CHAPTER 8.6.

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE

Article 8.6.1.

Introduction

For the purposes of the *Terrestrial Code*, the *incubation period* for foot and mouth disease (FMD) shall be 14 days.

For the purposes of this chapter, ruminants include *animals* of the family of Camelidae (except *Camelus dromedarius*).

For the purposes of this chapter, a *case* is an *animal* infected with FMD virus (FMDV).

The chapter deals not only with the occurrence of clinical signs caused by FMDV, but also with the presence of *infection* with FMDV in the absence of clinical signs.

The following defines the occurrence of FMDV *infection*:

1) FMDV has been isolated and identified as such from an *animal* or a product derived from that *animal*; or
2) viral antigen or viral ribonucleic acid (RNA) specific to one or more of the serotypes of FMDV has been identified in samples from one or more *animals*, whether showing clinical signs consistent with FMD or not, or epidemiologically linked to a confirmed or suspected *outbreak* of FMD, or giving cause for suspicion of previous association or contact with FMDV; or
3) antibodies to structural or nonstructural proteins of FMDV that are not a consequence of *vaccination*, have been identified in one or more *animals* showing clinical signs consistent with FMD, or epidemiologically linked to a confirmed or suspected *outbreak* of FMD, or giving cause for suspicion of previous association or contact with FMDV.

Standards for diagnostic tests and vaccines are described in the *Terrestrial Manual*.

Article 8.6.2.

FMD free country where vaccination is not practised

Susceptible *animals* in the FMD free country where *vaccination* is not practised should be protected from neighbouring infected countries by the application of animal health measures that effectively prevent the entry of the virus, taking into consideration physical or geographical barriers. These measures may include a *protection zone*.

To qualify for inclusion in the existing list of FMD free countries where *vaccination* is not practised, a Member Country should:

1) have a record of regular and prompt animal *disease* reporting;
2) send a declaration to the OIE stating that:
    a) there has been no *outbreak* of FMD during the past 12 months;
    b) no evidence of FMDV *infection* has been found during the past 12 months;
    c) no *vaccination* against FMD has been carried out during the past 12 months;
    d) no vaccinated *animal* has been introduced since the cessation of *vaccination*;
3) supply documented evidence that:
    a) *surveillance* for FMD and FMDV *infection* in accordance with Articles 8.6.42. to 8.6.47. and Article 8.6.49. is in operation;
    b) regulatory measures for the early detection, prevention and control of FMD have been implemented;
4) describe in detail the boundaries and measures of a *protection zone*, if applicable.

The Member Country will be included in the list only after the submitted evidence has been accepted by the OIE. Retention on the list requires that the information in points 2, 3 and 4 above be re-submitted annually and changes in

the epidemiological situation or other significant events including those relevant to points 3b) and 4 should be reported to the OIE according to the requirements in Chapter 1.1.

Article 8.6.3.

FMD free country where vaccination is practised

Susceptible *animals* in the FMD free country where *vaccination* is practised should be protected from neighbouring infected countries by the application of animal health measures that effectively prevent the entry of the virus, taking into consideration physical or geographical barriers. These measures may include a *protection zone*.

To qualify for inclusion in the list of FMD free countries where *vaccination* is practised, a Member Country should:

1) have a record of regular and prompt animal *disease* reporting;
2) send a declaration to the OIE stating that:
   a) there has been no *outbreak* of FMD during the past two years;
   b) no evidence of FMDV circulation has been found during the past 12 months;
3) supply documented evidence that:
   a) *surveillance* for FMD and FMDV circulation in accordance with Articles 8.6.42. to 8.6.47. and Article 8.6.49. is in operation;
   b) regulatory measures for the early detection, prevention and control of FMD have been implemented;
   c) routine *vaccination* is carried out for the purpose of the prevention of FMD;
   d) the vaccine used complies with the standards described in the *Terrestrial Manual*;
4) describe in detail the boundaries and measures of a *protection zone*, if applicable.

The Member Country will be included in the list only after the submitted evidence has been accepted by the OIE. Retention on the list requires that the information in points 2, 3 and 4 above be re-submitted annually and changes in the epidemiological situation or other significant events including those relevant to points 3b) and 4 should be reported to the OIE according to the requirements in Chapter 1.1.

If a Member Country that meets the requirements of a FMD free country where *vaccination* is practised wishes to change its status to FMD free country where *vaccination* is not practised, the status of this country remains unchanged for a period of at least 12 months after *vaccination* has ceased. Evidence should also be provided showing that FMDV *infection* has not occurred during that period.

Article 8.6.4.

FMD free zone where vaccination is not practised

An FMD free *zone* where *vaccination* is not practised can be established in either an FMD free country where *vaccination* is practised or in a country of which parts are infected. In defining such *zones* the principles of Chapter 4.3. should be followed. Susceptible *animals* in the FMD free *zone* should be protected from the rest of the country and from neighbouring countries if they are of a different *animal health status* by the application of animal health measures that effectively prevent the entry of the virus, taking into consideration physical or geographical barriers. These measures may include a *protection zone*.

To qualify for inclusion in the list of FMD free *zones* where *vaccination* is not practised, a Member Country should:

1) have a record of regular and prompt animal *disease* reporting;
2) send a declaration to the OIE stating that within the proposed FMD free *zone*:
   a) there has been no *outbreak* of FMD during the past 12 months;
   b) no evidence of FMDV *infection* has been found during the past 12 months;
   c) no *vaccination* against FMD has been carried out during the past 12 months;
   d) no vaccinated *animal* has been introduced into the *zone* since the cessation of *vaccination*, except in accordance with Article 8.6.10.;
3) supply documented evidence that:
   a) *surveillance* for FMD and FMDV *infection* in accordance with Articles 8.6.42. to 8.6.47. and Article 8.6.49. is in operation;

b) regulatory measures for the early detection, prevention and control of FMD have been implemented;

4) describe in detail and supply documented evidence that these are properly implemented and supervised:

a) the boundaries of the proposed FMD free *zone*;

b) the boundaries and measures of a *protection zone*, if applicable;

c) the system for preventing the entry of the virus (including the control of the movement of susceptible *animals*) into the proposed FMD free *zone* (in particular if the procedure described in Article 8.6.10. is implemented).

The proposed free *zone* will be included in the list of FMD free *zones* where *vaccination* is not practised only after the submitted evidence has been accepted by the OIE.

The information required in points 2, 3 and 4b)-c) above should be re-submitted annually and changes in the epidemiological situation or other significant events including those relevant to points 3b) and 4 should be reported to the OIE according to the requirements in Chapter 1.1.

Article 8.6.5.

FMD free zone where vaccination is practised

An FMD free *zone* where *vaccination* is practised can be established in either an FMD free country where *vaccination* is not practised or in a country of which parts are infected. In defining such *zones* the principles of Chapter 4.3. should be followed. Susceptible *animals* in the FMD free *zone* where *vaccination* is practised should be protected from neighbouring countries or *zones* if they are of a lesser *animal health status* by the application of animal health measures that effectively prevent the entry of the virus, taking into consideration physical or geographical barriers. These measures may include a *protection zone*.

To qualify for inclusion in the list of FMD free *zones* where *vaccination* is practised, a Member Country should:

1) have a record of regular and prompt animal *disease* reporting;

2) send a declaration to the OIE that within the proposed FMD free *zone*;

a) there has been no *outbreak* of FMD for the past two years;

b) no evidence of FMDV circulation has been found during the past 12 months;

3) supply documented evidence that:

a) *surveillance* for FMD and FMDV *infection*/circulation in accordance with Articles 8.6.42. to 8.6.47. and Article 8.6.49. is in operation;

b) regulatory measures for the early detection, prevention and control of FMD have been implemented;

c) routine *vaccination* is carried out for the purpose of the prevention of FMD;

d) the vaccine used complies with the standards described in the *Terrestrial Manual*;

4) describe in detail and supply documented evidence that these are properly implemented and supervised:

a) the boundaries of the proposed FMD free *zone*;

b) the boundaries and measures of a *protection zone*, if applicable;

c) the system for preventing the entry of the virus (including the control of the movement of susceptible *animals*) into the proposed FMD free *zone* (in particular if the procedure described in Article 8.6.10. is implemented).

