

# **Harmonized international guidelines and policies for rabies control/elimination**

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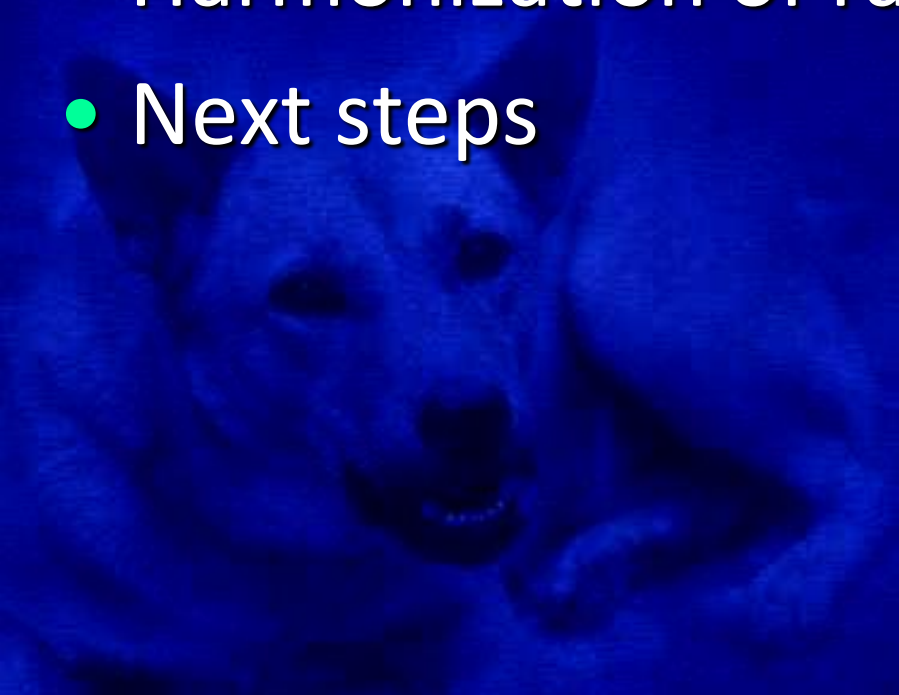
Scientist

International Health and Regulations  
WHO Regional Office for South East Asia



# Outlines

- Introduction
- International standard setting organizations
- International partnership
- Harmonization of rabies control programme
- Next steps



# Introduction

- **Dog-mediated rabies** is a problem in Asia, Africa and part of Europe
- **Dog** is primarily responsible for transmitting rabies to humans and domestic animals
- **Dog bite** is primary cause for PEP
- Different organizations and professional groups are involved in rabies control/elimination and **multisectoral coordination** is crucial
- **Harmonization** of international guidelines and policies is needed for rabies control/elimination

# Rabies is neglected!

Dog rabies is  
not our  
concern!

Public is not  
interested!

Rabies is  
human  
concern but  
not livestock!

