

## NEW ANIMAL HEALTH STRATEGY FOR THE EUROPEAN UNION

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An action plan for a new animal health strategy for the European Union (2007-2013), where “prevention is better than cure”, was recently published by the European Commission and is now available online. The new strategy was formulated in close consultation with the various stakeholders concerned.

Animal health is of concern to all European citizens since it is closely linked to areas such as food safety, animal welfare, sustainable development and research as well as to public health.

The plan's underlying principles are partnership and communication.

The action plan is based on four pillars that target well-defined outcomes: prioritisation of EU intervention; introduction of a single regulatory animal health framework; enhanced prevention, surveillance and crisis preparedness; and science, innovation and research.

### References

1. European Commission. A New Animal Health Strategy for the European Union (2007-2013), where “Prevention is better than cure”. Luxembourg; 2008. Available from: [http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/diseases/strategy/actionplan\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/diseases/strategy/actionplan_en.htm)

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