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Somalia

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# Evaluation of the Performance of the Veterinary Services

## *Provisional Report*



World Organisation  
for Animal Health

PVS Pathway



# **PVS EVALUATION PROVISIONAL REPORT OF THE VETERINARY SERVICES OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF SOMALIA**

## **Preparatory Phase**

**09 October 2023 – 13 October 2023**

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### **Disclaimer**

This mission has been conducted by a Team of WOAHPVS Pathway experts authorised by WOAHP. However, the views and the recommendations in this Report are not necessarily those of WOAHP.

An *Approval and confidentiality form* is provided by WOAHP along with this Report where the level of confidentiality can be selected by the country.

This provisional report describes the results of the preparatory phase of the PVS Evaluation, given the format deployed. The observations in this report are based upon a thorough review of documentation and interviews conducted between the Expert Team and some stakeholders. However, the Expert Team has underlined the areas that need to be further evaluated and refined through site visits and face-to-face discussions with government officials, public and private sector veterinarians, livestock producers and other stakeholders, when a field mission will be feasible.



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### List of acronyms, abbreviations and/or special terms

Term	Definition
AU-IBAR	African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources
BENALPA	Benadir Livestock Professionals Association
BVM	Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine
CAHW	Community Animal Health Worker
CBPP	Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia
CCPP	Contagious caprine pleuropneumonia
CERELPA	Central Livestock Professionals' Association
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
CVO	Chief Veterinary Officer
CVL	Central Veterinary Laboratory
EDMU	Epidemiology and Data Management Unit
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FMD	Foot and Mouth Disease
HACCP	Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points
HPAI	Highly Pathogenic Avian influenza
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
LPAs	Livestock Professional Associations
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoLFR	Ministry of Livestock, Forestry and Range
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations
NIH	National Institute of Health
PPR	Peste des petits ruminants
RVF	Rift Valley fever
SGP	Sheep and goat pox
SOBS	Somalia Bureau of Standards
SOWELPA	South West Livestock Professionals Association
VS	Veterinary Service(s)
VSL	Veterinary Services Laboratory
VPH	Veterinary Public Health
VPP	Veterinary para-professional
VSb	Veterinary Statutory Body (see WOA Code definition)
WHO	World Health Organization
WOAH	World Organisation for Animal Health
WOAH PVS	WOAH Performance of Veterinary Services Evaluation Tool
WTO	World Trade Organization





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# PART I: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## I.1 Introduction

Following a request to WOAHA from the Government of the Federal Republic of Somalia, a preparatory phase evaluation of the Veterinary Services based on the *WOAH PVS (Performance of Veterinary Services)* methodology was conducted in October 2023 by a team of two independent WOAHA certified PVS evaluators and one observer.

Given the security situation in Somalia, which for the moment does not allow WOAHA experts to undertake missions in the country, it was agreed between the Somali government and the Director General of WOAHA to conduct a preparatory phase of the PVS assessment from the premises of the WOAHA Sub-Regional Representation for Eastern Africa, located in Nairobi, Kenya, and to complete the field component of the PVS Evaluation in Somalia once the security situation allows conducting such a field mission in the country.

The following representatives of the Veterinary Services of Somalia took part in the mission in Nairobi:

- Dr Abdirahman Nur Kailie, Director of the Veterinary Services in the Federal Government of Somalia and WOAHA Somalia Delegate,
- Dr Qasim Abdi Macclin, Senior Livestock Animal Health Specialist and Technical Adviser in the Ministry of Livestock, Forestry and Range (MoLFR) of the Federal Government of Somalia.
- Dr Abdulkadir Abdi Mohamed, Senior Veterinarian and Chairman of the Central Livestock Professionals' Association (CERELPA) and representative of Private Livestock Professional Associations (LPAs).

The evaluation began with a presentation of the PVS Evaluation Tool, followed by a review of the documents received prior to the mission. The meeting's participants then agreed on a work schedule that enabled them to review all the Critical Competencies of the PVS Tool.

In addition to discussions with the delegation present in Nairobi, the WOAHA PVS Team was able to hold virtual meetings with officials of the Veterinary Services (VS) and representatives of the private sector veterinarians and community animal health workers in some regions in Somalia.

The mission concluded in Nairobi with a closing meeting involving the Somali delegation and a representative of the WOAHA Sub-Regional Representation for Eastern Africa, at which the overall findings of the evaluation were discussed.

For those with less familiarity with the Federal Republic of Somalia, background information is provided in summary in Appendix (1) including a country map, geographical and climate information, human demographic data, livestock demographic data, animal and animal products trade data and general economic data.

## I.2 Key findings of the evaluation

### I.2.A Human, physical and financial resources

The Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department, based in Mogadishu, is responsible for overseeing public veterinary services in the Federal Government of Somalia. Led by a veterinarian who also serves as the WOAHA Delegate, the department operates under the Ministry of Livestock, Forestry, and Range (MoLFR).

It consists of five main sections, including the Central Veterinary Laboratory, Epidemiology and Data Management Unit, Livestock and Livestock Products Export/Import Certification, Veterinary Public Health, and Food Security and Early Warning.

Currently, there are twenty-one (21) veterinary positions filled by officials at the department's headquarters. Three (3) veterinarians are female. Additionally, there are veterinarians who work as volunteers and are only paid allowances when they participate in donor funded project activities. However, there are still vacant positions within the department's structure, estimated to be thirty-eight (38) according to the Director of Veterinary Services.

At the Federal State level, only Jubaland, Somaliland and Puntland have veterinarians serving as State Directors of Animal Health Departments, who were recruited and are paid by the respective Federal States. The State Directors of the AH Departments in the Galmudug, Hirshabelle, and South West Federal States are all volunteers. Only the State Director of the Animal Health Department of Galmudug is a female veterinarian.

A considerable number of veterinarians, who are not employed by the MoLFR and the Federal States, are members of the Livestock Professional Associations (LPAs).

The Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department has eighteen (18) veterinary paraprofessionals (VPPs) who are all volunteers. Five (5) VPP staff are female, thirteen (13) are male. The department needs an additional seventeen (17) paraprofessionals. Community animal health workers (CAHWs) are important in the Veterinary Services in Somalia, with 1564 registered CAHWs supervised by the LPAs. Each CAHW is accountable to a private veterinarian who coordinates their activities, and they communicate with a pharmacist veterinarian for advice on animal treatments. However, some CAHWs work independently without supervision, leading to a lack of coordination and harmonization in their work and reporting.

There are around fifteen veterinary schools and other training establishments authorized by the Federal government of Somalia. These institutions are important for educating future veterinarians and VPPs. However, the curriculum in these schools varies significantly, leading to a lack of standardized education and quality standards in the veterinary training programmes.

Universities offering animal health programmes now provide a Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine (BVM) degree, making graduates recognized as veterinarians. CAHWs are trained by LPAs and integrated into animal health services under a veterinarian's guidance. Some NGOs train CAHWs independently, but their training quality is not verified.

The Veterinary Services Department lacks a structured continuing education programme. However, external projects have funded training courses for VS staff, enhancing their technical knowledge and skills in areas such as epidemiology, laboratory diagnostics, and animal health certification.

The prevention and control of animal diseases are based on WOAHS standards, but the VS Department faces obstacles in implementing decisions due to financial constraints and a lack of qualified personnel. Volunteers also face challenges in making informed choices without remuneration. However, the VS Department demonstrates effectiveness in enforcing measures for live animal exports.

The Livestock Sector Development Strategy needs to be approved and updated, while the Veterinary Law Code was enacted by the Federal Parliament in 2016 and approved by the President of the Federal Government of Somalia. The VS Department has received support from different donor-funded projects for developing Standard

Operating Procedures (SOPs) and contingency plans for some priority diseases. The lack of budgetary allocations limits the activities of the VS Department, but it is collaborating with the LPAs for the delivery of services.

The coordination mechanisms in place for disease prevention and control in Somalia are not always formalized, and there is a lack of clarity in the chain of command between the Federal Government and the Federal State levels. However, at the Federal level, the VS Department effectively communicates with the Federal States and LPAs, addressing routine issues related to investigating and responding to suspected outbreaks of diseases. Regular meetings occur between the Director of VS and the Federal State Directors of animal health. However, coordination with the Somaliland Animal Health Department is currently limited while that with the Puntland State of Somalia is not always assured due to political reasons.

The absence of legislation defining the chain of command within the department is a significant drawback in the coordination efforts.

Somalia has a One Health National Level Technical Working Group led by the National Institute of Health (NIH). This group includes the Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Departments. In 2023, a comprehensive assessment was conducted to identify priority zoonoses for collaboration under the One Health approach.

The border inspection posts have good coordination between the Veterinary Services Department and Customs Department, but there is need for closer liaison between the VS and the Somali Bureau of Standards (SOBS) to ensure effective coordination and harmonization in the implementation of functions that should ordinarily fall under the Veterinary Services' authority.

The Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department faces challenges with its building assets, and the lack of vehicles and equipment is hindering its effectiveness. However, there is a World Bank project in progress to address these issues and improve the Department's resources. The Veterinary Services Department currently relies on externally sourced projects for funding, as there is no operational budget. There is also no emergency funding available, but the Federal government has established a National Disaster Committee to address crises in animal health and food safety.

### ***1.2.B Technical authority and capability***

There is a Central Veterinary Laboratory (CVL) in Mogadishu, led by a female veterinarian. The CVL has the capability to undertake serological, bacteriological, and parasitological tests. Currently, the CVL has the capability to test for diseases such as Brucellosis, Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP), Contagious caprine pleuropneumonia (CCPP), Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), Peste des petits ruminants (PPR), and RVF using Enzyme linked immunosorbent assays (ELISA). They also carry out other tests for the detection of disease-causing agents like *Trypanosoma evansi*. The CVL also has the capability to detect PPR antigen using the antigen capture ELISA test. While the CVL has some equipment for molecular testing, it has not yet established the capacity for these tests. A new CVL is currently under construction in Mogadishu.

Regional veterinary laboratories exist in Somaliland, Puntland, and the Galmudug State, and are supported by a World Bank funded project. Samples from other Federal States are submitted to the CVL in Mogadishu for testing. The CVL collaborates with the Epidemiology and Data Management Unit (EDMU) for disease surveillance, outbreak investigation, and monitoring of vaccination programs.

There are 7 livestock export quarantine stations and 8 Veterinary Education Establishments with laboratories. However, these laboratories have low capacity and are not involved in routine diagnostic testing. Collaboration between the CVL and the Ministry of Health's Public Health laboratory enhances diagnostic capabilities for zoonoses.

There are no facilities for feed safety testing or antimicrobial resistance surveillance. Training, equipment, and supplies are provided through externally funded projects, but there is no budgetary allocation or disbursement from the Federal Government for veterinary laboratory activities. There is also no established laboratory network for collaboration and coordination between the CVL, Federal State laboratories, the Veterinary Education Establishments, and the private sector.

There are disease reporting focal points at the local level, supervised by LPAs, which collect and analyse data on animal diseases. However, the Departments of Animal Health lack capacity for risk analysis and there is no risk communication strategy in place.

There are 16 designated land border entry posts in Somalia, but only two of them are operational for importing live animals. These posts lack personnel and quarantine facilities for imported animals suspected of carrying diseases. There is only one air inspection post and four seaport inspection posts, mainly used for the export of live animals, frozen meat, and hides. Imported animals are required to have certification confirming compliance with safety measures, but there are no proper procedures for controlling animal imports through cross-border trade involving local communities and traders. Poultry meat and egg imports are regulated by the Somalia Bureau of Standards.

There is a surveillance system in place that involves collaboration between the public VS and LPAs. The system includes an informal network for sharing disease information between disease reporting focal points, veterinary pharmacies, and professionals through mobile phones, email, and disease reporting forms. The disease detection and reporting is done by CAHWs based on clinical signs and other relevant information. This allows for timely investigation of disease outbreaks through clinical and post-mortem examinations and laboratory testing. At the moment, there are three EDMUs in Mogadishu, Somaliland, and Puntland. Four additional EDMUs are planned to be constructed in other Federal States of Somalia. The VS has a list of priority diseases, including PPR, CCPP, CBPP, FMD, RVF, Sheep and goat pox (SGP), brucellosis, and rabies. The passive surveillance system is mostly supported by donor-funded projects, and gaps in funding can result in gaps in disease information sharing.

The disease early warning systems are weak, but animal health emergencies are immediately reported and supported through donor funded projects. Budgetary allocations for animal disease surveillance activities are not provided by the Federal and State Governments. Regular surveys are not carried out and implementation depends on donor funding.

Although contingency plans are in place for diseases like PPR, HPAI, RVF and CCPP, the Veterinary Law Code lacks guidelines for stakeholders involved in disease emergencies.

The Strategy for the Progressive Control and Eradication of PPR and other priority diseases of small ruminants was developed in 2017 but has not been endorsed or implemented by the national authorities. There is no National PPR committee or coordinator appointed.

From 2012 to 2019, FAO-supported PPR vaccinations were conducted, with the last campaign vaccinating 14,500,000 animals.

The Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department is responsible for ensuring food safety. This crucial task is carried out by a team of 48 veterinary inspectors but due to a lack of transportation, inspections are not conducted at most slaughter slabs. The Veterinary Law Code has regulations in place, but the details for enforcing them have not been established yet. The Meat and Dairy Act aims to address this, but it is still awaiting approval from the Federal Parliament. The Somali Meat Company (SOMEAT) has exclusive authorization for exporting chilled and frozen meats, while three abattoirs are registered as non-exporting. There are also open slabs and backyard slabs used by local communities for slaughtering. The transportation of meat is a challenge due to the lack of refrigerated vans, and none of the abattoirs have implemented HACCP principles.

For the export trade, animals are tagged with numbered ear-tags for identification. There is no control over animal movements, including those across borders. The VS do not track or control imported or domestically processed animal products. The Somalia Bureau of Standards (SOBS) regulates poultry imports, but it is unclear if it includes tracing for food safety. The Veterinary Law Code addresses some animal welfare concerns but is not comprehensive, lacking provisions for working animals. The Federal Government of Somalia has not developed animal welfare policies or legislation, and enforcing existing regulations is challenging. Puntland and Somaliland have comprehensive Animal Welfare Acts, but the capacity of the VS to enforce these laws is unknown.

### ***1.2.C Interaction with stakeholders***

A WOAHP communication focal point has been appointed (Director of AH Department of Somaliland) but no job description has been provided. At the Federal State level, the LPAs have successfully established a strong network of veterinarians and VPPs who maintain regular contact with livestock communities through collaboration with telecom companies. There is a website at the ministerial level for disseminating information, but no communication strategy or plan has been developed, and communication materials are limited.

At the Federal Government level, there is a good relationship and consultation between the Animal Health Department and LPAs. Regular consultations are held with trader associations and other relevant groups. Representatives from the Animal Health Department have participated in joint missions with trader associations in the Middle East.

NGOs and other Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) involved in veterinary activities are not properly recognized by the Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department. This recognition is important to align animal health activities with government policies.

The Director of the Department is designated as the WOAHP Delegate and participates in meetings organized by WOAHP, AU-IBAR, and IGAD. However, Somalia does not contribute significantly to proposed amendments to animal health standards.

The Veterinary Law Code includes provisions for accreditation and delegation, but contracting and monitoring delegated activities is challenging due to resource constraints.

At the federal level, there is no Veterinary Statutory Body (VSB), but Somaliland and Puntland have established their own VSBs at the State level.

The Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department collaborates with the LPAs and participates in joint training programs and missions, but lacks resources to develop independent programmes.



Private Livestock Professional Associations operate veterinary clinical services and engage CAHWs to provide services to pastoral communities. Veterinary professionals train and supervise the CAHWs, and each veterinarian supervises an average of 20 CAHWs.

### ***1.2.D Access to markets***

The main legislation governing the Veterinary domain in Somalia is the Veterinary Law Code, which was enacted by the Federal Parliament in 2016. However, there have not been any regulations developed to operationalize certain provisions of the Veterinary Law Code. There is also a draft Bill for the Control of Meat, but this has not been validated by stakeholders. Additionally, some provisions in the Veterinary Law Code are duplicated in the draft Meat Bill. The Veterinary Law Code does not cover aspects of One Health, but it does address aspects of zoonotic diseases.

The drafting of the legislation was supported by consultants engaged through donor funded projects, and it involved consultations and validation with different stakeholders in Somalia. However, there is no long-term plan for the development of comprehensive legislative and regulatory frameworks covering the entire Veterinary domain. There is a need for a review of the legislative landscape and a comprehensive listing of the legislation, regulations, and guidelines needed to control and regulate all aspects of the Veterinary domain.

Implementation and compliance with the provisions of the Veterinary Law Code face challenges due to the country's low capacity for enforcement and the overall governance environment. The Veterinary Law Code was drafted more than 10 years ago and is not in line with WOAHP standards.

Somalia is a major exporter of livestock in the Horn of Africa region. Animals that are exported go through various certification procedures, including examinations, treatments, vaccinations, and the issuance of movement permits. There are seven quarantine stations in Somalia where animals destined for export undergo a pre-quarantine process and are tested and vaccinated according to the importing country's requirements. Only animals deemed fit for export are allowed to enter the quarantine stations. The MoLFR has a Department of Quarantine and Marketing that oversees the process and issues export movement certificates.

SOMEAT is a slaughterhouse that processes meat products for export, mainly to Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, and their certification complies with the importing countries' requirements and international standards. The establishment of livestock export quarantine stations in Somalia has helped reopen export markets, particularly in Saudi Arabia.

Somalia has not been submitting disease occurrence reports to WOAHP since 2019. Recently, an outbreak of an unknown camel disease occurred in 2021-2022, with high rates of illness and death. The disease spread between Somalia and its neighbouring countries, but the investigations and test results were not officially shared with WOAHP or other relevant organizations. The disease was discussed in a regional meeting where information was shared with neighbouring countries, various regional organizations, and WOAHP. The VS of Somalia participate in occasional meetings with importing partners to address concerns about the health status of animal exports. Currently, Somalia has no interest in establishing disease-free zones or compartments, but it may consider doing so in the future.



Table 1: Summary of WOAHP PVS evaluation results

<b>PVS summary results of Somalia</b>	<b>Result 2023</b>
<b>I. HUMAN, PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES</b>	
I.1.A. Staffing: Veterinarians and other professionals	2
I.1.B. Staffing: Veterinary para-professionals	3
I.2.A. Competency and education of veterinarians	2
I.2.B. Competency and education of veterinary paraprofessionals	2
I-3. Continuing education	2
I-4. Technical independence	2
I-5. Planning, sustainability and management of policies and programmes	2
I-6.A. Internal coordination (chain of command)	2
I-6.B. External coordination (including the One Health approach)	2
I-7. Physical resources and capital investment	1
I-8. Operational funding	1
I-9. Emergency funding	1
<b>II. TECHNICAL AUTHORITY AND CAPABILITY</b>	
II-1.A. Access to veterinary laboratory diagnosis	2
II-1.B. Suitability of the national laboratory system	2
II-1.C. Laboratory quality management systems	2
II-2. Risk analysis and epidemiology	1
II-3. Quarantine and border security	1
II-4.A. Passive surveillance, early detection and epidemiological outbreak investigation	2
II-4.B. Active surveillance and monitoring	2
II-5. Emergency preparedness and response	2
II-6. Disease prevention, control and eradication	2
II-7.A. Regulation, inspection (including audits), authorisation and supervision of establishments for production and processing of food of animal origin	2
II-7.B. Ante- and post mortem inspection at slaughter facilities and associated premises	2
II-8. Veterinary medicines and biologicals	1
II-9. Antimicrobial Resistance and Antimicrobial Use	1
II-10. Residue testing, monitoring and management	1
II-11. Animal feed safety	1
II-12.A. Premises, herd, batch and animal identification, tracing and movement control	2
II-12.B. Identification, traceability and control of products of animal origin	1
II-13. Animal welfare	1
<b>III. INTERACTION WITH STAKEHOLDERS</b>	
III-1. Communication	2
III-2. Consultation with stakeholders	3
III-3. Official representation and international collaboration	2
III-4. Accreditation/authorisation/delegation	3
III-5. Regulation of the profession by the Veterinary Statutory Body (VSB)	1
III-6. Participation of producers and other stakeholders in joint programmes	2
III-7. Veterinary clinical services	3
<b>IV. ACCESS TO MARKETS</b>	
IV-1.A. Veterinary Legislation: Legal quality and coverage	2
IV-1.B. Veterinary Legislation: Implementation and compliance	2
IV-2. International harmonisation	2
IV-3. International certification	3
IV-4. Equivalence and other types of sanitary agreements	3
IV-5. Transparency	2
IV-6. Zoning	NA
IV-7. Compartmentalisation	NA

NA: Not Applicable

## I.3 Key recommendations

### I.3.A Human, physical and financial resources

To improve their human, physical and financial resources, the VS should consider the following recommendations:

- MoLFR, in collaboration with other relevant ministries, should address the lack of formal recruitment and compensation for the volunteer veterinarians and VPPs.
- The Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department, LPAs, NGOs and all actors in the veterinary domain should advocate for a harmonised system for training, deployment and registration of CAHWs to ensure that they are properly supervised and integrated in surveillance and reporting systems.
- Plan to review CAHWs training from 2024 in line with upcoming WOAHA guidelines for CAHW competencies and curricula guidelines and good practices on AMU, to ensure that CAHW training is fit for purpose and addressing all the required competencies.
- Advocate that all partner organisations, NGOs and ad-hoc projects follow recognised standards for CAHW training and ensure appropriate supervision of CAHWs is included in all CAHW training projects.
- Undertake a Training needs assessment for the current staff employed by the VS department and develop a Continuing Education programme.
- Review the Livestock Sector Development Strategy 2020-2030 specifically focusing on the veterinary domain. Provide a clear delineation of roles and responsibilities between government entities, local authorities, non-governmental organizations, and private sector institutions. This will ensure that livestock actors have access to high-quality animal health services.
- The Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department should work together with state Animal Health departments to create yearly activity and investment plans that focus on addressing prioritized needs, such as buildings, equipment maintenance, and replacement of consumables. These plans would be submitted to the Ministry of Finance and relevant partners.
- Establish a coordination mechanism between the Federal VS and all Federal State VS including Somaliland. This mechanism will facilitate seamless communication and cooperation, ensuring a unified approach towards veterinary matters at both Federal and Federal State levels
- The Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department to proactively seek collaboration with the Public Health Department to develop joint programmes to integrate and consolidate the One Health approach in the prevention and control of priority zoonoses.
- The VS to liaise with the Somalia Bureau of Standards offices at the border inspection posts to delineate roles, enhance coordination and harmonise Standard Operating Procedures for the importation of animal products.
- Create a structured procedure to obtain access to an emergency fund, ensuring a prompt response in case of an animal disease, or a food safety emergency.

### ***1.3.B Technical authority and capability***

To improve their technical authority and capability, the VS should consider the following recommendations:

- MoLFR in collaboration with the Ministries responsible for Livestock in the Federal State Governments, to develop a harmonised veterinary laboratory strategy to guide the establishment and operation of Veterinary diagnostic laboratories including the staffing and equipment needs at the different levels.
- Undertake training of staff in molecular diagnostic testing and ensure the commissioning and utilisation of molecular testing equipment available at the CVL before it becomes obsolete.
- MoLFR to pro-actively engage the relevant WOA reference laboratories and/or Collaborating Centres and other external laboratories to improve the veterinary laboratory diagnostic capacities and capabilities through training of staff and referral diagnostic testing services.
- MoLFR and the Federal State Governments to strengthen biosafety and biosecurity measures at the CVL and the Federal State laboratories. These should include the development, documentation and implementation of biosafety and biosecurity policies, strategies, guidelines and SOPs.
- Establish and implement laboratory quality management systems for the CVL and Federal State Laboratories.
- MoLFR to liaise with SOBS to consolidate arrangements for the maintenance, servicing and calibration of laboratory equipment.
- MoLFR to organise for training on risk analysis for selected EDMU and border inspection staff and ensure deployment of the trained staff to undertake risk analyses within the Departments of Animal Health at the Central and Federal State Government levels.
- The VS to develop a strategy for the management of livestock imports at the border entry posts including the training and deployment of staff, construction of quarantine facilities and the development and application of SOPs for the importation of live animals and animal products.
- MoLFR in partnership with LPAs, private veterinary professionals, veterinary pharmacies and the relevant projects in the livestock sector to develop a framework for formal partnerships for passive animal disease surveillance
- MoLFR and the Federal State Ministries responsible for livestock to explore modalities for enhancing the sustainability of the passive surveillance system and the functions of the EDMUs beyond the lifespan of donor funded projects.
- MoLFR, in close collaboration with relevant partners, should aim to establish an Animal Health Emergency Operations Center to comprehensively address all aspects pertaining to emergency issues in the field of animal health.
- Update the PPR national strategic plan and submit the document for official endorsement by relevant authorities. Once endorsed, share the document with partners.

- 
- MoLFR to lobby and advocate for the Meat and Dairy Act to be approved by the Federal Parliament.
  - MoLFR, through PPP, invest in refrigerated vans that adhere to industry standards to ensure that meat remains at the optimal temperature throughout the transportation process, minimizing the risk of spoilage and bacterial growth.
  - The Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department should provide support to the main abattoirs in adopting HACCP principles.
  - The VS to develop regulations to enhance control of the importation, distribution, retailing, storage, use and monitoring of Veterinary medicines and biologicals
  - Undertake consultations among the different Government Departments and Agencies to delineate mandates/roles, harmonise approaches and enhance coordination in the control of veterinary medicines and biologicals.
  - Conduct public awareness campaigns on the requirements for registration, importation, distribution, marketing and retailing of veterinary medicines and biologicals.
  - VS to proactively seek collaboration with the Public Health Department to jointly develop a national Action Plan on AMU and AMR.
  - VS to develop a national policy, strategy and guidelines on monitoring of residues.
  - VS to liaise with the Department of animal production for collaboration on the development of legal and regulatory frameworks for animal feeds.
  - VS to liaise with pastoralists and traders for official registration of traditional animal identification marks towards establishment of formal animal identification and traceability systems.
  - Undertake public awareness campaigns on animal welfare and the need for policy, strategy and legislative frameworks to guide the improvement and enforcement of animal welfare standards.
  - The VS to seek assistance from the WOAHA Veterinary Legislation Support Programme for review of existing legislation and the drafting of harmonised legislation and regulations on animal welfare.

### ***1.3.C Interaction with stakeholders***

To improve their interaction with stakeholders, the VS should consider the following recommendations:

- Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department, in collaboration with the LPAs, and the Federal States to develop a comprehensive communication strategy and plan to effectively implement their objectives.
- The Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department is strongly encouraged to leverage the expertise of universities within the country to enhance their contribution towards the review and revision of international animal health and welfare standards.
- The Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department to enhance collaboration with LPAs and other relevant partners to catalyse the establishment of a Veterinary Statutory Body at the Federal Government level.

- The delivery of animal health services in Somalia involving the public sectors at Federal State and Central Government levels, the LPAs and the pastoralist communities should be studied in detail and documented as an example of a successful PPP model in the delivery of Veterinary services.
- The VS to liaise with humanitarian organisations with a view to striking a balance between the profitable and sustainable delivery of clinical veterinary services by LPAs and CAHWs and the humanitarian aid model of free services.

### ***1.3.D Access to markets***

To improve their access to markets, the VS should consider the following recommendations:

- VS to seek support from the WOAHP Veterinary Legislation support programme to review existing legislation and determine the modalities for development of legislation in line with WOAHP standards and guidelines.
- The VS to intensify public awareness campaigns on the provisions of the Veterinary Law Code particularly among the livestock value chain actors.
- Review the Veterinary Law Code and make appropriate amendments to meet WOAHP standards and the needs of the evolving Somali Society and the animal health sector.
- The Department of Quarantine and Marketing should be integrated into the VS chain of command to guarantee effective adherence to WOAHP standards.
- VS to strengthen the capacity for engagement in negotiations on equivalence with trading partners.
- VS to enhance transparency by resuming notification to WOAHP and WTO for important disease events in compliance with the provisions of Chapter 1.1 (Articles 1.1.2, 1.1.3, 1.1.4 and 1.1.5) of the WOAHP Terrestrial Animal Health Code.
- Strengthen participation in EA-RAHN and other regional forums for coordination and sharing of animal health information.
- Establish/strengthen information sharing networks with trading partners to enhance transparency and trust in the livestock export trade.



