

OIE POLICY PAPER RELATED TO WILDLIFE DISEASES

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The OIE Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases (SCAD) developed in full collaboration with the Working Group on Wildlife Diseases and the ad hoc Group on Epidemiology a policy paper related to wildlife diseases for consideration by the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission as a guideline for future approaches in international animal disease standard setting.

The rationale for the need of such a policy is the fact:

- that currently different approaches are considered in the Terrestrial Animal Health Code for recognition of disease status for those diseases where wildlife plays a role in the epidemiology of the disease;
- that trade facilitation issues such as zoning and compartmentalisation in the Code could be amalgamated or harmonised in relation to the wildlife/domestic animal interface;
- that the occurrence of an OIE listed disease in wildlife can influence the current disease specific surveillance guidelines;
- that trade in wildlife per se and commodities of wildlife species origin is still a matter of concern;
- that reporting of disease occurrences in wildlife might have an influence on trade;
- that there is a need to alter the focus on wildlife diseases to a pathogen approach versus a species approach;
- that the role of wildlife in the One-World-One-Health concept might have implications in the development of OIE standards.

The policy paper will be outlined and discussed in more detail.

