

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

Paris, 24 May 2021

The OIE Regional Commission for the Americas met by videoconference on 24 May 2021 at 4:00 p.m. CEST. The meeting was attended by 80 participants, including Delegates and observers from 28 Members of the Commission and representatives from 10 International or Regional Organisations:

Members of the Commission: Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Curacao, Dominican Rep, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America, and Uruguay

International/Regional Organisations: ALA⁵⁹, CaribVET⁶⁰, CVP⁶¹, FAO⁶², IICA⁶³, OIRSA⁶⁴, PANVET⁶⁵, SG-CAN⁶⁶, SSAFE⁶⁷ and WRO⁶⁸.

The meeting was chaired by Dr Mark Trotman, President of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas and Delegate of Barbados, supported by Dr Luis Osvaldo Barcos, OIE Regional Representative for the Americas.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The Agenda, described in the Appendix, was unanimously adopted, after the addition of topics regarding the activities of the OIE Council, a discussion on the draft Resolution 31 proposed for adoption during the 88th General Session, as well as a discussion on the inter-regional support of candidates, and a request regarding the procedure of evaluation of performance of all members of each Specialist Commission approaching the end of their term.

2. Report on the activities of the OIE Council

Dr Hugo Idoyaga Benítez, Vice-President of the OIE Council and Delegate of Paraguay, remarked the relevant work adapting the OIE procedures and activities under the pandemic conditions and reaching a fully functional virtual General Session.

⁵⁹ ALA: Latin American Poultry Association

⁶⁰ CaribVET: Caribbean Animal Health Network

⁶¹ CVP: Permanent Veterinary Committee of the Southern Cone

⁶² FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

⁶³ IICA: Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture

⁶⁴ OIRSA: Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria

⁶⁵ PANVET: Pan American Association of Veterinary Sciences

⁶⁶ SG-CAN: General Secretariat of the Andean Community

⁶⁷ SSAFE: Safe Supply of Affordable Food Everywhere

⁶⁸ WRO: World Renderers Organisation

He highlighted the strategic decisions taken in order to maintain the OIE activities, including the development of the Seventh Strategic Plan, the OIE-WAHIS platform and the OIE Observatory, as well as other relevant projects.

Finally, he reminded Delegates on the need of stable positions for Council members candidatures, and thanked the Regional Commission, the Regional Representation, and the President of SENACSA⁶⁹, Dr Juan Carlos Martin, for their support to his contribution to the OIE Council activities.

3. Outcomes of the 25th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas held by videoconference, on 22 and 23 September 2020

Dr Mark Trotman briefly presented the outcomes of the 25th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas held on 22 and 23 September 2020 (by videoconference) and to which a total of 226 participants attended, including OIE Delegates and/or representatives from 30 Members of the region as well as 16 representatives from regional and international organisations, and the private sector including private veterinary organisations from the region.

Dr Trotman quickly commented on the agenda of the Conference highlighting some of the topics presented. All detailed information is available in the report of the Conference.

Finally, he reminded Delegates that the report of the conference was available in the Regional website.

4. Confirmation of the dates and venue of the 26th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas to be held in 2022

Dr Eva Luz Martínez Bermúdez, Delegate of Peru, reiterated her country's offer to host the 26th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas in 2022.

Exact dates will be defined at a later stage in coordination with the OIE Director General.

5. Confirmation of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be included in the agenda of the 26th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas

The Regional Commission selected the following technical item (with questionnaire to Members) for inclusion in the agenda of the 26th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas:

“Emergencies and disasters management: Support from OIE Collaborating Centres”

6. Proposal of three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means (*Scientific and Technical Review, Bulletin, scientific paper, technical item or during a specific activity/meeting*)

The Regional Commission proposed the following three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means:

- Emergencies and disasters management: Creation of networks, and the support from OIE Collaborating Centres
- Transboundary animal diseases, the value of the activities carried out by Veterinary Services and their economic and social impact, under the framework of the UN Sustainable Development Goals

