

RESOLUTION No. 23

Procedure for the Designation of Facilities Holding Rinderpest Virus Containing Material to Maintain Global Freedom from Rinderpest

ACKNOWLEDGING the declaration of global freedom from rinderpest in May 2011 and the commitment made by Member Countries to maintaining this status,

CONSIDERING OIE Resolution No.18 (2011) requesting the Director General of the OIE to approve facilities in which rinderpest virus-containing material can be held, and to conduct regular site visits to those facilities to verify whether their biosafety/biosecurity conditions are adequate,

REITERATING the importance of reducing the number of existing rinderpest virus stocks through the destruction of virus in a safe manner and/or the transfer of virus stocks to internationally recognised reference institutions,

THE ASSEMBLY

1. REAFFIRMS its commitment to reducing, around the world, the number of institutions holding rinderpest virus-containing material under approved conditions and according to relevant guidelines.
2. URGES the Member Countries to:
 - Approve the Mandate for facilities in which rinderpest virus containing material can be held (hereinafter ‘Rinderpest Holding Facilities’) (Appendix 1) to ensure that they support efforts to maintain global freedom from rinderpest,
 - Agree to approve a required minimum number of Rinderpest Holding Facilities. With approval of each facility being based on information provided by the FAO-OIE rinderpest joint advisory committee’s review of the application, a site inspection (where appropriate), and advice from both the Director General, the Council of the OIE and the FAO Governing body,
 - Ensure that remaining stocks of rinderpest virus containing material are transferred safely to one of the Rinderpest Holding Facilities if they are not destroyed.
3. REQUESTS the Director General:
 - Put in place, jointly with FAO, a system to monitor and evaluate approved Rinderpest Holding Facilities and, when not compliant with the Mandate, to temporarily or permanently remove their approved status according to the seriousness of the non-compliance,
 - Put in place, jointly with FAO, a mechanism for tracking stocks of rinderpest virus containing material within and between approved Rinderpest Holding Facilities.

(Adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2014)

MANDATE FOR A FACILITY HOLDING RINDERPEST VIRUS CONTAINING MATERIAL

The facilities in which rinderpest virus (RPV)-containing material⁴ can be held (hereinafter ‘Rinderpest Holding Facilities’) should have a mandate which justifies their function and ensures safe storage of this material.

The Rinderpest Holding Facility has a separate mandate and approval mechanism from an OIE Reference Laboratory for rinderpest and an FAO Reference Centre for morbillivirus.

Although the decision to designate a Rinderpest Holding Facility lies with the OIE World Assembly of Delegates, the OIE Delegate must support the application and be fully aware of the Mandate.

The following text describes the Mandates of the two categories of Rinderpest Holding Facility:

- A) Rinderpest Holding Facility for storing rinderpest virus containing material, excluding vaccine stocks
 - B) Rinderpest Vaccine Holding Facility for storing only manufactured vaccines, vaccine stocks and material solely for their production.
- A) Rinderpest virus holding facilities for storing rinderpest virus containing material, excluding vaccine stocks:**
1. To safely hold rinderpest virus (hereinafter “RPV”) containing material at an appropriate level of bio-containment and ensure appropriate measures are taken to prevent its accidental or deliberate release.
 2. To accept RPV-containing material from FAO and OIE Member Countries for safe storage and/or for destruction.
 3. To notify FAO and the OIE before receiving RPV-containing material from other institutes for FAO to assist in shipping if needed and to ensure chain of custody.
 4. To provide RPV-containing material to other institutes for the research or vaccine manufacture that has been approved by FAO and the OIE.

⁴ *Rinderpest virus-containing material* means field and laboratory strains of rinderpest virus; vaccine strains of rinderpest virus including valid and expired vaccine stocks; tissues, sera and other clinical material from infected or suspect animals; and diagnostic material containing or encoding live virus. Recombinant morbilliviruses (segmented or non-segmented) containing unique rinderpest virus nucleic acid or amino acid sequences are considered to be rinderpest virus. Full length genomic material including virus RNA and cDNA copies of virus RNA is considered to be *rinderpest virus-containing material*. Sub-genomic fragments of morbillivirus nucleic acid that are not capable of being incorporated in a replicating morbillivirus or morbillivirus-like virus are not considered as *rinderpest virus-containing material*.

5. To retain an up-to-date inventory of RPV-containing material and sequence data (including recording entry and exit of this material into and out of the facility), and to share this information with FAO and the OIE through the designated rinderpest database.
6. To send an annual report to the OIE and FAO
7. To maintain a system of quality assurance, biosafety and biosecurity.
8. To provide technical advice or training to personnel from other FAO and OIE Member Countries on the destruction, safe shipment of RPV-containing material, and/or decontamination of facilities.
9. To participate in scientific meetings in its capacity as FAO-OIE Rinderpest Holding Facility and using that title.
10. To establish and maintain a network with other Rinderpest Holding Facilities.
11. To seek approval from FAO and the OIE before manipulating RPV-containing materials for the purposes of research or any other purposes, including in private sector institutions, or before shipping RPV-containing materials to other institutes.
12. When FAO and the OIE carry out an audit or site inspection the rinderpest holding facility shall fully cooperate and provide all the relevant reports and information.

B) Rinderpest Vaccine Holding Facility for storing only manufactured vaccines, vaccine stocks and material solely for their production:

1. To retain an up-to-date inventory of vaccine stocks including current and expired vaccines and any materials solely for vaccine production and to share such information with FAO and the OIE through the designated rinderpest database.
2. To validate or destroy stocks of expired vaccines.
3. To regularly test the quality of the vaccines in accordance with the OIE guidelines.
4. To maintain and follow procedures approved by FAO and the OIE for managing vaccine stocks (storing packaged and manufactured vaccine).
5. To contribute, when requested by FAO and the OIE, to the global rinderpest vaccine bank and preparedness strategy, including through the emergency manufacture and preparation of vaccines in accordance with OIE standards.
6. To accept vaccine virus seeds or stocks from FAO and OIE Member Countries for safe storage and/or for destruction.
7. To notify FAO and the OIE before receiving RPV-containing material from other institutes for FAO to assist in shipping if needed and to ensure the chain of custody.
8. To provide vaccine virus seeds or vaccines to other institutes (public or private sector) for the research or vaccine manufacture that has been approved by FAO and the OIE.

9. To send an annual report to the OIE and FAO.
 10. To maintain a system of quality assurance, biosafety and biosecurity.
 11. When FAO and the OIE carry out an audit or site inspection the rinderpest holding facility shall fully cooperate and provide all the relevant reports and information.
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