



RELEVANT ACTIVITIES

COMMUNICATION FROM THE WORLD ORGANIZATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH (OIE)

The following communication, received on 14 June 2013, is being circulated at the request of the OIE.

The World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) is pleased to provide this report for information of WTO Members attending the 57th meeting of the SPS Committee.

1 81ST GENERAL SESSION

1.1. On 26-31 May 2013 the OIE held its 81st General Session. More than 800 participants representing OIE member countries and intergovernmental, regional and national organisations attended the meeting. The Final Report of the 81st General Session is available on the OIE website ("<http://www.oie.int/en/about-us/final-reports-of-the-general-session-of-the-oie-international-committee/>").

1.1 Standard setting activities of the OIE

1.2. The OIE adopted updated texts in its normative publications, including 35 new or revised chapters in the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* and nine revised chapters in the *Aquatic Animal Health Code*. Important chapters relevant to this Committee include:

1.1.1 *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*:

- Chapters on zoonotic parasites (*Echinococcus granulosus*, *Echinococcus multilocularis* and *Trichinella* spp.)

Updating these three chapters on zoonotic parasites is a good example of the ongoing collaboration between the OIE and the Codex Alimentarius Commission on topics of common interest taking into account the risk of contradictions. Representatives of Codex Alimentarius Commission were continuously invited to the *ad hoc* Group meeting where the revision of these chapters was discussed. In addition, the progress of OIE's work was regularly reported to the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene and note taken by the Committee.

- Infection with rinderpest virus (Chapter 8.12.)

In response to Resolution No. 33 of the 80th General Session in May 2012¹, the World Assembly of the OIE Delegates (the Assembly) adopted the revised chapter on rinderpest. The revised chapter provides procedures to be followed in the event of recurrence of rinderpest infection and the requirements to reinstate global freedom. In addition, with a view to encouraging OIE member countries to sequester and destroy rinderpest virus, a new article requiring annual reporting on rinderpest virus-containing material is included in this chapter.

¹ Final Report of the 80th OIE General Session in May 2012:
http://www.oie.int/fileadmin/Home/eng/About_us/docs/pdf/A_FR_2012_Public.pdf.

- Infection with peste des petits ruminants (Chapter 14.8.)

In line with the global effort to control and eventually eradicate peste des petits ruminants (PPR), the Assembly adopted the revised Chapter 14.8., which provides for official recognition of PPR-free status. In addition, the chapter provides for OIE's endorsement of an official control programme for PPR. The questionnaires for applicants seeking official recognition or OIE's endorsement of an official control programme are now included in the chapter on procedures for official recognition by the OIE (Chapter 1.6.).

These provisions pave the way for a global eradication program to be implemented by OIE and FAO.

- Infection with classical swine fever virus (Chapter 15.2.)

In response to member country requests, the OIE revised this chapter to provide for official recognition of classical swine fever-free status. The questionnaire for applicants seeking official recognition is now included in the chapter on procedures for official recognition by the OIE (Chapter 1.6.).

1.1.2 Aquatic Animal Health Code:

- Diseases listed by the OIE (Chapter 1.3.)

The revision of diseases listed by the OIE (Chapter 1.3.) was adopted and now includes: infection with *Aphanomyces invadans*, infection with infectious salmon anaemia virus (HPR0 and HPR-deleted), infection with salmonid alphavirus, and infection with OsHV1 microvariant listed as an emerging disease.

- Infection with infectious salmon anaemia virus (Chapter 10.5.)

Based on experts' recommendations, the Assembly adopted the revised chapter on Infection with Infectious Salmon Anaemia virus (ISAV) which now differentiates the risk presented by HPR0 ISAV and HPR-deleted ISAV.

1.2 Official OIE recognition of the disease status and control programmes for FMD of members

1.3. The OIE has evaluated and provided official recognition of disease status for foot and mouth disease (FMD), contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP) and bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE). Following the adoption of revised Chapter 12.1. (African horse sickness (AHS)) at the 80th General Session, the OIE added AHS in its list of diseases of official recognition. This year, 60 member countries were recognised as free from AHS.

