

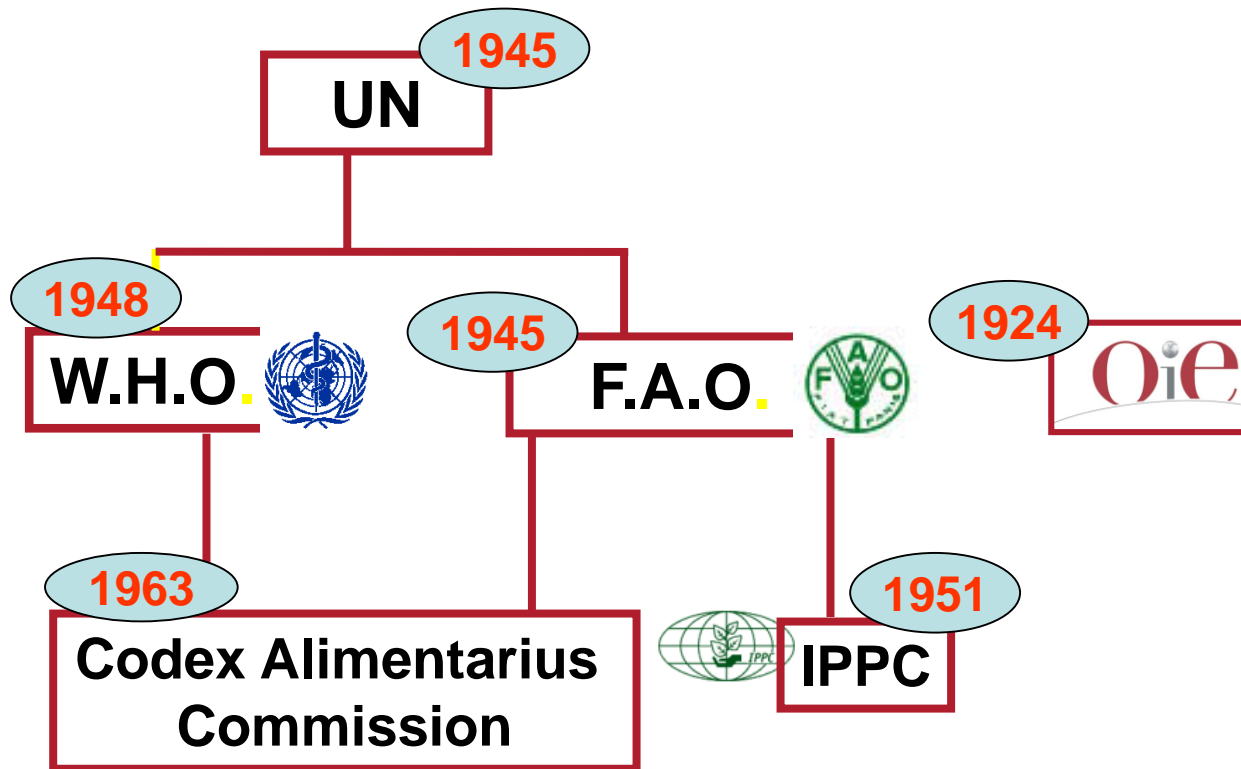
World Association for the History of Veterinary Medicine (WAHVM)

44th INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS

A brief historical overview of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and its historical relationship with countries in southern Africa

