

# *Resolutions*

**adopted by the International Committee of the OIE  
during its 71st General Session**

**18 – 23 May 2003**



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RESOLUTION No. I

**Approval of the Annual Report of the Director General on the Activities of the OIE in 2002  
and the Report on the Animal Disease Status World-Wide in 2002 and the Beginning of 2003**

In accordance with Article 6 of the Organic Rules of the OIE,

THE COMMITTEE

RESOLVES

to approve the Annual Report of the Director General on the Activities of the OIE in 2002 (71 SG/1) and the Report on the Animal Disease Status World-Wide in 2002 and the beginning of 2003 (71 SG/2).

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(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 21 May 2003)



RESOLUTION No. II

**Approval of the Report of the Director General on the Management, Activities  
and Administrative Work of the OIE in 2002**

In accordance with Article 6 of the Organic Rules of the OIE,

THE COMMITTEE

RESOLVES

to approve the Report of the Director General on the Management, Activities and Administrative Work of the OIE during the 76th Financial Year (1 January – 31 December 2002) (71 SG/3).

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(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 23 May 2003)





RESOLUTION No. III

**Approval of the Financial Report for the 76th Financial Year of the OIE  
(1 January – 31 December 2002)**

In application of Article 15 of the Internal Statutes and Article 6 of the Organic Rules of the OIE,

THE COMMITTEE

RESOLVES

to approve the Financial Report for the 76th Financial Year of the OIE (1 January – 31 December 2002) (71 SG/4).

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(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 23 May 2003)



RESOLUTION No. IV

**Budgetary Income and Expenses for the 78th Financial Year of the OIE  
(1 January – 31 December 2004)**

Reserved on Delegates



RESOLUTION No. V

**Financial Contributions from OIE Member Countries for 2004**

In accordance with Article 11 of the Internal Statutes and Article 14 of the Organic Rules, and  
Considering the need to meet the budgetary expenses of the OIE for 2004,

THE COMMITTEE

RESOLVES

that annual contributions from Member Countries of the Office International des Epizooties be established for the 2004 Financial Year as follows (in EUR):

Countries in the 1st category	107 350
Countries in the 2nd category	85 880
Countries in the 3rd category	64 410
Countries in the 4th category	42 940
Countries in the 5th category	21 470
Countries in the 6th category	12 882

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(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 23 May 2003)



RESOLUTION No. VI

**Authorisation to transfer part of the surplus  
of the 76th Financial Year of the OIE to the 2003 Budget**

Reserved on Delegates





RESOLUTION No. VII

**Renewal of the Appointment of the External Auditor**

In accordance with Article 12.1. of the Financial Regulations concerning the appointment of the External Auditor and the renewal thereof,

THE COMMITTEE

RESOLVES

To renew for a period of one year (2003) the appointment of the Honourable Mr J. Berthe as OIE External Auditor.

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(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 23 May 2003)



RESOLUTION No. VIII

**Acknowledgements to the Governments of Member Countries  
making Voluntary Contributions to the OIE**

Having noted the voluntary contributions received by the OIE in 2002,

THE COMMITTEE

INVITES

The Director General to convey its sincere thanks to the Governments of Argentina, Australia, France, Japan and Lebanon for their voluntary contributions to the execution of the programmes of the OIE.

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(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 23 May 2003)



RESOLUTION No. IX

**Planned Working Programme for 2004**

CONSIDERING

The examination and approval of the Third Strategic Plan by the International Committee during its 68th General Session in May 2000,

The examination and approval of a Work Programme for implementing the recommendations of the Third OIE Strategic Plan for the period 2001 to 2005, by the International Committee during its 69th session in May 2001

Resolution No. IX adopted by the International Committee during the 69th General Session in May 2001.

THE COMMITTEE, ON THE PROPOSAL OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION

1. DECIDES

To approve the Planned Working Programme for 2004 prepared by the Director General.

2. RECOMMENDS THAT

Member Countries provide the necessary support to allow the Working Programme to be carried out, in the form of payment of both regular contributions and voluntary contributions or subsidies.

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(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 23 May 2003)



RESOLUTION No. X

**Agreement between the Office International des Epizooties  
and the World Health Organization**

CONSIDERING

The agreement between the World Health Organization and the Office International des Epizooties adopted on 4 and 8 August 1960

That it is desirable, in the general interest of all concerned, to update the terms of cooperation between the Office International des Epizooties and the World Health Organization

The Agreement between the two organisations approved following the deliberations of the Administrative Commission (71 SG/19),

THE COMMITTEE

DECIDES

To approve the terms of this document and its signature by the Director General on behalf of the OIE.

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(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 23 May 2003)





RESOLUTION No. XI

**Agreement between the Office International des Epizooties  
and the Fédération Equestre Internationale**

CONSIDERING

That it is desirable, in the general interest of all concerned, that cooperation be established between the Office International des Epizooties and the Fédération Equestre Internationale.

The Agreement between the two organisations approved following the deliberations of the Administrative Commission and signed by the Director General (71 SG/21),

THE COMMITTEE

DECIDES

To approve the terms of this document and its signature by the Director General on behalf of the OIE.

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(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 23 May 2003)



RESOLUTION No. XII

**Agreement between the Office International des Epizooties  
and the International Dairy Federation**

CONSIDERING

That it is desirable, in the general interest of all concerned, that cooperation be established between the Office International des Epizooties and the International Dairy Federation.

The Agreement between the two organisations approved following the deliberations of the Administrative Commission and signed by the Director General (71 SG/22),

THE COMMITTEE

DECIDES

To approve the terms of this document and its signature by the Director General on behalf of the OIE.

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(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 23 May 2003)



RESOLUTION No. XIII

**Agreement between the Office International des Epizooties  
and the Southern African Development Community**

CONSIDERING

That it is desirable, in the general interest of all concerned, that cooperation be established between the Office International des Epizooties and the Southern African Development Community

The Agreement between the two organisations approved following the deliberations of the Administrative Commission and signed by the Director General (71 SG/23),

THE COMMITTEE

DECIDES

To approve the terms of this document and its signature by the Director General on behalf of the OIE.

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(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 23 May 2003)



RESOLUTION No. XIV

**Agreement between the Office International des Epizooties  
and the Economic Commission on Cattle, Meat and Fish Resources**

CONSIDERING

That it is desirable, in the general interest of all concerned, that cooperation be established between the Office International des Epizooties and the Economic Commission on Cattle, Meat and Fish Resources

The Agreement between the two organisations approved following the deliberations of the Administrative Commission (71 SG/24),

THE COMMITTEE

DECIDES

To approve the terms of this document and its signature by the Director General on behalf of the OIE.

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(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 23 May 2003)





RESOLUTION No. XV

**Appendix to the Agreement between the Office International des Epizooties  
and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community**

CONSIDERING

That it is desirable, in the general interest of all concerned, that cooperation be developed between the Office International des Epizooties and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community

The Appendix to the Agreement between the two organisations approved following the deliberations of the Administrative Commission (71 SG/25),

THE COMMITTEE

DECIDES

To approve the terms of the aforementioned Appendix to the Agreement and its signature by the Director General on behalf of the OIE.

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(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 23 May 2003)



RESOLUTION No. XVI

**Use of a common name for the Office International des Epizooties**

Considering the International Agreement for the creation of an Office International des Epizooties in Paris, dated 25 January 1924, and in particular Article 1 of the said Agreement,

Considering the Organic Rules dated 24 May 1973, and in particular Article 6 of the said Rules relating to the competence of the International Committee of the OIE,

Considering that the scope of the OIE's missions has evolved beyond the prevention and control of epizootic diseases to include all animal health issues and their public health implications and management needing to be addressed on a regional or global scale,

Noting the OIE's permanent role in knowledge of the international animal health situation and in the sanitary safety of world trade in animals and animal products,

THE COMMITTEE

AUTHORISES

The Director General and the Departments of the OIE to use, in all circumstances, alongside the statutory name of the Office, the common name "World Organisation for Animal Health".

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(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 23 May 2003)



RESOLUTION No. XVII

**New terms of reference for the Specialist Commissions  
of the Office International des Epizooties**

Noting that the four Specialist Commissions of the Office International des Epizooties (OIE) currently in existence, namely the Foot and Mouth Disease and Other Epizootics Commission, the International Animal Health Code Commission, the Standards Commission and the Fish Diseases Commission, were created by the International Committee in Resolution No. XIV of 27 May 1983, and have on several occasions been modified and complemented by the Intentional Committee in order to update and extend the scope of competence of the said Commissions,

Aware of the present need for a general redefinition of the purpose and mode of operation of the Specialist Commissions, to take into account the evolution and the extension of the missions of the OIE and the necessary changes in the conditions under which it acts,

Mindful of the need for continuity between the existing Specialist Commissions and those that are called upon to succeed them,

Considering the *Basic Texts* and in particular Chapter IV of the General Rules of the OIE relating to Specialist Commissions,

Considering the agreement of the Administrative Commission given after consultation of the four Specialist Commissions by the Director General,

THE COMMITTEE

DECIDES

Article 1. Four Specialist Commissions are hereby created, in accordance with the terms of reference in appendix to the present Resolution, namely the *Biological Standards Commission* (to replace the Standards Commission), the *Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases* (to replace the Foot and Mouth Disease and Other Epizootics Commission), the *Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission* (to replace the International Animal Health Code Commission) and the *Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission* (to replace the Fish Diseases Commission).