## PART II: CONDUCT OF THE EVALUATION

At the request of the Government of the Federal Republic of Somalia, the Director General of WOAHA appointed an independent WOAHA PVS team consisting of Dr Bouna Diop (Team Leader), Dr Henry Wamwayi (Technical expert) and Mrs Sonia Fevre (Observer) to undertake an evaluation of the veterinary services of Somalia. The evaluation was carried out from 9 to 13 October 2023.

The evaluation was carried out with close reference to the WOAHA standards contained in Chapters 3.1., 3.2., 3.3. and 3.4., and in other chapters as relevant, of the WOAHA *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (the Terrestrial Code), using the WOAHA *PVS Tool* (7<sup>th</sup> edition, 2019) to guide the process. Relevant Terrestrial Code references are referenced for each Critical Competency in Appendix .

This report identifies the strengths and weaknesses of the veterinary services of Somalia as referenced to the WOAHA standards. The report also makes some general recommendations for actions to improve performance.

### II.1 WOAHA 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, WOAHA provides an evaluation tool called the WOAHA Tool for the Evaluation of Performance of Veterinary Services (WOAHA PVS Tool<sup>1</sup>) 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 45 Critical Competencies, for each of which five qualitative levels of advancement are described. For each Critical Competency, a list of suggested sources of verification was used by the WOAHA PVS Team to help determine the level of advancement.

A glossary of terms is provided in Appendix 2.

The report follows the structure of the WOAHA PVS Tool incorporating the descriptions and levels of advancement for each Critical Competency.

The objective and scope of the WOAHA PVS Evaluation includes all aspects of the veterinary domain relevant to the WOAHA Terrestrial Animal Health Code and the quality of Veterinary Services.

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<sup>1</sup> Available at [v17419-PVSTool.indd \(woah.org\)](https://www.woah.org/v17419-PVSTool.indd)

## II.2 Context of the evaluation

### II.2.A Availability of data relevant to the evaluation

A list of documents received by the WOAHP PVS Team before and during the PVS Evaluation mission is provided in Appendix 6. All documents and pictures listed in Appendix 6 are referenced to relevant Critical Competencies and provide material evidence for the levels of advancement and related findings.

Table 2 provides an overview of the availability of the main categories of documents or data needed for the evaluation, considering the requirements set out in the WOAHP Terrestrial Code.

Table 2: Summary of data available for evaluation

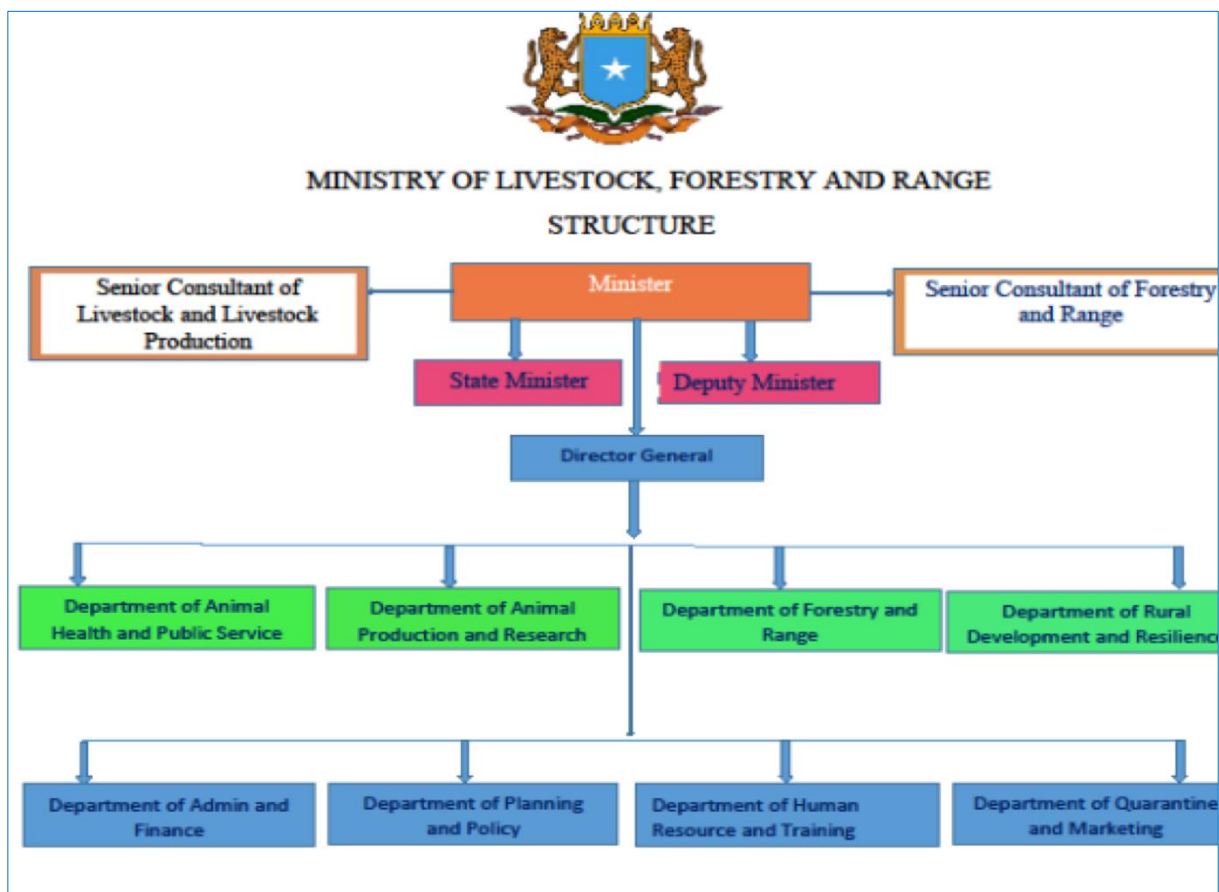
Main document categories	Data available in the public domain	Data accessible only on site or on request	Data not available
→ <b>Animal census:</b>			
○ at 1st administrative level		+	
○ at 2 <sup>nd</sup> administrative level			+
○ at 3 <sup>rd</sup> administrative level			+
○ per animal species		+	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



## II.2.B General organisation of the Veterinary Services

The livestock sector falls under the responsibility of the Ministry of Livestock, Forestry, and Range (MLFR), with the engagement of the livestock ministries of the Federal Member States. The MoLFR is headed by a Minister assisted by a Vice Minister, a Deputy Minister and a Director General. The organizational structure of the Ministry is depicted in figure 8 below. The Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department is one of the eight departments within the MoLFR. The other departments include:

- Department of Animal Production and Research
- Department of Forestry and Range
- Department of Rural Development and Resilience
- Department of Administration and Finance
- Department of Planning and Policy
- Department of Human Resources and Training
- Department of Quarantine and Marketing



The Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department oversees the public Veterinary Services at the federal level in Mogadishu. It operates under the Ministry of Livestock, Forestry, and Range (MoLFR) and reports to the Director General.

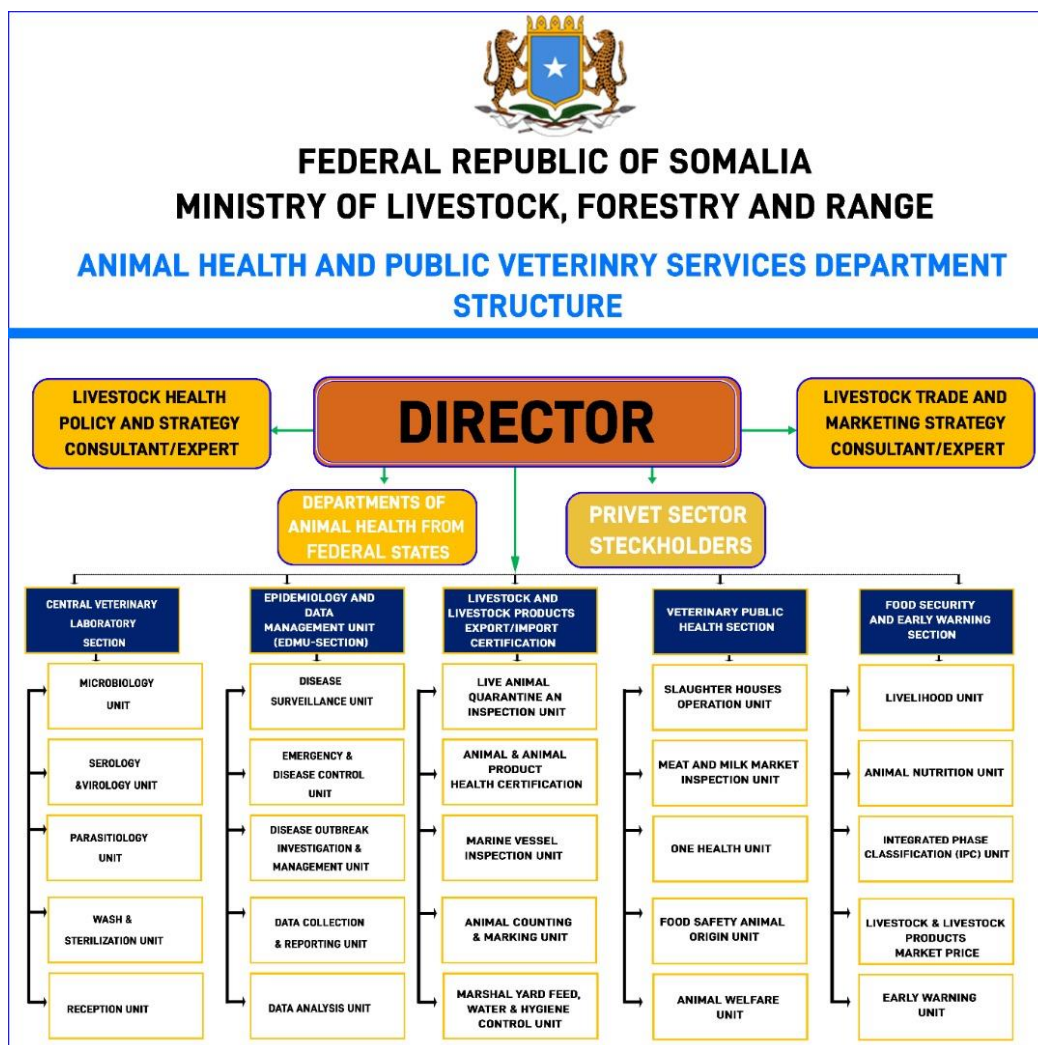
The department consists of five sections:

- the Central Veterinary Laboratory,

- the Epidemiology and Data Management Unit (EDMU),
- the Livestock and Livestock Products Export/Import Certification,
- the Veterinary Public Health,
- the Food Security and Early Warning.

At the state level, the State Animal Health Departments operate under the Ministry of Livestock and Animal Husbandry. Each State Animal Health Department is composed of four sections: Central Veterinary Laboratory, Epidemiology and Data Management, Animal Health, and Veterinary Public Health. This structure applies in the Galmudug, Hirshabelle, Southwest and Jubaland States. In Puntland, the Animal Health Department is under the Ministry of Livestock and Animal Husbandry while in Somaliland, it is under the Ministry of Livestock and Fishery Development.

Key institutional players in animal health services delivery in the country are the private sector, specifically the Livestock Professionals Associations (LPAs). The role of MoLFR is primarily that of coordination, while LPAs are involved in service delivery, capacity building, emergency interventions, and the supply of veterinary drugs in various parts of the country.



Other Ministries, agencies and relevant authorities involved in the veterinary domain:

- Ministry of Human Health (MoH)
- Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI)
- Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MoECC)
- Ministry of Ports and Marine Transport (MoT&MT)
- Ministry of Fishers and Blue economy ( MoFBE)
- Chamber of Commerce
- Local Governments (Municipality)
- Somali Bureau of Standards (SOBS)

The SOBS is an independent national agency, established by the Somali Standards and Quality Control Act Lr27 and became operational in 2020. The mission is to build strong quality infrastructure in fields of standardization, metrology, testing and conformity assessment in order to promote inter and intra trade. The Somali government is concerned with the safety and operational efficiency of imported goods for the benefit of their population, property, animals and the environment.

- Somali National Bureau of Statistics (SNBS)

The SNBS was established in February 2020 to replace the Directorate of National Statistics (DNS). The Bureau is mandated to collect, analyse and disseminate official statistics in Somalia. The Bureau is therefore responsible for compiling administrative data, conducting surveys and coordinating and approving all statistical activities in addition to publishing accurate, timely and reliable statistical information in Somalia.

- Livestock Professional Associations (LPAs)

The Livestock Professionals Associations (LPAs) comprise several distinct organizations: the South West Livestock Professionals Association (SOWELPA), the Central Regions Livestock Professionals Association (CERELPA), and the Benadir Livestock Professionals Association (BENALPA). These three organisations are accredited by the MoLFR. The Puntland Livestock Professionals' Association operates in the Puntland State while the Somaliland Veterinary Association (SOVA) and the Somaliland Women Veterinary Organization (SOWVETORG) operate in Somaliland. These associations are actively engaged in various aspects of livestock management, including disease reporting and surveillance, meat inspection services, and the operation of veterinary pharmacies. Notably, they have played a pivotal role in the successful implementation of PPR vaccination campaigns. It is intriguing to observe that these associations have taken on the responsibility of delivering animal health services, despite facing significant resource constraints. At the State level, the LPAs have effectively established a robust network of veterinarians and VPPs who maintain regular communication with their respective livestock communities. The training of Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWS) is conducted by LPAs' veterinarian members. However, it is important to acknowledge that the LPAs' involvement is largely facilitated by projects funded by donors.

Table 3: Regional coverage of LPAs

Acronym	Name	Regional coverage
SOWELPA	Southwest Livestock Professional Association	Bay, Bakol, Gedo, Lower Shabelle, Lower Juba and Middle Jubba
CERELPA	Central Regions Livestock Professional Association	Hiran, Middle Shabelle, Galgadud and South Madug regions
BENALPA	Benadir Livestock Professional Association	Benadir region including Mogadishu
PULPA	Puntland Livestock Professional Association	Puntland State
SOVA	Somaliland Veterinary Association	Somaliland
SOWVETORG	Somaliland Women Veterinary Organization	Somaliland

### II.2.C Animal disease occurrence

The Veterinary Law Code of 2016 does not specifically mention notifiable diseases. However, the Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department has taken the initiative to compile a comprehensive list of notifiable diseases. This list includes significant diseases such as: Peste des petits Ruminants (PPR), Contagious Caprine Pleuropneumonia (CCPP), Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia (CBPP), Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), Rift Valley Fever (RVF), Sheep and Goat Pox (SGP), Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) and Brucellosis.

Over the past two years, Somalia did not submit any Immediate Notification to WOA. However, Somalia managed to submit the two 6-Monthly Reports for the year 2022. As for the first 6-Monthly Report of 2023, it is currently pending submission.

Information on animal disease occurrence from the WOA website (see **Error! Reference source not found.**)

Table 3: Disease status of the country

Diseases	Animal category	Disease status			
		2022		2023	
		Present	Absent	Present	Absent
African horse sickness	Domestic		v		v
African swine fever	Domestic	No information		No information	
Anthrax	Domestic		v		v
Aujeszky's disease	Domestic		v		v
Bluetongue	Domestic		v		v
Bovine anaplasmosis	Domestic	v		v	
Bovine babesiosis	Domestic	v		v	
Bovine spongiform encephalopathy	Domestic		v		v
Brucella abortus	Domestic	v		v	
Brucella melitensis	Domestic	v		v	
Camelpox	Domestic	v		v	

Contagious caprine pleuropneumonia	Domestic	v		v	
Crimean Congo haemorrhagic fever	Domestic		v		v
Dourine	Domestic		v		v
Foot and mouth disease	Domestic	v		v	
Heartwater	Domestic	v		v	
High pathogenicity avian influenza viruses	Domestic		v		v
Infectious bovine rhinotracheitis	Domestic		v		v
Infectious bursal disease (Gumboro disease)	Domestic		v		v
Leishmaniosis	Domestic		v		v
Lumpy skin disease	Domestic	v		v	
Maedi-visna	Domestic		v		v
Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus	Domestic	No information		No information	
Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex	Domestic		v		v
Mycoplasma mycoides subsp. mycoides SC (Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia)	Domestic	v		v	
Nairobi sheep disease	Domestic		v		v
New world screwworm (Cochliomyia hominivorax)	Domestic		v		v
Newcastle disease	Domestic		v		v
Nipah virus encephalitis	Domestic	No information		No information	
Ovine epididymitis (Brucella ovis)	Domestic		v		v
Paratuberculosis	Domestic		v		v
Peste des petits ruminants	Domestic	v		v	
	Wild		v		v
Rabies	Domestic		v		v
	Wild	Suspected		Suspected	
Rift Valley fever	Domestic		v		v
Salmonellosis (S. abortusovis)	Domestic		v		v
Sheep pox and goat pox	Domestic	v		v	
Surra (Trypanosoma evansi)	Domestic	v		v	
Theileria annulata, Theileria orientalis and Theileria parva	Domestic	No information		No information	
Trypanosoma Brucei, T. Congolense, T. Simiae and T. Vivax	Domestic	v		v	

Similar to other countries across the global, Rinderpest has been effectively eradicated in Somalia.

According to the information provided by the Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department, an unknown disease known as camel syndrome has been occurring in the country over the last four years, primarily in the Southern regions. It has also been observed in neighbouring countries such as Kenya and Ethiopia. Surprisingly, this disease has not been reported to WOAHP.

### **II.3 Organisation of the evaluation**

Appendix 4 provides a list of key persons met or interviewed by the WOAHP PVS Team and Appendix 5 provides the air travel itinerary of team members.

## PART III: RESULTS OF THE EVALUATION & GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

This evaluation identifies the strengths and weaknesses of the Veterinary Services, and makes general recommendations, across the four main fundamental components of the PVS tool:

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

The activities of the Veterinary Services are recognised by the international community and by WOAHA 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 WOAHA PVS Evaluation examined each Critical Competency under the 4 fundamental components, listed strengths and weaknesses where applicable, and established a current level of advancement for each Critical Competency. Evidence supporting this level included interviews and field observations associated with the mission, and also documentary evidence, as listed in Appendix 6. General recommendations are provided where relevant.

The current level of advancement for each Critical Competency is shown in cells shadowed in grey (15%) in the table and indicated in the line **LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - x**. The Level of Advancement obtained by the country during the previous PVS missions is shown in the table preceding Findings in each critical competency.



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

This component of the evaluation concerns the institutional effectiveness and sustainability of the VS as demonstrated by the levels of human, physical and financial resources available and their efficient application. It comprises fourteen Critical Competencies:

#### Critical Competencies:

<b>Section I-1</b>	<b>Professional and technical staffing of the Veterinary Services (VS)</b>
	<b>A. Veterinary and other professionals (university qualified)</b>
	<b>B. Veterinary paraprofessionals</b>
<b>Section I-2</b>	<b>Competency and education of veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals</b>
	<b>A. Veterinarians</b>
	<b>B. Veterinary paraprofessionals</b>
<b>Section I-3</b>	<b>Continuing education (CE)</b>
<b>Section I-4</b>	<b>Technical independence</b>
<b>Section I-5</b>	<b>Planning, sustainability and management of policies and programmes</b>
<b>Section I-6</b>	<b>Coordination capability of the Veterinary Services</b>
	<b>A. Internal coordination (chain of command)</b>
	<b>B. External coordination (including the One Health approach)</b>
<b>Section I-7</b>	<b>Physical resources and capital investment</b>
<b>Section I-8</b>	<b>Operational funding</b>
<b>Section I-9</b>	<b>Emergency funding</b>

#### ----- 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.*

*Point 4 of Article 3.2.1. on General considerations.*

*Point 1 of 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.*

*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 10 of Article 3.2.14. on Organisation and structure of Veterinary Services/National information on human resources/Financial management information/Administration details/Laboratories engaged in diagnosis/Performance assessment and audit programmes.*



## I-1. PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL STAFFING OF THE VETERINARY SERVICES (VS)

DEFINITION
The appropriate level of staffing of the VS to allow for veterinary and technical functions to be undertaken efficiently and effectively.
A. Veterinary and other professionals (university qualified)
The appropriate level of staffing of the VS to allow for veterinary and other professional functions to be undertaken efficiently and effectively.
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 2
1. The majority of positions requiring veterinary or other professional skills are not occupied by appropriately qualified professionals.
2. The majority of positions requiring veterinary or other professional skills are occupied by appropriately qualified professionals at central and state/provincial levels.
3. The majority of positions requiring veterinary or other professional skills are occupied by appropriately qualified professionals at local (field) levels.
4. There is a systematic approach to defining job descriptions and formal, merit-based appointment and promotion procedures for <i>veterinarians</i> and other professionals.
5. There are effective procedures for formal performance assessment and performance management of <i>veterinarians</i> and other professionals.

*Terrestrial Code* reference(s): Appendix 1

### **I-1.A.a. Findings:**

The Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department oversees the public Veterinary Services at federal level in Mogadishu. This department is led by a veterinarian who also serves as the WOAHA Delegate. It operates under the Ministry of Livestock, Forestry and Range (MoLFR). The department consists of five main sections: the Central Veterinary Laboratory, the Epidemiology and Data Management Unit (EDMU), the Livestock and Livestock Products Export/Import Certification, the Veterinary Public Health, and the Food Security and Early Warning.

Currently, there are twenty-one (21) veterinary positions filled by veterinary professionals at the headquarters of the Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department. Three (3) veterinarians are female, eighteen (18) are male. Additionally, there are a number of veterinarians waiting to be recruited and who work as “volunteers”. These volunteers are only paid allowances when they are involved in project activities. These dedicated individuals selflessly contribute their expertise and time to the VS, playing a vital role in its operations.

Despite the presence of these volunteers, not all positions within the Department’s organizational structure are filled. According to the Director’s estimate, there are 38 vacant positions.

At the Federal State level, only Jubaland, Puntland and Somaliland have appointed and paid veterinarians serving as the State Directors of the Animal Health Department. In Galmudug, Hirshabelle, and South West State, the veterinary services rely solely on volunteers. It is worth noting that the State Director of Galmudug is the only female veterinarian in this position.

Although the situation seems to be more favourable in Somaliland and Puntland, unfortunately, the mission did not receive any data regarding the veterinary personnel in these locations.

A considerable number of veterinarians, who are not employed by the Federal States' Ministries, are members of one of the several Livestock Professional Associations (LPAs), three of which are accredited by the Ministry of Livestock, Forestry and Range to provide veterinary services.

- Benadir Livestock Professionals Association (BENALPA) which operates in the Benadir region.
- Central Regions Livestock Professionals Association (CERELPA) covering Hiran, Middle Shabelle, Galgadud and South Madug regions.
- South West Livestock Professionals Association (SOWELPA) which operates in the regions of Bay, Bakol, Gedo, Lower Shabelle, Lower Juba and Middle Jubba.

Additionally, there are veterinarians who have established private practices and manage pharmacies. The associations play a crucial role in ensuring the provision of veterinary services to the population (mass vaccinations, vector control and supportive treatment campaigns, training, and institutional capacity development), particularly when funds are available through projects.

They serve as a platform for veterinarians to collaborate, and share knowledge. By being a part of these associations, veterinarians can enhance their professional development and contribute to the overall improvement of veterinary care.

It is worth noting that the Ministry of Livestock, Forestry and Range recognizes the importance of both state-employed veterinarians and those in private practice.

**I-1.A.b. Strengths:**

- Presence of a diverse group of professional members of the LPAs mandated by the Ministry of Livestock, Forestry, and Range to ensure the delivery of veterinary services.

**I-1.A.c. Weaknesses:**

- Lack of adequate numbers of suitably qualified veterinarians to effectively carry out all the essential functions of a contemporary VS.
- Presence of a considerable number of volunteer veterinarians who hold crucial positions within the VS at both Federal Government and Federal State levels, despite not being formally recruited or remunerated.

**I-1.A.d. Recommendations:**

- It is important to address the lack of formal recruitment and compensation for the volunteer veterinarians, as it raises concerns.

**I-1.A.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews, E03, E25, E34.

## I-1. PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL STAFFING OF THE VETERINARY SERVICES (VS)

DEFINITION
The appropriate level of staffing of the VS to allow for veterinary and technical functions to be undertaken efficiently and effectively.
B. Veterinary paraprofessionals
The appropriate level of staffing of the VS to allow for <i>veterinary paraprofessional</i> (according to the WOA definition) functions to be undertaken efficiently and effectively.  This covers WOA <i>veterinary para-professional</i> categories having trained at dedicated educational institutions with formal qualifications which are recognised by the government or the VSB.
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 3
1. The majority of positions requiring <i>veterinary paraprofessional</i> skills are not occupied by personnel holding appropriate qualifications.
2. Some positions requiring <i>veterinary paraprofessional</i> skills are occupied by personnel holding appropriate qualifications. There is little or no veterinary supervision.
3. The majority of positions requiring <i>veterinary paraprofessional</i> skills are occupied by personnel holding appropriate qualifications. There is a variable level of veterinary supervision.
4. The majority of <i>veterinary paraprofessional</i> positions are effectively supervised on a regular basis by <i>veterinarians</i> .
5. There are effective management procedures for formal appointment and promotion, as well as performance assessment and performance management of <i>veterinary paraprofessionals</i> .

*Terrestrial Code* reference(s): Appendix 1

### **I-1.B.a. Findings:**

The Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department comprises a team of 18 veterinary paraprofessionals. It is important to note that these individuals are classified as “volunteers”. As such, they do not receive a fixed salary but are compensated on an ad hoc basis, depending on the availability of project funds. The department has recognized the necessity for an additional 17 VPPs at the federal level.

Community animal health workers (CAHWs) play a crucial role in the national Veterinary Services. CAHWs’ legitimacy is recognised in the Veterinary Law Code. Presently, the LPAs (BENALPA, CERELPA and SOWELPA) have registered 1564 CAHWs comprising 1043 men and 521 women. Data from PULPA, SOVA and SOWVETORG were not available to the PVS preparatory mission. The LPAs operate at the state level, ensuring effective integration of CAHWs into a structured reporting and supervision framework. In the best cases, each CAHW is accountable to a private veterinarian, who on average coordinates the activities of 20 or more CAHWs. Furthermore, to ensure optimal treatment outcomes, every CAHW is supposed to maintain regular communication with a veterinary pharmacist. This veterinary professional, responsible for overseeing a pharmacy, offers invaluable advice on suitable treatment options based on the comprehensive case reports submitted by the CAHWs.

However, there are certain CAHWs who receive training and are deployed independently from the LPA system. These CAHWs are not included in the aforementioned numbers and operate without supervision and coordination. Consequently, there is a lack of harmonisation in their work, responsibilities, and reporting.

**I-1.B.b. Strengths:**

- CAHWs' legitimacy is recognised in the Veterinary Law Code.
- Formal supervision and coordination of CAHWs by veterinarians through LPAs, with CAHWs receiving certificates and registered by LPA.
- CAHWs are trained in all States across the country.

**I-1.B.c. Weaknesses:**

- Support for CAHWs' activities, beyond clinical services delivery, is dependent on project funding, and livestock keepers may not have funds to pay for CAHWs' services.
- There are CAHWs who receive training and are deployed independently from the LPA system. These CAHWs operate without supervision and coordination, which causes a lack of harmonisation in their work, responsibilities, and reporting.

**I-1.B.d. Recommendations:**

- The Federal and Federal State VS Departments, LPAs, NGOs and all actors in the veterinary domain should advocate for a harmonised system for training, deployment and registration of CAHWs to ensure that they are properly supervised and integrated in animal health surveillance and reporting systems.

**I-1.B.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E03; E04; E05; E17; E19; E24; E26; and data provided by the Livestock Professionals' Associations (PowerPoint, photos of activities).

## I-2. COMPETENCY AND EDUCATION OF VETERINARIANS AND VETERINARY PARAPROFESSIONALS

DEFINITION
The capability of the VS to effectively carry out their veterinary and technical functions, as indicated by the level and quality of the qualifications of their personnel in veterinary and veterinary paraprofessional positions.
A . Veterinary and other professionals (university qualified)
This references the WOAHP re-commendations on the Competencies of graduating veterinarians ('Day 1 graduates') to assure National Veterinary Services of quality, and WOAHP guidelines on Veterinary Education Core Curriculum.
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT – 2
1. The veterinarians' knowledge, skills and practices, are of a variable standard that allow only for elementary clinical and administrative activities of the VS.
2. The veterinarians' knowledge, skills and practices are of a uniform standard sufficient for accurate and appropriate clinical and administrative activities of the VS.
3. The veterinarians' knowledge, skills and practices are sufficient for all professional/technical activities of the VS (e.g. surveillance, treatment and control of animal disease, including conditions of public health significance).
4. The veterinarians' knowledge, skills and practices are sufficient for specialised technical activities (e.g. higher level epidemiological analysis, disease modelling, animal welfare science) as may be needed by the VS, supported by post-graduate level training.
5. The veterinarians' knowledge, skills and practices are subject to regular updating, and are internationally recognised such as through formal evaluation and/or the granting of international equivalence with other recognised veterinary qualifications.

