

26th Conference of the WOAH Regional Commission for Africa

Patrick Bastiaensen
Regional Programme Officer
WOAH Representation for
Eastern Africa

Wednesday, 5 February 2025
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



World
Organisation
for Animal
Health
Founded as OIE

Organisation
mondiale
de la santé
animale
Fondée en tant qu'OIE

Organización
Mundial
de Sanidad
Animal
Fundada como OIE

WOAH's standards-setting process and discussion on work programmes

Aquatic Code , Aquatic Manual, Terrestrial Code and Terrestrial Manual

Patrick Bastiaensen
Regional Programme Officer
WOAH Representation for
Eastern Africa

Wednesday 5 February 2025
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



World
Organisation
for Animal
Health
Founded as OIE

Organisation
mondiale
de la santé
animale
Fondée en tant qu'OIE

Organización
Mundial
de Sanidad
Animal
Fundada como OIE



Opening Remarks

- Presentation (20 minutes)
- Discussion (10 minutes)
- Summary and Next Steps (5 minutes)



Aquatic Code and Terrestrial Code:

- standards for the **improvement** of animal health and welfare, and veterinary public health worldwide, including the **prevention of disease spread** through international trade of animals and animal products.

Aquatic Manual and Terrestrial Manual:

- standards for diagnostic **tests and vaccines** (*Terr. Manual only*).



Implementation of WOAH standards :

- Improves animal health and welfare, and veterinary public health worldwide.
- Facilitates safe international trade of animals and animal products.
- Contributes to a fairer rules-based trading system by supporting international harmonisation.

The principles of WOAH Standards

Science-based



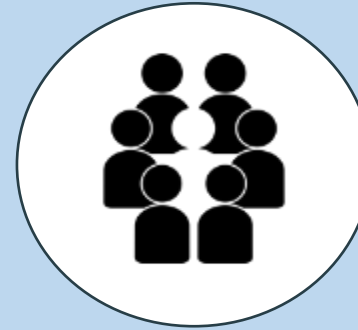
Specialist Commissions,
Working Groups & *Ad-hoc*
Groups

Consensus-based



At least TWO cycles of
commenting by **Delegates**

Inclusiveness



Key role of **Delegates** to
consult national
stakeholders

Adoption by resolution by the **World Assembly** (183 Members)

