A BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE X

1. South Africa attaches importance to Article X and believes this Article can play an important role in improving human, animal and plant health in the world and further improving health capabilities to combat infectious disease in all countries. In this regard, the Cooperation Database can play a major role and it should therefore be improved in order to fulfil this important role.

2. South African institutes are involved in many cooperation programmes with other States Parties and International Organisations. These collaborative programmes include research activities, disease surveillance and diagnostics and other aspects of infectious disease management. South Africa greatly relies on these collaborations in order to improve its Public Health system, covering human, animal and plant health.