

# Report of the Meeting of WOAH *ad hoc* Group on the revision of Chapters 5.4. to 5.7. of the *Terrestrial Code*

Original: English (EN)

15 to 17 November 2022  
Paris

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## 1. Opening

Dr Montserrat Arroyo, the WOAHA Deputy Director General, International Standards and Science, welcomed members of the *ad hoc* Group (hereafter 'the Group') and thanked them for their time and commitment. Dr Arroyo extended her appreciation to the members' employing institutions and national governments. Dr Arroyo discussed the background with the members of the Group, and highlighted that the revised chapters should be practical and useful for all WOAHA Members to achieve effective implementation.

Dr Francisco D'Alessio, Deputy Head of Standards Department, thanked the experts for having signed the forms for undertaking of confidentiality and declaration of interests. No potential conflict of interests was identified in relation to the Terms of Reference (ToR) of this meeting. Dr D'Alessio briefed the participants on relevant WOAHA processes and introduced the members of the Secretariat supporting the work of the Group who provided an overview of the ToR and briefed relevant documents from other organisations that should be taken into consideration in the work (e.g. WTO SPS agreement and relevant Codex guidelines).

## 2. Adoption of the agenda and appointment of Chairperson

Dr Phillip Widders was appointed as Chair for the Group. The Group endorsed the proposed agenda.

The agenda, list of participants and ToR are provided as [Annex I](#), [II](#) and [III](#), respectively.

## 3. Review of key Glossary definitions

The Group discussed the definitions for the terms 'border post' and 'quarantine station' defined in the Glossary of the *Terrestrial Code*, based on the usage of the terms across the *Code* (2022 edition).

### 3.1. Border post

The Group was informed that, in the current edition of the *Terrestrial Code*, the term 'border post'<sup>1</sup> was used only in some chapters in Section 1 and in Section 5. The Group noted that the current definition covered premises only used for inspection at import, whereas the disease-specific chapters (chapters in Sections 8 to 15) of the *Terrestrial Code*, in principle, provide recommendations to be complied with by the Veterinary Authorities of the exporting countries.

They noted that "border posts", from a trade perspective, were defined by Customs in most countries and, while there may be many border posts in a given country, only some of them were designated by the Veterinary Authority as facilities where veterinary inspections are performed for certain animal commodities. The Group agreed that the term 'border post' should be replaced with 'border control (or inspection) post' to provide for a clearer vision of its role.

The Group considered that it would not be necessary to specify the place as in the current definition (i.e. airport, or any port, railway station or road-check point) given that it added no value, and could exclude other places where these could operate such as international post offices, and thus proposed using a more general term such as 'any international point of entry'.

The Group agreed that the term 'Border control/inspection post' was used in the context of import inspection, and hence it was appropriate to keep 'where import veterinary inspections can be performed' at the end of the Glossary definition. Nevertheless, the Group proposed deleting 'import' of 'where import veterinary inspections can be performed' as the Group considered that the term would also be used in the transit operations, i.e. in the new Chapter 5.5. as well. (See point 4.3 below).

### 3.2. Quarantine station

The Group noted that the current Glossary definition for quarantine station<sup>2</sup> implied that this term is used only in the context of import inspection, as it addressed only the risk of transmission of pathogenic agents outside the establishment (i.e. did not address the risk of introduction of pathogenic agents into the establishment) as described

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<sup>1</sup> **BORDER POST** means any airport, or any port, railway station or road check-point open to international trade of commodities, where import veterinary inspections can be performed.

<sup>2</sup> **QUARANTINE STATION** means an establishment under the control of the *Veterinary Authority* where *animals* are maintained in isolation with no direct or indirect contact with other *animals*, to ensure that there is no transmission of specified pathogenic agents outside the establishment while the *animals* are undergoing observation for a specified length of time and, if appropriate, testing or treatment.

