



**WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH**  
*Protecting animals, preserving our future*

*Original: English*  
*September 2021*

**REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE OIE  
TERRESTRIAL ANIMAL HEALTH STANDARDS COMMISSION**

**Virtual meeting, 7–16 & 23 September 2021**

The OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission (the Code Commission) held its meeting electronically from 7 to 16, and 23 September 2021. The list of participants is attached as [Annex 1](#).

The Code Commission thanked the following Members and partner organisations for providing comments on its February 2021 report: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, China (People's Republic of), Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, South Africa, Thailand, the United Kingdom (UK), the United States of America (USA), Members of the OIE Asia, Far East and Oceania Region, the African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) on behalf of African Member Countries of the OIE, Members of the OIE Americas Region, the Comité Veterinario Permanente del Cono Sur (CVP) on behalf of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay, the Member States of European Union (EU), the International Coalition for Farm Animal Welfare (ICFAW), and the World Renderers Organization (WRO).

The Code Commission reviewed the Member comments that were submitted on time and supported by a rationale, and amended relevant texts, as appropriate. The Commission did not consider comments where a rationale had not been provided or that were unclear and difficult to interpret. Due to the large volume of work, the Commission did not provide a detailed explanation for accepting or not each of the comments and focused its explanations on the major comments. Where amendments were of an editorial nature, no explanatory text has been provided. The Commission wished to note that not all texts proposed by Members to improve clarity were accepted; in these cases, it considered the text clear as currently written.

Amendments to new or revised text of the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (the *Terrestrial Code*) are presented in the usual manner by 'double underline' and 'strikethrough', and the texts are annexed to this report. In previously circulated texts, new amendments proposed at this meeting are highlighted with a coloured background to distinguish them from those proposed previously.

The Code Commission encouraged Members to refer to previous reports for longstanding issues. The Commission also draws the attention of Members to where the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases (the Scientific Commission), the Biological Standards Commission (the Laboratories Commission), a Working Group or an *ad hoc* Group have addressed specific comments or questions and proposed answers or amendments. In such cases, the rationale is described in the relevant report of these expert groups and Members are encouraged to review these reports together with the report of the Code Commission. These reports are available on the [OIE website](#).

**Yukitake Okamura**

Scientific Officer for International  
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# The Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission Reports

**Regional Webinar for Europe: OIE  
standards**

**25 – 26 November 2021**



Organisation  
Mondiale  
de la Santé  
Animale

World  
Organisation  
for Animal  
Health

Organización  
Mundial  
de Sanidad  
Animal

# Agenda

- What is the report of the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission?
  - ✓ Overview
  - ✓ Basic structure and key contents
- How can I know the history/background of each topic?
- Where can I find the report?
- How should comments to the report be submitted?

# What is the report of the Code Commission?

- The Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission (the Code Commission) is an OIE body comprising six elected specialists experienced in regulatory veterinary science drawn from all OIE regions, which is responsible for editing the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (the *Terrestrial Code*) and promoting its adoption by the OIE Assembly.
- The reports of the Code Commission are a public documents aiming at:
  - Informing on the projected work to develop new and revise existing *Terrestrial Code*,
  - Sharing draft new and revised *Terrestrial Code*,
  - Documenting the deliberations of the Code Commission on proposed new and revised *Terrestrial Code*,
  - Documenting the comments received on proposed new and revised *Terrestrial Code* and the responses of the Code Commission,
  - Inviting Members to comment on proposed new and revised *Terrestrial Code*,
  - Presenting new and revised *Terrestrial Code* to be proposed for adoption by the Assembly.
  - Informing OIE Members on the progress of the work to develop new and revise existing *Terrestrial Code*
- The report is the main document to follow up the OIE Standards setting process for the *Terrestrial Code*, incorporating the relevant inputs of other bodies, such as the Scientific Commission and OIE *ad hoc* Groups.

