

OIE PVS Evaluation Follow-Up Mission Report

TURKEY

Human, Physical
and Financial
Resources

Technical Authority
and Capability

Interaction with
Interested Parties

Access to Markets



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OIE PVS EVALUATION FOLLOW-UP REPORT OF THE

VETERINARY SERVICES OF

TURKEY

**(with Peste des Petits Ruminants global eradication programme¹
supplement)**

March 6 – 17 2017

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Disclaimer

This evaluation has been conducted by an OIE PVS Evaluation Team authorised by the OIE. However, the views and the recommendations in this report are not necessarily those of the OIE.

The results of the evaluation remain confidential between the evaluated country and the OIE until such time as the country agrees to release the report and states the terms of such release.

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¹ This mission is notable as one of OIE's pilot PVS Pathway missions to trial a separate supplementary analysis of PPR management in the country as aligned with PPR Global Eradication Programme. Relevant findings are contained in a new PPR Annex to the report.

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List of acronyms, abbreviations and/or special terms

AI	Artificial Insemination
AMR	Anti-Microbial Resistance
BIP	Border Inspection Post
BSE	Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy
BT	Bluetongue
CCHFV	Crimean-Congo Haemorrhagic Fever Virus
CVL	Central Veterinary Laboratory
CVO	Chief Veterinary Officer
DAHQ	Department of Animal Health and Quarantine
DBIAAP	Department of Border Inspection for Animals and Animal Products
DF	Department of Feed
DFCL	Department of Food Control and Laboratories
DFEC	Department of Food Establishments and Codex
DRA	Department of Risk Assessment
DVHPPH	Department of Veterinary Health Products and Public Health
EAEVE	Association for Evaluation and Accreditation of Educational Institutions and Programs of Veterinary Medicine
EFSA	European Food Safety Authority
EPPA	European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Agency
EU	European Union
FMD	Foot and Mouth Disease
FVO	Food and Veterinary Office of the European Union
GDFC	General Directorate of Food and Control
GF-TAD	Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases
HAYBIS	Animal Health Information Management System
HPAI	Highly Pathogenic Avian influenza
HR	Human Resources
IBIS	A subsection within TURKVET for animal identification
IBM	Integrated Border Management
IHR	International Health Regulations
INFOSAN	International Food Safety Authorities Network
IPARD	Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance in Rural Development
LSD	Lumpy Skin Disease
MoFAL	Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock
MoCT	Ministry of Customs and Trade
MoE	Ministry of Environment
MoFWA	Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs
MoH	Ministry of Health
Mol	Ministry of Interior
MoNE	Ministry of National Education
NCD	Newcastle Disease
OIE	World Organisation for Animal Health
OIE PVS	OIE Performance of Veterinary Services Evaluation Tool
PPR	Peste des Petits Ruminants
RAD	Risk Assessment Department
RASFF	Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed
RFID	Radio Frequency Identification
RVF	Rift Valley Fever
SGP	Sheep and Goat Pox
SPS	Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary
TRACES	Trade Control and Expert System

TSE	Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy
TURKAK	Turkish Accreditation Agency
TURKVET	Animal Identification / registration component of HAYBIS
TVMA	Turkish Veterinary Medical Association
VA	Veterinary Authority
VCCRI	Veterinary Central Control and Research Institute
VCI	Veterinary Control Institute
VCRI	Veterinary Control and Research Institute
VEDEK	Association for Evaluation and Accreditation of Educational Institutions and Programs of Veterinary Medicine
VEE	Veterinary Education Establishment
VETBIS	A subsection within TURKVET for animal disease control
VHS	Viral Haemorrhagic Septicaemia
VS	Veterinary Service(s)
VPH	Veterinary Public Health
VPP	Veterinary para-professionals
VSB	Veterinary Statutory Body (see OIE Code definition)
WAHIS	World Animal Health Information System (of the OIE)

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PART I: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

I.1 Introduction

Following a request to the OIE from the Government of Turkey, a Follow-Up evaluation of the Veterinary Services based on the *OIE PVS (Performance of Veterinary Services Tool, 6th edition, 2013)* methodology was conducted from March 6-17, 2017 by a team of four independent OIE appointed PVS evaluators. This work builds upon an initial OIE PVS Evaluation in 2007 and a PVS Gap Analysis in 2009. This mission is notable as one of OIE's pilot PVS Pathway missions to trial a separate supplementary analysis of PPR management in the country as aligned with the FAO/OIE PPR Global Eradication Programme. Relevant findings are contained in a new PPR Annex to the report. This special Annex addresses the readiness of Turkey to undertake the eradication of Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) as part of a global eradication campaign.

The evaluation began with a meeting with Dr. Nihat Pakdil, Deputy Undersecretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food (MoFAL) and OIE Delegate for Turkey, followed by meetings with Dr. Veli Gülyaz, Deputy Director General, General Directorate of Food and Control (GDFC) of MoFAL, Dr. Özhan Türkyilmaz, Director of the Department of Animal Health and Quarantine (DAHQ) within GDFC, and senior officials from other relevant Departments of GDFC.

The OIE PVS Team visited sites and institutions (public and private sector) in cities and rural areas of Turkey and discussed relevant matters with government officials, public and private sector veterinarians, livestock producers, and other stakeholders. Constrained by a number of considerations, most importantly security, the OIE PVS Team was unable to do a fully representative sampling of the country. In particular, the Eastern area of Turkey was not visited. Nevertheless, information was gathered on conditions there whenever possible during interviews with persons who had experience in that part of Turkey. The PPR specialist made a special effort to address PPR management during her particular interviews and field visits in Turkey. This included one full day meeting in Ankara devoted to PPR discussions.

The mission concluded in Ankara with a closing meeting at which the overall findings of the evaluation were discussed with Dr. Veli Gülyaz, Deputy Director General (GDFC), Dr. Özhan Türkyilmaz, Director, DAHQ, and senior staff in the headquarters of the GDFC, including members of an internal audit team that reports to the Deputy Undersecretary of MoFAL.

I.2 Key findings of the evaluation

I.2.A Human, physical and financial resources

Major progress has occurred since the initial PVS Evaluation of 2007, often with the support of initiatives and investments under programmes to prepare for the accession of Turkey to the European Union (EU).

The number of veterinarians in the public sector has increased dramatically (approx. doubled) over the past decade while there has been a decline approaching 10% in the numbers of veterinary para-professionals (VPP), especially for animal health activities. Several risks arise from these trends. Firstly, the rapid proliferation of veterinary faculties risks undermining standards of veterinary education as most are not certified by the VEDEK² or EAEVE³. Given the considerable investments made to

² Association for Evaluation and Accreditation of Educational Institutions and Programs of Veterinary Medicine

³ European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education

harmonize legislation and sanitary standards with the EU, it would seem appropriate to do the same with veterinary education, if only to support professional mobility and recognition of equivalency. Secondly, schools for the training of VPPs that report to the Ministry of National Education (MoNE) as post-secondary “high schools” have little contact with the public Veterinary Authority (VA), creating a risk to the relevancy and quality of the training offered at a time when the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) has placed a priority on developing standards for the education of VPP. This connection needs to be reactivated so that Turkey stays engaged with the evolving international standards on the training and use of VPP. Thirdly, the increasing ratio of veterinarians to VPP in the public sector raises concerns that veterinarians may be performing many functions that could be done by VPP, raising questions about the cost-effective use of human resources.

In 2016 a costed fifteen-year Veterinary Strategy was completed, spanning animal health, welfare, identification and registration. This study forecast needs for significant increases in human and financial resources to address proposed new programmes that would address many of the issues raised in earlier OIE PVS reports. However before hiring additional veterinarians to address these gaps careful consideration should be given to reallocation of resources from lower priority activities, increased delegation of functions to private veterinarians, including inspection of private clinics that is currently performed by GDFC, as well as increased use of VPP where appropriate. Other functions might be delivered by industry associations with appropriate government oversight, for example the management and delivery of livestock identification and registration functions. Similarly, before allocating additional public funds for new operations, consideration should be given to enhanced beneficiary-funding arrangements such as fees for service. Alternate funding strategies of this kind will become particularly important if one assumes that the significant funding currently available for pre-accession activities will diminish over time.

Concerns raised in the previous PVS Pathway reports about the chain of command (internal coordination) have been effectively addressed by clarification that a direct technical chain of command flows from the central offices of GDFC to Provincial and District Directorates despite the existence of an administrative chain of authority that flows through Provincial Governors. In interpreting this arrangement one must recall that Turkey is not a federation but rather a unicameral administration with decentralized operations in 81 Provinces. This distinction is significant in that all 81 Provinces serve the same policies of a single central government. This is very much in evidence with a common MoFAL logo on flags in offices at the Central, Provincial and District levels, on doors of vehicles throughout the country and on official letterhead. The technical chain of command is then reinforced by the use of common information systems, corporate management of a cadre of senior managers who are mobile across Provinces and regular meetings of senior officials from all Provinces, including an annual review of progress and future directions. That said, there is an opportunity to further strengthen this chain of command by creation of a Monitoring and Evaluation Unit within DAHQ as recommended by the afore-mentioned Veterinary Strategy.

External coordination, especially across Ministries, is less effective. Requests to meet officials of the Ministry of Health (MoH) and to visit an institution that trains VPP (Ministry of National Education (MoNE)) were declined as they would require official letters and could thus not be arranged in the available time. Interactions amongst Ministries are rather limited even when there are formalized arrangements – for example a national Zoonosis Committee co-led by MoFAL and the MoH meets only once yearly. As emerging challenges increasingly require effective horizontal

partnerships, actions are needed to build the required relationships. To this end a Joint IHR/PVS Pathway National Bridging Workshop is recommended.

Technical independence and stability of structures and policies are strong points. While much is changing with the pre-accession work, this reflects a long-term plan that is moving in a positive direction, harmonizing legislation and policies with international standards.

Physical resources are considerably improved overall since earlier PVS missions with significant capital investments made under pre-accession programmes. Similarly operational funding has increased and seems generally sufficient. However there is some uncertainty as to the sustainability of these investments in the face of evolving economic and political circumstances.

Management capacities vary from sophisticated in the use of internal audits by senior executives to weaker abilities at some lower levels when it comes to using operational data, which is widely available in electronic format, for evaluation of performance and decision making. Several recommendations from the 2009 PVS Gap Analysis calling for increased information gathering and analysis remain to be fully addressed. While progress has been made with the afore-mentioned Veterinary Strategy, including its call for a new Monitoring and Evaluation Unit, further investments in management training and systems are required. The MoFAL Strategic Plan for 2013-2017 set a laudable goal to “finalize the accreditation of the food and feed inspection system in accordance with ISO 17020” – this would be a very significant step forward and would address key recommendations of the PVS Gap Analysis

1.2.B Technical authority and capability

Extensive networks of sophisticated public sector laboratories support the animal health, feed and food safety programmes led by GDFC – thus reflecting action called for by the 2009 PVS Gap Analysis to “increase capacity of regional laboratories”. They are all ISO certified by the national standards body, the Turkish Accreditation Agency (TURKAK), thus addressing a key recommendation of the PVS Gap Analysis. There are also networks of private laboratories that provide supplemental support for animal health and food safety work, the latter accredited by MoFAL.

A Risk Analysis Department has been established to serve all of the regulatory functions of MoFAL ranging from plant protection to animal health and food safety. Its initial work on food safety has provided a multi-factorial risk based method for determining the priority and frequency of establishment inspections and sampling for residue testing. In the coming years the Risk Analysis Department will turn its attention to animal health programs, a step that would address a key recommendation of the 2009 PVS Gap Analysis and should be encouraged at the earliest opportunity.

Quarantine and border security has improved through action taken on a number of recommendations from the 2009 PVS Gap Analysis and through nascent collaboration with the Ministry of Customs and Trade (MoCT) on Integrated Border Management (IBM). Continued and deeper collaboration is to be encouraged, along with investments in infrastructure to provide adequate facilities for inspection and quarantine of animals. To the extent possible given the evolving security situation, actions should be taken as recommended by previous PVS missions to close illegal pathways that exist in some regions for the movement of animals and products, including veterinary medicines.

Effective epidemiological surveillance across the country has been strengthened since previous PVS Missions by the growing number of veterinarians in the field, the

supporting network of veterinary investigation centres and a shared information system. Active surveillance is focused on selected diseases and regions in line with recommendations of previous PVS Missions, for example to support a zone recognized as free of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) with vaccination. Both passive and active surveillance would need to increase significantly under the proposed fifteen year Veterinary Strategy.

Key elements including funding arrangements and an FMD simulation exercise (partially addressing a recommendation of the PVS Gap Analysis) are in place for effective emergency preparedness and response capacity. This could be strengthened by extending preparedness to other priority diseases and adopting an incident command structure and protocols, such as those used in many countries, to quickly streamline and coordinate functions across this large complex country in the event of an emergency.

Turkey has made progress in the control of several diseases, most notably through vaccination programmes in accordance with recommendations of the PVS Gap Analysis. However as documented in the Veterinary Strategy, much remains to be done to improve vaccination coverage, movement control, public awareness, vector control and address the lack of information on the animal disease situation in wildlife. These will require substantial investments but would offset important potential losses according to the Veterinary Strategy.

Food and feed safety have clearly been priorities of GDFC in accordance with recommendations of the PVS Gap Analysis, with the establishment of modern and comprehensive regulations, active programs for risk-based inspection of establishments, closure of many sub-standard slaughterhouses, veterinary supervision of ante- and post-mortem inspections at slaughterhouses, and a residue monitoring program that has been audited and recognized as effective by the EU. As noted above, the MoFAL has set a goal for ISO 17020 certification of the food and feed inspection system.

Regulation of veterinary drugs and biological is founded on modern regulations administered by a dedicated Department for Veterinary Health Products and Public Health (both new since previous PVS Missions) that are enforced with significant penalties as documented in the report. Nevertheless, to fully address recommendations of the PVS Gap Analysis there remains room for improved practices by producers and veterinarians themselves in the management of veterinary medicines and in particular antimicrobials. These are areas that should be given priority attention as GDFC works with the Ministry of Health on a new National Antimicrobial Resistance Strategy.

A comprehensive national residue monitoring program has been established for animal products as called for in the PVS Gap Analysis; it covers residues of chemical contaminants, anti-microbials and hormones.

An electronic identification system is under development for cattle, sheep and goats, with the goal of achieving 95-100% coverage in 2017, thereby largely addressing a recommendation of the PVS Gap Analysis. The data is handled by an electronic information system that stores premises and animal registration numbers and records movements. The traceability continues from field to slaughter and carcass distribution.

Impressive progress has been made on animal welfare, supported by the pre-accession work as well as progressive attitudes in the country. While much can and should still be done, including investments in infrastructure for humane transportation (rest stations) and for on-farm euthanasia (captive bolt pistols) and work to strengthen relationships with partners to manage companion / stray dog and cat populations, this is an area on which Turkey could provide regional and international leadership.

1.2.C Interaction with interested parties

Effective communications resources exist within MoFAL and GDGC, including web sites and a consumer hot line for food safety information and complaints. This capacity could be extended to strengthen communications for animal health and welfare programs, in line with recommendations of the PVS Gap Analysis report, while respecting a MOFAL's communications policy and ideally working in collaboration with other key partners such as the MoH.

Stakeholder relations are well established but are focused more on information exchange than active consultation. Consideration should be given to establishing a "Consultation Platform" as proposed in the Veterinary Strategy and in accordance with recommendations of the PVS Gap Analysis.

Official representation occurs through regular participation in international and regional meetings and the appointment of focal points in accordance with previous PVS recommendations. However, there was little evidence of active engagement in the development or modification of international standards. With its knowledge base and economy Turkey could play a larger role on issues of importance to the country and region. Development of international standards for the training of VPP is currently an active issue at OIE that should be of interest to Turkey in the light of findings reported above.

While official accreditation / authorisation / delegation activities in Turkey have evolved well beyond the few areas observed in the first PVS, legal provisions for delegation of functions to the private sector could be strengthened by legislation currently under consideration that would enhance standards for the recognition of veterinary professionals. This and more formal management of the cadre of accredited private sector veterinarians as recommended in the PVS Gap Analysis would build a more effective program for future functions that might be delegated.

The Turkish Veterinary Medical Association (TVMA) and its 57 regional Chambers serve as the Veterinary Statutory Body (VSB). TVMA has no authority over veterinarians from the public sector (who can however become members on a voluntary basis) nor does it licence veterinary para-professionals. TVMA actively oversees the adherence of its membership to professional ethics as recommended by the PVS Gap Analysis, but GDGC is responsible for authorizing the establishment and overseeing the operations of private animal clinics, polyclinics or veterinary hospitals – duties that would be performed by the Veterinary Statutory Body in many countries.

TVMA's authority over the standards for qualification as a veterinarian are currently limited and should be strengthened through draft legislation that has been under consideration for some time. It is also recommended that options for the identification, licensing and registration of veterinary para-professionals by TVMA be considered in accordance with OIE standards, and that current work of the OIE on a standard curriculum for VPP training be used to support this work and that of the VPP education establishments.

Although recommended in the PVS Gap Analysis, there is currently limited involvement of livestock producers or other interested parties in the development and delivery of programmes for animal health and welfare or food safety, such as on-farm quality assurance programmes. On the other hand, there is now a legal foundation for such undertakings and there are indications of private sector interests and capacity. GDGC should explore programme designs that would draw upon private sector capacity where it exists, including the delegation of some functions with appropriate supervision.

1.2.D Access to markets

In accordance with recommendations of the PVS Gap Analysis, there has been extensive re-writing of legislation – assisted by support for alignment with that of the European Union (EU). The results have good “internal quality”, being well structured, legally sound and generally consistent with international standards. However, there was limited in-depth consultation with interested parties, thereby putting at risk “external quality”, that is the suitability for application with acceptance of the affected parties. There was good evidence of stringent application of the regulations, but room for improvement in collaboration with interested parties on measures to improve compliance. Both shortcomings could be addressed through the enhanced consultation and engagement processes recommended above and in previous PVS reports. These processes would also provide a foundation for further harmonization with international standards and increased engagement of GDFC and its interested parties in the development and revision of standards in the future.

Capacity for certifications to support international trade is supported by specifically trained official veterinarians, a modern information management system and enabling legislation to ensure the ability to apply specific requirements agreed with trading partners. Recommendations of the PVS Gap Analysis have thus been addressed.

Turkey is trading with a number of the countries with which it has signed sanitary agreements as recommended by the PVS Gap Analysis. Its capacity to meet SPS standards is growing with work under the pre-accession projects. While legislation does not provide a legal framework to specifically recognise SPS equivalence, if Turkey does accede to the EU it will benefit from a wide variety of equivalence arrangements that the EU has established with other countries.

Turkey has a good history of reporting on its animal health status and issues to the OIE and has appointed a focal point for animal disease reporting. That said, ways should be sought to improve the speed of reporting and to broaden the distribution of information to interested parties as recommended by the PVS Gap Analysis

Turkey gets top marks for its work on zoning that has made possible the recognition of the Thrace region as free of FMD with vaccination as recommended by the PVS Gap Analysis. Priority must now be assigned to on-going surveillance in compliance with OIE standards to quickly identify any events that might jeopardize this status.

A form of compartmentalization is being used to establish farms free of tuberculosis, brucellosis and bluetongue, and the poultry sector has some interest in possible applications of the concept. These efforts should be encouraged as recommended by the PVS Gap Analysis

1.2.E PPR Global Eradication Programme Supplement

Further information on Turkey's veterinary capacity with respect to PPR eradication can be found in Appendix 1, including a summary of conclusions at the end of this Appendix.

Table 1: Summary of OIE PVS evaluation results

PVS summary results of Turkey	Result 2017	Previous PVS Evaluation 2007
I. HUMAN, PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES		
I.1.A. Staffing: Veterinarians and other professionals	3	3
I.1.B. Staffing: Veterinary paraprofessionals and other technical personnel	2	2
I.2.A. Professional competencies of veterinarians	3	3
I.2.B. Competencies of veterinary paraprofessionals	2	2
I-3. Continuing education	3	3
I-4. Technical independence	4	2
I-5. Stability of structures and sustainability of policies	4	4
I-6.A. Internal coordination (chain of command)	4	3
I-6.B. External coordination	3	3
I-7. Physical resources	4	NA
I-8. Operational funding	4	1
I-9. Emergency funding	4	3
I-10. Capital investment	4	3
I-11. Management of resources and operations	3	NA
II. TECHNICAL AUTHORITY AND CAPABILITY		
II-1.A. Access to veterinary laboratory diagnosis	5	4
II-1.B. Suitability of national laboratory infrastructures	4	4
II-2. Laboratory quality assurance	4	NA
II-3. Risk analysis	3	2
II-4. Quarantine and border security	3	2
II-5.A. Passive epidemiological surveillance	4	3
II-5.B. Active epidemiological surveillance	2	NA
II-6. Emergency response	4	4
II-7. Disease prevention, control and eradication	3	NA
II-8.A. Regulation, authorisation and inspection of establishments	3	NA
II-8.B. Ante and post mortem inspection	3	NA
II-8.C. Inspection of collection, processing and distribution	3	NA
II-9. Veterinary medicines and biological	3	2
II-10. Residue testing	4	NA
II-11. Animal feed safety	4	NA
II-12.A. Animal identification and movement control	3	3
II-12.B. Identification and traceability of animal products	3	3
II-13. Animal welfare	3	NA
III. INTERACTION WITH INTERESTED PARTIES		
III-1. Communications	3	2
III-2. Consultation with interested parties	3	2
III-3. Official representation	2	2
III-4. Accreditation/authorisation/delegation	3	3
III-5.A. Veterinary Statutory Body Authority	2	3
III-5.B. Veterinary Statutory Body Capacity	3	3
III-6. Participation of producers and other interested parties in joint programmes	3	2
IV. ACCESS TO MARKETS		
IV-1. Preparation of legislation and regulations	4	2
IV-2. Implementation of legislation and regulations and compliance thereof	3	3
IV-3. International harmonisation	3	2
IV-4. International certification	4	2
IV-5. Equivalence and other types of sanitary agreements	4	2
IV-6. Transparency	3	3
IV-7. Zoning	5	2
IV-8. Compartmentalisation	3	1

NA: Not Assessed

I.3 Key recommendations

I.3.A Human, physical and financial resources

- Ensure that veterinary education curricula meet international standards such as those of the OIE, VEDEK and/or EAVE to support professional mobility and recognition of equivalency.
- The Veterinary Authority working jointly with the TVMA and the relevant educational authorities should conduct a national assessment to document the need for any additional veterinary schools as well as future requirements for VPP.
- Promote through the MoNE standards for the training of veterinary para-professionals that meet requirements of public and private veterinary services and are aligned with developing international standards on the training and use of VPP.
- Review the increasing ratio of veterinarians to VPP in the public sector to ensure that concerns that efficient use is being made of human resources.
- Before hiring additional public sector personnel, careful consideration should be given to reallocation of resources from lower priority activities, increased delegation of functions to private veterinarians, including inspection of private clinics that is currently performed by GDFC, as well as increased use of VPP where appropriate.
- Similarly, before allocating additional public funds for new operations, consideration should be given to enhanced beneficiary-funding arrangements such as fees for service.
- Further strengthen the vertical chain of command by creation of a Monitoring and Evaluation Unit within DAHQ.
- Increase effective horizontal partnerships through actions to build the required relationships. To this end one step recommended is a Joint IHR/PVS Pathway National Bridging Workshops with the MoH.
- Investments in the development of management and leadership skills are recommended and would be expected to pay significant dividends as Turkey's VS continues to address some outstanding goals from the PVS Gap Analysis and advance its performance to the highest levels of the PVS Evaluation framework that call for such competencies.
- Pursue the goal to "finalize the accreditation of the food and feed inspection system in accordance with ISO 17020" in accordance with the MoFAL Strategic Plan for 2013-2017.

I.3.B Technical authority and capability

- Encourage the Risk Analysis Department to turn its attention to animal health programs at the earliest opportunity.
- Seek continued and deeper collaboration with the MoCT on IBM, along with investments in infrastructure to provide adequate facilities for inspection and quarantine of animals.
- To the extent possible given the evolving security situation, actions should be taken to close illegal pathways known to exist in some regions for the movement of animals and products, including veterinary medicines.
- Both passive and active surveillance will need to be increased significantly to implement the fifteen year Veterinary Strategy.

- Strengthen emergency response effectiveness by adopting an incident command structure and protocols, such as those used in many countries, to quickly streamline and coordinate functions.
- Strengthen disease control programs to implement the Veterinary Strategy by improving vaccination coverage, movement control, public awareness, vector control and by addressing the need for information on the animal disease situation in wildlife.
- Finalize the accreditation of the food and feed inspection system in accordance with ISO 17020 in accordance with the MoFAL Strategic Plan for 2013-2017. This would address a number of specific recommendations in the report that call for improved record keeping and documentation of activities and results.
- GDFC should assign high priority to its work with the MoH on a new National Antimicrobial Resistance Strategy, including measures to improve the practices of livestock and poultry producers and veterinarians themselves in the management of veterinary medicines and in particular antimicrobials.
- Continue the progress on animal welfare, including new infrastructure for humane transportation (rest stations), equipment for on-farm euthanasia (captive bolt pistols), and improved coordination with partners to manage companion / stray dog and cat populations.

1.3.C Interaction with interested parties

- Strengthen communications for animal health and welfare programs, ideally in collaboration with other key partners such as the MoH.
- Establishing a “Consultation Platform” as proposed in the Veterinary Strategy.
- Increase the role of Turkey the development and revisions of international standards of importance to the country and region.
- Strengthen current legal provisions for delegation of functions to the private sector could through legislation currently under consideration or an alternate law that would enhance standards for the recognition of veterinary professionals.
- Establish more formal management of a cadre of accredited private sector veterinarians to build a more effective program for future functions to be delegated.
- Consider transferring from GDFC to TVMA responsibilities for authorizing and overseeing the operations of private animal clinics, polyclinics or veterinary hospitals – duties performed by VSBs in many countries.
- Provide TVMA with authority to set standards for qualification as a veterinarian through existing draft legislation or a new law.
- Consider options for the identification, licensing and registration of VPP by TVMA in accordance with OIE standards.
- Work with other countries through OIE to develop a standard curriculum for VPP training to support the work of Turkey’s VPP education establishments.
- Explore programme designs for animal health, welfare, identification & registration that would draw upon private sector capacity where it exists, including the delegation of some functions with appropriate supervision.

I.3.D Access to markets

- Enhance consultation and engagement processes to improve the engagement of interested parties as legislation is prepared and standards are revised or developed.
- Take steps to improve the speed of reporting and to broaden the distribution of information to interested parties.
- Assign priority to on-going surveillance in compliance with OIE standards to quickly identify any events that might jeopardize Turkey's status as having a region free from FMD with vaccination.
- Continue work to establish farms free of tuberculosis, brucellosis and bluetongue, and consider ways that compartmentalization might serve the poultry sector in Turkey.

I.3.E PPR Global Eradication Programme Supplement

- Further information on Turkey's veterinary capacity with respect to PPR eradication can be found in Appendix 1, including a summary of conclusions at the end of this Appendix.

PART II: CONDUCT OF THE EVALUATION

At the request of the Government of Turkey, the Director General of the OIE appointed an independent OIE PVS Team consisting of Dr Barry Stemshorn (Team Leader), Dr Nadège Leboucq (PPR Specialist), Dr Peter Fernández (Technical Expert) and Dr Matthew Stone (Observer) to undertake an evaluation of the veterinary services of Turkey. The evaluation was carried out from March 6-17, 2017.

The evaluation was carried out following the OIE standards contained in Chapters 3.1., 3.2., 3.3. and 3.4. of the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (the Terrestrial Code), using the OIE *PVS Tool* (6th edition, 2013) to guide the procedures. Relevant Terrestrial Code references are quoted for each critical competency in appendix 1.

This report identifies the strengths and weaknesses of the veterinary services of Turkey as compared to the OIE standards. The report also makes some general recommendations for actions to improve performance.

An Annex to this report will address the readiness of Turkey to undertake the eradication of PPR as part of a global eradication campaign.

II.1 OIE PVS Tool: method, objectives and scope of the evaluation

To assist countries to establish their current level of performance, form a shared vision, establish priorities and carry out strategic initiatives, the OIE has developed an evaluation tool called the OIE Tool for the Evaluation of Performance of Veterinary Services (OIE PVS Tool, 6th edition 2013⁴) which comprises four fundamental components:

- Human, physical and financial resources
- Technical authority and capability
- Interaction with interested parties
- Access to markets.

These four fundamental components encompass 47 critical competencies, for each of which five qualitative levels of advancement are described. For each critical competency, a list of suggested indicators was used by the OIE PVS Team to help determine the level of advancement.

A glossary of terms is provided in Appendix 2.

The report follows the structure of the OIE PVS Tool (6th edition, 2013) and the reader is encouraged to consult that document to obtain a good understanding of the context in which the evaluation was conducted.

The objective and scope of the OIE PVS Evaluation includes all aspects relevant to the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code and the quality of Veterinary Services.

⁴ Available at http://www.oie.int/eng/oie/organisation/en_vet_eval_tool.htm?e1d2

II.2 Country information (geography, administration, agriculture and livestock)⁵

Administrative System

“The largest administrative unit in Turkey is the “province” administrated by a governor. Districts are located under the provinces and ruled by district governors. There is a capital district in each province where the governor is located. Governors are appointed and their budgets are allocated by the central administration. The units under districts are either villages in rural areas or neighbourhoods in urban areas. There are currently 81 provinces (Figure 1), 957⁶ districts, 18,248 villages and 31,718 neighbourhoods in Turkey.

“Municipalities are independent from this administrative structure with an elected mayor. Although they have some share on the tax revenue from their settlements, their major budget is allocated by central administration depending on their population. Municipalities are mainly responsible for providing infrastructure services to administrative units.

“After becoming a candidate country in 1999, Turkey started to benefit from EU funds. The EU support during 2002-2013 includes funding of over €250 million (excluding support for the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance in Rural Development (IPARD), involving over 50 projects, covering a wide spectrum of technical areas including agriculture, rural development, food safety, veterinary, phytosanitary and fisheries.

Population

“The population of Turkey continues to grow. The growth rate however has declined considerably from a steady value of about 25% between 50s and 80s to 13.7% in 2013. As of December 31, 2013, the population of Turkey was 76,667,864.

Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

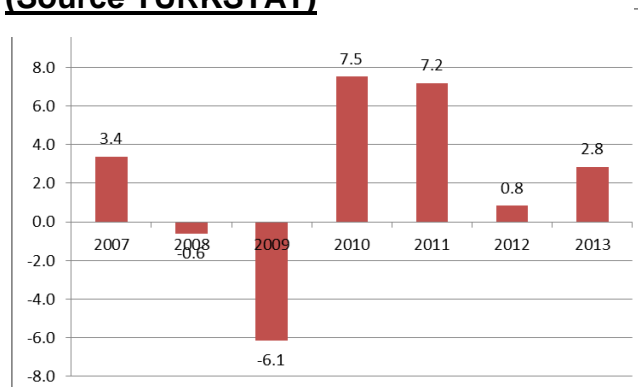
“GDP per capita registered a 15% increase between 2007 and 2013 corresponding to an average annual growth of 2.1%. Considering the average population growth rate of 1.4% in the same period the growth in real terms is even higher. The volatility in GDP is due to the global economic crisis in years 2008 and 2009 and its aftermath.

The rate of per capita GDP increase corresponding to each year is shown in Figure 1.

“Total agricultural production exceeded 200 billion TL in 2012: 43.8% of the value being crop production while 31.6% is livestock and 24.6% is animal products. The contribution of agriculture to the GDP is 9.3% with annual increase rate of 3.1% in terms of value.”

“Performance of agriculture sector is given in Table 2. Fruits and vegetables are the leading agriculture sub-sector in terms of production value and exports. However, it is also the slowest growing sub-sector. Turkey is trading more and more agriculture and animal farm products every year. Exports of the listed agricultural products increased from 1.2 billion Euro in 2007 to 2.7 billion Euro in 2013, corresponding to an average annual increase of 16%. With the processed food products, total for agri-food exports reach a value of 12.5 billion Euro.

Figure 1. Increase in per capita GDP (Source TURKSTAT)



⁵ Selected excerpts adapted from Instrument For Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA II) documents E28 & E33 (Appendix 5)

⁶ updated from original document

Table 2. Performance of Agriculture Sectors in Turkey (TURKSTAT), 2013

Sector	Production Value (million TL)	Share in Agricultural Production (%)	Change over the last 7 years (current prices in TL)	Exports (thousand €)	Share in exports (%)	Change in exports over last 7 years (%)	Imports (thousand €)	Share in imports (%)	Change of imports over 7 years (%)
Milk	18,284	18.0	101.7	183,187	6.9	153.1	101,607	14.6	40.0
Red meat	16,035	15.8	154.6	631	0.02	-35.4	18,274	2.6	N/A
Poultry	9,713	9.5	140.7	457,793	17.3	1,357.1	708	0.1	900.1
Egg	3,863	3.8	71.5	305,786	11.5	521.6	18,618	2.7	133.8
Fruit and Vegetables	53,329	52.3	43.3	1,635,162	61.3	52.7	554,040	79.7	103.5
Freshwater Aquaculture	576	0.6	116.9	85,253	3.2	288.9	1,534	0.2	28.1
TOTAL	101,799	100.0	61.0	2,667,812	100.0	198.4	694,780	100.0	75.8

“EU countries have an important place in Turkey’s foreign trade of agricultural products. In 2013, 41% of livestock imports were from EU countries. Share of EU in the import of processed meat products is 61%.

Although Turkey’s export of dairy products to EU countries is negligible 41% of the imports of these products are from EU countries.

Process of Legislative Adjustment to EU Standards for Farms and Food Processing Businesses

“EU accession negotiations related to agriculture and fisheries are conducted under 3 chapters, namely, Chapter 11 – Agriculture and Rural Development, Chapter 12 – Food Safety, Veterinary and Phytosanitary Policy and Chapter 13 – Fisheries.

“Accession negotiations under Chapter 12 were opened in mid-2010, and to fulfil the first of the 6 opening benchmarks set for this chapter, Law 5996 on Veterinary Services, Plant Health, Food and Feed, which complies with the relevant EU acquis, was enforced as the framework law to constitute the legal basis for further legislative alignment. A transition period is granted to establishments for their adaption to the new legislation.

“Based on Law 5996, secondary legislation fully transposing the EU hygiene package (Regulations (EC) 852/2004, 853/2004, 854/2004 and 882/2004) and harmonizing to a large extent EU farm animal welfare legislation for the protection of animals kept for farming purposes (Directive 98/58/EC), the protection of calves (Directive 2008/119/EC), and the protection of laying hens (Directive 99/74/EC) were enforced in 2011.

“EU animal welfare rules for slaughtering at the time of killing have not been transposed yet. However, this does not constitute an obstacle to the realisation of investments in these areas for compliance with the relevant EU standards.

“The relevant national secondary legislation in force grants transition periods to egg production holdings for terminating the use of unenriched conventional battery cages for the rearing of laying hens, to food processing establishments producing milk products for complying with the bacterial count requirements set for raw and heat-treated cow’s milk to be used in the production of milk products, and to slaughterhouses for the provision of the food chain information for animals for slaughter within 24 hours after the arrival of these animals to the slaughterhouse.

“Quality of raw milk in Turkey is generally low and very few producers meet the somatic cell count and total bacterial count criteria. In order to improve the quality of milk, medium scale producers having 10 to 120 milking cows and holding nearly 62% of the milking cow population need to invest so as to improve the housing and hygiene conditions of their barns, and to acquire or renew their equipment especially for milking and cold storage. Only by means of such investments can they improve their milk quality, comply with the relevant minimum standard and build the competitiveness to cope with market pressure.

“About 43% of the sheep and goat producers have fewer than 50 animals. Those with between 50 and 500 animals constitute 56% of the farms and it is estimated that they own 85-90 percent of whole sheep and goat population. Only 1% of the farms have more than 500 animals. Almost all sheep and goat breeding is semi-extensive and in rural areas. Most of the milking is manual. The milk quality is low due to lack of milking and cooling equipment and noncompliance with hygiene standards.

Red Meat Sector

“In 2012 the cattle population in Turkey was approximately 14 million while sheep and goats reached more than 35 million. It is estimated that about 30% of this population is reared for red meat production. The number of livestock has increased steadily with an annual average of 4.6% in the last seven years. In spite of this increase, the production is far from meeting the domestic demand. The production gap is estimated to reach 248 tonnes by 2018. In order to meet the growing demand, when deemed necessary, Turkey imports live animals and carcass meat from countries classified to have a negligible or controlled risk status for bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), and which meet the animal health conditions laid down by MoFAL. Over the last three years the annual average import of live animals is about 325,000 for cattle and 1,014,00 for sheep. The average for carcass meat imports during the same period was 47,400 tonnes.

“The beef sector in Turkey has not progressed as much as the dairy sector. Specialised beef breeds are rare in Turkey. Dual-purpose breeds, such as the Brown Swiss or Simmental, are very common together with local breeds. According to the Turkish Beef and Lamb Producers Association (TUKETBIR), the current carcass yield is approximately 250 kg for cattle and 20 kg for sheep. These figures are still lower than those of the EU and USA. Local breeds are preferred in traditional farming. They are more adaptable to the harsh climate of eastern Turkey but are less productive. More than half of the herds in Turkey are located in the eastern region. Despite its disadvantageous topographical and climatic conditions, animal husbandry is among the main economic activities in this region. As it is revealed in the sector analysis, Turkish livestock production is predominantly a small-scale activity, within a mixed farming system. 67.4% of farms perform crop and livestock production together. Small farms with fewer than 30 cattle or 100 sheep/goats hold almost 45% of the cattle population and 17% of the sheep/goat population. These farms operate with mixed farming patterns and cannot rely on animal husbandry alone in order to sustain their economic activities. Farms with minimum 30 cattle or 100 sheep/goats have the capacity to survive by meeting the EU standards by means of relevant investments in buildings, feeding systems and manure storage facilities. These farms are eager to grow and have the potential to become the backbone of the red meat sector but they experience difficulties in improving their facilities to comply with the EU standards. Almost none of the farms in this size have the appropriate equipment and infrastructure for manure management.

“The high cost of feed forces farms to have a larger scale in order to reduce their feed per animal costs. Farms with more than 250 cattle or 500 sheep/goats have usually well-designed management structures and are capable of developing their business and complying with EU standards.

Table 3: Distribution of Holdings Having Cattle, Water Buffalo, Sheep and Goat By Holding Size (%)

Holding size by number of cattle and water buffalo (head)	Holdings having cattle and water buffalo (%)	Cattle and water buffalo population (%)	Holding size by number of sheep or goats (head)	Holdings having sheep and goats (%)	Sheep and goat population (%)
1 – 5	50.38	11.35	0-25	25.67	1.45
6 – 9	19.89	12.63	26-50	16.99	5.75
10 – 29	17.03	20.91	51-100	17.16	11.60
30 – 99	11.81	39.11	101-250	26.71	35.52
100 – 250	0.71	8.62	250-500	12.34	39.36
251 -500	0.14	3.25	500 +	1.13	6.32
500+	0.04	4.13			
TOTAL	100.00	100.00	TOTAL	100.00	100.00

DG-FC, Values for some ranges are deduced mathematically

“The production of good quality red meat is limited in spite of the continuing introduction of purebred and dual-purpose breeds. Comparing the data of 2013 with the previous study on meat sector carried out in 2006, it is observed that the number of slaughterhouses decreased by approximately 18%. The main reason behind this figure is the upgrading process undertaken by Turkey to comply with EU standards in terms of premises and equipment used for meat processing sector. This process can be said to have been challenging for some of the slaughterhouses.

“As of January 2014, there are 674 slaughterhouses operating in Turkey. Approximately 2% of them are owned by the Meat and Milk Institution, 63% are owned by the municipalities and 35% are privately owned establishments. The majority of the slaughterhouses which are owned by the municipalities are usually small-scale establishments (less than 30 animals/day) operating at a loss in order to provide services to the local communities in rural areas. Due to their major structural deficiencies, there is no possibility of these municipal slaughterhouses to comply with the requirements laid down in the national legislation. To ensure compliance it is therefore more feasible to build new slaughterhouses. The lack of a carcass classification system such as the EUROP grid method, creates circumstances allowing for the operation of such non-compliant small scale slaughterhouses. General tendency of the municipalities is to cease the operation of their slaughterhouses in order to avoid investment costs for the fulfilment of EU standards.

“The majority of the privately owned slaughterhouses have slaughtering capacity between 30-500 animals/day. Most of the slaughtered animals are handled by these establishments. There are also a few slaughterhouses having more than 500 / day slaughtering capacity.

Table 4. Number of slaughterhouses by ownership and compliance with minimum standards (DG Food and Control)

	Municipality	Private	Meat and Milk Institution	Total
Approved	17	43	2	62
Conditionally Approved	14	16	2	32
Suitable for Approval	284	158	5	447
Not suitable for Approval	109	24	-	133
Total	424	241	9	674

“As shown in Table 4, only a small portion of slaughterhouses comply with minimum standards. Majority of the private slaughterhouses satisfy the minimum conditions for upgrading to fulfil the legislative requirements provided that they will renew their buildings, machinery and equipment. They are in the process of renovation in order to meet the requirements of Law No 5996 on Veterinary Services, Plant Health, Food and Feed, which is in parallel with the relevant EU acquis.

“The scattered geographical distribution of small scale farms and the lack of integrated production do not allow meat production to rely on few high capacity slaughterhouses. Therefore, new slaughterhouses need to be constructed to both meet the growing demand and compensate for the decreasing capacity resulting from the closure of non-compliant municipal and private slaughterhouses.

“It is estimated that 10% of the meat produced is processed while the rest is consumed fresh. The main processed meat product in the country is Sucuk (dry, uncooked, cured, and fermented sausage), followed by Pastirma (highly seasoned, air-dried, cured, pressed, and non-fermented beef cut), Kavurma (deep-fried, diced meat, stored in solidified animal fat) and emulsified meat products. With increasing urbanisation and as a consequence of socio-economic changes, consumption patterns move towards processed meat products and industrial food. However, although the average capacity utilisation in food industry is between 70 and 80%, this figure is estimated to be lower in meat processing.

“The red meat processing industry is also fragmented with 1,530 establishments and the biggest five are producing 8% of the total production. Inevitable consolidation, as well as the foreseeable increase in domestic demand in the sector will require further investments. Meat processing establishments mostly concentrate in few provinces and there is need for new investments in most of the provinces in order to meet the growing demand.

“On the other hand, 899 meat processing establishments are certified to be complying the requirements set in Law 5996. The ones in the 0.5 – 5.0 tonnes/day capacity range need to improve their capacities and investments are needed to have more establishments meeting the standards.

Table 5. Distribution of approved meat processing establishments by size.

Capacity (tonnes/day)	Total
0 – 0.5	525
0.5-5.0	285
5.0 +	89
Total	899

Poultry

“The poultry sector in Turkey covers production of broiler, turkey, duck and geese. The total amount of poultry production at the end of 2012 was approximately 169 million broilers 2.8 million turkeys, 0.7 million geese and 0.4 million ducks. The annual growth of the sector has been about 9% over the last four years mostly due to increasing domestic consumption. Per capita consumption which is 19.4 kg in 2013 is expected to increase to 21.8 kg in 2016. 80% of the poultry production is consumed domestically. The sector is highly dependent on imported materials such as fertilised eggs, hatchlings, parent stock and feed.

‘As stated in the sector analysis report, the number of breeder farms and hatcheries is 402 in 2013 and there are 9,444 broilers farms. Approximately 80-85% of the broiler meat production is based on contract farming. Processing enterprises who own slaughterhouses, cutting plants and secondary processing plants and, most of the time, hatchery and feed mill, contracts farmers for fattening day-old-chicks. This contract farming almost completely disconnects the farmers from the market. Farmers undertake all labour and risk of production and the burden of dealing environmental protection measures.

Table 6. Distribution of poultry farms by size

Number of Animals	% of Farms
Broiler: 5,000 – 25,000	55.1
Broiler: 25,001 – 50,000	27.1
Broiler: 50,000 – 100,000	12.3
Broiler: 100,000 +	1.5
Turkey: 1,000 – 4,000	1.8
Turkey: 4,001 – 8,000	0.8
Turkey: 8,000 +	0.8
Ducks	0.1
Geese	0.5

Table 6 depicts the structure of the poultry farms. Farms having fewer than 5,000 animals are not included since this scale of farming is not viable and the production is usually considered as backyard farming. Bigger farms, on the other hand, produce the majority of the animals. Regardless of being under contracted farming or not, they are old and in need of renovation and maintenance of their buildings and equipment. Establishments with a capacity over 100,000 are able to adapt to national requirements and operate in the market competitively.

“While Turkey is free from avian influenza (last outbreaks in April 2008), Newcastle disease (NCD) is endemic. In the poultry sector, biosecurity measures are important to maintain the safety of poultry from biological hazards and are used for both protection and disease control. The taking of the required bio-security

measures remains an issue to be solved in small and medium scale broiler farms. Practice related to the control of the access to the farm by means of perimeter fencing with a single access gate and the disinfection of vehicles is not proper. The storage and disposal of dead poultry, which is frequently carried out by means of burial sites within the farm area, is also an important issue. Poultry farms need investments not only in equipment, but also in the training of farmers.

“Small and medium scale broiler farms need to improve their conditions on bio-security and animal welfare and reduce their production costs to increase their competitiveness. For example, inefficient heat isolation increases the animal loss ratio as high as to 10%. Manure storage and disposal systems are either non-existent or insufficient. Consequently, the number of EU compliant farms is minimal.

“Another issue for poultry farms is, due to the increment of the population several farms are now located in urban areas and need to be moved.

“In addition to chicken, turkey is produced in a selected number of farms. A study in 2007 reveals that there were around 430 turkey farms located in the western provinces of Turkey. Only 25% of the turkey population is raised in cages. Total turkey meat production is around 12,000 tonnes while the total turkey production in the EU is 1.6 million tonnes. Although turkey is a good alternative to chicken or red meat, its production remains limited mostly due to lack of information on producer's side.

“Goose meat is also a promising alternative for domestic consumption. Annual goose meat production is around 10,000 tonnes and goose is raised mostly in north-eastern provinces where the climate is more suitable. More than 26% of all goose population is located in Kars and Ardahan provinces. In addition to meat, geese are also raised for their feathers and livers.

“The poultry sector suffers from unavailability of skilled labour in farms especially having bio-security knowledge.

“There are 79 poultry slaughterhouses in Turkey. 50 of those are approved for compliance with Law 5996 and 29 of them need to upgrade their buildings and/or equipment in order to fulfil the requirements. Distribution of slaughterhouses by capacity is given in Table 7. Poultry slaughterhouses having capacity range of 1,000-5,000 animal

Table 7. Distribution of approved poultry slaughterhouses by capacity

Capacity (animals / hour)	Number
0-1,000	29
1,000-5,000	6
5,000+	15
Total	50

/ day need to increase their capacities and improve their productivity to improve their competitiveness levels.

“The number of poultry meat processing establishments is 488. 423 of them are approved to be compliant with the Law 5996. These establishments are mostly concentrated in few provinces. Dynamism of the sector relies on the establishments in the 0.5 – 5.0 tonnes / day capacity range therefore, similar to slaughterhouses, these enterprises need to adjust to the environmental standards, invest in renewable energy and consequently improve their competitiveness.

Eggs

“Egg production in Turkey reached 15 billion in 2012 with an average annual increase of 10% over the last 3 years. This increase was due mainly to an increase in domestic demand. Per capita consumption is projected to be increased. There are 84.7 million laying hens in Turkey. In contrast to poultry, egg marketing is fragmented and less organised.

“As stated in the sector analysis report, the organisational structure in the egg sector is very different from the poultry meat sector and the production of eggs is mainly carried out in small and medium size farms with traditional caged housing systems. According to estimation provided by the Turkish Egg Producers Association (YUM-BIR) in 2013, 11% of the egg farms have fewer than 20,000 capacity, while 41% is between 20,000- 60,000, and 11% is between 60,000-100,000. The percentage of the farms having capacity above 100,000 animals is 37%. The ones in the range of 20,000-100,000 capacity need to renew their facilities in order to keep their operations and improve their competitiveness in the market.

“Regulation Regarding Welfare of Farm Animals” published in the official gazette 28151 dated 23.12.2011, covers minimum standards for the protection of laying hens in compliance with (EU)1999/74 among others and defines standards for cage structures, alternative systems for laying eggs. Based on the regulation, laying hen density will be reduced by abandoning use of traditional cages and with adoption of alternative systems and enriched cages.” “In order to comply with the regulation requirements, farmers will need to make new investments and the investment costs” that have delayed the implementation of these regulations.

“Most of the problems stated in the poultry meat sector applies to egg production as well. Bio-security is an issue to be solved in small-scale egg production farms. Control of access, disinfection, disposal of dead chickens, and extension of backyard farming represent a problem. As with poultry farms, some egg farms are also located in residential areas as a result of urban expansion and they need to be moved.”

Table 8. Distribution of approved poultry meat processing establishments by size

Capacity (tonnes/day)	Number
0 – 0.5	225
0.5-5.0	138
5.0 +	60
Total	423

II.3 Context of the evaluation

II.3.A Availability of data relevant to the evaluation

A list of documents received by the OIE PVS Team before and during the PVS Evaluation mission is provided in Appendix 5. All documents and pictures listed in Appendix 5 are referenced to relevant critical competencies to demonstrate the levels of advancement and related findings.

The following table provides an overview of the availability of the main categories of documents or data needed for the evaluation, taking into account the information requirements set out in the OIE Terrestrial Code.

Table 9: Summary of data available for evaluation

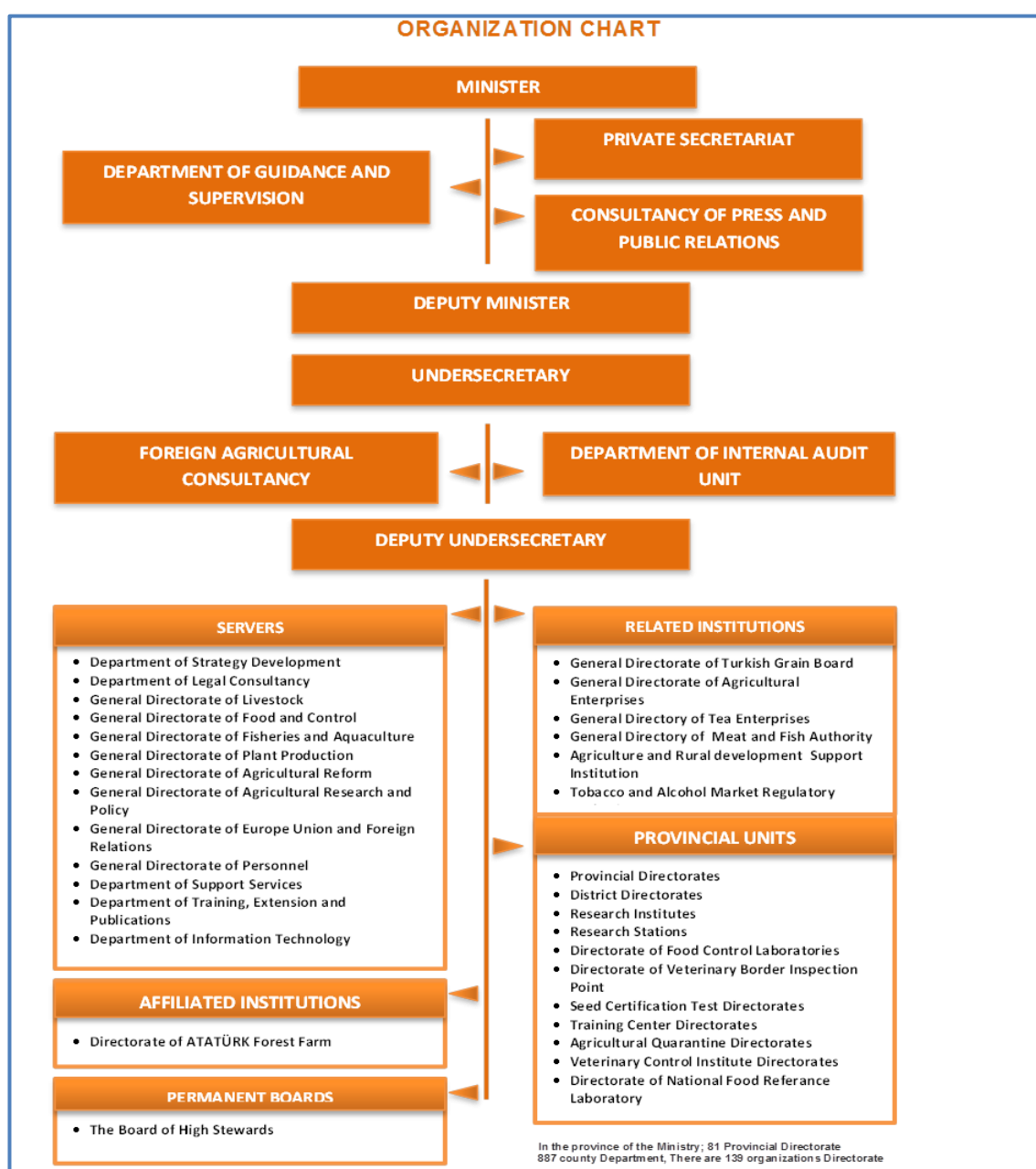
Main document categories	Data available in the public domain	Data accessible only on site or on request	Data not available
→ Animal census:			
○ at 1st administrative level		X	
○ at 2 nd administrative level		X	
○ at 3rd administrative level		X	
○ per animal species		X	
○ per production systems		X	
→ Organisations charts			
○ Central level of the VS	X		
○ 2 nd level of the VS		X	
○ 3 rd level of the VS		X	
→ Job descriptions in the VS⁷			
○ Central levels of the VS			X
○ 2 nd level of the VS			X
○ 3 rd level of the VS			X
→ Legislations, regulations, decrees ...			
○ Animal health and public health	X		
○ Veterinary practice	X		
○ Veterinary statutory body	X		
○ Veterinary medicines and biologicals	X		
○ Official delegation	X		
→ Veterinary census			
○ Global (public, private, veterinary, para-professional)		X	
○ Per level			
○ Per function			
→ Census of logistics and infrastructures			
→ Activity reports		X	
→ Financial reports			
→ Animal health status reports	X	X	
→ Evaluation reports		X	
→ Procedures, registers, records, letters ...		X	
→			

⁷ lists of duties assigned to individuals were available

II.3.B General organisation of the Veterinary Services

The **Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (MoFAL)** is the framework institution in the fields of food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary standards and regulations and is responsible for developing policy, legislation and the enforcement for food and feed safety, animal health, animal welfare and plant health in Turkey. MoFAL is also the competent authority with regard to Accession Negotiations in Chapter 12: Food Safety, Veterinary and Phytosanitary Policy. However, it is noted that some competences related to the welfare and protection of pets, animals used for scientific purposes and stray animals are shared with the Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs (MoFWA), as better presented in the following pages. In the below chart the general organisation of MoFAL is presented.

