ANIMAL HEALTH STANDARDS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE

SADC REGIONAL STAKEHOLDERS WORKSHOP ON SPS AWARENES CREATION
12-13 September 2013
Pretoria, South Africa
Context

• Historically, provision of recommendations on disease freedom from entire territory
• Ultimate goal is diseases freedom from countries and regions
• Tools permitting a risk based approach for safe trade in absence of territorial disease freedom
• Paradigm shift on current and future activities presented by the Code Commission to facilitate CBT.
Introduction

General (historical) mandate of the OIE: to improve animal health worldwide

1st OIE historical objective

To ensure transparency in the global animal disease situation including zoonoses
Introduction: OIE priority missions:

- Improve animal health and welfare worldwide

  Transparency of the world animal health situation worldwide
  Scientific excellence
  International support and the role played by Veterinary Services
  Support for good veterinary governance and capacity building;
  Safety of international trade of animals and animal products
  Food safety
  Biological threat reduction and
  Animal welfare
WTO SPS agreement (1995)

- Legal framework for international trade
-recognises OIE as a reference organisation for international standards (one of the “3 sisters”)

The “3 sisters”

Standard-setting organisations

food safety
CODEX

animal health and welfare
OIE

plant health
IPPC

Codex = Codex Alimentarius Commission (FAO/WHO)
OIE = World Organisation for Animal Health
IPPC = International Plant Protection Convention (FAO)
OIE International Standards

Terrestrial Animal Health Code – mammals, birds and bees

Aquatic Animal Health Code – fish, molluscs, crustaceans and amphibians

Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals

Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals

available on the OIE website (www.oie.int)
Why OIE standards are necessary

- Facilitate the identification, control and eradication of animal diseases including emerging diseases
- Encourage **harmonization** of national legislations and control measures
- **Narrow the gap** between rich and poor countries
- Surveillance and control of animal diseases and zoonoses = **International Public Good (IPG)**
  - IPG is a duty/responsibility of governments
  - International community, international organizations, donors and NGO to influence and support
- Promote fairer and safe trade in animal and animal products (fewer unjustified restrictions on trade)
Provisions in the TAHC
Some of the OIE tools available

- Risk based and aimed at trade facilitation measures
- **Zones** (free zones, containment zones)
- Compartimentalisation
- Commodity specific recommendations
Zoning / Compartmentalisation

• Zoning applies to an animal sub-population defined primarily on a geographical basis

• Compartmentalisation applies to an animal sub-population defined primarily by management and husbandry practices relating to biosecurity

• Practically, spatial considerations and good management are important in the application of both concepts
But there are challenges!

Flooded or breached fences

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Containment zone

- **Containment** means a defined zone around and including suspected or infected establishments, taking into account the epidemiological factors and results of investigations, where control measures to prevent the spread of the infection are applied.
Commodity Specific recommendations

• Safe commodities
• Commodity-based approach
• Commodity-based trade

• Disease specific chapters of the TAHC make reference to “safe commodities.”
• Articles referring to risk mitigation measures for commodities (AM & PM).
• Inactivation procedures for certain commodities.
Commodity Specific recommendations

Safe commodities:

• A list of commodities which are considered not to require any disease-specific measures, irrespective of the status of the exporting country for the disease.
Safe Commodities

- **Anthrax**: semen & embryos
- **Aujeszky**: meat & products of animal origin not containing offal
- **Bluetongue**: milk & milk products, meat & meat products, hides & skins, wool & fibre, (...) bovine embryos & oocytes
- **BSE**: milk & milk products, semen & in vivo cattle embryos (...), hides & skins, gelatine & collagen prepared from hides and skins.
- **CBPP**: milk and milk products, hides and skins, meat and meat products (excl. lung).
- **RVF**: hides & skins, wool & fibre
- **West Nile**: hatching eggs, eggs for human consumption, egg products, poultry semen, fresh meat & meat products of poultry.
Some Technical issues.....

