

19/05/2020

Highlight

Virus inquiry wins global support

The Saturday Paper – 18/05/2020

An Australian and European Union proposal for an independent inquiry into Covid-19 has secured the support of 62 countries, ahead of this week's World Health Assembly meeting.

- **Excerpt:** The motion proposes that the World Health Organisation should collaborate with the World Organisation for Animal Health to “identify the zoonotic source of the virus and the route of introduction to the human population, including the possible role of intermediate hosts”.

THEMATIC	HEADLINE – JOURNAL - DATE – ARTICLE'S LEAD	OIE COMMUNICATIONS UNIT COMMENTS
Emerging diseases	<p><u>Q&A: Could climate change and biodiversity loss raise the risk of pandemics?</u> <i>Carbon Brief – 15/05/2020</i> Across the world, millions of people have tested positive for Covid-19 – and countless more have seen their lifestyles completely transformed as a result of the virus.</p> <p><u>Next coronavirus hotspot and pandemic origin could be Amazon Rainforest, warns scientist</u> <i>Hindustan Times – 16/05/2020</i> With the Amazon rainforests disappearing so rapidly, an “ecological disequilibrium is created and that’s when a virus can jump” from animals to humans, according to ecologist David Lapola.</p> <p><u>La déforestation amazonienne peut favoriser l'émergence de nouveaux virus pour l'être humain</u> <i>Porquoi Docteur – 19/05/2020</i></p>	

[Controlling animal disease outbreaks in the GCC](#)

Gulf Business – 17/05/2020

Governments in the region can venture forward by creating an interdisciplinary and cross-sector approach to predict, detect, control, and counter zoonotic diseases.

[Preventing epidemics in 20th-century China](#)

China Dialogue – 18/05/2020

Infectious diseases and efforts to defeat them have long centred on human-animal relations, writes Mary Augusta Brazelton, author of Mass Vaccination.

[Expert group formed for zoonotic diseases management in future](#)

The New Indian Express – 19/05/2020

They would share information among countries on existing and evolving disease burdens, challenges, research outcomes and outputs and promote exchange of resources.

COVID-19

[An expert in infectious animal diseases answers questions on this pandemic – and the next one](#)

World Economic Forum – 15/05/2020

While many of us may only have become aware of the links between viruses, wildlife and habitat destruction recently, Dr. Suzan Murray has spent much of her career studying the intersection of human, wildlife and environmental health.

[Humans can pass Covid-19 infection to animals, shows research](#)

Hindustan Times – 15/05/2020

While the paper didn't study if animal-to-animal transmission could occur, the authors recommended that for precaution, pets belonging to Covid-19 patients be isolated and tested, as is already being done in Hong Kong.

[Virus inquiry wins global support](#)

The Saturday Paper – 18/05/2020

An Australian and European Union proposal for an independent inquiry into Covid-19 has secured the support of 62 countries, ahead of this week's World Health Assembly meeting.

[EU calls for coronavirus investigation to focus on animal-to-human transmission](#)

Yahoo News – 16/05/2020

[62 Countries Back Joint Australia-EU Initiative For Independent Inquiry Into COVID-19 Outbreak](#)

Sputnik News – 17/05/2020

[Coalition of 62 countries backs joint Australian, EU push for independent inquiry into coronavirus outbreak](#)

ABC News AU – 17/05/2020

[China relents on opposition to COVID-19 origin probe; Backs EU resolution at World Health Assembly](#)

The Economics Time – 18/05/2020

[Eye on China, India backs 62-nation coalition's push for probe into Covid-19 origin](#)

Hindustan Times – 18/05/2020

[India backs EU draft resolution at World Health Assembly seeking probe into coronavirus origin, WHO response](#)

India Today – 18/05/2020

[Some Probing Questions](#)

Crikey – 18/05/2020

[Sri Lanka urged to back coalition seeking probe on origin of virus](#)

MenaFN – 18/05/2020

[Resolution seeking to establish origins of covid-19 passed at World Health](#)

Excerpt

The motion proposes that the World Health Organisation should collaborate with the World Organisation for Animal Health to “identify the zoonotic source of the virus and the route of introduction to the human population, including the possible role of intermediate hosts”.

