



AFRICAN UNION
INTERAFRICAN BUREAU
FOR ANIMAL RESOURCES



**Report of
the First High-Level Coordination Meeting of AU-IBAR with
Regional, National Authorities, and Partners**

***Harmonised and Collaborative Approach for Developing
the Animal Resources Sector***

**24th November 2023
Venue: Virtual**

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Executive Summary

The inaugural High-level Coordination Meeting of the African Union-Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR), held virtually on November 24, 2023, centred on the theme of fostering a Harmonized and Collaborative Approach for Developing Animal Resources in Africa. As an indication of its significance, this meeting will become an annual event, providing a consistent platform for ongoing collaboration and progress in the development of animal resources across the continent.

Attended by key stakeholders, the meeting aimed to lay the groundwork for implementing the Livestock Development Strategy for Africa (LiDeSA). The primary focus areas included attracting investment, enhancing animal health and production, fostering innovation, and improving access to markets within the livestock value chains.

The meeting outcomes were designed to achieve a comprehensive understanding of stakeholder roles, establish sustainable coordination mechanisms, and set a transformative agenda for LiDeSA. Key highlights included collaborative initiatives proposed by AU-IBAR, AU-PANVAC, and ILRI, focusing on technical working groups, continental MOUs, ground assessments, and resource mobilization.

Discussions among partners highlighted challenges and opportunities in the Animal Health and Production sectors. Proposed interventions encompassed community engagement, support for diagnostic kits, vaccine quality assurance, One Health approach implementation, capacity building, and cross-border disease control.

Key recommendations emerged from the meeting, emphasizing the continuation of high-level coordination meetings, sharing of partners' work plans, adoption of long-term strategic planning, strengthening coordination at the country level, increased awareness creation, and sharing of implementation reports with countries.

In closing remarks, the Director of AU-IBAR, Dr. Huyam Salih expressed gratitude for participants' contributions, recognizing the meeting's outcomes as crucial steps toward a harmonized and collaborative approach to developing Animal Resources in Africa. The meeting's reflections and collaborative spirit were acknowledged as instrumental in shaping a more prosperous and sustainable future for the continent.

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1.0 Introduction

The inaugural High-level Coordination Meeting of the African Union-Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) took place virtually on the 24th of November 2023. The central theme of the meeting revolved around fostering a Harmonized and Collaborative Approach for Developing Animal Resources in Africa.

The meeting, convened by the Director of AU-IBAR, included participants such as representatives from Regional Economic Communities (RECs), Chief Veterinary Officers of African Union Member States (AUC MSs-CVOs), Directors of Animal Production of African Union Member States (AUC MSs-DAPs), the Director of the African Union-Pan African Vaccine Center (AU-PANVAC), the Director General of the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), FAO officials including ADG-RAF, Senior Animal Production and Health-RAF, and sub-regional coordinators/Livestock Development officers in Africa. Additionally, representatives from the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH) included the Africa Coordinator and Africa sub-regional coordinators. The AU-IBAR staff present comprised the Director, Unit Coordinators (Animal Production unit, Animal Health unit, Economic Trade and Marketing Unit, Programmes and Projects Unit), and other key staff.

1.1 Meeting Highlights

The primary focus of the meeting was to lay the groundwork for the effective implementation of the Livestock Development Strategy for Africa (LiDeSA). The strategic objectives of LiDeSA, which the meeting aimed to facilitate, are as follows:

- 1. Attracting Public and Private Investment:** The meeting underscored the importance of creating an environment conducive to attracting both public and private investments across the entire livestock value chains. Recognizing the critical role of investment in sustainable development, participants discussed strategies to promote financial backing for the sector.
- 2. Enhancing Animal Health and Increasing Production:** A key emphasis was placed on initiatives geared towards enhancing animal health, with a parallel goal of augmenting production, productivity, and resilience within production systems. The meeting delved into potential interventions and collaborative efforts to bolster the overall health and performance of Africa's livestock.
- 3. Fostering Innovation and Technology Utilization:** Participants engaged in discussions regarding the enhancement of innovation, generation, and utilization of technologies. The focus extended to building capacities and entrepreneurial skills among value chain actors, ensuring the sector stays abreast of cutting-edge advancements.
- 4. Improving Access to Markets and Value Addition:** The meeting addressed the imperative of improving access to markets, services, and value addition for stakeholders in the animal resources sector. Participants explored strategies to overcome barriers and facilitate a seamless flow of products and services within the livestock value chains.

1.2 Objectives of the High-Level Meeting

The High-Level Meeting convened with the overarching objective of fostering a harmonized and collaborative approach among key stakeholders dedicated to the development of Animal Resources in Africa. The pursuit of this objective was underpinned by a set of specific goals, expounded as follows:

1.2.1 Overall Objective

To build a harmonized and collaborative approach among key stakeholders for developing Animal Resources in Africa.

1.2.2 Specific Objectives

1. Presenting AU-IBAR's Vision and Strategic Outlook:

- To present the vision of AU-IBAR.
- To articulate the 10-year outlook and the reviewed strategic objectives within the upcoming five-year Strategic Plan (2024 – 2028).
- To outline the next year plan of AU-IBAR.
- To provide a platform for participants to share and discuss their mandates, achievements, and future plans in alignment with AU-IBAR's vision.

2. Establishing Sustainable Coordination Mechanisms:

- To establish or consolidate sustainable coordination mechanisms within the animal resources sector in Africa.
- To mitigate duplication and overlapping efforts among stakeholders.
- To enhance communication and collaboration channels for streamlined and effective coordination.

3. Optimizing and Scaling Up Results:

- To optimize and scale up the results achieved in the animal resources sector.
- To contribute to the attainment of sustainable animal production, fostering:
 - Enhanced food and nutrition security.
 - Poverty alleviation.
 - Increased trade opportunities.
 - Socio-economic transformation in Africa.