• Some conditions may apply e.g. stunning & pithing (BSE)
Some definitions may apply e.g. the definition of “poultry” in respect to placing bans following notifications in other birds other than poultry including wild birds (Notifiable Avian Influenza & Newcastle D.)
Some risk mitigation measures may apply during production, processing, transport and storage e.g. ensure non contamination after inactivation or processing of meat and milk in approved establishments.
Commodity Specific recommendations

• Paradigm shift from a strict emphasis on country freedom to risk based recommendations

• Separation of specific animal sub-populations with different health status

• Recommendations based risks reduction measures for specified commodities

• Nevertheless, the ultimate goal continues to be the eradication of the disease from a territory and eventually the world
Commodity Specific recommendations

Definitions:

• A list of commodities which are considered not to require any disease-specific measures, irrespective of the status of the exporting country for the disease

• Some conditions apply e.g. stunning & pithing in BSE
Commodity Specific recommendations

Definitions:

• Notifiable Avian Influenza and Newcastle disease:
Definition of “poultry” in respect to placing bans following notifications in other birds other than poultry including wild birds
Commodity Specific recommendations

Susceptible species:

• Listing of susceptible species for each disease or pathogen

CBPP: Cattle and water buffalo
Commodity Specific recommendations

Risk mitigation measures:

• risk mitigation measures during production, during processing, transport and storage e.g. ensure non contamination after inactivation/processing of meat and milk in approved establishments
Commodity Specific recommendations

Inactivation procedures:

- **Pasteurization**, UHT, HTST processing in milk and cream for human consumption pH based.
- **Canning**, thorough cooking and drying after salting meat
- **Casings**: salting or dry salting with temperature control
## Measures recommended in the Terrestrial Code

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease</th>
<th>Exporting country status</th>
<th>Beef</th>
<th>Milk</th>
<th>Pig meat</th>
<th>Poultry meat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vesicular stomatitis</td>
<td>regardless of status</td>
<td>no measures necessary for trade</td>
<td>no measures necessary for trade</td>
<td>no measures necessary for trade</td>
<td>no measures necessary for trade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rift Valley fever</td>
<td>infection free country / zone</td>
<td>8.11.7.</td>
<td>no measures necessary for trade</td>
<td>no measures necessary for trade</td>
<td>no measures necessary for trade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>infected country / zone without disease</td>
<td>8.11.9.</td>
<td>no measures necessary for trade</td>
<td>no measures necessary for trade</td>
<td>no measures necessary for trade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBPP</td>
<td>infected country</td>
<td>11.9.2. (Note 4)</td>
<td>no measures necessary for trade</td>
<td>no measures necessary for trade</td>
<td>no measures necessary for trade</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Beef trade from FMD Infected countries/zones

• Article 8.5.25 requires an official control programme involving animals and carcasses incl.:
  – systematic vaccination of cattle (2x & <12 months >1 month) prior to slaughter;
  – 10 km radius no FMD for past 30 days
  – Transportation clean
  – Approved export abattoir
  – Ante- and post mortem with favourable results,
  – Deboned carcasses with maturation process (>2°C, 24hrs pH<6 longissimus dorsi m.)
OIE and Private Standards

• The growth of private standards in international trade continues to be of concern to OIE Members, particularly developing countries.
  – Transparency e.g. multiple certification schemes
  – Scientific basis

• Avoid conflicts with official standards - including, making specific reference to the OIE and Codex standards.

• OIE signed an official agreement with the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI)

• Discussions with GlobalGAP underway
OIE meeting on official & private standards
16 February 2010 Paris
Conclusion

• Historically, provision of recommendations on disease freedom from entire territory
• Ultimate goal is still diseases freedom from countries and regions
• Tools permitting a risk based approach for safe trade in absence of territorial disease freedom include zoning, compartmentalisation and containment zones
• Shift on current and future activities presented by the OIE Code Commission facilitate CBT.
Thank you for your attention

Organisation mondiale
de la santé animale

World Organisation
for Animal Health

Organización Mundial
de Sanidad Animal

www.rr-africa.oie.int