1.4. In addition, the OIE endorses official control programmes for FMD to facilitate progressive control of the disease. This year, one new country (Bolivia, Plurinational State of) obtained OIE's endorsement of its official control programme for FMD.

1.5. The full list of countries and their recognised disease status for FMD, CBPP, BSE and AHS is attached in Annex 1.

2 CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES

2.1 OIE PVS Pathway

2.1. 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 (AAHS) by following the PVS Pathway.

2.2. As previously reported, the OIE has updated the OIE *PVS Tool* and developed the *OIE PVS Tool: Aquatic*. Both documents are now available on the OIE website at: <http://www.oie.int/en/support-to-oie-members/pvs-evaluations/oie-pvs-tool/>

2.3. The state of play of OIE members' engagement in the PVS Pathway can be found in Annex 2.

2.2 Good Governance and Veterinary Education

2.4. As previously advised, the OIE is organising a Global Conference on Veterinary Education and the role of Veterinary Statutory Bodies in Brazil, 4-6 December 2013.

2.5. The Conference will focus on analysing the current global situation with veterinary education and the performance of veterinary statutory bodies. The Conference will raise awareness of the OIE standards and recommendations relevant to quality of Veterinary Services, and the roles and responsibilities of veterinarians in both public and private sectors; and discuss future needs and priorities to strengthen, at the global level, veterinary education and the performance of veterinary statutory bodies.

2.6. A wide range of stakeholders are expected to attend the Conference, including OIE delegates, deans of veterinary education establishments and leaders of veterinary statutory bodies.

2.7. More information on this Conference can be found at:
http://www.oie.int/eng/A_EDUVSB2013/introduction.htm

**ANNEX 1
RESOLUTION NO. 17**

RECOGNITION OF THE FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE STATUS OF MEMBER COUNTRIES

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 62nd General Session, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (Assembly) established a procedure for annually updating a list of Member Countries and zones recognised as free from foot and mouth disease (FMD) according to the provisions of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)*,
2. During the 80th General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 25, which specified and updated the procedure for Member Countries to follow to achieve official recognition and maintenance of status for certain animal diseases,
3. During the 80th General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 26, which specified and updated the financial implications for Member Countries applying for evaluation of official recognition or re-instatement of disease status to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE in the evaluation process,
4. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegate of Member Countries. The OIE is not responsible for publication and maintenance of Member Countries or zonal disease free status based on inaccurate information or non-reporting of changes in epidemiological status or other significant events subsequent to the time of declaration of freedom from FMD.

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES THAT

1. The Director General publish the following list of Member Countries recognised as FMD free where vaccination is not practised, according to the provisions of Chapter 8.5. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Albania	Dominican Republic	Japan	Portugal
Australia	El Salvador	Latvia	Romania
Austria	Estonia	Lesotho	San Marino
Belarus	Finland	Lithuania	Serbia ¹
Belgium	Former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia	Luxembourg	Singapore
Belize	France	Madagascar	Slovakia
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Germany	Malta	Slovenia
Brunei	Greece	Mauritius	Spain
Bulgaria	Guatemala	Mexico	Swaziland
Canada	Guyana	Montenegro	Sweden
Chile	Haiti	Netherlands	Switzerland
Costa Rica	Honduras	New Caledonia	Ukraine
Croatia	Hungary	New Zealand	United Kingdom
Cuba	Iceland	Nicaragua	United States of America
Cyprus	Indonesia	Norway	Vanuatu
Czech Republic	Ireland	Panama	
Denmark	Italy	Poland	

2. The Director General publish the following Member Countries recognised as FMD free where vaccination is practised, according to the provisions of Chapter 8.5. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Uruguay.

¹ Excluding Kosovo administered by the United Nations.

