OIE INTERNATIONAL STANDARD IN TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

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OIE International standard in trade negotiations
Plan

- Objectives
- Member Countries
- Structure
- Information Systems
- International Standards
- Summary
OIE Objectives
Objectives

1. TRANSPARENCY
   To ensure transparency in the global animal disease and zoonosis situation

2. SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION
   To collect, analyse and disseminate scientific veterinary information

3. INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY
   To provide expertise and encourage international solidarity in the control of animal diseases
4. HEALTH STANDARDS

Within its mandate under the WTO SPS Agreement, to safeguard world trade by publishing health standards for international trade in animals and animal products.

5. LEGAL FRAMEWORK

To improve the legal framework and resources of national Veterinary Services

6. ANIMAL WELFARE

To provide a better guarantee of the safety of food of animal origin and to promote animal welfare through a science-based approach
7. **FOOD SAFETY**

To provide a better guarantee of the safety of food of animal origin, To promote animal welfare, through a science-based approach
167 Member Countries

Américas: 29 – Africa: 50 – Europa: 49 – Medio Este: 13 – Asia: 26

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OIE Structure
Specialist Commissions

Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission
«Code Commission»

Biological Standards Commission –
"Laboratories Commission"

Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases
"Scientific Commission"

Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission
"Aquatic Animals Commission"
OIE Information System

Promote transparency in and knowledge of global animal disease situation

NOTIFICATION
Source of Early Warning Disease reports

- Reports from Member Countries
- Reports from worldwide network of OIE Reference Labs.
- Active search and tracking of unofficial sources, such as scientific publications and ProMed, and lay publications, with Member Country verification
OIE International Standards
• Introduction

• The four OIE standards are:
  • The Terrestrial Animal Health Code
  • The Aquatic Animal Health Code
  • The Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals
  • The Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals
Updating OIE standards

COMMITTEE, COMMISSIONS, DELEGATES

PROBLEM

Specialist Commissions

Review

Advice of experts or other Specialist Commissions

Draft text

Comments

DELEGATES

COMMITTEE

OIE INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

Adoption
Pressure by exporting countries to increase trade

Pressure by importing countries to protect themselves

Ethics and public health protection
What information is available from Codes and Manuals?

- Conditions for trade
- Guidelines for risk analysis
- Criteria for disease freedom
- Surveillance for disease
- Guidelines for carcass disposal
- Standards for vaccine production
- Standards for zoning & compartementalisation
- Guidelines for humane killing of animals
- Model export certificates
- Risk mitigation to render products safe
- Standards for diagnostic tests
- Foot & mouth disease
- Guidelines for risk analysis
Approach in the *Terrestrial Code*

- generic (horizontal) chapters
  - general definitions
  - obligations and ethics in international trade
  - disease notification
  - import risk analysis methodology
  - evaluation of veterinary services
  - import/export procedures
Specific chapters on OIE listed diseases of
- mammals (e.g., FMD, BSE)
- birds (e.g., avian influenza)
- bees (e.g., foulbrood)

Within each chapter, articles on
- description of pathogen / disease
- determining status of a country or zone
- ‘safe’ commodities irrespective of status (if possible)
- recommendations for ‘unsafe’ commodities
Approach in the *Terrestrial Code*

- appendices
  - collection and processing of semen
  - collection and processing of embryos/ova
  - disease surveillance - general and disease specific
  - inactivation of pathogens and vectors
  - animal welfare
  - antimicrobial resistance

- model veterinary certificates for
  - live animals
  - products of animal origin
CODES

- recommends health measures to be used by veterinary authorities or other competent authorities
  - to establish health regulations for the safe importation of animals and animal products
  - while avoiding unjustified trade restrictions
- now expanding into animal welfare and food safety
Principles in the *Codes*

- WTO obligations complied with
- Scientific basis for recommendations
  - Assessment of risk factors
  - Evaluation of veterinary services / competent authorities
  - Zoning and compartmentalisation
  - Epidemiological surveillance
- Credible health certification
- Importing country assumed to be free of disease or with a control programme
Evolution of OIE standards

- harmonisation between *Terrestrial* and *Aquatic Codes*
- and with Codex
- regular updating of chapters based on latest scientific information
- re-emphasis from disease status to risk-based measures for commodities

**Country – Zone – Commodities – Compartment**
Purpose of the Codes?

- the Codes are not textbooks on terrestrial or aquatic animal diseases, nor on zoonoses.
- they are reference manuals for international standards for safe trade in terrestrial and aquatic animals and their products.
- equivalent standards for the protection of human health are described in the Codex Alimentarius.

(These should be read in conjunction with relevant requirements in the Codes.)
Critical aspects in using the Codes and Manuals

- do not use the Codes as a textbook on diseases
- use it as an international standard to evaluate measures to protect animal and aquatic health in the trade of animals and animal products
- ensure that the application of the standards of the Codes for national health measures are in accordance with obligations under the SPS Agreement
Critical aspects in using the Codes and Manuals

- use the Guidelines for the Evaluation of Veterinary Services as an essential baseline for risk assessment
- use the Codes to establish baseline arguments to establish equivalence for trade negotiations
- use the Codes to establish cost-effective risk mitigation measures for trade
- use the Codes and Manuals to challenge scientific unjustifiable sanitary measures of importing countries
SUMMARY

- COUNTRY LEGAL FRAMEWORK
- OIE INTERNATIONAL STANDARD
- BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS
- OIE DISPUTES MECHANISM
- SPS
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World organisation for animal health

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