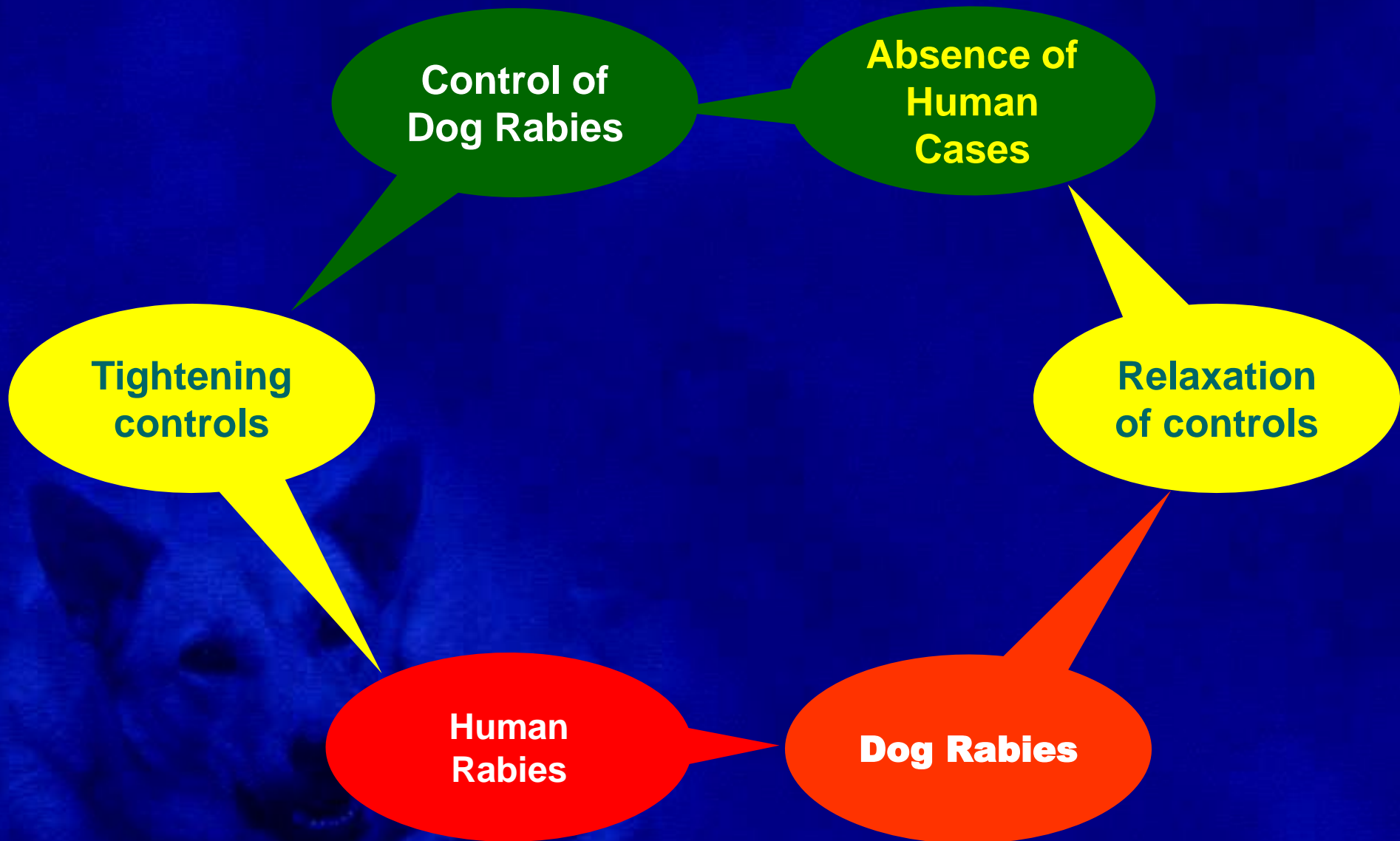
Multisectoral  
coordination  
and  
collaboration  
is needed  
which is not  
easy!

Catching stray  
dog is a problem!

Animal birth  
control is not  
effective!

We have  
no  
budget to  
vaccinate  
dogs!

