

**Activities of the Regional Representation
for the Middle East
2002-2003**

A- Joint workshop OIEME/MZCP.

Learning Objectives	Inform participants on the emerging and reemerging zoonotic diseases, intersectoral surveillance and control.
Time period	24 – 29 Juin 2002
Hosting Country	Beirut, Lebanon.

B- Joint workshop OIEME/OIEAF.

Learning Objectives	Quality evaluation of veterinary services in member countries, re-implementation and re-organization.
Time period	27 – 28 September 2002
Hosting Country	Tunis, Tunisia.

C- REVC meeting with OIE, FAO, AOAD and EU

Objectives	Discussing AOAD regional project for Foot and Mouth Disease.
Time period	13-14 January 2003
Hosting Country	Beirut, Lebanon

D- Workshop on Surveillance and Control of Camels and Wildlife Diseases.

Learning Objectives	Approach on dealing with camels and wildlife diseases in the region.
Time period	10 - 12 March 2003
Hosting Country	Sana'a, Yemen

E- Joint workshop OIEME/FAO/UNDP/Somali Business Council

Objectives	Procedures and certification for trade in animals and animal products in the Greater Horn of Africa and the Middle East region
Time period	29-30 April 2003
Hosting Country	Dubai, United Arab Emirates

F- Joint workshop OIEME/AU-IBAR/IRI/IGAD on the development of a model to forecast the potential of Rift Valley fever virus activity in the Middle East and Greater Horn of Africa

Learning Objectives	- Define a suitable system, its parameters and end users that are useful in prediction of RVF and other vector-borne diseases.
Time period	21 – 23 June 2003
Hosting Country	Port Saïd – Egypt

G- The 7th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East

Learning Objectives	- Transmissible encephalopathies of animals, their importance for public health and trade in the Middle East. - Emergency preparedness – formulation and implementation of contingency plans. - REVC meeting: BSE Regional Project
Time period	23 – 26 September 2003
Hosting Country	Istanbul, Turkey

H- Regional OIE/FAO round table on FMD

Objectives	FMD status in the region. Joint project on surveillance and control of the disease.
Time period	October 2003
Hosting Country	Cairo, Egypt

I- Joint Colloquium with WHO and Méditerranée Vétérinaire

Learning Objectives	Brucellosis and pastoralism
Time period	4 – 7 December 2003
Hosting Country	Beirut, Lebanon

Special activities

1- OIEME/OIEAF/AU-IBAR meeting in Paris on 30 May 2002

Subjects:

- Overview of the animal health status in both regions.
- Define countries policies and organization of Veterinary Services.
- Harmonizing Regulations for trade of animals and animal products.
- Establishment of a Regional Emergency Veterinary Committee in Africa.
- Preparation of the Tunis meeting.

Participants and participating countries:

OIE delegates from countries of the Greater Horn of Africa and the Middle East.

2- Meeting with AU/IBAR in Sana'a 20-22 June 2002

Summary:

OAU/IBAR is collaborating with countries of the Greater Horn of Africa and the Arabian Peninsula to facilitate the establishment of a Livestock Trade Commission. The purpose of the Commission would be to promote the trade of healthy and wholesome livestock and other commerce between the two regions. This would be accomplished through the establishment and maintenance of regular dialogue between the key local and regional actors and stakeholders in this sector. To that end, the Trade Commission will collaborate with governments, livestock traders and private sector associations including Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Regional Organizations such as GCC, IGAD and COMESA, and Intergovernmental Organizations as FAO and the OIE, to harmonize and standardize livestock trade in the region. The result will be a facilitation of trade through improved understanding and communication.

Participants and participating countries:

Bahrain, Egypt, Djibouti, UAE, Sudan, Yemen, Ethiopia, Somalia, Uganda, Kenya, USA, UK, AU-IBAR, OIEME.

3- Meeting OIE, FAO and AU/IBAR in Cairo 6-9 February 2003.

Summary:

- Animal health import requirements of importing countries.
- Red Sea livestock trade commission.
- Quarantine facilities and holding ground.
- Animal health certification.
- Quality assurance measures and regional quality assurance laboratories.
- Climate modeling in the GHA and the ME.

Participants and participating countries:

Reg. OIE, Reg. FAO, AU-IBAR

4- Meeting with DMC, IRI, AU/IBAR in Nairobi 2-4 April 2003

Summary:

To develop a science-based RVF monitoring and prediction model framework in order to facilitate sustainable and safe trade of animals and animal products between Greater Horn of Africa and Middle East including environmental and diseases surveillance indicators.

Participants and participating countries:

OIEME, AU-IBAR, FAO, IC, IRI, DMCN, LTC, PACE, NASA, USGS, TMA, Somalia, South Africa, Kenya and Yemen.

**ACTIVITIES OF THE REGIONAL COORDINATOR
FOR THE MIDDLE EAST
YEAR 2002**

- 1- Representing the OIE General Director at the Euro Arab Veterinary Association meeting, held in Sanaa (Yemen) on 19-24 June 2002.**

- 2- Representing the OIE General Director at the 53rd annual meeting of the European Association for Animal Production, held in Cairo (Egypt) on 1-4 September 2002.**
Meeting Organized by: EAAP – FEZ – EVT.
Conclusions and possible follow-up: The many scientific contributions and publications cover a wide range of subjects relevant to animal health and production for the different livestock species and constitute a useful reference source for animal production practices.

- 3- Representing the OIE General Director at the Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean Forty-Nine Session, held in Cairo (Egypt) on 30 September – 03 October 2002.**
Meeting organised by: WHO/EMRO.
Conclusions and possible follow-up: Several recommendations have been drafted concerning health and human security, evaluation of the joint Government/WHO programme, health under difficult circumstances: the Impact of war, disasters, and sanctions on the health of populations in Eastern Mediterranean region, and health effects of environmental conditions. The Regional Coordinator explained the good relationship and the joint activities between the OIE and the WHO in general and especially the involvement of the OIE Regional Representation for the Middle East with the Mediterranean Zoonoses Control Program to plan joint activities in Middle East region: the successful joint training course on emerging and re-emerging zoonotic diseases intersectoral surveillance and control, which was held in Beirut, Lebanon; was the example of such collaboration.

- 4- MZCP National training course on Intersectoral Brucellosis Surveillance, held in Damascus (Syria), on 13-17 October 2002.**

- 5- Invitation from the AU/IBAR to:**
Sanaa (Yemen) on 20-22 June 2002.
Nairobi (Kenya) on August 2002.
Emboseli Park (Kenya) on 9-12 September 2002.
To collaborate studying the Establishment of the Red Sea Livestock Trade Committee Charter.

- 6- Invitation of AU/IBAR to:**
Djibouti and Somalia to evaluate the Zoosanitary situation in both countries, on 4-10 October 2002.