

# General requirements and procedures related to official recognition of PPR free status and endorsement of official PPR control programmes/ Self-declaration of LSD free status

East Asia CVO/Contact Persons meeting on PPR & LSD

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World  
Organisation  
for Animal  
Health

Organisation  
mondiale  
de la santé  
animale

Organización  
Mundial  
de Sanidad  
Animal





# Outline

- Historical information of official recognition
- Standard Operating Procedures for official recognition of animal health status and endorsement of control programmes
- Current provisions in the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* for official recognition of PPR free status – Key supportive information





# WOAH official recognition of animal health status

## HISTORICAL

1994

- Requested by the World Assembly
- Voluntary-based procedure
- Certain diseases
- Mandate given to the Scientific Commission
- Recognition by the World Assembly

1995

Adoption of the procedure for FMD official recognition

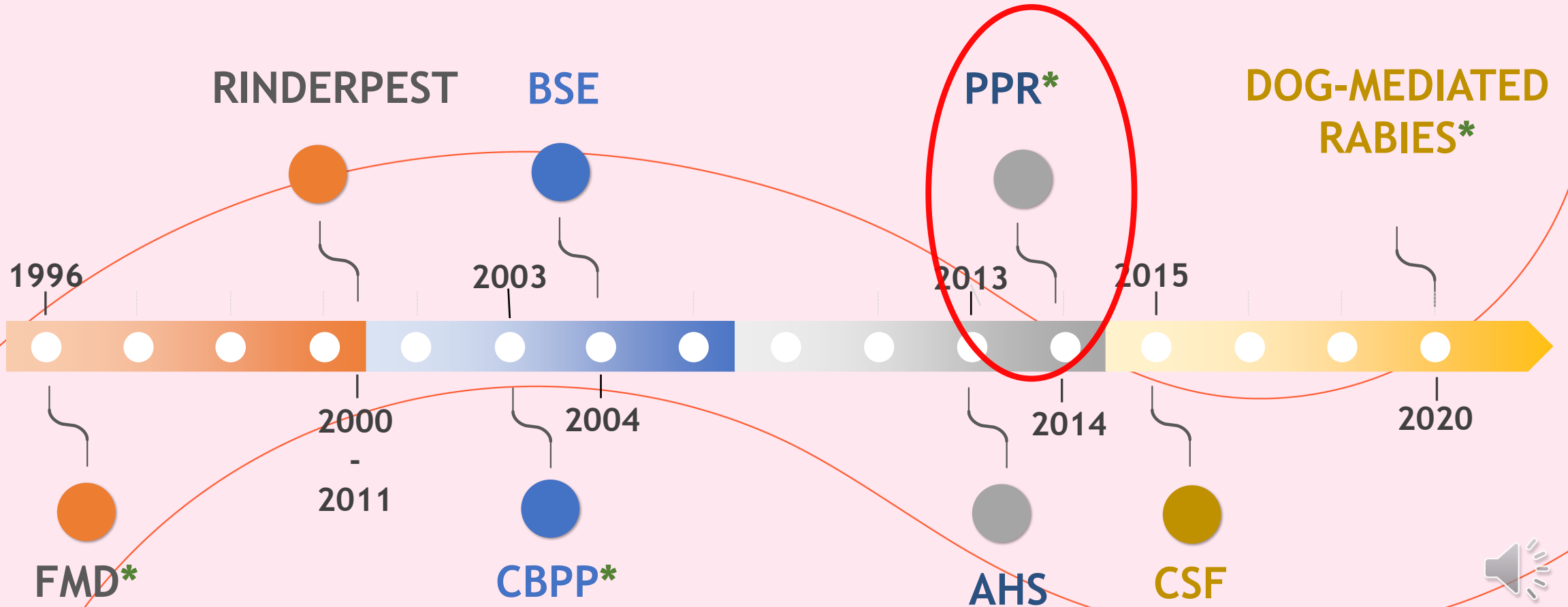
1996

Adoption of the 1st list of Member Countries and zone free from FMD without vaccination





# WOAH official recognition of animal health status



\* WOAH endorsement of official control programme



## WOAH official recognition of animal health status

### The main objectives:

- Protect animal and human health in international trade;
- Facilitate trade;
- Guarantees to trading partners;
  - Long term perspective** documented and updated evidence on the disease-free situation;
  - Veterinary Services** meet baseline requirements concerning disease control and trade activities.
- Objective of the Global Strategies (FMD and PPR)





## WOAH endorsement of official control programme

The main objectives: incentives of the endorsement:

- countries have access to international expertise (Scientific Commission provides technical guidance on the progress of their programme through the annual reconfirmation process);
- to progressively improve the situation and eventually attain official recognition of disease status,
- to help the Veterinary Services to be provided some support from their government,
- to help countries to be provided some support from donors.





