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Taiwan's Participation in the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE): Modalities, Utility, and Challenges

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Abstract

This article explores the utility of membership in international organisations for states with specific status within the international community, focusing on Taiwan's surprisingly neglected involvement in the World Organisation for Animal Health or OIE (Office International des Épizooties). The paper shows that in addition to its contribution to the legitimisation of Taiwan's identities, such participation has also enabled Taiwan to shape international norms in the field of animal health, increase international cooperation opportunities, strengthen domestic and global health security, and facilitate the trade of animal health-related products. Additionally, it has contributed to the domestic implementation of international animal health norms and helped increase the accountability of Taiwanese authorities in the domain of animal health management. Despite tremendous challenges, Taiwan still has plenty of opportunities to enhance its participation in global health governance through its membership in OIE.