Annex 18

**USA COMMENTS IN RED FONT**

Chapter 13.2.

infection with pathogenic rabbit lagoviruses (rabbit haemorrhagic disease)

**Article 13.2.1.**

General provisions

For the purposes of the *Terrestrial Code*, rabbit haemorrhagic disease (RHD) is defined as an *infection* of leporids with *Rabbit haemorrhagic disease virus type 1* (RHDV) ~~and~~ or *Rabbit haemorrhagic disease virus type 2* (RHDV2) (hereafter ‘pathogenic rabbit lagoviruses’).

The following defines the occurrence of *infection* with pathogenic rabbit lagoviruses:

1) antigen or nucleic acid specific to pathogenic rabbit lagoviruses has been detected in a sample from a leporid showing clinical signs or pathological lesions consistent with *infection* with pathogenic rabbit lagoviruses, or epidemiologically linked to a confirmed or suspected *case*; or

2) antibodies specific to pathogenic rabbit lagoviruses, which are not the consequence of *vaccination*, have been detected in a sample from a leporid showing clinical signs or pathological lesions consistent with *infection* with pathogenic rabbit lagoviruses, or epidemiologically linked to a confirmed or suspected *case*.

For the purposes of the *Terrestrial Code*, the *infective period* for ~~rabbit haemorrhagic disease (~~RHD~~)~~ shall be 60 days.

Standards for ~~diagnostic tests~~ diagnosis and vaccines, as well as information on the epidemiology, are described in the *Terrestrial Manual*.

**Article 13.2.2.**

Country free from RHD ~~free country~~

A country may be considered free from RHD when it has been demonstrated~~shown~~ that no *case* has occurred ~~the disease has not been present~~ for at least the past 12 months ~~one year~~, that no *vaccination* has been carried out in the past ~~previous~~ 12 months, and that virological or serological *surveillance* ~~surveys~~ in both domestic and *wild* ~~rabbits~~ leporids ~~have~~ has confirmed the absence of the *infection* ~~disease~~.

This period may be reduced to six months after the last *case* has been destroyed ~~eliminated~~ and *disinfection* procedures have been completed in countries adopting a *stamping-out policy*, and where ~~the~~ serological *surveillance* ~~surveys~~ confirmed that no *case* ~~the disease had not~~ occurred in ~~the~~*wild* ~~rabbits~~ leporids.

**RATIONALE:** Editorial. Subject-verb correction.

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