1.2.3 Rationale

The specific objectives aimed at ensuring a comprehensive understanding and alignment of AU-IBAR's vision and strategic plans, fostering efficient coordination mechanisms to prevent redundancies, and optimizing efforts to achieve tangible and sustainable outcomes in the animal resources sector. By addressing these objectives, the meeting sought to contribute significantly to the broader goals of food security, poverty alleviation, increased trade, and overall socio-economic transformation across the African continent.

1.3 Meeting Outcomes

The anticipated outcomes were crafted with the aim of achieving a thorough understanding of stakeholder roles and plans, establishing a robust foundation for seamless collaboration. The envisioned sustainable coordination mechanisms were geared towards refining efforts, reducing redundancies, and maximizing resource efficiency. The development of a transformative agenda for LiDeSA was expected to act as a catalyst for positive impacts, fostering alignment among stakeholders towards shared objectives. This alignment aimed to contribute significantly to advancements in food security, poverty alleviation, increased trade, and overall socio-economic progress in Africa.

2.0 Summary of Participant Presentations and Collaborative Initiatives

During the meeting, participants delivered presentations outlining their mandates, programs, plans, and achievements, emphasizing involvement in areas such as Animal Health, One Health, Animal Production, and Trade and Marketing of animals and animal products. The convergence of these presentations highlighted the need for collaborative medium and long-term program planning for the development of Africa's animal resources. The overarching objective was to coordinate efforts with key partners, leverage achieved results, build synergies, and avoid duplication.

In anticipation of future collaborations, AU-IBAR, AU-PANVAC, and ILRI jointly envisioned collaborative actions focusing on animal genetic resources, starting from 2024 and beyond. The proposed initiatives include:

1. **Establishment of Technical Working Groups:**

- Forming technical working groups in each region to support the operationalization of the AU Seed Centres of Excellence (ARSCoEs) and contribute to the implementation of their mandates.

2. **Finalization of Continental MOUs:**

- Concluding continental Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) led by the RECs and providing training in Biobanking utilizing stem cell technologies.

3. **Ground Assessment of Existing Centres of Excellence:**

- Conducting ground assessments of the existing five (5) Centres of Excellence for Animal Resources and the proposed backup gene bank to identify additional needs.

4. **Establishment of the Continental Backup Centre:**

- Establishing the continental backup center at ILRI and AU-PANVAC to enhance resource conservation and management.

5. **Resource Mobilization:**

- Mobilizing resources to support the Centres of Excellence in fulfilling their mandates, encompassing capacity building, conservation programs, and breeding initiatives.

Further details of the presentations can be found in Appendix 6.1.

Actual presentations are accessible at: <https://networks.au-ibar.org/show/high-level-coordination-meetings/documents>

3.0 Discussions

The deliberations on the Animal Health and Production sectors among CVOs and DAPs from AU Member States revealed crucial insights into the challenges, opportunities, and priorities facing these sectors.

3.1 Animal Health

3.1.1 Key Challenges in Animal Health

The challenges identified by CVOs and DAPs encompassed:

- a. **Lack of Synergies in Disease Control:** Participants emphasized the need for coordinated efforts in disease control across borders.
- b. **Limited Veterinary Infrastructure:** Challenges were raised concerning insufficient veterinary infrastructure and limited access to veterinary services.
- c. **Inadequate Diagnostic Capacities:** The discussions highlighted the inadequacy of diagnostic capacities and disease surveillance capabilities.
- d. **Poor-Quality Vaccines:** Concerns were expressed about the inadequacy and poor quality of vaccines.
- e. **Limited Research and Awareness:** Challenges were noted regarding limited research, lack of awareness, education, and the impact of climate change on animal health.

3.1.2 Opportunities in Animal Health

Opportunities identified in the Animal Health sector included:

- i. **Increasing Demand for Animal Protein:** Recognizing the rising demand for animal protein.
- ii. **Potential for Export:** The potential for increased export of animals and animal products.
- iii. **Technological Advancements:** Opportunities arising from technological advancements for improved efficiency.
- iv. **Collaboration and Partnerships:** Increasing collaboration and Public-Private Partnerships for enhanced investment.
- v. **One Health Approach:** Leveraging the One Health Approach for cross-sector collaboration.

3.1.3 Suggested Immediate Interventions in Animal Health

Several immediate interventions were proposed:

- i. **Engagement of Community Animal Health Workers and Paravets:** Acknowledging the significance of paravets, participants recommended engagement with Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs) and other paraprofessionals.
- ii. **Support to Countries with Diagnostic Kits:** Recognizing the need, participants emphasized support for countries lacking diagnostic kits for diseases such as CBPP, PPR, and FMD.
- iii. **Vaccine Quality Assurance:** The importance of ensuring the quality of vaccines was emphasized, with a reminder of the PANVAC certified vaccines website for verification.
- iv. **One Health Approach Implementation:** Strengthening the implementation of the One Health Approach, ensuring active involvement from all sectors, was highlighted.
- v. **Capacity Building:** Continuous capacity building within countries was stressed, with a focus on maintaining a conducive work environment to prevent brain drain.
- vi. **Cross-Border Disease Control:** Advocacy for harmonized disease control strategies across borders, using the Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) tool, was recommended.
- vii. **Increased Inclusion in Coordination Meetings:** Emphasizing the importance of the participation of both CVOs and AP directors in high-level meetings for elevating the livestock agenda.

3.2 Animal Production

3.2.1 Key Challenges in Animal Production

Key challenges in Animal Production identified by participants included:

- a. **Seasonal Availability of Water and Quality Feed:** Challenges related to the seasonal availability of adequate water and quality feed.
- b. **Inadequate Veterinary Services:** Issues concerning the inadequacy of effective veterinary services.
- c. **International Trade Bans:** Challenges arising from international bans on animal trade and animal products.
- d. **Spread of Diseases and Parasites:** Concerns about the spread of diseases and parasites, including the impact of pesticides on pasture and feed.
- e. **Biological Limitations of Indigenous Breeds:** Limitations of indigenous breeds due to a lack of breeding improvement.