Figure 2a. Organisation of Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock

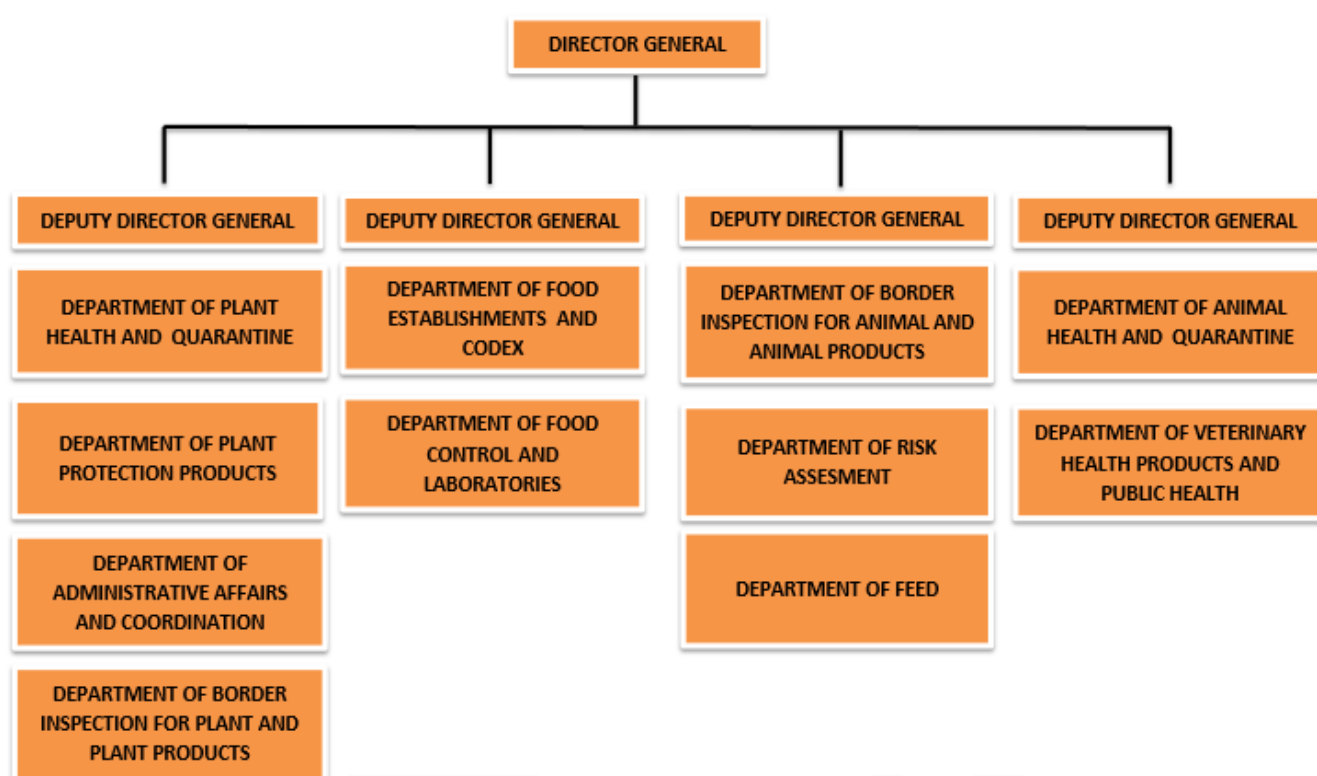


Within MoFAL, the General Directorate of Food and Control (GDFC)⁸ was created as the Competent Authority (or VA) for animal health, animal welfare and veterinary public health. Its organizational structure is set out in Figure 2b. It is responsible for veterinary and phytosanitary policies as well as the adoption of the related legislation and it is responsible for the organization of appropriate control systems⁹. In such a framework, GDFC is in charge for the auditing of provincial and district directorates and laboratories through its officials.

The GDFC is also contact point for international organizations such as Codex Alimentarius Commission, European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO), World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), World Trade Organization (WTO), etc. For the VS, GDFC competences cover the following areas.

- Animal Health. Organization and implementation of control programmes including vaccination programmes and surveillance of animal diseases, control of animal in the markets, certification – import and export and control at abattoirs.
- Animal Welfare. Animal welfare on farms, during transport, and at slaughter and killing time. It includes the welfare of pets, stray animals and animals used for experimental purposes.
- Animal I&R and Movement Control. Identification system for animals and the control of their movements. Hence, its competences cover the registration of holdings, the animal identification and movement control activities of animals and carcasses.

Figure 2 – Organisation chart of GDFC (source E30)



⁸ Website of the General Directorate of Food and Control:
<http://www.tarim.gov.tr/GKGM/Sayfalar/EN/AnaSayfa.aspx> accessed 2017/02/19

⁹ Law 5996 “Law on Veterinary Services, Plant Health, Food and Feed” adopted on 13/6/2010

Personnel delivering public veterinary services are under Civil Servant Law No. 657, classified as either health service personnel or assistant health service personnel.

- **Assistant health personnel:** Technicians and senior technician personnel working on behalf of the Ministry and under the supervision of an official veterinarian;
- **Official veterinarian:** Veterinarian personnel working on behalf of the Ministry;
- **Private veterinarian:** Veterinarians meeting the conditions specified in the Law No. 6343 (E90) on the Practice of the Veterinarian Profession, and the Organisation and Functions of the Turkish Veterinarians Associations and Chambers, dated 9 March 1954;
- **Authorised veterinarian:** Refers to veterinarians other than those employed by the Ministry, who have been authorised by the Ministry to conduct certain official tasks.

Table 10: Veterinary Services of MoFAL¹⁰

	Veterinarian	Veterinary Technician	Veterinary Senior Technician	Biologist	Chemist	Laboratory Worker	TOTAL
Animal Health and Raising Off.	726	164	205	2	2	3	1102
Food and Feed Off.	288	7	4	7	8	2	316
District Directorate	2037	486	871	6	4	6	3410
VCE Directorate	251	11	9	10	14	25	320
Provincial Control Lab.	172	32	3	91	87	150	535
Border Control	81	2	2	0	0	12	97
Targel ¹¹ 4A	3616	0	0	0	0	0	3616
Targel 4B	176	0	0	0	0	0	176
GD of Food and Control	86	0	0	4	4	0	94
TOTAL	7433	702	1094	120	119	198	9666

The laboratories (VCI) employ an additional 448 veterinarians and 86 veterinary technicians as set out in CC II-1 (Table 13).

In addition, the private sector participates to varying degrees in VS activities and its capacity is considered necessary and part of the general picture. In total, 7,090 private veterinarians are exerting the profession within clinics (5,364), out-patient clinics (122) and pet shops (1,604)⁹.

Amongst other major investments Turkey's pre-accession processes includes approximately €2 million for a 30 month project to develop a Veterinary Strategy for the next 15 years, covering animal health, animal welfare and animal identification, registration and movement control (Appendix 5, Document E37).

The Turkish Veterinary Medical Association (TVMA) and its subsidiary Chambers in 57 provinces serve as the VSB (see CC III-5A&B).

¹⁰ Source Appendix 5 document E7

¹¹ Targel was a programme that employed contracted veterinarians who then were taken into GDFC as employees about one year ago (Visal Kayacik, personal communication)

Other Ministries that play significant roles as discussed under CC-I-6.B are the:

- Ministry of Health (MoH)
- Ministry of National Education (MoNE)
- Ministry of Forestry and Water (MoFW)
- Ministry of Interior / Municipalities (MoI)
- Ministry of Environment, (MoE) and the
- Ministry of Customs and Trade (MoCT).

II.3.C Animal disease occurrence

Information on animal disease occurrence from the OIE website (see table 11 a & b))

Table 11a: Disease status of the country (World Animal Health Information System)

Year: 2015

Turkey

Diseases present in the Country

Disease	Domestic		Wild		Note
	Notifiable	Status	Notifiable	Status	
American foulbrood of honey bees	✓	Disease present			
Anthrax	✓	Disease present	✗	No information	
Bluetongue	✓	Infection/infestation	✓	Absent (since 08/2000)	
Bovine tuberculosis	✓	Disease present	✗	No information	
Brucellosis (Brucella abortus)	✓	Disease present	✗	No information	
Brucellosis (Brucella melitensis)	✓	Disease present	✗	No information	
Crimean Congo haemorrhagic fever	✗	Disease present	✗	No information	
Foot and mouth disease	✓	Disease present	✓	Suspected (not confirmed)	
Highly path. avian influenza	✓	Disease limited to one or more zones	✓	Absent (since 04/2008)	
Lumpy skin disease	✓	Disease present	✗	No information	
Peste des petits ruminants	✓	Disease present	✗	No information	
Rabies	✓	Disease present	✓	Disease present	
Sheep pox and goat pox	✓	Disease present	✗	No information	

Diseases never reported

Disease	Notifiable	Type of surveillance	Note
African swine fever	✓		
Aujeszky's disease	✗		
Bovine spongiform encephalopathy	✓	General Surveillance	
Classical swine fever	✓		
Dourine	✓		
Encephalomyelitis (West.)	✓		
Equine encephalomyelitis (Eastern)	✓		
N. w. screwworm (C. hominivorax)	✗		
Porcine cysticercosis	✗		
Rift Valley fever	✓		
Venezuelan equ.encephalomyelitis	✓		

Table 11b: Disease status of the country (WAHIS)**Diseases absent in 2015**

Disease	Domestic				Wild			
	Notifiable	Last occurrence	Surveillance	Note	Notifiable	Last occurrence	Surveillance	Note
African horse sickness	✓	1961	General Surveillance		✓	1961	General Surveillance	
Epizootic haemorrhagic disease	✓	03/2012	General Surveillance		✗	Unknown		
Equine infectious anaemia	✓	08/2005			✓	08/2005		
Equine influenza	✗	24/08/2013			✗	Unknown		
Equine piroplasmiasis	✗	05/2009			✗	05/2009		
Fowl typhoid	✓	12/2005			✓	12/2005		
Glanders	✓	09/2001			✗	Unknown		
Newcastle disease	✓	09/2014	General Surveillance		✗	Unknown		
Pullorum disease	✓	1996			✓	1996		
Q fever	✗	06/2012			✗	Unknown		
Rinderpest	✓	01/1996	General Surveillance		✓	01/1996	General Surveillance	
Viral haemorrhagic septicaemia	✓	05/2007	General Surveillance		✗	05/2007	General Surveillance	
West Nile Fever	✗	02/10/2014	General and targeted surveillance		✗	Unknown	General and targeted surveillance	

For a list of 151 diseases for which no information has been provided please see:
Appendix 5 document E82 or this link (accessed 26-03-2017):

http://www.oie.int/wahis_2/public/wahid.php/Countryinformation/Animalsituation

Table 11c: Epidemiological Consideration of considered diseases¹²

Disease	Exotic and negligible risk of occurrence	Exotic and non – negligible risk of introduction	Endemic with neutral or favourable trend	Endemic with unfavourable trend	Epidemic/ Emergent disease
Avian Influenza					√
RVF	√				
FMD			√		
LSD				√	
Newcastle Disease			√		
Rabies				√	
PPR			√		
Glanders		√			
Bee diseases - SHB		√			
Bluetongue					√
TSE		√			
Brucellosis in sheep and goats			√		
Equine diseases - AHS	√				
Anthrax			√		
Brucellosis in cattle			√		
Fish diseases - VHS		√			
Scrapie		√			
S&G Pox			√		
Tuberculosis			√		
Equine diseases - EE	√				
Equine diseases - WNF		√			
Bee diseases - AFB			√		
Bee diseases - Tropialeps		√			
Equine diseases - VS	√				
Salmonellosis (Pullorum disease and Fowl typhoid)		√			
CCHF				√	
Equine diseases - EIA		√			

¹² Appendix 5, Document E37 pages 83-84

II.4 Organisation of the evaluation

II.4.A Timetable of the mission

Appendix 4 provides a list of persons met and the timetable of the mission and details of the facilities and locations visited by the OIE PVS Team. Appendix 5 provides the international air travel itinerary of team members.

II.4.B Categories of sites and sampling for the evaluation

Constrained by a number of considerations, and most importantly security, the OIE PVS Team was unable to do a fully representative sampling of the country. In particular, the Eastern portion was not visited. Nevertheless, information was gathered on conditions there whenever possible during interviews with persons who had experience in that part of Turkey.

Table 12 lists the categories of site relevant to the evaluation and the number of each category of site in the country. It indicates how many of the sites were visited, in comparison with the suggested sampling framework (“ideal” sampling) recommended in OIE PVS Manual.

Appendix 4 provides a detailed list of sites visited and meetings conducted.

Figure 3: Sites Visited March 6-17, 2017



Table 12: Site sampling	Terminology or names used in the country	Number of sites	“Ideal” sampling	Actual sampling
GEOGRAPHICAL ZONES OF THE COUNTRY				
Climatic zone		8		3
Topographical zone				
Agro-ecological zone		9		3
ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANISATION OF THE COUNTRY				
1st administrative level	<i>Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (MoFAL)</i>	1		1
2nd administrative level	<i>Provinces</i>	81		5
3rd administrative level	<i>Districts</i>	957		4
Urban entities	<i>Municipalities</i>	1,397		2
VETERINARY SERVICES ORGANISATION AND STRUCTURE				
Central (Federal/National) VA	<i>Directorate General of Food and Control (DGFC)</i>			
Internal division of the central VA	- DAHQ - DVHPPH - DBIAAP	1 1 1	1 1 1	1 1 1
1 st level of the VA	DGFC			
2 nd level of the VA	<i>Provincial Agricultural Directorates</i>	81		5
3 rd level of the VA	District Directorates	957		4
VSB Headquarters	Turkish Veterinary Medical Association	1	1	1
VSB in Provinces	Chambers	57		2
FIELD ANIMAL HEALTH NETWORK				
Field level of the VS (animal health)				3
Private veterinary sector				1
Other sites (dip tanks, crush pens....)				1
VETERINARY MEDICINES & BIOLOGICALS				
Production sector				1
Import and wholesale sector				1
Retail sector				1
Other partners involved				
VETERINARY LABORATORIES				
National labs		1		1
Regional and local labs		8		4
Associated, accredited and other labs				
ANIMAL AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS MOVEMENT CONTROL				
Bordering countries				
Airports and ports border posts				1
Main terrestrial border posts				1
Minor terrestrial border posts				
Quarantine stations for import		0		
Internal check points				
Live animal markets				1
Zones, compartments, export quarantines				1
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION OF ANIMALS AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS				
Red Meat slaughterhouses		674		1
Poultry slaughterhouse		79		
Slaughter areas/slabs/points				
On farm or butcher's slaughtering sites				
Red meat processing sites		899		1
Poultry processing sites		488		
Retail outlets (butchers, shops, restaurants)				

TRAINING AND RESEARCH ORGANISATIONS				
Veterinary university		25		2
Veterinary paraprofessional schools		30		0
Veterinary research organisations				
STAKEHOLDERS' ORGANISATIONS				
Agricultural Chamber / organisation				
National livestock farmers organisations				3
Local livestock farmers organisations				
Other stakeholder organisations				
Consumer organisations				

PART III: RESULTS OF THE EVALUATION & GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

This evaluation identifies the strengths and weaknesses of the veterinary services, and makes general recommendations.

FUNDAMENTAL COMPONENTS

1. HUMAN PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES

2. TECHNICAL AUTHORITY AND CAPABILITY

3. INTERACTION WITH INTERESTED PARTIES

4. ACCESS TO MARKETS

The activities of the Veterinary services are recognised by the international community and by OIE Members as a '**global public good**'. Accordingly, it is essential that each country acknowledges the importance of the role and responsibilities of its Veterinary Services and gives them the human and financial resources needed to fulfil their responsibilities.

This OIE PVS Evaluation examined each critical competency under the 4 fundamental components, listed strengths and weaknesses where applicable, and established a current level of advancement for each critical competency. Evidences supporting this level are listed in Appendix 5. General recommendations were provided where relevant.

The current level of advancement for each critical competency is shown in cells shadowed in grey (15%) in the table.

III.1. Fundamental component I: human, physical and financial resources

This component of the evaluation concerns the institutional and financial sustainability of the VS as evidenced by the level of professional/technical and financial resources available and the capacity to mobilize these resources. It comprises fourteen critical competencies:

Critical competencies:

Section I-1	Professional and technical staffing of the Veterinary Services
	A. Veterinary and other professionals (university qualification)
	B. Veterinary para-professionals and other technical personnel
Section I-2	Competencies of veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals
	A. Professional competencies of veterinarians
	B. Competencies of veterinary para-professionals
Section I-3	Continuing education
Section I-4	Technical independence
Section I-5	Stability of structures and sustainability of policies
Section I-6	Coordination capability of the VS
	A. Internal coordination (chain of command)
	B. External coordination
Section I-7	Physical resources
Section I-8	Operational funding
Section I-9	Emergency funding
Section I-10	Capital investment
Section I-11	Management of resources and operations

----- Terrestrial Code References:

Points 1-7, 9 and 14 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Professional judgement / Independence / Impartiality / Integrity / Objectivity / Veterinary legislation / General organisation / Procedures and standards / Human and financial resources.

Point 4 of Article 3.2.1. on General considerations.

Point 1 of Article 3.2.2. on Scope.

Points 1 and 2 of Article 3.2.3. on Evaluation criteria for the organisational structure of the Veterinary Services.

Point 2 of Article 3.2.4. on Evaluation criteria for quality system: "Where the Veterinary Services undergoing evaluation... than on the resource and infrastructural components of the services".

Article 3.2.5. on Evaluation criteria for human resources.

Points 1-3 of Article 3.2.6. on Evaluation criteria for material resources: Financial / Administrative / Technical.

Points 3 and Sub-point d) of Point 4 of Article 3.2.10. on Performance assessment and audit programmes: Compliance / In-Service training and development programme for staff.

Article 3.2.12. on Evaluation of the veterinary statutory body.

Points 1-5 and 9 of Article 3.2.14. on Organisation and structure of Veterinary Services / National information on human resources / Financial management information / Administration details / Laboratory services / Performance assessment and audit programmes.

I-1 Professional and technical staffing of the Veterinary Services	Levels of advancement
	1. The majority of veterinary and other professional positions are not occupied by appropriately qualified personnel.
	2. The majority of veterinary and other professional positions are occupied by appropriately qualified personnel at central and state / provincial levels.
	3. The majority of veterinary and other professional positions are occupied by appropriately qualified personnel at local (field) levels.
	4. There is a systematic approach to defining job descriptions and formal appointment procedures for veterinarians and other professionals.
	5. There are effective management procedures for performance assessment of veterinarians and other professionals.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	4. There is a systematic approach to defining job descriptions and formal appointment procedures for veterinarians and other professionals.

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	3. The majority of veterinary and other professional positions are occupied by appropriately qualified personnel at the field level.

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): H31, H32, H47, H74, E7, E37, E61, E81

Findings:

Field visits indicated that the VA has sufficient personnel at Province, District and Municipal levels and at laboratories for programmes currently being implemented. Estimates of the total number of veterinarians vary with snapshots taken at different time points. Table 10 records 7433 veterinarians employed by GDPC plus an additional 448 employed by the laboratories for a total of 7881. Slightly higher numbers are provided by WAHIS for the 2016 year (see CC I-1.B).

In all interviews with field staff at Provincial, District and Municipal levels, salaries were reported to be adequate and competitive with the private sector; this was reiterated with Central level Administrative staff who indicated they review private sector salary levels in setting public sector salaries. A media report cited national employment data from the Turkish Statistics Institute that the highest employment rate amongst university graduates was for veterinarians at 81% (E61).

On the other hand, significant current and future needs were identified by a “Technical Assistance for Preparation of the Veterinary Strategy Document” (E37, hereafter referred to as “The Veterinary Strategy”) that estimated personnel needs using workload calculations for proposed programs for animal health, animal welfare and animal identification, registration and movement control to be implemented by the public veterinary sector over the next 15 years. Despite contemplating the use of accredited private veterinarians as well as industry-managed programmes, it found needs for significant additional personnel at the Central and field levels with gaps exceeding 10,000 persons in each of the three 5 year periods. No distinction was made between veterinarians and VPP in these calculations¹³.

The same report identifies a requirement for two new central units (Animal Welfare & Programme Monitoring) within the DAHQ and an increase of staff from 21 to 55 persons. In a related document (E7) the project observes that “the present staff at central level unlikely can fully accomplish with the attributed responsibilities when considering the size of the country,

¹³ E37 6.3.1 Human Resources pages 266-270

of its livestock populations and the existing 81 Provinces. The gap is particularly noticeable when considering the IT field where only one unit is available.”.

Others observe that there have been substantial increases in hiring at the Central level since 2007 and consider that there are currently sufficient professional personnel. This of course will change as new programmes and functions such as program oversight are added.

The delegation of official activities to private veterinarians, coordinated through a protocol by VSB Chambers, provides access to supplemental human resources as needs arise at the field level.

Regulations govern the appointment and deployment of professionals and technicians within the public sector Veterinary Authority (VA) according to workload requirements (H47) and also to ensure experience is developed in the less developed areas of Turkey (mostly in the East) thus ensuring adequate field experience in remote and difficult conditions as well as sufficient personnel (E81). Other regulations govern the appointments and promotions of managerial personnel (H31, H32).

When asked for professional job descriptions several Provincial Offices provided lists of tasks assigned to various personnel (H74).

Hiring and appointment procedures are documented.

A new model for performance evaluation recently piloted in Ankara and linked to an Agriculture Enterprise Advisory System¹⁴ is expected to be adopted nation-wide across 81 provinces. Under this regime employee performance evaluations would in some way take account of increases or decreases in the economic performance or health status of the animal or plant production enterprises under the employee's mandate.

Food and feed establishments are obliged to employ at least one hire who holds a relevant undergraduate degree depending on the type and nature of the activity carried out. These officers work under the direction of public officials with respect to regulatory requirements.

Strengths:

- Organization charts and lists of identified responsibilities exist for central and many field levels.
- Duties of central departments have been redefined and published as a directive.
- Duties of branch directorates in the provinces have been redefined and published as circulars.
- GDFC has access to qualified personnel.
- Qualified personnel are in place at both central and field levels.
- An external EU review (Veterinary Strategy) of personnel needs for the VS has been completed in 2016.
- In all interviews conducted in the field, very few indicated need for additional qualified personnel.
- GDFC is investigating a performance management system for all field levels.

Weaknesses:

- It was indicated to PVS reviewers visiting the Border Inspection Post (BIP) at Edirne, that the workload was very large for the number of inspectors.

¹⁴ New performance evaluation policy or project – see “Agriculture Enterprise Advisory System” https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/direct-support/cross-compliance/farm-advisory-system_en accessed March 31, 2017

- Lists of job tasks may exist at Provincial and District levels but there was no evidence of clear job descriptions; access to job descriptions was difficult and are likely not standardized across GDPC.
- The limited number of VPPs may result in veterinary professionals undertaking work that could be done by VPPs.
- A document or database listing veterinarians and other professionals involved in veterinary activities, including positions, locations, status and availability (civil servant/part-time or full-time private sector veterinarians, ages, diploma origins) does not exist.
- No detailed evidence or audit reports of performance management, including links to training and development or incentive and penalty systems if applicable.
- No effective procedures were observed for performance assessment of veterinarians and other professionals.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- An overall program review of the VS has been completed (E37).
- An effective (if not a simple direct line) chain of command for the VS from the central to the field level is now in place (see CC II-6.A).
- Many new hires at all levels.
- Salaries are competitive with private sector thus avoiding much turn-over
- An internal audit of the animal health programs was underway at the time of the OIE PVS mission.

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- No evidence that recommendations regarding job descriptions (describing the required knowledge, skills and abilities) or regular performance evaluations have been addressed.

Recommendations

- Human resource needs identified by the Veterinary Strategy should be addressed in an appropriate manner, including through opportunities to redeploy persons from lower priority activities, making optimum use of accredited private veterinarians or laboratories, optimizing the use of VPPs, delegating responsibilities to other institutions (e.g. the inspection of veterinary clinics might be done by TVMA or another 3rd party) and designing programmes that industry stakeholders could deliver for themselves.
- The Veterinary Authority working jointly with the TVMA and the relevant educational authorities should conduct a national assessment to document the need for any additional veterinary schools as well as future requirements for VPP (see CC I-1.B). The Veterinary Strategy (E37) provides a start that should be refined by taking account of additional variables such as projected attrition as well as savings that may be made through increased use of the private sector and VPP, redeployment and cross-use of personnel, etc.).
- As recommended in the 2009 Gap Analysis review:
 - Job descriptions for veterinarians, and other professionals should be completed for all levels. A concurrent preparation of job descriptions for veterinary para-professionals should clarify their roles and responsibilities as distinct from those of veterinarians.
 - A database should be developed to monitor the cadre of veterinarians and other professionals; including, job descriptions by position/title, location, status and availability (civil servant/part-time or full-time private sector veterinarians).
 - A documented process for evaluation of individual performance should be implemented based on goals and expectations rooted in job descriptions.
- In the future, an auditing system should be considered to review the implementation of the proposed new personnel management procedures.

I-1. Professional and technical staffing of the Veterinary Services <i>The appropriate staffing of the VS to allow for veterinary and technical functions to be undertaken efficiently and effectively.</i> B. Veterinary para-professionals and other technical personnel	Levels of advancement
	1. The majority of technical positions are not occupied by personnel holding appropriate qualifications.
	2. The majority of technical positions at central and state / provincial levels are occupied by personnel holding appropriate qualifications.
	3. The majority of technical positions at local (field) levels are occupied by personnel holding appropriate qualifications.
	4. The majority of technical positions are effectively supervised on a regular basis.
	5. There are effective management procedures for formal appointment and performance assessment of veterinary para-professionals.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	4. The majority of technical positions are effectively supervised on a regular basis.

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	2. The majority of technical positions at central and state / provincial levels are occupied by personnel holding technical qualifications

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E7, E37, E81

Findings:

Veterinary para-professionals (VPP) now play a relatively reduced role in the VA since the previous OIE PVS missions. For example, Ankara Province has 266 veterinarians and 37 VPPs while in Konya Province the ratio was 280/120 and the Ankara District, which mainly oversees food establishments, employs no VPPs. Overall GDFC now has more than 4 times as many veterinarians (7881) as VPPs (1796 excluding laboratory technicians) according to reference E7 provided by GDFC (Table 10 in Part II). The number of public sector veterinarians has thus more than doubled from numbers cited in 2009¹⁵ (3613) while the number of VPP has declined by about 8% from 2159. A similar picture is painted by the numbers reported to OIE WAHIS¹⁶:

	Public Sector Veterinarians		Public Sector VPP		Private
	Animal Health	Public Health	Animal Health	Public Health	
2016	6372	2534	1687	371	6383
2009	2830	1160	1880	23	6200
2007	2148	1035	2073	19	4904

The VPP are used mainly to enter data and prepare documents, administer vaccines, apply ear tags, perform AI and conduct some work in slaughterhouses, (always supervised by a veterinarian).

There was a lack of VPPs for many activities (especially in laboratories), regardless of their qualifications. Many duties that would appropriately be assigned to VPP are thus increasingly performed by veterinarians – such as routine laboratory function. This restricts the ability of

¹⁵ Role of the Turkish Veterinary Services in Food Safety. OIE Food Safety Seminar, 22-24 April 2009. Slides 12-13. <http://www.oie.int/RR-Europe/eng/events/FS-Turkey.pdf> accessed April 16, 2017

¹⁶ http://www.oie.int/wahis_2/wah/health_v7_en.php c accessed April 17, 2017

veterinarians to concentrate on data analysis. Requests to Central levels for additional VPPs have gone unanswered.

Strengths:

- The duties of veterinary health technicians under the supervision of a veterinarian are defined.
- Interviews at Provincial, District and Laboratory levels indicate that VS officials are satisfied with general qualifications of VPPs presently in their employment.

Weaknesses:

- The placing of Veterinarians in positions previously occupied by VPPs may result in overly qualified professional staff undertaking duties that could be performed by less highly paid para-professionals.
- Veterinarians in laboratory settings are encumbered from more advanced diagnostic analysis and applied research needs by a lack of VPPs to address routine lab work.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- VPP technical positions at central and state / provincial levels are not occupied by personnel holding appropriate qualifications.

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- No evidence found that recommendations regarding job descriptions, position tracking and evaluations have been addressed.

Recommendations:

- GDFC should seriously consider re-establishing VPPs as an integral part of the VS, in appropriate positions and locations.
- As indicated in the 2009 Gap Analysis:
 - Clear job descriptions for veterinary para-professionals should be developed for all levels of the VS.
 - Procedures for supervision of veterinary para-professionals with associated documentation about effective supervision should be undertaken.
 - Once the above has been considered, some form of database tracking of veterinary para-professionals should be instituted.
- In the future, an audit should be considered to review implementation of the proposed new personnel management procedures, and an on-going oversight system should be established.

I-2 Competencies of veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals	Levels of advancement
<i>The capability of the VS to efficiently carry out their veterinary and technical functions; measured by the qualifications of their personnel in veterinary and technical positions.</i> A. Professional competencies of veterinarians including the OIE Day 1 competencies	1. The veterinarians' practices, knowledge and attitudes are of a variable standard that usually allow for elementary clinical and administrative activities of the VS.
	2. The veterinarians' practices, knowledge and attitudes are of a uniform standard that usually allow for accurate and appropriate clinical and administrative activities of the VS.
	3. The veterinarians' practices, knowledge and attitudes usually allow undertaking all professional/technical activities of the VS (e.g. epidemiological surveillance, early warning, public health, etc.).
	4. The veterinarians' practices, knowledge and attitudes usually allow undertaking specialised activities as may be needed by the VS.
	5. The veterinarians' practices, knowledge and attitudes are subject to regular updating, or international harmonisation, or evaluation.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	5. The veterinarians' practices, knowledge and attitudes are subject to regular updating, or international harmonisation, or evaluation.

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	3. The majority of veterinary and other professional positions are occupied by appropriately qualified personnel at the field level.

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E53, E90, H18, H19, P1, P5

Findings:

There are about 25 Veterinary education establishments (VEE) in Turkey (numbers vary with source of data).

VEE in Turkey can be accredited by an internal body, VEDEK (Association for Evaluation and Accreditation of Educational Institutions and Programs of Veterinary Medicine¹⁷) and an external body, EAEVE European Association of Establishments of Veterinary Education - Member Establishments¹⁸.

EAEVE has accredited 5 VEE (Istanbul, Konya, Bursa, Aydin and Elazig).

VEDEK has accredited 4 VEE (Istanbul, Konya, Bursa, Ankara).

There is no uniform national core curriculum for VEE across the country, other than for those that have adopted the OIE standards for veterinary education such as the Selçuk Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in Konya (P1). If not addressed this could undermine Turkey's ability to meet the requirement for level 2 that "The veterinarians' practices, knowledge and attitudes are of a uniform standard".

There is no nationally required proficiency standards for new graduates – but in the future, graduates seeking licensure, provided by the Turkish Veterinary Medical association (TVMA), could be subject to a national examination. There is presently no legal authority for formal accreditation of schools by the VSB (TVMA). As a result, upon graduation, any Veterinary graduate can work at his trade so long as he/she pays for licensure through the TVMA. A proposed amendment to Article 8 of law 6343 (E90) to allow for such accreditation and examinations has been before Parliament for some time (see also CC III.5).

¹⁷ <http://www.vedek.org.tr/index.php?lang=en> Accessed 26-03-2017

¹⁸ <http://www.eaeve.org/about-eaeve/mission-and-objectives.html> accessed 26-03-2017

TVMA/Chambers can provide training to veterinary school pre-graduates; especially on legislation.

Ratio of female to male veterinary graduates is 50/50.

The OIE PVS Team was informed during interviews that approximately 11,000 Veterinarians graduate each year but this would require that the 25 VEE each produce over 400 graduates annually, which seems unreasonably high.

The Turkish government subsidizes veterinary medical education, thus, keeping costs low and accessible.

No national needs assessment for the Veterinary profession is available (i.e. national succession plan based on projections of attrition, graduates, market needs and possible expansion).

A Veterinary medical degree in the case of Ankara's Faculty of Veterinary Medicine is a 5-year program (H18; H19) which includes 4 years of classroom-based study plus a one year internship.

Ankara Veterinary School (P5) provides a 5-year Veterinary education program in English for foreign students (technical diplomacy); this results in a source of income for school as each student pays \$4,000 TRL.

Ankara is working on a new curriculum that will be unveiled on 2018 based on OIE Day-One competencies.

Ankara has had its EAEVA accreditation suspended until the completion of the new Veterinary Hospital.

The document entitled "FOOD CODEX WORK" (E53), indicates that per Law no. 5996 and Regulation on Specific Rules for the Official Controls on Food of Animal Origin (OJ: 17/12/2011-28145), veterinarians must have knowledge of a series of relevant subjects and proficiency is to be tested, unless, the Ministry is satisfied that a candidate has acquired all the required knowledge as part of a university degree, or through continuing education resulting in a postgraduate qualification.

Strengths:

- Turkey benefits from a well-developed VEE infrastructure with internal and external reviews.
- The VSB (TVMA) has indicated that it is seeking modification of existing laws which will allow it to apply a standardized examination as part of the licensure procedure for veterinarians.
- Access to a veterinary education is reasonable.
- Plans are underway to develop a standardized national examination for licensure which would involve the VSB.
- OIE Day-one competency efforts are known and being addressed by various Veterinary faculties.

Weaknesses:

- There is no national plan or regulation of the number of Veterinary faculties which can operate and produce graduates, and there is no standardized veterinary education / core curriculum for these faculties.
- At present, there is no standardized national examination for licensure.
- With the recent proliferation of veterinary faculties there is a risk of graduating more veterinarians than may be needed at the national level; recent graduates are being absorbed by the Turkish government in positions which would have been occupied by VPP in the past, thus, they may be overqualified.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:**2007 OIE PVS Evaluation**

- More Veterinary faculties meet internal and external accreditation criteria.
- Still no clear connection between Veterinary School curricula and needs of the VS and other public veterinary institutions.

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- VEDEK now reports on the evaluation of veterinary faculties; EAEVE also provides external reports of veterinary faculties and curricula.
- No implementation of evaluation and international harmonisation of all veterinary faculties.

Recommendations:

- Turkey should develop evaluation criteria and systems to assess the quality of veterinarians graduating from its Veterinary Education Establishments to ensure that “The veterinarians’ practices, knowledge and attitudes are of a uniform standard”.
- The work of VEDEK and EAEVE has advanced the recognition of Turkey’s highest quality veterinary faculties and curricula. It would now seem appropriate to require that the other Faculties of Veterinary Medicine meet these same standards.
- Some means should be developed to ensure that veterinarians’ practices, knowledge and attitudes are subject to regular updating and international harmonisation to meet the needs of new and evolving programmes (see CC I-3 and CC III-5.B).

B. Competencies of veterinary para-professionals	Levels of advancement
	1. The majority of veterinary para-professionals have no formal entry-level training.
	2. The training of veterinary para-professionals is of a variable standard and allows the development of only basic competencies.
	3. The training of veterinary para-professionals is of a uniform standard that allows the development of only basic specific competencies.
	4. The training of veterinary para-professionals is of a uniform standard that allows the development of some advanced competencies (e.g. meat inspection).
	5. The training of veterinary para-professionals is of a uniform standard and is subject to regular evaluation and/or updating.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	4. The training of veterinary para-professionals is of a uniform standard that allows the development of some specialist animal health competencies (e.g. meat inspection).

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	2. The majority of technical positions at central and state / provincial levels are occupied by personnel holding technical qualifications

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E75 a-e, E72

Unfortunately, the OIE PVS Team had no access to VPP educational establishments, thus limiting the ability to effectively ascertain the actual situation for this CC.

According to GDFC information (E75a-e), as of 2016, there were 30 secondary or high schools in Turkey that provide vocational or technical (VPP-level) education in veterinary medicine. Erzincan, Samsun, Istanbul, Konya and Van are the oldest schools serving this role. Veterinary Health Occupational High Schools formerly reporting to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs were transferred to the MoNE in 2005. In 2012, the others were also transferred to MoNE, their curriculum was defined by MoNE and all professional high schools acquired the name of “Professional and Technical Anatolian High School”.

Higher or post-secondary education in Turkey, such as professional veterinary education, is offered by Universities that are tied to the Council on Higher Education¹⁹ (E 72).

The OIE PVS Team was informed that in order for a VPP to enter official work with the public VS they must successfully complete a public service personnel selection examination (KPSS^{20,21}).

MoFAL has little involvement in the development of VPP and these graduates increasingly find employment in the private sector.

No formal relationship exists between VPP educational institutions and the university level Veterinary Schools, however, some veterinary schools have provided educational material/teachers/internships.

It is pertinent to note that OIE is currently working on Day-1 competencies and associated core curriculum for veterinary para-professionals. This may provide useful support to the work of the VPP education establishments.

¹⁹ <http://www.yok.gov.tr/en/web/cohe/homepage> accessed April 1, 2017-04-01

²⁰ Kamu Personeli Secme Sinavi

²¹ <http://www.osym.gov.tr/TR.2845/kamu-personel-secme-sinavi-kpss.html> ccessed April 26, 2017

Strengths:

- VPP education exists; most graduates enter the private sector.

Weaknesses:

- The public VS does not have input into the educational requirements for VPP that it would need for potential employment.
- The VSB also does not have any involvement with VPP education and there was no evidence of a standard curriculum to meet these needs.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- There is now less involvement by MoFAL in determining the competencies required of VPP.

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- No evidence that VPP have a standardised educational curriculum.
- No relationship has been advanced between veterinary faculties and para-professional schools regarding the development of competencies required by the VS.

Recommendations:

- MoFAL and the MoNE should collaborate to ensure that the public VS and the VSB could have more input into the VPP education with the aim of standardizing national curricula and ensuring that they meet future needs of the VS (public and private).
- Turkey should engage actively with work at the international level led by the OIE to develop standards for VPP education as noted above.
- Meetings among the Veterinary Faculties, Para-professional schools, public VS and VSB should be encouraged and documented.
- A database of VPP numbers including specialized qualifications and competencies should be established.
- At a future date, specialised training for VPP for the VS may need to be considered (e.g. meat inspection).

I-3 Continuing education (CE) ²² <i>The capability of the VS to maintain and improve the competence of their personnel in terms of relevant information and understanding; measured in terms of the implementation of a relevant training programme.</i>	Levels of advancement
	1. The VS have no access to veterinary, professional or technical CE.
	2. The VS have access to CE (internal and/or external programmes) on an irregular basis but it does not take into account needs, or new information or understanding.
	3. The VS have access to CE that is reviewed annually and updated as necessary, but it is implemented only for some categories of the relevant personnel.
	4. The VS have access to CE that is reviewed annually and updated as necessary, and it is implemented for all categories of the relevant personnel.
	5. The VS have up-to-date CE that is implemented for all relevant personnel and is subject to regular evaluation of effectiveness.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	4. The VS have access to CE that is reviewed annually and updated as necessary and it is implemented for more than 50% of the relevant personnel.

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	3. The VS have access to CE that is reviewed annually and updated as necessary, but it is implemented for less than 50% of the relevant personnel

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E29, E77a-j, E90, H20, H21, H45, H48, H53

Findings:

Public sector:

Continuing education opportunities are offered by GDFC and Provinces in many technical areas (e.g. E77a-j, H20, H21, H45, H48, H53).

Training needs are not identified through annual performance appraisals.

A list of training events and meetings over a 2 year period was available from DAHQ (E29).

Requirements for continuing education are set out in several laws, for example:

- Law no. 5996 and Regulation on Specific Rules for the Official Controls on Food of Animal Origin (OJ: 17/12/2011-28145), allows veterinarians to meet knowledge requirements through CE resulting in a postgraduate qualification.
- Reports on Food Codex Activities (E52; E53) indicate that “Veterinarians must have adequate knowledge(that) where necessary, they are to acquire this knowledge through CE activities” and in which case “the Ministry is to make adequate provision in this regard.”
- “Guidance For Good Manufacturing Practices for Veterinary Medical Products”, requires that personnel involved in sampling receive initial training and subsequent continuing education in sampling techniques.

The extensive “Technical Assistance for Preparation of the Veterinary Strategy Document” (E37), sets horizontal goals for the National VS in continuing education to be implemented within 5 years.

²² Continuing education includes Continuous Professional Development (CPD) for veterinary, professional and technical personnel.

Private sector:

Currently annual renewal of veterinary licensure is not subject to a CE requirement, however, the TVMA indicated that it has proposed a modification to Law 6343 (E90) that would require some form of professional life-long education programme.

The TVMA, along with its local Chambers, have increased opportunities for current continuing education, both in number and scope. In interviews, it was also noted that veterinary specialist groups (“Societies”) were also providing continuing education for private veterinarians.

The Istanbul Veterinary Chamber related that it has continually solicited topics for potential continuing education through surveys of its members.

Academia:

While limited to date, there is some involvement of Veterinary Faculties in CE (for example an animal welfare course for experimental animals at Ankara Veterinary School which would provide a certificate upon successful completion).

Strengths:

- Both the public and private sector benefit from CE opportunities from a variety of providers; this training is up-to-date in content.
- The VSB (TVMA) is making efforts to legalise the obligation of veterinarians to periodically acquire re-licensing through a CE credit based system.

Weaknesses:

- Although CE is available to public and private veterinarians, what is not clear is its relevance to the needs of the national VS priorities.
- Little involvement of Veterinary Faculties in CE development and delivery.
- CE is focused almost entirely on technical topics with little emphasis on management and leadership skills.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:**2007 OIE PVS Evaluation**

- Although the language of the level of progress for this CC has changed, it is not clear that major strides have been made in this area.

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- Legislation governing private veterinarians now exists through Law 6343, however, there is no requirement to keep knowledge current through CE at this time.

Recommendations:

- The VSB and the Veterinary Schools, in conjunction with MoFAL, should be more involved in developing and delivering the content of CE on a regular basis.
- CE needs of the public sector VS should be evaluated and linked to needs identified through performance evaluations, feedback for all relevant staff.
- Private VS training needs are assessed through a survey of members but topics relevant to official accreditation, authorization and delegation should also be identified.
- CE courses offered in support of the VS should be tracked in human resources databases.
- GDFC should consider seeking CE opportunities with OIE Collaborating Centres as appropriate.

-
- Training in management and leadership skills should be added to the inventory of CE opportunities.

I-4 Technical independence	Levels of advancement
<i>The capability of the VS to carry out their duties with autonomy and free from commercial, financial, hierarchical and political influences that may affect technical decisions in a manner contrary to the provisions of the OIE (and of the WTO SPS Agreement where applicable).</i>	1. The technical decisions made by the VS are generally not based on scientific considerations.
	2. The technical decisions take into account the scientific evidence, but are routinely modified to conform to non-scientific considerations.
	3. The technical decisions are based on scientific evidence but are subject to review and possible modification based on non-scientific considerations.
	4. The technical decisions are made and implemented in general accordance with the country's OIE obligations (and with the country's WTO SPS Agreement obligations where applicable).
	5. The technical decisions are based only on scientific evidence and are not changed to meet non-scientific considerations

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	4. The technical decisions are based only on scientific evidence and are not changed to meet non-scientific considerations.

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	2. The technical decisions take into account the scientific evidence, but are routinely modified to conform to non-scientific considerations

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): H23, E31, E73

Findings:

As a result of the pre-accession work, technical decisions are more routinely made and implemented in compliance with international standards.

Senior Provincial officials and the OIE delegate testified to the high priority assigned to rigour in respecting national veterinary laws and international standards in accordance with OIE obligations. The only political pressure noted was the desire of the current Minister to assign priority to progress on FMD control.

Turkey has filed a dossier with Anti-Corruption Regulation 2012 that sets out its laws and regulations to prevent corruption (E73). This reflects what the OIE PVS Team was told by a senior border official in Izmir about the provisions of Article 29 of law No. 657 prohibiting public officials from taking gifts directly or indirectly.

Public sector veterinarians are prohibited from engaging in private veterinary practice.

Salary levels are generally adequate to ensure technical independence both in the private (there is an annual revision of the veterinary interventions by the Chambers based on various criteria including inflation – see H23 list of fees for 2017) and the public sector. While there were some complaints about the recent discontinuation of an annual bonus worth two months of salary, there was no evidence of significant attrition from the public sector VS.

The Veterinary Chambers have the authority to ensure compliance and enforcement with veterinary ethical responsibilities by levying fines and/or license suspension or revocation.

Appointment to a position depends on the level. A Provincial Director is appointed by the President. A Deputy Director is appointed by the MoFAL through the Director of Human Resources (HR) with final agreement by the Sub-Minister.

Public veterinary salaries are reported to be competitive with private veterinary salaries, with limited attrition.

An internal audit team was reviewing the animal health programmes during the evaluation and observed our meeting with FMD specialists and the Closing meeting.

The OIE PVS Team explored technical independence in discussions with Directors at the Izmir Provincial Headquarters and at the Izmir Port BIP. The BIP Director specifically noted Law 6579 Article 29 regarding gifting. GDFC has policies that require rotation of staff assigned to registered premises for inspections. He also noted that there must be three staff present whenever imported consignments are opened – a representative of GDFC, the MoCT and the importer. Clear guidelines on sampling for analysis have been developed by GDFC that must be followed in all cases.

A new performance management scheme recently piloted in Ankara (see CC I-1.A) could raise questions about technical independence if improperly designed to suit a regulatory environment.

Strengths:

- There are clear laws, policies and procedures regarding potential conflicts of interest.
- There is adequate remuneration of professionals and senior officials.

Weaknesses:

- Potential risk under new performance evaluation scheme.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- Criteria for appointments and promotions are in place and performance evaluation is evolving under an agency-wide programme in GDFC.
- A Risk Analysis Department has been established (E31) and could provide evidence and rationales to support decisions taken.

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- As above

Recommendations:

- Care should be taken to ensure that the new performance management scheme (see CC I-1.A) does not put at risk technical independence in a regulatory setting.

I-5 Stability of structures and sustainability of policies	Levels of advancement
<i>The capability of the VS structure and/or leadership to implement and sustain policies over time.</i>	1. Substantial changes to the organisational structure and/or leadership of the public sector of the VS frequently occur (e.g. annually) resulting in lack of sustainability of policies.
	2. Sustainability of policies is affected by changes in the political leadership and/or the structure and leadership of VS
	3. Sustainability of policies is not affected or is slightly affected by changes in the political leadership and/or the structure and leadership of VS.
	4. Policies are sustained over time through national strategic plans and frameworks and are not affected by changes in the political leadership and/or the structure and leadership of VS
	5. Policies are sustained over time and the structure and leadership of the VS are stable. Modifications are based on an evaluation process, with positive effects on the sustainability of policies.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	4. There are generally only minor changes in the organisational structure of the public sector of the VS following a change in the political leadership and these have little or no effect on sustainability of policies.

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	4. There are generally only minor changes in the organisational structure of the public sector of the VS following a change in the political leadership

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E25, E34, E37

Findings:

The former Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA) was reorganized into the MoFAL through “Statutory Decree No. 639 on Organization and Duties of the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, and Livestock”, based on the power granted by Law No. 6223 (6/4/2011).

This Decree came into effect on July 6, 2012 following its publication on the Official Gazette (No. 27958 dated June 8, 2011) and established the General Directorate of Food and Control (GDFC) replacing the General Director of Protection and Control (GDPC).

In 2010/11 a new framework law 5996 (E25) was adopted to support harmonisation of laws and policies in preparation for accession of Turkey to the EU.

Presently the OIE Delegate as a Deputy Under-Secretary has a political appointment held “at pleasure” of the Government.

The Ministry’s Strategic Plan 2013-2017 (E34) is available through the Ministry’s website²³. It presents detailed objectives and performance indicators. Senior GDFC staff were aware of the plan and the commitments made therein. The OIE PVS team was unable to obtain evidence that progress is being measured against these indicators.

A 15 year Veterinary Strategy (E37) covering animal health, animal welfare and animal identification, registration and movement control was created over a 30 month period at a cost of just over € 2 million with support of the EU.

There is a long-term vision to advance the control of major diseases such as FMD with a target date for Anatolia to be free, and PPR with a target dated for Thrace to be free.

²³ <http://www.tarim.gov.tr/SGB/Belgeler/Stratejik%20Plan%202013-17-EN.pdf> accessed April 1, 2017

Strengths:

- A comprehensive strategic plan with specific measurable performance indicators has been published.
- A 15 year Veterinary strategy is in place.
- Long term control/eradication strategies are in place for FMD and PPR.

Weaknesses:

- Although the OIE PVS Team did not find evidence of a measurement framework or progress reports, it was pleased to note that an internal audit was underway.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- Strategic Plan for MoFAL
- Veterinary Strategy
- Internal audit capacity

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- As above

Recommendations:

- Use the opportunity afforded by the current internal audit to strengthen procedures for internal results measurement and reporting.

I-6 Coordination capability of the Veterinary Services	Levels of advancement
A. Internal coordination (chain of command) <i>The capability of the VS to coordinate its resources and activities (public and private sectors) with a clear chain of command, from the central level (the Chief Veterinary Officer), to the field level of the VS in order to implement all national activities relevant for the Codes (i.e. surveillance, disease control and eradication, food safety and early detection and rapid response programmes).</i>	1. There is no formal internal coordination and the chain of command is not clear.
	2. There are internal coordination mechanisms for some activities but the chain of command is not clear.
	3. There are internal coordination mechanisms and a clear and effective chain of command for some activities.
	4. There are internal coordination mechanisms and a clear and effective chain of command at the national level for most activities.
	5. There are internal coordination mechanisms and a clear and effective chain of command for all activities and these are periodically reviewed/audited and updated.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	4. There are coordination mechanisms with a clear chain of command at the national level for most activities, and these are uniformly implemented throughout the country.

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	3. There are coordination mechanisms with a clear chain of command for some activities, but these are not coordinated / implemented throughout the country

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E3a, E3b, E4, E37, E64, P7

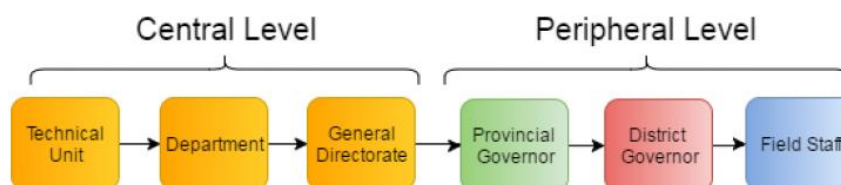
Findings:

In considering the issue of internal coordination, and in particular the chain of command, it is important to bear in mind that Turkey is not a federation but rather has a “unicameral Grand National Assembly of Turkey”²⁴ that oversees 81 administrative divisions (Provinces) that ultimately report to the same central authorities as GDFC and MoFAL.

Secondly, GDFC is represented and its structure is mirrored at sub-national levels, respectively by the Animal Health, Husbandry and Aquaculture Divisions of 81 Provincial and 892 District Agricultural Directorates. Following the reorganization, several new District Directorates were created, especially in the eastern part of the country.

The Veterinary Strategy (E37) Section “3.1.4.4 Coordination Aspects” describes this chain of command as it relates to coordination of VS activities:

Figure 21 Communication Flow



While this is the case for the administrative chain of command that flows from GDFC to its Provincial arms through Provincial Governors, this should be of less concern than expressed in earlier reports for the following reasons. First, many mechanisms are in place to ensure

²⁴ <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/tu.html> accessed April 14, 2017

that an effective technical chain of command flows directly from GDFC to the VA of the Provincial and hence the District Directorates. These mechanisms include:

- GDFC, Provincial and District Veterinary Services all share a common corporate Brand (Corporate logo and flags of MoFAL²⁵) that can be seen through the system from the office of the OIE delegate to the vehicle of a field veterinarian (P7), reflecting a shared mission and leadership that provides a good basis for internal coordination.
- Mobility of senior managers (e.g. Provincial and District Directors) across provinces is encouraged by recruitment into least developed Provinces and value assigned to experience in multiple provinces when promotions are considered²⁶.
- A Veterinary Information System allows Animal Health officials at the provincial level to upload information directly to the central level.
- All provincial Directors meet twice a year with GDFC to discuss the achievements of the past year so as to set priorities jointly and to receive their annual working instructions issued in an annual Circular.

GDFC also has an effective institutional relationship with the national network of veterinary laboratories (see CC. II.1 and II.2) that, like GDFC, reports to a Deputy Undersecretary of MoFAL who serves as the OIE Delegate (E37 page 20).

The result of these measures is an effective technical chain of command for animal health, animal welfare and food and feed safety matters, which flows from GDFC (decision making, coordination, monitoring and supervision) to Provincial, then District VS (implementation).

It is supported by an effective information feedback to GDFC on VS activities in the field (reports are at least provided monthly). While official information is channelled from the Head of DGFC to Provincial Governors and vice versa, technical information can be directly exchanged between the technical staff of GDFC Directorates and official veterinarians working at provincial and district level, using emails or phone calls. The recently set up Information Systems for animal health and food safety also allow a two-way flow of technical information.

The chain of command is more direct for import/export activities (direct relation between Department of Border Inspection of Animals and Animal Products (DBIAAP) and the 23 BIPs, without involving the Provincial and District Directorates). It can also be broadened through external coordination (see CC I-6.B) as is the case for the management of companion/stray animals: this area of the veterinary domain operates across various structures belonging to different ministries (MoFAL, Mol and MoFWA).

Some personnel would like to return to a veterinary structure that existed before 1984, when Veterinary Services had their own stand-alone structures and dedicated budget. However, the current mandate and organisation of Animal Health, Husbandry and Aquaculture Divisions call for greater inter-sectorial collaboration than in the past.

Strengths:

- The current organization of the Official Veterinary Services is laid down in an existing legal base;
- The current organization and functioning allows good formal and informal internal coordination.

Weaknesses:

- There has been no audit to assess the effectiveness of the chain of command;

²⁵ photos of corporate logo and flag

²⁶ interviews with Provincial and District Directors, Ankara

- MoFAL's continuing education catalogue should include courses on leadership, management by objective, etc. for managers at central, provincial and district levels.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- A VS Program Review was conducted (E37) and gave consideration to the chain of command issues raised in previous PVS reports. While the system in place is not a simple direct and unique animal health chain-of-command advocated by some, it is clear that authority, accountability and control are being exercised by veterinary professionals at various key levels in that chain.
- The VS are developing mechanisms and procedures for coordination of inter- and intra-sectoral and inter- and intra-institutional activities, at the national level and state/provincial levels and between sectors.
- The VS still needs to establish mechanisms to audit and review coordination within the country, with involvement of private sector.

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- As above

Recommendations:

- Special attention should be given to the regions closer to eastern and southern borders of Turkey.
- Regularly review/audit and strengthen internal coordination mechanisms to ensure maximum efficacy in peace and crisis time.

B. External coordination	Levels of advancement
<i>The capability of the VS to coordinate its resources and activities (public and private sectors) at all levels with other relevant authorities as appropriate, in order to implement all national activities relevant for OIE Codes (i.e. surveillance, disease control and eradication, food safety and early detection and rapid response programmes). Relevant authorities include other ministries and Competent Authorities, national agencies and decentralised institutions.</i>	1. There is no external coordination.
	2. There are informal external coordination mechanisms for some activities, but the procedures are not clear and/or external coordination occurs irregularly.
	3. There are formal external coordination mechanisms with clearly described procedures or agreements for some activities and/or sectors.
	4. There are formal external coordination mechanisms with clearly described procedures or agreements at the national level for most activities, and these are uniformly implemented throughout the country.
	5. There are national external coordination mechanisms for all activities and these are periodically reviewed and updated.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	Not assessed

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	Not assessed

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E5, E67a, E67b, H50

Findings:

The Veterinary Authorities of Turkey have established formal external coordination agreements with some other relevant authorities at the national level. Beyond these formal arrangements, informal collaboration amongst relevant agencies is often limited at the central level as acknowledged by a senior official and reflected in the difficulties organizing meetings for the OIE PVS Team with the Ministries of Health and Education.

The Veterinary Strategy (E37), Section 3 entitled "Current situation in AH, AW and Animal I&R sectors", includes a description of interactions between MoFAL/GDFC with "Other Entities" (i.e. Ministry of Health (MoH); MoI and Ministry of Defence; MoFWA; Central and Provincial Hunting Commission; Private Veterinary Clinics; Breeders Associations; Other NGOs; and Faculties of Veterinary Medicine). Although this reflects an awareness of external stakeholders and interested parties, no mention is made of effective communication with these entities, or with the other Ministries, in the table of goals for the 15 year Communications Strategy (E37, page 244). Although mentioned in the Veterinary Strategy (E37), there was no evidence of formal procedures or mechanisms for communication with public health, wildlife and other agencies

At sub-national levels, Provincial and District Directorates have established a number of collaborative arrangements.

Ministry of Health: At the national level, a National 'Zoonosis Committee' is in place since 1991 (it was reorganised in 2006). Jointly established by MoFAL and the MoH it includes representatives from all relevant ministries and public agencies (MoFAL, MoH, MoE, MoI, Faculties, Religious Affairs Authorities, TVMA, relevant media, etc). The mandate, tasks and Modus Operandi (meeting once a year) of the Committee are described in a Protocol (E67). The Committee was active at the time of the 'Bird Flu crisis' in 2006 and prepared a Communication Strategy for the public at large, with the involvement of international

organizations such as the OIE, WHO and FAO. Rabies and Avian Influenza are the two zoonoses mentioned in the Committee Protocol.

This Committee last met in December 2016 (H50) when it discussed Rabies (vaccination and neutering of stray dog), Avian Influenza (specific information of the professionals working in the poultry sector) and Brucellosis (characterisation of Brucella strains in human). The inclusion of the Disaster and Emergency Management Authority operating directly under the Prime Minister was also agreed.

MoFAL and MoH also work together on antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and both ministers have been involved in the elaboration of the National Control Plan for AMR.

