



Federal Ministry
of Agriculture, Food
and Regional Identity

Strengthening Preparedness and Response to Biological Threats in Europe 23–25 March 2026, WOAHA Headquarters, Paris, France

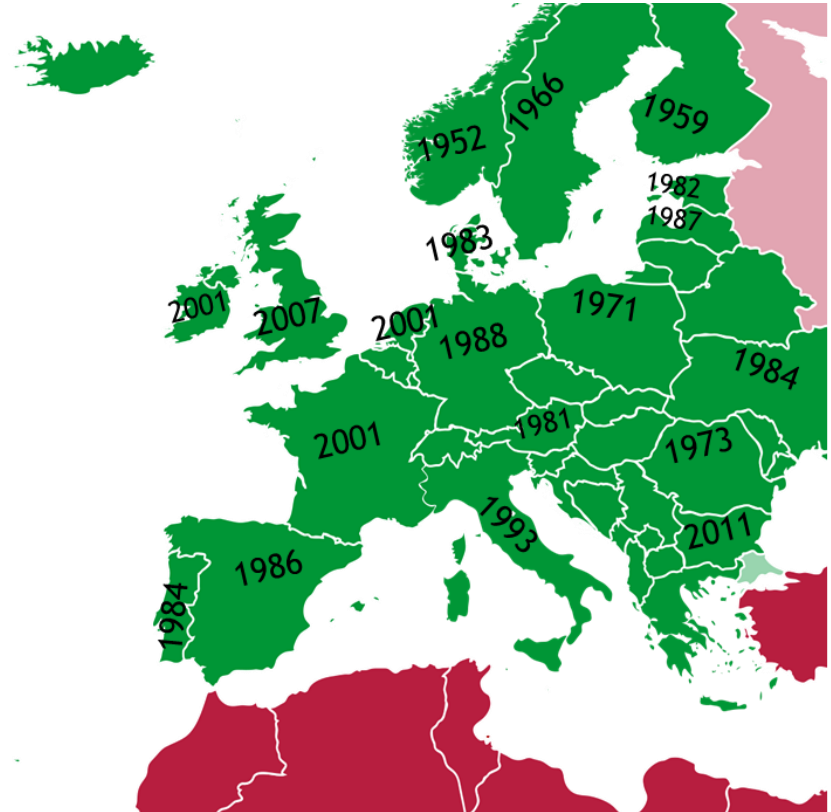
Session 4 – Emergency Response and Recovery

Recovery from Foot and Mouth Disease

Katharina Kluge, CVO / WOAHA Delegate of Germany

bmleh.de

FMD outbreak in a water buffalo herd in Germany 2025



FMD outbreak in a water buffalo herd in Germany 2025

- herd of 14 water buffaloes, three dead, detection of FMDV serotype O
- extensive keeping in nature reserve close to Berlin
- implementation of restricted zones – 3km/ 10km, killing of all susceptible animals in the outbreak farm, contact farm and 1km radius
- temporary stand still in whole area of Berlin and Brandenburg, trade restrictions for animals and products, increased monitoring in whole of Germany
- epidemiological investigations, sampling of farms and wild animals

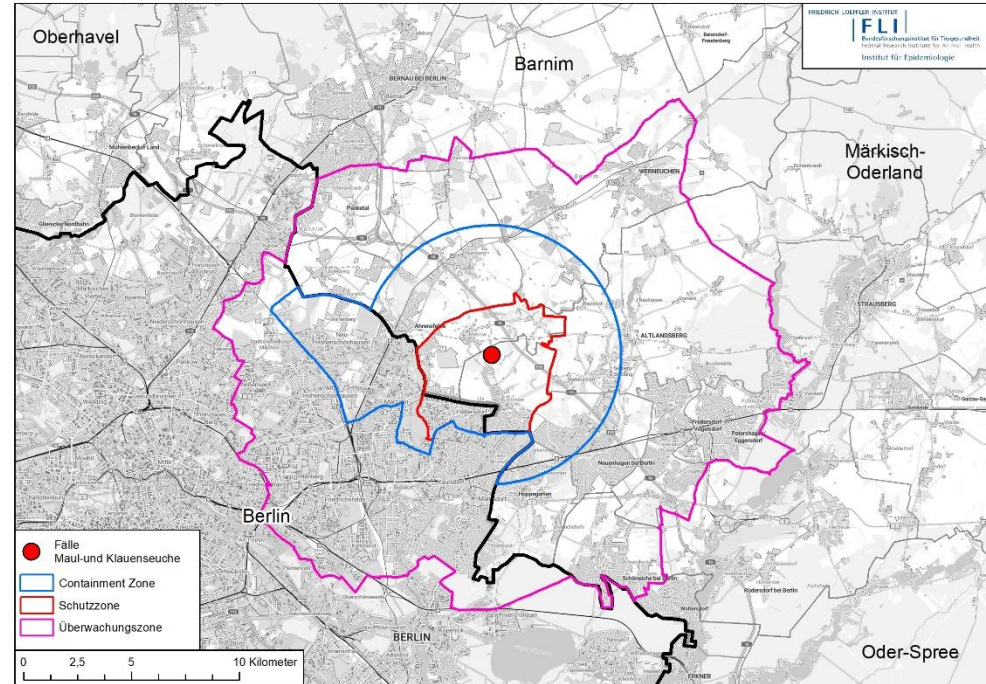
Implications of FMD outbreak on WOA status

