



Dr Edmund Peeler
Vice President Aquatic Animals Commission

**The report of the Aquatic Animal Health
Standards Commission – why is it
important?**

Aquatic Focal Point meeting, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, December 4-6, 2018

Outline

- Who are the Aquatic Animals Commission
- What do they do?
- Where to find the report
- Development of a new chapter
- The importance of AAC scrutiny

Who are the Aquatic Animals Commission?

- Elected at the General Assembly
- Serve three year term
- Meet twice a year (September and February)
- Can serve a maximum of 3 terms
- Members from different regions but service as independent experts

The Aquatic Animals Commission



Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission 'Aquatic Animals Commission'



- Update the *Aquatic Code* and *Aquatic Manual* annually;
- Work with experts to prepare new and revised texts for the *Aquatic Code* and *Aquatic Manual*;
- Propose new and revised texts for adoption by the World Assembly of Delegates;
- Responsible for ensuring that the *Code* and *Manual* reflects current scientific information;
- Review applications for 'aquatic' Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres;
- Collaborate with other Commissions.

Aquatic Animals Commission - Terms of reference

Collaborate
with other
Commissions

Develop new / revised texts for
the Aquatic Code & Manual
taking into account
MC comments

Propose new and revised
texts for adoption by
the World Assembly

Review
applications for
'Aquatic' Ref
Labs & 'Aquatic'
Collaborating
Centres

Assess cases for
disease listing

Ensure the
Aquatic Code &
Manual reflect
current scientific
information



Other OIE Specialist Commissions

- Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission
 - responsible for ensuring that the *Terrestrial Code* reflects current scientific information.
- Biological Standards Commission
 - developing internationally agreed standards for laboratory diagnostic tests and vaccines for OIE-listed terrestrial animal diseases (*Terrestrial Manual*)
- Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases
 - identifying the most appropriate strategies and measures for disease prevention and control
 - examines voluntary requests from OIE Members regarding official disease status.



The office opens lines of communication between the OIE and US veterinary parties

1 2 3 4 5

THEMES

ONE HEALTH	STRENGTHENING VETERINARY SERVICES
BIOLOGICAL RISKS	ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE
FOOD	STANDARDS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Overview

- Application of compartmentalisation
- Standard-setting: the Codes
- Terrestrial Code**
- Terrestrial Manual**
- Aquatic Code**
- Aquatic Manual**
- Specialists commissions & working & ad hoc Groups**
- Implications of private standards**

LATEST D

- 01.12.17: Botswana

KEY DA

- 21-26 MAY 2017: 85th General Session of OIE Delegates

31 OCTOBER – 2 NOVEMBER 2017
2nd OIE Global Conference on Biological Threat Reduction

22-24 JUNE 2016
4th OIE Global Conference on Veterinary Education: *Learning today, preserving our future*

PUBLICATIONS

ONLINE BOOKSHOP
International standards, periodic publications,



Standard Setting

- > Overview
- > Terrestrial Code
- > Terrestrial Manual
- > Aquatic Code
- > Aquatic Manual
- ▼ Specialists commissions & working & ad hoc Groups
 - > Code Commission & reports
 - > Scientific Commission & reports
 - > Laboratories Commission & reports
 - > Aquatic Animals Commission & reports
 - > Working Groups & Reports
 - > Ad hoc Groups & Reports
 - > Nomination for election to the OIE's Specialist Commissions
- > Implications of private standards

- Overview
- Members
- Meeting calendar
- Meetings reports
- Other reports
- Technical disease cards
- Links



Overview

The Aquatic Animals Health Standards Commission (the Aquatic Animals Commission) is responsible for ensuring that the *Aquatic Animal Health Code* (the *Aquatic Code*) and *Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals* (the *Aquatic Manual*) reflect current scientific information. The *Aquatic Code* and *Aquatic Manual* provide standards for the improvement of aquatic animal health worldwide, including standards for safe international trade in aquatic animals (amphibians, crustaceans, molluscs and fish) and their products.

The Aquatic Animals Commission, which comprises six elected members, who are internationally renowned experts in the prevention and control of pathogenic agents of aquatic animals, meets twice yearly to address its work programme. It works with internationally renowned specialists to draft texts for new articles of the *Aquatic Code* and *Aquatic Manual* and to revise existing articles in light of advances in science. The Aquatic Animals Commission also collaborates closely with the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission on issues requiring a harmonised approach.

The views of the Delegates of Member Countries are routinely sought through the circulation of draft and revised texts and, at each General Session, the Delegates discuss and formally adopt the draft texts as OIE standards. These texts are then incorporated into the next editions of the *Aquatic Code* and *Aquatic Manual*.

Members of the Aquatic Animals Commission are elected by the World Assembly of Delegates for a period of three years

Internal Rules, Terms of Reference and Qualifications of their Members

Internal Rules

(Applicable to all Specialist Commissions)

Article 1

The OIE Specialist Commissions shall be established by the Assembly in accordance with Chapter 5 of the General Rules.

- > WAHIS Interface 
- > Online bookshop 
- > For the media 
- > OIE world conferences 
- > Documentary database 

- Standard Setting
- > Overview
- > Terrestrial Code
- > Terrestrial Manual
- > Aquatic Code
- > Aquatic Manual
- > **Specialists commissions & working & ad hoc Groups**
- > Code Commission & reports
- > Scientific Commission & reports
- > Laboratories Commission & reports
- > Aquatic Animals Commission & reports
- > Working Groups & Reports
- > Ad hoc Groups & Reports
- > Implications of private standards

[Overview](#) | [Members](#) | [Meetings reports](#)
[Other reports](#) | [Technical disease cards](#) | [Links](#)

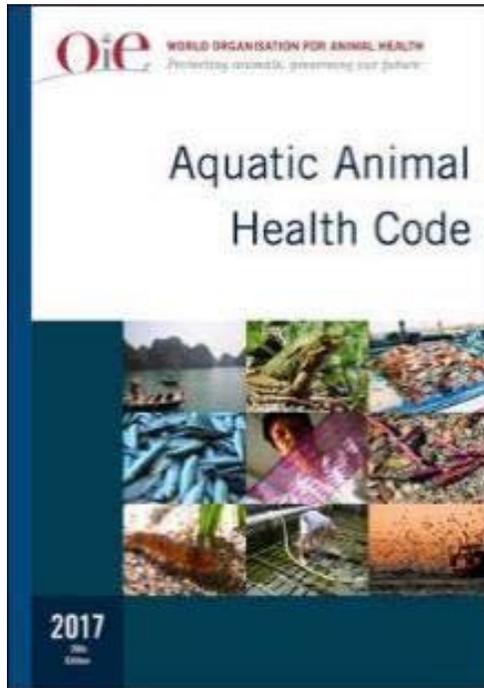
Reports of Commission meetings

February 2018	(in French)	(in Spanish)
September 2017	(in French)	(in Spanish)
February 2017	(in French)	(in Spanish)
September 2016	(in French)	(in Spanish)
February 2016	(in French)	(in Spanish)
October 2015	(in French)	(in Spanish)
March 2015	(in French)	(in Spanish)
September/October 2014	(in French)	(in Spanish)
February 2014	(in French)	(in Spanish)
September/October 2013	(in French)	(in Spanish)
February 2013	(in French)	(in Spanish)
September 2012	(in French)	(in Spanish)
March 2012	(in French)	(in Spanish)

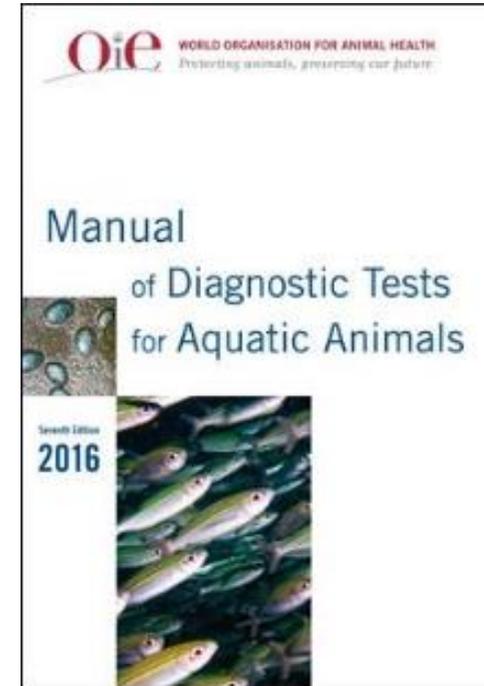
- > WAHIS Interface 
- > Online bookshop 
- > For the media 
- > OIE world conferences 
- > Documentary database 

http://www.oie.int/fileadmin/Home/eng/Internationala_Standard_Setting/docs/pdf/A_AAC_Feb_2018.pdf

The code and manual



- Notification
- Trade
- Antimicrobial usage
- Biosecurity
- Welfare
- Disease control
- Quality of veterinary services
- Disease-specific chapters



- Quality management in laboratories
- Validation of diagnostic assays
- Disease-specific chapters

Scrutiny by Member Countries

- Changes to Code and Manual chapters are usually submitted at least twice for Member comments before being proposed for adoption at the General Assembly.
- Proposed texts are circulated in the Commission's February meeting report.



Organisation
Mondiale
de la Santé
Animale

World
Organisation
for Animal
Health

Organización
Mundial
de Sanidad
Animal

Original: English¶

September 2018¶

**DRAFT REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE OIE
AQUATIC ANIMAL HEALTH STANDARDS COMMISSION¶**

Paris, 11–18 September 2018¶

The OIE Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission (Aquatic Animals Commission) met at OIE Headquarters in Paris from 11 to 18 September 2018. The list of participants is presented in [Annex 1](#).¶

The Aquatic Animals Commission thanked the following Member Countries for providing written comments on draft texts for the OIE *Aquatic Animal Health Code* (hereinafter referred to as the *Aquatic Code*) and OIE *Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals* (hereinafter referred to as the *Aquatic Manual*) circulated after the Commission's September 2018 meeting: Australia, Canada, China (People's Rep. of), Chinese Taipei, Colombia, Fiji, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Singapore, Switzerland, Thailand, the United States of America (USA), the Member States of the European Union (EU), and the African Union [Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources](#) (AU-IBAR) on behalf of African Member Countries of the OIE.¶

Comments from Member Countries matter

- The AAC relies on comments to apply the expertise at its disposal to:
 - to scrutinise the logic, consistency and robustness of the new or revised standards
 - make the AAC aware of new developments
 - New and emerging diseases
 - Changes to host susceptibility
 - New diagnostic tests, performance of tests

Everything is in the report

- **Text:** detailed explanation of what was done during the meeting, comments from Members and AAC response, some background and what is expected of Members'
- **Annexes**
 - **Part A:** texts proposed for **adoption** at next General Session
 - **Part B:** texts for **Members' comments**.
 - **Part B:** Reports of Working Groups and *ad hoc* Groups, AAC work plan for **Members' information**

Annual Cycle of AAC Reports

1. **February:** Report of the Aquatic Animals Commission Meeting includes:
 - Amended chapters in the *Aquatic Code* and *Aquatic Manual* being **proposed for adoption** at OIE General Session in May
 - Amended chapters circulated for **Member comments**
 - Annexes for **Member information**, e.g. *ad hoc* Group reports
2. **May:** OIE General Session - Report of the Aquatic Animals Commission
 - **Adoption** of amended chapters in the *Aquatic Code* and *Aquatic Manual*.
 - **Resolutions** record details of adopted texts
3. **September:** Report of the Aquatic Animals Commission Meeting includes:
 - Amended chapters circulated for **Member comments**
 - Annexes for **Member information**, e.g. *ad hoc* Group reports

Where to go first – the text

- A. MEETING WITH THE DIRECTOR GENERAL
- B. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA
- C. MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT OF CODE COMMISSION
- D. MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT OF BIOLOGICAL COMMISSION
- E. *OIE AQUATIC ANIMAL HEALTH CODE*
- F. MANUAL OF DIAGNOSTIC TESTS FOR AQUATIC ANIMALS
- G. OIE REFERENCE CENTRES
- H. OTHER ISSUES.
- I. WORK PLAN OF THE OIE AQUATIC ANIMAL HEALTH STANDARDS COMMISSION 2018/19
- J. ACTIVITIES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE OIE AQUATIC ANIMAL HEALTH STANDARDS COMMISSION

Susceptibility of *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* to IHHNV

