

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES RELATED TO THE PUBLICATION OF SELF- DECLARATIONS

**Regional Coordination meeting on HPAI situation
in the Middle East and action plans guided by
Global HPAI Strategy**

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Why self-declare freedom from a disease?

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Your country has a favourable animal health status for a particular disease
The self-declaration can:



- Increase **visibility** of disease freedom
- Promote your country's **good animal health practices** & **quality** of the **Veterinary Services**
- Demonstrate **transparency** in animal disease situation & continuous **compliance** with **WOAH standards**

Official recognition of animal health status vs. self-declarations health status

Inicio » What we do » Animal Health and Welfare » **Official Disease Status**



Official Disease Status



Since 1998, the World Organisation for Animal Health has the mandate from the WTO to officially recognise disease-free areas of countries for trade purposes. The procedure for the official recognition of animal health status by WOA is voluntary and applies currently to six diseases.

[African horse sickness \(AHS\)](#), [classical swine fever \(CSF\)](#), [contagious bovine pleuropneumonia \(CBPP\)](#), [peste des petits ruminants \(PPR\)](#) and [bovine spongiform encephalopathy \(BSE\)](#) risk status and the endorsement of official control programmes for [CBPP](#), [FMD](#), [PPR](#) and [dog-mediated rabies](#).

Official recognition of animal health status vs. self-declarations health status

CYCLE TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS FOR OFFICIAL RECOGNITION OF ANIMAL HEALTH STATUS AND FOR THE ENDORSEMENT OF OFFICIAL CONTROL PROGRAMMES



Acronyms: AHG: *ad hoc* Group
Assembly: World Assembly of Delegates
GS: General Session
SCAD: Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases



Official recognition of animal health status vs. self-declarations health status

For diseases with official recognition of animal
health status = **Official Disease Status**

WOAH cannot publish self-declarations for diseases with an Official Disease Status

All other diseases = **self-declarations**

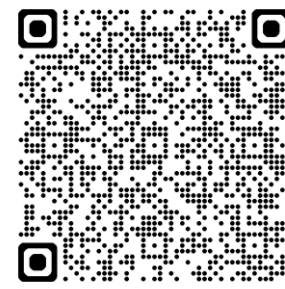
In accordance with the provisions of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code) or the Aquatic Animal Health Code (Aquatic Code), Members may wish to self-declare the freedom of their country, zone or compartment from a disease. A Member wishing to

[African horse sickness \(AHS\)](#), [classical swine fever \(CSF\)](#), [contagious bovine pleuropneumonia \(CBPP\)](#), [peste des petits ruminants \(PPR\)](#) and [bovine spongiform encephalopathy \(BSE\)](#) risk status and the endorsement of official control programmes for [CBPP](#), [FMD](#), [PPR](#) and [dog-mediated rabies](#).

