**Application for recovery of free status for rinderpest**

Member Countries applying for recognition of recovery of their rinderpest (RP) free status for a country should comply with the provisions of Article [8.16.10.](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=chapitre_rinderpest.htm#article_rinderpest.10.) of the [*Terrestrial Animal Health Code*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=chapitre_rinderpest.htm) *(Terrestrial Code)* and provide detailed information as specified in Sections 1 to 4 of this questionnaire. The recovery of free status requires an international expert mission to verify the successful application of containment and eradication measures, as well as a review of documented evidence by the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH). The country shall be considered free only after the outcome of the mission and submitted evidence has have been accepted by WOAH.

The dossier provided to WOAH should address concisely all the following topics under the headings provided to describe the actual situation in the country and the procedures currently applied, explaining how these comply with the [*Terrestrial Code*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_code_terrestre). Depending on the source, origin, nature and extent of the [*outbreak*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_foyer_de_maladie)*,* some questions may be of less relevance. If this would be the case, provide a brief explanation on why the question is not relevant considering the specific context of the outbreak.

The terminology defined in [*Terrestrial Code*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_code_terrestre) and [*Terrestrial Manual*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_manuel_terrestre) should be referred to and used in compiling the dossier.

National legislation, regulations and [*Veterinary Authority*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=0&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_autorite_veterinaire) directives may be referred to and annexed as appropriate in one of WOAH official languages. Weblinks to supporting documents in one of the official languages of WOAH may also be provided, where they exist.

The Delegate of the Member Country applying for recovery of free status for a country must demonstrate compliance with the [*Terrestrial Code*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_code_terrestre). That is, the Delegate should submit documentary evidence that the provisions of Article [8.16.10](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=chapitre_rinderpest.htm#article_rinderpest.10.). have been properly implemented and supervised.

1. RP eradication

*a)* History: Provide a description of the RP history in the country after 2011. Provide tables and maps showing the date of first detection, the sources and routes of introduction of [*infection*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_infection) (if known), the temporal and spatial distribution of [*outbreaks*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_foyer_de_maladie) (number, date and location of all outbreaks), the susceptible species involved, and the date of the last case in the country.

b) Strategy: Describe how RP was controlled and eradicated (e.g. [*stamping-out policy*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_abattage_sanitaire), modified stamping-out policy, zoning, [*vaccination*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_vaccination), movement control). Was a [*containment zone*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_zone_de_confinement) established? If so, provide details of how movement was controlled into and out of the containment zone. Provide details of control methods applied inside the zone and in the rest of the country. Provide the time frame for eradication.

If the route(s) of introduction is known, what strategy and/or measures are in place to ensure this will not happen again?

c) Control methods[[1]](#footnote-1): In all cases, provide documentary evidence that targeted surveillance for RP in accordance with Article [8.16.12.](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=chapitre_rinderpest.htm#article_rinderpest.12.) of the [*Terrestrial Code*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_code_terrestre)is in operation covering all susceptible species present in the country (Section 3).

* If a [*stamping-out policy*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_abattage_sanitaire)was applied, provide the dates when:
  1. the last animal was slaughtered under the stamping-out policy;
  2. the disinfection of the last affected establishment was completed.
* If a [*stamping-out policy*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_abattage_sanitaire) was not applied:

1. send a declaration to WOAH stating that:

‒ there has been no case of [*infection*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_infection) with RPV during the past 24 months;

‒ no suspected case of [*infection*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_infection) with RPV, as defined in Article [8.16.1.](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=chapitre_rinderpest.htm#article_rinderpest.1.) has been found during the past 24 months;

‒ no vaccination against RP has been carried out during the past 24 months.

1. provide documentary evidence that, since the cessation of vaccination, no animals vaccinated against RP have been imported in the country.

*d)* Vaccines and [*vaccination*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_vaccination).

*i)* Please list and describe all relevant legislation, regulations and directives related to RP vaccines and vaccination.

*ii)* Was [vaccination](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_vaccination) used in the country as a control measure? If so:

‒ Provide the date when the last vaccination was carried out;

‒ What were the vaccine strains used?

‒ Which supplier(s) provided the vaccines used?

‒ Provide evidence that the vaccine used complies with Chapter 3.1.20. of the [*Terrestrial Manual*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_manuel_terrestre)*.*

‒ What species were vaccinated?

‒ How were vaccinated animals identified?

‒ Describe the way in which the vaccination of animals was certified or reported, and the records maintained.

‒ What was the fate of those animals? If vaccinated animals were slaughtered, provide the date when the last vaccinated animal was slaughtered.

2. RP diagnosis

Provide documentary evidence that the relevant provisions of Chapters 1.1.2., 1.1.3., 1.1.4. and 3.1.20. of the [*Terrestrial Manual*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_manuel_terrestre)are applied. The following points should be addressed:

*a)* Is RP [*laboratory*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_laboratoire) diagnosis carried out in the country? If so, provide an overview of the *laboratories* in the country involved in RP diagnosis, including the following:

*i)* How the work is shared between different [*laboratories*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_laboratoire), logistics for shipment of samples, the follow-up procedures and the time frame for reporting results;

*ii)* Details of test capability and the types of tests undertaken and their performance for their applied use (specificity and sensitivity per type of test). Provide details of the number of RP tests performed in the past 24 months in national [*laboratories*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_laboratoire)and in [*laboratories*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_laboratoire)in other countries, if relevant;

*iii)* Procedures for quality assurance and for the official accreditation of [*laboratories*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_laboratoire)*.* Give details of formal internal quality management systems, e.g. Good Laboratory Practice, ISO, etc. that exist in the [*laboratory*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_laboratoire) system;

*iv)* Provide details of the handling of live pathogenic agent (positive samples), including a description of the biosecurity and biosafety measures applied;

*b)* If RP [*laboratory*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_laboratoire) diagnosis is not carried out in the country, provide the names of the [*laboratories*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_laboratoire)in other countries providing the service as well as the arrangements in place, including logistics for shipment of samples and the time frame for reporting results.