Unfortunately, this formal relationship has not fostered routine communication between GDFC officials and their counterparts at the MoH. All information and requests have to go through official channels with formal letters. As a consequence, GDFC was unable to secure an appointment with representatives of MoH for the OIE PVS Team with a one week notice.

MoH national statistics on food-borne diseases are reportedly not shared with MoFAL. However, at Provincial and District levels mutual exchanges of information occur on an ad hoc basis, when required as for special cases such as an investigation of rabies or salmonellosis.

Ministry of National Education: As with the MoH, relationships amongst Headquarters officials are very formal to the point that it was not possible to organize a visit for the OIE PVS Team to a VPP school under the MoNE despite a pre-mission request.

Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs: by Law, MoFWA is in charge of the control of stray dog populations (considered as feral/wild animals) but they do not have sufficient human resources (only two veterinarians) to implement it. Most of the implementation is therefore 'delegated' to MoFAL and municipalities (MoI).

Ministry of Interior / Municipalities: there is a good working relationship between the Municipalities and Provincial/District Directorates for stray dog population control: they organise joint awareness raising programmes in primary schools; municipalities also report their stray dog activities (number of neutered, vaccinated and ear-tagged stray dogs) on a monthly basis, using paper forms. In Edirne, a joint programme exists with the MoFWA/Environment for oversight of pet shops ("exotic" species).

Ministry of Environment: MoE oversees disposal of medical waste and poultry litter, and also controls pet shops with regard to exotic animals. Relations with MoFAL are vague when it comes to share the results of these controls and the definition of common joint actions.

Ministry of Customs and Trade: Formal agreements for the management of BIP physical infrastructure and shared information systems are key to enabling both the VA and the MoCT to meet their international obligations under WTO and OIE standards. A new IT system is not yet fully meeting needs of the VA, and existing BIP infrastructure is inadequate for the inspection and handling of animals. Further information is available under CC II-4.

The **Poultry Meat Producers & Breeders Association** reported a need for closer cooperation between the VA and a) the Environment Department on safe disposal/management of litter/manure to be used as a biofuel, and b) the Health Department on surveillance for antimicrobial use and residues, to alleviate their concerns about the image of poultry production/products.

Strengths:

- A Zoonosis Committee involving a wide range of relevant authorities, agencies and key stakeholders exists and has proven efficient for Avian Influenza.

Weaknesses:

- Interactions between MoH and MoFAL are limited and the Zoonosis Committee meets only once a year.
- No evidence of an effective relationship with the MoNE that has responsibility for the training of VPP

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- Not assessed

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- Not assessed

Recommendations:

- Explore options to systematize and formalize regular exchange of information among authorities and agencies having responsibilities in the veterinary domain, at all levels.
- Consider strengthening and expanding the scope of the Zoonosis Committee to include other important One Health topics along with anti-microbial resistance (AMR) for example food-borne diseases and adaptation to climate change, with proper sharing of relevant data to other authorities and agencies on these topics. A new tool that could be used to promote such work is an IHR/PVS Bridging workshop.
- For the reinforcement of the collaboration with the MoCT please see CC II.4.
- Explore ways to strengthen relationships with partners to deliver programmes to manage companion / stray dog and cat populations as they affect animal welfare, animal health and veterinary public health issues.
- GDFC should encourage its OIE Focal Points to establish networks and improved communications at the country level between Competent Authorities.

I-7 Physical resources	Levels of advancement
<i>The access of the VS to relevant physical resources including buildings, transport, telecommunications, cold chain, and other relevant equipment (e.g. computers).</i>	1. The VS have no or unsuitable physical resources at almost all levels and maintenance of existing infrastructure is poor or non-existent.
	2. The VS have suitable physical resources at national (central) level and at some regional levels, and maintenance and replacement of obsolete items occurs only occasionally.
	3. The VS have suitable physical resources at national, regional and some local levels and maintenance and replacement of obsolete items occurs only occasionally.
	4. The VS have suitable physical resources at all levels and these are regularly maintained.
	5. The VS have suitable physical resources at all levels (national, sub-national and local levels) and these are regularly maintained and updated as more advanced and sophisticated items become available.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	5. The VS have suitable physical resources at all levels (national, sub-national and local levels) and these are regularly maintained and updated as more advanced and sophisticated items become available.

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	Not assessed

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E41, E42, P1, P2, P4, P5

Findings:

Modern and well maintained facilities, vehicles and equipment (IT and laboratory) were in evidence in Ankara and all of the Provincial and District offices, field operations and laboratories visited (Appendix 4). Several older laboratories operated by the VCIs remain in very sound condition thus demonstrating adequate investments are made in maintenance of these facilities. This situation is much improved since 2007/9 according to a team member who participated in the previous OIE PVS missions.

Provincial and District Directors with experience in Eastern Turkey advised that infrastructure is also much improved in the regions that were not visited. Indeed, the Team was advised that special investments are being made in the remote and less developed regions of Turkey.

There was also evidence of significant capital investments made under programmes to facilitate accession to the EU, for example RFID ear tags are being widely adopted for use in small ruminants (E41; see CC II-12.A) and a modern cattle slaughtering and processing facility was constructed by a private entrepreneur with EU support (see CC II-8.B).

One exception from the overall picture was the current lack of animal unloading areas at BIPs or resting points within country (E42).

Strengths:

- Major investments have been made.
- Several slaughter slabs/houses were closed for not meeting physical (and managerial/animal welfare) requirements.

Weaknesses:

- Animal handling facilities are lacking at BIPs.
- There are no Animal transportation rest stations.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- Considerably improved infrastructure

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- As above

Recommendations:

- Address needs for animal facilities at BIP and transport rest stations.
- GDFC should document all procedures and maintain records of management of physical resources (e.g. ownership, acquisition, maintenance, renewal and disposal).
- There is a need to document evidence of evaluations of needs and suitability of physical resources.

I-8 Operational funding	Levels of advancement
<i>The ability of the VS to access financial resources adequate for their continued operations, independent of political pressure.</i>	1. Funding for the VS is neither stable nor clearly defined but depends on resources allocated irregularly.
	2. Funding for the VS is clearly defined and regular, but is inadequate for their required base operations (i.e. disease surveillance, early detection and rapid response and veterinary public health).
	3. Funding for the VS is clearly defined and regular, and is adequate for their base operations, but there is no provision for new or expanded operations.
	4. Funding for new or expanded operations is on a case-by-case basis, not always based on risk analysis and/or cost benefit analysis.
	5. Funding for all aspects of VS activities is adequate; all funding is provided under full transparency and allows for full technical independence, based on risk analysis and/or cost benefit analysis.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	3. Funding for the VS is clearly defined and regular, and is adequate for their base operations, but there is no provision for new or expanded operations.

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	1. Funding for the VS is neither stable nor clearly defined but depends on resources allocated irregularly

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E9 (MoFAL), E26a&b (Konya), E37 (future needs)

Findings:

The overall Budget for MoFAL in 2015 (E9) was increased by 3.3% from 2014 to 14.9 billion TL (approx. 4 billion USD).

The EU pre-accession process has prompted large investments in the public and private VS, with sufficient funding available to deliver routine operations at all levels.

MoFAL assigns funds to Provinces in January of each year. Provinces then allocate funds to their Districts as illustrated by the 2016/17 budgets for animal health in Konya Province (E26a&b).

Currently operational targets are based on the field needs and not on the available budget. A pilot in Ankara uses field workload assessment + enterprises risk assessment so as to decide on the inspection budgets at local levels.

The budgets are composed of a mixture of funds from the state budget and from fees collected. All the VS in the field have cost recovery fees.

Fees are collected for services and flow to the Provincial levels of MoFA or to HQ for GDFA. Example is import and export fees – these are adjusted yearly and published on web site at beginning of the year.

Funding levels were deemed adequate in Ankara by both the Province and District officials, and no contrary views were encountered elsewhere.

CCVRI Etlik operates a “revolving fund” to retain/use revenues – a feature also seen at other laboratories.

University of Ankara receives funds from government, supplemented by revenues from tuition fees and clinics.

Difficulties in vaccine purchases were reported by one Province where events led to an unexpected increase in the population to be vaccinated. This was identified as a procurement rather than a funding issue by GDFC central officials.

Significant additional funding requirements are forecast as required to implement the proposed 15 year veterinary strategy (E37 pages 272-275).

Strengths:

- Adequate funding overall.
- Pilot of a workload and risk-based approach to budget development.

Weaknesses:

- Significant future requirements as yet unfunded.
- Uncertainty regarding continued EU funding.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- Pilot of a workload and risk-based approach to budget development.
- Significant increase in investment since 2007 driven by EU accession process.

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- As above

Recommendations:

- Does vaccine procurement process need a review?
- Future needs – explore flexibility for possible reallocations as well as funding increases for the 15 year veterinary strategy.

I-9 Emergency funding	Levels of advancement
<i>The capability of the VS to access extraordinary financial resources in order to respond to emergency situations or emerging issues; measured by the ease of which contingency and compensatory funding (i.e. arrangements for compensation of producers in emergency situations) can be made available when required.</i>	1. No funding arrangements exist and there is no provision for emergency financial resources.
	2. Funding arrangements with limited resources have been established, but these are inadequate for expected emergency situations (including emerging issues).
	3. Funding arrangements with limited resources have been established; additional resources for emergencies may be approved but approval is through a political process.
	4. Funding arrangements with adequate resources have been established, but in an emergency situation, their operation must be agreed through a non-political process on a case-by-case basis.
	5. Funding arrangements with adequate resources have been established and their rules of operation documented and agreed with interested parties.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	4. Contingency and compensatory funding arrangements with adequate resources have been established, but in an emergency situation, their operation must be agreed through a non-political process on a case-by-case basis.

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	3. Contingency funding arrangements with limited resources have been established; additional resources for emergencies may be approved but approval is through a political process

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E38

Findings:

Emergency funding can be obtained:

1. By requesting funds from MoFAL, the Provinces and municipalities or
2. From the General Directorate for National Disasters, directly under Prime Minister in the case of a larger problem.

A compensation policy exists for various diseases (E38). Provincial Official Veterinarians and Producers Organizations propose prices for compensation and the Minister makes final decision for unit price for animal species. The percent of estimated value to be paid varies with the disease – e.g. 100% for LSD but 50% for Tb as carcass can be sold.

Compensation is set at higher price for diseases detected at the farm than at slaughterhouse as incentive for early detection and reduction of spread of disease. No payment is given if the diagnosis occurs at point of slaughter while it is paid if the diagnosis is through tuberculin testing. Software is available to calculate compensation to be paid.

Strengths:

- Emergency funding mechanisms exist with a track record of use (e.g. AI).
- Compensation policy in place and understood.

Weaknesses:

- No evidence that standard rules of operation were agreed on with interested parties (see CC III-2)

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- Compensation regulations established in 2011

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- As above

Recommendations:

- Incorporate emergency funding decision making into future simulation exercises to ensure that key decision makers know their roles and the nature of decisions to be taken.
- Record and maintain all documented arrangements for review and updating of governance procedures for use of emergency funding.

I-10 Capital investment <i>The capability of the VS to access funding for basic and additional investments (material and non-material) that lead to a sustained improvement in the VS operational infrastructure.</i>	Levels of advancement
	1. There is no capability to establish, maintain or improve the operational infrastructure of the VS.
	2. The VS occasionally develops proposals and secures funding for the establishment, maintenance or improvement of operational infrastructure but this is normally through extraordinary allocations.
	3. The VS regularly secures funding for maintenance and improvements of operational infrastructure, through allocations from the national budget or from other sources, but there are constraints on the use of these allocations.
	4. The VS routinely secures adequate funding for the necessary maintenance and improvement in operational infrastructure.
	5. The VS systematically secures adequate funding for the necessary improvements in operational infrastructure, including with participation from interested parties as required.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	4. The VS routinely secures adequate funding for the necessary maintenance and improvement in operational infrastructure

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	3. The VS regularly secures funding for improvements in infrastructure and operations, through extraordinary allocations from the national budget or from other sources, but these are allocated with constraints on their use

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E41, P3

Findings:

As previously indicated, significant investments are being made on a regular basis, many in preparation for Turkey's anticipated accession to the EU. These investments include:

- 7.3 million TL to improve border infrastructure as part of an "Integrated Border Management" project²⁷;
- Significant investment by an EU project in RFID tags for small ruminants (E41);
- A new animal hospital at University of Ankara to be completed by 2018;
- A major EU investment with a private entrepreneur (HACIINCE²⁸) in a new cattle slaughter and meat processing plant near Konya;
- Ongoing investments in laboratories – for example a new veterinary drug quality control laboratory at VCI Konya (P3).

Strengths:

- Significant investments are underway.

Weaknesses:

- Uncertain sustainability as events unfold with EU accession.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- Significant increase in funding under Turkey's pre-Accession projects.

²⁷ <https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/pdf/fiche-projet/turkey/2002/2002-002-555-04.01-integrated-border-management-strategy.pdf> accessed April 23, 2017.

²⁸ <http://www.haciince.com/en/production/Slaughter> accessed April 23, 2017

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- As above

Recommendations:

- Consider future scenarios with respect to EU accession.
- Maintain accessible records and documentation of allocations from the national budget and other sources, including the private sector.

I-11. Management of resources and operations	Levels of advancement
<i>The capability of the VS to document and manage their resources and operations in order to analyse, plan and improve both efficiency and effectiveness.</i>	1. The VS do not have adequate records or documented procedures to allow appropriate management of resources and operations
	2. The VS have adequate records and/or documented procedures but do not use these for management, analysis, control or planning.
	3. The VS have adequate records, documentation and management systems and use these to a limited extent for the control of efficiency and effectiveness
	4. The VS regularly analyse records and documented procedures to improve efficiency and effectiveness
	5. The VS have fully effective management systems, which are regularly audited and permit a proactive continuous improvement of efficiency and effectiveness.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	Not assessed

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	Not assessed

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E34, E37, E56, E74, E94, E95, E96

Findings:

GDFC has access to extensive data sets:

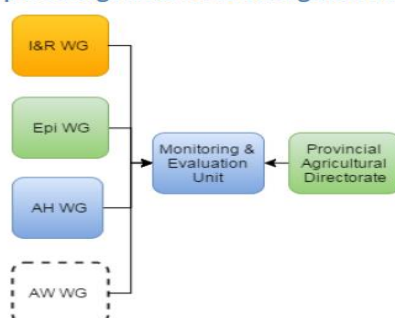
- There are 2 national databases operated by GDFC:
 - **TURKVET** (E74) is for live animals with 2 subsections: **IBIS** for animal identification and **VETBIS** for animal disease control.
 - A database for food safety called **The National Food Information System** that deals with product and establishment registration and inspections.
- A third database, the **Trade Single Window** information management system developed by the MoCT is accessible by GDFC's BIPs.

These afford good traceability of operations (vaccination, food inspection, complaint recording, etc). However, while much data is being collected, there was little evidence of analyses being performed. For example, at one BIP, requests for a management report to identify issues and risks led to the production of long lists of clearances, inspections and test results with no analysis of their significance.

In contrast, a sophisticated risk-based method is used to determine the frequency with which food producing establishments should be inspected (E56).

Looking forward, the Veterinary Strategy (E37) proposes a "Monitoring and Evaluation Unit" for DAHQ that could play a key performance management role in guiding staff and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the Veterinary Strategy:

Figure 33 AHQD proposed organisation to strengthen the monitoring capacity



This Monitoring and Evaluation Unit would compliment and extend the work of MOFAL's Internal Audit service (E94, E95, E96) that includes the Veterinary Services within its broad scope of audits for the Ministry (E94). During the OIE PVS Team's visit an audit was underway on programmes to combat "Animal Diseases and Pests".

Another forward looking step is that the MoFAL Strategic Plan for 2013-2017 (E34) sets an ambitious goal to "finalize the accreditation of the food and feed inspection system in accordance with ISO 17020"²⁹.

Strengths:

- IT systems are capturing a lot of useful data.
- Use of internal auditors.

Weaknesses:

- Limited time invested in analyses;
- Absence of job descriptions that would provide a basis for performance expectations; thus, no real performance evaluations (being developed under Law 657 civil servant law).

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- Not assessed

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- Not assessed

Recommendations:

- Provide training in management of human and physical resources.
- Increase use of management methods and analyses in the management of resources and operations to improve efficiency and effectiveness.
- Pursue the goal to "finalize the accreditation of the food and feed inspection system in accordance with ISO 17020" and with the MoFAL Strategic Plan for 2013-2017.

²⁹ <https://www.iso.org/standard/52994.html> accessed April 23, 2017

III.2 Fundamental component II: Technical authority and capability

This component of the evaluation concerns the authority and capability of the VS to develop and apply sanitary measures and science-based procedures supporting those measures. It comprises eighteen critical competencies.

For all sections of this chapter, the critical competency includes collaboration with relevant authorities, including other ministries and Competent Authorities, national agencies and decentralised institutions that share authority or have mutual interest in relevant areas.

Critical competencies:

Section II-1	Veterinary laboratory diagnosis A. Access to veterinary laboratory diagnosis B. Suitability of national laboratory infrastructures
Section II-2	Laboratory quality assurance
Section II-3	Risk analysis
Section II-4	Quarantine and border security
Section II-5	Epidemiological surveillance and early detection A. Passive Epidemiological surveillance B. Active Epidemiological surveillance
Section II-6	Emergency response
Section II-7	Disease prevention, control and eradication
Section II-8	Food safety A. Regulation, authorisation and inspection of establishments for production, processing and distribution of food of animal origin B. Ante and post mortem inspection at abattoirs and associated premises C. Inspection of collection, processing and distribution of products of animal origin
Section II-9	Veterinary medicines and biologicals
Section II-10	Residue testing
Section II-11	Animal feed safety
Section II-12	Identification and traceability A. Animal identification and movement control B. Identification and traceability of products of animal origin
Section II-13	Animal welfare

----- Terrestrial Code References:

Chapter 1.4. on Animal health surveillance.
 Chapter 1.5. on Surveillance for arthropod vectors of animal diseases.
 Chapter 2.1. on Import risk analysis.
 Points 6, 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / General Organisation / Procedures and standards.
 Point 1 of Article 3.2.4. on Evaluation criteria for quality systems.
 Point 3 of Article 3.2.6. on Evaluation criteria for material resources: Technical.
 Points 1 and 2 of Article 3.2.7. on Legislation and functional capabilities: Animal health, animal welfare and veterinary public health / Export/import inspection.
 Points 1-3 of Article 3.2.8. on Animal health controls: Animal health status / Animal health control / National animal disease reporting systems.
 Points 1-5 of Article 3.2.9. on Veterinary public health controls: Food hygiene / Zoonoses / Chemical residue testing programmes / Veterinary medicines/ Integration between animal health controls and veterinary public health.
 Sub-point f) of Point 4 of Article 3.2.10. on Veterinary Services administration: Formal linkages with sources of independent scientific expertise.
 Points 2 and 5-7 of Article 3.2.14. on National information on human resources / Laboratory services / Veterinary legislation, regulations and functional capabilities / Animal health and veterinary public health controls.
 Article 3.4.12. on Human food production chain.
 Chapter 4.1. on General principles on identification and traceability of live animals.
 Chapter 4.2. on Design and implementation of identification systems to achieve animal traceability.
 Chapter 4.12. on Disposal of dead animal.
 Chapter 6.2. on Control of biological hazards of animal health and public health importance through ante- and post-mortem meat inspection.
 Chapter 6.3. on Control of hazards of animal health and public health importance in animal feed.
 Chapters 6.6. to 6.10. on Antimicrobial resistance.
 Chapter 7.1. Introduction to the recommendations for animal welfare.
 Chapter 7.2. Transport of animals by sea.
 Chapter 7.3. Transport of animals by land.
 Chapter 7.4. Transport of animals by air.
 Chapter 7.5. Slaughter of animals.
 Chapter 7.6. Killing of animals for disease control purposes.

II-1 Veterinary laboratory diagnosis	Levels of advancement
A Access to veterinary laboratory diagnosis <i>The authority and capability of the VS to have access to laboratory diagnosis in order to identify and record pathogenic agents, including those relevant for public health, that can adversely affect animals and animal products.</i>	1. Disease diagnosis is almost always conducted by clinical means only, with no access to and use of a laboratory to obtain a correct diagnosis.
	2. For major zoonoses and diseases of national economic importance, the VS have access to and use a laboratory to obtain a correct diagnosis.
	3. For other zoonoses and diseases present in the country, the VS have access to and use a laboratory to obtain a correct diagnosis.
	4. For diseases of zoonotic or economic importance not present in the country, but known to exist in the region and/ or that could enter the country, the VS have access to and use a laboratory to obtain a correct diagnosis.
	5. In the case of new and emerging diseases in the region or world, the VS have access to and use a network of national or international reference laboratories (e.g. an OIE Reference Laboratory) to obtain a correct diagnosis.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	5. In the case of new and emerging diseases in the region or world, the VS have access to and use a network of national or international reference laboratories (e.g. an OIE Reference Laboratory) to obtain a correct diagnosis.

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	4. In the case of new and emerging diseases in the region or world, the VS have access to a network of national or international reference laboratories and can collect and ship samples to an OIE Reference Laboratory which results in a correct diagnosis

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E3a, E19, E20, E32, E36, E37, E76j, H5, H17, H68

Findings:

Turkey enjoys an effective network of eight laboratories that provide diagnostic, biologics production and research services across the country (Figure 4) for animal health programs.

Figure 4 from E3a:

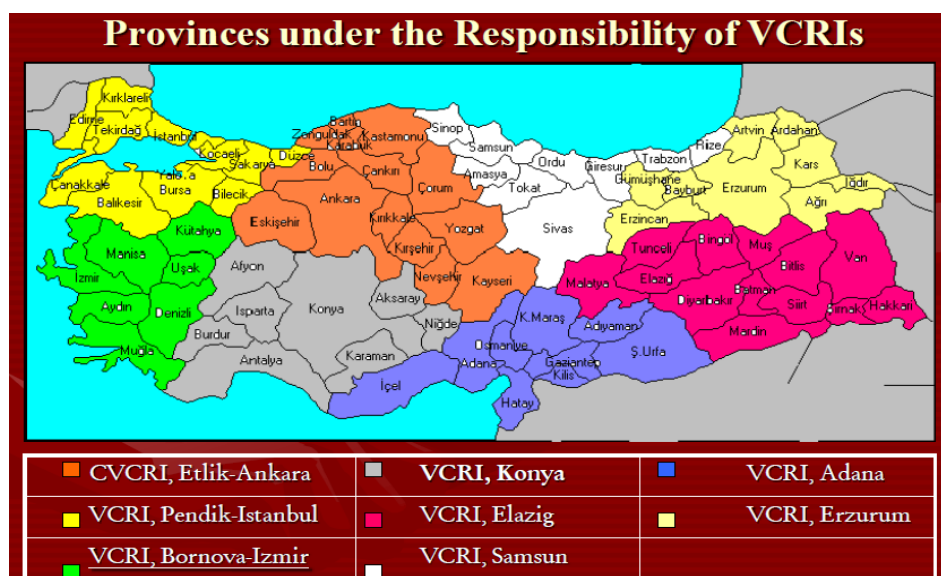


Table 13 Veterinary staff at Veterinary Control Institutes (VCI)³⁰:

Province	Institute	Veterinarians	Veterinary Technicians
ADANA	Adana	28	7
ANKARA	Etlik	65	35
ELAZIĞ	Elazığ	26	3
ERZURUM	Erzurum	17	7
İSTANBUL	Pendik	51	12
İZMİR	Bornova	76	10
KONYA	Konya	31	-
SAMSUN	Samsun	31	18
Total		295	92

Responsibilities for provision of reference laboratory services is divided up amongst the VCRI and the FMD Institute (H5). Some of these laboratories are contributing to the understanding of new and emerging diseases in the region or world, for example through phylogenetic analysis of new Avian Influenza isolates (H17), and trials to assess the effectiveness of new FMD vaccines against evolving FMD strains in the region (E76j).

In addition to a broad range of tests the Etlik Veterinary Central Control Research Institute (VCCRI) offers diagnostic reference and vaccine production services for PPR that will be critical to efforts to eradicate this disease.

A report on the VCIs (E19, E37) indicates that for several diseases human resources were insufficient to satisfy current and future national needs.

In addition to the VCI, there are 23 private laboratories licenced by MoFAL to perform a range of diagnostic tests (E20). Nine of these are laboratories in the faculties of veterinary medicine. Only the VCI laboratories are approved to perform tests for import and export purposes.

The Veterinary Strategy (E37) includes a chapter that sets out human resource and infrastructure needs of the public laboratory network to support current and proposed disease control and eradication programmes (E19). In some instances, these might be addressed by short term or ongoing redeployment of existing personnel from lower priority activities.

There is also an extensive network of public and private laboratories to support programmes in food safety (E36). This includes one National Food Reference Laboratory (UGRL), one Food and Feed Control Central Research Institute, 39 Public Food Control Laboratories (Figure 5) and 94 Private Food Control Laboratories authorized by the Ministry (Figure 6).

³⁰ Appendix 5 Document E7

Figure 5: Public Food Control Laboratories

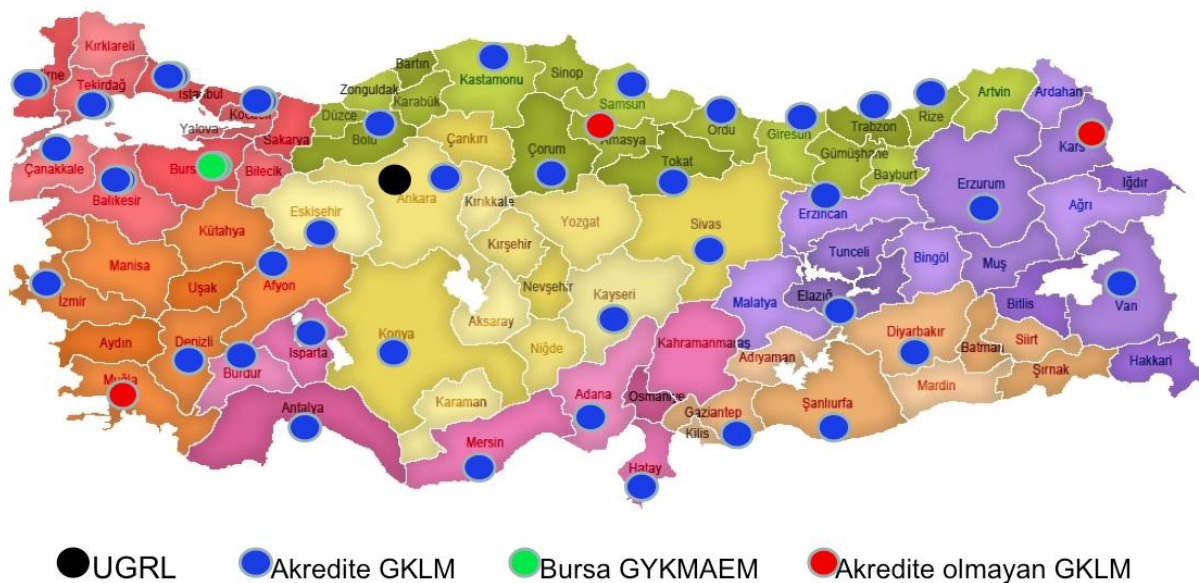
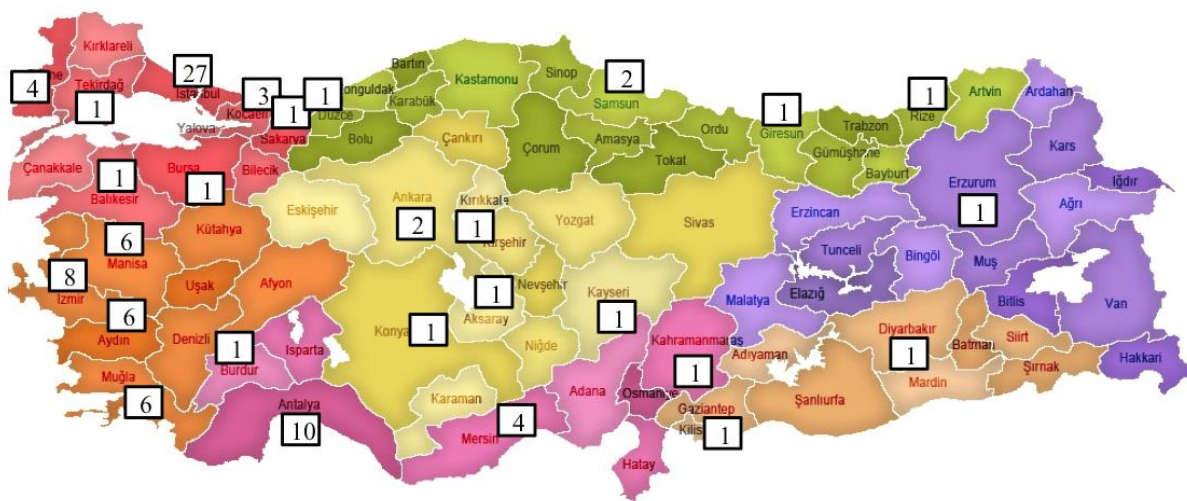


Figure 6: 94 Private Food Control Laboratories



94 Adet Özel Gıda Kontrol Laboratuvarı

Strengths:

- Extensive networks of laboratories for animal health and food safety.
- Effective use of international reference laboratories including contributions that add to knowledge of diseases emerging in the region.

Weaknesses:

- The laboratories represent a significant investment that raises questions about whether efficiencies might be gained to provide resources needed for new programmes.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- Enhanced application of quality assurance (see CC II-2).
- Increased capacity and roles for regional VCI.

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- Enhanced use of the eight VCI as centres of reference for priority diseases (H5).

Recommendations:

- Consider a cost analysis to identify if there are opportunities to gain efficiencies across the VCRI network in order to address the anticipated new requirements.
- Through redeployment, or if necessary recruitment, address the human resources required for current and future programs as identified in the Veterinary Strategy.

II-1 Veterinary laboratory diagnosis B. Suitability of national laboratory infrastructures <i>The sustainability, effectiveness and efficiency of the national (public and private) laboratory infrastructures to service the needs of the VS</i>	Levels of advancement
	1. The national laboratory infrastructure does not meet the need of the VS.
	2. The national laboratory infrastructure meets partially the needs of the VS, but is not entirely sustainable, as organisational deficiencies with regard to the effective and efficient management of resources and infrastructure (including maintenance) are apparent
	3. The national laboratory infrastructure generally meets the needs of the VS. Resources and organisation appear to be managed effectively and efficiently, but their regular funding is inadequate to support a sustainable and regularly maintained infrastructure
	4. The national laboratory infrastructure generally meets the needs of the VS and is subject to timely maintenance programmes but needs new investments in certain aspects (e.g. accessibility to laboratories, number or type of analyses).
	5. The national laboratory infrastructure meets the needs of the VS, and is sustainable and regularly audited.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	<i>Not assessed</i>

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	<i>Not assessed</i>

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): P3, H68

Findings:

Extensive networks of Veterinary Control Institutes and Food Control Laboratories (public and private) are positioned to meet requirements of the VS across the country (see CC II-1.A Figs 4, 5, 6).

All of the four VCI visited (Etlik, Konya, Pendik, Bornova) were well equipped and maintained. Most operated at BSL2 and some at BSL3. VCI Konya has an impressive vaccine storage facility operating at two temperatures with automated temperature recording and back-up refrigeration systems (P3).

VCI Etlik reported a USD 10 million annual maintenance budget. Core budgets for all VCI from MoFAL are supplemented by fees for service that flow into revolving funds.

Evidence of ongoing investments was noted – for example the new drug quality control laboratory at VCI Konya (P3).

Strengths:

- Well-equipped and maintained facilities.

Weaknesses:

- No evidence of facility audits.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- Not assessed

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- Not assessed

Recommendations:

- A review of overall costs of this extensive public infrastructure may be warranted. Are there more efficient means to secure these services?
- GDFC should consider the establishment of a common Information database to link its laboratory network.
- A defined plan should be drafted for the development, maintenance and evaluation of the laboratory network.

II-2 Laboratory quality assurance	Levels of advancement
<i>The quality of laboratories (that conduct diagnostic testing or analysis for chemical residues, antimicrobial residues, toxins, or tests for, biological efficacy, etc.) as measured by the use of formal QA systems including, but not limited to, participation in relevant proficiency testing programmes.</i>	1. No laboratories used by the public sector VS are using formal QA systems.
	2. Some laboratories used by the public sector VS are using formal QA systems.
	3. All laboratories used by the public sector VS are using formal QA systems.
	4. All the laboratories used by the public sector VS and most or all private laboratories are using formal QA systems.
	5. All the laboratories used by the public sector VS and most or all private laboratories are using formal QA programmes that meet OIE, ISO 17025, or equivalent QA standard guidelines.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	5. All the laboratories used by the public sector VS and most or all private laboratories are using formal QA programmes that meet OIE, ISO 17025, or equivalent QA standard guidelines.

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	Not assessed

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): H7-13 (VCI Konya); H16a&b (VCI Boronova), H51, H54, H56, H57, P3

Findings:

All VCI visited are ISO 17025 accredited by TURKAK, the Turkish Accreditation Agency³¹ (e.g. H7, H16a).

TURKAK also certified the individual lab assays – e.g. for VCI Konya there is a list of 26 assays (H8) accredited by TURKAK, most using methods from the OIE Manual of Standards for Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals; others used procedures from the AOAC or Pharmacopeia USP (H5). For VCI Bornova there is a similar list for 49 assays (H16b).

All national reference laboratories have obligations in proficiency testing, must do as many tests as possible to maintain capabilities, must provide training to other labs, and are responsible for confirmatory diagnoses for diseases for which they are assigned responsibility (H5). They must also maintain regional anti-sera and microbial strains.

VCI Bornova tests of vaccines and samples for residue detection using a “blind” protocol under which the laboratory performing the tests does not know the origin of the sample (this information being retained by the Institute’s sample reception/reporting centre). This protocol is not applied to diagnostic testing that will require the laboratory to have information on the provenance of the sample that is pertinent to interpretation of the results.

Proficiency tests for most assays – e.g. PPR Histology (H9), rabies FAT (H11), 16 others in which VCI Pendik participated (H51), Capripox (H54), HPAI (H57).

The residue testing laboratories were examined as part of an audit of Turkey’s control of residues and contaminants by the European Commission’s Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (H56). The overall conclusion was that “The competent authority has access to a network of accredited laboratories which can produce results in a timely manner.”. The report went on to warn that “the fact that some analytical methods are not yet

³¹ http://www.turkak.org.tr/TURKAKSITE/Default_eng.aspx accessed April 15, 2017.

validated combined with certain shortcomings in quality control procedures has the potential to undermine the reliability of the results produced.”.

Training has been performed in QA. (H53).

At VCI Konya the OIE Team reviewed the sample shipping, reception, data entry and reporting operations (P3), observing many effective QA measures (P3, H7-13).

Private animal health laboratories are required to use OIE standard operating procedures for BSL2 laboratories and the GFDC manual of standard diagnostic methods – most of which are OIE methods. One of the private animal health labs is accredited by TURKAK.

Private food control laboratories have to respect national regulations and ISO 17025; eighty of them are accredited by TURKAK³².

Strengths:

- TURKAK ISO 17025 certification of the establishments and accreditation of individual assays.
- Active programs of proficiency tests.

Weaknesses:

- Some short comings in quality controls and availability of methods.
- The absence of evidence on Quality Assurance for the private laboratories has limited the rating to level 3.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- VCI in all 8 regions are now ISO certified

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- SOPs for sample shipping and reception, with modern shipping containers to protect cold chain (P3).

Recommendations:

- Extend QA programs to the private laboratories.
- GDFC should establish, maintain and critically review submissions to a central registry of all relevant evidence of QA systems used (including standard operating procedures, testing manuals, records of TURKAK certifications, proficiency test methods and results, etc.), and ensure that effective follow-up actions are taken on audit findings.
- Any feedback from laboratories within the VS network on the sample submission processes should be recorded.
- GDFC should maintain any and all evidence that laboratory diagnostic procedures are in line with OIE standards.

³² http://www.turkak.org.tr/TURKAKSITE/Default_eng.aspx

II-3 Risk analysis	Levels of advancement
<i>The authority and capability of the VS to base its risk management measures on risk assessment.</i>	1. Risk management measures are not usually supported by risk assessment.
	2. The VS compile and maintain data but do not have the capability to carry out risk analysis. Some risk management measures are based on risk assessment.
	3. The VS compile and maintain data and have the capability to carry out risk analysis. The majority of risk management measures are based on risk assessment.
	4. The VS conduct risk analysis in compliance with relevant OIE standards, and base their risk management measures on the outcomes of risk assessment.
	5. The VS are consistent in basing sanitary measures on risk assessment, and in communicating their procedures and outcomes internationally, meeting all their OIE obligations (including WTO SPS Agreement obligations where applicable).

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	3. The VS can systematically compile and maintain relevant data and carry out risk assessment. Scientific principles and evidence, including risk assessment, generally provide the basis for risk management decisions.

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	2. The VS compile and maintain data but do not have the capability to systematically assess risks. Some risk management decisions are based on scientific risk assessment

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E31, E56

Findings:

Law 5996 (article 26, sections 1, 2 and 3) provides a solid legal basis for risk analysis.

A Department of Risk Analysis was created within GDRC in 2011 with mandates for food and feed safety, animal health and welfare and plant health (E31).

The regulation under which the Department operates and the planning of its scientific committees have been modeled after those of the EFSA.

Scientific Committees or “Commissions” are established for key subjects. Members are selected from candidates who respond to an open call. Scientific Committees comprised of scientists selected from a wide range of professions and specializations are composed of at least 9 members and each member has a term of office of 3 years. Four Commissions are now in operation: “Contaminants Commission” (2013), “Feed Commission” (2015) and “Biological Hazards Commission” (2016). “Commissions” for animal health and animal welfare are scheduled for 2020. Work is currently underway on plants as food and plant health, while work on animal health and welfare, novel foods, materials and equipment and food additives are scheduled for the future.

A sophisticated multi-factorial risk-based method is used to determine the frequency with which food producing establishments should be inspected (E56).

Strengths:

- A Department of Risk Analysis has been established within GDRC with a clear legal mandate, a broad scope of work and an independent scientific advisory process.
- A sophisticated risk-based process is in place to determine the frequency of inspection of food establishments (e.g. for detection of chemical residues).

Weaknesses:

- Step wise implementation has not favoured animal health and welfare (scheduled for 2020) – as a result level 4 has yet to be attained, although the goal is in sight.
- No evidence that risk analysis is being used to maximize efficiency in the deployment of resources.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- Department of Risk Analysis established

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- As above
- Animal health and imports of animals and animal products have yet to be prioritized for risk assessment

Recommendations:

- Assign priority to conduct Risk Analysis for animal health and trade in livestock and livestock products.
- GDFC should maintain documented procedures and results of risk analyses and risk communication efforts that conform with OIE Codes and WTO SPS Agreement obligations those for Codex Alimentarius.
- Consider the use of risk analysis to maximize efficiency in the deployment of resources for inspection and related programmes.

II-4 Quarantine and border security	Levels of advancement
<i>The authority and capability of the VS to prevent the entry and spread of diseases and other hazards of animals and animal products.</i>	1. The VS cannot apply any type of quarantine or border security procedures for animals or animal products with their neighbouring countries or trading partners.
	2. The VS can establish and apply quarantine and border security procedures; however, these are generally based neither on international standards nor on a risk analysis.
	3. The VS can establish and apply quarantine and border security procedures based on international standards, but the procedures do not systematically address illegal activities ³³ relating to the import of animals and animal products.
	4. The VS can establish and apply quarantine and border security procedures which systematically address legal pathways and illegal activities.
	5. The VS work with their neighbouring countries and trading partners to establish, apply and audit quarantine and border security procedures which systematically address all risks identified.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	4. The VS can establish and apply quarantine and border security procedures which systematically address legal pathways and illegal activities.

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	2. The VS can establish and apply quarantine and border security procedures; however, these are generally based neither on international standards nor on a risk analysis

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E6, E62, E70, E80, P5

Findings:

Importation of animals and animal products is regulated by the Framework Law 5996 on 'Veterinary Services Plant Health Food and Feed' and secondary legislation on "Implementing regulation concerning lists of animals and products to be subject to veterinary controls at introduction into the country", which is harmonized with EU Legislation (EU Commission Decision 2007/275/EU). According to the law, only official veterinarians can carry out controls on animals and animal products at the borders.

The Department of Border Inspection for Animals and Animal Products (DBIAAP) of GDFC is the VA responsible for border security and quarantine activities at central level for import, export and transit of animals, animal products, animal feed and other biological products. GDFC has direct technical and administrative authority over the 23 Border Inspection Posts of Turkey (7 roadways 5 airports and 11 sea ports – see Figure 7). All the BIPs are physically hosted by the Ministry of Customs and Trade.

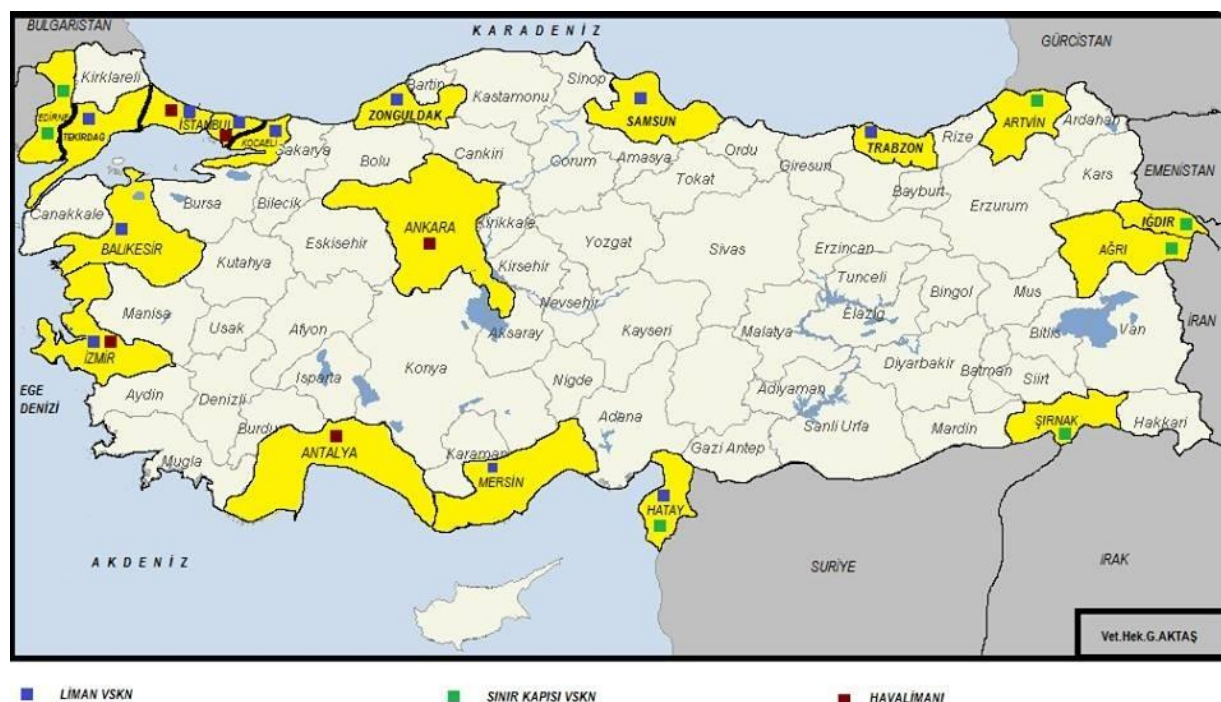
Centrally, DBIAAP and DAHQ jointly monitor trade partners' status, provide the BIPs (via easily accessible database systems) with information from the OIE World Animal Health Information System, for their action (entry to the territory or rejection). The BIPs have local data management systems in which they register all necessary import information; there is a project to connect the BIPs systems together in the near future.

The road points for entry of live animals to Turkey are the two Border Inspection Posts in Thrace: 1) in Edirne-Kapicule located at the border with Bulgaria, and to a lesser extent, 2) in Ipsala at the border with Greece. There is no import of live animals at the 5 other road BIPs

³³ Illegal activities include attempts to gain entry for animals or animal products other than through legal entry points and/or using certification and/or other procedures not meeting the country's requirements.

located at the borders with Georgia, Iran and Syria. Significant importation of cattle for slaughter and fattening also happens at the sea BIPs (between 40,000 to 100,000 animals per year at Izmir port alone). Most imports of live animals originate from EU member states (by road), but also from the Americas (by sea), mainly from Brazil and Uruguay. Imports of animal products are carried out in all BIPS (road, sea, air).

Figure 7 – Location of the 23 BIPs in Turkey (source E6)



The veterinary inspection procedure at the BIPs includes detailed documentary (health certificates notably), identity/traceability and physical inspections (a check list is used for the welfare aspects) for all live animals and animal products:

- For live animals, animals are quarantined at the destination points (in general for 21 days), under the supervision of provincial/district VA who has previously authorized the quarantine facilities (in most cases, the premises of the farm itself). The relevant official samples 10% of the animals in a first round of testing, with any positive tests resulting in destruction of positive animals and 100% sampling of the remaining cohort. Quarantine is carried out at the BIP (in private or public facilities outside the BIP of Edirne) for 'suspect' animals (clinical suspicion or lack of ear-tagging or inappropriate documentation). Sampling is performed for a wide range of diseases (testing for Schmallenberg virus was specifically mentioned).
- For animal feed and animal products (including skins, wools and casings), sampling is carried out for 3 percent of the consignments. A risk-based approach is conducted with more frequent sampling for products originating from unknown establishments. Consignments are released upon negative results; otherwise they are returned or destroyed.

At the Edirne-Kapicule BIP (P5), the Veterinary Services have inadequate facilities to unload the animals and conduct physical checks under good conditions. A project to build a 23,000 square meter inspection and quarantine site within the BIP has been prepared by the VA and submitted to the Ministry of Customs and Trade for funding. Human Resources at the BIPs were deemed sufficient by the VA.

Border coordination amongst agencies is supported by a local single window system, which allows a single electronic application to be submitted to all relevant government authorities, including the BIP VA, for processing and approval. When live animals or animal products are concerned, the VA do their inspection first and give clearance (or not) through the electronic system; then the Ministry of Customs and Trade takes over for the final clearance decision. The VA BIPs engage with Ministry of Customs and Trade to a limited degree and there was no evidence that these interactions reflect instructions, operational arrangements, or more formal agreements or regulations. There is no shared risk-assessment, nor joint controls. Contacts with neighboring countries VAs are on an ad hoc basis, when problems occur.

There is currently no requirement to pre-notify the BIPs of the arrival of live animals or animal products. As a result, it is difficult to anticipate each day workload and adjust human resources accordingly, with possible animal welfare consequences if the animals have to wait too long. Likewise, it is impossible to carry out any adequate risk profiling of the various consignments to arrive.

There is an ongoing risk of introduction of animal diseases to Turkey by illegal entry of animals from its eastern and south-eastern borders. Uncontrolled movement may occur from and to Syria, Iran and Iraq according to the fluctuations of the respective market prices (E6). District and Provincial VA are mandated to control illegal entries of animals and animal products but under the circumstances the OIE PVS Team was unable to verify such activities. The number of legal and illegal movements of animals and animal products is reported to have significantly decreased over the past years due to the political and security situation in south-eastern Turkey.

The VA does not inspect veterinary medicines and biologicals at Border Posts as these now fall under the supervision of the Ministry of Customs and Trade. Customs then contacts the Provincial VA of destination when they have approved entry of pharmaceuticals; Provincial VA will have approved destination facility prior to arrival.

Strengths:

- A list of formal BIPs exists for the whole country and is known by the Exporting Business Operators;
- A Coordinated Border Management project is under development at the Edirne-Kapicule and similar work is underway at the Port of Izmir, both likely under a broader EU sponsored Integrated Border Management (IBM) program³⁴.
- GDFC is using the Trade Control and Expert System (TRACES) of the European Commission to receive sanitary alerts;
- GDFC receives Food and Feed Alerts (RASFF) notifications from the European Commission if a product subject to a notification has been exported to Turkey or when a product originating in Turkey has been the subject of a notification. In this way, GDFC can take corrective measures where needed and appropriate.

Weaknesses:

- Quarantine at the destination point could be a risky practice if biosecurity is not properly implemented during transport within Turkey;
- Infrastructure at the BIP are not appropriate to carry out proper physical inspections nor are the quarantine facilities compatible with acceptable animal welfare conditions;
- Coordinated border management (including a Single Window system) with the Ministry of Customs and Trade and other border agencies is suboptimal at early stages of development.

³⁴ <http://www.avrupa.info.tr/en/eu-supports-stronger-border-management-turkey-41>

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- Several recommendations have been addressed to:
 - close high risk routes of entry;
 - establish a cadre central and field staff to monitor the animal health situation of neighboring countries (DAHQD jointly with DBIAAP);
 - access databases with up-to-date information on neighbors/trading partners' disease status (see also CC IV.4) and importations of animals, animal products and animal by-products;
 - document quarantine procedures, including issuing of import permits, waste disposal, and animal and animal product traceability.
- Other areas continue to require work to:
 - establish strategies and procedures to detect and control illegal activities, including where possible agreements for cooperation with neighboring countries and trading partners.

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- As above, to continue developing procedures and regulations for quarantine and border security according to international standards.

Recommendations:

- Promote understanding of BIPs' organization and functions of all Border Agencies to foster improved interactions and services provided to traders in collaboration with partners and in synchrony with national IBM strategies;
- Implement articles 8 (on Border Agency cooperation) and 23 (on National Trade Facilitation Committees) of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement to improve coordination with Ministry of Customs and Trade with a view to facilitating — while securing it in accordance with OIE standards — trade of live animals and animal products (see CC IV.4);
- In the context of the foregoing recommendations, review with the Ministry of Customs and Trade the functionality of the current dual/shared control of Veterinary Medicinal Products at borders; would delegation to one partner be more efficient and effective?
- Improve communication and joint actions with relevant competent authorities on illegal activities;
- Strengthen cooperation with neighboring countries on a regular basis.

II-5 Epidemiological surveillance and early detection <i>The authority and capability of the VS to determine, verify and report on the sanitary status of the animal populations, including wildlife, under their mandate.</i> A. Passive epidemiological surveillance	Levels of advancement
	1. The VS have no passive surveillance programme.
	2. The VS conduct passive surveillance for some relevant diseases and have the capacity to produce national reports on some diseases.
	3. The VS conduct passive surveillance in compliance with OIE standards for some relevant diseases at the national level through appropriate networks in the field, whereby samples from suspect cases are collected and sent for laboratory diagnosis with evidence of correct results obtained. The VS have a basic national disease reporting system.
	4. The VS conduct passive surveillance and report at the national level in compliance with OIE standards for most relevant diseases. Producers and other interested parties are aware of and comply with their obligation to report the suspicion and occurrence of notifiable diseases to the VS.
	5. The VS regularly report to producers and other interested parties and the international community (where applicable) on the findings of passive surveillance programmes.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	4. The VS conduct passive surveillance and report at the national level on most relevant diseases. Appropriate field networks are established for the collection of samples and submission for laboratory diagnosis of suspect cases with evidence of correct results obtained. Stakeholders are aware of and comply with their obligation to report the suspicion and occurrence of modifiable diseases to the VS.

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	3. The VS can conduct passive surveillance through appropriate networks in the field, where samples from suspect cases are collected and sent for laboratory diagnosis

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E19, E25, E37

Findings:

The 2010 Law on Veterinary Services, Plant Health, Food and Feed (E25; Law No. 5996) defines "surveillance" as it relates to food or feed establishment, food or feed business operators or their activities. It also defines "Surveillance zone" as it relates to disease control.

An official list of notifiable diseases identifies 34 terrestrial animal diseases and 17 aquatic animal diseases. These diseases are generally consistent with the OIE-Listed diseases, infections and infestations in force in 2017.

The Veterinary Strategy (E37), indicates that passive surveillance is the principle mode of disease notification in all cases when mass vaccination has been applied for disease control.

Many official animal health documents in Turkey refer to "clinical disease surveillance" which would be considered passive surveillance, however, for many of these same disease sero-surveillance is also undertaken - a form of active surveillance.

EU Pre-accession documents indicate that passive surveillance activities in Turkey are in keeping with EU requirements.

GDFC is able to generate disease reports based on collection procedures and can also produce disease maps.

While visiting Etlik and Pendik laboratories, it was clear that a surveillance protocol exists for submission of field samples and for inclusion in testing protocols.

Insufficient financial resources were allocated for TSEs (BSE and Scrapie) and rabies.

A report on the Veterinary Control Institutes (E19, E37) indicates that for several diseases human resources were insufficient to satisfy national needs for passive surveillance.

A national animal identification system supported by law is advancing nationwide; this animal identification system is expected to fully coordinate with disease information for more sophisticated analysis of data (see CC II-12.A).

In general, Turkey has fulfilled its OIE obligations for reporting confirmed and suspicious cases of disease to the OIE during a three-year period.

No list or database of human, physical and financial resources was available for passive surveillance activities in Turkey.

No evidence was provided of an auditing procedure to specifically review compliance with relevant OIE obligations for passive surveillance but a broader internal audit of the VS was underway in GDFC.

Strengths:

- Law 5996 identifies animal disease surveillance as a responsibility of GDFC.
- An expanded list of reportable diseases has been developed.
- Preparations for EU accession have resulted in improved levels of surveillance.
- Specifically, there is an epidemiology working group under DAHQ to arrange surveillance activities.
- Passive surveillance information is collected and maps can be generated upon request for any notifiable disease.
- Efforts are underway to link animal identification database information with animal disease information.

Weaknesses:

- Some indications that weaker surveillance exists in some areas with insufficient financial and human resources.
- There appeared to be a lack of management of human, physical and financial resources dedicated to passive surveillance activities.
- No evidence of an internal or external auditing system that specifically targets passive surveillance systems in Turkey, but a broader audit of the DAHQ was underway.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- There are improved levels of passive surveillance supported by legislation.
- Clinical disease-based surveillance does consider targeted populations (risk based).

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- There was evidence of documented procedures for passive surveillance.
- Regular communication of reports based on passive surveillance.

Recommendations:

- Increase through redeployment or if necessary recruitment the level and management of human resources for passive surveillance.
- The GDFC should consider surveillance for some diseases of the 2017 OIE List which may represent a risk regionally but are not presently notifiable – for example Old World Screwworm (*Chrysomya bezziana*).
- Consider specific training in notifiable animal diseases for staff involved in surveillance programmes.
- Record any audits that review compliance with relevant OIE obligations.

II-5 Epidemiological surveillance and early detection	Levels of advancement
<i>The authority and capability of the VS to determine, verify and report on the sanitary status of the animal populations, including wildlife, under their mandate.</i> B. Active epidemiological surveillance	1. The VS have no active surveillance programme.
	2. The VS conduct active surveillance for some relevant diseases (of economic and zoonotic importance) but apply it only in a part of susceptible populations and/or do not update it regularly.
	3. The VS conduct active surveillance in compliance with scientific principles and OIE standards for some relevant diseases and apply it to all susceptible populations but do not update it regularly.
	4. The VS conduct active surveillance in compliance with scientific principles and OIE standards for some relevant diseases, apply it to all susceptible populations, update it regularly and report the results systematically.
	5. The VS conduct active surveillance for most or all relevant diseases and apply it to all susceptible populations. The surveillance programmes are evaluated and meet the country's OIE obligations.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	4. The VS conduct active surveillance for some relevant diseases, apply it to all susceptible populations, update it regularly and report the results systematically.

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	Not assessed other than for an observation of a "lack of evidence that the VS can conduct active surveillance programs..."

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): H15, E37

Findings:

Surveillance activities, in general, are supported by current legislation without specific mention made of "active" surveillance.

Disease control objectives and EU review documents demonstrate that active surveillance exists for early detection of FMD, PPR, and LSD. Some documents suggest that active surveillance exists for RVF, BT and the bee disease, American Foulbrood, but no clear documentation demonstrated these efforts.

Although it is acknowledged that active surveillance is required for viral haemorrhagic septicaemia (VHS), insufficient financial resources have been allocated for its control.

EU accession reviews have identified shortcomings in Turkey's surveillance system including lack of active surveillance for: avian influenza, NCD, glanders BSE, VHS, and Scrapie.

Procedures for sample collection, submission and processing at laboratories are documented and were observed at VCI Pendik.

Targeted sero-surveillance programs exist for animal diseases to support EU accession or access to international trade.