*Terrestrial Code* reference(s): Appendix 1

### **I-2.A.a. Findings:**

The country has around fifteen veterinary schools and other recognized training establishments, authorized by the federal government. These institutions play a pivotal role in imparting knowledge and skills to aspiring veterinarians and VPPs. However, it is important to note that the academic curricula employed by these institutions vary significantly. Regrettably, this diversity in curricula has resulted in a lack of harmonization and standardization in the BVM programme and the quality standards expected from their graduates.

A 2020 assessment revealed that the endeavour to establish a standardized curriculum for veterinary schools in Somalia faced significant obstacles due to the absence of a higher education policy and political considerations.

During the PVS Evaluation mission, officials from the VS provided information about the recent establishment of a Higher Education Committee within the Ministry of Education. This Committee has been assigned the responsibility of overseeing the curricula of veterinary universities and institutes.

### **I-2.A.b. Strengths:**

- Creation of a Higher Education Committee to oversee the curricula of veterinary universities and institutes.

### **I-2.A.c. Weaknesses:**

- Absence of a unified framework and a common curriculum for veterinary schools.

- Too many veterinary schools per population.

**I-2.A.d. Recommendations:**

- Foster collaboration among veterinary institutions by establishing a shared vision and framework.
- Elevate the quality of veterinary professionals but also enhance the overall standards of veterinary education.
- Review the possibility of consolidating certain veterinary schools.

**I-2.A.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews, E03, E17; E26.

## I-2. COMPETENCY AND EDUCATION OF VETERINARIANS AND VETERINARY PARAPROFESSIONALS

DEFINITION
The capability of the VS to effectively carry out their veterinary and technical functions, as indicated by the level and quality of the qualifications of their personnel in veterinary and <i>veterinary paraprofessional</i> positions.
B. Veterinary paraprofessionals
This references the WOAHS Competency Guidelines for Veterinary Para-professionals and WOAHS Curricula Guidelines for <i>Veterinary Para-professionals</i> .
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 2
1. Positions requiring <i>veterinary paraprofessional</i> skills are generally occupied by those having no formal training or qualifications from dedicated educational institutions.
2. The training and qualifications of those in positions requiring <i>veterinary paraprofessional</i> skills is of a variable standard and allows for the development of only basic competencies.
3. The training and qualifications of <i>veterinary paraprofessionals</i> is of a fairly uniform standard that allows the development of some specific competencies (e.g. vaccination on farms, <i>meat</i> hygiene control, basic <i>laboratory</i> tests).
4. The training and qualifications of <i>veterinary paraprofessionals</i> is of a uniform standard that allows the development of more advanced competencies (e.g. blood and tissue sample collection on farms, supervised <i>meat</i> inspection, more complex <i>laboratory</i> testing).
5. The training and qualifications of <i>veterinary paraprofessionals</i> is of a uniform standard and is subject to regular evaluation and/or updating.

*Terrestrial Code* reference(s): Appendix 1

### I-2.B.a. Findings:

All universities offering animal health programmes have upgraded their curricula to offer a Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine (BVM) degree. As a result, graduates from these programmes are now recognized as veterinarians. However, individuals who were trained before the implementation of the BVM system still hold diploma courses and are considered veterinary paraprofessionals.

In the best scenarios, CAHWS are trained by veterinarians who are members of the Livestock Professionals' Associations. In some cases, these veterinarians have undergone Training of Trainers to effectively train CAHWS. Once trained, CAHWS are integrated into the animal health services under the guidance of a veterinarian and work closely with a pharmacy. CAHWS may also receive refresher training and necessary equipment through project activities.

Under the guidance and supervision of the LPAs, CAHWS are equipped to handle various aspects of animal health including implementing preventive measures, and providing necessary treatments when required

However, there are instances where non-governmental organisations train CAHWS without integrating them into the LPA system. These CAHWS are not included in the LPA database, and the quality of their training and resulting competencies are not verified.

**I-2.B.b. Strengths:**

- Presence of CAHWS who are trained and supervised by the Livestock Professionals Associations.

**I-2.B.c. Weaknesses:**

- Presence of CAHWs who have not received training from the LPAs and whose skills are not guaranteed.

**I-2.B.d. Recommendations:**

- The VS department, LPAs, NGOs and all actors in the veterinary domain should advocate for a harmonised system for training, deployment and registration of CAHWs to ensure that they are properly supervised and integrated in surveillance and reporting systems.
- Plan to review CAHWs training from 2024 in line with the upcoming WOAHA guidelines for CAHW competencies and curricula guidelines and good practice on AMU, to ensure that CAHWs training is fit for purpose and addressing all the required competencies
- Advocate that all partner organisations, NGOs and ad hoc projects follow recognised standards for CAHWs training and ensure appropriate supervision of CAHWs is included in all CAHW training projects.

**I-2.B.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E03; E04; E05; E17; E19; E24; E26 and data provided by the Livestock Professionals' Associations (PowerPoint, photos of activities).



### I-3. CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE)

DEFINITION
The capability of the VS to maintain, update and improve the knowledge, attitudes and skills of their personnel, through an ongoing staff training and development programme assessed on a regular basis for relevance and targeted skills development.
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 2
1. The VS have no access to veterinary or paraprofessional CE.
2. The VS have access to CE (internal and/or external training) 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 and sometimes updated, but it is implemented only for some categories of veterinary professionals and paraprofessionals.
4. The VS have access to a CE programme that is reviewed annually and updated as necessary, and is implemented for all categories of veterinary professionals and paraprofessionals.
5. The VS have up-to-date CE that is implemented or is a requirement for all relevant veterinary professionals and paraprofessionals and is subject to dedicated planning and regular evaluation of effectiveness.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

#### **I-3.a. Findings:**

The Veterinary Services Department lacks a structured continuing education programme. Furthermore, there is no established system to document training for VS personnel. Consequently, access to CE opportunities for the VS department's staff is inconsistent

Until now, all training courses have been funded by external projects. Thanks to these trainings, several VS personnel from the public VS departments, LPAs and private service providers have successfully completed programmes designed to enhance their technical knowledge and skills in various areas such as epidemiology and surveillance, laboratory diagnostics, early warning and detection, quarantine management, animal health certification, and One Health principles. These trainings equip them to better carry out crucial core functions within the VS.

By participating in these training programmes, the VS department's staff have gained valuable expertise in epidemiological techniques, enabling them to better monitor and control the spread of animal diseases. They have also acquired advanced laboratory diagnostic skills, enabling them to accurately identify and diagnose various animal diseases.

In addition, the staff members have been equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills in animal health certification, enabling them to ensure the health and safety of animals being exported.

Lastly, the staff members have received training on One Health principles, which emphasize the inter-connectedness of human, animal, and environmental health. This holistic approach enables the staff to better understand and address the complex health challenges that arise at the intersection of these domains.

#### **I-3.b. Strengths:**

- Presence of personnel well equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills in laboratory diagnostics and animal certification.

**I-3.c. Weaknesses:**

- Lack of a structured continuing education programme.
- No established system to document training for VS personnel.

**I-3.d. Recommendations:**

- Undertake a Training needs assessment for the current staff employed by the DVS department and develop a CE programme.
- The VS department should develop and maintain individual files on each member of staff recording all training courses attended.
- To enhance the training opportunities for the VS personnel, the DVS department can request assistance from the WOAHC Collaborating Centres. These centres may be able to offer specific courses tailored to the needs of the VS personnel.

**I-3.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E03; E16.

#### I-4. TECHNICAL INDEPENDENCE

DEFINITION
The capability of the VS to carry out their duties with autonomy and without undue commercial, financial, hierarchical and political influences that may affect technical decisions in a manner contrary to the provisions of WOHAI (and of the WTO SPS Agreement where applicable).
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 2
1. The technical decisions made by the VS are generally not based on scientific considerations.
2. The technical decisions consider scientific evidence, but are routinely modified based on non-scientific considerations.
3. The technical decisions are based on scientific evidence but are subject to review and occasional modification based on non-scientific considerations.
4. The technical decisions are made and generally implemented in accordance with scientific evidence and the country's WOHAI obligations (and with the country's WTO SPS Agreement obligations where applicable).
5. The technical decisions are based on a high level of scientific evidence, which is both nationally relevant and internationally respected, and are not unduly changed to meet non-scientific considerations.

*Terrestrial Code reference(s):* Appendix 1

##### **I-4.a. Findings:**

Most technical decisions regarding the prevention and control of animal diseases are typically based on a solid understanding of WOHAI standards. However, the implementation of these decisions by the VS Department is often hindered by financial constraints.

Furthermore, the scarcity of suitably qualified personnel in various veterinary domains and the involvement of volunteers pose a significant challenge in making decisions based on sound scientific principles. Although volunteers bring valuable contributions to various activities, the absence of remuneration may impede their ability to make well-informed choices.

Nevertheless, in the context of live animal exports, the VS Department demonstrates the ability to enforce appropriate measures in accordance with international standards.

##### **I-4.b. Strengths:**

- Presence of personnel well equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills in animal exports and certification.

##### **I-4.c. Weaknesses:**

- Insufficient technical knowledge can result in decisions being made without solid scientific justification.
- Presence of volunteers and financial limitations may compromise the process of making informed technical decisions.

##### **I-4.d. Recommendations:**

- Enhance technical expertise to ensure that decisions are based on sound scientific evidence.
- Address the lack of formal recruitment and compensation for the volunteers.

**I-4.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E03.

## I-5. PLANNING, SUSTAINABILITY AND MANAGEMENT OF POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES

DEFINITION
The capability of the VS leadership and organisation to develop, document and sustain strategic policies and programmes, and also to report on, review and evolve them, as appropriate over time.
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 2
1. Policies and programmes are insufficiently developed and documented. Substantial changes to the organisational structure and/or leadership of the VS frequently occur (e.g. annually) resulting in a lack of sustainability of policies and programmes.
2. Some basic policy and programme development and documentation exists, with some reporting on implementation. Sustainability of policies and programmes is negatively impacted by changes in the political leadership or other changes affecting the structure and leadership of the VS.
3. There is well developed and stable policy and programme documentation. Reports on programme implementation are available. Sustainability of policies and programmes is generally maintained during changes in the political leadership and/or changes to the structure and leadership of the VS.
4. Policies or programmes are sustained, but also reviewed (using data collection and analysis) and updated appropriately over time through formal national strategic planning cycles to improve effectiveness and address emerging concerns. Planning cycles continue despite changes in the political leadership and/or changes to the structure and leadership of the VS.
5. Effective policies and programmes are sustained over time and the structure and leadership of the VS is strong and stable. Modification to strategic and operational planning is based on a robust evaluation or audit process using evidence, to support the continual improvement of policies and programmes over time.

*Terrestrial Code* reference(s): Appendix 1

### **I-5.a. Findings:**

The activities of the VS department are partially guided by the Livestock Sector Development Strategy 2020-2030, which was prepared with the technical assistance of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). However, this strategy has not yet been approved by parliament and is now outdated and in need of review and revision. In contrast, the Veterinary Law Code was enacted by parliament and approved by the President.

The VS Department has received support from various partners in developing Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for export quarantine stations, and contingency plans for key animal diseases.

A One Health Strategy was also developed in collaboration with the Ministry of Health (MoH).

Unfortunately, the VS Department faces significant limitations in carrying out other essential regulatory and routine field activities due to a complete lack of financial resource allocations from the Federal Government.

To overcome these challenges, the VS Department is working closely with the LPAs in a collaborative effort.

Overall, it is crucial for the Livestock Sector Development Strategy to be updated and approved by parliament to ensure effective and efficient operations of the VS Department. Additionally, securing adequate funding is essential for the department to fulfil its regulatory and field responsibilities.

**I-5.b. Strengths:**

- Veterinary Law Code enacted by parliament and approved by the President.

**I-5.c. Weaknesses:**

- The Livestock Sector Development Strategy 2020-2030 has not yet approved by parliament and now outdated.
- Total reliance on donor support for the implementation of any field activities, leading to concerns over the sustainability of the VS programmes.

**I-5.d. Recommendations:**

- Review the Livestock Sector Development Strategy 2020-2030 specifically focusing on the veterinary domain. Provide a clear delineation of roles and responsibilities between government entities, local authorities, non-governmental organizations, and private sector institutions. This will ensure that livestock actors have access to high-quality animal health services.
- The Federal VS department to collaborate with Federal state Animal Health departments to develop annual activity and investment plans that should be submitted to the Ministry of Finance and partners to justify investments in animal health, human health, and food safety.

**I-5.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E03; E12; E13; E18; E32.

## I-6. COORDINATION CAPABILITY OF THE VETERINARY SERVICES

DEFINITION
<b>A. Internal coordination (chain of command)</b>
The capability of the <i>Veterinary Authority</i> to coordinate their mandated activities with a clear chain of command, from the central level (the Chief Veterinary Officer or equivalent), to the field level of the VS, as relevant to the WOAHA Codes (e.g. <i>surveillance</i> , disease control, food safety, emergency preparedness and response).
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT – 2
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, such as for export certification, border control and/or emergency response.
4. There are formal, documented internal coordination mechanisms and a clear and effective chain of command for most activities, including <i>surveillance</i> (and reporting) and disease control programmes.
5. There are formal and fully documented internal coordination mechanisms and a clear and effective chain of command for all activities, and these are periodically reviewed/audited and updated to re-define roles and optimise efficiency as necessary.

*Terrestrial Code* reference(s): Appendix 1

### **I-6.A.a. Findings:**

Coordination mechanisms are currently in place, although they are not always formalized. One area of concern is the lack of clarity in the chain of command between the federal and state levels.

At federal level, the VS Department comprises a team of officers who maintain direct communication with the States and the LPAs. Internal communication and coordination within the department are highly effective, particularly for addressing routine issues related to investigation and response to suspected outbreaks of notifiable diseases. Regular meetings take place between the Director of VS and five Directors of AH at the state level. This is facilitated through mobile phone communication.

Regrettably, there is currently a limited level of coordination with the Somaliland Animal Health Department. However, it is hoped that appointment of the Director of the Somaliland Animal Health department as the WOAHA communication focal point will greatly enhance the exchange of information between the federal level and this state.

A significant drawback is the absence of legislation that clearly defines the chain of command within the department.

### **I-6.A.b. Strengths:**

- There is a direct and regular coordination between the Federal VS department and the majority of Federal States.

### **I-6.A.c. Weaknesses:**

- Limited level of coordination between the federal VS and the Somaliland Animal Health Department.

**I-6.A.d. Recommendations:**

- Establish a coordination mechanism between the Federal VS and all Federal State VS including Somaliland. This mechanism will facilitate seamless communication and cooperation, ensuring a unified approach towards veterinary matters at both federal and state levels.

**I-6.A.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E01; E03; E07; E12; E18; E23.

## I-6. COORDINATION CAPABILITY OF THE VETERINARY SERVICES

DEFINITION
<p><b>B. External coordination (including the One Health approach)</b></p> <p>The capability of the <i>Veterinary Authority</i> to coordinate its resources and activities at all levels with other government authorities with responsibilities within the veterinary domain, in order to implement all national activities relevant to the WOA Codes, especially those not under the direct line authority of the Chief Veterinary Officer (or equivalent).</p> <p>Relevant authorities include other ministries and <i>Competent Authorities</i>, such as government partners in public health (e.g. zoonoses, food safety, drug regulation and anti-microbial resistance), environment (e.g. <i>wildlife</i> health), customs and border police (e.g. border security), defence/intelligence (e.g. bio-threats), or municipalities/local councils (e.g. local slaughterhouses, dog control).</p>
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 2
1. There is no external coordination with other government authorities.
2. There are informal external coordination mechanisms for some activities at national level, 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 (e.g. Memoranda of Understanding) for some activities and/or sectors at the national level.
4. There are formal external coordination mechanisms with clearly described procedures or agreements at the national level for most activities (such as for One Health), and these are uniformly implemented throughout the country, including at state/provincial level.
5. There are external coordination mechanisms for all activities, from national to field, and these are periodically reviewed and updated to re-clarify roles and optimise efficiency.

*Terrestrial Code* reference(s): Appendix 1

### **I-6.B.a. Findings:**

There is a One Health National Level Technical Working Group led by Somalia's National Institute of Health (NIH). Among the members of this group is the Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department.

In 2023, a comprehensive assessment was carried out to determine the priority zoonoses for multisectoral collaboration under the One Health approach. Representatives from various sectors including human, animal (both domestic and wildlife), agriculture, and environmental health came together to conduct this prioritization exercise using the One Health Zoonotic Disease Prioritization (OHZDP) tool developed by the United States CDC.

The prioritization exercise involved evaluating several criteria to rank the diseases. These criteria included the socioeconomic impact, sensitivity, and prevalence of the diseases in Somalia. Additionally, the availability of interventions, environmental factors, and the burden of disease in both humans and animals were also taken into account.

After careful consideration, seven priority zoonoses were identified for Somalia. These include Rift Valley fever, Middle East respiratory syndrome, anthrax, trypanosomiasis, brucellosis, zoonotic enteric parasites (such as *Giardia* and *Cryptosporidium*), and zoonotic influenza viruses.

This prioritization process serves as a crucial step towards addressing the most pressing zoonotic diseases in Somalia. By focusing on these priority zoonoses, stakeholders can allocate resources and implement targeted interventions to mitigate the impact of these diseases on both human and animal populations. This collaborative effort under the One Health approach ensures a holistic and comprehensive approach to disease prevention and control.



There appears to be good external coordination at the border inspection posts between the Veterinary Services Department and the staff of Customs and other Ministries to enforce strict inspections for the export of live animals. However, it's necessary to review the role of the Somali Bureau of Standards office in this matter to ensure better coordination and minimize encroachment upon the prerogatives of the VS.

**I-6.B.b. Strengths:**

- Good level of external coordination with the Ministry of Health and other stakeholders involved in the field of One Health.

**I-6.B.c. Weaknesses:**

- As a result of the VS's limited resources, gradually, certain aspects of their missions are being assumed by other entities, particularly the Somalia Bureau of Standards.

**I-6.B.d. Recommendations:**

- The Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department to proactively seek collaboration with the Public Health Department to develop programmes to address the priority zoonoses.
- The Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department to appoint a One Health focal point to serve as a liaison, facilitating effective communication and coordination among various stakeholders involved in One Health initiatives.
- The VS to liaise with the Somalia Bureau of Standards office at the border inspection posts to delineate roles, enhance coordination and harmonise Standard Operating Procedures for the importation of animal products..

**I-6.B.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E03; E28; E29.

## I-7. PHYSICAL RESOURCES AND CAPITAL INVESTMENT

DEFINITION
The access of the VS to functional and well-maintained physical resources including buildings, transport, information technology (e.g. internet access), cold chain, and other necessary equipment or structures. This includes whether major capital investment is available.
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 1
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 state/provincial levels, but maintenance, as well as replacement of obsolete items, occurs rarely.
3. The VS have suitable physical resources at national, state/provincial and some local levels but maintenance, as well as replacement of obsolete items, occurs irregularly.
4. The VS have suitable physical resources at all levels and these are regularly maintained. Major capital investments occur occasionally to improve the VS operational infrastructure over time.
5. The VS have suitable physical resources at all levels (national, state/provincial and local levels) and these are regularly maintained and updated as more advanced items become available. Major capital investments occur regularly to improve the VS operational capability and infrastructure.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

### **I-7.a. Findings:**

Currently, the Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department is facing significant challenges with its building assets. The Director and other VS staff are all located in a single office at the MoLFR premises in Mogadishu. Six sub national veterinary service offices exist in Somaliland, Putland, Galmudug, Hirshabelle, Southwest and Jubaland states

There are no vehicles available at the federal level. However, Somaliland, Puntland, Galmudug, and Southwest States possess vehicles. Mobile veterinary clinics exist in Somaliland, Puntland, Galmudug and Southwest states provided by the Biyoole Project funded by the World Bank.

Unfortunately, the department lacks the necessary budget to invest in essential infrastructure facilities and equipment, including vehicles and field personnel equipment. This shortage severely hampers the effectiveness of the VS Dept at the Federal State level, where most infrastructures are in a state of disrepair and there is a scarcity of functional equipment.

However, there is a Word Bank project underway to address these issues at the Federal Government and Federal State levels. The ongoing construction of offices and cold chain equipment aims to improve the physical resources available to the VS Department. This initiative holds promise for enhancing the VS capacities and capabilities and ensuring more efficient operations.

### **I-7.b. Strengths:**

- The Word Bank project is expected to bring about a gradual improvement in the quality of building assets and equipment of the VS.
- Presence of mobile veterinary clinics in some states.

**I-7.c. Weaknesses:**

- Complete dependence on external funding for infrastructure construction and equipment supply.

**I-7.d. Recommendations:**

- Develop comprehensive annual activity and investment plans that address prioritized needs. These plans should encompass the maintenance and replacement of equipment and consumables, which are generously provided by external donors.
- Furthermore, it is essential to share the PVS Evaluation Report with major donors and Parliamentarians. This report serves as a valuable tool for advocacy, allowing the VS to effectively communicate the impact and importance of their initiatives.

**I-7.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E01; E03.

**I-8. OPERATIONAL FUNDING**

DEFINITION
The ability of the VS to access operational resources adequate for their planned and continued activities (e.g. salaries, contracts, fuel, vaccines, diagnostic reagents, personal protective equipment, per diem or allowances for field work).
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 1
1. Operational funding for the VS is neither stable nor clearly defined and depends on irregular allocation of resources.
2. Operational funding for the VS is clearly defined and regular, but is inadequate for their required baseline operations (e.g. basic disease <i>surveillance</i> , disease control and/or veterinary public health).
3. Operational funding for the VS is clearly defined and regular, and is adequate for their baseline operations, but there is no provision for new or expanded operations.
4. Operational funding for new or expanded operations is on a case-by-case basis, and not always based on <i>risk analysis</i> and/or benefit-cost analysis.
5. Operational funding for all aspects of VS activities is generally adequate; all funding, including for new or expanded operations, is provided via a transparent process that allows for technical independence, based on <i>risk analysis</i> and/or cost-benefit analysis.

*Terrestrial Code* reference(s): Appendix 1

**I-8.a. Findings:**

Apart from the funds designated for salaries and personal emoluments, which are sourced from the Ministry of Finance (MoF), the VS lack an operational budgetary allocation. All field activities pertaining to animal disease surveillance, disease prevention and control, and laboratory diagnostics are solely funded through externally sourced projects.

**I-8.b. Strengths:**

- No strength observed.

**I-8.c. Weaknesses:**

- Complete dependence on external funding to support day-to-day operations.

**I-8.d. Recommendations:**

- Develop comprehensive annual activity and investment plans that address prioritized operations.
- The VS to share the PVS Evaluation Report with major donors and Parliamentarians. This report serves as a valuable tool for advocacy, allowing the VS to effectively communicate the impact and importance of their initiatives.

**I-8.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E01; E03.

**I-9. EMERGENCY FUNDING**

<b>DEFINITION</b>
The capability of the VS to access extraordinary financial resources in order to respond to emergency situations or newly emerging issues, as measured by the ease with which contingency and related funding (i.e. arrangements for compensation of producers in emergency situations) can be made rapidly available when required.
<b>LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT – 1</b>
1. No emergency funding arrangements exist.
2. Emergency funding arrangements with limited resources have been established, but these are inadequate for likely emergency situations (including newly emerging issues).
3. Emergency funding arrangements with limited resources have been established; additional resources may be approved but approval is through a political process.
4. Emergency funding arrangements with adequate resources have been established; their provision must be agreed through a non-political process on a case-by-case basis.
5. Emergency funding arrangements with adequate resources have been established and their rules of operation documented and agreed with interested parties.

*Terrestrial Code* reference(s): Appendix 1

**I-9.a. Findings:**

There is currently no emergency funding available to address animal health or food safety emergencies. However, the Federal government has established a National Disaster Committee at the Prime Minister's office.

Despite the absence of emergency funding, the federal government has taken proactive measures to tackle potential crises in the realm of animal health and food safety. To this end, they have set up a National Disaster Committee, operating directly from the Prime Minister's office. This committee serves as a dedicated body to handle any unforeseen emergencies that may arise in these critical areas.

**I-9.b. Strengths:**

- Establishment of a National Disaster Committee that is mandated to unforeseen emergencies including those relating to animal health and food safety.

**I-9.c. Weaknesses:**

- No emergency funding available to address animal health or food safety emergencies.

**I-9.d. Recommendations:**

- Create a structured procedure to obtain access to an emergency fund, ensuring a prompt response in case of an animal disease, or a food safety emergency.

**I-9.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E01; E03.

## 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 eighteen Critical Competencies.

For all sections of this chapter, the Critical Competency includes collaboration with relevant authorities, including other ministries and Competent Authorities, national agencies and decentralised institutions that share authority or have mutual interest in relevant areas.

### Critical Competencies:

<b>Section II-1</b>	<b>Veterinary laboratory diagnosis</b> <b>A. Access to veterinary laboratory diagnosis</b> <b>B. Suitability of the national laboratory system</b> <b>C. Laboratory quality management systems (QMS)</b>
<b>Section II-2</b>	<b>Risk analysis and epidemiology</b>
<b>Section II-3</b>	<b>Quarantine and border security</b>
<b>Section II-4</b>	<b>Surveillance and early detection</b> <b>A. Passive surveillance, early detection and epidemiological outbreak investigation</b> <b>B. Active surveillance and monitoring</b>
<b>Section II-5</b>	<b>Emergency preparedness and response</b>
<b>Section II-6</b>	<b>Disease prevention, control and eradication</b>
<b>Section II-7</b>	<b>Animal production food safety</b> <b>A. Regulation, inspection (including audits), authorisation and supervision of establishments for production and processing of food of animal origin</b> <b>B. Ante- and post-mortem inspection at slaughter facilities and associated premises</b>
<b>Section II-8</b>	<b>Veterinary medicines and biologicals</b>
<b>Section II-9</b>	<b>Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) and Antimicrobial Use (AMU)</b>
<b>Section II-10</b>	<b>Residue testing, monitoring and management</b>
<b>Section II-11</b>	<b>Animal feed safety</b>
<b>Section II-12</b>	<b>Identification, traceability and movement control</b> <b>A. Premises, herd, batch and animal identification, tracing and movement control</b> <b>B. Identification, traceability and control of products of animal origin</b>
<b>Section II-13</b>	<b>Animal welfare</b>

#### ----- Terrestrial Code References:

Chapter 1.4. on *Animal health surveillance*.

Chapter 1.5. on *Surveillance for arthropod vectors of animal diseases*.

Chapter 2.1. on *Import risk analysis*.

Chapter 6.11. on *Risk analysis for antimicrobial resistance arising from the use of antimicrobial agents in animals*

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, 5, 7 and 8 of Article 3.2.14. on *National information on human resources/Laboratories engaged in diagnosis/Veterinary legislation, regulations and functional capabilities/Animal health, animal welfare and veterinary public health controls*.

