



Technical Assistance from International Partners in Improving Veterinary System of the Kyrgyz Republic



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Introduction

An ancient proverb is: “The doctor heals a man, and the veterinarian - mankind.” The role of the veterinary system is important – it provides animal health, food safety for animal origin products, and consequently human health.

Veterinary medicine is the branch of medicine dealing with prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of disease, disorder and injury in animals. This covers all animal species, domesticated and wild, with a wide range of conditions that can affect different species.

The veterinary science improves human health through monitoring and control of zoonotic diseases (infectious disease transmitted from animals to humans) and food safety, and indirectly through human applications from basic medical research. Veterinary scientists often collaborate with epidemiologists, and other health or natural scientists depending on the type of work.

The veterinary medicine has roots since ancient times. The Egyptian Papyrus of Kahun (Twelfth Dynasty of Egypt) is its first extant record. The Shalihotra Samhita, dating from the time of Ashoka, is an early Indian veterinary treatise. The edicts of Asoka read: “Everywhere King Piyadasi made two kinds of medicine available, medicine for people and medicine for animals. Where there were no healing herbs for people and animals, he ordered that they be bought and planted.”

The paper discusses the importance of international technical assistance in improving veterinary system in Kyrgyz Republic

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General Information

In accordance with the Article 4 of the Veterinary Law of the Kyrgyz Republic of 30 December 2014 No. 175, the Veterinary System of the Kyrgyz Republic includes:

- 1) The Government of the Kyrgyz Republic;
- 2) the authorized state body for veterinary medicine;
- 3) local state administrations within their competence and bodies of local government bodies within the framework of delegated state powers;
- 4) the veterinary statutory body of the Kyrgyz Republic;
- 5) persons engaged in veterinary business in the manner prescribed by this Law.

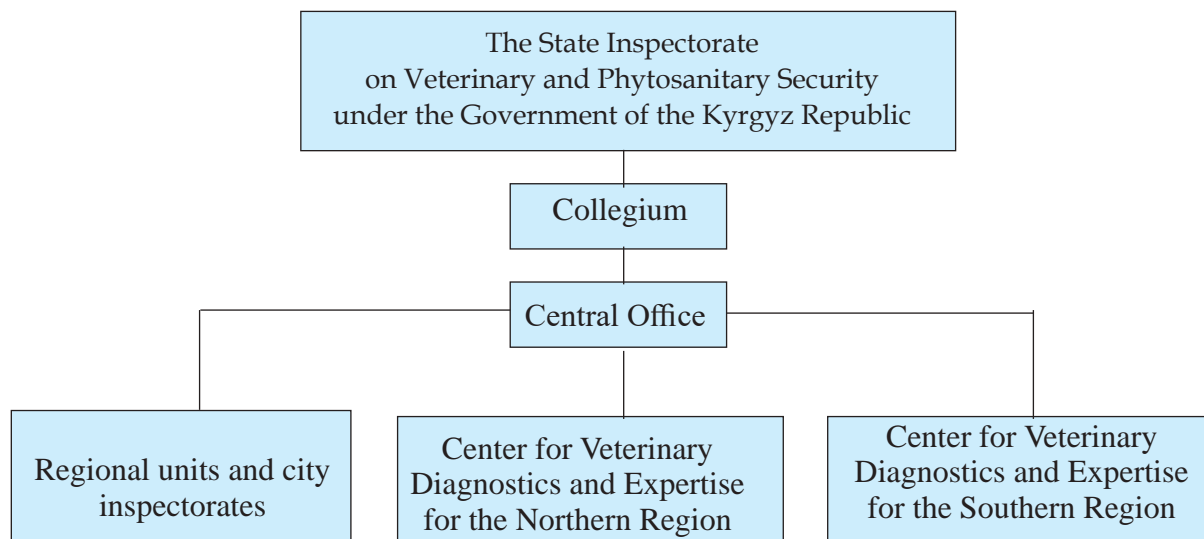
The Veterinary System has a mandate covering areas from farm to fork, and is established under the authority of the Prime Minister.

The central level includes units for animal health, veterinary public health, laboratory and border inspection.

In accordance with the Regulation of the State Inspectorate on Veterinary and Phytosanitary Security under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, approved by the Government Decree of the Kyrgyz Republic of 7 May 2013 No. 256, The State Inspectorate on Veterinary and Phytosanitary Security under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic (hereinafter referred to as the State Inspectorate) is the state executive authority, exercising powers in the field of veterinary medicine and state supervision and control in the field of veterinary and phytosanitary security. The goal of the State Inspectorate is to supervise and control safety of life and health of people, animals and plants.

In Moscow, on 23 December 2014, Presidents of the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation, on the one hand, and the President of the Kyrgyz Republic, on the other hand, signed the Agreement on the Accession of the Kyrgyz Republic to the Eurasian economic union (EAEU). In connection with this event, the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic began to integrate veterinary system to the conditions of the EAEU.