# Standard Operating Procedures for official recognition of animal health status



World Organisation for Animal Health

Organisation mondiale de la santé animale

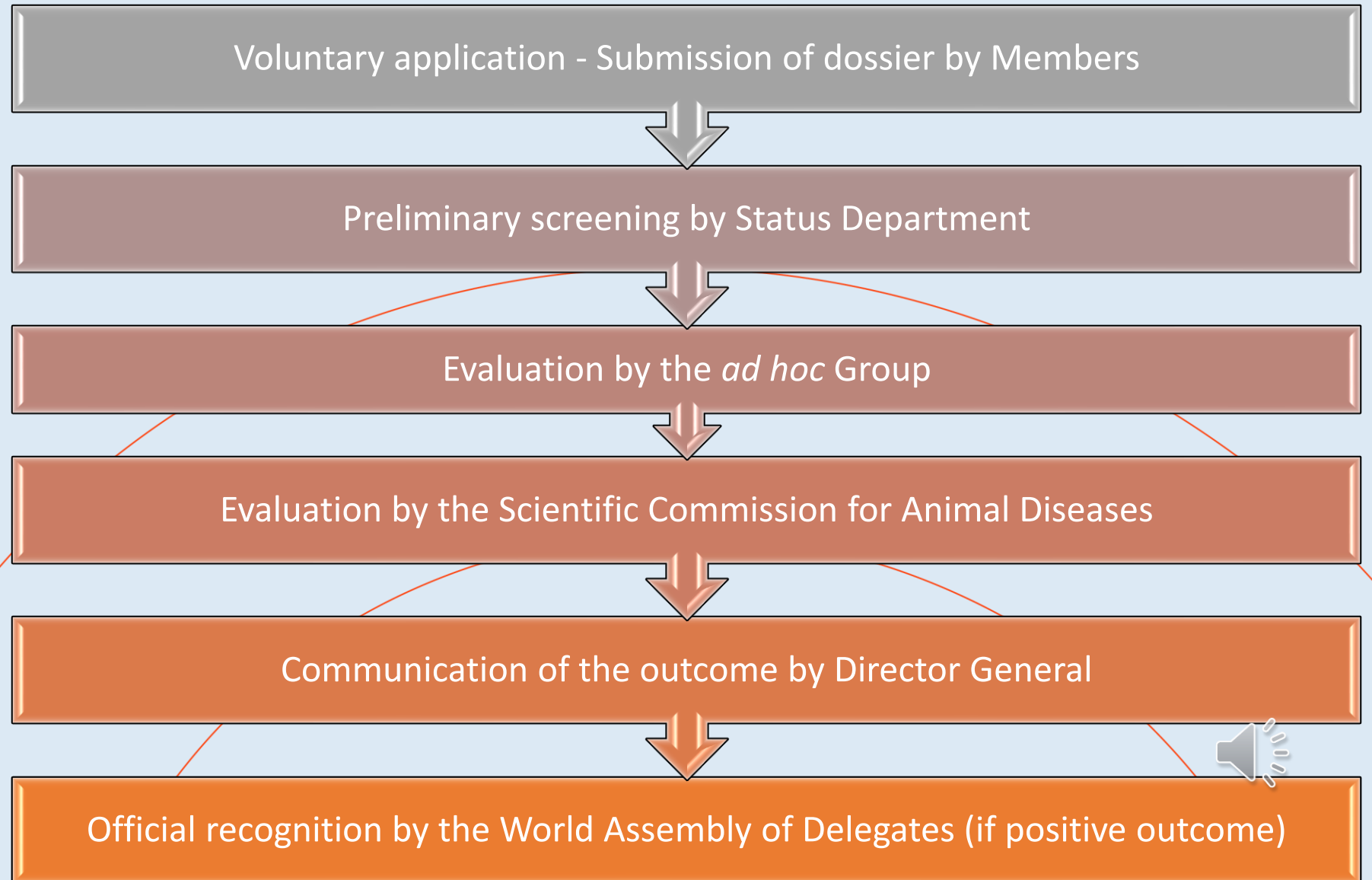
Organización Mundial de Sanidad Animal

## Application\_SOP

### Standard Operating Procedure for official recognition of animal health status and for the endorsement of official control programmes of Members