*Article 3.4.12. on Human food production chain.*

*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 4.12. on Disposal of dead animals.*

*Chapter 6.3. on Control of biological hazards of animal health and public health importance through ante- and post-mortem meat inspection.*

*Chapter 6.4. on Control of hazards of animal health and public health importance in animal feed.*

*Chapters 6.7. to 6.11. on Antimicrobial resistance.*

*Chapter 7.1. on Introduction to the recommendations for animal welfare.*

*Chapter 7.2. on Transport of animals by sea.*

*Chapter 7.3. on Transport of animals by land.*

*Chapter 7.4. on Transport of animals by air.*

*Chapter 7.5. on Slaughter of animals.*

*Chapter 7.6. on Killing of animals for disease control purposes.*

*References to Codex Alimentarius Commission standards:*

*Code of Hygienic practice for meat (CAC/RCP 58-2005).*

*Code of Hygienic practice for milk and milk products (CAC/RCP/ 57-2004).*

*General Principles of Food Hygiene (CAC/RCP 1-1969; amended 1999. Revisions 1997 and 2003).*

*Guidelines for Risk Analysis of Foodborne Antimicrobial Resistance (CAC/GL 77-2011).*

*Code of Practice to Minimize and Contain Antimicrobial Resistance (CAC/RCP 61-2005).*

## II-1. VETERINARY LABORATORY DIAGNOSIS

DEFINITION
The authority and capability of the VS to effectively and efficiently use accurate <i>laboratory</i> diagnosis to support their animal health and veterinary public activities.
A. Access to veterinary laboratory diagnosis
The authority and capability of the VS to access <i>laboratory</i> diagnosis in order to identify and report pathogenic and other hazardous agents that can adversely affect <i>animals</i> and animal products, including those relevant to public health.
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 2
1. Disease diagnosis is almost always conducted by clinical means only, with no access to or little use of a <i>laboratory</i> to obtain a correct diagnosis.
2. For major animal diseases and zoonoses of national importance, and for the food safety of animal products, the VS have access to and use a <i>laboratory</i> to obtain a correct diagnosis.
3. For animal <i>diseases</i> and <i>zoonoses</i> present in the country, and for animal <i>feed</i> safety and veterinary AMR surveillance, the VS have access to and use a <i>laboratory</i> to obtain a correct diagnosis.
4. For animal <i>diseases</i> of zoonotic or economic importance not present in the country, but that exist in the region and/or that could enter the country, the VS have access to and use a <i>laboratory</i> to obtain a correct diagnosis.
5. In the case of new and <i>emerging diseases</i> in the region or worldwide, the VS have access to and use a network of national or international reference <i>laboratories</i> (e.g. an WOA or FAO Reference <i>Laboratory</i> ) to obtain a correct diagnosis.

*Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1*

### **II-1.A.a. Findings:**

There is a Central Veterinary Laboratory (CVL) in Mogadishu headed by a female veterinarian. The CVL has the capacity and capability for serological, bacteriological and parasitological testing. The laboratory has received some equipment for molecular testing but has not yet established the capability for undertaking molecular tests and the equipment remains unused. A new CVL is currently under construction and there has been no diagnostic testing at the CVL over the past year. Currently the CVL has a Serology Section with capability for different Enzyme linked immunosorbent assays (ELISA) for Brucellosis, CBPP, CCPP, FMD, PPR, RVF. The laboratory also carries out Rose Bengal Tests for Brucellosis and Card agglutination tests for *Trypanosoma evansi*.

The CVL also has capability for the detection of PPR antigen using the antigen capture ELISA test.

The Bacteriology Section at the CVL carries out bacterial isolation and culture with the identification of pathogens using biochemical tests while the Parasitology Section provides diagnostic support for external and internal parasitic infections and infestations in domestic animals by the detection of adult parasites, identification of the eggs, cysts and larvae of parasites from faecal samples and the examination of blood smears for haemoparasites.

There are also operational regional veterinary laboratories in Somaliland, Puntland and Galmudug while the establishment of laboratory facilities in the Hirshabelle, Jubaland and South West Federal States is in varying stages of planning and implementation. A World Bank



Funded project is supporting the development of livestock infrastructure facilities including the construction and equipment of Veterinary laboratories at the Central and Federal State Government levels. The laboratories in Somaliland, Puntland and Galmudug have capability for ELISA testing for priority diseases.

The laboratories in Somaliland, Puntland and Galmudug serve to test samples collected in these States. The field and laboratory staff from the other Federal States submit samples for laboratory diagnosis to the CVL in Mogadishu. The CVL also collaborates with the staff of the Epidemiology and Data Management Unit (EDMU) and test samples collected for disease surveillance, outbreak investigation and the monitoring of vaccination programmes. The staff from the EDMU and the regions have undergone training on sample collection, processing, packaging and transportation.

There is a good network of air transport linking the major towns in the different regional States across Somalia and this facilitates the rapid transportation of samples from the Federal States to the CVL. The respective Federal State Veterinary Services meet the costs of transportation of the samples by air. Cold chain facilities maintained by the Federal State Veterinary Services and the Livestock Professional Associations in different locations ensure that samples are transported on ice from field locations to the CVL to maintain their integrity.

There are 7 livestock export quarantine stations in Somalia (3 in Berbera, Somaliland; 2 in Bossaso, Puntland; 1 in Mogadishu and 1 in Kismayo, Jubaland) and each of them has a Veterinary Quarantine Inspection Laboratory for testing samples collected from animals for export certification. There are also laboratories in 8 Veterinary Education Establishments with 3 in Mogadishu, 3 in Somaliland and 2 in Puntland. However, these are generally of low capacity and are not involved in routine diagnostic testing to confirm disease events.

Collaboration between the CVL and the Public Health laboratory services in the Ministry of Health in Mogadishu enhances the national diagnostic capability for zoonoses.

There are currently no linkages between the laboratories in Somalia with WOA reference laboratories or collaborating Centres and no samples are submitted to external laboratories for referral diagnostic testing.

All the laboratories (except the quarantine station laboratories) face the challenge of insufficient staff and the supply of test kits and reagents to undertake routine diagnostic tests. In addition, the available laboratory staff in all the laboratories except those in Puntland and Somaliland, work as volunteers.

There are no laboratory facilities to undertake food safety, feed safety testing or AMR surveillance.

#### **II-1.A.b. Strengths:**

- There is an established Central Veterinary Laboratory and three Regional laboratories in operation and plans to establish additional regional laboratories in three Federal States with support from a World Bank funded project.
- Staff at the Central and field levels have been trained in sample collection, processing, packaging and transportation.
- The widespread existence of cold-chain facilities and an extensive air transport network facilitates the preservation and rapid transportation of samples from field locations to the CVL.

**II-1.A.c. Weaknesses:**

- Insufficient laboratory staff to effectively undertake routine laboratory testing and the few available staff work mainly on a voluntary basis.
- Lack of molecular diagnostic capability and feed safety testing.
- The absence of linkages with WOAHA Reference laboratories and collaborating Centres or other external laboratories for referral diagnostic testing.

**II-1.A.d. Recommendations:**

- MoLFR in collaboration with the Ministries responsible for Livestock in the Federal State Government, to develop a harmonised veterinary laboratory strategy to guide the establishment and operation of Veterinary diagnostic laboratories including the staffing and equipment needs at the different levels.
- Undertake training of staff in molecular diagnostic testing and ensure the commissioning and utilisation of molecular testing equipment available at the CVL before it becomes obsolete.
- MoLFR to pro-actively engage the relevant WOAHA reference laboratories and/or Collaborating Centres and other external laboratories to improve the veterinary laboratory diagnostic capacities and capabilities through training of staff and referral diagnostic testing services.

**II-1.A.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6) – Key informant interviews; E01; E03; E12; E24; E25; E26; E27.

## II-1. VETERINARY LABORATORY DIAGNOSIS

DEFINITION
The authority and capability of the VS to effectively and efficiently use accurate <i>laboratory</i> diagnosis to support their animal health and veterinary public activities.
B. Suitability of the national laboratory system
The sustainability, effectiveness, safety and efficiency of the national (public and private) <i>laboratory</i> system (or network), including infrastructure, equipment, maintenance, consumables, personnel and sample throughput, to service the needs of the VS.
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 2
1. The national <i>laboratory</i> system does not meet the needs of the VS.
2. The national <i>laboratory</i> system partially meets the needs of the VS, but it is not sustainable, as the management and maintenance of resources and infrastructure is ineffective and/or inefficient. <i>Laboratory</i> biosafety and <i>biosecurity</i> measures do not exist or are very limited.
3. The national <i>laboratory</i> system generally meets the needs of the VS. Resources and organisation are managed effectively and efficiently, but funding is insufficient for a sustainable system, and limits throughput. Some <i>laboratory</i> biosafety and <i>biosecurity</i> measures are in place.
4. The national <i>laboratory</i> system generally meets the needs of the VS, including for <i>laboratory</i> biosafety and <i>biosecurity</i> . There is sufficient sample throughput across the range of <i>laboratory</i> testing requirements. Occasionally, it is limited by delayed investment in certain aspects (e.g. personnel, maintenance or consumables).
5. The national <i>laboratory</i> system meets all the needs of the VS, has appropriate levels of <i>laboratory</i> biosafety and <i>biosecurity</i> , and is efficient and sustainable with a good throughput of samples. The <i>laboratory</i> system is regularly reviewed, audited and updated as necessary.

*Terrestrial Code* reference(s): Appendix 1

### II-1.B.a. Findings:

Staff at the Central Veterinary laboratory in Mogadishu have undergone training in laboratory biosecurity and biosafety. Standard Operating Procedures for sample collection, processing, packaging and transportation developed by the CVL have been adopted and are applied by laboratory and field staff in the Federal State Governments and the EDMU.

The head of the CVL has also undergone training in laboratory management systems and a One Health approach. The CVL works in collaboration with the human health laboratory of the Federal Government Ministry of Health.

The CVL staff provide training for staff of the Federal State Governments and field staff on sample collection, processing, preservation and transportation.

The procurement of laboratory equipment, diagnostic test kits and laboratory consumable supplies is supported through a World Bank funded project that is scheduled to end in 2025.

A donor funded project that aims to support capacity building including laboratory staff training and equipment of veterinary laboratories in Somalia is scheduled to start in 2023.

Prior to the closure of the CVL for construction works, the annual sample throughput was 1096 samples for serology. There were no samples tested for bacteriology in 2023.

There is no laboratory capacity or capability for testing animal feeds safety in Somalia.

There is no budgetary allocation by the Federal Government of Somalia for Veterinary laboratory activities and there are no provisions for the servicing, maintenance and calibration of laboratory equipment.

There is also no established laboratory network to enable the formal collaboration, coordination and harmonisation of laboratory activities between the CVL, Federal State laboratories and other laboratories in Veterinary Education Establishments (VEEs) and the private sector.

#### **II-1.B.b. Strengths:**

- Availability of highly committed staff with some working voluntarily without guaranteed monthly remuneration.
- CVL staff have received training in laboratory biosafety and biosecurity
- Collaboration established under a One Health approach between the CVL and the public health laboratory in Mogadishu.
- On-going World Bank funded project for construction and equipment of laboratories, the training of laboratory staff and procurement of diagnostic kits and consumable supplies.

#### **II-1.B.c. Weaknesses:**

- The CVL is undergoing construction and has not conducted laboratory tests over the past 12 months while most of the Federal State laboratories are not fully operational to undertake the testing of samples.
- Lack of formally established and operational laboratory biosafety and biosecurity systems in all the laboratories.
- The heavy reliance on donor-funded projects for the establishment and operation of the Veterinary laboratory system. There is no budgetary allocation for Veterinary laboratory activities and there are no provisions for the servicing, maintenance and calibration of laboratory equipment.
- The lack of a laboratory network to formally link the CVL with Federal State Government and other veterinary laboratories in Somalia for better collaboration, coordination, harmonisation and rationalisation of activities to avoid the duplication of efforts.

#### **II-1.B.d. Recommendations:**

- MoLFR and the federal State Governments to strengthen biosafety and biosecurity measures at the Central Veterinary Laboratory and the Federal State laboratories. These should include the development, documentation and implementation of biosafety and biosecurity policies, strategies, guidelines and SOPs.
- The CVL should proactively lead the establishment of a laboratory network in Somalia comprising the CVL, Federal State laboratories, Research institutions, VEEs and private diagnostic laboratories. and the Director of Animal Health should facilitate the formal establishment of the laboratory Network.
- The construction, equipment and operationalization of the CVL and Federal State laboratories should be completed as soon as possible.

**II-1.B.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E01; E03; E24; E25; E26; E27; E31; P01; P02.

## II-1. VETERINARY LABORATORY DIAGNOSIS

DEFINITION
The authority and capability of the VS to effectively and efficiently use accurate <i>laboratory</i> diagnosis to support their animal health and veterinary public activities.
C. Laboratory quality management systems (QMS)
The authority and capability of the VS to access <i>laboratory</i> diagnosis in order to identify and report pathogenic and other hazardous agents that can adversely affect <i>animals</i> and animal products, including those relevant to public health.
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT- 1
1. No <i>laboratories</i> servicing the public sector VS are using formal QMS.
2. One or more <i>laboratories</i> servicing the public sector VS, including the major national animal health reference <i>laboratory</i> , are using formal QMS.
3. Most major <i>laboratories</i> servicing the public sector VS are using formal QMS. There is occasional use of multi-laboratory proficiency testing programmes.
4. Most of the <i>laboratories</i> servicing the public sector VS are using formal QMS, with regular use of multi-laboratory proficiency testing programmes.
5. All the <i>laboratories</i> servicing the public sector VS are using formal QMS which are regularly assessed via national, regional or international proficiency testing programmes.

*Terrestrial Code* reference(s): Appendix 1

### II-1.C.a. Findings:

There is no formal quality management system in place in any of the laboratories in Somalia. However, CVL staff have been trained in the requirements for ISO17025 accreditation. The Head of the CVL has also undergone training in laboratory management systems while the other laboratory staff at the CVL and in the Federal States have undergone training in specific areas including disease surveillance, sample collection, processing, packaging, preservation and transportation. The CVL prepared and shared Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for sample collection and provided training on their application for staff of the Federal State laboratories.

The laboratories in Somalia do not participate in any inter-laboratory proficiency testing exercises. In addition, there is a lack of expertise in Somalia for the servicing, maintenance and calibration of laboratory equipment. Consequently, the laboratory equipment are operated without routine servicing, maintenance and periodic calibration. These factors could negatively affect the consistency and reliability of laboratory tests and the accuracy of the results.

The recently established Somalia Bureau of Standards (SOBS) has been mandated to provide calibration services.

### II-1.C.b. Strengths:

- Laboratory staff are aware of the need for implementation of laboratory QMS.
- Training provided on requirements for ISO 17025 accreditation.
- Establishment of the Somalia Bureau of Standards with a mandate to provide calibration services.

**II-1.C.c. Weaknesses:**

- Lack of laboratory quality management systems at the CVL and the Federal State laboratories.
- The CVL and Federal State laboratories do not participate in inter-laboratory proficiency testing.
- Absence of service providers for the maintenance, servicing and calibration of laboratory equipment.

**II-1.C.d. Recommendations:**

- Establish and implement laboratory quality management systems for the CVL and Federal State Laboratories.
- The CVL to proactively engage relevant WOAHA Reference laboratories and Collaborating Centres to facilitate participation in interlaboratory proficiency testing.
- MoLFR to liaise with SOBS to consolidate arrangements for the maintenance, servicing and calibration of laboratory equipment.

**II-1.C.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E03; E24; E27; E31.

## II-2. RISK ANALYSIS AND EPIDEMIOLOGY

DEFINITION
The authority and capability of the VS to base its <i>risk management</i> and <i>risk communication</i> measures on <i>risk assessment</i> , incorporating sound epidemiological principles.
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 1
1. <i>Risk management</i> and <i>risk communication</i> measures are not usually supported by risk assessment.
2. The VS compile and maintain data but do not have the capability to carry out <i>risk analysis</i> . Some <i>risk management</i> and <i>risk communication</i> measures are based on <i>risk assessment</i> and some epidemiological principles.
3. The VS compile and maintain data and have the policy and capability to carry out <i>risk analysis</i> , incorporating epidemiological principles. The majority of <i>risk management</i> and <i>risk communication</i> measures are based on <i>risk assessment</i> .
4. The VS conduct <i>risk analysis</i> in compliance with relevant WOA standards and sound epidemiological principles, and base their <i>risk management</i> and <i>risk communication</i> measures on the outcomes of <i>risk assessment</i> . There is a legislative basis that supports the use of <i>risk analysis</i> .
5. The VS are consistent and transparent in basing animal health and <i>sanitary measures</i> on <i>risk assessment</i> and best practice epidemiology, and in communicating and/or publishing their scientific procedures and outcomes internationally.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

### **II-2.a. Findings:**

There are disease reporting focal points comprising mainly of Community Animal Health workers (CAHWs) for passive disease reporting at local levels in the different regions of Somalia. They work under the supervision of the respective Livestock Professional Associations. Epidemiology and Data Management Units (EDMUs) established at the Central and Federal State Government levels receive, collate, analyse and report on the data on animal diseases collected from field locations. The EDMU's also participate in and collect data from active disease surveillance activities on a need basis. They are headed by staff trained in epidemiology.

The Departments of Animal Health at the Central and Federal Government levels lack capacity for risk analysis. Personnel from Somalia who were previously trained in risk analysis are no longer deployed in the Departments of Animal Health. There is no risk communication strategy in place and risk management and risk communication measures are not based on risk assessment guided by sound epidemiological principles.

### **II-2.b. Strengths:**

- There are on-going passive and active disease surveillance activities providing data and information on livestock disease events to EDMUs for analysis, collation and reporting.
- Staff with training in epidemiology are available at the Central and Federal State Government levels.

**II-2.c. Weaknesses:**

- Staff previously trained on risk analysis were not deployed in the Departments of Animal Health.
- There is lack of capacity to undertake risk analysis.

**II-2.d. Recommendations:**

- MoLFR to organise for training on risk analysis for selected EDMU and border inspection staff and ensure deployment of the trained staff to undertake risk analyses within the Departments of Animal Health at the Central and Federal State Government levels.

**II-2.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E03.



## II-3. QUARANTINE AND BORDER SECURITY

DEFINITION
The authority and capability of the VS to operate to prevent the entry of <i>diseases</i> and other <i>hazards</i> of <i>animals</i> and <i>animal</i> and veterinary products into their country.
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 1
1. The VS cannot apply any type of quarantine or border security procedures for the entry of <i>animals</i> , animal products and veterinary products with their neighbouring countries or trading partners.
2. The VS can establish and apply minimal quarantine and border security procedures, or the VS only apply quarantine and border security procedures effectively at some official entry points via <i>border posts</i> .
3. The VS can establish and apply quarantine and border security procedures based on import protocols and international standards at all official entry points via <i>border posts</i> , but the procedures do not systematically address illegal activities relating to the import of <i>animals</i> , animal products and veterinary products.
4. The VS can establish and apply effective quarantine and border security procedures which systematically address legal pathways and illegal activities (e.g. through effective partnerships with national customs and border police).
5. The VS can establish, apply and audit quarantine and border security procedures which systematically address all risks identified, including through collaboration with their neighbouring countries and trading partners.

*Terrestrial Code* reference(s): Appendix 1

### **II-3.a. Findings:**

There are a total of 16 designated land border entry posts in Somalia. However, only two of these (Tog Wajaale and Goldogob) are operational for the importation of live animals from neighbouring countries at the Somaliland-Ethiopia and the Galmudug-Ethiopia borders respectively. In addition, the border entry posts lack personnel and are not equipped with quarantine facilities to facilitate the restriction of entry of any imported animals suspected of harbouring disease.

Somalia has only one air inspection post at the Aden Adde International Airport in Mogadishu. However, no animal imports are handled at this post that is mainly used for the export of chilled meat. Similarly, four seaport inspection posts located in Berbera, Bossaso, Mogadishu and Kismayo are mainly used for the export of live animals. Frozen meat and hides and skins are exported only through the seaport in Mogadishu.

The Veterinary Services in Somalia require imported animals to be accompanied by certification from the exporting country confirming compliance with stipulated SPS measures. In recent years, the live animal imports have comprised mainly of dairy cattle sourced from Kenya. The animal consignments are checked by border security personnel upon arrival at the border entry points, and the nearest Veterinary professional is informed and requested to examine the import documentation. Once the documentation is confirmed to be in order, the animals are allowed entry and are subsequently transported to the importing premises.

These procedures are not applied for cross-border trade of livestock involving local communities and traders at the borders with neighbouring countries. There is therefore no system to effectively control/restrict the entry of live animal imports.

The imports of poultry meat and eggs is controlled by the Somalia Bureau of Standards.

**II-3.b. Strengths:**

- There are designated border entry posts providing the opportunity for improved control of importation of live animals from the neighbouring countries.

**II-3.c. Weaknesses:**

- Only two out of 16 border entry points are operational and but they are not equipped with quarantine facilities to hold suspect cases of imported animals.
- The importation of poultry meat and eggs is not under the control of the Veterinary Services.

**II-3.d. Recommendations:**

- The VS to develop a strategy for the management of livestock imports at the border entry posts including the training and deployment of staff, construction of quarantine facilities and the development and application of SOPs for live animal imports.
- The VS to liaise with the Somalia Bureau of Standards to streamline and harmonise systems for the control of imports of poultry products including agreements on responsibilities for the control of imports of food of animal origin.

**II-3.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E03; E20; E31; and map of border posts, airports and sea ports in appendix.

## II-4. SURVEILLANCE AND EARLY DETECTION

DEFINITION
The authority and capability of the VS to determine, verify and report on the sanitary status of their animal populations, including <i>wildlife</i> , in a timely manner.
A. Passive surveillance, early detection and epidemiological outbreak investigation
A <i>surveillance</i> system based on a field animal health network capable of reliably detecting (by clinical or post mortem signs), diagnosing, reporting and investigating legally <i>notifiable diseases</i> (and relevant <i>emerging diseases</i> ) in a timely manner.
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT- 2
1. The VS have very limited passive <i>surveillance</i> capacity, with no formal disease list, little training/awareness and/or inadequate national coverage. Disease <i>outbreaks</i> are not reported or reporting is delayed.
2. The VS have basic passive <i>surveillance</i> authority and capacity. There is a formal disease list with some training/awareness and some national coverage. The speed of detection and level of investigation is variable. Disease <i>outbreak</i> reports are available for some species and diseases.
3. The VS have some passive <i>surveillance</i> capacity with some sample collection and <i>laboratory</i> testing. There is a list of <i>notifiable diseases</i> with trained field staff covering most areas. The speed of reporting and investigation is timely in most production systems. Disease <i>outbreak</i> investigation reports are available for most species and <i>diseases</i> .
4. The VS have effective passive <i>surveillance</i> with routine <i>laboratory</i> confirmation and epidemiological disease investigation (including tracing and pathogen characterisation) in most animal sectors, and covering producers, markets and slaughterhouses. There are high levels of awareness and compliance with the need for prompt reporting from all animal owners/handlers and the field VS.
5. The VS have comprehensive passive <i>surveillance</i> nationwide providing high confidence in the <i>notifiable disease</i> status in real time. The VS routinely report <i>surveillance</i> information to producers, industry and other stakeholders. Full epidemiological disease investigations are undertaken in all relevant cases with tracing and active follow up of at-risk establishments.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

### **II-4.A.a. Findings:**

There is a passive surveillance system operated as a partnership between the public VS and the Livestock Professional Associations. This consists of an informal network for information sharing between disease reporting focal points (CAHWs) in the different communities, private veterinary pharmacies and veterinary professionals in field locations and the EDMUs at Federal State and Central Government levels. The sharing of disease information is undertaken through mobile phones, email communications and the completion and submission of disease reporting forms. The detection and reporting of diseases by CAHWs is based on clinical signs and other epidemiological information that facilitates decisions on the need for follow up investigations by veterinary professionals. This allows for the timely investigation of significant disease events including further clinical and post-mortem examinations and the collection of appropriate samples for laboratory testing. The EDMU and laboratory staff are often called upon to assist in field investigations of disease outbreaks.

There are currently three EDMUs in Mogadishu, Somaliland and Puntland. The construction and equipment of four additional EDMUs in the Hirshabelle, Galmudug, Southwest and Jubbaland Federal States is planned under the Somali Crisis Recovery Project (SCRPP) funded

by the World Bank. This project is also funding the construction and rehabilitation of veterinary laboratories in Somalia.

The VS has a list of notifiable diseases and zoonoses. The priority diseases are PPR, Contagious caprine pleuropneumonia (CCPP), Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP), Foot and mouth disease, Rift Valley fever (RVF), Sheep and goat pox, Brucellosis and Rabies.

The operations of the passive surveillance system are largely supported through donor funded projects and gaps in project funding often result in gaps in the sharing of disease information and data with the EDMUs.

**II-4.A.b. Strengths:**

- Existing EDMUs for collation, analysis and reporting of disease information at Central and Federal State Government levels
- Partnership between the Community based CAHWs, veterinary pharmacies, private Veterinary professionals, the LPAs and the public VS (EDMUs) in implementing the passive surveillance system.
- A list of the priority diseases and zoonoses is available.

**II-4.A.c. Weaknesses:**

- Lack of formal arrangements between the Public VS and the LPAs for the passive surveillance network.
- EDMUs currently located in only three locations (Mogadishu, Somaliland and Puntland).
- Dependence on donor funded projects for operations of the passive reporting network.

**II-4.A.d. Recommendations:**

- MoLFR in partnership with LPAs, private veterinary professionals, veterinary pharmacies and the relevant projects in the livestock sector to develop a framework for formal partnerships for passive animal disease surveillance.
- MoLFR to make efforts to accelerate the construction, equipment and operationalisation of the four EDMUs in the Galmudug, Hirshabelle, Jubbaland and Southwest Federal States.
- MoLFR and the Federal State Ministries responsible for livestock to explore modalities for enhancing the sustainability of the passive surveillance system and the functions of the EDMUs.

**II-4.A.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E01; E03; E09; E17; E21; E31; and photos of existing/rehabilitated EDMUs.

## II-4. SURVEILLANCE AND EARLY DETECTION

DEFINITION
The authority and capability of the VS to determine, verify and report on the sanitary status of their animal populations, including <i>wildlife</i> , in a timely manner.
B. Active surveillance and monitoring
<i>Surveillance</i> targeting a specific <i>disease, infection</i> or <i>hazard</i> to determine its prevalence, measure progress in disease control or support the demonstration of disease freedom (with <i>passive surveillance</i> ), most often in the form of pre-planned surveys with structured sampling and <i>laboratory</i> testing.
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 2
1. The VS have no active <i>surveillance</i> programme.
2. The VS conduct active <i>surveillance</i> for one or a few <i>diseases, infections</i> or <i>hazards</i> (of economic or zoonotic importance), but the <i>surveillance</i> is not representative of the population and the <i>surveillance</i> methodology is not revised regularly. The results are reported with limited analysis.
3. The VS conduct active <i>surveillance</i> using scientific principles and WOA standards for some <i>diseases, infections</i> or <i>hazards</i> , but it is not representative of the susceptible populations and/or is not updated regularly. The results are analysed and reported to stakeholders.
4. The VS conduct active <i>surveillance</i> in compliance with scientific principles and WOA standards for some <i>diseases, infections</i> or <i>hazards</i> which is representative of all susceptible populations and is updated regularly. Results are routinely analysed, reported and used to guide further <i>surveillance</i> activities, disease control priorities, etc.
5. The VS conduct ongoing active <i>surveillance</i> for most significant <i>diseases, infections and hazards</i> and apply it to all susceptible populations. The results are routinely analysed and used to guide disease control and other activities. The active <i>surveillance</i> programmes are regularly reviewed and updated to ensure they meet country needs and WOA reporting obligations.

*Terrestrial Code* reference(s): Appendix 1

### **II-4.B.a. Findings:**

The VS is able to conduct active surveillance to determine disease prevalence and monitor the performance of vaccination programmes for selected diseases. The key diseases of concern are Peste des petits ruminants (PPR), Foot and Mouth disease (FMD), Rift Valley Fever (RVF), Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP), Contagious caprine pleuropneumonia (CCPP) and brucellosis. Samples collected during structured surveys are tested in the laboratory with the reporting of the results.

The disease early warning systems are weak but animal health emergencies are immediately reported and support for outbreak investigations and control interventions is often provided through donor funded projects.

There are no budgetary allocations by the Central and Federal State Governments for animal disease surveillance activities. The implementation of surveys depends on the availability of donor funded projects and the surveys are not carried out regularly.

### **II-4.B.b. Strengths:**

- The VS has the capacity to conduct active surveillance for selected priority diseases.
- Samples collected during surveys are tested in the laboratory and the results analysed and reported to stakeholders.

**II-4.B.c. Weaknesses:**

- Reliance on donor funded projects for active surveillance and lack of sustainability of activities in the absence of project funding.
- Active surveillance is not carried out regularly to update the disease status.

**II-4.B.d. Recommendations:**

- The VS to develop and implement an animal health surveillance plan that integrates mechanisms for the sustainability of disease surveillance activities.