Article 2. The four Specialist Commissions mentioned in Article 1 shall be referred to in brief as the “Scientific Commission”, the “Laboratories Commission”, the “Code Commission”, and the “Aquatic Animals Commission”, respectively.

Article 3. The Director General shall be responsible for the necessary measures to ensure the setting up of the new Commissions, in accordance with their respective terms of reference, and to guarantee the continuity of operation of the OIE Specialist Commissions in collaboration with other international organisations.

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(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 22 May 2003)



**TERMS OF REFERENCE, INTERNAL RULES AND QUALIFICATIONS OF THE MEMBERS  
OF THE OIE SPECIALIST COMMISSIONS  
PRESENTED TO THE OIE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE, MAY 2003**

**OIE SCIENTIFIC COMMISSION FOR ANIMAL DISEASES  
(in brief "Scientific Commission")**

**Terms of Reference, Internal Rules and Qualifications of the Members**

**I. Terms of Reference**

The terms of reference of the OIE Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases shall be:

1. To maintain and exchange information on all aspects of terrestrial animal diseases, and to assess recent developments in the practical problems of control and eradication of infectious diseases and the impact of these developments.
2. To provide scientific guidance to the OIE on the development of policies relating to the assessment and control of diseases, notably those with the potential to affect trade in terrestrial animals and their products or affect human health.
3. To assist the Director General in improving the collection, use and interpretation of statistical information on terrestrial animal diseases, including emerging diseases, for the benefit of OIE Member Countries.
4. To provide up-to-date scientific information to the Director General and the other OIE Specialist Commissions, gathered through its own resources or in consultation with scientists, experts and Ad hoc Groups.
5. To advise and assist the Director General on problems relating to such diseases, including problems of disease control at the regional and global level.
6. To propose procedures for formally recognising the animal health status of OIE Member Countries.
7. To undertake, on behalf of the Committee, the assessment of OIE Member Country applications for compliance with OIE standards for freedom from specific terrestrial animal diseases.
8. To identify issues that require in-depth review and propose, to the Director General, the composition and terms of reference of experts or Ad hoc Groups of experts convened specifically to study such issues, and if necessary, to participate in the work of these Groups.
9. To advise the Director General on the composition and the activities of the Working group on Wildlife diseases and to coordinate its work.
10. To reply to relevant queries relating to methods for the control of terrestrial animal diseases.
11. To represent the OIE at scientific and specialised conferences upon the request of the Director General.

## II. Internal Rules

### *Article 1*

The OIE Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases shall consist of a Bureau (comprised of a President, a Vice-President and a Secretary General) and two other Members.

### *Article 2*

The Committee elects the Members of the Bureau individually and then the other two Members, taking into account the need for a geographically balanced representation, and the need for relevant expertise.

The Members of the Commission are elected for a period of three years.

The mandate of the Commission may be renewed by the Committee.

Positions should be filled as they fall vacant before elections as indicated in the first paragraph.

### *Article 3*

The Commission shall meet at least once a year between the General Sessions of the Committee. At least one of the meetings in the year shall be held in conjunction with the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission and if necessary with other Specialist Commissions. A special meeting may be organised immediately prior to the General Session.

### *Article 4*

The Bureau of the Commission shall meet alone at such times and places as may be determined by the Director General, in consultation with the President of the Commission.

### *Article 5*

Where appropriate, specialists from national/regional/international organisations and from OIE Collaborating Centres and Reference Laboratories, designated by the Director General, shall attend certain parts of meetings of the Commission and of the Bureau for topics relating to their field of competence.

### *Article 6*

After each meeting, the Secretary General of the Commission shall provide the Director General with a report on the proceedings of the meeting, a draft of a work programme and the proposed dates for the next meeting.

### *Article 7*

The Commission shall make available to the Director General, by no later than 1 February of each year, all texts which are to be presented for adoption or comment during the following General Session of the Committee. These texts shall be sent by the Central Bureau to Member Countries for examination and comment before the General Session.

### *Article 8*

The President of the Commission will report annually to the Committee the activities of the Commission and the draft of the relevant resolutions.

### *Article 9*

All formal correspondence between the Commission and outside individuals or bodies shall be issued through the office of the Director General.



*Article 10*

The Central Bureau shall assist the Secretary General of the Commission in recording meetings of the Commission and preparing reports, notably by providing secretarial support, word-processing equipment and translation services.

*Article 11*

Unless otherwise decided by the Committee, the Commission shall coordinate a Specialist Conference at least once every three years, in consultation with the Director General and with the assistance of the Central Bureau, the Collaborating Centres and the Reference Laboratories of the OIE.

**III. Qualifications of the Members**

*Article 1*

Commission Members shall be veterinarians with post-graduate training in a field relevant to the control of infectious diseases of animals.

*Article 2*

Commission Members shall have a Curriculum Vitae and scientific publication record appropriate to an international specialist in a field or fields relevant to the control of infectious diseases of animals.

*Article 3*

Commission Members shall have appropriate experience in animal disease control.

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**OIE BIOLOGICAL STANDARDS COMMISSION**  
**(in brief “Laboratories Commission”)**

**Terms of Reference, Internal Rules and Qualifications of the Members**

**I. Terms of Reference**

The terms of reference of the OIE Biological Standards Commission shall be:

1. To propose methods for the diagnosis and prevention of diseases with respect to international trade or movement of terrestrial animals or their products, particularly diseases included in the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (the *Terrestrial Code*).
2. To define standards for biological products, diagnostic preparations, vaccines and immune sera relating to terrestrial animals.
3. To provide, upon request by the Committee or the Director General, standard technical procedures for other activities included in the *Terrestrial Code*.
4. To keep the Director General and the Committee informed of advances in scientific knowledge that could have implications for the diagnosis and prevention of terrestrial animal diseases and to make recommendations on amendments or additions to the *Terrestrial Code*, as appropriate.
5. To respond to questions relating to its field of competence from the Director General and the Committee, and collaborate with the other OIE Specialist Commissions and Working Groups.
6. To edit the OIE *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals* (the *Terrestrial Manual*) relating to terrestrial animals.
7. To identify keynote speakers to represent the OIE at international conferences.
8. To develop concepts and tools for capacity building of the veterinary scientific community in particular in developing countries.
9. To advise the Director General on the currency of the list of the OIE experts, Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres.
10. To facilitate and work with the network of Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres to achieve OIE's mandate.
11. To identify issues that require in-depth review and propose, to the Director General, the composition and terms of reference of experts or Ad hoc Groups of experts convened specifically to study such issues, and if necessary, to participate in the work of these Groups.
12. To represent the OIE at scientific and specialised conferences upon the request of the Director General.

**II. Internal Rules**

*Article 1*

The OIE Biological Standards Commission shall consist of a Bureau (comprised of a President, a Vice-President and a Secretary General).

*Article 2*

The Members of the Bureau shall be elected individually by the Committee for a period of three years, taking into account the need for a geographically balanced representation, and the need for relevant expertise.

The mandate of the Members of the Bureau may be renewed by the Committee.

Positions should be filled as they fall vacant before elections as indicated in the first paragraph.

*Article 3*

The Commission shall meet at least once a year between General Sessions of the Committee to finalise standards to be presented to the Committee. Wherever necessary, the Commission shall hold joint meetings with other Specialist Commissions. A special meeting may be organised immediately prior to the General Session.

*Article 4*

The Bureau of the Commission shall meet alone at such times and places as may be determined by the Director General, in consultation with the President of the Commission.

*Article 5*

Where appropriate, specialists from national/regional/international organisations and from OIE Collaborating Centres and Reference Laboratories, designated by the Director General, shall attend certain parts of meetings of the Commission for topics relating to their field of competence.

*Article 6*

After each meeting, the Secretary General of the Commission shall provide the Director General with a report on the proceedings of the meeting, a draft of a work programme and the proposed dates for the next meeting.

*Article 7*

The Commission shall make available to the Director General, by no later than 1 February of each year, all texts which are to be presented for adoption or comment during the following General Session of the Committee. These texts shall be sent by the Central Bureau to Member Countries for examination and comment before the General Session.

*Article 8*

The President of the Commission will report annually to the Committee the activities of the Commission and the draft of the resolutions that it wishes the Committee to adopt.