# Beware! Never ending GAME???



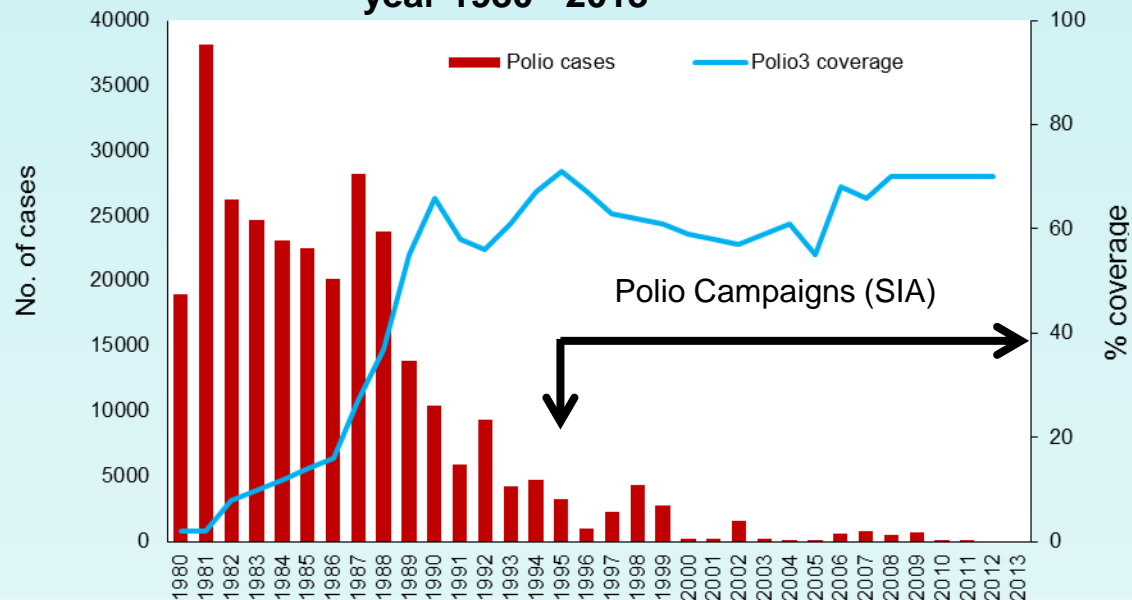


# Why rabies elimination!

- Increased **awareness** at policy, professional and public levels
- New **technological advancement**
  - Cost-effectiveness and compliance
  - Alternate to HRIG
  - Vaccine delivery
  - Diagnostic tool
  - Animal birth control
- Involvement of **Regional organizations and international partners** in dog rabies control and dog population management
- Model for operationalization of the '**One Health**'



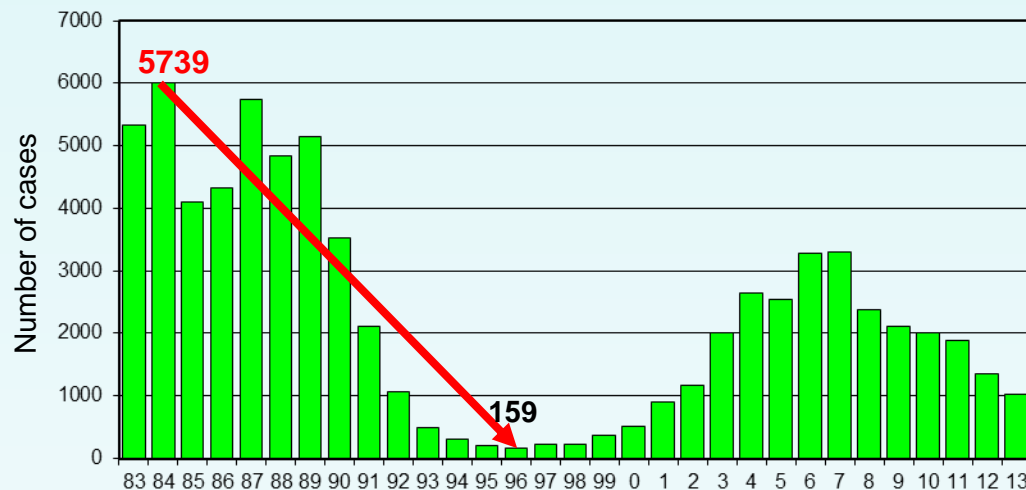
## Polio Cases and Estimated Polio3 Coverage, India by year 1980 - 2013



