



**Neo Mapitse**  
OIE Status Department

**Specific requirements of the  
*Terrestrial Code* for maintenance of official  
FMD free status**

**Regional webinar on  
“Maintenance of officially recognised disease status”**

17 September 2020

# Learning Outcomes

- After this course participants will be able to know the relevant provisions and recommendations in the Terrestrial Code :
  - related to maintenance of FMD free status
  - on surveillance of FMD required for the continued maintenance of FMD free status
  - that require annual submission of documented evidence with reconfirmations of status
  - for trade (importation of commodities and virus inactivation) required for maintenance of FMD status
  - for maintenance of status important to early warning systems and diseases reporting including awareness programmes
- Know the importance of confirming the situation in the non-contiguous territories having the same status



# Maintenance...



**as important as recognition !!!**

## Outline

- Specific requirements of the Terrestrial Code for maintenance of official FMD free status (with vs without vaccination)
- Surveillance for maintenance

# True or False?

- a) An application for recognition is voluntary but an annual reconfirmation is mandatory for all OIE Members;
- b) An application for recognition is voluntary but an annual reconfirmation is mandatory for Members with an officially recognised disease status
- c) Only new status applications are endorsed by the OIE Assembly in May each year
- d) Annual reconfirmations are not applicable to official control programmes

FALSE

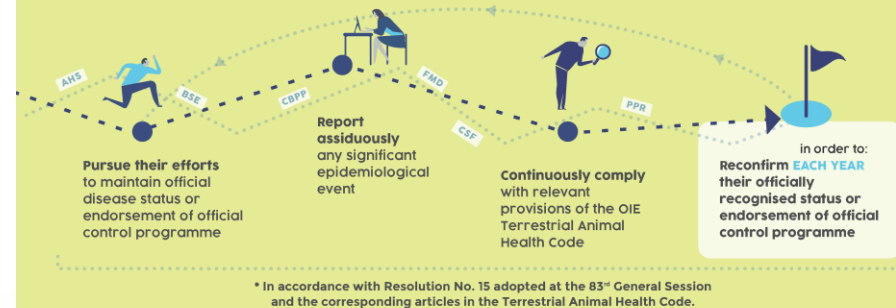
TRUE

FALSE

FALSE

## HOW TO MAINTAIN YOUR DISEASE-FREE STATUS ?

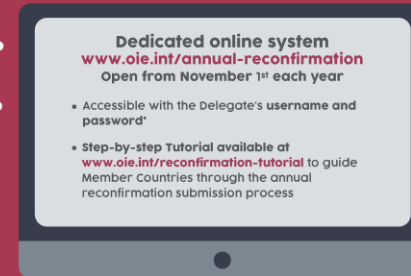
### ALL OIE MEMBER COUNTRIES WITH OFFICIAL DISEASE STATUS MUST\*:



What?

### FOLLOW THE DEDICATED ANNUAL RECONFIRMATION PROCEDURE:

1. Consult the Standard Operating Procedures on [www.oie.int/en/orpp/](http://www.oie.int/en/orpp/)
2. Complete the annual reconfirmation forms online
3. Upload the supportive documents for submission to the OIE



### WARNINGS

- ! Respect the deadline! Submit before the end of November
- Submit all supportive documents in accordance with the Terrestrial Code

\* Same as Web access code; username and password of OIE focal points do not grant access to the system

How?

### EFFECTIVE BENEFITS FOR MEMBER COUNTRIES



Demonstrate transparency & continuous compliance with OIE international Standards



Maintain stakeholders' awareness and political support for prevention & early warning of pathogen introduction



Strengthen credibility of the officially recognised disease freedom



Add guarantee for the trade partners & increase economic potentialities

Why?

# The basis for annual reconfirmations

- The OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* and **Resolution no.15** of 2020 Adapted Procedure
  - Standards in the relevant diseases specific chapters:

AHS: point 5 of Article 12.1.2	BSE risk: Articles 11.4.3. and 11.4.4
CBPP: Article 11.5.3., & <i>Article 11.5.18.</i>	CSF Article 15.2.3.
FMD: 8.8.2 and 8.8.3, & <i>Article 8.8.39.</i>	PPR: Article 14.7.3. & <i>Article 14.7.34.</i>

Adopted by the World Assembly of OIE Delegates, which constitutes the Organisation's highest decision-making body.

# Harmonisation and update the requirements for recognition and maintenance of status

Scientific Commission &  
OIE Headquarters



+



**UNDER  
REVIEW**

# Chapter 8.8. of the *Terrestrial Code*

## Article 8.8.2.

### FMD free country or zone where vaccination is not practised

In defining a *zone* where *vaccination* is not practised the principles of Chapter 4.4. should be followed.

