



WEBINAR ON BIOSAFETY AND BIOSECURITY

Over the past years, a broad spectrum of pathogenic agents, as bacteria, fungi, viruses, parasites, or genetically modified organisms, gained a substantial concern due to their profound biological and ecological risks, as well as some could be used as weapons of bioterrorism. **Laboratory researchers, veterinary facilities workers, health care practitioners and stockholders are at high risk of being exposed to such hazardous agents.**

A growing attention is given to biosafety and containment of infectious agents due to potentiality for bioterrorism and accidental escape of pandemic pathogens, particularly after the 2014 Ebola outbreak and extensive documentation of numerous cases of acquired infections causing disease and mortality among human and animal health professionals, and researchers.

Biosafety and Biosecurity are of vital importance, since it is responsible for protecting human, livestock, and environment, as well as aquaculture from accidental or intentional exposure to infectious pathogens. Biosafety and/or Biosecurity concepts comprise on numerous strategic measures that may overlap each other but have same target; safe handling and containment of infectious microorganisms and hazardous biological materials.

There is increasing request among the global general public and scientific community for need to frequent serious training of animal and human health employers and stockholders. In addition, workshops are asked to be organized to let them know the epidemiology, pathogenicity, and human susceptibility of acquired infections.

Our organized webinar represents a great occasion and opportunity for participants from Mediterranean countries to gather much information and knowledge in this concern. As well as it will offer the chance for direct communication with some of the most global experts for biosafety and biosecurity procedures and recent approaches and recommendations in various sectors as livestock, aquaculture and environment.

19th June 2023 | 10.00 - 14.00 (CET)

Language: English and French

Scientific Responsible: Cristina Casalone Scientific Director – STOR office, Palermo

PROGRAMME

10.00 – 10.20

WELCOME

Rachid Bouguedour (WOAH SRR-NA)

Mohammed Bengoumi (FAO SRR-NA)

Cristina Casalone (STOR-REMESA)

CHAIRPERSONS

Silvia Bellini
Head of the unit surveillance & control. IZSLER

Thomas Binz, PhD
Federal Office of Public Health -Switzerland



10.20 – 10.40

BIO SAFETY AND BIOSECURITY: THE INTERNATIONAL EXPERT GROUP OF BIOSAFETY AND BIOSECURITY REGULATORS

Thomas Binz, PhD

Federal Office of Public Health – Switzerland



10.40 – 11.00

SUSTAINABLE NATIONAL VETERINARY LABORATORY NETWORKS FOR IMPROVED BIOSAFETY AND BIOSECURITY

Jennifer Lasley, MPH

Senior Programme Coordinator, PVS Pathway and WHO/IHR Connections



11.00 – 11.20

BIOSECURITY AND WOAHS INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS AS A TOOL FOR DISEASE MANAGEMENT IN LIVESTOCK

Silvia Bellini

Head of the unit surveillance & control. IZSLER



12.00 – 12.20

NEW ANALYTICAL TOOLS FOR THE QUANTIFICATION OF BIOSECURITY MEASURES AND RISK PROFILING: CASE STUDY OF MARINE AQUACULTURE IN NORTH AFRICA

Nadia Chérif
INSTM



11.20 – 12.00 COFFEE BREAK



12.20 – 12.40

BIOSECURITY AND BIOSAFETY IN CASE OF ARBOVIROSIS

Daniela Morelli
Head of Italian National Reference Centre for the exotic diseases of animals, IZSAM



12.40 – 13.00

ENVIRONMENTAL BIOSECURITY: DETECTION OF BACILLUS ANTHRACIS SPORES FROM SOIL AND WATER TO EVALUATE THE LEVEL OF CONTAMINATION

Domenico Galante
Director of the Italian National Reference Centre for Anthrax, IZSPB