The proposed free *zone* will be included in the list of FMD free *zones* where *vaccination* is practised only after the submitted evidence has been accepted by the OIE. The information required in points 2, 3 and 4 b)-c) above should be re-submitted annually and changes in the epidemiological situation or other significant events including those relevant to points 3 b) and 4 should be reported to the OIE according to the requirements in Chapter 1.1.

If a Member Country that has a *zone* which meets the requirements of a FMD free *zone* where *vaccination* is practised wishes to change the status of the *zone* to FMD free *zone* where *vaccination* is not practised, the status of this *zone* remains unchanged for a period of at least 12 months after *vaccination* has ceased. Evidence should also be provided showing that FMDV *infection* has not occurred in the said *zone* during that period.

Article 8.6.6.

FMD free compartment

A FMD free *compartment* can be established in either a FMD free country or *zone* or in an infected country or *zone*. In defining such a *compartment* the principles of Chapters 4.3. and 4.4. should be followed. Susceptible *animals* in the FMD free *compartment* should be separated from any other susceptible *animals* by the application of an effective biosecurity management system.

A Member Country wishing to establish a FMD free *compartment* should:

1) have a record of regular and prompt animal *disease* reporting and if not FMD free, have an official control programme and a *surveillance* system for FMD in place according to Articles 8.6.42. to 8.6.47. and Article 8.6.49. that allows an accurate knowledge of the prevalence of FMD in the country or *zone*;
2) declare for the FMD free *compartment* that:
    a) there has been no *outbreak* of FMD during the past 12 months;
    b) no evidence of FMDV *infection* has been found during the past 12 months;
    c) *vaccination* against FMD is prohibited;
    d) no *animal* vaccinated against FMD within the past 12 months is in the *compartment*;
    e) *animals*, semen and embryos should only enter the *compartment* in accordance with relevant articles in this chapter;
    f) documented evidence shows that *surveillance* in accordance with Articles 8.6.42. to 8.6.47. and Article 8.6.49. is in operation for FMD and FMDV *infection*;
    g) an *animal identification* and *traceability* system in accordance with Chapters 4.1. and 4.2. is in place;
3) describe in detail the animal subpopulation in the *compartment* and the biosecurity plan for FMD and FMDV *infection*.

The *compartment* should be approved by the *Veterinary Authority*. The first approval should only be granted when no *outbreak* of FMD has occurred within the *zone* in which the *compartment* is situated, during the last three months.

Article 8.6.7.

FMD infected country or zone

For the purposes of this chapter, an FMD infected country is a country that does not fulfil the requirements to qualify as either an FMD free country where *vaccination* is not practised or an FMD free country where *vaccination* is practised.

For the purposes of this chapter, an FMD *infected zone* is a *zone* that does not fulfil the requirements to qualify as either an FMD free *zone* where *vaccination* is not practised or an FMD free *zone* where *vaccination* is practised.

Article 8.6.8.

Establishment of a containment zone within an FMD free country or zone

In the event of limited *outbreaks* within an FMD free country or *zone*, including within a *protection zone*, with or without *vaccination*, a single *containment zone*, which includes all *cases*, can be established for the purpose of minimizing the impact on the entire country or *zone*.

For this to be achieved and for the Member Country to take full advantage of this process, the *Veterinary Authority* should submit documented evidence as soon as possible to the OIE that:

1) the *outbreaks* are limited based on the following factors:
    a) immediately on suspicion, a rapid response including notification has been made;
    b) standstill of animal movements has been imposed, and effective controls on the movement of other *commodities* mentioned in this chapter are in place;
    c) epidemiological investigation (trace-back, trace-forward) has been completed;
    d) the *infection* has been confirmed;
    e) the primary *outbreak* has been identified, and investigations on the likely source of the *outbreak* have been carried out;

f) all *cases* have been shown to be epidemiologically linked;

g) no new *cases* have been found in the *containment zone* within a minimum of two *incubation periods* as defined in Article 8.6.1. after the stamping-out of the last detected *case* is completed;

2) a *stamping-out policy* has been applied;

3) the susceptible animal population within the *containment zones* should be clearly identifiable as belonging to the *containment zone*;

4) increased passive and targeted *surveillance* in accordance with Articles 8.6.42. to 8.6.47. and Article 8.6.49. in the rest of the country or *zone* has been carried out and has not detected any evidence of *infection*;

5) animal health measures that effectively prevent the spread of the FMDV to the rest of the country or *zone*, taking into consideration physical and geographical barriers, are in place;

6) ongoing *surveillance* in the *containment zone* is in place.

The free status of the areas outside the *containment zone* would be suspended pending the establishment of the *containment zone*. The free status of these areas could be reinstated irrespective of the provisions of Article 8.6.9., once the *containment zone* is clearly established, by complying with points 1 to 6 above. The *containment zone* should be managed in such a way that it can be demonstrated that *commodities* for *international trade* can be shown to have originated outside the *containment zone*.

The recovery of the FMD free status of the *containment zone* should follow the provisions of Article 8.6.9.

Article 8.6.9.

Recovery of free status

1) When an FMD *outbreak* or FMDV *infection* occurs in an FMD free country or *zone* where *vaccination* is not practised, one of the following waiting periods is required to regain the status of FMD free country or *zone* where *vaccination* is not practised:

   a) three months after the last *case* where a *stamping-out policy* and serological *surveillance* are applied in accordance with Articles 8.6.42. to 8.6.49.; or

   b) three months after the *slaughter* of all vaccinated *animals* where a *stamping-out policy*, emergency *vaccination* and serological *surveillance* are applied in accordance with Articles 8.6.42. to 8.6.47. and Article 8.6.49.; or

   c) six months after the last *case* or the last *vaccination* (according to the event that occurs the latest), where a *stamping-out policy*, emergency *vaccination* not followed by the slaughtering of all vaccinated *animals*, and serological *surveillance* are applied in accordance with Articles 8.6.42. to 8.6.47. and Article 8.6.49., provided that a serological survey based on the detection of antibodies to nonstructural proteins of FMDV demonstrates the absence of *infection* in the remaining vaccinated population.

   Where a *stamping-out policy* is not practised, the above waiting periods do not apply, and Article 8.6.2. or 8.6.4. applies.

2) When an FMD *outbreak* or FMDV *infection* occurs in an FMD free country or *zone* where *vaccination* is practised, one of the following waiting periods is required to regain the status of FMD free country or *zone* where *vaccination* is practised:

   a) 6 months after the last *case* where a *stamping-out policy*, emergency *vaccination* and serological *surveillance* in accordance with Articles 8.6.42. to 8.6.47. and Article 8.6.49. are applied, provided that the serological *surveillance* based on the detection of antibodies to nonstructural proteins of FMDV demonstrates the absence of virus circulation; or

   b) 18 months after the last *case* where a *stamping-out policy* is not applied, but emergency *vaccination* and serological *surveillance* in accordance with Articles 8.6.42. to 8.6.47. and Article 8.6.49. are applied, provided that the serological *surveillance* based on the detection of antibodies to nonstructural proteins of FMDV demonstrates the absence of virus circulation.

3) When a FMD *outbreak* or FMDV *infection* occurs in a FMD free *compartment*, Article 8.6.6. applies.

Article 8.6.10.

