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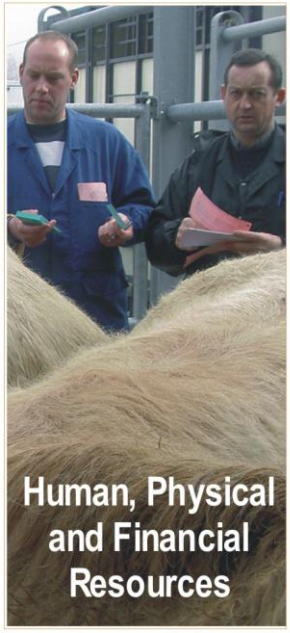
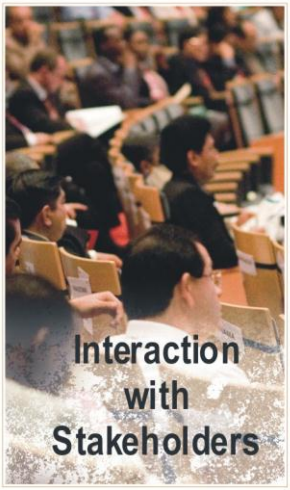
Tool for the evaluation of Performance of Veterinary Services

oie PVS Tool

PVS Evaluation Report





October 2011

Israel

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OIE PVS EVALUATION

REPORT OF THE

VETERINARY SERVICES OF

ISRAEL

(23rd October – 4th November 2011)

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List of acronyms, abbreviations and/or special terms

BSE	Bovine spongiform encephalopathy
CVL	Central Veterinary Laboratory
CVO	Chief Veterinary Officer
DVO	District Veterinary Office
DVS	Director of Veterinary Services – Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO)
EAEVE	European Association of Establishments of Veterinary Education
FMD	Foot and Mouth Disease
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
Hacklait	Mutual Society for Clinical Veterinary Services and Livestock Insurance
HPAI	Highly Pathogenic Avian influenza
IDB	Israeli Dairy Board
ISRAC	Israeli Laboratory Accreditation Authority
IVMA	Israeli Veterinary Medical Association
IVSAH	Israeli Veterinary Services Animal Health [also as VS]
KHV	Koi herpes virus
KVI	Kimron Veterinary Institute
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
MoE	Ministry of Environment
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoH	Ministry of Health
OIE	World Organisation for Animal Health
OIE-PVS	OIE Performance of Veterinary Services Evaluation Tool
PPR	Peste des petits ruminants
PIZUAH	Flora and Fauna Control Unit of MoA (enforcement)
USD	United States Dollar
VS	Veterinary Service(s)
VPH	Veterinary Public Health
VSB	Veterinary Statutory Body (see OIE Code definition)

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The OIE-PVS Team wishes to express its gratitude to the staff of the Israeli Veterinary Services and the other agencies, departments and ministries, and to all the individuals who freely gave their time and experience to assist in the evaluation.

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PART I: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

I.1 Introduction

The Veterinary Services (VS) in developed and developing countries plays an important role in the assuring the quality of foods of animal origin available to their populations as well as supports the agricultural sectors that rely on international trade. The emergence new zoonotic disease, impact of food-borne disease and increased public concerns for animal welfare are all areas are the responsibility of VS. VS need to operate transparently using scientifically based principles and decision making free from political pressure. Technical independence and ability to respond to the increasingly rapid rate of change are challenges the VS must anticipate.

Efforts to strengthen VS and support compliance with OIE international standards were the reason that OIE developed the Evaluation of the Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) tool. The PVS tool is designed to assist VS to establish their current level of performance, to identify gaps and weaknesses regarding their ability to comply with OIE international standards, to form a shared vision with stakeholders (including the private sector), and to establish priorities and carry out strategic initiatives.

WTO Members such as Israel are also bound by the provisions of the WTO-SPS Agreements. The SPS Agreement affirms the right of each member country to protect plant, animal and human life and health, but the Agreement also requires countries to base their actions on scientific principles. For animal health and zoonoses, the OIE is cited as the international reference organization for standards, guideline and recommendations covering international trade in animals and animal products.

Implementing international standards, guidelines and recommendations developed through the OIE, including standards of quality and evaluation of VS, aims to ensure that international trade us conducted free of discrimination and scientifically unjustified restrictions.

The evaluation of the Veterinary Services of the Israel had the objective of identifying both strengths and gaps in capability against criteria set out in the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code, using the PVS tool.

The Government of Israel requested an evaluation of the veterinary services (VS) of Israel based on the OIE-PVS (Performance of Veterinary Services) method. The evaluation was conducted between 23 October and 3 November by a team of independent OIE-approved evaluators.

I.2 Key findings of the evaluation

I.2.A Human, physical and financial resources

Human, physical and financial resources of the IVSAH are globally satisfactory. However, in some fields an increase of staff is needed (i.e. epidemiology, VPH).

In addition, for the last 5 years the lack of renewal of positions in the public sector at central level is a concern. This fact is worsened by the impossibility to hire staff on contractual basis.

Israel has 1,800 active veterinarians: 300 in the public sector (of which 200 are employed by municipality and regional councils); 1,500 in private sector (less than 150 active in animal production; 14 employed by poultry and dairy boards, 50 employed by Hacklait farmers owned mutual society, 45 independent in the poultry sector and an estimate of 25 independent private veterinarians for large animals).

Israel graduates approximately 50 to 55 veterinarians per year from its veterinary school trained to a very good quality standard in small animals, and lacking veterinary public health. The school is currently under the process of evaluation by the European Association of Establishments of Veterinary Education (EAEVE).

Veterinary para-professionals are not officially recognised in Israel and very few are employed in the public sector. These are generally trained internally without any qualification requirements. In the private sector, 2 schools train “veterinary nurses” for companion animals.

Continuing education is not required nor provided on a regular basis but opportunities based on personal commitment are available, although limited.

Technical independence was challenged by the recent juridical enquiry of the government appointed Zeiler Committee. However, the IVSAH is supported by strong regulations and detailed procedures with a high level of competence and commitment of VS staff.

Levels of salaries and conditions for veterinarians in IVSAH were reported to be lower than those provided by Municipalities, industry boards or in the private sector. However, there were also reports that some veterinarians in municipalities were paid irregularly and subject to pressures that may impair their technical independence which is a serious concern for food safety inspection of national/domestic market products. At the central level the technical independence of IVSAH staff may be challenged by lack of vehicles to complete necessary field inspections.

The chain of command is strong for all official animal health tasks implemented directly by IVSAH through its 6 Districts Veterinary Offices (DVO). Most activities related to veterinary public health and export certification are done by IVSAH. Some obvious deficiencies exist in food safety inspection of the national market, due in part to the shared responsibility with the municipal veterinarians.

The structure and policies of IVSAH are stable. However, the IVSAH organisation chart has not been updated and suffers from lack functionality; all 10 division directors report directly to the Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO).

External coordination procedures are strong with customs, weak with Ministry of Health (MoH) and absent with the Ministry of Environment (MoE) (wildlife); although on the basis of personal initiative some interaction does occur.

Physical resources of the IVSAH are regularly maintained and generally adequate. However, vehicles are obviously lacking at central level for VPH inspectors. Due to budget constraints some facilities have not been renovated (DVO Beer Sheva, post-mortem and laboratory animal housing) or finalised (BL 3 laboratory).

The annual budget for IVSAH has been relatively stable. However, more than 50% of the funds are from the income of sale of vaccines and services. Reliance on this source of funding should not create a conflict of interest or inhibit delegation of procedures based on concerns about the lost income.

The IVSAH have well defined required procedures supported by collection of adequate data in most domains. Several large databases are separately maintained in different divisions (e.g., laboratory, field services, inspection, traceability), but there is no comprehensive data management with collation or review of the data collected. The skills to develop analyses of efficacy, efficiency and cost-benefit analyses have not been developed. However, this could be readily developed in the future using this large data set if the separate databases could be made compatible or data shared across these systems.

I.2.B Technical authority and capability

The Kimron Veterinary Institute (KVI) is both the central reference laboratory for all analysis and a research centre. It provides a wide range of analyses with the relevant level of quality assurance. Staff replacement and management appears to lack flexibility, impacting the capacity to develop new procedures or conduct research. The official laboratory network also includes 2 well equipped regional poultry laboratories.

The Milk Quality Control and the National Service for Udder Health and Milk Quality laboratories provide private services to the dairy industry through the Israeli Dairy Board (IDB) which has representation from industry, the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) and the farmers.

Each DVO has a small laboratory section to prepare samples for shipping, conduct post-mortems and perform ring testing for brucellosis.

Quality assurance is well developed in all official laboratories, except for the small labs at the DVO.

Risk analysis is performed irregularly and is a weak point in IVSAH; currently no staff are trained or dedicated to this work.

Border security and import procedures are effective to protect the country with the limited number of entry points currently in use for animal and animal products. However, staffing is limited and Israel is importing an increasing number of live animals and products of animal origin. The staffing is not adequate to cope with any increase of imports; if the international situation improves with bordering regions more resources will be needed to continue to provide an appropriate level of protection.

Passive surveillance is possible through appropriate network of veterinarians from IVSAH or private sector. However, currently no specific official programs are implemented. Moreover they would be difficult to implement taking into account that less intensive farmers are not regularly in contact with VS.

Active surveillance programs are implemented for some poultry diseases by Poultry Board and for brucellosis in small ruminants (unvaccinated males). However, active surveillance programs are lacking to assess sanitary status for relevant diseases in wildlife and for brucellosis in beef cattle.

Early detection and rapid response contingency programs are in place and implemented with efficacy for relevant diseases such as FMD, HPAI, and Newcastle.

Prevention, control and eradication programs have been in place for decades for most animal diseases, but their efficacy and efficiency is not analysed. These programs are demotivating for field VS staff because they do not reach less intensive farmers and have not been successful in eradicating these diseases.

Slaughter inspection in slaughterhouses is effectively implemented by veterinarians employed by Municipalities or the Poultry Board. However, comparison of data estimates indicates that about 40% of ruminants are still slaughtered outside authorised premises.

Second level inspection (inspection of facilities and of the inspections made on site) is done by IVSAH through the division of slaughter inspection and the division of animal products. The division of slaughter inspection relies on the personal commitment of only one veterinarian, who is not supported by well-defined formal procedures and has to deal with veterinarians employed by the Municipalities without clearly defined supervision procedures.

The division of animal products, deals with the poultry and export dairy sector, is supported by modern data management and procedures, but lacks vehicles. The lack of technical independence of Municipal veterinarians, dependent on the municipalities,

remains of concern. Official delegation to veterinarians employed by industry boards is not based on written agreement/contracts with the IVSAH to fully support their technical independence.

Inspection of products of animal origin in distribution is done by Municipal veterinarians under the authority of MoA and in restaurants is done by the same Municipal veterinarians under the authority of MoH. The MoH also provides its own inspectors for human health of staff and general hygiene in distribution facilities (including dairy facilities for national market) and restaurants. Some deficiencies in external coordination between MoA and MoH were identified.

Control of veterinary medicines and biological is supported by strict legislation and responsibilities are shared with MoH. Registration and inspection is effectively done by a specific division of ISVAH; however, this division appears to be understaffed and lacks vehicles. The use of veterinary medicines seems to be very important in the intensive sector but there is no analyse of this consumption which may become a problem in the future.

Residues control programs are implemented scientifically for dairy and poultry products. However, only surveys without sanctions and investigations are applied to red meat, which is not exported.

Emerging issues are not a core function of any specific Division within IVSAH, new challenges are dealt with through personal initiatives, relationships and collaborations.

Technical innovation is eased by the fact that KVI belongs to the VS and is supported by several committees with stakeholder involvement. However, research suffers from administrative inability at KVI to hire staff on a contractual basis even when funding is available. Collaboration with the Koret Veterinary School has been difficult and minimal for many years.

Animal identification has been in place for decades for cattle and small ruminants, primarily in the intensively managed sectors. Most of animals from less intensive productions systems are not identified. Data management is insufficient and does not provide for real traceability; only some animal movements and slaughtering are registered. The system costs a lot but produces very little reliable information. However, the traceability system appears flexible enough to serve as a platform for improvement.

Traceability of products of animal origin has been started by some private industries but is not fully coordinated with the VS. Poultry products for domestic consumption are also subject to traceability system. Dairy products have begun a traceability system.

Animal welfare is well developed in Israel, with the exception of slaughtering due to religious reasons.

I.2.C Interaction with stakeholders

Communication, consultation and joint programs are developed with the intensive sectors and implemented with relative ease based on the size of the country and relatively small number of stakeholders. However, the IVSAH services do not appear to reach the numerous less intensive and less organized small individual producers.

The IVSAH participate regularly in official international meetings.

Official delegation is effectively implemented for rabies vaccination; for inspection in the poultry and dairy sectors delegation exists without being formalised. Official delegation of all other animal health programs currently implemented by Field Veterinary Services is discussed regularly but remains questionable in the national context where 80% of private veterinary services to dairy farms and 50 % private

veterinary services to beef cattle are provided by the Hacklait veterinary cooperative that belongs to famers owned mutual society.

There is no veterinary statutory body (VSB) in Israel and penalties are rarely applied. Registration and regulation of veterinarians is under the authority of MoA; however, registration is not regularly updated. IVMA is a voluntary association, notably in charge of recognition of specialists in 42 fields. However, the specialist certificate is delivered by IVSAH

I.2.D Access to markets

Veterinary legislation is comprehensive and adapted to the country context.

It is usually implemented through regular inspection, which may result in condemnations of animals or animal products. However, for enforcement activities IVSAH must rely on another service, the Flora and Fauna Control Unit within MoA ("veterinary police" (PIZUAH)) to take legal action, investigate or initiate prosecution. This situation does not allow follow-up and analyse of compliance by IVSAH.

Veterinary legislation is progressively harmonised with international standards with the driving force of maintaining its European Union market. Nowadays, IVSAH is going through a twinning project with European Union. International certification is recognised by major trading partners including the EU and USA.

The VS develops sanitary agreements with trading partners taking into account international standards as much as possible.

Transparency is considered good by trading partners and OIE notification is regular. However, the value of notification could be questioned as the VS do not reach the less intensive production systems regularly.

Israel does not implement zoning, which appears appropriate based on the small size of the country; nor is compartmentalisation currently applied.

Table 1: Summary of OIE PVS evaluation results

PVS results summary of Israel	Global Result
I. HUMAN, PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES	
I.1.A. Staffing: Veterinarians and other professionals	4
I.1.B. Staffing: Veterinary paraprofessionals and other	3
I.2.A. Professional competencies of veterinarians	4
I.2.B. Competencies of veterinary paraprofessionals	2
I-3. Continuing education	2
I-4. Technical independence	4
I-5. Stability of structures and sustainability of policies	4
I-6.A. Internal coordination (chain of command)	4
I-6.B. External coordination	3
I-7. Physical resources	4
I-8. Operational funding	4
I-9. Emergency funding	4
I-10. Capital investment	4
I-11. Management of resources and operations	3
II. TECHNICAL AUTHORITY AND CAPABILITY	
II-1. Veterinary laboratory diagnosis	5
II-2. Laboratory quality assurance	5
II-3. Risk analysis	2
II-4. Quarantine and border security	4
II-5.A. Passive epidemiological surveillance	3
II-5.B. Active epidemiological surveillance	4
II-6. Early detection and emergency response	4
II-7. Disease prevention, control and eradication	4
II-8.A. Ante and post mortem inspection	4
II-8.B. Inspection of collection, processing and distribution	2
II-9. Veterinary medicines and biological	4
II-10. Residue testing	3
II-11. Emerging issues	3
II-12. Technical innovation	4
II-13.A. Animal identification and movement control	3
II-13.B. Identification and traceability of animal products	3
II-14. Animal welfare	4
III. INTERACTION WITH STAKEHOLDERS	
III-1. Communications	4
III-2. Consultation with stakeholders	3
III-3. Official representation	4
III-4. Accreditation/authorisation/delegation	3
III-5.A. Veterinary Statutory Body Authority	1
III-5.B. Veterinary Statutory Body Capacity	1
III-6. Participation of producers and other stakeholders in joint programmes	4
IV. ACCESS TO MARKETS	
IV-1. Preparation of legislation and regulations	4
IV-2. Implementation of legislation and regulations and stakeholder compliance	3
IV-3. International harmonisation	3
IV-4. International certification	5
IV-5. Equivalence and other types of sanitary agreements	4
IV-6. Transparency	4
IV-7. Zoning	1
IV-8. Compartmentalisation	1

I.3 Key recommendations

I.3.A Human, physical and financial resources

There is a need to recruit new staff regularly into the public sector at central level, to progressively replace retiring staff and to increase the level of staffing in epidemiology, veterinary public health, border security and traceability.

An in-depth analysis of the overall number of veterinarians needed in Israel should be conducted and measures should be taken to prevent the increasing numbers of veterinarians to result in a high level of unemployment. This could lead to a decrease in technical independence for the veterinary profession. At the same time, official recognition of veterinary para-professionals should be comprehensively considered and established cautiously.

Technical independence of IVSAH should be the ultimate driving force in analysing any future reform of the overall VS.

A reform of the organisation chart should take into consideration the main functions such as animal health, veterinary public health (with 3 units slaughter, animal products, veterinary drugs and biological and residues), border security and traceability, risk analysis and epidemiology, data management. The chain of command should remain as strong as currently it is for most activities, and be strengthened for slaughter inspection.

External coordination could be greatly improved with both MoH (food safety and zoonosis) and MoE (wildlife surveillance).

Lack of vehicles should be addressed for veterinary public health (VPH) inspectors. DVO Beer Sheva facilities should be renewed. KVI should be able to renovate its post-mortem facility, laboratory animal housing and complete the BL3 laboratory.

Operational and emergency funding, as well as capital investment, should not be reduced. Possible reforms should target efficiency with improved outcomes, particularly in the less intensive sectors, rather than reducing financial resources.

Critical improvements in data management are needed. An overall review of all databases to make them compatible and to develop skills of analysis is needed.

I.3.B Technical authority and capability

KVI should maintain its level of activity and be allowed to recruit staff on a contractual basis when funding is available. Activities of research and routine diagnostics should be balanced in order to maintain quality and respond to future needs. The post-mortem and laboratory animal housing facilities should be updated and the BL3 facility should be completed. KVI should be in charge of technical innovation for VS, and develop links with the veterinary faculty and other relevant institutions.

Border security should maintain staff at the appropriate level based on activity.

Risk analysis and emerging issues should be undertaken within a strengthened “epidemiology division”; with additional staff and adequate training to provide support to the CVO and other divisions. This unit should also be in charge of developing, monitoring and evaluating the efficacy, efficiency and benefit of all official programs.

Relevant passive surveillance programs should be put in place to reach all production systems, including the less intensive sector. Those programs may include official delegation to private veterinarians, if relevant.

Active surveillance programs should be fully implemented in less intensive production systems and should be developed for relevant diseases, particularly in wildlife and beef production.

Early detection should be improved in the less intensive production systems.

Prevention, control and eradication programs should be assessed in term of efficacy, efficiency and benefit. These programs should be adapted to reach less intensive production systems, in order to ensure success. This may include official delegation to private veterinarians where relevant.

Strengthening of all components of VPH should continue in terms of staff, procedures, data management and vehicles. Technical independence of municipal veterinarians should be strengthened, especially for slaughter inspection. Employing them directly would be the simplest way taking into account their relatively small number. Strengthening official delegation of veterinarians employed by the 2 industry boards could be easily accomplished by establishing a formal contract between them and the VS. Any inspection fees need to be collected directly by the VS to pay inspectors at all sites to prevent conflicts of interest. This would re-equilibrate the financing in VS between VPH and AH activities and more fully reflect their respective importance.

Inspection of products of animal origin should be equivalent for export and national markets, and the VS should develop second level inspection with clear official delegation. This will require additional recruitment in the VS. In addition, clarification and evaluation by the MoH for inspection of products of animal origin in distribution and restaurants is needed.

The division in charge of veterinary medicines, biological and residues should be strengthened with additional staff and provided with vehicles to do the large number of inspections in their domain. The addition of animal feed inspection to their workload will necessitate more resources. This division should develop an analysis of the consumption of veterinary medicines and develop the appropriate controls for residues in red meat.

The animal identification and traceability system should be completely reviewed using the experience from other countries and specialists. The IVSAH should take the lead for the development of traceability of animal products in order to ensure that the systems set up by the private industry comply with international requirements.

I.3.C Interaction with stakeholders

Specific communication tools, consultation approaches and joint programs should be developed to engage the less intensive productions systems. This will require a change in paradigm for most of VS (both the IVSAH and the municipal veterinarians) staff, but this could lead the Field Veterinary Services and the private veterinarians to work together to change the current routine and improve motivation in the field.

The routine milk ring tests for brucellosis currently done at the district level should be done with proper quality controls. Delegation of the test should be discussed to improve standardisation, efficiency and efficacy.

Official delegation should be strengthened for all veterinarians employed by the two industry boards by signing clearly defined contracts.

Changes to official delegation for activities currently implemented by IVSAH Field Services should not be done solely for reasons of budgetary constraint. All changes should be done only if better effectiveness and efficiency can be achieved with the same level of technical independence.

For the moment delegation to Hacklait could challenge the feasibility of such official delegation in terms of technical independence and may represent a potential for

conflict of interest. Although Hacklait currently delivers excellent private veterinary services to a large proportion of dairy farms (80% and cattle farms (50%), it is owned by the Israel farmers owned mutual society. Undertaking official delegation to entities such as Hacklait should be examined cautiously and transparently before implementation. Such official delegation would probably require changes in ownership and the institutional organisation of Hacklait

An updated registration system of veterinarians, with effective enforcement of regulations, is key to maintaining the credibility of veterinarians. The creation of a Veterinary Statutory Body (VSB) should be analysed in the context of Israel.

I.3.D Access to markets

There is a need to strengthen the legal power of the VS either by establishing very detailed external coordination procedures with the PIZUAH, or by getting back the power of prosecution directly in the VS.

Transparency would be widely improved if programs are re-designed to ensure that the VS reach all productions systems, even the less intensive.

The 2010 Zeiler Report suggested a need for a detailed review of the existing regulation to establish priorities for updating legislations and regulation.

PART II: CONDUCT OF THE EVALUATION

II.1 OIE PVS Tool: method, objectives and scope of the evaluation

To assist countries to establish their current level of performance, form a shared vision, establish priorities and carry out strategic initiatives, the OIE has developed an evaluation tool called the OIE Tool for the Evaluation of Performance of Veterinary Services (OIE PVS Tool[1]) which comprises four fundamental components:

- Human, physical and financial resources
- Technical authority and capability
- Interaction with stakeholders
- Access to markets.

These four fundamental components encompass 46 critical competencies, for each of which five qualitative levels of advancement are described. For each critical competency, a list of suggested indicators was used by the OIE Evaluation Team to help determine the level of advancement.

A glossary of terms is provided in Appendix 2.

The report follows the structure of the OIE PVS Tool and the reader is encouraged to consult that document to obtain a good understanding of the context in which the evaluation was conducted.

The objective and scope of the OIE PVS evaluation includes all aspects relevant to the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code and the quality of Veterinary Services. In addition, the scope and objectives were clarified before the mission (see Appendix 7) as appropriate to the mandate and context of the VS in Israel.

[1] Available at http://www.oie.int/eng/oie/organisation/en_vet_eval_tool.htm?e1d2

II.2 Country information (geography, administration, agriculture and livestock)

Geography

Israel is a small densely populated Mediterranean country with a land mass of a 20,330 sq. km (7,850 sq. mi.). Israel"s human population of 7.6 million people is more than 90% urban with a workforce of 3 million; only 2.1% are involved in agriculture.

Geographically, Israel is divided into four regions: a narrow coastal plain along the Mediterranean Sea, containing many of Israel"s major cities and agricultural land; inland mountain ranges; highlands; and the Negev Desert in the south. Two thirds of the land is semi-arid or desert. Agricultural land represents approximately 20% of the land area, 94% of which is state-owned; half of the arable land is irrigated.

Water resources are limited and the government has invested heavily in developing purification of sewage water (primarily for use in irrigation) and the desalination of sea water. The main source of fresh water is the Lake Kinneret (the Sea of Galilee).

Administration

The Israel Veterinary Services and Animal Health (IVSAH) is an independent unit within the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. VS divides the country into 6 District Veterinary Offices (DVO): Afula (Gilboa), Akko, Beer Sheva, Kanot, Hadera and Rosh Pina. All the districts are under the supervision of the Chief Field Veterinary Services, located at IVSAH headquarters. These divisions are for VS purposes only and do not conform to other administrative or district structures used by MoA or municipal entities.

The Municipal Authorities also employs veterinarians, as municipal veterinary officers, who play a major role in food safety inspection and control of products of animal origin for domestic consumption. The municipal veterinarians also provide additional resources, as needed, for controls during outbreaks.

Agriculture

Agriculture played a vital role in the development of the Israeli economy since its founding in 1948. In the early years, Israeli agriculture was heavily supported by the government and now Israeli agriculture is highly productive with some of the highest yields in the world. Israeli dairy cattle are now the most productive in the world. Israel is practically self-sufficient in the production of milk, poultry and eggs but remains a net importer of other foods; currently Israel imports food products with a value over 1 billion USD annually.

Products of animal origin account for 6 of the top 8 agricultural commodities, including chicken meat, milk, beef, turkey meat and eggs [FAOSTAT 2009]. Livestock production relies almost completely on imported grains and is predominantly destined for the domestic market. Export of speciality products of animal origin, such as kosher poultry and milk products, accounts for only 2% of total agro-food exports.

Israeli agricultural production is characterized by the dominance of collective co-operative communities, principally the kibbutz and the moshav. Although privatization has increased recently, approximately 80% of agricultural output still comes from the kibbutz and moshav system. In animal agriculture, dairy farming is dominated by highly mechanized and intensely managed farms.