- A Member Country made the AAC aware of new scientific information regarding susceptibility of *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* to IHHNV
- The AAC requested that the *ad hoc* Group on Susceptibility of Crustacean Species to Infection with OIE Listed Diseases re-assess the susceptibility of *M. rosenbergii* to infection with IHHNV
- The *ad hoc* Group concluded that location of lesions (hepatopancreas) and controls for *in situ* hybridization (ISH) were
 - inconsistent for infection with IHHNV.
 - other viruses infecting the hepatopancreas of *M. rosenbergii* can cause similar histopathology
 - cannot be conclusively demonstrated that the lesions were the result of infection with IHHNV.
- *Ad hoc* Group agreed that *M. rosenbergii* does not fully fulfil categories C and D (pathology and location),
- Conclusion: *M. rosenbergii* did not meet the criteria in Chapter 1.5. for listing in the *Aquatic Code* but a should be included in Section 2.2.2 (Species with incomplete evidence for susceptibility) of Chapter 2.2.4. Infection with IHHNV of the *Aquatic Manual*

Article X X 3

Safe products

- In response to Member Country comments, the Aquatic Animals Commission reviewed the aquatic animal products in Article X.X.3.
 - heat (time/temperature) inactivation treatments.
- The Commission agreed that
 - non-equivalent heat (time/temperature) inactivation treatments for different products were questionable and
 - minimum heat (time/temperature) inactivation treatment for each OIE listed disease was preferable
- The Aquatic Animals Commission requested that
 - the *ad hoc* Group on Safety of Products Derived from Aquatic Animals review the heat treatments provided in Article X.X.3. of each disease-specific chapter
 - provide a minimum heat time /temperature treatment demonstrated to be effective at inactivating the pathogenic agent.

September AAC Report – comments by 9 January

Items for Member Country comment:

AQUATIC CODE

- Definition for ‘Basic biosecurity conditions’
- Criteria for listing species as susceptible (Chapter 1.5.);
- Articles 10.5.1. and 10.5.2. Infection with salmonid alphavirus (Chapter 10.5.)
- Article 10.7.2. Infection with koi herpesvirus (Chapter 10.7.)
- Article 10.9.2. Infection with spring viraemia of carp virus (Chapter 10.9.)
- Infection with Ranavirus species (Chapter 8.3.)
- Acute hepatopancreatic necrosis disease (Chapter 9.1.)
- Infection with infectious haematopoietic necrosis virus
- Model article Article X.X.8.
- New draft chapter on Aquatic Animal Biosecurity for Aquaculture Establishments (Chapter 4.X.)
- Discussion paper on Approaches for determining periods required to demonstrate disease freedom

Listing at higher
taxonomic levels

Revised
susceptible spp.

New chapter

Surveillance



September AAC Report – comments by 9 January

AQUATIC MANUAL

Sections 1, 2.2.1. and 2.2.2. Infection with yellow head virus genotype 1

Infection with salmonid alphavirus

Sections 1, 2.2.1. and 2.2.2. Infection with koi herpesvirus

Revised
susceptible spp.

Infection with infectious haematopoietic necrosis virus

ANNEXES FOR MEMBER COUNTRY INFORMATION

Article 10.2.1. Infection with *Aphanomyces invadans*

Technical disease card for Tilapia lake virus

Report of the ad hoc Group on Susceptibility of fish species to infection with OIE listed diseases

Report of the electronic ad hoc Group on Tilapia lake virus

Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission Work Plan for 2018/2019

Summary

Tips for navigating the report

- Don't be put off by its length
- Read the report text (before the Annexes) carefully (it provides a good summary)
- Focus on the sections and disease chapters which are relevant to your country
- Read every report to understand how new chapters are developed and standards evolve

Why is the report important?

- Contains new and revised standards for *Aquatic Code and Manual*
- Contains other useful information:
 - Emerging diseases
 - Disease cards
 - Process for self-declaration.
- Provides insights into views of other MC
- Signposts future direction of the OIE

Thank you for your attention



<http://www.oie.int/en/>

Edmund Peeler



WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH
Protecting animals, preserving our future

12, rue de Prony, 75017 Paris, France
www.oie.int
media@oie.int - oie@oie.int

