REPORT OF THE MEETING
OF THE OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA, THE FAR EAST AND OCEANIA

Paris, 27 May 2019

The OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania met on 27 May 2019 at the Maison de la Chimie, Paris, at 2:00 p.m. The meeting was attended by 80 participants, including Delegates and observers from 29 Members of the Commission and 2 observer countries/territories and representatives from 5 international or regional organisations:


Observer countries/territories: France and Hong Kong SAR.

International/regional organisations: HealthforAnimals, ICFAW, NACA\(^{81}\) and WSAA\(^{82}\).

The meeting was chaired by Dr Tashi Samdup, Vice-President of the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania and Delegate of Bhutan, seconded by Dr Mark Schipp, President of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates and Delegate of Australia, with the support of Dr Hirofumi Kugita, OIE Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The Agenda, described in the Appendix, was unanimously adopted.

2. Organisation of the 31st Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania to be held in Sendai, Japan, from 2 to 6 September 2019

Dr Norio Kumagaï, Secretary General of the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania and Delegate of Japan, confirmed that his country was willing and honoured to hold this important regional event and invited all Delegates to attend the conference, which would be held in Sendai City from 2 to 6 September 2019.

\(^{81}\) NACA: Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific

\(^{82}\) WSAA: World Small Animal Veterinary Association
He reported briefly on the various arrangements that Japan had made to start organising the conference. Dr Kumagai provided general information about the event, assuring the participants that they would be provided with all the details in a timely manner.

3. **Selection of Technical Item II (without questionnaire) to be included in the agenda of the 31st Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania**

The Regional Commission selected the following technical item (without questionnaire to Members) for inclusion in the agenda of the 31st Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania:

- Strengthening the cooperation on African Swine Fever prevention and control in the Asia-Pacific region.

A second general topic was proposed:

- Development of standards for management and control of aquatic animal diseases (and antimicrobial use) and the use of compartments to support the application of these standards.

Although not a Technical Item, this topic will also be included in the agenda of the Regional Conference.

4. **Selection of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be proposed for inclusion in the agenda of the 89th General Session of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates to be held in May 2021**

The Regional Commission suggested the following technical item (with a questionnaire to Members) for inclusion in the agenda of the 89th General Session of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates:


Animal health and veterinarians play a critical role in global food systems and the health and welfare of the globe and its citizens. The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are the global objectives expected to guide the actions of the international community between 2016-2030. This Technical Item could help to refine and consolidate how the OIE makes significant and meaningful contributions towards many of the SDGs through the effective discharge of its core responsibilities in animal health and the veterinary profession.

5. **Discussion on regional positions for the OIE General Session**

Dr Him Hoo Yap, member of the OIE Council and Delegate of Singapore, reminded participants that, in March 2019, the President of the Bureau of the Regional Commission had sent a letter to all OIE Delegates in the region calling for proposals for regional common positions to be presented at the plenary discussion of the OIE General Session, based on “the coordination procedure for developing regional positions” adopted at the Regional Commission meeting in May 2017. He reiterated that the proposals submitted by Members had been compiled and circulated to all regional Delegates several times for their consideration and comments.

Dr Yap then introduced a list of proposals for regional common positions put together by the Regional Core Group, which considered all Members’ comments received so far.
There was discussion among the Delegates regarding the proposals, some of which were unanimously approved by the Regional Commission to be put forward at the plenary of the 87th General Session on behalf of the 36 OIE Members of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania.

Dr Yap concluded by thanking all Delegates of the region for their active participation in the coordination procedure and expressed the hope that the region continues to work to strengthen regional coordination and collaboration in order to develop regional positions on key issues.

6. Proposal of Members of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania to join the Bureau of the Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania

Dr Mark Schipp reminded participants that the Delegate of Cambodia had stepped down, leaving vacant his position as President of the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania, and the Delegate of the People's Republic of China had also stepped down, leaving vacant his position as Vice-President of the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania, which required a partial election to be held.

Following a discussion involving several Delegates, Dr Norio Kumagai was unanimously proposed as President, leaving vacant the position of Secretary General. Dr Quaza Nizamuddin Hassan Nizam, Delegate of Malaysia, was selected to be proposed as Vice President and Dr Alireza Rafiepoor, Delegate of Iran, was unanimously proposed as Secretary General. These positions will be for a two-year period, until the election for the next three-year mandate of the Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania, which will be held in May 2021.

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

7. Developing the OIE Seventh Strategic Plan

In the context of the development of the OIE Seventh Strategic Plan, the Delegates of the Region were presented with the preliminary results of the on-line open consultation undertaken by the OIE earlier this year. The results were presented by Dr John Stratton, Deputy Head of the OIE Regional Activities Department, through an interactive presentation during which Delegates were invited to actively comment on the preliminary results.

The objective of this session was to get a greater understanding of the regional priorities to be taken into account in the development of the next Strategic Plan. The regional members of the OIE Council and Dr Tashi Samdup facilitated the discussions. The draft Seventh Strategic plan will be discussed at the 2019 September Council meeting and then circulated to Members for comments.

The meeting officially ended at 5:30 p.m.
Annex

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Agenda

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4. Selection of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be proposed for inclusion in the agenda of the 89th General Session of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates to be held in May 2021

5. Discussion on regional positions for the OIE General Session

6. Proposal of Members of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania to join the Bureau of the Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania

7. Developing the OIE Seventh Strategic Plan