



World
Organisation
for Animal
Health
Founded as OIE

Organisation
mondiale
de la santé
animale
Fondée en tant qu'OIE

Organización
Mundial
de Sanidad
Animal
Fundada como OIE

Introduction to WOAH International Standards

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WOAH Standards Department

**Workshop to Strengthen Capacities of Veterinary Services to Facilitate Safer International Trade
12 to 14 December 2023 Bangkok, Thailand**

World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH)

1924

Creation:
**Office International
des Epizooties
(OIE)**

1945

Creation of the
United Nations

2003

New common name:
**World Organisation
for Animal Health
(OIE)**

2022

New common
acronym:
WOAH

Our Worldwide Network



183
Members



1
Headquarters
in Paris, France



75+
official
partners



13
Regional and
Sub-regional
Representations



300+
Reference Centres
of expertise

What we do



Animal Health and Welfare

We focus on monitoring and disseminating knowledge about animal diseases, and on how to use scientific data to limit their negative effects on society. -> WAHIS

Standards

Our Members recognise the importance of adhering to our animal health and welfare Standards to ensure safe trade, public health and economic growth within and beyond their borders.

Global Initiatives

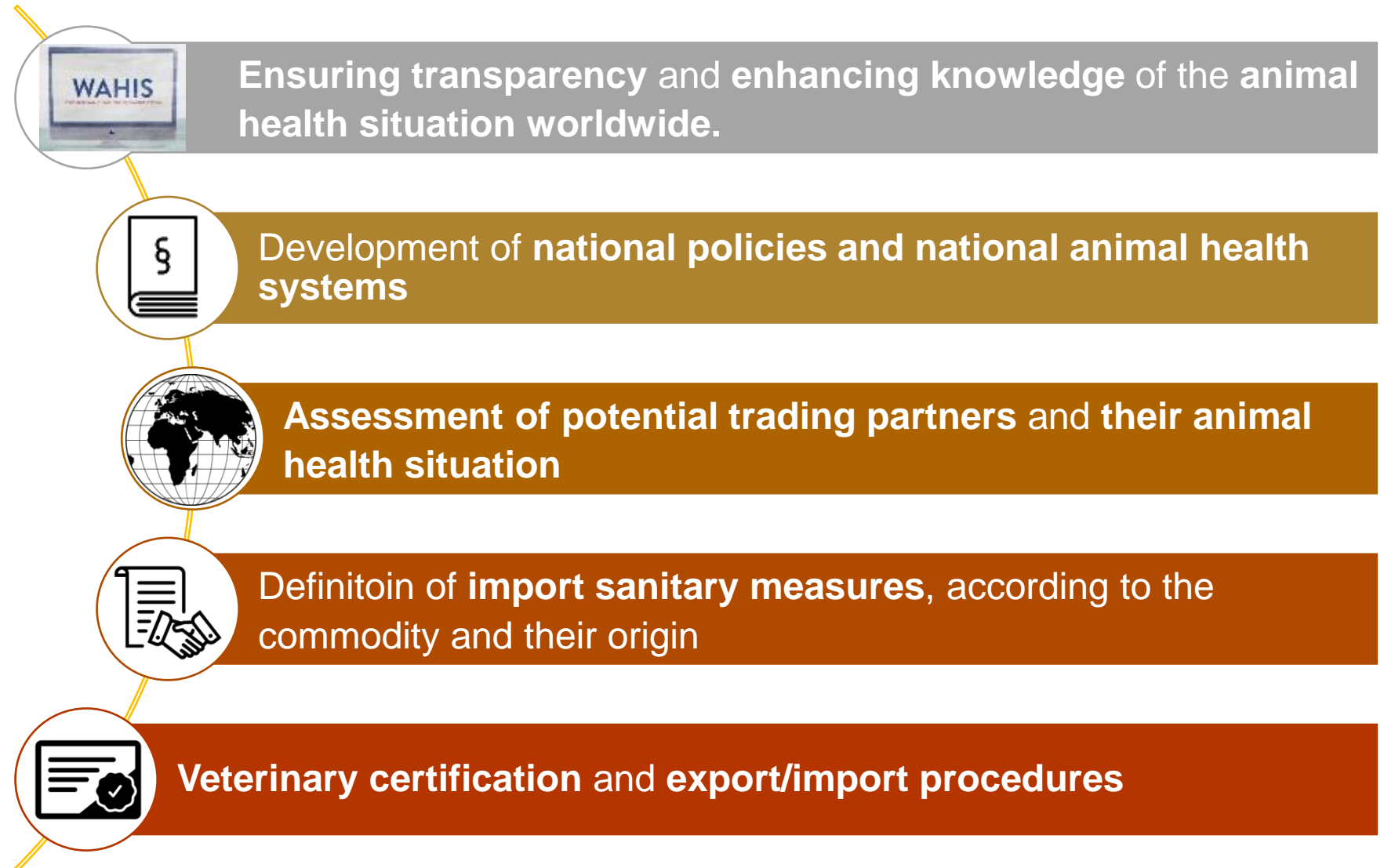
Through our global initiatives, we provide our Members with the knowledge and guidance they need to raise awareness and mobilise decision-makers and actors in the field.