For avian influenza, active surveillance is undertaken in defined high risk areas (wetlands) and at high risk periods.

Although diagnostic testing is applied to both commercial poultry as well as backyard poultry it is not clear that the collection of diagnostic samples was based on systematic active surveillance. Avian wildlife is not mentioned in any surveillance efforts.

As per OIE guidelines, in the event of an outbreak of a reportable disease, control and surveillance zones form an integral part of disease control.

Sero-surveillance is carried out in Thrace as part of Turkey's efforts to maintain this area as FMD free with vaccination.

Turkey is recognized by OIE as a free country (AHS) or zone (FMD) and as such must document evidence that surveillance is undertaken in accordance with Articles 12.1.11. to 12.1.13. in submitted annual reports.

Active brucellosis and Tb surveillance in 3 herds certified free in Ankara Province (H15).

Surveillance for Crimean-Congo Haemorrhagic Fever Virus (CCHFV) falls under the auspices of the MoH.

Although active surveillance, where it existed, was in compliance with scientific principles and OIE standards for some diseases it was not clearly demonstrated that it was applied to all susceptible populations or update in a regular manner.

No list or database of human, physical and financial resources was available for active surveillance activities in Turkey.

No evidence was provided of an auditing procedure to specifically review compliance with relevant OIE obligations for active surveillance but a broader internal audit of the VS was underway in GDFC.

Strengths:

- The principles of “active surveillance” are understood and implemented by GDFC for certain diseases.
- Important diseases relevant to international trade are included in active surveillance efforts.
- Protocols for active surveillance referent to field collection in targeted populations and by laboratory application were observed.

Weaknesses:

- Active surveillance is not consistently applied across all relevant animal populations
- Diseases identified in the Veterinary Strategy (E37) which were found lacking effective active surveillance included avian influenza, NCD, glanders, BSE, VHS, and Scrapie
- Active surveillance for animal diseases in Turkey is not applied to all susceptible populations or update in a regular manner.
- There was a lack of management of human, physical and financial resources dedicated to active surveillance activities.
- No evidence exists of an internal or external auditing system specifically targeting active surveillance systems in Turkey but a broader internal audit of the VS was underway in GDFC.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- There is now clear evidence of regular, direct contact between field and laboratory staff.
- There is now evidence that the VS can conduct active surveillance programs in animal populations for diseases of economic and zoonotic importance to the country and systematically report these results.

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- Work to differentiate FMD-vaccinated from infected animals and identification of new circulating viral strains is well established.
- TB-free herds (tuberculin testing) of cattle in Thrace is expanding to other areas of Turkey.

Recommendations:

- Develop plans for active surveillance based on national priorities and applied to targeted populations. This effort should be applied to all susceptible populations and be updated regularly.
- A database should be developed which captures and systematically reports all active surveillance efforts.
- Active surveillance for CCHFV will require coordination with Ministry of Public Health to effectively use small ruminants as sentinels.
- Review priority active surveillance programmes for consistency with OIE obligations (e.g. records of notifications of diseases and suspicions to the OIE during a three-year period).
- Document and maintain records of audits and procedures related to compliance with relevant OIE obligations.

II-6 Emergency response	Levels of advancement
<i>The authority and capability of the VS to respond rapidly to a sanitary emergency (such as a significant disease outbreak or food safety emergency).</i>	1. The VS have no field network or established procedure to determine whether a sanitary emergency exists or the authority to declare such an emergency and respond appropriately.
	2. The VS have a field network and an established procedure to determine whether or not a sanitary emergency exists, but lack the necessary legal and financial support to respond appropriately.
	3. The VS have the legal framework and financial support to respond rapidly to sanitary emergencies, but the response is not coordinated through a chain of command. They may have national contingency plans for some exotic diseases but they are not updated/tested.
	4. The VS have an established procedure to make timely decisions on whether or not a sanitary emergency exists. The VS have the legal framework and financial support to respond rapidly to sanitary emergencies through a chain of command. They have national contingency plans for some exotic diseases that are regularly updated/tested.
	5. The VS have national contingency plans for all diseases of concern, including coordinated actions with relevant Competent Authorities, all producers and other interested parties through a chain of command. These are regularly updated, tested and audited

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	5. The VS have national contingency plans for all diseases of concern through coordinated actions with all stakeholders through a chain of command.

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	4. The VS have an established procedure to make timely decisions on whether or not a sanitary emergency exists. The VS have the legal framework and financial support to respond rapidly to sanitary emergencies through a chain of command. They have national contingency plans for some exotic diseases

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E19, E37, E60, H44, H45

Findings:

Interviews with central level as well as Provincial and District level personnel confirmed that early detection is a priority of the VS. This is substantiated in various pre-accession project documents. It is supported by effective national laboratory networks for animal health and food safety (see CCII-1.A).

The 2010 Law on Veterinary Services, Plant Health, Food and Feed (Law No. 5996) provides a legal framework for all emergency response activities (“... investigation, diagnosis, and taking necessary control and protection measures.”) for animal disease (Chapter One) and for Food and Feed (Section Five).

Law No. 5996 also contains specific language in which the Ministry is responsible to “draw up” a contingency plan to be implemented in the event of crisis which endangers human or animal health with Chapter Three referring to the means for financing any emergency actions necessary.

Various forms of secondary legislation include provisions for emergency response plans for relevant animal diseases.

The Veterinary Strategy (E37) identifies diseases of increased risk which could potentially require an emergency response.

In the event of an emergency on a national scale, Turkey's National Disaster Response Plan (TAMP) can be engaged through the Office of the Prime Minister (E60). "TAMP defines the roles, duties and responsibilities of every service group and coordination unit taking part in disaster and emergency situations taking into account their field of expertise, and determines the basic principles of the response plan in all three phases: before, during and after a disaster." MoFAL is one of the central Ministries identified as "major associates working in coordination with the Prime Ministry Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency in TAMP with interoperability at the forefront."

Within MoFAL itself, no documents provided a fully documented chain of command specific for emergencies other than that described under CC I-6.A, with procedures at all levels and functions, and evidence of effective coordination of emergency response activities.

For FMD and AI, GDPC regularly undertakes field simulation exercises. OIE has been notified of these exercises, however, no neighbouring countries were involved.

In Edirne, interviews with relevant staff indicated that they had emergency contingency plans for FMD, HPAI and PPR, and this was confirmed by headquarters³⁵.

At the Provincial level, train-the-trainer efforts are completed for contingency plans for District personnel (one person from each district comes to training).

Although the Team was informed verbally of contingency plans, documentation of national disease contingency plans was lacking.

In a document related to VCI lab requirements (E19, E37), there is an indication of insufficient human resources in the event of emergency needs. No evidence was provided of a list or database of human, physical and financial resources, available for emergency response.

The OIE PVS Team is aware of recent introductions of exotic diseases (e.g. LSD in 2013) and reports to the OIE and trading partners would indicate that Turkey undertook emergency response actions. However, documentation of these procedures or an actual contingency plan was not made available.

There was no evidence of coordinating emergency response plans with stakeholders.

Although there is evidence of use of small ruminants for CCHFV as sentinels in research, there is no evidence of systematic use of animal disease detections to prevent zoonotic diseases in humans.

Strengths:

- A solid legal framework exists at primary and secondary legislative levels for GDPC detection and response for animal disease and food and feed.
- For high priority disease, like FMD, the VS have produced contingency plans and conducted simulation exercises.

Weaknesses:

- There are important diseases for which contingency response plans remain to be developed and/or updated.
- Management of human, financial and physical resources for early detection and response was not documented.
- Lack of fully documented emergency response chain of command, with levels and functions, and evidence of effective coordination of emergency response activities.

³⁵ Dr. Visal KAYACIK, personal communication

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:**2007 OIE PVS Evaluation**

- The language for this critical competency has changed since 2007 and in addition to being able to develop any contingency plan the country now must demonstrate that they regularly test and update these plans
- Preparations for EU accession have resulted in improved infrastructure and access to advanced methods and techniques in early detection and emergency response

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- GDFC has developed a contingency plan for FMD and some relevant diseases and it has reported its simulation exercise for FMD to the OIE prior to implementation.

Recommendations:

- Review all existing relevant diseases for early detection procedures and emergency response plans and document these.
- Determine if early detection procedures and emergency response plans are required for other diseases
- Priority consideration should be given to adopting an Incident Command System as is widely used internationally to manage emergency responses. This would address any reservations about adequacy of the existing chain of command, supplementing it with the incident command structure.
- The Incident Command approach is likely to be compatible with that used by the national Disaster Response Plan (TAMP; E60). Early and regular liaison with officials responsible for TAMP are advised.
- Upon development of these early detection procedures and emergency response plans for relevant diseases they should be regularly updated, tested and audited
- Develop and maintain a list or database of human, physical and financial resources, available for emergency response.
- All early detection procedures and emergency response plans should be reviewed with relevant stakeholders and simulation exercises should consider involving these interested parties
- Consideration should be given to working on key zoonotic diseases with the MoH where animal populations might serve as early warning to prevent human diseases.

II-7 Disease prevention, control and eradication <i>The authority and capability of the VS to actively perform actions to prevent, control or eradicate OIE listed diseases and/or to demonstrate that the country or a zone are free of relevant diseases.</i>	Levels of advancement
	1. The VS have no authority or capability to prevent, control or eradicate animal diseases.
	2. The VS implement prevention, control or eradication programmes for some diseases and/or in some areas with little or no scientific evaluation of their efficacy and efficiency.
	3. The VS implement prevention, control or eradication programmes for some diseases and/or in some areas with scientific evaluation of their efficacy and efficiency.
	4. The VS implement prevention, control or eradication programmes for all relevant diseases but with scientific evaluation of their efficacy and efficiency of some programmes.
	5. The VS implement prevention, control or eradication programmes for all relevant diseases with scientific evaluation of their efficacy and efficiency consistent with relevant OIE international standards.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	<i>4. The VS implement prevention, control and eradication programmes for all relevant diseases but with scientific evaluation of their efficacy and efficiency of only some programmes.</i>

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	<i>Not assessed</i>

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E33, E37, H7, H37, H38, H39, H41, H42, H43, H46, H50, H52, H61, H62, P5

Findings:

The 2010 Law on Veterinary Services, Plant Health, Food and Feed (Law No. 5996) contains language specifically related to animal disease prevention, control and eradication.

There is also specific legislation that refers to access for funds for undertaking disease prevention, control and eradication including compensation of losses from these efforts.

Secondary legislation which includes interventions such as: responsibilities of national reference laboratory, compulsory notification, measures in protection and surveillance zones including measures in wildlife, vaccination provisions, slaughter of susceptible animals within the infected premises, provisions for cleaning and disinfection, provisions for emergency plan and provisions for vector control are documented for diseases set out in Table X.

The Veterinary Strategy (E37) analysed animal disease control measures taking account of the current epidemiological situation for targeted animal diseases in Turkey. Potential economic losses were estimated (E37, page 112) and where relevant, risk assessment factors were identified for over 20 diseases.

According to the Veterinary Strategy the top 10 priority endemic diseases for Turkey (in order of importance) are: FMD, LSD, Brucellosis in small ruminants, Brucellosis in cattle, Rabies, Tuberculosis, PPR, Bluetongue, Anthrax and Sheep/Goat pox and priority areas of the VS include; animal health, animal welfare and animal identification.

Active brucellosis and Tb surveillance is performed in herds certified free – e.g. in Ankara Province (E28).

As detailed in relevant critical competencies on laboratory infrastructure and functions, Turkey benefits from a high level of advancement in its laboratory support for disease prevention control and eradication.

Table X: Diseases subject to specific secondary legislation:

Foot-and-Mouth disease (FMD): Related Regulation for the Control of FMD (Official Gazette No. 27836)

Avian influenza (AI): Regulation on protection and fight against Avian Influenza" (Official Gazette No. 28044 Date 04.09.2011)

Newcastle disease (NCD): Regulation on protection and fight against Newcastle Disease" (Official Gazette Number 28044)

Anthrax: Regulation on protection and fight against Anthrax" (Official Gazette Number 28151)

Bluetongue: Official Gazette No. 28163 Date 4/1/2012

Brucellosis: Regulation on Combating Brucellosis Official Gazette No. 27189

Glanders: Regulation on protection and fight against glanders" (Official Gazette No. 28150 Date 22/22/2011)

Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) / Peste des Petites Ruminants (PPR) / Rift Valley Fever (RVF) / Sheep pox and Goat pox (SPGP) / Vesicular Stomatitis (VS): Official Gazette No. 28163 Date 4/1/2012

Rabies: Regulation on Protection from and Combating Rabies Disease (Official Gazette No. 28177 Date 18/1/2012)

Salmonellosis (Pullorum disease and Fowl typhoid):

Salmonellosis (Pullorum disease and Fowl typhoid): Regulation of protection and fighting against Pullorum Disease and Fowl Typhoid (Official Gazette Number 28141 Date 12/12/2011)

Tuberculosis: Bovine Livestock Tuberculosis Regulation, as amended (Date 2/4/2009)

Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSE): Official Gazette No. 28143 (Date 15/12/2011)

African Horse Sickness (AHS): Regulation on protection and fight against African Horse Sickness (Official Gazette No. 28149 Date 11/12/2011)

Equine Infectious Anaemia (EIA): Regulation on protection and fight against Equine Infectious Anaemia (Official Gazette number 28150)

Bee diseases: Regulation on mandatory notification and notification of animal diseases (Official Gazette No. 27823 Date 22/1/2011)

An Animal Health Services Working Group within DAHQ is responsible for planning and implementation of animal health control programmes and produces annual plans for the control of animal diseases that are adopted by GDFC and published in the form of Ministerial circulars (e.g. E39 for brucellosis and Tb free establishments, E78 for the 2017 Vaccination Programme by Province, Disease and Species).

Circulars are the official documents for all animal disease activities at province and district levels; disease list is the same for all provinces but the workload may vary according to the location; reference laboratories are involved in development of the vaccination program (surveillance plan) for each Province.

The BIPs play an important role in the national animal control efforts by ensuring the protection of the national territory from the entry of diseases.

The annual programme for the control of animal diseases makes clear reference of the role of the animal identification and registry control but it has been noted that it cannot be considered an adequate guideline for all elements comprising in the system.

Diseases present in the country, never reported and absent in 2015 are set out in Table 4a. Of the 14 diseases absent in 2015, 7 of the diseases listed were eliminated since 2007.

The Veterinary Strategy (E37) indicates that animal disease control measures in Turkey are generally compatible with international requirements, however, there existed significant inconsistencies in terms timeliness and degree of implementation.

Among the shortcomings that were considered severely affecting the effectiveness of disease control measures were: vaccination coverage, movement control, public awareness, vector control and lack of information on the animal disease situation in the wildlife where wildlife play key role in effective control. Those animal disease measures which were impacted by a lack of financial investment included: TSE surveillance, lack of financial resources for appropriate coverage with Oral rabies vaccination, and NCD and Salmonellosis (Pullorum disease and Fowl typhoid), where clinical disease is mainly covered with mass vaccination.

In its Veterinary Strategy, Turkey does prioritize diseases on specific criteria and develops plans of action based on these priority diseases.

Turkey does have official OIE recognition for: FMD (free zone where vaccination is practised) and African Horse Sickness (free). [Rinderpest was declared as eradicated worldwide by the OIE and FAO in May and June 2011.]

No evidence was provided of a list or database of human, physical and financial resources, available for disease prevention, control and eradication activities.

There was limited documentation of evaluations of effectiveness, efficacy and efficiency for this critical competency.

Lack of coordination for animal health activities (specifically, animal disease prevention, control and eradication efforts) with neighbouring countries.

Strengths:

- There is recent and well formulated legislation which supports animal disease prevention, control and eradication activities for relevant diseases.
- The relevant diseases for Turkey were determined through a weighing of specific criteria.
- An Animal Health Services Working Group has been established to develop an annual plan for the control of animal diseases in Turkey and these are distributed to all levels of the VS.
- Turkey's veterinary authority and OIE delegate regularly report on the status of diseases under its control.
- Turkey has attained OIE recognition for 2 important animal disease; FMD and AHS and has self-declared the 81 Provinces of Turkey free from AI.
- There is prospect for a PPR free zone (Thrace) before 2020.

Weaknesses:

- As noted above, there remain significant inconsistencies in terms of timeliness and degree of implementation of animal disease prevention, control and eradication efforts.
- A number of specific technical shortcomings have been identified above.
- There was no list or database of human, physical and financial resources, available for disease prevention, control and eradication activities.
- There was limited documentation of evaluations of efficacy and efficiency in this critical competency.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:**2007 OIE PVS Evaluation**

- This critical competency was not evaluated in 2007.
- Of the 14 diseases absent in 2015, 7 were eliminated since 2007.

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- Important advances have been made since 2009 in the area of vaccination including those identified in the report; FMD, brucellosis, PPR and rabies (wildlife and stray dogs – P5).

Recommendations:

- Turkey's Animal Health Services Working Group should review its annual plan for the prevention, control and eradication of animal diseases in Turkey with a critical eye towards efficacy, efficiency and relevance. This Working group should also address the technical shortcomings identified in the Veterinary Strategy document.
- GDPC should create and maintain a list or database of human, physical and financial resources, available for disease prevention, control and eradication activities.
- Efforts should be made to clearly and succinctly (in one document) capture internal and external evaluations of efficacy and efficiency in this critical competency.

II-8 Food safety	Levels of advancement
A. Regulation, authorisation and inspection of establishments for production, processing and distribution of food of animal origin <i>The authority and capability of the VS to establish and enforce sanitary standards for establishments that produce, process and distribute food of animal origin</i>	1. Regulation, authorisation and inspection of relevant establishments are generally not undertaken in conformity with international standards.
	2. Regulation, authorisation and inspection of relevant establishments are undertaken in conformity with international standards in some of the major or selected premises (e.g. only at export premises).
	3. Regulation, authorisation and inspection of relevant establishments are undertaken in conformity with international standards in all premises supplying throughout the national market.
	4. Regulation, authorisation and inspection of relevant establishments (and coordination, as required) are undertaken in conformity with international standards for premises supplying the national and local markets.
	5. Regulation, authorisation and inspection of relevant establishments (and coordination, as required) are undertaken in conformity with international standards at all premises (including on-farm establishments).

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	3. Management, implementation and coordination are generally undertaken in conformity with international standards only for export purpose and for products that are distributed throughout the national market.

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	Not assessed

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E14, E25, E28, E33, E82, E83, E92, E93

Findings:

Law 5996 (E25) includes Section 5 on Food and Feed, which introduces a comprehensive legal framework for food safety, including traceability, through the following provisions:

- Article 21: places a general obligation to produce safe food on food business operators;
- Article 22: places a general obligation on food business operators to immediately initiate withdrawal procedures for any food that is deemed unsafe for any reason, or otherwise found to not be in compliance with a legal provision of the Act;
- Article 23: establishes the Ministry's ability to produce a Food Codex, with associated technical and hygiene criteria against which conformance for food safety purposes will be determined;
- Article 24: requires food business operators to establish traceability procedures for all stages of production and distribution, and to provide this information to the Ministry on request. It also establishes the requirement for all food to be labelled appropriately. Further, food shall not be adulterated or subject to fraudulent practices.
- Article 25: Requires the Ministry to establish a rapid alert system for notifications and crisis management during food safety events.
- Article 26: Establishes a requirement for the Ministry to set up expert and consultative systems for risk analysis, risk management and risk communication for food safety.

In addition, a Regulation on Food Hygiene of 2011 (E82) sets out “procedures and principles pertaining to food hygiene rules” to be complied with from farm to plate by food business operators. This regulation does not apply to food produced for personal consumption or to the supply of “...small quantities of primary products to the final consumer or to local retail establishments directly supplying the final consumer.”. This is a modern regulation that makes use of HACCP procedures and Guides to Good Practice and has provisions for imported and exported foodstuffs.

GDPC registers food establishments under regulation 17.12.2011-28145 (E93) pursuant to Law 5996) which makes special provisions for approval of establishments producing foods of animal origin. Other regulations under Law 5996 govern Feeds and Fertilizers.

GDPC operates a sophisticated risk-based procedure to determine the frequency of inspections taking account of factors such as the sector, past performance of the business, reliability of the enterprise’s “auto-controls”, and the establishment’s hygiene management (E83).

Inspections are supported by an extensive network of public and private food control laboratories (see CC II-1.A&B).

Entry of all registered establishments and inspections in Food Safety Information System/database (GGBS).

There is shared responsibilities for food business establishments with authorization for opening a food establishment done by Municipalities (for the actual facility/structure) and while the Provincial and District VS oversee operational management/working conditions.

The MoFAL Strategic Plan for 2013-2017 (E34) sets an ambitious goal to “finalize the accreditation of the food and feed inspection system in accordance with ISO 17020”.

Turkey has a twinning programme on food safety with the EU.

Strengths:

- Modern comprehensive legislation
- Sophisticated risk-based process for determining frequency of inspections

Weaknesses:

- Exemptions for personal use extend to small retail enterprises.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- Comprehensive, modern legislation
- Enhanced risk-based decision making

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- As above

Recommendations:

- Consistent with the goal of attaining ISO 17020 accreditation (See CC I-11), GDPC should maintain a database of physical, financial and human resources (including competencies and continuing education) dedicated to regulation, authorisation and inspection of establishments.
- Easy access should be established for any records of inspections, audits and sanctions.

B. Ante and post mortem inspection at abattoirs and associated premises (e.g. meat boning/cutting establishments and rendering plants).	Levels of advancement
<i>The authority and capability of the VS to implement and manage the inspection of animals destined for slaughter at abattoirs and associated premises, including for assuring meat hygiene and for the collection of information relevant to livestock diseases and zoonoses.</i>	1. Ante- and post mortem inspection and collection of disease information (and coordination, as required) are generally not undertaken in conformity with international standards.
	2. Ante- and post mortem inspection and collection of disease information (and coordination, as required) are undertaken in conformity with international standards only at export premises.
	3. Ante- and post mortem inspection and collection of disease information (and coordination, as required) are undertaken in conformity with international standards for export premises and for major abattoirs producing meat for distribution throughout the national market.
	4. Ante- and post mortem inspection and collection of disease information (and coordination, as required) are undertaken in conformity with international standards for export premises and for all abattoirs producing meat for distribution in the national and local markets.
	5. Ante- and post mortem inspection and collection of disease information (and coordination, as required) are undertaken in conformity with international standards at all premises (including family and on farm slaughtering) and are subject to periodic audit of effectiveness.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	3. Management, implementation and coordination are generally undertaken in conformity with international standards only for export purpose and for products that are distributed throughout the national market.

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	Not assessed

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E14, E27, E28, E33, E92, E93 H5, H6,

Findings:

Ante and post-mortem inspection is required at slaughterhouses under updated regulations (E92, E93) pursuant to Law 5996³⁶. Establishments often have their own veterinarian who works under supervision of the official veterinarian. This veterinary supervision of slaughterhouses is an important component of passive disease surveillance.

Similar arrangements exist for other food enterprises (e.g. milk) where it could be a food engineer. Annex to the law sets out which professions are eligible. In all cases they must be a member of the relevant Chamber.

The Department of Food Establishments and Codex (DFEC) of GDFA trains official veterinarians to perform inspections at slaughterhouses and cutting plants. To date 1500 have been trained. DFEC also establishes standards for animal welfare during slaughter operations.

Provincial VA are responsible for approval of slaughterhouses and for overseeing inspections. Under EU pre-accession preparations they have closed many sub-standard slaughterhouses (E28) with more than 300 small-scale slaughterhouses having been administratively closed over the past 5 years

³⁶ Dr. Visal Kayacik personal communication (E27)

On the other end of the standards spectrum, a modern cattle slaughter and meat processing facility has been constructed to EU standards near Konya³⁷ by *HACIİNCE*, a family owned cattle company, with support from an EU pre-accession investment program. This plant is currently supplying the national market with clients as exacting as MacDonald's and with sophisticated products carrying breed identity and eartag numbers of the individual animals for advanced traceability (H5).

Due to a red meat shortage in Turkey little if any is exported. A wide range of animal products are currently exported to countries.

As note previously under CC II-8.A, the broad food hygiene regulation (E82) does not apply to food produced for personal consumption or to the supply of "...small quantities of primary products to the final consumer or to local retail establishments directly supplying the final consumer.". Some exemptions also apply during the Kurban Festival³⁸.

Strengths:

- Modern legislation and regulations
- Active programmes of inspection through Provincial and District Va

Weaknesses:

- Inspection regime stops short of local retail establishments

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- Comprehensive, modern legislation
- New high quality slaughterhouse created while poorer ones are being closed

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- As above

Recommendations:

- GDFC should seek access to any reports of human cases of food-borne zoonoses.
- Consistent with the goal of attaining ISO 17020 accreditation (see CC I-11), GDFC should:
 - Document and maintain records of the implementation of HACCP procedures and compliance.
 - If they do not already exist, standard operational hygiene procedures (e.g. start-up hygiene monitoring, equipment cleanliness) should be established nationwide.
 - All internal and/or external hygiene audit reports should be maintained.

³⁷ <http://www.haciince.com/en/production/Slaughter> accessed April 18, 2017

³⁸ http://www.turkeyforyou.com/travel_turkey_kurban_bayram

C. Inspection of collection, processing and distribution of products of animal origin	Levels of advancement
<i>The authority and capability of the VS to implement, manage and coordinate food safety measures on collection, processing and distribution of products of animals, including programmes for the prevention of specific food-borne zoonoses and general food safety programmes.</i>	1. Implementation, management and coordination (as appropriate) are generally not undertaken in conformity with international standards.
	2. Implementation, management and coordination (as appropriate) are generally undertaken in conformity with international standards only for export purposes.
	3. Implementation, management and coordination (as appropriate) are generally undertaken in conformity with international standards only for export purposes and for products that are distributed throughout the national market.
	4. Implementation, management and coordination (as appropriate) are generally undertaken in conformity with international standards for export purposes and for products that are distributed throughout the national and local markets.
	5. Implementation, management and coordination (as appropriate) are undertaken in full conformity with international standards for products at all levels of distribution (including on-farm establishments).

[Note: This critical competency primarily refers to inspection of processed animal products and raw products other than meat (e.g. milk, honey etc.). It may in some countries be undertaken by an agency other than the VS.]

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	3. Management, implementation and coordination are generally undertaken in conformity with international standards only for export purpose and for products that are distributed throughout the national market.

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	Not assessed

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5):

Findings: E14, E25, E28, E33, E52, E53, E82, E92, E93, H24, H25, H26

The legislation described under II-8.A also provides the required authorities for this CC.

According to the article 23 of Law 5996:

- MoFAL prepares and publishes the food codex on the minimum technical and hygienic criteria for foods and the materials and articles in contact with foods, pesticides and veterinary drugs, food additives, contaminants, sampling, packaging, labelling, transportation, storage and analysis methods.
- The Ministry can provide cooperation with related stakeholders and for this purpose, can establish commissions.
- The Ministry is the contact point for Codex Alimentarius Commission and conducts the related works on this area.
- For the preparation of food codex, The Ministry establishes the National Food Codex Commission (NFCC).

Turkey has an active National Codex Committee with 2 members from MoFAL, 1 from MoH, 1 from the Turkish Standards Institute and 1 from a food sector industry association. There are numerous Codex standards and a process for their creation (E52, E53).

An on-line food safety information system can be used to establish the frequency of inspections and sampling based on multiple risk factors as demonstrated for the residue sampling plan.

Good practice guidelines exist for SMEs and multiple products (honey, bakery, milk, meat, etc.).

Hotline ALO-GIDA (Hello-food) collects consumer complaints; all complaints are systematically investigated and a hotline offers tips; complaint follow-up reports were obtained (H25, 26).

Provincial and District VA are active in delivering establishment inspection services as observed during site meetings. When inspection proves unsatisfactory they can seize food, stop operations for a period, withdraw permits and/or do public exposure.

As note previously under CC II-8.A, the broad food hygiene regulation (E82) does not apply to food produced for personal consumption or to the supply of "...small quantities of primary products to the final consumer or to local retail establishments directly supplying the final consumer."

Strengths:

- Active Codex programme
- Risk-based inspection regime for food establishments
- Consumer education and hot-line

Weaknesses:

- Inspection regime stops short of local retail establishments.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- Not assessed

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- Not assessed

Recommendations:

- Consistent with the goal of attaining ISO 17020 accreditation (see CC I-11), GDFC should ensure that documented procedures followed by personnel (including for the collection and analysis of relevant samples) are maintained and enforced,
- All types of evidence such as: records, forms, registers and reports of inspection as well as consignment reports should be maintained, and
- All reports of human cases of food-borne zoonoses should be investigated among the relevant authorities.

II-9 Veterinary medicines and biologicals	Levels of advancement
<i>The authority and capability of the VS to regulate veterinary medicines and veterinary biologicals, in order to ensure their responsible and prudent use, i.e. the marketing authorisation, registration, import, manufacture, quality control, export, labelling, advertising, distribution, sale (includes dispensing) and use (includes prescribing) of these products.</i>	1. The VS cannot regulate veterinary medicines and veterinary biologicals.
	2. The VS have some capability to exercise regulatory and administrative control over veterinary medicines and veterinary biologicals in order to ensure their responsible and prudent use.
	3. The VS exercise regulatory and administrative control for most aspects of the regulation related to the control over veterinary medicines and veterinary biologicals, including prudent use of antimicrobial agents in order to ensure their responsible and prudent use.
	4. The VS exercise comprehensive and effective regulatory and administrative control of veterinary medicines and veterinary biologicals.
	5 The control systems are regularly audited, tested and updated when necessary.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	3. The VS exercise quality control (technical standards) over the import, production and distribution of veterinary medicines and veterinary biologicals.

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	2. The VS has only limited capability to exercise administrative control (including registration) on the usage, including import and production, of veterinary medicines and veterinary biological

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E15, E43, E44a&b, E45, E46, E47, 48, E49, E50, H2, H3, H27a&b, H29, H30, H65, H72C, P5

Findings:

GDPC has a new Department for Veterinary Health Products and Public Health (DVHPPH) that regulates wholesale and retail sales and oversees implementation by the Provinces with a sub-Department for oversight of the retail chain.

The Licensing of medicines is carried out according to regulations updated in 2011 (H29, H30).

DVHPPH has established prescribing procedures for veterinarians (E49) and procedures for retailers of veterinary products (E50).

Other available guidance is:

- GMP Guidelines for Veterinary Medical Products (E46)
- Summary requirements for the use of prescriptions and record keeping (E48)
- Information on licensing of vaccines (E47)

Samples of forms used to report on inspections of veterinary pharmacies were provided by a District Office (H27a&b). Examples of reports of adverse effects (E44a&b) were also provided.

The national AMR focal point for WHO is the MoH that has taken the lead on a draft National Strategy (E43). The lead for Article 5 (of seven) falls to DVHPPH that has prepared a draft action plan. A workshop to finalize this draft is planned for April. As part of the National Strategy sampling will be taken on-farm and through the food chain to detect AMR in zoonotic bacteria. Consultations are underway with NGOs.

Licensing of vaccines is also carried out according to provisions of Veterinary Services No. 5996 through a regulation on Plant Health, Food and Feed Law and Veterinary Medicinal Products published under this Law. This Regulation was published in parallel with the EC Directive 2001/82. The Guidelines for the Preparation of Application Documents to market Veterinary Biological Products such as Vaccines and Serums (E45) contain the same technical requirements as the section on immunological products attached to the EC Directive 2001/82.

Observations from field visits include:

- Some cases of poor veterinary-client relationship (inadequate oversight by the veterinarian), in case of (i) a company distributing veterinary products to satellite farms; and (ii) professional organisations (e.g. an association of bovine producers hiring a veterinarian to buy veterinary products for its members)
- Very high fines for selling drugs without prescriptions (H2, H3)
- Use of human medicine and biologicals in animals is done but may not be officially sanctioned
- At Provincial level only one inspector for 50 establishments; shortage of personnel and this one person indicated they needed additional specialized training (e.g. GMP, pharmaco-vigilance) to better carry-out the assigned responsibilities
- Reports of AMR training by TVMA/Chambers
- TVMA reported problems with illegal entry of drugs especially in areas with troubled borders.
- Licensed depot inspected (P5).

Strengths:

- Modern legal framework and well documented procedures.
- GDFC is engaged with MoH on a national AMR strategy

Weaknesses:

- Challenges with implementation similar to many countries

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- New Department for Veterinary Health Products and Public Health
- Updated regulations to control the sale and distribution of veterinary medicinal products.

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- As above

Recommendations:

- Continue to strengthen education and inspection systems to promote best practices in the use of veterinary drugs and antimicrobials in particular.
- Assign priority to developing the veterinary and livestock production components of the national AMR Strategy.
- Consistent with the goal of attaining ISO 17020 accreditation (see CCI-11), GDFC should document procedures and records of pharmaco-vigilance, notification of adverse or side-effects and associated decision making and actions, and
- Evidence of vaccine production specifically compliant with OIE quality standards, should be recorded.

II-10 Residue testing	Levels of advancement
<i>The capability of the VS to undertake residue testing programmes for veterinary medicines (e.g. antimicrobials and hormones), chemicals, pesticides, radionuclides, metals, etc.</i>	1. No residue testing programme for animal products exists in the country.
	2. Some residue testing programme is performed but only for selected animal products for export.
	3. A comprehensive residue testing programme is performed for all animal products for export and some for domestic consumption.
	4. A comprehensive residue testing programme is performed for all animal products for export and domestic consumption.
	5. The residue testing programme is subject to routine quality assurance and regular evaluation.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	3. A comprehensive residue testing programme is performed for all animal products for export and some for domestic use.

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	Not assessed

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5):

Findings: E15, E51, H56

A comprehensive national residue monitoring program exists (E51) for animal products for residues of chemical contaminants, anti-microbials and hormones. This also falls under law 5996 and its Hygiene and residue control regulations. These cover foods of animal origin including red meat, poultry, fish, milk, honey and eggs as well as feed.

The Ministry establishes a risk-based national sampling plan each year. This is supplemented by a complaint driven sampling plan.

A list of authorized laboratories is set out in the plan (E51).

In the event of a positive result, administrative authority exists to halt operations, retain contaminated products and issue public alerts covering product name and serial number, type of adulteration and establishment identification.

A draft report of an audit by the EC Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (H56) concludes that “the current control system for residues in foods of animal origin in Turkey complies with the requirements of and largely adheres to the guarantees provided by the residue monitoring plan approved by the EU”. Recommendations are made with respect to analytical methods and quality control in the residue laboratories, and controls over the on-farm use of veterinary medicinal products that do not yet cover all types of animal production.

Strengths:

- Comprehensive residue testing programme – multiple residues and products.

Weaknesses:

- See FVO Report (H56).

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- New regulations and programme.

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- As above.

Recommendations:

- Continue to implement remaining parts of the programme to address on-farm use of veterinary medicinal products in animal production.

II-11 Animal feed safety	Levels of advancement
<i>The authority and capability of the VS to regulate animal feed safety e.g. processing, handling, storage, distribution and use of both commercial and on-farm produced animal feed and feed ingredients.</i>	1. The VS cannot regulate animal feed safety.
	2. The VS have some capability to exercise regulatory and administrative control over animal feed safety
	3. The VS exercise regulatory and administrative control for most aspects of animal feed safety
	4. The VS exercise comprehensive and effective regulatory and administrative control of animal feed safety.
	5. The control systems are regularly audited, tested and updated when necessary.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	Not assessed

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	Not assessed

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E74, H13, H77, H78, H79, H80

Findings:

The OIE PVS Team explored feed safety in some depth, including sampling methods (SOP obtained H77) and process of selecting from amongst the MoFAL accredited labs to receive samples to test for aflatoxins, GMOs, heavy metals, dioxins, etc. Duplicate samples are collected with 2nd held for verification by a 2nd lab in event of a positive result. In the event of a positive they 1) alert 81 other provinces, 2) order recall and destruction as appropriate, 3) ask other provinces to advise of any lots found, 4) inspect feed outlets and withdraw product if found. Tracing is possible using lot number, production date and establishment number. Saw computer demo of the info system (screenshot printed H78). Other Documents observed: Feed control sampling plan for 2017: 1. what to sample (H79) and 2. where to send (H80): 1st sample and confirmatory sample if needed.

Strengths:

- Comprehensive feed testing system

Weaknesses

- No formally certified quality assurance program to date, although the MoFAL Strategic Plan sets out a goal of ISO 17020 accreditation in 2017.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- Not assessed

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- Not assessed

Recommendations:

- Consistent with the goal of attaining ISO 17020 accreditation (See CCI-11), GDFC should ensure that quality control procedures for animal feeds are maintained, reviewed and updated, and

-
- Records from all inspections (including importers and animal feed industry, retailers, veterinarians, producers) and any penalties applied, should be documented and maintained.

II-12. Identification and traceability A Animal identification and movement control <i>The authority and capability of the VS, normally in coordination with producers and other interested parties, to identify animals under their mandate and trace their history, location and distribution for the purpose of animal disease control, food safety, or trade or any other legal requirements under the VS/OIE mandate.</i>	Levels of advancement
	1. The VS do not have the authority or the capability to identify animals or control their movements.
	2. The VS can identify some animals and control some movements, using traditional methods and/or actions designed and implemented to deal with a specific problem (e.g. to prevent robbery).
	3. The VS implement procedures for animal identification and movement control for specific animal subpopulations as required for disease control, in accordance with relevant international standards.
	4. The VS implement all relevant animal identification and movement control procedures, in accordance with relevant international standards.
	5. The VS carry out periodic audits of the effectiveness of their identification and movement control systems.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	<i>4. The VS and their stakeholders have coordinated national procedures in place that can identify and trace animals and animal products as required for disease control and food safety purposes.</i>

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	<i>3. The VS have procedures in place to identify and trace selected animals and animal products as required for disease control and food safety purposes, in accordance with relevant international standards</i>

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E22, E25, E34, E37 pages 106-108, E65, H4, H14, H64, H65, P2, P5, P6

Findings:

Law 5996 (E25), Chapter 2, Article 7: Identification and Registration of Animals, places a duty on all owners of animal holdings to register their premises and animals with the Ministry. Costs of animal identification are borne by the owner.

TURKVET has been developed as one of three parts of the GDFC Animal Health Information Management System (HAYBIS). Cattle, sheep and goats are required to be electronically identified, and registered within the system by 3 months of age (cattle) or 6 months (sheep and goats), respectively. The system stores premises and animal registration numbers. Regarding movements, within 7 days of receiving animals moved from other premises, the new owner must register the movement and the presence of the animals through the District Veterinarian.

Strategic objectives have been established to achieve 100% (cattle) and 95% (sheep and goats) electronic identification by 2017. However, the OIE PVS Team did not find evidence of how this target was being monitored and therefore how close to being achieved through current system performance.

The database is used as both a sampling frame for surveillance and control purposes and to record events such as sampling and vaccination. The information is used for control programmes and for official assurances.

During a live demonstration, checks on vaccination history for PPR of randomly selected sheep did not return vaccination records.

Discussions indicated that the power of the database for epidemiological analysis to understand movements, disease transmission pathways, and other aspects of disease behaviour was not yet being realised. The system is currently used more as a tool for compliance against a regulatory requirement than as a means to derive risk-based intelligence.

Discussions with both the GDFC and the Sheep and Goat Breeders Association of Turkey indicate that delegation of the authority to manage identification and movements recording for sheep and goats is being actively considered.

A pilot phase was observed at Yenimahalle District in Ankara province for a joint EU/Turkey 34 million euro project for electronic identification and registration of sheep and goats. using RFID tags (E41).

PPR vaccinations are controlled and documented through the veterinary Information System that captures animal identification and vaccine serial number³⁹.

In Izmir Province, a dairy farm visit allowed observation of electronic identification of cattle (P6). In a modern beef slaughter/processing plant near Konya, vacuum packed steaks were produced carrying the eartag number of the animal of origin (H4).

Live demonstrations of the TURKVET information management system, which provides a database of premises registrations, animal identification and animal movements for cattle, sheep and goats were given. TURKVET currently allows registration of Cattle, Small ruminants and Poultry – in the future, dogs, cats and equids will be included.

For dogs, paper forms at district level (microchip of international standards); ear tags (P5) and registration (database) is carried out by municipalities.

Movement controls: small ruminants and cattle are subject to mandatory vaccination 15 days prior to movement. VA staff at the Konya market (H14) demonstrated of paper records that travel with the cattle: a Passport and if from out of the District, a Health Certificate (P2).

An international passport is available for dogs and cats (H65).

Strengths:

- A comprehensive information management system for livestock identification and traceability has been developed and implemented.
- Ambitious and specific performance targets have been established in the strategic plan (E34).
- Engagement of the private sector capability to manage aspects of the system provides a good example of public-private partnership.

Weaknesses:

- The OIE PVS Team did not find evidence of a performance monitoring mechanism that would allow performance to be measured against targets.
- Evidence was found of incomplete records.
- As yet the system records identification and traceability information only for cattle, sheep and goats. Even so, this places Turkey well ahead of many countries.
- The power associated with the information system is not yet fully realised. This may be because identification and traceability are currently being treated as a compliance exercise against an imposed regulatory requirement, rather than as a means to derive intelligence to drive risk-based control objectives.

³⁹ Meeting at District Office, Ankara

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:**2007 OIE PVS Evaluation**

- New legal framework for animal identification and traceability.
- New information management system for identification and traceability of cattle, sheep and goats.
- Implementation of electronic identification systems for cattle, sheep and goats.

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- As above.

Recommendations:

- Develop a performance monitoring mechanism to measure progress towards the strategic targets established for electronic identification of the livestock population.
- Develop examples of how the data held in the system can be used in control programmes and for epidemiological research, and publicize these to improve the understanding that the system provides an important strategic asset.
- Undertake analysis of missing records, and explore the reasons for non-compliance to enable causes to be addressed.

B. Identification and traceability of products of animal origin	Levels of advancement
<i>The authority and capability of the VS, normally in coordination with producers and other interested parties, to identify and trace products of animal origin for the purpose of food safety, animal health or trade.</i>	1. The VS do not have the authority or the capability to identify or trace products of animal origin.
	2. The VS can identify and trace some products of animal origin to deal with a specific problem (e.g. products originating from farms affected by a disease outbreak).
	3. The VS have implemented procedures to identify and trace some products of animal origin for food safety, animal health and trade purposes, in accordance with relevant international standards.
	4. The VS have implemented national programmes enabling them the identification and tracing of all products of animal origin, in accordance with relevant international standards.
	5. The VS periodically audit the effectiveness of their identification and traceability procedures.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	<i>4. The VS and their stakeholders have coordinated national procedures in place that can identify and trace animals and animal products as required for disease control and food safety purposes.</i>

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	<i>3. The VS have procedures in place to identify and trace selected animals and animal products as required for disease control and food safety purposes, in accordance with relevant international standards</i>

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): H4, E25

Findings:

Law 5996 includes Section 5 on Food and Feed (E25) which introduces a comprehensive legal framework for food safety, including traceability, through the provisions detailed above under CC II-8.A. The OIE PVS team had limited opportunities to directly explore the level of operational compliance with this comprehensive legal framework. The Team held informal discussions with the EU Resident Twinning Advisor on Capacity Building regarding Official Controls (herself a PVS Expert), who advised that implementation of many systems associated with the legal framework remains very much a work in progress.

A modern slaughter plant processing cattle was visited, which provided evidence of implementation of hygienic processing and comprehensive and detailed traceability through labelling that included the specific individual identification of the cattle on the packaged meat products that were derived from it.

With the presumably rare exception noted above (H4), traceability is only available to the quarter animal level - for butchered meat, with stamping of quarters in each semi-carcass.

At the other end of the quality spectrum, the OIE PVS Team recalls that the Regulation on Food Hygiene of 2011 (E82) that sets out “procedures and principles pertaining to food hygiene rules” to be complied with from farm to plate by food business operators does not apply to food produced for personal consumption or to the supply of “...small quantities of primary products to the final consumer or to local retail establishments directly supplying the final consumer.”.

Strengths:

- Comprehensive legal framework for food safety and traceability.

- Private sector examples of slaughter and meat processing delivering high standards of food safety hygiene and product traceability through labelling.
- Expert EU resources are available to assist the GDRC in implementation of the legal framework for food safety.

Weaknesses:

- Comprehensive implementation of many food safety systems in accordance with the law remains a work in progress.
- The inspection regime stops short of local retail establishments.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- New food safety law.
- Investments in traceability and new infrastructure under the EU pre-accession programmes

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- As above.

Recommendations:

- Continue to work towards full implementation of the legal frameworks for food safety and traceability.
- Ensure that records and procedures of traceability are maintained; consider recording these in an easily accessible database.
- Establish documented procedures for internal auditing and updating of programmes.
- Maintain reports of audits and action taken.

II-13 Animal welfare	Levels of advancement
	1. There is no national legislation on animal welfare
	2. There is national animal welfare legislation for some sectors
	3. In conformity with OIE standards animal welfare is implemented for some sectors (e.g. for the export sector)
	4. Animal welfare is implemented in conformity with all relevant OIE standards.
	5. Animal welfare is implemented in conformity with all relevant OIE standards and programmes are subjected to regular audits.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	Not assessed

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	Not assessed

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E21, E28, E42, E60, E63, H19, H33, H34, H35, H36, H41, H42, H46, H69, P5

Findings:

Animal welfare is an area where recent major improvement can be evidenced with strong drivers for change being the EU accession process (harmonization of legislation; signification hard and soft support through IPARD I and II projects), and to a lesser extent Turkish society's growing demands. Many international and national NGOs have also been very active in Turkey over the past years.

Improving animal welfare is a goal of MoFAL's 2013-2017 Strategic Plan. Animal Welfare in Turkey is regulated under the 'Animal Protection Law' 5199 (article 9) and secondary legislation is for most of them harmonized with EU legislation. A regulation on broiler chicken has been drafted and is in the process of adoption (before the end of 2017). A regulation on slaughter remains to be harmonized with EC regulation 1099/2009 on the protection of animals at the time of killing as further consultation are under way with the Directorate of Religious Affairs and the Turkish Religious Foundation; options for stunning are notably being explored. A regulation on the welfare of animals during transport will come fully into force by 31 December 2017. Animal Welfare is included in the veterinary core curriculum of Turkish veterinary education establishments.

At the central level, animal welfare responsibilities are distributed across five Working Groups in three Departments of GDFA), namely DFEC for slaughter, DAHQ for transport within the country, farms and companion/stray animals, and DBIAAP for transport across the borders. While each department is committed to animal welfare and adds its own value, this 'fragmentation' requires measures to foster sufficient visibility, advocacy and coordination to ensure coherence of the national welfare policies and subsequent activities. The same 'fragmented' organization occurs at provincial and district levels, for example dog population management respectively falls under the responsibilities of MoFAL (domestic dogs), and MoFWA and the Municipalities (stray dogs).

Animal welfare legislation is implemented by the official VA at central, provincial and district levels, in the laboratories and at the BIPs, with some initiatives and work processes that can be recognized as representing best practices:

- Conferring certificates on brokers, drivers, vehicle owners and animal handlers by MoFAL upon completion of specific training and an exam; this is mandatory for all transport companies; ‘certified’ operators are registered in a national database;
- Establishment of ethical and animal welfare committees, composed of representatives of laboratories, private veterinarians and NGOs, to approve and monitor research projects involving live animals; the 3 ‘R’ (replacement, refinement, reduction) are guiding principle in the laboratories visited in Turkey;
- Use of check lists to assess animal welfare conditions at the BIPs;
- Implementation of robust catch-neuter-vaccinate-identify/register-release programmes to control stray dog populations in collaboration with municipalities. These include the establishment of numerous municipal dog and cat shelters (P5); six exist just for metropolitan Istanbul to host disabled and old animals which would not survive on the streets, and also to serve as post-neutering recovery facilities before the animals are released); and
- A major infrastructure project in progress to build seven resting points strategically positioned across Turkey to provide rest for all animals transported more than 8 hours.

There remains much room for further improvement to develop dynamic mechanisms in animal welfare regulatory oversight that will allow GDFA to tune in and keep pace with fast-moving consumer attitudes in this area. The numbers of alerts and litigation raised by international NGOs remains significant and serve as a good indicator of the efforts that remain to be done.

More specifically, significant efforts should be deployed regarding:

- (i) Full respect for animal welfare practices at the time of slaughter, notably at the time of the Kurban Festival;
- (ii) Development of Animal welfare check lists to systematize inspections at farm level;
- (iii) Adoption of humane methods for on-farm euthanasia (e.g. captive bolt pistols) rather than the current practice of an overdose of anaesthetic, or in case of a broken leg, the animal being shipped to slaughter house contrary to a basic “fit-for-transport” principle;
- (iv) Construction of proper inspection areas and quarantine infrastructure at appropriate BIPs; this is beyond the sole responsibility of the VA, and requires continuing collaborative efforts with the Ministry of Customs and Trade to reach a solution quickly; a pre-notification system as well as joint and coordinated operations among Border Agencies would also limit the waiting time for live animals at the border; and
- (v) Other welfare topics that are not covered by the EU legislation, notably the welfare of working equids and disaster management.

As indicated above, Turkey's need to provide appropriate resting periods in the absence of adequate infrastructures is expected to be sustainably addressed in the coming months.

In addition, while the harmonized legislation for laying hens was adopted in 2011, the transitional period for shifting from un-enriched conventional battery cages to colony cages has been extended until 2023, as it implies heavy investments for the egg producers.

Strengths:

- A comprehensive legal basis exists to address animal welfare;
- More than 300 small-scale slaughter houses have been administratively closed over the past 5 years because of non-adherence to welfare principles;
- There is an official policy to not kill stray-dogs;
- The increase in scale of many farms — and their sophistication — has resulted in the gradual professionalization of farmers, favouring a better understanding of and respect for welfare principles;

- EU supported has made possible significant improvements to animal welfare practices in the livestock sector ('world class' cattle slaughter houses; animal housings; adoption of radio frequency identification (RFID) ear tags; resting points in the near future; etc);
- Professional livestock organisations sensitize their members to the growing importance of implementing better welfare conditions by organising animal welfare trainings and events;
- The OIE Focal Point for animal welfare is nominated and regularly participates in OIE seminars.

Weaknesses:

- Slaughter, transport and euthanasia are three major areas where some practices remain unacceptable on animal welfare grounds;
- Current border management (lack of pre-notification system; insufficient coordinated border management; lack of appropriate structures., etc.) does not allow the application of optimal welfare practices;
- Stray dog population control has proven relevant over the past years; however, the absence of a good understanding of the stray dog census and their source (no stray dog population surveys are conducted) compromises the full efficacy of the neutering and vaccination programme; of note: the use of an annual colour code for the ear tags would facilitate vaccination operations as dogs with the relevant coloured ear tag only would be captured to be revaccinated;
- There is no monitoring system to ensure the progressive application with newly adopted animal welfare legislation (e.g. egg industry to become cage compliant by 2023).

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- Not assessed

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- Not assessed

Recommendations:

- Explore options for a mechanism (for instance a Welfare Coordinator, possibly the OIE Focal Point for animal welfare?) that would ensure full internal communication/coordination across the various Departments/Directorates responsible for animal welfare in GDFC. The establishment of a dedicated Department could also be considered, as proposed in the Veterinary Strategy.
- Invest similar efforts in coordination (or possibly consolidation) of animal welfare activities such as stray dog population control across Ministries/Municipalities, with the central VA playing a lead when it comes to animal health and welfare;
- Ensure that animal welfare is adequately taught in all 27 veterinary education establishments of Turkey so that new generations of veterinarians become leading advocates for the welfare of all animals
- In cooperation with the meat industry, explore the economic feasibility and the health/welfare benefits of importing carcasses rather than live animals when destined for slaughter.

III.3 Fundamental component III: Interaction with interested parties

This component of the evaluation concerns the capability of the VS to collaborate with and involve stakeholders in the implementation of programmes and activities. It comprises seven critical competencies

Critical competencies:

Section III-1	Communication
Section III-2	Consultation with interested parties
Section III-3	Official representation
Section III-4	Accreditation / Authorisation / Delegation
Section III-5	Veterinary Statutory Body (VSB)
	A. VSB authority
	B. VSB capacity
Section III-6	Participation of producers and other interested parties in joint programmes

----- Terrestrial Code References:

Points 6, 7, 9 and 13 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / General organisation / Procedures and standards / Communication.

Point 9 of Article 3.2.1. on General considerations.

Points 2 and 7 of Article 3.2.3. on Evaluation criteria for the organisational structure of the Veterinary Services.

Sub-point b) of Point 2 of Article 3.2.6. on Administrative resources: Communications.

Article 3.2.11. on Participation on OIE activities.

Article 3.2.12. on Evaluation of the veterinary statutory body.

Points 4, 7 and Sub-point g) of Point 9 of Article 3.2.14. on Administration details / Animal health and veterinary public health controls / Sources of independent scientific expertise.

Chapter 3.3. on Communication.

III-1 Communication	Levels of advancement
<i>The capability of the VS to keep interested parties informed, in a transparent, effective and timely manner, of VS activities and programmes, and of developments in animal health and food safety. This competency includes collaboration with relevant authorities, including other ministries and Competent Authorities, national agencies and decentralised institutions that share authority or have mutual interest in relevant areas</i>	1. The VS have no mechanism in place to inform interested parties of VS activities and programmes.
	2. The VS have informal communication mechanisms.
	3. The VS maintain an official contact point for communication but it is not always up-to-date in providing information.
	4. The VS contact point for communication provides up-to-date information, accessible via the Internet and other appropriate channels, on activities and programmes.
	5. The VS have a well-developed communication plan, and actively and regularly circulate information to interested parties.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	5. The VS have a well developed communication plan, and actively and regularly circulate information to stakeholders.

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	2. The VS have informal communication mechanisms

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E25, E37

Findings:

Law No. 5996 (E25) makes specific reference to “communication” as it relates to risk communication and these definitions are consistent with the OIE glossary; Article 26 “Risk analysis, informing the public in the event of risk, precautionary measures” further addresses communication to the public in the event of risk or emergency.

An official decree issued each year to other Departments and interested parties (e.g. “NGOs”) describes the animal health programme activities (e.g. vaccinations) planned over the year.

Between the 2007 PVS and the 2009 Gap Analysis, GDFC began to develop a Communications Unit to address their needs. However, the Team was informed that under current state policy, no division within a Ministry can have its own communications unit and must rely on corporate services within their Ministry.

The Veterinary Strategy Document (E37) contains Chapter “3.10 - Public Awareness” where a survey of 600 individuals from a broad array of interested partners and possible collaborators was undertaken. In the area of “Animal Health” only rabies and Avian Influenza elicited a satisfactory level of knowledge for all priority diseases of the VS. In general, a similar low level of awareness existed for Animal Welfare and Animal Identification and Registry.

The Veterinary Strategy (E37) Chapter “4.9 - Communication Strategy” identified some areas of required focus for the VS: need for solid, frequent and updated information of animal health and animal welfare; more information on risks of zoonotic diseases; increased contact and training for unions and Chambers; more attention to informing transporters, traders and control units (police / gendarmerie); and more use of modern forms of communication instead of less effective posters, brochures, pamphlets, etc.

As stated in this Veterinary Strategy, “The detected generally poor level of information among the different actors [among VS stakeholders] (public, breeders, traders, transporters,

police, etc.) highlights the need for an extensive and well-articulated communication campaign.” A table setting out high level objectives and targets for the communication strategy over the next 15 years is provided (E37, page 244).

The MoFAL website (in Turkish and English)⁴⁰ includes sections on; Ministry background, Topics, Legislation, Archives, Foreign Affairs and Contact; however, it does not provide easy access to the GDFC website (English version).

The GDFC website⁴¹ contains access to: GDFC background, Activities, Projects, Legislation, Consumer Information, Producer Information and FAQ. In general, this website is well laid-out and has information in Turkish for several important issues for stakeholders; especially Consumers and Producers.

As indicated above, the GDFC website is an excellent means to communicate with a large portion of stakeholders (those with access to IT infrastructure) but the content did not address many of the priority diseases identified.

Provincial websites for Food, Agriculture and Livestock (in Turkish) were also found to be very well formatted and accessible but, again, were heavily focused on food safety with little information on animal disease control.

In interviews, it was related that many of the Provincial / District veterinary authorities inform stakeholders of future controls to be carried out on a website.

While visiting Provincial and District Offices various information materials (e.g. leaflets on official controls and legal basis) were available.

During field visits the OIE PVS Team did observe an official interface with public stakeholders (i.e. “Green desk”) and pamphlets for a “hot line” at Provincial / District level.