*Article 9*

When reporting to the Committee on the activities of the Commission, the President of the Commission shall present proposals for standards on which Member Countries have been consulted in accordance with Article 7 above.

*Article 10*

All formal correspondence between the Commission and outside individuals or bodies shall be issued through the office of the Director General.

*Article 11*

The President of the Commission, in concert with the Bureau, shall periodically consult with Member Countries as to whether or not the *Terrestrial Manual* is continuing to satisfy their needs as an international standard.

*Article 12*

The Central Bureau shall assist the Secretary General of the Commission in recording meetings of the Commission and preparing reports, notably by providing secretarial support, word-processing equipment and translation services.

**III. Qualifications of the Members**

*Article 1*

Commission Members shall be recognised specialists in the field of infectious terrestrial animal disease diagnosis and/or prevention, particularly in laboratory methods and operations.

*Article 2*

Commission Members shall have international experience, at the regional or global level, in the area of laboratory diagnosis and/or immunological prevention of infectious animal diseases.

*Article 3*

Commission Members shall have specialised training in laboratory terrestrial animal disease diagnosis.

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**OIE TERRESTRIAL ANIMAL HEALTH STANDARDS COMMISSION**  
*(in brief “Code Commission”)*

**Terms of reference, Internal Rules and Qualifications of the Members**

**I. Terms of Reference**

The terms of reference of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission shall be:

1. To promote the adoption by the Committee of animal health (including zoonoses), animal welfare and animal production food safety standards, guidelines and recommendations concerning trade or international movement of mammals, birds and bees, and their products. Such standards, guidelines and recommendations are designed to minimise the risks of transmitting diseases (including zoonoses) while avoiding unjustified sanitary barriers.
2. To edit an annual compendium of such standards, guidelines and recommendations (the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* – the *Terrestrial Code*) in formats and languages as required by the Committee.
3. To advise the Director General on the composition and the activities of the Working Groups on animal welfare and animal production food safety, and to coordinate their work.
4. To develop in collaboration with other OIE Specialist Commissions and with relevant experts:
  - a) generic chapters in the *Terrestrial Code* which address general topics such as evaluation of veterinary services, certification, regionalisation, risk analysis methodology, antimicrobial resistance and which are in harmony with similar recommendations in the OIE *Aquatic Animal Health Code*.
  - b) disease-specific chapters and appendices in the *Terrestrial Code* which are maintained current with the latest scientific information, and which provide clear guidance to users on terrestrial animal diseases on the OIE list of notifiable diseases.
5. To identify issues that require in-depth review and propose, to the Director General, the composition and terms of reference of experts or Ad hoc Groups of experts convened specifically to study such issues, and if necessary, to participate in the work of these Groups.
6. To advise the Director General on issues relevant to its work arising or being discussed in other international organisations (such as the Codex Alimentarius Commission, the International Plant Protection Convention and the WTO) or fora.
7. To represent the OIE at scientific and specialised conferences upon the request of the Director General.

**II. Internal Rules**

*Article 1*

The OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission shall consist of a Bureau (comprised of a President, a Vice-President and a Secretary General) and three other Members.

*Article 2*

The Committee selects the Members of the Bureau individually and then the other three members, taking into account the need for a geographically balanced representation, and the need for relevant expertise.

The members of the Commission are elected for a period of three years.

The mandate of the Commission Members may be renewed.

Positions should be filled as they fall vacant before elections as indicated in the first paragraph.

*Article 3*

The Commission shall meet at least once during the year to review comments from Members, to revise chapters as appropriate, and to finalise chapters to be presented to the International Committee. At least one of the meetings in the year shall be held in conjunction with the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases and the Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission and if necessary with other Specialist Commissions. A special meeting may be organised immediately prior to the General Session.

*Article 4*

The Bureau of the Commission shall meet as often as the DG considers necessary, at a venue determined by the Director General, in consultation with the President of the Commission.

*Article 5*

Where appropriate, specialists from national/regional/international organisations and from OIE Collaborating Centres and Reference Laboratories, appointed by the Director General, shall attend certain parts of meetings of the Commission or Bureau for particular topics relating to their field of competence.

*Article 6*

After each meeting, the Secretary General of the Commission shall provide the Director General with a report of the proceedings of the meeting, a draft of a work programme and the proposed dates for the next meeting.

*Article 7*

The Commission shall make available to the Director General, by no later than 1 February each year, all texts which are to be presented for adoption or comments during the following General Session of the Committee. These texts shall be sent by the Central Bureau to Member Countries for examination and comment before the General Session.

*Article 8*

The President of the Commission will report annually to the Committee the activities of the Commission and the draft of the resolutions that it wishes the Committee to adopt.

*Article 9*

When reporting to the Committee on the activities of the Commission, the President of the Commission shall present, in the form of chapters of the *Terrestrial Code*, proposed final texts on which Member Countries have been consulted, in accordance with Article 7 above.

*Article 10*

All formal correspondence between the Commission and outside individuals or bodies shall be issued through the office of the Director General.

*Article 11*

The President of the Commission, in concert with the Bureau, shall periodically consult with Member Countries as to whether or not the contents of the *Terrestrial Code* are continuing to satisfy their needs as international standards.

*Article 12*

The Central Bureau shall assist the Secretary General of the Commission in recording meetings of the Commission and preparing reports, notably by providing secretarial support, word-processing equipment and translation services.

**III. Qualifications of the Members**

Commission Members shall be veterinarians with a broad knowledge of the major diseases of animals, experience and expertise in the animal health aspects of international trade in animals and animal products, and an understanding and practical experience of the relevant international trading rules.

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**OIE AQUATIC ANIMAL HEALTH STANDARDS COMMISSION**  
**(in brief “Aquatic Animals Commission”)**

**Terms of Reference, Internal Rules and Qualifications of the Members**

**I. Terms of Reference**

The terms of reference of the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission shall be:

1. To propose the most appropriate methods for surveillance, diagnosis and disease prevention for sanitary security of trade or international movement of aquatic animals and their products covering diseases listed in the OIE *Aquatic Animal Health Code* (the *Aquatic Code*). The standards and methods used must reduce the risk of the introduction of pathogens into importing countries while avoiding unjustified sanitary barriers.
2. To promote the dissemination among veterinary and other competent authorities of information on aquatic animal diseases. For this purpose, standards and guidelines are also provided in the *Aquatic Code* and the OIE *Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals* (the *Aquatic Manual*).
3. To keep the Committee and the Director General informed of scientific progress on methods of surveillance, diagnosis and disease prevention likely to improve the prevention and the control of aquatic animal diseases, and to formulate proposals for updating the *Aquatic Code* and the *Aquatic Manual*.
4. To develop in collaboration with other OIE Specialist Commissions and with relevant experts:
  - a) generic chapters in the *Aquatic Code* which address general topics such as evaluation of veterinary services, certification, regionalisation, risk analysis methodology, antimicrobial resistance and which are in harmony with similar recommendations in the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (the *Terrestrial Code*).
  - b) disease-specific chapters and appendices in the *Aquatic Code* and the *Aquatic Manual* which are maintained current with the latest scientific information, and which provide clear guidance to users on aquatic animal diseases in the OIE list, including laboratory diagnostic methods.
5. To identify issues that require in-depth review and propose, to the Director General, the composition and terms of reference of experts or Ad hoc Groups of experts convened specifically to study such issues, and if necessary, to participate in the work of these Groups.
6. To advise the Director General on issues relevant to its work arising or being discussed in other international organisations or fora.
7. To reply to all relevant queries made by the Director General, the Committee or other OIE Commissions.
8. To advise the Director General on the currency of the list of the OIE experts, Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres.
9. To facilitate and work with the worldwide network of Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres in the field of aquatic animals, so as to achieve the OIE’s mandate.



10. To represent the OIE at scientific and specialised conferences upon the request of the Director General.

## II. Internal Rules

### *Article 1*

The OIE Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission shall consist of a Bureau (comprised of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary General) and two other Members.

### *Article 2*

The Committee elects the Members of the Bureau individually and then the other two members, taking into account the need for a geographically balanced representation, and the need for relevant expertise in diseases of fish, molluscs and crustaceans.

The Members of the Commission are elected for a period of three years.

The mandate of the Commission members may be renewed by the Committee.

Positions should be filled as they fall vacant before elections as indicated in the first paragraph.

### *Article 3*

The Commission shall meet at least once a year between the General Sessions of the Committee. At least one of the meetings in the year shall be held in conjunction with the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission and if necessary with other Specialist Commissions. A special meeting may be organised immediately prior to the General Session.

### *Article 4*

The Bureau of the Commission shall meet alone at such times and places as may be determined by the Director General, in consultation with the President of the Commission.

### *Article 5*

Where appropriate, specialists from national/regional/international organisations and from OIE collaborating centres and reference laboratories, designated by the Director General, will attend certain parts of meetings of the Commission and of the Bureau for particular topics in relating to their field of competence.