The Kibbutz and the Moshav co-operative system also includes mutual assurance/insurance systems, such as the Israel Cattle Breeders Association that provides members with mutual insurance, indemnity funds and a variety of support services, including comprehensive veterinary services provided by Hacklait. Hacklait is the dominant private provider of veterinary services in the intensive large animal sector.

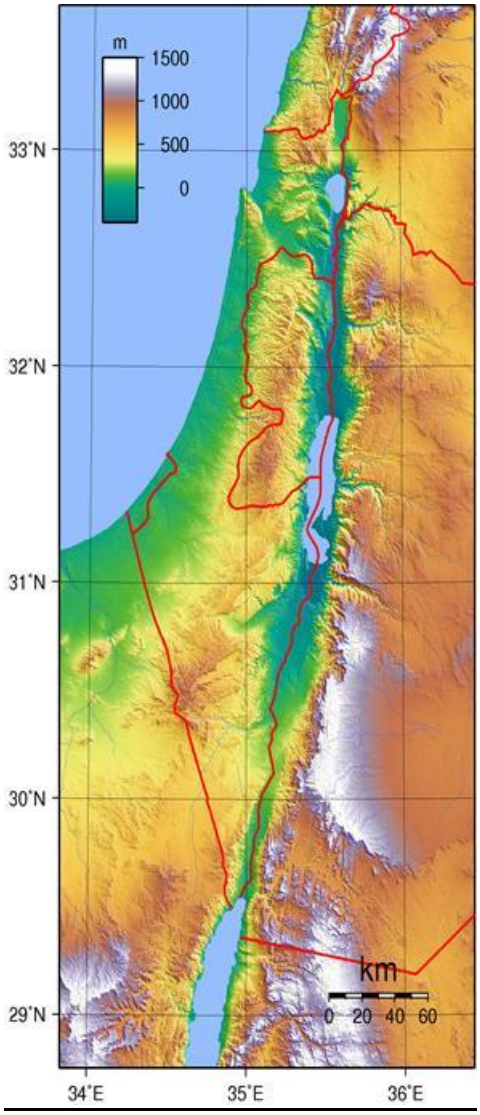
The Israeli Dairy Board (IDB) is managed jointly by the Government of Israel (with representation from: the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Industry, Trade and Labour); major dairy processing companies; and, dairy farmers from the Israel Cattle Breeders Association, Israeli Farmers Federations and the Israeli Farmers Association. IDB provides laboratory support through its National Service of Udder Health and Milk Quality Laboratory and helps to set milk pricing and quota controls, establishes industry standards and supports relevant research. IDB also pays 60% of the costs of the national carcass incineration plant in Ein Hamifratz.

The rapidly developing poultry sector currently represents 18% of total agricultural production and 40% of animal production. Although the export of poultry products represents a significant portion of the agricultural export market, production is primarily for local consumption.

The Poultry and Egg Board, established in 1963, plays an important role in the poultry sector. The board is owned 51% by farmers and 49% by government. The board supports 2 cooperative poultry diagnostic laboratories and provides slaughterhouse inspection personnel.

In contrast to the highly structured dairy and poultry sectors, roughly half of the small ruminants [525,000 sheep and 90,000 goats] are found in a variety of less intensively organized production systems throughout the country.

Map 1: Israel – Geographical features



Map 2: Israel – main roads

Table 2: Data summary for geography, agriculture and livestock [source: VS]

Geographic features

Climatic and/or agro-ecological zones	Rainfall (mm/year)
Coastal plain	450-600
Mountains	500-1000
Desert	20-200

Topography	Km2	%
Total area	22 000	
Pasture lands	5 000	
Arable land	3 000	
Forest	1 000	
Desert	13 000	
Highlands		30

Demographic data

Human population		Livestock households/farms [ruminants]	
Total number	7 650 000	Total number	3 850
density / km^2	340	% intensive	~95
% of urban	92	% agro-pastoral/extensive	~5
% of rural	8		

Current livestock census data

Animals species	Total Number	Intensive production system (% or no.)	Mixed production system (% or no.)	Extensive production system (% or no.)
Cattle	450 000	170 000 dairy	145 000 [dairy beef in feedlots]	135 000 [free range]
Sheep	525 000	160 000	360 000	
Goat	90 000	25 000	65 000	
Pig	200 000	100%		
Poultry	45 000 000	100%		
Equines	35 000	Hobby		

Animal and animal product trade data

Animals and animal products	Production (quantity / value)	Import (quantity / value)	Export (quantity / value)
Fish	20 000 tons		
Beef slaughter	10 000 heads	180 000 heads [70 000 tons]	
Sheep	106 000 heads	1 600 tons	
Pigs	190 000 heads	6 tons	
Dairy products		2 800 tons	8 000 tons
Poultry / Eggs		235 000 chicks + 90 000 000 eggs	40 000 chicks, 325 000 eggs + 8000 tons meat

Economic data

National GDP	217.1 billion USD
National budget	160 billion USD
Livestock GDP	2.8 billion USD
Economic value of livestock population	400 million USD
Annual public sector contribution to agriculture	100 million USD
Annual budget of the Veterinary Services	25 million USD

II.3 Context of the evaluation

II.3.A Availability of data relevant to the evaluation

A list of documents received by the Team before and during the PVS Evaluation mission is provided in Appendix 6.

All documents listed in Appendix 6 are referenced to relevant critical competencies to demonstrate the levels. Documents and pictures are also referenced to relevant critical competencies to support the related findings.

The following table provides an overview of the availability of the main categories of documents or data needed for the evaluation, taking into account the information requirements set out in the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code.

Table 3: Summary of data available for evaluation

Main document categories	Data available in the public domain	Data accessible only on site or on request	Data not available
→ **Animal census:**			
○ at 1st administrative level		X	
○ at 2nd administrative level			
○ at 3rd administrative level			
○ per animal species		X	
○ per production systems			X
→ **Organisations charts**			
○ Central level of the VS		X	
○ 2nd level of the VS			
○ 3rd level of the VS			
→ **Job descriptions in the VS**			
○ Central levels of the VS		X	
○ 2nd level of the VS		X	
○ 3rd level of the VS			
→ **Legislations, regulations, decrees …**			
○ Animal health and public health	X		
○ Veterinary practice	X		
○ Veterinary statutory body			X
○ Veterinary medicines and biological	X		
○ Official delegation		X	
→ **Veterinary census**			
○ Global (public, private, veterinary, para-professional)			X
○ Per level			
○ Per function		X	
→ **Census of logistics and infrastructures**		X	
→ **Activity reports**	X		
→ **Financial reports**		X	
→ **Animal health status reports**	X		
→ **Evaluation reports**	X		
→ **Procedures, registers, records, letters …**		X	

II.3.B General organisation of the Veterinary Services

Central Level

The Israeli Veterinary Services and Animal Health (IVSAH or VS) is an independent unit within the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. IVSAH is headed by the CVO with all 10 divisions, including the Kimron Veterinary Institute, reporting directly to the CVO. IVSAH employs a total of 102 veterinarians; 11 at the central level, 47 at KVI and 45 in the district offices.

Municipal and Regional councils also employ approximately 200 veterinarians as municipal/regional veterinary officers, who play a major role in slaughter inspection for domestic market (under the IVSAH regulations), food safety of products of animal origin for domestic consumption (under the Ministry of Health (MoH) regulations) and in rabies and stray dogs and cats population control. The municipal veterinarians also provide additional resources, as needed, for controls during outbreaks. The municipal veterinarians are directly employed by the municipal and regional councils and function under their authority but are also considered to be under the technical authority of IVSAH.

The Zeiler Committee was an external commission of inquiry within the Israeli government assigned to review the function of the Veterinary Services and look for

improprieties. The Zeiler Committee issued a report, dated March 2010, making many suggestions regarding rebuilding the institution, indicating that making the necessary changes would require investment of significant time and funds. The report also found significant improprieties by the Director of Administration; his actions were referred to the Attorney General and he subsequently retired. In addition, the report objected to the size of the administrative staff, representing 80 of the 280 total employees of IVSAH.

The Zeiler Report states that the reorganization of IVSAH needs to address two main goals; to secure the Israeli population with food of animal origin of the same high quality as that exported to the EU or US; and to maintain a strong agricultural economy. The report also made reference to a 2004 letter from the Director General of the Ministry of Health suggesting a number of areas in which the MoH and MoA needed to improve coordination between these agencies; including a broad review of existing legislation affecting food safety under the responsibilities of the MoA and MoH to set priorities and ensure that needed updates are made in a logical and comprehensive manner. The Zeiler Report stressed need for regular internal audits because of the extensive financial and business activity IVSAH engages in and the lack of transparency.

The Zeiler Report also noted that there is no chief veterinarian for the municipal veterinarians to ensure communication, coordination and implementation of uniform policy. Currently each municipal veterinarian has immense local independence with highly variable oversight in the domestic market slaughterhouses. Other enforcement issues were related to the poor level of interaction between IVSAH and the MoA Flora and Fauna Control Unit (PIZUAH) which lacks technical expertise and does not adequately consult with IVSAH to properly do its work or share information about the enforcement actions they take.

PIZUAH is also responsible for border security management of all agricultural products and to manage movement restrictions during outbreaks and animal health emergencies. PIZUAH handles all investigations and prosecutions initiated by IVSAH and handles animal welfare, including welfare checks of animals for import and cases reported by the public (e.g., as cruelty to animals and horse welfare). International land crossings are under PIZUAH surveillance (3 with Jordan, 2 with Egypt and 6 crossings into territory under the Palestinian Authority). PIZUAH is staffed by 80 persons, none with veterinary or technical qualifications. PIZUAH is working toward ISO 9001 certification for some of their processes.

Import and export permits are issued by the Import/Export Division of the IVSAH. Import/Export is headed by a Director at Central level with 6 additional veterinarians, 4 veterinary para professionals (inspectors) in the field covering the seaports at Ashdod, Elat and Haifa as well as the international airport. For live animal imports there are 2 government and 2 private quarantine stations.

District Veterinary Office Network

IVSAH divides the country into 6 Veterinary District Offices (DVO): Afula (Gilboa), Akko, Beer Sheva, Kanot, Hadera and Rosh Pina, under the supervision of the Chief Field Veterinary Services, located in IVSAH headquarters. The divisions of the DVO are for VS purposes only and do not conform to other districts used by the MoA or municipal entities.

The districts were redrawn and consolidated about 5 years ago with the result that all of the facilities with the exception of Beer Sheeva are relatively new, spacious and with new physical resources. In some cases they share office buildings with other MoA agencies; others are in commercial industrial parks. The facility at Beer Sheeva is old and in need of renovation and updating.

There are 45 veterinarians in the DVO system coordinated by the Director at central level. Each DVO has a veterinarian serving as the District Director; 4 to 5 staff veterinarians; between 1 and 5 technical staff and a secretary. The DVOs share a total of 30 government vehicles for field work; however, some of the newer veterinarians must use their personal cars for field work and the mileage needed to accomplish their tasks does not appear to be adequately compensated.

The Director of each DVO is responsible for coordination and supervision of activities within their district. This also includes nominal supervision of the municipal veterinarians, who are directly under the MoH and the municipal or regional governments; however, there is no well- defined chain of command and delineation of shared or overlapping functions between the DVO and municipal veterinarians. Interaction between the DVO and the local municipal authorities is highly variable between districts and dependent more on personal interaction than established protocols.

DVO staffs are responsible for official vaccination campaigns, official identification, movement controls, epidemiology, disease control and eradiation activities during outbreaks. With the exception of rabies vaccination, no official tasks have been delegated to private veterinarians.

The veterinary para professionals working in the DVOs are generally classified as “inspectors”. Most are trained on the job although some have been trained for 1 to 2 years in agriculture schools. The inspectors do vaccination, sampling for surveillance and residue programs, either on their own or under the supervision of the field veterinarians. The secretarial staff is responsible for data entry from these campaigns and issuing movement certificates.

Veterinary Research and Laboratory Services

The Kimron Veterinary Institute (KVI), the research and diagnostic arm of IVSAH, shares the MoA campus in Bet Dagan with IVSAH headquarters. The head of KVI reports directly to the CVO. KVI is divided into 5 divisions: pathology; parasitology; bacteriology; virology; and, poultry and fish diseases with a total of 17 laboratories. KVI is the national diagnostic laboratory. KVI serves as the National Reference Laboratories for residues, Rabies, Anthrax, Botulism, Brucellosis, avian influenza and animal mycoplasmas and is an International Reference Laboratory for Brucellosis.

Animal Health Programs

The income generated by the identification, vaccination and diagnostic testing is an important source of revenue for VS; for the last 4 years this has accounted for approximately 40% of the operational funding for VS with the remainder coming directly from the national budget.

Individual identification of all cattle, sheep and goats is mandatory and managed by the DVOs. The following vaccinations are mandatory in Israel and done on a fee-for-service basis: all cattle are vaccinated annually for FMD, all female cattle are vaccinated between 3 and 8 months of age for *Brucella abortus.* Camels are vaccinated for FMD along the Gaza/Egypt border. Cattle are vaccinated against lumpy skin disease along the same border.

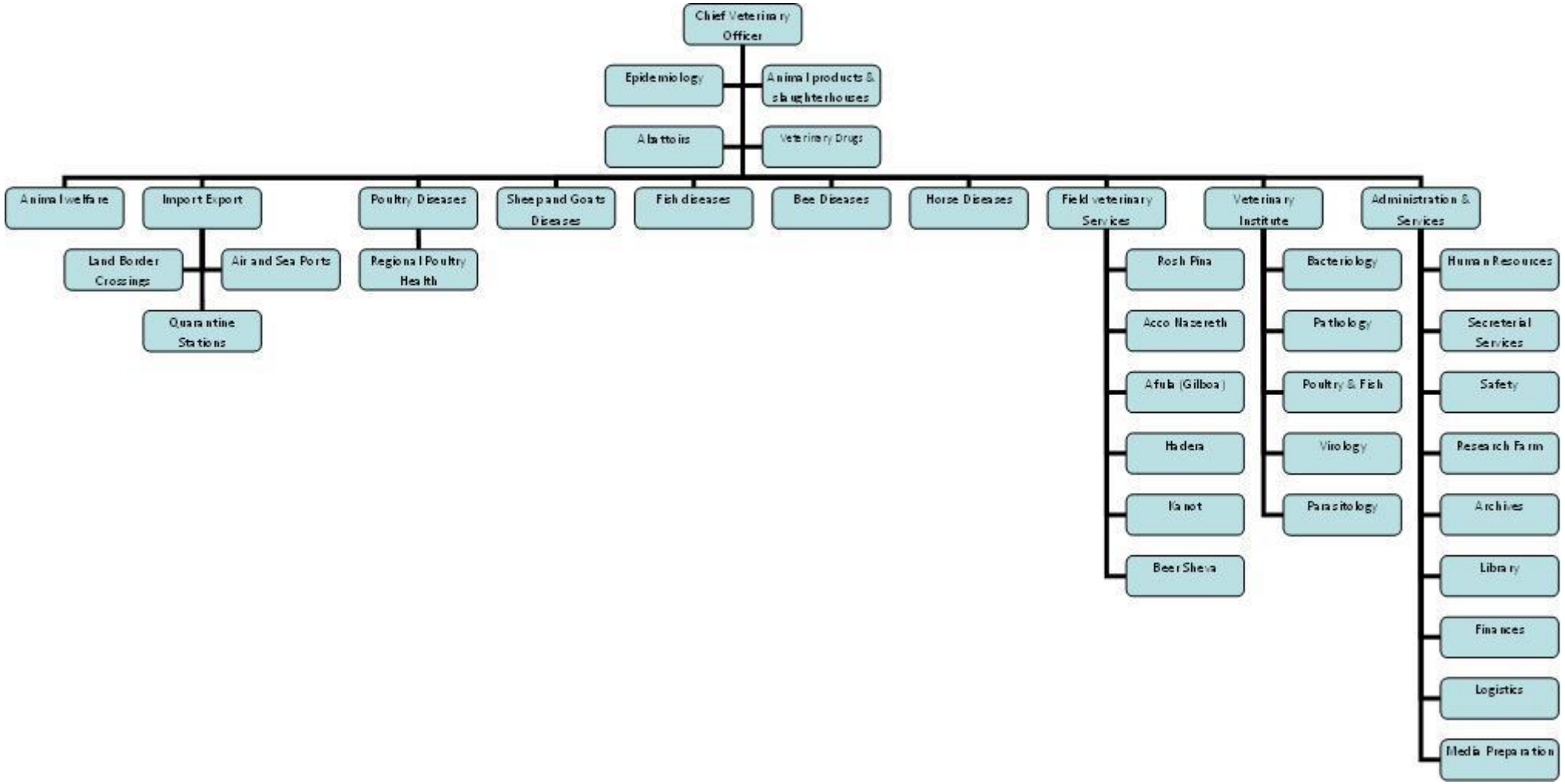
All sheep and goats are vaccinated annually for FMD, PPR and 3 times a year for sheep and goat pox. All female sheep and goats are vaccinated for *Brucella melitensis* between 2 and 6 months of age; the vaccine is provided for free. *Brucella melitensis* is a significant zoonotic disease in Israel infecting at least 100 people annually, primarily in the less intensive sectors.

All other vaccination of ruminants is done as needed or on request of the farmer. Some vaccinations have been handed over to private veterinarians such as enterotoxaemia. Anthrax vaccination is mandatory when an outbreak is confirmed.

Newcastle disease vaccination in poultry is officially mandated with an extensive well defined vaccination schedule. Several years ago Newcastle disease vaccination was turned over to private vaccination teams contracted by the farmers. In the recent large Newcastle outbreak it was determined that the infected poultry did not have adequate vaccine protection as a result of inadequate/improper vaccination which allowed the outbreak to spread extensively. The policy of indemnity payment was reviewed and it was determined that for the next outbreak, the Ministry of Finance will not pay indemnity if the vaccination is not properly done.

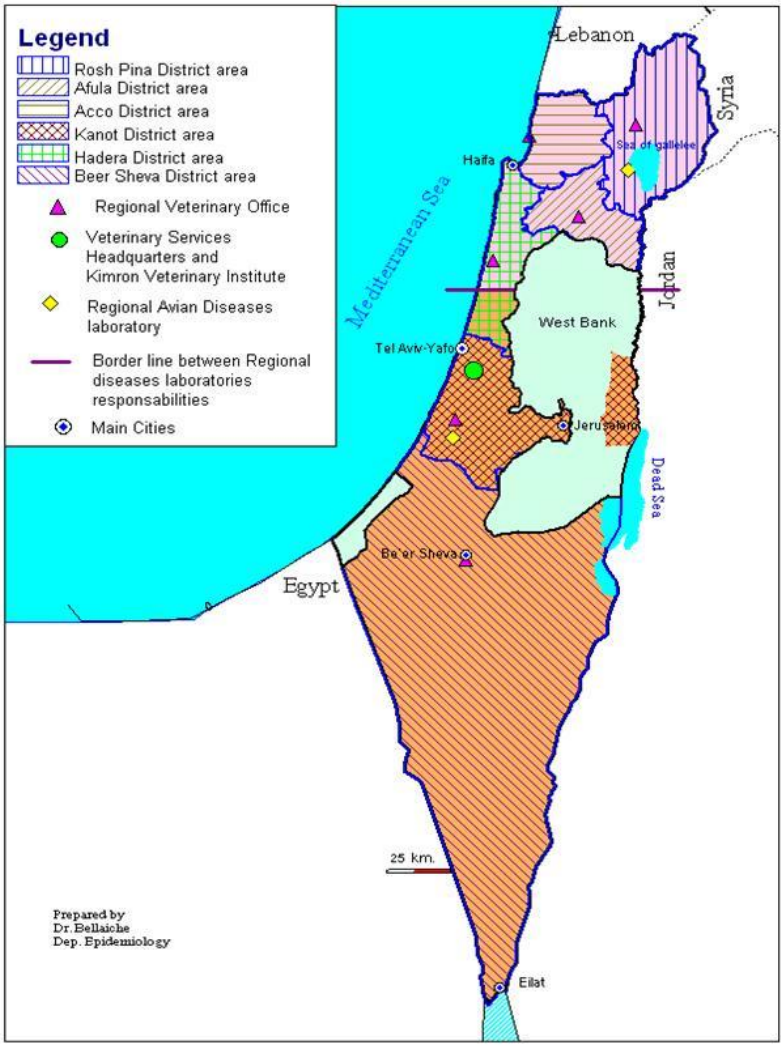
Rabies vaccination of large animals is done on request, primarily on the border areas, or when a case is diagnosed in the dairy with a 10 km ring or along the border. Most cases of rabies are in the north (border with Lebanon) and the north east (borders with Syria and Jordan).

Graph 1: Organisational chart – Veterinary Services of Israel

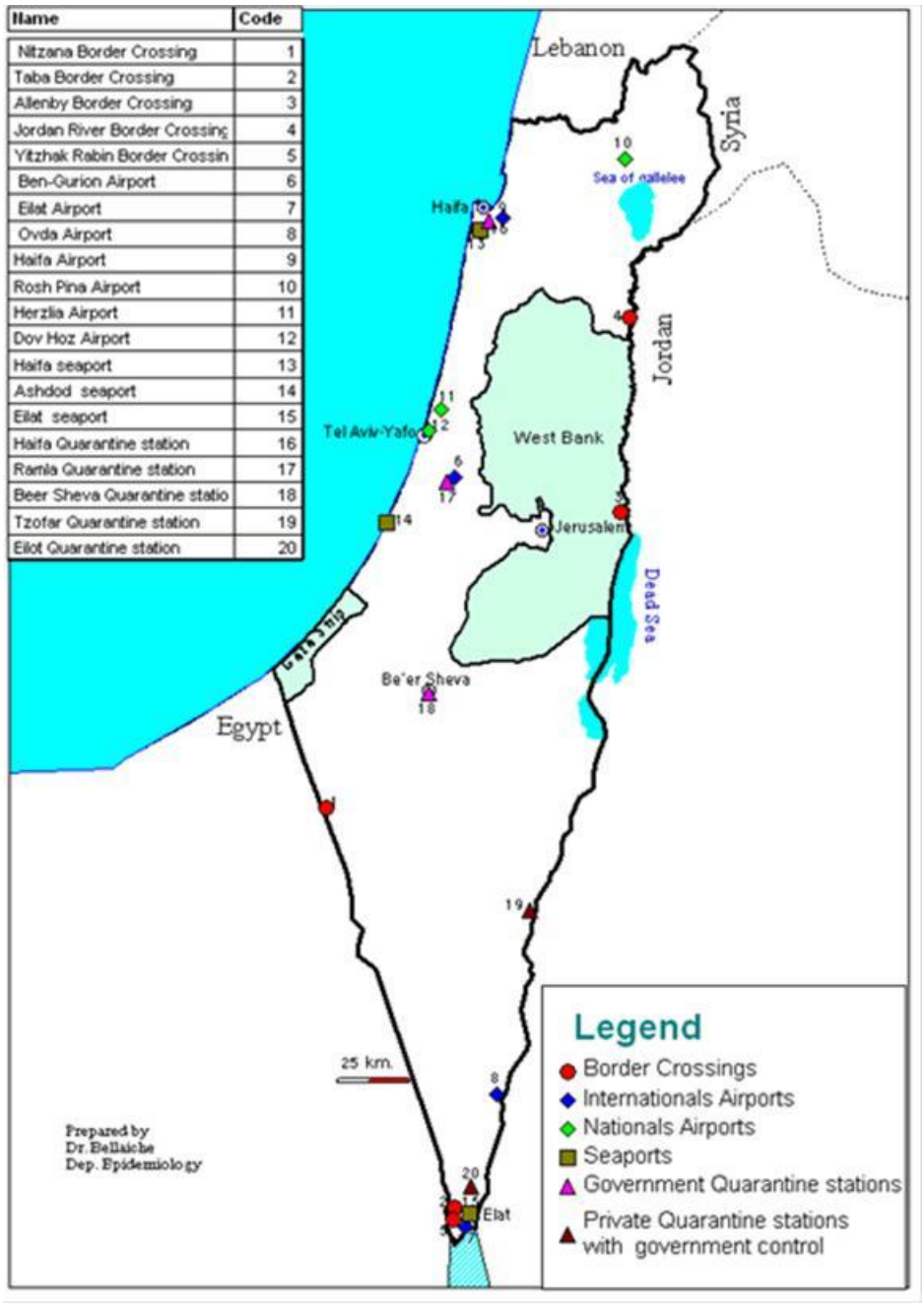


[source: IVSAH, 2010]

Map 4: Israel's borders, Veterinary Districts and Laboratories



Map 5: Seaports, Airports, Border Crossings and Quarantine Stations - Israel



II.3.C Animal disease occurrence

Information on animal disease occurrence from the OIE website (see table 4)