Administration of the State Inspectorate on Veterinary and Phytosanitary Security under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic



International Cooperation of the State Inspectorate

One of the activities of the State Inspectorate is international cooperation. The State Inspectorate starts active work on the interaction with State authorities of foreign States, international communities and international organizations for implementation of joint international projects to facilitate international agreements of the Kyrgyz Republic in the field of veterinary and phytosanitary security.

For the year 2017 to promote international cooperation following actions were taken

- Interactions with the communities of the CIS, SCO, CSTO, EAEC under the BOMCA; deliberative bodies and working groups; as well as within the international Government coordination commissions of trade-economic, scientific-technical and humanitarian cooperation;
- Compiling database of partner international organizations, identifying and exploring opportunities for joint projects, as well as the definition of contact employees, and worked out solution for issues that are of mutual concern ;
- Organized international meetings, prepared materials, selected venues, and took minutes of the meetings, more than 30 meetings were held;
- The execution of the law of the Kyrgyz Republic “about the interaction of State bodies in the sphere of foreign policy of the Kyrgyz Republic” dated 4 July 2012, No. 96. and details to the above-mentioned law, on a quarterly basis, appeared in the Ministry report in prescribed form on international activities, and also work plan GIVFB with PKR on the international cooperation for the next quarter;
- Systematized the work in cooperation with the Government Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic, the IASC Secretariat and the Secretariat representative CD EEMA. Thus through the IASC secretariat Division of the Ministry of Economy of the

CD, information is available for the execution of the following items of inter-governmental commissions: Kyrgyz-Russian; Kyrgyz-Tajik; Kyrgyz-Turkish; Kyrgyz-Chinese; Kyrgyz-Uzbek; Kyrgyz-Kazakh; Kyrgyz-Indian; Kyrgyz-U.A.E.; Kyrgyz-KSA; Kyrgyz-Polish.

- Division staff also actively participate in the work of the State Inspectorate for the implementation of the action plan of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic on the implementation of the action plan (road map) on the accession of the Kyrgyz Republic to a single economic space of the Republic of Belarus, Republic of Kazakhstan, the Republic of Armenia and the Russian Federation ,considering formation of the Eurasian Economic Union, approved the decision of the Supreme Council of the Eurasian Economic from 10 October 2014 year, No. 75.
- Since the beginning of the year, the Division, together with the staff of the specialized agencies in the field of veterinary and phytosanitary safety participated in more than 60 videoconferences on the SPS measures, technical regulations, TC; in joint discussions and meetings of study groups on the conclusion of agreements between China and Singapore, EEMA, Iran, Vietnam, in meetings under the Committee on the standardization of Technical Advisory Committee, and application of veterinary and phytosanitary measures on the safety of meat and fish products, etc.
- To determine the level of the Kyrgyz veterinary system for compliance with the standards and requirements of 4-score by the OIE, held from 26 June to 7 July 2017, a group of independent experts were invited for certification by the OIE to conduct PVS Pathway Mission of the OIE for laboratories. At present, the State is awaiting the results from the OIE experts' evaluation.
- Also, at the invitation of Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic the Director General of the International Epizootic Bureau, Dr. Monique Eloi, was expected to visit the Kyrgyz Republic in the later half of 2018.
- Memorandum of understanding was signed between the State inspection on veterinary

and phytosanitary security of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic and The General Directorate of quality control, inspection and quarantine of the People's Republic of China on cooperation in veterinary and phytosanitary measures.

- The FAO implemented a project to support establishment and functioning of Associations of private veterinarians CD. Currently, each District Association of CV also plans to create the Republican Association.
- The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) launched a project on capacity-building veterinary CD, by organizing a two-week training course in Japan.
- Along the lines of the German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ), launched a project to develop computer software testing private veterinarians with the aim of assessing their qualifications during registration in the unified register of Veterinary Chamber.
- Within the framework of the FAO regional project on capacity-building of phytosanitary services of the Central Asian countries, technical assistance was given.
- Within the framework of the cooperation between the FAO and OIE, 2016, began developing a secondary strategy for the development of veterinary service of the Kyrgyz Republic till the year 2021.

Cooperation with the OIE

The World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) is an intergovernmental organization, responsible for animal health. It is a reference organization of the WTO, and comprised 181 member states in 2017. It develops and implements international standards for animal health, food safety and international trade rules. The CD is its member since 1992.

The State Inspectorate for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Security under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic (hereinafter referred to as the "Gosinopektsiya") ,since the last 2 years has carried out intensive work to reform general system of the veterinary service.

The CD closely cooperates with the OIE on veterinary legislation. Amendments and additions to the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Veterinary Medicine" were made on 24 May 2017 regarding delegation of certain state powers in veterinary medicine to persons entitled to veterinary practice (paragraph 3 of Article 6 of the Law) and determining competence of the Veterinary Chamber (Articles 23 and 24 of the Law) .

Based on the results of the PVS assessment of the OIE for identifying strengths and weaknesses of the Veterinary Service of the Kyrgyz Republic (February 2016), a draft Strategic Plan for the Development of the Veterinary Service of the Kyrgyz Republic has been developed till 2021. At present, this plan, after coordination with the relevant ministries and departments of the Kyrgyz Republic, has been submitted to the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic for approval. The laboratory evaluation of the OIE was carried out in June 2017,.

