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**REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE
OIE TERRESTRIAL ANIMAL HEALTH STANDARDS COMMISSION
Paris, 12-16 March 2007**

The OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission (hereafter referred to as the Terrestrial Code Commission) met at the OIE Headquarters in Paris from 12 to 16 March 2007.

The members of the Terrestrial Code Commission are listed in [Appendix I](#). The agenda adopted is given in [Appendix II](#).

The Terrestrial Code Commission examined various draft texts of the *OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (hereinafter referred to as the *Terrestrial Code*) from its October 2006 report in response to Member Countries' comments received by mid- February, as well as outstanding comments from the previous Commission meeting and meeting reports of various *ad hoc* Groups and of the Animal Production Food Safety Working Group (hereinafter referred to as APFSWG), and the OIE Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases (hereinafter referred to as the Scientific Commission).

The outcome of the Terrestrial Code Commission's work is presented as Appendices to this report. Amendments made during the October 2006 meeting to existing Chapters and previously circulated drafts are shown as double underlined text, with deleted text in ~~strikeout~~, and those made at this meeting (March 2007) in a similar fashion but with a coloured background to distinguish the two groups of proposals.

The Terrestrial Code Commission stated that, where comments have been provided previously and explanations given for the decision of the Terrestrial Code Commission not to accept the recommendations, these explanations will not be repeated.

The texts presented in Part A of this report are proposed for adoption at the 75th OIE General Session. The texts presented in Part B are circulated among Member Countries for comments. Various meeting reports are presented in Part C for Member Countries' information.

The Terrestrial Code Commission strongly encourages Member Countries to participate in the development of the OIE's international standards by sending comments on this report. The Terrestrial Code Commission reiterates that it would be very helpful if comments were submitted as specific proposed text changes, supported by a scientific rationale. Member Countries are requested **not to use the automatic 'track-change' function** provided by word processing software in preparation of their comments.

Comments on this report need to reach the OIE Headquarters by **15 August 2007** in order to be considered at the next meeting of the Terrestrial Code Commission in September 2007. Comments should be sent to the International Trade Department at: trade.dept@oie.int.

The Terrestrial Code Commission thanked the following Member Countries for providing written comments: Argentina, Australia, Canada, Chile, the European Union (EU), Guatemala, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mozambique, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, Switzerland, Thailand, Taipei China and the United States of America (USA). Comments were also received from the Secretariat of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC), industry organisations and a non-governmental organisation (NGO).

A. TEXTS WHICH ARE SUBMITTED FOR ADOPTION

1. General definitions (Chapter 1.1.1.)

The Terrestrial Code Commission examined comments from Argentina, Australia, EU, Switzerland, Thailand, South Africa and the Secretariat of the CAC.

Submissions were received on the definition of '*animal handler*'. Most were supportive and the Terrestrial Code Commission considered the definition should remain unchanged, despite a proposal for change from a single Member Country.

The definition of '*Competent Authority*' was modified at the suggestion from Member Countries.

The definition of '*Veterinary Administration*' was deleted and '*Veterinary Authority*' was modified to be consistent with '*Competent Authority*'. Despite comments from a single Member Country, the Terrestrial Code Commission remained of the opinion that no useful purpose would be served by retaining separate definitions for '*Veterinary Administration*' and '*Veterinary Authority*'.

A Member Country requested that the use of the terms '*Veterinary Services*', '*Veterinary Authority*' and '*Competent Authority*' be reviewed. The Terrestrial Code Commission reconfirmed that it would undertake this work for the entire *Terrestrial Code* and modify as appropriate once the proposed definitions of these terms have been adopted.

A Member Country requested changes to the definitions of '*journey*', '*resting point*' and '*transport*'. The Terrestrial Code Commission considered that the requested changes could not be made without significantly weakening the guidelines on animal welfare.

The Terrestrial Code Commission accepted a recommendation from the *ad hoc* Group on Identification and Traceability of Live Animals and modified the *Terrestrial Code* definitions of '*market*' and '*collecting centre*' accordingly.

The revised Chapter is presented at [Appendix III to this report](#) for adoption.

2. Zoning and compartmentalisation

a) Zoning and compartmentalisation (Chapter 1.3.5.)

The Terrestrial Code Commission examined comments on Chapter 1.3.5. submitted by Australia, Canada, EU, Japan, Mozambique, Norway, New Zealand, South Africa, Switzerland, Taipei-China, Thailand and USA.

In the definition of "*Biosecurity plan*" slight text changes have been made for clarification; besides that, the last sentence has been deleted because this sentence is used again in Article 1.3.5.4. After its adoption the definition will be moved to Chapter 1.1.1. of the *Terrestrial Code*.

Appropriate changes to the articles have been made for clarification and consistency with general definitions.