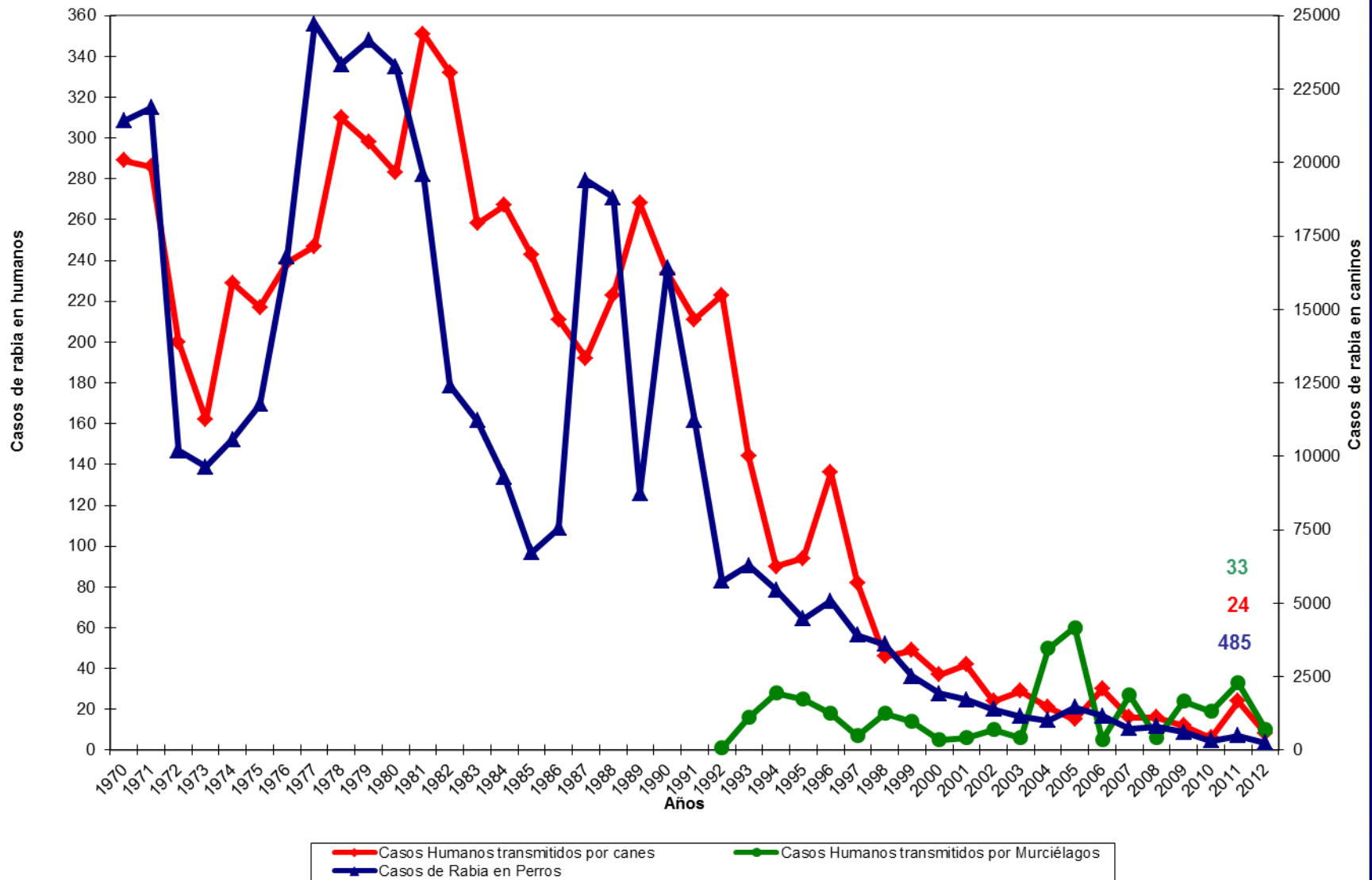
**Rabies elimination –  
an achievable  
target!**

WHO/UNICEF estimated coverage and WHO Vaccine-preventable disease: monitoring system 2013 global summary.