Direct transfer of FMD susceptible animals from an infected zone for slaughter in a free zone (where vaccination either is or is not practised)

In order not to jeopardise the status of a free *zone*, FMD susceptible *animals* should only leave the *infected zone* if transported directly to *slaughter* in the nearest designated *abattoir* under the following conditions:

1) no FMD susceptible *animal* has been introduced into the *establishment* of origin and no *animal* in the *establishment* of origin has shown clinical signs of FMD for at least 30 days prior to movement;
2) the *animals* were kept in the *establishment* of origin for at least three months prior to movement;
3) FMD has not occurred within a ten-kilometre radius of the *establishment* of origin for at least three months prior to movement;
4) the *animals* should be transported under the supervision of the *Veterinary Authority* in a *vehicle*, which was cleansed and disinfected before *loading*, directly from the *establishment* of origin to the *abattoir* without coming into contact with other susceptible *animals*;
5) such an *abattoir* is not approved for the export of *fresh meat* during the time it is handling the *meat* of *animals* from the *infected zone*;
6) *vehicles* and the *abattoir* should be subjected to thorough cleansing and *disinfection* immediately after use.

The *meat* should be treated according to Article 8.6.25. or Article 8.6.26. Other products obtained from the *animals* and any products coming into contact with them should be considered infected, and treated in such a way as to destroy any residual virus in accordance with Articles 8.6.34. to 8.6.41.

Animals moved into a free *zone* for other purposes should be moved under the supervision of the *Veterinary Authority* and comply with the conditions in Article 8.6.14.

Article 8.6.11.

Transfer directly to slaughter of FMD susceptible animals from a containment zone to a free zone (where vaccination either is or is not practised) within a country

In order not to jeopardise the status of a free *zone*, FMD susceptible *animals* should only leave the *containment zone* if moved by mechanised transport directly to *slaughter* in the nearest designated *abattoir* under the following conditions:

1) the *containment zone* has been officially established according to the requirements in Article 8.6.8.;
2) the *animals* should be transported under the supervision of the *Veterinary Authority* in a *vehicle*, which was cleansed and disinfected before *loading*, directly from the *establishment* of origin to the *abattoir* without coming into contact with other susceptible *animals*;
3) such an *abattoir* is not approved for the export of *fresh meat* during the time it is handling the *meat* of *animals* from the *containment zone*;
4) *vehicles* and the *abattoir* should be subjected to thorough cleansing and *disinfection* immediately after use.

The *meat* should be treated according to point 2 of Article 8.6.25. or Article 8.6.26. Other products obtained from the *animals* and any products coming into contact with them should be treated in such a way as to destroy any residual virus in accordance with Articles 8.6.34. to 8.6.41.

Article 8.6.12.

Recommendations for importation from FMD free countries or zones where vaccination is not practised or FMD free compartments

For FMD susceptible animals

Veterinary Authorities should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the *animals*:

1) showed no clinical sign of FMD on the day of shipment;
2) were kept since birth or for at least the past three months in a FMD free country or *zone* where *vaccination* is not practised or a FMD free *compartment*;
3) have not been vaccinated;

4) if transiting an *infected zone*, were not exposed to any source of FMD *infection* during transportation to the *place of shipment*.

Article 8.6.13.

Recommendations for importation from FMD free countries or zones where vaccination is practised

For domestic ruminants and pigs

Veterinary Authorities should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the *animals*:

1) showed no clinical sign of FMD on the day of shipment;
2) were kept in an FMD free country or *zone* since birth or for at least the past three months; and
3) have not been vaccinated and were subjected, with negative results, to tests for antibodies against FMD virus, when destined to an FMD free country or *zone* where *vaccination* is not practised;
4) if transiting an *infected zone*, were not exposed to any source of FMD *infection* during transportation to the *place of shipment*.

Article 8.6.14.

Recommendations for importation from FMD infected countries or zones

For domestic ruminants and pigs

Veterinary Authorities should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the *animals*:

1) showed no clinical sign of FMD on the day of shipment;
2) were kept in the *establishment* of origin since birth, or
   a) for the past 30 days, if a *stamping-out policy* is in force in the *exporting country*, or
   b) for the past 3 months, if a *stamping-out policy* is not in force in the *exporting country*,

   and that FMD has not occurred within a ten-kilometre radius of the *establishment* of origin for the relevant period as defined in points a) and b) above; and
3) were isolated in an *establishment* for the 30 days prior to shipment, and all *animals* in isolation were subjected to diagnostic tests (probang and serology) for evidence of FMDV *infection* with negative results at the end of that period, and that FMD did not occur within a ten-kilometre radius of the *establishment* during that period; or
4) were kept in a *quarantine station* for the 30 days prior to shipment, all *animals* in quarantine were subjected to diagnostic tests (probang and serology) for evidence of FMDV *infection* with negative results at the end of that period, and that FMD did not occur within a ten-kilometre radius of the *quarantine station* during that period;
5) were not exposed to any source of FMD *infection* during their transportation from the *quarantine station* to the *place of shipment*.

Article 8.6.15.

Recommendations for importation from FMD free countries or zones where vaccination is not practised or FMD free compartments

For fresh semen of domestic ruminants and pigs

Veterinary Authorities should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that:

1) the donor *animals*:
   a) showed no clinical sign of FMD on the day of collection of the semen;
   b) were kept for at least three months prior to collection in a FMD free country or *zone* where *vaccination* is not practised or a FMD free *compartment*;
2) the semen was collected, processed and stored in conformity with the provisions of Chapters 4.5. and 4.6.

Article 8.6.16.

Recommendations for importation from FMD free countries or zones where vaccination is not practised or FMD free compartments

For frozen semen of domestic ruminants and pigs

Veterinary Authorities should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that:

1) the donor *animals*:
   a) showed no clinical sign of FMD on the day of collection of the semen and for the following 30 days;
   b) were kept for at least three months prior to collection in an FMD free country or *zone* where *vaccination* is not practised or a FMD free *compartment*;
2) the semen was collected, processed and stored in conformity with the provisions of Chapters 4.5. and 4.6.

Article 8.6.17.

Recommendations for importation from FMD free countries or zones where vaccination is practised

For semen of domestic ruminants and pigs

Veterinary Authorities should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that:

1) the donor *animals*:
   a) showed no clinical sign of FMD on the day of collection of the semen and for the following 30 days;
   b) were kept for at least three months prior to collection in a FMD free country or *zone*;
   c) if destined to an FMD free country or *zone* where *vaccination* is not practised:
      i) have not been vaccinated and were subjected, not less than 21 days after collection of the semen, to tests for antibodies against FMD virus, with negative results; or
      ii) had been vaccinated at least twice, with the last *vaccination* not more than 12 and not less than one month prior to collection;
2) no other *animal* present in the *artificial insemination centre* has been vaccinated within the month prior to collection;
3) the semen:
   a) was collected, processed and stored in conformity with the provisions of Chapters 4.5. and 4.6.;
   b) was stored in the country of origin for a period of at least one month following collection, and during this period no *animal* on the *establishment* where the donor *animals* were kept showed any sign of FMD.

Article 8.6.18.

Recommendations for importation from FMD infected countries or zones

For semen of domestic ruminants and pigs

Veterinary Authorities should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that:

1) the donor *animals*:
   a) showed no clinical sign of FMD on the day of collection of the semen;
   b) were kept in an *establishment* where no *animal* had been added in the 30 days before collection, and that FMD has not occurred within 10 kilometres for the 30 days before and after collection;
   c) have not been vaccinated and were subjected, not less than 21 days after collection of the semen, to tests for antibodies against FMD virus, with negative results; or
   d) had been vaccinated at least twice, with the last *vaccination* not more than 12 and not less than one month prior to collection;
2) no other *animal* present in the *artificial insemination centre* has been vaccinated within the month prior to collection;
3) the semen:
   a) was collected, processed and stored in conformity with the provisions of Chapters 4.5. and 4.6.;
   b) was subjected, with negative results, to a test for FMDV *infection* if the donor *animal* has been vaccinated within the 12 months prior to collection;

c) was stored in the country of origin for a period of at least one month following collection, and that during this period no *animal* on the *establishment* where the donor *animals* were kept showed any sign of FMD.