<b>Description/ Scope:</b>	This procedure describes the process for the preparation, assessment and approval of dossiers for the official recognition of animal health status and for the endorsement of official control programmes of Members.
<b>Related documents:</b>	Guidelines for the Official Status Recognition Process <sup>1</sup> (Annexed) Resolution No. 15 of the 2020 Adapted Procedure Resolution No. 16 of the 2020 Adapted Procedure
<b>Related processes:</b>	Expert Mission Deployment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Procedure (Mission_SOP)</li> <li>- Guidelines (Mission_Guidelines)</li> </ul> Reconfirmation of a Status or Programme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Procedure (Reconfirmation_SOP)</li> <li>- Guidelines (Reconfirmation_Guidelines)</li> </ul> Suspension, Recovery and Withdrawal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Procedure (Suspension_SOP)</li> <li>- Guidelines (Suspension_Guidelines)</li> </ul> Addendum: Establishment of a protection zone
<b>List of acronyms:</b>	AHG: <i>ad hoc</i> Group Assembly: World Assembly of Delegates DDG: Deputy Director General, Standards and Science DG: Director General SD: Status Department GS: General Session SCAD: Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases <i>Terrestrial Code: Terrestrial Animal Health Code</i>

Step	Time Reference	Responsible person	Action	Reference Document
1.	After the GS	DG	Sends letter to Delegates confirming SCAD and AHGs dates and deadlines for dossiers submission.	






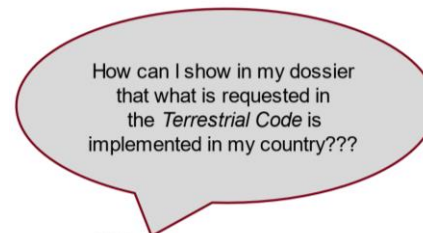
## WOAH calendar meetings:

- Cycle from a General Session to the following one
- Letter from the DG after each General Session announcing dates of the AHG
- Deadline to submit dossier: 2 months before the meeting of the AHG

Tentative dates of official status evaluation ad hoc Groups (AHG)		
Disease	Date of meeting	Deadline for submission of dossier
AHS	26–28 September 2023	27 July 2023
BSE	3–5 October 2023	4 August 2023
dog-mediated rabies control	3–5 October 2023	4 August 2023
<b>PPR</b>	<b>17–19 October 2023</b>	<b>18 August 2023</b>
FMD	23–26 October 2023	25 August 2023
CSF	7–9 November 2023	8 September 2023
CBPP	5–7 December 2023	6 October 2023



- Compliance with the relevant provisions of the *Terrestrial Code*.
- Complete – relevant to template **Questionnaire** in Chapters 1.12. of the *Terrestrial Code* (also in WOA website) – **documented evidence**
- 50 pages + appendices (properly cross-referenced) + executive summary
- Digitalised map if relevant (free zone)
- Proof of payment fee
- Contact details of technical staff



Demonstrate by **EVIDENCE**



Archiving and screening



Acknowledge receipt to the Delegate



Request of additional information or amended dossier, if gap identified



Translation in English if needed



Processing for the *ad hoc* Group



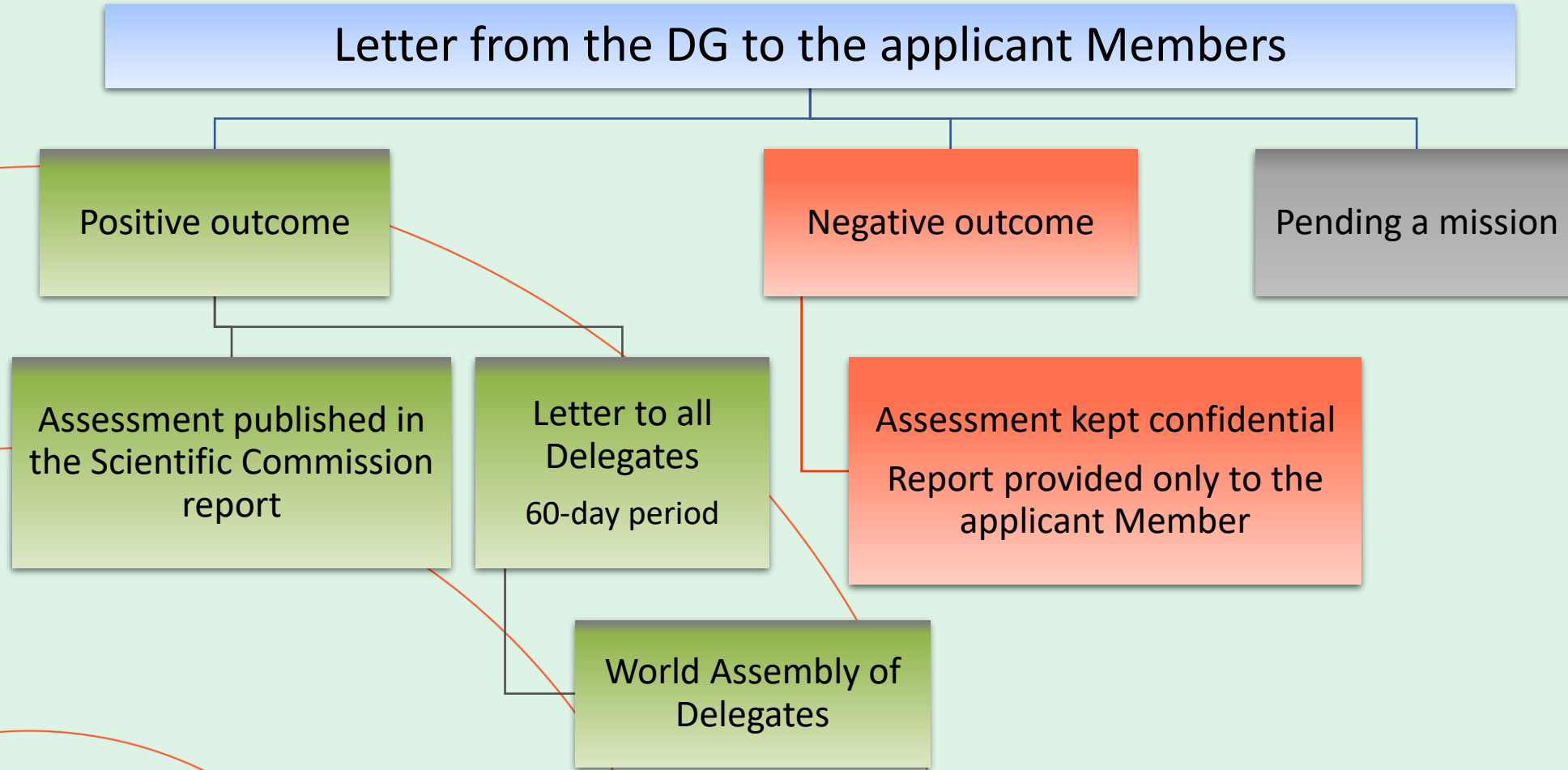
## An *ad hoc* Group:

- Usually comprises six internationally recognised experts
  - take into consideration geographical representation and gender balance, when possible.
- Assessment against *Terrestrial Code* requirements
  - Based on:
    - Information from the application (esp. evidence) and other reports (e.g., WAHIS, PVS)
    - Experts' knowledge
    - Information available in the public domain
  - Possible interaction (electronic) with the applicant Member
  - Detailed evaluation report and recommendations forwarded to the Scientific Commission



- Scientific Commission: Members elected by the World Assembly of Delegates for a three-year term
- Assess the dossier, including the *ad hoc* Group recommendations
- Possible interaction with
  - The chairperson of the *ad hoc* Group
  - Applicant Members, including the possible visit of a delegation  
/!¥ official request to WOAHA by the Delegate before 31 December
- Final recommendation proposed for adoption by the World Assembly of Delegates
- May request an expert mission (field or virtual) to verify the dossier



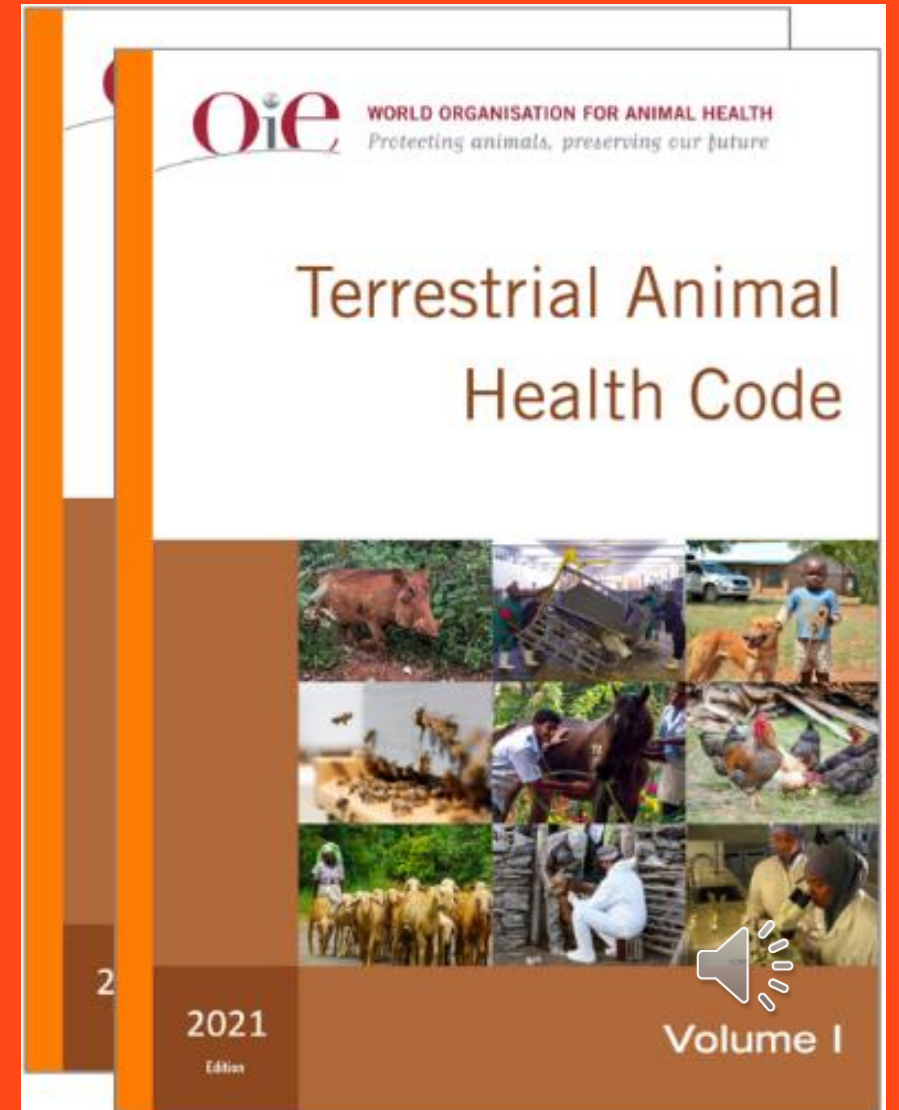




by adoption of a Resolution by the World Assembly  
of Delegates at the General Session 



# General requirements of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*





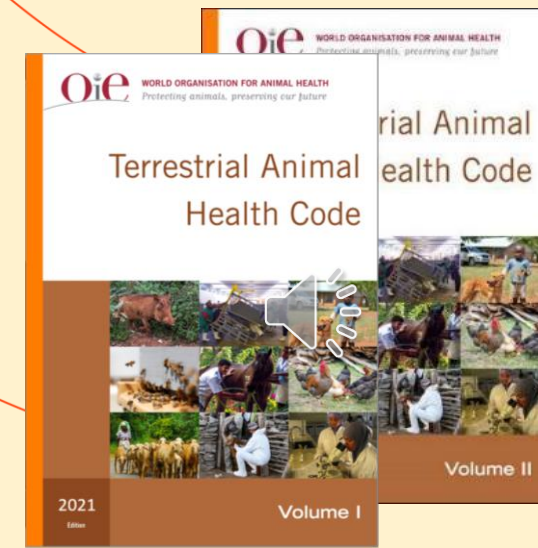
## Horizontal Chapters

- Disease notification (1.1.) compliance with WAHIS
- Animal health surveillance (1.4.) surveillance
- Import risk analysis (2.1.)
- Evaluation of Veterinary Services (3.2.) quality of the Veterinary Services
- Veterinary legislation (3.4.) quality of the Veterinary Services
- Import/export procedures (5)
- Obligations related to certification (5.1.)