**Gideon Brückner
Marie Teissier**

International Intergovernmental Organisations



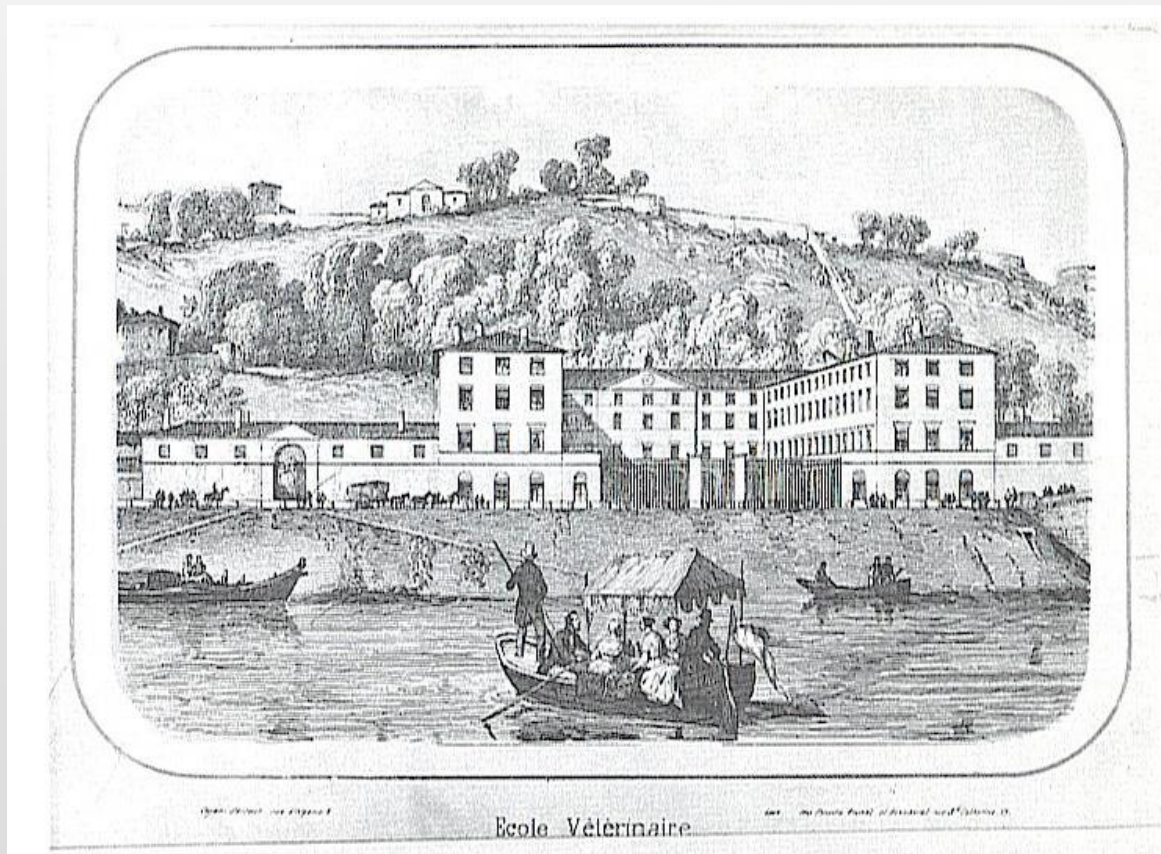
The 18th Century

- At the beginning of the century, Rinderpest invaded Europe. “...It has been estimated that two hundred million cattle died in Europe in the sixty-eight years after 1711 as a result of the great epidemic” (Dunlop & Williams, *Veterinary Medicine - An illustrated history*, 1996).
- During the whole second part of the eighteenth century, Europe was desolated by a series of epizootics brought or favoured by the incessant wars.

“The hand of God struck the Netherlands, afflicting its cattle with Rinderpest”



The first Veterinary school was created in 1762 in Lyon (France)



Claude Bourgelat (1712-1799)



FIG. 219 — Claude BOURGELAT (1712-1799) — (lith. d'Aug. Lemoine).

A lecture at the Alfort Veterinary School at the end of 19th century



After France, Veterinary schools are created all over Europe



The 19th Century

- The situation is even more alarming at the beginning of the nineteenth Century. In 1800, the epizootic which raged through all Europe had not completely been contained and contagion reappeared in Central Europe.
- Not until the 1840s were sanitary laws enacted in Europe. The first one was the Polish law, enacted by Ostrowsky in 1844. Others will follow, each inspired by the same objective to establish a nomenclature of main diseases and make compulsory for administrative authorities to notify all suspicion of disease and take immediate protective measures accordingly.

Consultation at the Alfort Veterinary School to discuss the disease situation in Europe – 19th Century



The International Congresses

- On 24 March 1863, at the initiative of Professor John Gamgee, from the New Veterinary College of Edinburgh, associated with Professor Hering, from Stuttgart, a letter is sent to Veterinary Schools and periodicals all over the world.
- The letter proposed the organisation, in Hamburg, of an International Congress which would “define the rules of prevention of contagious and epizootic diseases” and elaborate a standardised sanitary legislation for all countries. (E. Leclainche, *Histoire de la médecine vétérinaire*, 1936).



The First International Veterinary Congress held in Hamburg 14-18 July 1863, organised by John Gamgee who is seated second from the left

50 49 48 47 45 44 43 42 41 40 39 38 37 36 35
 26 25 27 24 28 23 29 22 30 21 20 31 32 33 34 17
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 12 13

- | | | | | |
|----------------------|----------------|---------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Nicklas | 11 Fürstenberg | 21 J. F. Stockfleth | 31 Kaltschmid | 41 Oefsti |
| 2 Gamgee | 12 Field | 22 G. May | 32 Schanz | 42 Krummbiegel |
| 3 Röhl | 13 Köhne | 20 Zangger | 33 Schmidt | 43 Zipperlen |
| 4 Falke | 14 Schmelz | 24 H. V. Stockfleth | 34 Jacoby | 44 Wittmack |
| 5 Hering | 15 Castres | 25 Kinburg | 35 Eggers | 45 Köllisch |
| 6 Hertwig | 16 Probstmayr | 26 Helnsen | 36 Marcus | 46 Iwersen |
| 7 Gerlach | 17 Udrütz | 27 Adam | 37 E. Schramm | 47 Unterberger (Jun.) |
| 8 Unterberger (Sen.) | 18 Pillwa | 28 Walther | 38 Schlüter | 48 H. Schramm |
| 9 Leisering | 19 Hornthal | 29 Flock | 39 Schmack | 49 Frauen |
| 10 Wüst | 20 Pehrsson | 30 C. R. May | 40 Stöckle | 50 Röttger |

Creation of the OIE



2. L'Office international des Épizooties

En 1872, l'invasion de la peste bovine dans l'Europe centrale décide le gouvernement autrichien à réunir à Vienne une Conférence internationale pour envisager des mesures communes de prophylaxie. Les gouvernements de l'Allemagne, de la Belgique, de la France, de la Grande-Bretagne, de l'Italie, de la Roumanie, de la Russie, de la Serbie, de la Suisse et de la Turquie sont représentés. La Conférence élabore un règlement international qui n'est pas publié en raison de la disparition de la maladie, mais dont les principes vont servir de base à toutes les législations modernes.