District veterinary authorities (Kartal) have developed outreach efforts with primary/secondary schools on health/nutrition and food safety.

At Provincial level and in Edirne, one person was charged with Communications and was placed within the Coordination/Agricultural data section.

In conversations with various producer groups in Turkey, it was evident that various forms of informal communication occur on important issues of interest.

There was no official list or database of key stakeholders/interested parties.

Strengths:

- A legal framework exists to support the VS in advancing a national Communication Strategy.
- The VS have made excellent use of communication through their well-developed website in Turkish; especially for Consumers and Producers.
- MoFAL/GDFC have taken important steps in identifying weaknesses in their national communication plans where they have included an excellent array of stakeholders/interested parties.
- Conversations with producers indicated that they felt ‘informed’ of important issues to their members.
- The “Green Desk” is an excellent means to attend to local concerns and build trust in the community for GDFC.

⁴⁰ <http://www.tarim.gov.tr/Sayfalar/EN/AnaSayfa.aspx> accessed April 17, 2017

⁴¹ <http://www.tarim.gov.tr/Sayfalar/Arama.aspx?k=GDFC> accessed April 17, 2017

Weaknesses:

- No GDFC staff are formally assigned communication roles.
- A survey conducted in Turkey among key interested parties indicated that there was a low level of knowledge of important diseases and related activities.
- The Veterinary Strategy identifies specific weaknesses that should be addressed in a Communications Strategy.
- The MoFAL and GDFC websites should include more information on animal disease control and animal welfare.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- Communication with stakeholders has improved though much is still informal.
- Focal points have been established but much of this communication is to the OIE.

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- A website is now used as a major form of communication with stakeholders.
- A survey of a broad array of stakeholders was undertaken to assess the level of knowledge for areas under the auspices of the VS

Recommendations:

- GDFC should systematically review its survey and recommendations provided by an external source and develop a strategic plan for implementation in accordance with Chapter 3.3 of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code to support the Veterinary Services strategic plan.
- At an appropriate time in the future, GDFC should re-examine the possibility of establishing a communications unit to serve its specific needs; if this is not possible, another option may be to identify personnel within existing Divisions of GDFC who can dedicate time to developing a communication plan to improve its outreach strategies and products.
- GDFC should ensure that its list of OIE Focal Points is regularly updated and made known to stakeholders; these focal points serve primarily as a means for improved communication between Member countries and the OIE, however, their functions also include establishing networks and improved communications at the country level between two or more Competent Authorities (see CC I-6.B).
- Continue to improve and update existing websites at the Ministry, Central, Provincial and District levels that act as an important resource for consumers and producers.
- Investigate a more formal and regular means of informing a maintained list of key stakeholders/interested parties on issues of concern or interest.
- Investigate possible efforts to improve communication with neighbouring countries starting with issues of joint interest.

III-2 Consultation with interested parties <i>The capability of the VS to consult effectively with interested parties on VS activities and programmes, and on developments in animal health and food safety. This competency includes collaboration with relevant authorities, including other ministries and Competent Authorities, national agencies and decentralised institutions that share authority or have mutual interest in relevant areas</i>	Levels of advancement
	1. The VS have no mechanisms for consultation with interested parties.
	2. The VS maintain informal channels of consultation with interested parties.
	3. The VS maintain a formal consultation mechanism with interested parties.
	4. The VS regularly hold workshops and meetings with interested parties.
	5. The VS actively consult with and solicit feedback from interested parties regarding proposed and current activities and programmes, developments in animal health and food safety, interventions at the OIE (Codex Alimentarius Commission and WTO SPS Committee where applicable), and ways to improve their activities.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	4. The VS regularly hold workshops and meetings with stakeholders.

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	2. The VS maintain informal channels of consultation with stakeholders

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E25, E37, E67a&b, H50

Findings:

Law 5996 on Veterinary Services, Plant Health, Food and Feed (E25) makes general reference to consultation with interested parties in various Articles⁴².

The first paragraph of the Veterinary Strategy (E37) provides an overall objective of the project which states; "... base policy decisions on cost-benefit analyses, in close consultation with the animal industry and other stakeholders..."

The Veterinary Strategy (E37) also proposes the formation of a "Consultative Platform" to ensure relevant input from interested parties to MoFAL/GDFC activities and programs. However, no mention is made of consultation as it relates to development of legislation (see CC IV-1).

The "Consultation Platform" would have a legal foundation to address animal health, food safety, animal welfare and animal identification, registration & movement control with a broad stakeholder list including representatives of the central and provincial offices/administrations, Veterinary Chambers, Veterinary Associations, Producers Associations, Animal Protection

⁴² Article 3 defines "Risk Management" as "The process of assessment, selection and implementation of control options in consultation with interested parties, considering risk assessment and legitimate factors" thus providing legislative support; Article 43 states: "(2) The Ministry cooperates with the relevant institution and establishments and other Ministries regarding implementation of this Law." and "(3) The Ministry of Interior shall assist the Ministry in its combat/control against animal diseases, plant diseases and pests, and the Ministry of Environment and Forestry shall provide assistance in the struggle against wild animals damaging cultivated areas as well as issues relating to wildlife during the struggle against animal diseases."; Article 45 indicates that: "(3) Within the premises of the Turkish Army, relevant units of the Turkish Army, in cooperation with the Ministry, shall carry out inspection and control activities related to veterinary services and food."

Associations, etc. Unfortunately, no evidence is available that this recommended Platform has been acted upon to date.

The Veterinary Strategy goes on to document various consultation and coordination mechanisms among MoFAL, and MoH for Zoonoses (E37, Figure 10), MoFWA for Wildlife diseases (E37, Figure 11) and the Ministry of Interior (MoI) and other partners for animal welfare (E37, Figures 12-17). Actual evidence of meetings and findings from such consultations was not obtained.

Animal Protection Law No. 5199 calls for MoFWA to coordination with MoFAL and consultation with MoI on the housing and owning of pets, procedures and principles of training to be provided on animal care, and measures to prevent damage and conflicts that might be caused by animals.

A National Zoonosis Advisory Committee co-led MoFAL and MoH was established to provide a consultative environment to address zoonotic disease control efforts, but only meets once yearly (E67a&b, H50).

MoFLA, GDFC and its Provincial/District Offices all benefit from well-designed websites which are used to a limited extent to interact with external stakeholders and interested parties.

During interviews Provincial and District representatives related active interactions with stakeholders on a regular basis.

Skills/competencies of producers have greatly improved over past years due to EU pre-accession projects and also due to increase in the size of holdings/enterprises.

At District levels, each farm/premise has been assigned one district Veterinarian and one district Agricultural engineer to provide advice. In discussions at the Provincial and District levels it became clear that most interactions with stakeholders involved one way communication from MoFAL/GDFC and not true consultation (e.g. producers were informed of new regulations to be implemented but rarely consulted regarding proposed or current activities and programmes).

The poultry industry reported a productive relationship with MoFAL/GDFC and was included as an observer in some EU harmonization process discussions

A concern raised by the Poultry sector during interviews was related to difficulties with disposal of litter/manure (more to do with Ministry of Environment and Municipalities). This sector is also looking to work with competent authorities on addressing issues of antimicrobial residues in poultry meat (see CC I-6.B).

Coordination with some animal welfare NGOs has been very difficult and controversial for MoFAL/GDFC despite best efforts by government.

There was no evidence of specific staff formally appointed for “consultation with stakeholders” and with allocated resources.

There was no evidence of procedures for formal consultation with interested parties or records of formal consultations (e.g. workshops, meetings or correspondence).

Although the Veterinary Strategy discusses and advocates for inter-institutional interactions, no evidence of meetings was available.

No examples of interested parties’ input to interventions at OIE was available, nor were there documented procedures for stakeholder feed-back on these topics.

Strengths:

- Language in the existing legal framework provides for consultative interactions with stakeholders.

- The Veterinary Strategy (E37) cites various internal consultative mechanisms among relevant Ministries for animal health, food safety, animal welfare and animal identification.
- The Veterinary Strategy proposes a “Consultative Platform” to ensure relevant input from interested parties to MoFAL/GDFC activities and programs and a “Monitoring and Evaluation Unit” to oversee and guide these efforts.
- A Zoonosis Advisory Committee which includes MoFAL and MoH was established to coordinate zoonotic disease issues.
- Robust websites exist for MoFLA, GDFC and its Provincial/District Offices.

Weaknesses:

- Despite the existence of a “Zoonosis Advisory Committee” between MoFAL and MoH, there is scarce evidence of regular interactions and, to date, no records obtained of formal interactions with other government partners.
- To date, little action has been taken regarding the creation of a “Consultation Platform” or corresponding “Monitoring and Evaluation Unit” as proposed in the Veterinary Strategy.
- No evidence of specific staff formally appointed for “consultation with stakeholders” or documented procedures for formal consultation with interested parties or records of formal consultations exist.
- Although field interviews with Provincial/District staff and producer groups consistently indicated that interactions regularly took place it was not evident these were of consultative nature.
- There was no evidence that the VS regularly hold workshops and meetings with interested parties or actively consult with and solicit feedback from interested parties regarding proposed and current activities and programmes, developments in animal health and food safety, interventions at the OIE.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- The VS have laid the groundwork for an “Outreach and Consultation Plan.”

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- Regular informal interactions take place at the Provincial and Districts levels but this falls short of true consultation on the VA’s activities and programmes.

Recommendations:

- Using the Veterinary Strategic Plan as a basis, MoFAL/GDFC should establish the proposed “Consultation Platform” and corresponding “Monitoring and Evaluation Unit” for oversight..
- Likewise, the proposal in the Veterinary Strategy for formal internal consultative mechanisms among government agencies should be implemented swiftly.
- Both of these Veterinary Strategy initiatives should be built upon the legal foundation provided by Law 5996 as cited above.
- The Zoonosis Advisory Committee should document its interactions and establish a schedule for more frequent meetings. Consider a Joint IHR/PVS Bridging Workshop to advance this initiative and related work.
- The VS should regularly hold workshops and meetings with interested parties to ensure input for activities and programmes as part of their “Consultation Platform.”

-
- MoFAL, GDFC and its Provincial/District Office websites should be engineered to allow active consultation with and solicit feedback from interested parties regarding proposed and current activities and programmes, developments in animal health and food safety, and interventions at the OIE.

III-3 Official representation <i>The capability of the VS to regularly and actively participate in, coordinate and provide follow up on relevant meetings of regional and international organisations including the OIE (and Codex Alimentarius Commission and WTO SPS Committee where applicable).</i>	Levels of advancement
	1. The VS do not participate in or follow up on relevant meetings of regional or international organisations.
	2. The VS sporadically participate in relevant meetings and/or make a limited contribution.
	3. The VS actively participate ⁴³ in the majority of relevant meetings.
	4. The VS consult with interested parties and take into consideration their opinions in providing papers and making interventions in relevant meetings.
	5. The VS consult with interested parties to ensure that strategic issues are identified, to provide leadership and to ensure coordination among national delegations as part of their participation in relevant meetings.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	3. The VS actively participate in the majority of relevant meetings.

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	2. The VS participate sporadically or passively in relevant meetings

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E29

Findings:

Turkey is systematically represented at the OIE General Sessions, in several OIE Global Conference (most recently on animal welfare in Guadalajara / Mexico) and Conferences of the OIE Regional Commissions for Europe and the Middle East (Turkey is a member of both Commissions). Turkey will host the 14th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for the Middle-East in September 2017.

Turkey is also a Member of (i) the Steering Committee of the OIE Platform on Animal Welfare for Europe; (ii) the Standing Group of Expert on Lumpy Skin Disease for South East Europe under the GF-TADs for Europe; (iii) the GF-TADs FMD Roadmap for West Eurasia; and (iv) the GF-TADs PPR Roadmap for Central Asia. However, Turkey's participation in some of these initiatives has been irregular.

No evidence of active participation as defined in the CC (preparation in advance of, and contributing during the meetings in question, including exploring common solutions and generating proposals and compromises for possible adoption)

Eight OIE Focal Points and GF-TADs PPR and FMD Points of Contact are nominated.

Strengths:

- Turkey is well represented in several OIE regional and global events;

Weaknesses:

- GDFC does not inform / consult stakeholders on OIE activities.

⁴³ Active participation refers to preparation in advance of, and contributing during the meetings in question, including exploring common solutions and generating proposals and compromises for possible adoption.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:**2007 OIE PVS Evaluation**

- Appointment of 8 OIE Focal Points
- Mechanisms remain to be developed for i) active consultation of stakeholders on issues being considered by the international standards setting bodies (see CC III-2) and ii) advance preparation of positions to advance during the standard setting meetings, and iii) for audit and updating of these functions

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- VS staff have been identified for preparation, participation and reporting of ad-hoc group meetings of OIE and other relevant meetings

Recommendations:

- Ensure participation of GDFC officials in all OIE meetings.
- Engage actively with relevant issues being discussed at the global forums such as the OIE. An excellent opportunity might be the work currently underway to develop standards for VPP education (see CC I-2.B).

III-4 Accreditation / authorisation / delegation <i>The authority and capability of the public sector of the VS to accredit / authorise / delegate the private sector (e.g. private veterinarians and laboratories), to carry out official tasks on its behalf.</i>	Levels of advancement
	1. The public sector of the VS has neither the authority nor the capability to accredit / authorise / delegate the private sector to carry out official tasks.
	2. The public sector of the VS has the authority and capability to accredit / authorise / delegate to the private sector, but there are no current accreditation / authorisation / delegation activities.
	3. The public sector of the VS develops accreditation / authorisation / delegation programmes for certain tasks, but these are not routinely reviewed.
	4. The public sector of the VS develops and implements accreditation / authorisation / delegation programmes, and these are routinely reviewed.
	5. The public sector of the VS carries out audits of its accreditation / authorisation / delegation programmes, in order to maintain the trust of their trading partners and interested parties.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	4. The public sector of the VS develops and implements accreditation / authorisation / delegation programmes, and these are routinely reviewed

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	3. The public sector of the VS develops accreditation / authorization / delegation programs for certain tasks, but these are not routinely reviewed

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E25, E37, E90

Findings:

Law No. 5996 (E25) provides for MoFAL to “cooperate with public agencies and organizations, professional organizations which have the status of public institutions, legal personalities of private law, producers’ associations, cooperatives, foundations and universities for duties related to controls and control services it deems appropriate” and may delegate (or purchase) such duties partially or entirely to/from those public agencies and organizations which comply with the requirements laid down by the Ministry”. The Ministry is required to inspect the organizations to which it assigns some of its duties.

A re-drafted law No. 6343 (E90) that has been awaiting approval for some time would further address the issues of “accreditation / authorisation / delegation” as per the critical competency. In particular:

- Article 5 cites responsibilities and authorities of veterinarians and identifies a "Specialist", which infers a veterinarian with special training who can carry-out inspection/analyses of food products and industrial products of animal origin (including seafood and feedstuffs), or the production, inspection and analysis of vaccines, sera and biologicals for veterinary use. In addition to public animal health roles it might also refer to a veterinarian who specializes in a clinical field of veterinary medicine (e.g. dentistry) and provides these services privately.
- Article 7 further indicates that specialization requires completion of an exam prepared by the MoFAL.
- Article 15 states: “TVMA is responsible for services written below to assure the assistance of private veterinarians with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs [now MoFAL]... to take under control the infectious and parasitic diseases of animals.” Article 47 goes on to state that the Central Council of the Central Organisation of TVMA is responsible to carry-out the duties described in Article 15.

In conversations with the TVMA, these articles in Law No. 6343 would address the issue of “accreditation / authorisation / delegation” as per this critical competency.

At present, MoFAL/GDFC have a large field veterinary force (with relatively little use of veterinary paraprofessionals) and activities that could be considered for delegation to the private sector (e.g. vaccinations, inspection of clinics...).

Section 6.3.1 of the Veterinary Strategy (E37) indicates that 6,797 veterinary personnel are currently available to implement the 15 year strategy, leaving an estimated gap of 22, 763 persons. The report appropriately goes on to suggest that this large gap “likely makes mandatory the adoption of a policy where the implementation of a number of activities is delegated to private veterinarians”. Trends identified previously (CCI-1.B) suggest that there is also room for much greater use of VPP to fill this gap efficiently.

The Veterinary Strategy notes that the Veterinary Chambers (local TVMA) and some private veterinarians take part in vaccination programmes in some provinces and districts. It also states that private veterinarians are authorised to enter data into the national animal identification system (TURKVET) and “KKKS” (a registry system for sheep and goats) when they are delegated activities such as animal ear-tagging.

The Veterinary Strategy also indicates that personnel taking part in the Capacity Building Strategy would include:

- Private veterinarians meeting the conditions specified in Law No. 6343 on the Practice of the Veterinarian Profession, and the Organisation and Functions of the Turkish Veterinarians Associations and Chambers, dated 9 March 1954;
- Authorised veterinarians - other than those employed by the Ministry, who have been authorised by the Ministry to conduct certain official tasks.

The Presentation for Turkey on "Development of Public-Private Partnerships to Support Veterinary Services" states that "Ministry may assign private veterinarians directly to fight against diseases under emergency situations and may authorize them to carry out vaccination". In addition, it points out that private veterinarians are assigned at slaughterhouses/cutting floors (under supervision of an official veterinarian), perform artificial insemination and are authorised to operate private laboratories which may carry out official disease diagnosis.

In conversations with the Sheep/Goat association, they indicated that discussions are underway with government officials on doing identification and registration activities through delegated authorities to private veterinarians.

The poultry industry has a mandate to deliver its own compulsory vaccinations and register the information.

There was no central database of accredited personnel (accredited veterinarians, etc.) or a standardized mechanism for management of these personnel.

Despite the requirement of “specialist” training for accredited / authorised veterinarians there was no evidence of on-going communication between the Veterinary Service and these personnel.

In addition, there was no documentation which would support outcomes of reviews and action taken or audit procedures.

Strengths:

- Existing laws and laws under development will provide a foundation for accreditation / authorisation / delegation activities in Turkey; Law 5996 also provides for review/audit of these delegated authorities.

- Many accredited VS activities are already being performed and require some form of specialized training and oversight.
- Law 6343 awaiting adoption would ensure that any accredited veterinarian would be required to successfully complete an examination and maintain a level of proficiency in the discipline of his/her authorisation.
- Calculation of workload needs for the national Veterinary Strategy have been made and the Strategy recognizes the need to use the private sector.

Weaknesses:

- A definitive official list or database of accredited veterinarians with their specifics, including specialization, is not maintained.
- Standardised procedures for the management of accredited veterinary personnel were not in evidence. .
- There was no evidence of regular interaction between the VS and accredited veterinarians or outcomes from reviews or audits.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:**2007 OIE PVS Evaluation**

- The official accreditation / authorisation / delegation activities in Turkey have evolved well beyond the few areas observed in the first PVS.

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- A solid legal framework has been initiated and stronger, detailed laws are have been developed and are awaiting approval.

Recommendations:

- Ensure that Turkey benefits from a well-developed legal framework to access private veterinarians for required official functions; this would require an examination in a recognized accredited discipline and a means to ensure formal oversight and that proficiency can be measured.
- An organisational system should be developed to manage/track all accredited veterinarians with personnel specifics of interest.
- All interactions among MoFAL/GDFC, TVMA and accredited personnel should be documented and regularly reviewed
- Periodic review and auditing of accreditation / authorisation / delegation activities should be performed and recorded.

III-5 Veterinary Statutory Body (VSB)	Levels of advancement
A. VSB authority <i>The VSB is an autonomous regulatory body for veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals.</i>	1. There is no legislation establishing a VSB.
	2. The VSB regulates veterinarians only within certain sectors of the veterinary profession and/or does not systematically apply disciplinary measures.
	3. The VSB regulates veterinarians in all relevant sectors of the veterinary profession and applies disciplinary measures.
	4. The VSB regulates functions and competencies of veterinarians in all relevant sectors and veterinary para-professionals according to needs.
	5. The VSB regulates and applies disciplinary measures to veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals in all sectors throughout the country.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	3. The VSB regulates veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals only within certain sectors of the VS (e.g. public sector but not private sector veterinarians).

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	3. The VSB has the legislative framework to regulate veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals only within the private sector of the VS

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E25, E90

Findings:

The veterinary profession in Turkey is regulated under Law 5996 (E25) and Law 6343 (E90) on ‘The Practice of the Veterinary Profession, the Establishment and Duties of Turkish Veterinary Medical Association (TVMA) and Veterinary Medical Chambers’.

TVMA is an association which, in spite of its name, has more or less the same functions as a national Veterinary Statutory Body. It is the central organisation for the 57 Provincial Chambers existing in Turkey. It aims to ensure the development of veterinary medicine, with the ability to protect the rights and the benefits of the profession. It is consulted on the drafting of the veterinary legislation.

According to Law 6343, TVMA and the Provincial Chambers have the authority for compulsory licensing and registration of private but not public veterinarians. MoFAL on the other hand is responsible for authorizing the establishment of the ‘veterinary infrastructures’, whether private animal clinics, polyclinics or hospitals – duties that would be performed by the VSB in many countries. TVMA has no authority over veterinarians from the public sector — who can however become members on a voluntary basis — nor the veterinary para-professionals. The Veterinary Chamber of Istanbul has for instance 4000 private veterinarians and 200 public veterinarians as members.

TVMA and the Provincial Chambers have limited authority and roles with respect to veterinary education or qualifications for licensing. Currently, according to Article 8 of Law 6343, all veterinarians can immediately enter practice after graduation, with no evaluation of their competency. Licenses are automatically renewed every year, without being subject to any evaluation of the veterinarian’s competence over time. This poses serious challenges, notably in the context where Turkey has no unified veterinary education standards for the 27 existing veterinary education establishments (see also CC I.2.A). TVMA has tabled a proposal to amend Article 8 of Law 6343 so as to set criteria for professional recognition and permanent continuing education as pre-conditions respectively to obtain and renew veterinary licensing. This proposal is currently under examination by MoFAL. If accepted, it

could lead in time to the needed redefinition/redistribution of respective tasks between veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals.

Finally, TVMA and the Provincial Chambers, assisted by their own in-house Deontological Councils, have the authority to set standards of professional conduct, investigate complaints and apply disciplinary procedures. Disciplinary measures include fines (that can be applied by Chambers), temporary suspension or permanent withdrawal of the licensure (the latter requiring TVMA approval).

Each complaint is systematically investigated and the results are analysed by the Council and a disciplinary measure is set. This is sent to TVMA for approval, who may override the Council recommendation. The veterinarian can also appeal to TVMA directly.

Strengths:

- Discussions led by TVMA are on-going to establish criteria for professional recognition.

Weaknesses:

- TVMA and the Veterinary Chambers have limited authority or opportunity to participate in the definition of minimum standards of initial and continuing veterinary education or qualifications for licensure.
- Licensing / registration does not require the passing of a standard examination.
- TVMA and the Veterinary Chambers do not regulate VPPs.
- Veterinary Chambers are established in 57 provinces only (out of 81), while Turkey has more than 20,000 veterinarians all included.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

Note that the wording of this critical competency has changed since 2007 such that Level 3 now requires that “The VSB regulates veterinarians in all relevant sectors of the veterinary profession”. As the TVMA cannot regulate the public sector veterinarians, level 2 is assigned to this CC.

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- The legislative framework has been modernized and further changes are proposed

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- Veterinary para-professional activities are reported to be conducted under veterinary supervision

Recommendations:

- Establish minimum standards for veterinarians to qualify for initial and ongoing licensure
- Explore options for the identification, licensing and registration of veterinary para-professionals by TVMA and the veterinary chambers, in accordance with the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code definition (See Appendix 2). The current work of OIE on day-1 competencies and associated core curriculum for veterinary para-professionals may provide useful support to this work as well as to the work of the VPP education establishments (CC I-2.B).

B. VSB capacity	Levels of advancement
<i>The capacity of the VSB to implement its functions and objectives in conformity with OIE standards.</i>	1. The VSB has no capacity to implement its functions and objectives.
	2. The VSB has the functional capacity to implement its main objectives.
	3. The VSB is an independent representative organisation with the functional capacity to implement all of its objectives.
	4. The VSB has a transparent process of decision making and conforms to OIE standards.
	5. The financial and institutional management of the VSB is submitted to external auditing.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	3. The VSB regulates veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals only within certain sectors of the VS (e.g. public sector but not private sector veterinarians).

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	Not assessed

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E57, E90, H23, H67, P5

Findings:

The Turkish Veterinary Medical Association (TVMA) and Veterinary Medical Chambers are responsible for licensing and registering private veterinarians, providing continuing education to their members and ensuring their compliance with veterinary deontology. Each Chamber produces an annual Report of Activity.

The budget of Chambers is derived from licensing, membership fees (amounting to 200 Turkish Lira equivalent approx. 50 euros), training activities, and official delegation. The TVMA derives its budget from a 10% transfer from all Chambers.

Training courses for private veterinarians are held regularly by TVMA and the Chambers. Topics covered are broad (apiculture; veterinary public health; exotic animals; dentistry; etc), and selected according to the need (a questionnaire is sent to all members). Some courses or events on veterinary public health are organised jointly with the other medical chambers, namely the dentists, the pharmacists, and human doctors Chambers, under the one health umbrella. Particular focus is given to the prescription and delivery of antimicrobials. In the near future, the Chambers and Veterinary 'Societies' will collaborate on training activities.

TVMA and the Chambers establish annually the level of fees for each veterinary intervention; this cost standardization is not set country-wide as it considers the cost-of-living.

Disciplinary actions are regularly conducted by the Chambers. For example, three licensures were temporarily withdrawn in the period 2014-2016 just for the Chamber of Istanbul (P5). Disciplinary actions by VSB only apply to private Veterinarians. Disciplinary actions are systematically recorded by the Chambers.

Some Chambers are currently considering ISO 9001 accreditation, this is work in progress.

Strengths:

- Multiple disciplinary actions have been taken against veterinarians who are infringing deontological principles of the veterinary profession;
- A robust continuing education programme is in place

Weaknesses:

- (see CC III.5.A)

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:**2007 OIE PVS Evaluation**

- Disciplinary authority of the VSB as relates to veterinarians has clearly been strengthened.
- TVMA actively contributes to formal continuing education for veterinarians.

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- As above

Recommendations:

- Depending on the outcome of the proposed revision of Law 6343 (E90), article 8 (see CC III.5.A), reinforce TVMA's involvement in initial and continuing education and the setting of standards and exams for persons to qualify as veterinarians
- Explore options for independent external audits of TVMA and Chambers.

III-6 Participation of producers and other interested parties in joint programmes	Levels of advancement
<i>The capability of the VS and producers and interested parties to formulate and implement joint programmes in regard to animal health and food safety. This competency includes collaboration with relevant authorities, including other ministries and Competent Authorities, national agencies and decentralised institutions that share authority or have mutual interest in relevant areas</i>	1. Producers and other interested parties only comply and do not actively participate in programmes.
	2. Producers and other interested parties are informed of programmes and assist the VS to deliver the programme in the field.
	3. Producers and other interested parties are trained to participate in programmes and advise of needed improvements, and participate in early detection of diseases.
	4. Representatives of producers and other interested parties negotiate with the VS on the organisation and delivery of programmes.
	5. Producers and other interested parties are formally organised to participate in developing programmes in close collaboration with the VS.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	3. Producers and other stakeholders are trained to participate in programmes and advise of needed improvements, and participate in early detection of diseases.

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	2. The VS and stakeholders have established sporadic joint programs but these are not routinely updated

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E25, E37

Findings:

Projects under Instruments for Pre-Accession (IPA) are building the capacity of producers to engage in international trade.

Law No. 5996 (E25) does not make specific reference to participation of producers or other interested parties in joint programmes beyond references to consultation.

The EU Veterinary Strategy reports on Section 3 (Current situation in Animal Health, Welfare, and Identification/Registration) that the MoFAL network is primarily internal and that "...consultation with representatives from the private sector were not established yet."

In Section 4 this Strategy addresses the need for inclusion of the private sector in advancing the national Veterinary Strategy to promote consensus and garner support for proposed measures, thus, "... a public-private partnership shall be promoted."

The Strategy then provides a summary of current contributions by the private sector that it notes: "...already participates in the implementation of the DAHQ activities; Stakeholders are directly or indirectly involved in the [animal identification and registry] system and this requires the continuous, structured, codified and standardised coordination, tutoring and monitoring; It is intuitive that ... the effectiveness of early detection and control largely rely on the participation of farmers and other stakeholders."

The Veterinary Strategy also indicates that a responsibility of the VCIs, VCRI and FMD Institute is training of veterinarians, technicians, and breeders.

As mentioned in a previous critical competency, the Veterinary Strategy proposes the establishment of a "**consultation platform**" in order to support "the capability of the Veterinary Service to consult effectively with stakeholders on Veterinary Service activities and programmes, and on developments in animal health and food safety".

The proposed “consultation platform” would be composed of representatives of the central and provincial offices/administrations, Veterinary Chamber, Veterinary Associations, Producers Associations, Animal Protection Associations, etc.

Unfortunately, no evidence is available that this recommended Platform has been acted upon to date.

The Veterinary Strategy also describes the “Animal Health Services Working Group” within the Animal Health and Quarantine Department of GDGC. This Working Group is responsible for the planning and implementation of annual animal health control programmes to be adopted by GDGC and published in the form of a ministerial circular. This annual plan outlines all animal health and animal movement restriction activities to be implemented during the year, the specific activities to be implemented for the control of notifiable diseases; including targets. Although this annual plan is distributed to various interested parties including the Producers Associations and Breeders Associations, it is not clear that stakeholders contribute in any significant manner to the content of this plan.

Programmes within the annual plan circular are evaluated biannually with the participation of GDGC and provincial staff. There is no mention of stakeholders or interested parties being involved in these reviews.

Section 3 the Veterinary Strategic states that the Cattle Breeders’ Association of Turkey participates in the “implementation of projects in collaboration with MoFAL”. This would include the National [Genetics] Improvement Program for cattle (Pre-Herdbook Project, the Pedigree Project and the Progeny Testing Project). It also states that the Sheep and Goat Breeders’ Association of Turkey “participates [in] the implementation of a project for the improvement of breeding parameters and provides assistance to the members for the application to the governmental subsidy programme.” Neither of these contributions to “programmes” goes beyond breed genetic improvements and no evidence is available of actual input to animal health, animal welfare or animal identification.

Discussion with industry groups revealed excellent communication with MoFAL/GDGC but no actual input into programmes; and there was no perceived expectation that there should be by these groups (e.g. BESB-BIR no joint programme on diseases or residues).

That said, the team noted significant capacity in the private sector, through Veterinary Chambers, Industry Associations, and private veterinary enterprises. This creates many new opportunities, and needs to be encouraged.

At Provincial/District level close interactions were noted with local stakeholders and producer groups, which aided in the delivery of animal health programme activities.

There was no available list of programmes developed and/or implemented jointly with interested parties or other evidence of active involvement of producers and interested parties in the development, organisation and delivery of programmes

No documentation was provided of mechanisms (i.e. meeting minutes, procedures, MoUs, etc.) for consultation, training and participation producers or other interested parties or evidence of active dialogue with stakeholders and trading partners.

No documented procedures for audit and updating of joint programmes and the procedures for establishing them was made available.

Strengths:

- Various proposals such as the “Consultation Platform” and the “Animal Health Services Working Group” as described in the Veterinary Strategy Document which include involvement by producers, other interested parties and relevant authorities (including other Ministries and Competent Authorities, national agencies and decentralised institutions) would provide excellent venues for soliciting input in the

development and execution of joint programmes in animal health, animal welfare and food safety.

- At Provincial/District level GDPC benefits from a close working relation with stakeholders and other interested parties

Weaknesses:

- There is no documentation of programmes developed and/or implemented jointly with interested parties.
- No evidence of consultations, training opportunities or participation by producers or other interested parties or evidence of active dialogue with stakeholders and trading partners.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- Improved legal foundation for participation of producers and other interested parties in joint programmes.

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- A list priority diseases has been generated with a concurrent development of annual programme (Circular) to address these diseases as well as animal welfare and food safety.

Recommendations:

- When developing and implementing programmes for animal health and welfare the Veterinary Authority should be encouraged to explore delivery options that support further private sector development, including delegation of some functions. Immediately assuming government delivery through its own internal capacity shouldn't be the only option.
- As part of this work, the VA should implement the "Consultation Platform" and the "Animal Health Services Working Group" as described in the Veterinary Strategy Document and ensure that regular input from producers and interested parties form an integral part of these meetings; annual programmes distributed in Circular should include input from stakeholders and seek opportunities for their participation.
- Develop and maintain a list of programmes formulated and/or implemented jointly with interested parties; also, document active involvement of producers and interested parties in the development, organisation and delivery of programmes.
- Develop mechanisms for consultation, training and participation by producers or other interested parties or evidence of active dialogue with stakeholders and trading partners.
- Eventually it would be important to document procedures for audit and updating of joint programmes and the procedures for establishing them was made available.

III.4 Fundamental component IV: Access to markets

This component of the evaluation concerns the authority and capability of the VS to provide support in order to access, expand and retain regional and international markets for animals and animal products. It comprises eight critical competencies.

Critical competencies:

Section IV-1	Preparation of legislation and regulations
Section IV-2	Implementation of legislation and regulations and compliance thereof
Section IV-3	International harmonisation
Section IV-4	International certification
Section IV-5	Equivalence and other types of sanitary agreements
Section IV-6	Transparency
Section IV-7	Zoning
Section IV-8	Compartmentalisation

----- *Terrestrial Code* References:

Points 6, 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / General organisation / Procedures and standards.

Points 1 and 2 of Article 3.2.7. on Legislation and functional capabilities: Animal health, animal welfare and veterinary public health / Export/import inspection.

Points 1 and 3 of Article 3.2.8. on Animal health controls: Animal health status / National animal disease reporting systems.

Sub-point g) of Point 4 of Article 3.2.10. on Veterinary Services administration: Trade performance history.

Article 3.2.11. on Participation in OIE activities.

Points 6 and 10 of Article 3.2.14. on Veterinary legislation, regulations and functional capabilities / Membership of the OIE.

Chapter 3.4. on Veterinary legislation.

Chapter 4.3. on Zoning and compartmentalisation.

Chapter 4.4. on Application of compartmentalisation.

Chapter 5.1. on General obligations related to certification.

Chapter 5.2. on Certification procedures.

Chapter 5.3. on OIE procedures relevant to the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures of the World Trade Organization.

Chapters 5.10. to 5.12. on Model international veterinary certificates.

IV-1 Preparation of legislation and regulations	Levels of advancement
<i>The authority and capability of the VS to actively participate in the preparation of national legislation and regulations in domains that are under their mandate, in order to guarantee its quality with respect to principles of legal drafting and legal issues (internal quality) and its accessibility, acceptability, and technical, social and economical applicability (external quality). This competency includes collaboration with relevant authorities, including other ministries and Competent Authorities, national agencies and decentralised institutions that share authority or have mutual interest in relevant areas</i>	1. The VS have neither the authority nor the capability to participate in the preparation of national legislation and regulations, which result in legislation that is lacking or is out-dated or of poor quality in most fields of VS activity.
	2. The VS have the authority and the capability to participate in the preparation of national legislation and regulations and can largely ensure their internal quality, but the legislation and regulations are often lacking in external quality.
	3. The VS have the authority and the capability to participate in the preparation of national legislation and regulations, with adequate internal and external quality in some fields of activity, but lack formal methodology to develop adequate national legislation and regulations regularly in all domains.
	4. The VS have the authority and the capability to participate in the preparation of national legislation and regulations, with a relevant formal methodology to ensure adequate internal and external quality, involving participation of interested parties in most fields of activity.
	5. The VS regularly evaluate and update their legislation and regulations to maintain relevance to evolving national and international contexts.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	4. The VS consult their stakeholders in participating in the preparation of national legislation and regulations, and in implementing regulations to meet national needs.

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	2. The VS have the authority and the capability to participate in the preparation of national legislation and regulations, but cannot implement resultant regulations nationally

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E25a&b, E37,

Findings:

Turkey applied for EU membership in 1987 and since that time the VS has made great strides in harmonizing national animal health legislation with that of the EU. Since the original 2007 OIE PVS review there have been substantive changes in Ministry/agency structures as well as the supporting laws and regulations.

The legislative framework is generally structured on 3 levels: a) primary level constituted by national laws issued by the Government; b) secondary level constituted by Regulations issued by the competent Ministry and c) tertiary level constituted by Procedures, Circulars, Codes of practices issued by the Department in charge for the coordination and surveillance of the activity⁴⁴.

A list is available⁴⁵ of all national, and corresponding EU legislation, for Animal Health (by disease), Animal welfare (on farm, transport and at slaughter) and Animal identification, registry and movement control (by species and location of registry).

⁴⁴ Section 3.3 – “Legislative framework” of the EU Technical Assistance for Preparation of the Veterinary Strategy Document of November 2016 (E37)

⁴⁵ idem Section 3.3.2.1

The original legislation which provided the VS a legal foundation (Law No. 3286 - on livestock Health) was replaced by the 2010 Law on Veterinary Services, Plant Health, Food and Feed - Law No. 5996 (E25a) implemented through various secondary and tertiary legislation⁴⁶ (E25b).

These major legislative overhauls have provided opportunities for:

deeper understanding of and compliance with the work of international standard setting bodies, like the OIE (see CC IV-3 on harmonisation)

enhanced “accreditation / authorisation / delegation” as per the critical competency CC III-4.

clarified roles for partners such as identifying the MoFWA as the competent authority in “the protection of other animal species”.

While the Veterinary Strategy document (E37) proposes the formation of a “Consultative Platform” to ensure relevant input from interested parties to MoFAL/GDF activities and programs and a “Monitoring and Evaluation Unit” to oversee and guide these efforts, it makes no mention of consultation as it relates to development of legislation, and there was no evidence of consultation with stakeholders in the drafting process.

Various staff within MoFAL/GDFC have been dedicated to redrafting all new legislation and resources did not impede progress of these efforts.

⁴⁶ "Regulation on measures for monitoring certain substances and residues", "Regulation on operational inspection procedures and principals of poultry meat production facilities", "Regulation on operational inspection procedures and principals of red meat production facilities", "Regulation Concerning Food Safety and Checking and Control of Food Quality", "Regulation on protection and fight against rinderpest (cattle, sheep and goat plague) bluetongue virus, epizootic haemorrhagic disease (sheep, goat, ox) vesicular stomatitis, exanthema nodularis bovis, African swine fever, classical swine fever, Rift Valley fever", "Circular 2011/7 on measures to be taken to monitor certain substances and their residues in animals and animal products", "Regulation determining establishment, duties, powers and responsibilities of food control laboratories", "Regulation on official controls of food and feed", "Regulation on notifiable animal diseases and procedures of notification", "Circular No. 2012/1 on the fight against animal diseases and control of livestock movement.", "Regulation on protection and fight against American foulbrood of honey bees", "Regulation of protection and fight against small hive beetle infestation and tropilaelaps infestation of honey bees", "Regulation on control foot and mouth diseases", "Regulation of protection and fight against anthrax", "Regulation on the transport of live animals and animal products in the country", "Regulation of protection and fight against enzootic bovine leukosis", "Regulation on principals and procedures of authorization and control of animal markets", "Regulation on animal by-products not intended for human consumption", "Regulation on changes to be done on veterinary medical products", "Regulation of protection and fight against rabies diseases", "Regulation on welfare of farm animals", "Regulation on veterinary diagnosis and analysis laboratories", "Regulation of protection and fight against African horse sickness", "Regulation of protection and fight against equine infectious anaemia", "Regulation identification, registration and monitoring of sheep and goats", "Regulation identification, registration and monitoring of bovines", "Regulation of protection and fight against glanders disease", "Regulation on changes of marketing and veterinary biological products", "Regulation on compensation of animal diseases", "Regulation on animal diseases with compensation and compensation rates", "Regulation on principles and procedures of the supervision of sellers dealing in animal commerce", "Regulation on the registration of aquatic genetic resources", "Regulation on animals and products subject to veterinary control as the entrance to the country", "Regulation on establishment and functions of risk assessment committees and commissions", "Regulation on veterinary medical products", "Turkish food codex regulation on maximum residue limits of pesticides in foodstuffs", "Notification No. 2009/62 on maximum residue limits of pesticides in foodstuffs", "Regulation on aquatic animal health and protection and fight against aquatic animal diseases", "Regulation on fight against endemic animal diseases", "Regulation of protection and fight against avian influenza", "Regulation of protection and fight against Newcastle disease", "Regulation on compensation of animal diseases", "Regulation on apiculture", "Turkish food codex Regulation on residues limits classification of pharmacologically active substances in food stuffs of animal origin", "Regulation on special hygiene rules for food of animal origin", "Regulation on non-medical veterinary products", "Regulation on veterinary controls on imported live animals at their entrance to the country", "Regulation on the organization of veterinary checks on products entering into the country", "Regulation on food hygiene", "Notification No. 2012/13 on determination of sanitary and technical requirements of bovine meat import", "Notification on purity without vaccination regarding Newcastle Diseases", "Regulation on monitoring of the zoonoses and zoonotic agents, antimicrobial resistance and foodborne outbreaks", "Regulation on resting of animals at control posts during transport", "Regulation laying down animal health rules for the importation and transit of certain live ungulate animals", "Regulation on hygienic requirements of small-scale slaughterhouses", and "Regulation on standardization of veterinary certificates for importing live animals and products of animal origin".

There was no documentation of formal methodologies or procedures for preparation of legislation involving VS and legal staff.

To date, there is no documentation of a formal evaluation of current legislation.

Strengths:

- Clearly, the MoFAL/GDFC are capable of advancing important legislation as it relates to the mandate of the VS; addressing internal quality (legislative aspects);
- These new regulations are generally harmonized with OIE guidelines.

Weaknesses:

- There is little if any documented consultation with stakeholders on the development of legislation
- External quality of legislation (accessibility, acceptability, and technical, social and economic applicability) has not been a priority.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- Very important legislative changes for VS have taken place driven by OIE standards and interest in EU accession.
- There is much more uniform implementation of the VS Programs across all of Turkey.

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- There has been publication and implementation of new pending veterinary legislation.

Recommendations:

- MoFAL/GDFC should develop a forum for ensuring consultation with stakeholders and other interested parties in the drafting of new legislation.
- These legislative consultative efforts should be documented (i.e. attendees, meeting minutes, issues addressed, etc.).
- At some point in the future, MoFAL/GDFC should consider a formal evaluation of current legislation including an evaluation and updating process.

IV-2 Implementation of legislation and regulations and compliance thereof <i>The authority and capability of the VS to ensure compliance with legislation and regulations under the VS mandate.</i>	Levels of advancement
	1. The VS have no or very limited programmes or activities to ensure compliance with relevant legislation and regulations.
	2. The VS implement a programme or activities comprising inspection and verification of compliance with legislation and regulations and recording instances of non-compliance, but generally cannot or do not take further action in most relevant fields of activity.
	3. Veterinary legislation is generally implemented. As required, the VS have a power to take legal action / initiate prosecution in instances of non-compliance in most relevant fields of activity.
	4. Veterinary legislation is implemented in all domains of veterinary competence and the VS work to minimise instances of non-compliance.
	5. The compliance programme is regularly subjected to audit by the VS or external agencies.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	4. The VS work with stakeholders to minimize instances of non-compliance.

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	3. If necessary, the VS impose appropriate penalties in instances of non-compliance

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E14, E25, E37, H1, H2, H3, H56

Findings:

Law No. 5996 addresses the implementation, collection and appeals of fines ranging from \$ 500.00 Turkish Lira (about \$ 130.00 USD) to \$ 10,000 Turkish Lira (about \$ 2,700.00 USD) applied for non-compliance with control of contagious animal diseases, animal by-products not intended for human consumption, identification and registration of animals, health requirements on consignments of live animals and animal products, on the places of sale of animals and on trade, and animal welfare.

It also provides for sanctions relating to veterinary health products, food, feed, hygiene and official controls.

The Veterinary Strategy (E37) explains that sanctions are based on principals of: a) effectiveness (reaching desired outcome referent to victim); b) commensurateness (adequate penalty in relation infringement) and c) dissuasiveness (having a real and deterrent effect).

It also describes penalties for non-compliance specifically with control measures for Anthrax, Brucellosis, and Tuberculosis.

Specific sanctions are applied for illegal and unauthorized animal movements.

Laws No. 5199 and 5996 regulate the legal sanctions for the protection of farm animals, pets, ornamental animals and animals used for scientific purposes. In addition, there are specific penalties associated with violations of animal welfare regulations or abuse of animals..

A draft report of an EU Food and Veterinary Office audit of Turkey's residue monitoring programs (H56) identified that "Follow-up of non-compliant results is timely and largely effective.", and provided examples of the use of warning letters and fines.

Interviewees reported that the level of fines has increased over the past few years along with an increased level of scrutiny by the VA. Significant fines of 7,731 TL (approx. USD 2,100)

were levied on 2 clinics that failed inspections for control of veterinary drugs (H2, H3), while a third passed inspection (H1)

There is no specific VA staff fully dedicated to implementation and compliance with corresponding legislation in Turkey.

A single source was not evident for accessing documented non-compliance actions taken and penalties levied.

Although there were indications of good interactions with stakeholders, there was no evidence of the VA working with interested parties regarding legislated penalties and means to ensure compliance.

Turkey has worked with the EU to strengthen legislation including assessment of penalties/sanctions for non-compliance. However, there was no evidence of collaboration with other neighbouring countries for the control of transboundary activities.

Aside from the EU's Food and Veterinary Office (FVO)⁴⁷, there were no reports of audits and action taken referent to legislative compliance.

Strengths:

- A strong, well-formulated system of administering penalties has been established through new legislation.
- These sanctions are based on effectiveness, commensurateness and dissuasiveness.

Weaknesses:

- There is no easily accessible source for the documentation of non-compliance and associated sanctions.
- No evidence was found of the VS working with stakeholders and other interested parties regarding legislated penalties and means to ensure compliance.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- Much new legislation with reinforced sanctions for noncompliance.

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- As above

Recommendations:

- Develop a national database to gather and collate all cases of non-compliance and penalties assessed (analysis of this information and public reporting of it may assist the VS in improving compliance); track follow-up of all cases.
- Use and document the use of new forums, like the proposed "Consultation Platform," to ensure effective consultation with stakeholders and other interested parties to improve compliance and address causes of non-compliance with legislation.
- A system of auditing and reporting action taken referent to legislative compliance should be considered.

⁴⁷ http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/controlsystems_en.cfm?co_id=HU

IV-3 International harmonisation <i>The authority and capability of the VS to be active in the international harmonisation of regulations and sanitary measures and to ensure that the national legislation and regulations under their mandate take account of relevant international standards, as appropriate.</i>	Levels of advancement
	1. National legislation, regulations and sanitary measures under the mandate of the VS do not take account of international standards.
	2. The VS are aware of gaps, inconsistencies or non-conformities in national legislation, regulations and sanitary measures as compared to international standards, but do not have the capability or authority to rectify the problems.
	3. The VS monitor the establishment of new and revised international standards, and periodically review national legislation, regulations and sanitary measures with the aim of harmonising them, as appropriate, with international standards, but do not actively comment on the draft standards of relevant intergovernmental organisations.
	4. The VS are active in reviewing and commenting on the draft standards of relevant intergovernmental organisations.
	5. The VS actively and regularly participate at the international level in the formulation, negotiation and adoption of international standards ⁴⁸ , and use the standards to harmonise national legislation, regulations and sanitary measures.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	<i>3. The VS monitor the establishment of new and revised international standards, and periodically review national legislation, regulations and sanitary measures with the aim of harmonising them, as appropriate, with international standards, but do not actively comment on the draft standards of relevant intergovernmental organisations.</i>

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	<i>2. The VS are aware of gaps, inconsistencies or non-conformities in national legislation, regulations and sanitary measures as compared to international standards, but do not have the capability or authority to rectify the problems</i>

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E25a

Findings:

The GDFC is the contact point for international organizations such as the OIE, the Codex Alimentarius Commission, WTO, and other agencies concerned with international sanitary and phyto-sanitary (SPS) standards. Turkey is a beneficiary / user / member of the EU RASFF, EU TRACES and WHO INFOSAN systems, which are instrumental in the context of trade globalisation to protect animal health, animal welfare and food safety.

Law 5996 adopted in 2011 (E25a) is a complete re-write of the national legislation governing SPS programmes. Developed with a view to harmonization with the EU, SPS aspects are adequately addressed.

Development and implementation of Law 5996 has fostered deeper understanding of and compliance with the work of international standard setting bodies. As an example, at one time, Turkey applied an import ban on red meat and live animal imports purportedly to mitigate possible entry of FMD that was considered by some to be protectionist. With EU harmonization and abiding by its responsibilities as an OIE member, this no longer takes place.

⁴⁸ A country could be active in international standard setting without actively pursuing national changes. The importance of this element is to promote national change.

GDFC participates in WTO-SPS Committee meetings and there is evidence that GDFC regularly notifies WTO of changes in regulations and decisions⁴⁹. A list of recent notifications is available at: <http://www.epingalert.org/en> (enter Turkey as country). In recent years, only one specific trade concern from the recent SPS meeting could be found - this concerned an issue raised by the EU regarding Turkey's BSE measures.

GDFC recently rejected the transit through its territory of poultry products in provenance of a country that had notified the occurrence of highly pathogenic influenza A only in captive wild birds, thus infringing compliance with the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code.

Turkey is not actively participating in OIE standard setting: for example, Turkey is not amongst the countries providing written comments on draft chapters to the OIE Specialist Commissions (Code Commission, Aquatic Commission, Laboratory Commission). Interviews with various stakeholders revealed that they were not aware of any in-country consultations on changes proposed to OIE standards.

Turkey still needs to take steps to implement the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement that is expected to improve cooperation of all relevant border agencies and their connectivity through Coordinated Border Management. The National Trade Facilitation Committee is notably not established but could be a valuable arena for the Veterinary Services to explain the importance of compliance with international standards set by OIE.

Strengths:

- All eight OIE Focal Points are nominated;
- Harmonisation with EU legislation has advanced harmonisation with intergovernmental standards (in areas covered by EU legislation).

Weaknesses:

- GDFC does not participate actively in the OIE standard setting process;
- A problem in the interpretation of an OIE chapter was identified and discussed.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- Legislation has been revised and focal points identified.
- Work remains to be done to establish records and information systems to document and share with stakeholders and with international organizations information and comments on new and established international standards and sanitary requirements.

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- As above

Recommendations:

- Organise in-country consultations on future drafts of international standards and provide consolidated written comments to the OIE;
- Ensure the systematic participation of the OIE Focal Points in the OIE regional Focal Point seminars for Europe.

⁴⁹ for instance, notification G/SPS/N/TUR/82 was made to WTO on 5 January 2017 to notify of the existence of a new "Directive Related With the Definition and Declaration of Zones Free From Notifiable Avian Influenza Disease" and "Free of Avian Influenza Disease Zones"

IV-4 International certification ⁵⁰ <i>The authority and capability of the VS to certify animals, animal products, services and processes under their mandate, in accordance with the national legislation and regulations, and international standards.</i>	Levels of advancement
	1. The VS have neither the authority nor the capability to certify animals, animal products, services or processes.
	2. The VS have the authority to certify certain animals, animal products, services and processes, but are not always in compliance with the national legislation and regulations and international standards.
	3. The VS develop and carry out certification programmes for certain animals, animal products, services and processes under their mandate in compliance with international standards.
	4. The VS develop and carry out all relevant certification programmes for any animals, animal products, services and processes under their mandate in compliance with international standards.
	5. The VS carry out audits of their certification programmes, in order to maintain national and international confidence in their system.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	4. The VS develop and carry out all relevant certification programmes for any animals, animal products, services and processes under their mandate in compliance with international standards.

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	2. The VS have the authority to certify certain animals, animal products, services and processes, but are not always in compliance with the national legislation and regulations and international standards

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E6, E25, E74, H59, H60, H65, H72A-C

- GDFC Izmir Provincial Veterinary Directorate: Discussions on export controls and certification; document package provided with example export certificates and supporting documents; discussions on training for Official Veterinarians with import/export authority.
- GDFC Internal Audit team: Intention to undertake systems audit for animal health functions.

Findings:

Law 5996 (E25) Chapter 2, Article 34: Official Controls in Exports and Imports, Customs and Border Inspection Posts provides the overarching legal framework, and notes that all exported animals and animal products must be in conformity with that Act, unless agreements are in place with an importing country in which case these over-ride the provisions of the Act.

GDFC Official Veterinarians that undertake import and export functions are specifically approved for this competency and undertake an annual training programme.

During a certification process for export, the Official Veterinarian will visit the premises to undertake inspections and sampling in accordance with export protocols. Premises registrations and any treatments are recorded in TURKVET (E74).

Certification for exports is carried out at the Provincial Directorate level. One Province provided copies of export certificates for live animals and animal products were provided, each signed and stamped by an Official Veterinarian. Supporting document attached to export certificates included certificates of registration of food processing premises and results sheets for laboratory analyses (H59, H60). Eight milk facilities were reported to be approved for export to the EU.

⁵⁰ Certification procedures should be based on relevant OIE and Codex Alimentarius standards.

The GDFC Internal Audit team signalled an intention to undertake a full systems audit of animal health activities of the Department under Law 5996. No terms of reference for the audit were provided. The manager of the team indicated their intention to undertake site visits to understand the scope of activities at sites, and then to focus their audits on the basis of initial findings.

Strengths:

- Primary legislation provides broad and enabling legislative provision to ensure compliance with national legislation for all exports, and the ability to apply specific requirements at the request of importing country.
- Official Veterinarians specifically designated and trained for import and export functions.
- Information management system supports official assurances through registering approved premises and treatments.

Weaknesses:

- As yet no internal control systems have audited the export certification function, although this may be undertaken within the signalled systems audit for animal health.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- New legislation established.
- New information management system supporting assurances.

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- As above.

Recommendations:

- Target export certification as a critical function within the forthcoming animal health systems audit, particularly in those Provinces from which significant animal and animal product exports are occurring.

IV-5 Equivalence and other types of sanitary agreements	Levels of advancement
<i>The authority and capability of the VS to negotiate, implement and maintain equivalence and other types of sanitary agreements with trading partners.</i>	1. The VS have neither the authority nor the capability to negotiate or approve equivalence or other types of sanitary agreements with other countries.
	2. The VS have the authority to negotiate and approve equivalence and other types of sanitary agreements with trading partners, but no such agreements have been implemented.
	3. The VS have implemented equivalence and other types of sanitary agreements with trading partners on selected animals, animal products and processes.
	4. The VS actively pursue the development, implementation and maintenance of equivalence and other types of sanitary agreements with trading partners on all matters relevant to animals, animal products and processes under their mandate.
	5. The VS actively work with interested parties and take account of developments in international standards, in pursuing equivalence and other types of sanitary agreements with trading partners.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	3. The VS have implemented equivalence and other types of sanitary agreements with trading partners on selected animals, animal products and processes.

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	2. The VS have the authority to negotiate and approve equivalence and other types of sanitary agreements with trading partners, but no such agreements have been implemented

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E25, E56, E72A-C, EU Accession application and ongoing negotiations, supported by the IPARD mechanism

Findings:

The Turkish SPS system is extensively benefiting from the work being undertaken within the framework of the EU Accession negotiations. Chapter 12 Food Safety, Veterinary and Phytosanitary Policy was originally assessed as “very hard to adopt” in 2010 when the chapter was opened. In 2016, it is assessed as “some level of preparation”. The overall objective to be met within the accession process will be full harmonisation and therefore equivalence with EU legislation.

There are existing sanitary agreements for trade with the EU and Russia both documented by audit reports (E56, E72a, b, c).

No other examples of equivalence negotiations or agreements were provided. Law 5996 does not specifically provide a legal framework to recognise SPS equivalence. However, if Turkey does accede to the EU, the wide variety of equivalence arrangements with other countries that the EU has established would automatically apply for Turkey.

Strengths:

- Significant support from a major regional institution is being received to fully harmonise SPS legislation and its implementation. Good progress is being made.

Weaknesses:

- Absence of specific legal provisions relating to SPS equivalence agreements within Law 5996.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- Progress within the SPS chapter of the EU Accession process.

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- As above.

Recommendations:

- Maximise benefits for the Turkish SPS system from the ongoing EU Accession process.

