

A detailed pencil sketch of a rooster's head and neck, facing right. The rooster has a large, textured red comb and a matching red wattle. Its feathers are rendered with fine pencil lines, showing a mix of grey, white, and blue tones. The background of the entire slide is a light blue gradient with diagonal lines.

WOAH STANDARDS: SAFE TRADE IN POULTRY MEAT

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DISCUSSION POINTS

- **About Astral**
- **Certification - Veterinary Authorities in South Africa**
- **Compartmentalisation**
- **Private sector challenges in South Africa (SA): Export market access**
- **Poultry diseases experienced**
- **Summary: WOAHA standards suitable?**

*This is an **Astral** experience*

Not** a representation of the **wider private poultry industry in South Africa

ABOUT ASTRAL



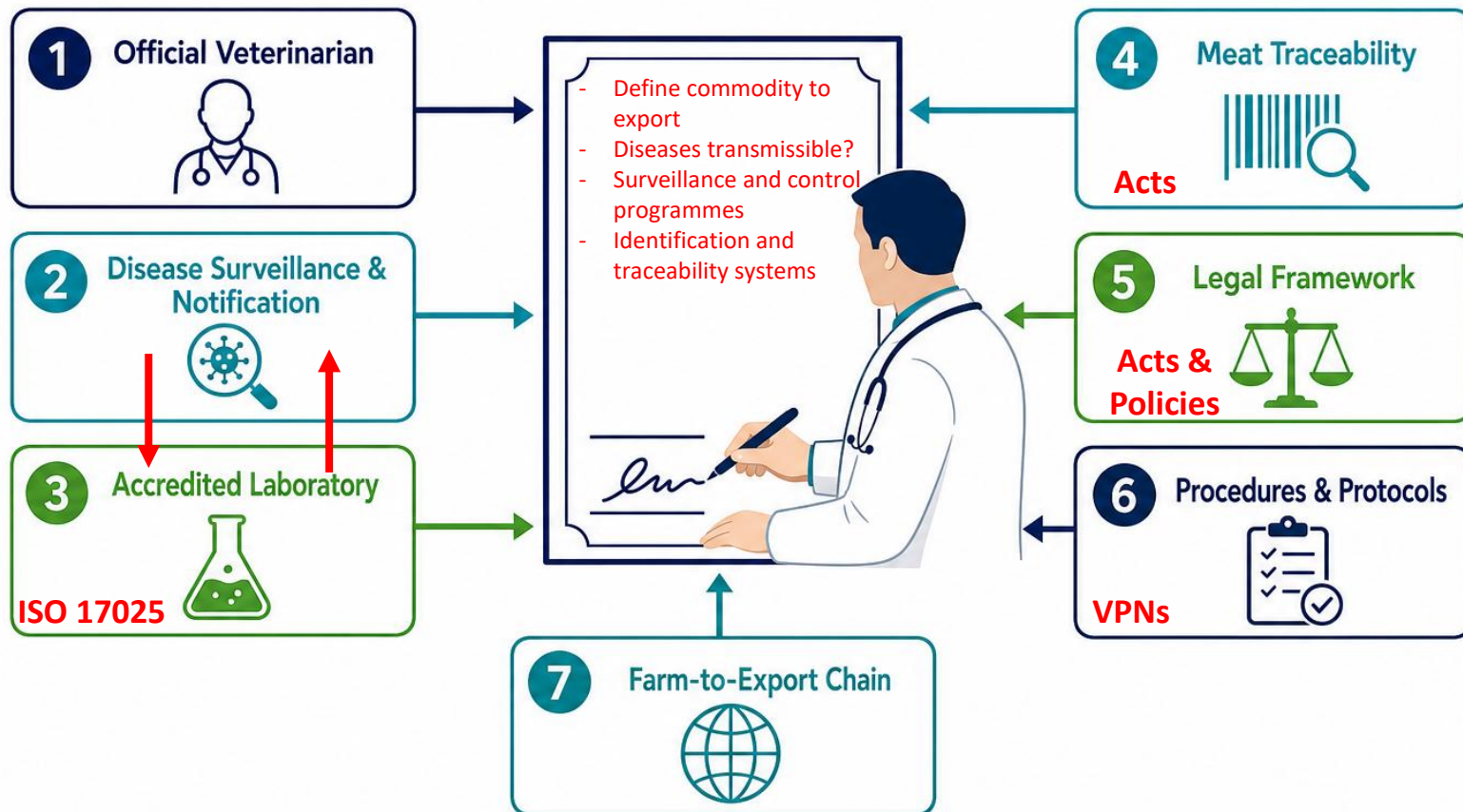
- Largest integrated broiler producer in **South Africa**. Footprint in **Zambia**