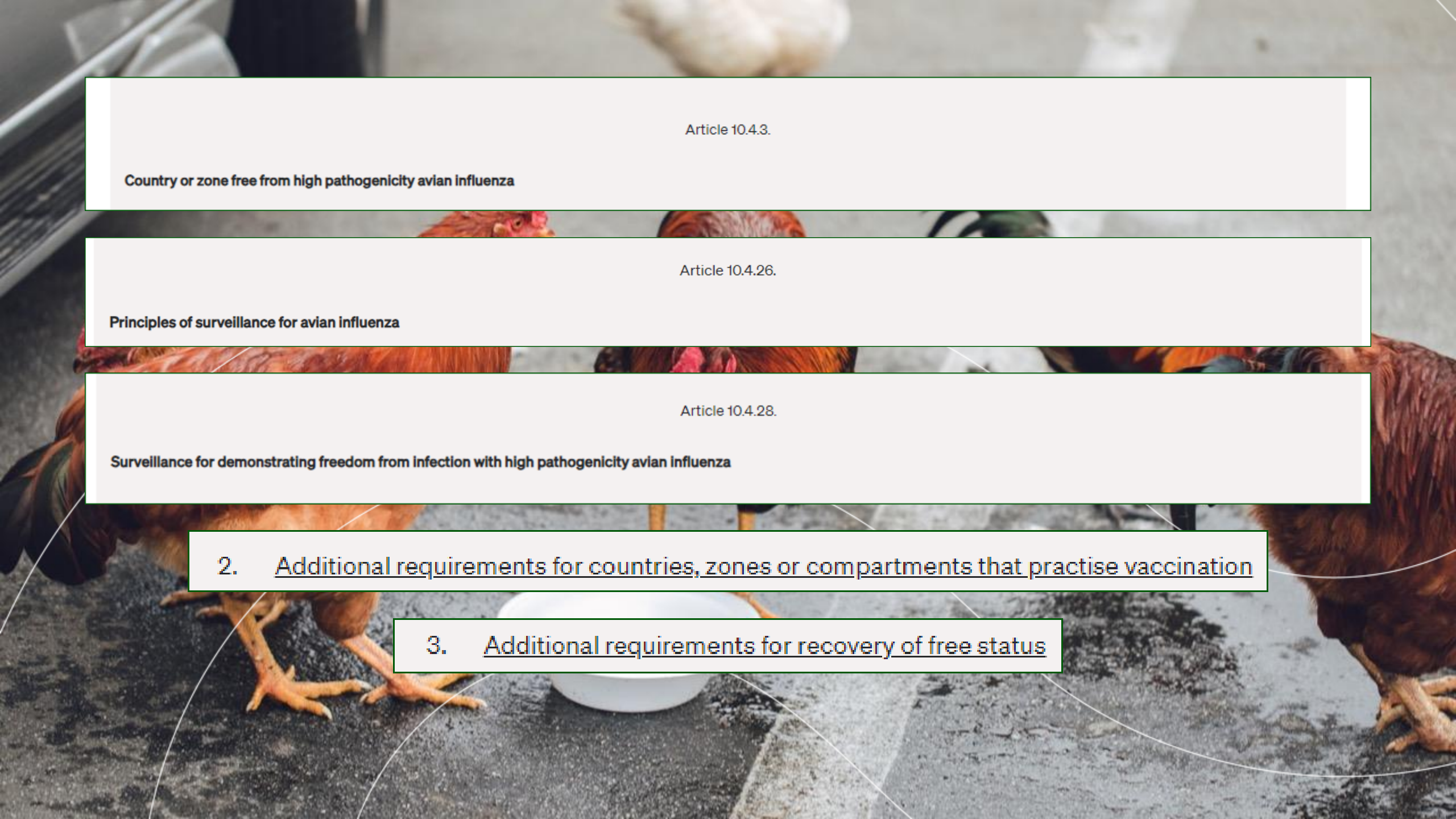
CHAPTER 1.6.

PROCEDURES FOR OFFICIAL RECOGNITION OF ANIMAL HEALTH STATUS, ENDORSEMENT OF AN OFFICIAL CONTROL PROGRAMME, AND PUBLICATION OF A SELF-DECLARATION OF ANIMAL HEALTH STATUS, BY WOAH

CHAPTER 10.4.

INFECTION WITH HIGH PATHOGENICITY AVIAN INFLUENZA VIRUSES

2. For the purposes of the *Terrestrial Code*:
 - a. High pathogenicity avian influenza means an *infection* of *poultry* by any influenza A virus that has been determined as high pathogenicity in accordance with the *Terrestrial Manual*.
 - b. An occurrence of *infection* with a high pathogenicity avian influenza virus is defined by the isolation and identification of the virus or the detection of specific viral ribonucleic acid, in one or more samples from *poultry*.
 - c. The *incubation period* at the *flock*-level for high pathogenicity avian influenza is 14 days.



Article 10.4.3.

Country or zone free from high pathogenicity avian influenza

Article 10.4.26.

Principles of surveillance for avian influenza

Article 10.4.28.

Surveillance for demonstrating freedom from infection with high pathogenicity avian influenza

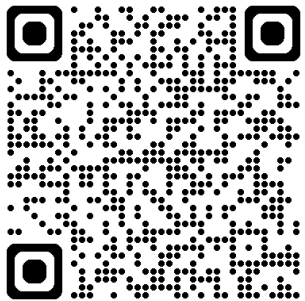
2. Additional requirements for countries, zones or compartments that practise vaccination

3. Additional requirements for recovery of free status



Self-declared Disease Status

In accordance with the provisions of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code) or the Aquatic Animal Health Code (Aquatic Code), Members may wish to self-declare the freedom of their country, zone or compartment from a disease. A Member wishing to publish its self-declaration for disease-freedom, should provide the relevant documented evidence of compliance with the provisions of the relevant chapters of the Codes.