Table 4a: Disease present in the Country

	Domestic		Wild	
Disease	Notifiable	Status	Notifiable	Status
Acarapisosis of honey bees	✓	Clinical Disease		Not Applicable
American foulbrood of honey bees	✓	Clinical Disease		Not Applicable
Avian chlamydiosis	✓	Not reported for this Period	✓	Confirmed infection (no clinical disease)
Avian infectious bronchitis	✓	Clinical Disease	✓	Not reported for this Period
Bluetongue	✓	Clinical Disease	✓	Not reported for this Period
Bovine anaplasmosis	✓	Clinical Disease	✓	Not reported for this Period
Bovine babesiosis	✓	Clinical Disease	✓	Not reported for this Period
Bovine viral diarrhoea	✓	Clinical Disease	✓	Not reported for this Period
Brucellosis (Brucella melitensis)	✓	Clinical Disease	✓	Not reported for this Period
Caprine arthritis/encephalitis	✓	Confirmed infection (no clinical disease)	✓	Not reported for this Period
Enzootic abortion (chlamydiosis)	✓	Clinical Disease	✓	Not reported for this Period
Enzootic bovine leukosis	✓	Clinical Disease	✓	Not reported for this Period
Equine rhinopneumonitis	✓	Clinical Disease	✓	Not reported for this Period
European foulbrood of honey bees	✓	Clinical Disease		Not Applicable
Foot and mouth disease	✓	Clinical Disease	✓	Not reported for this Period
Fowl cholera	✓	Clinical Disease	✗	Not reported for this Period
Highly path. avian influenza	✓	Clinical Disease	✓	Clinical Disease
Infec bursal disease (Gumboro)	✓	Clinical Disease	✓	Not reported for this Period
Koi herpesvirus disease	✓	Clinical Disease	✓	Not reported for this Period
Leishmaniosis	✓	Clinical Disease	✓	Confirmed infection (no clinical disease)
Leptospirosis	✓	Clinical Disease	✓	Not reported for this Period
Maedi-visna	✓	Confirmed infection (no clinical disease)	✓	Not reported for this Period
Marek's disease	✓	Clinical Disease	✓	Not reported for this Period
Mycoplasmosis (M. gallisepticum)	✓	Clinical Disease	✓	Not reported for this Period
Newcastle disease	✓	Clinical Disease	✓	Clinical Disease
Paratuberculosis	✓	Clinical Disease	✓	Not reported for this Period
Q fever	✓	Clinical Disease	✓	Not reported for this Period
Rabies	✓	Clinical Disease	✓	Clinical Disease
Sheep pox and goat pox	✓	Clinical Disease	✗	No information
Theileriosis	✓	Clinical Disease	✓	Not reported for this Period
Transmissible gastroenteritis	✓	Suspected (not confirmed)	✓	Not reported for this Period
Trichinellosis	✓	Not reported for this Period	✓	Confirmed infection (no clinical disease)
Turkey rhinotracheitis	✗	Clinical Disease		Not Applicable
Varroosis of honey bees	✓	Clinical Disease		Not Applicable
West Nile Fever	✓	Clinical Disease	✓	Not reported for this Period

Table 4b: Disease never reported

Disease	Notifiable	Type of surveillance
African swine fever	✓	General Surveillance
Aujeszky's disease	✓	General Surveillance
Brucellosis (Brucella suis)	✓	General Surveillance
Contagious cap. pleuropneumonia	✓	General Surveillance
Contagious equine metritis	✓	General Surveillance
Crimean Congo haemorrhagic fever	✗	
Encephalomyelitis (West.)	✓	General Surveillance
Epizoot. haematopoietic necrosis	✓	
Epizootic ulcerative syndrome	✗	
Equine encephalomyelitis (Eastern)	✓	General Surveillance
Equine infectious anaemia	✓	General and targeted surveillance
Gyrodactylosis (Gyrodactylus salaris)	✗	
Heartwater	✓	General Surveillance
Infect. haematopoietic necrosis	✓	
Infectious salmon anaemia	✗	
Japanese encephalitis	✓	General Surveillance
Myxomatosis	✗	
N. w. screwworm (C. hominivorax)	✓	General Surveillance
Nairobi sheep disease	✓	
Nipah virus encephalitis	✗	General Surveillance
O. w. screwworm (C. bezziana)	✓	
Ovine epididymitis (B. ovis)	✓	General and targeted surveillance
Porcine cysticercosis	✓	General Surveillance
Porcine reproductive/respiratory syndr.	✓	General Surveillance
Red sea bream iridoviral disease	✗	
Rift Valley fever	✓	General Surveillance
Spring viraemia of carp	✓	
Swine vesicular disease	✓	General Surveillance
Tularemia	✗	
Venezuelan equ.encephalomyelitis	✓	General Surveillance
Vesicular stomatitis	✓	General Surveillance
Viral haemorrhagic septicaemia	✓	

Table 4c: Disease not reported in 2011

	Domestic			Wild		
Disease	Notifiable	Last occurrenc	Surveillance	Notifiable	Last occurrence	Surveillance
African horse sickness	✓	1944	General Surveillance	✓	Unknown	General Surveillance
Anthrax	✓	2009	General Surveillance	✓	Unknown	General Surveillance
Avian infect. laryngotracheitis	✓	2010	General Surveillance	✓	Unknown	
Avian mycoplasmosis (M. synoviae)	✗	2010	General Surveillance	✗	Unknown	
Bov. genital campylobacteriosis	✓	1959	General & targeted surveillance	✓	Unknown	
BSE	✓	2002	General & targeted surveillance	✓	Unknown	General Surveillance
Bovine tuberculosis	✓	1999	General & targeted surveillance	✓	Unknown	General Surveillance
Brucellosis (B. abortus)	✓	1984	General & targeted surveillance	✓	Unknown	General Surveillance
Classical swine fever	✓	2009	General Surveillance	✓	2010	General Surveillance
Contagious agalactia	✓	2008	General Surveillance	✓	Unknown	
Contagious bov. pleuropneumonia	✓	1941	General Surveillance	✓	Unknown	General Surveillance
Dourine	✓	1952	General & targeted surveillance	✓	Unknown	General Surveillance
Duck virus hepatitis	✓	1959	General Surveillance	n.a.		
Echinococcosis/hydatidosis	✓	2009		✓	Unknown	
Epizootic haemorrhagic disease	✗	2006	General Surveillance	✗	Unknown	
Equine influenza	✓	2007	General Surveillance	✓	Unknown	General Surveillance
Equine piroplasmosis	✓	2010		✓	Unknown	
Equine viral arteritis	✓	2008	General Surveillance	✓	Unknown	General Surveillance
Fowl typhoid	✓	1993	General & targeted surveillance	✓	Unknown	
Glanders	✓	1951	General Surveillance	✓	Unknown	General Surveillance
Haemorrhagic septicaemia	✓	1948	General Surveillance	✓	Unknown	
Inf.bov.rhinotracheit.	✓	2007	General Surveillance	✓	Unknown	
Lumpy skin disease	✓	2007	General Surveillance	✓	Unknown	General Surveillance
Peste des petits ruminants	✓	2006	General Surveillance	✓	Unknown	General Surveillance
Pullorum disease	✓	1937	General & targeted surveillance	✓	Unknown	
Rabbit haemorrhagic disease	✗	2006		✗	Unknown	
Rinderpest	✓	1983	General Surveillance	✓	Unknown	General Surveillance
Salmonellosis (S.	✓	1960	General Surveillance	✓	Unknown	General

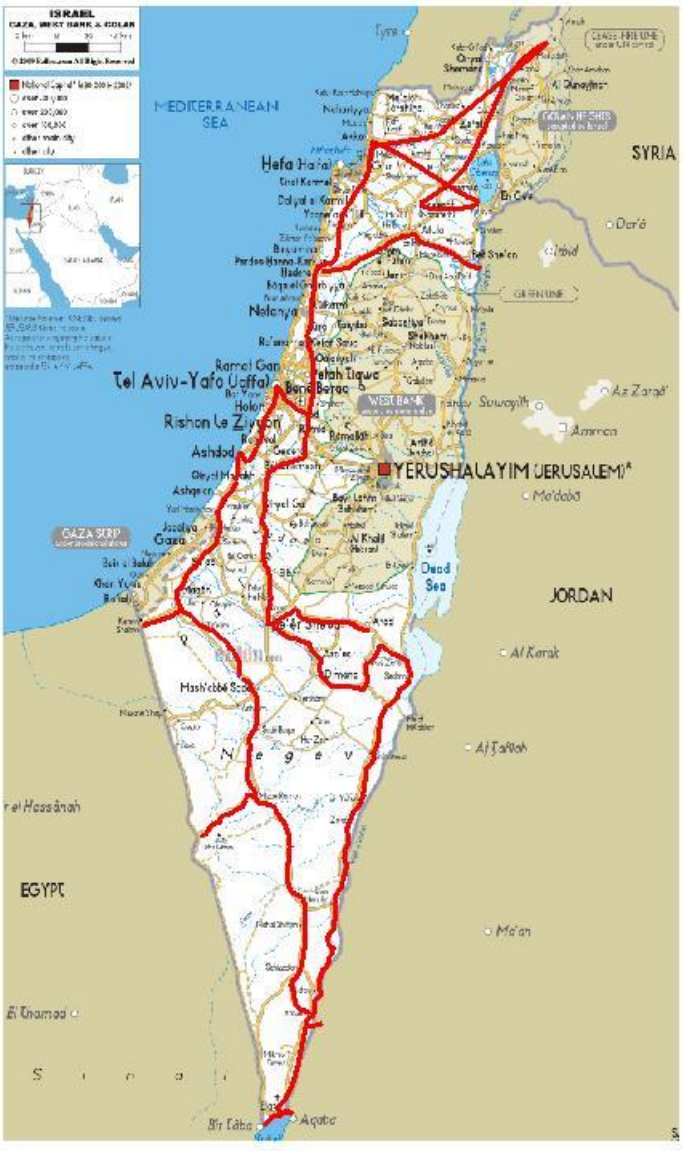
abortusovis)						Surveillance
Scrapie	✓	2008	General Surveillance	✓	Unknown	
Surra (Trypanosoma evansi)	✓	2008	General Surveillance	✓	Unknown	
Trichomonosis	✓	1959		✓	Unknown	
Trypanosomosis	✓	2006	Targeted Surveillance	✓	Unknown	

II.4 Organisation of the evaluation

II.4.A Timetable of the mission

Appendix 3 provides a list of persons met; Appendix 4 provides the timetable of the mission and details of the facilities and locations visited by the OIE-PVS Team and Appendix 5 provides the international air travel itinerary of team members.

The map below indicates the travel undertaken by the assessors. During this field trip of around 2500 km, 64 sites were visited and more than 120 persons were interviewed.



II.4.B Categories of sites and sampling for the evaluation

The table 5 lists the categories of sites relevant to the evaluation and the number of each category of sites in the country. It indicates how many of the sites were visited, in comparison with the suggested sampling framework ("ideal" sampling) recommended in OIE PVS Manual.

Appendix 4 provides a detailed list of sites visited and meetings conducted.

Table 5: Site sampling	**Terminology or names used in the country**	Number of sites	"Ideal" Sampling	Actual sampling
GEOGRAPHICAL ZONES OF THE COUNTRY				
Agro-ecological zone	Coastal plain; Mountain; Desert; Valleys	4	4	4
ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANISATION OF THE COUNTRY				
1st administrative level	National	1	1	1
2nd administrative level	Municipalities	251	16	?
3rd administrative level	Villages	1255	35	?
Urban entities	Cities	75	10	?
VETERINARY SERVICES ORGANISATION AND STRUCTURE				
Central (Federal/National) VS	IVSAH	1	1	1
Internal division of the central VS	Departments	14	14	14
1st level of the VS				
2nd level of the VS				
3rd level of the VS				
Veterinary organisations (VSB, unions…)	IVMA, pet and equine VA	3	3	1
FIELD ANIMAL HEALTH NETWORK				
Field level of the VS (animal health)	Districts Veterinary Offices	6	6	6
Private veterinary sector	1500 [pets], 150 [rural]	150	12	7
Other sites (dip tanks, crush pens….)				
VETERINARY MEDICINES & BIOLOGICALS				
Production sector				
Import and wholesale sector	1° companion animal	6	6	3
Retail sector	1° companion animal	6		1
Other partners involved				
VETERINARY LABORATORIES				
National labs	Kimron	1	1	1
Regional and local labs	Northern & Southern Poultry labs	2	2	2
Associated, accredited and other labs	-National Service for Udder & Milk Quality -Ministry of Health Laboratories -5 private laboratories (companion animals)	7	7	2
ANIMAL AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS MOVEMENT CONTROL				
Bordering countries	Lebanon, West Bank, Syria, Jordan,Egypt, Gaza	6	6	6
Airports and ports border posts	7 airports (1) + 3 seaports	1+3	1+3	1+3
Main terrestrial border posts		5	5	2
Minor terrestrial border posts	Gilboa (Jenin), Bak"a (Jericho), Shaar Efrain (Tul Karem), Bitunya (Ramallah), Tarkumia (Hevron), Karem Shalom (Gaza)	6		2
Quarantine stations for import		4	4	3
Internal check points		0		
Live animal markets	Rahat (small ruminants), Tel Sheva (small ruminants),	5		0

	Beer Sheva (small ruminanats), Kfar Kasem (unauthorized- birds), Pardessia (dogs)			
Zones, compartments, export quarantines				
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION OF ANIMALS AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS				
Export slaughterhouse	Poultry	7	7	3
National market slaughterhouses	Poultry 25 [18 national market only, 7 for export and domestic], C+SR 14, Swine 3, Rabbit 1	36	10	8
Local market slaughterhouse				
Slaughter areas/slabs/points	Very few with specific approvals [mostly for religious rituals during holidays]			0
On farm or butcher"s slaughtering sites	Not approved			0
Processing sites (milk, meat, eggs, etc)	Export: Poultry meat 11, egg 4, milk 17, fish 2 Domestic: eggs 25, fish 7, [poultry meat & milk under MoH]			3+1
Retail outlets (butchers, shops, restaurants)	Responsibility of MoH			1
TRAINING AND RESEARCH ORGANISATIONS				
Veterinary university	Koret vet school	1	1	1
Veterinary paraprofessional schools	Magen David/Machon Magid	2	2	2
Veterinary research organisations	Kimron, Weitzman	7	7	2
STAKEHOLDERS' ORGANISATIONS				
Agricultural Chamber / organisation				
National livestock farmers organisations	Poultry, honey, and dairy boards	3		2
Local livestock farmers organisations	Cattle 3; Small ruminants 3; Poultry 1; Fish 1; Bees 1	6		6
Other stakeholder organisations				
Consumer organisations	Israel Consumer Council	1	1	0

PART III: RESULTS OF THE EVALUATION & GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

This evaluation identifies the strengths and weaknesses of the veterinary services, and makes general recommendations.

FUNDAMENTAL COMPONENTS

1.	HUMAN PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES
2.	TECHNICAL AUTHORITY AND CAPABILITY
3	INTERACTION WITH STAKEHOLDERS
4.	ACCESS TO MARKETS

Veterinary services are recognised by the international community and by OIE Members as a '**global public good**'. Accordingly, it is essential that each country acknowledges the importance of the role and responsibilities of its veterinary services and gives them the human and financial resources needed to fulfil their responsibilities.

This OIE-PVS Evaluation examined each critical competency under the 4 fundamental components, listed strengths and gaps where applicable, and established a current level of advancement for each critical competency. Evidence supporting this level is listed in Appendix 6. General recommendations were provided where relevant.

The current level of advancement for each critical competency is highlighted shown in cells shadowed in grey (15%) in the table.

III.1 Fundamental component I: human, physical and financial resources

This component of the evaluation concerns the institutional and financial sustainability of the VS as evidenced by the level of professional/technical and financial resources available and the capacity to mobilize these resources. It comprises eleven critical competencies:

Critical competencies:

Section I-1	**Professional and technical staffing of the Veterinary Services**
	A. Veterinary and other professionals (university qualification)
	B. Veterinary para-professionals and other technical personnel
Section I-2	**Competencies of veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals**
	A. Professional competencies of veterinarians
	B. Competencies of veterinary para-professionals
Section I-3	**Continuing education**
Section I-4	**Technical independence**
Section I-5	**Stability of structures and sustainability of policies**
Section I-6	**Coordination capability of the VS**
	A. Internal coordination (chain of command)
	B. External coordination
Section I-7	**Physical resources**
Section I-8	**Operational funding**
Section I-9	**Emergency funding**
Section I-10	**Capital investment**
Section I-11	**Management of resources and operations**

Terrestrial Code References:
Points 1-7, 9 and 14 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Professional judgement / Independence / Impartiality / Integrity / Objectivity / Veterinary legislation / General organisation / Procedures and standards / Human and financial resources.
Article 3.2.2. on Scope.
Points 1 and 2 of Article 3.2.3. on Evaluation criteria for the organisational structure of the Veterinary Services.
Point 2 of Article 3.2.4. on Evaluation criteria for quality system: "Where the Veterinary Services undergoing evaluation… than on the resource and infrastructural components of the services".
Article 3.2.5. on Evaluation criteria for human resources.
Points 1-3 of Article 3.2.6. on Evaluation criteria for material resources: Financial / Administrative / Technical.
Points 3 and Sub-point d) of Point 4 of Article 3.2.10. on Performance assessment and audit programmes: Compliance / In-Service training and development programme for staff.
Article 3.2.12. on Evaluation of the veterinary statutory body.
Points 1-5 and 9 of Article 3.2.14. on Organisation and structure of Veterinary Services / National information on human resources / Financial management information / Administration details / Laboratory services / Performance assessment and audit programmes.

I-1. Professional and technical staffing of the Veterinary Services *The appropriate staffing of the VS to allow for veterinary and technical functions to be undertaken efficiently and effectively.* **A. Veterinary and other professionals (university qualification)**	Levels of advancement
	1. The majority of veterinary and other professional positions are not occupied by appropriately qualified personnel.
	2. The majority of veterinary and other professional positions are occupied by appropriately qualified personnel at central and state / provincial levels.
	3. The majority of veterinary and other professional positions are occupied by appropriately qualified personnel at local (field) level.
	4. There is a systematic approach to defining job descriptions and formal appointment procedures for veterinarians and other professionals.
	5. There are effective management procedures for performance assessment of veterinarians and other professionals.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6)*: E-5, 16; H- 7, 11, 33, 34, 36, 63, 83.

Findings:

There are approximately 300 veterinarians working in the public sector in Israel. IVSAH employs 102 veterinarians. The Municipal and Regional Councils employ approximately 200 veterinarians. The Poultry and Dairy Boards also directly employ veterinarians for field work, laboratory and inspection activities.

Israel has a large cadre of private veterinarians, estimated 1,500. Most are employed primarily in the companion animal sector but an estimated 150 private veterinarians work in the food animal sector; a third of these are in the poultry sector. Israel has a unique veterinary cooperative, the Hacklait, providing services to large animals throughout the country as part of a mutual assurance society owned and managed by the Cattle Breeders Association. The veterinarians employed by Hacklait service nearly 80% of the large animal population.

Many senior positions in IVSAH will be eligible for retirement in the near future and replacement of these positions with equally qualified veterinarians will be a challenge.

Strengths:

- Job descriptions are available for veterinary and technical positions.
- Procedures for appointment, including CVO, are systematic and transparent.
- A good network of private veterinarians is available for all animal species.
- Hacklait provides very comprehensive service throughout Israel for intensive sector.

Weaknesses:

- Lack of succession planning.
- Job descriptions are not comprehensive enough for performance assessment of veterinarians and other professionals.
- Hacklait has effectively a monopoly with obvious consequences on competitive delivery of private veterinary activities.
- Private veterinarians are not involved in any official activities, with the exception of rabies vaccination.
- Recruitment is frozen for the last 5 years.
- Interaction between VS and private veterinarians is not structured leading to a possible loss of information exchange and efficiency of field activities.

Recommendations

- Establish more comprehensive/accurate job descriptions to guide developing a mechanism of performance evaluation/audit in the public sector.
- Ensure regular recruitment to avoid a skill gap in VS.
- Enhance collaboration with private sector to access their expertise.

I-1. Professional and technical staffing of the Veterinary Services *The appropriate staffing of the VS to allow for veterinary and technical functions to be undertaken efficiently and effectively.* B. Veterinary para-professionals and other technical personnel	Levels of advancement
	1. The majority of technical positions are not occupied by personnel holding technical qualifications.
	2. The majority of technical positions at central and state / provincial levels are occupied by personnel holding technical qualifications.
	3. The majority of technical positions at local (field) levels are occupied by personnel holding technical qualifications.
	4. The majority of technical positions are effectively supervised on a regular basis.
	5. There are effective management procedures for formal appointment and performance assessment of veterinary para-professionals.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6):* E-5; H-7, 11, 33, 34, 36, 63, 83; PP27-32, 35, 36, 54; PA8.

Findings:

VS employ relatively few veterinary para-professionals. In the District Veterinary Offices, veterinary para-professionals represent approximately 40% of the staff where they do official animal health activities often without direct supervision [vaccination, animal identification, sampling, etc.].

Private veterinarians in the companion animal sector employ manpower that are not officially certified [e.g., veterinary nurses].

In the poultry sector, private Newcastle disease vaccination teams performed on farm mandatory vaccination without adequate supervision. In the recent large Newcastle outbreak it was demonstrated that the vaccination was not effective and the outbreak became more widespread than it would have with more effective vaccination.

Strengths:

- With the exception of poultry vaccination, veterinary Para-professionals appear to work closely with the district veterinarians.
- Ratio of veterinary para professionals to veterinarians appears to be adequate for the context.

Weaknesses:

- There is a clear lack of systemic procedures of supervision.

Recommendations:

- Establish clear supervision procedures for all activities performed by all categories of all veterinary para professionals; in both the public and private sectors.

I-2. Competencies of veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals *The capability of the VS to efficiently carry out their veterinary and technical functions; measured by the qualifications of their personnel in veterinary and technical positions2.* **A. Professional competencies of veterinarians**	Levels of advancement
	1. The veterinarians‟ practices, knowledge and attitudes are of a variable standard that usually allow for elementary clinical and administrative activities of the VS.
	2. The veterinarians‟ practices, knowledge and attitudes are of a uniform standard that usually allow for accurate and appropriate clinical and administrative activities of the VS.
	3. The veterinarians‟ practices, knowledge and attitudes usually allow undertaking all professional/technical activities of the VS (e.g. epidemiological surveillance, early warning, public health, etc.).
	4. The veterinarians‟ practices, knowledge and attitudes usually allow undertaking specialized activities as may be needed by the VS.
	5. The veterinarians‟ practices, knowledge and attitudes are subject to regular updating, or international harmonisation, or evaluation.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1
Evidence *(Appendix 6):* E-7, 16; H-83; PP-30-33, 36.

Findings:

The Koret School of Veterinary Medicine at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem was founded in 1985. The school currently graduates about 50 veterinarians annually trained to high academic standards. The school is currently seeking EAEVE accreditation.

In addition, approximately the same numbers of veterinarians immigrate to Israel or return to Israel after their studies overseas. These veterinarians must pass an examination before being licensed in Israel; however, the standard of this exam is not equivalent to standards of the Israeli veterinary school.

There is a system of qualifications/certification for specialities overseen by veterinary school faculty, IVMA and personnel from the central VS. Veterinarians can attain certifications of 42 areas of specialization, managed by IVMA, typically involving 4 years of part time study with qualifying written and oral exams upon completion. However, these specializations are managed within Israel where resources may be unavailable or limited in some disciplines.

Hebrew University organizes a 2 semester course of lectures with practical assignments and final exam that all municipal veterinarians must take to qualify for their positions.

Strengths:

- There is good understanding and implementation of international standards and harmonization.
- Many IVSAH veterinarians have advanced degrees and/or specializations.

Weaknesses:

- The rapidly growing number of veterinarians in Israel may result in an oversupply that will negatively impact the quality of veterinary services available in the country.
- The system of specializations relies on a small internal nucleus of recognized resources. Expertise is lacking in some specialities, especially new or more advanced fields. This may diminish the credibility of the system and limit available expertise especially in new or more advances fields.
- Recommendations:
- Make an in depth analysis of the prospective needs for the quantity and quality of veterinarians.
- Develop an appropriate mechanism to regulate the profession to avoid a decline in the quality of professionalism, in order to remain in full compliance with OIE standards that hold professional judgement and technical independence of veterinarians as fundamental principles of quality for VS.

2 Not all professional positions require an academic degree. Nonetheless, the proportion of academic degrees serves as an indicator of professional quality of the VS.

B. Competencies of veterinary para-professionals	Levels of advancement
	1. The majority of veterinary para-professionals have no formal entry-level training.
	2. The training of veterinary para-professionals is of a very variable standard and allows the development of only limited animal health competencies.
	3. The training of veterinary para-professionals is of a uniform standard that allows the development of only basic animal health competencies.
	4. The training of veterinary para-professionals is of a uniform standard that allows the development of some specialist animal health competencies (e.g. meat inspection).
	5. The training of veterinary para-professionals is of a uniform standard and is subject to regular evaluation and/or updating.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6):* H-64

Findings:

There is no formal training of veterinary para-professionals in the public sector [IVSAH or municipalities]. All training is done on the job without formal standards.

There are two private schools training veterinary para-professionals for the private companion animal sector; one is associated with Hebrew University and the other entirely private. There is no official standard or recognition of this training.

Strengths:

- There is discussion between the VS and the veterinary para-professional schools on developing regulation of veterinary para-professionals [competencies, activities, and supervision by veterinarians].
- Veterinary “nurses” trained in these schools are reported to be adequate.

Weaknesses:

- Many district veterinary para-professionals do not have qualifications and receive only the job training.

Recommendations:

- Consider the current veterinary para-professionals as support staff as long as they lack formal training.
- Assess if there is a need for official recognition of categories of veterinary para-professionals.
- Ensure adequate veterinary supervision of veterinary para-professionals (if recognised) for all activities.
-

I-3. Continuing education (CE)[3] *The capability of the VS to maintain and improve the competence of their personnel in terms of relevant information and understanding; measured in terms of the implementation of a relevant training programme.*	Levels of advancement
	1. The VS have no access to continuing veterinary, professional or technical CE.
	2. The VS have access to CE (internal and/or external programmes) on an irregular basis but it does not take into account needs, or new information or understanding.
	3. The VS have access to CE that is reviewed annually and updated as necessary, but it is implemented only for some categories of the relevant personnel.
	4. The VS have access to CE that is reviewed annually and updated as necessary, and it is implemented for all categories of the relevant personnel.
	5. The VS have up-to-date CE that is implemented for all relevant personnel and is submitted to periodic evaluation of effectiveness.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6):* interviews only

Findings:

Interviews with IVSAH field staff indicated that they have periodically received training on some topics but not on a regular basis. There is no requirement for CE for any sector of the veterinary profession in Israel. In general, there does not appear to be regular CE offered, although periodic training is done on an *ad hoc* basis.

