

Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission

February 2023 Report

Highlights and key topics for Africa region

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Health Standards Commission

25th Conference of the WOA
Regional Commission for Africa
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Index

1. Objectives
2. Code Commission's Work Programme – state of play
3. Texts proposed for adoption in May 2023
4. Texts for comment
5. Other key items coming up
6. Next steps



1. Objectives

- To increase WOAHAfrica Region Member's engagement in WOAHA standards setting process
- To inform WOAHA Members of the region on texts proposed by the TAHSC, their background and rationale
- To improve exchanges between the TAHSC and WOAHA Members of the region



Members of the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission (Code Commission)

Term: 2021 - 2024



President
Dr Etienne Bonbon
(France)



Vice-President
Dr Gaston Maria Funes
(Argentina)



Vice-President
Pr Salah Hammami
(Tunisia)



Member
Dr Lucio Ignacio Carbajo Goñi
(Spain)



Member
Dr Kiyokazu Murai
(Japan)



Member
Dr Bernardo Todeschini
(Brazil)

Where can I find the information on the work of the Code Commission?

Only for WOAAH Delegates: WOAAH Delegates Website

- Report and annexes in **MS Word Format**
- Use this format to comment

Publicly available

- Report and annexes in **PDF Format**
- Format easier to share

WHAT WE DO

→ Standards

→ Standard-Setting Process

The screenshot shows the WOAH website header with navigation links: Codes and Manuals, Publications, Documentary Portal, Training Platform, Bookshop, EN, FR, ES. Below the header, the 'WHAT WE DO' dropdown menu is open, showing 'Standards' and 'Standard-Setting Process' circled in orange. Arrows point from these two items to each other, indicating a relationship. Other menu items include 'Animal Health and Welfare', 'Global Initiatives', 'Publications', 'Codes and Manuals', and 'Observatory'. The page title 'What we do' is visible on the left side of the main content area.



Where can I find complementary information on the topics discussed by the Code Commission?

The Code Commission refers in many instances to topics discussed by the SCAD, BSC, WGs or AHGs.

In such cases, the full rationale is described in the relevant report. **Members should read the report of the Code Commission in conjunction with these reports.**

All reports are available **on the WOAHA Website**

Specialists Commissions

The relevant [Specialist Commission](#) consider requests to develop new standards or review existing standards received from a range of stakeholders including from Members, partner international organisations, and its scientific network. These requests are reviewed, prioritized and included on its respective work plans.

Calendar of the upcoming Specialist Commission meetings

Commissions*	September 2022	February 2023
Terrestrial Code Commission	13-22	7-16
Biological Standards Commission	5-9	6-10
Scientific Commission	19-25	13-17
Aquatic Animals Commission	14-21	15-22

*Projected dates of the next meetings of the four Specialist Commissions



Ad hoc Groups and Working Groups

The *ad hoc* Groups and Working Groups may be requested to address specific topics to ensure that new or revised standards are based on the latest scientific evidence and knowledge. The views of the Members and partner international organisations are routinely sought through the circulation of draft and revised texts in the relevant Specialist Commission report.





2. Code Commission's work programme - State of play (February 2023)

State of play

- Work programme currently includes **over 70** work items
- **Around 50** items are ongoing
- **Around 50** items in coordination with other Specialist Commissions

At this February 2023 meeting

- **18** texts proposed for adoption in May 2023
- **12** texts circulated for comments
- **6** new proposals/requests considered
- **Some** new work items added
- **Other** work items closed



3. Texts proposed for adoption in May 2023



Texts proposed for adoption in May 2023

18 annexes

1. User's Guide: use of Veterinary Authority, Competent Authority, Veterinary Services
2. **Infection with foot and mouth disease virus (Chapter 8.8.)**
3. **Infection with rabies virus (Articles 8.14.6bis. and 8.14.7.)**
4. **Infection with Rift Valley fever virus (Chapter 8.15.)**
5. Infection with Newcastle disease virus (Article 10.9.1.): deletion of poultry definition
6. **Bovine spongiform encephalopathy (Chapter 11.4.)**
7. **Application for official recognition by the OIE of risk status for bovine spongiform encephalopathy (Chapter 1.8.)**
8. Glossary: definition for 'protein meal',
9. Contagious equine metritis (Chapter 12.2.): safe commodities, temporary importation
10. Infection with equine influenza virus (Chapter 12.6.): case definition, importations, status
11. Equine piroplasmiasis (Chapter 12.7.): case, safe commodities, importation, surveillance
12. **Infection with *Theileria lestoquardi*, *T. luwenshuni* and *T. uilenbergi* (Chapter 14.X.)**
13. Infection with Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (Chapter X.X.): case def
14. Infection with *Leishmania* spp. (Leishmaniasis) (Chapter X.Y.): case definition
15. **Diseases, infections and infestations listed by WOAHP (Chapter 1.3.): camel diseases**
16. Terminology: Use of terms 'fetal', 'foetal', 'fetus' and 'foetus'
17. Terminology: Use of terms 'bovid', 'bovidae', 'bovine' and 'cattle'
18. Terminology: Use of terms 'enzootic', 'endemic', 'epizootic' and 'epidemic'