With the outbreak on 9th January, Germany lost its WOA status “Free of FMD – without vaccination”. To regain the status, the following procedure was pursued:

1. 16th February 2025 (6 weeks after disposal of the last animal killed):
 - Self declaration to WOA of freedom of FMD for the entire territory of Germany **with the exception of a so called “containment zone”**
 - Requirement: Implementation of a containment zone according to WOA Terrestrial Animal Health Code, Articles 1.11.3 and 4.4.7 and Chapter 8.8.
2. 2th April 2025 (nearly 3 month after disposal of the last animal killed):
 - Application for recognition of free status recovery of the containment zone (with the effect of free status recovery for the whole territory of Germany)

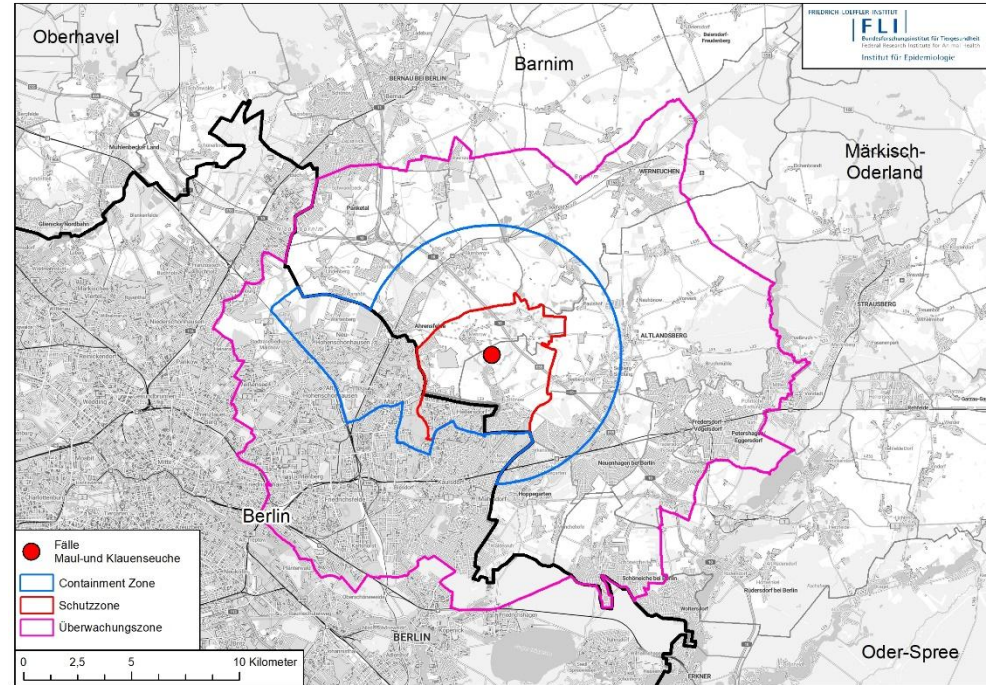
Restriction zones

- protection zone (red)
- surveillance zone (pink)
- additional zone (blue) with disease control measures as described in EU-legislation for a “further restricted zone” = containment zone according to WOAH