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in the definition. The Group noted the current use of the term in a pre-export isolation context in many disease-specific chapters of Vol II of the *Terrestrial Code*, and the reality of Member countries' current use of quarantine stations. Accordingly, the Group considered that this term could be used in both importation and exportation contexts, and proposed revising the definition accordingly. Given the different biosecurity considerations that must apply when isolating animals in the pre-export process compared to post-arrival, the Group agreed that these differences must be addressed clearly in the relevant sections of the revised chapters.

During the discussion, the Group noted that, in the *Terrestrial Code*, various terms were used to refer to facilities employed for pre-export isolation (e.g. 'isolation facilities' in Chapter 10.4. and 'isolation *establishment*' in Chapter 11.10.). The Group was informed that, in the *Terrestrial Code*, the term 'quarantine station' was used to refer to a facility which is used only for the purpose of import/export inspection in the trade of live animals, whereas the other facilities are used to refer to ones which are used for not only pre-export inspection but also other purposes such as rearing of animals.

The Group discussed in detail the potential different settings that this term could refer to, ranging from dedicated high biosecurity buildings to facilities properly conditioned to keep animals in isolation, and acknowledged that the specific requirements would depend on the specific aim, the epidemiological context and be conditioned by the animal species and the pathogenic agents of concern. The Group also noted that the terms used for the translation into the three WOAHP official languages (English:Station, Spanish:Estación, French:Station) could have different understandings. Noting the proposal of the Group to address in detail the use of pre-export or post-arrival isolation in the chapters dedicated to these processes (See items 4.2 and 4.4 below) and to have a new chapter providing details on the facilities, the Group considered that using the term 'quarantine facility' instead of 'quarantine station' might avoid potential misunderstanding of Members, but could not agree on whether there is sufficient distinction between these two terms to justify the impacts of extensive revisions required throughout the *Terrestrial Code*. Therefore, the Group agreed to seek the Code Commission's opinion on this point.

The Group also acknowledged that the term 'quarantine station' could be used in practice to refer to facilities where animals are kept in isolation for other purposes not related to international trade, such as research or experimental purposes. The Group agreed that that was out of the scope of this Glossary term, and noted that specific standards on this were provided in *Terrestrial Manual* Chapter 1.1.4. Biosafety and biosecurity: Standard for managing biological risk in the veterinary laboratory and animal facilities.

With regard to the Glossary definition for quarantine station, the Group realised that there was a discrepancy between the English version and the Spanish version<sup>3</sup> and agreed that the issue should be addressed in the work.

#### **4. Review of Chapters 5.4. to 5.7. of the *Terrestrial Code***

The Group reviewed the text of the current Chapters 5.4. to 5.7. of the *Terrestrial Code* and considered how the chapters are aligned with the relevant Glossary definitions, how they interacted or complemented with other horizontal chapters, and notably how they provided for an adequate implementation of the relevant measures prescribed in the disease-specific chapters for the safe international trade of animals and related commodities, and for the definition and maintenance of countries' animal health status.

The Group identified the strong points and critical gaps of the current texts and discussed what recommendations on measures and procedures taken in the entire process of international trade, i.e. at origin (from the farm/premises of origin) through to the final destination in the exporting country, in transit and on arrival (from arrival until clearance) should be described in the revised chapters, and then discussed how they should be addressed and described in the revised chapters.

In general terms, the Group concurred that, while the current chapters reflected the main principles for the intervention of Veterinary Authorities in the process for international trade, all four current chapters lacked clarity and consistency. They also noted that the texts did not flow properly, and that the recommendations were randomly directed to processes, roles of specific actors, facilities, or specific requirements. The Group also agreed that there was not adequate use of references to other horizontal chapters.

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<sup>3</sup> **ESTACIÓN DE CUARENTENA** designa un local o un establecimiento bajo control de la *autoridad veterinaria*, en el que se mantiene a los *animales* aislados, sin ningún contacto directo ni indirecto con otros *animales*, para garantizar que no se produzca la transmisión de determinados agentes patógenos fuera del local o establecimiento mientras los *animales* son sometidos a observación durante un período de tiempo determinado y, si es preciso, a pruebas de diagnóstico o a tratamientos.