### *Article 6*

After each meeting, the Secretary General of the Commission shall provide the Director General with a report on the proceedings of the meeting, a draft of a work programme and the proposed dates for the next meeting.

### *Article 7*

The Commission shall make available to the Director General, by no later than 1 February of each year, all texts which are to be presented for adoption or comment during the following General Session of the Committee. These texts shall be sent by the Central Bureau to Member Countries for examination and comment before the General Session.

### *Article 8*

The President of the Commission will report annually to the Committee the activities of the Commission and the draft of the resolutions that it wishes the Committee to adopt.

*Article 9*

When reporting to the Committee on the activities of the Commission, the President of the Commission shall present the proposals on which Member Countries have been consulted in accordance with Article 7 above.

*Article 10*

All formal correspondence between the Commission and outside individuals or bodies shall be issued through the office of the Director General.

*Article 11*

The President of the Commission, in concert with the Bureau, shall periodically consult with Member Countries as to whether or not the contents of the *Aquatic Code* or the *Aquatic Manual* are continuing to satisfy their needs as international standards.

*Article 12*

The Central Bureau shall assist the Secretary General of the Commission in recording meetings of the Commission and preparing reports, notably by providing secretarial support, word-processing equipment and translation services.

**III Qualifications of the Members**

*Article 1*

Commission Members shall be internationally recognised specialists on methods of surveillance, diagnosis and prevention of infectious aquatic animal diseases.

*Article 2*

Commission Members shall have extensive international experience, at the regional or global level, of aquatic animal infectious disease surveillance, diagnosis, control and disease prevention methods.

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RESOLUTION No. XVIII

**Invitation to the People's Republic of China and Taipei China to  
create the necessary conditions for their effective participation in  
the work of the Office International des Epizooties**

1. Following on from the proposals made by the Working Group set up in 1996 “to seek, with the agreement of the parties, a solution to the Chinese technical representations within the OIE”, and mindful of the solution adopted within the World Trade Organization (WTO) since 2001 to enable the representation of the People's Republic of China (PRC) and Taiwan, the Director General, in liaison with the Administrative Commission, has for the past two years conducted intensive negotiations with the interested parties.
  2. At the 70th General Session, the Director General reported back to the OIE International Committee, which requested him to pursue his efforts.
  3. It now appears that, in order to resolve the remaining difficulties, and thereby enable the Organisation to fulfil its missions under the conditions of universality provided for within its founding Charter, the OIE International Committee is required to make a solemn statement calling upon Taipei China to agree to the conditions that will allow the effective participation of the PRC in the work of the OIE, and calling on the PRC to ensure the said effective participation.
  4. This is the aim of the following two draft Resolutions, which – since they form the elements of one and the same requirement of the organisation – are put to a single vote of the OIE International Committee.
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(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 23 May 2003)



RESOLUTION No. XVIII-1

**Invitation to Taipei China to adopt a new name within the Office International des Epizooties, without prejudice to its full exercise of its rights and prerogatives**

Preamble:

1. The Director General of the Office International des Epizooties (OIE) currently in office visited the People's Republic of China (PRC), at that country's invitation, from 1 to 4 April 2002, then visited Taiwan, from 4 to 8 April 2002, at the invitation of the Taiwanese authorities.

At the end of his visit to the PRC, a memorandum was signed with the representative of the Ministry of Agriculture, stating the PRC's strong interest in the work of the OIE and its willingness to take an active part in that work, notably in connection with the PRC's membership of the World Trade Organization (WTO).

2. Taiwan acceded to the OIE in 1954 under the name of "Republic of China (Taiwan)". The name became "Taipei China" in 1992 at the time of the accession of the PRC to the OIE. Taiwan has always actively participated in the work of the OIE and has contributed financially to its activities. Taiwan also joined the WTO in 2002 under the name of "Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu".
3. In 1996, a Working Group was established by the Director General, after consulting the Administrative Commission, to seek, with the agreement of the parties, a solution to their active participation within the OIE.

In a progress report, submitted on 24 April 1996, the Working Group, while indicating that no agreement was possible as things stood, suggested that, in addition from some minor adjustments to the wording, special attention be given to the solution that the WTO might subsequently adopt on this problem.

4. The memorandum signed on 4 April 2002 by the Director General with the Ministry of Agriculture of the PRC takes up this idea and provides for reactivating the participation of the PRC in the work of the OIE, on the condition that, "on the basis of the model adopted by the WTO", Taipei China shall continue to participate in the said work with the rights and prerogatives inherent in its status as Member of the OIE.
5. At the 70th General Session of the OIE International Committee, the Director General reported on this work and these negotiations. The President asked the representative of Taipei China whether he would agree to adopt a different name for his country's membership, without prejudice to Taipei China's full exercise of its rights and prerogatives as Member of the Organisation, a solution in accordance with the wishes of all of its members. Considering the representative's negative response at the session, it was decided that the Director General would pursue his efforts in this direction, in conjunction with the OIE Administrative Commission, and report back at the next Session of the International Committee.
6. The Director General, at the request of the Administrative Commission of the OIE, pursued his talks with the Parties concerned with a view to reaching a proposal aimed at allowing them to fully participate in the activities of the Organisation.

## THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

Given the International Agreement for the creation of an Office International des Epizooties (OIE), done at Paris on 25 January 1924, and the entire General Rules of the OIE, in particular the provisions setting forth the conditions for accession of Members to the Organisation and their rights and obligations within the Organisation,

Mindful of the need to strive unceasingly to achieve the aim of universality of the Organisation,

Considering the terms of the WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, (SPS Agreement), and the formal link established by the said agreement with the standard-setting activities of the OIE,

Considering that the official names adopted by the WTO to identify the Parties concerned at the time of their accession to that organisation are, on the one hand, “People's Republic of China” and, on the other hand, “Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu”,

Considering that Taipei China, in its capacity as a separate customs territory recognised by the WTO, is in a position to pursue an autonomous sanitary policy in accordance with the rights and obligations of Members of the OIE,

Considering the *International Animal Health Code*,

Considering the importance for the sanitary safety of world trade of the standards adopted by the International Organisations, including the OIE, explicitly referred to in the SPS Agreement,

### 1. INVITES

Taipei China to adopt, within the Organisation, the name of “Separate Sanitary Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu”.

### 2. REAFFIRMS THAT

The adoption of the new name, which would replace the present name, will in no way affect the participation of Taipei China in the existing and future work of the Office, with the rights and prerogatives inherent in its status as Member of the OIE.

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(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 23 May 2003)

RESOLUTION No. XVIII-2

**Draft Resolution inviting the People's Republic of China to fully participate in the work and activities of the Office International des Epizooties**

Preamble:

- 1 The Director General of the Office International des Epizooties (OIE) currently in office visited the People's Republic of China (PRC), at that country's invitation, from 1 to 4 April 2002, then visited Taiwan, from 4 to 8 April 2002, at the invitation of the Taiwanese authorities.

At the end of his visit to the PRC, a memorandum was signed with the representative of the Ministry of Agriculture, stating the PRC's strong interest in the work of the OIE and its willingness to take an active part in that work, notably in connection with the PRC's membership of the World Trade Organisation (WTO).

- 2 The People's Republic of China acceded to the OIE in 1992 and designated its Representative, but since then has neither participated in the work of the Organisation nor paid its contributions.

On the accession of the PRC, Taiwan, which had acceded to the OIE in 1954 under the name of "Republic of China (Taiwan)" took the name of "Taipei China". Taiwan has always actively participated in the work of the OIE and has contributed financially to its activities.

3. In 1996, a Working Group was established by the Director General, after consulting the Administrative Commission, to seek, with the agreement of the Parties, a solution to their active participation within the OIE.

In a progress report submitted on 24 April 1996, the Working Group, while indicating that no agreement was possible as things stood, suggested that, in addition to some minor adjustments to the wording, special attention be given to the solution that the WTO might subsequently adopt on this problem.

Taiwan joined the WTO in 2002 under the name of "Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu".

4. The memorandum signed on 4 April 2002 by the Director General with the Ministry of Agriculture of the PRC takes up this idea and provides for reactivating the participation of the PRC in the work of the OIE, on the condition that, "on the basis of the model adopted by the WTO", Taipei China shall continue to participate in the said work with the rights and prerogatives inherent in its status as Member of the OIE.
- 5 At the 70th General Session of the OIE International Committee, the Director General reported on this work and indicated ways of reaching a solution that would allow the PRC to participate effectively in the work of the OIE.

The representative of Taipei China having rejected during the session any change in the formulation of the name of his country's membership within the OIE, based on the model adopted for the WTO, the Director General was requested to spare no effort to arrive at a solution, in liaison with the OIE Administrative Commission, and to report back at the next General Session of the International Committee.