1 Member
=
1 voice
=
1 vote



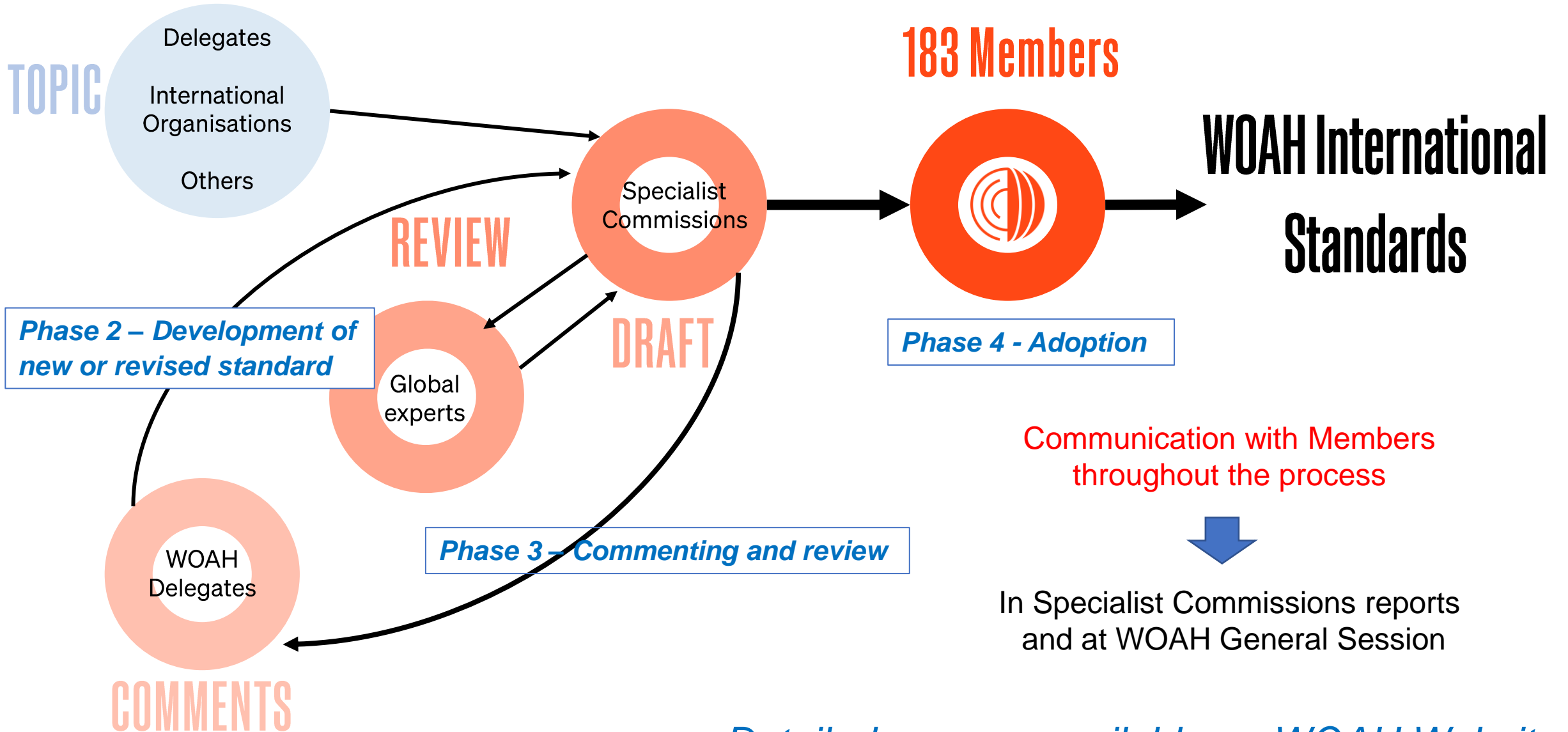
Introduction

Process for the elaboration of WOAH Standards



A transparent process to ensure that WOAH International Standards address Member needs. They are developed based on science while taking into consideration different contexts among Members to enable implementation.

Phase 1 - New work identified

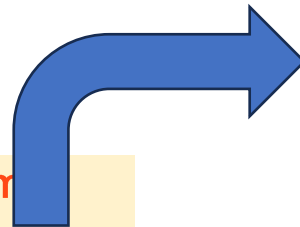


Detailed process available on WOAHS Website

Phase 1 - New work identification

New work proposals may come from

- Specialist Commissions
- Members
- Partner IOs
- WOAH Working Groups
- Regional Commission Conferences
- WOAH Thematic conferences
- WOAH Strategies/programmes
- WOAH HQ



New work discussed
by Specialist
Commissions

- AAHSC (*Aquatic Code and Aquatic Manual*)
- BSC (*Terrestrial Manual*)
- TAHSC (*Terrestrial Code*)



Consideration for
inclusion in work
programme

- Coord. among Commissions;
- Consultation with SCAD / experts, as relevant;
- Request for additional information.



Inclusion in work
programme
(or not)

- Request recorded in the respective Specialist Commission report;
- Decision and prioritisation;
- Work Prog. circulated for comments.

Work does not necessarily start immediately... and not all topics progress at the same pace...

Work Programme

For AAHSC (Aquatic Code and Aquatic Manual) and TAHSC (Terrestrial Code)

- WP presents items the AAHSC and TAHSC have agreed to work on;
- each item includes a summary of the topic, stage of consideration, reference to previous SC report and priority of each item;
- priority is 1 to 4 (1 is highest and 4 is lowest)

