

# TAHC chapters on equine diseases under review- impact on international horse movement

2nd Coordination meeting for the  
International Horse Movement in Asia  
and Pacific Project

17th May 2023

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Founded as OIE

Organisation  
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de la santé  
animale  
Fondée en tant qu'OIE

Organización  
Mundial  
de Sanidad  
Animal  
Fundada como OIE



## WOAH international standards

WOAH establishes standards for the improvement of animal health and welfare and veterinary public health worldwide, including the prevention of disease spread through international trade of animals and animal products.



**World Trade Organization (WTO)** Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) recognises **WOAH** as the **reference international standard-setting organisation** for animal health and zoonoses.



Include import sanitary measures, according to the commodity, their origin, the risk reduction measures applicable to each commodity



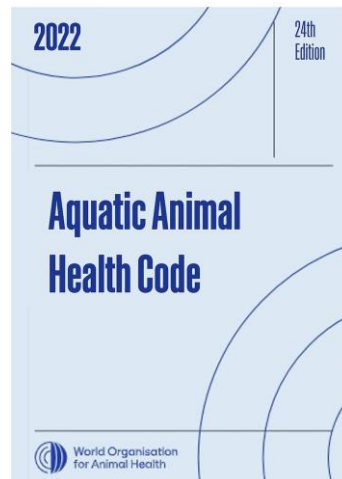
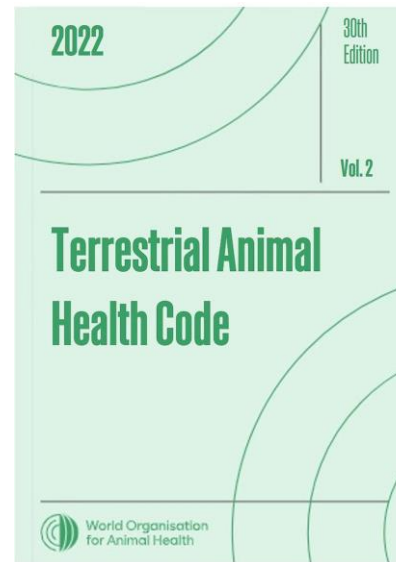
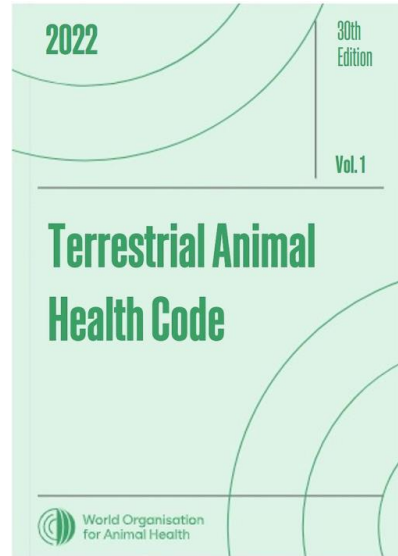
Veterinary Authorities should use these standards to set up measures to prevent the spread of significant transboundary diseases via international trade in animals and animal products while avoiding unjustified sanitary trade barriers



Members shall ensure that their sanitary measures are based on existing international standards or based on risk analyses conducted according to these standards.

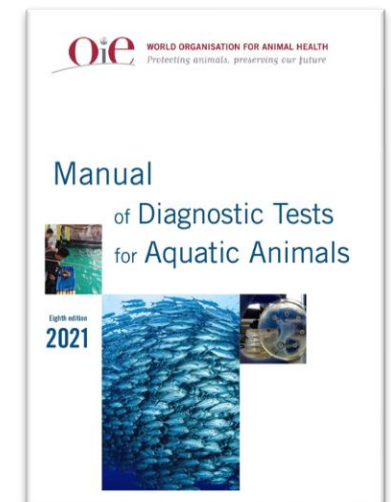
## WOAH international standards

### Codes



- Terrestrial Code: New version every year
- Latest version publicly available on the [WOAH website](https://www.woah.org/)