Self-Declarations

Disease name

high

Category filter

- ☐ Select all
- ☐ Terrestrial

Status filter

- ☒ Active
- ☐ Not active

Temporary

All

Regional filter

- ☐ Select all
- ☐ Africa
- ☐ Americas
- ☐ Asia Pacific
- ☐ Europe
- ☐ Middle East

Member filter

All

Member

Search

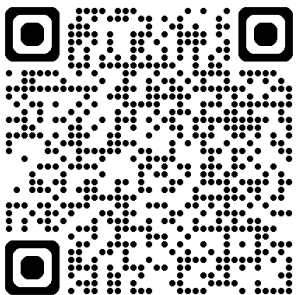
[View quick declaration support guide](#)

Member	Self-declared freedom from	Category	From*	To	Country/zone/compartment	Status	Temporary
Denmark	High pathogenicity avian influenza viruses (poultry). (Inf. with)	Terrestrial	2024-10-12		Country	Active	No
Honduras	High pathogenicity avian influenza viruses (poultry). (Inf. with)	Terrestrial	2024-05-14		Country	Active	No
India	High pathogenicity avian influenza viruses (poultry). (Inf. with)	Terrestrial	2024-05-01		Compartment	Active	No
Thailand	High pathogenicity avian influenza viruses (poultry). (Inf. with)	Terrestrial	2024-04-24		Country	Active	No
Malaysia	High pathogenicity avian influenza viruses (poultry). (Inf. with)	Terrestrial	2024-04-23		Country	Active	No
Sweden	High pathogenicity avian influenza viruses (poultry). (Inf. with)	Terrestrial	2024-04-22		Country	Active	No
Lithuania	High pathogenicity avian influenza viruses (poultry). (Inf. with)	Terrestrial	2024-04-10		Country	Active	No
Colombia	High pathogenicity avian influenza viruses (poultry). (Inf. with)	Terrestrial	2024-04-05		Country	Active	No
Belgium	High pathogenicity avian influenza viruses (poultry). (Inf. with)	Terrestrial	2024-01-26		Country	Active	No
Indonesia	High pathogenicity avian influenza viruses (poultry). (Inf. with)	Terrestrial	2023-10-05		Compartment	Active	No
Saudi Arabia	High pathogenicity avian influenza viruses (poultry). (Inf. with)	Terrestrial	2023-09-25		Country	Active	No
Chile	High pathogenicity avian influenza viruses (poultry). (Inf. with)	Terrestrial	2023-08-22		Country	Active	No
Argentina	High pathogenicity avian influenza viruses (poultry). (Inf. with)	Terrestrial	2023-08-07		Country	Active	No
Estonia	High pathogenicity avian influenza viruses (poultry). (Inf. with)	Terrestrial	2023-04-13		Country	Active	No
Slovenia	High pathogenicity avian influenza viruses (poultry). (Inf. with)	Terrestrial	2023-04-07		Country	Active	No
Azerbaijan	High pathogenicity avian influenza viruses (poultry). (Inf. with)	Terrestrial	2023-04-01		Country	Active	No
United Kingdom	High pathogenicity avian influenza viruses (poultry). (Inf. with)	Terrestrial	2023-03-31		Zone	Active	No
Spain	High pathogenicity avian influenza viruses (poultry). (Inf. with)	Terrestrial	2023-03-11		Country	Active	No
Paraguay	High pathogenicity avian influenza viruses (poultry). (Inf. with)	Terrestrial	2023-01-01		Country	Active	No