## Trend of human rabies, China by Year 1983-2013



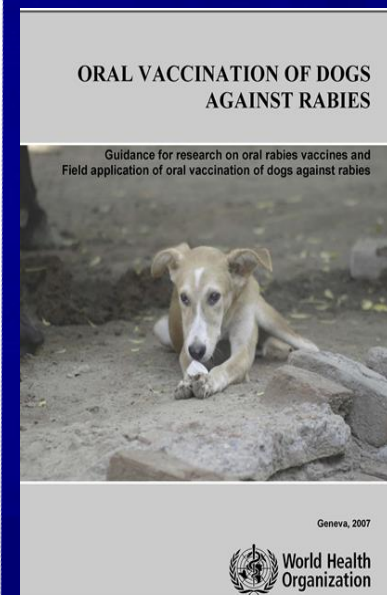
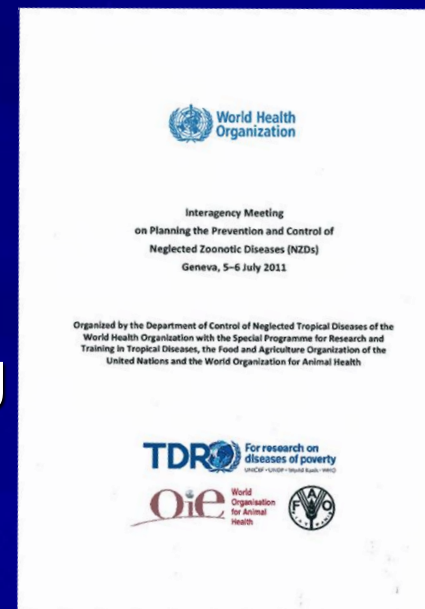
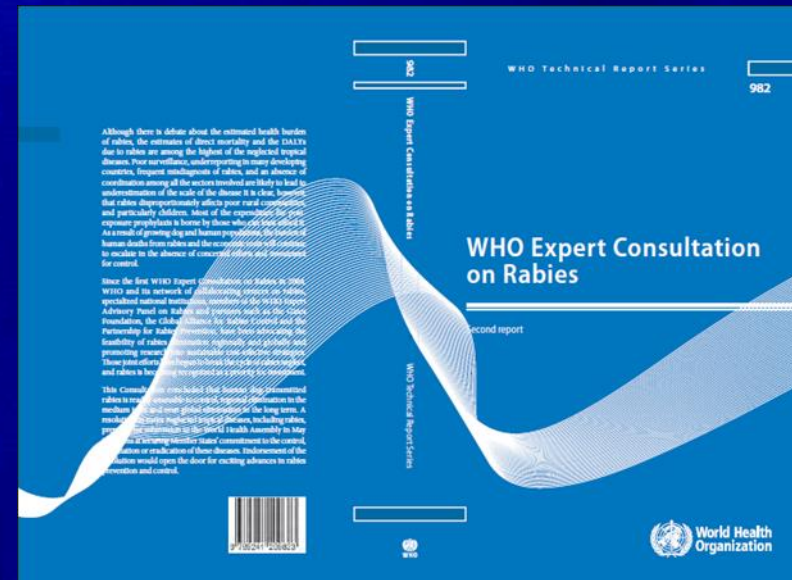
# Trend of human, dog and bat rabies in Latin America





# World Health Organization

- Developing **global guidelines and standards** for Region and Member States' consideration and adaptation
- Collecting, processing and mapping **rabies data** globally
- Advocating for **rabies prevention and control**
- Supporting the development of **regional strategies and initiatives**
- The network of WHO Collaborating Centres for **Reference and Research on Rabies**



# Latest WHO recommendations on rabies vaccines and their use for rabies pre and post-exposure prophylaxis: WHO position paper on rabies vaccines WER, 2010, 85, pp 309-320

2010, 85, 309-320



World Health  
Organization

Organisation mondiale de la Santé

## Weekly epidemiological record Relevé épidémiologique hebdomadaire

6 AUGUST 2010, 85th YEAR / 6 AOÛT 2010, 85<sup>e</sup> ANNÉE  
No. 32, 2010, 85, 309-320  
<http://www.who.int/wer>

### Contents

309 Rabies vaccines:  
WHO position paper

### Sommaire

309 Vaccins antirabiques:  
note d'information de l'OMS

### Rabies vaccines: WHO position paper

In accordance with its mandate to provide guidance to Member States on health-policy matters, WHO issues a series of regularly updated position papers on vaccines and combinations of vaccines against diseases that have an international public health impact. These papers are concerned primarily with the use of vaccines in large-scale immunization programmes; they summarize essential background information on diseases and vaccines, and conclude with the current WHO position on the use of vaccines in the global context. The papers have been reviewed by a number of experts within and outside WHO, and since 2006 they have been reviewed and endorsed by the WHO Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization. The position papers are designed for use mainly by national public health officials and managers of immunization programmes. However, they may also be of interest to international funding agencies, the vaccine manufacturing industry, the medical community, scientific media and the public.

This article incorporates the most recent developments in the field of human rabies vaccines, in particular with regard to immunization schedules, and replaces the position paper on rabies vaccines published in the *Weekly Epidemiological Record* in December 2007. Footnotes provide a limited number of core references; abstracts of these references as well as a more comprehensive list of references can be found at <http://www.who.int/immunization/documents/positionpapers/en/index.html>.

Grading tables that assess the quality of scientific evidence for key conclusions are also available through this link and are referenced in the position paper.