En 1920, la peste bovine apparaît inopinément en Belgique, à la suite du transit, dans le port d'Anvers, de zébus de l'Inde destinés au Brésil. L'émotion est d'autant plus vive que l'on ne prévoyait nullement la possibilité d'un apport de la maladie par une telle voie. La France prend l'initiative d'une Conférence internationale à laquelle tous les Pays sont invités. Quarante-deux Etats, Dominions ou colonies répondent à cet appel. La Conférence procède à un examen de la situation sanitaire en ce qui concerne spécialement la peste bovine, la fièvre aphteuse et la dourine; elle étudie l'échange des renseignements sanitaires entre les pays, ainsi que les mesures sanitaires à l'exportation.

La Conférence émet le vœu que soit créé à Paris un Office international pour la lutte contre les maladies infectieuses des animaux. Elle donne mandat à trois de ses membres de se mettre à la disposition des autorités françaises pour leur faciliter l'établissement d'un projet de convention internationale.

E. Leclainche, in his "Histoire de la médecine Vétérinaire" (1936)

writes: "... In 1920, Rinderpest suddenly appears in Belgium, Following the transit through the port of Antwerp of zebu cattle bound for Brazil. It causes a great commotion..."

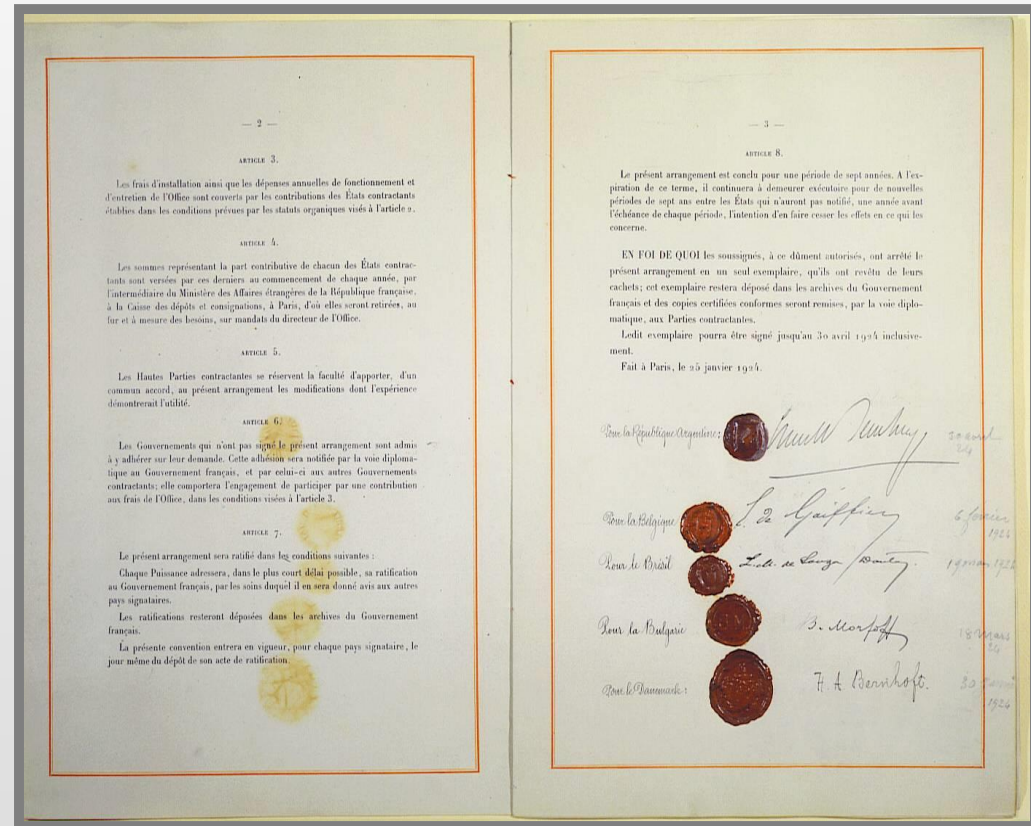
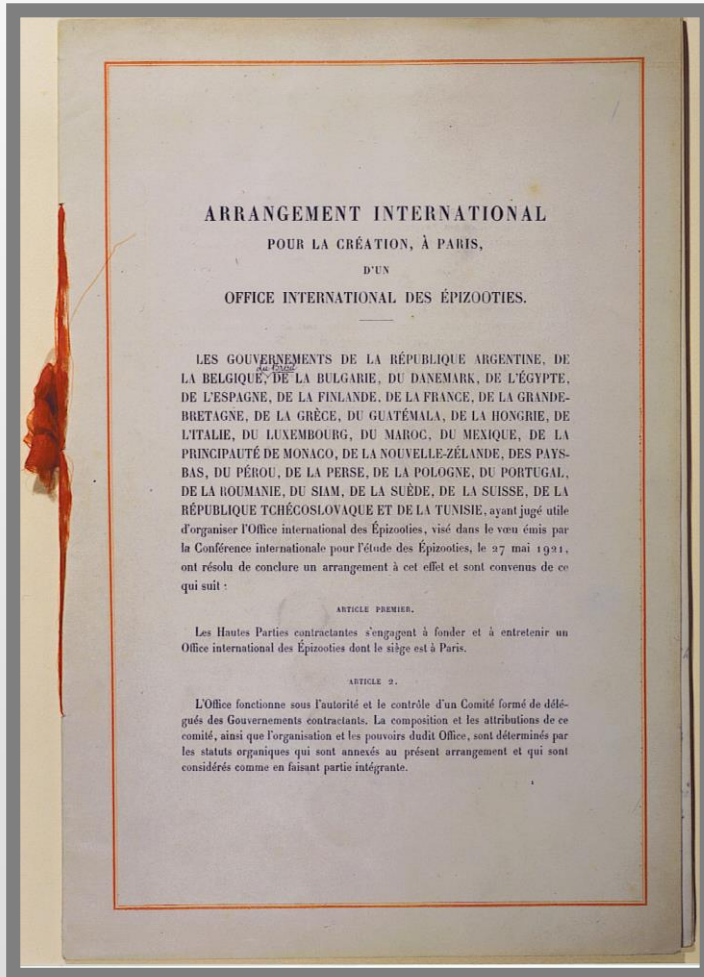
Strengthened by the experience of the past century, France takes the initiative to convene an “International Conference for the Study of Epizootics” to take place in Paris in May 1921