Publications

Our publications are a valuable source of information for the international scientific community and facilitate progress in veterinary medicine worldwide.

WOAH international standards, the reference for:

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.



Why do we need standards for international trade?

Need for a technical reference

Diversity of production systems

Diversity in regulations

Many possible measures

Many diseases

Diversity of trading partners

Diversity of international animal health situations

Safe, fair, predictable and sustainable international trade

Basis for trust and common understanding



Diversity in approaches to disease control

Diversity of national measures

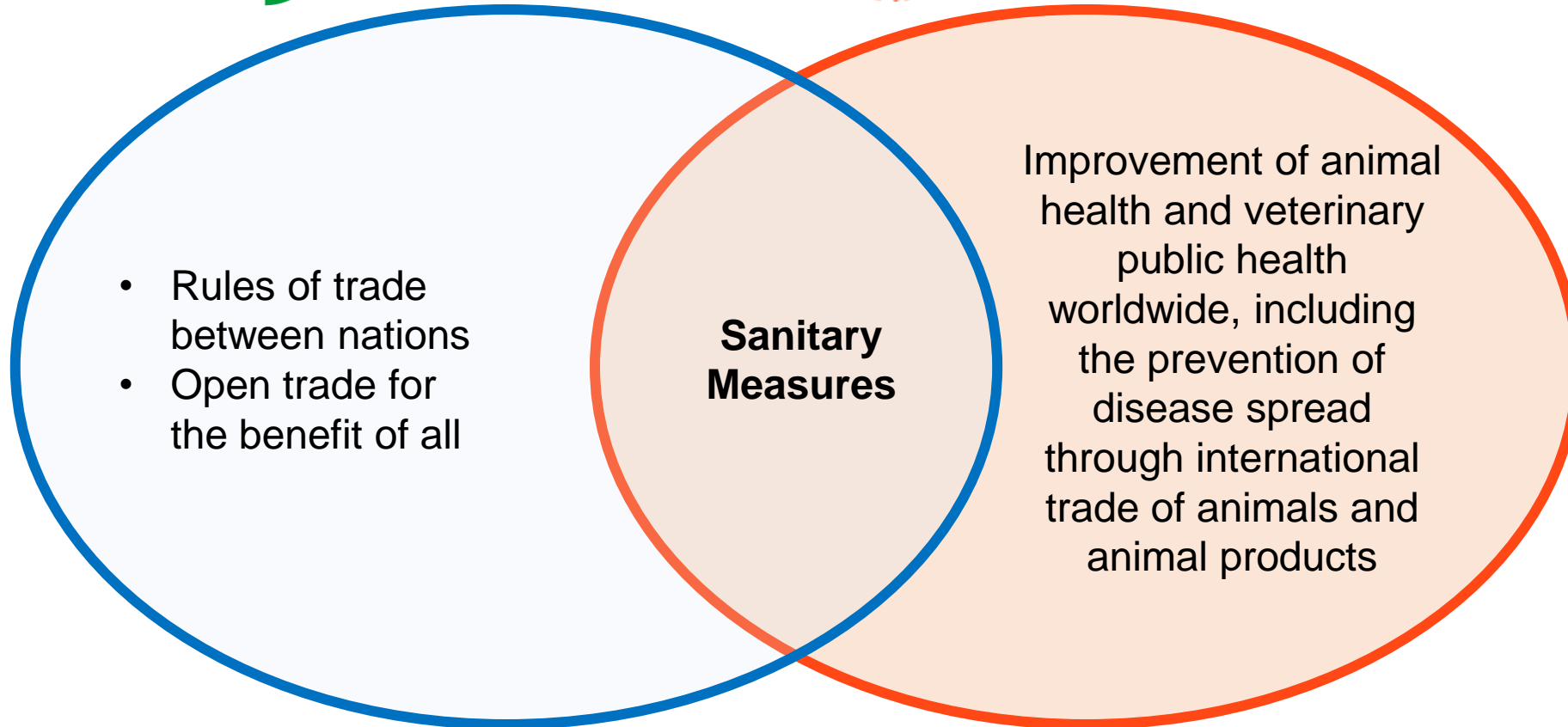
Diversity of interests

Diversity of commodities

Politics

Diversity of priorities

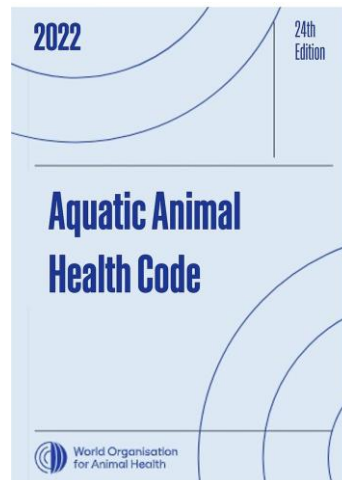
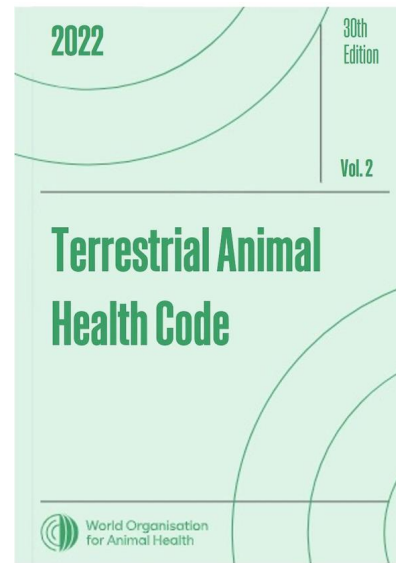
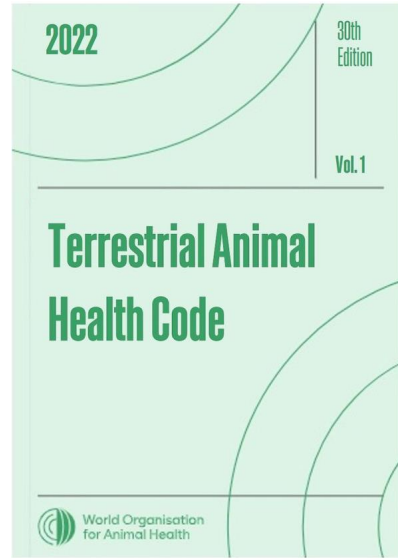
WOAH and WTO



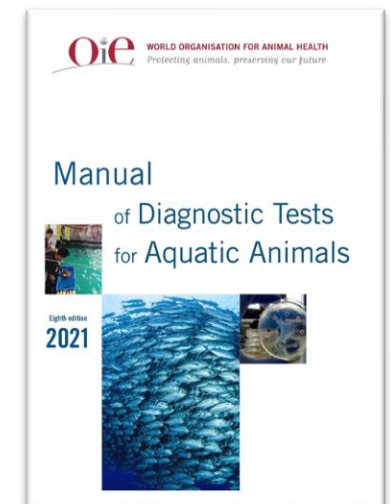
WOAH is recognised by the WTO SPS Agreement as the standard setting organisation for animal health and zoonoses.