3. The Director General publish the following list of Member Countries having FMD free zones² where vaccination is not practised, according to the provisions of Chapter 8.5. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

- Argentina: one zone designated by the Delegate of Argentina in a document addressed to the Director General in January 2007;
the summer pasture zone in the Province of San Juan as designated by the Delegate of Argentina in a document addressed to the Director General in April 2011;
- Bolivia: one zone in the Macro-region of the Altiplano designated by the Delegate of Bolivia in documents addressed to the Director General in November 2011;
- Botswana: one zone designated by the Delegate of Botswana in documents addressed to the Director General in November 2010, with the exclusion of the containment zone as designated by the Delegate of Botswana in a document addressed to the Director General in September 2011;
- Brazil: State of Santa Catarina designated by the Delegate of Brazil in a document addressed to the Director General in February 2007;
- Colombia: one zone designated by the Delegate of Colombia in documents addressed to the Director General in November 1995 and in April 1996 (Area I - Northwest region of Choco Department),
one zone designated by the Delegate of Colombia in documents addressed to the Director General in January 2008 (Archipelago de San Andres and Providencia);
- Malaysia: one zone covering the provinces of Sabah and Sarawak as designated by the Delegate of Malaysia in a document addressed to the Director General in December 2003;
- Moldova: one zone designated by the Delegate of Moldova in a document addressed to the Director General in July 2008;
- Namibia: one zone designated by the Delegate of Namibia in a document addressed to the Director General in February 1997;
- Peru: one zone consisting of three merged zones as designated by the Delegate of Peru in documents addressed to the Director General in December 2004, in January 2007 and in August 2012;
- Philippines: one zone on the islands of Mindanao designated by the Delegate of the Philippines in a document addressed to the Director General in August 2000,
one zone consisting of the islands of Visayas and the provinces of Palawan and Masbate, as designated by the Delegate of the Philippines in a document addressed to the Director General in August 2000 and December 2001,
three separate zones located on the Island of Luzon as designated by the Delegate of the Philippines in a document addressed to the Director General in December 2009 and November 2010;

4. The Director General publish the following list of Member Countries having FMD free zones³ where vaccination is practised, according to the provisions of Chapter 8.5. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

- Argentina: two separate zones designated by the Delegate of Argentina in documents addressed to the Director General in March 2007 and in August 2010;
- Bolivia: zone of Chiquitania designated by the Delegate of Bolivia in documents addressed to the Director General in January 2003 and in March 2007,
one zone adjacent to the east of Chiquitania designated by the Delegate of Bolivia in documents addressed to the Director General in August 2010;

² For detailed information on the delimitation of zones of Member Countries recognised as FMD free, enquiries should be addressed to the Director General of the OIE.

³ For detailed information on the delimitation of zones of Member Countries recognised as FMD free, enquiries should be addressed to the Director General of the OIE.

one zone consisting of the regions of Chaco and part of Valles as designated by the Delegate of Bolivia in a document addressed to the Director General in August 2012;

Brazil: five separate zones designated by the Delegate of Brazil in documents addressed to the Director General as follows:

one zone covering the territory of State of Rio Grande do Sul (documentation of September 1997),

one zone consisting of State of Rondônia (documentation of December 2002), State of Acre along with two adjacent municipalities of State of Amazonas (documentation of March 2004) and an extension of this zone into the territory of State of Amazonas (documentation of December 2010),

one zone consisting of the middle southern part of State of Pará (documentation of February 2007), States of Espírito Santo, Minas Gerais, Rio de Janeiro, Sergipe, Distrito Federal, Goiás, Mato Grosso, Paraná, São Paulo, parts of State of Bahia, parts of State of Tocantins (documentation of May 2008), and the zone in State of Mato Grosso do Sul (documentation of July 2008),

one zone in State of Mato Grosso do Sul (documentation of August 2010),

one zone located in States of Bahia and Tocantins (documentation of December 2010);

Colombia: one zone consisting of five merged zones designated by the Delegate of Colombia in documents addressed to the Director General in January 2003, in December 2004 (two zones), in January 2007 and in January 2009;

Peru: one zone consisting of the regions of Tumbes and parts of Piura and Cajamarca as designated by the Delegate of Peru in a document addressed to the Director General in August 2012;

Turkey: one zone as designated by the Delegate of Turkey in a document addressed to the Director General in November 2009.