The Israeli Veterinary Medical Association (IVMA) publishes an academic journal with information about regional disease issues and offers some voluntary continuing education at its annual meetings. The Municipal Veterinary Association also hold annual meetings with several days of CE, typically these meetings are not attended by staff of the IVSAH.

It was stated that veterinarians from the slaughter inspection and animal food product inspection appear to get some regular training annually.

The Israeli branch of the World Poultry Science Association holds several one-day professional conferences each year and an annual three-day scientific conference for professionals, including veterinarians working in the poultry field.

Strengths:

- Because of competency and dedication to the work, there is good personal understanding of the need for updating competencies which is achieved by personal initiative within the public sector [e.g., annual in-house slaughter inspection training] and the private sector [e.g., poultry laboratory presentations].

Weaknesses:

- There is no requirement for Veterinary CE within any sector, private or public.
- There are no structured programs within VS for CE.

Recommendations:

- Overall CE needs should be assessed and appropriate programs developed.

[3] Continuing education includes Continuous Professional Development (CPD) for veterinary, professional and technical personnel.

I-4. Technical independence *The capability of the VS to carry out their duties with autonomy and free from commercial, financial, hierarchical and political influences that may affect technical decisions in a manner contrary to the provisions of the OIE (and of the WTO SPS Agreement where applicable).*	Levels of advancement
	1. The technical decisions made by the VS are generally not based on scientific considerations.
	2. The technical decisions take into account the scientific evidence, but are routinely modified to conform to non-scientific considerations.
	3. The technical decisions are based on scientific evidence but are subject to review and possible modification based on non-scientific considerations.
	4. The technical decisions are based only on scientific evidence and are not changed to meet non-scientific considerations.
	5. The technical decisions are made and implemented in full accordance with the country"s OIE obligations (and with the country"s WTO SPS Agreement obligations where applicable).

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1
Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-1-3, 16; H-57*

Findings:

The current IVSAH appears to be staffed with competent people, supported by an adequate legislative framework, functioning under positive pressure of international and domestic market forces. Technical independence of IVSAH came under scrutiny in the 2010 Zeiler Committee investigation. Significant progress in addressing the concerns raised by the judicial inquiry appears to have been made. This OIE PVS mission is part of the process of realignment process.

Israel is both an importer and exporter of live animals and animal products and operates in compliance with international standards. As such, VS has been successfully audited by international agencies such as FVO and USDA. Decision making appears to be done in a systematic way, using available international standards; however, dependence on income from vaccination and other charges may limit true independence of the IVSAH in some decision making

The net salaries of the veterinarians in IVSAH were reported in some cases to be 20 – 30% less than some municipal veterinarians. However, since municipal veterinarians are paid directly by the municipal or regional councils, salaries appear to vary with the region. It was also reported that in some municipalities there was irregularly and variation in payment, social benefits and allocation of physical resources. During the site visit, it was observed that the owner of one municipal slaughterhouse did not pay the municipality for inspection services and this municipality was not paying the veterinary inspector.

The Dairy and Poultry Boards employ veterinarians that are responsible for inspection and other duties which may represent a conflict of interest.

Strengths:

- Legislation is in place and regular external audits occur;
- Clear procedures for conduct of routine and emergency tasks;
- VS veterinarians are well qualified and competent;
- Veterinarians are not paid directly by the slaughterhouses they inspect.

Weaknesses:

- Municipal veterinarians working in slaughter and animal product inspection are under the supervision of IVSAH, but are hired and paid by the municipal and regional councils.
- There is a lack of official delegation [see C.C. III.4] for veterinarians doing official tasks while being paid by stakeholders that they are supposed to control [e.g., poultry and dairy product inspection].

Recommendations:

- Establish full authority of IVSAH for all veterinary public health controls.

I-5. Stability of structures and sustainability of policies *The capability of the VS structure and/or leadership to implement and sustain policies over time.*	Levels of advancement
	1. Substantial changes to the organisational structure and/or leadership of the public sector of the VS frequently occur (e.g. annually) resulting in lack of sustainability of policies.
	2. The organisational structure and/or leadership of the public sector of the VS is substantially changed each time there is a change in the political leadership and this has negative effects on sustainability of policies.
	3. Significant changes to the organisational structure and/or leadership of the public sector of the VS occur rarely, but this stability does not have a positive impact on the sustainability of policies.
	4. Some changes occur in the organisational structure and/or leadership of the public sector of the VS following a change in the political leadership, but these have little or no negative effect on sustainability of policies.
	5. The organisational structure and leadership of the public sector of the VS are generally stable. Modifications are based on an evaluation process, with positive effect on the sustainability of policies.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-16; H-81.*

Findings:

The appointment of central personnel has been stable supporting technical programs that are well documented and reviewed regularly. Positions are filled in an open and transparent manner, generally by committees comprised of officials and stakeholders. For example, the position of CVO is filled by committee decision and serves for a renewable 6 year term.

The organogram of the overall IVSAH structure, although stable, is unwieldy and outdated, dealing rather with animal species than by functions.

Strengths:

- The organisational structure and leadership of the public sector of the VS are generally stable.

Weaknesses:

- It is difficult to add new positions or reorganize when needed.
- Many senior positions will be eligible for retirement in the near future and replacement of these positions with equally qualified veterinarians may present a challenge.
- No assessment of structural organization is done to consider new functions [addition of new post without reshaping „flow"].

Recommendations:

- Review the organogram and make updates to adequately reflect current functions and provide needed cross cutting resources.

I-6. Coordination capability of the VS **A. Internal coordination (chain of command)** *The capability of the VS to coordinate its resources and activities (public and private sectors) with a clear chain of command, from the central level (CVO), to the field level of the VS in order to implement all national activities relevant for OIE Codes (i.e. surveillance, disease control and eradication, food safety and early detection and rapid response programs).*	Levels of advancement
	1. There is no formal internal coordination and the chain of command is not clear.
	2. There are internal coordination mechanisms for some activities but the chain of command is not clear.
	3. There are internal coordination mechanisms and a clear and effective chain of command for some activities.
	4. There are internal coordination mechanisms and a clear and effective chain of command at the national level for most activities.
	5. There are internal coordination mechanisms and a clear and effective chain of command for all activities and these are periodically reviewed/audited and updated.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-3, 16; H-39.*

Findings:

There is a clear chain of command within IVSAH with internal coordination mechanisms and a clear and effective chain of command for all activities which are periodically reviewed and updated. The chain of command within IVSAH appears to be stable.

Field activities are well documented and interaction with the DVOs is coordinated with good communication allowing rapid flow of information to and from the central level.

The chain of command between IVSAH and municipal veterinarians may be broken; there is no direct flow of information or coordination.

Strengths:

- Field procedures are periodically reviewed, updated and communicated to the field.
- Changes in animal health status or procedures are rapidly communicated to the field and supported by clear procedures.

Weaknesses:

- The organization at central level is very horizontal and not based on functions; all departments report directly to the CVO.
- Deficiencies exist in the formal chain of command for some official programs. The official role of IVSAH over food safety inspection by municipal veterinarians should be clarified.

Recommendations:

- Formalize the chain of command for all official activities, either through direct employment of official veterinarians or by formal official delegation.
- Clearly document the authority of IVSAH over inspectors employed by the Dairy and Poultry Boards.

B. External coordination	Levels of advancement
The capability of the VS to coordinate its resources and activities (public and private sectors) at all levels with other relevant authorities as appropriate, in order to implement all national activities relevant for OIE Codes (i.e. surveillance, disease control and eradication, food safety and early detection and rapid response programs). Relevant authorities include other ministries and competent authorities, national agencies and decentralised institutions.	1. There is no external coordination.
	2. There are informal external coordination mechanisms for some activities, but the procedures are not clear and/or external coordination occurs irregularly.
	3. There are formal external coordination mechanisms with clearly described procedures or agreements for some activities and/or sectors.
	4. There are formal external coordination mechanisms with clearly described procedures or agreements at the national level for most activities, and these are uniformly implemented throughout the country.
	5. There are national external coordination mechanisms for all activities and these are periodically reviewed and updated.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-14, 16, PA-4*

Findings:

Procedures of external coordination exist with Customs for border security. Inter-ministerial committees [e.g., veterinary medicine registration] are well established and enhance technical resources for IVSAH decision making.

For emergencies, past experience shows an effective coordination with other institutions, including security forces, municipalities, MoH, etc.

There is good external formal coordination between IVSAH and the Dairy and Poultry Boards [e.g., surveillance programs].

Coordination in other domains, such as wildlife, food product inspection, extension, appear to rely more on very strong personal relationships and commitment to the work, rather than established formal mechanisms of external coordination. There is a lack of structured programs in the field between IVSAH and MoE [e.g., no structured surveillance of wildlife] and MoH [e.g., no coordination for inspection of food distribution or restaurants; or for inspection of animal products for domestic consumption].

Strengths:

- Effective external coordination with Inter-Ministerial committees, Dairy and Poultry Boards, and during emergencies.
- Personal interactions with veterinarians on wildlife and MoH topics.

Weaknesses:

- Lack of formal external coordination with MoH, municipal veterinarians, or MoE.

Recommendations:

- Establish clear external coordination procedures in all relevant domains.

I-7. Physical resources *The access of the VS to relevant physical resources including buildings, transport telecommunications, cold chain, and other relevant equipment (e.g. computers).*	Levels of advancement
	1. The VS have no or unsuitable physical resources at almost all levels, and maintenance of existing infrastructure is poor or non-existent.
	2. The VS have suitable physical resources at national (central) level and at some regional levels, and maintenance and replacement of obsolete items occurs only occasionally.
	3. The VS have suitable physical resources at national, regional and some local levels and maintenance and replacement of obsolete items occurs only occasionally.
	4. The VS have suitable physical resources at all levels and these are regularly maintained.
	5. The VS have suitable physical resources at all levels (national, sub-national and local levels) and these are regularly maintained and updated as more advanced and sophisticated items become available.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-9, 16; PP1, 7-11, 17-23, 42-47, 49, 63, 69-77; PA12-14; PE1-5, 21.*

Findings:

Good physical resources are in place and managed under the central authority of the Division of Administration and Services, with some notable exceptions. In general, buildings, telecommunications, cold chain and computer resources appear to be in good condition and updated on a routine basis.

Transportation needs are a challenge, especially at central level, where VPH and borders control veterinarians are often without dedicated transportation and must use their personal cars or resources of other staffs for doing core work. Reimbursement for use of personal vehicles [€0.13 per km, on average] is below actual costs and maximum mileage reimbursement is limited to 30,000 km/year which is not adequate for many positions. This negatively impacts delivery of inspection services.

Strengths:

- Physical resources are generally well managed from the central level.

Weaknesses:

- Lack of transportation for VPH inspectors
- Budget limitations to renew the following facilities have negative impacts:
  - The small, out-dated post-mortem facility, shared by KVI and the Koret Veterinary School poses a human health hazard;
  - DVO of Beer Sheva cannot work properly although it is responsible for the whole south of Israel;
  - No work with live FMD and other BL-3 viruses can be done in Israel, including routine vaccine testing and development, until the uncompleted FMD research facility is completed;
  - Laboratory animal housing at KVI needs to be updated to be in compliance with laboratory accreditation requirements.

Recommendations:

- Purchase needed vehicles;
- Update the facilities described above.

I-8. Operational Funding *The ability of the VS to access financial resources adequate for their continued operations, independent of political pressure.*	Levels of advancement
	1. Funding for the VS is neither stable nor clearly defined but depends on resources allocated irregularly.
	2. Funding for the VS is clearly defined and regular, but is inadequate for their required base operations (i.e. disease surveillance, early detection and rapid response and veterinary public health).
	3. Funding for the VS is clearly defined and regular, and is adequate for their base operations, but there is no provision for new or expanded operations.
	4. Funding for new or expanded operations is on a case-by-case basis, not always based on risk analysis and/or cost benefit analysis.
	5. Funding for all aspects of VS activities is adequate; all funding is provided under full transparency and allows for full technical independence, based on risk analysis and/or cost benefit analysis.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-7, 9, 15, 16; H-62; PP38.*

Findings:

Budgets appear stable over time and emergency funds have been allocated as needed. The annual budget for IVSAH is approximately US$ 15 million; most is budgeted directly from the government, but roughly 40% is derived from income from statutory vaccinations, permit fees and laboratory diagnostic services.

Although IVSAH can access external funding, e.g., research grants, it is almost impossible to add new positions even on short-term or temporary basis and has resulted in KVI turning down research grants and losing these opportunities.

Funding of activities through the Milk and Poultry Boards appears to be stable.

Strengths:

- Operational funding is stable

Weaknesses:

- Lack of flexibility to use „soft money" in recruitment of staff leads to loss of opportunity to fund new or expanded operations.
- No evidence of on-going audits for cost efficiency/benefit analysis of operations.

Recommendations:

- Establish more flexible recruitment procedures.
- Develop cost efficiency/benefit analysis of operations.

I-9. Emergency funding	Levels of advancement
The capability of the VS to access extraordinary financial resources in order to respond to emergency situations or emerging issues; measured by the ease of which contingency and compensatory funding (i.e. arrangements for compensation of producers in emergency situations) can be made available when required.	1. No contingency and compensatory funding arrangements exist and there is no provision for emergency financial resources.
	2. Contingency and compensatory funding arrangements with limited resources have been established, but these are inadequate for expected emergency situations (including emerging issues).
	3. Contingency and compensatory funding arrangements with limited resources have been established; additional resources for emergencies may be approved but approval is through a political process.
	4. Contingency and compensatory funding arrangements with adequate resources have been established, but in an emergency situation, their operation must be agreed through a non-political process on a case-by-case basis.
	5. Contingency and compensatory funding arrangements with adequate resources have been established and their rules of operation documented and agreed with stakeholders.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): H-62, 79-80.*

Findings:

The Ministry of Agriculture maintains regular funds for animal health emergencies of approximately 1.7 million USD. If needed, this amount can be increased, e.g., 20 million USD was provided for the recent large Newcastle disease outbreak. This funding covers indemnity compensation and management of emergency operations. In addition, there is a system of mutual assurance funds supported by producers in several of the intensive production sectors.

Compensation mechanisms are generally not defined through consultation with stakeholders, as stated in meetings with the dairy and poultry boards, although they do not complain.

Strengths:

- There is an existing mechanism that works and has been used frequently.

Weaknesses:

- Although the mechanism for compensation exists, the lack of consultation with farmers in less intensive production systems results in delayed detection of epizootics in these sectors.

Recommendations:

- Adapt the compensation mechanism to address the needs and constraints of the less intensive sectors through consultation to encourage reporting and improve early detection of epizootics in these populations.

I-10. Capital investment *The capability of the VS to access funding for basic and additional investments (material and non material) that lead to a sustained improvement in the VS operational infrastructure.*	Levels of advancement
	1. There is no capability to establish, maintain or improve the operational infrastructure of the VS.
	2. The VS occasionally develops proposals and secures funding for the establishment, maintenance or improvement of operational infrastructure but this is normally through extraordinary allocations.
	3. The VS regularly secures funding for maintenance and improvements of operational infrastructure, through allocations from the national budget or from other sources, but there are constraints on the use of these allocations.
	4. The VS routinely secures adequate funding for the necessary maintenance and improvement in operational infrastructure.
	5. The VS systematically secures adequate funding for the necessary improvements in operational infrastructure, including with participation from stakeholders as required.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): H-62*

Findings:

Capital investments have been stable over time: 1.312 million USD in 2010; 995,883 USD in 2009; 1.528 million USD in 2008; 2.18 million USD in 2007 and 1.481 million USD in 2006.

Strengths:

- Capital investment has been stable for many years.

Weaknesses:

- Transportation investments is not adequate
- Investment in the physical facilities at Beer Sheva, and KVI post-mortem, BL-3 laboratory and laboratory animal housing have been delayed for many years.

Recommendations:

- Secure resources to complete outstanding facilities projects and required transportation.

I-11. Management of resources and operations *The capability of the VS to document and manage their resources and operations in order to analyze, plan and improve both efficiency and effectiveness.*	Levels of advancement
	1. The VS have some records or documented procedures, but these do not provide for adequate management of resources and operations.
	2. The VS routinely use records and/or documented procedures in the management of resources and some operations, but these do not provide for adequate management, analysis, control or planning.
	3. The VS have comprehensive records, documentation and management systems and they regularly use records and documented procedures in the management of resources and operations, providing for the control of effectiveness and the conduct of analysis and planning.
	4. The VS have adequate management skills, including the capacity to analyse and improve efficiency and effectiveness.
	5. The VS have fully effective management systems, which are regularly audited and permit a proactive continuous improvement of efficiency and effectiveness.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-16.*

Findings:

VS regularly document their resource management and operations enabling analysis and planning to improve efficiency and effectiveness. However; there appears to be a tremendous amount of data collected, primarily animal health related, in a variety of databases that are not fully compatible [laboratory, identification, import/export, animal products, animal health, dairy and poultry boards, etc.] This data, if adapted to a fully accessible and compatible platform, could help inform management decisions, enhance decision making and planning and allow analysis of effectiveness operations.

Detailed procedures are in place in most functions; border security, laboratory, animal disease control, etc.

The Planning and Administration Department supplies administrative and logistic support services to the entire IVSAH professional network and comprises the following subunits: Human Resources, Finances and Accounting, Grounds and Physical Plant, Stores, Logistics, Animal Services, Computer Maintenance, the Laboratory Media Preparation and the Veterinary Science Library.

Strengths:

- A large amount of high quality data is captured in comprehensive and flexible individual/sector databases

Weaknesses:

- Different databases are not currently integrated or compatible.
- Some functions that would be beneficial to stakeholders are not accessible [e.g., farmers and private veterinarians cannot access relevant data about their herds].
- Absence of cross-cutting analysis related to efficiency, distribution of resources and benefits of programs.

Recommendations:

- Ensure that all data captured is available for relevant analysis, such as cost benefit analysis of VS activities.

III.2 Fundamental component II: Technical authority and capability

This component of the evaluation concerns the authority and capability of the VS to develop and apply sanitary measures and science-based procedures supporting those measures. It comprises fourteen critical competencies

Critical competencies:

Section II-1	**Veterinary laboratory diagnosis**
Section II-2	**Laboratory quality assurance**
Section II-3	**Risk analysis**
Section II-4	**Quarantine and border security**
Section II-5	**Epidemiological surveillance**
	A. Passive Epidemiological surveillance
	B. Active Epidemiological surveillance
Section II-6	**Early detection and emergency response**
Section II-7	**Disease prevention, control and eradication**
Section II-8	**Food safety**
	A. Ante and post mortem inspection at abattoirs and associated premises
	B. Inspection of collection, processing and distribution of products of animal origin
Section II-9	**Veterinary medicines and biological**
Section II-10	**Residue testing**
Section II-11	**Emerging issues**
Section II-12	**Technical innovation**
Section II-13	**Identification and traceability**
	A. Animal identification and movement control
	B. Identification and traceability of products of animal origin
Section II-14	**Animal welfare**

Terrestrial Code References:
Chapter 2.1. on Import risk analysis.
Points 6, 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / General Organisation / Procedures and standards.
Point 1 of Article 3.2.4. on Evaluation criteria for quality systems.
Point 3 of Article 3.2.6. on Evaluation criteria for material resources: Technical.
Points 1 and 2 of Article 3.2.7. on Legislation and functional capabilities: Animal health, animal welfare and veterinary public health / Export/import inspection.
Points 1-3 of Article 3.2.8. on Animal health controls: Animal health status / Animal health control / National animal disease reporting systems.
Points 1-5 of Article 3.2.9. on Veterinary public health controls: Food hygiene / Zoonoses / Chemical residue testing programmes / Veterinary medicines/ Integration between animal health controls and veterinary public health.
Sub-point f) of Point 4 of Article 3.2.10. on Veterinary Services administration: Formal linkages with sources of independent scientific expertise.
Points 2 and 5-7 of Article 3.2.14. on National information on human resources / Laboratory services / Veterinary legislation, regulations and functional capabilities / Animal health and veterinary public health controls.
Chapter 4.1. on General principles on identification and traceability of live animals.
Chapter 4.2. on Design and implementation of identification systems to achieve animal traceability.
Chapter 6.2. on Control of biological hazards of animal health and public health importance through ante- and post-mortem meat inspection.
Chapters 6.6. to 6.10. on Antimicrobial resistance.
Chapter 7.1. Introduction to the recommendations for animal welfare.
Chapter 7.2. Transport of animals by sea.
Chapter 7.3. Transport of animals by land.
Chapter 7.4. Transport of animals by air.
Chapter 7.5. Slaughter of animals.
Chapter 7.6. Killing of animals for disease control purposes.

II-1. Veterinary laboratory diagnosis *The authority and capability of the VS to identify and record pathogenic agents, including those relevant for public health that can adversely affect animals and animal products.*	Levels of advancement
	1. Disease diagnosis is almost always conducted by clinical means only, with laboratory diagnostic capability being generally unavailable.
	2. For major zoonoses and diseases of national economic importance, the VS have access to and use a laboratory to obtain a correct diagnosis.
	3. For other zoonoses and diseases present in the country, the VS have access to and use a laboratory to obtain a correct diagnosis.
	4. For diseases of zoonotic or economic importance not present in the country, but known to exist in the region and/ or that could enter the country, the VS have access to and use a laboratory to obtain a correct diagnosis.
	5. In the case of new and emerging diseases in the region or world, the VS have access to and use a network of national or international reference laboratories (e.g. an OIE Reference Laboratory) to obtain a correct diagnosis.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-5-6, 16; H-3, 11, 23-25, 76; PP2-4, 6, 10, 16, 44, 49, 58, 60-63, 69-77; PA12-14; PE1-5, 21.*

Findings:

Israel maintains a large central laboratory complex at the Kimron Veterinary Institute on the same campus as IVSAH Headquarters in Bet Dagan. The 17 laboratories at KVI perform 5000 necropsies and 660,000 laboratory examinations annually. KVI also serves as the National Reference Laboratories for Rabies, Anthrax, Botulism, Brucellosis, avian influenza and animal mycoplasmas and is an International Reference Laboratory for Brucellosis.

In addition, two separate well-equipped poultry laboratories are maintained in conjunction with the Poultry and Egg Board.

The combined resources of these laboratories provide a wide variety of laboratory diagnostics although a few specialized procedures are sent out to competent laboratories in cases where it is not cost-effective to offer these resources in-country.

According to KVI Direction the routine diagnostics absorb the vast majority of human resources leaving less and less room for research and innovation which may lead to decreased overall competency in the future. It is often difficult to replace aging staff or to change organizational structure and their related positions; as a result currently there is no virologist at KVI.

Each DVO has specific laboratory equipment to do periodic milk ring test for Brucellosis.

The Central Laboratory for Milk Quality belongs to the Israeli Cattle Breeders Association and does monthly milk component and quality examinations on which the payment for milk is based. The National Service for Udder Health is owned by the Dairy Board and provides private services related to mastitis.

Strengths:

- KVI aggressively address the challenges of the local environment; including development of novel diagnostics and vaccines for endemic or threatening agents.
- Access to the laboratory is good throughout the country.

Weaknesses:

- Failure to complete the BL3 FMD live animal facility prevents a more comprehensive approach to the FMD situation in the country.
- KVI structure has not been updated and still functions strictly within divisions rather than addressing current threats and challenges in a more flexible manner.
- Lack of flexible procedures to recruit temporary staff for specific research projects.

- Although the Central Laboratory for Milk Quality samples all the herds in the country it is not accredited to do the Brucellosis ring test which is performed at each DVO without the benefit of quality assurance.
- KVI has not addressed the newly emerged strains of BT currently affecting sheep.

Recommendations:

- Complete the FMD live animal facility in order to ensure that vaccines used in the field are efficacious for the strains in circulation.
- Ensure succession planning for important expertise at KVI.
- Develop procedures to recruit or temporarily assign staff to research projects.
- Find ways to allow more collaboration between KVI and the veterinary school.

II-2. Laboratory quality assurance *The quality of laboratories (that conduct diagnostic testing or analysis for chemical residues, antimicrobial residues, toxins, or tests for, biological efficacy, etc.) as measured by the use of formal QA systems and participation in relevant proficiency testing programmes.*	Levels of advancement
	1. No laboratories used by the public sector VS are using formal QA systems.
	2. Some laboratories used by the public sector VS are using formal QA systems.
	3. All laboratories used by the public sector VS are using formal QA systems.
	4. All the laboratories used by the public sector VS and most or all private laboratories are using formal QA systems.
	5. All the laboratories used by the public sector VS and most or all private laboratories are using formal QA programmes that meet OIE, ISO 17025, or equivalent QA standard guidelines.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-5; H-24; PP10-13, 24, 59, 69-77.*

Findings:

The various laboratories have many QA programs in place and many ISO certifications; more certifications are in process. ISRAC is accredited under ISO-17011 to provide accreditation ISO-17025 for laboratories at the national level. ISRAC is a full member of the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC).

Strengths:

- Excellent understanding of the need for QA; implementation of certification and QA for all procedures at the central laboratory.
- Where international standards are not available rational QA methods are developed.

Weaknesses:

- DVO performs Brucellosis milk ring tests without the benefit quality assurance.

Recommendations:

- Accredit the Milk Quality Control Laboratory to undertake the official National Brucellosis milk ring test with the relevant VS oversight [see CC III.4].