WOAH international standards

Codes



Manuals



The principles of WOAH Standards

Science-based



**Specialist Commissions
Working & *Ad-hoc* Groups**

Consensus-based



**2 Cycles of
comments by Delegates**

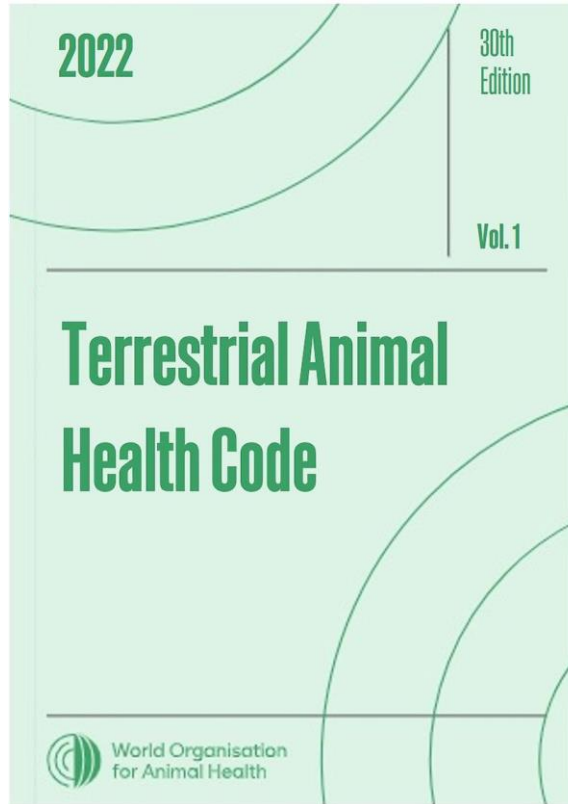
Inclusiveness



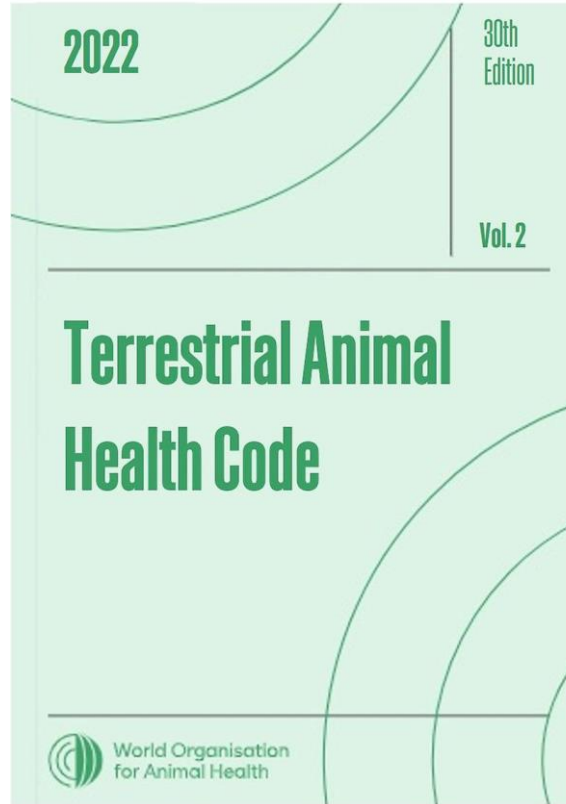
**Key role of Delegates to
consult national
stakeholders**

Adoption by resolution of the World Assembly (183 Members)

Terrestrial Code



Volume I
User's guide and
Horizontal chapters



Volume II
Disease-specific
chapters

- New version every year
- Latest version publicly available on the WOAH website
- Previous editions are also available

Terrestrial Code - content

Volume I: Horizontal chapters

- User's Guide
- Glossary
- Animal disease diagnosis, surveillance and notification
- Risk analysis
- Quality of Veterinary Services
- Disease prevention and control
- Trade measures, import-export procedures and veterinary certification
- Veterinary public health
- Animal welfare