⁶⁹ ENACSA: *Servicio Nacional de Calidad y Salud Animal, Paraguay.*

- Development of harmonised electronic certification systems and model certificates. Actions needed to support their implementation at the national, regional and global level

CLOSED SESSION FOR DELEGATES ONLY

7. Elections for Specialist Commissions

Dr Matthew Stone, Deputy Director General "International Standards and Science", provided a brief update on the OIE's work to support OIE Specialist Commissions performance through a high-quality Common Secretariat driving standardised processes, as well as the implementation of a Performance Management Framework focused on continuous improvement and partnership, along with the evaluation of performance of all members of each Commission approaching the end of their term. He highlighted the open call and evaluation of candidates for election to the Specialist Commissions, being only the second time that OIE had made such a call, and briefed the Regional Commissions on how the voting for the elections would be performed on Friday 28 May.

8. Elections of the OIE governance bodies

Dr Jean-Philippe Dop, Deputy Director General "Institutional Affairs and Regional Activities", briefly presented the main aspects of the election process for the OIE governance bodies. He reminded the OIE cycle of elections, pointing out that the 88th General Session provided an opportunity to elect members of the Council and the Bureau of the Regional Commissions as well as the Specialist Commissions (as already explained by Dr Stone). Dr Dop also provided key details to Delegates regarding the role of the Council and the Members of the Bureau of the Regional Commission in supporting the mandate of the OIE.

He reminded that elections to each governing body will be on Friday 28 May, by secret ballot and using the UK Engage Platform 2, as already explained during the regional trainings on related General Session virtual processes, organised by the OIE Regional Activities and Capacity Building Departments, which took place before the General Session. Drs Mark Schipp (Australia) and Michael Modisane (South Africa), both Council members, were appointed as scrutineers during the elections. In addition, an external legal expert will follow the whole process.

Each Regional Commission was invited to announce its nominations for the new Bureau and the Council immediately after the Regional Commission meeting, together with the final list of selected candidates for the Specialist Commissions.

9. Proposal of candidates for the election of the Bureau of the Regional Commission, the OIE Council and the Specialist Commissions

Dr Mark Trotman chaired the discussions regarding the proposal of candidates to be presented to the World Assembly for election on Friday 28 May.

Proposals were as follows:

Council:

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

- Dr Hugo Idoyaga Benítez (Paraguay) (proposed as President)
- Dr Yobani Gutiérrez Ravelo (Cuba) (proposed as Member)

Bureau of the Regional Commission:

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

President:	Dr Jaspinder Komal (Canada)
Vice-President:	Dr Wilmer Juárez Juárez (Nicaragua)
Vice-President:	Dr Ximena Melón (Argentina)
Secretary General:	Dr Arnold Dwarkasing (Curaçao)

Specialist Commissions:

Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission

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

Dr Bernardo Todeschini (Brazil)
Dr Gastón Funes (Argentina) (proposed as Vice President)

Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission

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

Dr Alicia Gallardo Lagno (Chile) (proposed as President)

Biological Standards Commission

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

Dr Chris Oura (Trinidad and Tobago)
Dr John Pasick (Canada) (proposed as Vice-President)

Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases

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

Dr Cristóbal Zepeda (United States of America) (proposed as President)
Dr Caroline Dubé (Canada)

10. Other topics

Dr Ximena Melón, Delegate of Argentina, required the Regional Commission to support a position to be raised by the Regional Commission for Europe, on the point 6 of Resolution 31. Dr Melón shall distribute the position to the Members for review and feedback.

In addition, Dr Melón informed Delegates about the exchanges with the Regional Commission for Europe, proposing the inter-regional support of candidates for the different positions.

Finally, Dr Diego De Freitas, Delegate of Uruguay, asked the Regional Commission to support a request made by CVP Members on the need of receiving all the documents, procedures and information related to the evaluation of performance of all members of each Specialist Commission approaching the end of their term. For that, the CVP Secretariat shall distribute a communication to Delegates requesting their support to the initiative.

