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OIE Terrestrial & Aquatic Animal Health Code

Workshop for OIE National Focal Points on Veterinary Products - (2nd Cycle)
Casablanca (Morocco), 6-8 December 2011
• The OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (the *Terrestrial Code*) sets out standards for the improvement of animal health and welfare and veterinary public health *worldwide*, including through standards for safe international trade in terrestrial animals (mammals, birds and bees) and their products.

• The health measures in the *Terrestrial Code* should be used by the veterinary authorities of importing and exporting countries to provide for early detection, reporting and control agents pathogenic to animals or humans, and to prevent their transfer via international trade in animals and animal products, while avoiding unjustified sanitary barriers to trade.
OIE international standards

• OIE develops and publishes science-based drafts, recommended by international experts
• Reviewed/approved by Specialized Commissions
• Adopted by the General Assembly each May; no other pathway for adoption
• Can be reviewed and re-adopted yearly
• Recognized by the WTO-SPS Agreement
Governance structure of the OIE: Specialist Commissions

- **Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission**
  - "Code Commission"
  - Responsible for ensuring that the Code reflects current scientific information.

- **Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases**
  - "Scientific Commission"
  - Assists in identifying the most appropriate strategies and measures for the following:
    - disease surveillance
    - disease prevention and control
    - examining Members’ request regarding their official animal health status, for countries that wish to be included on the OIE official list of countries or zones free from certain diseases.

- **Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission**
  - "Aquatic Animals Commission"
  - Compiles information on diseases of fish, molluscs, crustaceans and amphibians and recommends appropriate prevention and control methods for these diseases.

- **Biological Standards Commission**
  - "Laboratories Commission"
  - Establishes or approves methods for:
    - diagnostic of diseases of mammals, birds and bees
    - defining quality criteria of biological products such as vaccines, used for disease control purposes
  - Advises the Director General in supervising the global network of OIE Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres (227 worldwide in 2010).
OIE’s standard setting process
OIE international standards - Adopted by the General Assembly each May
- no other pathway for adoption
Establishing or updating international standards
The OIE Codes and Manuals

- Terrestrial Animal Health Code
- Aquatic Animal Health Code
- Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals
- Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals
The OIE Codes

- recommend health measures to be used by veterinary services or other competent authorities

- to establish health regulations for the safe importation of animals and animal products while avoiding unjustified trade restrictions

- OIE has expanded into animal welfare and food safety
Principles of the Codes

- **Scientific basis for recommendations**
- **Compliance with WTO obligations**
- **Credibility of health certification**
- **Importing country assumed to be free of disease or to apply official controls.**
Terrestrial Code contents

✓ General provisions

✓ Recommendations applicable to OIE listed diseases and other diseases of importance to international trade

✓ Now expanding into animal welfare and food safety
The *Terrestrial Code* structure

Volume 1

- General provisions
  - Foreword
  - User's guide
  - Glossary

- Section 1. Animal disease diagnosis, surveillance and notification

- Section 2. Risk analysis

- Section 3. Quality of Veterinary Services

- Section 4. General recommendations: disease prevention and control

- Section 5. Trade measures, import/export procedures and veterinary certification

- Section 6. Veterinary public health

- Section 7. Animal welfare
The Terrestrial Code structure (contd)

Volume 2

Recommendations applicable to OIE listed diseases and other diseases of importance to international trade

✓ Section 8. Multiple species
✓ Section 9. Apidae
✓ Section 10. Aves
✓ Section 11. Bovidae
✓ Section 12. Equidae
✓ Section 13. Lagomorpha
✓ Section 14. Ovidae and capridae
✓ Section 15. Suidae
available on the OIE website

http://www.oie.int/en/international-standard-setting/terrestrial-code/access-online/
Aquatic Animal Health Code – fish, molluscs, crustaceans and amphibians
Also available on the OIE website

http://www.oie.int/en/international-standard-setting/aquatic-code/access-online/
Organisation Mondiale de la Santé Animale
World Organisation for Animal Health
Organización Mundial de Sanidad Animal