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Preventing next pandemic

Global health experts unite in Bahrain to strengthen One Health framework

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t a time when global health systems face mounting pressures from pandemics, climate change, and rising food insecurity, Bahrain has become the regional stage for an ambitious and collaborative movement, the One Health approach.

The Regional Workshop for the Middle East, organized by the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) in cooperation with Bahrain's Ministry of Municipalities and Agriculture explained. "Diseases don't re- One Health in Bahrain Islands to advance a unified ac- adopt a multidisciplinary apgap between human, animal, and environmental health.

Speaking to The Daily Tribat the FAO Subregional Office for key concern for the region. the GCC States and Yemen, stat-

Action, approved globally by the and is linked to camels. Although



Dr. Markos Tibbo

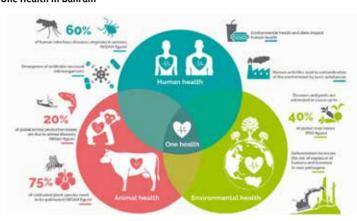
Affairs, has drawn international spect borders or disciplines. To and regional experts to Amwaj effectively respond, we must tion plan aimed at bridging the proach that unites veterinarians, doctors, environmentalists, and policymakers."

He emphasized that zoonotic une, Dr. Markos Tibbo, Senior diseases that spread between Livestock Development Officer animals and humans remain a

"The Middle East has faced ed that this workshop represents several challenges such as the a critical step toward translating Middle East Respiratory Synglobal strategy into local action. drome Coronavirus (MERS-"The One Health Joint Plan of CoV), which emerged in 2012



Dr. Fajr Al-Salloom, Vice President of WOAH and Bahrain's Permanent Delegate (left), and H.E. Eng. Wael bin Nasser Al Mubarak, Minister of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture, officially inaugurated the Middle East Regional Workshop on



Quadripartite FAO, WHO, WOAH, its prevalence has declined, it continues to pose risks, with recombination is real and could and UNEP is meant to harmonize still lingers," he said. "COVID-19, evidence of animal-to-human spark new pandemics if left unactions on the ground," Tibbo caused by SARS-CoV-2, also transmission. The threat of viral checked."

Building Capacity

From a regional coordination vironmental health." perspective, Dr. Ahmad M. Almajali, Regional Representative around a multi-sectoral apfor the Middle East at the World proach that integrates surveil-Organisation for Animal Health, lance, response, and prevention highlighted the importance of measures to build resilient syscapacity building and collabo- tems against health emergen-

"This event brings together



Dr. Ahmad M. Almajali

the Chief Veterinary Officers Other regional zoonotic and national delegates from threats include tuberculosis, across the Middle East to discuss brucellosis, and other live- how to operationalize the One stock-related infections that, Health Joint Action Plan," he while not pandemic-level risks, said. "Our focus is on strengthsignificantly impact food safe- ening national systems, sharing ty, trade, and livelihoods, Tibbo tools developed by the global organizations, and ensuring that every country is prepared to face future threats to animal and en-

The plan, he added, revolves