**II-4.B.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E01; E03; E09; E17; E21; E30.

## II-5. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

DEFINITION
The authority and capability of the VS to be prepared and respond rapidly to a sanitary emergency threat (such as a significant disease <i>outbreak</i> or food safety emergency).
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 2
1. The VS have no field network or established procedure to determine whether a sanitary emergency threat 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 a sanitary emergency threat exists, but lack the legal and financial support to respond effectively. The VS may have basic emergency management planning, but this usually targets one or a few diseases and may not reflect national capacity to respond.
3. The VS have the legal framework and financial support to respond rapidly to sanitary emergency threats, but the response is not well coordinated through an effective chain of command. They have national emergency management plans for some exotic <i>diseases</i> , but they are not updated/tested.
4. The VS have the legal framework and financial support to respond rapidly to sanitary emergencies through an effective chain of command (e.g. establishment of a <i>containment zone</i> ). The VS have national emergency management plans for major exotic <i>diseases</i> , linked to broader national disaster management arrangements, and these are regularly updated/tested such as through simulation exercises.
5. The VS have national emergency management plans for all diseases of concern (and possible emerging infectious diseases), incorporating coordination with national disaster agencies, relevant <i>Competent Authorities</i> , producers and other non-government stakeholders. Emergency management planning and response capacity is regularly tested, audited and updated, such as through simulation exercises that test response at all levels. Following emergency events, the VS have a formal 'After Action Review' process as part of continuous improvement.

*Terrestrial Code* reference(s): Appendix 1

### **II-5.a. Findings:**

The VS have established a comprehensive network that involves CAHWs supervised by LPAs, private veterinary pharmacies, and veterinary professionals, and the EDMUs. CAHWs play a crucial role in disease detection and reporting, relying on clinical signs and other epidemiological information. This information helps veterinary professionals make informed decisions regarding the need for further investigations.

Thanks to this coordinated approach, significant disease events can be promptly investigated. This includes conducting thorough clinical and post-mortem examinations and collecting appropriate samples for laboratory testing. In such cases, the EDMU and laboratory staff are often called upon to provide assistance in field investigations of disease outbreaks.

By implementing this network and utilizing various communication channels, the VS are able to ensure a timely response to disease outbreaks. However, the effective implementation of control measures is hindered by the limited availability of funds and a lack of a comprehensive legal framework.

### **II-5.b. Strengths:**

- Presence of a well-established field network for the detection and reporting of animal diseases.

### **II-5.c. Weaknesses:**

- Limited availability of funds and a lack of a comprehensive legal framework.

- There is a lack of case definitions for the priority diseases.

**II-5.d. Recommendations:**

- MoLFR, in close collaboration with relevant partners, to establish an Animal Health Emergency Operations Centre to comprehensively address all aspects pertaining to emergency issues in the field of animal health, including updated emergency management plans and SOP for priority diseases.
- Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department to develop case definitions for the priority diseases for which field personnel are being trained to detect and investigate.

**II-5.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E03; E23; E30; E32.



## II-6. DISEASE PREVENTION, CONTROL AND ERADICATION

DEFINITION
The authority and capability of the VS to control or eradicate nationally important diseases present in the country, such as through a combination of vaccination, domestic movement control, establishing <i>containment zones</i> , <i>biosecurity</i> measures (including farm <i>biosecurity</i> ), isolation and/or culling/stamping out.
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 2
1. The VS have no capability to implement animal disease prevention, control or eradication programmes.
2. The VS implement prevention, control or eradication programmes for some diseases and/or in some areas or populations, but with little or no epidemiological, risk-based planning or evaluation of their efficacy and efficiency.
3. The VS implement prevention, control or eradication programmes for some priority <i>diseases</i> in some areas or populations. There is variable epidemiological, risk-based planning and evaluation of efficacy and efficiency, with limited progress towards programme goals.
4. The VS implement national prevention, control or eradication programmes for priority <i>diseases</i> with a high level of epidemiological, risk-based planning, and continual evaluation of efficacy and efficiency. They have or are progressing towards WOAHA official recognition of disease control programmes for relevant diseases. They can demonstrate some progress towards programme goals in reducing or eradicating disease.
5. The VS implement national prevention, control or eradication programmes for all priority <i>diseases</i> with scientific evaluation of their efficacy and efficiency consistent with relevant WOAHA international standards. They can demonstrate clear progress towards programme goals in reducing or eradicating disease, including achieving or progressing towards official recognition of freedom from relevant diseases.

*Terrestrial Code* reference(s): Appendix 1

### **II-6.a. Findings:**

The Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department has established contingency plans to address various diseases, such as Peste des petits ruminants (PPR), Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI), and Contagious caprine pleuropneumonia (CCPP). However, the Veterinary Law Code lacks comprehensive guidelines for all the stakeholders involved in detecting, investigating, and responding to disease emergencies. To address this, case definitions have been developed for priority diseases, which field personnel are being trained to detect and investigate.

In order to determine the presence of a health emergency, a network of veterinary professionals and CAHWs in field locations, along with EDMUs at federal and state levels, play a crucial role. Unfortunately, the VS lacks sufficient financial support to respond effectively to these emergencies.

The Strategy for the Progressive Control and Eradication of Peste des petits ruminants (PPR) and other priority diseases of small ruminants (SRDs) in the Federal Republic of Somalia was developed in 2017. However, it has not yet been endorsed by the relevant national authorities. Additionally, there is currently no National PPR committee in place, nor is there a defined modus operandi or tasks for such a committee. Furthermore, a PPR coordinator has not yet been appointed.

From 2012 to 2019, FAO-supported PPR vaccinations were conducted. In the most recent vaccination campaign, a staggering 14,500,000 small ruminants were vaccinated against PPR and Sheep and Goat Pox (SGP). In 2017, the prevalence of PPR in goats was 13.02%, while

in sheep it was 13.44%. However, by 2019, the prevalence of PPR had decreased to 6.22% in goats and 7.93% in sheep. There have been no PPR vaccinations since the 2019 campaign.

Table 4: PPR and SGP vaccinations carried out between 2017 and 2019

Year	Diseases	Number of animals vaccinated
2017	PPR & SGP	14 362 091
2018	PPR & SGP	14 300 485
2019	PPR & SGP	14 500 000

The Contingency plans developed for HPAI, CBPP, RVF and CCPP are outdated.

There are no strategic plans for several priority diseases such as Rift Valley fever, Brucellosis, anthrax, and trypanosomiasis which pose significant threats to public health and require immediate attention.

**II-6.b. Strengths:**

- No strength observed.

**II-6.c. Weaknesses:**

- The strategic plans to combat PPR, HPAI, and CCPP have become outdated and require immediate revision to ensure their relevance and effectiveness in addressing these concerns.
- Lack of strategic plans for several priority diseases such as Rift Valley fever, Brucellosis, anthrax, and trypanosomiasis.

**II-6.d. Recommendations:**

- Update the PPR national strategic plan and submit the document for official endorsement by relevant authorities. Once endorsed, share the document with partners.
- Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department to develop, in collaboration with One Health National Level Technical Working Group, strategies and projects to support priority zoonoses.

**II-6.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E01; E03; E09; E21; E23; E32.

## II-7. ANIMAL PRODUCTION FOOD SAFETY

DEFINITION
The authority and capability of the VS to assure the safety of food of animal origin for domestic and export markets.
A . Regulation, inspection (including audits), authorisation and supervision of establishments for production and processing of food of animal origin .
<p>The authority and capability of the VS to establish and enforce sanitary and food hygiene standards for establishments that produce and process food of animal origin, including slaughter, rendering, dairy, egg, honey and other animal product processing establishments.</p> <p>Includes the regulation, initial authorisation of establishments, and the ongoing inspection of establishments and processes, including the identification of and response to non-compliance, based on HACCP principles. It includes external coordination between <i>Competent Authorities</i> as may be required.</p>
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 2
1. Regulation, authorisation, and inspection of relevant establishments and processes are generally not undertaken in conformity with international standards.
2. Regulation, authorisation and inspection of relevant establishments and processes are undertaken in conformity with international standards in some selected premises (e.g. export premises).
3. Regulation, authorisation and inspection of relevant establishments and processes are undertaken in conformity with international standards in large premises supplying major cities and/or the national market.
4. Regulation, authorisation and inspection of relevant establishments and processes are undertaken in conformity with international standards for premises supplying the national and local markets. There are some reports of dealing with non-compliance.
5. Regulation, authorisation, inspection and audit of relevant establishments and processes are undertaken in conformity with international standards at all premises. There are documented cases of the identification and effective response to non-compliance.

*Terrestrial Code* reference(s): Appendix 1

### **II-7.A.a. Findings:**

The Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department is responsible for ensuring the safety of food. This crucial task is carried out by a team of 48 veterinary inspectors (3 at federal level and 45 at state level and most of them are volunteers). However, due to a lack of transportation, these inspections are not conducted at most slaughter slabs, which is a significant concern.

To address this issue, the Veterinary Law Code has provisions in place to regulate food safety. However, the specific details required to effectively enforce these regulations are yet to be established in secondary legislation. The Meat and Dairy Act, which has been drafted, aims to address this gap, but it still awaits endorsement by the Federal Parliament.

In terms of authorized establishments for exporting chilled and frozen meats, the Somali Meat Company (SOMEAT Co.) holds the exclusive authorization from the Veterinary Authority. On the other hand, three abattoirs, namely Nasib Slab, Karaan Abattoir, and Mogadishu Abattoir, are registered as non-exporting establishments. Additionally, there are a few open slabs, which are essentially cemented grounds without roof covers or hanging rails. These open slabs are primarily located in the Daynile, Dharkenley, and Wadajir districts.

Furthermore, there are numerous other in-house backyard slabs that are utilized by women for slaughtering small ruminants. These slabs serve as an important resource for the local communities.

The transportation of meat to outlets poses a significant challenge due to the absence of refrigerated vans specifically designed for this purpose. Additionally, it is worth noting that none of the abattoirs have implemented HACCP (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points) principles.

Enhancing the transportation process for meat products is crucial, as it directly impacts the quality and safety of the meat reaching consumers. Currently, the lack of refrigerated vans hinders the ability to maintain proper temperature control during transit, potentially compromising the freshness and integrity of the meat.

It is essential for abattoirs to prioritize the implementation of HACCP principles to mitigate potential risks associated with meat processing. This includes conducting thorough hazard analysis, establishing critical control points, and implementing effective monitoring and corrective measures. By doing so, abattoirs can ensure that their meat products meet the highest standards of safety and quality, instilling confidence in both consumers and regulatory authorities.

**II-7.A.b. Strengths:**

- Efforts are being made to establish comprehensive regulations through the Meat and Dairy Act, which is currently awaiting endorsement.

**II-7.A.c. Weaknesses:**

- Meat inspections are not conducted at most slaughter slabs.
- Mode of transportation and storage of meat not regulated.
- HACCP principles yet to be put in place at the abattoirs.

**II-7.A.d. Recommendations:**

- MoLFR to ensure that the Meat and Dairy Act is approved by Parliament.
- MoLFR to address challenges such as the lack of transportation for inspections.
- MoLFR, through PPP, to invest in refrigerated vans that adhere to industry standards to ensure that the meat remains at the optimal temperature throughout the transportation process, minimizing the risk of spoilage and bacterial growth.
- Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department to provide support to the main abattoirs in adopting HACCP principles.

**II-7.A.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E01; E03; E10; E14; E15; E22.

## II-7. ANIMAL PRODUCTION FOOD SAFETY

DEFINITION
The authority and capability of the VS to assure the safety of food of animal origin for domestic and export markets.
B. Ante- and post-mortem inspection at slaughter facilities and associated premises .
<p>The authority and capability of the VS to implement and manage the <i>ante-mortem</i> inspection of <i>animals</i> destined for slaughter and the post-mortem inspection of carcasses and <i>meat</i> products at slaughter facilities and associated premises, including to ensure meat hygiene and safety, and for the collection of information relevant to livestock diseases and zoonoses.</p> <p>This includes standards relating to <i>veterinary</i> and <i>veterinary para-professional</i> supervision and inspection, and protocols applied for ante- and post-mortem inspection findings, based on HACCP principles. It includes external coordination between <i>Competent Authorities</i> as may be required.</p>
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 2
1. Ante- and post-mortem inspection is generally not undertaken in conformity with international standards.
2. Ante- and post-mortem inspection with collection of disease information is undertaken in conformity with international standards only in selected premises (e.g. export premises).
3. Ante- and post-mortem inspection with collection of disease information is undertaken in conformity with international standards for export premises and the major abattoirs in the larger cities and/or producing <i>meat</i> for distribution throughout the national market.
4. Ante- and post-mortem inspection with collection of disease information is undertaken in conformity with international standards for all slaughter facilities producing <i>meat</i> for export, national and local markets.
5. Ante- and post-mortem inspection with collection of disease information is undertaken in conformity with international standards at all premises (including municipal, community, and on-farm slaughtering and distribution) and are subject to periodic audits.

*Terrestrial Code* reference(s): Appendix 1

### **II-7.B.a. Findings:**

Ante- and post-mortem inspections are conducted at selected registered premises for export, such as the SOMEAT Company, as well as large abattoirs for domestic consumption, including Nasib Slab, Karaan abattoir, and Mogadishu abattoir. Additionally, a few non-registered establishments also undergo these inspections.

In the process of slaughtering animals, they are brought to the facility a day prior to the actual slaughter. Upon arrival, an ante-mortem inspection is carried out by a veterinarian inspector from the VS Department. This inspection is repeated just before the animals are slaughtered.

Following the slaughter, post-mortem examinations are performed on the carcasses by the same veterinarian inspector. This ensures that any potential issues or diseases are identified and addressed.

It is worth noting that the SOMEAT Company maintains a high standard of cleanliness and effectively separates clean and dirty areas. However, it is important to mention that none of the abattoirs have implemented HACCP principles, which are crucial for ensuring food safety and preventing contamination.

On the premises inspected, the veterinarians gather disease-related information that is subsequently transmitted to the EDMU.

**II-7.B.b. Strengths:**

- Ante-and post-mortem inspections are conducted at selected premises according to international standards.

**II-7.B.c. Weaknesses:**

- Meat and Dairy Act not yet approved by Parliament.
- Presence of many small slaughter slabs where ante-and post-mortem inspections are not performed.
- HACCP principles yet to be put in place at the abattoirs.

**II-7.B.d. Recommendations:**

- MoLFR to ensure that the Meat and Dairy Act is approved by Parliament.
- MoLFR to address challenges such as the lack of transportation for inspections.
- Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department to provide support to the main abattoirs in adopting HACCP principles.

**II-7.B.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E01; E03; E10; E14; E15; E22.

## II-8. VETERINARY MEDICINES AND BIOLOGICALS

DEFINITION
<p>The authority and capability of the VS to regulate veterinary medicines, and biologicals, in order to ensure their quality and safety, as well as their responsible and prudent use, including as medicated feed.</p> <p>This includes the marketing authorisation/registration, import, manufacture, quality control, export, labelling, advertising, distribution, sale (includes dispensing) and use (includes prescribing) of these products.</p>
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT- 1
1. The VS cannot regulate veterinary medicines and biologicals.
2. The VS have some capability to exercise regulatory and administrative control over the import, manufacture and market authorisation (registration) of veterinary medicines and biologicals to ensure their safety and quality, but cannot ensure their responsible and prudent use in the field.
3. The VS exercise effective regulatory and administrative control for the market authorisation of veterinary medicines and biologicals and have some capacity to regulate to ensure their responsible and prudent use in the field, including reducing the risk from illegal imports.
4. The VS exercise comprehensive and effective regulatory and administrative control of all aspects of veterinary medicines and biologicals, including market authorisation, responsible and prudent use in the field, and reducing the risks of illegal distribution and use.
5. The control systems for veterinary medicines and biologicals are regularly audited, tested and updated when necessary, including via an effective pharmacovigilance programme.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

### **II-8.a. Findings:**

Chapter 10 of the Veterinary Law Code deals with the regulation of Veterinary drugs and related substances. However, the VS has not developed appropriate regulations to operationalise the provisions of the Veterinary Law Code for the control of veterinary medicines and biologicals.

The Somalia Bureau of Standards is mandated to undertake the quality control of food and medicines and the VS has entered into negotiations with SOBS with regard to reaching agreement on their respective roles and responsibilities in the control of veterinary medicines and biologicals.

There are no pharmaceutical production or packaging establishments in Somalia and all the requirements for Veterinary medicines and biologicals are met through imports. Currently, the VS has no control over the importation, quality, distribution, retailing and use of veterinary medicines and biologicals. Although the Veterinary Law Code stipulates that Veterinary drugs importers should obtain authorisation from the Director of Animal Health prior to importation, most importations are undertaken using permits from the Ministry of Commerce and Trade without registration of the products by the VS. The VS is neither consulted nor involved in the issuance of the import permits. Most large traders in veterinary drugs are not registered by the VS and currently only two large traders are registered by the VS. Consequently, veterinary medicines from different origins and of different qualities are widely available from veterinary pharmacies and other commodity traders in different outlets and common commodity markets in Somalia.



The LPAs have established veterinary pharmacies that stock good quality veterinary medicines as the only sources for replenishing veterinary medicines for the CAHWs supervised by the LPAs.

A human medicines Control Act developed by the Ministry of Health was enacted by the Federal Parliament in September 2023. The MoLFR is planning to draft a Bill for the control of Veterinary Medicines and Biologicals for submission to Parliament.

**II-8.b. Strengths:**

- Existing legislation includes provisions for the control of veterinary medicines and biologicals and additional legislation is planned.
- LPAs establishment and endorsement of veterinary pharmacies stocking quality veterinary medicines for supply to CAHWs undertaking animal treatments.
- Official recognition by Government of the need to control Veterinary Medicines through the establishment and mandating of SOBS to undertake the quality control of food and medicines and enactment of a law for the control of human medicines.

**II-8.c. Weaknesses:**

- Lack of regulations and guidelines for different aspects of the control of veterinary medicines and biologicals.
- Lack of enforcement of existing legal provisions to control the importation, distribution, retailing, marketing and use of veterinary medicines.
- Multiple government agencies with legal and de-facto mandates for the control of veterinary medicines and biologicals creates potential for conflict and an environment for ineffective control.

**II-8.d. Recommendations:**

- The VS to develop regulations to enhance control of the importation, distribution, retailing, storage, use and monitoring of Veterinary medicines and biologicals
- Undertake training of staff on regulation of the different aspects of veterinary medicines and biologicals.
- Undertake consultations among the different Government Departments and Agencies to delineate mandates/roles, harmonise approaches and enhance coordination in the control of veterinary medicines and biologicals.
- Conduct public awareness campaigns on the requirements for registration, importation. Distribution, marketing and retailing of veterinary medicines and biologicals.

**II-8.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6) : Key informant interviews; E01; E03; E23; and CERELPA presentation.



## II-9. ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE (AMR) AND ANTIMICROBIAL USE (AMU)

DEFINITION
The authority and capability of the VS to manage AMR and AMU, and to undertake surveillance and control of the development and spread of AMR pathogens in animal production and animal origin food products, via a One Health approach.
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 1
1. The VS cannot regulate or control AMR and AMU, and have not developed or contributed to an AMR action plan covering the veterinary domain.
2. The VS are contributing or have contributed to a national AMR action plan. The action plan has initiated some activities to collect AMU/AMR data or control AMR e.g. awareness campaigns targeting <i>veterinarians</i> or farmers on the prudent use of <i>antimicrobial agents</i> (antimicrobials). The use of antimicrobials for growth promotion is discouraged.
3. The VS have defined a national AMR action plan in coordination with the Public Health authorities and other stakeholders, and are implementing some AMU/AMR surveillance and regulations. The use of antimicrobials for growth promotion is prohibited.
4. The VS are implementing a comprehensive AMR action plan based on risk, including AMR surveillance of the most important pathogens for animal health or food-borne diseases, the <i>monitoring</i> of AMU, and the prudent use of antimicrobials in <i>animals</i> (especially the use of critically important antimicrobials). The use of antimicrobials for growth promotion does not occur.
5. An effective national AMR action plan covering the veterinary domain is regularly audited, reviewed and updated by the VS with the Public Health authorities and other stakeholders, using the results of AMU/AMR surveillance. The scale and type of antimicrobial usage in <i>animals</i> poses minimal risk of AMR and alternative solutions for the control of diseases in <i>animals</i> are being implemented.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

### **II-9.a. Findings:**

A detailed situational analysis on antimicrobial use (AMU) and antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in Somalia was undertaken between December 2020 and March 2021.

Some public awareness materials including videos were prepared and disseminated to stakeholders. However, no additional activities have been undertaken and there has been no collaboration with the Public Health authorities on AMU and AMR. There is currently no national policy or Action Plan for AMU and AMR.

There are no appropriately trained staff or laboratory facilities to undertake the surveillance and monitoring of AMU and AMR.

### **II-9.b. Strengths:**

- The situation of AMU and AMR has been analysed and documented.
- Some public awareness on AMU and AMR has been undertaken.

### **II-9.c. Weaknesses:**

- No national policy or Action Plan for AMU and AMR.
- Lack of collaboration between the VS and Public Health sectors on AMU and AMR.
- Lack of adequately trained personnel and laboratory facilities for monitoring AMU and AMR.

**II-9.d. Recommendations:**

- VS to proactively seek collaboration with the Public Health Department to jointly develop a national Action Plan on AMU and AMR.
- Identify and train suitable staff on surveillance and monitoring of AMU and AMR
- Establish basic laboratory capacity to support surveillance and monitoring of AMR in collaboration with the Public Health authorities.

**II-9.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E02; E03.

## II-10. RESIDUE TESTING, MONITORING AND MANAGEMENT

DEFINITION
The capability of the VS to undertake residue testing and <i>monitoring</i> programmes for veterinary medicines (e.g. antimicrobials and hormones), chemicals, pesticides, radionuclides, heavy metals, etc. and respond appropriately to adverse findings.
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 1
1. No residue testing for animal products is being undertaken.
2. Some residue testing is being undertaken, such as for research or pilot purposes and/or it is conducted only on specific animal products for export.
3. A comprehensive residue <i>monitoring</i> programme is conducted for all animal products for export and some for domestic consumption based on limited <i>risk analysis</i> . Documented protocols exist for preventing residue risks (e.g. withholding periods for veterinary drugs) and for responding to breaches of Maximum Residue Limits.
4. A comprehensive residue <i>monitoring</i> programme is conducted for all animal products for export and domestic consumption based on <i>risk analysis</i> . Effective protocols both reduce residue risks and respond to breaches of Maximum Residue Limits, including traceback and follow up.
5. The residue <i>monitoring</i> and <i>risk management</i> programme is subject to routine quality assurance and regular evaluation/audit.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

### **II-10.a. Findings:**

There are no appropriately trained personnel or laboratory facilities to undertake residue testing and monitoring programmes in Somalia. In addition, there are no linkages with laboratories in neighbouring countries of other regions to facilitate testing for residues.

There is also no national policy, strategy or guidelines for the management of residues in foods of animal origin.

The Head of the CVL is scheduled to attend regional training on residues testing in Tanzania in October 2023.

### **II-10.b. Strengths:**

- Awareness of the VS on the need to develop capacity for residue monitoring and testing.

### **II-10.c. Weaknesses:**

- Lack of a national policy, strategy and guidelines for residue monitoring.
- Lack of appropriately trained human resources and laboratory facilities for residue testing.
- Lack of access to external laboratories for residue testing.

### **II-10.d. Recommendations:**

- VS to develop a national policy, strategy and guidelines on monitoring of residues.
- Identify and train suitably qualified personnel to initiate activities on residues.
- Establish linkages and collaboration with external laboratories to facilitate residue testing.

**II-10.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6) : Key informant interviews; E03.

**II-11. ANIMAL FEED SAFETY**

DEFINITION
<p>The authority and capability of the VS to regulate animal <i>feed</i> safety e.g. processing, handling, storage, distribution and use of both commercial and on-farm produced animal <i>feed</i> and <i>feed</i> ingredients.</p> <p>This includes <i>feed</i> safety risks such as swill feeding, feeding by-products, ruminant <i>feed</i> bans, the use of antimicrobials in <i>feed</i>, as well as managing risks of microbial, physical and toxin contamination of <i>feed</i>.</p>
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 1
1. The VS cannot regulate animal <i>feed</i> safety.
2. The VS have some capability to exercise regulatory and administrative control over animal <i>feed</i> safety.
3. The VS exercise regulatory and administrative control for most aspects of animal <i>feed</i> safety.
4. The VS exercise comprehensive and effective regulatory and administrative control of animal <i>feed</i> safety.
5. The control systems are regularly audited, tested and updated when necessary.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

**II-11.a. Findings:**

There are no feed manufacturing industries/establishments in Somalia. There is limited local on-farm production of feeds. The animal export quarantine stations import some feeds for the export animals. The Department of Animal Production of the Ministry of Livestock Forestry and Range is mandated to regulate the quality and safety of animal feeds in the country. The VS is not involved in the regulation or quality control of animal feeds.

**II-11.b. Strengths:**

- Recognition of the need to regulate the quality and safety of animal feeds with the mandate assigned to the Department of animal production.

**II-11.c. Weaknesses:**

- Lack of involvement of the VS in a key aspect of the veterinary domain.
- Lack of legislation on the regulation of the quality and safety of animal feeds.

**II-11.d. Recommendations:**

- VS to liaise with the Department of animal production for collaboration on the development of legal and regulatory frameworks for animal feeds.

**II-11.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E03.

**II-12. IDENTIFICATION, TRACEABILITY AND MOVEMENT CONTROL**

DEFINITION
<b>A. Premises, herd, batch and animal identification, tracing and movement control</b>
The authority and capability of the VS, in coordination with producers and other stakeholders, to regulate the identification of <i>animals</i> , to trace their history and location(s), and to control domestic movements for the purpose of animal disease control, food safety, trade or other legal requirements under the VS mandate.
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 2
1. The VS do not have the authority or the capability to regulate the identification of <i>animals</i> , either individually, by batch, or by premises, or to trace and control their movements.
2. The VS can identify some <i>animals</i> by premises or location and control some movements, using traditional methods, and can demonstrate the ability to deal with a specific problem (e.g. to trace sampled or vaccinated <i>animals</i> for follow up, or to prevent theft).
3. The VS implement a system for <i>animal identification, traceability</i> and movement control for specific animal sub-populations (e.g. for export, at borders, specified <i>zones</i> or markets) as required for traceability and/or disease control, in accordance with international standards.
4. The VS implement appropriate and effective <i>animal identification, traceability</i> and movement control procedures for some animal species at national level, in accordance with international standards.
5. The VS carry out periodic audits of the effectiveness of their identification, traceability and movement control systems. They have been demonstrated as effective in dealing with a problem (e.g. tracing a disease <i>outbreak</i> , residue or other food safety incident).

*Terrestrial Code* reference(s): Appendix 1

**II-12.A.a. Findings:**

There is no formal animal identification system in Somalia. However, pastoralists and traders have traditional systems for animal identification and use different unique identification marks (ear-notches or brands) that can be traced to different groups of pastoralists and traders for purposes of disease control and security of ownership. These identification marks are not officially registered by the VS.

Export trade animals entering the export quarantine stations are ear-tagged using numbered ear-tags that are used to identify the individual traders.

There is no control of animal movements in the largely pastoral production system. This includes the cross-border movements of animals to and from the neighbouring countries in search of pastures and water.

**II-12.A.b. Strengths:**

- Existence of traditional systems of animal identification.
- Formal identification of export animals upon entry into quarantine stations facilitates tracing of the owners and origins of the animals.

**II-12.A.c. Weaknesses:**

- No formal animal identification systems except in the export quarantine stations.

**II-12.A.d. Recommendations:**

- VS to liaise with pastoralists and traders for official registration of traditional animal identification marks towards establishment of formal animal identification and traceability systems.

**II-12.A.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E03.

**II-12. IDENTIFICATION, TRACEABILITY AND MOVEMENT CONTROL**

DEFINITION
<b>B. Identification, traceability and control of products of animal origin</b>
The capability of the <i>Veterinary Authority</i> , in coordination with <i>Competent Authorities</i> (such as food safety authorities) and other stakeholders as appropriate, to achieve whole-of-chain traceability, including the identification, tracing and control of products of animal origin for the purpose of food safety, animal health or trade.
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 1
1. The VS do not have the capability or access to information to identify or trace products of animal origin.
2. The VS can identify and trace some products of animal origin, by coordination between <i>Competent Authorities</i> , to deal with a specific problem (e.g. high risk products traced back to premises of origin).
3. The VS have implemented procedures to identify and trace some products of animal origin, in coordination with <i>Competent Authorities</i> , for food safety, animal health and trade purposes, in accordance with international standards.
4. The VS have implemented national programmes enabling them to identify and trace all products of animal origin, and respond to threats, in coordination with <i>Competent Authorities</i> , in accordance with international standards.
5. The VS periodically audit the effectiveness of their identification and traceability procedures, in coordination with <i>Competent Authorities</i> . The procedures have been demonstrated as being effective for traceback and response to a relevant food safety incident (e.g. foodborne zoonoses or residue incident).