Article 8.6.19.

Recommendations for the importation of *in vivo* derived embryos of cattle

Irrespective of the FMD status of the *exporting country*, *zone* or *compartment*, *Veterinary Authorities* should authorise without restriction on account of FMD the import or transit through their territory of *in vivo* derived embryos of cattle subject to the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the embryos were collected, processed and stored in conformity with the provisions of Chapters 4.8.and 4.9., as relevant.

Article 8.6.20.

Recommendations for importation from FMD free countries or zones where vaccination is not practised or FMD free compartments

For *in vitro* produced embryos of cattle

Veterinary Authorities should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that:

1) the donor females:
   a) showed no clinical sign of FMD at the time of collection of the oocytes;
   b) were kept at the time of collection in a FMD free country or *zone* where *vaccination* is not practised or a FMD free *compartment*;
2) fertilisation was achieved with semen meeting the conditions referred to in Articles 8.6.15., 8.6.16., 8.6.17. or 8.6.18., as relevant;
3) the oocytes were collected, and the embryos were processed and stored in conformity with the provisions of Chapters 4.8. and 4.9., as relevant.

Article 8.6.21.

Recommendations for importation from FMD free countries or zones where vaccination is practised

For *in vitro* produced embryos of cattle

Veterinary Authorities should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that:

1) the donor females:
   a) showed no clinical sign of FMD at the time of collection of the oocytes;
   b) were kept for at least three months prior to collection in a FMD free country or *zone* where *vaccination* is practised;
   c) if destined for an FMD free country or *zone* where *vaccination* is not practised or a FMD free *compartment*:
      i) have not been vaccinated and were subjected, with negative results, to tests for antibodies against FMD virus; or
      ii) had been vaccinated at least twice, with the last *vaccination* not less than one month and not more than 12 months prior to collection;
2) no other *animal* present in the *establishment* has been vaccinated within the month prior to collection;
3) fertilization was achieved with semen meeting the conditions referred to in Articles 8.6.15., 8.6.16., 8.6.17. or 8.6.18., as relevant;
4) the oocytes were collected, and the embryos were processed and stored in conformity with the provisions of Chapters 4.8.and 4.9., as relevant.

Article 8.6.22.

Recommendations for importation from FMD free countries or zones where vaccination is not practised or FMD free compartments

For fresh meat or meat products of FMD susceptible animals

Veterinary Authorities should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the entire consignment of *meat* comes from *animals* which:

1) have been kept in the FMD free country or *zone* where *vaccination* is not practised or a FMD free *compartment*, or which have been imported in accordance with Article 8.6.12., Article 8.6.13. or Article 8.6.14.;
2) have been slaughtered in an approved *abattoir* and have been subjected to ante- and post-mortem inspections for FMD with favourable results.

Article 8.6.23.

Recommendations for importation from FMD free countries or zones where vaccination is practised

For fresh meat of cattle and buffaloes (*Bubalus bubalis*) (excluding feet, head and viscera)

Veterinary Authorities should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the entire consignment of *meat* comes from *animals* which:

1) have been kept in the FMD free country or *zone* where *vaccination* is practised, or which have been imported in accordance with Article 8.6.12., Article 8.6.13. or Article 8.6.14.;
2) have been slaughtered in an approved *abattoir* and have been subjected to ante- and post-mortem inspections for FMD with favourable results.

Article 8.6.24.

Recommendations for importation from FMD free countries or zones where vaccination is practised

For fresh meat or meat products of pigs and ruminants other than cattle and buffaloes

Veterinary Authorities should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the entire consignment of *meat* comes from *animals* which:

1) have been kept in the FMD free country or *zone* where *vaccination* is practised, or which have been imported in accordance with Article 8.6.12., Article 8.6.13. or Article 8.6.14.;
2) have been slaughtered in an approved *abattoir* and have been subjected to ante- and post-mortem inspections for FMD with favourable results.

Article 8.6.25.

Recommendations for importation from FMD infected countries or zones, where an official control programme for FMD, involving compulsory systematic vaccination of cattle, exists

For fresh meat of cattle and buffaloes (*Bubalus bubalis*) (excluding feet, head and viscera)

Veterinary Authorities should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the entire consignment of *meat*:

1) comes from *animals* which:
   a) have remained in the *exporting country* for at least three months prior to *slaughter*;
   b) have remained, during this period, in a part of the country where cattle are regularly vaccinated against FMD and where official controls are in operation;
   c) have been vaccinated at least twice with the last *vaccination* not more than 12 months and not less than one month prior to *slaughter*;
   d) were kept for the past 30 days in an *establishment*, and that FMD has not occurred within a ten-kilometre radius of the *establishment* during that period;

e) have been transported, in a *vehicle* which was cleansed and disinfected before the cattle were loaded, directly from the *establishment* of origin to the approved *abattoir* without coming into contact with other *animals* which do not fulfil the required conditions for export;

f) have been slaughtered in an approved *abattoir*:

i) which is officially designated for export;

ii) in which no FMD has been detected during the period between the last *disinfection* carried out before *slaughter* and the shipment for export has been dispatched;

g) have been subjected to ante- and post-mortem inspections for FMD with favourable results within 24 hours before and after *slaughter*;

2) comes from deboned carcasses:

a) from which the major lymphatic nodes have been removed;

b) which, prior to deboning, have been submitted to maturation at a temperature above + 2°C for a minimum period of 24 hours following *slaughter* and in which the pH value was below 6.0 when tested in the middle of both the longissimus dorsi.

Article 8.6.26.

Recommendations for importation from FMD infected countries or zones

For meat products of domestic ruminants and pigs

Veterinary Authorities should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that:

1) the entire consignment of *meat* comes from *animals* which have been slaughtered in an approved *abattoir* and have been subjected to ante- and post-mortem inspections for FMD with favourable results;

2) the *meat* has been processed to ensure the destruction of the FMD virus in conformity with one of the procedures referred to in Article 8.6.34.;

3) the necessary precautions were taken after processing to avoid contact of the *meat products* with any potential source of FMD virus.

Article 8.6.27.

Recommendations for importation from FMD free countries or zones (where vaccination either is or is not practised) or FMD free compartments

For milk and milk products intended for human consumption and for products of animal origin (from FMD susceptible animals) intended for use in animal feeding or for agricultural or industrial use

Veterinary Authorities should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that these products come from *animals* which have been kept in a FMD free country, *zone* or *compartment*, or which have been imported in accordance with Article 8.6.12., Article 8.6.13. or Article 8.6.14.

Article 8.6.28.

Recommendations for importation from FMD infected countries or zones where an official control programme exists

For milk, cream, milk powder and milk products

Veterinary Authorities should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that:

1) these products:

a) originate from *herds* or *flocks* which were not infected or suspected of being infected with FMD at the time of *milk* collection;

b) have been processed to ensure the destruction of the FMD virus in conformity with one of the procedures referred to in Article 8.6.38. and in Article 8.6.39.;

2) the necessary precautions were taken after processing to avoid contact of the products with any potential source of FMD virus.

Article 8.6.29.

Recommendations for importation from FMD infected countries

For blood and meat-meals (from domestic or wild ruminants and pigs)

Veterinary Authorities should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the manufacturing method for these products included heating to a minimum core temperature of 70°C for at least 30 minutes.

Article 8.6.30.

Recommendations for importation from FMD infected countries

For wool, hair, bristles, raw hides and skins (from domestic or wild ruminants and pigs)

Veterinary Authorities should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that:

1) these products have been processed to ensure the destruction of the FMD virus in conformity with one of the procedures referred to in Articles 8.6.35., 8.6.36. and 8.6.37.;
2) the necessary precautions were taken after collection or processing to avoid contact of the products with any potential source of FMD virus.

