

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

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**ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE SPS COMMITTEE
DISCUSSED BY THE OIE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE
AT THE 71ST GENERAL SESSION**

Communication from the Office International des Épizooties (OIE)

1. The 71st General Session of the International Committee of the OIE, the World Organization for Animal Health, was held at the OIE headquarters (Paris, France) from 18-23 May 2003.
2. Of the OIE membership of 164 member countries, 140 countries or territories were represented by their delegates, and 30 international organizations and institutions also participated.
3. Issues relevant to the work of the SPS Committee discussed by the OIE International Committee during the General Session were as follows:

Implementing the recommendations of the OIE Third Strategic Plan

4. The work carried out in 2002 and planned for 2003 continued the implementation of the OIE Third Strategic Plan.
5. New tools designed to allow greater transparency of the animal health status of member countries are gradually being introduced: active search for unofficial animal health information and, where appropriate, confirmation by the delegates concerned; real-time dissemination of emergency messages, and greater use of electronic transfer of information.
6. Relations with international organizations were intensified, notably in the field of food safety, animal welfare, financing veterinary research and support for the official veterinary services of developing countries. The OIE International Committee approved agreements between the OIE and the World Health Organization, the Southern African Development Community, the International Equestrian Federation, the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, and the Economic Community of Livestock, Meat and Fishery Resources. International organizations with which the OIE has signed cooperation agreements all made presentations on their activities.
7. Discussions with FAO and with WHO aimed at updating the existing agreements with the OIE are progressing and should be finalised in 2003.
8. The operational implementation of the Doha Declaration included the organization of a seminar during the World Veterinary Congress in Tunis, Tunisia, on behalf of the delegates from Africa and the Middle East, and the allocation of a grant from the European Union to facilitate the participation of experts from developing countries in the preparation of international standards.
9. As usual, two major technical items were presented and discussed. This year, they addressed "the use of economic analysis to define animal health policies" and "regionalization as an instrument for preventing the propagation of animal diseases, including those of camelids".

Animal production food safety work programme

10. The Chairman of the Working Group on Animal Production Food Safety made a presentation on the activities of the Working Group to date. Dr McKenzie described the outcomes of the first meeting of the Working Group and the 2003 work programme, and noted the close cooperation of the OIE and the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC). The priority issues identified included a joint review by the OIE and CAC of their current standards to identify gaps and areas of duplication, zoonoses, the updating of the current OIE International Animal Health Code (now called the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code or Terrestrial Code) chapters on tuberculosis and brucellosis, and working with the CAC on joint and linked standards and on the mutual recognition of standards.

Animal welfare work programme

11. The Chair of the Animal Welfare Working Group made a presentation (via DVD) on the activities of the Working Group to date. Dr Bayvel described the outcomes of the first meeting of the Working Group held in October 2002 and the 2003 work programme. This included the setting up of expert ad hoc Groups to examine the animal welfare aspects of land and sea transportation, humane slaughter and killing for disease control purposes. He also noted the preparations underway for the first global conference on animal welfare to be held in February 2004. Longer term activities included increasing awareness of animal welfare in undergraduate teaching, promoting collaboration on animal welfare among academic and research institutions, the development of an animal welfare communications plan, and drafting of guidelines and standards for animal housing and management.

Adoption of new provisions in the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code

12. The OIE International Committee approved additions or amendments to the Terrestrial Code on the following subjects:

1. animal disease notification;
2. evaluation of veterinary services;
3. equivalence;
4. foot and mouth disease (FMD);
5. bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE);
6. classical swine fever;
7. scrapie;
8. Rift Valley fever;
9. leptospirosis, bovine anaplasmosis, bovine babesiosis, theileriosis; and
10. embryos.

Again, there was significant discussion on the revised chapter on FMD as it proposed changes to the pathways for regaining free status and the conditions for trading in certain commodities such as deboned meat.

13. Guidelines for the judgement of equivalence were adopted and have been incorporated into the Terrestrial Code (see document G/SPS/GEN/---).

14. The OIE International Animal Health Code Commission (now called the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission) and the OIE Fish Diseases Commission (now called the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission) continued their coordinated work on harmonization of the two Codes.

