

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR, AND *MODUS OPERANDI*
OF THE OIE ANIMAL PRODUCTION FOOD SAFETY WORKING GROUP

In accordance with Resolution No. 25 of the 82nd OIE General Session, the terms of reference for, and modus operandi of the Animal Production Food Safety Working Group are:

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The scope for the Animal Production Food Safety Working Group includes:

1. Consideration of all foodborne hazards arising from animals before slaughter;
2. Giving a primary focus on risk based food safety measures applicable at the farm level;
3. Consideration of food safety measures applicable elsewhere, for example during animal transport and harvesting of wild animals for food;
4. Work criteria and priorities that take into account global food safety priorities and current work programmes of relevant international organisations, especially the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC), FAO and WHO;
5. Ensuring harmonisation of the food safety standards developed and under development by the OIE and relevant international organisations, especially the CAC;
6. Improving coordination between competent authorities, such as Veterinary Services and Public Health Services, with animal health and food safety responsibilities at the national and regional levels, including participation by other interested parties, as appropriate;
7. Describing the role of Veterinary Services in food safety operations.

MODUS OPERANDI

Within the above terms of reference, the Working Group's role is to:

1. Provide advice to the OIE Director General on policy and strategic issues relating to the OIE's work on animal production food safety, which has the goal of 'the development of standards on animal production food safety covering pre-slaughter issues and those prior to the first transformation of animal products, with a primary focus on food safety measures applicable at the farm level. This work will also include hazards such as pathogens that do not normally cause disease in animals'.

The priorities are:

- a) Identifying and addressing gaps, contradictions, areas where harmonisation is necessary and duplications in the work of the OIE and other intergovernmental organisations involved in food safety standards (in particular CAC);
 - b) Promoting stronger public - private sector collaboration by providing opportunities for participation for international non-governmental organisations involved in food production, transformation and food safety that have cooperation agreements with the OIE;
 - c) Strengthening the relationship to other relevant scientific and normative intergovernmental organisations working in the area of food safety (in particular CAC, FAO and WHO), through enhanced information exchange.
2. Support the work of the OIE Specialist Commissions on pre-slaughter animal production food safety;
 3. Provide the following to the Director General and relevant Specialist Commissions:
 - a) annual work programme;
 - b) policy advice;
 - c) discussion papers;
 - d) reports.
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