## PPR Specific Chapter – 14.7.

*(most recent update adopted in 2021)*

- General provisions, case definition
- Safe commodities
- Criteria for disease status: country, zone or compartment
- Provisions for import of commodities
- Pathogen inactivation
- Specific disease surveillance
- Endorsment of control programme





<i>Article 14.7.1.</i>	General provisions, including case definition
<i>Article 14.7.2.</i>	Safe commodities
<i>Article 14.7.3. to 14.7.7.</i>	Articles related to status: PPR free country/zone/compartiment containment zone/ recovery
<i>Articles 14.7.8. to 14.7.25.</i>	Recommendations for importing commodities
<i>Articles 14.7.26.</i>	Virus inactivation
<i>Article 14.7.27. to 14.7.33.</i>	Surveillance
<i>Article 14.7.34.</i>	Endorsement of the official control programme





## Susceptible animals-

Only domestic sheep and goats play a significant epidemiological role



## Case definition –

infection of sheep and goats with PPRVirus

**Occurrence of** - clinical signs

**Occurrence of** - infection





**Glossary:** a commodity which can be traded without the need for risk mitigation measures specifically directed against a particular listed disease, infection or infestation and regardless of the status of the country or zone of origin for that disease, infection or infestation

**For PPR :** Hides and skins which have been submitted to the usual chemical and mechanical processes in use in the tanning industry



point 2. a. of Article [1.4.6.](#)

### Requirements to declare a country or a zone free from an infection or infestation

1. The infection or infestation has been a [notifiable disease](#);
2. an [early warning system](#) has been in place for all relevant species;
3. measures to prevent the introduction of the infection or infestation have been in place (importations or movements of [commodities](#) in accordance with the PPR Chapter);
4. the infection or infestation is not known to be established in [wildlife](#)



point 2. b. of Article [1.4.6.](#)

**Historical freedom:** a country or zone may be considered free without formally applying a pathogen-specific surveillance programme when:

- for at least the past **10 years**
  - ✓ **no vaccination against the disease has been carried out**
  - ✓ the prerequisites listed in point a) are met
- for at least **25 years** there has been **no occurrence** of infection or infestation.



A country or zone may be considered free from PPR when for at least the past **24 months**:

1. there has been no case of infection with PPRV;
2. The **Veterinary Authority** has current knowledge of, and authority over, all domestic sheep and goats;
3. Appropriate **surveillance** has been implemented in accordance with:
  - a. Article [1.4.6.](#) where historical freedom can be demonstrated; or
  - b. Articles [14.7.27.](#) to [14.7.33.](#) where historical freedom cannot be demonstrated;
4. measures to prevent the introduction of the infection have been in place (importations or movements of commodities according to PPR chapter);
5. no vaccination against PPR has been carried out;
6. no animals vaccinated against PPR have been introduced since the cessation of vaccination.



**PPRV infection**

**Vaccination**

**Import of vaccinated animals**





## Article 14.7.8. to 14.7.25: Trade recommendations

From countries/zones	Importation from PPR free countries or zone	Importation from countries or zones considered infected with PPRV
Domestic sheep and goats and wild ruminants	X	X
Semen of domestic sheep and goats	X	X
Embryos of domestic sheep and goats and captive wild ruminants	X	X
Fresh meat and meat products	X	X
Milk and milk products from sheep and goats	X	X
Meal and flour from blood, defatted bones, hooves, claws and horns from sheep and goats		X
Hooves, claws, bones and horns, hunting trophies from sheep and goats		X
Wool, hair, raw hides and skins from sheep and goats		X
Products of animal origin from sheep and goats intended for pharmaceutical or surgical use		X







## ex: Articles 14.7.10: Recommendations for importations of domestic small ruminants from PPR infected\* countries/zones

### For domestic sheep and goats

- showed **no clinical sign** suggestive of PPRV infection for at least the **21 days** prior to shipment;
- kept in a **quarantine station** for at least the **21 days** prior to shipment;
- **not vaccinated against PPR** and submitted to a **diagnostic test for PPRV** infection with negative result no more than **21 days** prior to shipment.

### \*Article 14.7.5.: PPRV infected country or zone

A country or zone shall be considered as PPRV infected when the requirements for acceptance as a PPR free country or zone are not fulfilled.