IV-6 Transparency	Levels of advancement
<i>The authority and capability of the VS to notify the OIE of its sanitary status and other relevant matters (and to notify the WTO SPS Committee where applicable), in accordance with established procedures.</i>	1. The VS do not notify.
	2. The VS occasionally notify.
	3. The VS notify in compliance with the procedures established by these organisations.
	4. The VS regularly inform interested parties of changes in their regulations and decisions on the control of relevant diseases and of the country's sanitary status, and of changes in the regulations and sanitary status of other countries.
	5. The VS, in cooperation with their interested parties, carries out audits of their transparency procedures.

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	<i>4. The VS regularly inform stakeholders of changes in their regulations and decisions on the control of relevant diseases and of the country's sanitary status, and of changes in the regulations and sanitary status of other countries.</i>

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	<i>3. The VS notify in compliance with the procedures established by these organizations</i>

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E12

Findings:

Turkey is a member country of WTO, OIE, IPPC and *Codex Alimentarius*.

GDFC submits regularly reports on animal health situation to the OIE and therefore complies with its reporting obligations as an OIE Member country. Some delays can however be observed in the delivery of the 6 month and annual reports: for instance, the 2nd 6-month and annual Report for 2016 have not been transmitted yet. Turkey is one of the rare countries using the monthly report format to report the endemic diseases in the country.

GDFC immediately notifies in line with Articles 1.1.3. and 1.1.4. of Chapter 1.1. of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code, using the WAHIS online notification application (and EU ADNS). This is exemplified by two recent examples, namely the LSD outbreaks in 2013 (reason: 'first occurrence of a listed disease, infection or infestation in the country') and the new FMD strain A genotype VII in December 2015 (reason: 'first occurrence of a new strain of a pathogenic agent of a listed disease, infection or infestation in the country'). The delay between the start of the event and the notification date to the OIE (48 days for FMD) corresponded to the time needed to receive confirmation from the OIE reference laboratory as gene sequencing was needed. The confirmation to the OIE was made the same day as Turkey received confirmation from the OIE reference laboratory and therefore shows no delay in the notification in that case. Follow-Up reports were diligently submitted to the OIE until the closing of the cases.

GDFC, provincial and district VS inform interested parties of changes in the legislation relating to control of animal diseases via their respective websites. Brochures and leaflets can also be produced when deemed necessary. With regard to the country's sanitary status, there is not a public interface for VETBIS (see CC II.12.A) and therefore, GDFC 'calls the interested parties'. It was surprising to note that members of the Sheep and Goat Breeders Association of Turkey were not aware of the PPR outbreak map for Turkey.

Strengths:

- Turkey has a good reporting history to the OIE;
- OIE Focal Point on animal disease notification is appointed.

Weaknesses:

- National sanitary information is not systematically and timely reported to the country stakeholders;
- There is some delay in the transmission of the 6-monthly and annual Reports to the OIE.

Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:**2007 OIE PVS Evaluation**

- Work remains to be done on recommendations to improve communication with stakeholders, for example through documented procedures and communications with stakeholders and the development of a web-accessible database for the country's sanitary status and links to those of other countries.
- The upcoming internal audit may address previous recommendations for transparency on system audits and actions taken.

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- As above

Recommendations:

- Ensure the timely delivery of the 6-month reports to the OIE;
- Explore possible options for connectivity between VETBIS and WAHIS to ensure single data entries.

IV-7 Zoning	Levels of advancement
<i>The authority and capability of the VS to establish and maintain disease free zones, as necessary and in accordance with the criteria established by the OIE (and by the WTO SPS Agreement where applicable).</i>	1. The VS cannot establish disease free zones. ⁵¹
	2. As necessary, the VS can identify animal sub-populations with distinct health status suitable for zoning.
	3. The VS have implemented biosecurity measures that enable it to establish and maintain disease free zones for selected animals and animal products, as necessary.
	4. The VS collaborate with producers and other interested parties to define responsibilities and execute actions that enable it to establish and maintain disease free zones for selected animals and animal products, as necessary.
	5. The VS can demonstrate the scientific basis for any disease free zones and can gain recognition by trading partners that they meet the criteria established by the OIE (and by the WTO SPS Agreement where applicable).

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	<i>5. The VS can demonstrate the scientific basis for any disease free zones and can gain recognition by other countries that they meet the criteria established by the OIE (and by the WTO SPS Agreement where applicable).</i>

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	<i>2. As necessary, the VS can identify animal sub-populations with distinct health status suitable for zoning</i>

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E79a&b; E91

Findings:

Zoning is authorized by Law 5996 on “Veterinary Services Plant Health Food and Feed” (referred as ‘protected zones’ in the Law).

The Thrace region in the European part of Turkey (composed of 7 provinces) is recognised by the OIE as a foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) free zone where vaccination is practised, in accordance with the provisions of Article 8.8.3. of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code. This status was granted in 2009 and temporarily suspended from September 2012 to February 2013 — as there was evidence of FMD viral circulation —, then reinstated in February 2013. Turkey has sent its annual reconfirmation of Turkey’s free status with regard to FMD using the on-line annual reconfirmation system in December 2016 and should be reconfirmed during the OIE 85th General Session (May 2017) by all 180 Delegates of the OIE, considered as potential ‘trading partners’. There is an on-going study by the Department of Animal Health of GDFA to obtain an OIE FMD free status without vaccination in the Thrace Region.

Very recently, Turkey has self-declared the 81 provinces (considered as 81 zones) as free of Avian Influenza, according to the provisions of Article 10.4.3. of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code (E91). This will be published soon in the OIE Bulletin as the requirements of Chapter 10.4 are fulfilled.

Turkey is also working to establish a PPR free zone in the Thrace region by 2018 (see appendix on PPR).

There is also an on-going project in DAHQ to obtain an OIE Free status for PPR in the Thrace region, by 2019.

⁵¹ If the VS has the authority and capability but chooses not to implement zoning, this CC should be recorded as “not applicable at this stage”

Zoning can be established and maintained in Thrace due to its particular geographical situation, the BIPs with Bulgaria and Greece and also the recent establishment of an in-country 'Control Post' on the third bridge between Anatolia and Thrace, that lorries are compelled to use and where all consignments are systematically inspected. Zoning is also made possible by the comprehensive identification / registration system for selected animals (see CC II.12.A) and a programme for animal movement control (E79a&b).

Strengths:

- The legal framework enables the establishment of zones according to OIE definition;
- The FMD zone established since 2009 has proven a success story and can serve as example / best practice for the establishment of zones for other diseases (PPR is notably a good candidate disease);
- There is a strong demand from the livestock owners / business operators to establish disease free zones for trade purposes;
- Turkey was able to have its FMD status (zone) rapidly reinstated following the 2012 events.

Weaknesses:***Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:***

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- Modernized legislation provides for zoning
- FMD zone for the Thrace region recognized by OIE
- Other zones proposed or under development for other diseases

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- As above

Recommendations:

- Conduct surveillance in compliance with the relevant chapters of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code to capture all possible events that may jeopardize recognitions of the current status.

IV-8 Compartmentalisation	Levels of advancement
<i>The authority and capability of the VS to establish and maintain disease free compartments as necessary and in accordance with the criteria established by the OIE (and by the WTO SPS Agreement where applicable).</i>	1. The VS cannot establish disease free compartments. ⁵²
	2. As necessary, the VS can identify animal sub-populations with a distinct health status suitable for compartmentalisation.
	3. The VS ensure that biosecurity measures to be implemented enable it to establish and maintain disease free compartments for selected animals and animal products, as necessary.
	4. The VS collaborate with producers and other interested parties to define responsibilities and execute actions that enable it to establish and maintain disease free compartments for selected animals and animal products, as necessary.
	5. The VS can demonstrate the scientific basis for any disease free compartments and can gain recognition by other countries that they meet the criteria established by the OIE (and by the WTO SPS Agreement where applicable).

Terrestrial Code reference(s): Appendix 1

GAP Analysis in 2009	Expected level of advancement to be maintained / reached within the next 5 years
	<i>4. The VS collaborate with their stakeholders to define responsibilities and execute actions that enable it to establish and maintain disease free compartments for selected animals and animal products, as necessary.</i>

PVS Evaluation 2007	Wording of the level of advancement reached at the time
	<i>1. The VS cannot establish disease free compartments</i>

Evidence (listed in Appendix 5): E39, E40

Findings:

Compartmentalisation is authorized by Law 5996 and has been developed in secondary legislation, notably a Circular No. 2012 on farms free from tuberculosis (cattle) and brucellosis (cattle sheep and/or goats) (E39). A detailed procedure to become a free farm also exists, as well as detailed forms to fill by the interested farmers.

The Tuberculosis, Brucellosis and Blue Tongue Free Establishments may be viewed as a form of compartmentalization. These establishments indeed 'contain an identifiable animal subpopulation with a distinct health status with respect to specific disease(s)' and therefore comply with the OIE definition of compartmentalisation. GDRC retains the responsibility for controlling the activities within these establishments and for animal and products certification from these establishments. There are more than 600 certified establishments in Turkey, both in Thrace and Anatolia.

The primary interest is to improve public health and trade. However, cattle from these free establishments also serve for blood harvest to manufacturer serum products, including for sera antibody production for E.coli and clostridia.

The egg / poultry industry is also interested in the compartmentalisation concept but has not been using it so far.

Strengths:

- Professionals are interested in compartmentalisation options;
- The legal framework enables the establishment of compartmentalisation according to OIE definition.

⁵² If the VS has the authority and capability but chooses not to implement compartmentalization, this CC should be recorded as "not applicable at this stage"

Weaknesses:***Developments evidenced since previous OIE PVS Pathway Missions:***

2007 OIE PVS Evaluation

- Legislative and animal health control and information systems are now in place to support compartmentalization in some instances.
- Procedures for implementing compartmentalization, including necessary biosecurity measures are in place for TB, Brucellosis and Blue Tongue free establishments.

2009 OIE PVS GAP Analysis

- As above

Recommendations:

- Promote consideration of compartmentalisation in other sectors (poultry for instance) as a possible option for trade continuity regardless of the sanitary situation.

PART IV: CONCLUSIONS

Over the past decade significant progress has been made by the VS of Turkey in all four Fundamental Competencies and most of the 47 Critical Competencies of the OIE PVS framework as set out in the Executive Summary.

Much of this has been possible by special investments made by Turkey in partnership with the EU's Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance in Rural Development. Whatever the eventual outcome of this process of accession to the EU, the progress that has been made to date has tremendous economic and social value and should be safeguarded.

A notable product of this work is a fifteen-year Veterinary Strategy that proposes an ambitious path forward on animal diseases, welfare, identification and registration. Many of the measures suggested therein are echoed in this report, including strengthened engagement and collaboration with public sector partners such as the Ministries responsible for health (on antimicrobial resistance and zoonotic disease, wildlife (for disease surveillance), customs (for integrated border management) and municipalities (management of stray dogs), as well as with the private sector through a proposed Consultation Platform and possible public/private sector partnerships.

With the advancements made in recent years Turkey is in a position to provide regional leadership in areas such as animal welfare, laboratory services and zoning for the control of FMD, and to build on these successes for new initiatives of its own.

The Veterinary Strategy identifies significant gaps between the current and future requirements for human and financial resource to implement the proposed 15 year programmes. It recommends that to address this gap consideration be given to increased use of private sector veterinarians. The OIE PVS Team concurs and also recommends that consideration be given to possible reallocation of resources from lower to higher priorities as well as to increased use of veterinary para-professionals for duties that would not require a professional veterinarian. To support this latter point Turkey should establishment national requirements in line with international standards for the training and qualification of veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals.

The OIE PVS Team has recommended a number of measures to strengthen management of human and financial resources and to track and assess performance. These are consistent with a recommendation in the Veterinary Strategy for the creation of a Monitoring and Evaluation Unit to oversee the implementation of programmes of the Veterinary Authority. A related and encouraging finding is that the MoFAL Strategic Plan for 2013-2017 has set a goal to “finalize the accreditation of the food and feed inspection system in accordance with ISO 17020”. A focus on such management systems as well as this training and development of managers and future leaders is appropriate as Turkey's VS continues to address some outstanding goals that it established during the 2009 Gap Analysis and advance its performance to achieve the highest levels of the PVS Evaluation framework that call for such competencies.

PART V: APPENDICES

Appendix 1: PPR component of the PVS Evaluation Follow-Up mission carried out in Turkey from 6 to 19 March 2017⁵³



Painting from Mrs. O. Leboucq

Introduction

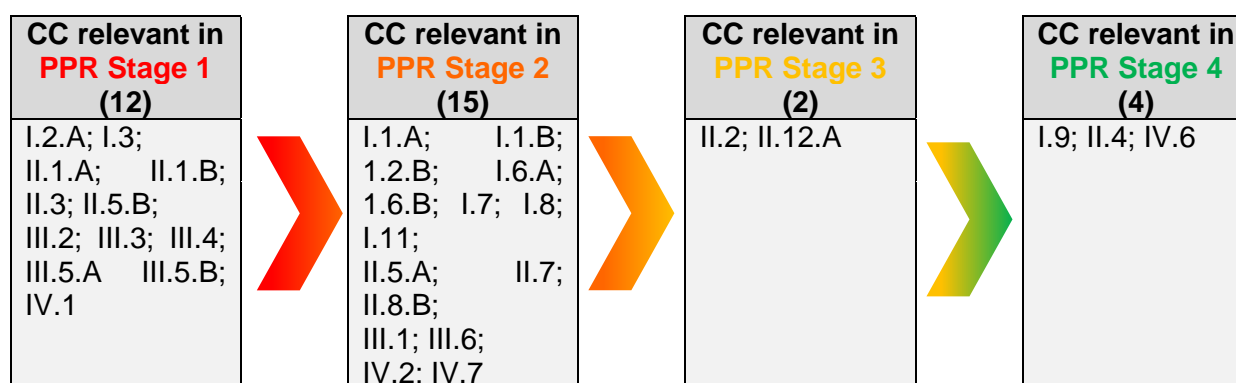
OIE has decided to offer PVS Evaluation or PVS Evaluation Follow up missions with specific dedicated content/focus to its Member Countries. This has notably been discussed during the 26th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe (Lisbon/Portugal in September 2016) and later in Conferences from other regions, with a positive feed-back received from OIE Member Countries. It was also agreed at the PVS Pathway Think Tank Forum held in Paris from 4-6 April 2017.

This new approach aims at further enhancing the profile and impact of the PVS Pathway, as well as helping countries better manage their PPR control/eradication programmes. It also brings full consistency among OIE global high-level strategic priorities, including PVS Pathway evolution and the declaration of PPR global eradication by 2030 supported by the adoption of the FAO-OIE Global Strategy for the Control and Eradication of PPR (GCES) in April 2015. The need to reinforce national Veterinary Services, in line with OIE standards on the quality of Veterinary Services, is indeed regarded as an indispensable condition to the efficient and sustainable control of PPR and other small ruminant diseases, and this is well reflected in the GCES and PPR Global Eradication Programme (PPR GEP).

More specifically, out of the 47 Critical Competencies currently evaluated, 33 have been selected as particularly relevant for PPR control efforts ('PPR-related CCs'), and linked to a PPR Stage of the GCES depending of its focus and objectives (see figure below and correspondence Table page 66 of the GCES annex 3.3). Consistently, the GCES Monitoring

⁵³ This Appendix was prepared by Dr N. Leboucq, PPR specialist in the OIE PVS Evaluation Follow Up mission.

and Evaluation Tool (PMAT) bridges PPR specific and Veterinary Services capacity, indicators and targets.



Turkey agreed to be one of the two countries (the other being Afghanistan) ‘piloting’ this new approach⁵⁴. The OIE PVS Evaluation Follow-Up mission conducted from 6 to 19 March 2017 therefore included a dedicated focus on Veterinary Services capacity with respect to PPR eradication. One intended outcome was to assist Turkey to fast track their advancement on the 33 PPR-related CCs to permit faster progression through the PPR stages described in the GCES.

The full integrity of the PVS Evaluation Follow-Up mission as a whole-of-system approach covering all areas of the veterinary domain and notably all diseases was preserved. The PPR specific aspect was not the main focus of the mission; rather, it was supplementary or additional to the ‘generic’ mission and report. One day only (15 March pm and 16 March am) was dedicated specifically to PPR aspects by the PPR Lead (Dr N. Leboucq), acting at the same time as a PVS expert. The field visit itinerary of the PPR Lead was however accommodated to include specific PPR sites, to assist with the collection of PPR specific evidence.

PPR findings have not influenced in any greater or lesser way the levels of advancement awarded against the Critical Competencies, compared to a ‘normal’ mission. There was no additional weighting based on PPR findings as the evaluation of levels needs to be consistently applied across countries who undertake PVS Evaluations, whether they receive the PPR supplement or not.

Turkey was an interesting case to pilot as it currently has two distinct PPR Stages, respectively Stage 2 for Anatolia (Asian part of Turkey) and 4 for Thrace (European part of Turkey). The Table below provides the provisional PPR Stage Progression 2017-2030 for Turkey, based on the 2017 self-assessment provided during the second PPR Roadmap meeting (February 2017, Tashkent). It is noted that the free status for Thrace is proposed to be achieved in 2018, while the new national Strategy foresees it one year later.

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Turkey (Anatolia)	2			3			4		Status Free							
Turkey (Thrace)	3		4	Status Free												

The mission also took place during an important transitional period, when there was a clear momentum to move from PPR control to eradication. A new national PPR Strategy, replacing

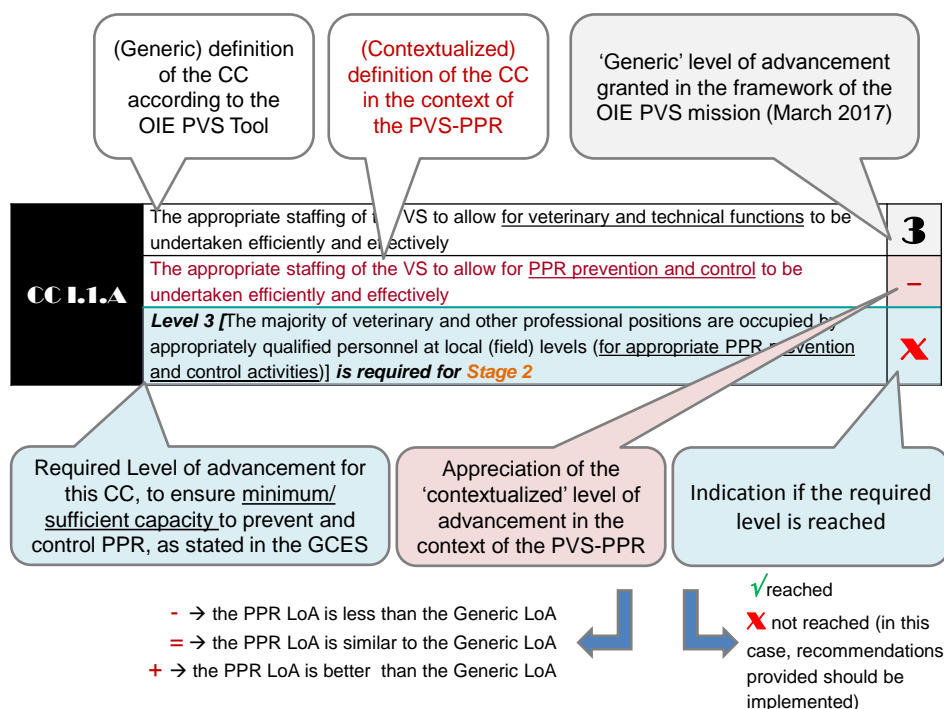
⁵⁴ The effectiveness and outcomes of the two Pilot missions (Turkey and Afghanistan) will be assessed and the PPR specific methodology adjusted accordingly. The approach will be also further discussed during the OIE PVS Think Tank Forum (Paris/France, April 2017).

the existing national PPR control Strategy, was to be unveiled in the coming weeks after the mission (the OIE PVS Evaluation mission unfortunately did not have access to this document although essential for the mission, as it was still in a draft format).

The PPR Lead provided a short briefing on the nature and conduct of the PPR specific element of the PVS Evaluation Follow up mission at the opening meeting on 6 March 2017, with a view to reaching a common understanding among all participants of the mission.

The results of the PPR specific assessment are reported separately in this Appendix of the OIE PVS Evaluation Follow-Up mission report, which can be used as a stand-alone document. The inputs that it brings are expected to assist with the further PPR assessment and planning by Turkey using the PMAT Tool, including at the next PPR Roadmap meeting for West Eurasia (2018), but also in the interim for use within the country.

The results are presented here after, following the same format as for a generic PVS Evaluation Follow-Up Report, proceeding CC by CC. A legend to interpret the results more easily is provided below.



Fundamental Component I - Human Physical and Financial Resources

CC I.1.A	The appropriate staffing of the VS to allow <u>for veterinary and technical functions</u> to be undertaken efficiently and effectively	3
	The appropriate staffing of the VS to allow for <u>PPR prevention and control</u> to be undertaken efficiently and effectively	-
	Level 3 [The majority of veterinary and other professional positions are occupied by appropriately qualified personnel at local (field) levels (<u>for appropriate PPR prevention and control activities</u>)] is expected for Stage 2	X
Professional and technical staffing - Veterinary and other professional University qualification	<p>Findings:</p> <p>In the 'PPR SWOT' presented to the OIE PVS Team by GDFC [E97], the VS workload in general, and in particular linked to PPR prevention and control activities (vaccination; investigation; serology PVE, etc) has been identified as a weakness. There is no official 'policy' to combine TADs prevention and control activities as advocated in Component 3 of the OIE-FAO GCES (and subsequent programme PPR GEP) even if most farm visits by veterinarians are made for multiple purpose (eartagging; animal welfare; FMD and LSD vaccination; etc). Delegation of official tasks to the private sector or the municipal veterinarians is legally possible (notably in emergency situations) but used in a sub-optimal manner (see CC III.4).</p> <p>The Field Veterinary Network covers the entire territory of Turkey, following recent recruitment to better populate the eastern part of the country. This network is notably adequate for PPR surveillance and early detection, although it is still unexplained why no PPR cases have been reported in the past 2 years in the eastern provinces especially those bordering infected countries (see also CC II.7).</p> <p>Job descriptions are not clearly defined for all VS personal, with no specific reference to PPR activities.</p> <p>The National PPR Committee is not in place and there was a misunderstanding with regards to its roles. GDFC representatives had proposed to use the existing National Contingency Committee (UHKM) to serve as the PPR National Committee but the composition and roles are too different.</p> <p>The PPR National Coordinator has not yet been appointed, while this person is crucial for the preparation, implementation and reporting of the national PPR Strategy. The two persons (OIE national Focal Point for disease notification; PPR laboratory person) who attended the regional PPR Roadmap meeting in Dushanbe in March 2017 do not have the profile of the PPR National Coordinator, while this person should also be involved in regional activities.</p>	
	<p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Establish a National PPR Committee, in line with the ToRs elaborated by the PPR Global Secretariat; this Committee will be in charge of designing, implementing and monitoring the National PPR strategy and should include representatives of key public and private stakeholders who can contribute to the PPR eradication efforts; ➤ Appoint the National PPR Coordinator (transparent selection process), who will report to the National PPR Committee and represent Turkey in international/regional PPR events/activities; ➤ Include specific PPR activities in GDFC, provincial and district VS staff's <u>standardized</u> job descriptions, to ensure that this work is effectively covered and by adequate personnel (Vets vs VPPs); ➤ Ensure that PPR activities are included for the workload calculations for proposed programs for animal health, over the next 15 years (with specifics for Thrace and Anatolia regions); 	

	<p>➤ Consider the possible delegation of official PPR activities (vaccination; sero-surveillance) to private veterinarians, coordinated through a protocol by VSB Chambers, if needs arise (see CC III.5).</p>
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CC I.1.B	The appropriate staffing of the VS to allow for veterinary and technical functions to be undertaken efficiently and effectively	2
	The appropriate staffing of the VS to allow for <u>PPR prevention and control</u> to be undertaken efficiently and effectively	=
	Level 3 [The majority of technical positions are occupied by appropriately qualified personnel at local (field) levels (<u>for appropriate PPR prevention and control activities</u>)] is expected for Stage 2	X
Professional and technical staffing - Veterinary para-professional and other technical personnel	<p>Findings:</p> <p>In the context of Turkey where veterinary paraprofessionals (VPPs) play a very limited role in VS and laboratories, PPR prevention and control activities are hardly carried out by VPPs. It was however mentioned that, in some provinces and districts, VPPs are in charge of some PPR vaccinations as well as involved in data registrations in HAYBIS (TURKVET-KKKS and VETBIS), but their number are very small. KKKS is a specific registration system for sheep and goats (see CCI.11).</p> <p>In fact, VS work most entirely relies on veterinarians, for management, technical and even some administrative work.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <p>➤ Reconsider the respective roles of the Veterinarians and VPPs in PPR prevention and control activities; PPR vaccinations, small ruminant identification and registration operations, etc should notably fall in VPPs mandate, working under the supervision of a veterinarian.</p>	

CC I.2.A	The capability of the VS to efficiently carry out their veterinary and technical functions, as measured by the qualifications of their personnel in veterinary and technical positions	3
	The capability of the VS to efficiently carry out <u>PPR veterinary and technical functions</u> as measured by the qualifications of their personnel in veterinary and technical positions	=
	Level 3 [The veterinarians' practices, knowledge and attitudes usually allow undertaking <u>PPR</u> activities of the VS (e.g. epidemiological surveillance, early warning, etc) is expected for Stage 1	✓
Professional competencies of veterinarians	<p>Findings:</p> <p>Technical skills of veterinarians are adequate for routine technical PPR operations that are currently assigned to them such as PPR surveillance, clinical diagnostic, vaccinations, etc.</p> <p>The OIE PVS Team however noted several weaknesses in the competences of veterinarians with regard to PPR prevention and control, notably in the following fields: qualitative and quantitative epidemiology; management of contagious diseases including outbreak investigation; risk analysis; administration and management (leadership). This is concurring with the 'PPR SWOT' provided by GDFA, where the epidemiological competencies of VS staff have been identified as an important weakness.</p> <p>General teaching on animal infectious diseases is provided in all faculties. There is however no standardized veterinary education / core curriculum in a national context where veterinary faculties are proliferating, without a real understanding of the needs of the profession. The competences can therefore vary quite a great deal, depending in which faculty the veterinarians have graduated.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ensure that the Competencies of graduating veterinarians in Turkey are in compliance with OIE Day-1 competences, especially for 'Advanced Competences' that could assist with the prevention and control of PPR (management of contagious diseases; application of risk analysis). To this end, use the OIE Model Core Veterinary Curriculum as a basis for the standardization/ harmonization of the veterinary curriculum in Turkey (all veterinary education establishments). 	

CC I.2.B	The capability of the VS to efficiently carry out their veterinary and technical functions, as measured by the qualifications of their personnel in veterinary and technical positions	2
	The capability of the VS to efficiently carry out <u>PPR veterinary and technical functions</u> as measured by the qualifications of their personnel in veterinary and technical positions	=
	Level 3 [The training of VPPs is of a uniform standard that allows the development of only basic specific competencies (<u>for appropriate PPR prevention and control activities</u>)] is expected for Stage 2	X
Professional competencies of veterinary para-professionals	<p>Findings:</p> <p>The OIE PVS Team had no access to VPP educational establishments and therefore, it was difficult to assess if VPP initial education can be supportive of the PPR eradication objectives set at national level.</p> <p>The VPP educational establishments fall under the responsibility of the Ministry of National Education (MoNE) and not of MoFAL as for the veterinary faculties, with possible divergent priorities.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ensure that the national PPR eradication objectives are well understood by MoNE with the aim of possibly revisiting/updating the VPP curriculum to meet the future needs of the profession in support of PPR control and eradication efforts. The OIE on-going work on Day1-competences for VPPs will provide adequate support, when available. 	

CC I.3	The capability of the VS to maintain and improve the competence of their personnel in terms of relevant information and understanding; measured in terms of the implementation of a relevant training programme	3
	The capability of the VS to maintain and improve the competence of their personnel in terms of relevant <u>PPR</u> information and understanding; measured in terms of the implementation of a relevant training programme for <u>PPR control and eradication</u>	-
	Level 3 [The VS have access to CE (for appropriate PPR prevention and control activities) that is reviewed annually and updated as necessary, but it is implemented only for some categories of the relevant personnel] is expected for Stage 1	X
Continuing education	<p>Findings:</p> <p>ETLIK is organising train-the-trainer workshops on PPR, for provincial Directorates (in turn in charge of amplifying the knowledge at district level).</p> <p>Some generic courses which form part of the national VS Continuing Education Programme are relevant for PPR prevention and control, such as for instance 'movement control', 'epidemiology', identification and registration of animals, etc.</p> <p>A substantial training programme is available for FMD prevention and control (develop outbreak management; outbreak investigation; quarantine cleaning, disinfection; biosafety applications; awareness on disease; breeder's disease outbreak information; cooperation between stakeholders), but no similar training offer exists for PPR.</p> <p>The regular participation of Turkey representatives in regional PPR Roadmap meetings (2016; 2017) can be an important source of new knowledge. There was however no evidence that the knowledge acquired is shared with appropriate staff and that it could be considered as part of PPR continuing education.</p> <p>The current continuing education programme mostly focuses on technical aspects, and very few courses are dealing with 'managerial' and 'leadership' issues, to possibly reorient prevention and control measures in place, in light of the available field data. There is a need for such courses for PPR in light of the sub-optimal control measures deployed in Anatolia (see CC II.7).</p> <p>TVMA and Veterinary Chambers are in charge of preparing and implementing continuing education to their members (mainly private veterinarians); the training offered is quite broad but did not include PPR specific courses to date.</p> <p>In the absence of a human resource database that registers training for the VS staff, it is difficult to assess whether PPR knowledge is properly updated/refreshed, according to newly set objectives (new national PPR Strategy to be unveiled in June).</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Conduct a comprehensive PPR training needs assessment (as part of the needs assessment proposed in the EU document "Technical Assistance for Preparation of the Veterinary Strategy Document", November 2016 [E37]) – training needs will differ for Thrace and Anatolia; ➤ Develop a robust PPR continuing education programme for VS (central, provincial, district levels), in light of the eradication objectives for Thrace and Anatolia. This PPR training programme should include both technical and managerial courses. To do so, learn lessons from the extensive FMD programme available; ➤ Include notably trainings on 'qualitative and quantitative risk analysis' and 'mapping concepts' in the CE programme as these 2 courses are essential to achieve PPR eradication; ➤ Ensure that the PPR Roadmap meeting recommendations serve as a basis to improve the CE programme, as relevant; ➤ Register training activities to ensure that the staff knowledge is continuously updated and in line with the country's priorities. 	

CC I.6.A	The capability of the VS to coordinate its resources and activities (public and private sectors) with a clear chain of command, from the central level (the Chief Veterinary Officer), to the field level of the VS in order to implement all national activities <u>relevant for the Codes (i.e. surveillance, disease control and eradication, food safety and early detection and rapid response programs)</u>	4
	The capability of the VS to coordinate its resources and activities (public and private sectors) with a clear chain of command, from the central level (the Chief Veterinary Officer), to the field level of the VS in order to implement all <u>PPR activities</u>	=
	Level 3 [There are internal coordination mechanisms and a clear and effective chain of command for <u>PPR prevention, control and eradication activities</u>] is expected for Stage 2	✓
- Coordination capability of the VS (internal coordination - chain of command)	<p>Findings:</p> <p>The current VS organization and functioning in Turkey allows formal and informal internal coordination, with a two-way flow of information, appropriate for disease prevention and control activities (FMD; LSD; PPR; etc). Specifically, there is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - an effective technical chain of command for PPR activities, which originates from GDFC (decision making, coordination, monitoring and supervision) to Provincial, then District VS (implementation), both in routine and emergency situations; - an effective information feedback to GDFC on PPR activities in the field, with a direct 'technical route' that links provincial / district VS to GDFC relevant department / Unit, in particular the Department of Animal Health and Quarantine. Routinely, Provincial/District VS report their activities, including PPR control activities, to GDFC on a monthly basis. <p>The national network of veterinary laboratories is also clearly and functionally part of this internal coordination mechanism; ETLIK Institute, as National Reference Laboratory for PPR (see CC II.1) is notably closely associated to the definition of PPR vaccination campaigns and post-vaccination evaluation plans as well as in reporting mechanism, together with GDFC.</p> <p>As a result of this good internal coordination, the annual reports indicate that PPR activities (vaccination; PVE sero-surveillance; outbreak management; etc) are considered to be implemented according to plans.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - When the Commission for animal health of the Risk Analysis Department is functional (2020), ensure that the internal coordination mechanism includes this Commission, to properly incorporate their work in the planning and decision-making process as regards to PPR eradication efforts. 	

CC I.6.B	The capability of the VS to coordinate its resources and activities (public and private sectors) at all levels with other relevant authorities as appropriate, in order to implement all national activities relevant for OIE Codes (i.e. surveillance, disease control and eradication, food safety and early detection and rapid response programs)	3
	The capability of the VS to coordinate its resources and activities (public and private sectors) at all levels with other relevant authorities as appropriate, in order to implement all PPR activities	-
	Level 3 [There are formal external coordination mechanisms with clearly described procedures or agreements for <u>PPR prevention, control and eradication activities</u>] is expected for Stage 2	X
- Coordination capability of the VS (external coordination)	<p>Findings:</p> <p>The Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs (MoFWA) is involved in some PPR surveillance in wild small ruminants as well as in hunters' sensitisation and awareness. A case/some cases in wildlife was/were notably reported to OIE in the first semester 2016, but unfortunately, no quantitative data were available. This demonstrates that PPR surveillance in wildlife is in place; it is important to determine whether wildlife in Turkey are acting as a 'reservoir' of PPR and thus represent a useful sentinel of PPR infection in regions where there exists a wildlife domestic species' interface.</p> <p>Trainings on PPR in wildlife have been jointly organised by GDFC and MoFWA. Apart this form of collaboration, it was not possible to find formal coordination procedures between GDFC and MoFWA that could support PPR prevention and eradication efforts.</p> <p>Cooperation with hunting clubs is expected to increase in 2017 as part of the new National PPR Strategy (Thrace part); however, detailed census of hunting clubs remains to be provided by MoFWA.</p>	
	<p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ When establishing the National PPR Committee (see CC I.1.A), include the participation of representatives of MoFWA; ➤ Design a procedure to improve external coordination with MoFWA and other organisations involved in wildlife management to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ensure that all suspected/confirmed cases in wild animal populations are notified to the Veterinary Authority (GDFC) - as indicator of a possible spill over from domestic animals -; – Reinforce the hunters' awareness programme (throughout the entire territory); – Organise regular meetings with environmental and hunting associations; – Possibly address biodiversity aspects / preservation of endangered small ruminant species in case of severe outbreaks, in light of the recent episodes in Mongolia (mass die-off of Saiga antelopes). <p>The OIE Focal Point for wildlife could be involved in developing such procedure.</p>	

CC I.7	The access of the VS to relevant physical resources including buildings, transport, telecommunications, cold chain, and other relevant equipment (e.g. computers)	4
	The access of the VS to relevant physical resources including buildings, transport, telecommunications, cold chain, and other relevant equipment (e.g. computers) <u>to combat PPR</u>	=
	Level 3 [The VS have suitable physical resources <u>for PPR activities</u> at national, regional and some local levels and maintenance and replacement of obsolete items occurs only occasionally] is expected for Stage 2	✓
Physical resources	<p>Findings:</p> <p>Suitable infrastructure and equipment is available at central, provincial, and district VS (also at municipal level) for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the proper cold chain management of PPR vaccines and diagnostic samples (refrigerated vehicles; iceboxes; etc.); - the proper delivery of PPR surveillance, vaccination, PVE and investigation activities (vehicles, fuel, syringes and other small equipment); - the identification and registration of small ruminants (RFID eartags are widely used; national data management and registration systems for small ruminants HAYBIS/KKKS-Turkvet; some shortcoming have been noted but concern more the management than the equipment itself (see also CC I.11); - Efficient communication with well-functioning equipment (telephone; emails; etc.); - Adequate slaughtering facilities (new) and rendering facilities. <p>Special investments have recently been in the remote and less developed regions of Turkey, so that overall, these physical resources are well distributed across the whole territory.</p> <p>Laboratory infrastructure and equipment is also adequate and regularly maintained.</p> <p>Only unloading / inspection and quarantine facilities are missing in some Border Inspection Posts, possibly jeopardizing the effectiveness of the inspection of imported small ruminants.</p>	
	<p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ensure the regular maintenance and modernization of infrastructure and equipment, for optimal delivery and monitoring of PPR activities at central and field level; ➤ Address needs for small ruminant facilities at BIPs. 	

CC I.8	The ability of the VS to access financial resources adequate for their <u>continued</u> operations, independent of political pressure	4
	The ability of the VS to access financial resources adequate for their <u>PPR</u> operations, independent of political pressure	=
	Level 4 [Funding for new or expanded <u>PPR</u> operations is on a case-by-case basis, not always based on <i>risk analysis</i> and/or cost benefit analysis] is expected for Stage 2	✓
Operational funding	<p>Findings:</p> <p>Although there is no specific budget for PPR activities (VS budget includes all TADS), operational funding for PPR control and eradication has been made available for several years: vaccination data are recorded in WAHIS since at least 2005 (at the time, vaccination was limited to 1,5 million doses).</p> <p>Important financial resources will need to be secured in the coming year to meet the clear eradication objectives (2019 for Thrace and 2023 for Anatolia). However, there was no budget associated to the future National PPR Strategy when presented to the OIE PVS Team.</p> <p>In the document entitled 'Technical assistance for preparation of the veterinary strategy document' prepared with the support of the European Union (analytical study on PPR) [H38], preliminary calculations were made as regards (i) the cost of PPR in Turkey (based on a no-control measure scenario), (ii) the cost of PPR control and (iii) a cost-benefit analysis. It shows that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - in the absence of any control measure, PPR costs would amount up to 270 million euro (direct and indirect cost have been considered), with Anatolia and Thrace respectively supporting 97% and 3% of these costs; - the cost of controlling PPR in Turkey amount to 23 million euro and includes vaccination cost (66%), ring vaccination (12%), laboratory test (1%), monitoring/clinical surveillance (3%), quarantine (14%) and culling (6%°); - the ratio cost-benefit can vary from 1:3 (low scenario) to 1:12 (high scenario) depending on the underlying assumptions and the evolution of the epidemiological situation, but in all scenarios, the cost of control is lower than the cost of doing nothing. <p>In the calculation of the cost of controlling PPR, the experts have considered the vaccination of the whole small ruminant population (mass vaccination - approx. 42 million animals) while the current and future PPR strategies consider the vaccination of new born (and unvaccinated adults) only (targeted vaccination - approx. 13 million animals).</p> <p>The absence of proper risk analysis (see CC II.3) does not allow differentiated control measures in Anatolia, with a possible redistribution / reduction of control costs.</p> <p>The combination of various animal diseases control measures is suboptimal, and in many cases, veterinarian visits are made for a single purpose (see also CCI.1.A), linked to a possible cost-ineffectiveness.</p>	
	<p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Consider including PPR control and eradication as a clear national priority for inclusion in the next 5 year Strategic Plan of MoFAL (in the current 2013-2017 Strategic Plan, only FMD, cattle tuberculosis and cattle, sheep and goat brucellosis are listed among the priority animal diseases); this inclusion may help secure sustainable state funding to 	

	<p>achieve PPR eradication and sustain it in the post eradication phase;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Develop a comprehensive PPR risk-based approach to support pragmatic PPR budget development; ➤ Consider requesting an OIE Gap Analysis soon, to assist with the development of a 5 year costing plan that will consider national priorities (ensure that PPR eradication is clearly mentioned among the priorities during the exercise); ➤ Combine PPR surveillance and control (vaccination notably) efforts with other animal health activities, to minimise the workload and improve the cost-effectiveness of VS activities.
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CC I.9	The capability of the VS to access extraordinary financial resources in order to respond to <u>emergency situations</u> or emerging issues, as measured by the ease with which contingency and compensatory funding (i.e. arrangements for compensation of producers in emergency situations) can be made available when expected	4
	The capability of the VS to access extraordinary financial resources in order to respond to <u>PPR (re)emergence</u> , as measured by the ease with which contingency and compensatory funding (i.e. arrangements for compensation of producers in PPR situations) can be made available when expected	=
	Level 4 [Funding arrangements with adequate resources have been established, but in a <u>PPR</u> emergency situation, their operation must be agreed through a non-political process on a case-by-case basis] is expected for Stage 4	✓
Emergency funding	<p>Findings:</p> <p>Emergency funding is usually needed in countries or zones that are no longer endemic, such as the Thrace region for PPR. Emergency funding therefore is usually used to mitigate the resurgence of cases (in general limited if rapid response is optimal) for stamping out activities – including compensation –, emergency ring vaccination around the outbreaks and quarantine measures. These three budget lines have been estimated in the document entitled 'Technical assistance for preparation of the veterinary strategy document' prepared with the support of the European Union (analytical study on PPR) [H38], and respectively amount for approx. 300,000 euros, 90,000 euros and 100,000 euros. This is based on the assumption that 3 outbreaks will occur in Thrace after the termination of vaccination. These are quite limited funds compared to the MoFAL budget dedicated to the control of animal diseases in Turkey.</p> <p>Availability of such emergency funding has historically been provided for FMD and was quickly mobilized whenever needed.</p> <p>A compensation scheme also currently exists for FMD, LSD and cattle Tuberculosis but remains to be established for PPR. Such compensation provisions are however laid down in the new National PPR Strategy.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Develop new Standard Operating Procedure for PPR compensation in case of stamping out; ➤ Establish proper governance procedures for the planning and use of emergency funding for PPR emergencies in Thrace; ensure notably that the emergency funding will be fully in adequacy with the PPR Contingency Plan, to be revised (see CC II.6). 	

CC I.11	The capability of the VS to document and manage their resources and operations in order to analyse, plan and improve both efficiency and effectiveness	3
	The capability of the VS to document and manage their <u>PPR</u> resources and operations in order to analyse, plan and improve both efficiency and effectiveness	-
	Level 4 [The VS regularly analyse records and documented procedures to improve PPR activities efficiency and effectiveness] is expected for Stage 2	x
Management of resources and operations	<p>Findings:</p> <p>The new National PPR Strategy is to be officially unveiled in June 2017. It is a continuation of the existing National PPR Control Strategy in place for several years, and is composed of 2 parts, for Thrace (currently in PPR Stage 4) and Anatolia (currently in PPR Stage 2) regions with distinct eradication timeframes, respectively set for 2019 and 2023. The OIE PVS Team did not have access to it; however some of its content (mostly the Thrace part) was presented during the mission [E97].</p> <p>The new National PPR Strategy could somehow look like a combination of (i) National Strategic Plan (NSP) referred to in the PPR GCES / GEP – with consideration for the 5 ‘technical elements’ of the GCES -, (ii) the National Eradication Plan for Thrace (needed for countries in PPR Stage 3 and beyond) and (iii) the National Control Plan for Anatolia (needed for countries in Stage 2).</p> <p>Control measures presented to the OIE PVS Team remained quite broad, especially in Anatolia, and not linked to a clear understanding of the epidemiological situation, risk factors and hotspot mapping.</p> <p>A large amount of data (animal identification and registration; control measures including vaccination and animal movement; laboratory results; import; etc.) is collected by GDFC, Provincial and District VS, in various databases that are not fully compatible. The Animal Information System (HAYBIS) is under development/consolidation and notably contains two modules relevant to PPR prevention and control activities: TURKVET/KKKS for animal identification and registration; premises registration; animal movement; and VETBIS for animal control measures including vaccination. These data support management decisions in terms of PPR prevention and control measures. Several issues have been noted by the OIE PVS Team:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Request in VETBIS failed to find vaccine records in some small ruminants older than one year; no explanation were provided to the OIE Team; - According to the sources consulted, the small ruminant population can vary from 29 to 73 million number of heads for the same period; The EU document entitled ‘Technical assistance for preparation of the veterinary strategy document’ [E37] notably reports that the number of small ruminants present in the I&R database (TURKET-KKKS) is 70% greater (73 millions) than the actual one, as reported by Turkstat (42 millions). This has huge consequences notably for the PPR vaccination programme (number animals to vaccinate? Vaccination coverage?); - some outbreak data are stored in the CVVRI and VCRI only, and therefore not available for a full epidemiological analysis; - Proper analysis of PPR operations’ effectiveness is lacking: the continuation of PPR outbreaks in Anatolia, despite a vaccination coverage estimated above 80%, remains unexplained and does not trigger a deep analysis of their source and significance, nor a reorientation of the control measures (see also CC II.7); - finally it is not clear to the OIE PVS Team how KKKS (specific registration system for sheep and goats) links to TURKET and future developments. <p>A self-evaluation of the PPR situation and activities, using the PMAT tool of the GCES, was conducted on the occasion of the 2 PPR Roadmap meetings for West Eurasia held in</p>	

	<p>2016 (Almaty, Kazakhstan) and 2017 (Dushanbe, Tajikistan). Some responses provided in 2017 [E98] are debatable (outcome 2/Q5 and Q8; outcome 3/Q1; outcome 4/Q1, Q2, Q3 and Q4) and would merit further discussions.</p> <p>There is currently no “Monitoring and Evaluation Unit” for the Department of Animal Health and Quarantine; the EU veterinary strategy document [E37] proposes to establish one that could play a key performance management role for the implementation of the new National PPR Strategy.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ensure that the new National Strategy for PPR eradication (under final development) is aligned with the PPR GCES / GEP principles and recommendations in terms of PPR strategy and technical plans (and related Templates); consider its transmission to the Global PPR Secretariat by end of July (as recommended during the second PPR Roadmap meeting for West Eurasia, in Dushanbe in March 2017); ➤ Clean and update the information on the number of small ruminants in Turkey in HAYBIS and ensure that the census is consistent with other sources (TURKSTAT notably); ➤ Consider the establishment of a single IT structure for the Animal Information System, that will gather all possible animal and animal health data from various sources, with a view to facilitating comprehensive analysis and reporting; ➤ Consider the results of the OIE PVS Evaluation Follow-Up to update the PMAT Self-assessment and decide additional corrective measures.
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Fundamental Component II – Technical Authority and Capability

CC II.1.A	The authority and capability of the VS to have access to laboratory diagnosis in order to identify and record pathogenic agents, including those relevant for public health, that can adversely affect animals and animal products	5
	The authority and capability of the VS to have access to laboratory diagnosis in order to identify and record pathogenic agents, particularly <u>PPRV and those which must be differentiated from it</u>	=
	Level 2 [For <u>PPR</u> , the VS have access to and use a <i>laboratory</i> to obtain a correct diagnosis] is expected for Stage 1	✓
Veterinary laboratory Diagnosis – Access to diagnostic	<p>Findings:</p> <p>ETLIK Veterinary Central Control and Research Institute (CVVRI) based in Ankara is the National Reference Laboratory for PPR, in charge of the identification (14 provinces), confirmation and characterisation (entire country) of PPR virus. Real time RT-PCR is the main diagnostic technique used for the confirmation of clinical cases and for imported animals but other techniques such as RT-PCR and virus isolation in cell culture are also in use and the detection of the immune response for post vaccination evaluation (Virus Neutralisation Test and ELISA). The ETLIK infrastructure and equipment are currently appropriate and maintained. The concepts of quality assurance, good manufacturing practice (GMP), and quality risk management are adequately applied at ETLIK.</p> <p>The seven other regional Veterinary Control and Research Institutes (VCRI) also perform PPR Real-Time RT-PCR for the identification of PPR following clinical cases (confirmation by ETLIK CVVRI is not mandatory as the capacities of the VCRI are considered as sufficient (see caveat in CC II.3). During the visit at PENDIK VCRI in Istanbul, the OIE PVS Team noted several issues when investigating PPR samples (RT-PCR results had been unreliable due to equipment issues⁵⁵ for the last 2 weeks; traceback activities by the PENDIK sample reception person for a random PPR positive sample turned out very difficult; one sample appeared to be for 2 animals - an adult sheep and a kid – with unclear information whether these animals were in the same location, and which one was positive). This episode indicated some failings in the PENDIK registration system and in other parts of the surveillance chain. PPR proficiency tests are however regularly conducted at PENDIK VCRI.</p> <p>Access to differential diagnostics for other small ruminant diseases with similar clinical signs to PPR such as sheep and goat pox virus, bluetongue virus, contagious Ecthyma and bacterial agents of pneumonia, was also found adequate in the 8 VCRI.</p> <p>Access to PPR diagnostics (and PPR differential diagnostics) is therefore currently adequate in Turkey. However, the lack of sufficient human resources (especially when it comes to VPPs) is the main weakness identified in the public network of laboratories. This may importantly affect proper access to PPR diagnostics in time of phased out</p>	

⁵⁵ The Pendik VCI subsequently provided the following input: “About ten days before the visit of the OIE PVS team, our lab had a software problem with LightCycler 2.0 real time PCR machine. So we stopped to use this device and continued working with the LightCycler Nano. Our problem with LightCycler 2.0 was solved and this year we again joined the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) 2017 PPR proficiency test. Our laboratory number is MS17-29. Our results can also be questioned here. We had also joined the 2016 PPR proficiency test (Lab. No: MS-A25) with this device and we were 100% successful.”

	vaccination and compulsory confirmation of all suspect cases (increased quantity of diagnostic tests needed).	
	Recommendations: <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Ensure that the human resources of the national Veterinary Laboratory Network will be sufficient (quantitative and qualitative aspects) to meet diagnostic needs in the future (PPR and PPR differential diagnostics); it is however expected that the number of PPR samples will decrease overtime.	
CC II.1.B	The sustainability, effectiveness and efficiency of the national (public and private) laboratory infrastructures to service the needs of the VS	4
	The sustainability, effectiveness and efficiency of the national (public and private) laboratory infrastructures to service the needs of the VS <u>with regard to PPR eradication</u>	=
	Level 3 [The national laboratory infrastructure generally meets the needs of the VS <u>PPR activities</u> . Resources and organisation appear to be managed effectively and efficiently, but their regular funding is inadequate to support a sustainable and regularly maintained infrastructure] is expected in Stage 1	✓
Veterinary laboratory Diagnosis - Suitability of national laboratory infrastructures	Findings: <p>ETLIK, as the national Reference Laboratory for PPR, provides a wide range of services for PPR prevention and control that include diagnosis, virus characterisation, post vaccination monitoring outbreak investigation, sero-epidemiological studies, PPR training for the other Veterinary Control Institutes' veterinarians, field veterinarians and also farmers.</p> <p>The other VRCIs also do PPR diagnosis and outbreak investigation in the provinces in their geographical mandate.</p> <p>The sustainability of the national veterinary laboratory network is ensured for the next years as far as PPR is concerned.</p> <p>In the last regional PPR Roadmap meeting (Dushanbe, February 2017), Turkey expressed its interest to become a 'PPR regional leading laboratory for Central Asia' (CVVRI ETLIK) as well as a quality control Regional Centre for PPR Vaccines (VCRI Bornova) in support of the region.</p>	
	Recommendations: <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Continue to secure PPR services in the next years, especially in light of the newly PPR national Strategy to be unveiled in June 2017;➤ Pursue with the Global PPR Secretariat the idea of becoming of PPR Regional leading laboratory for West Eurasia, ensuring that all activities foreseen in the Regional Leading Laboratory ToRS (under finalization) can be implemented by ETLIK (notably regional training and network animation activities, considering the current shortage of available human resources.	

CC II.2	The quality of laboratories (that conduct diagnostic testing or analysis for chemical residues, antimicrobial residues, toxins, or tests for, biological efficacy, etc.) as measured by the use of formal QA systems including, but not limited to, participation in relevant proficiency testing programmes	4
	The quality of laboratories (that conduct <u>PPR</u> diagnostic testing.) as measured by the use of formal QA systems including, but not limited to, participation in relevant <u>PPR</u> proficiency testing programmes	=
	Level 2 [Some laboratories used by the public sector VS <u>for PPR diagnostic and PVE</u> are using formal QA Systems] is expected for Stage 3	✓
Laboratory quality assurance	<p>Findings:</p> <p>The ETLIK Institute, the national reference laboratory for PPR, is ISO 17025 accredited by TURKAK, the Turkish Accreditation Agency. The seven VCRI, which are also involved in PPR diagnostic for the provinces they cover, also stepped up accreditation activities of their diagnostic tests in recent years.</p> <p>ETLIK participates in international PPR Proficiency Testing for PPR diagnostics, both for nucleic acid detection test and serological methods (ELISAs). However, organisation of systematic national proficiency tests for PPR (and other diseases) has not taken place yet, putting a doubt on the current reliability of the results received from the 7 VCRI (all the more as there is no systematic confirmation of PPR results from ETLIK), until the accreditation, under development, is fully completed.</p> <p>To date, there is no structured regional laboratory network, but this is currently discussed in the framework of the PPR Regional Roadmap for Central Asia, building on the experience gained for FMD.</p>	
	<p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Participate (ETLIK and when relevant, the 7 other VCRI) in the international/regional PPR proficiency tests intended to be organized regularly in the framework of the OIE-FAO PPR GEP; ➤ Support the establishment of a regional laboratory network for regular exchange of information within the region, meetings and workshops to harmonize techniques and to evaluate the results of proficiency testing. 	