# Overview of the TAHSC report

- Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission (TAHSC) meets normally twice a year: February and September
- After each meeting, the report is prepared
  - February reports of TAHSC – published as Part A (texts proposed for adoption) and Part B (texts for comments and other items). Part A is released earlier than Part B.
  - September reports of TAHSC – published in one report.
- Each report comprises an “introductory” part, and different sets of annexes
- Unofficial version of the report (in English) is circulated to OIE delegates through their dedicated site (before publishing official version)  
Official version of the report (in English, French and Spanish) is published on the OIE website  
MS Word versions (easier to comment) are published on the “OIE Delegates website”
- In the report, OIE Members are invited to submit comments on the report (e.g. comments to work programme, comments to propose to change draft texts with clear rationale including scientific references, if relevant)

# Basic structure and key contents

## September report

### Introductory part

- (Preface)
- Welcome from the Deputy Director General
- Meeting with the Director General
- Adoption of agenda
- Cooperation with other Specialist Commissions
- Code Commission's work programme
  - ✓ Ongoing priority topics
  - ✓ (Follow-up of recently adopted texts)
  - ✓ New work proposals / requests
  - ✓ Prioritisation of items in the work programme
- Texts circulated for comment and proposed for adoption in the next GS
- Texts circulated for comment

Presents how to submit comments and deadline date

Presents the main interactions with other Commissions

Presents the status quo and TAHSC's discussion on ongoing items in its work programme but the newly-developed or revised texts are not circulated in the report

Presents the TAHSC's discussion on matters newly proposed/requested by OIE Members, Specialist Commissions, Working Group, *ad hoc* Group, OIE Reference Centres, Secretariat etc.

Presents the TAHSC decisions regarding the prioritization of its work programme

### Annexes

- Annexes for the texts and the work programme (and reports of relevant *ad hoc* Group meeting, if any)

# Basic structure and key contents

## September report

### Introductory part

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- Texts circulated for comment

Presents the background of each topic and TAHSC's deliberations, including comments received and their responses.

Presents proposed draft texts with amendments presented by 'double underline' and '~~strikethrough~~', and with amendments proposed at the last meeting highlighted in **yellow**

Outlines the work areas, current and planned, to be undertaken by the TAHSC

### Annexes

- Annexes for the texts and the work programme (and reports of relevant *ad hoc* Group meeting, if any)

## How can I know the history/background of each topic?

- Regarding items in ‘Ongoing priority topics’ and ‘Texts circulated for comment’, you can find the background/history of each topic in the report.
- Regarding matters which have been listed in TAHSC’s work programme but are not discussed in the report, relevant reports in which you can find the latest discussion are shown in the work programme. (since September 2021 report)
- Some items are dealt with in collaboration with other Specialist Commissions, Working Groups and *ad hoc* Groups. When relevant, the specific references are noted in the TAHSC.  
→ detailed rationales of the draft revisions/developments are captured in their reports.

e.g.

Revision of Chapter 11.4. BSE: refer to Scientific Commission reports and relevant *ad hoc* Group reports (annexed to Scientific Commission reports)

Revision of Chapter 6.10. Responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents in veterinary medicine: refer to reports of OIE WG on AMR

# Where can I find the report?

The screenshot shows the OIE website navigation menu. The 'What we do' dropdown menu is open, and the 'Standards' option is selected. The 'Standards Setting Process' link is highlighted in red. The 'Codes and Manuals' link is also highlighted in red. The 'Standards Setting Process' link is underlined.

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

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Who we are What we do What we offer Media OIE - WAHIS

What we do

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

Given that we live in a world of interconnectedness, the importance of data and improving datasets is paramount to achieving evidence-based policy-making at international and national levels. The Global...

What we do → Standards → Standards Setting Process  
→ Code Commission (other Commissions, Working Groups, *ad hoc* Groups)  
→ Meeting reports



## How should comments to the report be submitted?

- through the OIE Delegate of Member Countries or organisations which the OIE has a Cooperative Agreement with;
- In Word format (rather than pdf format) and clearly noting the relevant annex);
- as specific proposed text changes, supported by a rationale including scientific references, if relevant;
- Proposed deletions should be shown using '~~striketrough~~' and additions using 'double underline'. (please do not use the automatic 'track-changes' function provided by word processing software);
- The TAHSC strongly encourages Members to provide feedback on its work programme, including submitting justified proposals!



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