WHO WILL PARTICIPATE?

OIE National Delegates and National Focal Points for Aquatic Animals, other national government representatives, representatives of OIE Reference Centres, representatives of relevant International Organisations and international and national private sector representatives.

Around 300 participants are expected.

WHEN AND WHERE?

2–4 April 2019
Crowne Plaza Hotel Santiago
Hotelera Alameda SPA, Av. Libertador Bdo. O'Higgins 136
Santiago | 6513491 | Chile

HOW CAN YOU PARTICIPATE?

The Conference will be by invitation but will also include a limited number of places for interested individuals depending on space available. Please register on the Conference site at www.oie.int/aquatic-conference2019

FOLLOW THE CONFERENCE

Via social media #OIEAquatic2019
Via the dedicated website www.oie.int/aquatic-conference2019

The scientific programme of the conference will be posted on the Conference website at www.oie.int/aquatic-conference2019

For any question on conference logistics, please contact:
events_secretariat@oie.int

The OIE would like to thank the Government of Chile for its significant support in organising this conference.

WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH
Protecting animals, preserving our future

OIE GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON AQUATIC ANIMAL HEALTH

COLLABORATION, SUSTAINABILITY: OUR FUTURE

SANTIAGO, CHILE, 2-4 APRIL 2019

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WHY?

Aquaculture is recognised as the fastest-growing food-animal production sector in the world, with nearly 50% of the global supply of aquatic animals for human consumption now derived from aquaculture. Recent projections indicate that to satisfy the growing global demand for aquatic food, by the year 2030, global aquatic food production will have to double, with the majority coming from aquaculture.

However, aquatic animal disease outbreaks continue to cause significant losses in aquaculture production throughout the world and are having a major detrimental impact on national economies in some countries and regions. These disease outbreaks threaten to limit the sustainability of this rapidly expanding sector unless the governance of Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services is strengthened so that effective aquatic animal health policies and programmes complying with OIE Standards are implemented to prevent or control these disease outbreaks.

A very high proportion of aquatic animal production is traded internationally, accounting for **10% of total global agricultural exports.** Because of the rapid growth in aquaculture worldwide and the disease risks associated with the increasingly globalised trade in live aquatic animals and their products, OIE activities and standards are important and relevant to all regions.

Effective implementation of OIE Standards will contribute to ensuring a sustainable sector that can provide a key source of high quality animal protein for the growing human population.

This conference will be relevant for **countries with developed or developing aquaculture industries;** will be relevant to the **day-to-day challenges faced by participants** in managing aquatic animal health, implementing OIE Standards and facilitating trade; and will provide **a format that engages audience participation.**

WHAT IT WILL COVER?

The Conference will highlight **the critical contribution of aquatic animal health programmes to improving aquaculture productivity and sustainability,** and consequently **the availability of high quality protein to feed the world.** The conference will raise awareness of the need for good governance of Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services, including both governmental and private sectors, promoting collaboration between veterinarians, aquatic animal health professionals, and other partners in assuring safe and sustainable aquaculture production.

The Conference programme will focus on four key themes:

1 MANAGING TRANSBOUNDARY AND EMERGING DISEASES

Diseases emerge regularly in aquaculture and many have catastrophic impacts on aquaculture, fisheries or the environment. Managing emerging diseases presents particular challenges due to a lack of understanding about their epidemiology, and potential impacts; a lack of diagnostic tests and treatment tools; and the need to make management decisions despite these limitations in knowledge. In recent decades the global performance in managing these diseases has been poor, with numerous outbreaks spreading internationally.

This session will address the threat of aquatic animal diseases; drivers of emerging diseases; routes of spread and impacts of disease; and improved approaches to emerging disease response.

2 SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION OF OIE INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

This session will provide an overview of recent updates of the *OIE Aquatic Code* and *Aquatic Manual* and future directions, as well as highlight the importance of implementing these provisions to prevent the spread of transboundary aquatic animal diseases.

3 BIOSECURITY FOR AQUA-CULTURE ESTABLISHMENTS

OIE Member Countries have requested that guidance on biosecurity be provided in the *Aquatic Code* to support disease control but also to underpin other OIE Standards. Implementation of biosecurity standards is most effectively achieved through public private partnerships, reflecting the shared responsibility for management of transboundary diseases.

This session will improve understanding of risk based approaches to biosecurity that can be applied at different scales and to different systems; present OIE guidance on biosecurity and present examples of the application of biosecurity to ensure safe trade.

4 ADVANCES IN DISEASE MANAGEMENT

New technologies are developing rapidly and many are likely to provide advances in the management of aquatic animal health.

This session will explore new approaches and tools for the prevention and control of aquatic animal diseases including strategies to reduce the use of antimicrobial agents, tools for surveillance, diagnostics and communication; and how new technologies are being used and may be used in the future.