## Articles 14.7.29: Surveillance strategies

### 1. Clinical surveillance

### 2. Virological surveillance

### 3. Serological surveillance

- ✓ Targeted surveillance may be considered
- ✓ Where a population of a susceptible wildlife species may act as sentinels indicating the spill over of PPRV from domestic sheep and goats, serosurveillance data should be collected (purposive and opportunistic samplings)



- On a **voluntary basis**, when the measures have already been implemented programme
- Should be **applicable to the entire territory** even if on a zonal basis
- Objective for Members is to progressively improve the situation in their territories and **eventually attain free status** for PPR





- Evidence of capacity of VS
- The measures have been already implemented when the official control programme is presented for adoption
- Information on epidemiology of the disease in country
- Surveillance (including in wildlife), diagnostic capabilities, vaccination/vaccine used in accordance with the *Terrestrial Code* and the *Terrestrial Manual*, strategy to identify vaccinated animals
- Workplan & Timeline, including the timeline for transition to the cessation of vaccination
- Performance indicators



# How to provide the required information in a comprehensive manner?

Relevant **questionnaire** for **PPR** published in Chapters 1.12. of the *Terrestrial Code*

[https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=chapitre\\_selfdeclaration\\_PPR.htm](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmfile=chapitre_selfdeclaration_PPR.htm)

Structure &  
flow

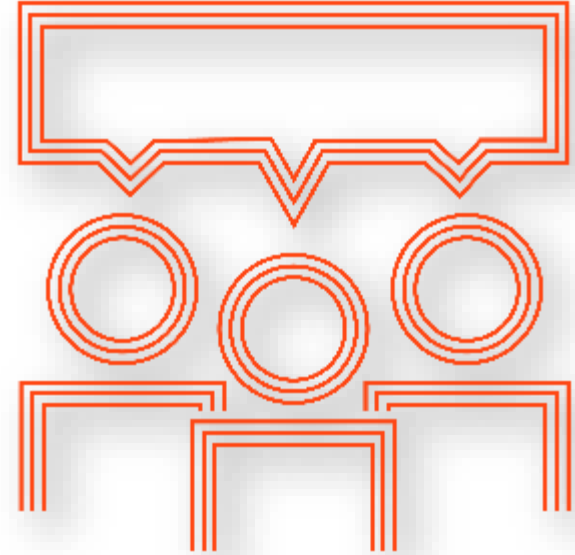
Respond to  
each question

Documented  
evidence



**Compliance with Chapter 14.7. of the *Terrestrial Code***

1. Introduction
2. Veterinary system
3. PPR eradication
4. PPR diagnosis
5. PPR surveillance
6. PPR prevention
7. Control measures and emergency response





# Documented evidence- Key supportive information

- ❑ Documented evidence on the capacity of Veterinary Services
  - PVS missions, if any, conducted over the past 5 years
  - Clear description of structure of Veterinary Services (roles, responsibilities, activities and coordination with other relevant authorities)
  - Information on private veterinarians and their role in supervising of the relevant livestock population
  
- ❑ PPR eradication: clear description of the PPR history in the country and how PPR was controlled and eradicated
  
- ❑ Diagnostic capacity: Regular participation in interlaboratory proficiency schemes (to demonstrate proficiency in the test methods used and quality assurance)





□ Early warning system and surveillance in place supported by:

- Appropriate **legislation**
  - Notifiable disease
  - Compensation system
  - Incentives/penalties
- Involvement of all **relevant stakeholders** (awareness campaigns/training)
- **Passive surveillance**
  - Number of **clinical suspected cases** and of samples tested for PPR
  - Appropriate protocol for **follow-up of suspect cases** - type of sample, testing method(s) and final result (including differential diagnosis) and control measures to which the animals concerned were subjected during the investigation

NO SUSPICIONS?



RAISE AWARENESS!





## Disease specific surveillance is in place

Surveillance strategy implemented (e.g., clinical, virological, serological or a combination of such; risk-based)

### ➤ **Clinical surveillance**

- **Target** animal population
- **Clinical inspections** conducted (e.g., number of farms inspected, number of animals examined, frequency of inspections, results).

### ➤ **Serological surveillance**

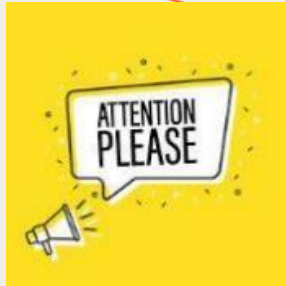
- **Objectives** of the survey (e.g., detecting infection, prevalence estimation, population immunity, etc.)
- **Survey design**:
  - Reference population (by species and area)
  - Strategy for survey: e.g., one stage or two stages, design prevalence, level of confidence, diagnostic tests used, laboratory test sensitivity and specificity, description of follow-up of serological findings
- **Results** (when, where and how many samples were actually taken, description of the interpretation of laboratory results in the context of the epidemiological situation, PVM studies)