Susceptible animals in the FMD free country or *zone* where *vaccination* is not practised should be protected by the application of *biosecurity* measures that prevent the entry of FMDV into the free country or *zone*. Taking into consideration physical or geographical barriers with any neighbouring infected country or *zone*, these measures may include a *protection zone*.

To qualify for inclusion in the list of FMD free countries or *zones* where *vaccination* is not practised, a Member Country should:

1. have a record of regular and prompt animal disease reporting;
2. send a declaration to the OIE stating that during the past 12 months, within the proposed FMD free country or *zone*:
  - a. there has been no *case* of FMD;
  - b. no *vaccination* against FMD has been carried out;
3. supply documented evidence that for the past 12 months:
  - a. *surveillance* in accordance with Articles 8.8.40. to 8.8.42. has been implemented to detect clinical evidence of:
    - i. *infection* with FMDV in unvaccinated animals;
    - ii. FMDV transmission in previously vaccinated animals when the FMD free country or *zone* will become one where *vaccination* is not practised;
  - b. regulatory measures for the prevention and early detection of FMD have been implemented;
4. describe in detail and supply documented evidence that for the past 12 months the following have been properly implemented and supervised:
  - a. in the case of a FMD free *zone*, the boundaries of the proposed FMD free *zone*;
  - b. the boundaries and measures of a *protection zone*, if applicable;
  - c. the system for preventing the entry of FMDV into the proposed FMD free country or *zone*;
  - d. the control of the movement of susceptible animals, their *meat* and other products into the country or *zone*, in particular the measures described in Articles 8.8.8., 8.8.9. and 8.8.12.;
  - e. no vaccinated animal has been introduced except in accordance with Articles 8.8.8. and 8.8.9.

The Member Country or the proposed free *zone* will be included in the list of FMD free countries or *zones* where *vaccination* is not practised only after the submitted evidence, based on the provisions of Chapter 1.11., has been accepted by the OIE.

Retention on the list requires that the information in points 2), 3) and 4) above be re-submitted annually and changes in the epidemiological situation or other significant events including those relevant to points 3 b) and 4) should be reported to the OIE in accordance with the requirements in Chapter 1.1.

## Article 8.8.3.

### FMD free country or zone where vaccination is practised

In defining a *zone* where *vaccination* is practised the principles of Chapter 4.4. should be followed.

Susceptible animals in the FMD free country or *zone* where *vaccination* is practised should be protected by the application of *biosecurity* measures that prevent the entry of FMDV into the free country or *zone*. Taking into consideration physical or geographical barriers with any neighbouring infected country or *zone*, these measures may include a *protection zone*.

Based on the epidemiology of FMD in the country, it may be decided to vaccinate only a defined *subpopulation* comprised of certain species or other subsets of the total susceptible population.

To qualify for inclusion in the list of FMD free countries or *zones* where *vaccination* is practised, a Member Country should:

1. have a record of regular and prompt animal disease reporting;
2. send a declaration to the OIE stating that, based on the *surveillance* described in point 3), within the proposed FMD free country or *zone*:
  - a. there has been no *case* of FMD during the past two years;
  - b. there has been no evidence of FMDV transmission during the past 12 months;
3. supply documented evidence that:
  - a. *surveillance* in accordance with Articles 8.8.40. to 8.8.42. has been implemented to detect clinical signs of FMD and demonstrate no evidence of:
    - i. *infection* with FMDV in unvaccinated animals;
    - ii. FMDV transmission in vaccinated animals;
  - b. regulatory measures for the prevention and early detection of FMD have been implemented;
  - c. compulsory systematic *vaccination* in the target population has been carried out to achieve adequate *vaccination* coverage and population immunity;
  - d. *vaccination* has been carried out following appropriate vaccine strain selection;
4. describe in detail and supply documented evidence that the following have been properly implemented and supervised:
  - a. in case of FMD free *zone*, the boundaries of the proposed FMD free *zone*;
  - b. the boundaries and measures of a *protection zone*, if applicable;
  - c. the system for preventing the entry of FMDV into the proposed FMD free country or *zone*, in particular the measures described in Articles 8.8.8., 8.8.9. and 8.8.12.;
  - d. the control of the movement of susceptible animals and their products into the proposed FMD free country or *zone*.

The Member Country or the proposed free *zone* will be included in the list of FMD free countries or *zones* where *vaccination* is practised only after the submitted evidence, based on the provisions of Chapter 1.11., has been accepted by the OIE.