15. The OIE Standards Commission (now called the OIE Biological Standards Commission) finalised guidelines on antimicrobial resistance. Three of the four guidelines will be included in the Terrestrial Code and one into a chapter of the OIE Manual of Standards for Diagnostic Tests and

Vaccines (now called OIE Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals or Terrestrial Manual) on antimicrobial resistance.

16. Priorities for the work programme for the next year, in addition to the food safety and animal welfare work programmes, include: a complete review of the BSE chapter; further work on the proposed revised avian influenza chapter; revised chapters on bee diseases; surveillance for vector-borne diseases; guidelines on compartmentalisation; and improving the interactivity between the Terrestrial Code and the OIE animal health information systems.

17. Over the next year, the OIE A and B disease lists in the Terrestrial Code (and the corresponding lists in the OIE International Aquatic Animal Health Code (now called OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code or Aquatic Code) will be combined into a single list of terrestrial animal diseases; similar changes will be made to the lists of aquatic animal diseases. The single OIE list system, which will become operational on 1st January 2005, will take account of whether the disease or pathogenic agent has a significant impact on production (morbidity and mortality) or the environment, or whether it has zoonotic potential; as well as whether it has a potential for international spread, or if it is an emerging disease.

Report of the OIE Foot-and-mouth Disease and Other Epizootics Commission (now called the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases)

18. The Commission reviewed the international situation with respect to FMD and other major transboundary diseases and made detailed summaries of the situation in various regions of the world for the benefit of member countries.

19. An ad hoc group is developing recommendations relating to mass carcass disposal resulting from disease stamping out actions.

20. During the year, the Commission initiated the development of guidelines for the interpretation of the biomolecular characterisation of FMD viruses to improve the understanding of the epidemiology of the disease. This exercise is being conducted in cooperation with all OIE FMD reference laboratories, and is coordinated by the Secretary General of the FAO European FMD Commission.

21. A special edition of the OIE Scientific and Technical Review devoted to FMD was published in December 2002.

22. Surveillance guidelines for FMD have been finalized and will be incorporated into the Terrestrial Code.

Adoption of new provisions in the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code

23. The OIE International Committee approved the 6th edition of the Aquatic Code and the 4th edition of the OIE Diagnostic Manual for Aquatic Animal Diseases (now called OIE Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Aquatic Animals or Aquatic Manual). Additions or amendments to the Aquatic Code were made on the following subjects:

- guidelines for fallowing in aquaculture;
- epizootic haematopoietic necrosis;
- yellowhead virus – gill associated virus and related agents;
- white spot disease;
- general information on mollusc and crustacean diseases;

- consistency between Aquatic Code chapters and the Aquatic Manual in nomenclature; and
- surveillance and sampling guidelines for aquatic animal health.

24. The OIE International Committee also approved criteria for listing an aquatic animal disease and criteria for the urgent notification of aquatic animal diseases.

Recognition of the status of member countries in regard to rinderpest, FMD and BSE

25. The OIE Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases revised the lists of countries that it considers to be entirely free or to contain zones free from rinderpest infection or from FMD, in accordance with the relevant sections of the Terrestrial Code. These proposals were sent to the Delegates of member countries, who had a period of 60 days in which to respond.

26. The OIE International Committee asked the Director General of the OIE to publish the list of member countries recognized as free from rinderpest infection (see Appendix 1) and the list of member countries recognized as FMD free (see Appendix 2).

27. The OIE ad hoc Group on BSE status has not yet recognized any member country as meeting the requirements in the Terrestrial Code for freedom from BSE. The OIE International Committee agreed that evaluation be extended to countries which fulfil the criteria in the Terrestrial Code for provisional freedom from BSE.

Invitation to the People's Republic of China and Taipei China

28. The Director General presented a draft Resolution and its two appendices (see Appendix 3) intended to ensure the universality of the OIE by inviting the People's Republic of China and Taipei China to create the conditions for their effective participation in the work of the OIE. Taipei China was invited to adopt a new name within the OIE, without prejudice to the exercise of its rights and prerogatives, and the People's Republic of China was invited to participate fully in the work and activities of the Organization.

