

Gerrit Viljoen is head of the Animal Production and Health Subprogramme of the Joint FAO/IAEA Division situated in Vienna, Austria. The Joint FAO/IAEA Division is unique in that it is the only International Organization that has its own R&D Laboratories. At any given time the Subprogramme is responsible for about 60 national country projects (on a two year cycle) and 8 Co-ordinated Research projects (on a five year cycle) mostly in developing IAEA and FAO Member States. The main aims of the programmatic activities are in the development and transfer of appropriate technologies, training of targeted Member State animal production and health counterparts, and the development/establishment of research capabilities and in the evaluation, validation and harmonization of procedures to improve animal production systems.

Gerrit originates from South Africa, where he was Assistant Director and Head of the Applied Biotechnology Division at the Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute.