# Annex 5

USER'S GUIDE

1. Introduction
2. The WOAH *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (hereafter referred to as the *Terrestrial Code*) establishes standards for the improvement of terrestrial animal health and welfare and veterinary public health worldwide. The purpose of this guide is to advise the *Veterinary Authorities* of WOAH Member Countries on how to use the *Terrestrial Code*.
3. *Veterinary Authorities* should use the standards in the *Terrestrial Code* notably to set up measures providing for early detection, internal reporting, notification, control or eradication of pathogenic agents, including zoonotic ones, in terrestrial *animals* (mammals, birds, reptiles and bees) and preventing their spread via *international trade* in *animals* and *animal products*, while avoiding unjustified sanitary barriers to trade. These measures may include the establishment and recognition of *animal health status* applied to countries, *zones*, *compartments* or *herds/flocks*.
4. WOAH standards are based on the most recent scientific and technical information. Correctly applied, they protect animal health and welfare and veterinary public health during production of and trade in ~~animals and animal products~~*commodities*, and in the use of animals.
5. The absence of chapters, articles or recommendations on particular pathogenic agents, surveillance strategies, *animal health status* or trade in *commodities* does not preclude the application of appropriate *sanitary measures* by the *Veterinary Authorities*, provided they are based on *risk analyses* conducted in accordance with the *Terrestrial Code*.
6. The year that a chapter was first adopted and the year of its last revision are noted at the end of each chapter.
7. The complete text of the *Terrestrial Code* is available on the WOAH w~~W~~ebsite and individual chapters may be downloaded from: https://[www.woah.org/.](http://www.woah.org/)
8. Terrestrial Code content

1) Key terms and expressions that are used in more than one chapter ~~in the~~*~~Terrestrial Code~~*and require precise interpretation for the purposes of the *Terrestrial Code* are defined in the Glossary, in the case where common dictionary definitions are not deemed to be adequate. The reader should be aware of the definitions given in the Glossary when reading and using the *Terrestrial Code*. Defined terms appear in italics. In the on-line version of the *Terrestrial Code*, a hyperlink leads to the relevant definition.

2) The term “(under study)” is found in some rare instances, with reference to an article or part of an article. This means that this part of the text has not been adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates and the particular provisions are thus not part of the *Terrestrial Code*, while they continue to be the subject of specific work, until they are amended or deleted.

3) The standards in the chapters of Section 1 are designed for the implementation of measures for the diagnosis, *surveillance* and *notification* of diseases, *infections* and *infestations*. The standards include procedures for *notification* to WOAH and procedures for the recognition of the *animal health status* of a country, *zone* or *compartment*.

4) The standards in the chapters of Section 2 are designed to guide the *importing country* in conducting import *risk analysis* in the absence of WOAH recommendations on particular pathogenic agents or *commodities*. The *importing country* should also use these standards to justify import measures which are more stringent than existing WOAH standards.

5) The standards in the chapters of Section 3 are designed for the establishment, maintenance and evaluation of *Veterinary Services*, including *veterinary legislation* and communication. These standards are intended to assist the *Veterinary Services* and *Veterinary Authority* of Member Countries to meet their objectives of improving terrestrial animal health and welfare and veterinary public health, as well as to establish and maintain confidence in their *international veterinary certificates*.

6) The standards in the chapters of Section 4 are designed for the implementation of measures for the prevention and control of pathogenic agents. Measures in this section include *animal identification*, traceability, zoning, compartmentalisation, disposal of dead *animals*, *disinfection*, disinsection and general hygiene precautions. Some chapters address the specific *sanitary measures* to be applied for the collection and processing of semen and embryos of *animals*.

7) The standards in the chapters of Section 5 are designed for the implementation of general *sanitary measures* for trade. They address veterinary certification and the measures applicable by the *exporting*, *transit* and *importing countries*. A range of model veterinary certificates is provided to facilitate consistent documentation in *international trade*.

8) The standards in the chapters of Section 6 are designed for the implementation of preventive measures in animal production systems. These measures are intended to assist Member Countries in meeting their veterinary public health objectives. They include ante- and post-mortem inspection, control of hazards in *feed*, *biosecurity* at the animal production level, and the control of antimicrobial resistance in *animals*.

9) The standards in the chapters of Section 7 are designed for the implementation of *animal welfare* measures. The standards cover production, transport, and *slaughter* or *killing*, as well as the *animal welfare* aspects of free-roaming dog population control, working equids, and the use of *animals* in research and education.

10) The standards in each of the chapters of Sections 8 to 16, i.e. disease-specific chapters, are designed ~~mainly~~ to ~~prevent the pathogenic agents~~ inform of the occurrence of WOAH *listed diseases*~~, infections or infestations~~ and to prevent the pathogenic agents from being introduced into an *importing country*, ~~or~~ from spreading within a country or having harmful consequences, while facilitating safe trade. Some chapters include specific measures to prevent and control the *infections* and *infestations* of global concern. Sections 8 to 16 ~~each~~ relate to the categories of diseases, *infections* and *infestations* of ~~the host species of the pathogenic agent:~~ multiple species, ~~or species of~~ Apinae, Aves, Bovinae, Equidae, Leporidae, Caprinae, Suidae and Camelidae respectively. Although WOAH aims to include a chapter for each WOAH *listed disease*, not all WOAH *listed diseases* have been covered yet by a specific chapter. This is work in progress, depending on available scientific knowledge and the priorities set by the World Assembly of Delegates.

~~The standards take into account the nature of the traded commodity, the animal health status of the exporting country, zone or compartment, and the risk measures applicable to each commodity.~~

A disease-specific chapter covers some or all of the following components:

* Chapter title and number;
* An introductory ~~A~~article ~~on general provisions~~, including definition~~s~~ for the purposes of the *Terrestrial Code* of the disease and the animal hosts, which  ~~that~~ play a significant role in the epidemiology of the disease, and definition of its occurrence (‘case definition’)~~, and the animal hosts that play a significant role in the epidemiology of the disease~~;
* Article on *safe commodities*;
* Articles on provisions for *animal health status* applied to countries, *zones*, *compartments* or *herds/flocks*;
* Articles on recommendations for safe trade of *commodities*;
* Articles on inactivation of the pathogenic agents present in specific *animal products*, materials or fomites; and
* Articles on *surveillance* of the disease.

Not all disease-specific chapters include all these components and some chapters may include only one ~~the first~~ article on the definition of occurrence for the purpose of *notification* to WOAH. Each chapter includes only those provisions considered, at the time of adoption, relevant to address WOAH Members’ needs with regards to the specific disease; and that are supported by sound scientific and technical knowledge.

The recommendations in these chapters that are related to *international trade* ~~These standards~~ assume that the pathogenic agent is either not present in the *importing country* or is the subject of a control or eradication programme. ~~Sections 8 to 16 each relate to the host species of the pathogenic agent: multiple species or species of Apinae, Aves, Bovinae, Equidae, Leporidae, Caprinae, Suidae and Camelidae. Some chapters include specific measures to prevent and control the infections of global concern. Although WOAH aims to include a chapter for each WOAH listed disease, not all WOAH listed diseases have been covered yet by a specific chapter. This is work in progress, depending on available scientific knowledge and the priorities set by the World Assembly of Delegates.~~ The *sanitary measures* recommended in the standards take into account the nature of the moved or traded *commodity*, the *animal health status* of the *exporting country*, *zone* or *compartment* of origin, and the *risk* mitigation measures applicable to each *commodity*.

1. Specific issues
2. Notification

Chapter 1.1. describes Member Countries' obligations under Organic Statutes of the Office International des Epizooties. *Listed diseases* and *emerging diseases*, as prescribed in Chapter 1.1., are compulsorily notifiable. Member Countries are encouraged to also provide information to WOAH on other animal health events of epidemiological significance.

Chapter 1.2. describes the criteria for the inclusion of a disease,~~an~~ *infection* or *infestation* in the WOAH List and Chapter 1.3. gives the current list. *Listed ~~D~~diseases* are divided into ~~nine~~ categories based on the animal hosts ~~species of the aetiological agents~~.

1. Diagnostic tests and vaccines

It is recommended that specified diagnostic tests and vaccines in *Terrestrial Code* chapters be used with a reference to the relevant section in the WOAH *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals* (hereafter referred to as the *Terrestrial Manual*). Experts responsible for facilities used for disease diagnosis and vaccine production should be fully conversant with the standards in the *Terrestrial Manual*.

1. Freedom from a disease, infection or infestation

Article 1.4.6. provides general principles for declaring a country or *zone* free from a disease, *infection* or *infestation*~~.~~ ~~This article applies when there are no~~ and may be complemented by specific requirements in the *listed disease*-specific chapters.

1. Prevention and control

Chapters 4.4. and 4.5. describe the measures that should be implemented to establish *zones* and *compartments*. Zoning and compartmentalisation ~~should be considered as some of the~~are important tools to prevent and~~used to~~ control diseases and to facilitate safe trade.

Chapters 4.6. to 4.12. describe the measures which should be implemented during collection and processing of semen and embryos of animals, including micromanipulation and cloning, in order to prevent animal health *risks*, especially when trading these *commodities*. Although the measures relate principally to WOAH *listed diseases* or *infections*, general standards apply to all infectious disease *risks*. Moreover, in Chapter 4.8. diseases that are not listed are marked as such but are included for the information of Member Countries.

Chapter 4.15. addresses the specific issue of the prevention and control of bee diseases and some of its trade implications. This chapter should be read in conjunction with the specific bee disease chapters in Section 9.

Chapter 6.5. is designed for the implementation of general *biosecurity* measures in intensive *poultry* production. Chapters 6.6., 6.13. and 6.14. provide recommendations for some specific ~~on-farm~~ prevention and control plans for the unlisted foodborne pathogenic agent *Salmonella* in poultry, bovine and pig production systems as part of the *Veterinary Services* mission to prevent, eliminate or control food safety *hazards* in animal production.

Chapter 6.12. deals specifically with the zoonotic risk associated with the movements of non-human primates and gives standards for certification, transportation and import conditions for these *animals*.

1. Trade requirements

~~Animal health~~*Sanitary measures* related to *international trade* should be based on WOAH standards. A Member Country may authorise the importation of *animals* or *animal products* into its territory under conditions different from those recommended by the *Terrestrial Code*. To scientifically justify more stringent measures, the *importing country* should conduct a *risk analysis* in accordance with WOAH standards, as described in Chapter 2.1. Members of the WTO should refer to the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement).

Chapters 5.1. to 5.3. describe the general obligations and ethical responsibilities of *importing* and *exporting countries* in *international trade*. *Veterinary Authorities* and all *veterinarians* directly involved in *international trade* should be familiar with these chapters. Chapter 5.3. also describes the WOAH informal procedure for dispute mediation.

WOAH aims to include an article listing the *commodities* that are considered safe for trade without the need for *risk* mitigation measures specifically directed against a particular *listed disease*, *infection* or *infestation*, regardless of the status of the country or *zone* of origin for the agent in question, at the beginning of each *listed disease*-specific chapter in Sections 8 to 16. This is work in progress and some chapters do not yet contain articles listing *safe commodities*. When a list of *safe commodities* is present in a chapter, *importing countries* should not apply trade restrictions to such *commodities* with respect to the agent in question. Chapter 2.2. describes the criteria for inclusion of a ~~used to assess the safety of~~ *commodity*~~ies~~ in the list of *safe commodities* of a disease-specific chapter.

1. International veterinary certificates

An *international veterinary certificate* is an official document that the *Veterinary Authority* of an *exporting country* issues in accordance with Chapters 5.1. and 5.2. It lists animal health requirements and, where appropriate, public health requirements for the exported *commodity*. The quality of the *exporting country's* *Veterinary Services* is essential in providing assurances to trading partners regarding the safety of exported *animals* and products. This includes the *Veterinary Authority's* ethical approach to the provision of veterinary certificates and their history in meeting their notification obligations.

*International veterinary certificates* underpin *international trade* and provide assurances to the *importing country* regarding the health status of the *animals* and products imported. The measures prescribed should take into account the *animal health status* of both *exporting* and *importing countries*, and *zones*, *herds/flocks* or *compartments* within them, and be based upon the standards in the *Terrestrial Code*.

The following steps should be taken when drafting *international veterinary certificates*:

* 1. identify the diseases, *infections* or *infestations* from which the *importing country* is justified in seeking protection because of its own health status. *Importing countries* should not impose measures in regards to diseases that occur in their own territory but are not subject to *official control programmes*;
  2. for *commodities* capable of transmitting these diseases, *infections* or *infestations* through *international trade*, the *importing country* should apply the relevant articles in the *listed disease*-specific chapters. The application of the articles should be adapted to the ~~disease~~ *animal health status* of the country, *zone*, ~~or~~ *compartment* or *herd/flock* of origin. Such status should be established according to Article 1.4.6. except when articles of the relevant *listed disease* chapter specify otherwise;
  3. when preparing *international veterinary certificates*, the *importing country* should endeavour to use terms and expressions in accordance with the definitions given in the Glossary. *International veterinary certificates* should be kept as simple as possible and should be clearly worded, to avoid misunderstanding of the *importing country's* requirements;
  4. Chapters 5.10. to 5.13. provide, as further guidance to Member Countries, model certificates that should be used as a baseline.

1. Guidance notes for importers and exporters

It is recommended that *Veterinary Authorities* prepare “guidance notes” to assist importers and exporters understand trade requirements. These notes should identify and explain the trade conditions, including the measures to be applied before and after export and during transport and unloading, and the relevant legal obligations and operational procedures. The guidance notes should advise on all details to be included in the health certification accompanying the consignment to its destination. Exporters should also be reminded of the International Air Transport Association rules governing air transport of *animals* and *animal products*.

[…]

1. Name of animal species

In the *Terrestrial Code*, common terms (in bold in the table below) referring to *animals* are based on scientific names as shown below. In each chapter of the *Terrestrial Code*, scientific names of the *animals* are provided when the vernacular names used in the chapter do not include all the species as described in the table below, e.g. ‘bovines (*Bos indicus*, *B. taurus*, *B. grunniens, Bubalus bubalis* and *Syncerus caffer*)’, which in that example does not include *animals* of genus bison, or when the list of *animals* is long, e.g. ‘animals of the families *Suidae* and *Cervidae*, the subfamilies *bovinae*, *caprinae* and *antilopinae* of the family *Bovidae*, and *Camelus bactrianus*’.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Higher level terms | Terms based on Order or Sub-order | Terms based on Family | Terms based on  Sub-Family | Terms based on  Tribe | Terms based on  Genus |
| Class ‘Insecta’ | - | Family ‘Apidae’ | Sub-Family ‘Apinae’  ‘**bees**’ means animals of Sub-Family ‘Apinae’ | Including animals of Tribe:   * ‘Apini’ | Including animals of Genus:   * ‘Apis’   ‘**honey bees**’ means animals of Genus Apis. |
|  |  |  |  | Including animals of Tribe:   * ‘Bombini’ | Including animals of Genus:   * ‘Bombus’   ‘**bumble bees**’ means animals of Genus Bombus. |
|  |  |  |  | Including animals of Tribe:   * ‘Meliponini’   ‘**stingless bees**’ means animals for Tribe ‘Meliponini’ | - |
| Class ‘Aves’  ‘**avian**’ means animals of class Aves | Order ‘Galliformes’ | - | - | - | Including animals of Genus:   * ‘Gallus’ * ‘Meleagris’ etc.   ‘**chicken**’ means *Gallus gallus domesticus*.  ‘**turkey**’ means *Meleagris gallopavo*. |
| Class ‘Aves’  ‘**avian**’ means animals of class Aves | Order ‘Anseriformes’ | - | - | - | Including animals of Genus:   * ‘Anser’ * ‘Branta’ * ‘Anas’ etc.   ‘**geese**’ means animals of Genera Anser and Branta.  ‘**ducks**’ means *Anas platyrhynchos*.  (‘**domestic ducks**’ means *Anas platyrhynchos domesticus*.) |
| ‘**mammals**’ means animals of Class ‘Mammalia’  ‘**ungulates**’ means animals of Order ‘Artiodactyla’ (even-toed ungulates) and Order ‘Perissodactyla’ (odd-toed ungulates)  ‘**artiodactyls**’ means animals of Order ‘Artiodactyla’ (even-toed ungulates) | ‘**ruminants**’ means animals of Sub-order ‘Ruminantia’ | ‘**bovids**’ means animals of Family ‘Bovidae’ | ‘**bovines**’ means animals of Sub-Family ‘Bovinae’ | - | Including animals of Genus:   * ‘Bos’ * ‘Bubalus’ * ‘Bison’ * ‘Syncerus’ etc. |
|  |  |  | ‘**caprines**’ means animals of Sub-Family ‘Caprinae’ | - | Including animals of Genus:   * ‘Ovis’ * ‘Capra’, etc.   ‘**sheep**’ means *Ovis aries*.  ‘**goats**’ means *Capra hircus* (domestic goats) and *Capra aegagrus* (wild goats). |