3. RP surveillance

Provide documentary evidence that [*surveillance*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_surveillance) for RP in the country complies with Chapter 1.4. and Article [8.16.12.](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=chapitre_rinderpest.htm#article_rinderpest.12.) of the [*Terrestrial Code*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_code_terrestre), and Chapter 3.1.20. of the [*Terrestrial Manual*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_manuel_terrestre). If a [*containment zone*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_zone_de_confinement)was used, provide details of surveillance carried out inside the zone and in the rest of the country. The following information should be included:

*a)* Provide details of the awareness programme established for animal health professionals, including veterinarians and livestock keepers. What media were used, what coverage of the target audience was reached and how was this assessed? What are the criteria for raising a suspicion of RP (potential case)? What is the procedure to notify (by whom and to whom)?

*b)* Describe how clinical [*surveillance*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_surveillance) is conducted, including which sectors of the livestock production system are included in clinical [*surveillance*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_surveillance), such as [*establishments*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_exploitation), markets, fairs, [*slaughterhouses/abattoirs*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_abattoir), check points, etc. Has a syndromic surveillance strategy been considered to increase the sensitivity of the surveillance system? If so, describe how syndromic surveillance is conducted.

Is virological surveillance conducted? If so, provide detailed information on the target population, design prevalence, confidence level, sample size, stratification, sampling methods and diagnostic tests used.

Has a procedure been established for the collection and transport of samples from potential and suspected cases to an appointed WOAH Reference Laboratory for RP? If so, provide a description of such procedure.

Provide a summary table indicating, for the past 24 months, the number of potential [*cases*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_cas), number of suspected [*cases*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_cas), the number of samples tested for RP, species, type of sample, testing methods and results (including differential diagnosis). Provide an indication of the timelines of the response including completion of testing to confirm or exclude RP. Provide details of follow-up actions taken on all suspicious cases and positive results.

*c)* Serological [*surveillance*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_surveillance). Are serological surveys conducted to detect mild infections that are not detected clinically? If so, provide detailed information on the target population, sampling design, confidence level, sample size, stratification, sampling methods and diagnostic tests. Are susceptible [*wildlife*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_faune_sauvage) species used as sentinels for surveillance purposes?

Provide a summary table indicating, for the past 24 months, the number of samples tested for RP, species, type of sample, testing methods and results (including differential diagnosis). Provide details of follow-up actions taken on all suspicious and positive serological results and on how these findings are acted upon. Provide criteria for selection of populations for targeted surveillance. Provide details of the methods selected and applied for monitoring the performance of the [*surveillance*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_surveillance)programme including indicators.

*d)* Provide information on the different husbandry systems, and provide evidence that targeted studies (e.g., targeted serological surveys, active [*surveillance*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_surveillance), participatory epidemiology studies, [*risk assessments*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_appreciation_du_risque), etc.) are conduced to reach all populations of susceptible animals.

*e)* Provide details of the oversight of [*surveillance*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_surveillance) programmes by the *Veterinary Services* including training programmes for personnel and animal health professionals, both official and private, involved in clinical and serological [*surveillance*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_surveillance), and the approaches used to increase community involvement in RP [*surveillance*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_surveillance) programmes.

4. RP prevention

Describe the procedures in place to prevent the introduction of RP into the country, including details of:

*a)* Coordination with other countries. Describe any relevant factors in neighbouring countries that should be taken into account (e.g. size, distance from the border to affected herds or flocks or animals). Describe coordination, collaboration and information-sharing activities with other countries in the same region or ecosystem.

*b)* Describe the measures implemented to effectively prevent the introduction of the pathogenic agent, taking into consideration physical or geographical barriers. Describe the measures implemented to prevent the spread of the pathogenic agent within the country. Provide evidence that measures to reduce transmission of RP are in place at markets, such as enhancing awareness of RP transmission mechanisms and human behaviour that can interrupt transmission, and implementation of good [*biosecurity*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_securite_biologique), hygiene and disinfection routines at critical points all along the production and marketing networks (typically where animals are being moved and marketed through the country or region).

*c)* Import control procedures. Provide information on countries from which susceptible animals or their products are authorised to be imported into the country. Describe the criteria applied to approve such countries. Advise whether import permits, and [*international veterinary certificates*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_certificat_veterinaire_international) are required and, if so, describe the import requirements stated in them.

Provide summary statistics on imports of susceptible animals and their products since the first RP case was reported until the date the country is declaring recovery of freedom, specifying countries of origin, species and the quantity or volume and eventual destination in the country and illegal/non-compliant imports detected.

1. The roles and responsibilities of relevant stakeholders during the emergency management cycle associated with rinderpest re-emergence can be found in the [Global Rinderpest Action Plan.](https://www.woah.org/en/document/global-rinderpest-action-plan-2018-2/) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)