### Manuals



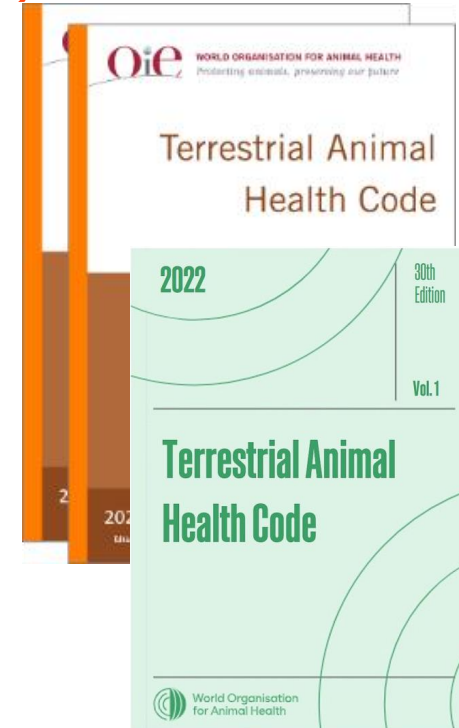


## TAHC on equine-related diseases



### Equine-related diseases and Code Chapters:

- Contagious equine metritis (Chapter last updated 1982)
- Dourine (1968)
- Equine encephalomyelitis (Eastern & Western) (1968)
- Equine infectious anaemia (2007)
- Equine influenza (2012)
- Equine piroplasmiasis (2007)
- Infection with *Burkholderia mallei* (Glanders) (2018)
- Infection with African horse sickness virus (2014)
- Infection with equid herpesvirus-1 (EHV-1) (2014)
- Infection with equine arteritis virus (2014)
- Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis (1998)
- Japanese Encephalitis (2000)
- West Nile Fever (2009)





## 3 Chapters newly drafted for potential adoption (WOAH General Session May 2023)

- Contagious equine metritis
- Infection with equine influenza virus
- Equine piroplasmosis

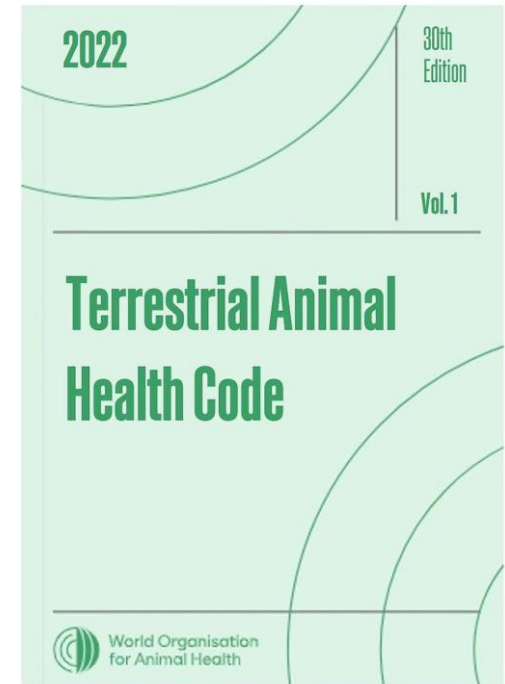
Circulated for Members (and partners’) comments: AHS Chapter

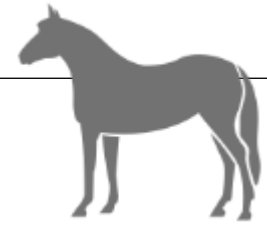
## Diseases Chapters proposed for revision in 2023-2024:

- Equine encephalomyelitis (Eastern and Western)
- Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis
- Japanese Encephalitis
- Surra & Dourine



