

SECTION 1.

ANIMAL DISEASE DIAGNOSIS, SURVEILLANCE AND NOTIFICATION

CHAPTER 1.1.

NOTIFICATION OF DISEASES, INFECTIONS, INFESTATIONS AND EPIDEMIOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Article 1.1.1.

For the purposes of the *Terrestrial Code* and in terms of Articles 5, 9 and 10 of the OIE Organic Statutes, Member Countries shall recognise the right of the *Headquarters* to communicate directly with the *Veterinary Authority* of its territory or territories.

All *notifications* and all information sent by the OIE to the *Veterinary Authority* shall be regarded as having been sent to the country concerned and all *notifications* and all information sent to the OIE by the *Veterinary Authority* shall be regarded as having been sent by the country concerned.

Article 1.1.2.

- 1) Member Countries shall make available to other Member Countries, through the OIE, whatever information is necessary to minimise the spread of important animal *diseases*, and their aetiological agents, and to assist in achieving better worldwide control of these *diseases*.
- 2) To achieve this, Member Countries shall comply with the *notification* requirements specified in Article 1.1.3.
- 3) To assist in the clear and concise exchange of information, reports shall conform as closely as possible to the official OIE *disease* reporting format.
- 4) Recognising that scientific knowledge concerning the relationship between *diseases* and their aetiological agents is constantly developing and that the presence of an aetiological agent does not necessarily imply the presence of a *disease*, Member Countries shall ensure through their reports that they comply with the spirit and intention of point 1 above. This means that the detection of the aetiological agent of a *listed disease* in an *animal* should be reported, even in the absence of clinical *disease*.
- 5) In addition to notifying new findings in accordance with Article 1.1.3., Member Countries shall also provide information on the measures taken to prevent the spread of *diseases*, *infections* and *infestations*; including quarantine measures and restrictions on the movement of *animals*, animal products, biological products and other miscellaneous objects which could by their nature be responsible for their transmission. In the case of *diseases* transmitted by *vectors*, the measures taken against such *vectors* shall also be specified.

Article 1.1.3.

Veterinary Authorities shall, under the responsibility of the Delegate, send to the *Headquarters*:

- 1) in accordance with relevant provisions in the *disease*-specific chapters, *notification* through the World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS) or by fax or e-mail, within 24 hours, of any of the following events:
 - a) first occurrence of a *listed disease*, *infection* or *infestation* in a country, a *zone* or a *compartment*;

- b) re-occurrence of a *listed disease, infection* or *infestation* in a country, a *zone* or a *compartment* following a report declared the *outbreak* ended;
 - c) first occurrence of a new strain of a pathogen of a *listed disease, infection* or *infestation* in a country, a *zone* or a *compartment*;
 - d) a sudden and unexpected increase in the distribution, incidence, morbidity or mortality of a *listed disease, infection* and *infestation* prevalent within a country, a *zone* or a *compartment*;
 - e) an *emerging disease* with significant morbidity or mortality, or zoonotic potential;
 - f) evidence of change in the epidemiology of a *listed disease, infection* or *infestation* (including host range, pathogenicity, strain) in particular if there is a zoonotic impact;
- 2) weekly reports subsequent to a *notification* under point 1 above, to provide further information on the evolution of the event which justified the *notification*. These reports should continue until the *disease, infection* or *infestation* has been eradicated or the situation has become sufficiently stable so that six-monthly reporting under point 3 will satisfy the obligation of the Member Country; in any case, a final report on the event should be submitted;
 - 3) six-monthly reports on the absence or presence, and evolution of *listed diseases, infections* or *infestations* and information of epidemiological significance to other Member Countries;
 - 4) annual reports concerning any other information of significance to other Member Countries.

Although Member Countries are only required to notify *listed diseases, infections* and *infestations* and *emerging diseases* according to points 1 to 4 above, they are encouraged to inform the OIE of other important animal health events.

Article 1.1.4.

- 1) The *Veterinary Authority* of a country in which an *infected zone* was located shall inform the *Headquarters* when this zone is free from the *disease, infection* or *infestation*.
- 2) An *infected zone* for a particular *disease, infection* or *infestation* shall be considered as such until a period exceeding the *infective period* specified in the *Terrestrial Code* has elapsed after the last reported case, and when full prophylactic and appropriate animal health measures have been applied to prevent possible reappearance or spread of the *disease, infection* or *infestation*. These measures will be found in detail in the various chapters of Volume II of the *Terrestrial Code*.
- 3) A Member Country may be considered to regain freedom from a specific *disease, infection* or *infestation* when all conditions given in the relevant chapters of the *Terrestrial Code* have been fulfilled.
- 4) The *Veterinary Authority* of a Member Country which sets up one or several *free zones* shall inform the *Headquarters* giving necessary details, including the criteria on which the free status is based, the requirements for maintaining the status and indicating clearly the location of the *zones* on a map of the territory of the Member Country.

Article 1.1.5.

- 1) The *Headquarters* shall communicate by e-mail or World Animal Health Information Database (WAHID) to *Veterinary Authorities* all *notifications* received as provided in Articles 1.1.2. to 1.1.4. and other relevant information.
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