

**Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures**

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French/  
Spanish

**REPORT ON OIE ACTIVITIES TO THE 35<sup>TH</sup> MEETING  
OF THE WTO SPS COMMITTEE**

Communication from the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)

The following communication, received on 23 March 2006, is being circulated at the request of the OIE.

***OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code***

1. The OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission met from 6 to 10 March 2006 at the OIE Headquarters to address member countries' comments to the proposals made at its September 2005 meeting, as well as work done by various OIE *ad hoc* groups (on bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), equine influenza, and animal identification and traceability) and the Animal Production Food Safety Working Group.
2. Major issues being presented for adoption at the May 2006 meeting of the OIE International Committee include: the evaluation of veterinary services, zoning and compartmentalization, criteria for listing diseases for reporting purposes, foot and mouth disease, bluetongue, BSE (disease chapter and surveillance appendix), classical swine fever, avian influenza (disease chapter, surveillance appendix and newly developed guidelines for virus inactivation), animal identification and traceability, and equine diseases.
3. The report of the Terrestrial Code Commission is accessible at <http://www.oie.int>.

***OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code***

4. The OIE Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission met from 13 to 17 March 2006 at the OIE Headquarters to address member countries' comments and work done by various OIE *ad hoc* groups. The Aquatic Animals Commission proposed updated chapters to the May 2006 meeting of the OIE International Committee, with a view to maximizing harmonization among fish, mollusc and crustacean disease chapters. The OIE listed diseases for aquatic animals were also discussed and an updated version is proposed to OIE member countries. Other topics of discussion were the OIE *Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals*, OIE reference laboratories, the new OIE disease notification system and the OIE global conference on aquatic animal health to be held in October 2006 in Norway.
5. The report of the Aquatic Animals Commission is accessible at <http://www.oie.int>.

***OIE Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals (Terrestrial Manual)***

6. A new edition of the *Terrestrial Manual* is produced every four years. Certain important chapters are updated in between editions, with the updates being added annually to the web version of the *Terrestrial Manual* following adoption by the OIE International Committee. The OIE Biological Standards Commission proposed the following chapters for adoption in May 2006: principles of validation of diagnostic assays for infectious diseases (to bring the chapter in line with the OIE validation template); principles of veterinary vaccine production; and foot and mouth disease (a section on vaccine matching tests has been added along with updated information on vaccine manufacturing and clarification of the use of certain tests).

***OIE Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals (Aquatic Manual)***

7. In May 2006, the fifth edition of the *Aquatic Manual* will be presented for adoption. Updated chapters for all of the OIE listed diseases will be included in the fifth edition. For those diseases no longer listed, the 2003 version of the chapter will be reproduced.

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