## □ Measures in place for prevention of introduction of the disease

- Requirements for **importation** of susceptible species and their products



Requirements for imports from countries without an official free status recognised by WOAH for PPR

- No imports of vaccinated animals for at least **24 months** for PPR free status
- **Zoning** approach and **animal movement control** between zones with different animal health status
- **Coordination activities** with neighbouring countries





## Contingency plan

- Regularly updated
- Regularly tested through simulations exercises
- Particularly important for countries that have not experienced the disease




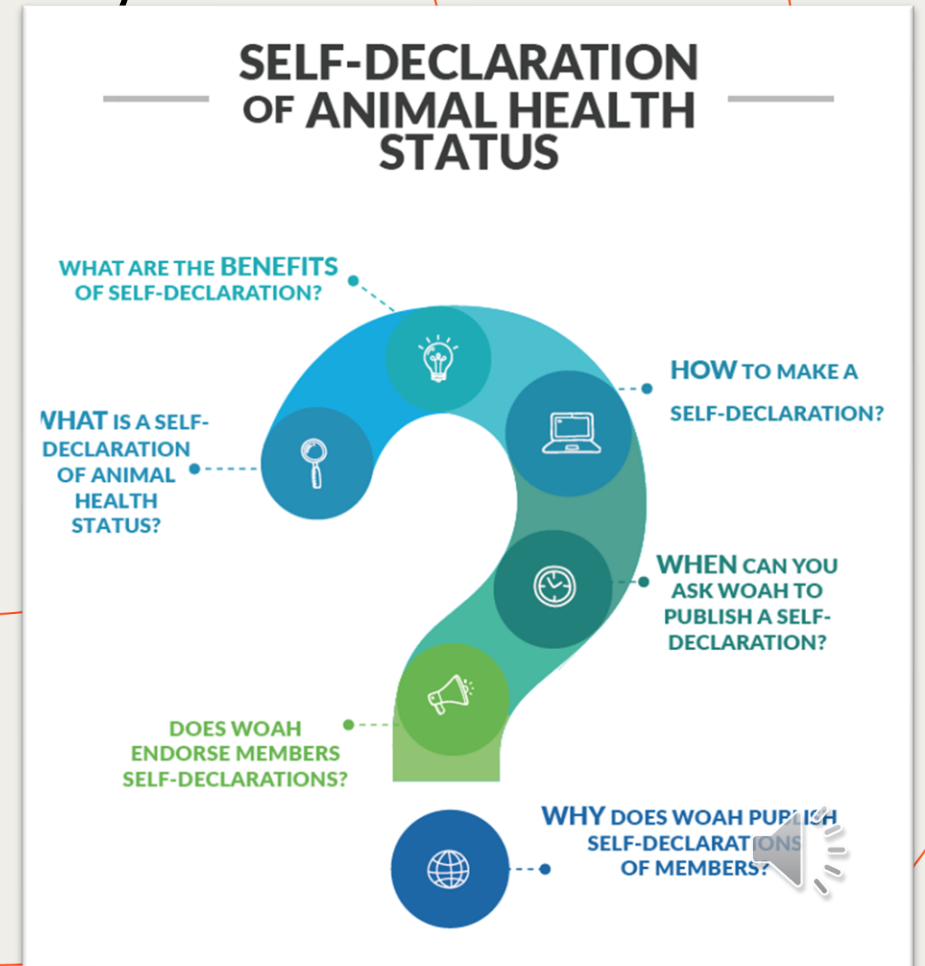
**BE PREPARED**





A **self-declaration of disease freedom** is a documented statement from the Delegate of the Member and it is entirely under his/her responsibility.

- Documented **compliance** with the provisions of **Article 1.6.3.** and with **disease-specific articles** of the *Terrestrial Code*   
*Chapter 11.9 Infection with lumpy skin disease virus*
- Following the **Standard Operating Procedure** on the publication of self-declarations



- **Very important points**

## **This is not an official recognition by WOAH**

- 🏠 **The responsibility lies entirely under the WOAH Delegate of the Member**
- 🏠 **WOAH does not endorse Members' self-declarations**
- 🏠 **Self-declaration cannot be made for diseases for which WOAH has an official recognition procedure**
- 🏠 **No submission deadline**



# Thank you for your attention!

**WOAH Status Department**

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