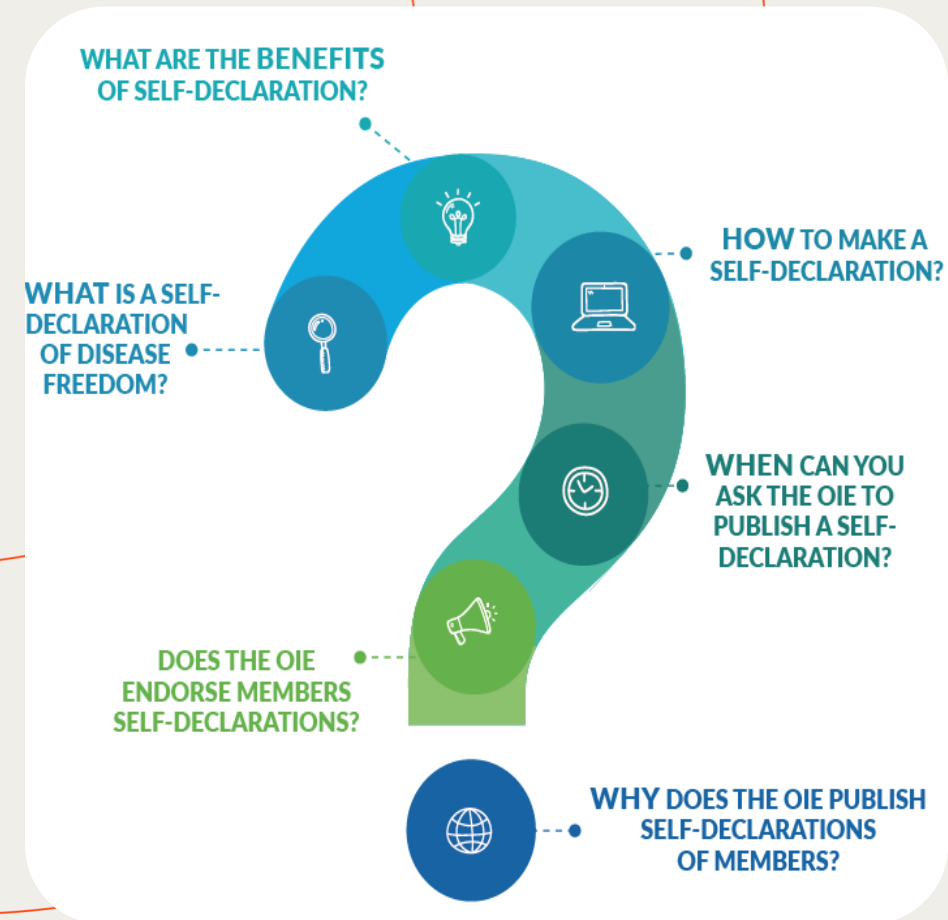


A **self-declaration of disease freedom** is a documented statement from the Delegate of the Member and it is entirely under the Delegate's responsibility.