II-3. Risk analysis *The authority and capability of the VS to base its risk management decisions on a scientific assessment of the risks.*	Levels of advancement
	1. Risk management decisions are not usually supported by scientific risk assessment.
	2. The VS compile and maintain data but do not have the capability to systematically assess risks. Some risk management decisions are based on scientific risk assessment.
	3. The VS can systematically compile and maintain relevant data and carry out risk assessment. Scientific principles and evidence, including risk assessment, generally provide the basis for risk management decisions.
	4. The VS systematically conduct risk assessments in compliance with relevant OIE standards, and base their risk management decisions on the outcomes of these risk assessments.
	5. The VS are consistent in basing sanitary decisions on risk analysis, and in communicating their procedures and outcomes internationally, meeting all their OIE obligations (including WTO SPS Agreement obligations where applicable).

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-16*

Findings:

The Zeiler Commission and the 2004 letter from the Director of the Ministry of Health identified the need to develop and encourage the use of improved risk evaluation methods in decision making and for IVSAH and MoH to work together to manage risks in the food chain.

The lack of risk assessment training within VS is well recognized. However, decision making is generally made based on a systematic basis through application of international standards, e.g., import requirements. Much of the data used to perform appropriate risk assessment is currently being compiled and maintained.

Strengths:

- Decision making is generally sound and predictable.
- OIE and other international standards are well understood and applied by VS.

Weaknesses:

- No one in IVSAH has any risk assessment training and there is no formal assignment of this task to anyone.

Recommendations:

- Select a single or several individuals to receive risk assessment training that could be used by many disciplines within IVSAH.
- Develop risk assessment resources to be shared across divisions.
- Ensure that staff is positioned within the organizational chart of IVSAH to provide risk analysis to all Divisions.

II-4. Quarantine and border security *The authority and capability of the VS to prevent the entry and spread of diseases and other hazards of animals and animal products.*	Levels of advancement
	1. The VS cannot apply any type of quarantine or border security procedures for animals or animal products with their neighbouring countries or trading partners.
	2. The VS can establish and apply quarantine and border security procedures; however, these are generally based neither on international standards nor on a risk analysis.
	3. The VS can establish and apply quarantine and border security procedures based on international standards, but the procedures do not systematically address illegal activities relating to the import of animals and animal products.
	4. The VS can establish and apply quarantine and border security procedures which systematically address legal pathways and illegal activities.
	5. The VS work with their neighbouring countries and trading partners to establish, apply and audit quarantine and border security procedures which systematically address all risks identified.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): H-48, 50; PP65, 67-68; PA17; PE18-20, 22, 24.*

Findings:

Taking into account the current international context, VS cannot establish common policies on border security although some good professional contacts exist with neighbouring VS. IVSAH implemented border control in a limited number of entry points authorised for animal and animal products. Israel has also a limited number of land border crossings with Palestinian territories where PIZUAH, the enforcement officials within MoA, are responsible for border security of all agricultural products, normally based on IVSAH technical regulations.

IVSAH has a good chain of command for importation of live animals and animal products, supported by a good database and procedures; some certifications including ISO certification of some procedures is in place. However, the quarantine stations procedures and facilities are more adapted to protect the imported animal from endemic diseases present [especially FMD] as animals are imported from regions with higher animal health status [e.g, Australia, E.U.]. These procedures are not adapted to protect Israeli livestock from exotic disease.

Strengths:

- Israeli border security efforts are extensive.
- Pre-import procedures/requirements are based on risk considerations and include pre-import inspection of export facilities in the country of origin and are adapted to prevent introduction of exotic disease.
- The database and management procedures related to import are well set-up.

Weaknesses:

- Some border areas remain porous for the entry of some animal populations, e.g., smuggling of small ruminants from the West Bank, and the crossing of camels, donkeys and dogs over the border with Egypt.
- Some border posts lack internet connection to the central database, e.g., Eilat.
- Quarantine station facilities and procedures would not be adequate to prevent the introduction of exotic disease, although it is not their current function.
- The MoA enforcement [PIZUAH] personnel have no technical training and no veterinarians are in force.
- VS does not have the legal power to take legal action or initiate prosecutions and such power and subsequent human resources are left entirely to PIZUAH.
- Current VS staffing is minimal for current activity [e.g., at airport one staff member cannot handle 24 hour passenger control] and will not be able to deal with any increased imports, especially when the international context improves with neighbouring countries.
- The VIP passage is nowadays not controlled at all, due to lack of manpower.

Recommendations:

- Ensure that IVSAH gets systematic feedback on the results of legal actions and prosecutions taken by PIZUAH; this is critical for IVSAH to improve interaction with stakeholders and enhance compliance.
- Analyse and adjust staffing to reflect level of activities of import/export activities and at border posts.
- Ensure comprehensive data management and access to enhance compatibility with other relevant databases within IVSAH.

II-5. Epidemiological surveillance *The authority and capability of the VS to determine, verify and report on the sanitary status of the animal populations under their mandate.* **A. Passive epidemiological surveillance**	Levels of advancement
	1. The VS have no passive surveillance programme.
	2. The VS conduct passive surveillance for some relevant diseases and have the capacity to produce national reports on some diseases.
	3. The VS conduct passive surveillance in compliance with OIE standards for some relevant diseases at the national level through appropriate networks in the field, whereby samples from suspect cases are collected and sent for laboratory diagnosis with evidence of correct results obtained. The VS have a basic national disease reporting system.
	4. The VS conduct passive surveillance and report at the national level in compliance with OIE standards for most relevant diseases. Appropriate field networks are established for the collection of samples and submission for laboratory diagnosis of suspect cases with evidence of correct results obtained. Stakeholders are aware of and comply with their obligation to report the suspicion and occurrence of notifiable diseases to the VS.
	5. The VS regularly report to stakeholders and the international community (where applicable) on the findings of passive surveillance programmes.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-5, 17; H-7, 23; PP39-40, 58, 62.*

Findings:

VS can rely on an effective network within the public and private sectors. Notification of specific diseases is mandatory for all veterinarians working in the public or private sectors. At the moment there does not appear to be a comprehensive program of passive surveillance for specific diseases with clear procedures.

Strengths:

- Field network of DVO provides on-going contact with livestock holdings of the intensive productions sector.

Weaknesses:

- The lack of contact with less intensive small ruminant farmers limits passive surveillance in this sector.

Recommendations:

- Define relevant passive surveillance activities that include all production systems.

II-5. Epidemiological surveillance *The authority and capability of the VS to determine, verify and report on the sanitary status of the animal populations under their mandate.* **B. Active epidemiological surveillance**	Levels of advancement
	1. The VS have no active surveillance programme.
	2. The VS conduct active surveillance for some relevant diseases (of economic and zoonotic importance) but apply it only in a part of susceptible populations and/or do not update it regularly.
	3. The VS conduct active surveillance in compliance with scientific principles and OIE standards for some relevant diseases and apply it to all susceptible populations but do not update it regularly.
	4. The VS conduct active surveillance in compliance with scientific principles and OIE standards for some relevant diseases, apply it to all susceptible populations, update it regularly and report the results systematically.
	5. The VS conduct active surveillance for most or all relevant diseases and apply it to all susceptible populations. The surveillance programmes are evaluated and meet the country's OIE obligations.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-5, 7, 17; H-1, 2, 4, 7, 11, 23, 26, 52, 76; PP39-40, 58, 62.*

Findings:

The Poultry Board undertakes a number of active surveillance and monitoring programs based on scientifically sound principles supported by good interaction with stakeholders.

TB testing is done every 3 years on dairy cattle and every 5 years for beef cattle. Bovine TB has not been diagnosed for several decades. Brucellosis testing in dairy cattle is done by milk ring tests three times a year. BSE surveillance is conducted on all cattle of appropriate age at slaughterhouse and incineration plants.

B. melitensis in small ruminants is surveyed by testing of unvaccinated males at the time of vaccination of females.

There is no systematic active surveillance of wildlife for relevant diseases, e.g., FMD, HPAI, CSF, etc., except for West Nile surveillance in wild birds where VS does the analysis of sampling done by wildlife personnel.

Strengths:

- Good knowledge of scientific basis of active surveillance

Weaknesses:

- There is little systematic review to adapt active surveillance programs.
- No assessment of Brucellosis status of beef cattle, although it is assumed that there are no cases; however, this is not based on scientific evidence.
- Surveillance works well in the intensive sector but less so in the less intensive sectors.

Recommendations:

- Evaluate mechanisms to improve active surveillance of relevant disease in the less intensive production sector and in wildlife.

II-6. Early detection and emergency response *The authority and capability of the VS to detect and respond rapidly to a sanitary emergency (such as a significant disease outbreak or food safety emergency).*	Levels of advancement
	1. The VS have no field network or established procedure to determine whether a sanitary emergency exists or the authority to declare such an emergency and respond appropriately.
	2. The VS have a field network and an established procedure to determine whether or not a sanitary emergency exists, but lack the necessary legal and financial support to respond appropriately.
	3. The VS have the legal framework and financial support to respond rapidly to sanitary emergencies, but the response is not coordinated through a chain of command.
	4. The VS have an established procedure to make timely decisions on whether or not a sanitary emergency exists. The VS have the legal framework and financial support to respond rapidly to sanitary emergencies through a chain of command. They have national contingency plans for some exotic diseases.
	5. The VS have national contingency plans for all diseases of concern through coordinated actions with all stakeholders through a chain of command.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-5, 7; H-7, 9, 25, 29-30, 42, 52-53, 76; PP2, 45.*

Findings:

IVSAH has programs and procedures to control epizootics, such as FMD, HPAI, and Newcastle disease with national contingency plans and detailed procedures that are periodically updated.

Based on recent outbreaks, the financial and other resources are made available in a timely and comprehensive manner.

Early detection of FMD and other diseases remains an issue in the less intensive sector.

Strengths:

- All appropriate regulations and resources are available.

Weaknesses:

- There is no process in place to critically review the programs and procedures in place relative to outcomes of outbreaks.

Recommendations:

- Consult with stakeholders to increase compliance in all production systems

II-7. Disease prevention, control and eradication *The authority and capability of the VS to actively perform actions to prevent, control or eradicate OIE listed diseases and/or to demonstrate that the country or a zone are free of relevant diseases.*	Levels of advancement
	1. The VS have no authority or capability to prevent, control or eradicate animal diseases.
	2. The VS implement prevention, control and eradication programmes for some diseases and/or in some areas with little or no scientific evaluation of their efficacy and efficiency.
	3. The VS implement prevention, control and eradication programmes for some diseases and/or in some areas with scientific evaluation of their efficacy and efficiency.
	4. The VS implement prevention, control and eradication programmes for all relevant diseases but with scientific evaluation of their efficacy and efficiency of some programmes.
	5. The VS implement prevention, control and eradication programmes for all relevant diseases with scientific evaluation of their efficacy and efficiency consistent with relevant OIE international standards.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-5-7, 11, 16; H-5-10, 23, 25-27, 42-43, 52, 58, 66, 69-70, 76, 78, 81-82; PP39-40, 49, 57-58, 60, 64; PA18; PE11, 15-16.*

Findings:

IVSAH undertake a variety of compulsory vaccination programs for FMD, lumpy skin disease, *Brucella abortus*, *Brucella melitensis*, rabies, PPR and sheep and goat pox. In poultry Newcastle vaccination is well defined, analysed and extensive, but is not done by IVSAH.

All vaccination programs are fee-for-service and require considerable IVSAH resources; along with other fee based activities this represents roughly 50% of IVSAH funding. In spite of these extensive long standing vaccination programs and records, IVSAH has failed to eradicate some of these diseases which seem to demoralize the field staff (decrease in prevalence of PPR, sheep pox and Lumpy Skin Disease).

Disease prevention, control and eradication functions are generally performed by the field veterinary services as a public service and are not delegated to the private veterinarians. However, this remains topic of discussion, as well as the fact that the Hacklait veterinary group provides the majority of private veterinary service delivery in the food animal sector is owned by the Cattle Breeders Association. Any delegation of official activities to Hacklait could be challenged as a conflict of interest that will need to be approached in a transparent manner.

Field activities for the poultry sector are implemented by IVSAH, the private sector [44 private poultry veterinarians], and the Poultry and Egg Board.

Strengths:

- Major diseases are covered by extensive prevention and eradication programmes.

Weaknesses:

- No systematic analysis of efficacy, efficiency and benefits of programs resulting in frustration of some staff and farmers.
- Most of these programs reach only a small fraction of the less intensive farmers which contributes to the failure of eradication efforts.

Recommendations:

- Make a systematic evaluation of all programs based on risk analysis as well as efficacy, efficiency and cost/benefit analysis.
- Work with the resources in the field to develop appropriate methods to increase their effectiveness and assess the best ways to adapt disease control measures to reach the animal holders in the less intensive productions sectors.

II-8. Food safety	Levels of advancement
A. Ante and post mortem Inspection at abattoirs and associated premises (e.g. meat boning / cutting establishments and rendering plants). *The authority and capability of the VS to implement and manage the inspection of animals destined for slaughter at abattoirs and associated premises, including for assuring meat hygiene and for the collection of information relevant to livestock diseases and zoonoses. This competency also covers coordination with other authorities where there is shared responsibility for the functions.*	1. Ante- and post mortem inspection and collection of disease information (and coordination, as required) are generally not undertaken in conformity with international standards.
	2. Ante- and post mortem inspection and collection of disease information (and coordination, as required) are undertaken in conformity with international standards only at export premises.
	3. Ante- and post mortem inspection and collection of disease information (and coordination, as required) are undertaken in conformity with international standards for export premises and for major abattoirs producing meat for distribution throughout the national market.
	4. Ante- and post mortem inspection and collection of disease information (and coordination, as required) are undertaken in conformity with international standards for export premises and for all abattoirs producing meat for distribution in the national and local markets.
	5. Ante- and post mortem inspection and collection of disease information (and coordination, as required) are undertaken in conformity with international standards at all premises (including family and on farm slaughtering) and are subject to periodic audit of effectiveness.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-4, 16; H-10, 15-17, 19, 24, 47, 65, 75-76, 82 ; PP5, 48, 50-52; PA48, 50-52.*

Findings:

Inspection at poultry slaughterhouses is done mostly by staff employed by the Poultry Board, although they are also regularly inspected by veterinarians of the IVSAH Animal Products Division.

Inspection in the ruminant, swine and rabbit slaughterhouses is generally done by municipal veterinarians; they are also regularly inspected by a veterinarian of central IVSAH who supervises inspection staff employed by municipal and regional councils.

The control of animal slaughter here has strong cultural and religious elements for the various different communities making it difficult to address areas such as animal welfare. Furthermore, it is estimated that approximately 30 to 40% of ruminants are slaughtered outside of licensed slaughterhouses without inspection or derogation.

Strengths:

- Slaughter inspection is done by competent staff with relevant procedures.

Weaknesses:

- Slaughter inspection in municipalities is not under the direct chain of command of IVSAH and technical independence of veterinarians is questionable as they are dependent of municipal and regional councils.
- 30 to 40% of ruminants are slaughtered directly by families at backyard
- Data of slaughter inspection is not systematically collected or collated at central level.
- The division of slaughter inspection, responsible for second level inspection, is understaffed without well-defined formal procedures

Recommendations:

- Ensure the chain of command, official delegation, and technical independence of the municipal inspectors and Poultry Board slaughter inspectors, either by official delegation or by incorporating them into IVSAH staff and providing the necessary human, financial and regulatory resources.
- Organise control of backyard and family slaughtering according to context
  Strengthen the division of slaughter inspection with relevant legal framework

B. Inspection of collection, processing and distribution of products of animal origin *The authority and capability of the VS to implement, manage and coordinate food safety measures on processing and distribution of products of animals, including programmes for the prevention of specific foodborne zoonoses and general food safety programmes. This competency also covers coordination with other authorities where there is shared responsibility for the functions.*	Levels of advancement
	1. Implementation, management, and coordination (as appropriate) are generally not undertaken in conformity with international standards.
	2. Implementation, management and coordination (as appropriate) are generally undertaken in conformity with international standards only for export purpose.
	3. Implementation, management and coordination (as appropriate) are generally undertaken in conformity with international standards only for export purpose and for products that are distributed throughout the national market.
	4. Implementation, management and coordination (as appropriate) are generally undertaken in conformity with international standards for export purpose and for products that are distributed throughout the national and local markets.
	5. Implementation, management and coordination (as appropriate) are undertaken in full conformity with international standards for products at all levels of distribution (including on farm-processing and farm gate sale).

[Note: This critical competency primarily refers to inspection of processed animal products and raw products other than meat (e.g. milk, honey etc.). It may in some countries be undertaken by an agency other than the VS.]

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-16; H-4, 40, 61, 75-76; PP34, 37, 48; PA21, 24.*

Findings:

Currently the veterinary public health inspection of products of animal origin is under IVSAH authority for all exported animal origin products and all poultry products for the national markets. The Division of Animal Products implements a second level inspection of all related facilities. This Division is staffed by 8 veterinarians and 1 secretary supported by a very good database and inspection procedures.

First level of red meat inspection (in butcheries, markets, etc.) is done by municipal veterinarians. First level of inspection of exported dairy and all poultry products is performed on site by veterinarians and technicians belonging to the Poultry and Dairy Boards. Inspection of dairy products for the national market is done by MoH inspectors. Inspection of retail and restaurants is shared by municipal veterinarians and MoH inspectors under the authority of the MoH.

For the domestic market inspection of animal products is under the control of the MoH through the municipal veterinarians and subject to a different set of standards than those for the international market. Field interviews of stakeholders confirmed that inspection of animal products was very weak for the national market, although the OIE experts had no mandate to evaluate this inspection which falls under the MoH authority.

Although fish and fish products are not part of this PVS mission, fish products are under the VS mandate. It appears these functions are well set up because they follow the OIE code and are approved by trading partners.

Strengths:

- All fields of animal product inspection are covered by regulation either by VS or MoH. If the OIE PVS Evaluation could have assessed the MoH inspection processes this may have resulted in Level 4.
- Excellent second level inspection process is supported by good procedures and database.

Weaknesses:

- There is a “double standard” of inspection for export and domestic products.
- No external coordination between IVSAH and MoH for inspection of retail outlets and restaurants.
- There appears to be a shortage of vehicles for IVSAH inspectors.

Recommendations:

- IVSAH should take over the control of animal product inspection for both export and domestic products to bring the standards for the domestic market into alignment with export standards. This reorganization will require allocation of adequate human and financial resources.
- Establish external coordination with MoH for inspection of retail outlets and restaurants and develop an evaluation process of these activities.
- Provide national veterinary inspectors with relevant vehicles

II-9. Veterinary medicines and biologicals *The authority and capability of the VS to regulate veterinary medicines and biologicals, i.e the authorisation, registration, import, production, labelling, distribution, sale and use of these products.*	Levels of advancement
	1. The VS cannot regulate veterinary medicines and biologicals.
	2. The VS has some capability to exercise administrative control over veterinary medicines and biologicals.
	3. The VS exercise effective administrative control and implement quality standards for most aspects of the regulation of veterinary medicines and biologicals.
	4. The VS exercise comprehensive and effective regulatory control of veterinary medicines and biologicals.
	5. In addition to complete regulatory control, the VS systematically monitor for adverse reactions (pharmacovigilance) and take appropriate corrective steps. The control systems are subjected to periodic audit of effectiveness.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-8, 16, H-10, 22, 54-56, 58; PP14-16, 18-19, 21-22, 42, 61, 63; PA5, 7, 9, 18.*

Findings:

This function is shared between IVSAH and MoH. All veterinary drugs are imported and are available by prescription only. Most food animal veterinary drugs are distributed by private veterinarians.

Two veterinarians at central level are responsible for the inspection processes for veterinary medicine and medicated animal feeds; and are responsible for all processes of registration and inspection of biological and chemical preparations. There is an unfilled position for the evaluation of veterinary biologics; as a consequence no new vaccines have been registered for more than 3 years. Adequate transportation to perform their inspection duties is not provided.

Product registration is done by several inter-ministerial committees with technical expertise from IVSAH, MoH, KVI and the veterinary school, as needed.

Official inspection of the storage, distribution and use of veterinary medicinal products, veterinary chemical preparations and veterinary biologicals is supposed to be made in: veterinary drugs wholesalers (10), approved distributors (retailers) (15), veterinary pharmacies (5), veterinary clinics (~800) and storage and use at farm level.

The inspection and official controls of the storage, handling and production of medicated feed in commercial feed mills and feeding centres (~120) has recently been transferred to IVSAH without the transfer of additional resources. VS are also responsible for oversight of the storage and distribution of chemical preparations in several hundred pet shops, agricultural stores, horse equipment shops.

In 2010, 250 inspections were conducted; 20% in coordination with MoH.

Strengths:

- All relevant fields of activities are covered by the current system.
- VS have developed a credible process of inspection.
- External coordination through committees with MoH and other institutions.
- Veterinary drugs are under veterinary control and available by prescription only.

Weaknesses:

- The approval system is very complex resulting in long review times for new or „exceptional" product approvals.
- Lack of human resources and transportation within this Division.
- Lack of systematic analysis of drug usage by the food animal sector.

Recommendations:

- Increase human resources and provide with adequate transportation.
- Simplify registration procedures without compromising the technical quality of the review.
- Analyse drug consumption in the different production systems in order to design effective residue control programs and assess antimicrobial use and development of resistance.

II-10. Residue testing *The capability of the VS to undertake residue testing programmes for veterinary medicines (e.g. antimicrobials and hormones), chemicals, pesticides, radionuclides, metals, etc.*	Levels of advancement
	1. No residue testing programme for animal products exists in the country.
	2. Some residue testing programme is performed but only for selected animal products for export.
	3. A comprehensive residue testing programme is performed for all animal products for export and some for domestic use.
	4. A comprehensive residue testing programme is performed for all animal products for export and/or internal consumption.
	5. The residue testing programme is subject to routine quality assurance and regular evaluation.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-1-3, 8, 16; H-19, 51, 76; PP5.*

Findings:

IVSAH have established relevant residue testing programs in poultry and dairy sectors on the basis of export requirements.

Residue testing in ruminant slaughterhouses is done as a survey with no regulatory action for violators. IVSAH does not have the authority to pursue residue violations; all enforcement actions are handled by PIZUAH, which lacks the technical competence and does not provide IVSAH with timely information about outcomes.

An inter-ministerial committee with representation from MoH, IVSAH veterinary drugs division and KVI reviews the residue programs annually to design programs that reflects the approved drug products in current use.

Strengths:

- Residue controls are based on scientific principles for poultry and dairy.

Weaknesses:

- No follow up actions for violations in red meat.
- Some interviews indicated that some samples are not processed in a timely manner.
- Enforcement actions are not handled by the VS.

Recommendations:

- Establish a comprehensive national residue control program based on risk analysis linked with analysis of drug use data [see CC II.9].

II-11. Emerging issues *The authority and capability of the VS to identify in advance, and take appropriate action in response to likely emerging issues under their mandate relating to the sanitary status of the country, public health, the environment, or trade in animals and animal products.*	Levels of advancement
	1. The VS do not have procedures to identify in advance likely emerging issues.
	2. The VS monitor and review developments at national and international levels relating to emerging issues.
	3. The VS assess the risks, costs and/or opportunities of the identified emerging issues, including preparation of appropriate national preparedness plans. The VS have some collaboration with stakeholders and other agencies (e.g. human health, wildlife and environment) and with stakeholders on emerging issues.
	4. The VS implement, in coordination with stakeholders, prevention or control actions due to an adverse emerging issue, or beneficial actions from a positive emerging issue. The VS have well-developed formal collaboration with stakeholders and other agencies (e.g. human health, wildlife and environment) and with stakeholders on emerging issues.
	5. The VS coordinate actions with neighbouring countries and trading partners to respond to emerging issues, including audits of each other"s ability to detect and address emerging issues in their early stages.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-7; PP69-74*

Findings:

Although emerging issues are not clearly mentioned in any programs or job descriptions within IVSAH, it appears that they cope with emerging issues based on personal initiatives, relationships and collaborations.

Examples of emerging disease seen in Israel include several new strains of the bluetongue and arboviruses.

Strengths:

- Broad range of laboratory support is available

Weaknesses:

- No formal mechanism to address emerging issues.
- Currently there is no Head of Division in Virology at KVI.

Recommendations:

- Include emerging issues as a task for staff in charge of risk analysis and epidemiology [see CC II.3].
- Complete the unfinished BL3 facilities at KVI to ensure their availability for new emerging diseases.

II-12. Technical innovation[4] *The capability of the VS to keep up-to-date with the latest scientific advances and to comply with the standards of the OIE (and Codex Alimentarius Commission where applicable).*	Levels of advancement
	1. The VS have only informal access to technical innovations, through personal contacts and external sources.
	2. The VS maintain a database of technical innovations and international standards, through subscriptions to scientific journals and electronic media.
	3. The VS have a specific programme to actively identify relevant technical innovations and international standards.
	4. The VS incorporate technical innovations and international standards into selected policies and procedures, in collaboration with stakeholders.
	5. The VS systematically implement relevant technical innovations and international standards.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-17; H-63; PP25-26, 69-74.*

Findings:

A committee is in place to develop research priorities and innovation which links KVI with stakeholders and other partners. Currently more than 20 programs of research are underway. Research activities at KVI are hampered by the large volume routine activities, lack of flexibility to use soft money for temporary staffing of research projects and by lack of succession planning.

The failure to complete the BL-3 animal facility at KVI prevents conducting work needed to innovate control of FMD and other BL-3 diseases.

Collaboration between KVI and Koret Veterinary School faculty has been historically difficult.

A stakeholder group representing small ruminant producers complained that there was no research or capability within VS to address the threat of new BT strains. However, VS is in on-going long-term negotiations with a South African vaccine producer to acquire an appropriate vaccine.

Strengths:

- KVI has competent, capable staff with good infrastructure for research.
- Prioritization process for research is in place.

Weaknesses:

- Lack of flexibility in human resource management hampers research programs.

Recommendations:

- Try to enhance collaboration between KVI and the Koret Veterinary School Faculty.