[Assembly](#)

Livemint – 19/05/2020

[WHO gives nod for probe into coronavirus outbreak](#)

One India – 19/05/2020

[Enquête sur la réponse internationale à la pandémie : quand ? comment ? et après ?](#)

L'Orient le Jour – 19/05/2020

En pleine guerre des mots sino-américaine et alors que le président américain Donald Trump menace de couper les vivres à l'OMS, les pays membres de l'Organisation mondiale de la santé ont adopté mardi une résolution sur l'évaluation de la réponse sanitaire internationale, y compris de l'agence onusienne, à la pandémie.

[L'OMS, étrillée par les Etats-Unis, défendue par beaucoup d'autres](#)

Courrier Picard – 19/05/2020

[Tout comprendre à l'enquête sur la réponse internationale à la pandémie de Covid-19](#)

L'Express – 19/05/2020

Excerpt

La résolution, si elle ne mentionne pas le fait que le virus soit apparu fin décembre en Chine, appelle le directeur général de l'OMS à collaborer avec l'Organisation mondiale de la santé animale, l'Organisation des Nations unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture (FAO) et les pays "en vue d'identifier la source zoonotique du virus, et de déterminer par quelle voie il s'est introduit dans la population humaine". Elle souligne que cette démarche peut se faire "notamment moyennant des missions scientifiques et des missions de collaboration sur le terrain". La Chine s'est déclarée ouverte à une enquête indépendante, mais pas avant la fin de la pandémie.

Wildlife/Wet
Markets

['A loaded gun:' Wet markets, wildlife trafficking pose threat for the next pandemic](#)

USA Today – 16/05/2020

In the early stages of the coronavirus outbreak, the Chinese government moved quickly to ban wildlife consumption and crack down on certain "wet markets" where snakes, civets and other exotic animals are sold along with more traditional livestock.

[Scientists hope bats may hold clues to fighting COVID-19](#)

ABC 7 – 17/05/2020

They fly through the night, sometimes carrying deadly viruses in their bodies, but are still surviving.

[Coronavirus did not come from animals in Wuhan market, study finds](#)

Metro UK – 17/05/2020

Coronavirus did not come from a lab but was brought to the Wuhan wet market by humans, according to new research published this month.

[Bushmeat could cause the next global pandemic](#)

Medical Xpress – 18/05/2020

Using the tip of my boot, I pushed the charred and blackened hand back into the fire and watched as vivid flames engulfed the limb, along with the smouldering forms of other primates, ungulates, bats, pangolins and a whole host of other species of endangered, legally protected and potentially deadly wildlife. I was present at one of the very first large-scale confiscations of bushmeat in Liberia, West Africa, where the animal remains were being burned to prevent them from entering food markets both locally and further afield.

[L'horreur des marchés d'animaux](#)

[vivants encore ouverts malgré la pandémie au COVID-19](#)

Notre Planete – 19/05/2020

Après avoir diffusé des images de « marchés humides » (également appelés « marchés d'animaux vivants ») en Indonésie et en Thaïlande au début du mois d'avril – des mois après le début de l'épidémie de COVID-19 – les enquêteurs de PETA Asie ont observé davantage de crasse, de misère et de mort dans près d'une douzaine d'autres marchés d'animaux ailleurs en Asie. Malgré le nombre croissant de morts, l'appel des dirigeants mondiaux en faveur d'une interdiction de ces marchés et l'importance de continuer à aplanir la courbe, ces marchés et d'autres comme ceux-ci continuent à fonctionner comme si de rien n'était.

