

Chapter III

Charter of the networks represented in the Scientific Board

Created in 1997, the National Observatory of the Epidemiology of Bacterial Resistance to Antibiotics (ONERBA) is an organisation whose scientific and technical activities rely mainly on the networks for surveillance of resistance already established and federated in ONERBA.

Each one of these networks has an identity and objectives in their own, and which represent for ONERBA a source of diversity and richness. Each one of them defined a mode of organization which allowed long term surveillance. It enables him to contribute to ONERBA by bringing to the community its experiment and information it has gathered. In exchange, each network finds in ONERBA an enrichment for its own operation, through the confrontation of experiments and collegial work of analysis and interpretation of the results. The charter below specifies the state of mind and the principles which animate the networks represented in ONERBA, at the time when the scientific activities of this association are set up.

■ 1. Each network decides on its own as regards to:

- choice of its topics of interest;
- methods of collection and transmission of the data;
- controls of likelihood, methods of data-processing;
- analysis, interpretation and diffusion of the results which it obtains.

■ 2. Each network certifies to respect the good practices, as well as the technical recommendations enacted by the French Society for Microbiology, the CNIL (National Commission for Informatics and Freedom), etc.

■ 3. Each network takes part without reserve in the activities of ONERBA, which is responsible *in fine* for information that it gathers and presents. This implies for each network:

- to exchange its experiments in the organisation of the monitoring of resistance to antibiotics and in the analysis of the results;
- to use common definitions and standards, in particular concerning the definition of resistance and variables, as well as a common dataset;
- to confront, analyse and interpret the results, and whose it quality has already been checked. This collegial work can bring the networks having chosen the same topic of work to merge their databases. This collegial work can also lead a network to re-examine his data, which it provided, for example by checking initial files;
- to decide results to present or disseminate on behalf of ONERBA. The final presentation should respect networks identity.