- *Rated **39th** globally as broiler producer
- Processes **6.1 million broilers per week**
- Poultry meat sold **mainly locally** with limited export to **African neighbours**
- Also exports **hatching eggs and some day-old chicks** into other African countries
- **Complies with local and international standards on meat safety, bird health and welfare**

CERTIFICATION: VETERINARY AUTHORITIES (SA) Astral

- South Africa's **national priorities** are **policies on animal production and trade, public health, organisational structure and management:**



CERTIFICATION: VETERINARY AUTHORITIES (SA) Astral

- There is **clear legal framework** to support certification and non-compliance
 - Various Acts (Animal Diseases Act, Meat Safety Act, etc)
 - Alignment with the **Codex Code of Hygiene Practice for Meat** (CAC/RCP 58-2005)
- **Surveillance and diseases notification**
 - Veterinarians are **legally obliged** to report notifiable diseases
 - **Laboratories** must be **ISO 17025 accredited** and approved by the Agriculture Department
- **Traceability of animals and animal products**
- **Quality of Veterinary Services** in line with legal framework
 - Veterinarians also governed by specific Acts (e.g. Veterinary and Para-veterinary Act)
 - Resources are limited, management capability exists and legislatively supported
- **Procedures and protocols / guidelines** exist for veterinarians to implement their functions
- The above practices align well with the WOAHP standards (**Chapters 5.1-5.3 and 5.10**)

