



**ELECTRONIC CONSULTATION OF THE OIE *AD HOC* GROUP ON THE EVALUATION
OF AFRICAN HORSE SICKNESS STATUS OF MEMBERS¹**

18 October 2018

The OIE *ad hoc* Group on the evaluation of the African horse sickness (AHS) status of Members (hereafter the Group) was consulted electronically on 18 October 2018.

1. Adoption of the agenda and appointment of chairperson and rapporteur

Dr Neo Mapitse, Head of Status Department, thanked the Group for its commitment and its extensive support towards the OIE in fulfilling the mandates given by Members.

Dr Morgane Dominguez, Status Department, thanked the experts for having signed the forms for undertaking of confidentiality and declaration of conflicts of interest. The declared interests were reviewed by the OIE and the Group and it was agreed that none represented a potential conflict in the evaluation of AHS status of Members.

The Group was chaired by Dr Beverley Parker and Dr James MacLachlan was the rapporteur with the support of the OIE Secretariat. The Group adopted the proposed agenda.

The terms of reference, agenda and list of participants are presented as Appendices I, II and III, respectively.

2. Evaluation of the maintenance of the official recognition of AHS free status

At the request of the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases, the Group assessed one dossier from a Member for the maintenance of the official recognition of its AHS free country status. The Group concluded that this Member did not meet the requirements of the *Terrestrial Code*, and recommended this AHS free country status be suspended.

3. Adoption of the report

The Group reviewed and amended the draft report provided by the rapporteur and agreed to circulate the draft report electronically for comments before the final adoption. The Group agreed that the report captured the discussions.

¹ Note: This *ad hoc* Group report reflects the views of its members and may not necessarily reflect the views of the OIE. This report should be read in conjunction with the February 2019 report of the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases because this report provides its considerations and comments. It is available at: <http://www.oie.int/en/international-standard-setting/specialists-commissions-groups/scientific-commission-reports/meetings-reports/>

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Terms of reference

The OIE *ad hoc* group on African horse sickness (AHS) status of Members (the Group) is expected to evaluate a dossier for the maintenance of a Member's official AHS free status.

This implies that the members of this Group are expected to:

1. Sign off the updated OIE Undertaking on Confidentiality of information
2. Complete the Declaration of Interests Form and forward it to the OIE at their earliest convenience, and at least two weeks before the teleconference
3. Evaluate the application for maintenance of an officially free AHS status
 - a. Prior to the teleconference
 - read and study in detail the dossier provided by the OIE;
 - take into account any other information available in the public domain that is considered pertinent for the evaluation;
 - summarise the dossier according to the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* requirements, using the form provided by the OIE;
 - draft the questions whenever the analysis of the dossier raises questions which need to be clarified or completed with additional details by the Member;
 - send the completed form and the possible questions to the OIE, at least 10 days before the teleconference.
 - b. During the teleconference
 - contribute to the discussion with their expertise;
 - withdraw from the discussions and decision making when possible conflict of interest;
 - provide a detailed report in order to recommend, to the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases, the maintenance or suspension of the AHS free status considered, and to indicate any information gaps or specific areas that should be addressed in the future by the Member.
 - c. After the teleconference
 - contribute electronically to the finalisation of the report

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Agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda and appointment of chairperson and rapporteur
2. Evaluation of the maintenance of the official recognition of AHS free status
3. Adoption of report

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List of participants

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