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The Group agreed that an integral revision of the chapters would be beneficial. The Group's proposals on the structure of the revised chapters, and the scope and high-level contents of each chapter, are provided below.

#### **4.1. Proposed new structure of the chapters**

The Group proposed replacing the current Chapters 5.4., 5.5., 5.6. and 5.7. with four new chapters which would include, as appropriate, the relevant provisions of the current ones.

The Group proposed including three chapters (i.e. Chapters 5.4. to 5.6.) that provide recommendations on measures and procedures that are applicable in the 'exportation (from the origin to the exit of the exporting country)', 'transit' and 'importation (from arrival until clearance)', and then a chapter (i.e. Chapter 5.7.) dedicated to the key facilities (e.g. border control/inspection posts, quarantine facilities).

The Group also discussed the possibility to merge the chapter on 'transit' with a chapter on 'importation', but finally discarded the idea as it considered that, while some processes could overlap (e.g. controls at the border), others could have different objectives or could differ (e.g. isolation, final clearance). The Group agreed that keeping four separate chapters was better in terms of readability and clarity. The Group also emphasised the value of developing, where appropriate, a similar structure across the four chapters.

The Group also considered that there might be some value in expanding the scope of the new Chapter 5.7. to cover recommendations common to the whole process on the means of transport, containers, and other facilities, rather than repeating similar recommendations in each Chapter 5.4., 5.5. and 5.6. The Group agreed to explore this possibility, if relevant, when drafting the chapters.

The Group highlighted the importance of cross-linking the new texts with other horizontal chapters of the Code, when relevant, to make best use of their content and avoid unnecessary repetitions.

#### **4.2. Proposed new Chapter 5.4.**

The Group proposed that the purpose of the new chapter be to provide horizontal recommendations (i.e. not disease-specific) on measures and procedures that should be applied by countries when exporting commodities to prevent the spread of pathogenic agents through the international trade of commodities, without creating unnecessary restrictions. The Group was of the view that the diseases to which recommendations in the four new chapters would be directed should not be limited to listed diseases and emerging diseases, given that Members could implement sanitary measures for other diseases as well, if compliant with relevant WOAHA Standards and WTO SPS agreement principles.

With regard to the scope of the new chapter, the Group agreed that this chapter should:

- provide general principles for measures and procedures that are applicable from the facilities of origin, such as establishment, slaughterhouse/abattoir and semen collection centre (artificial insemination centre), to the point of exit from the exporting country;
- address roles and responsibilities of the Veterinary Authority, other Competent Authorities, and business operators in the exporting country (noting that general responsibilities of the exporting country, including Veterinary Authority, is described in Article 5.1.3. of the Code Chapter 5.1. General obligations related to certification); and
- cover all commodities within the scope of the *Terrestrial Code*.

The Group considered that the new Chapter 5.4. could have an article on general considerations before describing recommendations on specific topics. The Group agreed that the article should describe the roles and responsibilities for the exportation of commodities of the Veterinary Authority and other Competent Authorities, laboratories approved and monitored by the Veterinary Authority and business operators in the exporting country. The Group highlighted the importance of communication among Veterinary Authorities and relevant stakeholders of exporting, transit and importing countries for logistical arrangements, and also the importance of information sharing among Veterinary Authority and relevant authorities in the exporting country to prevent fraud. The Group considered that it would be relevant to provide, in the article, general principles on necessary sanitary measures that should apply to prevent commodities from being contaminated with pathogenic agents along the exportation and on animal welfare considerations throughout the exportation of animals, highlighting some high-risk points (e.g. during loading and transport).

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The Group proposed that the new Chapter 5.4. also have:

- an article on general principles applicable to exportation, including approval and regular inspection of slaughterhouses/abattoir by Competent Authority, preparation of commodities to be exported, verification and certification;
- an article to provide specific recommendations on each commodity as necessary; and
- an article on plans to address emergencies, such as a new outbreak of a listed disease being confirmed in the exporting country during the pre-export quarantine period.