The revised Chapter is presented at [Appendix IV to this report](#) for adoption.

b) Guidelines on compartmentalisation

The Terrestrial Code Commission has received from the Scientific Commission draft general guidelines for the application of compartmentalisation. The draft Appendix, which is presented at [Appendix XXXIII](#) in Part B of this report, is circulated to Member Countries for comment.

c) Checklist on the practical application of compartmentalisation for avian influenza and Newcastle disease

As indicated in the report of the meeting of the Terrestrial Code Commission in October 2006, an expert has prepared a checklist on the application of the compartmentalisation concept for avian influenza and Newcastle disease in poultry. The Terrestrial Code Commission reviewed the paper and incorporated comments from an *ad hoc* Group on Newcastle disease surveillance.

This checklist, which is presented at [Appendix XLIX in Part C of this report](#), will be re-formatted as a brochure and distributed to Member Countries during the forthcoming General Session.

3. Rabies (Chapter 2.2.5.)

The Terrestrial Code Commission examined Member Countries' comments on Chapter 2.2.5. on rabies from Australia, Canada, EU, South Africa, Switzerland, Thailand and USA.

A Member Country requested an explanation as to why the diagnosis of Australian lyssavirus and American bat viruses result in loss of rabies free status while diagnosis of European bat lyssaviruses does not have the same effect. The Member Country claimed that routine rabies diagnosis does not discriminate between these different viruses, all of which cause clinical rabies in whatever species they infect. The Terrestrial Code Commission referred this question to the OIE Scientific and Technical Department for advice.

Comments on recommendations for the use of vaccine were received from several countries and the relevant Articles were appropriately modified.

The Chapter with a minor modification is presented at [Appendix V to this report](#) for adoption.

4. Foot and mouth disease (Chapter 2.2.10.)

The Terrestrial Code Commission received comments from Argentina, Australia, Chile, EU, Japan, Norway, South Africa, Taipei-China, Thailand, New Zealand and USA on the Chapter. These were reviewed by an *ad hoc* Group and the Scientific Commission prior to the Terrestrial Code Commission. Based on the recommendations from the *ad hoc* Group and the Scientific Commission, the following changes were made to the text in the October 2006 report:

The concept of 'containment zone' was incorporated in the Chapter and the Terrestrial Code Commission recognised that once this concept of 'containment zone' is adopted, relevant changes will be made to Chapter 1.3.5. on zoning and compartmentalisation and to Appendix 3.8.7. on guidelines for foot and mouth disease surveillance.

In response to a Member Country's comment on whether the OIE policy to recognise countries or zones as free of foot and mouth disease will also recognise containment zones, the Terrestrial Code Commission was of the opinion that the OIE should consider/accept the application of a containment zone, when a Member Country submits a dossier requesting regaining the free status of a country or zone after a small outbreak.

In response to a Member Country's question, the Terrestrial Code Commission confirmed that all *Terrestrial Code* requirements for countries to submit annual information updates apply to countries wishing to stay on the OIE official list of free countries or zones.

On the basis of a Member Country's comment, the Terrestrial Code Commission modified and strengthened the content of Article 2.2.10.6 bis.

A Member Country requested changes to the *Terrestrial Code* provisions relating to the origin of animal trophies and skins. The Terrestrial Code Commission did not change this Article as it was of the opinion that the veterinary certificate can only attest to where a wild animal was killed, as the place of birth is often unknown.

The revised Chapter is presented at [Appendix VI to this report](#) for adoption.

5. Rinderpest

The Terrestrial Code Commission received a significantly revised Chapter 2.2.12. and a new Appendix on surveillance developed by an *ad hoc* Group and endorsed by the Scientific Commission. A notable change in this draft Chapter is the deletion of the concept of provisional freedom.

The draft Chapter 2.2.12. and Appendix 3.8.3. are presented at [Appendices VII and VIII to this report](#) for adoption.

6. Bluetongue

The Terrestrial Code Commission considered comments from Canada, Chile, EU, Norway, South Africa, Switzerland and USA and relevant advice from the Scientific Commission on this issue. Some comments supported and some opposed the inclusion of the compartmentalisation concept in this Chapter and its Appendix. The Terrestrial Code Commission reviewed the *Terrestrial Code* definition of compartmentalisation, which covers: 'one or more establishments...' and noted that Appendix 3.X.X. (under development) provides conditions relating to the protection of animals against vectors within an establishment, for example in a quarantine station or artificial breeding centre. Such facilities can be considered vector free without the need to introduce the concept of compartmentalisation into this Chapter.

The Terrestrial Code Commission decided that it would not be helpful to include a specific text on compartmentalisation in the *Terrestrial Code* Chapter at this time. Rather, the introduction of such a text awaits scientific advice on the requirements to define compartments that are larger than an individual establishment, including surveillance for vectors.

a) Bluetongue (Chapter 2.2.13.)

Several Member Countries' comments were received and forwarded to the Scientific Commission for consideration prior to this meeting. On the basis of the Member Countries' comments and the Scientific Commission's advice, some revisions to the text are proposed.

In relation to point 1 c) of Article 2.2.13.2., a Member Country questioned whether any zone can be classified as free from 'Culicoides not likely to be competent vectors'. However, the Scientific Commission reported that the text must remain unchanged as it coincides with current scientific knowledge of vectors and diseases.