[4] Technical innovation includes new disease control methods, new types of vaccines and diagnostic tests, food safety technologies, and connections to electronic networks on disease information and food emergencies.

II-13. Identification and traceability **A Animal identification and movement control** *The authority and capability of the VS, normally in coordination with stakeholders, to identify animals under their mandate and trace their history, location and distribution for the purpose of animal disease control, food safety, or trade or any other legal requirements under the VS/OIE mandate.*	Levels of advancement
	1. The VS do not have the authority or the capability to identify animals or control their movements.
	2. The VS can identify some animals and control some movements, using traditional methods and/or actions designed and implemented to deal with a specific problem (e.g. to prevent robbery).
	3. The VS implement procedures for animal identification and movement control for specific animal sub populations as required for disease control, in accordance with relevant international standards.
	4. The VS implement all relevant animal identification and movement control procedures, in accordance with relevant international standards.
	5. The VS carry out periodic audits of the effectiveness of their identification and movement control systems.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-4,13; H-13-14, 20-21, 31-32, 35, 37-38, 41, 47, 76; PP33, 37, 53, 56, 66; PA3, 22-23.*

Findings:

Since 1976, IVSAH has used a system of permanent individual eartags for cattle recorded in a database intended for control of movement of cattle and brucellosis and TB control in dairy herds. Sheep and goats are identified with individually numbered plastic eartags to indicate initial brucellosis vaccination. All animal holdings in the intensive sector are registered.

The cattle identification system does not live up to its full potential; individual animal records are not captured completely in the database. The small ruminant identification system has the capability to maintain individual identification but is currently only implemented on a group basis. The ruminant identification system has some capacity to link health events in current central databases.

The poultry board has established its own traceability system using flock identification that incorporates laboratory findings in a single database.

Strengths:

- Ruminant database can register movements and is flexible enough to allow future expansion.
- Individual animal cards for cattle with unique bar codes are in use.

Weaknesses:

- Access, compatibility and collation of data are incomplete.
- Metal eartags for cattle are hard to read accurately.
- Official vaccination and testing are not fully recorded within the database.
- Animal identification reaches only a small fraction of the less intensive farmers.
- The death of animals is not systematically updated in the data base

Recommendations:

- Thoroughly review needs of the animal identification database before making changes to ensure that sanitary events in the database (official vaccination, testing, etc.) are linked and information is updated (removals from the database).
- Ensure regular updating of the database [including deaths]
- Recruit specific support staff for data entry and updating at district level

B. Identification and traceability of products of animal origin *The authority and capability of the VS, normally in coordination with stakeholders, to identify and trace products of animal origin for the purpose of food safety, animal health or trade.*	Levels of advancement
	1. The VS do not have the authority or the capability to identify or trace products of animal origin.
	2. The VS can identify and trace some products of animal origin to deal with a specific problem (e.g. products originating from farms affected by a disease outbreak).
	3. The VS have implemented procedures to identify and trace some products of animal origin for food safety, animal health and trade purposes, in accordance with relevant international standards.
	4. The VS have implemented national programmes enabling them the identification and tracing of all products of animal origin, in accordance with relevant international standards.
	5. The VS periodically audit the effectiveness of their identification and traceability procedures.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-1; H-20-21; PA1*

Findings:

Poultry and Dairy Boards have established their own traceability systems for animal products.

At least one major cattle slaughterhouse and cutting plant has established its own traceability system for commercial purposes.

Basically all traceability systems are developed directly by the industry to comply with the demand. For the export products, their processes are controlled by the VS.

However, except for exports, most aspects of product traceability are under MoH control and national harmonisation is needed.

Strengths:

- Based on demand of national and international markets have started to take appropriate steps to trace animal products.

Weaknesses:

- The VS have not established standards for traceability and do not coordinate industry efforts.

Recommendations:

- VS should start to coordinate traceability of animal products in order to ensure they are in compliance with OIE standards and maintain international markets.
- Traceability for domestic markets may become something the Israeli consumer will demand soon and VS should take the lead on this topic.

II-14. Animal welfare *The authority and capability of the VS to implement the animal welfare standards of the OIE as published in the Terrestrial Code.*	Levels of advancement
	1. The OIE standards are generally not implemented.
	2. Some of the OIE standards are implemented, e.g. primarily for the export sector.
	3. All of the OIE standards are implemented but this is primarily for the export sector.
	4. All of the OIE standards are implemented, for the export and the domestic sector.
	5. The OIE standards are implemented and implementation is periodically subject to independent external evaluation.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-10, 16; H-10.*

Findings:

Animal welfare has become an important issue with the Israeli public. IVSAH has published a comprehensive set of regulations referring to transport, and companion animals. However, religious considerations affect many aspects of animal slaughter.

The existing Animal Cruelty Law of 1994 has been established before the development of OIE guidelines. Some new regulations are aligned with current OIE standards, e.g., transportation and live animal unloading of imported animals is monitored in compliance with OIE guidelines.

The VS Animal Welfare Department is staffed by two veterinarians and one secretary who function in cooperation with the municipal veterinary officers, PIZUAH, and the Ministry of Environmental Protection. The Animal Welfare Department is responsible for proposing and implementing animal welfare regulation, act as ombudsman for public complaints, inspect animal facilities, (pet shops, kennels and petting zoos), provide permits for animal events involving animals and provide animal welfare information lectures to the public.

Strengths:

- Animal welfare regulations and procedures are in place in most domains.
- VS have two full-time veterinarians for animal welfare issues.

Weaknesses:

- Slaughter has been discarded from the animal welfare legislation to take into account the very strong and diverse national religious contexts. Stunning is applied only for pigs. However many aspects related to animal welfare have been incorporated in the slaughter practices and infrastructures in slaughterhouses (turn back cages, handling, etc)

Recommendations:

- Take OIE guidelines into consideration when developing future animal welfare regulations.

III.3 Fundamental component III: Interaction with stakeholders

This component of the evaluation concerns the capability of the VS to collaborate with and involve stakeholders in the implementation of programmes and activities. It comprises six critical competencies

Critical competencies:

Section III-1	**Communications**
Section III-2	**Consultation with stakeholders**
Section III-3	**Official representation**
Section III-4	**Accreditation / Authorisation / Delegation**
Section III-5	**Veterinary Statutory Body (VSB)**
	A. VSB authority
	B. VSB capacity
Section III-6	**Participation of producers and stakeholders in joint programmes**

Terrestrial Code References:
Points 6, 7, 9 and 13 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / General organisation / Procedures and standards / Communication.
Point 9 of Article 3.2.1. on General considerations.
Points 2 and 7 of Article 3.2.3. on Evaluation criteria for the organisational structure of the VS.
Sub-point b) of Point 2 of Article 3.2.6. on Administrative resources: Communications.
Article 3.2.11. on Participation on OIE activities.
Article 3.2.12. on Evaluation of the veterinary statutory body.
Points 4, 7 and Sub-point g) of Point 9 of Article 3.2.14. on Administration details / Animal health and veterinary public health controls / Sources of independent scientific expertise.

III-1. Communications *The capability of the VS to keep stakeholders informed, in a transparent, effective and timely manner, of VS activities and programmes, and of developments in animal health and food safety.*	Levels of advancement
	1. The VS have no mechanism in place to inform stakeholders of VS activities and programmes.
	2. The VS have informal communication mechanisms.
	3. The VS maintain an official contact point for communications but it is not always up-to-date in providing information.
	4. The VS contact point for communications provides up-to-date information, accessible via the internet and other appropriate channels, on activities and programmes.
	5. The VS have a well developed communication plan, and actively and regularly circulate information to stakeholders.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): H-40, 71.*

Findings:

Communication by IVSAH with stakeholders is made through accurate internet postings or other relevant means especially for outbreaks. Each Division Director is responsible for communication for topics in their domains.

Taking into account the small size of the country and the good veterinary infrastructure, communication is easily made without extensive formal mechanism with intensive and structured production systems and related industry. The Poultry and Dairy Boards serve as important resources for communication to stakeholders.

The small ruminant association representing the intensive producers expressed concerns that communication with VS is not of the same character as those for the Dairy and Poultry Boards.

Communications to the less intensive sectors and individual farmers appears to be lacking.

Strengths:

- Easy and effective communication with organized and intensive farmers

Weaknesses:

- Lack of communication with less intensive and non-structured farmers.

Recommendations:

- Develop relevant and specific communication tools for the less intensive and individual farmers.

III-2. Consultation with stakeholders *The capability of the VS to consult effectively with stakeholders on VS activities and programmes, and on developments in animal health and food safety.*	Levels of advancement
	1. The VS have no mechanisms for consultation with stakeholders.
	2. The VS maintain informal channels of consultation with stakeholders.
	3. The VS maintain a formal consultation mechanism with stakeholders.
	4. The VS regularly hold workshops and meetings with stakeholders.
	5. The VS actively consult with and solicit feedback from stakeholders regarding proposed and current activities and programmes, developments in animal health and food safety, interventions at the OIE (Codex Alimentarius Commission and WTO SPS Committee where applicable), and ways to improve their activities.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-16; H-3, 67-68; PA-4.*

Findings:

Formal meetings are held with the Dairy and Poultry Boards regarding VS programs.

Consultation of stakeholders is usually made before establishing regulations but this is not a formalized process.

Consultation may be organized by VS on an *ad hoc* basis to deal with specific problems.

Strengths:

- Easy and effective consultation with organized and intensive farmers.

Weaknesses:

- Lack of consultation with less intensive and non-structured farmers.

Recommendations:

- Develop relevant and specific consultation with the less intensive production sector.

III-3. Official representation	Levels of advancement
The capability of the VS to regularly and actively participate in, coordinate and provide follow up on relevant meetings of regional and international organisations including the OIE (and Codex Alimentarius Commission and WTO SPS Committee where applicable).	1. The VS do not participate in or follow up on relevant meetings of regional or international organisations.
	2. The VS sporadically participate in relevant meetings and/or make a limited contribution.
	3. The VS actively participate in the majority of relevant meetings.
	4. The VS consult with stakeholders and take into consideration their opinions in providing papers and making interventions in relevant meetings.
	5. The VS consult with stakeholders to ensure that strategic issues are identified, to provide leadership and to ensure coordination among national delegations as part of their participation in relevant meetings.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-17*

Findings:

IVSAH routinely participate in all relevant meetings.

Strengths:

- As an exporting country, Israel is an active member of OIE and participates in SPS meetings.

Weaknesses:

- VS does not have formal mechanisms for active consultation with stakeholders to develop position papers or provide interventions at relevant meetings.

Recommendations:

- Develop consultation with stakeholders if relevant.

III-4. Accreditation / authorisation / delegation *The authority and capability of the public sector of the VS to accredit / authorise / delegate the private sector (e.g. private veterinarians and laboratories), to carry out official tasks on its behalf.*	Levels of advancement
	1. The public sector of the VS has neither the authority nor the capability to accredit / authorise / delegate the private sector to carry out official tasks.
	2. The public sector of the VS has the authority and capability to accredit / authorise / delegate to the private sector, but there are no current accreditation / authorisation / delegation activities.
	3. The public sector of the VS develops accreditation / authorisation / delegation programmes for certain tasks, but these are not routinely reviewed.
	4. The public sector of the VS develops and implements accreditation / authorisation / delegation programmes, and these are routinely reviewed.
	5. The public sector of the VS carries out audits of its accreditation / authorisation / delegation programmes, in order to maintain the trust of their trading partners and stakeholders.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-9, 16; H-60; PP24.*

Findings

Delegation is made for private veterinarians to undertake vaccination for rabies.

Private, municipal, and veterinarians employed by the Dairy and Poultry Boards implement official activities such as food safety inspection without apparent formalized/official delegation.

There are current discussions that most of the activities implemented by the field veterinary services could be officially delegated to appropriately authorized private veterinarians. However, the dominant position of Hacklait in the provision of veterinary services in the intensive large animal and its ownership by farmers could raise serious concerns about the technical independence of those veterinarians and present a serious conflict of interest for official delegation of some activities (see CC II.7). In addition, this may be seen by trading partners as a significant non-compliance with OIE standards.

Strengths:

- IVSAH has the legal authority to develop official delegation.

Weaknesses:

- Implementation of food safety inspection is done without formal delegation.

Recommendations:

- Formalize official delegation for all relevant food safety inspection functions or incorporate these veterinarians into IVSAH.
- Develop relevant official delegation to the Milk Quality Control Laboratory to perform the milk ring testing for brucellosis.
- If delegation to the private sector is undertaken for some activities currently implemented by the field IVSAH, measures should be taken to ensure that technical independence will not be compromised and to avoid questioning by trading partners.

III-5. Veterinary Statutory Body (VSB) A. VSB authority *The VSB is an autonomous authority responsible for the regulation of the veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals. Its role is defined in the Terrestrial Code.*	Levels of advancement
	1. There is no legislation establishing a VSB.
	2. The VSB regulates veterinarians only within certain sectors of the veterinary profession and/or do not systematically apply disciplinary measures.
	3. The VSB regulates veterinarians in all relevant sectors of the veterinary profession and apply disciplinary measures.
	4. The VSB regulates functions and competencies of veterinarians in all relevant sectors and veterinary para-professionals according to needs.
	5. The VSB regulates and apply disciplinary measures to veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals in all sectors throughout the country.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-12; H-74.*

Findings:

Israel has no VSB.

The MoA has the authority to license and regulate all veterinarians working in Israel and maintains a list of veterinary schools it recognizes. It also published detailed regulation on ethics and advertising in the veterinary profession.

The Israeli Veterinary Medical Association [IVMA] registers veterinarians on a voluntary basis within sections [poultry, municipal, VS, MoH, private practice, etc.]. This registry includes all 2800 veterinarians registered since 1922 and is not regularly updated. However, only about 25% of veterinarians in Israel actively participate in the IVMA

IVMA has a board with 5 members, a central committee and a general assembly and relies on member fees to promote the veterinary profession. IVMA publishes a bulletin and scientific journal. The veterinary law empowers the IVMA to grant a wide range of specializations [42] to veterinarians. IVMA has an ethics committee but has no legal authority to sanction. In fact, the permit of only one veterinarian has been totally cancelled. Several veterinarians went through judicial system.

Strengths:

- MoA/IVSAH performs most of the functions of a VSB, but with no compulsory mandate.
- MoA has established regulations on the veterinary profession

Weaknesses:

- No clear code of ethics with established sanctions for violations.

Recommendations:

- Consider creating a VSB, possibly using the IVMA or another group as a vehicle for this, to register and regulate the veterinary profession in compliance with OIE international standards. The mechanism currently in place for medical doctors and lawyers could be considered as a template, as could examples from other countries. Alternatively, a possible specific mission by OIE could be considered.

B. VSB capacity *The capacity of the Veterinary Statutory Body (VSB) to implement its functions and objectives in conformity with the OIE standards.*	Levels of advancement
	1. The VSB has no capacity to implement its functions and objectives.
	2. The VSB has the functional capacity to implement its main objectives.
	3. The VSB is an independent representative organisation with the functional capacity to implement all of its objectives.
	4. The VSB has a transparent process of decision making and conforms with OIE standards.
	5. The financial and institutional management of the VSB are submitted to external auditing.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6):*

Findings:

Although IVMA is not a VSB, it is apparently financially independent, with an office and secretary, and is representatively organized.

Strengths:

- The capacity of IVMA could be a sound basis to sustain a VSB.

Weaknesses:

- The capacity of IVMA could not be evaluated by IVSAH or the OIE mission, as there is no legal mandate.

Recommendations:

- Ensure that the capacity of VSB, if created, will be sufficient, based on transparent process and submitted to external auditing.

III-6. Participation of producers and other stakeholders in joint programmes *The capability of the VS and stakeholders to formulate and implement joint programmes in regard to animal health and food safety.*	Levels of advancement
	1. Producers and other stakeholders only comply and do not actively participate in programmes.
	2. Producers and other stakeholders are informed of programmes and assist the VS to deliver the programme in the field.
	3. Producers and other stakeholders are trained to participate in programmes and advise of needed improvements, and participate in early detection of diseases.
	4. Representatives of producers and other stakeholders negotiate with the VS on the organisation and delivery of programmes.
	5. Producers and other stakeholders are formally organised to participate in developing programmes in close collaboration with the VS.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-16; H-3, 67.*

Findings:

The Dairy Board and Egg and Poultry Board provide good coordination between the private and official sectors to address the needs of the stakeholders in the intensive production sectors. These industry boards have been a flexible way for IVSAH to access resources and implement joint programs. However, reliance on resources provided and controlled by industry may also create a conflict of interest.

There is no involvement of the less intensive farmers in any programs and no current stakeholder groups actively represent the non-intensive sectors. However, it was indicated in interviews that a new organization for less intensive animal producers was recently formed.

Strengths:

- Effective joint programs with organized and intensive dairy and poultry sector.

Weaknesses:

- Lack of joint programs with less intensive and non-structured farmers.

Recommendations:

- Develop specific relevant joint programs for the less intensive and individual farmers.
- Support farmers" organisations of the less intensive and small farmers
- Consider training individuals in the less intensive sectors to train others in their communities (“train the trainer”) to engage them in early disease detection and development of appropriate strategies for disease control.

III.4 Fundamental component IV: Access to markets

This component of the evaluation concerns the authority and capability of the VS to provide support in order to access, expand and retain regional and international markets for animals and animal products. It comprises eight critical competencies.

Critical competencies:

Section IV-1	**Preparation of legislation and regulations**
Section IV-2	**Implementation of legislation and regulations and stakeholder compliance**
Section IV-3	**International harmonisation**
Section IV-4	**International certification**
Section IV-5	**Equivalence and other types of sanitary agreements**
Section IV-6	**Transparency**
Section IV-7	**Zoning**
Section IV-8	**Compartmentalisation**

Terrestrial Code References:
Points 6, 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / General organisation / Procedures and standards.
Points 1 and 2 of Article 3.2.7. on Legislation and functional capabilities: Animal health, animal welfare and veterinary public health / Export/import inspection.
Points 1 and 3 of Article 3.2.8. on Animal health controls: Animal health status / National animal disease reporting systems.
Sub-point g) of Point 4 of Article 3.2.10. on Veterinary Services administration: Trade performance history.
Article 3.2.11. on Participation in OIE activities.
Points 6 and 10 of Article 3.2.14. on Veterinary legislation, regulations and functional capabilities / Membership of the OIE.
Chapter 4.3. on Zoning and compartmentalisation.
Chapter 4.4. on Application of compartmentalisation.
Chapter 5.1. on General obligations related to certification.
Chapter 5.2. on Certification procedures.
Chapter 5.3. on OIE procedures relevant to the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures of the World Trade Organization.
Chapters 5.10. to 5.12. on Model international veterinary certificates.

IV-1. Preparation of legislation and regulations *The authority and capability of the VS to actively participate in the preparation of national legislation and regulations in domains that are under their mandate, in order to warranty its quality with respect to principles of legal drafting and legal issues (internal quality) and its accessibility, acceptability, and technical, social and economical applicability (external quality).*	Levels of advancement
	1. The VS have neither the authority nor the capability to participate in the preparation of national legislation and regulations, which result in legislation that is lacking or is outdated or of poor quality in most fields of VS activity.
	2. The VS have the authority and the capability to participate in the preparation of national legislation and regulations and can largely ensure their internal quality, but the legislation and regulations are often lacking in external quality.
	3. The VS have the authority and the capability to participate in the preparation of national legislation and regulations, with adequate internal and external quality in some fields of activity, but lack formal methodology to develop adequate national legislation and regulations regularly in all domains.
	4. The VS have the authority and the capability to participate in the preparation of national legislation and regulations, with a relevant formal methodology to ensure adequate internal and external quality, involving stakeholder participation in most fields of activity.
	5. The VS regularly evaluate and update their legislation and regulations to maintain relevance to evolving national and international contexts.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-13, 16.*

Findings:

IVSAH relies on a comprehensive set of regulations in all relevant domains and actively participates in preparation and review of new regulation as needed.

Although it is not formalized, stakeholders are consulted before finalization of regulation and are generally sent drafts although this is not mandated.

The Zeiler Report suggested a detailed review of the existing regulation be done to determine what needs updating and what new areas require primary legislation or development of regulation. It was also suggested in the Report that a set of priorities be established and that any regulation stalled in the MoA process be prioritized and pushed forward.

Strengths:

- Comprehensive regulation is in place and supported by detailed procedures for implementation that are regularly reviewed.

Weaknesses:

- Regulations need to be comprehensively reviewed and gaps identified.

Recommendations:

- Put in place a formalised process to review regulatory needs with stakeholder consultations.

IV-2. Implementation of legislation and regulations and stakeholder compliance *The authority and capability of the VS to ensure that stakeholders are in compliance with legislation and regulations under the VS mandate.*	Levels of advancement
	1. The VS have no or very limited programmes or activities to ensure stakeholder compliance with relevant legislation and regulations.
	2. The VS implement a programme or activities comprising inspection and verification of compliance with legislation and regulations and recording instances of non-compliance, but generally cannot or do not take further action in most relevant fields of activity.
	3. Veterinary legislation is generally implemented. As required, the VS have a power to take legal action / initiate prosecution in instances of non-compliance in most relevant fields of activity.
	4. Veterinary legislation is implemented in all domains of veterinary competence and the VS work with stakeholders to minimise instances of non-compliance.
	5. The compliance programme is regularly subjected to audit by the VS or external agencies.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-16; H-65.*

Findings:

IVSAH has the authority to condemn animal products at slaughter and processing facilities and to remove approval of slaughterhouses and export permits for processing plants. IVSAH can also seize products based on import regulations and can also seize veterinary drugs and withdraw approval of related premises that are not in compliance. A good set of detailed regulations is in place. However, IVSAH must rely on PIZUAH for all enforcement actions.

Strengths:

- Comprehensive set of regulation and procedure allow VS to implement legislation in all relevant domains.

Weaknesses:

- IVSAH cannot take legal action or initiate prosecution of violations and must rely on the enforcement capacity of the PIZUAH.
- IVSAH gets little or no follow up on instances of non-compliance from PIZUAH.
- PIZUAH lacks the technical expertise to conduct technical investigations and does not interact extensively with VS during its investigations.

Recommendations:

- Establish a review process to ensure that compliance activities are properly conducted and maintain a database of relevant actions.
- Enhance external coordination with PIZUAH to provide technical guidance and get timely information for enforcement actions or recover authority over enforcement actions by the VS.

IV-3. International harmonisation *The authority and capability of the VS to be active in the international harmonisation of regulations and sanitary measures and to ensure that the national legislation and regulations under their mandate take account of relevant international standards, as appropriate.*	Levels of advancement
	1. National legislation, regulations and sanitary measures under the mandate of the VS do not take account of international standards.
	2. The VS are aware of gaps, inconsistencies or non-conformities in national legislation, regulations and sanitary measures as compared to international standards, but do not have the capability or authority to rectify the problems.
	3. The VS monitor the establishment of new and revised international standards, and periodically review national legislation, regulations and sanitary measures with the aim of harmonising them, as appropriate, with international standards, but do not actively comment on the draft standards of relevant intergovernmental organisations.
	4. The VS are active in reviewing and commenting on the draft standards of relevant intergovernmental organisations.
	5. The VS actively and regularly participate at the international level in the formulation, negotiation and adoption of international standards[5], and use the standards to harmonise national legislation, regulations and sanitary measures.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-1-3; H-61.*

Findings:

IVSAH actively participates in OIE meetings and uses the OIE *Terrestrial Code* and technical manuals when establishing sanitary measures.

Strengths:

- IVSAH regulations are in compliance with international standards for the sectors that engage in import and are used as the basis for importation.

Weaknesses:

- No evidences of active review and comments on draft standards at international level

Recommendations:

- Formalise record of participation at international level

5 A country could be active in international standard setting without actively pursuing national changes. The capacity to implement changes nationally is an important element of this competency.

IV-4. International certification[6] *The authority and capability of the VS to certify animals, animal products, services and processes under their mandate, in accordance with the national legislation and regulations, and international standards.*	Levels of advancement
	1. The VS have neither the authority nor the capability to certify animals, animal products, services or processes.
	2. The VS have the authority to certify certain animals, animal products, services and processes, but are not always in compliance with the national legislation and regulations and international standards.
	3. The VS develop and carry out certification programmes for certain animals, animal products, services and processes under their mandate in compliance with international standards.
	4. The VS develop and carry out all relevant certification programmes for any animals, animal products, services and processes under their mandate in compliance with international standards.
	5. The VS carry out audits of their certification programmes, in order to maintain national and international confidence in their system.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-1-3, 16; H-12, 16, 18, 43-44, 46, 49-50, 59, 61, 72-73, 77.*

Findings:

IVSAH regularly certifies products for export markets and allows importation from a variety of countries. Regulations established in 1998 provide the authority for the CVO and Director of Animal Products to sign certificates.

Several audits by the FVO have been successfully completed over the last few years.

Strengths:

- The international certification process is well understood and utilized in a variety of agricultural sectors.
- Export certifications are based on transparent international standards.
- Certification programmes are supported by VS regulation.
- Export certification is audited regularly by trading partners.

Recommendations:

- Develop a regular system of internal audits of the certification program for domestic market.

6 Certification procedures should be based on relevant OIE and Codex Alimentarius standards.

IV-5. Equivalence and other types of sanitary agreements *The authority and capability of the VS to negotiate, implement and maintain equivalence and other types of sanitary agreements with trading partners.*	Levels of advancement
	1. The VS have neither the authority nor the capability to negotiate or approve equivalence or other types of sanitary agreements with other countries.
	2. The VS have the authority to negotiate and approve equivalence and other types of sanitary agreements with trading partners, but no such agreements have been implemented.
	3. The VS have implemented equivalence and other types of sanitary agreements with trading partners on selected animals, animal products and processes.
	4. The VS actively pursue the development, implementation and maintenance of equivalence and other types of sanitary agreements with trading partners on all matters relevant to animals, animal products and processes under their mandate.
	5. The VS actively work with stakeholders and take account of developments in international standards, in pursuing equivalence and other types of sanitary agreements with trading partners.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-1-3; H-12, 46, 61.*

Findings:

VS actively oversee the certification for the import and export of a variety of products and live animals. They maintain a variety of sanitary agreements with trading partners on a consistent and transparent basis.