[Welcome outcome on Wildlife Wet Markets](#)

Mirage News – 19/05/2020

The Minister for Agriculture, David Littleproud is pleased to see the strong international support which he led last month at the G20 to investigate Wildlife Wet Markets as part of the broader review of COVID-19.

Excerpts

“That is why I worked with Australia’s Chief Veterinary Officer, Mark Schipp to push for global reforms underpinned by a scientific review.

“The review will be a joint WHO, OIE, FAO collaboration.

Together we can gather information that will contribute to the betterment of all nations.

Animal Welfare

[Coronavirus: Don't ditch your pets over Covid-19 fears, vets say](#)

Stuff – 18/05/2020

There is no evidence that cats can transmit Covid-19 to humans, an SPCA scientist explained.

Excerpt

The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) says there isn't any evidence that suggests companion animals

	<p><u>How to transport calves without trouble</u> <i>The Beef Site – 19/05/2020</i> The transported calf is subject to a series of stresses, stresses that would even greatly challenge a mature immune system.</p>	<p>play a "significant" role in spreading the virus.</p>
<p>Food Safety</p>	<p><u>What you need to know about eating seafood and COVID-19</u> <i>Sea West News – 17/05/2020</i> Farmed finfish and shellfish are a safe choice for consumers say a diverse group of scientists</p> <p><u>U.S. Needs Better Food Safety Interventions, Starting on Farms</u> <i>Pew – 18/05/2020</i> CDC report shows current efforts not meeting goals for foodborne disease reduction</p> <p><u>(Un)Certainty of Food Safety in the Times of COVID-19</u> <i>Jurist – 18/05/2020</i> With food emerging out as a heavily traded commodity internationally, the majority of the nations around the world have become melting pots of civilization, leading to the increasing interconnectedness of the global food system and complexity of the supply chains. With the long-winded food supply chains there exists information asymmetry between the consumers and the food they consume. This puts consumers at a significant disadvantage with respect to assessing the quality and safety of imported food.</p>	<p>Related report <u>Preliminary Incidence and Trends of Infections with Pathogens Transmitted Commonly Through Food — Foodborne Diseases Active Surveillance Network, 10 U.S. Sites, 2016–2019</u> <i>CDC – 01/05/2020</i></p>

<p>Food Security</p>	<p><u>COVID-19 is disrupting a food industry already thrown into turmoil by climate change</u> <i>Modern Diplomacy – 16/05/2020</i> Today’s COVID-19 pandemic has reinforced the critical role of rice in ensuring global food security while combating climate change.</p> <p><u>Covid-19 pandemic risks worst global food crisis in decades</u> <i>News Scientist – 18/05/2020</i> The covid-19 pandemic’s impact on hunger around the world could be worse than when food prices spiked calamitously in 2007 and 2008, a leading food security expert warns.</p>	
<p>Animal Health</p> <p>Avian influenza</p> <p>African swine fever</p>	<p><u>Iraq puts chicken under lockdown after bird flu case is detected</u> <i>N World – 18/05/2020</i> Authorities also seal off neighbourhoods in Baghdad to try to contain the Covid-19 contagion</p> <p><u>Wild boars die in Arunachal after African swine fever kills 13000 pigs in Assam</u> <i>The New Indian Express – 15/05/2020</i> As the domestic pigs might infect wild boars, the government has already alerted the forest department.</p> <p><u>Officials Escalate Efforts to Stop African Swine Fever Spread in India</u> <i>Ag Web – 18/05/2020</i> African swine fever (ASF) continues to rage in India. Officials in India fear the disease is out of control as reports surface of the disease entering the wild pig population.</p> <p><u>ASF-suspected pork products seized, destroyed in Malungon, Sarangani</u> <i>Uganda News – 19/05/2020</i> Authorities have confiscated and destroyed</p>	<p><u>Iraq</u></p> <p><u>Philippines</u></p>

over two tons of African Swine Fever (ASF)-suspected processed pork-based products in the town of Malungon, Sarangani on Friday, May 15.

