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The World Animal Biosecurity Association (WABA), is currently a project. The aim is to formally create WABA by the end of 2024. Here is the current mission statement of the organization:

<u>Mission</u>: To be a recognized reference on animal biosecurity by promoting the creation and transfer of knowledge, to advance the science and practice of animal infectious disease prevention and control, with the aim of enhancing sustainable animal, environmental and public health

WABA has six main objectives:

- 1. Provide an international forum dedicated to animal biosecurity
- 2. Provide opportunities for members to share information, practices, and collaborate on projects
- 3. Inform international standards on matters related to biosecurity
- 4. Be a repository of information regarding biosecurity, research and training program funding
- 5. Develop and transfer biosecurity knowledge
- 6. Inform stakeholders (growers, public, decision makers)

We are aware that many biosecurity initiatives have been created over the past few years. WABA does not intent to compete with these initiatives, but instead aims at promoting them. But we believe that there is a need for an international association with broad membership focusing on animal biosecurity, in order to address issues related to <u>companion animals</u>, <u>wildlife</u>, <u>zoo animal</u>, <u>on-farm</u>, <u>regional</u>, <u>national and international biosecurity</u>. Hence, the goal is to regroup all professionals who may be involved. There are veterinarians, of course, but **our intention is to cast a very large net in order to include all who may play a role in the development, implementation, and assessment of biosecurity. This may include animal scientists, public health professionals, psychologists, social scientists, lawyers, administrators, government officials, chemists, microbiologists, engineers, etc.**

The Initial Governance (Council): President, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and <u>11 councillors</u>: 2 representatives for each of 5 regions: Europe; Asia; North America; Central and South America; Africa; 1 representative for Oceania