Foot-and-Mouth Disease

- Case definition: ‘transmission’ = ‘infection’ (‘free’ means ‘free’)
- Safe commodities
- Free without vaccination: introduction of vaccinated animals
- Transition from ‘free with’ to ‘free without’ and vice-versa
- Containment zone: up to 24 months
- New article on small ruminant and pig meat from infected zones **where an official control programme exists**
- Harmonisation with other chapters with official WOA status



Rabies

- **Importation of dogs from infected countries or zones (30 days after test vs 3 months):**
 - Scientific data on serology in naturally infected dogs confirms proposal of 30 days to replace 3 months
 - Risk assessment can be used to justify longer periods to reach ALOP;
- **Official control programmes for dog-mediated rabies:**
 - New article, only dogs (not cats/kittens)
 - Parenteral vaccination remains the foundation of mass vaccination, but...
 - Identification system needed
- **Official control programmes for rabies in wildlife:** not included yet



Rift Valley Fever

Comprehensive revision mainly to:

- Clarify the obligations of Members to notify when there is an epidemic (instead of epizootic) of RVF in an endemic (instead of enzootic) country or zone
- Provide further guidance on surveillance to countries on factors that may signal a transition to an epidemic of RVF
- Tools for transparency, prevention, control and safe trade





Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy

- Atypical BSE : not notifiable
- Atypical BSE: not in the risk assessment but to be discriminated from classical (test) and managed (destroyed)
- Ruminant-to-Ruminant : feed methods or feed ban compulsory for status
- **Surveillance: shift from active to targeted passive**



**BSE
Surveillance:
Targeted
passive = a
big positive
change for
Africa**

1. Less prescriptive and cumbersome approach, focused on passive surveillance (removal of point-based surveillance)
2. Clear description of targeted subpopulation on clinical grounds
3. Within that subpopulation, report of some animals described as no other probable cause
4. Only these animals should undergo lab testing to rule out or confirm BSE
5. BSE should be discriminated between Classical and Atypical (all findings should be in the report for status recognition)



Small ruminants theileriosis

- Infection with *Theileria lestoquardi*, *Theileria luwenshuni* and *Theileria uilenbergi*
- New chapter, developed following listing the disease in Chapter 1.3. and the development of the corresponding Manual chapter
- Similar structure as the other ruminants Theileriosis chapter
- Should allow for better transparency, prevention, control and safe trade