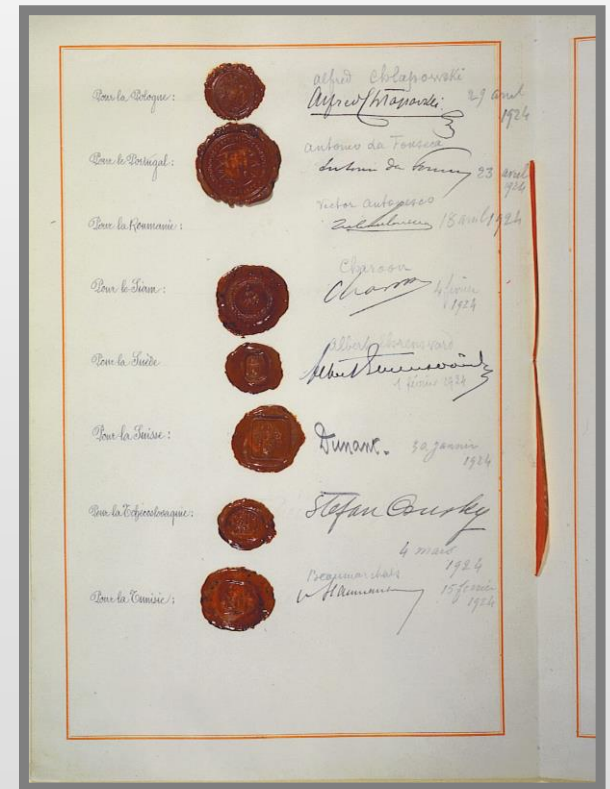
**A group of personalities attending the Conference of
1921
visit the Alfort Veterinary School**

- Forty-two States heeded the call. The Conference expressed the wish that an International Organisation in charge of the control of infectious diseases of animals should be created
- In less than three years, twenty-eight countries joined the project and an “International Agreement” was signed in Paris by their representatives on 28th January 1924.

The International Agreement for the creation of the OIE (Office international des épizooties) is signed in Paris on January 25, 1925 by 28 countries



Argentine Republic, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Denmark, **Egypt**, Spain, Finland, France, Great-Britain, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Italy, Luxemburg, **Morocco**, Mexico, the Principality of Monaco, the Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Siam, Sweden, Switzerland, Czechoslovak Republic and **Tunisia** signed the Agreement.



BULLETIN
DE L'OFFICE INTERNATIONAL DES ÉPIZOOTIES
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INTERNATIONAL OFFICE
OF EPIZOOTICS



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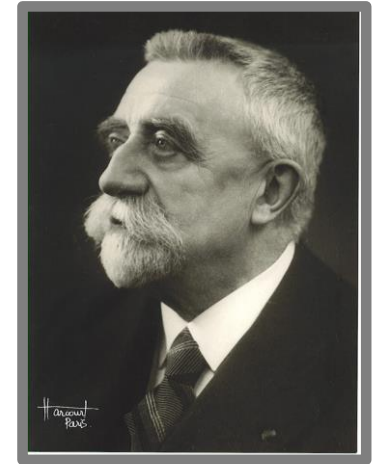
ORGANISATION INTERGOUVERNEMENTALE
CRÉÉE A PARIS PAR L'ARRANGEMENT INTERNATIONAL
DU 25 JANVIER 1924

Structure and working

Structure and composition of the OIE

- On 8 March 1927, the International Committee of the Office held its first General Session. Twenty-six Delegates participated.
- The Assembly elected Inspector General De Roo, Delegate of Belgium, as President and Professor Leclainche was appointed first Director of the Office.

