



Use, challenges and impact of zoning by WOAH Members in relation to Avian influenza, African swine fever, and Foot and mouth disease

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- **Members are encouraged to participate in the standard-setting process and eventually adopt the standards.**
- **But do we know if and how Members implement standards once they are adopted?**

The adoption of the **Resolution N°36** by the World Assembly of Delegates at the 2018 General Session.

The Assembly recommends that:

“The OIE develop an Observatory to monitor the implementation of its international standards, to increase transparency and to identify constraints and difficulties faced by Members”

Gather data and insights regarding the implementation of WOAH standards

Identify areas where the implementation of WOAH standards falls short and provide recommendations and calls for action

Disseminate information, while preserving confidentiality

Overarching goal: Improve effectiveness and use of WOAH standards



Quantitative approach

Monitoring report

Existing datasets are used

A wide range of standards are reviewed

A high-level assessment of the level of implementation of these standards is performed

The main deliverables are published every 5 years

Quantitative/Qualitative approach

Thematic studies

New, ad hoc data is collected

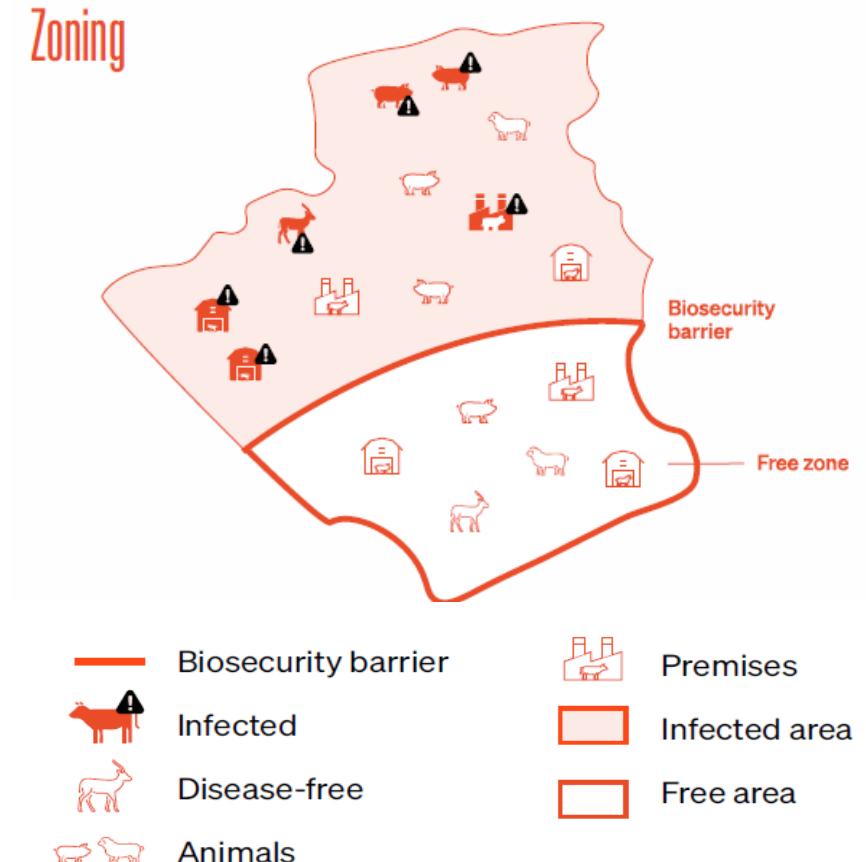
A small set of standards on a specific topic of interest are reviewed

The barriers and/or success factors to the implementation of these standards are assessed

Deliverables are published at least once a year



- The international standards of WOAH on zoning support Members to prevent and control disease spread and contribute to ensuring the safe trade of animals and their products. [*Terrestrial Code Chapters 4.4.*]
- Recognised value of zoning (e.g. Hafi et al., 2022)
- However, the effective implementation of zoning standards remain challenging (Funes et al., 2020) (Kahn, 2018).
- Important to have a global evaluation of use and impact of zoning, as well as challenges associated with its implementation
- Chapter 4.X: New chapter on implementation of zoning
- WOAH Observatory launched the thematic study in 2023