Veterinary Authorities can authorise, without restriction, the import or transit through their territory of semi-processed hides and skins (limed hides, pickled pelts, and semi-processed leather – e.g. wet blue and crust leather), provided that these products have been submitted to the usual chemical and mechanical processes in use in the tanning industry.

Article 8.6.31.

Recommendations for importation from FMD infected countries or zones

For straw and forage

Veterinary Authorities should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that these *commodities*:

1) are free of grossly identifiable contamination with material of animal origin;
2) have been subjected to one of the following treatments, which, in the case of material sent in bales, has been shown to penetrate to the centre of the bale:
    a) either to the action of steam in a closed chamber such that the centre of the bales has reached a minimum temperature of 80°C for at least ten minutes,
    b) or to the action of formalin fumes (formaldehyde gas) produced by its commercial solution at 35–40 percent in a chamber kept closed for at least eight hours and at a minimum temperature of 19°C;

OR

3) have been kept in bond for at least three months (under study) before being released for export.

Article 8.6.32.

Recommendations for importation from FMD free countries or zones (where vaccination either is or is not practised)

For skins and trophies derived from FMD susceptible wild animals

Veterinary Authorities should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that these products are derived from *animals* that have been killed in such a country or *zone*, or which have been imported from a country or *zone* free of FMD (where *vaccination* either is or is not practised).

Article 8.6.33.

Recommendations for importation from FMD infected countries or zones

For skins and trophies derived from FMD susceptible wild animals

Veterinary Authorities should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that these products have been processed to ensure the destruction of the FMD virus in conformity with the procedures referred to in Article 8.6.40.

Article 8.6.34.

Procedures for the inactivation of the FMD virus in meat

For the inactivation of viruses present in *meat*, one of the following procedures should be used:

1. Canning

   Meat is subjected to heat treatment in a hermetically sealed container to reach an internal core temperature of at least 70°C for a minimum of 30 minutes or to any equivalent treatment which has been demonstrated to inactivate the FMD virus.

2. Thorough cooking

   Meat, previously deboned and defatted, shall be subjected to heating so that an internal temperature of 70°C or greater is maintained for a minimum of 30 minutes.

   After cooking, it shall be packed and handled in such a way that it cannot be exposed to a source of virus.

3. Drying after salting

   When *rigor mortis* is complete, the *meat* must be deboned, salted with cooking salt (NaCl) and completely dried. It must not deteriorate at ambient temperature.

   'Drying' is defined in terms of the ratio between water and protein which must not be greater than 2.25:1.

Article 8.6.35.

Procedures for the inactivation of the FMD virus in wool and hair

For the inactivation of viruses present in wool and hair for industrial use, one of the following procedures should be used:

1) industrial washing, which consists of the immersion of the wool in a series of baths of water, soap and sodium hydroxide (soda) or potassium hydroxide (potash);
2) chemical depilation by means of slaked lime or sodium sulphide;
3) fumigation in formaldehyde in a hermetically sealed chamber for at least 24 hours. The most practical method is to place potassium permanganate in containers (which must NOT be made of plastic or polyethylene) and add commercial formalin; the amounts of formalin and potassium permanganate are respectively 53 ml and 35 g per cubic metre of the chamber;
4) industrial scouring which consists of the immersion of wool in a water-soluble detergent held at 60–70°C;
5) storage of wool at 18°C for four weeks, or 4°C for four months, or 37°C for eight days.

Article 8.6.36.

Procedures for the inactivation of the FMD virus in bristles

For the inactivation of viruses present in bristles for industrial use, one of the following procedures should be used:

1) boiling for at least one hour;
2) immersion for at least 24 hours in a 1 percent solution of formaldehyde prepared from 30 ml commercial formalin per litre of water.

Article 8.6.37.

Procedures for the inactivation of the FMD virus in raw hides and skins

For the inactivation of viruses present in raw hides and skins for industrial use, the following procedure should be used: salting for at least 28 days in sea salt containing 2 percent sodium carbonate.

Article 8.6.38.

Procedures for the inactivation of the FMD virus in milk and cream for human consumption

For the inactivation of viruses present in *milk* and cream for human consumption, one of the following procedures should be used:

1) a sterilisation process applying a minimum temperature of 132°C for at least one second (ultra-high temperature [UHT]), or
2) if the milk has a pH less than 7.0, a sterilisation process applying a minimum temperature of 72°C for at least 15 seconds (high temperature – short time pasteurisation [HTST]), or
3) if the milk has a pH of 7.0 or over, the HTST process applied twice.

Article 8.6.39.

Procedures for the inactivation of the FMD virus in milk for animal consumption

For the inactivation of viruses present in *milk* for animal consumption, one of the following procedures should be used:

1) the HTST process applied twice;
2) HTST combined with another physical treatment, e.g. maintaining a pH 6 for at least one hour or additional heating to at least 72°C combined with dessication;
3) UHT combined with another physical treatment referred to in point 2 above.

Article 8.6.40.

Procedures for the inactivation of the FMD virus in skins and trophies from wild animals susceptible to the disease

For the inactivation of viruses present in skins and trophies from *wild animals* susceptible to FMD, one of the following procedures should be used prior to complete taxidermal treatment:

1) boiling in water for an appropriate time so as to ensure that any matter other than bone, horns, hooves, claws, antlers or teeth is removed;
2) gamma irradiation at a dose of at least 20 kiloGray at room temperature (20°C or higher);
3) soaking, with agitation, in a 4 percent (w/v) solution of washing soda (sodium carbonate – Na_2CO_3) maintained at pH 11.5 or above for at least 48 hours;
4) soaking, with agitation, in a formic acid solution (100 kg salt [NaCl] and 12 kg formic acid per 1,000 litres water) maintained at below pH 3.0 for at least 48 hours; wetting and dressing agents may be added;
5) in the case of raw hides, salting for at least 28 days with sea salt containing 2 percent washing soda (sodium carbonate – Na_2CO_3).

Article 8.6.41.

Procedures for the inactivation of the FMD virus in casings of ruminants and pigs

For the inactivation of viruses present in casings of ruminants and pigs, the following procedures should be used: salting for at least 30 days either with dry salt (NaCl) or with saturated brine (Aw < 0.80), or with phosphate supplemented dry salt containing 86.5 percent NaCl, 10.7 percent Na_2HPO_4 and 2.8 percent Na_3PO_4 (weight/weight/weight), and kept at a temperature of greater than 12°C during this entire period.

Article 8.6.42.

Surveillance: introduction

Articles 8.6.42. to 8.6.47. and Article 8.6.49. define the principles and provide a guide for the *surveillance* of FMD in accordance with Chapter 1.4. applicable to Member Countries seeking establishment of freedom from FMD, either with or without the use of *vaccination*. Guidance is provided for Member Countries seeking reestablishment of freedom from FMD for the entire country or for a *zone*, either with or without *vaccination*, or a *compartment*, following an *outbreak* and for the maintenance of FMD status.

The impact and epidemiology of FMD differ widely in different regions of the world and therefore it is impossible to provide specific recommendations for all situations. *Surveillance* strategies employed for demonstrating freedom from FMD at an acceptable level of confidence will need to be adapted to the local situation. For example, the approach to proving freedom from FMD following an *outbreak* caused by a pig-adapted strain of FMD virus (FMDV) should differ significantly from an application designed to prove freedom from FMD for a country or *zone* where African buffaloes (*Syncerus caffer*) provide a potential reservoir of *infection*. It is incumbent upon the Member Country to submit a dossier to the OIE in support of its application that not only explains the epidemiology of FMD in the region concerned but also demonstrates how all the risk factors are managed. This should include provision of scientifically-based supporting data. There is therefore considerable latitude available to Member Countries to provide a well-reasoned argument to prove that the absence of FMDV *infection* (in non-vaccinated populations) or circulation (in vaccinated populations) is assured at an acceptable level of confidence.

Surveillance for FMD should be in the form of a continuing programme designed to establish that the whole territory or part of it is free from FMDV *infection*/circulation.