Appendix 1

RESOLUTION No. XXIII

Recognition of member countries Free from Rinderpest Infection and Rinderpest Disease

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 63rd General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution XIV "Establishment of a list of countries that are free of rinderpest",
2. During the 68th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution XIII designating a baseline list of member countries that were free from rinderpest infection. The countries included in the list certified that they meet the requirements specified in Chapter 2.1.4. of the *International Animal Health Code* (the *Code*),
3. The OIE has also developed a list of countries that are considered to be free from rinderpest disease in accordance with Chapter 2.1.4. of the *Code*,
4. Recommendations of the Commission regarding countries that are evaluated as free from rinderpest disease and from rinderpest infection have been submitted to member countries for comments as outlined in Resolution XVI which was adopted during the 67th General Session of the International Committee,
5. The FMD and Other Epizootics Commission proposed that an updated list of countries and zones previously recognised as free from rinderpest disease and rinderpest infection and those newly proposed by the Commission in consultation with member countries be adopted annually by resolution,
6. The Commission proposed that member countries so recognised reconfirm annually that their rinderpest status remains unchanged and that this annual reconfirmation would be a requirement for maintaining OIE recognition,
7. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the official Veterinary Services of member countries. The OIE is not responsible for inaccurate publication of country disease status based on inaccurate information or changes in epidemiological status or other significant events that were not promptly reported to the Central Bureau subsequent to the time of declaration of freedom,

THE COMMITTEE RESOLVES THAT

The Director General publish the following list of member countries recognised as free from rinderpest infection, according to the provisions of Chapter 2.1.4. of the *Code*:

Albania	Germany	New Caledonia
Algeria	Greece	New Zealand
Andorra	Guatemala	Norway
Argentina	Guyana	Panama
Australia	Honduras	Paraguay
Austria	Hungary	Peru
Barbados	Iceland	Philippines
Belgium	Indonesia	Poland
Bolivia	Ireland	Portugal
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Italy	Romania
Botswana	Jamaica	Singapore
Brazil	Japan	Slovakia
Bulgaria	Korea (Rep. of)	Slovenia
Canada	Laos	South Africa
Chile	Latvia	Spain
Colombia	Lesotho	Swaziland
Costa Rica	Lithuania	Sweden
Croatia	Luxembourg	Switzerland
Cuba	Madagascar	Taipei China
Cyprus	Malawi	Trinidad and Tobago
Czech Rep.	Malaysia	Tunisia
Denmark	Malta	Ukraine
Ecuador	Mauritius	United Kingdom
El Salvador	Mexico	United States of America
Estonia	Moldavia	Uruguay
Finland	Morocco	Vanuatu
Former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia	Namibia	Venezuela
France	Nepal	Vietnam
	Netherlands	Zimbabwe

AND

That the Director General publish the following list of member countries or zones as being free from rinderpest disease according to the provisions of Chapter 2.1.4. of the *Code*:

Benin	Ghana	Mauritania	Thailand
Bhutan	Guinea	Myanmar	Togo
Burkina Faso	India ¹	Niger	Turkey
Egypt	Mali	Senegal	

¹ Zones designated by the Delegate of India in documents addressed to the Director General on February 2003.

AND

That the Delegates of member countries whose countries or zones within their national territories are recognised as rinderpest infection or rinderpest disease free, annually reconfirm by letter in November of each year that both their status and the criteria by which their status was recognised remain unchanged. It is understood that these Delegates will immediately notify the Central Bureau if rinderpest infection or disease should occur in these countries or zones.