E. Leclainche,
Director general
of the OIE from
March 1927 till
May 1949

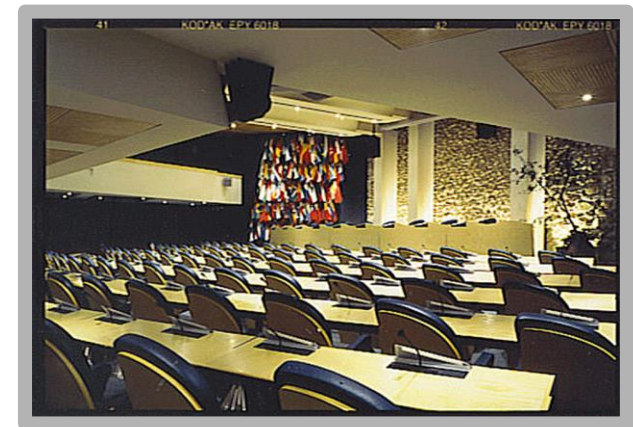


Inspector
General Henri
de Roo,
Delegate of
Belgium, first
President of
the OIE from
1927 to 1929



Working and composition of the OIE

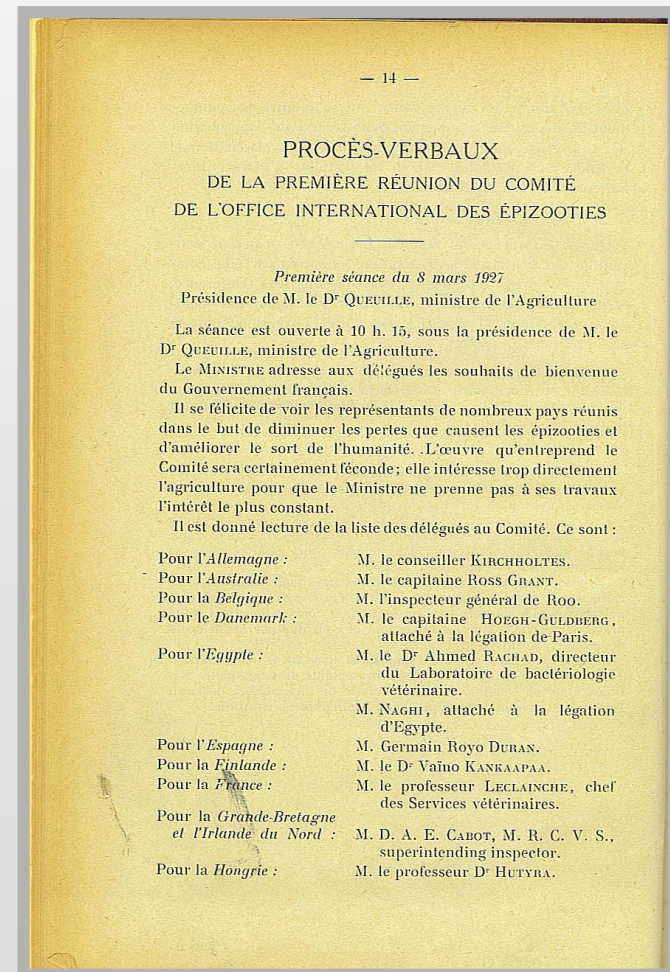
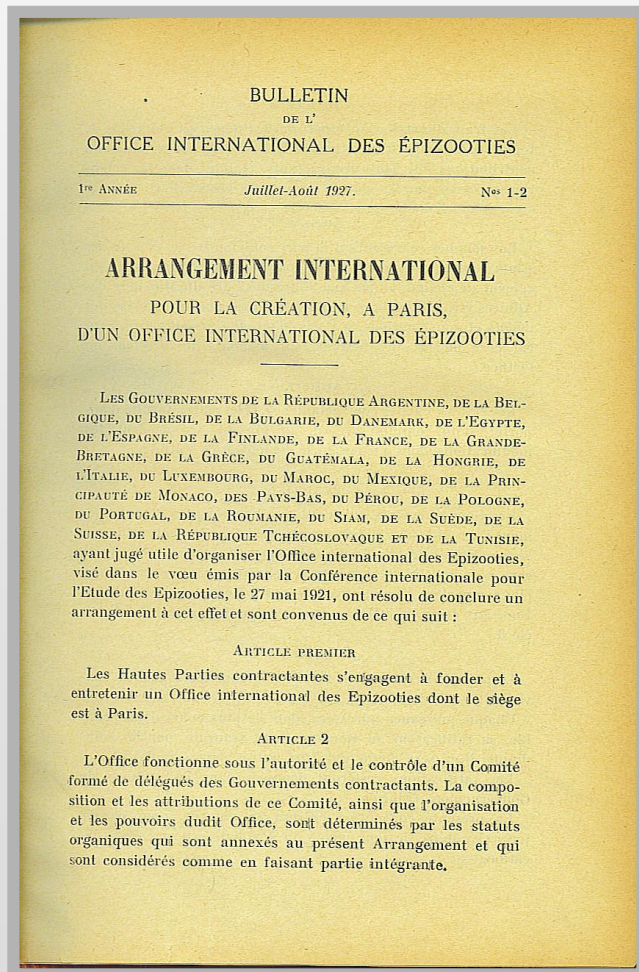
- Since its first General Session, held in Paris on 8 March 1927, the office carries on its work under the authority of a Committee (known as the International Committee) consisting of Delegates of the contracting Governments.
- The composition and prerogatives of this Committee, as well as the organisation and powers of the office, are determined by the Organic Statutes, attached to the Agreement and regarded as being an integral part of the Agreement.



