

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

Paris, 21 May 2018

The OIE Regional Commission for the Americas met on 21 May 2018 at the Maison de la Chimie, Paris, at 2:00 p.m. The meeting was attended by 108 participants, including Delegates and observers from 27 Members of the Commission and representatives from 15 International or Regional Organisations:

Members of the Commission: Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Curacao, Dominican Rep., Ecuador, France, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, United States of America, and Uruguay.

Observer countries: United Kingdom and Saint Lucia.

International/Regional Organisations: AAVLD⁴⁵, ALA⁴⁶, CARICOM⁴⁷, CVP, FAO, FARM⁴⁸, IEC⁴⁹, IICA⁵⁰, IPC⁵¹, OIRSA⁵², PAHO-PANAFTOSA⁵³, PANVET, SG-CAN⁵⁴, SSAFE⁵⁵ and WRO⁵⁶.

The meeting was chaired by Dr Guilherme H. Figueiredo Marques, Delegate of Brazil and President of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas, seconded by Dr Luis Osvaldo Barcos, OIE Regional Representative for the Americas.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The Agenda was adopted unanimously as described in the Appendix.

Dr Jorge Bonino, representative of FARM, requested the Commission to provide more details regarding the recent FMD events in Colombia and Venezuela. The President while apologizing indicated that, due to time constraints, it was not possible to address this topic during the meeting.

45 AAVLD: American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians
46 ALA: Latin American Poultry Association
47 CARICOM: Caribbean Community
48 FARM: Federation of Rural Associations of MERCOSUR
49 IEC: International Egg Commission
50 IICA: Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture
51 IPC: International Poultry Council
52 OIRSA: Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria
53 PANAFTOSA: Pan American Foot and Mouth Disease Center
54 SG-CAN: General Secretariat of the Andean Community
55 SSAFE: Safe Supply of Affordable Food Everywhere
56 WRO: World Renderers Organisation

2. Report on OIE Council meetings

Drs Hugo Idoyaga Benítez and Joaquín Delgadillo Álvarez, Members of the OIE Council, presented a summary of the latest Council meetings. They referred to the monitoring of progress made with the OIE Sixth Strategic Plan, outcomes of the OIE PVS Pathway Think Tank Forum and election procedures. They also highlighted progress with the WAHIS+ project and the Observatory of Standards. They concluded by inviting Delegates to communicate more frequently with Council Members in their region.

3. Selection of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be proposed for inclusion in the agenda of the 88th General Session of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates to be held in May 2020

The Regional Commission suggested the following technical item (with a questionnaire to Members) for inclusion in the agenda of the 88th General Session:

- Assessing the competencies of Veterinary Services in the context of international trade

4. Selection of Technical Item II (without questionnaire) to be included in the agenda of the 24th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas

The Regional Commission selected the following technical item (without a questionnaire to Members) for inclusion in the agenda of the 24th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas:

- Sustainability of Veterinary Services: experiences and challenges

Based on discussion of the other proposed items, it was suggested to include in the agenda of the next Conference of the Regional Commission, as panel discussion and / or short presentations format, items relating to organised crime and its influence on disease prevention, control and eradication; the integration of national health services and Veterinary Services in a “One Health” environment; and measures to prevent and control new world screwworm (*Cochliomyia hominivorax*).

5. Organisation of the 24th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas to be held from 19 to 23 November 2018 in the Dominican Republic

Dr Nimia Lissette Gómez Rodríguez, Delegate of the Dominican Republic, confirmed that her country was willing and honoured to hold this important regional event and invited all Delegates to attend the conference, which would be held in Punta Cana from 19 to 23 November 2018.

She reported briefly on the various arrangements that the Dominican Republic had made to start organising the conference. Dr Gómez provided general information about the event, assuring the participants that they would be sent all the details in a timely manner.

6. Request of Saint Lucia to become a new OIE Member

Dr Guilherme H. Figueiredo Marques informed participants of an application by Saint Lucia for the accession as an OIE Member Country, which had been approved by the Council and would be submitted to the World Assembly of Delegates for approval. He added that this was in line with the objective of increasing the number of Caribbean Members of the OIE.

Dr Auria King-Cenac, Chief Veterinary Officer of Saint Lucia, introduced the proposal of her country to become a Member of the OIE.

The proposal of Saint Lucia was unanimously approved by the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas.

7. Election Procedure for the Council, the Regional Commissions and the Specialist Commissions

Mr Rodney de Souza, Head of the OIE Strategic Partnerships and Legal Affairs Unit, presented the main aspects of the election process. He pointed out that the 86th General Session provided an opportunity to elect members of the Council, the Bureaux of the Regional Commissions and Specialist Commissions, in application of the new candidate evaluation procedure adopted last year.

The plan was for the elections to each governing body to be held electronically, sequentially, and position by position. This would allow the Assembly, if necessary, to agree on a different method, depending on the number of applications and the configuration of the election.

Each Regional Commission was invited to announce its nominations for the new Bureau and the Council on the evening of the conference (Monday, 21 May 2018), together with the final list of selected candidates for the Specialist Commissions. These candidates will be put forward by the Americas region for election on Friday, 25 May.

Mr de Souza answered all the questions raised.

8. Proposal of candidates for the elections (Closed session):

Council:

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed names:

Dr Joaquín Braulio Delgadillo Álvarez (Mexico)
Dr Hugo Federico Idoyaga Benítez (Paraguay)

Bureau of the Regional Commission:

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed names:

President: Dr Mark Trotman (Barbados)
Vice-President: Dr Nimia Lissette Gómez Rodríguez (Dominican Republic)
Vice-President: Dr Javier Ernesto Suárez Hurtado (Bolivia)
Secretary General: Dr Jaspinder Komal (Canada)

Specialist Commissions:

Following the discussion during the meeting of the Regional Commission, in agreement with the Delegate of their respective country, some candidates from the Region were removed from the “List of Candidates Eligible for Nominations for Election to the Specialist Commissions”. The candidates removed from the list will not be proposed for election on Friday 25 May. The candidates below mentioned will be proposed for election on Friday 25 May.

Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed names, in alphabetical order of countries:

Dr Gastón María Funes (Argentina) (2nd position)
Dr Bernardo Todeschini (Brazil) (1st position)

Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed names, in alphabetical order of countries:

Dr Joanne Constantine (Canada) (2nd position)
Dr Alicia Gallardo Lagno (Chile) (1st position)

Biological Standards Commission

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed names, in alphabetical order of countries:

Dr Ana María Nicola (Argentina) (2nd position)
Dr John Pasick (Canada) (1st position)

Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases

The Delegates of the Region agreed on the following proposed names, in alphabetical order of countries:

Dr Vitor Salvador Picão Gonçalves (Brazil) (2nd position)
Dr Cristóbal Zepeda (United States of America) (1st position)

The meeting officially ended at 6:30 p.m.

.../Appendix

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Agenda

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Report on OIE Council meetings
3. Selection of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be proposed for inclusion in the agenda of the 88th General Session of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates to be held in May 2020
4. Selection of Technical Item II (without questionnaire) to be included in the agenda of the 24th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas
5. Organisation of the 24th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas to be held from 19 to 23 November 2018 in the Dominican Republic
6. Request of Saint Lucia to become a new OIE Member
7. Election Procedure for the Council, the Regional Commissions and the Specialist Commissions
8. Proposal of candidates for the elections (Closed session)