Volume II: Disease-specific chapters

- **Definition of infection/ infestation** and specific epidemiological considerations
- **Safe commodities** where appropriate
 - Safe commodities = based on absence of the pathogenic agent in the traded commodity OR inactivation by processing or treatment that the commodity has undergone
 - Importing countries should not apply trade restrictions to safe commodities with respect to the pathogenic agent concerned
- **Determination of the animal health status** of a country, zone or compartment
 - Official status recognition
 - Self declaration of animal health status
- **Recommendations on safe trade** for live animals, genetic material, other products of animal origin (meat, milk, eggs, skins, etc.)
- **Specific management** of commodities, e.g.
 - Recommendations on inactivation
 - Vector-protection during transport
- **Recommendations on surveillance**
 - Surveillance strategies specific to infection/ infestation
 - Link to Chapter 1.4 and 1.5 on animal health and vector surveillance



Terrestrial Manual



Volume I: General Standards

Volume II: Specific recommendations

Volume III: Disease specific Chapters

- Selected chapters updated every year
- Latest version publicly available on the WOAHA Website
- New printed version produced every 4 years



Terrestrial Manual

- **Part 1:** introductory chapters that set **general standards for the management of veterinary diagnostic laboratories and vaccine production facilities;**
- **Part 2:** specific recommendations and includes chapters of **recommendations for validation of diagnostic tests** and recommendations for the **manufacture of vaccines;**
- **Part 3** chapters on **WOAH listed diseases and other diseases of importance to international trade;**
- **Part 4** is the list of **WOAH Reference Centres** at the time of publication.



Terrestrial Manual disease specific chapters

- Description of the pathogenic agent, the disease and relevant epidemiological information;
- Detailed recommendations on diagnostic methods and criteria;
- Requirements for vaccines.

Key for practical use in trade
Summary table on diagnostic methods and their purpose

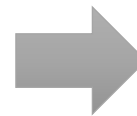
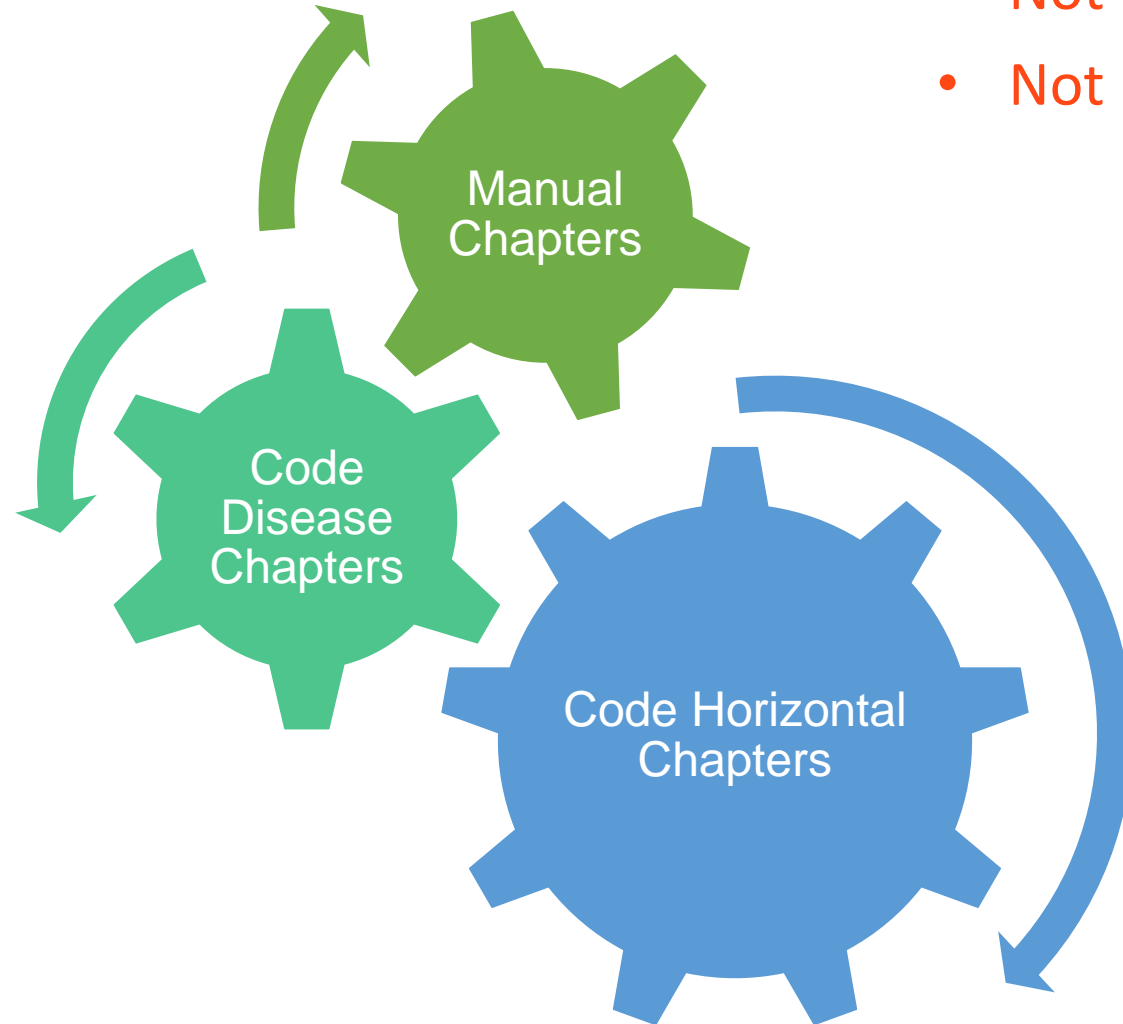