The case studies of Avian influenza, African swine fever and Foot and mouth disease in WOAH Members from 2018 to 2022

Use and objectives of zoning

Integration of WOAH standards related to zoning into legislation/practices

Challenges related to using zoning

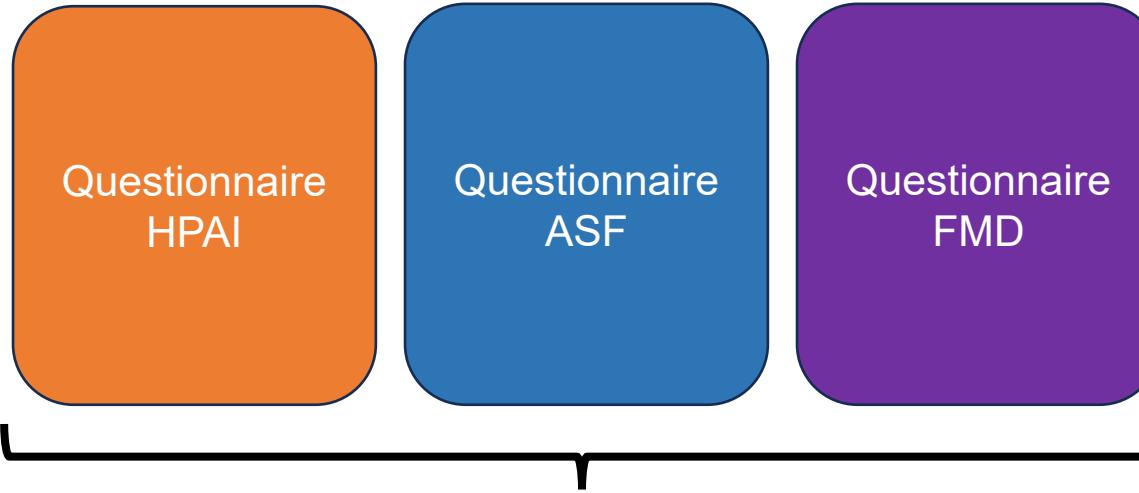
Benefits

Recognition by trading partner(s)

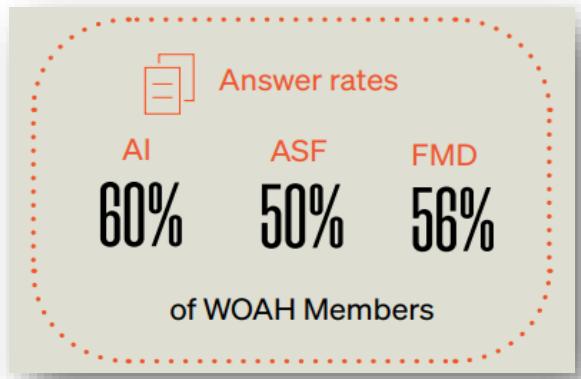
Factors associated to zone acceptance

**Years
2018 to
2022**

3 diseases



**Quantitative description of the results:
vertical analysis of survey data**



**what are the factors associated with
zoning acceptance by trading partners
(full or partial vs. no acceptance)?
Perception vs statistical associations**

(Chi squared and odds ratios for
categorical variables & Kruskall Wallis &
pair-wise comparison for quantitative
variables)