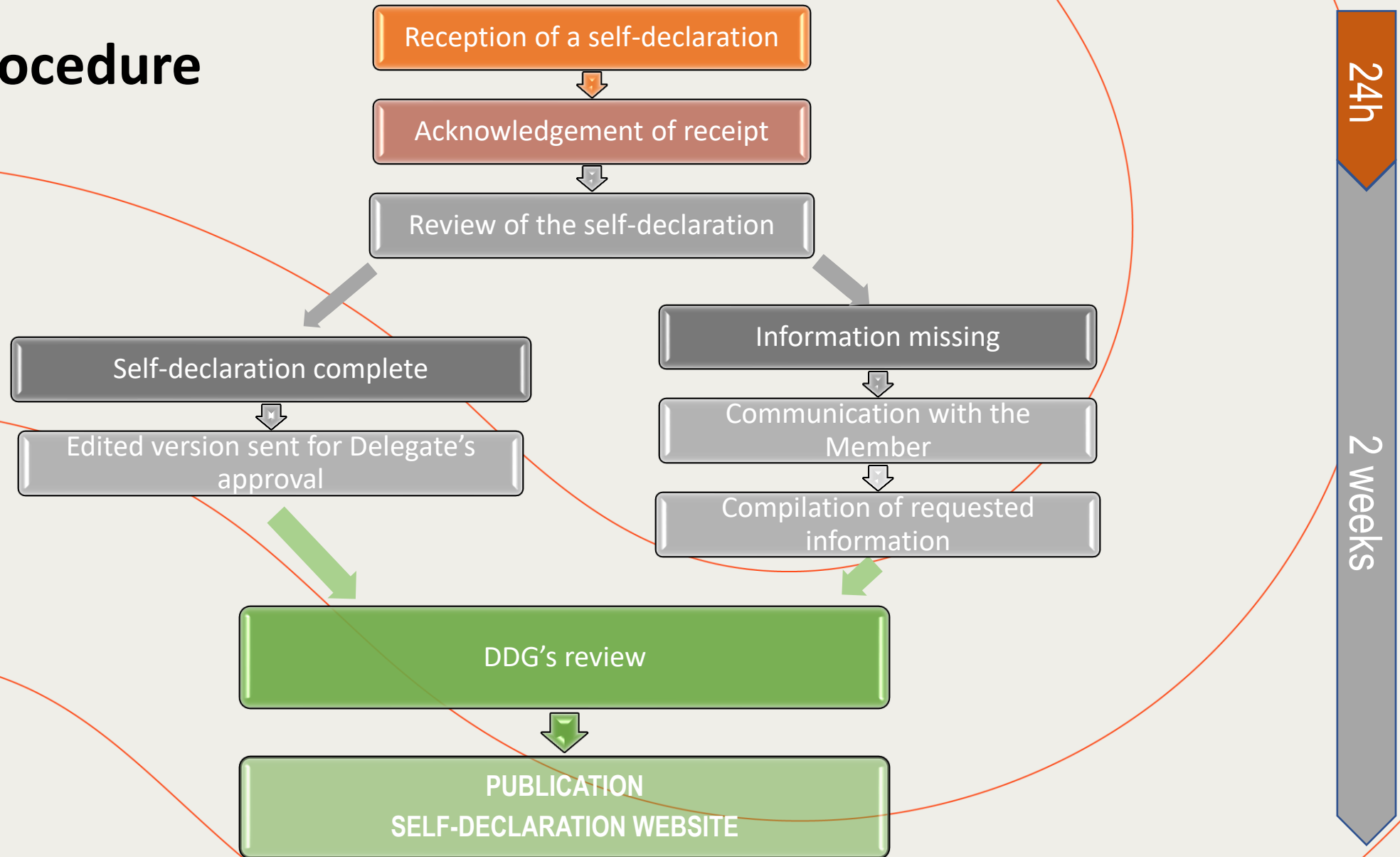
- Documented **compliance** with the provisions of **Article 1.6.3.** and with **disease-specific articles** of the *Terrestrial Code*
- Following the **Standard Operating Procedure** for the publication of self-declarations



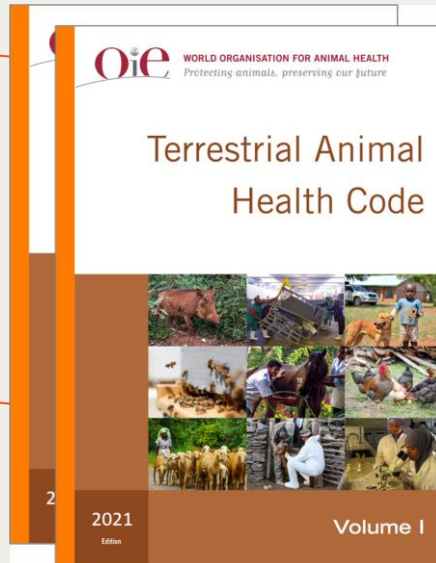
www.woah.org/self-declaration



• The procedure



- Internal screening

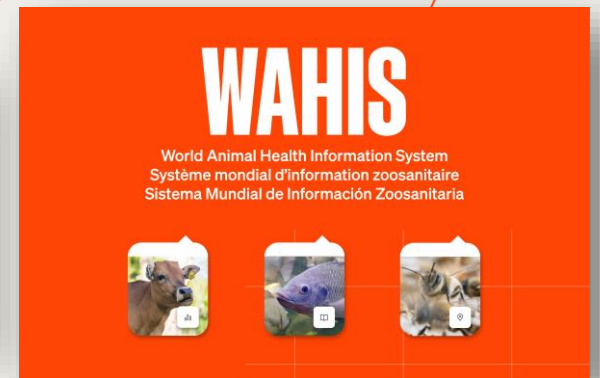


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Supportive evidence according to the Codes' provisions