Measures within containment zone

- ongoing movement restrictions for susceptible animals and products
- prohibition of artificial insemination or natural mating
- prohibition of any markets or other assemblies of susceptible animals
- intensive sampling/ monitoring of wild boar and wild ruminants
- enforcement of compliance



Application to WOAHA on 16th February 2025

Germany hereby declares that,

1. after the first outbreak of FMD in Germany since 1988 on 10. January 2025, there have been no new cases of FMD in Germany since then;
2. vaccination against FMD is not practised in Germany;
3. thorough surveillance in accordance with Art. 8.8.43 to 8.8.45 is in operation, and regulatory measures for the prevention and control of FMD are implemented;
4. vaccination against FMD has been prohibited within the European Union since 1993 and the prohibition has been effectively implemented and supervised.

Application to WOAAH on 16th February 2025

“The WOAAH Delegate of Germany declares that except for the containment zone, the Federal Republic of Germany complies with the requirements to reinstate free status from infection with FMDV with effect from 10. January 2025, in accordance with Chapter 1.4. and Article 8.8.11. in conjunction with 4.4.7. and 8.8.10. of the Terrestrial Code (2024) and consistent with the information provided in WOAAH-WAHIS.”

Application to WOAAH on 16th February 2025

Contents of dossier as of WOAAH articles 4.4.7, 1.11.3 and chapter 8.8:

- **administration and veterinary system**
- **legislation:** EU and national
- **knowledge/ registration/ certification of livestock, establishments, animals, movements**
- **eradication strategy**, measures and results thereof
- **surveillance strategy**, measures and results thereof
- **early detection system** and **awareness rising actions**
- **data of establishments** within all zones (protection/surveillance/additional)
- **measures in containment zone** and **control of compliance**

Application to WOAAH on 16th February 2025

- additional questions of WOAAH received on February 20th, 2025
 - answers provided to WOAAH on February 28th, 2025
 - approval of containment zone by WOAAH on March 12th, 2025
- ⇒ recovery of WOAAH Status “Free of FMD without vaccination” for the territory of Germany **with the exception of the containment zone** within less than 9 weeks after the outbreak

Implications of FMD outbreak on WOA status

With the outbreak on 9th January, Germany lost its WOA status “Free of FMD – without vaccination”. To regain the status, the following procedure was pursued:

1. 16th February 2025 (6 weeks after disposal of the last animal killed):
 - Self declaration to WOA of freedom of FMD for the entire territory of Germany **with the exception of a so called “containment zone”**
 - Requirement: Maintaining of a containment zone according to WOA Terrestrial Animal Health Code, Articles 1.11.3 and 4.4.7 and Chapter 8.8.
2. 2th April 2025 (nearly 3 month after disposal of the last animal killed):
 - Application for recognition of free status recovery of the containment zone (with the effect of free status recovery for the whole territory of Germany)



Application to WOAHA on 2th April 2025

Germany hereby declares that,

1. After the first outbreak of FMD in Germany since 1988 on 10. January 2025, there have been no additional cases of FMD in the containment zone;
2. The single outbreak was solved by stamping out policy, no spread from there was detected therefore FMD was eradicated in Germany immediately;
3. Vaccination against FMD was not performed in Germany and has been prohibited within the European Union since 1993, which was effectively implemented and supervised;
4. Appropriate surveillance in accordance with Art. 8.8.43. to 8.8.45. is in operation, and regulatory measures for prevention of introduction, early detection and control of FMD are implemented throughout Germany.

Application to WOAAH on 2th April 2025

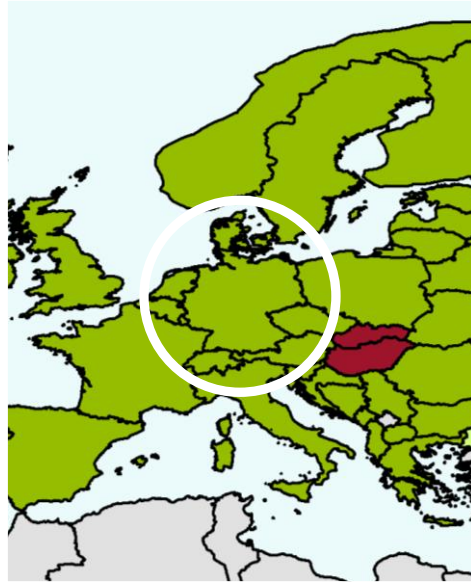
“The **WOAH Delegate of Germany declares that the containment zone**, as part of the Federal Republic of Germany **complies with the requirements to reinstate free status from infection with FMDV** in accordance with Article 8.8.11. and points 4, 5 and 6 of Article 8.8.3. in conjunction with sections 3, 5 and 6 of Article 1.11.3 of the Terrestrial Code (2024) and consistent with the information provided in WOAAH-WAHIS.”