Three Member Countries were opposed to the deletion of Article 2.2.13.5. and called for its retention in one form or another. However, the Scientific Commission considered that deletion of the Article was appropriate.

Member Country proposals to revise point 2) of Article 2.2.13.7. and point 1)a) of Article 2.2.13.14. were not endorsed by the Scientific Commission and so were not incorporated.

The revised Chapter is presented at [Appendix IX to this report](#) for adoption.

b) Guidelines on surveillance for bluetongue (Appendix XXX)

A number of Member Countries submitted comments on the draft guidelines on *surveillance* for bluetongue. These comments were submitted to the Scientific Commission for consideration. The Terrestrial Code Commission made changes to the text on the basis of advice received from the Scientific Commission.

The Scientific Commission agreed to a request from several Member Countries for a definition of 'endemic country' and will request the *ad hoc* Group on Epidemiology to provide such a definition.

The revised draft Appendix is presented at [Appendix X to this report](#) for adoption.

7. Bovine tuberculosis (Chapter 2.3.3.)

Comments on Chapter 2.3.3. submitted by the EU, New Zealand, Taipei-China and the USA have been reviewed by an *ad hoc* Group and the Scientific Commission proposed appropriate changes. The scope of the Chapter shall be limited to *Mycobacterium Bovis* (*M. Bovis*) infection in domestic (permanently captive and owned free-range) bovines, including cattle (*Bos taurus*, *B. indicus* and *B. grunniens*), water buffalo (*Bubalus bubalis*) and bison (*Bison bison* and *B. bonasus*). It was noted that the matter of *M. Bovis* infections in other farmed species and wildlife will be addressed by the OIE in the near future.

The revised Chapter is presented at [Appendix XI to this report](#) for adoption.

8. Bovine spongiform encephalopathy

The Terrestrial Code Commission received comments on bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) from Argentina, Australia, Canada, Chile, EU, Japan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, Taipei-China, Thailand and USA, and industry organisations.

a) Chapter 2.3.13.

The Terrestrial Code Commission noted that several are still calling for the imposition of additional measures, not justified by current scientific information or risk assessments. Some Member Countries are still basing arguments on experimental models in laboratory animals, in some cases genetically modified, and these studies are not necessarily linked to disease risk in cattle and in humans.

Some Member Countries argued for increased restrictions while others called for a relaxation of restrictions. The Terrestrial Code Commission evaluated Member Countries' submissions on the basis of the recently circulated supporting document (Appendix XXVIII to the October 2006 meeting report) and proposed changes accordingly.

A number of submissions, strongly supported by peer-reviewed scientific studies, proposed that gelatine made from bones, and dicalcium phosphate produced in the manufacture of gelatine, should be considered safe regardless of origin. The scientific studies and risk assessments will be forwarded to experts for consideration.

Based on references supporting the safety of gelatine^{1 2 3 4}, the Terrestrial Code Commission proposed a change to Article 2.3.13.1.

¹ Grobber AH, Steele PJ, Somerville RA, Taylor DM (2004). Inactivation of the bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) agent by the acid and alkaline processes used in the manufacture of bone gelatin. *Biotechnology and Applied Biochemistry*, 39; 329-338.

² Grobber AH, Steel PJ, Taylor DM, Somerville RA, Schreuder BEC (2005). Inactivation of the BSE agent by heat and pressure process for manufacturing gelatin. *Veterinary Record*, 157; 277-289.

³ Grobber AH, Steele PH, Somerville RA, Taylor DM (2006). Inactivation of transmissible spongiform encephalopathy agents during the manufacture of dicalcium phosphate from bone. *Veterinary Record*, 158; 361-366.

A Member Country's comment requesting clarification on the use in Article 2.3.13.2. of the word 'import', and its application to 'zone' and 'compartment', was addressed by insertion of text into Article 1.3.5.2.

In response to several submissions, subpoint a) of Article 2.3.13.6. was modified to clarify its intent. Similarly, point 1 of Article 2.3.13.12. was modified.

In Articles 2.3.13.6. a, 2.3.13.7. and 2.3.13.8, references to 'dam' and 'progeny' were deleted following the decision taken in 2006 by the OIE International Committee on the basis of expert advice that the risk of vertical transmission of BSE is negligible. The reference to 'herd of origin' was deleted as the requirement is already addressed by linking these Articles to para 3 b) iii) of Article 2.3.13.3., para 3 b) iii) of Article 2.3.13.4. and point 2) of Article 2.3.13.8. respectively.

Paragraph i of Article 2.3.13.14. was modified because a number of submissions pointed out that 'pressure washing' is not used in processing bones for gelatine production and the peer-reviewed scientific studies demonstrating the safety of gelatine did not use pressure washing in the degreasing step.

The revised Chapter is presented at [Appendix XII to this report](#) for adoption.

b) Appendix 3.8.4.

A Member Country requested justification for the change of target prevalence from 1:1,000,000 to 1:100,000 in the *surveillance* Appendix. This target prevalence was proposed and adopted by the International Committee at the 73rd General Session.