Table 1. Test methods available and their purpose

Method	Purpose					
	Population freedom from infection	Individual animal freedom from infection prior to movement	Contribute to eradication policies	Confirmation of clinical cases	Prevalence of infection – surveillance	Immune status in individual animals or populations post-vaccination
Agent identification						
Virus isolation/ HAD test ¹	n/a	n/a	++	+++	++	–
FAT	n/a	n/a	++	++	+	–
ELISA for antigen detection	+	++	+	+	+	–
Conventional PCR	++	++	++	++	++	–
Real-time PCR	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	–
Detection of immune response						
ELISA	+++	+++	+++	+	+++	–
IPT*	+++	+++	+++	+	+++	–
IFAT*	+++	+++	+++	+	+++	–
IBT*	++	++	++	+	++	–

Key: +++ = recommended for this purpose; ++ recommended but has limitations; + = suitable in very limited circumstances; – = not appropriate for this purpose.
HAD = haemadsorption; FAT= fluorescent antibody test; ELISA = enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay;
PCR = polymerase chain reaction; IPT= indirect immunoperoxidase test;
IFAT = indirect fluorescent antibody test; IBT = immunoblotting test.
*Recommended method as confirmatory serological test.

Using WOAAH international standards



- Risk based
- Outcome based
- Not prescriptive
- Not "one-size-fits-all"



Member Country context



Exporting/importing process and links with WOAH *Terrestrial Codes*

Before the negotiation

During the negotiation

Implementation

Exporting country

National priorities for international trade

Animal disease diagnosis, surveillance and notification

Disease prevention and control & Food safety

Evidence to support Quality of VS

Evidence to support claim disease status

Sanitary agreement
Equivalence
Recognition of regionalization

Pre-export controls
Certification
Certifying officials
National Official Assurance Systems

Section 1 & Disease-specific chapters

Section 4 Section 6 & Disease-specific chapters

Section 3 & Chapter 5.1

Chapter 5.1 & Disease-specific chapters

Chapter 5.1 Chapter 5.3 & Article 4.4.8.

Section 5

Importing country

National priorities for international trade

Animal disease diagnosis, surveillance and notification

Disease prevention and control & Food safety

Import risk analysis

Assessment of exporting country

Sanitary agreement
Import requirements
Equivalence
Recognition of regionalisation

Quarantine and Border security

Section 1 & Disease-specific chapters

Section 4 Section 6 & Disease-specific chapters

Section 2

Chapter 5.1. & Section 3

Chapter 5.1 Chapter 5.3 & Article 4.4.8.

Section 5

Impact of WOAAH Standards Internationally

Improved prevention and control of animal diseases and zoonosis at the source

Science-based risk mitigation measures for international trade

Reduced risk of international spread of diseases

Facilitates understanding between countries, simplify processes, and reduces costs

Harmonization of national regulations and programs across countries

Increases predictability and fairness of trade

Harmonization of sanitary measures for international trade

Safe, fair, predictable and sustainable international trade



Thank you



World Organisation
for Animal Health

Founded in 1924

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