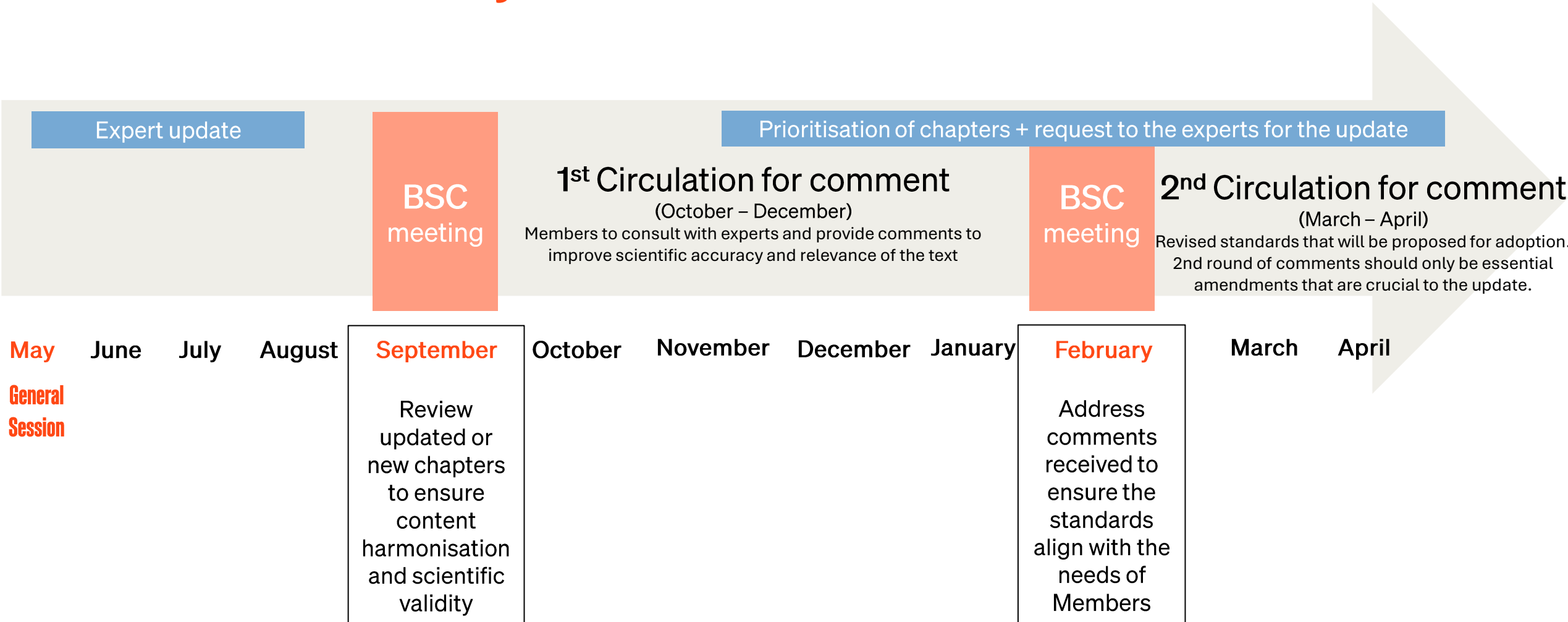
Annex 4. Item 5. – Work Programme for the Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission

WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE TERRESTRIAL ANIMAL HEALTH STANDARDS COMMISSION					
Chapter	Issues	Summary of the work	Status - September 2024		Priority order *
			Stage of consideration	Remarks (Month when draft text first circulated for comment /# of rounds for comment) or last TAHSC report reference	
General	Wildlife Health	Overarching consideration on how wildlife animal health is addressed in the <i>Terrestrial Code</i>	Preliminary discussions	Noted in Sep 2024 TAHSC report	2
	New chapter on emergency management	Develop a new chapter and potentially modify the existing chapters	Expert consultation	Noted in Sep 2024 TAHSC report	2
	Commodities	Consideration to determine whether several types of highly processed products (such as blood meal, dried plasma, rendered fats, and hydrolysed protein) have a globally standardised production process and meet criteria to be considered safe commodities as regards specific diseases. Pet-food: Consider the inclusion of 'extruded dry pet food' and 'heat-treated meat products in a hermetically sealed container with an F0 value of 3 or above' in the list	Preparatory work	Noted in Sep 2024 TAHSC report Noted in Sep 2022 TAHSC report (pet-food commodities)	2

