

# **World Organisation for Animal Health Open Access Policy**

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## Introduction

The World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) is the international reference organisation that fosters global commitment to improve animal health and welfare and veterinary public health worldwide, by recognising value in diversity, promoting fairness and inclusion, encouraging trust and instilling purpose.

Its [Seventh Strategic Plan](#) focuses on scientific expertise, data governance, responding to Members' needs, and efficiency and agility.

The World Organisation for Animal Health views open access as a way of responding to these focus areas.

## What is open access?

As defined by [Open Society Foundations](#), open access is 'a publishing and distribution model that makes scholarly research literature — much of which is funded by taxpayers around the world — freely available to the public online, without restrictions'.

## What is the aim of the WOAHO Open Access Policy?

To ensure that the scientific information and data generated by research or studies performed by WOAHO or published through its imprint:

- are shared equitably worldwide
- can be built upon to improve scientific knowledge.

## What does WOAHO publish?

The World Organisation for Animal Health publishes [international standards](#), journals ([Review & Bulletin](#)), books, and reports, guidelines and other *ad-hoc* information products, as deemed appropriate by WOAHO senior management.

## What is WOAHO's Open Access Policy for its publications?

All WOAHO research articles, international standards, reports and guidelines are fully open access (can be read, downloaded and shared freely), unless restrictions apply, in which case this will be clearly indicated.

Under the WOAHO OA Policy, in adherence with [Plan S](#), from the date of publication of this policy, WOAHO publications, including international standards, journals, reports, guidelines and other *ad-hoc* information products, will have the following attributes.

### Copyright and licensing

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5. Details of the licence used will appear on the copyright page of applicable WOAHO publications.
6. WOAHO publications will not apply CC licences retrospectively prior to the date of

publication of this policy.

7. Creative Commons licences merely indicate the copyright terms for the use of WOAAH material, but are not copyright in themselves.
8. WOAAH retains copyright of all intellectual property authored by the organisation or its staff.<sup>1</sup>
9. WOAAH publications are not always eligible for a CC 3.0 IGO licence, for instance when their copyright is shared with another organisation that does not comply with OA or material which is restricted. Again, this will be clearly stated on the copyright page of the publication.

#### **Archiving**

10. WOAAH self-archiving: Items are published on WOAAH's website or on its [archival platform](#).<sup>2,3</sup> Articles with DOIs are freely available via the [PubMed LinkOut](#) registry service.
11. Non-WOAH author archiving: Non-WOAH authors who publish journal articles under WOAAH's CC licences may deposit pre-prints or final versions of their articles in their institutional repositories, providing these have already been published by WOAAH and upon inclusion of the relevant citation (authors, article title, volume and issue number, year of publication and DOI).

#### **Fees & embargo**

12. WOAAH does not charge OA fees or author processing charges (APCs).
13. There is no fee for access.
14. There is no lag period or embargo for access.

#### **Persistent identifiers**

15. Publications are assigned unique identifiers (DOIs) and are declared post-publication to [CrossRef](#), of which WOAAH is a member.

### **Research data**

The World Organisation for Animal Health embraces the Open Data movement. As defined by the EU, scientific research data is 'data underlying publications and/or other data (such as curated but unpublished datasets or raw data)'. WOAAH is in the process of creating a policy outlining the steps it is taking towards making its datasets freely available for reuse.

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<sup>1</sup> For WOAAH international standards or WOAAH institutional reports, the author is considered to be WOAAH.

<sup>2</sup> 'For the purpose of Plan S, Open Access platforms are publishing platforms for the original publication of research output (such as Wellcome Open Research or Gates Open Research). Platforms that merely serve to aggregate or re-publish content that has already been published elsewhere are not considered as such.' See [www.coalition-s.org/addendum-to-the-coalition-s-guidance-on-the-implementation-of-plan-s/principles-and-implementation/](http://www.coalition-s.org/addendum-to-the-coalition-s-guidance-on-the-implementation-of-plan-s/principles-and-implementation/). The [Terrestrial Animal Health Code](#), [Aquatic Animal Health Code](#), [Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals](#), [Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals](#), reports and guidelines are published on WOAAH's website with previous editions archived on WOAAH's [archival platform](#). The *Review* is published directly on WOAAH's [archival platform](#) and the *Bulletin* is first published online and subsequently archived on WOAAH's [archival platform](#).

<sup>3</sup> Pre-prints of WOAAH [Scientific and Technical Review](#) articles are published online as soon as the article has been accepted.

## Copyright pages for WOAAH publications

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