NCT_Application_SOP

Standard Operating Procedure for official recognition of disease status of non-contiguous territories as part of a country already recognised with an OIE official disease status

CONTEXT

The OIE has developed Standard Operating Procedures (Application_SOP) to assist Members with the process relating to the official recognition of a specific disease status or the endorsement of a national official control programme. It is available here.

The above-mentioned SOP highlight the need for applicant countries to specify the territory(ies) covered by the application, including the possible non-contiguous territories (NCT). The decision for this inclusion should be based on administrative and technical aspects, considering that an outbreak in an NCT may have an impact on the status of the mainland.

Following a Member’s request and as complement to the above-mentioned SOP, the OIE developed the present Procedure to clarify how Members should claim that their NCT, that were not initially specified in the application for official status recognition, benefit from the already recognised official status of the mainland. The Procedure should be read in complement to the above-mentioned SOP.

Description/ Scope: This procedure describes the process for the preparation, assessment and approval of dossiers for the official recognition of disease status of non-contiguous territories as part of a country already recognised with an OIE official disease status.

Related document and process: Procedure and guidelines for official recognition of disease status and for the endorsement of national official control programmes of Members

List of acronyms:
- Assembly: World Assembly of Delegates
- NCT: Non-contiguous territory(ies)

A. Application for official disease status recognition of non-contiguous territories

1. CONTENT

A dossier should be submitted and contain:

- A letter signed by the OIE Delegate requesting the evaluation of the dossier for official recognition of disease status of NCT as part of a country already recognised with an OIE official disease status.

- A one-page executive summary:
  - Identifying the proposed NCT (possibly more than one) for official status recognition;
  - Specifying official status requested (it can be for more than one disease but this option would require careful attention to the OIE calendar, cf. Section A. 1.6 of the Application_SOP);
  - Declaration of compliance with the all applicable requirements defined in the Terrestrial Code (cf. Annex 2.b) of the Application_SOP);
  - Providing an overview of the information submitted in the core document.

- A core document, of no more than 50 pages, with possible relevant appendices and supportive information for each NCT based on the relevant questionnaire for that particular disease published in Chapters 1.7. to 1.12. of the Terrestrial Code, and in particular providing details on:
  - Livestock and wildlife demographics in the NCT. Slaughterhouses/abattoirs, markets, and events associated with the congregation of susceptible livestock.
2. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Requirements under Section A.1.2. to A.1.6. of the Application_SOP should be followed.

B. Assessment process

The assessment of applications follows the same process as a classic application. Sections B to D of the Application_SOP apply.

C. Official recognition and endorsement by the Assembly

The communication around the applications for official recognition of disease status of NCT as part of a country already recognised with an OIE official disease status is managed in a similar way than for classic applications. Section E of the Application_SOP applies, from the individual letters to be sent to the Delegate of the applicant Member to the adoption of the relevant Resolution by the Assembly.

From May 2019, the NCT will be specified in the Resolutions to be proposed for adoption by the Assembly and displayed on the OIE website.