A Member Country requested that the Terrestrial Code Commission provide a copy of peer reviews of the BSurVE model upon which the *surveillance* points are based. The Terrestrial Code Commission pointed out that the peer reviews were conducted on behalf of the owners of the BSurVE model (the European Commission (EC)) and are not the property of the OIE but may be available from the EC.

A Member Country requested that higher point values be allocated to certain sub-population of animals tested. The Terrestrial Code Commission reminds Member Countries that these points are not arbitrarily allocated but are derived from analysis of the actual probabilities of detecting cases of BSE in the different sub-populations and that these probabilities can be determined from actual, historical testing results.

c) Appendix 3.8.5.

The Terrestrial Code Commission discussed a request from Member Countries for clarification of the role of Appendix 3.8.5. in the current process of BSE country categorisation. It had been pointed out that countries are assessed against a set of guidelines called 'BSE Questionnaire for Country Status Recognition'. The Terrestrial Code Commission considers that the content of the guidelines should be consistent with Appendix 3.8.5.. The issue had been referred to the Scientific Commission. The Scientific Commission's response was given in the report of its January 2007 meeting, namely:

- *The Code Commission requests the Scientific Commission to assess the need for the retainment of Appendix 3.8.5 in the Terrestrial Code (Factors to consider in conducting a bovine spongiform risk assessment) in view of the BSE questionnaire adopted for country applications already guiding countries in this regard: The Scientific Commission resolved that the Questionnaire for BSE used by countries to assist them in submitting applications is not a fixed document and will be changing over time....*

4 NZFSA (2005). Officials' Review of New Zealand's BSE Country-Categorisation Measure. New Zealand Food Safety Authority, Wellington and published in "Prions in Humans and Animals, Ed. By Hornlimann, B., Riesner, D., Kretzschmar, H. De Gruyter Verlag, Berlin (ISBN 978-3-11-018275-0) (2006).

Until the status of Appendix 3.8.5. and the relationship to the categorisation process can be clarified, the Terrestrial Code Commission will continue to address comments received from Member Countries.

9. Equine influenza (Chapter 2.5.5.)

The Terrestrial Code Commission examined comments on Chapter 2.5.5. received from Australia, Chile, EU, Switzerland, Thailand and USA.

Two submissions pointed out that, because most countries have endemic equine influenza and horses move frequently between countries, the provisions of Chapter 2.5.5. are not widely applicable. The Terrestrial Code Commission wished to remind Member Countries that the *Terrestrial Code* is written from the perspective of preventing disease transmission as a result of trade. Countries that are free or, if infected, using measures to control or eradicate the disease, should use the appropriate Articles to ensure that importation can be done safely. Countries that are infected and implementing no control measures are not expected to apply the measures applicable to free countries.

One Member Country proposed that the concept of equal national treatment (under the SPS Agreement) should not be applicable in the case of equine influenza or, indeed, any influenza viruses, as these viruses may mutate. The Terrestrial Code Commission did not accept this proposal.

Article 2.5.5.4. was deleted, as a Member Country pointed out it was redundant.

Article 2.5.5.7. was modified as two Member Countries pointed out that adequate immunity was dependent on vaccination having been carried out at an appropriate time before shipment.

Some minor wording changes were made to clarify meaning, following to comments from Member Countries.

The revised Chapter is presented at [Appendix XIII to this report](#) for adoption.

10. Equine diseases (other than African horse sickness and equine influenza)

- a) **Equine infectious anaemia (Chapter 2.5.4.)**
- b) **Equine piroplasmiasis (Chapter 2.5.6.)**
- c) **Equine rhinopneumonitis (Chapter 2.5.7.)**
- d) **Glanders (Chapter 2.5.8.)**
- e) **Equine viral arteritis (Chapter 2.5.10.)**

The Terrestrial Code Commission examined comments on Chapter 2.5.4. received from Australia, EU, New Zealand and South Africa; on Chapter 2.5.6. received from Australia, EU and New Zealand; on Chapter 2.5.7. received from Australia, EU and Japan; on Chapter 2.5.8. received from Australia, EU and New Zealand and on Chapter 2.5.10. received from Australia, Canada, EU, New Zealand, Switzerland and South Africa. It made some appropriate changes in the Chapters.

The revised Chapters are presented at [Appendices XIV to XVIII to this report](#) for adoption.

11. Classical swine fever

The Terrestrial Code Commission examined comments on Chapter 2.6.7. from Australia, Chile, EU and Japan, as well as the reports of the *ad hoc* Group on Classical Swine Fever and African swine fever convened by the Scientific Commission.

- a) **Chapter 2.6.7.**

Chapter 2.6.7. has been reviewed by the OIE *ad hoc* Group on Classical Swine Fever in its meeting of November 2006.

