



8 October 2014

(14-5712)

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English/French/Spanish

61ST MEETING OF THE SPS COMMITTEE

COMMUNICATION FROM THE WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH (OIE)

The following communication, received on 7 October 2014, is being circulated at the request of the OIE.

1. The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) is pleased to provide this update to the 61st meeting of the SPS Committee.

2. The report summarises key developments in the OIE standard-setting work programme, with a focus on the September 2014 meetings of the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission (Code Commission) and the Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission (Aquatic Animals Commission).

3. The reports of both meetings will be available on the OIE website shortly. Key topics addressed at these meetings include:

1 CRITERIA FOR LISTING DISEASES

4. Following further discussion on this subject during the OIE General Session in May 2014 the OIE has committed to bring together an *ad hoc* group to review the existing disease listing criteria.

2 ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE

5. Considering the increasing importance of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in animal health and public health, OIE continues to tackle the issue under its mandates. Updating the OIE standards on AMR is an important on-going role for the OIE. Four out of five chapters in the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code dedicated to AMR have already undergone major revision and been adopted by the OIE member countries. A new draft chapter on "Risk analysis for antimicrobial resistance arising from the use of antimicrobial agents in aquatic animals" has been developed, and is being circulated for member countries' review and comments with the September meeting report of the Aquatic Animals Commission.

3 DEFINITION OF SAFE COMMODITIES

6. The Code Commission is proposing a definition for safe commodity to be included in the glossary for member countries' consideration. Adoption of such a definition in the glossary is expected to more clearly highlight instances of inappropriate use of unwarranted sanitary measures for all of those commodities specifically identified as safe in the various disease-specific standards.

4 FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE (FMD)

7. Extensive work has been undertaken by an *ad hoc* group, the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases, the Code Commission and OIE staff to comprehensively review the FMD chapter, and the process for official recognition of FMD status by the OIE. The revised chapters are being circulated

with the report of the September meeting report of the Code Commission for member countries' review and comment, with a view to proposing the revised chapters for adoption in May 2015.

5 GLANDERS

8. Extensive work has also been undertaken to comprehensively review and update the current chapter. Again the revised chapter is being circulated with the report of the September meeting report of the Code Commission meeting for member countries' review and comment.

6 OIE CAPACITY-BUILDING: PVS PATHWAY

9. The OIE continues its global initiative to support member countries wishing to comply with quality standards of national Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services by following the PVS Pathway. A summary of progress on PVS Pathway missions is provided in the attached Annex.

10. Members may also be interested to note that "implementation of internationally agreed standards for core capacities such as the World Health Organisation International Health Regulations, the World Organisation for Animal Health Performance of Veterinary Services and other global health security frameworks" have very recently been identified as key objectives of the Global Health Security Agenda to advance a world safe and secure from infectious disease threats.

ANNEX

A SUMMARY OF PROGRESS ON PVS PATHWAY EVALUATIONS

PVS Evaluation missions: State of play (5 September 2014)

	OIE members	PVS Evaluation requests received	PVS Evaluation missions implemented	Reports available for (restricted) distribution to Donors and Partners
Africa	54	53	51	40
Americas	29	25	23	18
Asia, the Far East and Oceania	32	23	19	11
Europe	53	16	16	12
Middle East	12	13	11	5
TOTAL	180	130	120	86

PVS Gap Analysis: State of play (5 September 2014)

	OIE members	PVS Gap Analysis requests received	PVS Gap Analysis missions implemented	Reports available for (restricted) distribution to Donors and Partners
Africa	54	46	41	23
Americas	29	15	11	10
Asia, the Far East and Oceania	32	18	13	7
Europe	53	8	7	2
Middle East	12	8	4	0
TOTAL	180	95	76	42

Veterinary Legislation: State of play (5 September 2014)

	OIE members	PVS Legislation mission requests received	PVS Legislation missions implemented
Africa	54	37	21
Americas	29	7	6
Asia, the Far East and Oceania	32	5	5
Europe	53	5	2
Middle East	12	4	4
TOTAL	180	58	38