**Inclusion of provisions for temporary importation of competition horses**





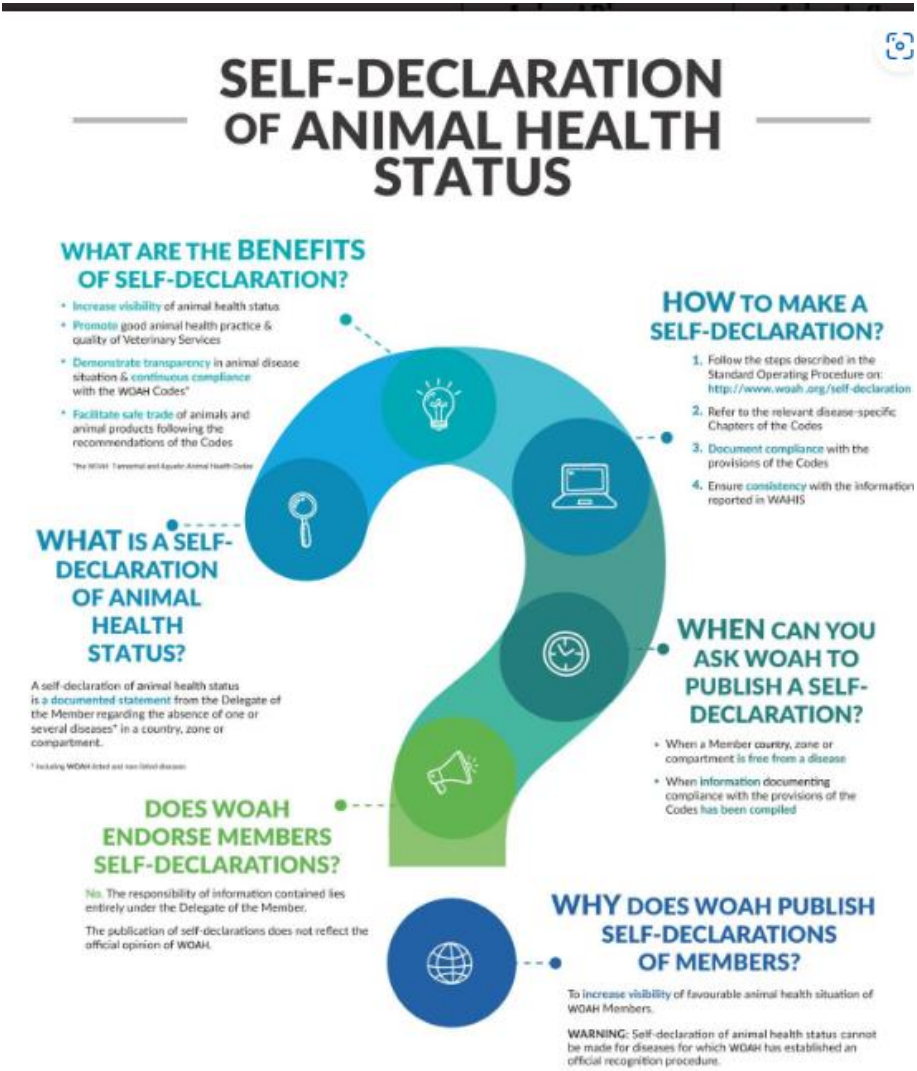
### Provisions in the newly drafted Chapters (CEM, EP, EI):

- **Case definitions** for each disease,
- **List of safe commodities,**
- **Free country, Zone or herd**
- **Guidance on Surveillance** (animal surveillance, vector surveillance)
- **Import provisions** for different commodities (live animals, animal products)
- **Inclusion of provisions for temporary importation** of competition horses

## New CEM Chapter:

- **Case definition-** incubation & infective periods
- **Safe commodities** (i.e., geldings; milk and meat products)
- **Herd free from infection** with *T. equigenitalis* (with requisites for qualification, maintenance and recovery of freedom)

Possibility to submit to WOAH for publication a **self-declaration** of disease freedom herd freedom ([www.woah.org/self-declaration](http://www.woah.org/self-declaration))





