



World
Organisation
for Animal
Health

Organisation
mondiale
de la santé
animale

Organización
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de Sanidad
Animal



The Director General
Ref. DGN021/2026

Paris, 26 January 2026

Dr. Wen-Jane Tu
Deputy Minister of Agriculture, CVO
Ministry of Agriculture
CHINESE TAIPEI
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Subject: 93rd General Session of the World Assembly of Delegates of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) – 18 - 22 May 2026, Paris (France)

Dear Delegate,

On behalf of Dr Susana Pombo (Portugal), President of the World Assembly of Delegates¹ of the **World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH)**, I have the honour to invite you to participate in the **93rd General Session of the World Assembly of Delegates**. The event will be held **in person in Paris**, from **Monday 18 to Friday 22 May 2026**, at the **CNIT Forest – 2 Place de la Défense, 92092 Puteaux**.

The General Session is WOAH's most important institutional event. It will provide an opportunity to:

- Adopt international standards,
- Discuss technical topics of global interest,
- Adopt administrative and technical resolutions, including the 8th Strategic Plan,
- Examine and approve various report, and
- Where applicable, proceed with the election of vacant positions within certain governance bodies.

Animal Health Forum

As part of the General Session, WOAH will organise a Forum on the theme: ***'Investing in Animal Health to Secure Everyone's Future'***.

This Forum will highlight the strategic role of animal health in economic stability, food security and global health resilience. It will explore solutions ranging from national resources prioritisation and innovative financial partnerships to private sector engagement and research-based innovation.

Participation and Delegation

As the officially designated permanent representative to WOAH, you are the only individual authorised to vote at the World Assembly, including voting on resolutions and participating in elections. Thus, in line with the principle of **"one Member, one vote"**, your participation is essential to ensure quorum and to ensure that your voice contributes to decisions shaping the future of global animal health.

However, you may appoint an Alternate Delegate.

¹ The Assembly is composed of the official representatives of the 183 Members of the World Organisation for Animal Health.



Alternate Delegate Nomination

The designation of an Alternate Delegate is strongly recommended.

- **If you are unable to attend** the General Session in person, the Alternate Delegate may replace you and exercise all associated responsibilities, ensuring that your Member's statutory obligations are fulfilled.
- **If you are present**, the Alternate Delegate remains essential to support your delegation and ensure continuous representation throughout the week, for example by attending overlapping sessions, covering parallel meetings, or representing you during unforeseen absences.

To appoint an Alternate Delegate, you need to download the official form available in the documents section on your delegation account. Please send the filled form to gs@woah.org

In addition, you may be accompanied by a delegation that you are invited to appoint using your delegation account on the General Session platform. You will receive a separated email with instructions to access your account in the coming days. The platform will also allow you to confirm your personal details, check the programme (once available) and access all useful information and documents regarding the event. Please note that the registration will close on **May 3rd, 2026**.

WOAH will cover the registration fee **for you, as Delegate, and up to seven delegation members**. Any additional accompanying persons will be subject to a registration fee of 460 euros. You are welcome to determine the composition of your delegation, taking into account the institutional nature of the General Session and the relevance of participants from WOAH national networks, such as Focal Points, Reference Laboratories, and Collaborating Centres.

Programme and Interpretation

The General Session will be conducted with **simultaneous interpretation in English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, and Russian**.

The provisional programme and working documents will be made available on the dedicated [WOAH General Session webpage](#).

Information Webinars

I am also pleased to inform you that **three Information Webinars** on standards to be proposed for adoption will be held in virtual mode. These webinars will allow the Presidents of the Specialist Commissions to present information on the standards to be submitted for adoption at the 93rd General Session. They will take place as follows:

- Terrestrial Manual (BSC): **21 April 2026, 12.00pm-2.00pm (CET), Emmanuel Couacy-Hymann**
- Terrestrial Code (TCC, SCAD): **22 April 2026, 12.00pm-2.00pm (CET), Etienne Bonbon (TCC), Naomi Cogger (SCAD)**
- Aquatic Code and Aquatic Manual (AAC): **23 April 2026, 12.00pm-2.00pm (CET), Alicia Gallardo Lagno (AAC)**

Each webinar will have a duration of maximum two hours and will be conducted with **simultaneous interpretation in English, French and Spanish**.



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Regional Commissions' meetings

Before the General Session, Regional Commission's meetings will also be held virtually. They will take place as follows (time in CET):

- **5 May, 7.00 am to 10.00 am** - Regional Commission Meeting for **Asia and the Pacific**
- **5 May, 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm** - Regional Commission Meeting for **Africa**
- **6 May, 10.00 am to 1.00 pm** - Regional Commission Meeting for the **Middle East**
- **6 May, 4.00 pm to 7.00 pm** - Regional Commission Meeting for the **Americas**
- **7 May, 10.00 am to 1.00 pm** - Regional Commission Meeting for **Europe**

For any information or questions regarding the General Session, please contact gs@woah.org.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Emmanuelle Soubeyran