|  |  |  | Sub-Family ‘Antilopinae’ | - | Including animals of Genus:   * ‘Gazella’ * ‘Antilope’ * ‘Dibatag’, etc. |
|  |  | ‘**cervids**’ means animals of Family ‘Cervidae’ | Sub-Family ‘Cervinae’ | - | Including animals of Genus:   * ‘Cervus’ * ‘Dama’, etc. |
|  |  |  | Sub-Family ‘Capreolinae’ | - | Including animals of Genus:   * ‘Capreolus’ * ‘Odocoileus’ * ‘Rangifer’, etc. |
|  | Sub-Order ‘Suina’ | ‘**suids**’ means animals of Family ‘Suidae’ | - | - | Including animals of Genus:   * ‘Sus’ * ‘Phacochoerus’ * ‘Hylochoerus’, etc.   ‘**pigs**’ means *Sus scrofa* (domestic and wild) . |
|  | Sub-Order ‘Tylopoda’ | ‘**camelids**’ means animals of Family ‘Camelidae’ | Sub-Family ‘Camelinae’ | - | Including animals of Genus:   * ‘Camelus’ * ‘Lama’ * ‘Vicugna’   ‘**dromedary camels**’ means *Camelus dromedarius*.  ‘**bactrian camels**’ means *Camelus bactrianus*.  ~~‘~~**~~alpacas~~**~~’ means~~ *~~Lama guanicoe pacos~~*~~.~~  ~~‘~~**~~llamas~~**~~’ means~~ *~~Lama guanicoe glama~~*.  ‘**New World camelids**’ means animals of Genus ~~alpacas and~~ Lama~~s~~ (including ‘llamas’, ‘guanacos’ and ‘alpacas’) and Vicugna. |
|  | Sub-Order ‘Hippomorpha’ | ‘**equids**’ means animals of Family ‘Equidae’ | ‘**equines**’ means animals of Sub-Family ‘Equinae’ | - | Including animals of only Genus ‘Equus’  ‘**horses**’ means *Equus ferus caballus*.  ‘**donkeys**’ means *Equus africanus asinus*.  ‘**mules**’ means *Equus africanus asinus* (male) × *Equus ferus caballus* (female).  ‘**hinnies**’ means *Equus ferus caballus* (male) x *Equus africanus asinus* (female).  ‘**zebras**’ means animals of subgenus Hippotigris. |
|  | ‘**lagomorphs**’ means animals of Order ‘Lagomorpha’ | ‘**leporids**’ means animals of Family ‘Leporidae’ | - | - | Including animals of Genus:   * ‘Oryctolagus’ * ‘Lepus’ * ‘Sylvilagus’   ‘**rabbits**’ means animals of Genus Oryctolagus’.  ‘**hares**’ means animals of Genus Lepus.  ‘**European hares**’ means *Lepus europaeus*. |
|  | ‘**carnivores**’  means animals of Order ‘Carnivora’ | ‘**canids**’ means animals of Family ‘Canidae’ | Sub-Family ‘Caninae’ | - | Including animals of Genus:   * ‘Canis’   ‘**dogs**’ means *Canis lupus familiaris*. |
|  |  | ‘**felids**’ means animals of Family ‘Felidae’ | - | - | Including animals of Genus:   * ‘Felis’   ‘**cats**’ means *Felis catus*. |
|  |  | Family ‘Mustelidae’ |  |  | Including animals of Genus:   * ‘Mustela’   ‘**ferrets**’ means *Mustela furo*. |
|  | ‘**rodents**’ means animals of ~~Family~~ Order ‘Rodentia’ | - | - | - | - |
|  | ‘**bats**’ means of animals of Order ‘Chiroptera’ | - | - | - | - |
|  | ‘**non-human primates**’ means animals of Order ‘Primates’ except for humans (Genus ‘Homo’) | - | - | - | - |

~~In each chapter of the~~ *~~Terrestrial Code~~*~~, scientific names of the animals are provided when the vernacular names used in the chapter do not include all the species as described in this table, e.g. ‘bovines (~~*~~Bos indicus~~*~~,~~ *~~B. taurus~~*~~,~~ *~~B. grunniens, Bubalus bubalis~~* ~~and~~ *~~Syncerus caffer~~*~~)’, which in that example does not include animals of genus bison, or when the list of animals is very long, e.g. ‘animals of the families~~ *~~Suidae~~* ~~and~~ *~~Cervidae~~*~~, the subfamilies~~ *~~bovinae~~*~~,~~ *~~caprinae~~* ~~and~~ *~~antilopinae~~* ~~of the family~~ *~~Bovidae~~*~~, and~~ *~~Camelus bactrianus~~*~~’.~~

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