One health: global animal health situation
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Sources

It took place on the 24th of May 2018 the 86th General Session of the World Organisation for Animal Health (Known as OIE keeping its original acronym for Office International des Epizooties dating back to 1924). During this session, the 181 member countries were given an overview of the global health animal situation and particular attention was paid to the following diseases:

Three with particular relevance for human health

- **Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in birds:** the data collected since 2017 shows that the world is experiencing a massive spread of avian influenza in animals. Accurate and real time information is crucial to continuously monitor virus behaviour.
- **Rabies** was reported as present in 57% of the 183 countries and territories which notified information to the OIE and continues to cost the lives of thousands of people every year mainly in Africa and Asia. A global business plan for the elimination of dog-mediated human rabies was launched in 2017, under the initiative of the “United against rabies”.
- **Bovine tuberculosis:** in 2017 and early 2018, the disease was reported present by 43% of the reporting countries and territories and is distributed in every region of the world. A Roadmap for Zoonotic Tuberculosis was launched in 2017 to support the worldwide effort needed to end the global tuberculosis epidemic.

Others without zoonotic potential but important given the economic impact on the production sector and the need for implementation of trade restrictions.

- **Tilapia lake virus disease:** an emerging disease has caused substantial mortality rates of up to 70% in farmed tilapia and the wild population over the last years in several regions of the world.
- **Peste des petits ruminants (PPR):** a Global Strategy for its control and eradication by 2030 was adopted in 2015. Since this date, outbreaks have been reported in previously non PPR affected countries, which shows the urgent need to improve the prevention and control measures.
- **African swine fever (ASF) is** of concern to many regions around the globe. Since no vaccine exists against ASF risk management should focus on prevention of the disease through reducing the risk of virus introduction and exposure to potential sources as well as by the adequate implementation of biosecurity procedures.
- **Lumpy skin disease (LSD),** a devastating disease of cattle prevalente in Africa and Middle East has occurred over the last few years also in Europe. The prevention and control strategies in the recently affected areas have proved to be effective since no new country reported the first occurrence of the disease during 2017-2018.
- **Foot and mouth disease (FMD)** remained one of the three most frequently notified OIE-listed diseases, during 2017 and early 2018.

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