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 20 May 2003)

RESOLUTION No. XX

Recognition of the Foot and Mouth Disease Status of Member Countries

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 63rd General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolutions XI and XII, "Establishment of a list of foot and mouth disease (FMD) free countries where vaccination is not practised", and "Procedure for the recognition of the foot and mouth disease status of member countries", respectively,
2. During the 64th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution XII, which asks that the Director General publish a list of the countries or zones within national territories that fulfil the criteria of one of the FMD free categories described in Chapter 2.1.1. of the *International Animal Health Code* (the *Code*),
3. The Foot and Mouth Disease and Other Epizootics Commission has continued to apply the procedure approved by the International Committee, and has supported the recognition of the FMD free status of additional countries and zones within national territories for annual adoption of the list by the International Committee,
4. Recommendations of the Commission regarding the evaluation of countries as being free from foot and mouth disease have been submitted to member countries for comments as outlined in Resolution XVI, which was adopted during the 67th General Session of the International Committee,
5. The FMD and Other Epizootics Commission proposed that an updated list of countries and zones previously recognised as free from foot and mouth disease and those newly proposed by the Commission in consultation with member countries be annually adopted by resolution,
6. During the 65th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution XII, which stated that the Delegates of member countries where countries or zones within their national territories are recognised as FMD free annually confirm by letter each November both their status and that the criteria by which their status was recognised remain unchanged,
7. During the 65th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution XVII delegating to the Foot and Mouth Disease and Other Epizootics Commission the authority to recognise, without further International Committee consultation, that a member Country or zone within its territory has regained its previously recognised FMD free status following outbreaks that are eradicated in accordance with the relevant provisions of Chapter 2.1.1. of the *Code*,
8. During the 70th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution XVIII asking member countries applying for evaluation for freedom from FMD to meet part of the costs sustained by the OIE Central Bureau in the evaluation process,
9. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the official Veterinary Services of member countries. The OIE is not responsible for inaccurate

publication of country disease status based on inaccurate information or changes in epidemiological status or other significant events that were not promptly reported to the Central Bureau subsequent to the time of declaration of freedom,

THE COMMITTEE RESOLVES

That the Director General publish the following list of member countries recognised as FMD free countries where vaccination is not practised, according to the provisions of Chapter 2.1.1. of the *Code*²:

Albania	Germany	Netherlands
Australia	Greece	New Caledonia
Austria	Guatemala	New Zealand
Belgium	Guyana	Nicaragua
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Honduras	Norway
Bulgaria	Hungary	Panama
Canada	Iceland	Poland
Chile	Indonesia	Portugal
Costa Rica	Ireland	Romania
Croatia	Italy	Singapore
Cuba	Japan	Slovakia
Cyprus	Korea (Rep. of)	Slovenia
Czech Rep.	Latvia	Spain
Denmark	Lithuania	Sweden
El Salvador	Luxembourg	Switzerland
Estonia	Madagascar	Ukraine
Finland	Malta	United Kingdom
Former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia	Mauritius	United States of America
France	Mexico	Vanuatu

AND

That the Director General publish the following list of member countries as having an FMD free zone where vaccination is not practised, according to the provisions of Chapter 2.1.1. of the *Code*:

Argentina: zone situated south of the 42° parallel South;

Colombia: Northwest region of Choco Department;

Namibia: zone designated by the Delegate of Namibia in a document addressed to the Director General on 6 February 1997;

Philippines: Mindanao, Visayas, Palawan and Masbate;

South Africa: zone designated by the Delegate of South Africa in a document addressed to the Director General in May 2002;

² For information on the status of non-contiguous territories of member countries recognised as FMD free, please address enquiries to that country's Delegate or to the Director General.

AND

That the Director General publish the following list of member countries as having FMD free zones where vaccination is practised, according to the provisions of Chapter 2.1.1. of the *Code*:

Bolivia: zone of Chiquitania designated by the Delegate of Bolivia in documents addressed to the Director General on January 2003;

Brazil: States of Bahia, Espírito Santo, Goiás, Mato Grosso, Mato Grosso do Sul, Minas Gerais, Paraná, Rio de Janeiro, Rio Grande do Sul, Santa Catarina, São Paulo, Sergipe, Tocantins, the Federal District, and Rondonia;

Colombia: zone designated by the Delegate of Colombia in documents addressed to the Director General on January 2003.

