

# *State Company for veterinary Services*

## **Historical overview**

*State Company for veterinary Services*(SCVS) is one of oldest Iraqi firms , it was established since the commencement of the national governance in 1921, It aimed to protect the animal health , animal resource which is formed the second support of agricultural economy in Iraq.

SCVS had worked under several name since its establishment , like the General Veterinary Directorate , Animal Health Office , General Body for veterinary and Animal Resource Services, etc.

## **Missions**

SCVS aims to contribute in sustaining national economy by protecting and improving the health quality of nation animals according to the national developing plans , these missions are summarized by:

- 1- Planning and implantations strategic plans for animal diseases control and treatment .
- 2- Clinical and laboratory animal diseases diagnosis.
- 3- Animal resource and public health protection from transboundary animal diseases , through applying quarantines measures on alive animals and animal products which enter Iraq.
- 4- Sanitary supervision on animal resource projects by providing the requisite vaccines, drugs and equipment.
- 5- Performing quality control measures on the local and imported vaccines , veterinary pharmaceuticals , biologics and feed additives and analyze their components.
- 6- Contribution in public health protection through conducting control programs for zoonotic diseases and ensuring a safe and wholesome food supply by the sanitary supervision on slaughterhouses and inspection and assessment the animal products in local markets.
- 7- Implementation of the international and regional obligations concerning animal health .

## **SCVS Structure**

*Structure of SCVS includes:-*

- **Planning and follow –up dep.** It is responsible for the following
  - 1- Preparing the annual plans concerning annual veterinary services and investment plans).
  - 2- Collecting and updating animal health and manpower information.
  - 3- Prepares the training , seminars and researches plans.
  - 4- Organizing the activities of the veterinary awareness and information.
- **Animal Health dep.** Is responsible for the following:-
  - 1- Continuous investigation the focuses of endemic , transboundary and zoonotic animal diseases , and prepares programs of the testaments and vaccination and organizes with relevant international organization .

- 2- Supervision on the activities of artificial insemination and reproductive management .
- 3- Veterinary quarantines

➤ **Dep. Of Epidemiology :-** It is responsible for the followings

- 1- Endemic and transboundary animal diseases monitoring and surveillance.
- 2- Preparing emergency animal diseases preparedness programs in outbreaks

➤ **Sanitary Supervision on Slaughterhouses dep.** It is responsible for the following:

1-Sanitary supervising on slaughterhouses according the law and official instructions.

2- monitoring the application of sanitary conditions for butchers and meat processing factories .

3- Monitors out abattoirs slaughtering and penalizes the perpetrators according the law.

➤ **Veterinary Warehouses & supplies dep.**

It is responsible for the following:

- 1- Preparing the annual plan for Iraq needs from veterinary vaccines ,pharmaceuticals and equipments.
- 2- Supplying veterinary vaccines ,pharmaceuticals and equipments to the animal resources according to valid instructions.
- 3- Organizing import of veterinary vaccine and pharmaceuticals procedures for privet sector .
- 4- Official supervision on veterinary drugs privet agencies and clinics.

➤ **Vet. Laboratories and research Dep. :-** It is responsible for the following:

- 1- Animal diseases diagnosis .
- 2- Evaluation of the immune response in vaccinated animals.
- 3- Conducting the studies and researches in animal health.
- 4- Designing and conducting epidemiological surveys.

➤ **Quality control dep.**

It is responsible for the efficacy ,quality and safety assessment for the local and imported vaccines , veterinary pharmaceuticals , biologics and feed additives and analyzes their components according to the international pharmacopeias .

➤ **Veterinary Hospitals :-**

There are 15 government vet. hospitals ( one in each governorate ) administer 213 vet. Dispensaries distributed in the districts and subdistricts , they cover all parts of governorates. The hospitals is responsible for the followings :-

- 1- Implementation of the annual veterinary services plan.
- 2- Collaboration with relevant offices in zoonotic diseases control.
- 3- Providing training opportunities for veterinary institution students .

➤ **Administrative deps :-includes**

- 1- Administrative affairs dep.
- 2- Accounting dep.
- 3- Internal audit dep.

## **The future plan**

SCVS has a future strategic plan for the next four years, it will implement to maximize animal health programs performances , through diagnose and resolve problems which encounter animal and public health , and improving the capabilities of veterinary infrastructures and manpower.

### **1-Brucellosis controlling program.**

Brucellosis is one of important zoonotic disease , it causes annual economic losses reach up to 50 billions ID and it is threat to public health.

Strategic plan has been implemented since 2004 for ten years to control the disease, it was initiated by sero-prevalence survey in all governorates to detect the proportion of infected economic animals ( sheep, goats ,cattle, buffalo and camels) then followed by annual mass vaccination campaigns.

### **2-Avian Influenza.**

SCVS has had a rich experience in Avian Influenza disease surveillance and control since early 2004 simultaneous with incipience spreading of the disease in south east Asia , through prohibiting poultry and their products from countries which have been reported Avian Influenza.

With first AI emerging cases in Iraq, immediate and future plan had been implemented , which includes reactivating the investigation and monitoring of domestic and wild birds , through providing rapid diagnostic kit , personal protective supplies , diagnostic lab equipments and promoting staff capabilities by training , conferences participation and collaboration with international organization.

### **3-Vaccination programs assessment.**

SCVS will evaluate the current vaccination programs to assist the real output in disease control.

### **4- Specialized Center for improvement Iraqi Buffalo.**

First steps for establish the Specialized Center for improving Iraqi Buffalo will start in October 2006 and achieved in 2007 in ThiQar governorate – Al Chbaish , this center will contribute studying Iraqi

buffalo in central and southern areas of Iraq and resolves health and reproductive problems of buffalo. The center will include artificial insemination department to improve the Iraqi buffalo breed.

#### **5- The Pioneer Lab. for Old world Screw worm Fly.**

First case of Old world Screw worm Fly infestation has been reported in Iraq in 1996. the disease causes economic losses in animal resource , therefore the Pioneer Lab. for Old world Screw worm Fly will be established in Karbala for producing sterile flies ( 5 millions flies / week) .

#### **6- Manpower developing .**

SCVS has planned to develop the staff eligibilities , through providing opportunities for continuous education by postgraduate studies , training courses and research promoting .

#### **7-Quality Control.**

Evaluate and reevaluate veterinary vaccines , pharmaceuticals and biologics in current uses and which will be introduced to assess the efficacy ,quality and safety. As well as to assess the effects of drugs residues in animal products on public health .Also Animal House has been established for experimental animals that will enhance researches

#### **8-Animal Health information System.**

Iraq has'nt had a real and effective Animal health Information System(AHIS)

Therefore , first steps has been started to establish AHIS , which is aims to collect , organize and manage animal health databases , these databases will provides information to the followings:

- 1- Animal health reproductive evaluation plans.
- 2- Animal and zoonotic diseases surveillances.
- 3- Evaluation of diseases control programs.
- 4- Early detection of transboundry diseases and outbreaks.
- 5- Providing data to the veterinary GIS (geographical information system) to produce epidemiological interactive maps.
- 6- provides timely and accurate information on animal health status to support decision making and meet Iraq's international reporting obligations.