Veterinary Profession; Its growing roles and responsibilities

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Recent animal disease situation

Globalization of pathogens; ① Increase of transboundary/emerging animal diseases, ② the world facing Animal and Human health risks and strongly negative socio-economic impacts

Examples;
* Animal Influenza; especially HPAI
  - Occurrences in Asia and spread to other continents
  - Still persistent in some countries but cases having decreased
  - Strong support to OIE by the Government of Japan to control

* Foot and mouth Disease (FMD);
  - Emerging and re-emerging cases in the previously free countries
    + presence of endemic countries

* Rinderpest;
  - Global Declaration of Rinderpest Eradication
  - Human victory to eradicate a disease from the world
World Animal Health Organization (OIE)

• 28 Member countries in 1924 (OIE founded) → currently 178 Members

• Dr B. Vallat’s initiative to facilitate the understanding of importance of animal health worldwide and OIE’s roles

• OIE Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific; close linkages with Members and other stakeholders

• Strong Support to OIE from Japan’s Ministry of Agriculture; Dr T. Kawashima, CVO of Japan (host country of OIE Regional Representation) and President of the OIE Regional Commission, contributing to animal health improvement in Asia and the Pacific
Roles and responsibilities of Veterinary Profession/Vet. Services

1. Veterinary Profession/Vet. Services; as a professional group and as a public good

- Necessity of diversified skills to cope with a wide range of animal health issues
- Strengthening and upgrading professional capacity in diagnosis, surveillance, rapid response, and welfare
- Approach to reducing/mitigating socio-economic impacts caused by diseases, and to good infrastructure including legal framework, resources, communication skills, etc.
- Broadened roles and responsibilities of Veterinary Profession/Vet. Serv., and Member countries to share the political will developed
Roles and responsibilities of Veterinary Services (2)

2. Increasing importance of animal health; strength requirements of better human lives and livelihoods

3. All countries at risk from re-introduction of diseases

4. No way to predict when and where the next new disease will emerge

5. Veterinary profession/Vet. Services to focus on animal disease awareness and monitoring, and preparedness capacity

6. Veterinary Education to provide well educated veterinary graduates
Expectation of Further contribution by OIE

• OIE to help Members in capacity building and leading for animal health aspects

• OIE’s normative work to support Veterinary Services and policy makers in providing veterinary scientific information and international animal health standards

• International and Regional partnership and networking to be continuously kept

• Coordination and collaboration including joint organization of International and Regional Meetings to create ALLIANCE of Veterinary professionals/Vet. Serv. for animal health and welfare

• Dr Vallat and Dr Shimohira, and their colleagues to continue upgrading Veterinary Services for animal health, including zoonoses control with the ‘One Health Concept’

• OIE to design and provide programmes to reduce/mitigate animal health risks, and to contribute to agricultural development, food security and safety, poverty reduction and better human lives
Thank you for your attention !!