



**Food and Agriculture  
Organization of  
the United Nations**



**World Health  
Organization**

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**Agenda Item 3**

**CX/AF 12/6/3 Add.1**

**January 2012**

## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

### AD-HOC INTERGOVERNMENTAL CODEX TASK FORCE ON ANIMAL FEEDING

#### Sixth Session

**Berne, Switzerland, 20-24 February 2012**

### REPORT ON ACTIVITIES OF FAO, WHO AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

#### CONTRIBUTION OF THE WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH (OIE)<sup>1</sup>

The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) thanks the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) and the *ad-hoc* Intergovernmental Codex Task Force on Animal Feeding for the opportunity to participate in this Task Force. On-going close collaboration between our two organisations in this area of standard setting work will ensure that gaps and duplication in regard to OIE and Codex standards are avoided.

#### 1. Relevant OIE standards

##### a) Control of hazards of animal health and public health importance in animal feed

The OIE has adopted standards in the Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code) and in the Aquatic Animal Health Code (Aquatic Code) on the control of hazards of animal health and public health importance in animal feed and on the responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents.

Terrestrial Code Chapter 6.3. The control of hazards of animal health and public health importance in animal feed was adopted in 2009. The objective of this chapter is to provide guidance on animal feeding in relation to animal health and to complement the guidance provided by the Codex Code of Practice on Good Animal Feeding (CAC/RCP 54-2004), which deals primarily with food safety, and related other Codex texts covering animal feeding. This chapter makes reference to Codex standards as appropriate. The chapter aims at ensuring the control of animal and public health hazards through adherence to recommended practices during the production (growing, procurement, handling, storage, processing and distribution) and use of both commercial and on-farm produced animal feed and feed ingredients for terrestrial animals. The chapter may be viewed at:

[http://www.oie.int/index.php?id=169&L=0&htmfile=chapitre\\_1.6.3.htm](http://www.oie.int/index.php?id=169&L=0&htmfile=chapitre_1.6.3.htm)

Aquatic Code Chapter 6.1. Control of hazards in aquatic animal feeds was adopted in 2008. This text complements and makes reference to CAC/RCP 54-2004. The recommendations in this chapter address hazards to aquatic animal health and to food safety in aquatic animal feed. The chapter may be viewed at:

[http://www.oie.int/index.php?id=171&L=0&htmfile=chapitre\\_1.6.1.htm](http://www.oie.int/index.php?id=171&L=0&htmfile=chapitre_1.6.1.htm)

##### b) Responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents in terrestrial and aquatic animals

Terrestrial Code Chapter 6.9. Responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents in veterinary medicine was adopted in 2003 and is currently being revised. The revised chapter was circulated to OIE Members for comments as Annex IX to the report of the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission (Code Commission) September 2011 meeting (see:

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<sup>1</sup> This document has been prepared by and under the responsibility of the OIE

[http://www.oie.int/fileadmin/Home/eng/International\\_Standard\\_Setting/docs/pdf/A\\_TAHSC\\_September\\_2011\\_PART\\_A.pdf](http://www.oie.int/fileadmin/Home/eng/International_Standard_Setting/docs/pdf/A_TAHSC_September_2011_PART_A.pdf).

Member comments were considered by the OIE *ad hoc* Group on Antimicrobial Resistance at its December 2011 meeting and will be reviewed by the Code Commission at its meeting on 14-23 February 2012.

The Aquatic Code Chapter 6.3. Responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents in aquatic animals was adopted in 2011.

The relevant texts may be viewed at:

[http://www.oie.int/index.php?id=169&L=0&htmfile=chapitre\\_1.6.9.htm](http://www.oie.int/index.php?id=169&L=0&htmfile=chapitre_1.6.9.htm)

[http://www.oie.int/index.php?id=171&L=0&htmfile=chapitre\\_1.6.3.htm](http://www.oie.int/index.php?id=171&L=0&htmfile=chapitre_1.6.3.htm)

2. Proposed Draft Prioritised List of Hazards in Feed (CX/AF 12/6/5 Add.2)

The OIE is pleased to note that the proposed draft document, CX/AF 12/6/5 Add.2, makes appropriate reference to OIE standards. The OIE supports the statement that ‘agents in animal feed which may adversely affect animal health but which have no impact on food safety are not considered in this guidance as they are not within the scope of CAC’. This is consistent with the respective roles and responsibilities of the OIE and the CAC.

3. Background information

The OIE and the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) are two of the three international standard setting organizations recognised under the World Trade Organization (WTO) SPS Agreement. In this context, the OIE is responsible for setting standards on animal health (including zoonotic diseases) and the CAC on food safety. For food products of animal origin, hazards to human health may arise at the farm or at any subsequent stage in the food production continuum. Since 2001, at the request of its Members, the OIE mandate has included setting standards for animal production food safety, i.e. the management of risks arising at the level of the farm to primary processing.

In 2002, the OIE established a Working Group on Animal Production Food Safety (APFSWG) with the view to improving the coordination and harmonisation of standard setting activities of OIE and CAC. The Secretary of Codex and, on an observer basis, the Chair of Codex, regularly attends the annual meeting of the Working Group. Through this mechanism and through participation in each other’s standard setting procedures, the OIE and CAC collaborate closely in the development of standards relevant to the whole food production continuum, taking care to avoid gaps, duplications and contradictions in the SPS standards of these two WTO reference organisations.

The OIE will continue to address food safety-related issues as a high priority in its standard-setting work and will work closely with CAC and its Committees, and with other international bodies in promoting safe international trade in animal and their products.