- f. **Climate Shocks and Displacement of Communities:** Challenges arising from climate shocks, including soil erosion, recurrent droughts, floods, biodiversity loss, and displacement of pastoralist communities.
- g. **Heat Stress and Extreme Temperatures:** The impact of heat stress and extreme temperatures on animal health, productivity, and reproduction.
- h. **Inadequate Feed and Fodder Companies:** Challenges related to inadequate companies producing good-quality animal feed.
- i. **Information Sharing and Early Warning Systems:** Issues concerning poor information sharing, weak early warning systems, and the absence of policies and roadmaps for coordinating early humanitarian action.
- j. **Poor Infrastructure and Weak Capacities:** Challenges related to poor infrastructure, weak human, financial, and institutional capacities for coordination.
- k. **Technology and Innovation Transfer:** The inadequacy of technology and innovation transfer.
- l. **Data Gaps and Ongoing Conflicts:** Challenges associated with data gaps and ongoing conflicts.

3.2.2 Opportunities in Animal Production

Investment opportunities identified in Animal Production included:

- **Dairy Farming:** Opportunities in the dairy farming sector.
- **Feedlots:** Potential investments in feedlots.
- **Milk and Meat Processing Plants:** Opportunities in the establishment of milk and meat processing plants.
- **Beekeeping Production:** Investment potential in beekeeping production.
- **Leather Processing and Manufacturing:** Opportunities in leather processing and the manufacturing of leather products.
- **Poultry Farming:** Investment prospects in poultry farming, both in layers and broilers.
- **Hatcheries:** Opportunities in hatcheries for chicken production for domestic consumption.

These discussions provided a comprehensive overview of the challenges and opportunities in the Animal Health and Production sectors, culminating in proposed strategic interventions for immediate action and long-term planning.

4.0 Recommendations

The Director of AU-IBAR led discussions aimed at optimizing outcomes and enhancing coordination mechanisms for the development of Animal Resources in AU Member States. The proposal involves upgrading existing coordination modules, reactivating partnerships, fostering synergies, and strengthening collaboration. The following recommendations emerged from these discussions:

- I. High-Level Coordination Meetings:** Participants expressed appreciation for the meeting and recommended the continuation of high-level coordination meetings between stakeholders and partners. This was seen as crucial for deepening collaboration and fostering synergetic action to address Africa's challenges in line with the vision of "the Africa we want." The meeting resolved to hold the annual high-level coordination meeting, providing a forum for strategic discussions and planning.
 - a. Action:** Organize annual high-level coordination meetings.
 - b. Responsible Organization(s):** AU-IBAR, in collaboration with key stakeholders and partners.
 - c. Timeline for Completion:** Annually.

- II. Sharing of Partners Work Plans and Implementation Reports:** The recommendation emphasized the importance of sharing work plans and implementation reports among partners to promote synergy and avoid duplication of initiatives. Organizations were urged to involve RECs and Member States from the identification and drafting stage of new projects/programs.
 - a. Action:** Implement a system for sharing work plans and implementation reports among partners.
 - b. Responsible Organization(s):** All participating organizations, with oversight from AU-IBAR.
 - c. Timeline for Completion:** Ongoing, with immediate effect.

- III. Strategic Planning:** Partners recommended the adoption of long-term strategic planning and the joint mobilization of resources to enhance the impact and sustainability of initiatives.
 - a. Action:** Embrace long-term strategic planning and joint resource mobilization.
 - b. Responsible Organization(s):** AU-IBAR, in collaboration with partners.
 - c. Timeline for Completion:** Integrated into the planning cycles, immediate implementation.

- IV. Strengthening of Coordination via Focal Persons at Country Level:** Acknowledging existing focal points at country levels, it was recommended to centralize these points for improved coordination. Additionally, mechanisms for sharing plans, especially among focal points for Animal Health, Animal Production, fisheries, etc., were to be strengthened.
 - a. Action:** Establish centralized coordination units at country levels and strengthen mechanisms for sharing plans.
 - b. Responsible Organization(s):** AU-IBAR, collaborating with relevant organizations.
 - c. Timeline for Completion:** Implementation to be initiated within the next planning cycle.

V. Need for More Awareness Creation and Sensitization at Country Level: Recognizing commendable efforts by international organizations, there was a call for increased awareness creation and sensitization at the country level. This includes engaging ministers and heads of states to allocate sufficient human resources for both animal health and animal production. The involvement of finance ministries to support these efforts was emphasized.

- a. Action:** Conduct awareness creation and sensitization activities at the country level.
- b. Responsible Organization(s):** AU-IBAR, collaborating with member countries and relevant ministries.
- c. Timeline for Completion:** Commence immediately with ongoing efforts.

VI. Sharing of Implementation Reports with Countries: The recommendation highlighted the importance of sharing organizational annual reports with countries to enhance transparency and promote informed decision-making.

- a. Action:** Establish a mechanism for sharing organizational annual reports with countries.
- b. Responsible Organization(s):** AU-IBAR, collaborating with participating organizations.
- c. Timeline for Completion:** Implement immediately, incorporating it into regular reporting practices.

5.0 Closing Remarks

In her closing remarks, the Director of AU-IBAR expressed heartfelt gratitude to all participants for graciously accepting the invitation to partake in the meeting. She acknowledged the valuable investment of time and the invaluable contributions made by each participant throughout the sessions.

The Director extended sincere appreciation for the insightful presentations, engaging discussions, and thoughtful recommendations shared during the meeting. Emphasizing the significance of the collective efforts, she conveyed assurance that the wealth of presentations, discussions, and recommendations would play a pivotal role in shaping a harmonized and collaborative approach to developing Animal Resources in Africa.

With gratitude for the participants' commitment and dedication, the Director affirmed that their collective support is instrumental in realizing the shared vision for the advancement of Animal Resources in Africa. The meeting's outcomes, reflections, and collaborative spirit, she concluded, stand as a testament to the commitment of all stakeholders toward a more prosperous and sustainable future for the continent.

6.0 Conclusion

The inaugural High-level Coordination Meeting of AU-IBAR marked a significant milestone in the collaborative efforts to develop Animal Resources in Africa. Held virtually on November 24, 2023, the meeting brought together key stakeholders, including representatives from Regional Economic Communities, Chief Veterinary Officers, Directors of Animal Production, and international organizations, to address critical challenges and opportunities in the sector.

