementation of the Project on Strengthening Veterinary Services in Developing Countries and Rabies Control (SVSDC + Rabies);
14. Proposal for designation of a new OIE Collaborating Centre for Bee Health in Africa;
15. Presentations by International and Regional Organisations:
  - *Indian Ocean Commission;*
  - *African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR);*
  - *West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU);*
  - *Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)*