



TABLE OF CONTENTS

- ⇒ Vector-borne disease: a priority topic for the global health agenda
- ⇒ IFAH at 28th session of Codex Committee on General Principles
- ⇒ IFAH participates in OFFLU-STAR IDAZ consultation on global animal influenza research agenda
- ⇒ Highlighting animal welfare on World Veterinary Day
- ⇒ OIE 82nd General Session: IFAH supports joint efforts for disease control
- ⇒ IFAH engages with FAO
- ⇒ Updates from IFAH: annual report and website
- ⇒ New website and logo for VICH

Vector-borne disease: a priority topic for the global health agenda



On World Health Day (7th April 2014) IFAH laid emphasis on vector-borne disease as a topic of critical importance for global public health.

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO) nearly half of the world's human population is infected with at least one type of vector-borne disease and, more than one million die from them each year. With this international public threat continuing to grow, World Health Day focused on vector-borne diseases such as malaria, dengue, leishmaniasis, Lyme disease, schistosomiasis, and yellow fever, carried by mosquitoes, flies, ticks, water snails and other vectors.

IFAH stipulated that fighting vector-borne disease requires collaboration between the veterinary and public health industries. The industry hopes to see this topic become a priority on the global health agenda so that preventative measures can be taken to protect people and animals from infection.

[Read the press statement](#)

IFAH at 28th session of Codex Committee on General Principles

C O D E X
International Food Standards

A L I M E N T A R I U S



World Health
Organization



Food and Agriculture
Organization of
the United Nations

The Codex Committee on General Principles (CCGP) held its 28th session in Paris, France, from 7 to 11 April 2014. The session was attended by 195 delegates representing 69 member countries, one member organisation (European Union), and 16 international organisations, including FAO and WHO.

During the meeting the Committee endorsed the provisions on extrapolation of maximum residue limits (MRLs) of veterinary medicines to additional species as proposed by the 21st CODEX Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRVDF) meeting for inclusion in the Risk Analysis Principles Applied by the CCRVDF and the Risk Assessment Policy in the Setting of Maximum Limits for Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods. Also during the session the Committee agreed to forward the proposed amendments to the 'Definitions of Risk Analysis Terms related to Food Safety: hazard characterisation and risk estimate' to the 37th Session of the Commission.

[Read full meeting report](#)

IFAH participates in OFFLU-STAR IDAZ consultation on global animal influenza research agenda



IFAH participated in the OFFLU-STAR IDAZ consultation on global animal influenza research agenda, held in Paris on 8 April 2014. The meeting gathered around 60 representatives from a wide range of stakeholders, who developed their vision for animal influenza research and identified research areas of highest priorities.

The OIE-FAO joint network of expertise on animal influenza, known as OFFLU, aims to

develop a clear 10-year vision for global animal influenza research needs. This includes identifying research priorities, aligning research initiatives, and developing a strategy for animal influenza research as well as strengthening collaboration between animal health and public health sectors.

The consultation concluded that:

- Research to identify the multifactorial determinants of health risk from influenza viruses is needed to support risk assessment, surveillance, and intervention strategies.
- Integrated approaches to influenza research and surveillance across species (at the interface between animals and humans, and between animal species) should be taken and surveillance findings should be shared rapidly.
- There is a need to improve technologies to develop more effective and universal influenza vaccines and diagnostics.

[View IFAH's presentation from the event](#)

[See more information on the consultation](#)

Highlighting animal welfare on World Veterinary Day

WORLD VETERINARY DAY 2014



Saturday, 26 April 2014

On World Veterinary Day, held annually on 26th April, IFAH highlighted the vital role that vets and the wider animal health industry play in ensuring animal health and welfare, as well as protecting public health.

2014 saw the World Veterinary Day organising bodies - the World Veterinary Association (WVA) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) - promote the theme of animal welfare to highlight the significant role that veterinarians play. The theme was also selected to further emphasise the importance of adhering to OIE standards on animal welfare.

IFAH highlighted the important role the animal health industry plays in supporting the topic through continuous investment in research and development of innovative animal medicines to ensure a steady stream of new products that will improve the health and wellbeing of all animals.

[Read the press statement](#)

OIE 82nd General Session: IFAH supports joint efforts for disease control



The 82nd General Session of the World Assembly of OIE delegates was held from 25 to 30 May 2014 in Paris. The event brought together representatives of 178 OIE members and observers from international organisations as well as other international and regional organisations.

The main focus of this year's general session was on the adoption of international standards regarding the safety of world trade in animals and animal products, and the fight against animal diseases and zoonoses, as well as improving the quality of veterinary services. IFAH Executive Director, Carel du Marchie Sarvaas attended the session and congratulated OIE delegates and staff on their 90th anniversary.

Speaking at the opening ceremony the Directors General of FAO, OIE and the WHO encouraged the strengthening of cooperation between public health services and veterinary services in order to prevent and control diseases at the human-animal interface, a goal fully supported by IFAH members across the globe.

[Read the full OIE press release](#)

IFAH engages with FAO



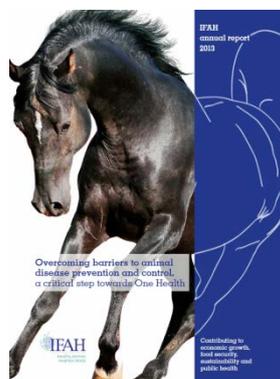
Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

In May, IFAH participated in meetings at the FAO as part of its involvement with the International Agri-Food Network (IAFN) and the Private Sector Mechanism (PSM). At the meetings the 25 IAFN delegates met representatives from 48 countries in bilateral and regional meetings.

Top discussion points were the finalisation of the FAO Responsible Agricultural Investment (RAI) Principles under consideration at the Committee Food Security (CFS). The CFS Chairwoman Ambassador Verburg from the Netherlands, emphasised the importance of the private sector in development. In addition, the International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2) which FAO and the WHO will organise in Rome in November 2014 was discussed. IAFN/PSM strongly underlined the importance of private sector contributions toward nutrition and the need to involve the private sector during the conference.

For more information on the IAFN visit: www.agrifood.net

Updates from IFAH: annual report and website



IFAH published its annual report for 2013 at the end of April this year. Entitled 'Overcoming barriers to animal disease prevention and control, a critical step towards One Health', the report outlines the animal health industry's contribution to economic growth, food security, sustainability and public health.

[Download annual report](#)

Also in April, a new section was added to the IFAH website under the themed section, 'Imagine: a world without veterinary medicines'. The update focuses on vaccines and the role that they play in disease prevention, and cites rabies and rinderpest as examples of effective vaccination campaigns.

[Visit new webpage on vaccines](#)

New website and logo for VICH



VICH, the International Cooperation on Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Registration of Veterinary Medicinal Products, launched their newly redesigned website www.vichsec.org in May. Hand-in-hand with the website update VICH also presented a new logo which adds a more contemporary look to the organisation as it approaches its twentieth anniversary.

The website home page welcomes visitors with a modern design featuring engaging photography and includes links to the latest information and resources. The new site aims to provide stakeholders and interested parties with the most up-to-date information on the VICH guidelines and activities. There is also a direct link from the homepage to the VICH Outreach Forum webpage, which aims to improve information exchange and raise

awareness of VICH and its guidelines with non-VICH countries/regions. The Outreach Forum section includes a restricted-access section for forum members.

www.vichsec.org

Contact Us

International Federation for Animal Health – IFAH

Rue Defacqz, 1
1000 Brussels, Belgium

Tel: +32 (0)2 541-0111

Tel: +32 (0)2 541-0119

www.ifahsec.org

info@ifahsec.org