Finally, all things written above considered, the Group proposed a new title 'Measures and procedures applicable in the exportation of commodities' for the new chapter.

#### 4.3. Proposed new Chapter 5.5.

The Group proposed that the purpose of the new chapter be to provide horizontal recommendations (i.e. not disease-specific) on measures and procedures that should be applied by countries when commodities destined to another country are transported through their territory or make a stopover at a border post, to ensure the safe continuity of international trade, preventing the spread of pathogenic agents and avoiding unnecessary restrictions to trade.

With regard to the scope of the new chapter, the Group agreed that this chapter should:

- provide general principles for measures and procedures that are applicable from the point of entry to the point of exit in a transit country;
- address roles and responsibilities of the Veterinary Authority, other Competent Authorities, and business operators in the transit country; and
- cover all commodities within the scope of the *Terrestrial Code*.

The Group discussed the need to modify the term 'transit country'<sup>4</sup> defined in the Glossary of the *Terrestrial Code* and to develop the definition for 'transit'. Considering the Glossary definition for 'transit country', the Group was of the view that 'transit' of animal commodities included neither the case of "triangular" trade (i.e. raw product being manipulated/processed in the transit country, or animals being imported and re-exported), nor cases where the destination had not been defined. The Group considered that the definition for transit country was sufficiently clear and, therefore, it would not be necessary to develop the definition for transit. The Group highlighted that the key principle for considering a movement of commodities as a "transit" was keeping the commodities and all relevant conditions unchanged as stated in the original certification (issued by the exporting country). The Group was of the view that if any clause in the original certification changes as a consequence of operations during the transit process, the operation should be interpreted as an importation and exportation, not a 'transit'.

The Group considered that the new Chapter 5.5. should have an article on general considerations before describing recommendations on specific topics. The Group agreed that the article should describe the roles and responsibilities during the transit of commodities for the Veterinary Authority, other Competent Authorities and relevant stakeholders such as brokers, couriers and carrier of exporting, transit and importing countries, and highlight the importance of advance notice to Veterinary Authorities in the transit and importing countries, and the importance of cooperation with other relevant authorities (e.g. Customs).

The Group proposed that the new Chapter 5.5. should also have an article on emergency plans to address cases such as a new outbreak of a listed disease in the exporting country, an animal in transit showing clinical signs suggestive of a listed disease, new outbreaks of a listed disease or others or public health issues near the border posts in the transit country, animal trauma or injuries, or animal welfare concerns. Similarly, the Group noted the need for plans to manage unexpected changes in the transport plan due to external factors (e.g. weather, social, political).

Finally, all things written above considered, the Group proposed a new title 'Measures and procedures applicable in the transit process of commodities' for the new chapter.

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<sup>4</sup> **TRANSIT COUNTRY** means a country through which *commodities* destined for an *importing country* are transported or in which a stopover is made at a *border post*.

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#### 4.4. Proposed new Chapter 5.6.

The Group proposed that the purpose of the new chapter be to provide horizontal recommendations (i.e. not disease-specific) on measures and procedures that should be applied by countries when importing commodities to prevent the introduction of pathogenic agents through the international trade of commodities, without creating unnecessary restrictions to trade.

With regard to the scope of the new chapter, the Group agreed that this chapter should:

- provide general principles for measures and procedures applicable when importing commodities, from arrival at a border post or other facility in the importing country, until final clearance;
- address specific roles and responsibilities of the Veterinary Authority, other Competent Authorities, and business operators in the importing country (noting that general responsibilities of the importing country are described in Article 5.1.2.); and,
- cover all commodities within the scope of the *Terrestrial Code*.

The Group agreed that the new Chapter 5.6. should have an article on general considerations before describing recommendations on specific topics. The Group agreed that the article should describe the roles and responsibilities in the importation of commodities for the Veterinary Authority and other Competent Authorities, bodies or officers undertaking delegated official activities (e.g. private veterinarians, laboratories), business operators and other stakeholders in the importing country. The Group also highlighted the importance of maintaining the current requirement to notify in advance the Veterinary Authority in the importing country.