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

**II-12.B.a. Findings:**

The VS do not undertake any activities for the identification, traceability and control of either imported or domestically processed products of animal origin.

The SOBS controls and regulates the importation of poultry products but it is unclear whether this role includes the tracing of such products for purposes of food safety.

**II-12.B.b. Strengths:**

- Basic control of the importation of poultry products by SOBS.

**II-12.B.c. Weaknesses:**

- Lack of VS capacity and capability for identification, traceability and control of products of animal origin.
- No collaboration and coordination between SOBS and VS with regards to the control of imports of poultry products.

**II-12.B.d. Recommendations:**

- VS to develop a policy and strategy for the identification, traceability and control of products of animal origin drawing guidance from the related IGAD regional strategic and legal framework frameworks for animal identification and traceability.
- VS to liaise with SOBS on modalities for collaboration for identification, traceability and control of the imports of poultry products.

**II-12.B.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E03.



## II-13. ANIMAL WELFARE

DEFINITION
<p>The authority and capability of the VS to legislate and implement the <i>animal welfare</i> standards of WOAHA as published in the <i>Terrestrial Code</i>.</p> <p>This requires consultation and coordination with <i>Competent Authorities</i>, non- governmental organisations and other stakeholders, as appropriate.</p>
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 1
1. There is no national legislation or regulations on <i>animal welfare</i> .
2. There is limited national legislation or regulations on <i>animal welfare</i> covering some of the WOAHA standards, with limited stakeholder or public awareness.
3. The national <i>veterinary legislation</i> (including laws and regulations) on <i>animal welfare</i> cover most WOAHA standards, with some awareness programmes and implementation, but are in conformity with international standards in only some sectors (e.g. for the export sector).
4. <i>Animal welfare</i> programmes, supported by suitable <i>veterinary legislation</i> , are being implemented in conformity with relevant international standards and are applied to most sectors and species with stakeholders and public awareness. Documented compliance programmes, including consequences of non-compliance are available.
5. <i>Animal welfare</i> programmes, supported by suitable <i>veterinary legislation</i> , are being implemented in conformity with relevant international standards. Comprehensive national programmes are applied to all sectors and species with the active involvement of stakeholders. The <i>animal welfare</i> programmes, including non-compliance issues, are subject to regular audit and review, with documented cases of responding effectively to non-compliance.

*Terrestrial Code* reference(s): Appendix 1

### **II-13.a. Findings:**

Chapter 5 of the Veterinary Law Code deals with animal welfare while Chapter 7 addresses some animal welfare considerations related to the transportation of animals. However, it is not comprehensive legislation on animal welfare as it addresses only limited aspects of cruelty to animals in their day-to-day handling, at slaughter and during transportation using different means of transport. It does not include provisions for working animals in line with the WOAHA standards. The Federal Government of Somalia VS have not initiated the drafting of animal welfare policy, strategy and legislative frameworks. Furthermore, the compliance and enforcement of the existing regulations poses challenges to the VS.

The state Governments of Puntland and Somaliland have comprehensive Animal Welfare Acts. During this evaluation, it was not possible to assess the capacity and capability of the VS for enforcement and ensuring compliance to animal welfare standards and laws in Somaliland and Puntland.

### **II-13.b. Strengths:**

- Some considerations of animal welfare are included in Chapters of the Veterinary Law Code.
- Two regional State Governments have enacted legislation on animal welfare, providing frameworks that can be readily adopted/adapted by the Federal Government VS.

**II-13.c. Weaknesses:**

- Low human resource capacity of the VS to initiate the drafting of animal welfare frameworks.
- Poor public awareness on animal welfare requirements in line with WOAH standards.
- Weak enforcement and compliance to the requirements for Animal Welfare.

**II-13.d. Recommendations:**

- Undertake public awareness campaigns on animal welfare and the need for policy, strategy and legislative frameworks to guide the improvement and enforcement of animal welfare standards.
- The VS to seek assistance from WOAH Veterinary Legislation Support Programme for review of existing legislation and the drafting of harmonised legislation and regulations on animal welfare.

**II-13.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E03.

### III.3 Fundamental component III: Interaction with stakeholders

This component of the evaluation concerns the capability of the VS to collaborate with and involve non-government stakeholders including the private sector, Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) and civil society organisations (including consumer organisations) in the implementation of programmes and activities. This also includes relevant state-owned enterprises, research institutions, universities and other training establishments.

#### Critical Competencies:

<b>Section III-1</b>	<b>Communication</b>
<b>Section III-2</b>	<b>Consultation with stakeholders</b>
<b>Section III-3</b>	<b>Official representation and international collaboration</b>
<b>Section III-4</b>	<b>Accreditation/ authorisation/ delegation</b>
<b>Section III-5</b>	<b>Regulation of the profession by the Veterinary Statutory Body (VSB)</b>
<b>Section III-6</b>	<b>Participation of producers and other stakeholders in joint programmes</b>
<b>Section III-7</b>	<b>Veterinary clinical services</b>

#### ----- 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 Veterinary Services.

Sub-point b) of Point 2 of Article 3.2.6. on Administrative resources: Communications.

Article 3.2.11. on Participation on WOA activities.

Article 3.2.12. on Evaluation of the veterinary statutory body.

Points 4, 8 and Sub-point g) of Point 10 of Article 3.2.14. on Administration details/Animal health, animal welfare and veterinary public health controls/Sources of independent scientific expertise.

Chapter 3.3. on Communication.

Point 4 of Article 3.4.3. on General principles: Consultation.

Article 3.4.5. on Competent Authorities.

Article 3.4.6. on Veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals.

### III-1. COMMUNICATION

DEFINITION
<p>The capability of the VS to keep non- government stakeholders aware and informed, in a transparent, effective and timely manner, of VS activities and programmes, and of developments in animal health, <i>animal welfare</i> and veterinary public health.</p> <p>This competency includes communication with all non-government stakeholders, including industry groups/associations (such as livestock farmer, meat sector, dairy sector and trading groups), as well as relevant NGOs and the general public, such as via communication campaigns and the media, including social media.</p>
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 2
1. The VS do not inform stakeholders of VS activities and programmes.
2. The VS have informal communication mechanisms with some stakeholders (e.g. with the larger commercial livestock or related companies).
3. The VS maintain a dedicated and specialist communications function which communicates with stakeholders occasionally, but it is not always up-to-date or pro-active in providing information.
4. The VS contact point or unit for communication provides up-to-date information to most relevant stakeholders. This information is aligned with a well-developed communications plan, and accessible via the Internet and other appropriate channels targeted to the audience, and covers relevant events, activities and programmes, including during crises.
5. The VS have a well-developed communications plan, and regularly circulate information to all relevant stakeholders, well targeted to the audience via the full range of communications media, including social media. The VS regularly evaluate and revise their communications plan.

*Terrestrial Code* reference(s): Appendix 1

#### **III-1.a. Findings:**

A WOAHP communication focal point has been appointed (Director of AH Department of Somaliland), but unfortunately, there is no job description provided.

At the State level, the LPAs have successfully established a strong network of veterinarians and VPPs who maintain regular contact with their respective livestock communities. Through collaboration with telecom companies, the LPAs are able to effectively communicate with CAHWs via SMS.

The launch of animal health or livestock events is typically preceded by the organization of official ceremonies, which are chaired by the Federal Government Minister and receive extensive media coverage.

To disseminate information and provide updates on important events, a website has been established at the Federal Government ministerial level, which is utilized by the VS Department.

However, it is important to note that no communication strategy or plan have been developed, and the availability of communication materials is limited.

Overall, there is a need to enhance the professionalism, effectiveness, and comprehensibility of the communication efforts within the VS.

#### **III-1.b. Strengths:**

- Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department and LPAs maintain close contact with livestock communities thanks to CAHWs.
- A WOAHP communication focal point has been appointed.

**III-1.c. Weaknesses:**

- The VS do not have any formal communication strategy or plan.
- Availability of communication materials limited.

**III-1.d. Recommendations:**

- Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department, in collaboration with the LPAs, and the Federal States to develop a comprehensive communication strategy and plan to effectively implement their objectives.
- Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department to draft a job description for the WOAHA communication focal point.

**III-1.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E03; E04; E05; E09; E19.

### III-2. CONSULTATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS

DEFINITION
<p>The capability of the VS to consult effectively with non-government stakeholders on VS policies and programmes, and on developments in animal health and food safety.</p> <p>This competency includes consultation with all non-government stakeholders, including industry groups/associations (such as livestock farmer, meat sector, dairy sector and trading groups), as well as interested NGOs and members of the public.</p> <p>Unlike communication (CCIII-1), consultation is two way and should involve mechanisms that not only inform, but actively seek views of consulted parties, for consideration and response.</p>
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 3
1. The VS have no mechanisms for consultation with non-government stakeholders.
2. The VS maintain informal channels of consultation with some non-government stakeholders (e.g. only the larger commercial livestock or related companies).
3. The VS hold formal consultations with non-government stakeholders, usually represented by industry groups or associations.
4. The VS regularly hold workshops and meetings with non-government stakeholders, who are organised to have broad representation, such as through elected, self-financed industry groups or associations. Consultation outcomes are documented and the views of stakeholders considered and occasionally incorporated.
5. The VS actively consult with all non-government stakeholders, including representatives of smaller producers, regarding current and proposed policies and programmes, developments in animal health and food safety, and proposed interventions at the OIE, Codex Alimentarius Commission, WTO SPS Committee, etc. The consultation results in improved, better adapted activities and greater stakeholder support.

*Terrestrial Code reference(s):* Appendix 1

#### **III-2.a. Findings:**

At the federal level, there exists an exceptional relationship and a high level of consultation between the Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department and the LPAs.

Regular consultations are organized with trader associations, milk associations, meat associations, and fodder associations. Representatives from the Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department participate in joint missions with trader associations in the Middle East.

Apart from the LPAs, there is a lack of evidence indicating that NGOs and other Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) engaged in Veterinary domain activities are adequately recognized by the Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department. This recognition is crucial to ensure that animal health activities align with government policies.

#### **III-2.b. Strengths:**

- High level of consultation between the Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department and the LPAs at federal level.

#### **III-2.c. Weaknesses:**

- Limited knowledge of NGOs and other CSOs involved in veterinary activities.

**III-2.d. Recommendations:**

- The Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department enhance its understanding of NGOs and CSOs operating with the veterinary domain to ensure that animal health initiatives align with government policies and to foster a more effective and efficient collaboration between the public sector and NGOs/CSOs.

**III-2.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E01; E03; E04; E05; E09; E19.

### III-3. OFFICIAL REPRESENTATION AND INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

DEFINITION
The capability of the VS to regularly and actively participate, coordinate and provide follow-up on relevant meetings and activities of regional and international organisations including WOA, Codex Alimentarius Commission, WTO SPS Committee, WHO, FAO and Regional Economic Communities.
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 2
1. The VS do not participate in or follow up on relevant meetings or activities of regional or international organisations.
2. The VS sporadically participate in relevant meetings or activities and/or make a limited contribution.
3. The VS actively participate in the majority of relevant meetings and activities, and provide some feedback to national colleagues.
4. The VS consult with non-government stakeholders and take into consideration their opinions in developing papers and making interventions in relevant meetings and in following up on meeting outcomes at national or regional level.
5. The VS consult with non-government stakeholders to provide leadership, to ensure that strategic issues are identified, and to ensure coordination among national delegations as part of their participation in relevant meetings, and follow up on meeting outcomes at national and/or regional levels. The VS collaborate internationally by sharing information and assisting to build capacity where appropriate.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

#### **III-3.a. Findings:**

The Director of the Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department is designated as the WOA Delegate. Moreover, he, along with one or two other members of the VS staff, consistently participate in meetings organized by WOA, AU-IBAR, and IGAD.

However, it is important to note that the level of contribution from the VS Department staff to these meetings is currently limited. During the Chief Veterinary Officers (CVO) meetings organized by AU-IBAR, comments were occasionally provided to develop common African positions on WOA standards. Regrettably, Somalia does not contribute significantly to proposed amendments to existing or new standards of the Terrestrial Code. As a result, the VS Department is not actively participating in the review and revision of these standards.

#### **III-3.b. Strengths:**

- No strength observed.

#### **III-3.c. Weaknesses:**

- There is no budget for participation in international or regional meetings which are not sponsored.
- Limited participation of the VS department in the review and revision of international standards.

#### **III-3.d. Recommendations:**

- The Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department is strongly encouraged to leverage the expertise of universities within the country to enhance their contribution towards the review and revision of international standards.

#### **III-3.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E03.



### III-4. ACCREDITATION/AUTHORISATION/DELEGATION

DEFINITION
The authority and capability of the public sector of the VS to accredit/authorise/delegate to private sector or NGO expertise (e.g. private <i>veterinarians</i> and <i>laboratories</i> , <i>animal welfare</i> NGOs), to carry out official tasks on their behalf, usually via a formal agreement (i.e. public-private partnership).
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT – 3
1. The public sector of the VS has neither the authority nor the capability to accredit/authorise/delegate to the private sector or NGOs official tasks.
2. The public sector of the VS has the authority or capability to accredit/authorise/delegate official tasks to the private sector or NGOs, but there are currently no accreditation/authorisation/delegation activities.
3. The public sector of the VS develops accreditation/authorisation/delegation programmes for certain tasks using formal agreements, but these activities are not routinely reviewed.
4. The public sector of the VS develops and implements accreditation/authorisation/delegation programmes using formal agreements, and these activities are routinely reviewed to maintain standards and manage performance.
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 other stakeholders.

*Terrestrial Code* reference(s): Appendix 1

#### **III-4.a. Findings:**

The Veterinary Law Code incorporates provisions for accreditation and delegation. The LPAs, typically receive official mandates from the MoLFR to carry out their operations in the field. However, the monitoring of activities delegated by the Veterinary Services Department poses a challenge due to resource constraints.

#### **III-4.b. Strengths:**

- LPAs officially mandated to carry out official tasks of the VS.

#### **III-4.c. Weaknesses:**

- Limited monitoring of activities delegated by the Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department.

#### **III-4.d. Recommendations:**

- The Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department collaborates with the LPAs to establish joint programs aimed at improving accreditation and delegation activities, as well as their supervision.

#### **III-4.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E03.

### III-5. REGULATION OF THE PROFESSION BY THE VETERINARY STATUTORY BODY (VSB)

DEFINITION
<p>The authority and capacity of the VSB to effectively and independently maintain educational and professional standards for <i>veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals</i>.</p> <p>Regulation includes licensing or registration of those <i>veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals</i> that meet educational standards, and the ongoing oversight of their professional competence and conduct.</p>
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT – 1
1. There is no VSB.
2. The VSB regulates <i>veterinarians</i> only within certain sectors of the veterinary profession and/or does not systematically apply educational standards or disciplinary measures.
3. The VSB regulates <i>veterinarians</i> in all sectors of the veterinary profession setting educational standards and applying disciplinary measures.
4. The VSB regulates <i>veterinarians</i> in all sectors and some <i>veterinary paraprofessionals</i> in a transparent manner. It has defined one or more specific categories of <i>veterinary paraprofessional</i> and their qualifications for initial and ongoing registration.
5. The VSB regulates and applies disciplinary measures to <i>veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals</i> in all sectors throughout the country. <i>Veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals</i> are required to undertake continuing education to maintain their professional registration.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

#### **III-5.a. Findings:**

The Veterinary Law Code includes provisions for the regulation of the veterinary profession, operating under the authority of a Veterinary Statutory Body (VSB). It is worth mentioning that, at present, there is no VSB established at the Federal Government level. Nevertheless, Somaliland and Puntland have taken commendable steps by establishing their own VSBs at the State level.

#### **III-5.b. Strengths:**

- No strength observed.

#### **III-5.c. Weaknesses:**

- Absence of Veterinary Statutory Body (VSB) at the Federal level.

#### **III-5.d. Recommendations:**

- The Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department to actively pursue collaboration with LPAs and other relevant partners in order to establish a Veterinary Statutory Body.

#### **III-5.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E03.

### III-6. PARTICIPATION OF PRODUCERS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS IN JOINT PROGRAMMES

DEFINITION
The capability of the VS to develop joint programmes (public-private partnerships) with producers and non-government stakeholders to deliver animal health, veterinary public health, food safety and/or <i>animal welfare</i> outcomes.
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 2
1. Producers and other non-government stakeholders do not participate in joint programmes.
2. Producers and other non-government stakeholders are informed of programmes by the VS and informally assist the VS in programme delivery in the field (e.g. industry groups helping to communicate the programme with their membership).
3. Producers and other non-government stakeholders formally participate with the VS in the delivery of joint programmes and advise of needed changes and improvements.
4. Representatives of producers and other non-government stakeholders actively partner with the VS to plan, manage and implement joint programmes.
5. Producers and other non-government stakeholders contribute resources and may lead the development and delivery of effective joint programmes with the VS. They also actively participate in their regular review, audit and revision.

*Terrestrial Code* reference(s): Appendix 1

#### **III-6.a. Findings:**

Joint training programs have been established between the Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department and the LPAs. The VS Department has also participated in collaborative missions with traders. However, due to limited resources, the VS Department is unable to develop joint programmes independently, except for those funded by external partners.

#### **III-6.b. Strengths:**

- No strength observed.

#### **III-6.c. Weaknesses:**

- The Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department is unable to develop joint programmes independently, except for those funded by external partners.

#### **III-6.d. Recommendations:**

- There are no specific recommendations to be made at this time, as the establishment of any joint programmes is contingent upon securing external funding.

#### **III-6.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E03.

### III-7. VETERINARY CLINICAL SERVICES

DEFINITION
The availability and quality of veterinary clinical services to meet the needs of animal owners, including their access to animal disease or injury diagnosis and treatment.
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT – 3
1. There are no/few clinical services provided from either the public or private sector.
2. Clinical services are available to animal owners in some areas but the quality and coverage (i.e. access to qualified <i>veterinarians</i> and/or <i>veterinary paraprofessionals</i> ) is highly variable.
3. Clinical services are available to most animal owners via the public and/or private sector. In rural areas this is delivered mostly by <i>veterinary paraprofessionals</i> with some formal training and some veterinary supervision – but providing only basic clinical diagnosis and treatment.
4. Clinical services are available to all animal owners via an efficient network of veterinary clinics, including in rural areas, serviced by qualified <i>veterinarians</i> assisted by <i>veterinary paraprofessionals</i> . Diagnoses are generally made prior to treatment, including with supporting <i>laboratory</i> tests where appropriate and professional standards are maintained by a well-functioning VSB.
5. Clinical services are available to all animal owners through qualified <i>veterinarians</i> , with appropriate facilities, diagnostic equipment and treatments, and the opportunity for specialist referral if required.

*Terrestrial Code* reference(s): Appendix 1

#### **III-7.a. Findings:**

Veterinary clinical services are operated mainly by the private livestock professional associations. Veterinary professionals who are members of the LPAs engage CAHWs as an outreach system to provide clinical and advisory services to pastoral communities. The CAHWs are members of the respective communities and are thus well accepted and integrated into the communities. The Veterinary professionals engaged in this system have undergone training as trainers of CAHWs. They provide initial and refresher training to the CAHWs, basic equipment and medicines (starter kits) and subsequently supervision and technical backstopping support for the CAHWs to effectively undertake their tasks. On average, each veterinarian supervises about 20 CAHWs.

The LPAs have established veterinary pharmacies that serve to replenish the drug supplies for the CAHWs and also to receive information and data on the disease situation in the areas covered by the CAHWs. The pharmacies transmit the information received to the LPAs who in turn submit the data and information to the EDMUs. The system thus also serves as the passive surveillance system feeding data into the EDMUs for national disease reporting to WAHIS.

This system allows access of the Veterinary services to remote and/or insecure locations where Federal State or Central Government Veterinary services are unable to gain access due to security threats by insurgents. However, the public sector lacks funding to directly contract the LPAs to undertake the delivery of services. The LPAs' involvement is largely enabled by donor funded projects that contract the LPAs to undertake service delivery and also provide funds to the public sector to undertake supervisory and regulatory control of the activities implemented by LPAs and CAHWs.

There are twelve (12) mobile veterinary clinics in Somaliland, six (6) in Puntland, one (1) in South West and one (1) in Galmudug States. The procurement of mobile clinics for Hirshabelle

and Jubaland States is currently in progress. These mobile veterinary clinics consist of vehicles equipped with materials for disease investigation, sample collection and refrigeration facilities for sample collection, and refrigeration facilities for sample preservation, vaccines and veterinary medicines. The provision of mobile clinics is supported by the World Bank Baewaaqo Project.

There are many humanitarian relief organisations (NGOs) and some international organisations (UN agencies) supporting the provision of free clinical services to pastoral communities. This poses a threat to the profitable delivery of clinical services by the LPAs and CAHWs and also threatens the sustainability of this model of service delivery.

**III-7.b. Strengths:**

- Existing network of LPAs, private Veterinarians, Veterinary pharmacies and CAHWs providing clinical services to pastoralists and other stakeholders.
- Investments in Mobile Veterinary Clinics for all the Federal State Governments and Somaliland.

**III-7.c. Weaknesses:**

- Insecurity that limits access to many field locations by the Federal State and Central Government staff to either provide or supervise and regulate the delivery of clinical Veterinary services by the private LPAs and CAHWs.
- Insufficient staff of the public veterinary services to support the implementation of clinical services.
- Threats to the profitability and sustainability of veterinary clinical services by CAHWs and LPAs due to the provision of free drugs, vaccines and equipment by humanitarian aid organisations.

**III-7.d. Recommendations:**

- The delivery of animal health services in Somalia involving the public sectors at Federal state and Central Government levels, the LPAs and the pastoralist communities should be studied in detail and documented as an example of a successful PPP model in the delivery of Veterinary services.
- The VS to liaise with humanitarian organisations with a view to striking a balance between the profitable and sustainable delivery of clinical veterinary services by LPAs and CAHWs and the humanitarian aid model of free services.

**III-7.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E01; E03; E09; P03, P04.

### III.4 Fundamental component IV: Access to markets

This component of the evaluation concerns the authority and capability of the VS to provide support by demonstrating the overall integrity of its animal health and veterinary public health system in order to access, expand and retain regional and international markets for animals and animal products.

#### Critical Competencies:

<b>Section IV-1</b>	<b>Veterinary legislation</b>
	<b>A. Legal quality and coverage</b>
	<b>B. Implementation and compliance</b>
<b>Section IV-2</b>	<b>International harmonisation</b>
<b>Section IV-3</b>	<b>International certification</b>
<b>Section IV-4</b>	<b>Equivalence and other types of sanitary agreements</b>
<b>Section IV-5</b>	<b>Transparency</b>
<b>Section IV-6</b>	<b>Zoning</b>
<b>Section IV-7</b>	<b>Compartmentalisation</b>

#### 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 WOA activities.*

*Points 7 and 11 of Article 3.2.14. on Veterinary legislation, regulations and functional capabilities/Membership of the WOA.*

*Chapter 3.4. on Veterinary legislation.*

*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 WOA procedures relevant to the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures of the World Trade Organization.*

*Chapters 5.10. to 5.13. on Model international veterinary certificates.*

## IV-1. VETERINARY LEGISLATION

DEFINITION
The effectiveness of <i>veterinary legislation</i> (including laws and regulations).
A. Legal quality and coverage
<p>The authority and capability of the VS to develop and update <i>veterinary legislation</i>, to ensure its quality and coverage of the veterinary domain.</p> <p>This competency covers the quality of legislation considering the principles of legal drafting, its impact, and suitability for implementation.</p> <p>This competency includes formal collaboration with expert legal drafters and lawyers, other relevant ministries and <i>Competent Authorities</i>, national agencies and decentralised institutions that share authority or have mutual interest in relevant areas of the veterinary domain. It also includes consultation with stakeholders that may affect or be affected by the <i>veterinary legislation</i>.</p>
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 2
1. <i>Veterinary legislation</i> is lacking, out-dated or of poor quality. The VS do not have the authority or capability to develop and update <i>veterinary legislation</i> .
2. <i>Veterinary legislation</i> covers some fields of the veterinary domain. The VS, working occasionally with expert legal drafters and lawyers, have some authority and capability to develop and update <i>veterinary legislation</i> .
3. <i>Veterinary legislation</i> covers most fields of the veterinary domain, including those fields under other Competent Authorities. The VS, working in formal partnership with expert legal drafters and lawyers, have the authority and capability to develop and update national <i>veterinary legislation</i> , including via consultation with stakeholders, to ensure its legal quality and applicability.
4. <i>Veterinary legislation</i> covers the entire veterinary domain. The VS have the authority and the capability to develop and update <i>veterinary legislation</i> at national (and sub-national where relevant) level – using a formal methodology which considers international standards, consultation with stakeholders, legal quality and applicability, and regulatory impact.
5. <i>Veterinary legislation</i> comprehensively covers the entire veterinary domain. The VS regularly evaluate and update <i>veterinary legislation</i> at national (and sub-national where relevant) level, with reference to ongoing effectiveness and changing international standards and science.

*Terrestrial Code* reference(s): Appendix 1

### **IV-1.A.a. Findings:**

The main legislation covering the Veterinary domain is the Veterinary Law Code that was enacted by the Federal Parliament in 2016. However, no regulations have so far been developed to operationalise some of the provision of the Veterinary Law Code.

There is also a draft Bill for the Control of Meat but this has been validated by stakeholders. In addition, some provisions in the Veterinary law code are duplicated in the draft Meat Bill. The Veterinary law code does not cover aspects of One Health but addresses aspect of zoonotic diseases.

The drafting of the legislation was supported by Consultants engaged through Donor funded projects and involved consultations and validation with different stakeholders in Somalia.

There is no projection of the long-term needs for development of comprehensive legislative and regulatory frameworks covering the entire Veterinary domain. The development of

legislation thus appears to be ad-hoc and piece-meal based on the objectives of the available donor projects. There is need for a review of the legislative landscape and a comprehensive listing of the legislation, regulations and guidelines needed to control and regulate all the aspects of the Veterinary domain. This will allow for a systematic development of the legislation portfolio for the Veterinary domain.

**IV-1.A.b. Strengths:**

- Basic legislation is available in the Veterinary Law Code covering several aspects of the Veterinary domain.
- A draft Meat Bill is available for review and validation by stakeholders and subsequent processing by the Minister of MoLFR, the Federal Cabinet and Parliament for enactment into law.

**IV-1.A.c. Weaknesses:**

- The Veterinary Law Code is outdated and not aligned to WOAHA standards.
- Reliance on donor funded projects for drafting legislation resulting in ad-hoc and piece-meal approaches to the drafting and enactment of legislation.
- Lack of a comprehensive listing of legislative needs to cover the long-term requirements for control and regulation across the Veterinary domain.

**IV-1.A.d. Recommendations:**

- VS to seek support from the WOAHA Veterinary Legislation support programme to review existing legislation and determine the modalities for development of legislation in line with WOAHA standards and guidelines.

**IV-1.A.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E03; E22; E23.



## IV-1. VETERINARY LEGISLATION

DEFINITION
The effectiveness of <i>veterinary legislation</i> (including laws and regulations).
B. Implementation and compliance
<p>The authority and capability of the VS to ensure implementation of and compliance with <i>veterinary legislation</i> across the veterinary domain through communication, compliance and inspection activities.</p> <p>This competency includes formal collaboration with other relevant ministries and <i>Competent Authorities</i>, national agencies and decentralised institutions that share responsibility for implementation or have mutual interest in relevant areas.</p>
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 2
1. <i>Veterinary legislation</i> is not implemented or poorly implemented, and it is not supported by communication, compliance and inspection activities.
2. <i>Veterinary legislation</i> is implemented through some activities of communication and awareness raising on stakeholder legal obligations, but few compliance and inspection activities are conducted.
3. <i>Veterinary legislation</i> is implemented through a programme of communication and awareness raising, and through formal, documented compliance and inspection activities. The VS undertake some legal action (e.g. administrative fines or prosecution) in instances of non-compliance in most relevant fields of activity.
4. <i>Veterinary legislation</i> is implemented across the entire veterinary domain and is consistently applied. The VS work to minimise instances of non-compliance through multiple means, including through targeted communications, incentives and appropriate legal processes. They have documented reports of responding to non-compliance.
5. <i>Veterinary legislation</i> compliance programmes are regularly subjected to audit and review by the VS or external agencies.