### Background

#### Epidemiology

Rabies is a viral zoonosis that occurs in >100 countries and territories. Although a number of carnivores and bat species serve

### Vaccins antirabiques: note d'information de l'OMS

Conformément à son mandat qui prévoit l'établissement de recommandations destinées aux États Membres sur les questions de politique sanitaire, l'OMS publie une série de notes d'information régulièrement actualisées sur les vaccins et associations vaccinales contre les maladies ayant un impact sur la santé publique au niveau international. Ces notes d'information, qui portent avant tout sur l'utilisation des vaccins dans le cadre de programmes de vaccination à grande échelle, résument les données générales essentielles sur les maladies et les vaccins correspondants et donnent en conclusion la position actuelle de l'OMS concernant leur utilisation dans le cadre mondial. Ces notes sont soumises à un certain nombre d'experts à l'intérieur et à l'extérieur de l'OMS et, depuis avril 2006, ont été examinées et approuvées par le groupe stratégique consultatif d'experts (SAGE) de l'OMS sur la vaccination. Principalement destinées aux responsables nationaux de la santé publique et de programmes de vaccination, ces notes d'information peuvent également être utiles aux organismes internationaux de financement, aux fabricants de vaccins, aux membres des professions médicales, aux médias scientifiques et au grand public.

Le présent article intègre les évolutions les plus récentes dans le domaine des vaccins antirabiques humains, et notamment celles ayant trait aux schémas de vaccination, et remplace la note d'information sur les vaccins antirabiques publiée dans le *Bulletin épidémiologique hebdomadaire* de décembre 2007. Les notes de bas de page renvoient à un nombre restreint de références principales; le lecteur trouvera un résumé de ces références, ainsi qu'une liste de références plus complète à l'adresse <http://www.who.int/immunization/documents/positionpapers/en/index.html>.

Ce lien permet aussi d'accéder à des tableaux de cotation qui évaluent la qualité des preuves scientifiques étayant les principales conclusions et sont cités en référence dans la présente note d'information.

### Généralités

#### Épidémiologie

La rage est une zoonose virale qui sévit dans >100 pays et territoires. Si nombre d'espèces de carnivores et de chauves-souris servent de réservoirs

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# Vision of the world of rabies by 2020

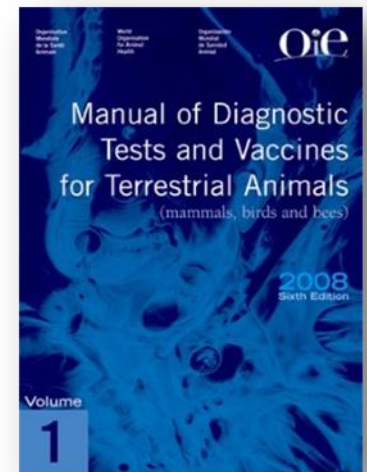
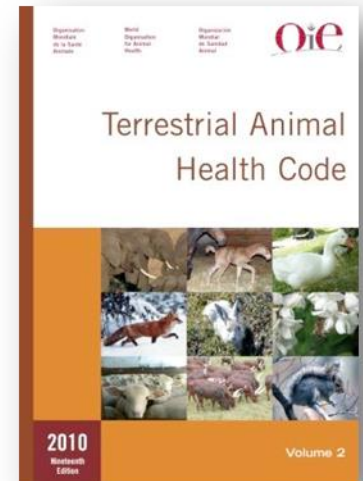
Objective	2015	2020
Reduce the burden of human dog mediated rabies	In western Europe: Freedom from carnivore rabies maintained	Western Europe remains free of terrestrial rabies
	In Latin America: Human and dog rabies eliminated	Human and dog rabies free status maintained and incidence of human bat-mediated rabies reduced in Latin America
	In WHO South-East Asia and Western Pacific regions: Coordinated regional programmes established	Human rabies eliminated in the SEA Region and endemic countries of WP Region and sustainability ensured



# World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)

Standard setting organization for animal health, trade and animal welfare

- Dog rabies control
- International movement of animals
- Prescribed and alternative rabies diagnostic tests
- Veterinary vaccine quality
- Stray dog population control
- Declaration of rabies free status