In reviewing the chapter, the following rationale and approach have been adopted in making the relevant changes:

- a) All references to conducting a risk assessment should be removed, as the nature of the disease and the clinical surveillance proposed render a risk analysis redundant.
- b) The approach used in the *Terrestrial Code* Chapter on foot and mouth disease (Chapter 2.2.10.) for the declaration of freedom and recovery of status should be used to ensure consistency within the *Terrestrial Code*.
- c) Article 2.6.7.4. should be deleted as in the presence of a wild pig population presumed to be infected, country freedom could not be achieved - only zonal or compartmental freedom - as the control in wild pigs is not relevant to a compartment.
- d) The completion of slaughter of animals after emergency vaccination need not be a requirement provided that it would be possible to distinguish between vaccinated and infected animals.
- e) Articles 2.6.7.8., 2.6.7.12., 2.6.7.15. and 2.6.7.18. should be deleted, as their content is covered by the preceding Articles 2.6.7.7., 2.6.7.11., 2.6.7.14. and 2.6.7.17.
- f) The reference to swill feeding should be deleted as the Group concluded that it is possible to impose a ban but monitoring its implementation is less feasible, and even with effective monitoring, it remains the prerogative of the Member Country to apply a restriction.

The *ad hoc* Group's proposals have been endorsed by the Scientific Commission at its January 2007 meeting.

The Terrestrial Code Commission examined these proposals on Chapter 2.6.7. and made some appropriate changes while considering the comments submitted by Australia, Chile, EU and Japan.

The Terrestrial Code Commission was not in agreement with the *ad hoc* Group to delete references to "validated means of distinguishing between vaccinated and infected pigs" in Articles 2.6.7.7., 2.6.7.9. and 2.6.7.10. as marker vaccines have been accepted under certain conditions and included in the *Terrestrial Manual*.

The revised Chapter is presented at [Appendix XIX to this report](#) for adoption.

b) Appendix 3.8.8. - Guidelines on surveillance for classical swine fever

Appendix 3.8.8. has been revised by the *ad hoc* Group on classical swine fever and African swine fever in its meeting of November 2006 to include the principles of compartmentalisation and the proposed changes in Chapter 2.6.7.

This draft has been endorsed by the Scientific Commission at its January 2007 meeting.

The Terrestrial Code Commission examined the proposal and made some appropriate changes.

The revised Appendix is presented at [Appendix XX to this report](#) for adoption.

12. Avian influenza

The Terrestrial Code Commission examined comments on avian influenza received from Argentina, Australia, Canada, Chile, EU, Guatemala, Japan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, Switzerland, Taipei-China and USA.

a) Avian influenza (Chapter 2.7.12.)

Comments relating to the diagnosis of highly pathogenic notifiable avian influenza (HPNAI) were referred to the OIE Scientific and Technical Department.

A number of submissions related to the definition of 'poultry' and the types of birds excluded from this definition. The Terrestrial Code Commission discussed the submissions and proposed minor revision. The intention is to restrict the reporting of low pathogenic notifiable avian influenza (LPNAI) and HPNAI to poultry only, for purpose of international trade. The reporting of occurrences of HPNAI in birds other than poultry is required for the purpose of global surveillance for avian influenza but is not intended to lead to immediate bans on trade. The imposition of inappropriate (immediate) trade bans following reports of HPNAI in birds other than poultry discourages reporting and hinders global surveillance for avian influenza.

Some Member Countries requested that new paragraph 5 be deleted and provision 4. c) be restored. The Terrestrial Code Commission did not agree, for the reasons outlined in its October 2006 report, namely:

- *The Terrestrial Code Commission also provided a clarification in regard to the detection of antibodies in the absence of virus. Further investigation should be conducted to identify the source of the antibodies. This should not be considered as an occurrence of infection if further investigation fails to isolate the virus or to detect viral RNA.*

Some Member Countries called for the same measures to be applied to trade from NAI free and HPNAI free countries. The Terrestrial Code Commission did not accept these proposals, as the risks posed by commodities from NAI free and HPNAI free countries are not the same.

The revised Chapter is presented at [Appendix XXI to this report](#) for adoption.

b) Guidelines on surveillance for avian influenza (Appendices 3.8.9.)

The Terrestrial Code Commission examined Member Countries' comments and made appropriate changes. The revised Appendix is presented at [Appendix XXII to this report](#) for adoption.

Changes to the guidelines in relation to vaccination are expected to be incorporated, if appropriate, after the conclusions of the international conference on avian influenza vaccination to be held in Verona 20-22 March 2007.

c) Guidelines for the inactivation of avian influenza (Appendix 3.6.5.)

In response to a request to allow flexibility in the treatment process, a paragraph was added to Article 3.6.5.1.

The revised Appendix is presented at [Appendix XXIII to this report](#) for adoption.

13. Semen and embryo issues

The Terrestrial Code Commission received comments from Australia, EU and Japan.

a) Appendix 3.2.1.

The Terrestrial Code Commission considered submissions from Member Countries on whether point 1 of Article 3.2.1.6. should refer to measures for Border disease.

On the basis of expert advice, the Terrestrial Code Commission decided to re-insert a recommendation into the *Terrestrial Code* in regard to testing semen donors for Border disease.

