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What does the OIE see as the main benefits of the VICH for the OIE Member Countries

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Summary

- OIE in brief (history and mandate)
- Liaison between the OIE and VICH
- What OIE is doing for the VICH and why?
- What does the OIE see as the main benefit of the VICH for OIE Member Countries?
- Future expectations
- Conclusion
THE OIE IN BRIEF
World Organisation for Animal Health
History

An intergovernmental technical and science-based Organisation

- **1924**: Creation of the Office International des Épizooties (OIE)
- **1945**: Creation of the United Nations
- **2003**: New preferred name: World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)

1. Headquarters in Paris (France)
2. Regional Representations
3. Sub-Regional Representations & Sub-Regional Offices
Today

Improving animal health and welfare worldwide

STANDARDS
for international trade of animals and animal products

under the mandate given by the WTO

TRANSPARENCY
of the world animal disease situation

including zoonoses

EXPERTISE
Collection and dissemination of veterinary scientific information

animal disease prevention and control methods

SOLIDARITY
between countries to strengthen capacities worldwide

Capacity building tools and programmes
182 Member Countries in 2018
Global presence of the OIE

182 Member Countries

301 Reference Centres

75 Partner organisations

1 Headquarters

12 Regional & Sub-regional Representations
Liaison between the OIE and VICH

For the OIE Member Countries it is essential to have good quality, safe and efficacious veterinary products

- **Forth VICH Public Conference**, held 24-25 June 2010 - OIE HQ in Paris - role of VICH in the global regulatory environment, global outreach initiative; value and future vision of the VICH

- 62nd General Session of the OIE in May 1994 (Resolution No. X.), endorsing the need to foster the harmonisation of registration requirements for veterinary drugs

- OIE ad hoc group meeting (Paris 1995) on the international harmonisation of veterinary products including VICH topics

- 77th OIE General Session **Resolution No. 25 on Veterinary products**, recommended that the OIE strengthen its actions and further develop a coherent strategy in this field.

- This position reflected in the **Fifth Strategic Plan** (2011–2015) of the OIE
Liaison between the OIE and VICH

For the OIE Member Countries it is essential to have good quality, safe and efficacious veterinary products

83rd General Session, May 2015

Resolution No. 26: Combating antimicrobial resistance and promoting the prudent use of antimicrobial agents in animals

84th General Session, May 2016

Resolution No. 36: Combating Antimicrobial Resistance through a One Health Approach: Actions and OIE Strategy

85th General Session, May 2017

Resolution No. 38: Global action to alleviate the threat of antimicrobial resistance: progress and opportunities for future activities under the ‘One health’ initiative
Liaison between the OIE and VICH

- The OIE, as an associate member of the VICH, has the opportunity to take part in the discussions of the Steering Committee meetings.

- The OIE does not take part in any formal decision on topics or guidelines that may be taken, nor does it sign-off on any VICH draft/final guidelines.
What the OIE is doing for VICH and why (1)

OIE provides support to VICH and encourages the OIE Member Countries to take into consideration the VICH guidelines when developing and implementing standards for animal health products. Encourages the OIE Member Countries to join the VICH Outreach Forum.

The OIE Collaborating Center (ANSES-France) chairs the VICH Outreach Forum (VOF) meetings by taking into account the needs of VOF Counties (for example by proposing subjects for the agenda).

The OIE gives regular updates to the VOF Member Countries about their activities after each meeting by sending a summary letter.
What the OIE is doing for VICH and why(2)

The OIE conducted a joint survey in 2016 with HealthforAnimals among the VICH-Outreach Forum Countries to obtain a general view of the current situation of the VICH Outreach Forum Countries with the following objectives:

1. to evaluate the level of VICH activities, the acceptance and implementation of VICH GLs
2. to set up priorities for the next training
3. to provide support to the VICH training implementation subgroup
4. to obtain a general view of the current situation of the VICH Outreach Forum Countries
What the OIE is doing for VICH and why(3)

How:

- The OIE participates in the consultation phase, circulating draft VICH guidelines to all Member Countries Delegates and Focal Points for Veterinary Products and encourages them to provide comments.

- VICH was included from the beginning into the OIE training seminar for the OIE National Focal Points for Veterinary Products.

- The OIE provides updates to the Biological Standards Commission on the relevant VICH Guidelines to achieve harmonisation between the OIE Standards and relevant VICH Guidelines (GL) as much as possible (latest achievement was to take into consideration the VICH GL 54 and 55).
What the OIE is doing for VICH and why(4)

**Why:** The OIE considers that international harmonization of technical requirements for pre- and post-marketing authorization of veterinary medicines is a necessity for *animal health*, *public health* and *environmental protection*, and *facilitation of international trade*.

The WTO considers the Standards, Guidelines and recommendations of the OIE as the *reference for trade in animals and animal products*.

VICH Guidelines could be very valuable tools to achieve these aims.
What does the OIE see as the benefit of VICH to OIE Member Countries

Main benefits for the OIE Member Countries include:

- VICH Member Countries
- Observer Countries
- VICH Outreach Forum Member Countries
- Non VICH Member Countries

To facilitate the international trade with increased availability of quality assured, safe and efficacious veterinary medicinal products (VMPs), taking into account the need for a harmonized regulatory environment.
What does the OIE see as the benefit of VICH to OIE Member Countries

Main benefits for the OIE Member Countries include:

**VICH Guidelines:**

- Solid base for harmonization of the registration/authorization of VMPs with appropriate legislation
- Better registration or recognition increases availability of VMPs
- Facilitate international trade and answer to food security
What does the OIE see as the main benefit for VICH to OIE Member Countries

VICH Guidelines and their implementation contribute to high standards of veterinary medicinal products, which in turn promotes global animal health, animal welfare, public health, decreases antimicrobial and antiparasitical resistance and protects the environment.
What does the OIE see as the main benefit for VICH to OIE Member Countries

VICH Priorities Phase 4 : 2016-2020   document VICH/15/008

“The desire to foster effective cooperation with the OIE, particularly with regard to the OIE’s strategic focus on promoting good governance of veterinary medicinal products which provides the framework within which OIE member countries can apply the technical requirements established in VICH guidelines. In this context, the OIE strategy refers to VICH as the reference body regarding the technical requirements for registration of veterinary medicinal products and related scientific aspects”

“Foster the already close collaboration with OIE as a pre-requisite to successful implementation of the wider objective of international harmonisation. VICH will support the strategic activities of OIE that are targeted at good governance of veterinary medicinal products in OIE member countries”
Future Expectations

• More OIE Member Countries taking into consideration the relevant VICH guidelines when developing and implementing national standards and guidelines for animal health products

• The future guidelines might take into consideration the wider needs worldwide

• Raise awareness of the VICH guidelines and their implementation

• More OIE Member Countries’ legislation to support a solid regulatory system, which would serve as a base for a harmonized/convergent regulatory authorization/registration system for veterinary medicinal products
Conclusions

- The VICH Outreach Forum is growing with African Member Countries, the most recent additions are Uganda, Zimbabwe and Nigeria, **showing great potential in the African Continent**

- **There is a call** for the OIE African Member Countries to join the VICH Outreach Forum and to benefit from the existing VICH Guidelines

- With solid legislation of registration/authorization for veterinary medicines, and consequently a well established regulatory system, by taking into account the existing VICH Guidelines (GL) and actively participating in the consultation phase of any VICH GL, OIE Member Countries can achieve quality assured, safe and efficacious veterinary products worldwide.

- This could lead to the elimination of falsified and substandard products from the market, **as part of the good governance of the good management of veterinary products, from both animal and public health points of view**
Thank you for your attention

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