*Terrestrial Code* reference(s): Appendix 1

### **IV-1.B.a. Findings:**

The VS has undertaken some public awareness creation activities on the legal provisions contained in the Veterinary Law Code. However, there are challenges to implementation and compliance with the provisions of the Veterinary Law Code due to the prevailing low capacity for enforcement and the overall governance environment in the country. However, this is gradually improving with the strengthening of the nascent law enforcement agencies.

The Veterinary Law Code was drafted more than 10 years ago and is not aligned to WOA standards. It also does not take into account the needs of the evolving society and the emerging national, regional and global demands for effective regulation of the animal health sector.

### **IV-1.B.b. Strengths:**

- The VS has undertaken limited public awareness on the requirements of the Veterinary Law Code.

### **IV-1.B.c. Weaknesses:**

- The capacity for compliance and enforcement of the provisions of the Veterinary Law code is low both within the VS and the other law enforcement agencies.

**IV-1.B.d. Recommendations:**

- The VS to intensify public awareness campaigns on the provisions of the Veterinary Law Code particularly among the livestock value chain actors.
- VS to liaise closely with and sensitize the Police, Customs and other law enforcement agencies to catalyse the enforcement of the provisions of the Veterinary law Code
- Review the Veterinary Law Code and make appropriate amendments to meet WOAHA standards and the needs of the evolving Somali Society and the animal health sector.

**IV-1.B.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E03; E23.

## IV-2. INTERNATIONAL HARMONISATION

DEFINITION
The authority and capability of the VS to be active in the harmonisation of national <i>veterinary legislation</i> and <i>sanitary measures</i> to ensure they take into account international standards, and/or related regional directives or guidelines.
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT – 2
1. National <i>veterinary legislation</i> and <i>sanitary measures</i> under the mandate of the VS do not take into account international standards.
2. The VS are aware of gaps, inconsistencies or non-conformities in national <i>veterinary legislation</i> and <i>sanitary measures</i> 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 <i>veterinary legislation</i> and <i>sanitary measures</i> in response.
4. The VS harmonise <i>veterinary legislation</i> and <i>sanitary measures</i> , and can demonstrate a level of alignment with changing international standards. The VS also review and comment on the draft standards of relevant intergovernmental organisations, and work through regional organisations, where available, to ensure better harmonisation with international standards.
5. The VS actively and regularly participate at the international level in the formulation, negotiation and adoption of international standards <sup>25</sup> , and use the standards to regularly harmonise national <i>veterinary legislation</i> and <i>sanitary measures</i> .

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

### **IV-2.a. Findings:**

The Veterinary Law Code was drafted more than 10 years ago and is not aligned to WOAH standards. It also does not take into account the needs of the evolving society and the emerging national, regional and global demands for effective regulation of the animal health sector.

The drafting, stakeholder validation, approval by cabinet and enactment by Parliament of draft laws requires a prolonged process. This does not readily allow for periodic review and amendment of legislation for effective harmonisation with rapidly changing international standards and requirements for regional trade and integration.

### **IV-2.b. Strengths:**

- The VS recognise the need for periodic review and modernisation of legislation taking into account evolving international standards and regional dynamics.

### **IV-2.c. Weaknesses:**

- Reliance on support from donor funded projects for the drafting and review of legislation does not assure sustainability.
- Protracted processes for drafting, stakeholder validation, political approval and enactment of legislation makes it difficult to expeditiously accommodate changes to rapidly comply with the needs of evolving international standards and regional requirements.

**IV-2.d. Recommendations:**

- VS to seek support from the WOAHP Veterinary Legislation support programme for capacity building on harmonisation of legislation with WOAHP standards and regional requirements.

**IV-2.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E03.

### IV-3. INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATION

DEFINITION
<p>The authority and capability of the VS to reliably certify <i>animals</i> and animal products, and related services and processes under their mandate, for export, in accordance with national <i>veterinary legislation</i>, international standards and importing country requirements.</p> <p>This refers to the country's veterinary export certification processes. Issues such as: the legislative basis, format and content of veterinary certificates; who signs certificates and the confidence they have in what they are certifying; and the outcome in terms of meeting international standards and/or importing country requirements to facilitate exportation should all be considered.</p>
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT – 3
1. The VS have neither the authority nor the capability to certify <i>animals</i> and animal products for export.
2. The VS have the authority to certify certain <i>animals</i> and animal products for export, but are not always in compliance with national <i>veterinary legislation</i> , and international standards.
3. The VS develop and carry out certification for certain <i>animals</i> , animal products, services and processes for export under their mandate in compliance with international standards.
4. The VS develop and carry out all relevant certification programmes for all <i>animals</i> , animal products, services and processes for export 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): Appendix 1

#### **IV-3.a. Findings:**

Somalia is a major livestock exporting country in the Horn of Africa region. All animals for export undergo certification procedures right from the point they enter the livestock export chains at the secondary markets. This involves the clinical examination of animals, treatments for the elimination of internal and external parasites, vaccinations and the issuance of movement permits, along the livestock marketing routes to meet the requirement of importing countries.

In addition, all export animals undergo quarantine at quarantine stations located in close proximity to the seaports. There are currently 7 quarantine stations in Somalia with 3 in Somaliland, 2 in Bossaso, Puntland, one in Mogadishu and one in Kismayo. Animals destined for export first undergo a pre-quarantine process during which they are ear-tagged for identification, appropriate samples collected and tested in the quarantine laboratories and appropriate vaccinations conducted in compliance with the requirements of the importing country. Only animals that are determined as fit for export are authorised to enter the quarantine station for a duration based on the requirements of the importing countries. Any non-compliant animals are removed from the export process at the pre-quarantine stage.

During quarantine, the animals are examined clinically, samples collected and tested in the quarantine laboratories in compliance with the requirements of the importing countries. The animals are permitted to move to the ports of export following the successful completion of the quarantine period, during which the Port Veterinary Officer (PVO) ensures adherence of the quarantine station operators to all the quarantine Standard Operating Procedures and quarantine and testing protocols as per the requirements of the importing country.

MoLFR has a Department of Quarantine and Marketing. The staff of this Directorate at the Port comprising of the PVO and accredited Veterinary professionals prepare reports and issue export movement certificates to accompany the animal consignments. This enables access to the Port marshalling yards in preparation for embarkation on ships.

The certificates are issued in compliance with the requirements of the importing countries, the Somali Veterinary Law Code and adhere to WOAH standards. They are signed by the Port Veterinary Officers of the respective Ports representing the Livestock and Livestock Products Export/Import Certification Unit within the VS.

SOMEAT is an export quality slaughterhouse that processes chilled and frozen Meat products for export, mainly to Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The certification of the meat products complies with the requirements of the importing countries and with WOAH standards.

**IV-3.b. Strengths:**

- The Certification of live animals and animal products for export is well organised and meets the requirements of the different importing countries and also complies with the national legislation and WOAH standards.
- Investments in export quarantine stations and in an export slaughterhouse that meet WOAH standards have facilitated certifications for export.

**IV-3.c. Weaknesses:**

- The Directorate of quarantine is not part of the Veterinary Authority.
- Some export quarantine stations are owned and operated by major livestock exporters and this could result in a conflict of interest compromising the full adherence to export quarantine procedures.

**IV-3.d. Recommendations:**

- The Directorate of Quarantine should be integrated into the VS chain of command to guarantee effective adherence to WOAH standards.

**IV-3.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E01; E03; E15; E20.

#### IV-4. EQUIVALENCE AND OTHER TYPES OF SANITARY AGREEMENTS

DEFINITION
<p>The authority and capability of the VS to apply flexibility in negotiating, implementing and maintaining equivalence and other types of sanitary agreements with trading partners.</p> <p>As a reference, Article 4 of the WTO SPS Agreement states: Member Countries shall accept the sanitary or phytosanitary measures of other Member Country as equivalent, even if these measures differ from their own or from those used by other Members trading in the same product, if the exporting Member Country objectively demonstrates to the importing Member Country that its measures achieve the importing Member Country's appropriate level of sanitary or phytosanitary protection. For this purpose, reasonable access shall be given, upon request, to the importing Member Country for inspection, testing and other relevant procedures.</p>
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 3
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 <i>animals</i> , 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 matters relevant to <i>animals</i> , animal products and processes under their mandate. They publish their existing sanitary agreements in the public domain.
5. The VS actively work with stakeholders and take into account developments in international standards, in pursuing equivalence and other types of sanitary agreements with trading partners.

*Terrestrial Code* reference(s): Appendix 1

##### **IV-4.a. Findings:**

The establishment of the existing livestock export quarantine stations throughout Somalia over the last 10 – 15 years was based on the needs to meet the requirement of equivalence. This resulted in the re-opening of export markets for livestock from Somalia in the Gulf States particularly Saudi Arabia following a series of bans due to concerns on the sanitary safety of the trade in live animals and animal products with Somalia.

Since then, the VS of Somalia has engaged in occasional negotiations with the importing countries aimed at the resumption of trade following temporary restrictions or bans by some of the importing countries.

The Veterinary Authority in Somalia has also facilitated access and inspection visits by Veterinary Authorities of some importing countries to provide assurance that the facilities, processes and procedures for certification of livestock for export meet the requirements of the importing countries. The authority has also made efforts to obtain authorisation from the Saudi Food and drugs authority and UAE (ADAFFSA) for exports of chilled and frozen meat. This resulted in agreements for Somalia to export meat to the two countries after the inspection and auditing of the operations of SOMEAT.

**IV-4.b. Strengths:**

- The VS has the capacity and capability to engage in negotiations and reach agreements with the importing partners.
- Investments in livestock export quarantine stations that meet the requirements of livestock importing partners.
- Investment in SOMEAT for the processing of chilled and frozen meat for export.

**IV-4.c. Weaknesses:**

- Endemic presence of trade sensitive transboundary animal diseases and zoonoses in Somalia and the neighbouring countries presents challenges in negotiations with importing countries.
- Insufficient data on disease distribution incidence and prevalence and prevention and control measures impacts on negotiations on equivalence.

**IV-4.d. Recommendations:**

- VS to strengthen the capacity for engagement in negotiations on equivalence with trading partners.
- VS to enhance the functioning of EDMU and capacity for detailed data collection, analysis and reporting.

**IV-4.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E03; and E33.



## IV-5. TRANSPARENCY

DEFINITION
The authority and capability of the VS to notify WOA, WTO, trading partners and other relevant organisations of its disease status, regulations and <i>sanitary measures</i> and systems, in accordance with established procedures, as applicable to international trade.
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT - 2
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 and actively inform stakeholders of changes in disease status, regulations and <i>sanitary measures</i> and systems, as applicable to international trade.
5. The VS, in cooperation with their stakeholders, carry out reviews or audits of their notification procedures.

*Terrestrial Code* reference(s): Appendix 1

### **IV-5.a. Findings:**

Somalia regularly submits six-monthly reports to WOA through WAHIS. However, no notifications of disease occurrence in compliance with WOA standards have been made since 2019. An outbreak of an unknown camel disease that occurred in 2021-2022 with high morbidity and mortality rates and transboundary spread between Somalia and the neighbouring countries, was investigated by the VS but information from the investigations and the results of tests on the samples collected were not officially notified to WOA, Somalia's trading partners or other relevant organisations. The disease was discussed during the Eastern Africa Regional Animal Health Network (EA-RAHN) meeting, a regional coordination forum convened by the Intergovernmental Organisation on Development (IGAD) in collaboration with AU-IBAR, the East African Community (EAC), FAO and WOA. Information on the unknown camel disease was thus shared with the neighbouring countries, AU-IBAR, IGAD, EAC, WOA and FAO.

The VS participates in ad-hoc meetings with the importing partners that are convened occasionally to resolve concerns relating to the sanitary status of consignments of exports of live animals and animal products from Somalia.

### **IV-5.b. Strengths:**

- Regular submission of six-monthly reports to WOA
- Somalia participates in the EA-RAHN where information on the animal health situation in eastern Africa is shared annually.

### **IV-5.c. Weaknesses:**

- No formal notifications submitted to WOA and Somalia's trading partners for more than three years.

**IV-5.d. Recommendations:**

- VS to enhance transparency by resuming notification to WOA and WTO for important disease events in compliance with the provisions of Chapter 1.1 (Articles 1.1.2, 1.1.3, 1.1.4 and 1.1.5) of the WOA Terrestrial Animal Health Code.
- Strengthen participation in EA-RAHN and other regional forums for coordination and sharing of animal health information.
- Establish/strengthen information sharing networks with trading partners to enhance transparency and trust in the livestock export trade.

**IV-5.e. Evidence** (as listed in Appendix 6): Key informant interviews; E03.

## IV-6. ZONING

DEFINITION
<p>The authority and capability of the VS to establish and maintain disease free <i>zones</i>, as necessary and in accordance with the criteria established by WOAHP (and by the WTO SPS Agreement where applicable).</p> <p>Where a country has no need for or interest in developing disease free zones and has not initiated such a process, this critical competency should be assessed as 'Non-Applicable' (N/A).</p>
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT – N/A
1. The VS do not have the authority or capability to initiate the establishment of disease free <i>zones</i> .
2. The VS have identified a geographical animal sub-population or sub-populations as candidates to target a specific health status suitable for zoning.
3. The VS are implementing <i>biosecurity</i> and <i>sanitary measures</i> with the intention of establishing a disease free <i>zone</i> for selected <i>animals</i> and animal products.
4. The VS have established at least one disease free <i>zone</i> of selected <i>animals</i> and animal products with collaboration from producers and other stakeholders in alignment with WOAHP standards.
5. The VS can demonstrate the scientific basis for any disease free <i>zone</i> and have gained recognition by WOAHP and/or trading partners that they meet the criteria established by WOAHP (and by the WTO SPS Agreement where applicable).

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

**IV-6.a. Findings:**

N/A.

Somalia currently has no interest and has not initiated the establishment of disease-free zones. The establishment of disease-free zones will be considered in future.

**IV-6.b. Strengths:**

➤ N/A

**IV-6.c. Weaknesses:**

➤ N/A

**IV-6.d. Recommendations:**

➤ N/A

**IV-6.e. Evidence** N/A.

#### IV-7. COMPARTMENTALISATION

DEFINITION
<p>The authority and capability of the VS to establish and maintain disease free compartments in accordance with the criteria established by WOAHA.</p> <p>Where a country or its relevant animal industries have no need for or interest in developing disease free compartments and neither party has initiated or considered such a process or partnership, this critical competency should be assessed as 'Non-Applicable' (N/A)</p>
LEVELS OF ADVANCEMENT – N/A
1. The VS do not have the authority or capability to initiate the establishment of disease free <i>compartments</i> .
2. The VS can identify animal sub-populations as candidate establishments with a specific health status suitable for compartmentalisation, in partnership with interested stakeholders.
3. The VS, working in close partnership with interested stakeholders, ensure that planned <i>biosecurity</i> measures to be implemented will enable the establishment and maintenance of disease free <i>compartments</i> for selected <i>animals</i> and animal products.
4. The VS collaborate with producers and other stakeholders to define responsibilities and undertake actions that enable the establishment and maintenance of disease free <i>compartments</i> for selected <i>animals</i> and animal products, including a national government certification and accreditation system.
5. The VS can demonstrate the scientific basis for disease free <i>compartments</i> and have gained recognition by other countries that they meet the criteria established by WOAHA (and by the WTO SPS Agreement where applicable).

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

##### **IV-7.a. Findings:**

Currently, there is no interest in Somalia for the establishments of disease-free compartments. The establishment of disease-free zones will be considered in future.

##### **IV-7.b. Strengths:**

- N/A

##### **IV-7.c. Weaknesses:**

- N/A

##### **IV-7.d. Recommendations:**

- N/A

##### **IV-7.e. Evidence** N/A.

## PART IV: APPENDICES

### Appendix 1: Terrestrial Code references for Critical Competencies

Critical Competencies	Terrestrial Code references
<b>I-1.A</b> <b>I-1.B</b> <b>I-2.A</b> <b>I-2.B</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Points 1-5 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Professional judgement/Independence/Impartiality/Integrity/Objectivity.</li> <li>➤ Points 7 and 14 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: General organisation/Human and financial resources.</li> <li>➤ Article 3.2.5. on Evaluation criteria for human resources.</li> <li>➤ Article 3.2.12. on Evaluation of the veterinary statutory body.</li> <li>➤ Points 1-2 and 5 of Article 3.2.14. on Organisation and structure of Veterinary Services/National information on human resources/Laboratory services.</li> </ul>
<b>I-3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Points 1, 7 and 14 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Professional judgement/General organisation/Human and financial resources.</li> <li>➤ Article 3.2.5. on Evaluation criteria for human resources.</li> <li>➤ Sub-point d) of Point 4 of Article 3.2.10. on Veterinary Services administration: In-service training and development programme for staff.</li> <li>➤ Point 10 of Article 3.2.14. on Performance assessment and audit programmes.</li> </ul>
<b>I-4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Point 2 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Independence.</li> </ul>
<b>I-5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Point 1 of Article 3.2.3. on Evaluation criteria for the organisational structure of the Veterinary Services.</li> <li>➤ Point 10 of Article 3.2.14. on Performance assessment and audit programmes.</li> </ul>
<b>I-6.A</b> <b>I-6.B</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Points 6, 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation/General organisation/Procedures and standards.</li> <li>➤ Article 3.2.2. on Scope.</li> <li>➤ Points 1 and 2 of Article 3.2.3. on Evaluation criteria for the organisational structure of the Veterinary Services.</li> <li>➤ Point 4 of Article 3.2.10. on Performance assessment and audit programmes: Veterinary Services administration.</li> </ul>
<b>I-7</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 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”.</li> <li>➤ Points 2 and 3 of Article 3.2.6. on Evaluation criteria for material resources: Administrative / Technical.</li> <li>➤ Point 3 of Article 3.2.10. on Performance assessment and audit programmes: Compliance.</li> <li>➤ Point 4 of Article 3.2.14. on Administration details.</li> </ul>
<b>I-8</b> <b>I-9</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Points 6 and 14 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / Human and financial resources.</li> <li>➤ Point 1 of Article 3.2.6. on Evaluation criteria for material resources: Financial.</li> <li>➤ Point 3 of Article 3.2.14. on Financial management information.</li> </ul>
<b>II-1.A</b> <b>II-1.B</b> <b>II-1.C</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Point 9 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Procedures and standards.</li> <li>➤ Point 1 of Article 3.2.4. on Evaluation criteria for quality systems.</li> <li>➤ Point 3 of Article 3.2.6. on Evaluation criteria for material resources: Technical.</li> <li>➤ Point 5 of Article 3.2.14. on Laboratory services.</li> </ul>
<b>II-2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Chapter 2.1. on Import risk analysis</li> <li>➤ Chapter 6.11. on Risk analysis for antimicrobial resistance arising from the use of antimicrobial agents in animals</li> </ul>

<b>II-3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Points 6 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / Procedures and standards.</li> <li>➤ Point 2 of Article 3.2.7. on Legislation and functional capabilities: Export/import inspection.</li> <li>➤ Points 7 and 8 of Article 3.2.14. on Veterinary legislation, regulations and functional capabilities / Animal health and veterinary public health controls.</li> </ul>
<b>II-4.A II-4.B</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Points 6, 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / General organisation / Procedures and standards.</li> <li>➤ Points 1-3 of Article 3.2.8. on Animal health controls: Animal health status / Animal health control / National animal disease reporting systems.</li> <li>➤ Sub-points a) i), ii) and iii) of Point 8 of Article 3.2.14. on Animal health: Description of and sample 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.</li> <li>➤ Chapter 1.4. on Animal health surveillance.</li> <li>➤ Chapter 1.5. on Surveillance for arthropod vectors of animal diseases.</li> </ul>
<b>II-5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Points 6, 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / General organisation / Procedures and standards.</li> <li>➤ Points 1-3 of Article 3.2.8. on Animal health controls: Animal health status / Animal health control / National animal disease reporting systems.</li> <li>➤ Sub-point a) of Point 8 of Article 3.2.14. on Animal health, animal welfare and veterinary public health controls: Animal health.</li> </ul>
<b>II-6</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Points 6, 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / General organisation / Procedures and standards.</li> <li>➤ Points 1-3 of Article 3.2.8. on Animal health controls: Animal health status / Animal health control / National animal disease reporting systems.</li> <li>➤ Sub-point a) of Point 8 of Article 3.2.14. on Animal health, animal welfare and veterinary public health controls: Animal health.</li> <li>➤ Chapter 4.12. on Disposal of dead animal.</li> </ul>
<b>II-7.A II-7.B</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Points 6, 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / General organisation / Procedures and standards.</li> <li>➤ Article 3.4.12. on Human food production chain.</li> <li>➤ 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.</li> <li>➤ Points 2, 7 and 8 of Article 3.2.14. on National information on human resources / Veterinary legislation, regulations and functional capabilities / Animal health and veterinary public health controls.</li> <li>➤ Chapter 6.2. on Control of biological hazards of animal health and public health importance through ante- and post-mortem meat inspection.</li> <li>➤ Chapter 6.3. on Control of biological hazards of animal health and public health importance through ante- and post-mortem meat inspection.</li> </ul> <p>References to Codex Alimentarius Commission standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Code of Hygienic practice for meat (CAC/RCP 58-2005).</li> <li>➤ Code of Hygienic practice for milk and milk products (CAC/RCP/ 57-2004).</li> <li>➤ General Principles of Food Hygiene (CAC/RCP 1-1969; amended 1999. Revisions 1997 and 2003).</li> </ul>
<b>II-8</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Points 6 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation/Procedures and standards.</li> <li>➤ Points 3 and 4 of Article 3.2.9. on Veterinary public health controls: Chemical residue testing programmes/Veterinary medicines.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Sub-point a) ii) of Point 7 of Article 3.2.14. on Animal health and animal welfare and veterinary public health: Assessment of ability of Veterinary Services to enforce legislation.</li> </ul>
<b>II-9</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Chapter 6.7. on Introduction to the recommendations for controlling antimicrobial resistance</li> <li>➤ Chapter 6.8. on Harmonisation of national antimicrobial resistance surveillance and monitoring programmes</li> <li>➤ Chapter 6.9. on Monitoring of the quantities and usage patterns of antimicrobial agents used in food-producing animals</li> <li>➤ Chapter 6.10. on Responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents in veterinary medicine</li> <li>➤ Chapter 6.11. on Risk analysis for antimicrobial resistance arising from the use of antimicrobial agents in animals</li> </ul> <p>References to Codex Alimentarius Commission standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Guidelines for Risk Analysis of Foodborne Antimicrobial Resistance (CAC/GL 77-2011)</li> <li>➤ Code of Practice to Minimize and Contain Antimicrobial Resistance (CAC/RCP 61-2005).</li> </ul>
<b>II-10</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Points 3 and 4 of Article 3.2.9. on Veterinary public health controls: Chemical residue testing programmes / Veterinary medicines.</li> <li>➤ Sub-points b) iii) and iv) of Point 8 of Article 3.2.14. on Veterinary public health: Chemical residue testing programmes / Veterinary medicines.</li> <li>➤ Chapter 2.2 – Criteria applied by the WOA for assessing the safety of commodities.</li> </ul> <p>References to Codex Alimentarius Commission standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Guidelines for the Design and Implementation of National Regulatory Food Safety Assurance Programmes Associated with the Use of Veterinary Drugs in Food Producing Animals (CAC/GL 71-2009)</li> <li>➤ Glossary of Terms and Definitions (Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods) (CAC/MISC 5-1993)</li> <li>➤ Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) and Risk Management Recommendations (RMRs) for Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CAC/MRL 2)</li> <li>➤ Code of Practice to Minimize and Contain Antimicrobial Resistance (CAC/RCP 61-2005)</li> <li>➤ General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CODEX STAN 193-1995)</li> <li>➤ Code of Practice Concerning Source Directed Measures to Reduce Contamination of Foods with Chemicals (CAC/RCP 49-2001)</li> <li>➤ Guidelines for Risk Analysis of Foodborne Antimicrobial Resistance (CAC/GL 77-2011).</li> <li>➤ Code of Practice to Minimize and Contain Antimicrobial Resistance (CAC/RCP 61-2005).</li> </ul>
<b>II-11</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Chapter 6.4. on Control of hazards of animal health and public health importance in animal feed.</li> <li>➤ Chapter 6.10.8 – Responsibilities of animal feed manufacturers</li> </ul>
<b>II-12.A</b> <b>II-12.B</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Point 6 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation.</li> <li>➤ Chapter 4.1. on General principles on identification and traceability of live animals.</li> <li>➤ Chapter 4.2. on Design and implementation of identification systems to achieve animal traceability.</li> </ul>
<b>II-13</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Section 7 on Animal Welfare</li> <li>➤ Chapters 7.2., 7.3., 7.4. 7.5., 7.6., 7.9., 7.10., 7.11 and 7.13. on farm animal welfare (including humane on farm, transport and slaughter conditions).</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Chapter 7.8. on Use of animals in research and education.</li> <li>➤ Chapter 7.7. on Stray dog population control.</li> <li>➤ Chapter 7.12. on Welfare of working equids.</li> </ul>
<b>III-1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Point 13 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Communication.</li> <li>➤ Sub-point b) of Point 2 of Article 3.2.6. on Administrative resources: Communications.</li> <li>➤ Point 4 of Article 3.2.14. on Administration details.</li> <li>➤ Chapter 3.3. on Communication.</li> </ul>
<b>III-2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Point 13 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Communication.</li> <li>➤ Point 2 of Article 3.2.3. on Evaluation criteria for the organisational structure of the Veterinary Services.</li> <li>➤ Point 4 and Sub-point g) of Point 10 of Article 3.2.14. on Administration details and on Sources of independent scientific expertise.</li> <li>➤ Chapter 3.3. on Communication.</li> </ul>
<b>III-3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Article 3.2.11. on Participation on WOAHA activities.</li> <li>➤ Point 4 of Article 3.2.14. on Administration details.</li> </ul>
<b>III-4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Points 6, 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / General organisation / Procedures and standards.</li> <li>➤ Point 7 of Article 3.2.3. on Evaluation criteria for the organisational structure of the Veterinary Services.</li> <li>➤ Article 3.4.5. on Competent Authorities.</li> </ul>
<b>III-5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Point 6 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation.</li> <li>➤ Point 9 of Article 3.2.1. on General considerations.</li> <li>➤ Article 3.2.12. on Evaluation of the veterinary statutory body.</li> <li>➤ Article 3.4.6. on Veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals.</li> </ul>
<b>III-6</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Points 6 and 13 of Article 3.1.2. Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / Communication.</li> <li>➤ Points 2 and 7 of Article 3.2.3. on Evaluation criteria for the organisational structure of the Veterinary Services.</li> <li>➤ Point 8 of Article 3.2.14. on Animal health, animal welfare and veterinary public health controls.</li> <li>➤ Point 4 of Article 3.4.3. on General principles: Consultation.</li> </ul>
<b>III-7</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Chapter 1.4. on Animal health surveillance.</li> <li>➤ Chapter 1.5. on Surveillance for arthropod vectors of animal diseases.</li> <li>➤ Points 6, 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation/Procedures and standards.</li> <li>➤ Points 1-3 of Article 3.2.8. on Animal health controls: Animal health status/Animal health control/National animal disease reporting systems.</li> <li>➤ Points 4 of Article 3.2.9. on Veterinary public health controls: Veterinary medicines.</li> </ul>
<b>IV-1.A IV-1.B</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Points 6, 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / General organisation / Procedures and standards.</li> <li>➤ 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.</li> <li>➤ Point 7 of Article 3.2.14. on Veterinary legislation, regulations and functional capabilities.</li> <li>➤ Chapter 3.4. on Veterinary legislation, specifically articles 3.4.3 and 3.4.4</li> </ul>
<b>IV-2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Point 6 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation.</li> <li>➤ Article 3.2.11. on Participation in WOAHA activities.</li> <li>➤ Points 7 and 11 of Article 3.2.14. on Veterinary legislation, regulations and functional capabilities/Membership of the WOAHA.</li> </ul>



<b>IV-3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Points 6, 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation/General organisation/Procedures and standards.</li> <li>➤ Point 2 of Article 3.2.7. on Legislation and functional capabilities: Export/import inspection.</li> <li>➤ Sub-point b) of Point 7 of Article 3.2.14. on Veterinary legislation, regulations and functional capabilities: Export/import inspection.</li> <li>➤ Chapter 5.2. on Certification procedures.</li> <li>➤ Chapters 5.10. to 5.13. on Model international veterinary certificates.</li> </ul>
<b>IV-4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Points 6 and 7 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation/General organisation.</li> <li>➤ Sub-point g) of Point 4 of Article 3.2.10. on Veterinary Services administration: Trade performance history.</li> <li>➤ Chapter 5.3. on WOH procedures relevant to the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures of the World Trade Organization.</li> </ul>
<b>IV-5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Point 6 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation.</li> <li>➤ Points 1 and 3 of Article 3.2.8. on Animal health controls: Animal health status/National animal disease reporting systems.</li> <li>➤ Chapter 5.1. on General obligations related to certification.</li> </ul>
<b>IV-6</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Point 6 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation.</li> <li>➤ Chapter 4.3. on Zoning and compartmentalisation.</li> </ul>
<b>IV-7</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Point 6 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation.</li> <li>➤ Chapter 4.3. on Zoning and compartmentalisation.</li> <li>➤ Chapter 4.4. on Application of compartmentalisation.</li> </ul>

## Appendix 2: Glossary of terms

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

### ***Animal***

means a mammal, reptile, bird or bee.