- 6 The Director General, at the request of the OIE Administrative Commission, pursued his talks with the Parties concerned with a view to reaching a proposal aimed at allowing them to fully participate in the activities of the Organisation.

## THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

Given the International Agreement for the creation of an Office International des Epizooties (OIE), done at Paris on 25 January 1924, and the entire General Rules of the OIE, in particular the provisions setting forth the conditions for accession of Members to the Organisation and their rights and obligations within the Organisation,

Mindful of the need to strive unceasingly to achieve the aim of universality of the Organisation,

Considering the terms of the WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement), and the formal link that the said Agreement establishes with the standard-setting activities of the OIE,

Noting that an agreement has been found within the WTO to ensure the effective participation of the PRC and Taipei China in the work of that organisation,

Taking note of Resolution No. XVIII-1 adopted this day by the International Committee inviting Taipei China to give, within the OIE, a new name to its membership, without prejudice to its full exercise of the rights and prerogatives inherent in its status as Member of the Organisation,

Taking note of the positive reaction of the Delegate of Taipei China, conditioned by confirmation from his competent authorities,

## REQUESTS

The People's Republic of China to participate effectively in the work of the OIE and to exercise therein all the rights and fulfil all the obligations inherent in its status as Member of the Organisation.

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(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 23 May 2003)



RESOLUTION No. XIX

**Adoption of the sixth edition of the *International Aquatic Animal Health Code*  
and the fourth edition of the *Diagnostic Manual for Aquatic Animal Diseases***

CONSIDERING

1. The present contents of the *International Aquatic Animal Health Code* (the *Code*) and *Diagnostic Manual for Aquatic Animal Diseases* (the *Manual*), which are the result of their adoption and modifications made to them by the agreement of the International Committee during previous General Sessions,
2. The necessity to update the *Code* and *Manual* in consultation with the Delegates of Member Countries, and the proposed revisions contained in Appendices VIII and XII of the Report of the June 2002 meeting of the Fish Diseases Commission (Document 71 SG/12/CS4 A) and Appendices III to XV of the Report of the January 2003 meeting of the Fish Diseases Commission (Document 71 SG/12/CS4 B),

THE COMMITTEE RESOLVES

1. To adopt the updates to the sixth edition of the *International Aquatic Animal Health Code* proposed in Appendices VIII and XII of Document 71 SG/12/CS4 A and Appendices III to XV of Document 71 SG/12/CS4 B, in English, French and Spanish, each text being authentic, with the following modifications:
  - 1.1. In Appendix III (Obligations and ethics in international trade) Article 1.3.1.3. point 1c replace the word 'exceptional' with the word 'potential'.
  - 1.2. In Appendix IV (General Definitions):
    - a) replace the words 'acting as carriers of the pathogen' with 'transferring the disease agent' in the definition of fallowing.
    - b) in the definition of infection delete the words 'detection of the pathogen by the methods described in the *Manual*', retain the original wording changing 'infectious agent' to 'disease agent' so that the definition is 'the presence of the disease agent in the host'.
    - c) in the definition of stamping-out policy, move the words 'as defined in this *Code*' to after '*disinfection* procedures' and add the words 'determined by risk assessment' after the words 'Fallowing should be for an appropriate period'.
  - 1.3. In Appendix V (Guidelines for fallowing in aquaculture) Article X.X.X.1. replace the words 'the maximum period' with the words 'a period, the length of which should be' in the last line of the first paragraph.
  - 1.4. In Appendix VI (Measures concerning the international transport of aquatic animal pathogens and pathological material):
    - a) in the English version, replace the word 'pathogens' with the words 'disease agents' in the title.

- b) delete Article 1.5.6.1.
  - c) replace the words 'returned or sterilised together with its packing, immediately upon receipt' with the words 'rendered safe by the Competent Authority' in the last line of Article 1.5.6.3.
- 1.5. In Appendix VIII (Diseases notifiable to the OIE [of fish]) replace the words 'disease name virus' with 'disease agent name' throughout.
- 1.6. In Appendix XI (Disease notification criteria)
- a) delete the word 'proposed' in the titles of Articles 1.1.2.1. and 1.1.2.2.
  - b) add the words 'Diseases proposed for listing must meet all of the relevant parameters set for each of the criteria, namely A. Consequences, B. Spread and C. Diagnosis. Therefore, to be listed, a disease must have the following characteristics: 1 or 2 or 3; and 4 or 5; and 6; and 7; and 8. to Article 1.1.2.1.
  - c) delete the word 'always' in point 1 of Article 1.1.2.1.
  - d) add the word 'For' to the two table headings (A and B) in Article 1.1.2.2. so that the headings now read: 'A. For listed diseases' and 'B. For non-listed diseases'.
- 1.7. In Appendix XII (Notification and epidemiological information) add the words 'newly recognised' before zoonotic potential to Article 1.2.1.3. point 1.e.
- 1.8. In Appendix XIV (White spot disease) add the words 'and exporting country' to Article 4.1.2.1. so that the sentence now reads: 'Potential transfers of other decapod crustaceans from marine, brackish water or freshwater sources to white spot disease free zones should be subject to risk analysis when there is evidence from experimental challenge studies that one or more species in the *importing country* and *exporting country* is susceptible to white spot disease'.
- 1.9. Move Appendix VII (Blood sampling and vaccination) and Appendix XIII (disinfection of crustacean farms) and the remainder of Part 5 of the *Code* (Health control and hygiene) to the *Manual*.
2. To adopt the fourth edition of the *Diagnostic Manual for Aquatic Animal Diseases*.
3. To ask the Director General to publish the revised editions of the *International Aquatic Animal Health Code* and *Diagnostic Manual for Aquatic Animal Diseases*.
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(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 20 May 2003)

RESOLUTION No. XX

**Recognition of the Foot and Mouth Disease Status of Member Countries**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 63rd General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolutions XI and XII, 'Establishment of a list of foot and mouth disease (FMD) free countries where vaccination is not practised', and 'Procedure for the recognition of the foot and mouth disease status of Member Countries', respectively,
2. During the 64th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution XII, which asks that the Director General publish a list of the countries or zones within national territories that fulfil the criteria of one of the FMD free categories described in Chapter 2.1.1. of the *International Animal Health Code* (the *Code*),
3. The Foot and Mouth Disease and Other Epizootics Commission has continued to apply the procedure approved by the International Committee, and has supported the recognition of the FMD free status of additional countries and zones within national territories for annual adoption of the list by the International Committee,
4. Recommendations of the Commission regarding the evaluation of countries as being free from foot and mouth disease have been submitted to Member Countries for comments as outlined in Resolution No. XVI, which was adopted during the 67th General Session of the International Committee,
5. The FMD and Other Epizootics Commission proposed that an updated list of countries and zones previously recognised as free from foot and mouth disease and those newly proposed by the Commission in consultation with Member Countries be annually adopted by resolution,
6. During the 65th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution No. XII, which stated that the Delegates of Member Countries whose countries or zones within their national territories are recognised as FMD free annually confirm by letter each November both their status and that the criteria by which their status was recognised remain unchanged,
7. During the 65th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution No. XVII delegating to the Foot and Mouth Disease and Other Epizootics Commission the authority to recognise, without further International Committee consultation, that a Member Country or zone within its territory has regained its previously recognised FMD free status following outbreaks that are eradicated in accordance with the relevant provisions of Chapter 2.1.1. of the *Code*,
8. During the 70th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution No. XVIII asking Member Countries applying for evaluation for freedom from FMD to meet part of the costs sustained by the OIE Central Bureau in the evaluation process,
9. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the official Veterinary Services of Member Countries. The OIE is not responsible for inaccurate publication of country disease status based on inaccurate information or changes in epidemiological status or other significant events that were not promptly reported to the Central Bureau subsequent to the time of declaration of freedom,

## THE COMMITTEE

### RESOLVES

That the Director General publish the following list of Member Countries recognised as FMD free countries where vaccination is not practised, according to the provisions of Chapter 2.1.1. of the *Code*<sup>1</sup>

Albania	Germany	Netherlands
Australia	Greece	New Caledonia
Austria	Guatemala	New Zealand
Belgium	Guyana	Nicaragua
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Honduras	Norway
Bulgaria	Hungary	Panama
Canada	Iceland	Poland
Chile	Indonesia	Portugal
Costa Rica	Ireland	Romania
Croatia	Italy	Singapore
Cuba	Japan	Slovakia
Cyprus	Korea (Rep. of)	Slovenia
Czech Rep.	Latvia	Spain
Denmark	Lithuania	Sweden
El Salvador	Luxembourg	Switzerland
Estonia	Madagascar	Ukraine
Finland	Malta	United Kingdom
Former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia	Mauritius	United States of America
France	Mexico	Vanuatu

### AND

That the Director General publish the following list of Member Countries as having an FMD free zone where vaccination is not practised, according to the provisions of Chapter 2.1.1. of the *Code*:

Argentina: zone situated south of the 42° parallel South;

Colombia: Northwest region of Choco Department;

Namibia: zone designated by the Delegate of Namibia in a document addressed to the Director General on 6 February 1997;

Philippines: Mindanao, Visayas, Palawan and Masbate;

South Africa: zone designated by the Delegate of South Africa in a document addressed to the Director General in May 2002;

### AND

That the Director General publish the following list of Member Countries as having FMD free zone(s) where vaccination is practised, according to the provisions of Chapter 2.1.1. of the *Code*:

Bolivia: zone of Chiquitania designated by the Delegate of Bolivia in documents addressed to the Director General in January 2003;

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<sup>1</sup> For information on the status of non-contiguous territories of Member Countries recognised as FMD free, please address enquiries to that country's Delegate or to the Director General

Brazil: States of Bahia, Espírito Santo, Goiás, Mato Grosso, Mato Grosso do Sul, Minas Gerais, Paraná, Rio de Janeiro, Rio Grande do Sul, Santa Catarina, São Paulo, Sergipe, Tocantins, the Federal District, and Rondonia;

Colombia: zone designated by the Delegate of Colombia in documents addressed to the Director General in January 2003.