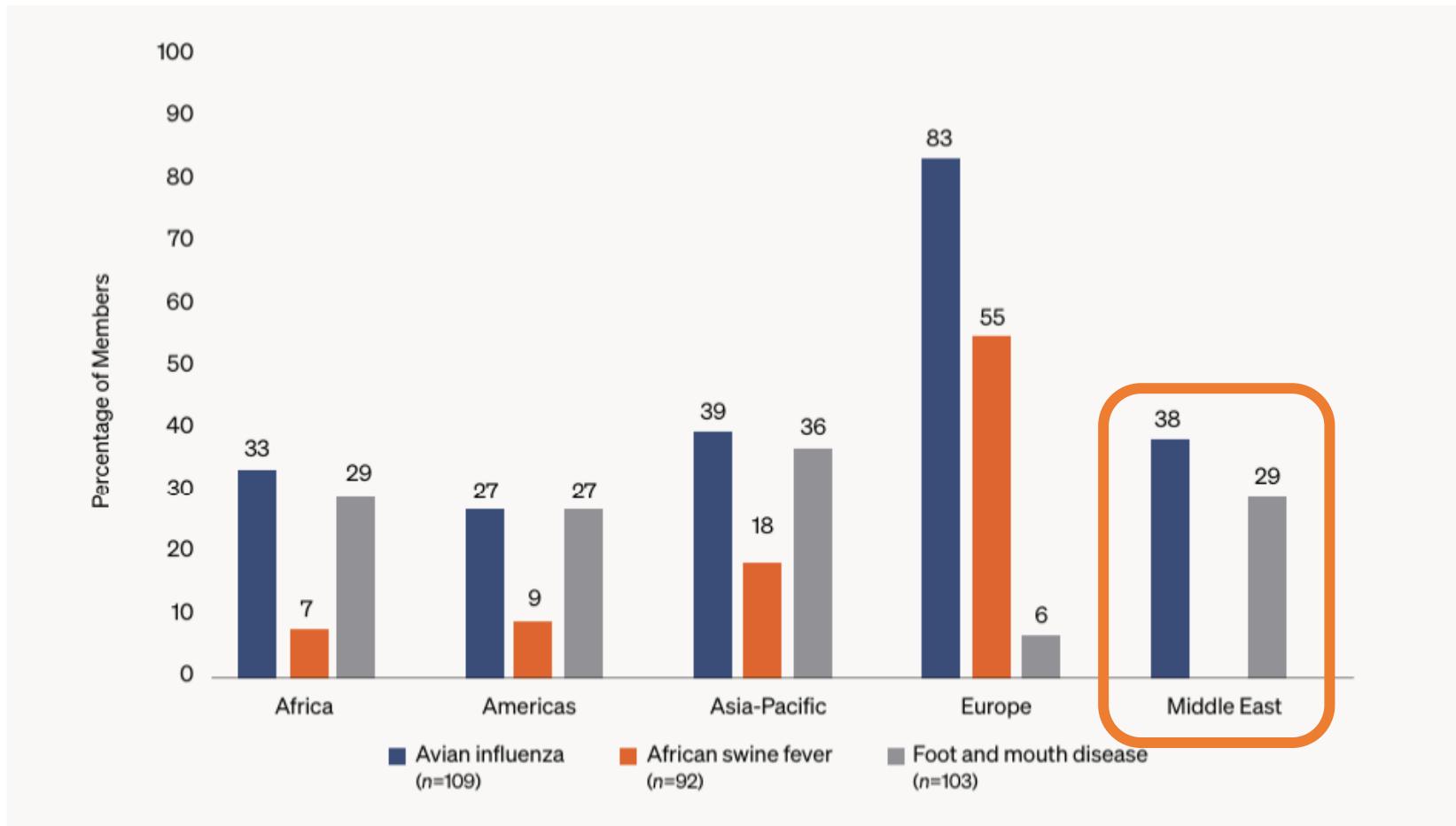