### ***Animal identification***

means the combination of the identification and *registration* of an *animal* individually, with a unique identifier, or collectively by its *epidemiological unit* or group, with a unique group identifier.

### ***Animal identification system***

means the inclusion and linking of components such as identification of *establishments* or owners, the person(s) responsible for the *animal(s)*, movements and other records with *animal identification*.

### ***Animal Traceability***

means the ability to follow an *animal* or group of *animals* during all stages of its life.

### ***Animal welfare***

means the physical and mental state of an *animal* in relation to the conditions in which it lives and dies.

### ***Antimicrobial agent***

means a naturally occurring, semi-synthetic or synthetic substance that exhibits antimicrobial activity (kill or inhibit the growth of micro-organisms) at concentrations attainable in vivo. Anthelmintics and substances classed as disinfectants or antiseptics are excluded from this definition

### ***Biosecurity***

means a set of management and physical measures designed to reduce the risk of introduction, establishment and spread of animal diseases, infections or infestations to, from and within an animal population.

### ***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.

### ***Case***

means an individual animal infected by a pathogenic agent, with or without clinical signs

### ***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 *WOAH Aquatic Animal Health Code* in the whole territory.

**Containment Zone**

means a defined *zone* around and including suspected or infected *establishments*, taking into account the epidemiological factors and results of investigations, where control measures to prevent the spread of the *infection* are applied.

**Disease**

means the clinical and/or pathological manifestation of *infection*.

**Emerging disease**

means a new occurrence in an animal of a disease, infection or infestation, causing a significant impact on animal or public health resulting from:

- a. change of a known pathogenic agent or its spread to a new geographic area or species; or
- b. previously unrecognised pathogenic agent or disease diagnosed for the first time.

**Epidemiological Unit**

means a group of *animals* with a defined epidemiological relationship that share approximately the same likelihood of exposure to a pathogenic agent. This may be because they share a common environment (e.g. *animals* in a pen), or because of common management practices. Usually, this is a *herd* or a *flock*. However, an *epidemiological unit* may also refer to groups such as *animals* belonging to residents of a village, or *animals* sharing a communal animal handling facility. The epidemiological relationship may differ from *disease* to *disease*, or even strain to strain of the pathogenic agent.

**Establishment**

means the premises in which *animals* are kept.

**Feed**

means any material (single or multiple), whether processed, semi-processed or raw, which is intended to be fed directly to terrestrial *animals* (except bees).

**Hazard**

means a biological, chemical or physical agent in, or condition of, an animal or animal product with the potential to cause an adverse health effect

**International veterinary certificate**

means a certificate, issued in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 5.2. of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*, 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*.

**Meat**

means all edible parts of an *animal*.

**Monitoring**

means the intermittent performance and analysis of routine measurements and observations, aimed at detecting changes in the environment or health status of a *population*.

**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 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*.

**Outbreak**

means the occurrence of one or more cases in an epidemiological unit.

**Risk analysis**

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

**Risk assessment**

means the evaluation of the likelihood and the biological and economic consequences of entry, *establishment* and spread of a *hazard* within the territory of an *importing country*.

**Risk communication**

Means the interactive transmission and exchange of information and opinions throughout the risk analysis process concerning risk, risk-related factors and risk perceptions and risk assessors, risk managers, risk communicators, the general public and interested parties.

**Risk management**

means the process of identifying, selecting and implementing measures that can be applied to reduce the level of *risk*.

**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 WOA 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 so that action can be taken.

**Terrestrial Code**

means the WOA *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*.

**Veterinarian**

means a person with appropriate education, 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 a Member Country, comprising veterinarians, other professionals and paraprofessionals, having the responsibility and competence for ensuring or supervising the implementation of the animal health and welfare measures, international veterinary certification and other standards and recommendations in the Terrestrial Code in the whole territory.

**(Veterinary) legislation**

means laws, regulations and all associated legal instruments that pertain to the veterinary domain.

**Veterinary paraprofessional**

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 paraprofessional*) in a territory, and delegated to them under the responsibility and direction of a *veterinarian*. The tasks for each category of *veterinary paraprofessional* 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 Code and the WOAHA Aquatic Animal Health Code 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 regulatory body for *veterinarians* and *veterinary paraprofessionals*.

**Wildlife**

means *feral animals*, *captive wild animals* and *wild animals*.

**Zone**

means a clearly defined part of a territory containing an animal subpopulation with a distinct health status with respect to a specific disease for which required surveillance, control and *biosecurity* measures have been applied for the purpose of international trade.

Located in the Horn of Africa, the Federal Republic of Somalia covers an area of 638,000 square kilometres (kms). The country is bordered by Ethiopia to the west, Djibouti to the northwest, the Gulf of Aden to the north, the Indian Ocean to the east, and Kenya to the southwest. Somalia has the longest coastline on Africa's mainland.

Its terrain consists mainly of plateaus, plains, and highlands. Hot conditions prevail year-around, with periodic monsoon winds and irregular rainfall. The human population is 17 597 511 (WB 2022), of which over 2 million live in the capital and largest city Mogadishu. Around 85% of the population are ethnic Somali. The official languages of Somalia are Somali and Arabic.

Figure 1 Map of Somalia illustrating county boundaries



The Somali Republic became the official name of Somalia after gaining independence on July 1, 1960. This followed the unification of the Trust Territory of Somaliland (formerly Italian Somaliland) and the State of Somaliland (formerly British Somaliland). On July 20, 1961, the people of Somalia ratified a new constitution through a popular referendum. This administration continued until 1969 when the Supreme Revolutionary Council (SRC), led by Mohamed Siad Barre, seized power in a bloodless coup and renamed the country the Somali Democratic



Republic. Under Barre's leadership, Somalia was declared a socialist state, and the majority of the economy was nationalized. However, in 1991, Mohamed Siad Barre was ousted, leading to a prolonged civil war between rival clan warlords and the collapse of central authority. Former British Somaliland declared unilateral independence.

Throughout the 1990s, a UN peacekeeping mission led by the United States failed to restore peace in Somalia. In 2006, militias loyal to the Islamist Union of Islamic Courts captured Mogadishu and other parts of the south after defeating clan warlords. However, they were later driven out by Ethiopian forces. Between 2007 and 2011, the African Union peacekeeping force, Amisom, began deploying, and Ethiopian troops withdrew in 2009. Al-Shabab, a jihadist group that broke away from the Islamic Courts, advanced into southern and central Somalia, prompting an armed intervention by Kenya.

In 2012, efforts to restore a central authority, which had been ongoing since 2000, finally made substantial progress. This was marked by the swearing-in of the first formal parliament in over 20 years and the holding of the first presidential election since 1967. In 2022, Somali government forces, with the support of US airstrikes and African Union troops, launched extensive offensives against al-Shabab, successfully reclaiming significant territories that were previously under the group's control.

Somalia is currently divided into eight Federal states which in turn are subdivided into 193 districts and 31 regions. The Federal States are: Puntland, Galmudug, Jubaland, Hirshabelle, South West, and Somaliland (a self-declared autonomous state).

Local state governments, officially recognized as the Federal Member States (FMS), have a degree of autonomy over regional affairs and maintain their police and security forces. However, they are constitutionally subject to the authority of the Government of the Federal Republic of Somalia.

The Federal Parliament of Somalia elects the President and Prime Minister and has the authority to pass and veto laws. It is bicameral, and consists of a 275-seat lower house, as well as an upper house, capped at 54 representatives. By law, at least 30% of all MPs must be women. The current President, Hassam Sheikh Mohamud, was elected by parliament in May 2022.

## **Livestock sector**

Somalia's vast rangelands provide ample grazing opportunities for nomadic communities, while its arable land under irrigated or rain-fed conditions sustains both subsistence and commercial farming for settled crop-growing families. Generally, the life of nomadic people revolves around livestock raising, herding, feeding, fattening, consuming and/or trading. While searching for seasonal rainfall and pasture throughout the year, nomadic communities remain mobile and settle only momentarily wherever they find water and pasture. Commonly raised forms of livestock throughout Somalia include camel, cattle, goat and sheep. In addition, subject to large regional variations, horses, donkeys, chicken are also raised in the country.

The livestock sector is the backbone of the Somali economy. With almost half of the population still living in rural areas and engaged in some way in the livestock sector, it remains the largest contributor to Somali GDP and the biggest source of foreign exchange, after remittances. Livestock and livestock products represent almost 61 percent of GDP (World Bank-FAO 2018). While Somalia's livestock sector faces formidable challenges, it has proved remarkably resilient amidst headwinds of social unrest and recurrent droughts. Despite absent or very weak public services, an increasingly narrow and fragile natural resource base, and an arid and semi-arid climate that by most accounts has become drier, more extreme, and more variable in recent decades, the sector experienced surprisingly strong growth performance until the mid-2010s; this in contrast to a crop sector in which production is today just about half its pre-war peak.

The livestock sector remains key to economic growth and poverty reduction, but its performance and prospects are undermined by considerable structural deficiencies and by exposure to downside risks. Production constraints related to animal nutrition, disease, genetic resources, and poor resource management are compounded by other structural and institutional weaknesses that impede value added diversification and expose the sector to myriad risks.

The feed subsector has always been and is to this day characterized by a traditional low-input grazing and browsing system, which is subject to seasonal shortages of pasture and very limited commercial feed/fodder production. Other major challenges are the weaknesses of government (since the demise of the pre-war National Range Agency) and of traditional management institutions, as well as the degradation, deforestation and continuous overgrazing driving massive- scale soil erosion, desertification, and reduction in edible biomass on the rangelands. Other constraints and gaps are the uncontrolled expansion of enclosures on previously open rangeland, the low levels of technical knowledge on fodder production and storage, poor access to fodder seeds and other production inputs, inadequate availability of water, storage, and transport infrastructure, and unsettled land tenure issues in southern Somalia.

#### *Milk production*

Demand for fresh milk and other processed dairy products will continue to increase in all states beyond the natural population growth, which alone will provide over a million new potential consumers in the next decade. Major growth constraints include most of those affecting negatively the health and welfare of live animals as well as the poor food safety practices and poor environment for private sector investment.

Imported dairy products represented between US\$60 million and \$82 million annually, mostly for milk powder and long-life packaged milk

Studies conducted by Oxfam and the FAO- Investment Centre found that most consumers perceive fresh milk to be of superior quality and hence prefer that to any other dairy product on the market. Despite many challenges, a market-oriented peri-urban camel and cattle production system has been emerging around many towns across Somalia, where the sale of raw milk is already a very important economic activity. The growth opportunities for milk producers in the peri-urban context are based and depend upon mainly the remaining availability of fertile rangelands near many peri-urban areas, opportunities to deploy solar and wind power to reduce energy costs, especially for cold chains, and improved livestock management and feeding practices that can raise productivity by reducing seasonal fluctuations without expanding herd size.

#### *Meat production*

The meat value chain, like that for dairy, is also still almost exclusively focused on supplying the local market. Most slaughterhouses and meat markets are largely unhygienic, in various states of disrepair, and lack drainage systems. Many small and medium-size towns have no slaughterhouses at all. While there are signs of incipient commercialization, current processing is minimal, with only three meat processing companies operating in the country. The oldest in Mogadishu (SOMEAT) has two modern slaughterhouses and exports frozen cattle carcasses to Oman (and in small quantities also to Qatar) in refrigerated containers, with plans to invest in the machinery required for producing and exporting cuts. The other two operations on the outskirts of Hargeisa (Hilibsan) and Galkayo (Beira Food Factory) to process and sell meat in local markets in a hygienic way, have been recently established but have plans to expand, including into meat canning.



*Livestock export<sup>2</sup>*

Until the 2016-2017 drought hit hard across the country, livestock export volumes had increased steadily, as Somalia exported 4.7 million animals in 2012, 4.8 million in 2013, 5 million in 2014 and 5.3 million heads in 2015. In 2015, recorded live animal exports (which include re-exports from animals that originate in Ethiopia) reached \$533 million and total sector exports (including products) reached \$542 million, almost 10 times more than in the late 1980s. As a result, the livestock subsector accounted for 76 percent of total export earnings in the early 2010s and 79 percent in 2015, up from 53 percent in the late 1980s (World Bank-FAO 2018). However, the livestock export trade is constrained by the chronic shocks afflicting Somalia including political instability, conflict, civilian displacement, cyclic droughts, floods and outbreaks of transboundary animal diseases within Somalia and in the neighbouring countries.

Somalia's close proximity to various export markets and favourable consumer preferences in the Gulf markets provide Somalia with a competitive advantage that can support growth of exports of live animals as well as of meat, hides and skins, and possibly other livestock products. To exploit this potential advantage, however, Somalia needs to address successfully the vexing issue of the reliability and credibility of its health certification system for exports, and to diversify and reduce both its export product concentration and its heavy reliance on a few export markets, which makes the live-animal export sector acutely vulnerable to exogenous risks. These markets include Saudi Arabia and the U.A.E. for shoats, Yemen and Oman for cattle and shoats, Kenya for cattle, and Egypt for camels.

The Department of Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services manage the Seven (7) quarantine stations operating in the country for the export of live animals where public and private accredited and certified veterinarians are conducting the animal inspection and certification except the 3 (three) quarantine stations in Somaliland State. Tables below show the number of animals exported as well as the meat exported from Somali Meat Company Abattoir.

Table 5: Livestock exported in 2021

Main Ports	Sheep & Goats	Cattle	Camel	Total
Bossaso	1,595,773	31,146	9,981	1,636,900
Berbera	941,977	74,086	13,993	1,030,056
Mogadishu	-	20,267	-	20,267
Kismayo	-	17,500	-	17,500
Grand Total	2,537,750	142,999	23,974	2,704,723

Source: Annual report from 2022/2023, Department of Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services, MoLFR.

<sup>2</sup> Sector Strategy Paper Somalia Livestock Sector Development Strategy, MoLFR, WB and FAO. June 2019.

Table 6: Meat exported from Somali Meat Company Abattoir in 2021-2022

No:	Year	Species	Sex	Number of Carcasses	Total kgs frozen exported	Imported Countries
1.	2021	Goats	Male	100,447.00	1,016,751 Kg	Oman
2.	2022	Goats	Male	118,621.00	1,122,116.09 Kg	Oman/Bahrain
	Total	-	Male	238,539	94,728 Met tons	Oman/Bahrain

Source: Annual report from 2022/2023, Department of Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services, MoLFR.

### Geographic features

Somalia lies between longitudes 11°E and 51°24' E and latitude 11° 30' N and 1°30'S. Most of the country has an average rainfall of between 100-200 millimetres (mms) with a few elevated areas having an average annual rainfall of 500-600 mms.

The weather is hot throughout the year, except at the higher elevations in the north. The climate of Somalia has four seasons;

1. Primary wet season (Gu) – starts from April to June at the start of the south-west monsoon
2. The short dry season (Hagaa)- starts from July up to September
3. Short Rainy season (Dayr) – from October to December
4. The main dry season (Jilaal) – January to March

Climatic and/or agro-ecological zones	Rainfall (mm/year)
Arid	<100
Semi-arid	200 - 300
Humid	510 - 610

### Topography

Southern and Central Somalia consists of rather undistinguished relief rising from the coastal plains to a maximum altitude of 500 m asl near the Ethiopian border. The country's two most important rivers, the Juba and the Shabelle, dissect the western parts of the plain, but the lower reaches consist of meanders with flood plains. The Shabelle does not actually run into the sea. Just north of Mogadishu it turns parallel to the coast for a distance of some 300 km, before running out into swampland.

The northern regions are considerably different. The ground rises from south to north with a succession of ridges and upland plains, reaching maximum heights of 2000 m or more along the escarpment, which lies close and parallel to the north coast. The northern coastal strip is of variable width, but is very narrow, as little as 1 km, in some areas.

Topography	Km2	%
Total area	637,700	
Pasture lands		
Arable land		1.64%
Forest		9.4
Wetlands/deserts		
Highlands		

[illegible]

The coastal plains vegetation consists mainly of herbaceous plants. The vegetation in this region extends to the feet and slopes of the Golis Mountains. Close to the mountains, the predominant vegetation is sparse bushy *Acacia*, *Balanites aegyptiaca*, and *Commiphora* associations including *Boswellia* species.

In the northern Golis mountain range the vegetation consists of evergreen trees of *Juniperus procera* and *Juniperus excelsa* and open shrubs of *Buxus hilderbrandtii*, *Dodonea viscosa* and *Terminalia brownii*, etc. In the past, the Golis Forest remained largely uninhabited and protected while today it is experiencing increased exploitation pressure. There are now even human settlements in the forest.

In the central plains, vegetation varies from extensive grassland along the fixed dune areas to shrubby bushland with scattered trees in the west toward the Ethiopian border. Plants and bushes include *Andropoon kelleri*, *Chrysopogon aucheri*, *Sporobolus ruspolianus*, *Indigofera ruspolii*, *Acacia* spp., *Commiphora* spp., *Cordeauxia edulis*, *Delonix elata*, *Terminalia orbicularis* and *Dobera glabra* etc.

In the southern regions (especially in the floodplain), the vegetation type is mainly low deciduous bushland of *Acacia spp.* which extends to the coastal dunes.

Mangrove swamp communities are also situated at the tidal estuaries of the seasonal rivers towards the Indian Ocean coast and Gulf of Aden. They areas include Bushbush, Caanoole and Lag Badanaa. At certain points along the River Juba there are sections of riparian forest.

**Demographic data**

Human population		Livestock households/farms	
Total number	17 597 511	Total number	
Average density / km2	27.2	% intensive	
% of urban	47	% agro-pastoral (mixed)	
% of rural	53	% extensive	

**Current livestock census data**

Animals species	Total Number	Intensive production system (% or no.)	Mixed production system (% or no.)	Extensive production system (% or no.)
Camel	6 647 164			
Cattle	5 530 921			
Goats	30 516 421			
Sheep	12 983 154			

**Animal and animal product trade data**

Animals and animal products	Average annual import		Average annual export	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Sheep, goats, cattle and camels			3 477 240 live animals (2022)	
Cattle meat			318 carcasses (2021)	
Goat meat			142 000 carcasses (2022)	

**Economic data**

National GDP	8.13 billion USD (WB, 2022)
National budget	977 million USD (2023)
Livestock GDP (43%)	
Economic value of livestock population	
Annual public sector contribution to agriculture	
Annual budget of the Veterinary Services	No operational budget allocated for the VS

## Appendix 4: List of persons met or interviewed

Name	Position	
Dr Abdirahman Nur Kailie	Director of VS and WOAHA Delegate	Met in Nairobi
Dr Qasim Abdi Macllin	Senior Livestock Animal Health Specialist and Ministry's Technical Adviser	Met in Nairobi
Dr Abdulkadir Abdi Mohamed	Senior Veterinarian and Chairman of Central Livestock Professional Association (CERELPA) and representative of Private Livestock Professional Associations	Met in Nairobi
Dr Osman Caalo	Director Animal Health Department, Jubaland State	Interviewed
Dr Amina Hussein (Mrs)	Head of the Veterinary Central Laboratory, Mogadishu	Interviewed
Dr Mohamed Omar Isse	Head of Epidemiology and Data Management Section, Mogadishu	Interviewed
Dr Fatma Hussein (Mrs)	Private veterinarian, member of CERELPA	Interviewed
Mr Mohamed Abdoualye	CAHW Galkaiyo District	Interviewed
Mrs Farhie Mohamed Ali	CAHW	Interviewed

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## Appendix 5: Air travel itinerary

Assessor	Date	From	To	Flight no.	Departure	Arrival
Bouna Diop	7/10/2023	Dakar	Addis Ababa	ET 908	08.00	21.00
	7/10/2023	Addis Ababa	Nairobi	ET 308	23.15	01.20
	14/10/2023	Nairobi	Addis Ababa	ET 309	05.00	07.15
	14/10/2023	Addis Ababa	Kinshasa	ET 841	10.00	12.10

No air travel for Dr Henry Wamvayi and Ms Sonia Fevre.

## 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 Competencies
	<b>PRE-MISSION DOCUMENTS</b>		
E01	Annual report 2022-2023 Department of Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services	Dr. Abdirahman Nur Kailie Director of Animal Health Department / 28 September 2023	II.2; II.3; II.4; II.6; II.7.
E02	A situational analysis of antimicrobial use and antimicrobial in Somalia, 2 December 2020 – 19 March 2021	AU-IBAR and Ministry of Livestock, Forestry and Range with funding from the European Union	II.9
E03	Baseline data provided by the Animal Health and Public Veterinary Services Department	Dr. Abdirahman Nur Kailie Director of Animal Health Department / October 2023	I; II; III; IV.
E04	Benadir Livestock Professional Association (BENALPA) Profile	BENALPA, Not dated	I.1; I.2; II.4; III.2; III.7
E05	Central Regions Livestock Professional Association (CERELPA) Profile	CERELPA, 2022	I.1; I.2; II.4; III.2; III.7
E06	Certification to CERELPA to operate from 18/04/2022 to 19/04/2023		I.1; I.2; II.4; III.2; III.7
E07	Decision Ministry of Livestock to appoint LPAs for representation at various regions of South-Central Somalia	26 September 2014	I.1; I.2; II.4; III.2; III.7
E08	Decision Ministry of Livestock to appoint LPAs for representation at various regions of South-Central Somalia	21 January 2022	I.1; I.2; II.4; III.2; III.7
E09	List of activities implemented by LPAs		I.1; I.2; II.4; III.2; III.7
E10	Marketing Strategy for Livestock and Livestock products.	MoLFR, May 2018	III.3
E11	Ministry inputs for LPAs	MoLFR	I.1; I.2; II.4; III.2; III.7
E12	National Animal Health Strategy for Somalia Mogadishu, Somalia	Task force team headed by Dr. Abdirahman Nur Kailie April 2020.	I.5; II.6
E13	National Livestock Policy 2015 – 2030	MoLFR, 2015	I.5
E14	National SPS Strategy for the Federal Republic of Somalia, November 2019	MoLFR, November 2019	I.5
E15	Report Somali Livestock Veterinary Services Al An'aam International Company Burao – Somalia	Walter Masiga and Dr. Ali El Romeh May 8-10, 2014	II.3
E16	Review of Livestock-related Education and Training in Somalia	Dr. Abdinur Mohamud, Ph.D and Dr. Abdirahman Nur Keilie, Consultants, World Bank, FAO October 2018.	I.1; I.2.

E17	Sero-prevalence study to determine the effectiveness of <i>Peste des petits ruminants</i> vaccination in Somalia	Njue et al. 2018 Pastoralism Research, Policy and Practice 7:18)8102 <a href="https://doi.org/10.1186/s13570-018-0122-8">https://doi.org/10.1186/s13570-018-0122-8</a>	II.4; II.6.
E18	Somalia Livestock Sector Development Strategy	MoLFR, World Bank and FAO, June 2019	I.5
E19	South West Livestock Professional Association (SOWELPA) Profile	SOWELPA, December 2021	I.1; I.2; II.4; III.2; III.7
E20	Standard Methods and Procedures (SMPs) Export Quarantines in the Greater Horn of Africa	AU-IBAR, 2014 ISBN: 978-9966-077-19-6	II.3
E21	Standard Report of Somalia	OMSA WAHIS, 13 September 2023	II.4; II.6.
E22	The Meat Inspection and Control Act,	FAO, September 2015	II.7
E23	Veterinary Law Code – 2016	MoLFR, 2016	IV.1
<b>MISSION DOCUMENTS</b>			
E24	Lab result of samples from Jubaland state	CVL, 12 October 2021	II.1
E25	List of CVL staff	MoLFR	I-1; I.2.
E26	List of urgently needed equipment and reagent, chemicals in CVL	Dr.Amina Hussein Duhulow, Head of CVL, 23 June 2023	II.1
E27	Note on CVL tests	Dr.Amina Hussein Duhulow, Head of CVL	II.1A
E28	One Health in Somalia: Present status, opportunities, and challenges	Hassan-Kadle, Ahmed A. and Osman, Aamir M. and Ibrahim, Abdalla M. and Mohamed, Ahmed A. and Oliveira, Celso and Vieira, Rafael F. C. Available at SSRN: <a href="https://ssrn.com/abstract=4562336">https://ssrn.com/abstract=4562336</a> or <a href="http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4562336">http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4562336</a>	I.6
E29	Prioritization of zoonoses for multisectoral, One Health collaboration in Somalia, 2023	<a href="https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2352771423001544">https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2352771423001544</a>	I.6
E30	Report on unknown camel disease investigation		II.4
E31	Standard operating procedure (SOP) for Sample Collection, Packaging, Transportation and Storage	CVL, Not dated	II.1C; II.3; II.4.
E32	Strategy for the Progressive Control and Eradication of Peste des petits ruminants (PPR) and Other Priority Diseases of Small Ruminants in The Federal Republic of Somalia (2017 -2030)	Dr. Ali Hussan Muse, Dr. Abdiwali Mohamud Dhagane and Dr. Rachael Masake, March 2017	II.6
E33	Agreement between Somalia and Saudi Arabia on Livestock Exports		IV.4
E34	Note of the Director General Ref:	MoLFR, 21 January 2022.	I.1.A



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	WXD/XAG/473/2022 21/01/2022		
P01	Picture of on-going construction works on the Animal Health Offices including the CVL in Mogadishu	MoLFR, 2023	
P02	Pictures of stored laboratory equipment awaiting Completion of the CVL building in Mogadishu.	MoLFR, 2023	

## Appendix 7: Organisation of the WOAHPVS Evaluation of (country)

<b><u>Assessors Team</u></b>  Team leader: Technical expert: Observer/Facilitator:	<b>Dr Bouna Diop</b> <b>Dr Henry Wamwayi</b> <b>Mrs Sonia Fevre</b>
<b><u>Information of the mission</u></b>  Contact point in the country:  Dates:  Language of report: Language of the mission:  Subject of the evaluation	<b>Dr Abdirahman Nur Kailie, Director of VS and Somalia WOAHP Delegate</b>  <b>9 October 2023 – 13 October 2023</b>  <b>English</b> <b>English</b>  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
<b><u>Analysis</u></b>  References and Guidelines:  Activities analysed:  Procedure:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Terrestrial Animal Health Code (especially Chapters 3.1. &amp; 3.2.)</li> <li>○ WOAHPVS Tool for the Evaluation of Performance of VS             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Human, physical and financial resources</li> <li>→ Technical authority and capability</li> <li>→ Interaction with stakeholders</li> <li>→ Access to markets</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <b>All activities related to animal and veterinary public health</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Field activities:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ animal health (early detection, disease control, etc)</li> <li>▪ quarantine (country borders)</li> <li>▪ veterinary public health (food safety, veterinary drugs etc)</li> <li>▪ others</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Data and communication</li> <li>○ Diagnostic laboratories</li> <li>○ Research</li> <li>○ Initial and continuous training</li> <li>○ Organisation and finance</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Consultation of data and documents</li> <li>○ Interviews and meetings with VS staff and stakeholders</li> <li>○ Analyse of practical processes.</li> </ul>

**\*\*End of report\*\***