The revised *Terrestrial Code* Appendix is presented at [Appendix XXIV to this report](#) for adoption.

b) Appendix 3.2.2.

Following consideration of comments from a Member Country, the Terrestrial Code Commission proposed the deletion of measures for vesicular stomatitis virus in porcine semen (Article 3.2.2.3. paragraph d) to make this Article consistent with those applicable to bovine semen.

The revised *Terrestrial Code* Appendix is presented at [Appendix XXV to this report](#) for adoption.

14. Animal identification and traceability

a) General principles for animal identification and traceability (Appendix 3.5.1.)

The Terrestrial Code Commission reviewed comments from Canada, Japan, Norway and the APFSWG on the proposed amendment to the General Principles (Appendix 3.5.1.).

On request of a Member Country, the Terrestrial Code Commission considered separating the issues of animal identification and animal traceability but agreed that these two issues are closely related and therefore agreed to keep them together.

The General Principles were amended according to the comments received and are presented at [Appendix XXVI to this report](#) for adoption.

b) Guidelines on animal identification and traceability

The Terrestrial Code Commission reviewed the report of the OIE *ad hoc* Group on Identification and Traceability of Live Animals that met in January 2007 and noted the comments of the APFSWG. The report is appended for Member Countries' information at [Appendix L in Part C of this report](#).

The Terrestrial Code Commission welcomed the suggestion of the *ad hoc* Group on OIE organising an international conference on animal identification and traceability since this would assist in identifying the different approaches taken in different OIE Regions.

The Terrestrial Code Commission noted several proposals of the *ad hoc* Group on new and amended definitions. In reply to the *ad hoc* Group request on the need for a definition of "movement", the Terrestrial Code Commission advised that there is no urgent need for it.

Following the recommendations of the APFSWG, the Terrestrial Code Commission amended the Draft Guidelines on the Design and Implementation of Animal Traceability and submits it for Member Countries comments at [Appendix XXXIV in Part B of this report](#).

15. Disposal of dead animals (Appendix 3.6.6.)

The Terrestrial Code Commission reviewed comments from Australia, Canada, EU, Switzerland, USA and CAC and made appropriate changes to the Appendix.

The revised Appendix is presented at [Appendix XXVII to this report](#) for adoption.

16. Salmonellosis

The Terrestrial Code Commission noted the report of the meeting of the OIE *ad hoc* Group on Salmonellosis, which is at [Appendix LI in Part C of this report](#), for Member Countries' information.

Guidelines on the Detection, Control and Prevention of *Salmonella* Enteritidis and *S. Typhimurium* in Poultry Producing Eggs for Human Consumption

The Terrestrial Code Commission examined the guidelines drafted by the *ad hoc* Group and noted the recommendations of the APFSWG. The Terrestrial Code Commission was appreciative of the work of the *ad hoc* Group and made some minor editorial changes.

The Terrestrial Code Commission supported the recommendation of the *ad hoc* Group that findings of *S. Enteritidis* and *S. Typhimurium* should be notified to the Veterinary Services. The Terrestrial Code Commission also recommended that the OIE consider including *S. Enteritidis* and *S. Typhimurium* on the OIE list of diseases.

A suggestion of the *ad hoc* Group to update Chapter 2.10.3. of the OIE *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals* was forwarded to the Biological Standards Commission.

The Terrestrial Code Commission discussed how to present the Guidelines within the *Terrestrial Code* and decided to include the Guidelines as Appendix 3.10.2. in Section 3.10. on Animal Production Food Safety.

The Terrestrial Code Commission noted that these Guidelines would need to be read in conjunction with Appendix 3.4.1. on hygiene and disease security procedures in poultry breeding flocks and hatcheries until such time as work is done to rationalise these texts in the *Terrestrial Code*. The Guidelines complement the Codex Alimentarius draft Code of Hygienic Practice for Eggs and Egg Products (ALINORM 07/28/13, Appendix II).

The Terrestrial Code Commission supported the opinion of the APFSWG that work on *Salmonella* in laying hens should be followed by work on *Salmonella* in broilers.

The text of draft Appendix 3.10.2. is presented at [Appendix XXVIII to this report](#) for adoption.

17. Animal Welfare

Dr S. Kahn and Dr L. Stuardo reported to the Terrestrial Code Commission on the OIE's work on animal welfare. The Terrestrial Code Commission examined comments from Member Countries (Australia, Argentina, EU, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland and USA), and industry (Animal Agriculture Coalition and Animal Agriculture Alliance) and non-governmental organisations (PETA) on the four *Terrestrial Code* appendices on animal welfare. The Terrestrial Code Commission acknowledged the quality and relevance of these comments.

The Terrestrial Code Commission was informed about plans to hold a 2nd Global Conference on Animal Welfare, which is proposed to take place in Cairo (Egypt) in the second half of October 2008. The theme for the Conference will be 'Towards the Implementation of OIE International Animal Welfare Guidelines'.

a) Guidelines for the transport of animals by sea and land (Appendices 3.7.2. and 3.7.3.)