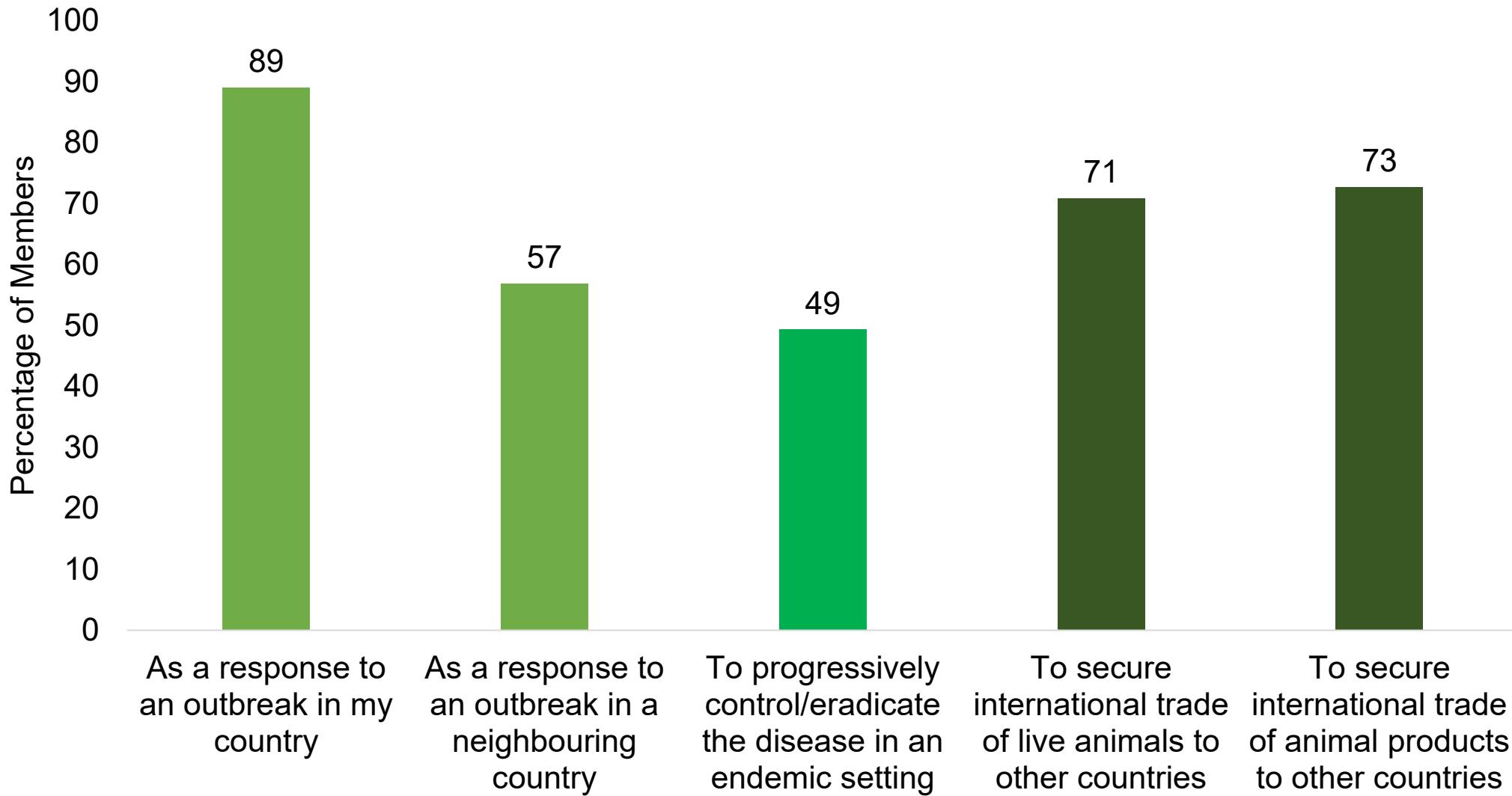