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(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 20 May 2003)



RESOLUTION No. XXI

**Recognition of a Foot and Mouth Disease Free Zone during an FMD Emergency**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. The International Committee has adopted a procedure for establishing a list of Member Countries and zones within their territories recognised as free of FMD according to the provisions of chapter 2.1.1. of the *International Animal Health Code* (the *Code*),
2. New Member Countries and zones recognised as FMD free are added to the list annually by resolution adopted at the General Session of the International Committee after a period of consultation with the interested Member Country, the Foot and Mouth Disease and Other Epizootics Commission, other Member Countries and the International Committee,
3. Recognition of FMD free status is suspended upon declaration by a Member Country of an outbreak in a previously disease free national territory or zone,
4. The list of FMD free countries and zones recognised as FMD free is important to some Member Countries for the purpose of trade in animals and animal products. These countries could sustain huge economic losses through lost trade for a period of time exceeding that required in the *Code* to regain FMD free status following eradication of an outbreak,
5. Chapter 2.1.1. of the *Code* describes criteria by which under certain circumstances a recognised FMD free country or zone that has had an FMD outbreak can regain its disease free status in less than a year,
6. During the 70th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution No. XVIII asking Member Countries applying for evaluation for freedom from FMD to meet part of the costs sustained by the OIE Central Bureau in the evaluation process,
7. During the 65th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution No. XVII delegating to the Foot and Mouth Disease and Other Epizootics Commission the authority to recognise, without further International Committee consultation, that a Member Country or zone within its territory has regained its previously recognised FMD free status following outbreaks that are eradicated in accordance with the relevant provisions of chapter 2.1.1. of the *Code*,

THE COMMITTEE

RESOLVES

To delegate to the Foot and Mouth Disease and Other Epizootics Commission the authority to recognise, without further International Committee consultation, an FMD free zone created following outbreaks within a Member Country or its territory in accordance with the relevant provisions of Chapters 1.3.5. and 2.1.1. of the *International Animal Health Code*.

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(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 20 May 2003)





RESOLUTION No. XXII

**Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 69th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution No. XV, asking Member Countries that wish to be evaluated for conformation with the requirements of the OIE *International Animal Health Code* (the *Code*) for bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) free status to submit a formal application to the Director General of the OIE for consideration by the Foot and Mouth Disease and Other Epizootics Commission,
2. During the 70th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution No. XVIII asking Member Countries applying for evaluation for freedom from BSE to meet part of the costs sustained by the OIE Central Bureau in the evaluation process,
3. An Ad hoc Group of experts on BSE (OIE Ad hoc Group for Evaluation of Country Submissions for Recognition as Complying with the *Code* as Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy Free) has been set up by the OIE and the Group has developed guidelines to facilitate the submission of data by Member Countries in accordance with the requirements in the current edition of the *Code*,
4. Recommendations of the FMD and Other Epizootics Commission will be submitted to Member Countries for comments as outlined in Resolution No. XVI, which was adopted during the 67th General Session of the International Committee,
5. The Ad hoc Group has already examined submissions from several countries and has concluded that under the present circumstances, many Member Countries are unable to fulfil all the requirements of the *Code* as free from BSE, and has also recognised the difficulty of according a scientifically based weighting to the presence of other transmissible spongiform encephalopathies within a country,
6. Since the adoption of the last BSE Chapter of the *Code*, a number of new advances, which have significantly improved the understanding of the disease, have taken place.
7. In the light of paragraphs 5 and 6 above, the categorisation of countries should be simplified.

THE COMMITTEE

RESOLVES THAT

1. The Foot and Mouth Disease and Other Epizootics Commission and the International Animal Health Code Commission address if relevant any inconsistency between the *Code* chapter and the OIE guidelines for BSE country status recognition.
2. The Foot and Mouth Disease and Other Epizootics Commission ask the Ad hoc Group to also include on request, country or zone evaluations for provisional freedom from BSE in accordance with Article 2.3.13.4. of the *Code*.
3. Member Countries applying for evaluation to be considered provisionally free from BSE meet part of the costs in accordance with Resolution XVIII adopted during the 70th General Session.

4. Member Countries that have already applied for freedom from BSE may, on the basis of the existing Chapter of the *Code*, in consultation with the Director General and without prejudice to their eventual recognition as free from BSE, apply to be considered provisionally free from BSE. These countries need not submit any additional payment.
  5. The Director General will take all necessary measures to submit to the 72nd General Session a draft proposal for a simplification of categories for the sanitary status of Member Countries with respect to BSE.
  6. The Director General will take all necessary measures to undertake, after the adoption by the International Committee of the simplified categorisation, a classification or a reclassification of Member Countries wishing to be so considered and this for all future categories.
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(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 21 May 2003)

RESOLUTION No. XXIII

**Recognition of Member Countries Free from Rinderpest Infection or from Rinderpest Disease**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 63rd General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution No. XIV 'Establishment of a list of countries that are free of rinderpest',
2. During the 68th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution No. XIII designating a baseline list of Member Countries that were free from rinderpest infection. The countries included in the list certified that they meet the requirements specified in Chapter 2.1.4. of the *International Animal Health Code* (the *Code*),
3. The OIE has also developed a list of countries that are considered to be free from rinderpest disease in accordance with Chapter 2.1.4. of the *Code*,
4. Recommendations of the FMD and Other Epizootics Commission regarding countries that are evaluated as free from rinderpest disease and from rinderpest infection have been submitted to Member Countries for comments as outlined in Resolution No. XVI which was adopted during the 67th General Session of the International Committee,
5. The FMD and Other Epizootics Commission proposed that an updated list of countries and zones previously recognised as free from rinderpest disease or from rinderpest infection and those newly proposed by the Commission in consultation with Member Countries be adopted annually by resolution,
6. The Commission proposed that Member Countries thus recognised reconfirm annually that their rinderpest status remains unchanged and that this annual reconfirmation would be a requirement for maintaining OIE recognition,
7. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the official Veterinary Services of Member Countries. The OIE is not responsible for inaccurate publication of country disease status based on inaccurate information or changes in epidemiological status or other significant events that were not promptly reported to the Central Bureau subsequent to the time of declaration of freedom,

THE COMMITTEE

RESOLVES THAT

The Director General publish the following list of Member Countries recognised as free from rinderpest infection, according to the provisions of Chapter 2.1.4. of the *Code*:

Albania	Germany	New Caledonia
Algeria	Greece	New Zealand
Andorra	Guatemala	Norway
Argentina	Guyana	Panama
Australia	Honduras	Paraguay
Austria	Hungary	Peru
Barbados	Iceland	Philippines
Belgium	Indonesia	Poland
Bolivia	Ireland	Portugal
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Italy	Romania
Botswana	Jamaica	Singapore
Brazil	Japan	Slovakia
Bulgaria	Korea (Rep. of)	Slovenia
Canada	Laos	South Africa
Chile	Latvia	Spain
Colombia	Lesotho	Swaziland
Costa Rica	Lithuania	Sweden
Croatia	Luxembourg	Switzerland
Cuba	Madagascar	Taipei China
Cyprus	Malawi	Trinidad and Tobago
Czech Rep.	Malaysia	Tunisia
Denmark	Malta	Ukraine
Ecuador	Mauritius	United Kingdom
El Salvador	Mexico	United States of America
Estonia	Moldavia	Uruguay
Finland	Morocco	Vanuatu
Former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia	Namibia	Venezuela
France	Nepal	Vietnam
	Netherlands	Zimbabwe

AND

That the Director General publish the following list of Member Countries or zones as being free from rinderpest disease according to the provisions of Chapter 2.1.4. of the *Code*:

Benin	Ghana	Mauritania	Thailand
Bhutan	Guinea	Myanmar	Togo
Burkina Faso	India <sup>1</sup>	Niger	Turkey
Egypt	Mali	Senegal	

AND

That the Delegates of Member Countries whose countries or zones within their national territories are recognised as rinderpest infection or rinderpest disease free, annually reconfirm by letter in November of each year that both their status and the criteria by which their status was recognised remain unchanged. It is understood that these Delegates will immediately notify the Central Bureau if rinderpest infection or disease should occur in these countries or zones.