- **Recommendations for importation** of stallions or mares (taking into account origin, and lab tests for the detection of the agent)
- Recommendations for **temporary importation** of stallions and mares **ONLY for competition** purposes, not exceeding 90 days, lab test are not required but horses should be accompanied by:
  - An international veterinary certificate, a passport and individual identification, belonging to HHP horse subpopulation as defined in Chapter 4.17;
  - are not used for breeding and do not have any sexual contact with other horses;
  - not subjected to any practice that may represent a risk of transmission of infection with *T. equigenitalis*
- **Recommendations for importation of semen, oocytes and embryos**
- **General principles of surveillance** (including clinical, agent, and serological surveillance)





## Chapter 12.7. Equine Piroplasmosis

New Chapter

- **Case definition-** 30 days incubation period & lifelong infective period
- **Safe commodities** (i.e., milk and meat products, semen, embryos, sterile horse serum)
- **Country or Zone free** from infection with *T. equi* and *B. caballi* (notifiability, absence of infection for 6 years, specific importations and surveillance requirements, particularly in high-risk areas adjacent to an infected zone)
- **Self declarations of country or Zone free**

• For more information please contact:  
[self-declaration@woah.org](mailto:self-declaration@woah.org) | [disease.status@woah.org](mailto:disease.status@woah.org)

• [Diseases Status page: www.woah.org/official-status](http://www.woah.org/official-status)  
Terrestrial Code: [www.woah.org/terrestrial-code](http://www.woah.org/terrestrial-code)

### Report of the Meeting of WOAH Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission

Original: English (EN)  
7 to 17 February 2023  
Paris

#### Introduction and Member contribution

This report presents the work of the WOAH Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission (hereinafter: the Code Commission), which met from 7 to 17 February 2023, in Paris, France.

The Code Commission thanked the following Members for providing comments: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China (People's Republic of), Chinese Taipei, Indonesia, Japan, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea, Singapore, South Africa, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Kingdom (UK), the United States of America (USA), Members of the WOAH Americas Region, the Member States of the European Union (EU). The Commission also thanked the following organisations for providing comments: the International Coalition for Animal Welfare (ICFAW), the International Meat Secretariat (IMS), as well as various experts of the WOAH scientific network.

The Code Commission reviewed all comments that were submitted prior to the deadline and were supported by a rationale. The Commission focused its more detailed explanations on issues that were deemed significant. 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. The Commission made amendments to draft texts, where relevant, in the usual manner by double underline and strikethrough. In relevant Annexes, amendments proposed at this meeting are highlighted in yellow to distinguish them from those made previously.

#### Status of annexes

Texts in Part A (Annexes 4 to 22) will be proposed for adoption at the 90th General Session in May 2023. Texts in Part B (Annexes 3 and 23 to 34) are presented for comments.

#### How to submit comments

The Code Commission strongly encourages Members and International Organisations that have a Cooperative Agreement with WOAH to participate in the development of WOAH International Standards by submitting comments on this report and on relevant annexes of this report. All comments should be submitted to WOAH through the WOAH Delegates or from organisations with which the WOAH has a Cooperative Agreement.

The Commission also draws the attention of Members to those instances where the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases (the Scientific Commission), the Biological Standards 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 reports of the relevant entity and Members are encouraged to review these reports together with the report of the Code Commission. These reports are no longer annexed to the Commission's report. Instead, they are available on the dedicated webpages on the WOAH website, e.g., ad hoc Group reports:

<https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/technical-standards-setting/processed-hoc-group>

- **Recommendations for importation of equids** (taking into account origin, and lab tests for the detection of the agent, free from ticks prior and during transport, etc)
- **Recommendations for temporary importation of horses ONLY for competition purposes and HHP horses**, lab test are not required but horses should be :
  - Accompanied by an international veterinary certificate, a passport and individual identification, belonging to HHP horse subpopulation as defined in Chapter 4.17;
  - Not subjected to any practice that may represent a risk of transmission of infection with *T. equi* and *Babesia caballi*
  - maintained free from ticks during the 30 days prior to shipment, during transport and protected from ticks during their stay (and examined daily for the presence of ticks)
- **Recommendations to protect equids from ticks**
- **General principles of surveillance** (including clinical, serological, agent, and vector surveillance, and surveillance in high-risk areas)

# Any questions?

# Thank you

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