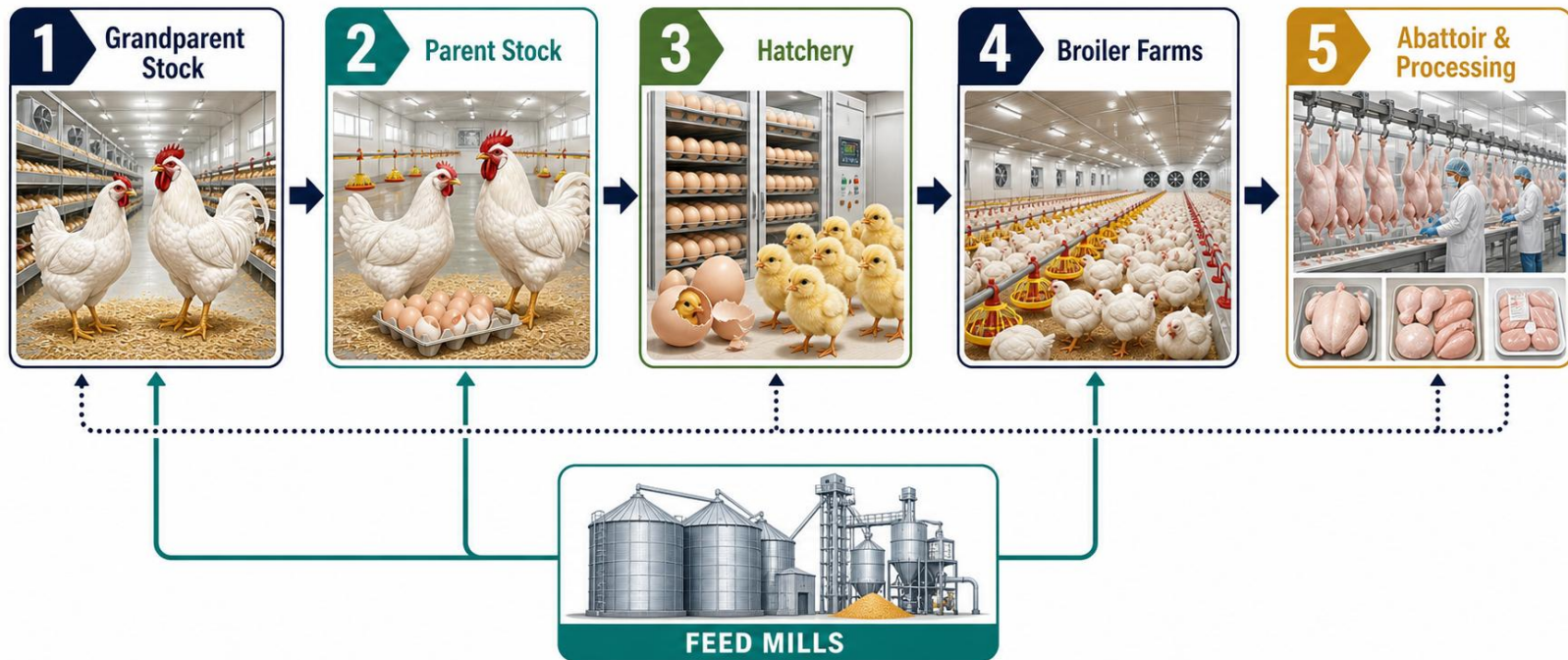
COMPARTMENTALISATION IN SA

- ***Compartmentalisation** was formalised in South Africa in **2001** (ASF in pigs)
 - Later in the **ostrich industry in 2004** (HPAI) and **later chicken industry**
- **Underwrites national assurance system** on sanitary phytosanitary (SPS) for trade
- **Supported by five (5) pillars in line with WOA's standard (Chapter 4.5):**
 - Biosecurity (conceptual, structural and operational)
 - Surveillance
 - Segregation (physical / spatial)
 - Record-keeping (traceability)
 - Government inspection
- Standard for inspection of poultry farms is set in a ***Veterinary Procedural Notice* (VPN-44)**
- Export is certified by Veterinary Authority and is compliance based and, therefore, listing on **compartment register (Notifiable Avian Influenza-free list) and maintenance required**



COMPARTMENTALISATION IN SA

- Compartmentalisation is along the **entire value chain**

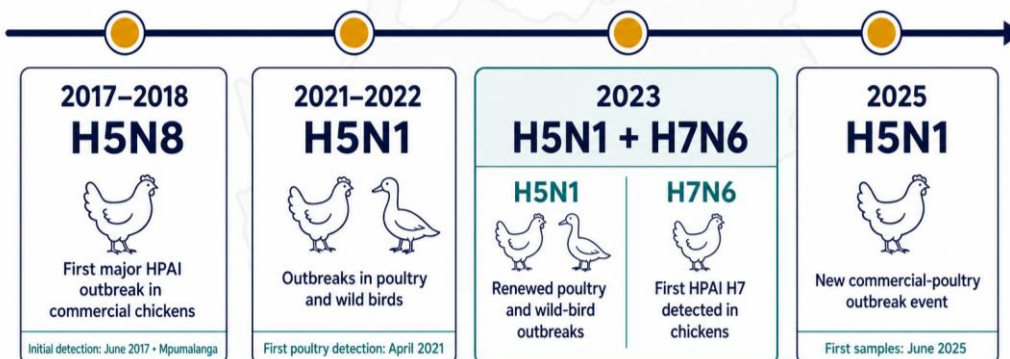


PRIVATE SECTOR CHALLENGES: MARKET ACCESS Astral

- **Health requirements differ between importing countries and / or not clear**
 - Local Veterinary Authorities cautious to certify consignment
- **Compartments don't "guarantee" exports**
 - Disease occurrence, particularly HPAI, anywhere in the country
 - Importing countries require further risk-mitigating measures
 - Administratively demanding
- **Spatial and temporal separation** of product, compartments/non-, at abattoir not acceptable
 - Concerns regarding **traceability**
- Veterinary capacity constrained when **more notifiable disease** in different animal species
 - Strains veterinary resources (e.g. FMD, HPAI, ASF, etc.)
- Sanitary Phytosanitary (SPS) requirements **co-assessed** with non-biological risks (residues)
- **Unvaccinated progeny or their product** from HPAI H5 vaccinated parents (commercial trials)
“not fit” for export – despite a robust field virus surveillance (**compartments not vaccinated**)

POULTRY DISEASES EXPERIENCED

- High pathogenicity avian influenza (HPAI) remains the main concern



- Newcastle disease, Salmonella and other notifiable diseases are manageable with **biosecurity and vaccination** as well as surveillance and reporting

SUMMARY: WOAHA STANDARDS SUITABLE?

- **Competent authorities have ultimate responsibility** for the credibility and integrity of any meat **safety assurance** provided and, must conform with:
 - *Terrestrial Code (Sections 3 and 5 or relevant Codex Alimentarius standards)*
- Assurance system is based on trust of the **quality of the Veterinary Services (PVS exists)**
- **Lack of clarity from importing countries if:**
 - Their **stringent sanitary requirements (> WOAHA standards)** is based on **risk analysis**?
 - They have the **same pathogens** as SA upon which they reject trade? – **laboratory capacity**
 - Pathogen **risk mitigating measures** imposed are similar to their official control programme?
- **Safe trade of poultry meat** (and other products) must be based on **sound scientific and risk assessment principles** and, not “**zero-risk**” policy
- **Traceability** of export (and local) product is in place for **non-compliance**

THANK YOU

Astral's strategy is to be the
BEST COST INTEGRATED
POULTRY PRODUCER
In selected Southern African
countries

