

Presentation made by Dr Alejandro Thiermann

President of the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission

79th General Session of the OIE (May 2011)

1. Working Group on Animal Production Food Safety

Dr Alejandro Thiermann noted that the Working Group on Animal Production Food Safety (APFSWG) had held its tenth meeting at the OIE Headquarters from 2 to 4 November 2010. He noted that the full report, including the work programme for 2011, was appended to the report of the February 2011 meeting of the Code Commission, which had been distributed to all OIE Delegates and had been published on the OIE website.

2. Dr Thiermann briefly mentioned the key points raised at the APFSWG meeting. The APFSWG requested that the OIE undertake a review of the scientific literature on the control of *Salmonella* spp. in food-producing animals other than poultry and verotoxigenic *Escherichia coli* (VTEC) in food-producing animals with the purpose of reducing foodborne illness. The APFSWG developed terms of reference for this work and would examine the review at its 2011 meeting and make proposals on the need for and feasibility of developing OIE standards for these pathogens.

The APFSWG welcomed the work of the *ad hoc* Group on Zoonotic Parasitic Diseases and supported the new draft chapters and the work direction. The chapter on *Trichinella* infection complemented the Codex Alimentarius Code of Hygienic Practice for Meat (CAC/RCP 58-2005) and was an example of how the OIE was taking the work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission into account.

The APFSWG proposed to work in collaboration with the Working Group on Animal Welfare (AWWG) to draft terms of reference for a literature review on the scientific evidence for relationships that may exist between the welfare of food-producing animals and food safety. The APFSWG requested that the OIE arrange for this work to be undertaken prior to its next meeting in 2011. The APFSWG together with the AWWG would review the outcome of the literature review and propose the next steps for the OIE.

3. The Assembly noted the report of the Working Group on Animal Production Food Safety.
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