The Group considered that it would be relevant to also provide general principles on necessary biosecurity that should apply to prevent transmission of pathogenic agents from commodities during the importation. The Group also proposed including recommendations to ensure the welfare of animals during the process, highlighting some critical points (e.g. pre-clearance transport from border post to alternate inspection point).

The Group proposed that the new Chapter 5.6. also have:

- an article on general principles applicable to processes for import clearance which will include provisions on documentary check, identity check of commodities, isolation of animals, physical inspection of commodities, sampling and laboratory testing, and specific measures for each commodity;
- an article to describe procedures applicable when commodities were cleared for importation;
- an article to describe procedures applicable when commodities were not cleared for importation;
- an article on plans to address emergencies, such as a new outbreak of a listed disease occurring in the exporting, transit or importing countries, an animal in isolation showing clinical signs suggestive of a listed disease, and other issues (e.g. animal welfare, non-infectious issues);
- an article on general principles applicable to disinfection of vehicles/vessels and containers;
- an article on general principles applicable to disposal of waste associated with international trade (e.g. bedding, feed, excrement, confiscated goods) or other relevant international waste (e.g. waste unloaded from international means of transport with passengers and/or crew); and
- an article on general recommendations on illegal cross-border movement of commodities, which will include provisions to encourage the Veterinary Authority in the importing country to carry out collaborative activities with all relevant authorities and stakeholders such as environment, customs and law enforcement authorities, with the aim of surveying, detecting and stopping the illegal cross-border movement, and collaborative activities and sharing relevant information with other countries.

With regard to the discussion on illegal cross-border movement, the Group was of the view that this Chapter should focus on the implementation and control of the regulated process. The Group noted a *de facto* difference between 'illegal' and 'informal' movements, and considered that these terms should not get mixed up in the new chapter. The Group was of the view that 'illegal' trade refers to the international movement of commodities done in a way to expressly and intentionally avoid official controls and regulations (e.g. smuggle, contraband, traffic), and should be

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addressed by this chapter. The Group noted that some other cross border movements may occur without following all regulatory procedures, such as when commodities are moved locally between communities on both sides of land borders, in cross-border pastoralist areas, by migrants or refugees who have no choice but to move their animals/animal products without sufficient advance preparation. The Group recognised that, although these 'informal' movements of commodities also posed risks that should be managed, the specific considerations for that would not belong in this chapter and could be dealt with elsewhere in the Code, such as in relation to disease control programmes or disease surveillance. In this regard, the Group agreed to seek Code Commission's opinion on the Group's position as to how the risks posed by 'informal' movement should be addressed in the *Terrestrial Code*. Further, the Group also sought Code Commission's opinion as to whether 'illegal' trade that will be addressed by this chapter should be limited to the one that may occur at border posts or should also cover what may occur elsewhere on the border.

The Group also noted that Article 5.6.2. of the current Chapters 5.6. Border posts and quarantine stations in the importing country had a sentence that "the presence of disease or infection in imported animals in a quarantine station does not affect the animal health status of the country or zone." The Group acknowledged the importance of the provision and thus agreed to keep it, but proposed moving it to this new Chapter 5.6., given that preventing diseases from being introduced to countries is the objective of the importation for which the new chapter provides recommendations, and the new Chapter 5.7. should focus on general recommendations that are applicable to both border control/inspection post and quarantine facility. (See item 4.5 below.)

Finally, all things written above considered, the Group proposed a new title 'Measures and procedures applicable in the importation of commodities' for the new chapter.

#### **4.5. Proposed new Chapter 5.7.**

The Group agreed to develop a chapter dedicated to key facilities for the implementation of the recommendations discussed above (i.e. border control/inspection post and quarantine facilities), similarly to current Chapter 5.6., and discussed the recommendations which should be provided in the new chapter.