The meeting's primary objective was to lay the foundation for implementing the LiDeSA. Through insightful discussions, presentations, and collaborative initiatives, participants collectively identified key focus areas, including attracting investments, enhancing animal health and production, fostering innovation, and improving access to markets within the livestock value chains.

The outcomes of the meeting were strategically aligned with the broader goals of AU-IBAR, emphasizing a harmonized and collaborative approach. Stakeholders engaged in robust discussions, sharing their mandates, achievements, and future plans, creating a platform for coordinated action. The proposed collaborative initiatives, outlined by AU-IBAR, AU-PANVAC, and ILRI, underscored the commitment to working together towards common objectives, such as the establishment of technical working groups, continental MOUs, and resource mobilization.

Discussions among Chief Veterinary Officers and Directors of Animal Production revealed crucial insights into the challenges and opportunities in the Animal Health and Production sectors. The proposed interventions, ranging from community engagement to cross-border disease control, demonstrated a comprehensive approach to address immediate concerns and pave the way for long-term sustainable development.

The recommendations arising from the meeting emphasized the importance of continued high-level coordination meetings, sharing of work plans among partners, long-term strategic planning, strengthened coordination at the country level, increased awareness creation, and transparent sharing of implementation reports.

In closing, the Director of AU-IBAR expressed heartfelt gratitude to all participants for their valuable contributions, dedication, and commitment. The collective efforts, insightful discussions, and thoughtful recommendations stand as a testament to the shared vision for advancing Animal Resources in Africa. The meeting's outcomes serve as a foundation for ongoing collaboration, shaping a harmonized, prosperous, and sustainable future for the continent. AU-IBAR looks forward to the annual continuation of high-level coordination meetings, reinforcing the commitment to realizing “the Africa we want” through collaborative action in the development of Animal Resources.

7.0 Appendix

7.1 Summary of Presentations

Presentation 1: AU-IBAR Vision and Strategic planning 2024-2033

By Dr. Huyam Salih, Director of AU-IBAR

The presentation showcased AU-IBAR's diverse efforts, illustrating its commitment to fostering positive and lasting impacts on sustainable livestock development in Africa. It focused on strategic plans, project implementations, and achievements aligned with LiDeSA and the Africa Blue Economy Strategy. The AU-IBAR's 10-year outlook and Strategic Plan underscored a programmatic approach for sustainability and effective follow-up, emphasizing coordination with Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and partners to prevent duplication and encourage synergies.

The presentation noted that programmatically, AU-IBAR's initiatives target Animal Health, Animal Production, and Trade and Marketing, creating a comprehensive approach to livestock development.

Key achievements included in the presentation are rinderpest eradication, control of transboundary diseases, strengthening epidemiological and diagnostic capacities, and the establishment of the Animal Resources Information System (ARIS). The presentation highlighted AU-IBAR's role in supporting the One Health Approach, Chief Veterinary Officer capacity-building, and Livestock Master Plans. AU-IBAR's contributions extended to sustainable fisheries, genetic resources improvement, apiculture, resilience in the feed and fodder sector, and the development of regional value chains.

Presentation 2: THE AFRICAN UNION-PAN AFRICAN VETERINARY VACCINE LABORATORY (AU-PANVAC)

By Dr. Charles BODJO, Ag. Director of PANVAC

The presentation focused on the mission and initiatives of AU-PANVAC in the context of promoting the use of high-quality vaccines and diagnostic reagents for the control, eradication, and surveillance of animal diseases in Africa. AU-PANVAC is in the process of establishing a new facility with a comprehensive scope, including Vaccine Quality Control laboratories, Biological reagent laboratories, Process development laboratories, Host Biosafety Level 3 Laboratories, a Host Training and Technology Transfer Center, and the hosting of the Vaccine bank.

A particular emphasis was placed on the importance of quality control for Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD), a significant concern due to the daily circulation of different FMD strains in the region. Collaborating with the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), AU-PANVAC has developed modalities to assess FMD vaccines. This assessment is tailored to each region, acknowledging the variation in FMD strains. The pilot phase of this initiative has been successfully implemented in East Africa, with plans to extend the assessment approach to all other regions. Notably, each region will have a dedicated panel for the assessment of FMD vaccines, ensuring a targeted and regionally adapted response to this critical animal

health challenge. The overall objective is to enhance the quality and efficacy of FMD vaccines across Africa through a region-specific and collaborative approach.

Presentation 3: FAO Activities on Animal Resources Development in Africa - A Few Highlights

By Dr. Mohamed Shamsuddin, Senior Animal Production and Health Officer for Africa

The presentation centred on the enduring collaboration between the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU IBAR), emphasizing their longstanding partnership in crucial domains such as Livestock Development, Disease Prevention and Control, One Health and Pandemic Prevention, Livestock Climate Actions, and Aquaculture and Fisheries.

Looking forward to the FAO's 2024-2025 Biennium, the presentation outlined key focus areas:

1. Preventing Emerging Infectious Diseases (EID), Pandemics, and Zoonotic Threats:
 - A commitment to proactive measures aimed at preventing and mitigating the impact of emerging infectious diseases, pandemics, and zoonotic threats.
2. Strengthening the Operationalization of the One Health Approach:
 - An emphasis on enhancing the application of the One Health approach, both regionally and nationally, to foster a comprehensive understanding and management of health challenges at the intersection of humans, animals, and the environment.
3. Better Managing Biological Threats to Health and Agri-Food Sectors:
 - Strategies aimed at improving the management of biological threats, particularly those affecting both health and the agri-food sectors.
4. Enhanced Actions Against Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR), Improving Food Safety, and Good Practices:
 - Measures to combat antimicrobial resistance, enhance food safety, and promote good practices in agriculture and food production.
5. Sustainable Livestock Production, Reducing Climate Impact, and Other Vulnerabilities:
 - A commitment to sustainable livestock production practices with a focus on reducing the impact of climate change and addressing other vulnerabilities. This involves leveraging advanced data management, forecasting, preparedness, and response mechanisms.

