Evaluation Criteria for the Selection of experts for election to WOAH Specialist Commissions
(ANNEX III)
2024-2027

Applications will be assessed in accordance with five criteria: three professional expertise criteria specific to each Specialist Commission and two criteria to evaluate skills and attributes. The applicant will have to demonstrate that s/he meets each of these criteria by providing a short text (up to 150 words each) using the online form. The applicant will also have to demonstrate his/her proficiency in English and confirm their independence of thoughts.

Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission

1. [Qualifications and expertise] have a degree in veterinary science. Be internationally recognised, with a broad understanding of, and practical experience with, the major diseases of animals addressed by the Terrestrial Code (i.e. mammals, reptiles, birds and bees) and have expertise in the prevention and control of animal diseases, animal welfare, international animal health policy, Veterinary Services and veterinary public health.

2. [International Standards] understand the role of WOAH in the development of WOAH international standards and have experience in the implementation of standards in the Terrestrial Code.

3. [International Trade] have knowledge and experience in international trade in animals and animal products and the implementation of WOAH standards at the national level including risk assessment and management, development of sanitary measures or border control to support the import or export of animals and animal products regionally or internationally.

Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission

1. [Qualifications and expertise] have a degree in veterinary science or biological sciences, or equivalent with a specific focus on aquatic animal health. Be an internationally recognised specialist with a broad understanding of and practical experience with the major diseases of aquatic animals addressed by the Aquatic Code (i.e. fish, molluscs, crustaceans or amphibians) including experience in surveillance, prevention and control of aquatic animal diseases, welfare of farmed fish, and international animal health policy and Aquatic Animal Health Services; or have international experience in standards for diagnostic tests addressed in the Aquatic Manual including aquaculture establishment biosecurity, test validation, laboratory quality assurance, new laboratory technologies.

2. [International Standards] understand the role of WOAH in the development of WOAH international standards and have experience in the implementation of standards in the Aquatic Code and Aquatic Manual.

3. [International Trade] have knowledge and experience in international trade in aquatic animals and aquatic animal products and the implementation of WOAH standards at the national level including risk assessment and management, development of sanitary measures or border control to support the import or export of aquatic animals and aquatic animal products regionally or internationally.
Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases

Attributes and Skills

In approximatelly 50 words (maximum 150 words), the applicants must provide evidence of his/her ability for the following two criteria:

1. [Qualifications and expertise] have a degree in veterinary science or biological sciences or equivalent. Be an internationally recognised specialist with broad understanding of practical experience with and have a scientific publication record in a field relevant to the prevention and control of infectious diseases of animals addressed by the Terrestrial Code (i.e. mammals, reptiles, birds and bees) and relevant expertise in animal disease management, in particular WOAH listed diseases and diseases for which WOAH has a procedure for official recognition of disease status (AHS, BSE, CBPP, CSF, FMD, PPR).

2. [International Standards] understand the role of WOAH in the development of its international standards and have experience in the implementation of standards in the Terrestrial Code and Terrestrial Manual.

3. [Scientific Technical Expertise] have expertise in providing scientific guidance to develop policies on the assessment and prevention and control or eradication of diseases in domestic animals and wildlife, notably those with the potential to affect trade in terrestrial animals and their products or affect human health. Have expertise in one or more of the following areas: risk analysis, epidemiology, disease surveillance, animal health socioeconomic, laboratory diagnosis or vaccination applied to disease prevention and control at the national or international level and an understanding of the role of Veterinary Services.

4. [Communication and analytical skills] must provide examples that demonstrate the applicant's ability to analyse and synthesise scientific and technical information into structured assessments, reviews and reports and that the applicant can present a scientific opinion in a constructive manner and to build consensus.

5. [Intercultural Awareness and teamwork skills] must provide examples demonstrating situations where the applicant was able to work within a small team of people from different cultural backgrounds as well as experts from various disciplines.

Other requirements

On the online application form, the applicants must:

- [Language] demonstrate proficiency in English (listening, speaking, reading, writing). Being a native English speaker or having acquired the language through studying English (e.g. certificate) or studying or working in an English environment are examples which can be provided. Additional language skills in French or Spanish are desirable but not essential.

- [Independence] confirm having the ability and the authority to act in their personal and independent capacity and not as a representative of his/her employer or national government.

Biological Standards Commission

Attributes and Skills

In approximatelly 50 words (maximum 150 words), the applicants must provide evidence of his/her ability for the following two criteria:

1. [Qualifications and expertise] have a degree in veterinary science or biological sciences or equivalent. Be an internationally recognised specialist, with broad understanding of practical experience with the major diseases of animals addressed by the Terrestrial Manual (i.e. mammals, birds and bees) with international expertise in the diagnosis, prevention and surveillance of infectious animal diseases, particularly in laboratory methods, operations and vaccine production.

2. [International Standards] understand the role of WOAH in the development of its international standards and have experience in the implementation of Standards in the Terrestrial Manual.

3. [Scientific Technical Expertise] be an internationally recognised expert in laboratory diagnosis and immunological prevention of diseases with respect to international trade or movement of terrestrial animals or their products, particularly diseases included in the Terrestrial Code. Have expertise in one or more of the following fields: standards for biological products, diagnostic preparations, vaccines and immune sera relating to terrestrial animals, veterinary laboratory management, biosafety and biosecurity, vaccine production, test validation, laboratory quality assurance, genomics and new laboratory technologies. Be an active member of their national veterinary laboratory network and actively involved in regional and international networks.

Other requirements

On the online application form, the applicants must:

- [Language] demonstrate proficiency in English (listening, speaking, reading, writing). Being a native English speaker or having acquired the language through studying English (e.g. certificate) or studying or working in an English environment are examples which can be provided. Additional language skills in French or Spanish are desirable but not essential.

- [Independence] confirm having the ability and the authority to act in their personal and independent capacity and not as a representative of his/her employer or national government.