13.20 - CLOSURE OF THE WEBINAR



Thomas Binz, PhD

He studied biology at the university of Fribourg, Switzerland, and specialized in microbiology during his diploma and PhD thesis. During a postdoctoral research period he specialized in microbial molecular genetics. Since 2002, he is leading the biosafety section at the Swiss Federal Office of Public Health which is responsible for the oversight of biological agents in laboratories and which issues biosafety regulations. He is active in the field of laboratory biosafety where he is involved in the scientific evaluation of the risk assessment and safety measures for work with pathogenic and genetically modified organisms. Furthermore, he is assessing the biosafety of gene therapy. He is, since its foundation in 2007, a member of the International Expert Group for Biosafety and Biosecurity Regulation (IEGBBR).

Jennifer Lasley

She started as an analyst at the National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases - Atlanta, United States. In 2008 she was the Chef de Projet of the Unit of Pharmacology of Anti-Infectious Agents, French Institute of Health and Medical Research. After this experience, she joined the Preparedness and Resilience Department of the WOA first as project manager, and later as Chargee de Mission and Manager. She is currently Senior Programme Coordinator, PVS Pathway and WHO/IHR Connections – Capacity-Building Department.

For further informations please write to:
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Silvia Bellini

She started as an Assistant Veterinarian at National Reference Centre for Epidemiology, working on the management of national eradication plans and on the implementation of a national geographically information system to use in case of epidemic emergency. She was in the European Commission DGSANCO in charge of the dossiers on pig diseases. From May 2002 to September 2010, she was the head of the Units: 1) Lombardy Region Epidemiological Unit, and 2) Responsible for the management of the surveillance and eradication activities of the “National Reference Centre for Vesicular Diseases at IZSLER. Since May 2015, she is a Member of the OIE Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases for Animal Health (SCAD) of the OIE. Now the Responsible of the Unit Epidemiological Surveillance of the IZSLER.

Nadia Chérif

Researcher at the National Institute of Sea Sciences and Technologies (INSTM) of Tunisia and chief of the fish and shellfish viral diagnostic unit. Member of the World Association of Aquaculture (WAS)- African Chapter and Member of the Animal Health Expert Comite of the National Center for Zoosanitary Surveillance. Essential function includes customized support through punctual technical services to solve case by case problems or unexplained mortalities. In addition, the team guarantee regular survey and evaluation of the zoo-sanitary situation of the partner farms and assist them in putting prophylactic practices in term of biosecurity measures and supporting the integration of the public private partnership (PPP) initiative in order to strengthen the role of veterinary services in the aquaculture sector.

Daniela Morelli

Since March 2017 head of the Italian National Reference Centre for the exotic diseases of animals (CESME). She coordinates the activities, including research, aimed at the diagnosis, preparation of emergency plans, surveillance plans and operational protocols for prevention and control of exotic diseases already present in Italy and those at risk of introduction.

Since 1990 she has been engaged in the research and development of information systems for the management and governance of veterinary activities. Contact person of World Health Organization Collaborating Center for Research and Training in Veterinary Epidemiology and Management, in collaboration with WHO/Mediterranean Zoonoses Control Center (MZCC), she planned and managed numerous training courses on development and strengthening epidemiological surveillance systems for zoonoses in the Mediterranean Countries.

Domenico Galante

Veterinary Director of the Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale della Puglia e della Basilicata, based in Foggia, which is also the Italian National Reference Centre for Anthrax. His professional activity is mainly based on the diagnosis and molecular characterization of highly pathogenic bacteria, in particular Bacillus anthracis, and other zoonotic agents, on the production of the Sterne vaccine against anthrax and stabulogenic vaccines as well as on MALDI-TOF mass spectrometry. He has also acquired considerable experience in the diagnosis and genetic characterization of SARS-CoV-2 in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic. He participates as coordinator and/or operational unit in various research and cooperation projects at national and international level, also carrying out training activities. He is co-author of over 40 articles published on peer reviewed international journals with impact factor, of numerous scientific contributions at national and international congresses, and is referee for many scientific journals.