CC II.3	The authority and capability of the VS to base its risk management measures on risk assessment	3
	The authority and capability of the VS to base its risk management measures relating to <u>PPR control and eradication on risk assessment</u>	-
	Level 3 [The VS compile and maintain <u>PPR</u> data and have the capability to carry out risk analysis. The majority of <u>PPR</u> risk management measures are based on risk assessment] is expected for Stage 1	X
Risk analysis	<p>Findings:</p> <p>The Department of Risk Analysis in GDRC created in 2011 does not have a mandate for animal health yet (2020 at the earliest), and therefore was not involved in the preparation of the new National PPR Strategy (to be unveiled in June 2017).</p> <p>As a possible result of this, the outlines of the new National PPR Strategy as presented to the OIE PVS experts did not provide evidence of a robust epidemiological assessment (see also CCII.5) and risk assessment, expected to underpin the development of the national Strategy and companion technical Plans (National Control Plan for Anatolia, National Eradication Plan for Thrace – see CC I.11).</p> <p>Especially in Anatolia where PPR is endemic, the social and economic drivers and risk factors for PPR entry, spread and maintenance are unknown; as a consequence, there is not a clear and dynamic understanding of the specific PPR risk hotspots and transmission pathways, nor of the reasons why PPRV circulation continues despite a vaccination coverage claimed to be above 80%.</p> <p>A detailed value chain analysis of the small ruminant sector was not mentioned either. Similarly, regarding the lack of information on wildlife host populations, movements and possible linkages with domestic small ruminant populations. Unreliable information on the number of small ruminants (see CCI.11) is also an important concern.</p> <p>Some elements needed for this risk assessment are however available such as reliable information on production systems mapping, animal contact networks, small ruminant pastoral movements and trade patterns, but these are not captured in a formal risk-assessment Plan. HAYBIS, the Animal Health Information System that retrieves some of this information and contains some risk analysis modules, is however not used as a means to derive risk-based intelligence, in the absence of a mandate for animal health by GDRC Department of Risk Analysis.</p> <p>For Thrace, the new National PPR Strategy proposes regular risk based surveys in the highest risk provinces as well as during at-risk events (e.g. Kurban festival). This is to be done in 2017-2018.</p> <p>Given the security situation in the region, the lack of coordination with neighbouring countries does not help have a proper regional or even epizone understanding nor regional analyses (analysis and map of regional PPRV political and risk and probable virus flows), while regional and national assessments are interrelated and mutually informative.</p>	
	<p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Develop a Risk-Assessment Plan for Anatolia (referring to available guidelines for entering PPR Stage 1) to gain a clear understanding of the PPR risk hotspots and transmission pathways using the value chains and risk analysis principles; based on this, formulate the working hypothesis on how PPR virus is introduced/maintained in Anatolia; ➤ In particular, use the data and especially mapping wildlife cases and outbreaks to learn more about possible hotspots and transmission pathways at the wildlife / domestic 	

	<p>livestock interface;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Keep it regularly updated in light of new information and changes in the epidemiological profile of Turkey and the whole region; ➤ Use all the knowledge acquired for FMD risk analysis with EuFMD support, and apply it to develop a risk-based approach to reduce PPR impact. 	
CC II.4	The authority and capability of the VS to prevent the entry and spread of diseases and other hazards of animals and animal products	3
	The authority and capability of the VS to prevent the entry and spread of PPR in animals	=
	Level 3 [The VS can establish and apply quarantine and border security procedures based on <u>PPR</u> international standards, but the procedures do not systematically address illegal activities relating to the import of <u>small ruminants and their products</u>] is expected for Stage 4	✓
Quarantine and border security	<p>Findings:</p> <p>Legal import of live sheep and goats by road is currently allowed from Bulgaria (Edirne-Kapicule) and Greece (Ipsala) only and banned from Armenia, Georgia, Iran, Iraq and Syria. Illegal entry of small ruminants is however reported to occasionally occur from these countries depending on the market prices. Some sheep and goats are also imported by sea. Overall, while it was not possible to have the exact figures, less than 100,000 heads are legally imported annually, all originating from countries with a free status and authorized for sheep and goat importation to Turkey, published on the MinFAL website (Australia; Bulgaria; Croatia; Estonia; Greece; Hungary; Romania; Ukraine; USA). Import of small ruminant products (meat; milk; hides) is negligible.</p> <p>At arrival in Turkey, documentation and animals are checked by the Competent Authorities present at border. Advance notification of such arrival is not received, with possible animal welfare consequences. In the absence of proper quarantine infrastructure at BIPs (only 'suspicious' animals can be quarantined), quarantine is carried out at arrival, usually at the holdings of destination (farms) previously authorized by the provincial or district VS. Diagnostic tests for PPR and several other small ruminant diseases are also done on at least 10% of the imported animals. In addition, all imported animals are vaccinated.</p> <p>For the Thrace region (currently in Stage 4), external (Bulgaria, Greece) and internal (with Anatolia – see CC II.12.A on movement control) borders are secured, and small ruminants are imported only from countries with a recognized free status; the risk of PPR introduction in Thrace is therefore under control</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <p>For Anatolia region, illegal entry of small ruminants and their products should be comprehensively addressed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Actively engage neighbouring countries on livestock movement control; cross-border meeting could be organized to this effect, if possible; ➤ Implement relevant public awareness activities, underlying the risks – especially PPR - linked to illegal entry of small ruminants and their products (and subsequent penalties); ➤ Whenever feasible, creating incentives for traders to use the legal channels, that could include removing some charges and making import procedures simpler and cheaper 	

CC II.5.A	The authority and capability of the VS to determine, verify and report on the sanitary status of the animal populations, including wildlife, under their mandate	4																																										
	The authority and capability of the VS to determine, verify and report on the sanitary status of the animal populations, including wildlife, under their mandate specifically with regard to PPR	-																																										
	Level 3 [The VS conduct passive surveillance in compliance with OIE standards for PPR at the national level through appropriate networks in the field, whereby samples from suspect PPR cases are collected and sent for laboratory diagnosis with evidence of correct results obtained. The VS have a basic national disease reporting system] is expected for Stage 2	x																																										
Epidemiological surveillance and early detection - Passive epidemiological surveillance	Findings: PPR is in the list of notifiable diseases in Turkey for domestic animals but not in wildlife. PPR in Turkey is currently qualified by GDFA as ‘ Endemic with neutral or favourable trend ’. In 2016 and 2017 (as of 1 March 2017), respectively 50 and 24 outbreaks were officially reported, predominantly located in the Central and Western parts of Turkey. No outbreaks were reported in the provinces neighbouring Georgia, Armenia, Iran, Iraq and Syria. No outbreaks were reported in Thrace region since 2014. Outbreak history in domestic small ruminants is reported in the table below (source: WAHIS):																																											
	<table><tr><th>Year</th><th>Number of provinces infected</th><th>Number of PPR outbreaks</th><th>Number of PPR cases</th><th>Provinces with the highest number of PPR outbreaks</th><th>Months of the year with the highest number of PPR outbreaks</th></tr><tr><td>2011</td><td>52</td><td>208</td><td>Goats: 1162 Sheep: 6070</td><td>Ankara (12) Konya (17) Usak (14) Kocaeli (16) Izmir (15)</td><td>June-July-August</td></tr><tr><td>2012</td><td>25</td><td>59</td><td>Goats: 584 Sheep: 1168</td><td>Kocaeli (8) Konya (7) Ankara (10)</td><td>Jan-March-Nov</td></tr><tr><td>2013</td><td>13</td><td>19</td><td>Goats: 302 Sheep: 246</td><td>Aydin (4)</td><td>Jan-Feb-July</td></tr><tr><td>2014</td><td>19</td><td>43</td><td>Goats: 210 Sheep: 900</td><td>Konya (10) Nigde (8)</td><td>Jan-Feb-March</td></tr><tr><td>2015</td><td>23</td><td>65</td><td>Goats: 152 Sheep: 1557</td><td>Antalya (4) Ankara (4) Canakkale (14)</td><td>Nov-Dec</td></tr><tr><td>2016</td><td>26</td><td>50</td><td>Goats: 470 Sheep: 2475</td><td>Amasya (7) Antalya (5) Samsun (5)</td><td>Jan-Feb-Nov-Dec</td></tr></table>	Year	Number of provinces infected	Number of PPR outbreaks	Number of PPR cases	Provinces with the highest number of PPR outbreaks	Months of the year with the highest number of PPR outbreaks	2011	52	208	Goats: 1162 Sheep: 6070	Ankara (12) Konya (17) Usak (14) Kocaeli (16) Izmir (15)	June-July-August	2012	25	59	Goats: 584 Sheep: 1168	Kocaeli (8) Konya (7) Ankara (10)	Jan-March-Nov	2013	13	19	Goats: 302 Sheep: 246	Aydin (4)	Jan-Feb-July	2014	19	43	Goats: 210 Sheep: 900	Konya (10) Nigde (8)	Jan-Feb-March	2015	23	65	Goats: 152 Sheep: 1557	Antalya (4) Ankara (4) Canakkale (14)	Nov-Dec	2016	26	50	Goats: 470 Sheep: 2475	Amasya (7) Antalya (5) Samsun (5)	Jan-Feb-Nov-Dec	
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	In the first 6-month report for 2016, PPR was reported as present in wildlife but there is unfortunately no quantitative data available.																																											
Passive surveillance is key for PPR detection in Anatolia, as targeted vaccination is being applied (in the absence of DIVA vaccines).																																												
Clinical events that may match the PPR case definition are currently captured and reported at farm, slaughter place and live market level, by sensitized farmers, operators and veterinarians.																																												
Farmers notably tend to call their private veterinarian or District VS in case of PPR-like																																												

	<p>clinical syndromes, which are further investigated, with diagnostic tests if needed. The efficiency of the current passive surveillance system is difficult to assess, especially in the eastern part of the country, where no PPR outbreaks have been reported, despite the proximity with infected countries and well-known illegal entry of live small ruminants and their products.</p> <p>The Field Veterinary Network does not cover efficiently the entire territory of Turkey, and weaker surveillance capacity exists in some areas, especially in the Eastern parts of Turkey, mainly due to insufficient financial and human resources and the insecurity context.</p> <p>Turkey hosts an important population of wild ruminants susceptible to PPR including Caprinae (wild goats, chamois, and mouflons) and Cervidae. The General Directorate of Nature Conservation and National Parks (GDNCNP) of the Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs together with the Hunting Commissions established at central and provincial level are sharing relevant competences with MoFAL for wildlife protection and management, including disease monitoring. This organisation makes quite complex the implementation of prevention and control activities of wildlife diseases (part of the Animal Health Programme) among various authorities with possible divergent interests and priorities. In addition, information about the distribution and density of some wildlife species is missing in some large part of the country, and the monitoring of these populations is therefore suboptimal. In this context, the sentinel role that could play the susceptible wildlife species is limited.</p> <p>Overall, as indicated in CC II.3, a comprehensive and timely epidemiological assessment and subsequent risk assessment plan are not available, while however indispensable to develop a relevant National Control Plan (Anatolia). The capacity to generate a sound epidemiological information from the significant amount of data available is weak. In house epidemiology capacity is however available in GDFC - but not at provincial and district level - and epidemiology courses as part of the VS continuing education programme are on-going.</p> <p>Activities to increase passive surveillance efficiency – especially in the Thrace region - are planned in the future National PPR Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Farmers' PPR awareness to be organised by Provincial and District VS (see also CC III.1); - Hunters' sensitization (via hunting clubs) to be organised by VS in collaboration with the Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs; - 'Opportunistic clinical surveys' to be conducted on any farm visit occasion by veterinarians (ear-tagging; vaccination for other diseases; etc) who will both review the farm epidemiological history and do herd examination. These surveys are considered to be cheap and effective, and possible to reach 100% of small ruminant population in Turkey. <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Establish and/or strengthen PPR passive surveillance in domestic and wild small ruminant populations on the entire territory, to ensure the early detection of the appearance of PPRV incursion; this is a top priority in the context of targeted vaccination in Anatolia; ➤ Prepare a robust epidemiological assessment for Anatolia (see also CCII.3) to be conducted by a national team of experts, with the support of international experts if needed, to serve as a basis for the strengthening of PPR control measures; it could serve as a capacity building exercise and involve provincial GDFC managers, epidemiology officers, etc.; ➤ Consider any change in the PPR epidemiological profile of the region ('epizone
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	concept' to be further developed by the PPR Global Secretariat) to improve passive surveillance in some targeted areas; ➤ Consider making PPR a notifiable disease in wildlife.
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CC II.5.B	The authority and capability of the VS to determine, verify and report on the sanitary status of the animal populations, including wildlife, under their mandate	2
	The authority and capability of the VS to determine, verify and report on the <u>PPR</u> status of the animal populations, including wildlife, under their mandate	=
	Level 3 [The VS conduct active surveillance in compliance with scientific principles and OIE standards for <u>PPR</u> and apply it to all susceptible populations but do not update it regularly] is expected for Stage 1	X
Epidemiological surveillance and early detection - Active epidemiological surveillance	<p>Findings:</p> <p>PPR (clinical) active surveillance is currently conducted in Thrace (not in Anatolia), in the context of demonstrating the absence of PPR clinical disease and/or infection. PPR – together with Sheep and goat pox – is integrated into the FMD active surveillance programme since 2014 in the framework of the EuFMD tripartite initiative on FMD and other diseases for Bulgaria, Greece and Thrace.</p> <p>All provinces of Thrace are included in this programme. 1830 animals (cattle, buffalos, sheep, goats) are checked four times a year (30 animals per villages in 61 Villages randomly selected). Results are registered in the EUFMD database. All results so far have proven negative. The same protocol will be continued in 2017. Sero-surveillance is not used as an active surveillance method yet as vaccination was stopped in Thrace in 2016 only.</p> <p>Activities to increase active surveillance efficiency in the Thrace region are planned in the future National PPR Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A clinical active surveillance survey in randomly selected farms; the protocol involves moving the herds and the 'slow' animals (lameness; weakness) are checked and tested if needed; - Risk based surveys in some selected Thrace provinces, bordering PPR infected provinces (Çanakkale; Istanbul/East part) or during the Kurban festival; - Sero-surveillance in some selected small ruminant populations (young unvaccinated animals older than 3 months); - Sero-surveys in wildlife, together with the Ministry of Forestry and Water (samples can be obtained from hunted animals); - Sero-surveys in cattle (still under discussion), as an indicator of possible virus circulation in small ruminants. This survey would be done in conjunction with the FMD sero-surveys. <p>This future surveillance programme is quite comprehensive, and a specific budget will need to be allocated for its implementation. Provincial and District VS will be in charge of its implementation, assisted by ETLIK and other regional PPR lab experts whenever needed.</p> <p>In Anatolia, active surveillance is not conducted (while it could be useful in light of the 'unexplained' outbreaks despite vaccination - see CC II.7).</p>	
	Recommendations:	

	<p><u>For Thrace</u>, in the perspective of the application of a dossier to the OIE for official recognition of PPR freedom:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ensure that the financial and human resources are made available to implement the active surveillance plan in the long run; ➤ Ensure that ETLIK has the full testing protocol for detecting antibodies against PPRV in wildlife sera and increase the collection of sero-surveillance data from wild life (in collaboration with MoFWA and hunting associations – see I.6.B); ➤ Ensure the careful application of all provisions of articles on surveillance contained in chapter 14.7 of the OIE TAHC; ➤ Draft a Standard Operation Procedure to adequately investigate all positive clinical and /or serological results (should involve both supplementary tests and follow-up investigation to collect diagnostic material from the original sampling unit as well as herds which may be epidemiologically linked to it). <p><u>For Anatolia</u>,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In the provinces where passive surveillance may not be entirely reliable (notably provinces bordering infected countries, with no PPR cases reported to date), implement active surveillance to gain a better understanding of the possible disease entry pathways; ➤ Similarly, in provinces where outbreaks occur (26 provinces in 2016), implement active surveillance to gain an understanding of the extent of PPR virus circulation.
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CC II.6	The authority and capability of the VS to respond rapidly to a sanitary emergency (such as a significant disease outbreak or food safety emergency)	4
	The authority and capability of the VS to respond rapidly to a sanitary emergency (such as a significant PPR outbreak)	-
	Level 4 [The VS have an established procedure to make timely decisions on whether or not a <u>PPR</u> emergency exists. The VS have the legal framework and financial support to respond rapidly to <u>PPR</u> emergencies through a chain of command. They have national contingency plans for some exotic <i>diseases</i> that are regularly updated/tested] is expected for Stage 4	x
Emergency response	<p>Findings:</p> <p>A national Contingency Plan for PPR (and some other diseases) exists since 2005 [H43] but has been updated in 2012. This Plan is supported by a robust legal framework (primary and secondary legislation) that has provision for emergency activities (establishment of protection and surveillance zones; measures in contact farms; quarantine; etc) in case of suspected and confirmed transboundary animal disease outbreaks including PPR (see CC IV.1 and 2).</p> <p>There was no evidence of simulation exercises to test it under field conditions. However, the Plan serves as a basis for Train-the-Trainer seminars, where the Regional Laboratories (example the PENDIK Institute for the five Thrace provinces) train veterinarians from the Provincial and District VS to implement the Plan once a year. Cascading effects by the trainers were not documented.</p> <p>In case of an emergency disease situation, a protocol exists to assign private veterinarians directly to fight against diseases and authorize them to carry out vaccination.</p> <p>The future National PPR Strategy contains provisions for a compensation scheme in case of compulsory stamping out procedure in Thrace (PPR cases were not compensated to date). The source of funding was not provided. It is however a good incentive for small ruminant owners to report PPR early.</p>	
	<p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Consider reviewing/updating the PPR Contingency Plan (dated 2012), in light of the recent publication of the PPR Global Eradication Programme (PPR GEP); ➤ Organize field simulation exercises in Thrace, involving all relevant stakeholders; notify the exercises in advance to the OIE so that neighboring countries can be informed and possibly participate, if deemed relevant. 	

CC II.7	The authority and capability of the VS to actively perform actions to prevent, control or eradicate OIE listed diseases and/or to demonstrate that the country or a zone is free of relevant diseases	3
	The authority and capability of the VS to actively perform actions to prevent, control and eradicate PPR or to demonstrate that the country or a zone is free of PPR	-
	Level 3 [The VS implement prevention, control or eradication programmes for PPR with scientific evaluation of their efficacy and efficiency] is expected for Stage 2	X
Disease prevention, control and eradication	<p>Findings:</p> <p><u>In Thrace</u>, the last PPR case was reported in 2013 and vaccination was stopped at the end of 2016; therefore, only preventive measures are in place essentially based on border (see CC II.IV) and movement (CC II.12.A) control, to prevent the reintroduction of the PPRV in Thrace. In case of an outbreak, emergency procedures are in place including the establishment of a protection zone, stamping out, cleaning and disinfection, with the caveat mentioned in CC II.6.</p> <p><u>In Anatolia</u> where PPR is endemic (see table in CC II.5.A), control measures largely rely on vaccination conducted in all its 76 provinces. Targeted vaccination started around 2010-2011, and since then, all newborns are vaccinated (approx. 11,5 million vaccinations out of a 42 million small ruminants, corresponding to 25% of the population, which is consistent with the usual annual replacement rate). Vaccination is actually mandatory for all imported small ruminants, all small ruminants moving from one province to another one, and all newborns, after 3 months of age when the immunity conferred by maternal antibodies has faded out. Vaccination is conducted by the Provincial and District VS, following instructions provided in the annual Circular on combating Animal Diseases and Animal Movements Control. The number of doses needed by province / district is predicted jointly by ETLIK institute together with GDFA, Provincial and District VS, according to the provisional number of annual births of lambs and kids (using TURKVET/KKKS – see issues with TURKVET reliability in CCI.11). The provisional number of small ruminants eligible to vaccination was of 14,6 and 11,1 million respectively in 2016 and 2017. Each provincial directorate decides on its own annual vaccination program. It was not clear from the interviews whether PPR vaccination is conducted during well defined period/campaigns, or anytime in the year when the farmer notifies a small ruminant older than 3 months to their veterinarians.</p> <p>The vaccine used in Turkey is produced in the ETLIK Institute (Ankara) and its quality independently controlled in the Bornova Institute (Izmir).</p> <p>All vaccinated animals are identified and registered in TURKVET/KKKS, and the vaccination acts are recorded in VETBIS. Equipment is available to ensure the respect of the cold chain from ETLIK - where vaccines are produced - to the field (ice coolers, refrigerated vehicles). Vaccination coverage is claimed to be above 80% (83% in 2016; as of 1 March 2017, vaccination coverage was 4,5%). The vaccination programme is free of charge and is generally well accepted by the small ruminant owners.</p> <p>Post vaccination evaluation (PVE) is conducted using serology in some provinces, following a sampling plan established by ETLIK. In 2015 and 2016, PVE took place in 20 out of 22 provinces (2 villages per district; 1/3 animals per village) that had experienced PPR outbreaks, based on random samplings of small ruminants older than 1 year. The PVE Guidelines of the GCES (annex 3.4) recommends PVE in 6-12months and older than 12months small ruminants (using at least 2 age groups will give more precise information on the particular strengths or weaknesses of the vaccination campaigns, as certain age groups might have been favoured by farmers when presenting the animals for vaccination).</p> <p>In 2015, 2239 serological post-vaccination monitoring tests were carried out in those 22 provinces where 620,123 PPR vaccine doses had been administered (0,36% of vaccinates tested). Serology is complemented by a questionnaire to collect information on the village and the animal (species; breed; age; gender; ear tag; vaccination history; production</p>	

	<p>system; pasturing; lambing/kidding season; etc). PVE results for 2016 show that more than 89% sheep and 95% goats have seroconverted following vaccination. While the vaccination services are performing well, records however indicate some vaccination failure: in one village in particular (Coraklar, Aiaga district in Izmir province), all serology results were negative, and a cold chain issue was incriminated. In another village of Izmir province (Menderes), out of the 190 PVE tests carried out, 2 were negative and 4 were doubtful but no vaccination failure explanation was provided.</p> <p>In case of outbreaks, an ‘in-depth’ investigation is carried out by Provincial and/or District VS, assisted by ETLIK epidemiologists. The reporting sheet of the 2016 outbreaks (50 outbreaks; 2945 cases among which 87% were in sheep) indicates for each outbreak, the number of susceptible animals, cases, deaths, destroyed, slaughtered, and vaccination in response to the outbreaks of susceptible animals (the number of susceptible animals vaccinated varies from 0 to all) [H37].</p> <p>The OIE PVS Team noted several shortcomings in the implementation of the control measures, and their recordings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PPR Virus circulation remains important despite several years of vaccination, as evidenced by the quite significant number of PPR cases (there was notably an increase of PPR cases in 2014, 2015 and 2016, which was not explained); besides, most outbreaks in 2016 and 2017 are mainly located in the western and central parts of Turkey; yet, the OIE PVS Team was not able to gain any insight on the rationale of this situation; there is no working hypothesis of how PPR virus circulates in the country. Seasonal pastoralism/migration (notably from Konya to Antalya) was however incriminated, as well as some husbandry practices linked to the ram left permanently in the herd to have births all year round; there is no more seasonality and vaccination of newborns should consequently take place all year round, which is difficult to achieve; several lambs and kids are not vaccinated until they are 6, 8 or even 12 month old, and this population is highly susceptible; - For the investigations’ following each outbreak, the descriptive epidemiologic features of the cases — and in particular the age of the affected animals — were available for none of them and this did not seem to be considered as important criteria; yet, this information is critical to help identify the source of ongoing outbreaks and prevent additional cases; the results of the investigations are not exploited for the purpose of improving the vaccination campaign; - In case of PPR outbreak, all ‘susceptible’ small ruminants are (re)vaccinated; there was no explanation given how the ‘susceptibility’ was defined (animals physically in contact at the farm? In live markets? In water ponds? etc.) nor the variability in the number of (re)vaccinated susceptible animals (ranging from 0% to 100%); - Random tests in VETBIS failed to find vaccination records for some sheep older than one year; <p>Overall, information provided by GDFC staff indicates that PPR is ‘managed’ more than ‘controlled’.</p> <p>There is no collaboration with neighbouring countries to develop and implement a harmonized transboundary epizone approach to PPR control / eradication. But the political and security context in the region does not favour such collaboration.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Conduct state of the art outbreak investigations for all PPR outbreaks, to properly identify their origin and take immediate corrective actions especially in terms of vaccination protocol improvement (the vaccination protocol should take into account the production systems, population dynamics, lambing season, and movement patterns);
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	<p>the results of the outbreak investigation should be electronically stored and easily accessible;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Identify the Critical Control Points of the vaccination programme and monitor them along the chain of events; this notably includes:<ul style="list-style-type: none">– the identification of areas of weak delivery system performance;– the set-up of a vaccine delivery system capable to reach all producers, for which additional physical and human resources may need to be engaged;– the discussion on the minimum number of vaccination campaigns per year (3 annual campaigns (4 months apart of each other) are in theory able to capture all newborns and vaccinate them at the optimal age between 3 to 7 months) and the possibility to harmonize vaccination campaigns among the provinces;➤ Apply all lessons learnt from FMD control (Anatolia) and eradication (Thrace) to PPR;➤ Consider combining PPR with other diseases control measures, notably FMD, Brucellosis and Sheep and Goat Pox; a recent survey notably demonstrates that there is no adverse effect when PPR and FMD vaccinations are conducted simultaneously on the same animal (two injections);➤ Increase coordination with neighboring countries (whenever possible), in an attempt to harmonize vaccination programmes.
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CC II.8.B	The authority and capability of the VS to implement and manage the inspection of animals destined for slaughter at abattoirs and associated premises, including for assuring meat hygiene and for the collection of information relevant to livestock diseases and zoonoses	3
	The authority and capability of the VS to implement and manage the inspection of <u>sheep and goats</u> destined for slaughter at abattoirs and associated premises, including for assuring meat hygiene and for the collection of information relevant to small ruminants diseases and zoonoses	=
	Level 4 [<i>Ante-</i> and <i>post mortem</i> inspection and collection of <u>PPR</u> information (and coordination, as expected) are undertaken in conformity with international standards for export premises and for all abattoirs producing meat for distribution in the national and local markets] is expected for Stage 2	x
Food safety - Ante- and post mortem inspection at abattoirs and associated premises (e.g. meat boning /cutting establishments and rendering plants)	<p>Findings:</p> <p>PPR passive surveillance is in place in small ruminant slaughter places in Turkey. Official veterinarians that perform inspections at the time of slaughter are regularly trained (ante and post mortem inspections) and PPR awareness is high.</p> <p>The OIE PVS Team did not get any report of PPR cases detected at slaughter house, and was not able to investigate if a protocol for PPR investigation following detection at slaughter place is in place.</p>	
	<p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ensure that a protocol for tracing back of all PPR positive cases from slaughterhouses is in place and correctly applied; ➤ Ensure that PPR surveillance is conducted during specific religious event (Kurban festival for instance) when temporary slaughter places are installed. 	

CC II.9	The authority and capability of the VS to regulate veterinary medicines and veterinary biologicals, in order to ensure their responsible and prudent use, i.e. the marketing authorisation, registration, import, manufacture, quality control, export, labelling, advertising, distribution, sale (includes dispensing) and use (includes prescribing) of these products.	3
	The authority and capability of the VS to regulate <u>PPR vaccines</u> (and other biologicals) , in order to ensure their responsible and prudent use, i.e. the <u>production</u> , marketing authorisation, registration, import, manufacture, quality control, export, labelling, advertising, distribution, sale (includes dispensing) and use (includes prescribing) of these products.	=
	Level 3 [The VS exercise regulatory and administrative control for most aspects related to the control over <u>PPR vaccines and diagnostics</u>] is expected in Stage 2	✓
Veterinary medicines and biologicals	<p>Findings:</p> <p>ETLIK Veterinary Central Control and Research Institute (CVVRI – Ankara), the National Reference Laboratory for PPR, is also the producer of PPR vaccines (homologous attenuated lyophilized vaccine, getting the PPR Nigeria 75/1 master seed strain from CIRAD, France) used in Turkey. PPR vaccines are produced in accordance with Chapter 2.7.10 on PPR of the OIE Manual of Diagnostic Test and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals. ETLIK produces between 15 to 20 million doses per year, depending on the country needs.</p> <p>Quality check of the ETLIK produced vaccines (and all PPR vaccines) is independently (blind tests) made by BORNOVA (VCRI in Izmir). The performance under field conditions of ETLIK PPR vaccines is monitored by ETLIK through post vaccination evaluation (se CC II.7).</p> <p>Two private PPR vaccine producers (VETAL; DOLLVET) are also in operation in the country producing both for national use and regional export. The vaccines produced are also controlled by BORNOVA Institute.</p> <p>During the PPR Roadmap meeting in Dushanbe in February 2017, participants from Turkey expressed their interest to become a regional quality control centre for the vaccines produced in the region.</p>	
	<p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ensure that only quality controlled vaccines are being used and that they confer 100% sero-conversion; ➤ Ensure that all vaccination failures (following PVE negative results) are properly investigated and take immediate actions with ETLIK vaccine production Department if the vaccine attributes could be incriminated; ➤ Explore with the Global PPR Secretariat (PPRsecretariat@fao.org) the possibility to become regional center for PPR Vaccine quality control; 	

Note: This CC was not retained as a PPR-related CC in the GCES; however, in the context of Turkey, it was deemed relevant to include it in this Report.

CC II.12.A	The authority and capability of the VS, normally in coordination with producers and other interested parties, to identify animals under their mandate and trace their history, location and distribution for the purpose of animal disease control, food safety, or trade or any other legal requirements under the VS/OIE mandate	4
	The authority and capability of the VS, normally in coordination with producers and other interested parties, to identify sheep and goats and trace their history, location and distribution for the purpose of PPR control	-
	Level 3 [The VS implement procedures for <i>animal identification</i> and movement control for specific animal subpopulations as expected for PPR control, in accordance with relevant international standards] is expected for Stage 3	✓
Identification and traceability - Animal identification and movement control	<p>Findings:</p> <p>Animal identification and movement control are key measures supporting PPR eradication and identified as such in the National Strategic plan 2013-2017 of MoFAL.</p> <p>According to the Turkish legislation, all sheep and goats older than 6 months must be individually identified (RFID microchip or eartag) and registered in TURVET/KKKS. In practice, identification is usually done at the same time as PPR vaccination.</p> <p>The objective is to reach a 95% registration rate for small ruminants in 2017, but no indication was provided whether this objective was nearly reached. The EU document “Technical Assistance for Preparation of the Veterinary Strategy Document”, November 2016 [E37] indeed indicated an important discrepancy between the number of small ruminants registered (approx. 73 millions) and the current census of small ruminants (approx. 42 millions – see also CCI.11). This clearly poses the problem of TURVET/KKKS updating (especially when animals are moved, slaughtered or killed).</p> <p>All holdings keeping small ruminants (farms but also farms, pastures, livestock markets, slaughterhouses, control posts, Border Inspection posts, etc), are registered and geolocated in VETBIS as well (approx. 500 000 holdings).</p> <p>Animal movements are recorded in TURKVET/KKKS as well, and the small ruminant owners have 7 days to inform the local VS of their animals’ movements. All records / registrations are done by provinces and district VS. There are on-going discussions on the possibility to ‘delegate’ the identification and registration of small ruminants to the Sheep and Goat Breeders Association of Turkey.</p> <p>Several stringent measures have been recently taken to better control small ruminant (and other animals) movements, including imports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - only vaccinated small ruminants can be imported; - only vaccinated small ruminants can move from one province to another; vaccination must take place at least 15 days prior movement and ‘pre-movement veterinary certification’ indicating vaccination is therefore needed; - trucks (transporting live animals or animal products) can only use the newly built ‘third’ bridge to go from Anatolia to Thrace, where a permanent control point has been established with systematic controls; - campaign posters are present at border post and at the bridge between Anatolia and Thrace, to alert the public on the risk of transporting animals illegally; - a circular is currently being drafted to strengthen control of movements between Anatolia and Thrace, especially during the Kurban festival. <p>In their ‘PPR SWOT’, increasing animal movements (for trade purposes) and the difficulty to control them has been identified by GDFC as a weakness / threat, both in Thrace and</p>	

	Anatolia. Special attention is paid to animal movements from Anatolia to Thrace in the new National PPR Strategy.
	<p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Consider cleaning and updating the information stored in VETBIS as regards small ruminant I&R, all the more as VETBIS serves as the basis for predicting the number of annual lamb/kid births and subsequent need PPR vaccine doses

Fundamental Component III – Interaction with interested parties

CC III.1	The capability of the VS to keep interested parties informed, in a transparent, effective and timely manner, of VS activities and programmes, and of developments in animal health and food safety	3
	The capability of the VS to keep interested parties informed, in a transparent, effective and timely manner, of VS activities and programmes regarding PPR, and of developments in PPR control	=
	Level 4 [The VS contact point for communication provides up-to-date information, accessible via the Internet and other appropriate channels, on PPR activities and programmes] is expected for Stage 2	x
Communication	<p>Findings:</p> <p>A lot of communication is done at provincial/district level to inform about the PPR vaccination campaigns and post-vaccination evaluation surveys, making sure that the small ruminant owners know that they have to present their animals for vaccination (or blood sampling):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The annual Circular on combating Animal Diseases and Animal Movements Control, indicating the prevention and control activities (all relevant animal diseases included) to be carried out in each province/district is available on the provincial/district VS website; - the district VS regularly organise meetings with the livestock owners to give indications on the vaccinations and PVE campaigns; - leaflets and brochures are produced at provincial level and distributed in each district (the OIE PVS Team did not see this material); - the day before the vaccination campaign, posters are displayed in each village and the district VS call livestock owners individually if necessary. <p>There is a limited use of social media to date. In the past, TV spots were used.</p> <p>The awareness of breeders in Thrace about animal health issues is better than the other regions, especially due to experience with FMD free status.</p> <p>Communication is also made at the border (example of Edirne-Kapicule BIP) on the risk to illegally introduce animals and animal products: several posters are very visibly displayed. This information was made for the purpose of FMD (Thrace has a free status) but is relevant for PPR as well.</p> <p>Raising awareness of farmers is an important component of the future PPR Strategy for Thrace – it will be done by provincial and district VS, in coordination with the General Directorate for education and publication. GDFC will also inform directly the national Sheep and Goat Breeders Association of Turkey.</p> <p>The unveiling of the New Strategy (June 2017) will be the occasion of a Press Conference (and press release) by the Minister of MoFAL.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Organise a national communication campaign for the new PPR Strategy to explain its eradication objective in Thrace and Anatolia, and get stakeholders fully on board and the acceptability of the future measures (the cost-benefit analysis mentioned in CC I.8 should be used to this end as well as economies of scale made by combining multiple disease control measures); ➤ Assess the quality of existing PPR communication material available at provincial/district and adapted/strengthened them as necessary to meet the new objectives set in the National PPR Strategy. 	

CC III.2	The capability of the VS to consult effectively with interested parties on VS activities and programmes, and on developments in animal health and food safety	3
	The capability of the VS to consult effectively with interested parties on VS activities and programmes regarding PPR, and on developments in PPR control	-
	Level 3 [The VS maintain a formal consultation mechanism with interested parties in PPR activities] is expected for Stage 1	x
Consultation with interested parties	<p>Findings:</p> <p>Consultations with ‘PPR interested parties’ — namely small ruminant owners, sheep and goat associations, private veterinarians, other private business operators of the small ruminant value chain, hunters, etc —, are organised when new regulations are being elaborated and for the design and implementation of animal disease surveillance and control programmes including PPR. This is mostly done during meetings organised by GDFC and provincial/district VS.</p> <p>These consultation mechanisms, while regular, are not clearly formalised and in their ‘PPR SWOT’, GDFC identified the cooperation with the stakeholders as a weakness.</p> <p>There was no information provided if the new PPR Strategy was elaborated in consultation with the stakeholders and if sociological surveys regarding farmers’ perception of PPR control measures, notably vaccination, have been conducted.</p> <p>The National PPR Committee is not in place (see also CC I.1.A), which is meant to be a consultative arena with stakeholders.</p>	
	<p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Establish the National PPR Committee – with representatives from the National livestock association, national sheep and/or goat associations, national livestock traders’ association, TVMA, etc - to facilitate a well-structured and comprehensive dialogue and promote stakeholder engagement; ➤ If necessary, conduct a mapping of stakeholders’ organizations and activities; ➤ Organise regular coordination meetings between central and decentralized VS, including farmers, private business operators, civil society and others, to inform on the National PPR Strategy, discuss strategic issues (compensation scheme in case of stamping out; incentives to promote PPR control and eradication; public-private partnership in PPR eradication efforts, Economy of scales by controlling other diseases; etc) and provide regular update on its implementation status; this will help generate long-term commitment, and foster local partnership and ownership; Use of incentives to promote PPR control and eradication. 	

CC III.3	The capability of the VS to regularly and actively participate in, coordinate and provide follow-up on relevant meetings of regional and international organisations including the OIE (and Codex Alimentarius Commission and WTO SPS Committee where applicable)	2
	The capability of the VS to regularly and actively participate in, coordinate and provide follow-up on relevant meetings on PPR of regional and international organisations including the OIE	+
	Level 3 [The VS actively participate in the majority of <u>PPR</u> relevant meetings] is expected for Stage 1	✓
Official representation	<p>Findings:</p> <p>Turkey is actively participating in the regional PPR Roadmap for Central Asia: representatives from GDFC and ETLIK attended the 1st (Astana, February 2016) and 2nd (Dushanbe, February 2017) Roadmap meetings and provided required documentation (state of implementation of regional recommendations; PPT on national PPR situation; completion of the self-evaluation using the PMAT questionnaire; provisional timeframe for eradication). However:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - it was not the same representatives participating in the first and second Roadmap meetings (absence of 'continuity'); - there is not a plan to systematically address the recommendations provided during these meetings: for instance, combined control of PPR with other diseases was encouraged in the first meeting; the future National Strategy for the control of PPR is not fully consistent with the GCES as it does not mirror the proposed Template for PPR National Strategic Plan, and the companion technical documents for Thrace and Anatolia have not been developed yet. <p>Turkey is also actively engaged in the EuFMD THRACE surveillance programme as well as in EuFMD Tripartite meetings (September 2015; February 2017) for Greece, Bulgaria and Thrace, that looks primarily at FMD but also other diseases such as PPR, Sheep and goat pox and lumpy skin disease (diseases whose prevention and control could be combined with FMD).</p> <p>Turkey has also been quite comprehensively engaged in the OIE PVS Pathway since the very beginning (with an initial PVS Evaluation mission in 2007, a gap analysis mission in 2009, a PVS-aquatic evaluation mission in 2016; and a PVS Evaluation Follow-Up mission in 2017 with a PPR focus (pilot).</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ When the National PPR Coordinator is appointed (see I.1.A), ensure that this person is also the Turkish PPR Point of Contact for the regional PPR roadmap for Central Asia, to ensure the proper alignment of PPR national and regional priorities; ➤ Continue participating in the PPR regional Roadmap meetings (and other relevant PPR meetings) as a way to have a mutual understanding of PPR situation in the respective countries of the region and harmonize preventive and control measures as much as possible; ➤ Ensure that the recommendations from OIE-FAO international and regional events are carefully implemented in Turkey. 	

CC III.4	The authority and capability of the public sector of the VS to accredit/ authorise/ delegate the private sector (e.g. private veterinarians and laboratories), to carry out official tasks on its behalf	3
	The authority and capability of the public sector of the VS to accredit/ authorise/ delegate the private sector (e.g. private veterinarians and laboratories), to carry out official tasks on PPR on its behalf	=
	Level 3 [The public sector of the VS develops accreditation/authorisation/delegation programmes for <u>PPR activities</u> , but these are not routinely reviewed] is expected for Stage 1	✓
Accreditation / authorisation / delegation	<p>Findings:</p> <p>The delegation of official activities to private veterinarians is legally permitted (Laws 5996 and 6343) and coordinated through a protocol by TVMA/VSB Chambers, but is currently scarcely used. There are however evidence of private veterinarians' involvement in official vaccination and ear-tagging activities (as well as in recording in TURKVET) in some provinces and districts, but it was not clarified if small ruminants/PPR activities were concerned. This accredited personal is currently not registered in a database (nor their official activities) and the supervision/reporting mechanism to the official VS not evidenced.</p> <p>A protocol exists to strengthen the capacity of the official veterinary personnel and delegate some official activities (vaccinations in particular) to private veterinarians in case of severe outbreaks.</p> <p>There are on-going discussions to possibly delegate small ruminants' identification and registration activities to the National Sheep and Goat Breeder Association of Turkey.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <p>Ensure that routine and emergency delegation procedures are implemented with all necessary requirements (trainings; documentation and recording; supervision; auditing; etc).</p>	

CC III.5 A&B	The VSB is an autonomous regulatory body for veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals	2
	The capacity of the VSB to implement its functions and objectives in conformity with OIE standards	3
	The VSB is an autonomous regulatory body for veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals <u>that can support PPR control and eradication activities</u> The capacity of the VSB to implement its functions and objectives regarding PPR in conformity with OIE standards	= =
	Level 3 [The VSB regulates <i>veterinarians</i> in all relevant sectors of the veterinary profession and applies disciplinary measures] is expected for Stage 1 Level 3 [The VSB is an independent representative organisation with the functional capacity to implement all of its objectives] is expected for Stage 1	X ✓
Veterinary Statutory Body – Authority and capacity	Findings: The Turkish Veterinary Medical Association (TVMA) and its 57 associated Veterinary Medical Chambers are responsible for (i) licensing and registering private veterinarians (very few public veterinarians are registered and VPPs are not considered); (ii) providing continuing education to their members; and (iii) ensuring their compliance with veterinary deontology. The training offered is quite broad but did not include PPR courses (or other courses relevant to PPR control and eradication).	
	Recommendations: ➤ When establishing the National PPR Committee, ensure that Representatives of TVMA are members; ➤ Discuss with TVMA how can TVMA and the Chambers contribute to the implementation of the future National PPR Strategy; ➤ Explore options for the identification, licensing and registration of veterinary para-professionals by TVMA and the veterinary chambers especially in view of the role the VPPS could play in PPR control and eradication activities (vaccinations notably).	

CC III.6	The capability of the VS and producers and interested parties to formulate and implement joint programmes with regard to animal health and food safety	3
	The capability of the VS and producers and interested parties to formulate and implement joint programmes with regard to PPR	=
	Level 3 [Producers and other interested parties are trained to participate in <u>PPR</u> programmes and advise of needed improvements, and participate in early detection of <u>PPR</u>] is expected for Stage 2	✓
Participation of producers and other interested parties in joint programmes	<p>Findings:</p> <p>The OIE PVS Team could not find evidence of animal health programmes developed and/or implemented with the producers and other interested parties. Consultations and active dialogues exist but are not formalised (see CC III.2).</p> <p>The National Sheep and Goat Breeders Association of Turkey provides good coordination between GDFC and the small ruminant private sector (mainly the commercial sector). There are notably on-going discussions between GDFC and the National Sheep and Goat Breeders Association of Turkey to possibly delegate the small ruminant identification and registration programme to them.</p> <p>The National Association and its provincial Member Associations (80) contribute greatly to sharing MoFAL small ruminants' disease priorities to their members, using various means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Redaction of small ruminants diseases atlas (with clinical signs and post mortem lesions, to recognize diseases more easily and improve early reporting) [H62]; the web versions are not accessible; - Organisation of technical trainings for their members (includes zootechnic and animal diseases trainings); - Organisation of the XII International Conference on Goats (Antalya, September 2016), during which PPR was well addressed. <p>As a result, small ruminant breeders actively participate in early detection of PPR and rapid notification to their veterinarians.</p>	
	<p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Establish the National PPR Committee with representatives from national sheep and/or goat associations among others - to facilitate a well-structured and comprehensive dialogue and promote stakeholder engagement; ➤ In the framework of this Committee, explore public-private partnership options in delivering the National PPR strategy. 	

Fundamental Component IV – Access to trade

CC IV.1	The authority and capability of the VS to actively participate in the preparation of national legislation and regulations in domains that are under their mandate, in order to guarantee its quality with respect to principles of legal drafting and legal issues (internal quality) and its accessibility, acceptability, and technical, social and economic applicability (external quality)	4
	The authority and capability of the VS to actively participate in the preparation of national legislation and regulations <u>on PPR</u> , in order to guarantee its quality with respect to principles of legal drafting and legal issues (internal quality) and its accessibility, acceptability, and technical, social and economic applicability (external quality)	=
	Level 3 [The VS have the authority and the capability to participate in the preparation of national legislation and regulations <u>on PPR</u> , with adequate internal and external quality in some fields of activity, but lack the formal methodology to develop adequate national legislation and regulations regularly in all domains] is expected for Stage 1	✓
Preparation of legislation and regulations	<p>Findings:</p> <p>A robust legal framework, aligned with the EU legislation to a large extent, is in place for the surveillance, prevention, control and eradication of animal diseases including PPR. Law 5996 sets the general basis, but is complemented with sectoral secondary and tertiary legislation, such as for PPR, regulation 28163⁵⁶ of 4 January 2012 and annual circulars for the implementation animal disease prevention and control activities at national, provincial and district level. Overall, most of PPR preventive and control aspects including entering premises, taking samples, examining records, imposing quarantine and protection/surveillance zones, restricting movements and seizing animals, etc) are currently legally permitted. Regulation 28163 is partly in line with the Council Directive 92/119/EEC of 17 December 1992⁵⁷.</p> <p>With the new National Strategy for PPR (to be unveiled in June 2017) setting clear eradication objectives for Thrace (2019) and Anatolia (2023), some additional elements will need to be incorporated to the existing legislation, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - legal provisions for suspending/stopping the vaccination (if not done yet); - a compensation scheme of small ruminant owners when stamping out is to be implemented, which currently does not exist; - improved biosecurity at farm level (with a possible level of compensation and farm biosecurity linked, as an incentive for improve biosecurity) and in live markets; - dissuasive penalties specifically for PPR in instances of non-compliance with PPR regulation, especially for illegal trade/movement of small ruminants, to preserve free status when acquired; <p>(Animal welfare aspects may also be considered, notably for compliance with Chapter 7.6 on killing of animals for disease control purposes).</p>	

⁵⁶ By-law On Protection and Combat Against Rinderpest, Peste des Petits Ruminants, Swine Vesicular Disease, Bluetongue Disease, Epizootic Haemorrhagic Disease of Deer, Sheep and Goat Pox, Vesicular Stomatitis, Lumpy Skin Disease, African swine fever, Classical Swine Fever and Rift Valley Fever ;

⁵⁷ Council Directive 92/119/EEC introducing general Community measures for the control of certain animal diseases and specific measures relating to swine vesicular disease

	<p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ When preparing new regulations conducive to supporting the control/eradication measures foreseen in the new National Strategy for the control of PPR, ensure that the relevant parties (competent authorities, legal experts and relevant stakeholders) are properly consulted;➤ Ensure that the PPR regulation is regularly updated in line with OIE standards, and guidance provided in the GCES and GEP (current legislation 1/1/2012 was drafted before the adoption of the GCES). A gap analysis may need to be conducted to evaluate gaps in the current veterinary legislation with regard to PPR (especially penalty aspects). This could be discussed within the framework of the National PPR Committee;➤ Explore if asking for an OIE VLSP mission could assist in updating/modernizing the current legislation in support of PPR control/eradication efforts.
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CC IV.2	The authority and capability of the VS to ensure compliance with legislation and regulations <u>under the VS mandate</u>	3
	The authority and capability of the VS to ensure compliance with <u>PPR</u> legislation and regulations	=
	Level 3 [PPR legislation is generally implemented. As required, the VS have the power to take legal action/initiate prosecution in instances of non-compliance in most relevant fields of activity <u>including PPR</u>] is expected for Stage 2	✓
Implementation of legislation and regulations and compliance thereof	<p>Findings:</p> <p>The annual Circulars on combating Animal Diseases and Animal Movements Control Program) determining the number of official control activities at national, provincial and district level are usually implemented according the plans by the VS.</p> <p>The regulation 28163 dated 4 January 2012 (that include PPR control) is also implemented both routinely and in case of outbreaks (or suspicion).</p> <p>Article 36 of Law No. 5996 defines the penal provisions and the amount of fines in case of non-compliance with animal health regulations. The penalties ranging from 130 to 2700 USD are quite dissuasive. Penalties for non-compliance specifically exist with control measures for Anthrax, Brucellosis, and Tuberculosis, but not for PPR. Specific sanctions are applied for illegal and unauthorized animal movements.</p> <p>The OIE PVS Team did not have records of penalties specifically linked to PPR aspects.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In the eradication context, ensure the strict application of the legal provisions for PPR prevention, control and eradication activities, including penal provisions in case of non-compliance; the strict application of movement control is notably a key requisite to maintain the PPR free status when acquired. 	

CC IV.6	The authority and capability of the VS to notify the OIE of its sanitary status and other relevant matters (and to notify the WTO SPS Committee where applicable), in accordance with established procedures	3
	The authority and capability of the VS to notify the OIE of its <u>PPR</u> sanitary status and other relevant matters (and to notify the WTO SPS Committee where applicable), in accordance with established procedures	=
	Level 3 [The VS notify <u>PPR</u> in compliance with the procedures established by these organisations] is expected for Stage 4	✓
Transparency	<p>Findings:</p> <p>The first case of PPR in Turkey was reported in 1995 and the disease became a notifiable disease in October 1997. Turkey has a good history of PPR reporting to the OIE (at least since 2005). As PPR is considered as endemic in Turkey (that may no longer be the case for Thrace in the future), PPR is reported to the OIE using the 6-month reports. Number of outbreaks and cases from 2011 to 2016 are available in CC II.5.A.</p> <p>In the first 6-month report for 2016, PPR was reported as present in wildlife but there is unfortunately no quantitative data available.</p> <p>The OIE Focal Point for disease notification is nominated and has an epidemiological background. He attended the 2nd meeting of the PPR Roadmap for Central Asia in Dushanbe in February 2017.</p> <p>VETBIS has no public interface and therefore stakeholders' information of the country's sanitary status is made by GDFC by telephone or email, on a case by case basis. As a result, the members of the Sheep and Goat Breeders Association of Turkey were not aware of the PPR outbreak map for Turkey and were not able to provide explanation on the geographical distribution of outbreaks as recorded by GDFC</p> <p>GDFC however regularly informs interested parties of their obligations with regards to the national legislation in place, or when legal changes are expected, using the provincial/district websites and information material (leaflet; posters; etc).</p> <p>PPR is not compensated in case of stamping out; there is no incentive for early reporting and transparency.</p>	
	<p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Explore possible options for creating a public interface for HAYBIS/VETBIS, or any other means, to ensure that interested parties in Turkey have regular and timely access to the country' sanitary situation, including for PPR. ➤ Introduce compensation for compulsory slaughter (when stamping out is introduced) as an incentive to encourage outbreak reporting for the sake of ensuring transparency. 	

CC IV.7	The authority and capability of the VS to establish and maintain <u>disease</u> free zones, as necessary and in accordance with the criteria established by the OIE (and by the WTO SPS Agreement where applicable)	5
	The authority and capability of the VS to establish and maintain <u>PPR</u> free zones, as necessary and in accordance with the criteria established by the OIE (and by the WTO SPS Agreement where applicable)	=
	Level 3 [The VS have implemented biosecurity measures that enable it to establish and maintain <u>PPR</u> free zones for selected animals and animal products, as necessary] is expected for Stage 2	✓
Zoning	<p>Findings:</p> <p>Turkey had a good experience with zoning as Thrace is officially free from FMD (with vaccination) since 2009 and in 2017, Turkey has established 71 free zones for HPAI (self-declaration).</p> <p>Turkey is planning to apply for an OIE PPR free status for the Thrace region in 2019 and experience from FMD will be of paramount importance. Several steps are being initiated already such as the termination of vaccination in 2016 and stringent movement controls. Thrace is a good candidate for a PPR free zone for geographical reasons (sea borders) and the absence of PPR in countries neighbouring Thrace (Bulgaria and Greece; Greece is notably recognized as officially free from PPR by OIE).</p>	
	<p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Continue implementing provisions of OIE TAHC Chapter 14.7. on the Infection with peste des petits ruminants virus (article 12.7.3 specifically) and Chapter 1.6. on the procedures for self-declaration and for official recognition by the OIE and 14.7 on; ➤ Implement the recommendations of the recent PVS Evaluation Follow-Up mission as the quality of the Veterinary Services is an important aspect considered for official PPR Status acquisition. 	

Conclusions

The results indicate that Turkey has ‘sufficient’ capacity for 19 PPR-related Critical Competences (CCs); by contrast, capacity needs to be further built for 14 of them, with timeline variation brought by the PPR step-wise approach (see Table below).

PPR capacity are mainly equal (21 CCs) or lower (11 CCs) than ‘generic’ capacity evaluated in the PVS generic follow up mission; only CC III.3 on Official Representation is better in the field of PPR, as Turkey has been assiduous in PPR Roadmap meetings for West Eurasia and other important PPR events.

Important issues concern continuing education, risk analysis and active surveillance, which are all CC relevant for PPR Stage 1. These CCs should be addressed in priority, for Anatolia mainly but more advanced capacity in continuing education and risk analysis could certainly be also useful to obtain PPR free status for Thrace foreseen for 2019.

Other CCs of concern include the staffing of veterinarians and VPPs, external coordination mostly for wildlife PPR management aspects, the management of resources and operations, passive surveillance, PPR prevention, control and eradication, and communication, all relevant for PPR Stage 2. While significant efforts are put in vaccination, PPR virus circulation remains important in Anatolia; the VS have no critical analysis of the possible vaccination and other control measure failures that could lead to a working hypothesis on how and why the virus continues to circulate. Control activities should be reconsidered in light of a robust risk assessment based on a comprehensive epidemiological and value chain analysis as well as a reliable small ruminant population census. The absence of a National PPR Committee and National PPR Coordinator as suggested in the PPR GCES-GEP is also detrimental for optimal stakeholder consultation and leadership in the future implementation of the new National PPR Strategy, in the context of global eradication efforts.

For Thrace in Stage 4, current efforts are concentrated in demonstrating that PPR virus no longer circulates and on measures to prevent any possible PPR reintroduction, notably based on stringent movement control. VS capacity are sufficient, except for emergency response which is a bit weak in the absence of an updated PPR Contingency Plan, with compensation measures and simulation exercises proving its effectiveness, including at the borders with other countries. There is a lot to gain from the successful experience in controlling FMD in Thrace.

Regarding the prospect for Anatolia to move to PPR Stage 3 in 2018, it would seem very difficult in the current context, as sufficient capacity for PPR Stage 2 relevant CCs first need to be built before envisaging any further progression along the PPR pathway. Regular self-evaluations using the PMAT tool can help monitor progress and identify where significant efforts remain to be put.

It is expected that the various recommendations provided in this Appendix will facilitate PPR stage progression. Immediate steps should include the nomination of the **National PPR Coordinator** and the establishment of the **National PPR Committee** (the PPR Global Secretariat is currently developing ToRs). Elements in the Report should also stimulate strategic thinking on how to better combine TADs control activities to improve VS cost-effectiveness in line with the PPR GCES/GEP.