Retention on the list requires that the information in points 2), 3) and 4) above be re-submitted annually and changes in the epidemiological situation or other significant events including those relevant to points 3 b) and 4) should be reported to the OIE in accordance with the requirements in Chapter 1.1.



# Screening & evaluation of Annual Reconfirmations



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION required for Retention on the List

- In accordance with the *Terrestrial Code*:
  - surveillance
  - regulatory measures
  - system for preventing the entry of FMDv
  - control of the movement of susceptible animals & products
  - Absence of introduction of vaccinated animals (for free without)
  - emergency planning
- To ensure continued maintenance

Do not just tick the boxes, provide  
documented evidence



# Surveillance for maintenance of freedom

- *Terrestrial Code* Chapter 1.4. Animal Health Surveillance in addition to the disease specific surveillance requirements
- Notifiable and the legal basis for being notifiable countrywide
- Early warning system for all relevant species
  - Investigation of suspected cases - Criteria for raising suspicions
  - Appropriate reporting and communication - Lab diagnostic test and follow up
- Designed to prevent and early detect the presence of infection and transmission of disease
  - (clinical, serological, virological or combination of these)

# Surveillance for maintenance of freedom

- Adapted to the evolution of the countries' FMD status
  - Likelihood of occurrence of infection
    - Risk-based
- Measures to prevent the introduction of FMD
- Awareness campaigns and simulation exercises

The screenshot shows the OIE website's 'Simulation Exercises' section. The main heading is 'Simulation exercise: Foot and mouth disease in Turkey'. The text states that Dr. Nihat Pakdil, Deputy Undersecretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Turkey, informed the OIE of two 2-4 day joint real-scale simulation exercises for FMD in 2020. The first two exercises will be held in Trabzon Province from 2 to 6 March 2020 and in Izmir Province from 16 to 20 March 2020. The overall aim is to maintain the response skills of the Veterinary Services, and the specific objectives are to test the Foot and Mouth Contingency Plan, test operational response arrangements, examine the liaison and interdependencies between key operational partners, and consider the impact of the disease as a zoonotic infection.

The infographic is titled 'Disease surveillance key for OIE official disease status'. It explains that the OIE, under its mandate of improving animal health and welfare worldwide, officially recognizes disease-free areas of countries for disease control and trade purposes. The procedures for the OIE recognition of disease status in veterinary and applies currently to six diseases. This procedure is acknowledged by the World Trade Organization.

The infographic is divided into four main sections:

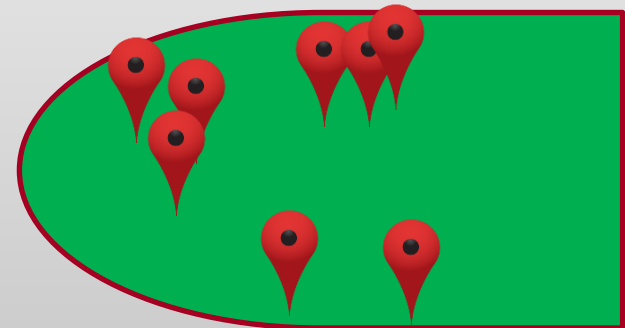
- 1. An effective surveillance programme: Key to achieve and maintain an OIE status**
  - Under the responsibility of the Veterinary Authority in compliance with OIE standards
  - Including an early warning system to:
    - Identify
    - Report regional cases
    - Follow up & investigate remaining supported by documented evidence in designated cases
  - Based on tailored surveillance strategies:
    - Appropriate combination of:
      - surveillance and regular surveillance
      - clinical, pathological, serological and other methods
  - Thanks to strong technical abilities:
    - For appropriate diagnosis and follow up
    - Based on laboratory methods in compliance with the OIE Standards
- 2. Which diseases?**
  - 6 diseases:
    - Avian influenza
    - Classical swine fever
    - Contagious haemorrhagic enterocolitis
    - Foot and mouth disease
    - Pacific acanthamoebiasis
    - The eastern equine encephalomyelitis
- 3. How?**
  - Based on documented evidence of compliance with OIE standards
- 4. When?**
  - Applicable to a veterinary body following the OIE annual cycle
  - Administrative, regulatory, entry and exit procedures for maintenance of the official status

By facilitating access to regional and international markets, OIE official disease status recognition is a leverage for international trade, a way to increase economic potentialities of the livestock sector.