# Global Conference on Rabies Control

## Towards Sustainable Prevention at the Source

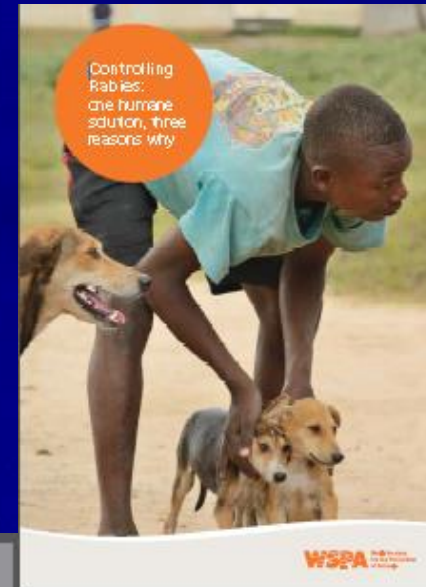
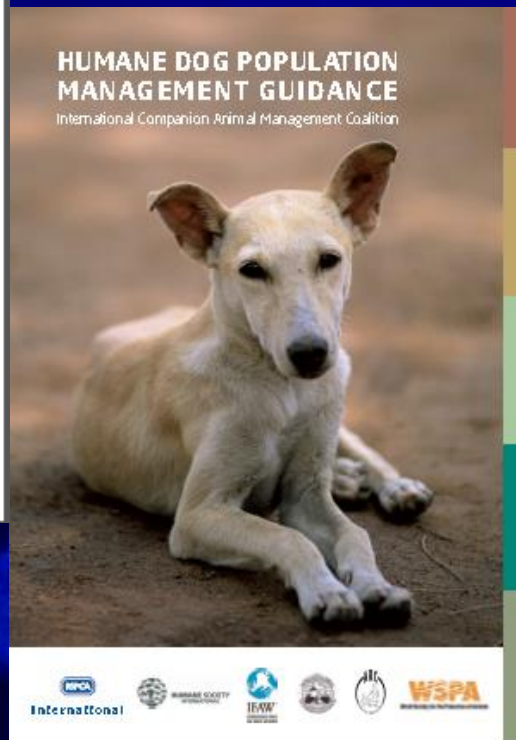
Incheon-Seoul (Republic of Korea), 7-9 September 2011



- A **global platform** to encourage exchanges of experiences on rabies prevention and control
- Control and **elimination of rabies at the source**
- **Intersectoral collaboration** for rabies control
- **Control strategies** be continuously **reviewed** and adapted
- Establishment of regional **vaccine banks** for dog vaccination
- Rabies control be considered as a **global public good**



# World Animal Protection



<http://www.icam-coalition.org/downloads/WHO-WSPA%20dog%20population%20management.pdf>

# Global Alliance for Rabies Control

- Global Alliance for Rabies Control and Partners for Rabies Prevention  
(FAO, OIE and WHO are active members)

- Rabies blueprint

[www.rabiesblueprint.com](http://www.rabiesblueprint.com)



- Assessing the burden of rabies (in animals and humans)

# Global Initiatives



**Working together for  
promoting Global Rabies  
Elimination**



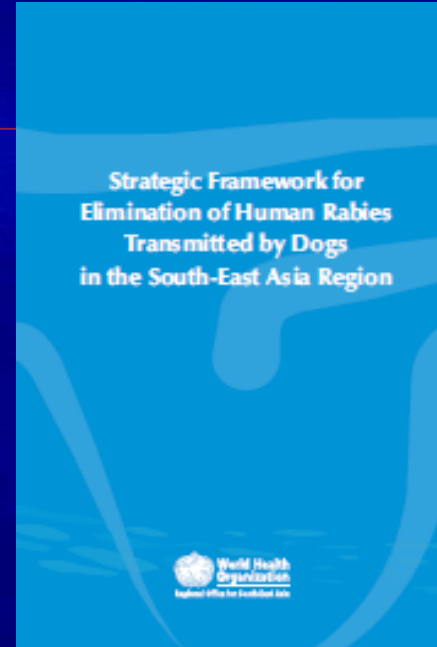
**World Health  
Organization**

*on-going*



# Regional Strategies

- Strategic Framework for Elimination of Human Rabies transmitted by Dogs in the South-East Asia Region
- The South-East Asia Dog Rabies Elimination Strategy
- SAARC Rabies Elimination Programme (?)