The Group considered that the new chapter should provide general recommendations that are applicable to both border control/inspection post and quarantine facilities. The Group considered that the general recommendations would address at least considerations such as safety of staff and the animals, biosecurity, waste disposal appropriate to the activity of the facilities, record keeping, documentation of procedures (development of SOPs), procuring sufficient staff and physical resources (buildings and equipment).

The Group considered that appropriate resources (human resources and infrastructure) should be provided to border control/inspection posts and quarantine facilities, and that these should be in accordance with the type and quantity of commodities that are processed, as these may differ among border control/inspection posts and quarantine facilities.

With regard to staff, noting that Article 3.2.4. of Code Chapter 3.2. Quality of Veterinary Services provides recommendations on personnel and resources that the Veterinary Services of a Member country should own, the Group was of the view that the new chapter should provide specific recommendations on staff who work at the border control/inspection post and quarantine facility, given that specialised expertise is required for the personnel and regular training for the personnel is essential to properly address the update of processes and the evolving worldwide situation on animal diseases.

The Group also considered that the new chapter should provide recommendations on plans to properly deal with emergencies that the facilities might face, such as breakdown of equipment and power failure, natural disasters or others, while avoiding duplication with the recommendations on emergency plans which will be provided in the revised Chapters 5.4. to 5.6. (See items 4.2, 4.3 and 4.4 above.)

The Group considered that the new chapter might have articles addressing specifically quarantine facilities and border control/inspection posts, given that WOAHA had received a request from a Member on the need for guidance on the establishment and management of quarantine stations. In this regard, the Group was not clear on the level of detail that such articles should contain in the context of the Code. The Group agreed to seek the Code Commission's opinion as to what extent specific recommendations on facilities should be described in the new chapter.

With regard to Article 5.6.4. of current Chapter 5.6., which states that Members should share information on its border posts and quarantine stations among relevant stakeholders, the Group agreed on the importance of this recommendation given that sharing information among relevant stakeholders is essential to facilitate the safe trade of animal commodities and to avoid unnecessary trade barriers. The Group noted that the article also mentioned a role for WOAHA Headquarters in terms of sharing information, but was informed by the Secretariat that there was no

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activity in Headquarters in this regard. Therefore, the Group agreed to seek the Code Commission's opinion on this point, to consider whether it should be maintained.

## 5. Consideration of the need to develop new definitions for the Glossary

The Group considered that it might be relevant to develop a new Glossary definition for a term 'point of exit' to refer specifically to the place where commodities effectively leave the exporting country (or transit country) and might be used in the revised Chapters 5.4. and 5.5. to provide more accurate recommendations on animal welfare controls, differentiating with other export/import controls. The Group agreed to revisit this point when drafting the chapters, and consider whether it might be relevant to also include other controls.

During the discussion, the Group noted that terms 'place of shipment'<sup>5</sup> and 'vehicle/vessel'<sup>6</sup> are defined in the current Glossary of the *Terrestrial Code* and was informed that, in the current edition of the *Terrestrial Code*, the terms are used only in the context of trade of live animals. The Group considered that whether these terms need to cover not only live animals but also other commodities would be discussed in drafting the revised chapters, as well as possible differences between the term 'place of shipment' and the term 'point of exit'.

Further, the Group realised that some terms (i.e. 'establishment of origin', 'place of origin', 'country of origin', 'shipment', 'dispatch' and 'embarkation') used in the current four chapters, model certificates which are provided in Code Chapters 5.10. to 5.13. and some disease-specific chapters are vague. In this regard, the Group agreed to seek the Code Commission's opinion on the interpretation of the terms.

The Group also noted that some terminology might already be defined by other relevant international organisations (e.g. WCO, Codex, IPPC) and it might be worth considering such definitions for the users' easy understanding and to facilitate implementation.

## 6. Points that require guidance from the Code Commission for the next steps in the development of the draft revised chapters

As described above, the Group identified the following points that require guidance from the Code Commission to proceed to the next steps to draft the revised chapters. These points will be presented to the Commission for its consideration at its February 2023 meeting.