Anatolia focus

Thrace focus

CC relevant in PPR Stage 1 (12)		CC relevant in PPR Stage 2 (15)		CC relevant in PPR Stage 3 (2)		CC relevant in PPR Stage 4 (4)	
✓	I.2.A; II.1.A; II.1.B; III.3; III.4; III.5.B; IV.1	✓	I.6.A; I.7; I.8; II.8.B; III.6; IV.2; IV.7	✓	II.2; II.12.A	✓	I.9; II.4; IV.6
X	I.3; II.3; II.5.B; III.2; III.5.A	X	I.1.A; 1.1.B; 1.2.B; 1.6.B; I.11; II.5.A; II.7; III.1	X	/	X	II.6

Results of the PVS Evaluation Follow-Up with a focus on Veterinary Services capacity for PPR eradication

✓ sufficient capacity achieved; X sufficient capacity still to build

Specific PPR evidence collected during the OIE PVS Evaluation Follow-Up mission

[H37]	Detailed list of PPR outbreaks in Turkey in 2016 (with n° of outbreaks, cases, susceptible animals, vaccination in response to the outbreaks, etc)
[H38]	Animal Health analytical Study on PPR – draft – from the EU document entitled 'Technical Assistance for Preparation of the Veterinary Strategy Document [E37] PPR costs, PPR Control costs and PPR cost-benefit analysis Pages 22 - 28
[H43]	PPR PVE (serosurveillance) plan for 2017 (general instruction; sampling plan per province/district/village; reporting sheet)
[H44]	2005 Contingency Plan for FMD, PPR and HPAI (cover) – Edirne Province
[H61]	Results of the PVE in the Izmir region (March 2016)
[H62]	Small ruminant diseases ATLAS (from the small ruminant associations of CORUM, NIGDE and BALIKESIR provinces)
[E97]	PPR Presentation by GDFC (Power Point – March 2017)
[E98]	Result of the 2 nd self-assessment using the PMAT Tool – Turkey, Stage 2, February 2017

Appendix 2: Terrestrial Code references for critical competencies

Critical Competencies	Terrestrial Code references
I.1.A I.1.B I.2.A I.2.B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Points 1-5 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Professional judgement / Independence / Impartiality / Integrity / Objectivity. ➤ Points 7 and 14 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: General organisation / Human and financial resources. ➤ Article 3.2.5. on Evaluation criteria for human resources. ➤ Article 3.2.12. on Evaluation of the veterinary statutory body. ➤ Points 1-2 and 5 of Article 3.2.14. on Organisation and structure of Veterinary Services / National information on human resources / Laboratory services.
I.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Points 1, 7 and 14 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Professional judgement / General organisation / Human and financial resources. ➤ Article 3.2.5. on Evaluation criteria for human resources. ➤ Sub-point d) of Point 4 of Article 3.2.10. on Veterinary Services administration: In-service training and development programme for staff. ➤ Point 9 of Article 3.2.14. on Performance assessment and audit programmes.
I.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Point 2 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Independence.
I.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Point 1 of Article 3.2.3. on Evaluation criteria for the organisational structure of the Veterinary Services. ➤ Point 9 of Article 3.2.14. on Performance assessment and audit programmes.
I.6.A I.6.B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Points 6, 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / General organisation / Procedures and standards. ➤ Article 3.2.2. on Scope. ➤ Points 1 and 2 of Article 3.2.3. on Evaluation criteria for the organisational structure of the Veterinary Services. ➤ Point 4 of Article 3.2.10. on Performance assessment and audit programmes: Veterinary Services administration.
I.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Point 2 of Article 3.2.4. on Evaluation criteria for quality system: “Where the Veterinary Services undergoing evaluation... than on the resource and infrastructural components of the services”. ➤ Points 2 and 3 of Article 3.2.6. on Evaluation criteria for material resources: Administrative / Technical. ➤ Point 3 of Article 3.2.10. on Performance assessment and audit programmes: Compliance. ➤ Point 4 of Article 3.2.14. on Administration details.
I.8 I.9 I.10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Points 6 and 14 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / Human and financial resources. ➤ Point 1 of Article 3.2.6. on Evaluation criteria for material resources: Financial. ➤ Point 3 of Article 3.2.14. on Financial management information.
I.11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Points 7, 11 and 14 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: General organisation / Documentation / Human and financial resources. ➤ Point 4 of Article 3.2.1. on General considerations. ➤ Point 1 of Article 3.2.2. on Scope. ➤ Article 3.2.6. on Evaluation criteria for material resources. ➤ Article 3.2.10. on Performance assessment and audit programmes.
II.1A II.1B II.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Point 9 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Procedures and standards. ➤ Point 1 of Article 3.2.4. on Evaluation criteria for quality systems. ➤ Point 3 of Article 3.2.6. on Evaluation criteria for material resources: Technical. ➤ Point 5 of Article 3.2.14. on Laboratory services.
II.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Chapter 2.1. on Import risk analysis
II.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Points 6 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / Procedures and standards. ➤ Point 2 of Article 3.2.7. on Legislation and functional capabilities: Export/import inspection. ➤ Points 6 and 7 of Article 3.2.14. on Veterinary legislation, regulations and functional capabilities / Animal health and veterinary public health controls.
II.5.A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Points 6, 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary

II.5.B	<p>legislation / General organisation / Procedures and standards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Points 1-3 of Article 3.2.8. on Animal health controls: Animal health status / Animal health control / National animal disease reporting systems. ➤ Sub-points a) i), ii) and iii) of Point 7 of Article 3.2.14. on Animal health: Description of and sample data from any national animal disease reporting system controlled and operated or coordinated by the Veterinary Services / Description of and sample reference data from other national animal disease reporting systems controlled and operated by other organisations which make data and results available to Veterinary Services / Description and relevant data of current official control programmes including:... or eradication programmes for specific diseases. ➤ Chapter 1.4. on Animal health surveillance. ➤ Chapter 1.5. on Surveillance for arthropod vectors of animal diseases.
II.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Points 6, 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / General organisation / Procedures and standards. ➤ Points 1-3 of Article 3.2.8. on Animal health controls: Animal health status / Animal health control / National animal disease reporting systems. ➤ Sub-point a) of Point 7 of Article 3.2.14. on Animal health and veterinary public health controls: Animal health.
II.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Points 6, 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / General organisation / Procedures and standards. ➤ Points 1-3 of Article 3.2.8. on Animal health controls: Animal health status / Animal health control / National animal disease reporting systems. ➤ Sub-point a) of Point 7 of Article 3.2.14. on Animal health and veterinary public health controls: Animal health. ➤ Chapter 4.12. on Disposal of dead animal.
II.8.A II.8.B II.8.C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Points 6, 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / General organisation / Procedures and standards. ➤ Article 3.4.12. on Human food production chain. ➤ Points 1-5 of Article 3.2.9. on Veterinary public health controls: Food hygiene / Zoonoses / Chemical residue testing programmes / Veterinary medicines/ Integration between animal health controls and veterinary public health. ➤ Points 2, 6 and 7 of Article 3.2.14. on National information on human resources / Veterinary legislation, regulations and functional capabilities / Animal health and veterinary public health controls. ➤ Chapter 6.2. on Control of biological hazards of animal health and public health importance through ante- and post-mortem meat inspection. <p>References to Codex Alimentarius Commission standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Code of Hygienic practice for meat (CAC/RCP 58-2005). ➤ Code of Hygienic practice for milk and milk products (CAC/RCP/ 57-2004). ➤ General Principles of Food Hygiene (CAC/RCP 1-1969; amended 1999. Revisions 1997 and 2003).
II.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Points 6 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / Procedures and standards. ➤ Points 3 and 4 of Article 3.2.9. on Veterinary public health controls: Chemical residue testing programmes / Veterinary medicines. ➤ Sub-point a) ii) of Point 6 of Article 3.2.14. on Animal health and veterinary public health: Assessment of ability of Veterinary Services to enforce legislation. ➤ Chapters 6.6. to 6.10. on Antimicrobial resistance.
II.10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Points 3 and 4 of Article 3.2.9. on Veterinary public health controls: Chemical residue testing programmes / Veterinary medicines. ➤ Sub-points b) iii) and iv) of Point 7 of Article 3.2.14. on Veterinary public health: Chemical residue testing programmes / Veterinary medicines.
II.11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Chapter 6.3. on Control of hazards of animal health and public health importance in animal feed.
II.12.A II.12.B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Point 6 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation. ➤ Chapter 4.1. on General principles on identification and traceability of live animals. ➤ Chapter 4.2. on Design and implementation of identification systems to achieve animal traceability.
II.13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Section 7 on Animal Welfare
III.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Point 13 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Communication. ➤ Sub-point b) of Point 2 of Article 3.2.6. on Administrative resources: Communications.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Point 4 of Article 3.2.14. on Administration details. ➤ Chapter 3.3. on Communication.
III.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Point 13 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Communication. ➤ Point 2 of Article 3.2.3. on Evaluation criteria for the organisational structure of the Veterinary Services. ➤ Point 4 and Sub-point g) of Point 9 of Article 3.2.14. on Administration details and on Sources of independent scientific expertise. ➤ Chapter 3.3. on Communication.
III.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Article 3.2.11. on Participation on OIE activities. ➤ Point 4 of Article 3.2.14. on Administration details.
III.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Points 6, 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / General organisation / Procedures and standards. ➤ Point 7 of Article 3.2.3. on Evaluation criteria for the organisational structure of the Veterinary Services. ➤ Article 3.4.5. on Competent Authorities.
III.5.A III.5.B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Point 6 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation. ➤ Point 9 of Article 3.2.1. on General considerations. ➤ Article 3.2.12. on Evaluation of the veterinary statutory body. ➤ Article 3.4.6. on Veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals.
III.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Points 6 and 13 of Article 3.1.2. Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / Communication. ➤ Points 2 and 7 of Article 3.2.3. on Evaluation criteria for the organisational structure of the Veterinary Services. ➤ Point 7 of Article 3.2.14. on Animal health and veterinary public health controls. ➤ Point 4 of Article 3.4.3. on General principles: Consultation.
IV.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Points 6, 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / General organisation / Procedures and standards. ➤ Points 1 and 2 of Article 3.2.7. on Legislation and functional capabilities: Animal health, animal welfare and veterinary public health / Export/import inspection. ➤ Point 6 of Article 3.2.14. on Veterinary legislation, regulations and functional capabilities. ➤ Chapter 3.4. on Veterinary legislation.
IV.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Points 6, 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / General organisation / Procedures and standards. ➤ Points 1 and 2 of Article 3.2.7. on Legislation and functional capabilities: Animal health, animal welfare and veterinary public health / Export/import inspection. ➤ Point 6 of Article 3.2.14. on Veterinary legislation, regulations and functional capabilities.
IV.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Point 6 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation. ➤ Article 3.2.11. on Participation in OIE activities. ➤ Points 6 and 10 of Article 3.2.14. on Veterinary legislation, regulations and functional capabilities / Membership of the OIE.
IV.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Points 6, 7 and 9 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / General organisation / Procedures and standards. ➤ Point 2 of Article 3.2.7. on Legislation and functional capabilities: Export/import inspection. ➤ Sub-point b) of Point 6 of Article 3.2.14. on Veterinary legislation, regulations and functional capabilities: Export/import inspection. ➤ Chapter 5.2. on Certification procedures. ➤ Chapters 5.10. to 5.12. on Model international veterinary certificates.
IV.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Points 6 and 7 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation / General organisation. ➤ Sub-point g) of Point 4 of Article 3.2.10. on Veterinary Services administration: Trade performance history. ➤ Chapter 5.3. on OIE procedures relevant to the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures of the World Trade Organization.
IV.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Point 6 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation. ➤ Points 1 and 3 of Article 3.2.8. on Animal health controls: Animal health status / National animal disease reporting systems. ➤ Chapter 5.1. on General obligations related to certification.
IV.7 IV.8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Point 6 of Article 3.1.2. on Fundamental principles of quality: Veterinary legislation. ➤ Chapter 4.3. on Zoning and compartmentalisation. ➤ Chapter 4.4. on Application of compartmentalisation.

Appendix 3: Glossary of terms

Terms defined in the Terrestrial Code that are used in this publication are reprinted here for ease of reference.

Animal

means a mammal, bird or bee.

Animal identification

means the combination of the identification and registration of an animal individually, with a unique identifier, or collectively by its epidemiological unit or group, with a unique group identifier.

Animal identification system

means the inclusion and linking of components such as identification of establishments/owners, the person(s) responsible for the animal(s), movements and other records with animal identification.

Animal welfare

means how an animal is coping with the conditions in which it lives. An animal is in a good state of welfare if (as indicated by scientific evidence) it is healthy, comfortable, well nourished, safe, able to express innate behaviour, and if it is not suffering from unpleasant states such as pain, fear and distress. Good animal welfare requires disease prevention and veterinary treatment, appropriate shelter, management, nutrition, humane handling and humane slaughter/killing. Animal welfare refers to the state of the animal; the treatment that an animal receives is covered by other terms such as animal care, animal husbandry, and humane treatment.

Border post

means any airport, or any port, railway station or road check-point open to international trade of commodities, where import veterinary inspections can be performed.

Compartment

means an animal subpopulation contained in one or more establishments under a common biosecurity management system with a distinct health status with respect to a specific disease or specific diseases for which required surveillance, control and biosecurity measures have been applied for the purposes of international trade.

Competent Authority

means the Veterinary Authority or other Governmental Authority of a Member, having the responsibility and competence for ensuring or supervising the implementation of animal health and welfare measures, international veterinary certification and other standards and recommendations in the Terrestrial Code and the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code in the whole territory.

Disease

means the clinical and/or pathological manifestation of infection.

Emerging disease

means a new infection or infestation resulting from the evolution or change of an existing pathogenic agent, a known infection or infestation spreading to a new geographic area or population, or a previously unrecognised pathogenic agent or disease diagnosed for the first time and which has a significant impact on animal or public health.

Equivalence of sanitary measures

means the state wherein the sanitary measure(s) proposed by the exporting country as an alternative to those of the importing country, achieve(s) the same level of protection.

International veterinary certificate

means a certificate, issued in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 5.2., describing the animal health and/or public health requirements which are fulfilled by the exported commodities.

Laboratory

means a properly equipped institution staffed by technically competent personnel under the control of a specialist in veterinary diagnostic methods, who is responsible for the validity of the results. The Veterinary Authority approves and monitors such laboratories with regard to the diagnostic tests required for international trade.

Meat

means all edible parts of an animal.

Notifiable disease

means a disease listed by the Veterinary Authority, and that, as soon as detected or suspected, must be brought to the attention of this Authority, in accordance with national regulations.

Official control programme

means a programme which is approved, and managed or supervised by the Veterinary Authority of a country for the purpose of controlling a vector, pathogen or disease by specific measures applied throughout that country, or within a zone or compartment of that country.

Official Veterinarian

means a veterinarian authorised by the Veterinary Authority of the country to perform certain designated official tasks associated with animal health and/or public health and inspections of commodities and, when appropriate, to certify in conformity with the provisions of Chapters 5.1. and 5.2. of the Terrestrial Code.

Official veterinary control

means the operations whereby the Veterinary Services, knowing the location of the animals and after taking appropriate actions to identify their owner or responsible keeper, are able to apply appropriate animal health measures, as required. This does not exclude other responsibilities of the Veterinary Services e.g. food safety.

Risk analysis

means the process composed of hazard identification, risk assessment, risk management and risk communication.

Risk assessment

means the evaluation of the likelihood and the biological and economic consequences of entry, establishment and spread of a hazard within the territory of an importing country.

Risk management

means the process of identifying, selecting and implementing measures that can be applied to reduce the level of risk.

Sanitary measure

means a measure, such as those described in various Chapters of the Terrestrial Code, destined to protect animal or human health or life within the territory of the OIE Member from risks arising from the entry, establishment and/or spread of a hazard.

Surveillance

means the systematic ongoing collection, collation, and analysis of information related to animal health and the timely dissemination of information so that action can be taken.

Terrestrial Code

means the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code.

Veterinarian

means a person with appropriate education, registered or licensed by the relevant veterinary statutory body of a country to practice veterinary medicine/science in that country.

Veterinary Authority

means the Governmental Authority of an OIE Member, comprising veterinarians, other professionals and para-professionals, having the responsibility and competence for ensuring or supervising the implementation of animal health and welfare measures, international veterinary certification and other standards and recommendations in the Terrestrial Code in the whole territory.

(Veterinary) legislation

means the collection of specific legal instruments (primary and secondary legislation) required for the governance of the veterinary domain.

Veterinary para-professional

means a person who, for the purposes of the Terrestrial Code, is authorised by the veterinary statutory body to carry out certain designated tasks (dependent upon the category of veterinary para-professional) in a territory, and delegated to them under the responsibility and direction of a veterinarian. The tasks for each category of veterinary para-professional should be defined by the veterinary statutory body depending on qualifications and training, and according to need.

Veterinary Services

means the governmental and non-governmental organisations that implement animal health and welfare measures and other standards and recommendations in the Terrestrial Code and the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code in the territory. The Veterinary Services are under the overall control and direction of the Veterinary Authority. Private sector organisations, veterinarians, veterinary paraprofessionals or aquatic animal health professionals are normally accredited or approved by the Veterinary Authority to deliver the delegated functions.

Veterinary statutory body

means an autonomous regulatory body for veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals.

Wildlife

means feral animals, captive wild animals and wild animals.

Zoonosis

means any disease or infection which is naturally transmissible from animals to humans.

Appendix 4: Timetable of the mission; sites/ facilities visited and list of resource/contact persons met or interviewed

Opening meetings

Date: March 6, 2017 - morning

Asses-sor(s)	Location & Jurisdiction	Institution – Agency – Group – Association	PERSON(s) met and interviewed	POSITION	Activities and CC Relevance
BWS NL&PF	Ankara	MoFAL	Dr. Nihat Pakdil	Deputy Under Secretary and OIE Delegate	Courtesy Visit

Date: March 6, 2017 – morning and afternoon

Asses-sor(s)	Location & Jurisdiction	Institution – Agency – Group – Association	PERSON(s) met and interviewed	POSITION	Activities and CC Relevance
BWS NL&PF	Ankara	GDRC	Dr. Veli GÜLYAZ	Deputy Director General	
	Ankara	Department of Animal Health	Dr. Özhan TÜRKYILMAZ	Director, Department of Animal Health and Quarantine	
	Ankara	Department of Animal Health	Dr. Visal KAYACIK	Veterinarian Coordinator for OI PVS Evaluation follow-up	
	Ankara	Animal and Animal Products Border Inspection	Ender BURÇAK	Veterinarian	
	Ankara	Department of Veterinary Medicine Products and Public Health	Mustafa BEBEK	Director	
	Ankara	Risk Assessment Dep.	Şenay EKEN	Director	
	Ankara	Feed Department	Kayahan KAYHAN	Director	
	Ankara	Department of Food Establishments and Codex	Selman AYAZ	Director	
	Ankara	Department of Food Control and Laboratories	Çağatay ÇEBİ	Veterinarian	

Field visits, meetings and interviews

Date: March 7 morning

Assessor(s)	Location & Jurisdiction	Institution – Agency – Group – Association	PERSON(s) met and interviewed	POSITION	Activities and CC Relevance
BWS NL&PF	Ankara	Provincial Directorate	Bülent KORKMAZ	Director	
			Ergün EROL	Deputy Director	
			Kadir KAYA	Director of Animal health Section	
			Mustafa GÖÇTÜ	Vet-Animal Diseases	
			Ahu ACARTÜRK	Vet-Technical Projects	
			Derya YETİŞİK	Vet-AW and I&R	

Date: March 7 morning

Assessor(s)	Location & Jurisdiction	Institution – Agency – Group - Association	PERSON(s) met and interviewed	POSITION	Activities and CC Relevance
BWS NL&PF	Ankara	Yenimahalle District Directorate	Levent KÜRKÇÜ	District Director	II-13
		Yenimahalle District Directorate	Ülkü KÖSEOĞLU	Vet-Chef of AH affairs	II-13

Date: March 7 afternoon

Assessor(s)	Location & Jurisdiction	Institution – Agency – Group - Association	PERSON(s) met and interviewed	POSITION	Activities and CC Relevance
BWS NL&PF	Ankara	Etlik VCCRI	Dr.Cevdet YARALI	Director	
			Senior Lab Personnel including Head/ staff of the PPR Laboratory	(see Appendix 5 document E82)	

Date: March 8 morning

Asses-sor(s)	Location & Jurisdiction	Institution – Agency – Group - Association	PERSON(s) met and interviewed	POSITION	Activities and CC Relevance
BWS NL&PF	Ankara	Veterinary Faculty University of Ankara	Prof. Dr. T. Halûk Çelik	Vice Dean	1-I.B 1-2.B

Date: March 8 - afternoon

Asses-sor(s)	Location & Jurisdiction	Institution – Agency – Group - Association	PERSON(s) met and interviewed	POSITION	Activities and CC Relevance
BWS NL&PF	Ankara	Turkish Veterinary Medical Association (TVMA)	Talat GÖZET	President	III-5 A&B
			Sinan AKTAŞ	Member of Council	
			Ali KOÇ		
			Tülay KURT		
			Şaban AYDEMİR		

Date: March 8 Afternoon

Asses-sor(s)	Location & Jurisdiction	Institution – Agency – Group - Association	PERSON(s) met and interviewed	POSITION	Activities and CC Relevance
BWS NL&PF	Ankara	Poultry Meat Producers & Breeders Association	Asli Ilgen	Deputy Secretary General	III-6.B
			Özge Pamukçu	Agricultural Engineer	

Sub-Teams
March 9-14

Stemshorn & Stone
(BWS & MS)

Fernandez and Leboucq
(PDF & NLQ)

**Date: March 9
Morning**

Asses- sor(s)	Location & Jurisdiction	Institution – Agency – Group – Association	PERSON(s) met and interviewed	POSITION	Activities and CC Relevance
BWS	Konya	Konya Provincial Directorate	Seyfettin BAYDAR	Engineer	
			Orhan TAT	Deputy of Konya Provincial Directorate	
			Süleyman ÖZCAN	Branch Manager	
			Ramazan SOBAYLI	Branch Manager	
			Salih ÖLMEZ	Engineer	

**Date: March 9
afternoon**

Asses- sor(s)	Location & Jurisdiction	Institution – Agency – Group - Association	PERSON(s) met and interviewed	POSITION	Activities and CC Relevance
BWS	Konya	Selçuk University Veterinary Faculty	Prof. Ahmet Güner	Dean	I-2.A&B

**Date: March 9
afternoon**

Asses- sor(s)	Location & Jurisdiction	Institution – Agency – Group - Association	PERSON(s) met and interviewed	POSITION	Activities and CC Relevance
BWS	Konya	Veterinary Chamber	Süleyman ÖZCAN	Branch Manager	III-5 A&B
			Oğuzhan AVCI	Asistant Professor	
			Yıldırım AKIN	Veterinarian	
			Orhan TAT	Assistance Director	
			Aşkın YAŞAR	Professor Doctor- President of the Chamber	
			İ. Halil SÖZMEN	Doctor-Member of Board	

Date: March 10
morning

Asses- sor(s)	Location & Jurisdiction	Institution – Agency – Group - Association	PERSON(s) met and interviewed	POSITION	Activities and CC Relevance
BWS	Konya	Kony VCI	Ahmet KARABULUT	Assistance Director Vet	
			Orhan TAT	Assistance Director	
			Dr. Yasin GÜLCÜ	Director	
			Dr. Kadir KAMBURGİL	QM Unit	
			Dr. Funda YÜZBAŞIGİL	Chief	
			Dr. Hasan GÖZÜN	Chief	
			Muammer İNANÇ	Veterinarian	
			Yusuf AKPINAR		
			Dr. Müge DOĞAN	Veterinarian	

Date: March 10
Afternoon

Asses- sor(s)	Location & Jurisdiction	Institution – Agency – Group - Association	PERSON(s) met and interviewed	POSITION	Activities and CC Relevance
BWS	Konya	Hacince slaughterhouse and meat processing plant	Emin HACIİNCE	Assistant General Manager	
			Cüneyt ÇENTOĞLU	General Manager	
			Seda ÇELİK	QA Manager	
			İlhan KARTAL	Veterinarian	
			Mehmet ŞENARSLAN	Veterinarian	
			Müslüm NALLI	Veterinarian	

**Date: March 10
Afternoon**

Asses- sor(s)	Location & Jurisdiction	Institution – Agency – Group - Association	PERSON(s) met and interviewed	POSITION	Activities and CC Relevance
BWS	Konya Animal Market	Metropolitan Municipality	Mustafa Selman KARMAN	Director/Veterinarian (municipality)	
		Karatay District Directorate	Kamil ŞİMŞİR	Veterinarian	
		Konya Province Directorate	Mehmet ŞENARSLAN	Veterinarian	
		Konya Province Directorate	Müslüm NALLI	Veterinarian	
		Konya Province Directorate	Servet M. ÖRKEN	Veterinarian	

**Date: March 13
Morning**

Asses- sor(s)	Location & Jurisdiction	Institution – Agency – Group - Association	PERSON(s) met and interviewed	POSITION	Activities and CC Relevance
BWS & MS	Izmir	Provincial Directorate	Ayşe Şener and senior staff	Division Director of Animal Health and Stock Farmng See Appendix 5 Document E83	

**Date: March 13
afternoon**

Asses- sor(s)	Location & Jurisdiction	Institution – Agency – Group - Association	PERSON(s) met and interviewed	POSITION	Activities and CC Relevance
BWS & MS	Izmir	Bornova Veterinary Control Institute	Director and senior staff including head of the receiving, sample control and reporting functions	See Appendix 5 document E84 a&b	

Date: **March 14**
morning

Asses- sor(s)	Location & Jurisdiction	Institution – Agency – Group - Association	PERSON(s) met and interviewed	POSITION	Activities and CC Relevance
BWS & MS	Izmir	Border Inspection Post at Port of Izmir	Ali Erkul	Manager and Veterinarian	II-4
			Huseyin Koldar	Veterinarian	
			Serpil Dogan	Veterinarian	

Date: **March 14**
afternoon

Asses- sor(s)	Location & Jurisdiction	Institution – Agency – Group - Association	PERSON(s) met and interviewed	POSITION	Activities and CC Relevance
BWS & MS	Izmir	Atafen	Nuran Yavuz	General Manager	multiple
			Ahmet Gedik	Founding Partner	
			Veterinary staff (see E85)		

Date: **March 14**

Asses- sor(s)	Location & Jurisdiction	Institution – Agency – Group - Association	PERSON(s) met and interviewed	POSITION	Activities and CC Relevance
BWS & MS	Izmir	District Directorate	Ayşe Şener and senior veterinary staff	Division Director of Animal Health and Stock Farmng See E86	II-7

Date: **March 9**
Morning

Asses- sor(s)	Location & Jurisdiction	Institution – Agency – Group - Association	PERSON(s) met and interviewed	POSITION	Activities and CC Relevance
PJF & NLQ	Istanbul	Istanbul Provincial Directorate	Ahmet Yavuz KARACA	Director of the Province Directorate	

			Aytekin Demircan	Veterinarian	
			İlyas Akbaş	Veterinarian	
			Burçin Meray Önal	Veterinarian	
			İsmet ÜNAL	Veterinarian	
			Sabri İrfan Soysal	Head of Animal Health Section	

Date: March 9
Afternoon

Asses- sor(s)	Location & Jurisdiction	Institution – Agency – Group - Association	PERSON(s) met and interviewed	POSITION	Activities and CC Relevance
PJF & NLQ	Istanbul	Pendik Veterinary Control Institute	Fahriye SARAÇ	Director	II-1. A&B II-2
			Ayşe ATEŞOĞLU	Technical Affairs Coordinator	

Date: March 10
Morning

Asses- sor(s)	Location & Jurisdiction	Institution – Agency – Group - Association	PERSON(s) met and interviewed	POSITION	Activities and CC Relevance
PJF & NLQ	Istanbul	Kartal District Directorate	Fuat Sever	Veterinarian	
			Köksal Ozan	Veterinarian	
			Mustafa Deniz	District Director	
			S. İrfan Soysal	Head of AH Section, İstanbul Provincial Dir	
			İsmet ÜNAL	Veterinarian, İstanbul Provincial Dir.	

Date: **March 10**
Afternoon

Asses- sor(s)	Location & Jurisdiction	Institution – Agency – Group – Association	PERSON(s) met and interviewed	POSITION	Activities and CC Relevance
PJF & NLQ	Istanbul	Pharmacy Depot	Selin Şahin	Veterinarian, İstanbul Provincial Directorate	
			Erol Akın	Veterinarian, İstanbul Provincial Directorate	
			Ümit Serap Sarioğlu	İstanbul Teknik Pharmacy depot	
			Nuri Özalp	İstanbul Teknik Pharmacy depot	
		Municipality Stray Dog Shelter	Abdullah Akın	Vet / Municipality Vet. affairs	
			Nuri Açık	Vet / Municipality Vet. affairs	
			M. Kerim Ayan	Vet / Municipality Vet. affairs	
			Muhammet Coşkun	Director Municipality Vet. affairs	
			S. İrfan Soysal	Head of AH Section, İstanbul Provincial Dir.	
			İsmet Ünal	Veterinarian, İstanbul Provincial Dir.	

**Date: March 11
Morning**

Asses- sor(s)	Location & Jurisdiction	Institution – Agency – Group – Association	PERSON(s) met and interviewed	POSITION	Activities and CC Relevance
PJF & NLQ	Istanbul	Veterinary Chamber E88	Prof.Dr. Murat Aslan	Chair of the Executive Board	
			Gözde Çetin Kasap	Veterinarian	
			Zehra Nur Ateş	Veterinarian	
			S. İrfan Soysal	Head of AH Section, İstanbul Provincial Dir.	

**Date: March 13
Afternoon**

Asses- sor(s)	Location & Jurisdiction	Institution – Agency – Group – Association	PERSON(s) met and interviewed	POSITION	Activities and CC Relevance
PJF & NLQ	Edirne	Provincial Directorate	Devrim Öden	Head of Food and Feed Section	
			Tamer Yeşilgölden	Veterinarian	
			Nazan Türkarlan	Head of AH Section	
			Bilgin Yılmaz	Deputy Director of Edirne Provincial Dir.	
PJF & NLQ	Havsa	District Directorate	See E92		
			Cafer Bozkaya	Havsa District Dir.	
			Nazan Türkarlan	Head of AH Section	
			Mehmet Tunç	Veterinarian	
			Devrim Öden	Head of Food and Feed Section	
			Tamer Yeşilgölden	Veterinarian	
			Yavuz Kartal	Havsa District Directorate	

**Date: March 14
Morning**

Asses- sor(s)	Location & Jurisdiction	Institution – Agency – Group – Association	PERSON(s) met and interviewed	POSITION	Activities and CC Relevance
PJF & NLQ	Edirne	Kapikule Border Inspection Post	Özgüç Özcan Taner	Director	
			Erdem Budak	Veterinarian (Inspector)	
			Elvan Budak	Veterinarian (Inspector)	

**Date: March 15
Morning**

Asses- sor(s)	Location & Jurisdiction	Institution – Agency – Group – Association	PERSON(s) met and interviewed	POSITION	Activities and CC Relevance
PJF & NLQ	Ankara	Sheep and Goat Breeders Associations of Turkey	Nihat Çelik	Chair	
			Veysel Ören	Secretary General	

**Date: March 15
Morning**

Asses- sor(s)	Location & Jurisdiction	Institution – Agency – Group – Association	PERSON(s) met and interviewed	POSITION	Activities and CC Relevance
BWS & MS	Ankara	Experts from the FMD Institute Representatives from Internal Audit, MoFAL	See E87a See E87a		II-6 A&B II-7

**Date: March 16
Morning**

Asses- sor(s)	Location & Jurisdiction	Institution – Agency – Group - Association	PERSON(s) met and interviewed	POSITION	Activities and CC Relevance
BWS & MS	Ankara	MoFAL: Human Resourcea	See E88	Human Resource Managers	

Closing meeting

Date: March 17 morning

Asses- sor(s)	Location & Jurisdiction	Institution – Agency – Group - Association	PERSON(s) met and interviewed	POSITION	Activities and CC Relevance
BWS, PJF, NLQ & MS	Ankara	GDFC	Dr. Veli GÜLYAZ	Deputy Director General	
	Ankara	Department of Animal Health	Dr. Özhan TÜRKYILMAZ	Director, Department of Animal Health and Quarantine	
	Ankara	Department of Animal Health	Dr Visal KAYACIK	Coordinator for OI PVS Evaluation follow-up	
	Ankara	GDFC	Senior officials of other Departments	See E84	
	Ankara	MoFAL	Internal Auditors	See E84	

Appendix 5: Air travel itinerary

ASSESSOR	DATE	From	To	Flight Number(s)	Departure	Arrival
Peter Fernández	March 3 - 4	New York	Ankara	TK 012 TK2178	23:40 March 3	21:15 March 4
Peter Fernández	March 17-18	Ankara	New York	TK 2183 TK003	23:20 March 17	12:50 March 18
Nadège Leboucq	March 4	Munich	Ankara	LH1786	18:55 March 4	23:45 March 4
Nadège Leboucq	March 18	Ankara	Munich	LH1785	16:35 March 18	17:45 March 18
Matthew Stone	March 11	Paris	Ankara	PC0402 PC0110	13:30 March 11	21:45 March 11
Matthew Stone	March 18	Ankara	Paris	PC0873	10:30 March 18	16:20 March 18
Barry Stemshorn	March 3-4 2017	Ottawa	Ankara	AC 478 AC 9098 AC 9527	16:55 March 3	15:45 March 4
Barry Stemshorn	March 17 2017	Ankara	Munich	LH 1785	16:35 March 17	17:45 March 17
Barry Stemshorn	March 18 2017	Munich	Ottawa	AC 847 AC 462	11:50 March 18	19:11 March 18

Appendix 6: List of documents used in the PVS Evaluation Follow-Up mission

E = Electronic version

H = Hard copy version

P= Digital picture

Ref	Title	Author / Date / ISBN / Web	Related critical competences
PRE-MISSION DOCUMENTS			
E1	<i>OIE PVS Evaluation of the Veterinary Services of Turkey</i>	June 6 – 22, 2007 Drs. Peter Fernandez, Hichem Bouzghaia and Anne Mackenzie	Multiple
E2	<i>OIE PVS Gap Analysis “Strengthening Veterinary Services conformity to OIE quality standards in Turkey”</i>	January 2009 Drs. Ana Batalha, Eric Fermet-Quinet and Peter Fernández	Multiple
E3a	<i>Baseline document: Institutional Framework</i>	GDFC February 2017	I-6 A&B
E3b	<i>Baseline document: Links between Institutions</i>	GDFC February 2017	I-6 A&B
E4	<i>Baseline Document: Provinces, Districts and Municipalities</i>	GDFC February 2017	I-6 A&B
E5	<i>Baseline Document: Partners and Stakeholders</i>	GDFC February 2017	I-6 A&B III-??
E6	<i>Baseline Document: Border Inspection Posts</i>	GDFC February 2017	II-4
E7	<i>Baseline Document: Human Resources</i>	GDFC February 2017	I-1.A&B
E8	<i>Baseline Document: Human Population</i>	GDFC February 2017	
E9	<i>Baseline Document: Budget 1 (MoFAL)</i>	GDFC February 2017	I-8
E10	<i>Baseline Document: Budget 2 (Value of Livestock Production)</i>	GDFC February 2017	Part II
E11	<i>Baseline Document: Relevant Infrastructure</i>	GDFC February 2017	I-?
E12	<i>Baseline Document: Animal health Situation</i>	GDFC February 2017	II-7
E13	<i>Border Control System for Live Animals and Products of Animal Origin in Turkey</i>	25/06/2008 Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs General Directorate of Protection and Control	II-4
E14	<i>Role of the Turkish Veterinary Services in Food Safety</i>	Animal Health Services Department General Directorate of Protection and Control Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs April 2009	II-8.A, B, C

E15	<i>Country Report- Introductory Meeting on the participation of Candidate and Potential Candidate Countries in the European Medicines Agency Activities</i>	H.Haluk A KAROLU 1-2 February 2010 http://www.ema.europa.eu/docs/en_GB/document_library/Presentation/2010/02/WC500074798.pdf	II-9
E16	<i>FMD Control in Turkey</i>	H. Haluk ASKAROĞLU Head of Animal Health Services Department http://www.fao.org/ag/againfo/commissions/docs/excom81/81_App5.pdf accessed 2017/02/14	II-7
E17	<i>Global control and eradication of peste des petits ruminants. Investing in veterinary systems, food security and poverty alleviation</i>	OIE and FAO 2015	II-7
E18	<i>Global Strategy for the Control and Eradication of PPR</i>	OIE and FAO 2015 Available at: http://www.oie.int/en/animal-health-in-the-world/ppr-portal/gsce/ accessed 2017/02/19	II-7
E19	<i>VCI Laboratory needs assessment and recommendations</i>	GDFC February 2017	II-1
E20	<i>Private Veterinary Diagnosis and Analysis Laboratories with real and Legal Guidelines</i>	GDFC February 2017	II-1
E21	<i>Animal Welfare</i>	GDFC February 2017	II-13
E22	<i>Animal ID and Movement Control</i>	GDFC February 2017	II-12.A
E23	<i>Livestock census by Province</i>	GDFC February 2017	Part II
E24	<i>First Stray dog self-assessment National Report (DRAFT)</i>	OIE Platform on Animal Welfare in Europe, 2015	II-13
MISSION DOCUMENTS			
E25 a	<i>Law On Veterinary Services, Plant Health, Food and Feed Law No: 5996 (English text)</i>	Republic of Turkey, Adopted 13/6/2010	Multiple IV-1
b	<i>List of Secondary legislation (i. repealed and ii. implementing)</i>	The gateway to environmental law Table 1. FAO, FAOLEX	
E26 a&b	<i>Budget allocations Konya Province (E26b= Google translation)</i>	GDFC Konya Province	I-8

E27	<i>Report on Progress under objectives established during the 2009 OIE PVS Gap Analysis Mission</i>	Dr. Visal Kayacik, GDFC, March 2017	Multiple
E28	<i>Instrument For Pre-Accession Rural Development Programme 2014-20</i>	Republic of Turkey, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, undated	Multiple
E29	<i>List of training events and meetings, 2015-2017</i>	GDFC, Department of Animal Health and Quarantine 2017	I-3
E30	<i>Introductory Presentation on GDFC and Department of Animal Health and Quarantine</i>	GDFC, Department of Animal Health and Quarantine 2017	All
E31	<i>Introductory Presentation, Department of Risk Analysis</i>	GDFC, Department of Risk Analysis, 2017	I-4 II-3
E32	<i>Introductory Presentation, VCI Konya</i>	VCI Konya, 2017	II-1A,B II-2

E33	<i>Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA II) 2014-2020 Agriculture and rural development, food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary policy and fisheries Action Document</i>	European Commission 2015	II-7, II-8.A,B,C
E34	<i>Strategic Plan 2013-2017</i>	MoFAL 2015	Multiple
E35	<i>Introductory Presentation on GDFC Department of Veterinary Health Products and Public Health</i>	Mustafa BEBEK Head of Department March 6 2017	II-9
E36	<i>Introductory Presentation on GDFC Food Control and Laboratories Department</i>	GDFC 06/03/2017	II-8 A, B, C
E37	<i>Veterinary Strategy Document Project Final Report for the National Programme for Turkey under the Instrument for Pre-Accession Financial Assistance</i>	Agrotec SPA November 2016 Project Identification No.: ALTUN/TAVSD/TR.2010/07 40.01-1/SER/024/001 291 pp plus Annexes 63pp	Multiple I-1.A&B I-3 I-8 II-1A
E38	<i>Regulation on Component Animal Illnesses and Compensation Ratios</i>	Republic of Turkey Council of Ministers: 25/11/2011 No: 2011/2489	II-6 II-7
E39	<i>Circular No: 2012 to support enterprises free from bovine tuberculosis and cattle, sheep and goat brucellosis</i>	GDFC 26/07/2012	II-7 IV-8
E40	<i>Forms and procedures to become a free enterprise</i>	GDFC undated	II-7 IV-8
E41	<i>Electronic Identification of Sheep and Goats</i>	GDFC undated	I-7 II-12.A
E42	<i>Situation Analysis for Control and Resting Points</i>	GDFC undated	I-7 II-4 II-13

E43	AMR Action Plan (slide presentation)	GDFC undated	II-9
E44 a&b	Examples of reports of adverse effects	GDFC, 2013 and 2014	II-9
E45	Guidelines and forms to request permission to market a veterinary biological product such as vaccines or serum.	GDFC undated	II-9
E46	GMP Guidelines for Veterinary Medical Products	GDFC rev2: 29/08/2016	II-9
E47	Information on Licencing vaccines	GDFC undated	II-9
E48	Summary of requirements for the use of prescriptions and record keeping	GDFC Veterinary Health Products and Public Health Department 13.03.2017	II-9
E49	Procedures for veterinarians issuing and documenting prescriptions	GDFC March 2013	II-9
E50	Procedures for retailers and veterinary medical product establishments	GDFC 07-01-2015	II-9
E51	National Residue Monitoring Plan 2016	GDFC Food Control and Laboratories Department	II-10
E52 a & b	Food Codex Work	GDFC <u>Department of Food Establishments and Codex undated</u>	II-8 C
E53	Turkish Food Codex Legislation	GDFC <u>Department of Food Establishments and Codex undated</u>	II-8 C
E54	2017 Sampling plan for various food commodities	GDFC 2017	II-3 II-10
E55	Rules and administrative sanctions for food enterprises: "Control methods and techniques, interpretation of results and subsequent decisions" for food and feed control (excluding import and export transactions)	GDFC 2016	II-8.A,B,C
E56	Procedures and principles to determine the frequency for audits of food enterprises based on risk	GDFC, undated	II-3 II-8A&C
E57 a&b	Veterinarian Clinic Inspection Report: completed inspection report (2 pages)	06/02/2017	III-5
E58 a-c	Presentations on procedures and principles for regulation of live animal transportation	Ankara Provincial Directorate	II-13
E59	Introductory Presentation	Izmir Provincial Directorate March 2017	Multiple
E60	Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency of Turkey	Wikipedia report and https://www.afad.gov.tr/en	II-6
E61	Finding the Easiest Jobs in Turkey (media report of 80% employment)	http://www.ikmagazin.com/n-1051-turkiyede-en-kolay-is-	I-1.A

	<i>for veterinarians)</i>	bulan-meslekler-aciklandi.html	
E62	<i>Overview Presentation: Animal and Animal Products Border Control Department</i>	GDFC, March 2017	II-4
E63	<i>Developments in the transposition and implementation of the EU animal welfare legislation</i>	EC–TURKEY Sub-Committee No: 1 on Agriculture and Fisheries March 23-24, 2017	II-13
E64	<i>Briefing on the Yenimahalle İlçemiz District Directorate</i>	March 2017	Multiple
E65	<i>State of Play: Identification and Registration of Animals</i>	EC–TURKEY Sub-Committee No: 1 on Agriculture and Fisheries March 23-24, 2017	II-12.A
E66	<i>Information Note on meetings and Training Events</i>	GDFC undated (circa 2016)	II-3
E67 a&b	<i>Briefing Note on the National Zoonosis Committee a) Turkish b) English</i>	GDFC undated	I-6.B II-7

E68	<i>Pre-Accession Assistance: Animal Health - Oral Vaccination Against Rabies In Turkey</i>	EC–TURKEY Sub-Committee No: 1 on Agriculture and Fisheries March 23-24, 2017	II-7
E69 a&b	<i>Notes on rabies oral vaccination activities a) Turkish b) English</i>	Anon, undated	II-7
E70 a&b	<i>Import pre-notification rules a) Turkish; b) English (part)</i>	Date of Official Gazette: 17.12.2011 Number of Official Gazette: 28145	II-4
E71	<i>State of Play Concerning Animal Diseases (LSD, FMD, PPR, SGP, BTV, Bovine Tb, rabies)</i>	EC–TURKEY Sub-Committee No: 1 on Agriculture and Fisheries March 23-24, 2017	II-7
E72	<i>Higher Education System in Turkey</i>	The Council of Higher Education, 2014. http://www.yok.gov.tr/documents/10348274/10733291/TR%27de+Yükseköğretim+Sistemi2.pdf/9027552a-962f-4b03-8450-3d1ff8d56ccc	I-2.B
E73	<i>Anti-Corruption Legislation 2012: Turkey (pages 261-266)</i>	http://elig.com/docs/Turkey-AC12.pdf	I-4
E74	<i>TURKVET Screenshots Presentation</i>	GDFC undated	II-11
E75 a-e	<i>Notes and documents on VPP education</i>	Dr. Visal Kayacik, March 2017	I-2.B
E76 a-j	<i>Documents provided by Senior Staff of FMD Institute – including procedures and reports on sero-surveillance</i>		II-6.B II-7
E77	<i>Documents on FMD Training</i>	September 2016	I-3

a-j	<i>EU/Turkey</i>	March 2017	II-7
E78	<i>Vaccination Program for 2017 by Province, Disease and Species</i>	GDFC 2017	II-7
E79 a&b	<i>Animal Movement Control Programme (with annexes)</i>	GDFC	II-7 IV-7
E80	<i>Regulation for animal welfare in laboratory animals</i>	GDFC, Ankara Provincial Directorate	II-13
E81	<i>Procedures and principles regarding the appointment of the personnel working in the provincial organization of the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock by relocation based on the service requirements.</i>	Date of Official Gazette: 12.08.2009 Number of Official Gazette: 27317	I-1.A&B
E82	<i>Regulation on Food Hygiene</i>	Republic of Turkey Official Gazette Publication 17.12.2011-28145	II-8.A&B
E83	<i>Procedure for Determining the Frequency of Risk-Based Supervision of the Businesses</i>	GDFC undated	II-8.A&B
E84	<i>Participants at closing meeting</i>	March 17, 2017	
E85	<i>Persons met at CCVRI Etlik</i>	CCVRI Etlik March 2017	
E86	<i>WAHIS Animal Health Situation Report - Turkey 2015</i>	OIE	II-7 IV- 6
E87 a	<i>FMD Experts Met</i>	March 15, 2017	II-7
b	<i>Persons met at private clinic</i>	March 15, 2017	II-13
E88	<i>Human Resource Officers</i>	March 16, 2017	
E89 a&b	<i>Communiqué Pertaining to the Working Procedures and Principles of Veterinarians Employed Outside the Public Sector</i>	Published in Official Gazette on 7.2015	III-5.A
E90	<i>The Law Regarding Practicing the Profession of Veterinary Medicine, Organization of the Turkish Veterinary Medical Association and Chambers and their Activities</i>	Republic of Turkey Code 6343 09 March, 1954	I-3 IV-5A&B
E91	<i>Directive Related with the Definition and Declaration of Zones Free from Notifiable Avian Influenza Disease</i>	GDFC Undated	IV-7
E92	<i>Private Hygiene Rules Regulation For Animal Food</i>	Date of Official Gazette: 27.12.2011 Number of Official Gazette: 28155	II-8.A.B.C
E93	<i>Regulation on Registration and Approval of Food Operations</i>	Date of Official Gazette: 17.12.2011 Number of Official Gazette: 28145	II-8.A.B.C
E94	<i>Audits for the years 2016 &2017</i>	Ministry Of Food, Agriculture And Livestock	I-11

		Internal Audit Unit Presidency	
E95	<i>Presidency Of Internal Audit Unit Directive</i>	Ministry Of Food, Agriculture And Livestock Internal Audit Unit Presidency, 2014	I-11
E96	<i>Public Internal Control (Public Financial Management and Control Law No. 5018)</i>	MOFAL Audit Department Powerpoint presentation	I-11
H1	<i>Clinic Inspection Report checklist</i>	Konya Provincial Directorate 09-11-2016	IV-2
H2	<i>Clinic Inspection Violation and fine levied (7,731 TL)</i>	Konya Provincial Directorate 07-12-2016	IV-2
H3	<i>Clinic Inspection Violation and fine levied (7,731 TL)</i>	Konya Provincial Directorate 22-11-2016	IV-2
H4	<i>Product labels on vacuum packed beef with ear tag recorded</i>	Haclince slaughter processing plant, Konya, 10-03-2017	II-12.A&B
H5	<i>List of Reference Laboratories for Notifiable and non-notifiable diseases (terrestrial and aquatic)</i>	GDFC March 2017	II-1.A
H6	<i>Department of Food Establishments and Codex (slide presentation)</i>	GDFC March 2017	II-8 A,B,C
H7	<i>ISO 17025 Accreditation Certificate for Konya VCI</i>	TURKAK, Feb 19, 2013	II-2
H8	<i>TURKAK accreditation certificate for 22 laboratory tests performed by Konya VCI</i>	Turkak, September 27, 2016	II-2
H9	<i>Results of proficiency “ring” test on PPR Histology for Konya VCI</i>	Patholgy Laboratory, Etlik CCVRI, January 10, 2014	II-2
H10	<i>Final Assessment Report for renewal of ISO 17025 certification for Konya VCI</i>	TURKAK, 19-20 January, 2017	II-2
H11	<i>Results of proficiency “ring” test on Rabies FAT for Konya VCI</i>	Mudurlugu VCI, June 19, 2015	II-2
H12	<i>Test results for 14 cattle tested in 5 assays by three laboratories at VCI Konya (Bacteriology, Virology and Molecular biology)</i>	Konya VCI, May 9, 2016	II-1
H13	<i>List of training in feed/food safety testing methods</i>	GDFC Konya Provincial Directorate	II-8.C II-feed
H14	<i>Map of the Municipal market grounds at Konya</i>	Konya Municipality	II-12.A
H15	<i>Certificate for a herd free of brucellosis and Tb</i>	Ankara Provincial Directorate 01/09/2016	II-7
H16	<i>Quality Control Certification for VCI Bornova a) ISO 17025 and b) 49 laboratory tests</i>	TURKAK 2017	II-2

H17	<i>Report on phylogenetic analysis for new strains of AI virus</i>	OIE, FAO and EU Reference Laboratory for Avian Influenza and Newcastle Disease, APHA (Weybridge) 17-08- 2015	II-1.A
H18	<i>Required credits for graduation</i>	Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Ankara University	I-2.A
H19	<i>Veterinary core curriculum</i>	Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Ankara University	I-2.A
H20	<i>CBPP 2 day training; registration form</i>	Dr. Umit Ozdemir 09.03.2017	I-3
H21	<i>Images of Animal Health training and meetings: 24 photo prints</i>	GDFC Edirne Province	I-3
H22	<i>Presentation provide by Edirne Province VS – Background and overview of Provincial VS activities</i>	GDFC Edirne Province	Multiple
H23	<i>Cost-calculated prices for veterinary interventions in Istanbul Province</i>	<i>provided by Istanbul Chamber</i>	I-4
H24	<i>Presentation slide: on food inspection data; number of inspections and non-compliance</i>	GDFC Istanbul Provincial Directorate	II-8.C
H25	<i>Example of food-borne complaint – submission of Hotline complaint</i>	GDFC District of Kartal	II-8.C
H26	<i>Example of food-borne complaint – reply by VS of</i>	GDFC District of Kartal	II-8.C
H27 a&b	<i>Inspection checklists for veterinary medical products (VMP) establishments (old and new form)</i>	GDFC	II-9
H28	<i>See H6</i>		
H29	<i>Pharmaceutical Law (secondary legislation on veterinary products)</i>	Republic of Turkey	II-9
H30	<i>Legal framework on VMPs: Regulations on changes to be made in veterinary medicine products</i>	Republic of Turkey	II-9
H31	<i>Secondary legislation: Staffing of Ministry of Agricultural and Livestock – how personnel may be promoted and change in their title</i>	Republic of Turkey MoFAL	I-1.A&B
H32	<i>Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock: Appointment and relocation management</i>	Republic of Turkey MoFAL	I-1.A&B
H33	<i>List of training on live animal transport (Animal Welfare) 2013-14</i>	GDFC, Ankara Provincial Directorate	II-13
H34	<i>BIP checklist on animal welfare transport of live animals</i>	GDFC, Ankara Provincial Directorate	II-13
H36	<i>Animal Welfare certificates: 2 work permits (one for transporters and one for traders) and one for drivers – long distance transport of live animals</i>	GDFC, Ankara Municipality	II-13
H37	<i>Table of PPR outbreaks with relevant information PPR</i>		II-7

H38	Cost-benefit analysis of PPR: Itemized losses for PPR that may occur without any control measures/Itemized cost of controlling		II-7
H39	Certificate for TB/Brucellosis free establishments		II-7
H40	Preparations to harmonize Turkish legislation on dog/cat identification and registration with EU legal framework	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Turkey	IV-1
H41	Clinical examination and treatments schedule as reported to Kartal District by the Municipality	Kartal Municipality November 2016	II-7
H42	Monthly and weekly Municipal activities re cats and dogs (vaccination, identification, sterilization) reported to Kartal district (2 documents)	Kartal Municipality November 2016	II-7; II-13
H43	Instructions for PPR sero-surveillance plan - from GDFC to Provincial VS to District VS		II-7
H44	2005 Contingency Plan: avian influenza, FMD and PPR (covers only)		II-6
H45	Training on Contingency Plan for Rabies, AI, FMD and PPR (Attendance sheets)	GDFC Edirne Provincial Directorate, undated	I-3 II-6
H46	2016/2017 Istanbul Provincial VS vaccine program (rabies) – completed (2016) and predicted (2017)	GDFC Istanbul Provincial Directorate, 17/11/2016	II-7
H47	Criteria for defining needs in numbers of veterinarians	GDFC Human Resources Directorate	I-1.A I-11
H48	Catalogue of CE program options	GDFC 2017	I-3
H49	Invitation to leaders of Provincial Directorates to attend an information and evaluation meeting on the Animal Disease Control and Animal Movement Control Circular dated 2017/01 and discuss results from 2016 (with list of 84 attendees)	GDFC 19-02-2017	multiple
H50	National Zoonoses Committee: Meeting of December 2016 Committee (invitation letter, list attendees and minutes)	GDFC 2016	I-6.B II-6 II-7
H51	Table of proficiency testing and inter-laboratory comparison	VCI Pendik 2016	II.2
H52	Testing results of sample submission to Pendik; sheep and goat with GI syndrome	VCI Pendik	II-7
H53	Training in microbiologic validation and laboratory quality assurance	VCI Pendik ,23-12-2014	I-3 II-2

H54	<i>Results of national ring test for Capripox</i>	VCI Pendik 2016	II-2
H55	<i>Request for information on multiresidue methods for anticoccidials in eggs (Toltrazuril)</i>	VCI Pendik June 2016	II-1.A II-10
H56	<i>Draft report of an audit to Evaluate the Control of Residues and Contaminants in Live Animals and Animal Products including Controls on Veterinary Medicinal Products</i>	FVO, December 1-11, 2015	II-9 II-10
H57	<i>Results of 2016 Conventional Proficiency Ring Trial for HPAI</i>	APHA Weybridge Reference Laboratory for Avian Influenza and Newcastle Disease	II-2
H58	<i>See H16</i>		
H59	<i>Electronic templates for certification of animal products for export</i>	GDRC Izmir Provincial Directorate	IV-4
H60	<i>Export testing results for residues, microbiologic, and heavy metals</i>	<i>Izmir Provincial Directorate 2016/2017</i>	IV-4
H61	<i>Table of results from PPR post-vaccination sero-surveillance evaluation (2016)</i>	Provided by VCI Bornova	II-7
H62	<i>Technology Transfer for the Production of PPR Vaccine at the Etlik VCRI (end of mission report)</i>	Colette Grillet, CIRAD-EMVT 2-15 December 2001	II-7
H63	<i>Booklet and CD: 2009 to 2015 Report of the Ankara Veterinary School</i>	Ankara University Faculty of Veterinary Medicine	II-2.A
H64	<i>Brochure of the Sheep and Goat Breeders Associations of Turkey</i>	http://www.turkiyekoyunkeci.org/EN/HomePage	II-12.A III-6
H65	<i>International Book of Health for Cats and Dogs (for certification of health and identity and records of vaccinations and treatments)</i>	CELIK consulting veterinary products import and export	II-9 IV-4
H66	<i>Turkish Egg Producers Association booklet</i>	www.yum-bir.org www.kirankazanir.org 2016	III-6
H67	<i>2 Publications by the Istanbul Chamber on activities for 2014 – 2016 and 2017 with proposed prices of veterinary services for 2017</i>	www.ivho.org.tr	II-5.A&B
H68	<i>Booklet on VCI Pendik</i>	VCI Pendik http://vetkontrol.tarim.gov.tr/pendik	II-1.A&B
H69	<i>Children's colouring book on good dog-ownership practices</i>	www.ist-vho.org.tr Istanbul Veterinary Chamber and the American Veterinary Medical Association	III-5.B
H70	<i>Results of inter-laboratory</i>	VCI Bornova	II-2

A-D	proficiency tests from: A) OIE Reference Lab Italy (viral Encephalo and Retinopathy) B) National Veterinary Institute, Denmark (aquatic) C) TURKAK for food safety (residues, bacteria), PPR virus; AI and NCD virus D) TURKAK for Aquatic pathogens		
H71	Sample from log of products inspected with analyses conducted	BIP Izmir Port	II-4
H72 A-C	Correspondence related to Trade Certification: A) GDFC HQ request to identify establishments suitable to export animals and products to Russia (2014) B) Report of Audit by Russia with requests for corrective actions (2015) C) FVO follow-up to audit on veterinary drugs: enquiry about findings of national residue survey and follow-up	Izmir Provincial Directorate	II-9 IV-4
H73	Letter announcing plans for an epidemiological investigation on FMD (cities, investigators, dates)	Izmir Provincial Directorate	I-6.A II-7
H74	Lists of tasks assigned to individuals provided in response to a request for job descriptions	Izmir Provincial Directorate	I-1.A&B
H75 A-C	Standard Operating Procedures for sample reception and results reporting: A) Reception of samples and materials B) Ensuring quality of test results C) Reporting of test results	VCI Bornova	II-2
H76	Veterinarian's Handbook	VCI Pendik, 2016, 300pp ISBN: 978-605-9175-62-3	I-II.A
H77	Protocol for Feed Sample Collection	GDFC Konya	II-11
H78	Screen from Feed Data system	GDFC Konya	II-11
H79	Feed Control Sample Plan 2017 Part 1: what to sample and where	GDFC Konya	II-11
H80	Feed Control Sample Plan 2017 Part 2: Where to send initial and confirmatory samples	GDFC Konya	II-11
P1	Photos of Selçuk Faculty of Veterinary Medicine	Barry Stemshorn	I-2.A
P2	Photos of Konya Municipal Market	Barry Stemshorn	II-12.A

P3	<i>Photos from VCI Konya</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>sample shipping container</i> • <i>new druq quality lab</i> • <i>vaccine storage building with multiple temperatures and back up refrigeration units</i> • <i>sample reception, log-in and reporting protocols and facility</i> 	Barry Stemshorn	II-1.A&B I-7
P4	<i>CVI Konya manual sample reception log (backup)</i>	Barry Stemshorn	II-1.B
P5	<i>Photo Images</i>	Peter Fernandez	Multiple
P6	<i>Electronic ID for Cattle</i>	Barry Stemshorn	II-12.A
P7	<i>Logo on Vehicle</i>	Barry Stemshorn	I-6.A

Appendix 7: Organisation of the OIE PVS Evaluation Follow-Up of the VS of Turkey

Assessors Team:

- Team leader: Barry Stemshorn
- Technical expert and PPR Lead: Nadège Leboucq
- Technical expert: Peter Fernández
- Observer/Facilitator: Matthew Stone

References and Guidelines:

- Terrestrial Animal Health Code (especially Chapters 3.1. and 3.2.)
- OIE PVS Tool for the Evaluation of Performance of VS
 - Human, financial and physical resources,
 - Technical capability and authority,
 - Interaction with stakeholders,
 - Access to markets.

Dates: March 6-17, 2017

Language of the audit and reports: English with translations from Turkish

Subject of the evaluation: VS as defined in the Terrestrial Animal Health Code

- Not Inclusive of aquatic animals
- Inclusive of other institutions / ministries responsible for activities of VS

Activities to be analysed: All activities related to animal and veterinary public health:

- Field activities:
 - Animal health (epidemiological surveillance, early detection, disease control, etc)
 - quarantine (selected country borders taking account of security issues),
 - veterinary public health (food safety, veterinary medicines & biological, residues)
 - control and inspection,
- Data and communication
- Diagnostic laboratories
- Initial and continuous training
- Organisation and finance

Persons present: see Appendix 3

Sites visited: see Appendix 4

Procedures:

- Consultation of data and documents
- Comprehensive field trips
- Interviews and meetings with VS staff and stakeholders,
- Analysis of practical processes

Assistance by the evaluated country

- Completion of missing data as possible
- Translation of relevant document if required
- Administrative authorisation to visit designated sites
- Logistical support including transportation

Reports:

- a powerpoint was be presented at the closing session
- a report will be sent to the OIE for peer-review no later than one month after the mission
- the current levels of advancement with strengths, weaknesses and references for each critical competency will be described,
- general recommendations may be made in agreement with the VS.

Confidentiality and publishing of results

The results of the evaluation are confidential between the country and the OIE and may only be published with the written agreement of the evaluated country.