Chapter	Subject	Summary of the work	Status – September 2024		
			Stage of consideration	Remarks (Month when draft text first circulated for comment /# of rounds for comment)	Priority order *
Aquatic Code					
Ch. 4.2.	Application of zoning	Revision of the chapter following the update to Ch. 4.3. to focus on the application of zoning.	Not started	Refer to Sep 2024 AAHSC report	3
Ch. 4.3.	Application of compartmentalisation	Revision of the chapter to focus on compartmentalisation. Members engaged through a questionnaire and discussion paper.	Preparatory work - new chapter for consideration at Feb 2025 meeting	Refer to Sep 2024 AAHSC report	1
Ch. 4.6.	Contingency planning	Removal of the chapter following the adoption of Ch 4.X. 'Emergency disease preparedness' and Ch. 4.Y. 'Disease outbreak management'.	Proposed for adoption in May 2025	Refer to Sep 2024 AAHSC report	1
Ch. 4.7.	Fallowing in aquaculture	Review of Ch. 4.7. following the drafting of Ch. 4.X. 'Emergency disease preparedness' and Ch. 4.Y. 'Disease outbreak management'.	Preparatory work - revised chapter for consideration at Feb 2025 meeting	Refer to Sep 2024 AAHSC report	2
Ch. 4.X.	Emergency disease preparedness	Development of a new draft chapter based on the article structure circulated in the Feb 2021 Part B AAHSC report.	Circulated for comments (proposed for adoption in May 2025)	Refer to Sep 2024 AAHSC report (Sep 2023/3)	1
Ch. 4.Y.	Disease outbreak management	Development of a new draft chapter based on the article structure circulated in the Feb 2021 Part B AAHSC report.	Circulated for comments (proposed for adoption in May 2025)	Refer to Sep 2024 AAHSC report (Sep 2023/3)	1



Work cycle for the *Terrestrial Manual*



* BSC – Biological Standards Commission



Accessing the Work Programme and standard-setting work for each Specialist Commission

Public Website

Codes and Manuals | Publications | Documentary Portal | Training Platform | **Bookshop** | EN FR ES

World Organisation for Animal Health
Founded as OIE

Animal Diseases | Monkeypox | Avian Influenza | COVID-19 | SEARCH

WHO WE ARE | **WHAT WE DO** | WHAT WE OFFER | MEDIA | WAHIS

What we do

We work to improve animal health and welfare across the globe. By collecting, analysing and disseminating veterinary scientific information, we encourage international solidarity in the control of animal health risks. Furthermore, we work across borders to foster a One Health approach, recognising that the health of animals, humans and the environment are interdependent.

- Animal Health and Welfare →
 - Standards** →
 - Codes and Manuals
 - Standard-Setting Process**
 - Observatory
- Global Initiatives →
- Publications



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, prioritised 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	19-23	13-17
Aquatic Animals Commission	14-21	15-22

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

AAHSC

Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission

[Discover →](#)

BSC

Biological Standards Commission

[Discover →](#)

SCAD

Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases

[Discover →](#)

TAHSC

Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission

[Discover →](#)

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.

AHG

Ad hoc Groups

[Discover →](#)