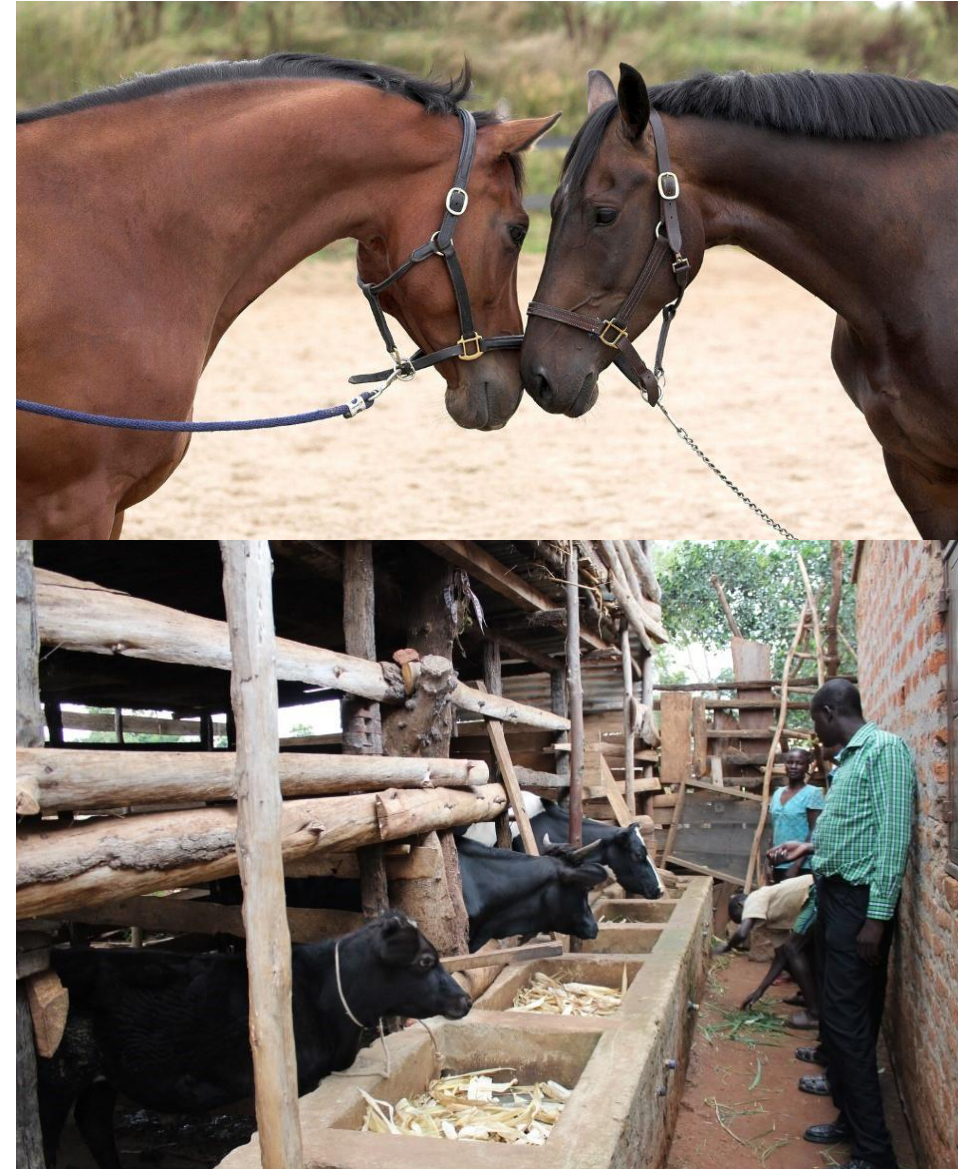




4. Texts for comment

Important revisions for comments

- **Chapters with WOAAH status for harmonisation:**
 - African Horse Sickness: harmonise the chapter with other chapters with official status recognition and address amendments proposed from an ad hoc Group on AHS and from the SCAD
 - Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia: harmonise the chapter with other chapters with official status recognition and address amendments proposed from an ad hoc Group on CBPP and from the SCAD
- **Welfare of animals during slaughter:**
 - Chapter 7.5.
 - Already circulated 2 times. Has undergone expert consultation
 - Back for comments





Other texts for comment

1. Collection and processing of semen of animals (Chapter 4.6.)
2. Infection with *Coxiella burnetii* (Q fever) (New Chapter 8.X.)
3. Infection with bovine pestiviruses (bovine viral diarrhoea) (New Chapter 11.X.)
4. Infection with Camelpox virus (New Chapter X.Z.)
5. *Responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents in veterinary medicine (Chapter 6.10., will first go back to the AMR Working Group and discussed again in September)*



5. Other key items coming up in the Code Commission's Work Programme



-
- Revision of Chapter 7.6. Killing of animals for disease control purposes
Undergoing expert consultation. To be circulated soon
 - New chapter on biosecurity
New work initiated. AHG to met in Dec22, will meet in May23
 - Revision of Chapters 5.4. to 5.7.
New work initiated. AHG met in Nov22, will meet in Jun23
 - Revision of equine encephalitis chapters
New work agreed. To be launched in 2023
 - Animal Welfare during transport – Chapters 7.2-7.4.
New work agreed. To be launched in 2023
 - New chapter on Surra & revision of Chapter 12.3. Dourine
Undergoing expert consultation. New proposals (different than ones circulated in September 2017) to be circulated soon



6. Next steps

Next steps

Prepare for General Session
21-25 May 2023

Prepare comments for September



Next steps

Preparation of
General Session
21-25 May 2023

- Review the texts proposed for adoption
- Prepare positions (no major change possible in GS)
- Be present at the meeting on the Wednesday 24 May (check the GS agenda)

Comments

- Submit comments on the September report and its annexes before mid July 2023 (date TBC)
- Comments should be sent to WOAHS Standards Department at TCC.Secretariat@woah.org

Next

TAHSC meeting

- Date: 5 to 15 September 2023

Thank you

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