Institutional independence of the OIE

- Because its creation dates back to the early 20th century, the OIE is one of the oldest existing Intergovernmental Organisations.
- It does not depend of the UN system, as the United Nations only officially came into existence on 24 October 1945, and this is a notable exception among the existing organisations of the same type.
- Its autonomy is institutional and financial. Its activities are governed by its own constitutional texts.
- Since its creation it has worked in close collaboration with the League of Nations.

The first issue published the text of the International Agreement for the creation of the Office and the minutes of the first meeting of its Committee



The OIE and the League of Nations

- On January 1928, the first Conference of the Economic Committee of the League of Nations met in Geneva with only eight veterinary experts experts.
- The third Conference, in 1929 categorised contagious diseases according to their seriousness. It also specified conditions for issuing sanitary certificates for international trade of animals and animal products.
- At the Conferences of 1931 and 1934, eleven experts failed to come to an agreement on sanitary certificates and had to submit the texts to the OIE.
- From then onwards the OIE was the internationally accepted institution to set international standards for animal health

League of Nations: A meeting in Switzerland in 1929

LE SENTIER (Vallée de Joux) Canton de Vaud, Suisse
2 juin 1929



Chaudet
Lausanne

Hamr
Prague

Bisanti
Rome

Müssemeier
Berlin

Jensen
Copenhagen

Kasper
Vienna

Bürgi
Bern

Loclairche
Paris

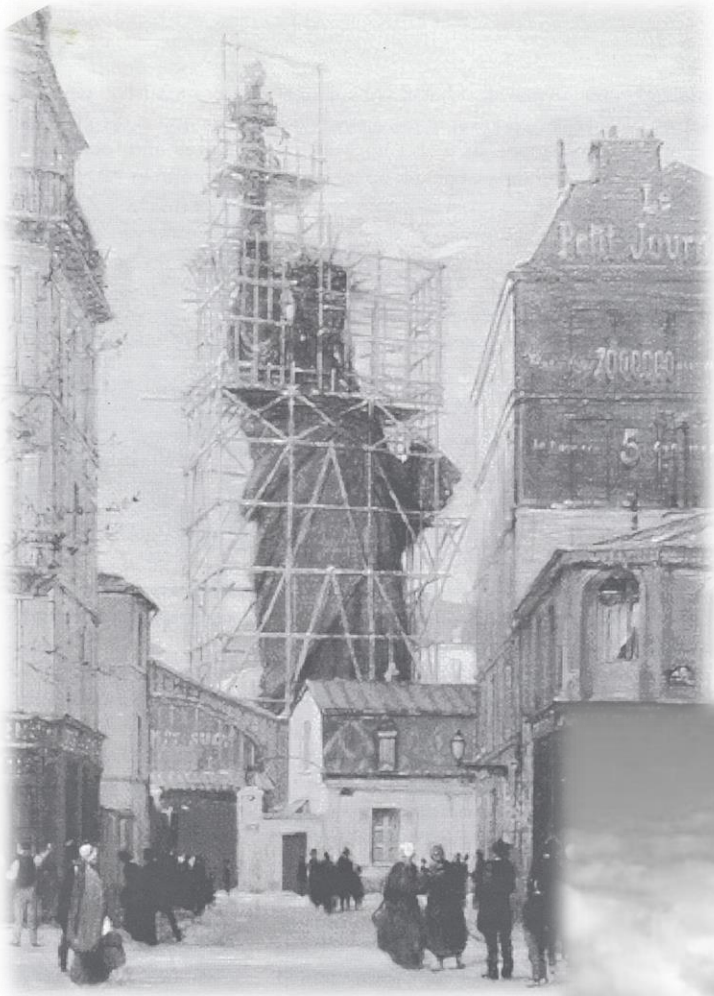
- During World War II, the activities of the Office slowed down.
- In 1942, under the German occupation of Paris, the idea of transferring the headquarters of the Office to Berlin (Germany) was raised. It was only the intervention of Dr G. Flückiger (Switzerland), acting President of the OIE International Committee, that prevented this plan from being carried out.