Figure 2. Percentage distribution of Members reporting having established and practically implemented zones for avian influenza (blue), African swine fever (orange) and foot and mouth disease (grey) over the period 2022–2018, presented by WOAH region

Percentages were calculated based on the total number of responding Members for each of the three diseases and in each of the five WOAH regions



Results - Objectives of zoning





27%

34%

of the Members using zoning reported partial or no integration of WOAH standards on zoning



into their regulatory framework



into their practices

Positive impact of zoning in disease control

Zoning has a positive impact on the control of:



for 81%



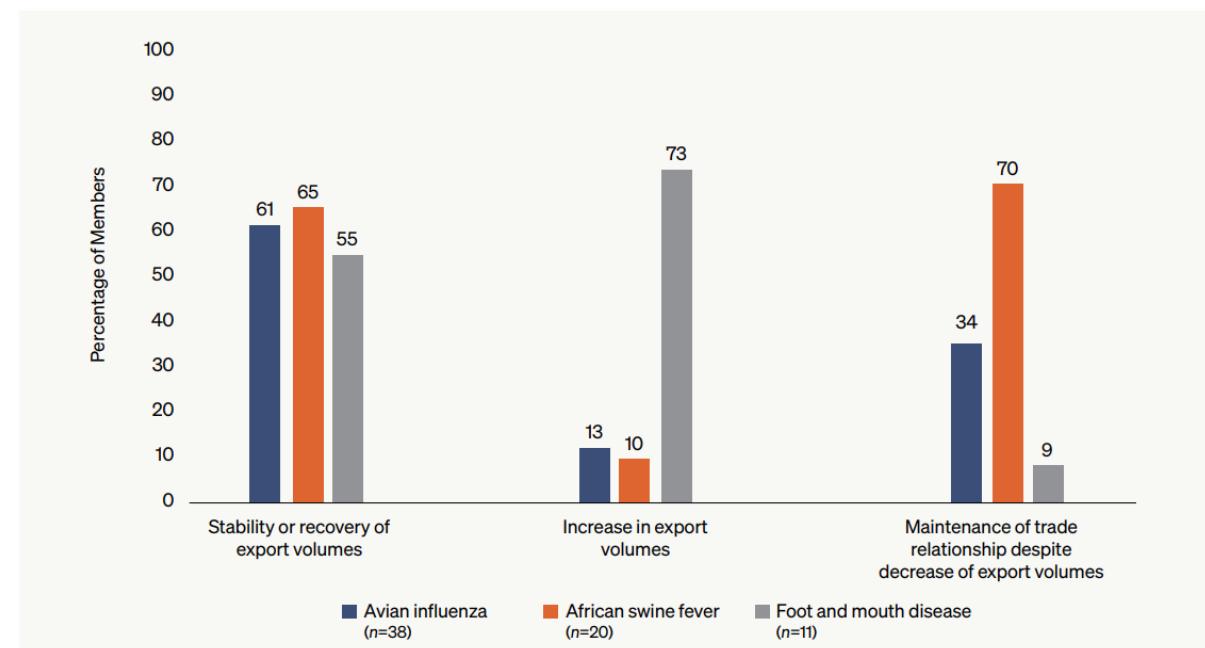
for 84%



FMD

of Members

Positive impact of zoning in terms of trade (exporters)



Percentage distribution of Members showing the impact of zone acceptance on trade for avian influenza (blue), African swine fever (orange) and foot and mouth disease (grey)

The top challenges for implementing zoning are:



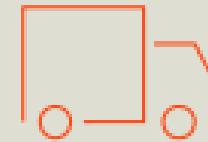
Staffing of
Veterinary
Services



Enforcement
of biosecurity
requirements



Laboratory
diagnosis



Animal identification,
traceability and
control of internal
movements



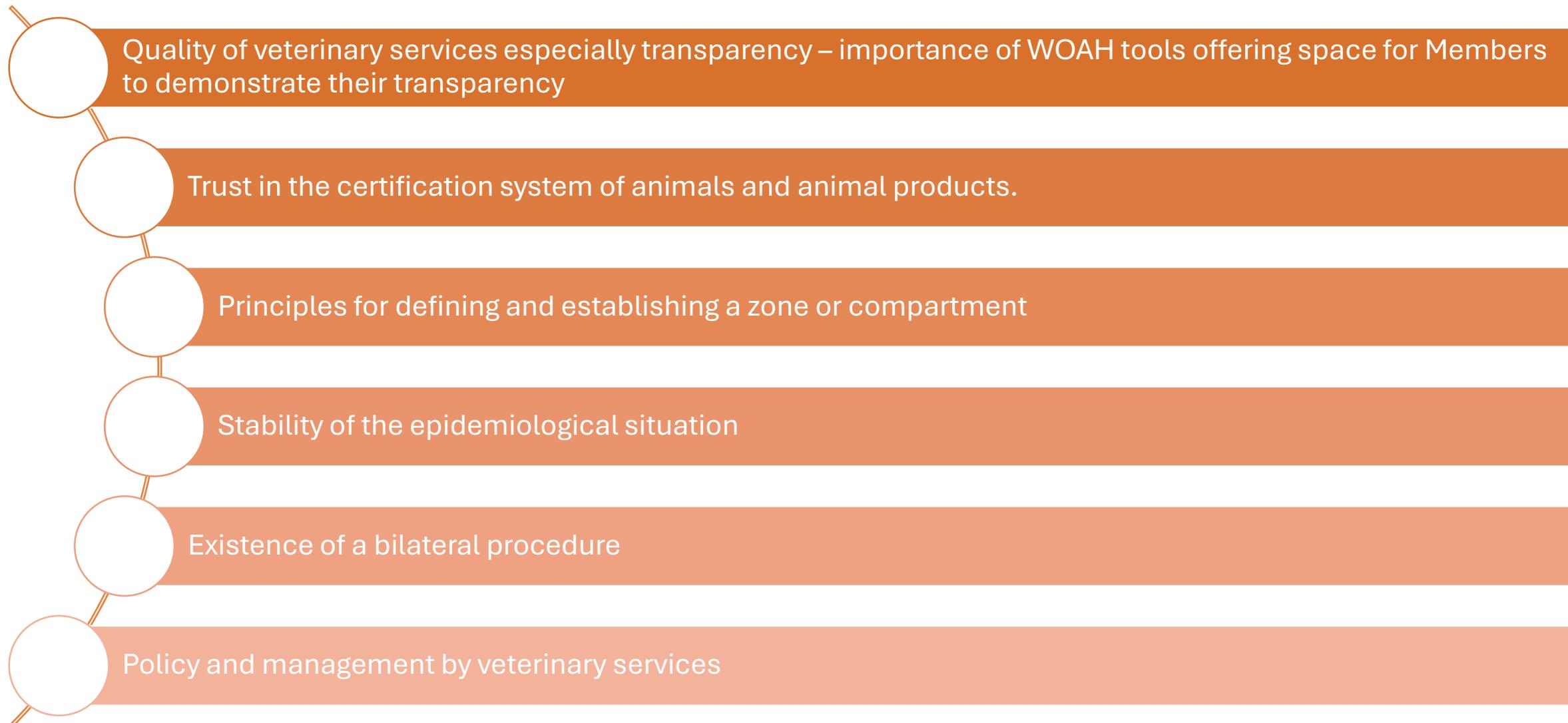
Political
support

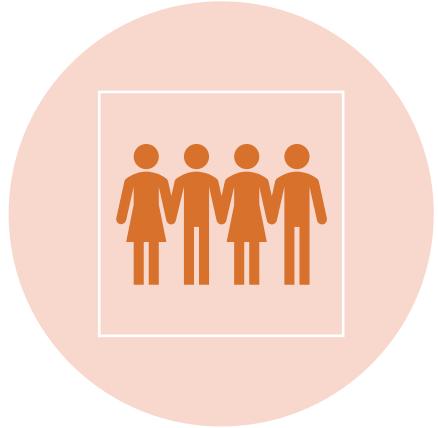
Acceptance of zones
by trading partners

- can take up more than **two years**, e.g. in half of the acceptance requests related to AI or ASF



Results - Factors associated with zoning acceptance by trading partners¹⁴





SATISFYING PARTICIPATION
RATE TO SURVEY



LIMITATIONS FOR SOME
QUESTIONS BASED ON
PERCEPTIONS OF
RESPONDENTS



LIMITATIONS FOR THE ANALYSIS
OF FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH
ZONE ACCEPTANCE, LIMITED
SAMPLE SIZE AND QUALITY OF
DATA – WOULD YOU BE USEFUL
TO EXPAND TO MORE DISEASES
OR YEARS



RECOMMENDATIONS

Members

- Ensure that all the prerequisites (e.g. surveillance, identification and traceability system) are in place before considering establishing zones
- Assess if they have the capacity and resources required to effectively implement and maintain zoning and perform cost-benefit analyses
- Integrate zoning-related WOAH standards into their legislative framework and practices
- Invest and prioritise the development/maintenance of robust certification systems and transparency to build trust with trading partners
- Raise challenges they face at WOAH forums, share experience with other Members and seek support and capacity building, when needed



Full analysis from [WOAH Observatory](#)!

Thank you!

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World Organisation
for Animal Health