In accordance with the recommendations of the OIE, the veterinary laboratories of the republic are being optimized and laboratory specialists are being trained.

Of the existing 28, 19 laboratories would remain, 2 of them would have national level status (Bishkek, Osh) and would meet all requirements of the international standard. At present, veterinary laboratories in Bishkek and Osh have been repaired; and they are equipped with modern equipment worth \$ 2.6 million by the Russian grant (Stage 1). Till 2017, laboratory furniture was supplied (stage 2). And 24 laboratory specialists underwent specialized training in the Russian Federation on the basis of FGBU "VNIIZH".

Besides, 4 zonal veterinary laboratories are being built in the cities of Talas, Batken, Balykchy, Karakol and 12 inter-district veterinary laboratories are being repaired; for this in 2017, 175 million soms were allocated from the republican budget.

In addition, active work is being carried out in controlling transboundary diseases. The State Forest Research Committee has developed a

strategy for combating foot-and-mouth disease, and has issued a dossier and sent it to the OIE to receive the CD status of a free zone from foot-and-mouth disease with vaccination.

The first CIS space was created by the Veterinary Statuary Authority, a non-profit organization operating on the principles of self-government and regulating private veterinary practices in the country (hereafter - the Veterinary Chamber). The success of the activities of the Veterinary Chamber is obvious, in 2015, there were 1500 veterinary specialists registered, and on 14 October 2017, there were 2,439 specialists

To ensure high quality and efficiency of biologics, technical specifications for each type of purchased products was developed and approved in accordance with the requirements of the international standards. Thus, only high-quality and highly effective veterinary drugs were certified; confirmed by certificates of compliance of the OIE reference laboratories.

The National control strategies for eight especially dangerous animal diseases have been developed and agreed with the OIE.

To implement animal identification and tracking system in time, 180 animal identification trainers were trained, and more than 3,000 veterinarians and operators were also trained. Laptops, computers and smartphones have been delivered and installed.

Temporary containers for the placement of border veterinary checkpoints have been installed to equip border veterinary checkpoints across borders of Torugart, Erkeshtam, Dostuk, the Kara-Suu railway crossing point, and at the Osh international airport.

All 15 points of border veterinary control are in accordance with the requirements of the EAEU. This automated information system would be integrated into the systems of the EEA member countries.

With the help of the OIE experts, the evaluation of training programmes and postgraduate education of veterinary specialists was carried out. More than 30 training modules have been

developed, trainers have been trained, and veterinary specialists are also regularly trained.

Implementation of the “BOMCA-9”

State Inspection has been cooperating since the beginning of the BOMCA / CADAP programme, as it is the target beneficiary of the European Union Border Management Assistance Programme in Central Asia (BOMCA-9). In the earlier years, study visits were organized and seminars were held in the countries of the Central Asia and the European Union; computers and other equipment for the veterinary service were also purchased.

Currently, the 9th phase of the BOMCA programme is being implemented.

To improve cooperation and exchange of information between border, customs and other state control bodies, the concept and principles of integrated border management (CGS) have been introduced within the programme framework.

The activities planned for the implementation of the European Union Border Management Assistance Programme in Central Asia (BOMCA-9) in Kyrgyzstan for 2017 was planned as follows:

- A seminar/training on human resources management, financial planning and control was held on 16-18 May 2016 for the purpose of which professional development of employees of personnel and financial departments was considered. Three specialists from the State Inspectorate participated.
- A technical meeting was held on the anti-corruption analysis and updating of action plans for the search for corruption manifestations at the State Inspectorate on 03-07 October 2016. Two specialists from the State Inspectorate were participants.

The National Seminar on Interagency Cooperation was held on 19-21 April 2017 with the aim of optimizing cooperation between border agencies, expanding network of information exchange, providing information on international practices, and assisting in the development of legal instruments. Three specialists participated from the State Inspectorate.

Within the framework of the Border Management Programme in Central Asia (BOMCA9), EU experts have developed recommendations for inclusion in the updated Implementation Plan for the CGYG Strategy, which is based on the proposed structure of the Implementation Plan for the CUGB Strategy, and on an analysis of strategic documents for the development of border agencies on the information received during meetings with the representatives of the border agencies; the evaluation was carried out at the beginning of the project, and was also based on the experience of the EU countries on Dren systems of state border management.

Conclusion

The role of international cooperation in improving veterinary system of the Kyrgyz Republic cannot be underestimated. Kyrgyz Republic's case can be illustrative in this regard. At the contemporary stage of the development, Kyrgyz Republic pays enormous attention enabling international cooperation to strengthen partnerships with veterinary state bodies of foreign countries and international organizations (OIE, FAO, WHO, WTO, IPPC, EAEC, IAEA, BOMCA). The

technical assistance of the mentioned international organizations makes an inordinate contribution to the development of the veterinary system of the Kyrgyz Republic. Due to technical and financial assistance of the international partners, timely and qualitative, institutional and infrastructural reforms have taken place.

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