Strengths:

- IVSAH actively develops and implements sanitary agreements with trading partners.

Weaknesses:

- IVSAH does not work with stakeholders on this field of activity

Recommendations:

- Consult with stakeholders on this field of activity if appropriate

IV-6. Transparency *The authority and capability of the VS to notify the OIE of their sanitary status and other relevant matters (and to notify the WTO SPS Committee where applicable), in accordance with established procedures.*	Levels of advancement
	1. The VS do not notify.
	2. The VS occasionally notify.
	3. The VS notify in compliance with the procedures established by these organisations.
	4. The VS regularly inform stakeholders of changes in their regulations and decisions on the control of relevant diseases and of the country's sanitary status, and of changes in the regulations and sanitary status of other countries.
	5. The VS, in cooperation with their stakeholders, carry out audits of their transparency procedures.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6): E-9, 15 - 17; H-28, 57, 81.*

Findings:

IVSAH publishes conditions for import on their website.

IVSAH has a long history of regularly and promptly reporting changes in the country disease status to OIE and relevant trading partners.

Strengths:

- IVSAH has achieved the level of transparency necessary to maintain export markets for many years.

Weaknesses:

- The weakness mentioned in epidemiologic surveillance, early detection, and prevention programs [CC's II.5, II.6, & II.7], risk analysis [CC II.3] and data management [CC I.11] negatively impacts the quality of notification.

Recommendations:

- Strengthen epidemiology, risk analysis and data management resources following a comprehensive needs analysis.
- Develop specific strategies in all relevant domains to reach small less intensive farmers.

IV-7. Zoning *The authority and capability of the VS to establish and maintain disease free zones, as necessary and in accordance with the criteria established by the OIE (and by the WTO SPS Agreement where applicable).*	Levels of advancement
	1. The VS cannot establish disease free zones.
	2. As necessary, the VS can identify animal sub-populations with distinct health status suitable for zoning.
	3. The VS have implemented biosecurity measures that enable it to establish and maintain disease free zones for selected animals and animal products, as necessary.
	4. The VS collaborate with their stakeholders to define responsibilities and execute actions that enable it to establish and maintain disease free zones for selected animals and animal products, as necessary.
	5. The VS can demonstrate the scientific basis for any disease free zones and can gain recognition by trading partners that they meet the criteria established by the OIE (and by the WTO SPS Agreement where applicable).

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6):*

Findings:

The small size of the Israel and the ability to provide VS resources throughout the country obviate the need for zoning.

IV-8. Compartmentalisation *The authority and capability of the VS to establish and maintain disease free compartments as necessary and in accordance with the criteria established by the OIE (and by the WTO SPS Agreement where applicable)*	Levels of advancement
	1. The VS cannot establish disease free compartments.
	2. As necessary, the VS can identify animal sub-populations with a distinct health status suitable for compartmentalisation.
	3. The VS have implemented biosecurity measures that enable it to establish and maintain disease free compartments for selected animals and animal products, as necessary.
	4. The VS collaborate with their stakeholders to define responsibilities and execute actions that enable it to establish and maintain disease free compartments for selected animals and animal products, as necessary.
	5. The VS can demonstrate the scientific basis for any disease free compartments and can gain recognition by other countries that they meet the criteria established by the OIE (and by the WTO SPS Agreement where applicable).

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Annexe 1

Evidence *(Appendix 6):*

Findings:

Compartmentalization has not been utilized in Israel.

PART IV: CONCLUSIONS

The OIE-PVS Mission went very well and the team was able to visit many areas in the country as the infrastructure of the country is good and travel distances are quite manageable. The team found an admirable degree of cooperation and transparency at all levels.

IVSAH has a very competent, stable, and well-educated cadre of veterinarians supported by good physical infrastructure and legislation.

The main deficiency is that structure, resources and activities of IVSAH have not been submitted to systematic auditing for years, especially about animal health activities, to take into account efficacy, efficiency, benefit and risk analysis.

Animal health activities will have to be reassessed in the near future, to improve efficacy and efficiency, especially for reaching small less intensive farmers. This will require considerable change in paradigm of the VS, including specific tools for analyses, programs, communication and consultation.

Veterinary public health activities have taken steps to go ahead under pressure of both international and national markets. It is clear that this domain will continue to grow and will need to be regularly strengthened.

It is recommended that VS establish a clear strategic plan for the next five years. The relevance of additional support of OIE through a gap analysis or other specific missions should be discussed.

PART V: APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Terrestrial Code references for critical competencies

Critical Competences	Terrestrial Code references
I.1.A **I.1.B** **I.2.A** **I.2.B**	➢ Points 1-5 of Article 3.1.2. Fundamental principles of quality: Professional judgement / Independence / Impartiality / Integrity / Objectivity. ➢ Points 7 and 14 of Article 3.1.2. Fundamental principles of quality: General organisation / Human and financial resources. ➢ Article 3.2.5. Evaluation criteria for human resources. ➢ Article 3.2.12. Evaluation of the veterinary statutory body. ➢ Points 1-2 and 5 of Article 3.2.14. Organisation and structure of Veterinary Services / National information on human resources / Laboratory services.
I.3	➢ Points 1, 7 and 14 of Article 3.1.2. Fundamental principles of quality: Professional judgement / General organisation / Human and financial resources. ➢ Article 3.2.5. Evaluation criteria for human resources. ➢ Sub-point d) of Point 4 of Article 3.2.10. Veterinary Services administration: In-service training and development programme for staff. ➢ Point 9 of Article 3.2.14. Performance assessment and audit programmes.
I.4	➢ Point 2 of Article 3.1.2. Fundamental principles of quality: Independence.
I.5	➢ Point 1 of Article 3.2.3. Evaluation criteria for the organisational structure of the Veterinary Services. ➢ Point 9 of Article 3.2.14. Performance assessment and audit programmes.
I.6.A **I.6.B**	➢ Points 6, 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / General organisation / Procedures and standards. ➢ Article 3.2.2. Scope. ➢ Points 1 and 2 of Article 3.2.3. Evaluation criteria for the organisational structure of the Veterinary Services. ➢ Point 4 of Article 3.2.10 Performance assessment and audit programmes.
I.7	➢ Point 2 of Article 3.2.4. Evaluation criteria for quality system: “Where the Veterinary Services undergoing evaluation… than on the resource and infrastructural components of the services”. ➢ Points 2 and 3 of Article 3.2.6. Evaluation criteria for material resources: Administrative / Technical. ➢ Point 3 of Article 3.2.10. Performance assessment and audit programmes: Compliance. ➢ Point 4 of- Article 3.2.14. Administration details.
I.8 **I.9** **I.10**	➢ Points 6 and 14 of Article 3.1.2. Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / Human and financial resources. ➢ Point 1 of Article 3.2.6. Evaluation criteria for material resources: Financial. ➢ Point 3 of Article 3.2.14. Financial management information.
I.11	➢ Points 7, 11, 14 of Article 3.1.2. Fundamental principles of quality: General organisation / Documentation / Human and financial resources. ➢ Point 4 of Article 3.2.1. General considerations. ➢ Point 1 of Article 3.2.2. Scope. ➢ Article 3.2.6. Evaluation criteria for material resources. ➢ Article 3.2.10. Performance assessment and audit programmes.
II.1	➢ Point 9 of Article 3.1.2. Fundamental principles of quality: Procedures and

	standards. ➢ Point 3 of Article 3.2.6. Evaluation criteria for material resources: Technical. ➢ Point 5 of Article 3.2.14. Laboratory services.
II.2	➢ Point 9 of Article 3.1.2. Fundamental principles of quality: Procedures and standards. ➢ Point 1 of Article 3.2.4. Evaluation criteria for quality systems. ➢ Point 3 of Article 3.2.6. Evaluation criteria for material resources: Technical. ➢ Point 5 of Article 3.2.14. Laboratory services.
II.3	➢ Chapter 2.1. Import risk analysis
II.4	➢ Points 6 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / Procedures and standards. ➢ Point 2 of Article 3.2.7. Legislation and functional capabilities: Export/import inspection. ➢ Points 6 and 7 of Article 3.2.14. Veterinary legislation, regulations and functional capabilities / Animal health and veterinary public health controls.
II.5.A **II.5.B**	➢ Points 6, 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / General organisation / Procedures and standards. ➢ Points 1-3 of Article 3.2.8. Animal health controls: Animal health status / Animal health control / National animal disease reporting systems. ➢ Sub-points a) i), ii) and iii) of Point 7 of Article 3.2.14. Animal health: Description of and sample reference data from any national animal disease reporting system controlled and operated or coordinated by the Veterinary Services / Description of and sample reference data from other national animal disease reporting systems controlled and operated by other organisations which make data and results available to Veterinary Services / Description and relevant data of current official control programmes including:… or eradication programmes for specific diseases.
II.6 **II.7**	➢ Points 6, 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / General organisation / Procedures and standards. ➢ Points 1-3 of Article 3.2.8. Animal health controls: Animal health status/Animal health control/National animal disease reporting systems. ➢ Sub-point a) of Point 7 of Article 3.2.14. Animal health and veterinary public health controls: Animal health.
II.8.A **II.8.B**	➢ Points 6, 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / General organisation / Procedures and standards. ➢ Points 1-5 of Article 3.2.9. Veterinary public health controls: Food hygiene / Zoonoses / Chemical residue testing programmes / Veterinary medicines/ Integration between animal health controls and veterinary public health. ➢ Points 2, 6 and 7 of Article 3.2.14. National information on human resources / Veterinary legislation, regulations and functional capabilities / Animal health and veterinary public health controls. ➢ Chapter 6.2. Control of biological hazards of animal health and public health importance through ante- and post-mortem meat inspection.
II.9	➢ Points 6 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / Procedures and standards. ➢ Points 3 and 4 of Article 3.2.9. Veterinary public health controls: Chemical residue testing programmes / Veterinary medicines. ➢ Sub-point a) ii) of Point 6 of Article 3.2.14. Animal health and veterinary public health: Assessment of ability of Veterinary Services to enforce legislation. ➢ Chapters 6.6. to 6.10. Antimicrobial resistance.
II.10	➢ Points 3 and 4 of Article 3.2.9. Veterinary public health controls: Chemical

	residue testing programmes / Veterinary medicines. ➢ Sub-points b) iii) and iv) of Point 7 of Article 3.2.14. Veterinary public health: Chemical residue testing programmes / Veterinary medicines. ➢ Chapters 6.6. to 6.10. Antimicrobial resistance.
II.11	➢ Points 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. Fundamental principles of quality: General organisation / Procedures and standards. ➢ Point 1 of Article 3.2.7. Legislation and functional capabilities: Animal health, animal welfare and veterinary public health.
II.12	➢ Points 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. Fundamental principles of quality: General organisation / Procedures and standards. ➢ Point 3 of Article 3.2.8. Animal health controls: National animal disease reporting systems. ➢ Sub-point f) of Point 4 of Article 3.2.10. Veterinary Services administration: Formal linkages with sources of independent scientific expertise. ➢ Points 6 and 7 of Article 3.2.14. Veterinary legislation, regulations and functional capabilities / Animal health and veterinary public health controls.
II.13.A **II.13.B**	➢ Point 6 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation. ➢ Chapter 4.1. General principles on identification and traceability of live animals. ➢ Chapter 4.2. Design and implementation of identification systems to achieve animal traceability.
II.14	➢ Chapter 7.1. Introduction to the recommendations for animal welfare ➢ Chapter 7.2. Transport of animals by sea ➢ Chapter 7.3. Transport of animals by land ➢ Chapter 7.4. Transport of animals by air ➢ Chapter 7.5. Slaughter of animals ➢ Chapter 7.6. Killing of animals for disease control purposes
III.1	➢ Point 13 of Article 3.1.2. Fundamental principles of quality: Communication. ➢ Sub-point b) of Point 2 of Article 3.2.6. on Administrative resources: Communications. ➢ Point 4 of Article 3.2.14. Administration details.
III.2	➢ Point 13 of Article 3.1.2. Fundamental principles of quality: Communication. ➢ Point 2 of Article 3.2.3. Evaluation criteria for the organisational structure of the Veterinary Services. ➢ Point 4 and Sub-point g) of Point 9 of Article 3.2.14. Administration details and on Sources of independent scientific expertise.
III.3	➢ Article 3.2.11. Participation in OIE activities. ➢ Point 4 of Article 3.2.14. on Administration details.
III.4	➢ Points 6, 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / General organisation / Procedures and standards. ➢ Point 7 of Article 3.2.3. Evaluation criteria for the organisational structure of the Veterinary Services.
III.5.A **III.5.B**	➢ Point 6 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation. ➢ Point 9 of Article 3.2.1. General considerations. ➢ Article 3.2.12. Evaluation of the veterinary statutory body.
III.6	➢ Points 6 and 13 of Article 3.1.2. Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / Communication. ➢ Points 2 and 7 of Article 3.2.3. Evaluation criteria for the organisational structure of the Veterinary Services. ➢ Point 7 of Article 3.2.14. Animal health and veterinary public health

	controls.
IV.1	➢ Points 6, 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / General organisation / Procedures and standards. ➢ Points 1 and 2 of Article 3.2.7. Legislation and functional capabilities: Animal health, animal welfare and veterinary public health / Export/import inspection. ➢ Point 6 of Article 3.2.14. Veterinary legislation, regulations and functional capabilities.
IV.2	➢ Points 6, 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / General organisation / Procedures and standards. ➢ Points 1 and 2 of Article 3.2.7. Legislation and functional capabilities: Animal health, animal welfare and veterinary public health / Export/import inspection. ➢ Point 6 of Article 3.2.14. Veterinary legislation, regulations and functional capabilities.
IV.3	➢ Point 6 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation. ➢ Article 3.2.11. Participation in OIE activities. ➢ Points 6 and 10 of Article 3.2.14. Veterinary legislation, regulations and functional capabilities / Membership of the OIE.
IV.4	➢ Points 6, 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / General organisation / Procedures and standards. ➢ Point 2 of Article 3.2.7. Legislation and functional capabilities: Export/import inspection. ➢ Sub-point b) of Point 6 of Article 3.2.14. Veterinary legislation, regulations and functional capabilities: Export/import inspection. ➢ Chapter 5.2. Certification procedures. ➢ Chapters 5.10. to 5.12. Model international veterinary certificates.
IV.5	➢ Points 6 and 7 of Article 3.1.2. Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / General organisation. ➢ Sub-point g) of Point 4 of Article 3.2.10. Veterinary Services administration: Trade performance history. ➢ Chapter 5.3. OIE procedures relevant to the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures of the World Trade Organization.
IV.6	➢ Point 6 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation. ➢ Points 1 and 3 of Article 3.2.8. Animal health controls: Animal health status / National animal disease reporting systems. ➢ Chapter 5.1. General obligations related to certification.
IV.7	➢ Point 6 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation. ➢ Chapter 4.3. Zoning and compartmentalisation.
IV.8	➢ Point 6 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation. ➢ Chapter 4.3. Zoning and compartmentalisation. ➢ Chapter 4.4. Application of compartmentalisation.

Appendix 2: Glossary of terms

Terms defined in the Terrestrial Code that are used in this publication are reprinted here for ease of reference.

Border post

means any airport, or any port, railway station or road check-point open to international trade of commodities, where import veterinary inspections can be performed.

Compartment

means an animal subpopulation contained in one or more establishments under a common biosecurity management system with a distinct health status with respect to a specific disease or specific diseases for which required surveillance, control and biosecurity measures have been applied for the purposes of international trade.

Competent Authority

means the Veterinary Authority or other Governmental Authority of a Member, having the responsibility and competence for ensuring or supervising the implementation of animal health and welfare measures, international veterinary certification and other standards and recommendations in the Terrestrial Code and the Aquatic Animal Health Code in the whole territory.

Emerging disease

means a new infection resulting from the evolution or change of an existing pathogenic agent, a known infection spreading to a new geographic area or population, or a previously unrecognized pathogenic agent or disease diagnosed for the first time and which has a significant impact on animal or public health.

Equivalence of sanitary measures

means the state wherein the sanitary measure(s) proposed by the exporting country as an alternative to those of the importing country, achieve(s) the same level of protection.

International veterinary certificate

means a certificate, issued in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 5.2., describing the animal health and/or public health requirements which are fulfilled by the exported commodities.

Laboratory

means a properly equipped institution staffed by technically competent personnel under the control of a specialist in veterinary diagnostic methods, who is responsible for the validity of the results. The Veterinary Authority approves and monitors such laboratories with regard to the diagnostic tests required for international trade.

Notifiable disease

means a disease listed by the Veterinary Authority, and that, as soon as detected or suspected, must be brought to the attention of this Authority, in accordance with national regulations.

Official control programme

means a programme which is approved, and managed or supervised by the Veterinary Authority of a country for the purpose of controlling a vector, pathogen or disease by specific measures applied throughout that country, or within a zone or compartment of that country.

Official Veterinarian

means a veterinarian authorised by the Veterinary Authority of the country to perform certain designated official tasks associated with animal health and/or public health and inspections of commodities and, when appropriate, to certify in conformity with the provisions of Chapters 5.1. and 5.2. of the Terrestrial Code.

Official veterinary control

means the operations whereby the Veterinary Services, knowing the location of the animals and after taking appropriate actions to identify their owner or responsible keeper, are able to apply appropriate animal health measures, as required. This does not exclude other responsibilities of the Veterinary Services e.g. food safety.

Risk analysis

means the process composed of hazard identification, risk assessment, risk management and risk communication.

Sanitary measure

means a measure, such as those described in various Chapters of the Terrestrial Code, destined to protect animal or human health or life within the territory of the OIE Member from risks arising from the entry, establishment and/or spread of a hazard.

Surveillance

means the systematic ongoing collection, collation, and analysis of information related to animal health and the timely dissemination of information to those who need to know so that action can be taken.

Terrestrial Code

means the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code.

Veterinarian

means a person registered or licensed by the relevant veterinary statutory body of a country to practice veterinary medicine/science in that country.

Veterinary Authority

means the Governmental Authority of an OIE Member, comprising veterinarians, other professionals and para-professionals, having the responsibility and competence for ensuring or supervising the implementation of animal health and welfare measures, international veterinary certification and other standards and recommendations in the Terrestrial Code in the whole territory.

Veterinary para-professional

means a person who, for the purposes of the Terrestrial Code, is authorised by the veterinary statutory body to carry out certain designated tasks (dependent upon the category of veterinary para-professional) in a territory, and delegated to them under the responsibility and direction of a veterinarian. The tasks for each category of veterinary para-professional should be defined by the veterinary statutory body depending on qualifications and training, and according to need.

Veterinary Services

means the governmental and non-governmental organisations that implement animal health and welfare measures and other standards and recommendations in the Terrestrial and Aquatic Codes in the territory. The Veterinary Services are under the overall control and direction of the Veterinary Authority. Private sector organisations, veterinarians, veterinary paraprofessionals or aquatic animal health professionals are normally accredited or approved by the Veterinary Authority to deliver the delegated functions.

Veterinary statutory body

means an autonomous authority regulating veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals.

Appendix 3. List of persons met or interviewed

Date	Name	Position	Institution	Location
Opening meeting				
24/10/11	Dr. Nadav Galon	CVO/Director Veterinary Services	IVSAH	Beit Dagan
	Dr. Michel Bellaiche	Head, Epidemiology Dept	IVSAH	"
	Dr. Boris Yakobson	Head, Diagnostic Labs	IVSAH	"
	Dr. Zvika Benor	Animal Products (milk)	IVSAH	"
	Dr. Erez Lubrani	Control of Vet Med/Bio	IVSAH	
	Dr. Shmulik Zamir	Head, Small Ruminants	IVSAH	"
	Orit Noked	Minister of Agriculture	MoA	"
	Yossi Yshai	MoA Dep Administrator	MoA	"
	Dr. Avi Eldar	Head, Fish Diseases Lab	IVSAH	"
	Friedman Shmuel	Israeli Dairy Board		
	Shmuel Levit	Eggs and Poultry Board		
	Yossi Yaish	Fish Breeder Association		
	Dr. Sergio Dolev	Dir, Control of Animal Products	IVSAH	
	Dr. Michael Pirak	Chief Poultry Vet Officer	IVSAH	
	Tamar Krlyer	Small ruminants owner assoc		
	Jacob Cohen	Producers representative		
	Dr. Roni Ozari	Dir, Field VS	IVSAH	
	Dr. Shlomo Garazi	Chief, Import/Export	IVSAH	
	Dr. Ovi Dayan	Import/Export	IVSAH	
	Dr. Zvi Avni	Import/Export	IVSAH	
	Dr. Itzhak Samina	Head, IVMA		
	Dr Avi Leilien		Magen David Yaroq paravet school	
	Dr. Ron Shachar			
23/10	Dr. Perl	Pathology Diag. Lab	KVI	
	Dr. Nir Edri	Pathology Diag. Lab	KVI	
	Dr. Varda Shkapf	Parasitology	KVI	
	Dr. Ilana Meller	Food bacteriology Lab	KVI	
	Prof. Stefan Soback	Bacteriology	KVI	
	Prof. Danny Elad	Head, Bacteriology	KVI	
	Dr. Menachem Banai	Head, Brucellosis	KVI	
	Dr. Avishal Lublin	Poultry pathology	KVI	
	Ms. Sarit Koren	VS Administration	IVSAH	
Field visits, meetings and interviews				
25/10/11	Dr. Daniel Faingold	Animal Products	IVSAH	
	Dr. Shira Engel	Animal Products	IVSAH	
	Dr. Ililiana Matanes	Animal Products	IVSAH	
	Dr. Rios Romy Bergman	Animal Products	IVSAH	
	Eng. David Shitrit	Animal Products	IVSAH	
	Dr. Mohammad Abed El Khaliq	Chief Slaughterhouse	IVSAH	
	Dr. Erez Lubrani	Veterinary Med/Bio/Controls	IVSAH	
	Ms. Liat Shlomo	Administration/HR	IVSAH	
	Dr Zvia Mildenberg	Equine Division	IVSAH	
	Dr. Elyakum Berman	Poultry Division	IVSAH	
	Dr. Dganit Ben-Dov	Animal Welfare Division	IVSAH	
	Prof. Shimon Harrus	Dean	Koret Veterinary School	
	Prof. Gad Baneth	Researcher/Professor	Koret Veterinary School	
26/10	Dr Moshe Azar	Veterinarian	Municipal slaughterhouse	Holon
	Dr Zamir Oved	Director	District Veterinary Office	Kannot
	Dr. Mario Yankelevich	Veterinarian	District Veterinary Office	Kannot
	Dr. Jonathan Even-Zor	Director	Municipal Veterinarian	Rishon LeZion
		Veterinarian	Medium slaughterhouse	Tira
		Owner	"	"
		Veterinarian	Small slaughterhouse	Hadera
		Veterinarian	Hacklait warehouse	""
		Veterinarian	National service of Udder	""

		Veterinarian	Milk quality control	“
		Veterinarian	DVO	“
		Veterinarian	Airport border post	Tel Aviv
		Veterinarian	Artificial Insemination Center	Kannot Dis.
		Owner	Buffalo milk processing	“
27/10	Shlomo Trov	Plant manager	Kornish slaughterhouse	Beer Tuvia
	Dr. Michale Katz	Veterinarian	Kornish slaughterhouse	Beer Tuvia
	Dr. Sagid Bloom	Veterinarian	So. Poultry Lab	Beer Tuvia
		Veterinarian/laboratorian	So. Poultry Lab	Beer Tuvia
		Veterinarian/laboratorian	So. Poultry Lab	Beer Tuvia
		Veterinarian/laboratorian	So. Poultry Lab	Beer Tuvia
	Roi Kliger	Chief Investigator	Agricultural Enforcement	Tarquimiya
		Enforcement officer	Agricultural Enforcement	Tarquimiya
		Enforcement officer	Agricultural Enforcement	Tarquimiya
		Veterinarian	Pig slaughterhouse	Eiblin
		Owner	“”	“”
		Veterinarian	Large slaughterhouse	Bet Shean
		Veterinarian	“”	“
		Veterinarian	Poultry slaughterhouse	“
		Manager	“	“
		Farmer	Goat milking farm	“”
		Owner	Veterinary drugs wholesaler	Petach Tokva
30/10	Dr. Shimon Pismanik	Director	District Veterinary Office	Afula
	Dr Dana Shusterman	VS veterinarian	Milk and Milk Products	“”
	Neil Balmas	Plant manager	Tnuva Milk Processing	Tel-yousef
	Eyal Jonas	Plant supervisor	“	“
		Veterinarian	Nazareth Poultry Plant	Nazareth
		Inspector	Nazareth Poultry Plant	Nazareth
		Veterinarian	DVO	Beer Sheva
		Veterinarian	Poultry slaughterhouse	“
		Veterinarian	Hackliat	“”
		Veterinarian	Municipality	Arad
		Veterinarian	Independent	Beer Sheva
	Dr. Pirak	Director/veterinarian	Northern Poultry Lab	Lavi
		Veterinarian	Northern Poultry Lab	Lavi
		Veterinarian	Northern Poultry Lab	Lavi
		Veterinarian	Northern Poultry Lab	Lavi
		Veterinarian	Northern Poultry Lab	Lavi
31/10	Dr. Boris Even-Tov	Director	District Veterinary Office	Rosh Pina
	Dr. Neill	Private veterinarian	Hacklait	Golan Heights
		Dairy manager	Kibbutz dairy farm	Golan Heights
		Beef farm manager	Kibbutz beef farm	Golan Heights
	Dr. Yuval Hadani	Director	District Veterinary Office	Akko
	Dr. Este Ayaly	Veterinarian	Regional Health Office	Akko
		Veterinarian	Wildlife MoE	Ein Gedi
		Veterinarian	Private quarantine	Tzofar
		Owner	“”	“
		Veterinarian	“	Eilat
		Owner	“	“
		Veterinarian	Borders control	“
		Customs officer	Taba border post	“
		Customs officer	Aquaba border post	“
		Veterinarian	Regional council/private vet	“
01/11		Owner	Small dairy farm	W. Galilee
		Veterinarian	cklait	W. Galilee
		David Naveh	Dairy farm manager	W. Galilee
		Farmer	Dairy farm	W. Galilee
		Farmer	Not intensive	Mitspeh Raman
		Officer	PIZUAH	Raffiah
		Defence officer	Border post	“
		Manager	Dairy goat/sheep farm	
		Manager	Carcass incineration plant	Ein Hamifratz