For the purposes of this chapter, virus circulation means transmission of FMDV as demonstrated by clinical signs, serological evidence or virus isolation.

Article 8.6.43.

Surveillance: general conditions and methods

1) A *surveillance* system in accordance with Chapter 1.4. should be under the responsibility of the *Veterinary Authority*. A procedure should be in place for the rapid collection and transport of samples from suspect cases of FMD to a *laboratory* for FMD diagnoses as described in the *Terrestrial Manual*.

2) The FMD *surveillance* programme should:

    a) include an early warning system throughout the production, marketing and processing chain for reporting suspicious cases. Farmers and workers who have day-to-day contact with livestock, as well as diagnosticians, should report promptly any suspicion of FMD. They should be supported directly or indirectly (e.g. through private *veterinarians* or *veterinary para-professionals*) by government information programmes and the *Veterinary Authority*. All suspect cases of FMD should be investigated immediately. Where suspicion cannot be resolved by epidemiological and clinical investigation, samples should be taken and submitted to a *laboratory*. This requires that sampling kits and other equipment are available for those responsible for *surveillance*. Personnel responsible for *surveillance* should be able to call for assistance from a team with expertise in FMD diagnosis and control;

    b) implement, when relevant, regular and frequent clinical inspection and serological testing of high-risk groups of *animals*, such as those adjacent to an FMD infected country or *infected zone* (for example, bordering a game park in which infected *wildlife* are present).

An effective *surveillance* system will periodically identify suspicious cases that require follow-up and investigation to confirm or exclude that the cause of the condition is FMDV. The rate at which such suspicious cases are likely to occur will differ between epidemiological situations and cannot therefore be predicted reliably. Applications for freedom from FMDV *infection*/circulation should, in consequence, provide details of the occurrence of suspicious cases and how they were investigated and dealt with. This should include the results of *laboratory* testing and the control measures to which the *animals* concerned were subjected during the investigation (quarantine, movement stand-still orders, etc.).

Article 8.6.44.

Surveillance strategies

1. Introduction

The target population for *surveillance* aimed at identifying *disease* and *infection* should cover all the susceptible species within the country, *zone* or *compartment*.

The design of *surveillance* programmes to prove the absence of FMDV *infection*/circulation needs to be carefully followed to avoid producing results that are either insufficiently reliable to be accepted by the OIE or international trading partners, or excessively costly and logistically complicated. The design of any *surveillance* programme, therefore, requires inputs from professionals competent and experienced in this field.

The strategy employed may be based on randomised sampling requiring *surveillance* consistent with demonstrating the absence of FMDV *infection*/circulation at an acceptable level of statistical confidence. The frequency of sampling should be dependent on the epidemiological situation. Targeted *surveillance* (e.g. based on the increased likelihood of *infection* in particular localities or species) may be an appropriate strategy. The Member Country should justify the *surveillance* strategy chosen as adequate to detect the presence of FMDV *infection*/circulation in accordance with Chapter 1.4. and the epidemiological situation. It may, for example, be appropriate to target clinical *surveillance* at particular species likely to exhibit clear clinical signs (e.g. cattle and pigs). If a Member Country wishes to apply for recognition of a specific *zone* within the country as being free from FMDV *infection*/circulation, the design of the survey and the basis for the sampling process would need to be aimed at the population within the *zone*.

For random surveys, the design of the sampling strategy will need to incorporate an epidemiologically appropriate design prevalence. The sample size selected for testing will need to be large enough to detect *infection*/circulation if it were to occur at a predetermined minimum rate. The sample size and expected *disease* prevalence determine the level of confidence in the results of the survey. The Member Country must justify the choice of design prevalence and confidence level based on the objectives of *surveillance* and the epidemiological situation, in accordance with Chapter 1.4. Selection of the design prevalence in particular clearly needs to be based on the prevailing or historical epidemiological situation.

Irrespective of the survey design selected, the sensitivity and specificity of the diagnostic tests employed are key factors in the design, sample size determination and interpretation of the results obtained. Ideally, the sensitivity and specificity of the tests used should be validated for the *vaccination*/*infection* history and production class of *animals* in the target population.

Irrespective of the testing system employed, *surveillance* design should anticipate the occurrence of false positive reactions. If the characteristics of the testing system are known, the rate at which these false positives are likely to occur can be calculated in advance. There needs to be an effective procedure for following-up positives to ultimately determine with a high level of confidence, whether they are indicative of *infection*/circulation or not. This 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.

2. Clinical surveillance

Clinical *surveillance* aims at detecting clinical signs of FMD by close physical examination of susceptible *animals*. Whereas significant emphasis is placed on the diagnostic value of mass serological screening, *surveillance* based on clinical inspection should not be underrated. It may be able to provide a high level of confidence of detection of *disease* if a sufficiently large number of clinically susceptible *animals* is examined.

Clinical *surveillance* and *laboratory* testing should always be applied in series to clarify the status of FMD suspects detected by either of these complementary diagnostic approaches. *Laboratory* testing may confirm clinical suspicion, while clinical *surveillance* may contribute to confirmation of positive serology. Any sampling unit within which suspicious *animals* are detected should be classified as infected until contrary evidence is produced.

A number of issues must be considered in clinical *surveillance* for FMD. The often underestimated labour intensity and the logistical difficulties involved in conducting clinical examinations should not be underestimated and should be taken into account.

Identification of clinical *cases* is fundamental to FMD *surveillance*. Establishment of the molecular, antigenic and other biological characteristics of the causative virus, as well as its source, is dependent upon disclosure of such *animals*. It is essential that FMDV isolates are sent regularly to the regional reference *laboratory* for genetic and antigenic characterization.

3. Virological surveillance

Virological *surveillance* using tests described in the *Terrestrial Manual* should be conducted:

a) to monitor at risk populations;

b) to confirm clinically suspect cases;

c) to follow up positive serological results;

d) to test 'normal' daily mortality, to ensure early detection of *infection* in the face of *vaccination* or in *establishments* epidemiologically linked to an *outbreak*.

4. Serological surveillance

Serological *surveillance* aims at detecting antibodies against FMDV. Positive FMDV antibody test results can have four possible causes:

a) natural *infection* with FMDV;

b) *vaccination* against FMD;

c) maternal antibodies derived from an immune dam (maternal antibodies in cattle are usually found only up to six months of age but in some individuals and in some species, maternal antibodies can be detected for considerably longer periods);

d) heterophile (cross) reactions.

It is important that serological tests, where applicable, contain antigens appropriate for detecting antibodies against viral variants (types, subtypes, lineages, topotypes, etc.) that have recently occurred in the region concerned. Where the probable identity of FMDVs is unknown or where exotic viruses are suspected to be present, tests able to detect representatives of all serotypes should be employed (e.g. tests based on nonstructural viral proteins – see below).

It may be possible to use serum collected for other survey purposes for FMD *surveillance*. However, the principles of survey design described in this chapter and the requirement for a statistically valid survey for the presence of FMDV should not be compromised.

The discovery of clustering of seropositive reactions should be foreseen. It may reflect any of a series of events, including but not limited to the demographics of the population sampled, vaccinal exposure or the presence of field strain *infection*. As clustering may signal field strain *infection*, the investigation of all instances must be incorporated in the survey design. If *vaccination* cannot be excluded as the cause of positive serological reactions, diagnostic methods should be employed that detect the presence of antibodies to nonstructural proteins (NSPs) of FMDVs as described in the *Terrestrial Manual*.

The results of random or targeted serological surveys are important in providing reliable evidence that FMDV *infection* is not present in a country, *zone* or *compartment*. It is therefore essential that the survey be thoroughly documented.

Article 8.6.45.