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(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 20 May 2003)

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<sup>1</sup> Zones designated by the Delegate of India in documents addressed to the Director General on February 2003

RESOLUTION No. XXIV

**Recognition of the Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia Status of Member Countries**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. During the 63rd General Session, the International Committee approved Resolution No. XIII, which adopted the 'Recommended Standards for Epidemiological Surveillance Systems for Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia (CBPP)',
2. The Recommended Standards for Epidemiological Surveillance Systems for Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia are published in the OIE *International Animal Health Code* (the *Code*) as Appendix 3.8.3. These standards provide a pathway for a Member Country to be declared free from CBPP. Paragraph 3.c) specifies that a Member Country can apply to the OIE to be declared CBPP free. The application will include supporting data as outlined in Appendix 3.8.3. of the *Code*. The *Code* provides a procedure for the Foot and Mouth Disease and Other Epizootics Commission to review these applications and report its recommendations to the International Committee,
3. During the 70th General Session, the International Committee adopted Resolution No. XVIII asking Member Countries applying for evaluation for freedom from CBPP to meet part of the costs sustained by the OIE Central Bureau in the evaluation process,
4. Recommendations of the Commission have been submitted to Member Countries for comment as outlined in Resolution No. XVI, which was adopted during the 67th General Session of the International Committee,
5. Information published by the OIE is derived from declarations made by the official Veterinary Services of Member Countries. The OIE is not responsible for inaccurate publication of country disease status based on inaccurate information or changes in epidemiological status or other significant events that were not promptly reported to the Central Bureau subsequent to the time of declaration of disease freedom,

THE COMMITTEE

RESOLVES

That the Director General publish that Portugal is recognised as CBPP free, according to the provisions of Appendix 3.8.3. of the *Code*.

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(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 20 May 2003)



RESOLUTION No. XXV

**Amendments to the *International Animal Health Code***

CONSIDERING

1. The present content of the *International Animal Health Code* (the *Code*), which is the result of modifications made by the International Committee during previous General Sessions,
2. The necessity to update the *Code* in accordance with the recommendations in the November-December 2002 report of the International Animal Health Code Commission (Appendices III to VII, IX to XIX of Document 71 SG/12/CS1), after consultation with the Delegates of the Member Countries,

THE COMMITTEE

1. Decides to adopt the updates to the *Code* proposed in Appendices III to VII, IX to XIX of Document 71 SG/12/CS1 in English, French and Spanish, each text being authentic, which comprise the following modifications:
  - 1.1. In Appendix IV (evaluation of Veterinary Services and guidelines for the evaluation of Veterinary Services)
    - a) add the word 'registration' after the words 'preparation, production' in point 8f) of Article 1.3.3.2.;
    - b) replace the word 'disinsectisation' with the word 'disinfestation' in point 8h) of Article 1.3.3.2.;
    - c) replace the words 'interfere with' with the word 'compromise' in the first paragraph of point 3) of Article 1.3.4.10. and add at the end of this point the words ', and lack of resources and poor infrastructure'.
  - 1.2. In Appendix V (guidelines for reaching a judgement of equivalence of sanitary measures)
    - a) replace, in the French and Spanish texts only, the words 'zoosanitaire' and 'zoosanitaria' with the words 'de la santé animale' and 'de la salud de los animales' after the words 'can provide equivalent animal', and add the words 'and human', in the first paragraph under the heading 'Introduction';
    - b) add, in the English and Spanish texts only, the words 'and human' and 'de salud pública' after the words 'may provide the same level of animal' in the second paragraph under the heading 'Introduction';
    - c) replace each occurrence of the word 'determination' with the word 'judgement';
    - d) replace the words 'the agreement' with the word 'equivalence' in the second paragraph under the heading 'Introduction';

- e) replace the words 'A Member Country's stated goals in protecting its animal population from hazards, as reflected in legislation and other official documents' with the words 'the level of protection deemed appropriate by the country establishing a sanitary measure to protect human or animal life or health within its territory' in the definition of the term 'ALOP' under the heading 'Definitions';
- f) replace the words 'Agreement by an importing and exporting country that' with the words 'the state wherein' in the definition of the term 'Equivalence of sanitary measures' under the heading 'Definitions';
- g) delete the definition of the term 'Level of protection' under the heading 'Definitions';
- h) add the words 'or human' after the words 'any measure applied to protect animal' in the definition of the term 'Sanitary measure' under the heading 'Definitions' and add the sentence 'Note: A detailed definition of sanitary measure may be found in the WTO SPS Agreement' at the end of the definition;
- i) replace the word 'hazard' with the word 'risk' and the word 'hazards' with the word 'risks' in the second paragraph of the sub-heading 'Application of risk assessment';
- j) add the words 'including requirements applicable to the' in the third indent of the third paragraph under the sub-heading 'Categorisation of sanitary measures';
- k) add the words 'human and' after the words 'it deems appropriate (its ALOP) in relation to' in the first indent under the heading 'Principles for judgement of equivalence';
- l) replace the words 'to ensure that equivalence will be maintained' with the words 'to allow the judgement of equivalence to be reassessed if necessary' in the 15th indent under the heading 'Principles for judgement of equivalence';
- m) replace the word 'judgement' with the word 'analysis' in the 3rd indent of the 3rd paragraph under the heading 'Sequence of steps to be taken in judgement of equivalence';
- n) add the word 'less' after the words 'giving effect to the judgement or a' in the 8<sup>th</sup> indent of the 3rd paragraph under the heading 'Sequence of steps to be taken in judgement of equivalence.

### 1.3. In Appendix VII (foot and mouth disease)

- a) delete the last paragraph in Article 2.1.1.7.;
- b) add the word 'FMD' after the words 'were not exposed to any source of' in point 5) of Article 2.1.1.12.;
- c) replace the reference to 'Article 3.3.1.' with a reference to 'Article 3.3.8.' in point 3) of Article 2.1.1.19.;
- d) replace the reference to 'Article 3.3.1.' with a reference to 'Article 3.3.8.' in point 4) of Article 2.1.1.20.



- 1.4. In Appendix X (leptospirosis), replace the words 'were injected twice with dihydrostreptomycin at a dose rate of 25 mg per kg of live body weight at an interval of 14 days' with the words 'were treated with an agreed effective antimicrobial in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions' in point 3) of Article 2.2.4.2.
  - 1.5. In Appendix XVI (*in vivo* derived embryos)
    - a) replace the words in brackets 'other than in cattle' with the words 'except for the collection of bovine embryos' in point 8 of Article 3.3.1.2.;
    - b) replace the words in brackets 'other than in cattle' with the words 'except for the collection of bovine embryos' in point 5 of Article 3.3.1.3.
  - 1.6. In Appendix XVII (notification and epidemiological information), add the words '(under study)' after the words 'suspected or' in point 1a) of Article 1.1.3.3.
  - 1.7. In Appendix XVIII (Rift Valley fever)
    - a) replace the words '2 years' with the words '4 years' in point 2) of Article 2.1.8.2.;
    - b) delete the words 'provided that climatic changes predisposing to *outbreaks* of RVF have not occurred during this time' in Article 2.1.8.4.
  - 1.8. Appendix XXI (avian influenza) was not adopted.
2. Asks the Director General to publish the adopted texts.
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(Adopted by the OIE International Committee of the OIE on 22 May 2003)



RESOLUTION No. XXVI

**Animal Welfare Work Programme**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. At the 70th General Session in May 2002, the International Committee considered and approved recommendations drafted by an OIE Ad hoc Group on Animal Welfare concerning the scope of OIE involvement in this area, priorities for the OIE and a modus operandi,
2. The Director General has established a provisional Working Group on Animal Welfare, which met in October 2002, and drafted a set of guiding principles and policies, and a work programme for 2003,

THE COMMITTEE

RECOMMENDS THAT

1. The Director General maintain the Working Group on Animal Welfare to advise him as well as the International Animal Health Code Commission on OIE activities in the area of animal welfare.
2. The global conference on animal welfare organised by the Director General be used to bring together stakeholders (governmental authorities, scientists, private sector and non-profit non-governmental organisations [NGOs]) from around the world to support the OIE in its efforts to harmonise activities for the promotion of health and welfare of all animals.
3. Member Countries in agreement support the organisation of this conference through voluntary contributions to the OIE.