(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 20 May 2003)

Appendix 3

RESOLUTION No. XVIII

Invitation to the People's Republic of China and Taipei China to create the necessary conditions for their effective participation in the work of the Office International des Epizooties

1. Following on from the proposals made by the Working Group set up in 1996 "*to seek, with the agreement of the parties, a solution to the Chinese technical representations within the OIE*", and mindful of the solution adopted within the WTO since 2001 to enable the representation of the People's Republic of China (PRC) and Taiwan, the Director General, in liaison with the Administrative Commission, has for the past two years conducted intensive negotiations with the interested parties.
2. At the 70th General Session, the Director General reported back to the OIE International Committee, which requested him to pursue his efforts.
3. It now appears that, in order to resolve the remaining difficulties, and thereby enable the Organization to fulfil its missions under the conditions of universality provided for within its founding Charter, the OIE International Committee is required to make a solemn statement calling upon Taipei China to agree to the conditions that will allow the effective participation of the PRC in the work of the OIE, and calling on the PRC to ensure the said effective participation.
4. This is the aim of the following two draft Resolutions, which – since they form the elements of one and the same requirement of the organization – are put to a single vote of the OIE International Committee.

(Adopted by the International Committee on 23 May 2003)

RESOLUTION No. XVIII-1

Invitation to Taipei China to adopt a new name within the Office International des Epizooties, without prejudice to its full exercise of its rights and prerogatives

Preamble:

1. The Director General of the Office International des Epizooties (OIE) currently in office visited the People's Republic of China (PRC), at that country's invitation, from 1 to 4 April 2002, then visited Taiwan, from 4 to 8 April 2002, at the invitation of the Taiwanese authorities.

At the end of his visit to the PRC, a memorandum was signed with the representative of the Ministry of Agriculture, stating the PRC's strong interest in the work of the OIE and its willingness to take an active part in that work, notably in connection with the PRC's membership of the World Trade Organization (WTO).

2. Taiwan acceded to the OIE in 1954 under the name of "Republic of China (Taiwan)". The name became "Taipei China" in 1992 at the time of the accession of the PRC to the OIE. Taiwan has always actively participated in the work of the OIE and has contributed financially to its activities. Taiwan also joined the WTO in 2002 under the name of "Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu".
3. In 1996, a Working Group was established by the Director General, after consulting the Administrative Commission, to seek, with the agreement of the parties, a solution to their active participation within the OIE.

In a progress report, submitted on 24 April 1996, the Working Group, while indicating that no agreement was possible as things stood, suggested that, in addition from some minor adjustments to the wording, special attention be given to the solution that the WTO might subsequently adopt on this problem.

4. The memorandum signed on 4 April 2002 by the Director General with the Ministry of Agriculture of the PRC takes up this idea and provides for reactivating the participation of the PRC in the work of the OIE, on the condition that, "on the basis of the model adopted by the WTO", Taipei China shall continue to participate in the said work with the rights and prerogatives inherent in its status as member of the OIE.
5. At the 70th General Session of the OIE International Committee, the Director General reported on this work and these negotiations. The President asked the representative of Taipei China whether he would agree to adopt a different name for his country's membership, without prejudice to Taipei China's full exercise of its rights and prerogatives as member of the Organization, a solution in accordance with the wishes of all of its members. Considering the representative's negative response at the session, it was decided that the Director General would pursue his efforts in this direction, in conjunction with the OIE Administrative Commission, and report back at the next session of the International Committee.

6. The Director General, at the request of the Administrative Commission of the OIE, pursued his talks with the Parties concerned with a view to reaching a proposal aimed at allowing them to fully participate in the activities of the Organization.

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

Given the International Agreement for the creation of an Office International des Epizooties (OIE), done at Paris on 25 January 1924, and the entire General Rules of the OIE, in particular the provisions setting forth the conditions for accession of members to the Organization and their rights and obligations within the Organization,

Mindful of the need to strive unceasingly to achieve the aim of universality of the Organization,

Considering the terms of the WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, (SPS Agreement), and the formal link established by the said agreement with the standard-setting activities of the OIE,

Considering that the official names adopted by the WTO to identify the Parties concerned at the time of their accession to that organization are, on the one hand, "People's Republic of China" and, on the other hand, "Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu",

Considering that Taipei China, in its capacity as a separate customs territory recognised by the WTO, is in a position to pursue an autonomous sanitary policy in accordance with the rights and obligations of members of the OIE,

Considering the *International Animal Health Code*,

Considering the importance for the sanitary safety of world trade of the standards adopted by the International Organizations, including the OIE, explicitly referred to in the SPS Agreement,

1. INVITES

Taipei China to adopt, within the Organisation, the name of "Separate Sanitary Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu".