Member Countries applying for recognition of freedom from FMD for the whole country or a zone where vaccination is not practised: additional surveillance procedures

In addition to the general conditions described in the above-mentioned articles, a Member Country applying for recognition of FMD freedom for the country or a *zone* where *vaccination* is not practised should provide evidence for the existence of an effective *surveillance* programme. The strategy and design of the *surveillance* programme will depend on the prevailing epidemiological circumstances and will be planned and implemented according to general conditions and methods in this chapter, to demonstrate absence of FMDV *infection*, during the preceding 12 months in susceptible populations. This requires the support of a national or other *laboratory* able to undertake identification of FMDV *infection* through virus/antigen/genome detection and antibody tests described in the *Terrestrial Manual*.

Article 8.6.46.

Member Countries applying for recognition of freedom from FMD for the whole country or a zone where vaccination is practised: additional surveillance procedures

In addition to the general conditions described in the above-mentioned articles, a Member Country applying for recognition of country or *zone* freedom from FMD with *vaccination* should show evidence of an effective *surveillance* programme planned and implemented according to general conditions and methods in this chapter. Absence of clinical *disease* in the country or *zone* for the past two years should be demonstrated. Furthermore, *surveillance* should demonstrate that FMDV has not been circulating in any susceptible population during the past 12 months. This will require serological *surveillance* incorporating tests able to detect antibodies to NSPs as described in the *Terrestrial Manual*. *Vaccination* to prevent the transmission of FMDV may be part of a disease control programme. The level of *herd* immunity required to prevent transmission will depend on the size, composition (e.g. species) and density of the

susceptible population. It is therefore impossible to be prescriptive. However, the aim should be for at least 80 percent of the *animals* in each vaccinated population to have protective immunity. The vaccine must comply with the *Terrestrial Manual*. Based on the epidemiology of FMD in the country or *zone*, it may be that a decision is reached to vaccinate only certain species or other subsets of the total susceptible population. In that case, the rationale should be contained within the dossier accompanying the application to the OIE for recognition of status.

Evidence to show the effectiveness of the *vaccination* programme should be provided.

Article 8.6.47.

Member Countries re-applying for recognition of freedom from FMD for the whole country or a zone where vaccination is either practised or not practised, following an outbreak: additional surveillance procedures

In addition to the general conditions described in the above-mentioned articles, a country re-applying for country or *zone* freedom from FMD where *vaccination* is practised or not practised should show evidence of an active *surveillance* programme for FMD as well as absence of FMDV *infection*/circulation. This will require serological *surveillance* incorporating, in the case of a country or a *zone* practising *vaccination*, tests able to detect antibodies to NSPs as described in the *Terrestrial Manual*.

Four strategies are recognised by the OIE in a programme to eradicate FMDV *infection* following an *outbreak*:

1) *slaughter* of all clinically affected and in-contact susceptible *animals*;
2) *slaughter* of all clinically affected and in-contact susceptible *animals* and *vaccination* of at-risk *animals*, with subsequent *slaughter* of vaccinated *animals*;
3) *slaughter* of all clinically affected and in-contact susceptible *animals* and *vaccination* of at-risk *animals*, without subsequent *slaughter* of vaccinated *animals*;
4) *vaccination* used without *slaughter* of affected *animals* or subsequent *slaughter* of vaccinated *animals*.

The time periods before which an application can be made for re-instatement of freedom from FMD depends on which of these alternatives is followed. The time periods are prescribed in Article 8.6.9.

In all circumstances, a Member Country re-applying for country or *zone* freedom from FMD with *vaccination* or without *vaccination* should report the results of an active *surveillance* programme implemented according to general conditions and methods in this chapter.

Article 8.6.48.

OIE endorsed official control programme for FMD

The overall objective of an OIE endorsed *official control programme* for FMD is for countries to progressively improve the situation and eventually attain free status for FMD.

Member Countries may, on a voluntary basis, apply for endorsement of their *official control programme* for FMD when they have implemented measures in accordance with this article.

For a Member Country's *official control programme* for FMD to be endorsed by the OIE, the Member Country should:

1) submit documented evidence on the capacity of the *Veterinary Services* to control FMD; this evidence can be provided by countries following the OIE PVS Pathway;
2) submit documentation indicating that the *official control programme* for FMD is applicable to the entire territory;
3) have a record of regular and prompt animal *disease* reporting according to the requirements in Chapter 1.1.;
4) submit a dossier on the epidemiology of FMD in the country describing the following:
    a) the general epidemiology in the country highlighting the current knowledge and gaps;
    b) the measures to prevent introduction of *infection*;
    c) the main livestock production systems and movement patterns of FMD susceptible *animals* and their products within and into the country;
5) submit a detailed plan on the programme to control and eventually eradicate FMD in the country or *zone* including:
    a) the timeline;
    b) the performance indicators to assess the efficacy of the control measures to be implemented;

6) submit evidence that FMD *surveillance*, taking into account provisions in Chapter 1.4. and the provisions on *surveillance* of this chapter, is in place;

7) have diagnostic capability and procedures, including regular submission of samples to a laboratory that carries out diagnosis and further characterisation of strains in accordance with the *Terrestrial Manual*;

8) where *vaccination* is practised as a part of the *official control programme* for FMD, provide evidence (such as copies of legislation) that *vaccination* of selected populations is compulsory;

9) if applicable, provide detailed information on *vaccination* campaigns, in particular on:
   a) target populations for *vaccination*;
   b) monitoring of *vaccination* coverage, including serological monitoring of population immunity;
   c) technical specification of the vaccines used and description of the licensing procedures in place;
   d) the proposed timeline for the transition to the use of vaccines, fully compliant with the standards and methods described in the *Terrestrial Manual*;

10) provide an emergency preparedness and response plan to be implemented in case of *outbreaks*.

The Member Country's *official control programme* for FMD will be included in the list of programmes endorsed by the OIE only after the submitted evidence has been accepted by the OIE. Retention on the list requires an annual update on the progress of the *official control programme* and information on significant changes concerning the points above. Changes in the epidemiological situation and other significant events should be reported to the OIE according to the requirements in Chapter 1.1.

The OIE may withdraw the endorsement of the *official control programme* if there is evidence of:

– non-compliance with the timelines or performance indicators of the programme; or
– significant problems with the performance of the *Veterinary Services*; or
– an increase in the incidence of FMD that cannot be addressed by the programme.

Article 8.6.49.

The use and interpretation of serological tests (see Figure 3)

The recommended serological tests for FMD *surveillance* are described in the *Terrestrial Manual*.

Animals infected with FMDV produce antibodies to both the structural proteins (SP) and the nonstructural proteins (NSP) of the virus. Tests for SP antibodies to include SP-ELISAs and the virus neutralisation test (VNT). The SP tests are serotype specific and for optimal sensitivity should utilise an antigen or virus closely related to the field strain against which antibodies are being sought. Tests for NSP antibodies include NSP I-ELISA 3ABC and the electro-immunotransfer blotting technique (EITB) as recommended in the *Terrestrial Manual* or equivalent validated tests. In contrast to SP tests, NSP tests can detect antibodies to all serotypes of FMD virus. *Animals* vaccinated and subsequently infected with FMD virus develop antibodies to NSPs, but in some, the titre may be lower than that found in infected *animals* that have not been vaccinated. Both the NSP I-ELISA 3ABC and EITB tests have been extensively used in cattle. Validation in other species is ongoing. Vaccines used should comply with the standards of the *Terrestrial Manual* insofar as purity is concerned to avoid interference with NSP antibody testing.

Serological testing is a suitable tool for FMD *surveillance*. The choice of a serosurveillance system will depend on, amongst other things, the *vaccination* status of the country. A country, which is free from FMD without *vaccination*, may choose serosurveillance of high-risk subpopulations (e.g. based on geographical risk for exposure to FMDV). SP tests may be used in such situations for screening sera for evidence of FMDV *infection*/circulation if a particular virus of serious threat has been identified and is well characterised. In other cases, NSP testing is recommended in order to cover a broader range of strains and even serotypes. In both cases, serological testing can provide additional support to clinical *surveillance*. Regardless of whether SP or NSP tests are used in countries that do not vaccinate, a diagnostic follow-up protocol should be in place to resolve any presumptive positive serological test results.