The presentation highlighted the ongoing collaboration's diverse scope and outlined a forward-looking agenda that addresses critical challenges in agriculture, livestock, and public health, reflecting a commitment to fostering sustainable and resilient systems in the years to come.

Presentation 4: WOAHA PLANS AND ACTIVITIES ON ANIMAL HEALTH IN AFRICA

By Dr. Karim Tounkara, WOAHA Regional Representative for Africa,

The presentation provided insights into the mission and mandates of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH). The presentation highlighted WOAHA's multifaceted role in promoting global animal health, trade, and welfare through its diverse mandates and strategic activities grouped into One Health, GF-TADs, and Capacity Building. The organization's mission is outlined through two key mandates:

Mandate (1):

1. Ensure Transparency in the Global Animal Disease Situation:
 - WOAHA is committed to maintaining transparency in the worldwide animal disease landscape.
2. Collect, Analyze, and Disseminate Veterinary Scientific Information:
 - The organization is tasked with the systematic gathering, analysis, and distribution of veterinary scientific information.
3. Encourage International Solidarity in the Control of Animal Diseases:
 - WOAHA actively promotes global collaboration and solidarity in efforts to control and manage animal diseases.

Mandate (2):

1. Safeguard World Trade by Publishing Health Standards:
 - WOAHA plays a crucial role in safeguarding international trade by establishing and disseminating health standards for the movement of animals and animal products across borders.
2. Improve Legal Frameworks and Resources of National Veterinary Services:
 - WOAHA seeks to enhance the legal frameworks and resource capacities of national Veterinary Services.
3. Provide a Better Guarantee of Food of Animal Origin:
 - The organization strives to ensure the quality and safety of food originating from animals.
4. Promote Animal Welfare Through a Science-Based Approach:
 - WOAHA is committed to promoting animal welfare using a science-based approach.

The presentation also highlighted WOAHA's activities that are organized into three main groups:

1. One Health:
 - WOAHA actively engages in One Health initiatives, recognizing the interconnectedness of human, animal, and environmental health.
2. GF-TADs (Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases):
 - WOAHA contributes to the Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases, emphasizing a collaborative and progressive approach.
3. Capacity Building:
 - The organization is involved in capacity-building efforts to strengthen the capabilities of veterinary professionals and organizations worldwide.

Presentation 5: ILRI PLANS AND ACTIVITIES ON ANIMAL RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA

By Prof. Appolinaire Djikeng, Director General of the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)

The presentation provided an overview of the current initiatives and activities undertaken by the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI). It also highlighted ILRI's multifaceted approach to livestock development, encompassing research, nutrition, sustainability, health, genetics, policy, and gender considerations.

It was noted that the institute's overarching goal is to bring about positive impacts at scale for inclusive and sustainable development in the livestock sector, with a focus on the following key objectives:

1. **ILRI's Livestock Research:**
 - ILRI is actively engaged in livestock research with a primary goal of providing solutions to address challenges related to food and nutritional security, poverty alleviation, environmental sustainability, and human health.
2. **Feed and Forage Development:**
 - The institute is dedicated to improving nutrition through the development of feed and forage, aiming to enhance animal productivity.
3. **Sustainable Livestock Systems:**
 - ILRI is committed to achieving sustainable livestock systems by actively contributing to mitigating climate change, enhancing resilience, and increasing overall livestock productivity.
4. **Animal and Human Health:**
 - ILRI focuses on delivering solutions to combat various health challenges, including livestock diseases, zoonotic diseases that can be transmitted between animals and humans, and foodborne illnesses.
5. **Livestock Genetics:**
 - ILRI places a strong emphasis on improving livestock genetics for enhanced productivity and profitability. This involves providing genetic information to farmers, conducting genetic evaluations at the country level to identify the best genes, and actively promoting genetic diversity.
6. **Policies, Institutions, and Livelihoods (including Gender):**
 - ILRI is actively involved in initiatives related to policies, institutions, and livelihoods, with a particular focus on efficient livestock production as a driver for inclusive growth and employment. Gender considerations are also integral to these efforts.
7. **Impact at Scale:**
 - ILRI is dedicated to taking livestock solutions to a larger scale, contributing to inclusive development on a broader level.

Presentation 6 : ECCAS ACTIVITIES IN THE CONTEXT OF ANIMAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT IN CENTRAL AFRICA

By Dr. Moussa Demsa Baschirou, Consultant for the development of Animal Resources

The presentation highlighted key initiatives and developments within the Central African region under the Program for Strengthening Veterinary Governance (VET - GOV), with support from the African Union – Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR). The establishment of the Regional Center for Animal Health in Central Africa (CRSA - AC) in N'Djamena, Chad, was a significant outcome of this program, focusing on the control and eradication of cross-border diseases.

The CRSA - AC is actively engaged in addressing diseases such as Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia (CBPP), Foot-and-mouth disease, Avian plague, African swine fever, and Small ruminant plague. Additionally, the Live2Africa Project, implemented in collaboration with Regional Economic Communities, has spurred the development of priority value chains for each region, with a specific emphasis on the poultry value chain in the ECCAS region.

The presentation also addressed challenges encountered in the establishment of a parental stock farm in Cameroon for the ECCAS region, providing insights into the difficulties related to procurement procedures. Transhumance, a critical topic in agro-pastoral and forest ecosystems, was discussed in the context of conflicts, leading to the adoption of the N'Djamena Declaration aimed at establishing a strategy and roadmap for peaceful transhumance.

ECCAS's involvement in fisheries development, through the COREP (Regional Fisheries Commission of the Gulf of Guinea), was emphasized. COREP's role is to support ECCAS member states in enhancing fish production, extending its activities to cover all 11-member states of ECCAS.

The presentation underscored the importance of compliance with standards, particularly health standards, for access to markets for animal and fish products. The AU – IBAR supported the creation of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Committees at national and regional levels through the PANSPSO Project, facilitating adherence to these standards.