The Terrestrial Code Commission examined the comments of countries. The Terrestrial Code Commission noted a recommendation from a Member Country to develop more specific guidance on the transport of poultry and agreed that such work should be undertaken in future by the Permanent Animal Welfare Working Group (PAWWG).

The revised *Terrestrial Code* Appendices, which are presented at [Appendices XXIX and XXX to this report](#), are presented to Member Countries for adoption.

b) Guidelines for the slaughter of animals and for the killing of animals for disease control purposes (Appendices 3.7.5. and 3.7.6.)

The Terrestrial Code Commission examined the comments made by the Expert Electronic Consultation Group convened to analyse Member Countries' comments submitted to the Commission meeting in October 2006. The Terrestrial Code Commission thanked the members of this Group for their valuable contribution.

The revised *Terrestrial Code* Appendices, which are presented at Appendices XXXI and XXXII to this report, are presented to Member Countries for adoption.

c) Development of new standards

- **Dog Population Control**

The Terrestrial Code Commission noted the report of the OIE *ad hoc* Group on Dog Population Control which is presented at Appendix LII in Part C of this report for Member Countries' information. The Terrestrial Code Commission considered that further work should be done and referred the report to the PAWWG with a request that the Working Group work to finalise the Guidelines as a matter of top priority. The Terrestrial Code Commission also received a copy of the Executive Summary of Member Country replies to the OIE Questionnaire on Dog Population Control. The Terrestrial Code Commission thanks the Member Countries who answered this questionnaire.

The Executive Summary of Member Country replies to the OIE Questionnaire is attached to this Report (Appendix LIII in Part C of this report) for Member Countries' information, while the draft Guidelines on stray dog population control are attached (Appendix XXXV in Part B of this report) for Member Countries' comments.

- **Welfare of wild animals**

The Terrestrial Code Commission noted the discussion paper prepared by the PAWWG and asked that the PAWWG consider undertaking work on the issue of wildlife welfare.

- **Laboratory Animal Welfare**

The Terrestrial Code Commission noted a Discussion Paper on Laboratory Animal Welfare drafted by the PAWWG (Appendix LIV in Part C of this report) and agreed with the recommendations in the paper. The Terrestrial Code Commission recommended that the PAWWG start developing Guidelines relevant to laboratory animals.

- **Livestock production/housing systems**

The Terrestrial Code Commission noted a discussion paper on Welfare Guidelines for Livestock Production Systems (Appendix LV in Part C of this report) and agreed with the recommendations in the paper. The Terrestrial Code Commission recommended that the PAWWG start developing Guidelines relevant to livestock production systems.

d) PAWWG strategic issues

The Terrestrial Code Commission noted two other discussion papers prepared by the PAWWG. The Terrestrial Code Commission noted the Paper on the Implementation of OIE Animal Welfare Standards and agreed that more needs to be done to raise awareness of the animal welfare guidelines and to support Veterinary Services in adopting them within their countries. However, the Terrestrial Code Commission does not agree that the OIE should undertake an enforcement or policing role in regard to the status of implementation within individual Member Countries.

The Terrestrial Code Commission agreed with the proposed terms of reference for the PAWWG, as proposed in the second paper. These will be referred to the OIE Central Bureau for identification of an appropriate means to finalise these and make them available for information of Member Countries. The Terrestrial Code Commission appreciated the work of the PAWWG in developing proposals for a strategic planning exercise (SWOT analysis; Member Country Questionnaire) but did not support these recommendations. Rather, the Terrestrial Code Commission recommended that the PAWWG undertake closer involvement in the work of *ad hoc* Groups. In particular, timely finalization of the outstanding work of the *ad hoc* Group on the Control of Stray Dog Populations is a top priority.

B. TEXTS FOR COMMENT OF MEMBER COUNTRIES

18. African horse sickness

The Terrestrial Code Commission received from the Scientific Commission a new Chapter 2.5.14. on African horse sickness and draft guidelines on surveillance for African horse sickness, which are presented at [Appendices XXXVI and XXXVII to this report](#), and are circulated for Member Countries' comments.

The Terrestrial Code Commission decided to defer further consideration of the compartmentalisation approach for African horse sickness until it has received scientific advice on the use of this concept in regard to bluetongue.

19. African swine fever

Chapter 2.6.6. of the *Terrestrial Code* on African horse sickness was reviewed by the OIE *ad hoc* Group on classical swine fever and African swine fever at its November 2006 meeting. As the existing Chapter was regarded as outdated, it was decided to draft a new Chapter using the approach used for the Chapter on classical swine fever as a template. This draft was endorsed by the Scientific Commission at its January 2007 meeting.

The draft Chapter, which is presented as clean text at [Appendix XXXVIII to this report](#), is circulated to Member Countries for comment.

20. Newcastle disease

An *ad hoc* Group used the *Terrestrial Code* Chapters on avian influenza and on zoning and compartmentalisation as well as the Appendix on avian influenza surveillance as a basis for drafting a Chapter on Newcastle disease and an Appendix on the surveillance of the disease. The OIE *ad hoc* Group's report explains the reasoning behind specific Articles in the new text. The new Chapter and Appendix on Newcastle disease, which have been endorsed by the Scientific Commission, are submitted for Member Countries' comments ([Appendices XXXIX and XL to this report](#)).