- Whether there is sufficient distinction between these two terms 'quarantine station' and 'quarantine facility' to justify the impacts of extensive revisions required throughout the *Terrestrial Code* (See point 3.2 above).
- How the risks posed by 'informal' movements of animal commodities, which the Group proposes not covering in these chapters, should be addressed in the *Terrestrial Code* (See point 4.4 above).
- Whether 'illegal' trade that will be addressed by the new Chapter 5.6. should be limited to one that occurs at border post (or should cover one that occurs anywhere on the border as well) (See point 4.4 above).
- To what extent specific recommendations on border control/inspection posts and quarantine station should be described in the new Chapter 5.7. (See point 4.5 above).
- WOAH Headquarters' role to share information described in the current Article 5.6.4. with WOAH Members and/or relevant stakeholders (See point 4.5 above).
- Terminology of the terms 'establishment of origin', 'place of origin', 'country of origin', 'shipment', 'dispatch' and 'embarkation' (See point 5 above).

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.../Annexes

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<sup>5</sup> **PLACE OF SHIPMENT** means the place where the *commodities* are loaded into the *vehicle* or handed to the agency that will transport them to another country.

<sup>6</sup> **VEHICLE/VESSEL** means any means of conveyance including train, truck, aircraft or ship that is used for carrying animals.



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**Annex 1. Adopted Agenda**

**MEETING OF WOA *AD HOC* GROUP ON THE REVISION OF  
CHAPTERS 5.4. TO 5.7. OF THE *TERRESTRIAL CODE***

**Paris, 15-17 November 2022**

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1. Welcome and opening of meeting
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Introduction from Secretariat
4. Brief introduction from each Group member: potential issues of the current chapters and Glossary definitions for 'border post' and 'quarantine station'
5. Review of Chapters 5.4. to 5.7. of the *Terrestrial Code*
6. Review of the key Glossary definitions
7. Consideration of the need to develop new definitions for the Glossary
8. Points that require guidance from the Code Commission for the next steps in the development of the draft revised chapters

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## Annex 2. List of Participants

### MEETING OF WOAH *AD HOC* GROUP ON THE REVISION OF CHAPTERS 5.4. TO 5.7. OF THE *TERRESTRIAL CODE*

Paris, 15-17 November 2022

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#### MEMBERS OF THE *AD HOC* GROUP

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**Dr Phillip Widders (Chair)**

Former Chief Quarantine Officer /  
Principal Veterinary Officer of  
Australian Quarantine and Inspection  
Service  
Dolans Bay  
AUSTRALIA

**Dr Bruno Saimour**

Health Policy Officer  
European Commission  
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**Dr Niksa Barisic**

Head of International Trade  
Division  
Veterinary and Food Safety  
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Zagreb  
CROATIA

**Dr Mpho Maja**

Director of Animal Health Department  
of Agriculture, Land reform and Rural  
Development  
Pretoria  
SOUTH AFRICA

**Dr Joyce Bowling-Heyward**

Director Regionalization  
Evaluation Services, U.S.  
Department of Agriculture, Animal  
and Plant Health Inspection  
Service, Veterinary Services  
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**Dr Mariela Monterubbianesi**

General Coordinator of  
Quarantine Operations of the  
Directorate of Animal Foreign  
Trade of National Service for Food  
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#### CODE COMMISSION

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**Dr Etienne Bonbon**

Terrestrial Animal Health Standards  
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#### WOAH HEADQUARTERS

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**Dr Francisco D'Alessio**

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**Dr Yukitake Okamura**

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### Annex 3. Terms of Reference

#### MEETING OF WOAH *AD HOC* GROUP ON THE REVISION OF CHAPTERS 5.4. TO 5.7. OF THE *TERRESTRIAL CODE*

Paris, 15-17 November 2022

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##### **Purpose**

The purpose of the *ad hoc* Group on the Revision of Chapters 5.4. to 5.7. of the *Terrestrial Code* is to revise and update Chapters 5.4. Animal health measures applicable before and at departure, 5.5. Animal health measures applicable during transit from the place of departure in the exporting country to the place of arrival in the importing country, 5.6. Border posts and quarantine stations in the importing country and 5.7. Animal health measures applicable on arrival of the *Terrestrial Code*.