2. REAFFIRMS THAT

the adoption of the new name, which would replace the present name, will in no way affect the participation of Taipei China in the existing and future work of the Office, with the rights and prerogatives inherent in its status as member of the OIE.

(Adopted by the International Committee on 23 May 2003)

RESOLUTION No. XVIII-2

Draft Resolution inviting the People's Republic of China to fully participate in the work and activities of the Office International des Epizooties

Preamble:

- 1 The Director General of the Office International des Epizooties (OIE) currently in office visited the People's Republic of China (PRC), at that country's invitation, from 1 to 4 April 2002, then visited Taiwan, from 4 to 8 April 2002, at the invitation of the Taiwanese authorities.

At the end of his visit to the PRC, a memorandum was signed with the representative of the Ministry of Agriculture, stating the PRC's strong interest in the work of the OIE and its willingness to take an active part in that work, notably in connection with the PRC's membership of the World Trade Organization (WTO).

- 2 The People's Republic of China acceded to the OIE in 1992 and designated its Representative, but since then has neither participated in the work of the Organization nor paid its contributions.

On the accession of the PRC, Taiwan, which had acceded to the OIE in 1954 under the name of "Republic of China (Taiwan)" took the name of "Taipei China". Taiwan has always actively participated in the work of the OIE and has contributed financially to its activities.

3. In 1996, a Working Group was established by the Director General, after consulting the Administrative Commission, to seek, with the agreement of the parties, a solution to their active participation within the OIE.

In a progress report submitted on 24 April 1996, the Working Group, while indicating that no agreement was possible as things stood, suggested that, in addition to some minor adjustments to the wording, special attention be given to the solution that the WTO might subsequently adopt on this problem.

Taiwan joined the WTO in 2002 under the name of "Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu".

4. The memorandum signed on 4 April 2002 by the Director General with the Ministry of Agriculture of the PRC takes up this idea and provides for reactivating the participation of the PRC in the work of the OIE, on the condition that, "on the basis of the model adopted by the WTO", Taipei China shall continue to participate in the said work with the rights and prerogatives inherent in its status as member of the OIE.

- 5 At the 70th General Session of the OIE International Committee, the Director General reported on this work and indicated ways of reaching a solution that would allow the PRC to participate effectively in the work of the OIE.

The representative of Taipei China having rejected during the session any change in the formulation of the name of his country's membership within the OIE, based on the model adopted for the WTO, the Director General was requested to spare no effort to arrive at a solution, in liaison with the OIE Administrative Commission, and to report back at the next General Session of the International Committee.

- 6 The Director General, at the request of the OIE Administrative Commission, pursued his talks with the Parties concerned with a view to reaching a proposal aimed at allowing them to fully participate in the activities of the organization.

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

Given the International Agreement for the creation of an Office International des Epizooties (OIE), done at Paris on 25 January 1924, and the entire General Rules of the OIE, in particular the provisions setting forth the conditions for accession of members to the Organization and their rights and obligations within the Organization,

Mindful of the need to strive unceasingly to achieve the aim of universality of the Organization,

Considering the terms of the WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement), and formal link that the said Agreement establishes with the standard-setting activities of the OIE,

Noting that an agreement has been found within the WTO to ensure the effective participation of the PRC and Taipei China in the work of that organization,

Taking note of Resolution No. XVIII-1 adopted this day by the International Committee inviting Taipei China to give, within the OIE, a new name to its membership, without prejudice to its full exercise of the rights and prerogatives inherent in its status as member of the Organization,

Taking note of the positive reaction of the Delegate of Taipei China, conditioned by confirmation from his competent authorities

REQUESTS

the People's Republic of China to take effective part in the work of the OIE and to exercise therein all the rights and fulfil all the obligations inherent in its status as member of the Organization.

(Adopted by the International Committee on 23 May 2003)