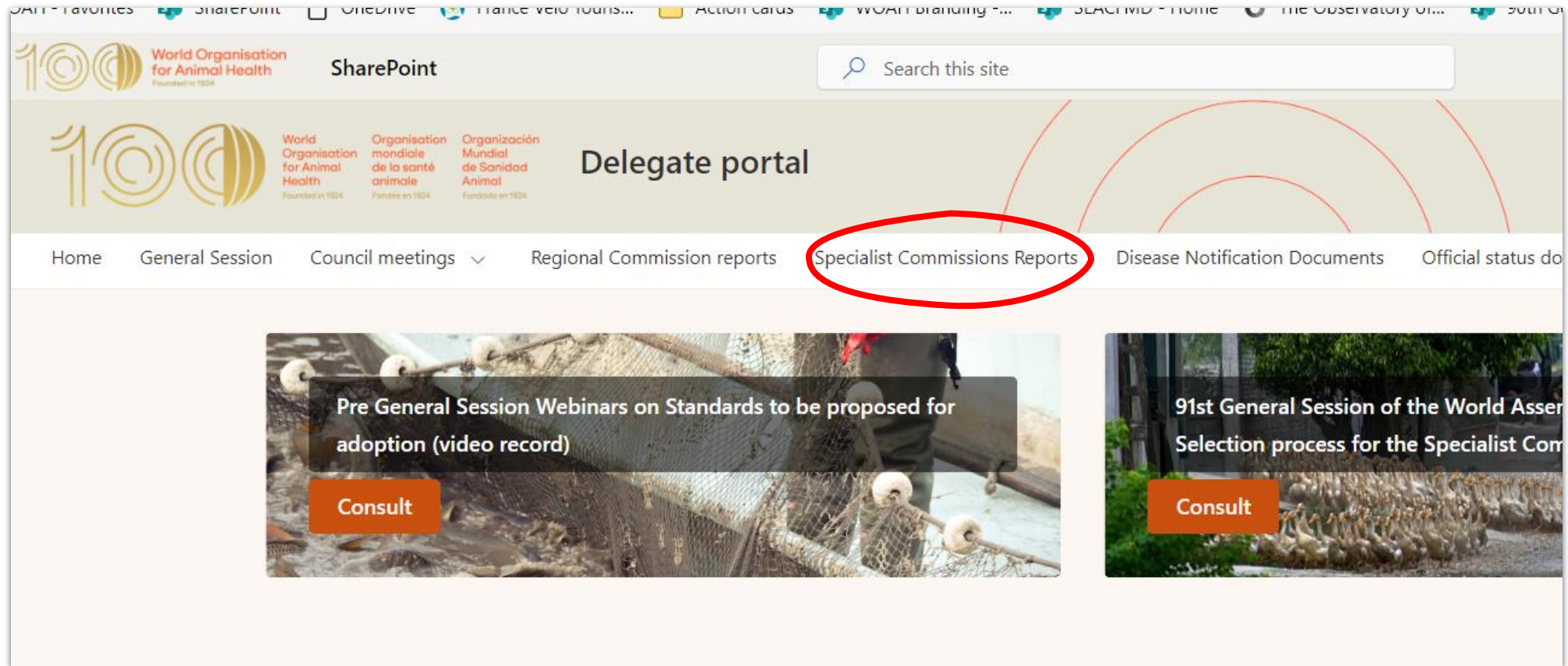
WG

Working Groups

[Discover →](#)

Delegates Portal

[Delegate portal - Home \(sharepoint.com\)](#)



The screenshot shows the SharePoint interface for the WOAH Delegate portal. At the top left is the WOAH 100th anniversary logo and the text "World Organisation for Animal Health Founded in 1924". To the right is the "SharePoint" logo and a search bar labeled "Search this site". Below this is a header section with the WOAH logo and the text "World Organisation for Animal Health Founded in 1924" repeated in three languages: English, French ("Organisation mondiale de la santé animale Fondée en 1924"), and Spanish ("Organización Mundial de Sanidad Animal Fundada en 1924"). The main title "Delegate portal" is centered. A navigation menu below the header includes "Home", "General Session", "Council meetings", "Regional Commission reports", "Specialist Commissions Reports" (circled in red), "Disease Notification Documents", and "Official status do". The main content area features two promotional cards. The left card has a background image of a fishing net and text: "Pre General Session Webinars on Standards to be proposed for adoption (video record)" with an orange "Consult" button. The right card has a background image of a large group of ducks and text: "91st General Session of the World Asser Selection process for the Specialist Cor" with an orange "Consult" button.



Discussion



Engage in the Standard-setting process



- The Specialist Commissions are meeting now!
- Consult the February 2025 meeting reports (end March/early April) for:
 - Updated Work Programme
 - Chapters to be proposed for adoption
 - Chapters circulated for comment
 - Other activities.
- Pre-General Session webinars
 - 22 April [BSC]
 - 23 April [TAHSC]
 - 24 April [AAHSC]

Thank you

12, rue de Prony, 75017 Paris, France
T. +33 (0)1 44 15 19 49
F. +33 (0)1 42 67 09 87

woah@woah.int
www.woah.org rr-africa.woah.org



World
Organisation
for Animal
Health
Founded as OIE

Organisation
mondiale
de la santé
animale
Fondée en tant qu'OIE

Organización
Mundial
de Sanidad
Animal
Fundada como OIE