##### **Background**

The Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission (the Code Commission) added the review of Section 5 Trade measures, import/export procedures and veterinary certification of the *Terrestrial Code* to its work programme because most of the chapters in this section have not been updated for some time and some are not adequate to support Members in managing the risks of introduction of diseases through the importation of commodities.

Taking into consideration previous discussions and comments received from Members, the Code Commission, at its September 2021 meeting, agreed that a revision of Chapters 5.4. to 5.7. should be given priority over other chapters in Section 5 and requested that an *ad hoc* Group be convened to undertake this work.

##### **Actions to deliver**

1. conduct a thorough review of Chapters 5.4. to 5.7. and consider how they could be improved to provide horizontal (i.e. not disease-specific) recommendations on measures that should be taken throughout the entire process of international trade from pre-departure, during transit and post arrival, to facilitate safe international trade and prevent the spread of diseases through the international trade of commodities.

To this end:

- a) review the scope of each of these four chapters, and if considered preferable propose the deletion or merging of chapters, or the development of new chapters;
  - b) consider the relevance of existing recommendations described in these four chapters; and
  - c) develop a new or revised scope, structure, high level article content, and titles for each of the proposed chapters, from the perspective of improving clarity and demarcation among the chapters and ensuring they address all aspects of the international trade pathway, i.e. export, transit, import, inspection, certification and clearance and they are relevant for all WOAH Members, taking into consideration the different conditions and contexts for implementation;
2. review the Glossary of the *Terrestrial Code* for 'border post' and 'quarantine station' in the context of the *Terrestrial Code*, and if needed, propose amendments aligned with their use in the revised chapters, as well as in other chapters of the *Terrestrial Code*;
  3. consider the need to develop new definitions for the Glossary for any other key terms used in the revised chapters, and propose draft definitions, if relevant;
  4. if needed, indicate to the Code Commission any areas needing its guidance for the development of the draft revised chapters.

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## Considerations

When developing this work, the *ad hoc* Group should consider:

1. the general structure and content of the *Terrestrial Code*; in particular chapters in Section 5 of the current edition, as well as recommendations for importation of commodities in the disease-specific chapters (Volume II) of the *Terrestrial Code*;
2. the use of Glossary definitions in the *Terrestrial Code*;
3. the Code Commission's opinions on the scope of the revised chapters (to be provided in the Working Documents);
4. the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary measures (especially Article 8 and Annex C), the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation, the Codex Alimentarius Principles for Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification (CAC/GL 20-1995) Guidelines for the Design, Operation, Assessment and Accreditation of Food Import and Export Certification Systems (CAC/GL 26-1997) (to be provided in the Working Documents);
5. all Working Documents provided by the Code Commission's Secretariat.

## Expectations

*Ad hoc* Group members should:

- be familiar with the structure of the *Terrestrial Code* and the use of Glossary definitions;
- have read and considered Chapters 5.4. to 5.7. of the *Terrestrial Code*;
- have read all Working Documents provided by the Code Commission's Secretariat;
- contribute to discussions; and
- contribute to drafting text for the revised chapters and the report.

*Ad hoc* Group members should:

- sign the WOAHA Undertaking on Confidentiality;
- complete the WOAHA Declaration of Interest; and
- read and acknowledge the WOAHA personal data management policy.

## Deliverables

1. a report presenting the proposed approach for the revised chapters, including the main structure, title and scope for each chapter and the rationale for decisions and proposals
2. the revised draft or proposed new chapters
3. the revised draft definitions for 'border post' and 'quarantine station' and any other draft new proposed definitions (if relevant)
4. any points that require guidance from the Code Commission for the next steps in the development of the revised draft chapters

## Reporting / timeline

The *ad hoc* Group will finalise its deliverables within five weeks after the completion of the meeting.

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