Politically and strategically, ECCAS aligned its efforts with the African Union's Continental Free Trade Area and identified key value chains, including poultry, meat, milk, hides, and skins, to boost intra-African trade. The presentation concluded with advocacy requests to member states and partner organizations, urging ongoing support for strategies, resource mobilization, operationalization of key initiatives, and the establishment of critical value chains in Central Africa.

Présentation 7 : ICPALD KEY ACTIVITIES ON ANIMAL RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

By Dr. Dominic Kathiya Lokire, Livestock and Rangeland Development Officer, ICPALD

The presentation focused on the activities and challenges faced by the IGAD Centre for Pastoral Areas and Livestock Development (ICPALD), which operates under the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD). IGAD's overarching mission is to promote regional cooperation and integration to enhance peace, security, and prosperity among its member states. Key activities of ICPALD include Livestock Development, Socio-economic, Policy, and Marketing, as well as Drylands Development and Livelihood.

Current key activities highlighted in the presentation encompassed a range of initiatives such as the control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (TADs), support for the development of Early Warning Tools in various member states, assistance to the private sector to boost regional and inter-regional trade, the establishment of the IGAD Protocol on Transhumance, Range Management, and the development of several regional strategies.

Additionally, ICPALD is actively involved in coordinating various regional networks and platforms, including those focused on animal health, fodder, range management, and resilience building projects. The challenges reported by ICPALD included resource constraints, the impact of climate change on resilience-building efforts, and limited coordination among partners, affecting complementarities and synergies.

The presentation concluded with recommendations and lessons learned from the challenges encountered. Key recommendations included advocating for investment in resilience-building initiatives to reduce community dependence on cash handouts, fostering cooperation among neighbouring countries to address common challenges in a harmonized manner, and emphasizing the importance of strong coordination among resilience projects and stakeholders for complementarity and synergy. The need for proactive engagement of policymakers based on early warning information, enhanced coordination in resource mobilization and implementation in cross-border areas, and the support for the principle of Subsidiarity were also highlighted.

The presentation provided an overview of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), outlining its vision, mission, and main objectives. The vision of COMESA is to achieve a fully integrated, internationally competitive regional economic community with high standards of living for its people, ready to merge into the African Economic Community. The mission aims to achieve sustainable economic and social progress in all member states through increased cooperation and integration across various development fields.

The main objective of COMESA is to promote trade and investment among its member states and with third countries. The presentation focused on COMESA's Strategic Focuses for the Medium-Term Strategic Plan (MTSP) from 2021 to 2025, particularly highlighting the perspective of Animal Resources with a focus on Market integration, productive integration, and industrialization integration.

The strategic objectives outlined in the presentation are geared towards enhancing livestock and fisheries production, improving animal health, increasing access to markets, services, and value addition, as well as promoting the Blue economy in COMESA for inclusive and sustainable ecosystem management.

Additionally, COMESA recommended key strategies for joint and effective coordination in program/project implementation with partners. These recommendations included joint planning of project/program activities, clear delineation of roles and responsibilities, adherence to budgets, time frames, and performance criteria, and the establishment of monitoring and evaluation tools to track the progress of program/project implementation.

Presentation 9: ECOWAS ACTIVITIES

By Dr. Bio Goura SOULE, Technical Assistant //livestock and pastoralism

The presentation on ECOWAS emphasized the organization's commitment to developing the livestock economy in the region. Key highlights include:

1. Regulatory Framework for Transhumance:
 - Introduction of rules on cross-border transhumance in 1998 through Decision ADEC/05/10/98, outlining conditions for seasonal animal mobility within the Community.
2. Agricultural Policies:
 - Implementation of agricultural policies such as the UEMOA PAU (2001) and the ECOWAP of ECOWAS (2005), with a focus on livestock farming, animal health, and pastoralism development.
 - Establishment of the regional centre for animal health in Bamako, Mali, in response to the emphasized interest in livestock development.
3. Response to Security Crisis:
 - The security crisis of 2012 and pastoralism conferences in Ndjamena and Nouakchott in 2013 accelerated interest in livestock development.
 - Initiation of the PRAPS in 2015, the largest regional program promoting pastoralism.
4. Other Initiatives:
 - Management of natural resources, emphasizing pastoral development and land recovery.
 - Dialogue and consultation for peaceful transhumance.
 - Establishment of pastoral and merchant water infrastructure.
 - Monitoring and control of cross-border animal diseases.
 - Promotion of local milk value chains.
 - Empowerment of women and youth.
5. Recent Efforts by ECOWAS:
 - Operationalization of the Regional Animal Health in Bamako, including the development of strategies and vaccination campaigns.
 - Plans for promoting local milk value chains.
 - Participatory reflection on the future of mobile livestock systems, leading to a regional strategy for livestock development and pastoralism security.
 - Launch of an initiative on poultry value chains funded by the World Bank.

- Operationalization of the observatory on mobile livestock systems through the publication of a reference document on the state of mobile livestock systems in Africa in 2022.

Full presentations are available via:

<https://networks.au-ibar.org/show/high-level-coordination-meetings/documents>

7.2 Agenda of the AU-IBAR High-Level Coordination Meeting

Time	Agenda Item	Presenter
10:00- 10:10	Introducing & welcoming remarks Meeting rationale, objectives and agenda items	Director of AU-IBAR
10:10-10:30	Introduction of Participants	ALL
10: 30- 10: 45	AU-IBAR priorities, plans and activities on Animal Resources development.	Director of AU-IBAR
10:45-11:00	AU-PANVAC Presentation	Ag. Director of AU-PANVAC
11:00- 12:15	RECs activities on Animal Resources development	RECs representatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UMA - COMESA - CEN-SAD - EAC - ECCAS - ECOWAS - IGAD - SADC
12:05- 12:10	Health Break	All
12:10- 12:25	FAO activities on Animal Resources development in Africa	FAO
12:25- 12:40	WOAH plans and activities on Animal Health in Africa	WOAH
12:40- 12:55	ILRI plans and activities on Animal Resources development in Africa	ILRI
12:55-14:00	Lunch Break	ALL
14:00- 14:30	Discussion on the key challenges, opportunities and priorities of Animal Health sector in AU member states	CVOs
14:30- 15:00	Discussion on the key challenges, opportunities and priorities of Animal production sectors in AU member states	DAPs
15:00-15:05	Health break	All
15:05- 15:15	How to maximize results and coordination mechanisms for the development of Animal Resources in AU Member States. (Proposal on upgrading the existent coordination modules, re-activate partnerships, synergies and strengthening collaboration)	Director of AU-IBAR
15:15- 15:50	Discussion, modification and endorsement of the proposal and meeting settings	All
15:50-16:00	Closing remarks	Director of AU-IBAR

