

**REINFORCING VETERINARY GOVERNANCE IN AFRICA PROJECT
PROGRAMME
&
PARTICIPATION OF AFRICAN NATIONS IN SANITARY AND
PHYTOSANITARY STANDARD-SETTING ORGANIZATIONS PROJECT
CONSOLIDATION PHASE**

**7th PANAFRICAN CVOs MEETING ON AFRICA'S COORDINATED POSITION
ON ANIMAL HEALTH STANDARDS.**

**Nairobi - Kenya
4th, 5th and 6th May 2015**

RATIONALE

- Low participation of African countries' members of OIE (World Organisation for Animal Health) in providing sound comments during the process of standards setting;
- Strong will of African countries to actively participate in the cycle process of commenting and to build coordinated positions on proposed changes of the OIE Terrestrial and Aquatic Codes;
- OIE Regional Commission for Africa is not the appropriate platform for building common positions because it only holds biannual meetings, which is too short and densely packed with other items for discussion
- Strong demand of OIE African delegates to meet, out of the OIE institutional context, for harmonizing views;
- AU-IBAR has successfully convened a number of meetings to strengthen the effective participation of African delegates in the coordination of positions with regard to animal health standards and issues in Africa.

**OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETING (INCLUDING PREPARATORY AND
FINALIZATION PHASES)**

- Review reports of scientific, ad hoc and code commissions and in particular propose changes to the codes which will be submitted to the OIE General Session in May 2015, in order to:
 - o Identify areas of high priority and common interest for Africa
 - o Analyse rationale, justification, consequences and impact (technical, institutional, legal, commercial) of proposed amendments to the Code
 - o Propose common positions for the African continent on these proposed amendments

- Endorse a global approach to strengthen African common positions and improve participation all along the OIE standard setting process
- Enhance the work of African experts and centres of excellence in the area of animal health standards, to be incorporated in commissions and working groups
- Harmonize processes of consultation on OIE standards at the national level, including ways of involving the private sector

EXPECTED RESULTS

Short term: For the 83rd General Session of the OIE in May 2015, African nations should make common proposals about the adoption of proposed draft standards and/or propose new draft standards to work on during the following year

Mid term: Sustainable participation, contribution and consultation mechanisms are put in place to allow African nations to make inputs and build common position on the whole OIE standards setting process

PARTICIPANTS

All African OIE delegates (including non ACP)
Representatives of RECs
Representative of EU, PANVAC, PATTEC, OIE, FAO,
AU-IBAR staff
Selected animal health Experts

PROPOSED AGENDA

Please find herewith attached