[S. Korea develops ASF test kits](#)

The Korea Herald – 19/05/2020

South Korea said Tuesday it has developed a new test kit for the African swine fever (ASF) that can pave the way for the country to speed up its battle against the fatal animal disease and reduce its dependency on imported tools.

[S. Korea develops test kits for African swine fever](#)

Inquirer – 19/05/2020

[Worry over pig population in Assam](#)

The Telegraph India – 19/05/2020

Veterinarians have asked farmers to maintain strict biosecurity protocols as Doms graze in groups in the wild

Foot and mouth disease

[Namibia lifts foot-and-mouth disease restrictions](#)

CGTN Africa – 19/05/2020

Namibia has lifted restrictions that halted the trade and movement of cattle from Kabbe North Constituency in the north east of the country after an outbreak of foot and mouth disease (FMD) in August 2019, the agriculture ministry said on Tuesday.

[Korea \(Rep. of\)](#)

[Namibia](#)

[Cattle disease restrictions lifted in Zambezi](#)

The Namibian – 19/05/2020

Rabbit haemorrhagic disease

[A highly contagious and fatal virus is spreading in several states. Its victims are rabbits.](#)

The Washington Post – 18/05/2020

A lethal rabbit virus is spreading across the southwestern United States, killing wild rabbits on this continent for the first time and causing concern for some fragile species and the

<p>African horse sickness</p> <p>Bovine viral diarrhoea</p>	<p>animals that prey on them.</p> <p><u>The 'Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease' has killed thousands of wild rabbits since its arrival</u> <i>USA Today – 19/05/2020</i></p> <p><u>African horse sickness spreads to Saraburi, killing 28 animals</u> <i>Bangkok Post – 17/05/2020</i> An African horse sickness (AHS) outbreak that emerged in Pak Chong district of Nakhon Ratchasima recently, killing at least 433 horses, has now spread to neighbouring Saraburi province.</p> <p><u>African Horse Sickness spreads in the north east, death toll passes 500</u> <i>The Thaiger – 18/05/2020</i></p> <p><u>New rules to eradicate BVD come into force in UK</u> <i>The Beef Site – 18/05/2020</i> New rules in the battle to eradicate bovine viral diarrhoea (BVD) from the UK cattle herd come into effect on 18 May.</p>	<p><u>Thailand</u></p> <p>Related OIE resources <u>AHS Webinars</u></p> <p>Related article <u>New rules to come into force in battle to eradicate BVD</u> <i>The Press and Journal – 16/05/2020</i></p>
<p>Aquatic Animals</p>	<p><u>Unlocking the true potential of formulated aquafeeds</u> <i>The Fish Site – 19/05/2020</i> New modelling techniques that measure the digestion dynamics of key nutrients can provide a systematic view of fish nutrition that’s applicable to multiple species and, in the process, help to unlock the potential of a range of aquafeed ingredients.</p>	
<p>Bees</p>	<p><u>The World’s Bee Population Is Recovering During COVID-19 Lockdown</u> <i>The Beet – 18/05/2020</i> As shelter-in-place orders march into summer, quarantiners are getting restless, but the Earth is enjoying a much-needed reprieve. One such lucky beneficiary from the curtailing of human</p>	