In areas where *animals* have been vaccinated, SP antibody tests may be used to monitor the serological response to the *vaccination*. However, NSP antibody tests should be used to monitor for FMDV *infection*/circulation. NSP-ELISAs may be used for screening sera for evidence of *infection*/circulation irrespective of the *vaccination* status of the *animal*. All *herds* with seropositive reactors should be investigated. Epidemiological and supplementary *laboratory* investigation results should document the status of FMDV *infection*/circulation for each positive *herd*. Tests used for confirmation should be of high diagnostic specificity to eliminate as many false positive screening test reactors as possible. The diagnostic sensitivity of the confirmatory test should approach that of the screening test. The EITB or another OIE-accepted test should be used for confirmation.

Information should be provided on the protocols, reagents, performance characteristics and validation of all tests used.

1. The follow-up procedure in case of positive test results if no vaccination is used in order to establish or re-establish FMD free status without vaccination

   Any positive test result (regardless of whether SP or NSP tests were used) should be followed up immediately using appropriate clinical, epidemiological, serological and, where possible, virological investigations of the reactor *animal* at hand, of susceptible *animals* of the same *epidemiological unit* and of susceptible *animals* that have been in contact or otherwise epidemiologically associated with the reactor *animal*. If the follow-up investigations provide no evidence for FMDV *infection*, the reactor *animal* shall be classified as FMD negative. In all other cases, including the absence of such follow-up investigations, the reactor *animal* should be classified as FMD positive.

2. The follow-up procedure in case of positive test results if vaccination is used in order to establish or re-establish FMD free status with vaccination

   In case of vaccinated populations, one has to exclude that positive test results are indicative of virus circulation. To this end, the following procedure should be followed in the investigation of positive serological test results derived from *surveillance* conducted on FMD vaccinated populations.

   The investigation should examine all evidence that might confirm or refute the hypothesis that the positive results to the serological tests employed in the initial survey were not due to virus circulation. All the epidemiological information should be substantiated, and the results should be collated in the final report.

   It is suggested that in the primary sampling units where at least one *animal* reacts positive to the NSP test, the following strategy(ies) should be applied:

   a) Following clinical examination, a second serum sample should be taken from the *animals* tested in the initial survey after an adequate interval of time has lapsed, on the condition that they are individually identified, accessible and have not been vaccinated during this period. The number of *animals* with antibodies against NSP in the population at the time of retest should be statistically either equal to or less than that observed in the initial test if virus is not circulating.

      The *animals* sampled should remain in the holding pending test results and should be clearly identifiable. If the three conditions for retesting mentioned above cannot be met, a new serological survey should be carried out in the holding after an adequate period of time, repeating the application of the primary survey design and ensuring that all *animals* tested are individually identified. These *animals* should remain in the holding and should not be vaccinated, so that they can be retested after an adequate period of time.

   b) Following clinical examination, serum samples should be collected from representative numbers of susceptible *animals* that were in physical contact with the primary sampling unit. The magnitude and prevalence of antibody reactivity observed should not differ in a statistically significant manner from that of the primary sample if virus is not circulating.

   c) Following clinical examination, epidemiologically linked *herds* should be serologically tested and satisfactory results should be achieved if virus is not circulating.

   d) Sentinel *animals* can also be used. These can be young, unvaccinated *animals* or *animals* in which maternally conferred immunity has lapsed and belonging to the same species resident within the positive initial sampling units. They should be serologically negative if virus is not circulating. If other susceptible, unvaccinated *animals* are present, they could act as sentinels to provide additional serological evidence.

Laboratory results should be examined in the context of the epidemiological situation. Corollary information needed to complement the serological survey and assess the possibility of viral circulation includes but is not limited to:

– characterization of the existing production systems;

– results of clinical *surveillance* of the suspects and their cohorts;

– quantification of *vaccinations* performed on the affected sites;

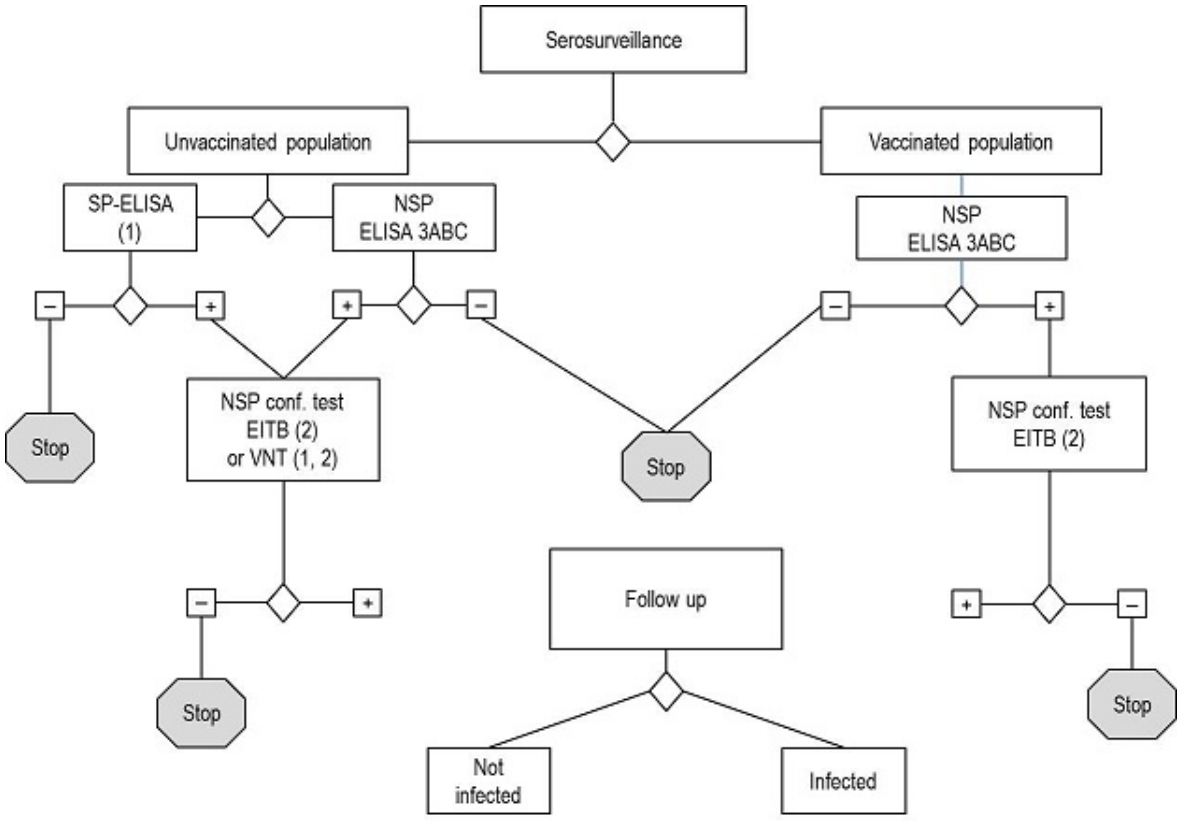
– sanitary protocol and history of the *establishments* with positive reactors;

– control of *animal identification* and movements;

– other parameters of regional significance in historic FMDV transmission.

The entire investigative process should be documented as standard operating procedure within the *surveillance* programme.

Fig. 3. *Schematic representation of laboratory tests for determining evidence of FMDV infection through or following serological surveys*



Key:	
ELISA	Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay
VNT	Virus neutralisation test
NSP	Nonstructural protein(s) of foot and mouth disease virus (FMDV)
3ABC	NSP antibody test
EITB	Electro-immuno transfer blotting technique (Western blot for NSP antibodies of FMDV)
SP	Structural protein test
S	No evidence of FMDV