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(Adopted by the OIE International Committee of the OIE on 20 May 2003)



RESOLUTION No. XXVII

**Animal Production Food Safety Work Programme**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. At the 70th General Session in May 2002, the International Committee considered and approved recommendations drafted by an OIE Ad hoc Group on Food Safety concerning the scope of OIE involvement in this area, priorities for the OIE and a modus operandi,
2. The Director General has established a provisional Working Group on Animal Production Food Safety, which met in November 2002, and drafted a work programme for 2003,
3. In their recent evaluation of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC), the FAO and WHO strongly supported the collaboration of the OIE and the CAC in developing food safety standards,
4. The OIE and the CAC have commenced work on an examination of both organisations' standards on food safety, with a view to identifying gaps and areas of duplication and to harmonising the standards to the extent possible,

THE COMMITTEE

RECOMMENDS THAT

1. The Director General maintain the Working Group on Animal Production Food Safety to advise him as well as the International Animal Health Code Commission on OIE activities in the area of animal production food safety.
2. The OIE continue to work closely with the relevant international agencies, particularly the CAC, and relevant committees and expert groups, regarding animal production food safety.

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(Adopted by the OIE International Committee of the OIE on 20 May 2003)



RESOLUTION No. XXVIII

**Adoption of the fifth edition of the  
*Manual of Standards for Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines***

CONSIDERING THAT

1. The *Manual of Standards for Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines*, like the *International Animal Health Code*, is an important contribution to the international harmonisation and promotion of trade in animals and animal products,
2. The *Manual* is entirely revised approximately every four years, and the International Committee, in Resolution No. X of the 63rd General Session, adopted a method for its amendment if required between the times of its revision,
3. Member Countries are asked for the contributions of their specialists for each new or revised Chapter of the *Manual* before it is finalised by the Standards Commission,
4. All Chapters for the revised edition have been sent to Member Countries and the Standards Commission will address any pending comments during its autumn meeting,

THE COMMITTEE

RESOLVES

To adopt the fifth edition of the *Manual of Standards for Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines*.

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(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 22 May 2003)





RESOLUTION No. XXIX

**OIE Procedure for Validation and Certification of  
Diagnostic Assays (Test Methods) for Infectious Animal Diseases**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. An important factor in risk analysis is evaluation of the risk posed by animals and their products. Laboratory diagnostic testing is an important activity in this process and is useful only if it is applied within specific contexts. Therefore, diagnostic assay can be classified as to its fitness for purpose,
2. Validation is the evaluation of a process to determine its fitness for a particular use, e.g. identification of a specific antibody. It quantifies the performance of the assay, the possible errors and the likelihood of their occurrence,
3. The process of validation is progressive and may be defined in terms of a series of levels of increasing confidence,
4. The responsibility for the validation of assays will continue to rest with the Standards Commission before the final endorsement of the International Committee,
5. There is a need for the OIE to adopt a process for the evaluation of diagnostic assays for specific purposes,

THE COMMITTEE

RESOLVES THAT

1. Fitness for purpose should be used as a criterion for validation.
2. The Director General make provisions to establish a registry for assays with levels of validation specified.
3. OIE Reference Laboratories should be intimately involved with validation efforts.
4. OIE Reference Laboratories should establish serum/sample reference collections to be used for validation in line with their mandates.
5. The Director General be given the mandate to review, in close consultation with the Standards Commission, the procedures involved in the timely approval of assays. This may entail the creation of a specific Ad hoc Group comprising relevant experts to evaluate any submissions received.
6. The Director General be authorised to recover if necessary, any costs incurred in the process of validating such assays.

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(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 22 May 2003)



RESOLUTION No. XXX

**OIE Guidelines on Antimicrobial Resistance**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. Resolution No. XXV adopted by the International Committee in May 2001 requested that the OIE Specialist Commissions develop standards in the area of antimicrobial resistance,
2. The OIE Ad hoc Group on Antimicrobial Resistance has developed guidelines, three of which (OIE Guideline on harmonisation of national antimicrobial resistance monitoring and surveillance programmes in animals and in animal-derived food; OIE Guideline on Monitoring the quantities of antimicrobials used in animal husbandry; and OIE Guideline on Responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents in veterinary medicine) were approved by the OIE Standards Commission and presented at Appendix IV of the report of their meeting of January 2003 (Doc. 71 SG/12/CS2 B),

THE COMMITTEE

RESOLVES

To adopt these three guidelines for inclusion in the *International Animal Health Code*.

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(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 22 May 2003)



RESOLUTION No. XXXI

**The use of economic analysis to define animal health policies**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. Animal diseases cause very large but usually unquantified economic losses in all countries of the world through direct and indirect effects of disease incidence. Further costs are incurred through measures required to prevent the introduction of exotic diseases,
2. Failure to control animal diseases in poorer countries endangers animal health and production world-wide, as well as restricting trade and causing loss to communities that can least afford it,
3. Member Countries have indicated that insufficient use is made of economic analysis in defining animal health policies. This includes the allocation of resources to Veterinary Services, setting priorities in animal disease control and identifying the most cost-effective strategies for the control of particular diseases,
4. Member Countries have indicated that the OIE should promote and facilitate the wider use of economic analysis to define animal health policies,

THE COMMITTEE

RECOMMENDS THAT

1. The OIE promote economic analyses of the impact of animal diseases, which are of global significance, with a view to developing global policies for the control of these diseases, and providing economic justification for international action.
2. The OIE produce guidelines on techniques for economic analysis in the field of animal health to assist veterinarians and economists who do not have specialised knowledge of animal health economics.
3. The OIE develop and maintain an indexed register of published and unpublished economic analyses in the field of animal health that sponsors are willing to make available to other Member Countries.
4. The OIE maintain a list of experts in economic analysis of animal health policies.

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(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 22 May 2003)



RESOLUTION No. XXXII

**Regionalisation as an instrument for preventing the propagation of diseases,  
including those of camelids**

CONSIDERING THAT

1. Regionalisation, based on epidemiological criteria, is a relatively new tool that is used by Member Countries to control animal diseases,
2. Chapter 1.3.5. of the OIE *International Animal Health Code* provides the basis for defining zones or regions, which the national Veterinary Services must establish, control and maintain, based on specific health legislation,
3. There is a need for Member Countries to apply the concept of regionalisation more broadly and to adopt specific legislation relative thereto,
4. Of the countries that replied to an OIE questionnaire in 2002:
  - 74% use regionalisation as a disease-prevention strategy,
  - only 66% have specific legislation for these zoned areas,
  - slightly more than half (58%) acknowledge that regionalisation has been positive in controlling diseases,
  - only 14% stated that regionalisation had boosted their foreign trade,
  - 56% confirmed that the regionalisation process had been supported by the private sector,
5. Economic globalisation has stimulated international trade in animals and animal products, and the use of regionalisation has helped to increase trade between countries with differing animal health status, thereby creating new markets for animals and animal products,
6. Few countries have developed and implemented methodologies to characterise the risks of agents spreading from affected zones or to assess the cost-effectiveness of regionalisation for disease control and eradication,
7. Disease control measures, such as the use or non-use of vaccines, the control of animal movements to and from the zone in question and the extent of surveillance conducted by the Veterinary Services, must be tailored to the epidemiological characteristics of each specific disease,
8. Camelids are important, particularly in arid and semi-arid zones of Africa, Asia and South America in the provision of meat and milk, draught power and for trade,
9. The climatic restrictions that allow camelids to live in certain areas, the diversified patterns of husbandry and the keeping of camelids in different parts of the world, create a natural regionalisation system that allows specific strategies to be applied for the control of diseases endemic to those areas,

10. Other species (such as yak, mithun, equidae, etc.) require the application of disease control measures, particularly in regard to movement, as these animals are the major source of income to landless and subsistence farmers in some developing countries of the world,

THE COMMITTEE

RECOMMENDS THAT

1. In order to seek and secure international markets for animals and animal products, Veterinary Services of Member Countries and the OIE promote the use of zoning/regionalisation by all involved, as a method to control animal diseases by securing political and economic recognition and support, particularly from producers and importers, culminating in the establishment of disease control zones.
2. The OIE continue to develop regionalisation methodology in order to characterise livestock production areas, to identify the risks of disease spread inherent in each ecosystem and to develop regionalised control strategies.
3. Member Countries are urged to establish specific legislation to support regional animal disease control strategies which will require, *inter alia*, adequate infrastructures and resources.
4. Member Countries with existing or potential disease control zones request recognition from the OIE for these zones, when such procedures are available, with a view to seeking and securing international markets for their animals and animal products.
5. The OIE appoint a laboratory, among Member Countries, to serve as the OIE Reference Laboratory for diseases affecting camelids.
6. The OIE strengthen Chapter 1.3.5. by proposing amendments in the light of recent experience gained in regionalisation and zoning.

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(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 22 May 2003)