AND

5. The Delegates of these Member Countries shall immediately notify the Headquarters if FMD occurs in their countries or zones within their territories.
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RESOLUTION NO. 18

**ENDORSEMENT OF OFFICIAL CONTROL PROGRAMMES FOR FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE
OF MEMBER COUNTRIES**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 79th General Session, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (Assembly) adopted Resolution No. 19 establishing a new step in the procedure for recognizing the foot and mouth disease (FMD) status of a Member Country, namely the endorsement by the OIE of a national official control programme for FMD being in compliance with the provisions of the chapter on FMD in the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)*,
2. During the 80th General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 25, which specified and updated the procedure for Member Countries to follow to achieve endorsement of their official control programme for FMD,
3. During the 80th General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 26, which specified and updated the financial implications for Member Countries applying for endorsement of their official control programme for FMD to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE in the evaluation process,
4. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegate of Member Countries. The OIE is not responsible for publication and maintenance of Member Countries with an endorsed official control programme for FMD based on inaccurate information or non-reporting of significant changes in the implementation of relevant measures in the Member Country subsequent to the time of endorsement of the official control programme for FMD.

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES THAT

The Director General publish the following list of Member Countries with endorsed official control programme for FMD, according to the provisions of Chapter 8.5. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Algeria, Bolivia, Morocco and Tunisia.

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 28 May 2013)

RESOLUTION NO. 19

**RECOGNITION OF THE CONTAGIOUS BOVINE PLEUROPNEUMONIA DISEASE STATUS
OF MEMBER COUNTRIES**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 71st General Session, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (Assembly) established a procedure for annually updating a list of Member Countries and zones, recognised as free from contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP) according to the provisions of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)*,
2. During the 80th General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 25, which specified and updated the procedure for Member Countries to follow to achieve official recognition and maintenance of status for certain diseases,
3. During the 80th General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 26, which specified and updated the financial implications for Member Countries applying for evaluation of official recognition or re-instatement of disease status to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE in the evaluation process,
4. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegate of Member Countries. The OIE is not responsible for publication and maintenance of Member Countries or zonal disease free status based on inaccurate information or non-reporting of changes in epidemiological status or other significant events subsequent to the time of declaration of freedom from CBPP.

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES THAT

1. The Director General publish the following list of Member Countries recognised as free from CBPP according to the provisions of the Chapter 11.8. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Australia	China (People's	Portugal
Botswana	Republic of)	Switzerland
	India	United States of America

AND

2. The Delegates of these Member Countries shall immediately notify the Headquarters if CBPP occurs in their countries or their territories.
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RESOLUTION NO. 20**RECOGNITION OF THE BOVINE SPONGIFORM ENCEPHALOPATHY RISK STATUS
OF MEMBER COUNTRIES**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 67th General Session the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (Assembly) established a procedure for annually updating a list of Member Countries, categorised by their bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) risk according to the provisions of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)*,
2. During the 80th General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 25, which specified and updated the procedure for Member Countries to follow to achieve official recognition and maintenance of status of certain diseases,
3. During the 80th General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 26, which specified and updated the financial implications for Member Countries applying for evaluation of official recognition or re-instatement of disease status to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE in the evaluation process,
4. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegate of Member Countries. The OIE is not responsible for publication and maintenance of Member Countries disease status based on inaccurate information or non-reporting of changes in epidemiological status or other significant events subsequent to the time of declaration of the BSE risk status.