# Strategic Approaches

- **Prevention:** Introduce cost-effective public health intervention techniques to improve accessibility, affordability and availability of post-exposure prophylaxis including mass dog vaccination
- **Promotion:** Improve understanding of rabies through advocacy, awareness, education and operational research
- **Partnership:** Provide coordinated support for anti-rabies drive with the involvement of community, civil society, government and non-government sectors and international partners



# Countries phasing out nervous tissue derived vaccines (NTV) in Asia

- ✓ China (1990)
- ✓ Thailand (1992)
- ✓ Sri Lanka (1995)
- ✓ Indonesia (1996)
- ✓ Bhutan (1996)
- ✓ Philippines (1997)
- ✓ Lao PDR (2005)
- ✓ Cambodia (2005)
- ✓ India (2005)
- ✓ Nepal (2006)
- ✓ Vietnam (2007)
- ✓ Bangladesh (2011)
- ✓ Myanmar (2012)
- ✎ Pakistan (!)



Economic PEP using the intradermal route: a viable alternative for change in vaccine type delivered by the public sector in these countries.



# Support through tripartite mechanism



**Support for national rabies control plans in South-East Asian countries and regional workshops (STANDZ programme and other partners)**

**FAO TCP and WHO HPED Project in ASEAN countries**



# ASEAN Rabies Elimination Strategy

**NATIONAL RABIES ELIMINATION**

**SOCIO-CULTURAL**

**TECHNICAL**

**ORGANIZATIONAL**

**POLITICAL**

**REGIONAL**

**GLOBAL**

# Country support for dog rabies control activities

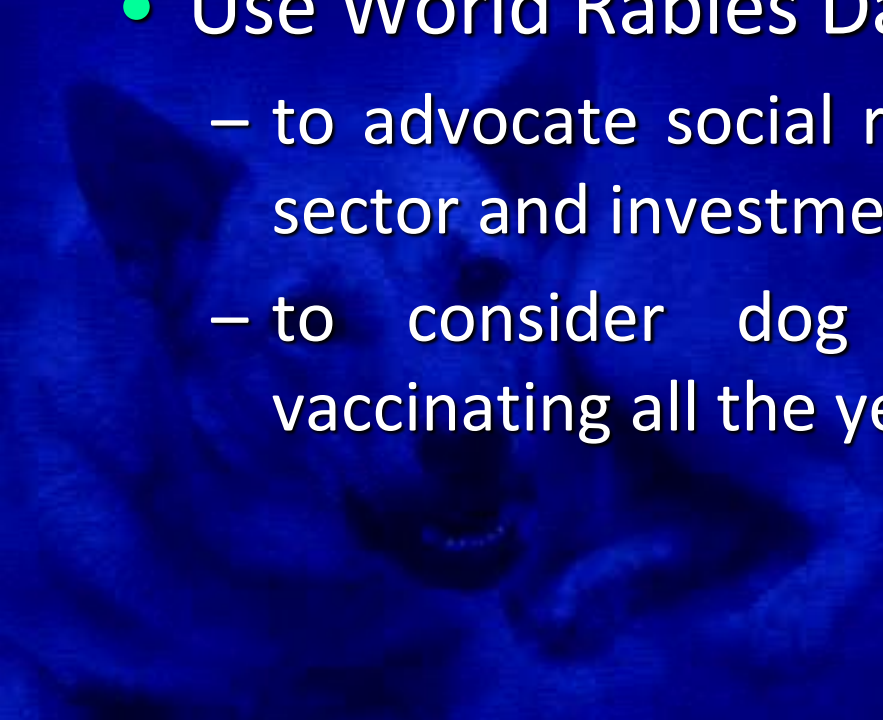
THE SOUTHEAST ASIA RABIES CONTROL STRATEGY



SOCIO-CULTURAL, TECHNICAL, ORGANISATIONAL, AND POLITICAL FRAMEWORK TO ELIMINATE DOG RABIES

# Key areas of action as policy goals

- Develop a comprehensive rabies control/elimination programme at regional and country levels
- Use World Rabies Day
  - to advocate social responsibility of animal health sector and investment for dog rabies
  - to consider dog rabies week rather than vaccinating all the year round





# Key areas of action as policy goals...

- Advocate rabies elimination as a model for operationalization of 'One Health'
- Support rabies endemic countries through
  - Low cost technology transfer in resource constraint countries, i.e. intradermal rabies vaccination
  - Laboratory twinning and training
    - OIE Reference Lab., WHO Collaborating Centers
  - Ensure supply of quality vaccine and biologics
    - Rabies vaccine bank (WHO-OIE initiative)

# We all have to work together!



**vets bey<sup>nd</sup> borders**