7.3 List of Participants

	Name	Position/ Organisation	Organization
1.	Dr Yao AKPOber	Directeur de l'Élevage Délégué auprès de l'OMSA Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Élevage et de la Pêche	Benin
2.	Dr. Rassablaga Dominique Sawadogo	Directeur Général des Services Vétérinaires Délégué auprès de l'OMSA	Burkina Fasa
3.	Dr Désiré NTAKIRUTIMANA	Directeur de la Santé Animale/Délégué de l'OMSA	Burundi
4.	Dr. Garga Gonne	Directeur des Services Vétérinaires	Cameroon
5	Dr. Ana Lina Pereira de Barros Olende	Direção Geral de Agricultura, Silvicultura e Pecuária et Délégué de l'OMSA pour le Cap-Vert	Cape Verde
6.	Dr. Youssouf Oussené Moutroifi	Délégué de l'OMSA et chef de Service Santé Animale et Vétérinaire Ministère de la Production	Comoros
7.	Dr. N'Kaya-Tobi	Directeur Général de l'Élevage Ministère de l'agriculture, de l'élevage et de la pêche Délégué national auprès de l'Organisation Mondiale de la Santé Animale (OMSA)	Congo Brazzaville
8.	Dr Kallo Vessaly	Directeur des Services Vétérinaires Délégué de la Côte d'Ivoire auprès de l'OMSA	Cote D' Ivoire
9.	Dr N' Lemba Mabela	Directeur des Services Vétérinaires (DSV)	Democratic Republic of Congo
10.	Dr Ilhab Saber Youssef Hashem	Chairman General Organization for Veterinary Services and Chief of Veterinary Services WOAH Delegate for Egypt Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation	Egypt
11.	Dr. Yonas Woldu Tesfagaber	Director, Animal and Plant Health, Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO) and WOAH Delegate Ministry of Agriculture, Agricultural Extension Department	Eritrea
12.	Dr Mohamed Idriss DOUMBOUYA	Directeur National des Services Vétérinaires Délégué de la Guinée auprès de l'OMSA Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Élevage	Guinee
13.	Dr. Bernardo Cassama	Directeur de Service Vétérinaires Délégué de la Guinée Bissau auprès de l'OMSA Ministério da Agricultura e Desenvolvimento Rural	Guinee Bissau
14	Dr Obadiah N. Njagi	WOAH Delegate for Kenya, Directorate of Veterinary Services; Nairobi, KENYA	<u>Kenya</u>
15	Dr Bettelhein Ramahefasoa	Directeur, Direction des Services Vétérinaires Antananarivo, MADAGASCAR	Madagascar
16.	Dr Julius Lufeyo Chiwanga Chulu	Director, Department of Animal Health and Livestock Development, Lilongwe, MALAWI	Malawi
17.	Dr. Boubacar Kanouté	Directeur National de Services Vétérinaires Délégué auprès de l'OMSA Ministère de l'Élevage et de la Pêche	Mali

	Name	Position/ Organisation	Organization
18.	Dr Abderrahman El Abrak	Directeur de la Protection du Patrimoine Animal et Végétal Office National de Sécurité Sanitaire des Produits Alimentaires (ONSSA) Délégué auprès de l'OMSA Ministère de l'Agriculture, de la Pêche Maritime, du Développement Rural et des Eaux et Forêts	Morocco
19	Dr. Américo Manuel Conceicao	National Director Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development WOAH Delegate for Mozambique	Mozambique
20	Dr. Albertina Shilongo	WOAH Delegate for Namibia, Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry	Namibia
21.	Dr. Jimmy Melanie	Director of Veterinary Services	Seychelles
22.	Dr. Sharifa	Chief Veterinary Officer	Somalia
23.	Dr. Botlhe Michael Modisane	Chief Director, Animal Production and Health WOAH Delegate for South Africa	South Africa
24.	Dr. Agol Malak Kwai Kut	Director General of Veterinary Services, CVO and WOAH Delegate	South Sudan
25.	Dr. Rehab Abdalrahim Saied	Director of Veterinary Services	Sudan
26.	Prof. Hezron Emmanuel Nonga	Director of Veterinary Services, Chief Veterinary Officer & WOA Delegate for Tanzania, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries	Tanzania
27.	Dr. Abdou Ceesay	Director General WOAH Delegate for The Gambia Department of Livestock Services	The Gambia
28.	Mr Magnimniwe Beleyi	Directeur de l'Élevage Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Élevage et de la Pêche (MAEP)	Togo
29.	Dr. Komla Batassé Batawui	Directeur de l'Élevage Délégué de l'OMSA Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Élevage et de la Pêche (MAEP)	Togo
30.	Dre Sana Kacem	Médecin Vétérinaire – Chargée de la Gestion de la Direction Générale des Services Vétérinaires Direction Générale de Services Vétérinaires Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Ressources Hydrauliques et de la Pêche, Tunis, TUNISIA	Tunisia
31.	Dr. Anna Rose Ademun Okurut	Commissioner Animal Health Chief Veterinary Officer WOAH Delegate for Uganda Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries	Uganda
32.	Dr. Josphat Nyika	Chief Director CVO, WOA Delegate for Zimbabwe Directorate of Veterinary Services Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development	Zimbabwe
33.	Dr. Ondoua Zang Jean Paul	Directeur du Développement des Productions et des Industries Animales Ministère de l'Élevage, des Pêches et des Industries Animales	Cameroon
34.	Dr Édouard Désiré Kaimba	Agence Nationale de Développement de l'Élevage (ANDE) de la RCA	Republic of Central Africa
35.	Dr. Mahamat Idriss Choua	Directeur Général Adjoint Ministère de l'Élevage et des Productions Animales Direction Générale du Ministère N'Djaména, Tchad	TChad