**The Hôtel de Prony –
official headquarters of
the OIE since 1939**



The OIE and the Statue of Liberty

The Statue of Liberty was built in Rue de Chazelles adjoining the current OIE headquarters at Parc Monceau and donated by France to the USA in 1884. Gustave Eiffel who built the Eiffel Tower, did the metal structure of the statue.



Attempts to dissolve the OIE

- The United Nations, which replaced the League of Nations in 1945, established two specialist Agencies the same year:
 - the World Health Organization (WHO) and
 - the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).
- Their aims partially covered those of the OIE. The presence of these two Agencies called the existence of the OIE into question and the possibility of simply dissolving the organisation was envisaged in 1946, and again in 1951.
- Due to the opposition of numerous OIE Member Countries and Delegates, the functions of the Office were kept alive.



A meeting in Madrid in 1951 – a fore runner for establishing the WVA



The OIE and the WTO (World Trade Organisation)

- Following official recognition of the OIE by the World Trade Organisation in 1994, as an international reference for safe trade in animals and animal products as regards risks due to animal diseases and zoonoses, the OIE has become a standard setting organisation in terms of the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary measures of the WTO.



International Relations

Institutional cooperation with 75 international and regional organisations notably the following:

- **WHO** World Health Organization
- **FAO** Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations
- **WTO** World Trade Organization
- **CAC** Codex Alimentarius Commission
- **WVA** World Veterinary Association
- **IPPC** International Plant Protection Convention
- **World Bank**
- **CABI** CAB International
- **ILRI** International Livestock Research Institute

The OIE and the WVA

- OIE is an international intergovernmental institution since 1924
- WVA is an international association of veterinary associations since 1959
- OIE has a mandate in terms of the SPS Agreement of the WTO
- OIE and WVA has signed agreement of cooperation (signed in 2002 and again in 2015)
- Support mutual policies such as on AMR



Organisation Mondiale de la Santé Animale
World Organisation for Animal Health
Organización Mundial de Sanidad Animal

Involvement of countries in Africa with OIE

- Only 3 African countries joined the OIE in 1924
- Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt
- The remainder were represented by their Colonial “mother” country
- Africa countries were thus practically excluded from the OIE decision-making process



OIE member countries in southern Africa

- Most countries in southern Africa became members of the OIE only after independence
- Only exception is South Africa (then the Union of South Africa) who became a member in 1936) and re-confirmed in 1963 after independence
- Botswana (1968); Lesotho (1984); Mozambique (1949); Swaziland (1970); Zimbabwe (1961) and Namibia (1990)



LISTE

des Pays participant à l'Office International des Épizooties

AFRIQUE OCCIDENTALE
FRANÇAISE.
ALBANIE.
ALLEMAGNE.
ARGENTINE (République).
AUSTRALIE.
AUTRICHE.
BELGIQUE.
BULGARIE.
CHYPRE.
DANEMARK.
EGYPTE.
EIRE.
ESPAGNE.
FINLANDE.
FRANCE.
GRANDE-BRETAGNE.
GRÈCE.
HONGRIE.
INDES BRITANNIQUES.
INDOCHINE.
IRAK.
ITALIE.

JAPON.
LITHUANIE.
LUXEMBOURG (Gd-Duché de).
MADAGASCAR.
MAROC.
MONACO (Principauté de).
NOUVELLE-ZÉLANDE.
PALESTINE.
PAYS-BAS.
POLOGNE.
PORTUGAL.
ROUMANIE.
RUSSIE (U.R.S.S.).
SIAM
SUÈDE.
SUISSE.
TCHÉCOSLOVAQUIE.
TUNISIE.
TURQUIE.
UNION SUD-AFRICAINE
URUGUAY.
YOUgoslavie.

*Adresser toutes les communications à l'OFFICE INTERNATIONAL
DES ÉPIZOOTIES, 9, avenue Emile-Acollas, Paris (VII^e).*

BULLETIN
de l'OFFICE INTERNATIONAL des ÉPIZOOTIES
VOLUME XVI
Mai-Juin 1938

DOUZIEME SESSION DU COMITÉ DE l'OFFICE INTERNATIONAL des ÉPIZOOTIES (24 au 28 mai 1938)

I. — RAPPORTS

La situation sanitaire en 1937

par

M. E. LECLAINGHE

Directeur de l'Office International des Épizooties

L'année 1937 est marquée, en Europe, par une invasion aphteuse, tout imprévue, qui a progressé au cours du second semestre et qui était en pleine évolution à la fin de l'année.

Rien de particulier en ce qui concerne les contagions permanentes. Il est regrettable que les maladies qui préoccupent au plus haut point l'opinion comme la tuberculose, la maladie de Bang, les mammites ne donnent point lieu à l'établissement de statistiques dans tous les pays.