The Regional Commission for the Americas decided that Dr Mark Trotman shall act as main negotiator with other Regional Commissions regarding the different positions in the Specialist Commissions, as already stated in the present report.

11. Closing

The meeting officially ended at 6:50 p.m. CEST.

.../Appendix

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

**Paris, 24 May 2021
(4:00 p.m. CEST)**

Agenda

- 3:45 p.m.– 4:10 p.m. Zoom check-in and connecting
- 4:10 p.m.– 4:15 p.m. Adoption of the agenda (Dr Mark Trotman, President of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas and Delegate of Barbados)
- 4:15 p.m.– 4:25 p.m. Report on the activities of the OIE Council
- 4:25 p.m.– 4:35 p.m. Outcomes of the 25th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas held by videoconference, on 22 and 23 September 2020 (Dr Mark Trotman)
- 4:35 p.m.– 4:45 p.m. Confirmation of the dates and venue of the 26th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas to be held in 2022 (Dr Eva Luz Martínez Bermúdez, Delegate of Peru)
- 4:45 p.m.– 4:55 p.m. Confirmation of Technical Item I (with questionnaire) to be included in the agenda of the 26th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Americas (Dr Mark Trotman)
- 4:55 p.m.– 5:05 p.m. Proposal of three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means (*Scientific and Technical Review, Bulletin, scientific paper, technical item or during a specific activity/meeting*) (Dr Mark Trotman)

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- 5:05 p.m.– 5:15 p.m. Elections for Specialist Commissions (Dr Matthew Stone, Deputy Director General "International Standards and Science")
- 5:15 p.m.– 5:25 p.m. Elections of the OIE governance bodies (Dr Jean-Philippe Dop, Deputy Director General "Institutional Affairs and Regional Activities")
- 5:25 p.m.– 6:25 p.m. Proposal of candidates for the election of the Bureau of the Regional Commission, the OIE Council and the Specialist Commissions (Dr Mark Trotman)
- 6:25 p.m.– 6:45 p.m. Other topics
- 6:45 p.m.– 6:50 p.m. Closing
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**REPORT OF THE MEETING
OF THE OIE REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA, THE FAR EAST AND OCEANIA**

Paris, 24 May 2021

The OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania met by videoconference on 24 May 2021, at 7:00 a.m. CEST. The meeting was attended by 64 participants, including Delegates and observers from 26 Members of the Commission and an observer country/territory and two representatives from 2 organisations:

Members of the Commission: Australia, Bhutan, Cambodia, China (People's Rep. of), Chinese Taipei, Fidji, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Korea (Rep. of), Korea (Dem. People's Rep. of), Laos, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor Leste and Vietnam.

Observers: Hong Kong SAR

International/regional organisations: The Pacific Community (SPC) and World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA)

The meeting was chaired by Dr Mark Schipp, President of the World Assembly of Delegates and Delegate of Australia, accompanied by 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 32nd Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania to be held in September 2021

Dr Sorravis Thaneto, Delegate of Thailand informed participants that due to the current sensitive sanitary situation, the Conference, initially planned to take place in Thailand, will be held virtually. He informed Delegates that Thailand will be working in close collaboration with the OIE colleagues to ensure the success of the Conference. Invitations and the draft programme should be sent soon to all Delegates.

3. Proposal of three strategic topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means (*Scientific and Technical Review, Bulletin, scientific paper, technical item or during a specific activity/meeting*)

Considering the number of proposals of strategic topics received from the region, the Regional Commission decided to select four topics (instead of three) to be proposed as topics of global interest to be addressed by the OIE through various means. Proposals were as follows:

- One Health: zoonoses prevention/One Health.
- Trade: digitalising trade documentation and border clearance processes.
- Disease specific topic: ASF vaccine development, production, monitoring and control over vaccine and ASF contingency plans.