	<p>activity is the wild bee.</p> <p><u>Bees: The Most Important Living Creatures on the Planet</u> <i>Novinite – 19/05/2020</i></p> <p>The Earthwatch Institute named bees the most important living thing on the planet in its latest debate at the Royal Geographical Society in London in 2019</p> <p><u>Honey bees feel sting of viral disease</u> <i>UN Environment – 19/05/2020</i></p> <p>There’s nothing new in nature. Viruses have been around for as long as plants and animals, if not longer. Most viruses are benign to humans and other animals and in fact are essential for life. Some—as humans are finding out with COVID-19—have negative consequences.</p>	
<p>Livestock</p>	<p><u>IFA urges cattle marts to re-open if they can maintain COVID-19 precautions</u> <i>The Beef Site – 19/05/2020</i></p> <p>The Irish Farmers Association stresses that mart structures provide an essential service for farmers and need continued support.</p>	<p>Related statement <u>Mart structure provides essential service for farmers and must be supported</u> <i>IFA – 18/05/2020</i></p>
<p>Biodiversity</p>	<p><u>Deforestation 'increases the risk of animal-human disease transmission'</u> <i>Sky News – 15/05/2020</i></p> <p>Habitat destruction is bringing humans closer to animals which is increasing the risk of diseases being transmitted.</p> <p><u>Save wildlife, save ourselves</u> <i>The Hill – 15/05/2020</i></p> <p>One year ago this week, a landmark United Nations report estimated that one million species are threatened with extinction worldwide due to human activities. Since then, we’ve learned that there are three billion fewer birds in North America than a half century ago. A new analysis by the National Wildlife Federation finds that 90 percent of globally threatened species have declining populations,</p>	

	<p>while only 1 percent are increasing.</p>	
<p>One Health</p>	<p><u>'One Health' Approach Could Help India Avert COVID-19-like Pandemic In Future</u> <i>Outlook India – 15/05/2020</i> 'One Health' is a collaborative effort where multiple stakeholders work in tandem to attain optimal health for people, animals, and the environment.</p> <p><u>Opinion: Pandemic a reminder that all life is connected</u> <i>CT Post – 16/05/2020</i> Throughout history, infectious diseases originating in animals have crossed the species barrier to wreak havoc on humankind. Famous examples include Ebola from bats, HIV and malaria from chimpanzees and gorillas, and the bubonic plague from fleas on rodents</p> <p><u>Attention for “one health” approach for working equines and their owners</u> <i>Horsetalk – 18/05/2020</i> A research article by the world’s largest equine welfare charity, The Donkey Sanctuary, that highlights the link between the welfare of working equids and the wellbeing of their owners has received a significant endorsement through its acceptance by peer-reviewed scientific journal <i>Frontiers in Veterinary Science</i>.</p> <p><u>To Prevent Pandemics, Bridging the Human and Animal Health Divide</u> <i>Undark – 18/05/2020</i> Veterinarians, farmers, and zookeepers could help prevent the next pandemic, but their expertise has been overlooked.</p> <p><u>Écosystèmes, Humains et animaux : tous dans le même bateau !</u> <i>La Vie – 19/05/2020</i> Le concept One World, One Health (« un monde, une santé »), qui n'est pas sans</p>	<p>Excerpt « Ce concept de “One Health” avait pourtant déjà reçu un coup d’accélérateur</p>

rappeler le "Tout est lié" de l'encyclique *Laudato si'*, est né en 2004 dans un zoo à New York. Pour ses promoteurs, la pandémie de Covid-19 renforce l'urgente nécessité de faire travailler ensemble médecins, vétérinaires et écologues.

lorsqu'en avril 2010, à l'initiative de l'Organisation mondiale de la santé (OMS), l'Organisation des Nations unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture (FAO) et l'Organisation mondiale de la santé animale (OIE) avaient adopté une note tripartite, signée par 70 pays, qui les enjoignait à travailler dans ce sens », se souvient Stéphane de La Rocque de Séverac, un vétérinaire français qui a justement rejoint l'OMS. « C'est, en effet, indispensable de travailler ensemble, médecins et vétérinaires notamment, quand on sait qu'aujourd'hui 60 % de toutes les maladies humaines proviennent des animaux et que, plus inquiétant encore, 75 % des maladies émergentes sont des zoonoses. »

Climate Change

[Fighting infectious diseases: The connection to climate change](#)

World Bank Blogs – 19/05/2020

As global temperatures rise, long-term changes in climate and wildlife habitat could have a significant effect on human health and increase the risk of infectious diseases like the coronavirus (COVID-19).