Happy End...

Confirmation by WOAHP with letter dated 14 April 2025 that the WOAHP status “FMD-free without vaccination” for Germany has been reinstated:

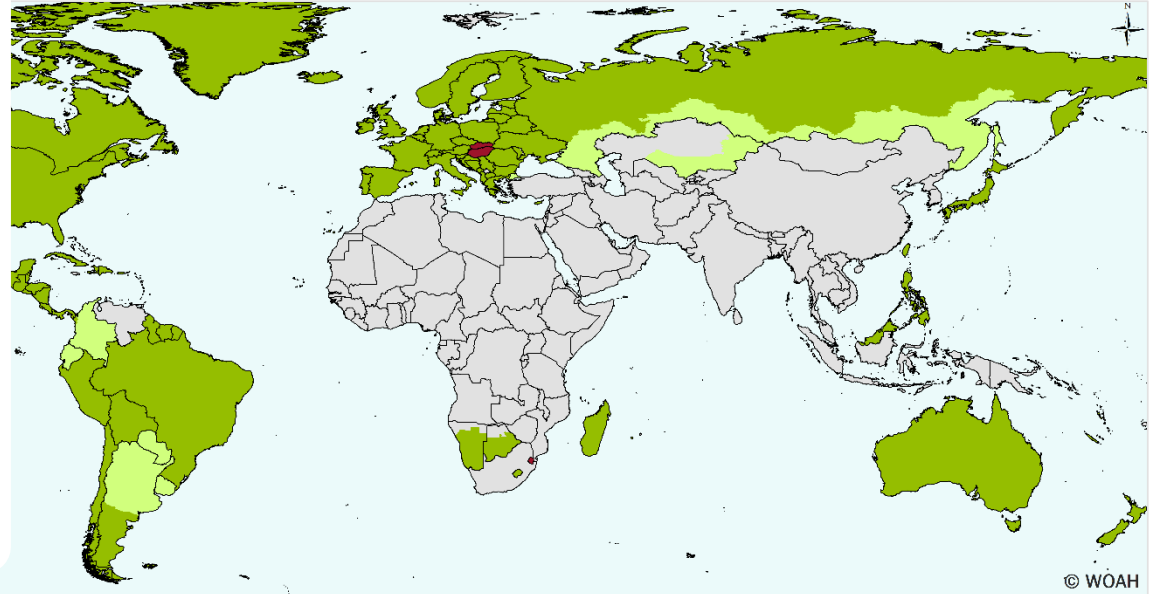
“I am pleased to inform you that, based on the information presented, the Commission concluded that the containment zone within Brandenburg and Berlin complies with Article 8.8.11. of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code and decided to reinstate the FMD-free status of the containment zone with effect from 14 April 2025. The WOAHP webpage will be updated accordingly.”

Happy End...



WOAH Members' official FMD status map

Last update June 2025



© WOAH

-  Members and zones recognised as free from FMD without vaccination
-  Members and zones recognised as free from FMD with vaccination

-  Suspension of FMD free status
-  Countries and zones without an official status for FMD

FMD outbreak - impact on trade

- **Within the EU** the principle of regionalization applied and was observed from all Member States
- But almost all **Third Countries** imposed comprehensive bans on import of animals and products from susceptible animals
- ✓ With some third countries, an agreement on limiting the restrictions to the affected region was reached relatively quickly
- ✓ Other third countries lifted the restrictions upon recognition of the containment zone by WOAHP or upon regaining the WOAHP free status for the whole territory of Germany in April 2025
- ✓ The last important third countries lifted the restrictions only this month (March 2026), more than 1 year after the outbreak

Thank you for your attention!

Contact

Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Food and
Regional Identity
Directorate 3
Department 32
Rochusstraße 1
53123 Bonn

Katharina Kluge
Katharina.Kluge@bmleh.bund.de
www.bmleh.de
Tel. +49 2 28 9 95 29 - 4354



Federal Ministry
of Agriculture, Food
and Regional Identity