*
**

FIÈVRE APHTEUSE

L'année débute dans les conditions les plus favorables. La fièvre aphteuse rétrocede depuis plusieurs années et l'année 1936 a été très calme. La plupart des pays d'Europe sont res-

Vaccination CBPP in Togo



OIE Assistance in Africa



Tick control in Kenya



Several other initiatives by the OIE in Africa to assist improvement of Veterinary Services

- PVS (Performance of Veterinary Services) missions
- Follow-up PVS missions
- Assistance with improvement of legislation
- Assistance with improvement of laboratory services
- Missions to assess and advise on disease control
- Applying One-Health concept
- Antimicrobial resistance initiatives together with WHO and WVA

Recognition of official disease status

Goal:

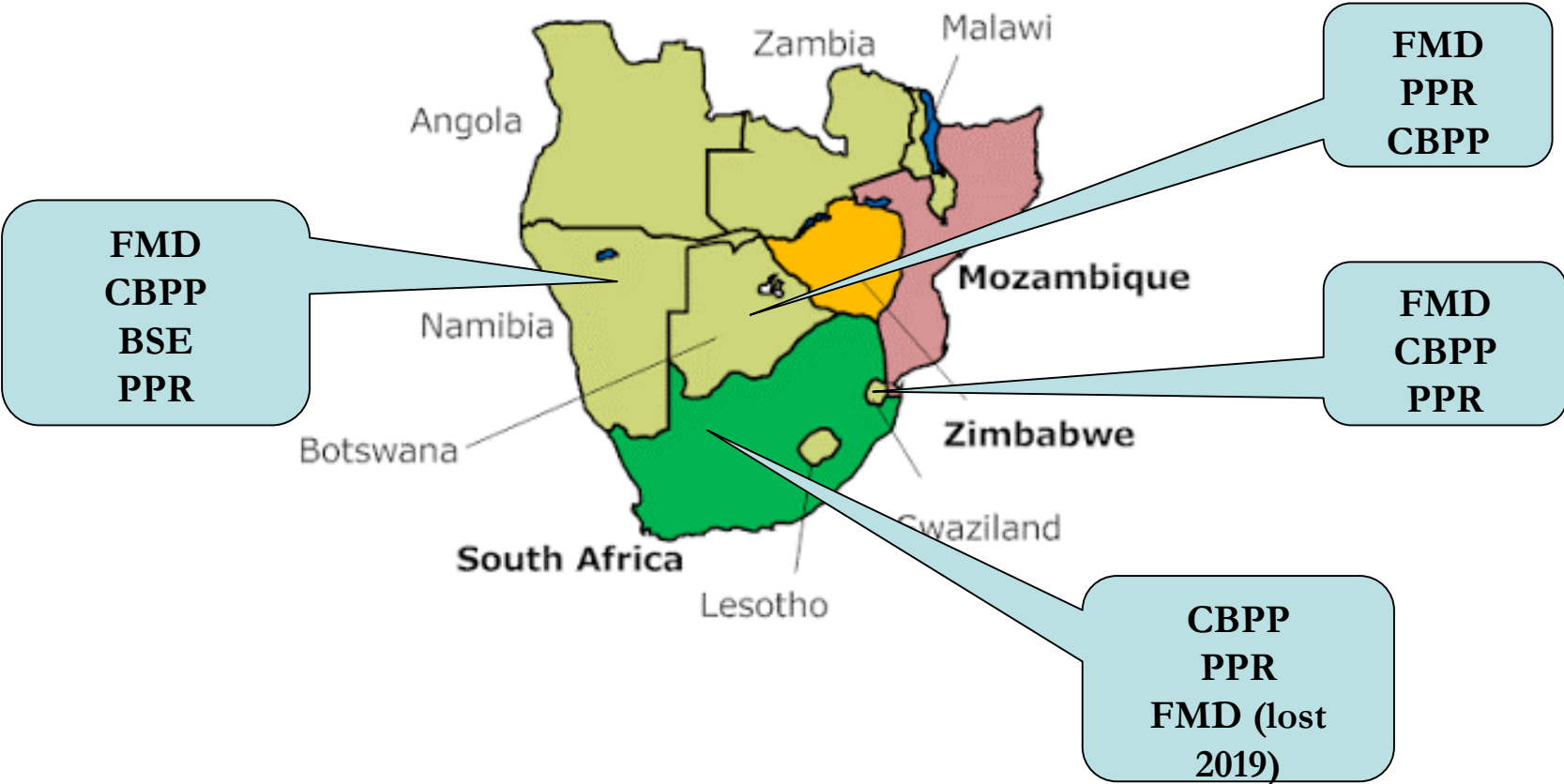
- Promote Veterinary Services
- Protect animal (and human) health in international trade
- Facilitate trade

The International Committee adopted that OIE shall officially recognise disease status (countries, zones) for currently 6 diseases

FMD	RP	CBPP	BSE	AHS	PPR
1996	2000	2003	2004	2007	2009

OIE Disease freedom in southern Africa

Southern Africa





Thank you for your
attention