	Name	Position/ Organisation	Organization
36.	Dr. Charafouddine Onzade	Directeur national de l'élevage, Ministère	Comoros
37.	Dr Matumo Wavo-Ndondo Matope Bertin	Directeur Chargé de la Production Animale Ministère de Pêche et Elevage	Democratic Republic of Congo
38.	Tsigereda Fekadu Tullu	CEO, Animal production, Ministry of Agriculture	Ethiopia
39.	Mr. Wilfrid Essone Abondo	National Coordinator, Ministère de l'agriculture	Gabon
40.	Dr. Bishar Fille Elmi	Director of Livestock Production Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries	Kenya
41.	Dr Keneuoe Victoria Lehloenya	Director Responsible for Animal Production and Health (Director Livestock Services) Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition Department of Livestock Services	Lesotho
42.	Dr. ROLAND PARTU VARKPEH	Director of Animal Production Ministry of Agriculture, Monrovia Liberia	Liberia
43.	Madame RAZAFIMPAMOA Lucile,	Directrice d'Appui à la Production Animale	Madagascar
44.	Dr. Suzana Augusta Jose Jamal	Head of Animal Production Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Mozambique
45.	Mr. Ben Haraseb Dapees Mr. Erich Petrus	Acting Director (Alternating) Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform	Namibia
46.	Dr. ADAM KADE Malam Gadjimi	Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Elevage Direction Générale de la Production et des Industries Animales Coordonnateur National pour les Ressources Zoogénétiques	Niger
47.	Winnie Lai-Solarin	Director of Animal Production and Husbandry services Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Nigeria
48.	Dr. Jean Claude Ndorimana	Director General of Animal Resources Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources Kigali/Rwanda	Rwanda
49.	Mr. Mohamed Omar Nur	Director General Ministry of Livestock and forest Km st. Hodan Dist, Mogadishu Somalia Somalia	Somalia
50.	Dr. Aden Hussein Derow	Director of Animal Production & Research Ministry of Livestock Forestry and Range Federal Republic of Somalia	Somalia
51.	Dr. Mocketla Joel Mamabolo/	Director, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	South Africa
52.	Annie Botha	Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	South Africa
53.	John Kang Gang Yat	Director General of Livestock Production and Range Management Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Republic of South Sudan	South Sudan
54.	M. Yaoakorin Yao	Chef de division des productions animales Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Elevage et de la Pêche Direction de l'Elevage	Togo
55.	Dr. Theophilus Mwasigye	Ag. Commissioner-Animal Production/Assistant Commissioner-Veterinary Public, Entebbe, Uganda	Uganda

	Name	Position/ Organisation	Organization
56.	Munyaradzi Chimowa	Ag. Director Animal Production Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Water, and Rural Resettlement	Zimbabwe
57.	Dr. Mohammed Shamsuddin	Senior Animal Production and Health Officer	FAO
58.	Dr. Charles Bebay	FAO-ECTAD; FAO-KENYA	FAO
59.	Dr. Karim Tounkara	Regional Representative for Africa World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH)	WOAH
60.	Dr. Samuel Wakhusama	Sub-Regional Representative, WOAHA	WOAH
61.	Dr. Rachid Bouguedour	WOAH Sub-Regional Representative for North Africa	WOAH
62.	Dr. Moetapele Letshwenyo	WOAH Representative for Southern Africa World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH)	WOAH
63.	Prof. Appolinaire Djikeng	Director General International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)	ILRI
64.	Dr. Yoseph Mamo	Senior Livestock and Fisheries Officer COMESA	COMESA
65.	Dr. Moussa Demsa Baschirou	Consultant for the development of Animal Resources	ECCAS
66.	Dr. Kathiya Dominic Lokeris	Livestock and Rangeland Development Officer (Project Coordinator) IGAD Centre for Pastoral Areas and Livestock Development	IGAD/ICPALD
67.	Dr Bio Goura SOULE	Technical Assistant /livestock and pastoralism Directorate of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD); ECOWAS Commission	ECOWAS
68.	Dr. Charles Sanne BODJO	Ag. Director, AU-PANVAC	AU-PANVAC
69.	Dr. Huyam Salih	Director of AU-IBAR	AU-IBAR
70.	Dr. Annie Lewa-Kigezo	Senior Programmes and Projects Officer	AU-IBAR
71.	Mrs. Hellen Guebama	Animal Production Unit Coordinator	AU-IBAR
72.	Dr. Hiver Boussini	Animal Health Unit Coordinator	AU-IBAR
73.	Dr. John Oppong-Otoo	Economic Trade and Marketing Unit Coordinator	AU-IBAR
74.	Dr. Mary Mbole-Kariuki	Dr. Mary Mbole-Kariuki Technology, Innovation and Skills Expert/ GIZ-OHDA Project Lead	AU-IBAR
75.	Mrs. Patricia Lumba	Senior Knowledge Management Officer	AU-IBAR
76.	Dr. Mohamed Seisay	Senior Fisheries Officer	AU-IBAR
77.	Prof. James Wabacha	Animal Health Expert	AU-IBAR
78.	Mr. Kennedy Oroko	Planning Expert	AU-IBAR
79.	Dr. Cheick Abou Kounta Sidibe	Consultant	AU-IBAR
80.	Mrs. Irène Uwizeye	Administrative Assistant	AU-IBAR
81.	Dr. Sarah Ashanut Ossiya	Project Coordinator Resilient African Feed and Fodder Systems (RAFFS) Project African Women in Animal Resources Farming and Agribusiness Network (AWARFA-N) Secretariat African Apiculture Platform (AAP) Secretariat	AU-IBAR
82.	Dr. Ahmed Elbeltagy	Animal Production Officer Resilient African Feed and Fodder Systems (RAFFS) Project	AU-IBAR



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