21. West Nile fever

The Terrestrial Code Commission received a Chapter on West Nile fever drafted by an *ad hoc* Group. This draft chapter, which has been endorsed by the Scientific Commission, is submitted for Member Countries' comments ([Appendix XLI to this report](#)).

22. OIE model certificates

The Terrestrial Code Commission reviewed the report of the *ad hoc* Group on the Revision of the OIE Model Certificates that met in January 2007 and noted the comments of the APFSWG. The report is appended for Member Countries' information at [Appendix LVI](#) in Part C of this report.

The Terrestrial Code Commission supported the views of the *ad hoc* Group on the scope of the veterinary certificates when covering products of animal origin that undergo further processing.

The Terrestrial Code Commission revised the proposed model certificates, the related notes for guidance and the proposed amendments to the General Obligations (Chapter 1.2.1. of the *Terrestrial Code*) and submitted them for Member Countries' comments (see [Appendices XLII to XLVII](#)).

23. Animal feeding

The Terrestrial Code Commission reviewed the report of the *ad hoc* Group on Animal Feeding that met in October 2006 and complimented the *ad hoc* Group on this work. The report is appended for Member Countries' information at [Appendix LVII](#) in Part C of this report.

The Terrestrial Code Commission noted the APFSWG comments and supported them.

The text amended by the APFSWG is presented at [Appendix XLVIII to this report](#) for Member Countries' comments.

C. OTHER ISSUES DISCUSSED AND PRESENTED FOR INFORMATION OF MEMBER COUNTRIES

24. Evaluation of Veterinary Services

- a) **Evaluation of Veterinary Services (Chapter 1.3.3.)**
- b) ***Performance, Vision and Strategy (PVS) Tool***

The OIE Central Bureau informed the Terrestrial Code Commission on recent events, dealing with the advancements made on the PVS Tool, the development of performance indicators and the creation of a Manual for Assessors. The Terrestrial Code Commission was also informed on the recent Member Country assessments which have taken place and the ones scheduled for the next few months.

The Terrestrial Code Commission endorsed the changes made to the PVS Tool and the development of the Manual for Assessors and was of the opinion that the International Committee of the OIE should be informed of these developments and of the significant impact these assessments will have in the overall strengthening of Veterinary Services.

The Terrestrial Code Commission will continue to monitor further developments with the PVS Tool and the Manual for Assessors. However, the Terrestrial Code Commission saw no need to consider any changes to the *Terrestrial Code* in this respect at this time.

25. Bovine brucellosis (Chapter 2.3.1.)

The Terrestrial Code Commission received the results of the examination by the *ad hoc* Group for Brucellosis of the outstanding Member Country comments, which results were endorsed by the Scientific Commission at its meeting in February 2007. The Terrestrial Code Commission regrets that it could not review this Chapter at the present meeting because of time constraints, but confirms that a revised draft will be presented to Member Countries in the report of its next meeting.

26. Working Group on Animal Production Food Safety

The Terrestrial Code Commission reviewed the report of the APFSWG and thanked the Working Group for its contribution in the issues mentioned above (i.e. tuberculosis, animal identification and traceability, revision of model certificates, guidelines on animal feeding, guidelines for the detection and control of *S. Enteritidis* and *S. Typhimurium*). The report of the APFSWG is appended for Member Countries' information at [Appendix LVIII to this report](#).

The Terrestrial Code Commission recommended the Working Group follow the proposed work plan.

27. Discussion paper on 'Commodity Based Approach'

The Terrestrial Code Commission reviewed a discussion paper 'Deboned Beef – An Example of a Commodity for which Specific Standards could be developed to ensure an Appropriate Level of Protection for International Trade' provided by a Member Country. The Terrestrial Code Commission considered that most of the analysis in the paper was broadly consistent with the provisions of the *Terrestrial Code* except that the paper is largely silent on the veterinary certification systems required under the *Terrestrial Code* for international trade. The Terrestrial Code Commission recognised the need to continue working on commodity based approaches, rather than to rely solely on country freedom as a basis for international trade, and would continue to revise the *Terrestrial Code* accordingly. The Terrestrial Code Commission decided to ask an expert to assist in this matter.

28. Revision of the structure of the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*

Dr S. Kahn reported on the proposal to present the paper copy of the *Terrestrial Code* as two volumes with effect from the 2007 Edition. The Terrestrial Code Commission agreed with the proposed division of Chapters and Appendices (see Appendix LIX) and noted that a few examples of the two volume presentation (based on the 2006 Edition) would be provided for information of delegates in May.

29. Future work programme

The Terrestrial Code Commission made no changes to the work programme, which it will review at its next meeting.

30. Others

The next meeting of the Terrestrial Code Commission is scheduled for 17 to 28 September 2007.

.../Appendices