OIE WORLD ORGANIZATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH  
Protecting animals, preserving our future

## Targeted surveillance in free countries or zones

- Aim is to enhance early detection and prevent spread of disease
- Examples include inspection or testing of:
  - Animals showing clinical signs or suspicions of FMD (non-vaccinated)
  - Imported animals and their products
  - Animals on border with country or zone not officially FMD-free, high-risk subpopulations
  - Herds with increased abortion, mortalities in young calves, reduced milk yield

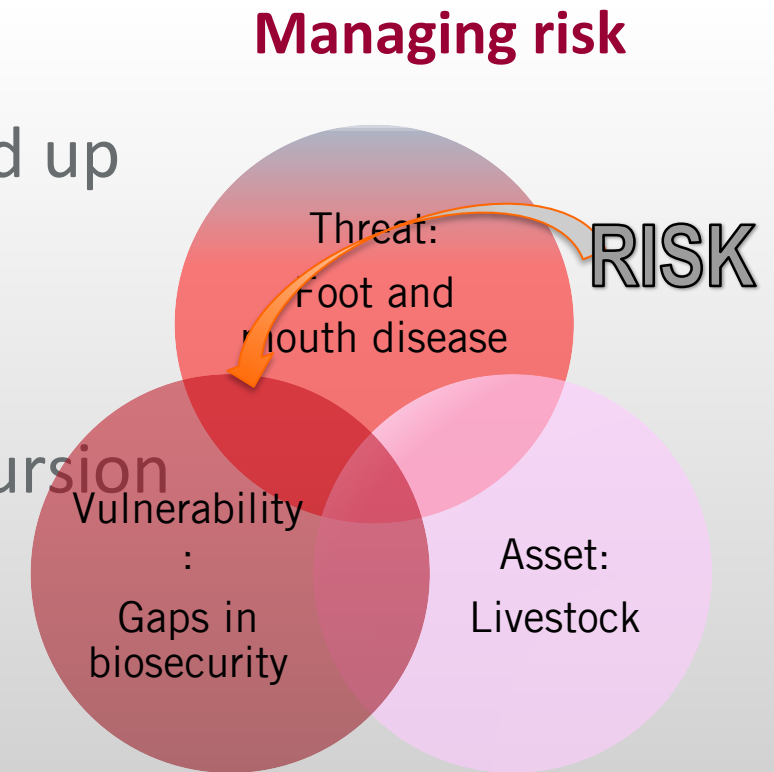


## Non-contiguous territories

- RESOLUTION No 15 of the 2020 Adapted Procedure:
  - Applicable to those that have the same status as the mainland as submitted with a new application
  - Members should document and clarify aspects of Veterinary Services and the specific animal health situation in non-contiguous territories covered by the same Veterinary Authority.
  - Important for transparency in international trade

# Relationship between threat and vulnerability

- Biosecurity is expensive
  - Usually tailored to the threat
  - Compliance can vary in different sectors of production
  - A potential vulnerability
- If threat increases, biosecurity can be ramped up
  - Part of contingency planning
  - If you do nothing, the risk of an outbreak will increase
- Increased surveillance does NOT prevent incursion
  - But it DOES inform your biosecurity contingency planning and actions



## Learning outcomes

- Basis for Annual reconfirmations: *Terrestrial Code* and Resolutions of the Assembly
- Obligatory for Members having a status or official control programme
- Annual submission of documented evidence with reconfirmations of status for some diseases
- Surveillance requirements for maintenance of diseases status and *Terrestrial Code* requirements
- Information regarding animal health situation of none-contiguous territories

# Additional Resources

- Resolutions adopted by the World Assembly of the Delegates of the OIE - [Adapted Procedure, May-June 2020](#)
  - **RESOLUTION No 15:** Procedures for Members for the official recognition and maintenance of animal health status of certain animal diseases or risk status of bovine spongiform encephalopathy and for the endorsement of official control programmes
    - Sets out the obligation to submit, during the month of November of each year relevant information as prescribed in the *Terrestrial Code* and that the Scientific Commission is satisfied that the requirements continue to be met. And that if a Member having an officially recognised animal health status or an endorsed official control programme for CBPP, FMD, PPR or dog-mediated rabies, has failed to comply with the conditions for maintenance of this status or endorsement as prescribed, the Member is deleted from the list of officially recognised Members or zones or from the list of Members having an endorsed official control programme presented yearly to the Assembly for adoption. Also reporting the animal health situation in non-contiguous territories of a Member.
- Inforgraphics: <https://www.oie.int/en/for-the-media/infographics/>
  - How to maintain your disease-free status
  - Disease surveillance key for OIE official diseases status
- Quiz





Oie

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*Protéger les animaux, préserver notre avenir*



# Thank you for your attention

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