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES THAT

1. The Director General publish the following list of Member Countries recognised as having a negligible BSE risk in accordance with Chapter 11.5. of the Terrestrial Code:

Argentina	Iceland	Paraguay
Australia	India	Peru
Austria	Israel	Singapore
Belgium	Italy	Slovenia
Brazil	Japan	Sweden
Chile	Netherlands	United States of
Colombia	New Zealand	America
Denmark	Norway	Uruguay
Finland	Panama	

2. The Director General publish the following list of Member Countries recognised as having a controlled BSE risk in accordance with Chapter 11.5. of the Terrestrial Code:

Bulgaria	Germany	Malta
Canada	Greece	Mexico
Chinese Taipei	Hungary	Nicaragua
Costa Rica	Ireland	Poland
Croatia	Korea (Rep. of)	Portugal
Cyprus	Latvia	Slovakia
Czech Republic	Lichtenstein	Spain
Estonia	Lithuania	Switzerland
France	Luxembourg	United Kingdom

AND

3. The Delegates of these Member Countries shall immediately notify the Headquarters if BSE occurs in their countries or their territories.
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RESOLUTION NO. 21**RECOGNITION OF THE AFRICAN HORSE SICKNESS STATUS OF MEMBER COUNTRIES**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 80th General Session, the OIE World Assembly of Delegates (Assembly) adopted Resolution No. 19, which amended the chapter of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)* on African horse sickness (AHS). These standards provide a pathway for Member Countries or zones to be recognised by the OIE as free from AHS,
2. During the 80th General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 25, which specified and updated the procedure for Member Countries to follow to achieve official recognition and maintenance of status for certain animal diseases, including AHS,
3. During the 80th General Session, the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 26, which specified and updated the financial implications for Member Countries applying for evaluation of official recognition or re-instatement of disease status to meet part of the costs defrayed by the OIE in the evaluation process,
4. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the OIE Delegate of Member Countries. The OIE is not responsible for publication and maintenance of Member Countries or zonal disease free status based on inaccurate information or non-reporting of changes in epidemiological status or other significant events subsequent to the time of declaration of freedom from AHS.

THE ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES THAT

1. The Director General publish the following list of Member Countries recognised as AHS free according to the provisions of Chapter 12.1. of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Algeria	Croatia	Luxembourg	Singapore
Argentina	Cyprus	Malaysia	Slovakia
Australia	Czech Rep.	Malta	Slovenia
Austria	Denmark	Mexico	Spain
Azerbaijan	Finland	Netherlands	Sweden
Belgium	Former Yug. Rep.	New Caledonia	Switzerland
Bolivia	of Macedonia	New Zealand	Tunisia
Bosnia and Herzegovina	France	Norway	Turkey
Brazil	Germany	Oman	United Kingdom
Bulgaria	Hungary	Paraguay	United States of America
Canada	Ireland	Peru	Uruguay
Chile	Italy	Poland	
Chinese Taipei	Kuwait	Portugal	
Colombia	Liechtenstein	Qatar	
	Lithuania	Romania	

AND

2. The Delegates of these Member Countries shall immediately notify the Headquarters if AHS occurs in their countries or their territories.

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 28 May 2013)

ANNEX 2

A SUMMARY OF PROGRESS ON PVS PATHWAY EVALUATIONS

PVS Evaluation missions: State of play (15 May 2013)

	OIE members	PVS Evaluation requests received	PVS Evaluation missions implemented	Reports available for (restricted) distribution to Donors and Partners
Africa	52	53	49	38
Americas	29	25	22	18
Asia, the Far East and Oceania	32	19	18	11
Europe	53	16	16	12
Middle East	12	12	11	5
TOTAL	178	125	116	84

PVS Gap Analysis: State of play (15 May 2013)

	OIE members	PVS Gap Analysis requests received	PVS Gap Analysis missions implemented	Reports available for (restricted) distribution to Donors and Partners
Africa	52	40	34	21
Americas	29	14	10	9
Asia, the Far East and Oceania	32	14	10	7
Europe	53	8	6	2
Middle East	12	8	4	0
TOTAL	178	84	64	39

Veterinary Legislation: State of play (15 May 2013)

	OIE members	PVS Legislation mission requests received	PVS Legislation missions implemented
Africa	52	25	17
Americas	29	6	4
Asia, the Far East and Oceania	32	5	5
Europe	53	3	2
Middle East	12	4	4
TOTAL	178	43	32