		Veterinarian	“	“
03/11		Managing Director	MoA	Bet Dagan
		Veterinarian	Regional council/private	„
Closing meeting				
	Dr. Nadav Galon	CVO/Director Veterinary Services	IVSAH	Beit Dagan
	Dr. Michel Bellaiche	Head, Epidemiology Dept	IVSAH	“
	Dr. Boris Yakobson	Head, Diagnostic Labs	IVSAH	“
	Dr. Zvika Benor	Animal Products (milk)	IVSAH	“
	Dr. Erez Lubrani	Control of Vet Med/Bio		
	Dr. Shmulik Zamir	Head, Small Ruminants	IVSAH	“
	Dr. Sergio Dolev	Dir, Control of Animal Products	IVSAH	“"
	Dr. Michael Pirak	Chief Poultry Vet Officer	IVSAH	
	Dr. Roni Ozari	Dir, Field VS	IVSAH	
	Dr. Shlomo Garazi	Chief, Import/Export	IVSAH	
	Dr. Ovi Dayan	Import/Export	IVSAH	
	Dr. Zvi Avni	Import/Export	IVSAH	
	Dr. Daniel Faingold	Animal Products	IVSAH	
	Dr. Mohammmad Abed El Khaliq	Chief Slaughterhouse	IVSAH	
	Dr Dganit Ben-Dov	Animal Welfare Division	IVSAH	

Appendix 4: Timetable of the mission and sites/ facilities visited

Date	Assessor	Time	Location	Activities
23/10	EFQ+JP+ JA	14:00-17:00	Bet Dagan	Kimron Institute; Bees
		17:00-18:30	“”	Meet with CVO
24/10	EFQ+JP+ JA	08:30	“”	Opening meeting; presentation of VS and OIE PVS tool
		11:00	“”	Veterinary Field Services Division
	EFQ+JP+ JA	12:00	“”	Courtesy Meeting with Minister of Agriculture
		13:30	“”	Fish VS
		14:00	“”	Farmers Associations; Egg and Poultry Board; Dairy Board; Small Ruminants Association; fish Breeders Association
		15:30	“”	Import/Export and Quarantine
		16:30	“”	IVMA
		17:00	“”	VPP training institutions
25/10	EFQ+JP+ JA	08:30	“”	Animal Products
		09:30	“”	Slaughterhouse controls
		10:30	“”	Site visit and sampling size
		10:30	“”	Horse disease
		11:00	“”	Control of Veterinary medicine, biologics and chemicals; inspection and registration
		11:45	“”	Administrative support, buget and human resource management
		13:00	“”	Department of Epidemiology
		14:00	“”	Poultry diseases; surveillance testing; vaccination requirements
		15:00	“”	Small ruminant disease control programs
		16:30-18:30	“”	Koret Veterinary School
26/10	EFQ	07:30	Tira	Mid-size abattoir
		09:00	Hadera	Small abattoir
		10:00	Hadera	Hacklait drug warehouse National Service for Udder Health and Milk Quality Central Laboratory for Milk Quality
		11:00	Hadera	DVO
		13:30	Tel Aviv	Ben Guiron airport import/export inspection
	JP+JA	07:00	Holon	Slaughterhouse- medium size- ruminants
		08:30	Kannot	District Veterinary Office
		11:00	“”	Bovine Artificial Insemination Center
		11:30	„“	Dairy farm with processing center
		12:45	Ashdod	Seaport
		14:45-17:00	Rishon LeZion	Municipal Veterinary Office
27/10 30/10	JP+JA	08:00	Beer Tuvia	Slaughterhouse- poultry export and domestic
		11:00	“	Poultry laboratory
		13:00	Tarquimiya	Border crossing with Palestinian Authority
		16:30	Petach Tikva	Veterinary drugs wholesaler
	EFQ	08:00	Eiblin	Swine slaughterhouse
		10:30	Bet Shean	Cattle abattoir and meat processing plant- large Export poultry slaughterhouse and cutting plant
		14:00	“”	Goat milk and cheese export farm
	JP+JA	08:00	Afula	District Veterinary Office
		10:00	“”	Tnuva Dairy Processing Center and export facility
		11:15	Lavi	Northern Poultry Laboratory
		13:00	Nazareth	Municipal poultry slaughterhouse and retail
	EFQ	09:30	Beer Sheva	DVO
		11:30	“	Hacklait veterinarian interview
		12:30	Arad	Interview of municipal veterinarian
		14:00	“”	Overview of less intensive farming systems
		15:00	“	Interview with independent private large animal veterinarian
31/10	JP+JA	08:00	Rosh Pina	District Veterinary Office
		10:00	Golan Heights	Dairy facility; kibbutz
		11:00	“”	Private dairy veterinarian; member of Hacklait cooperative
		11:45	“”	Beef feedlot and cow/calf grazing unit of kibbutz
	JP+JA	12:00	Transit	Observe Syrian and Lebanon borders

		13:30	Akko	District Veterinary Office
		15:00	“”	Regional veterinary office
		17:00	“”	Kibbutz dairy and soya product plant
	EFQ	07:00	Ein Gedi	Interview wildlife veterinarian
		11:30	Tzofar	Quarantine station
		14:00	Eilat	Private quarantine station
		16:00	“	Border post with Jordan [Aquaba] Border post with Egypt [Taba]
		17:00	“	Interview with regional council veterinarian/private
01/11	EFQ	06:30	Eilat	Interview Hacklait veterinarian
		10:30	Mitspeh Ramon	Interview of less intensive farmer camps
		11:00	Way to Raffea	Attempt to reach border with Egypt [road #10 closed for security]
		14:30	Raffea	Border post with Egypt and Gaza Strip
	JP+JA	09:00	Hadera	Large kibbutz dairy
		10:00	“”	Sheep and goat dairy
		12:00	“”	Carcass incineration plant
		14:00	Haifa	Animal quarantine and import certification
02/11	EFQ+JP+ JA	08:00-18:00	Bet Dagan	Report preparation and VS interviews
03/11	EFQ+JP+ JA	08:00-12:00	“”	Feedback session with CVO and VS personnel
		13:00-14:00	“”	MoA Director of Operations
		14:00-17:00	“”	Report drafting session

Appendix 5: Air travel itinerary

ASSESSOR	DATE	From	To	Flight No.	Departure	Arrival
E Fermet-Quinet	22/10 23/10	Paris Budapest	Budapest Tel Aviv	AF 2294 MA 210	15h 25 8h00	17h50 12h30
	05/11	Tel Aviv Athens	Athens Paris	A3 929 A3 618	05h40 16h15	08h00 19h00
J Armstrong	22/10	Montevideo	Madrid	IB6012	15:50	06:40
		Madrid	Tel Aviv	IB3754	10:00	15:50
	05/11	Tel Aviv	Madrid	IB3753	16:50	21:20
	06/11	Madrid	Montevideo	IB6014	01:10	10:30
J Punderson	21/10	Washington DC	Paris	AF 39	16:40	6:00
	22/10	Paris	Istanbul	TK 1822	12:30	16:45
		Istanbul	Tel Aviv	TK 788	17:45	19:50
	5/11	Tel Aviv	Paris	AF 2221	8:00	12:00

Appendix 6: List of documents used in the PVS evaluation

E = Electronic version H = Hard copy version P= Digital picture

Ref	Title	Author / Date / ISBN / Web	Related critical competence
	PRE-MISSION DOCUMENTS		
E1	*Milk and milk products for export*	FVO 2009	I.4, II.10, IV.4
E2	*Fish products for export to EU*	FVO 2009	I.4II.10, IV.4
E3	*Residues in live animals, products and control of veterinary medical products*	FVO 2010	I.4.II.10, IV.4
	MISSION DOCUMENTS		
E4	Slaughterhouse controls- PowerPoint	IVSAH	II.8, II.13
E5	Poultry health and laboratory PowerPoint	IVSAH	I.1, II.1, II.2, II,5, 11.6,11.7
E6	Kanot District Veterinary Office	IVSAH	II.1, II.7
E7	IVSAH Structure, disease status and emerging disease- PowerPoint	IVSAH	I.1, 1.7, II.5, II.6, II.7, II.11
E8	IVSAH control of veterinary drugs	IVSAH	II.9, II.10
E9	VS WEBSITE	IVSAH	***
E10	Cruelty to animals law; 1994	IVSAH	II.10
E11	Bovine health committee protocol; 2009	IVSAH	II.7
E12	Decision to remove veterinarian"s license; 2011	IVSAH	III.5
E13	Draft of regulations on animal diseases (identification and traceability of cattle); 9/10/ 2011	IVSAH	II.13
E14	Egg and Poultry Board Organization Chart	Egg & Poultry Board	I.6B
E15	Prices of veterinary services; excel	IVSAH	IV.6, I.8
E16	Zeiler Committee Report Conclusions	Gov of Israel	I.1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 11, II.1, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14; III.2, 4, 6; IV.1, 2, 4, 6
E17	OIE & WHAID Websites	OIE	II.5A, II.5B,7 III.3, IV.6
H1	TB testing Directive	IVSAH	II.5b
H2	Brucellosis vaccination in small ruminant directive	IVSAHS	II.5B
H3	Israel Dairy Board; National Service for udder health & milk quality	Israel Dairy Board	I.6A, III.2, III.6
H4	Directive milk ring test	IVSAH	II.5B, II.8B
H5	Procedure for treating brucellosis	IVSAH	II.7
H6	Directive routine vaccination cattle & small ruminants	IVSAH	II.7
H7	Directive- epidemiologic investigation	IVSAH	II.5a&b
H8	FMD vaccination procedure	IVSAH	II.7
H9	FMD directive outbreak procedures	IVSAH	II.6, II.7
H10	IVSAH Appendix of Laws and Regulations, 2010	IVSAH	II.7, II.8, II.9, II.14
H11	IVSAH request for regionalization, 2010	IVSAH	I.1, II.1, II.5,
H12	Veterinary certificate- poultry export	IVSAH	IV.4, IV.5
H13	Veterinary movement to slaughter certificate	IVSAH	II.13
H14	Movement of poultry for export slaughter	IVSAH	II.13
H15	Ante-mortem inspection record	IVSAH	II.8A
H16	Report from IVSAH of plant compliance	IVSAH	II.8A, IV.4
H17	Slaughterhouse non-compliance report	IVSAH	II.8A
H18	Inspection report of export audit	IVSAH	IV.4
H19	IVSAH database interface with messaging to slaughterhouse	IVSAH	II.8A, II.10
H20	IVSAH movement of product from slaughterhouse	IVSAH	II.13
H21	Proprietary product movement tracking	Industry	II.13
H22	Notebook format for issuing veterinary drugs wholesale/retail	IVSAH	II.9
H23	Poultry laboratory sample submission and	IVSAH	II.1, II.5, II.7

	history form with fees		
H24	Poultry laboratory salmonella sample report	IVSAH	II.1, II.2, II.8
H25	Poultry health database report presentation	IVSAH	II.1, II.6, II.7
H26	Mycoplasma testing program- poultry	IVSAH	II.5, II.7
H27	Report of salmonella testing program- breeding poultry, 2010	IVSAH	II.7
H28	2011 HPAI surveillance report for semi-annual OIE reporting	IVSAH	IV.6
H29	HPAI outbreak report to OIE, 2011	IVSAH	II.6
H30	Report of epidemiologic investigations of 2011 HPAI outbreak	IVSAH	II.6
H31	Individual animal identification card- cattle	IVSAH	II.13
H32	Individual animal identification card- camel	IVSAH	II.13
H33	District veterinary office- job description- livestock investigator	IVSAH	I.1
H34	District veterinary office- job description- veterinarian	IVSAH	I.1
H35	IVSAH database- cattle slaughterhouse clearance of individual cattle for slaughter	IVSAH	II.13
H36	„Hacklait" brochure of food animal veterinary services	Hacklait	I.1A
H37	Database report of cattle entry	IVSAH	II.13
H38	Authorization to move to slaughter in the PA	IVSAH	II.13
H39	List of municipal entities in Hadera DVO	IVSAH	I.6
H40	Website of animal products inspection	IVSAH	II.8B, III.1, I.11
H41	Movement certificate for small ruminant	Hadera DVO	II.13A
H42	Description of functions of Field Veterinary Services	IVSAH	II.6, II.7
H43	Live animal export certificate- breeding bees	IVSAH	IV.4
H44	Milk product export certificate	IVSAH	IV.4
H45	Customs regulations- role of VS highlighted	IVSAH	IV.5
H46	Procedures for border inspection	IVSAH	IV.4
H47	Slaughter authorization database printout	IVSAH	II.8, II.13
H48	Live animal import certification	IVSAH	II.4
H49	Import request conditions	IVSAH	IV.4
H50	Questionnaire to inform opening importation of animals and animal products into Israel	IVSAH	II.4, IV.4
H51	Residue committee report, 2009	IVSAH	II.10
H52	Field services summary of duties	IVSAH	II.5, II.6, II.7
H53	Procedure sheets – multiple disease [cover sheet and index]	IVSAH	II.6, II.7
H54	List of veterinary drugs retailers	IVSAH	II.9
H55	Official inspection with MoH- pharmacy	IVSAH	II.9
H56	Official inspection veterinary medicines	IVSAH	II.9
H57	Official corruption inquiry 2010	IVSAH	I.4, IV.6
H58	Procedure sheet- monitoring FMD vaccination efficacy	IVSAH	II.7, II.9
H59	Regulations controlling export of animals and animal products	IVSAH	IV.4, II.5?
H60	Certificate authorizing a veterinarian to work as an inspector in a specific set of plants	IVSAH	III.4
H61	Certificate authorizing slaughter plant to export	IVSAH	II.8, IV.3. IV.4, IV.5
H62	Budget summary for last 5 years	IVSAH	I.8, I.9,II.10
H63	Letter indicating that it is impossible to employ staff with „soft money"	IVSAH	I.1A, I.1B, II.12
H64	Flyer for the 2 veterinary para- professional school	IVSAH	I.2B
H65	Slaughterhouse inspection follow-up after failure of inspection; with photographic documentation	IVSAH	II.8, IV.2
H66	Horse disease protocol sheet	IVSAH	II.7
H67	Small ruminant conferences/courses put on by VS	IVSAH	II.1

H68	Cooperation between VS and Dairy Board	Dairy Board	III.2
H69	Large Carcass Incinerator Facility	Incineration center	II.7
H70	DVO animal health activities planning- use of database	IVSAH	II.7
H71	Israeli Dairy Board Brochure	Dairy Board	III.3
H72	Import product permit	IVSAH	IV.4
H73	Import gate pass for products	IVSAH	IV.4
H74	Veterinary ethics documentation	IVSAH	III.5
H75	Catalogue of procedure sheets- meat products	IVSAH	II.8
H76	Catalogue of poultry annexes; HPAI request	IVSAH	II.1, II.5, II.6, II.7, II.8, II.10, II.13
H77	Regulations- 2010 318 pages	IVSAH	IV.4
H78	Procedures sheets, avian: 280 pages	IVSAH	II.7
H79	Indemnity procedures	IVSAH	I.9
H80	Indemnity pricing	IVSAH	I.9
H81	2009 Annual Report	IVSAH	IV.6
H82	Job description- slaughter inspection	IVSAH	II.8A
H83	Age of VS veterinarians	IVSAH	I.1A, 1.2a
PP1	Department of Ag HQ	MoA	I.7
PP2	Pathology sample submission	IVSAH	II.1, II.6
PP3	Pathology sample submission form	IVSAH	II.1
PP4	sample submission	IVSAH	II.1
PP5	Imported fish sample	IVSAH	II.8, II.10
PP6	Post mortem room	IVSAH	II.1,
PP7	KVI facilities 1	IVSAH	I.7
PP8	KVI facilities 2	IVSAH	I.7
PP9	KVI facilities 3	IVSAH	I.7
PP10	KVI media production	IVSAH	I.7, II.1, II.2
PP11	KVI media storage	IVSAH	I.7, II.1, II.2
PP12	KVI lab log book	IVSAH	II.2
PP13	KVI lab log 2	IVSAH	II.2
PP14	KVI vaccine product	IVSAH	II.9
PP15	KVI antigen storage	IVSAH	II.9
PP16	KVI BSE lab	IVSAH	I.7, II.1
PP17	KVI outbuilding	IVSAH	I.7
PP18	KVI equine vaccine herd	IVSAH	I.7, II.9
PP19	KVI animal holdings	IVSAH	I.7, II.9
PP20	KVI poultry isolation facilities	IVSAH	I.7
PP21	KVI sheep holding	IVSAH	I.7, II.9
PP22	KVI vaccine herd holding	IVSAH	I.7, II.9
PP23	VS HQ	IVSAH	I.7
PP24	ISO certificate	IVSAH	II.2 III.4
PP25	KVI research grant file	IVSAH	II.12
PP26	Kimron research grant	IVSAH	II.12
PP27	Koret veterinary school entry		I.2
PP28	Koret veterinary school anatomy lab		I.2
PP29	Koret veterinary school dean		I.2
PP30	Koret Veterinary School International Review 2007		I.2
PP31	Koret Veterinary School EAVE Review 2011		I.2
PP32	Koret Veterinary School EAVE Review 2		I.2
PP33	Poultry traceability domestic market	IVSAH	II.13
PP34	Domestic poultry S/H and retail	IVSAH	II.8B
PP35	IVMA membership		I.2A
PP36	Specialization certificate- public health	IVSAH	I.2A, I.3
PP37	Retail poultry traceability certificate	IVSAH	II.8B, II.13
PP38	DVO entry- Kanot	IVSAH	I.8
PP39	Field activities from database	IVSAH	II.5, II.7
PP40	Field office database interface	IVSAH	II.5, II.7
PP41	Field activities log book/receipt	IVSAH	II.5, II.7
PP42	DVO vaccine storage	IVSAH	I.7, II.9
PP43	DVO work space	IVSAH	I.7
PP44	DVO incubator and lab space	IVSAH	I.7, II.1

PP45	Emergency kit for field work	IVSAH	II.6
PP46	DVO facilities	IVSAH	I.7
PP47	DVO facilities	IVSAH	I.7
PP48	Export dairy facility		II.8A. II.8B
PP49	Poultry & Egg Board lab		I.7, II.1, II.7,
PP50	Poultry ante-mortem inspection sheet		II.8A
PP51	Poultry post-mortem tally		II.8A
PP51	Poultry slaughter summary		II.8A
PP52	Slaughter records		II.8A
PP53	Poultry flock movement document		II.13
PP54	Veterinarians certification in Public health		I.2A
PP55	IVMA membership certificate		I.2A
PP56	Retail poultry with traceability	IVSAH	II.13
PP57	DVO biohazard disposal	IVSAH	II.7
PP58	DVO sample submission	IVSAH	II.1, II.5, II.7
PP59	DVO biohazard storage	IVSAH	II.2
PP60	FMD pro-bang sampling	IVSAH	II.1, II.7
PP61	DVO cold storage	IVSAH	II.1, II.9
PP62	DVO lab equipment	IVSAH	II.1, II.5
PP63	DVO vaccine storage	IVSAH	I.7, II.9
PP64	DVO area map	IVSAH	II.7
PP65	Haifa quarantine holdings	IVSAH	II.4
PP66	Animal transport identification	IVSAH	II.13
PP67	Haifa quarantine buildings	IVSAH	II.4
PP68	Haifa quarantine animal handling facilities	IVSAH	II.4
PP69	KVI unfinished animal facility	IVSAH	I.7, II.1, II.2, II.11, II.12
PP70	KVI unfinished animal facility a	IVSAH	I.7, II.1, II.2, II.11, II.12
PP71	KVI unfinished animal facility b	IVSAH	I.7, II.1, II.2, II.11, II.12
PP72	KVI unfinished animal facility c	IVSAH	I.7, II.1, II.2, II.11, II.12
PP73	KVI lab animal facility	IVSAH	I.7, II.1, II.2, II.11, II.12
PP74	KVI lab animal facility a	IVSAH	I.7, II.1, II.2, II.11, II.12
PP75	KVI post mortem room	IVSAH	I.7, II.1, II.2
PP76	KVI post mortem room	IVSAH	I.7, II.1, II.2
PP77	KVI post mortem room	IVSAH	I.7, II.1, II.2
PA1	Cattle slaughter facility		II.14
PA2	Municipal cattle slaughter facility		II.8A
PA3	Ear tags and animal document	IVSAH	II.13
PA4	Bovine artificial insemination centre		I.6B, III.2
PA5	MoH license in medicine retailer		II.9
PA6	Veterinary medicine label		II.9
PA7	South poultry health laboratory		II.1
PA8	The Koret Veterinary School		I.2A
PA9	Vet medicines store (2)		II.9
PA10	Vet medicines store		II.9
PA11	Dairy farm		
PA12	DVO Rosh Pina (2)	IVSAH	I.7
PA13	DVO Rosh Pina (3)	IVSAH	I.7
PA14	DVO Rosh Pina	IVSAH	I.7
PA15	Extensive cattle breeding		
PA16	Goat milking farm		
PA17	Haifa quarantine station VS	IVSAH	II.4
PA18	Incineration plant		II.7
PA19	Milking goat unit		
PA20	Natharet poultry plan local		II.8A
PA21	Natharet poultry plant internal market		II.8A, II.8B
PA22	Sheep farm red brucellosis tags		II.13
PA23	Sheep farm yellow brucellosis ear tags		II.13
PA24	Dairy plant export		II.8B
PE1	DVO facilities	IVSAH	I.7
PE2	DVO- incubator	IVSAH	I.7, II.1
PE3	DVO Beer Sheva	IVSAH	I.7
PE4	Beer Sheva DVO	IVSAH	I.7
PE5	Beer Sheva DVO	IVSAH	I.7
PE6	Arab village		

PE7	Private veterinarians truck		
PE8	Private veterinarians truck 2		
PE9	Municipal veterinarian - Arad		
PE10	Municipal veterinarian - Arad		
PE11	DVO records Beer Sheva	IVSAH	II.7
PE12	Municipal veterinarian - Arad		
PE13	Municipal veterinarian equipment		
PE14	private veterinarian on dairy farm		
PE15	Wildlife veterinarian		II.11
PE16	Wildlife veterinarians facilities		II.11
PE17	Private veterinarians truck		
PE18	Eilat quarantine station #2A	IVSAH	II.4
PE19	Eilat quarantine station #2B	IVSAH	II.4
PE20	Eilat quarantine station #2C	IVSAH	II.4
PE21	DVO Beer Sheva	IVSAH	I.7
PE22	Eilat quarantine station seals	IVSAH	II.4, II.13
PE23	Private veterinarian		
PE24	Quarantine station office records	IVSAH	II.4
PE25	Less intensive farmer		
PE26	Extensive farms with camels		

Appendix 7: Organisation of the OIE PVS evaluation of the VS of Israel

Assessors Team:

- Team leader: Dr. Eric Fermet-Quinet
- Technical expert: Dr. Julia Punderson
- Technical expert: Dr. Jorge Armstrong

References and Guidelines:

- Terrestrial Animal Health Code (especially Chapters 3.1. and 3.2.)
- OIE PVS Tool for the Evaluation of Performance of VS
  - → Human, financial and physical resources,
  - → Technical capability and authority,
  - → Interaction with stakeholders,
  - → Access to markets.

Dates: 23 October – 3 November

Language of the audit and reports: English

Subject of the evaluation: VS as defined in the Terrestrial Animal Health Code

- Not Inclusive of aquatic animals
- Not inclusive of other institutions / ministries responsible for activities of VS

Activities to be analysed: All activities related to animal and veterinary public health:

- Field activities:
  - → Animal health (epidemiological surveillance, early detection, disease control, etc)
  - → quarantine (all country borders),
  - → veterinary public health (food safety, veterinary medicines and biological, residues, etc)
  - → control and inspection,
  - → others
- Data and communication
- Diagnostic laboratoires
- Research
- Initial and continuous training
- Organisation and finance
- Other to be determined…

Persons to be present: see provisional Appendix 3

Sites to be visited: see provisional Appendix 4

Procedures:

- Consultation of data and documents
- Comprehensive field trips
- Interviews and meetings with VS staff and stakeholders,
- Analyse of practical processes

Provision of assistance by the evaluated country

- Completion of missing data as possible
- Translation of relevant document if required
- Administrative authorisation to visit designated sites
- Logistical support if possible

Reports:

- a fact sheet or PowerPoint will be presented at the closing session
- a report will be sent to the OIE for peer-review no later than one month after the mission
- the current levels of advancement with strengths, weaknesses and references for each critical competence will be described,
- general recommendations may be made in agreement with the VS.

Confidentiality and publishing of results

The results of the evaluation are confidential between the country and the OIE and may only be published with the written agreement of the evaluated country.