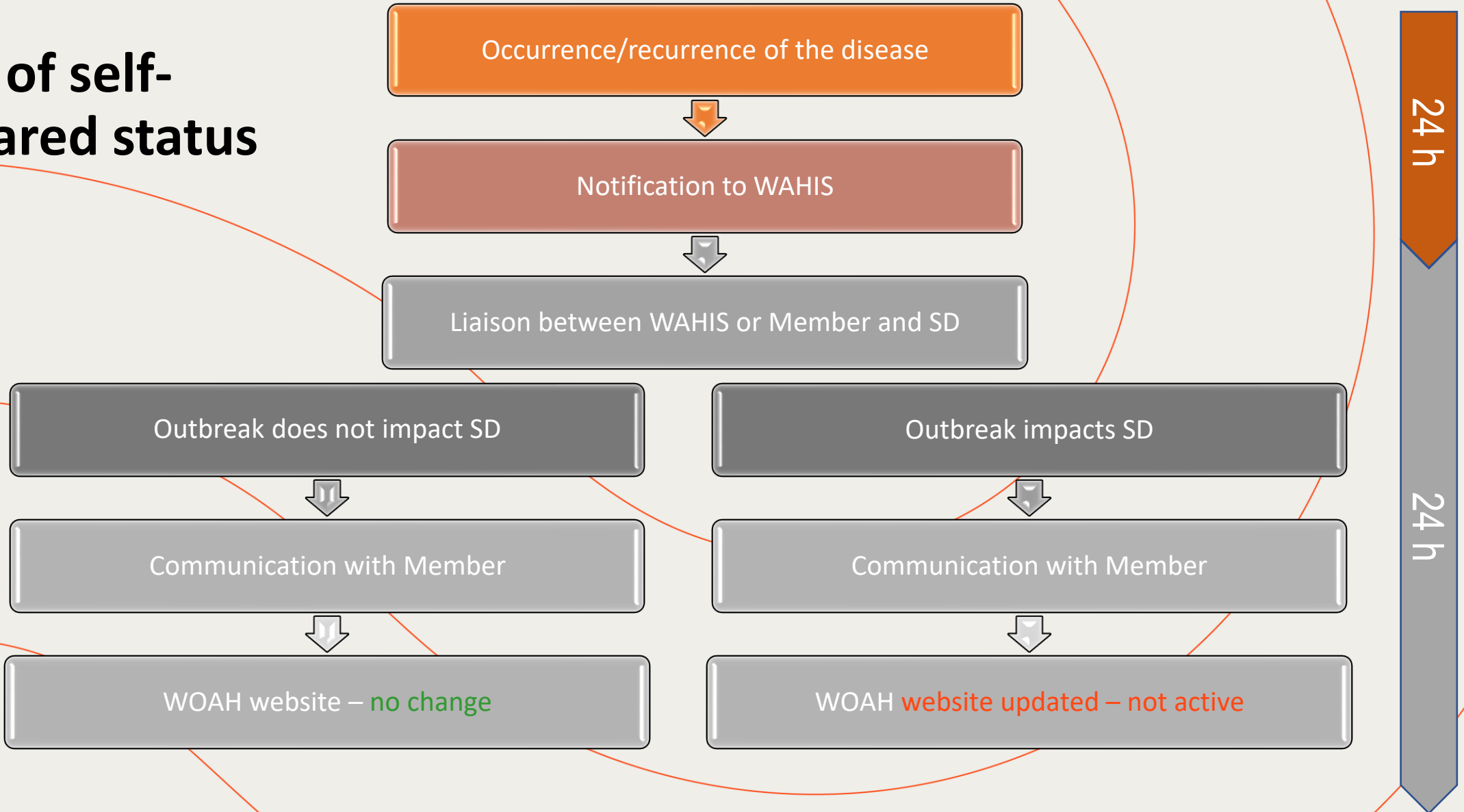
Consistency with WAHIS

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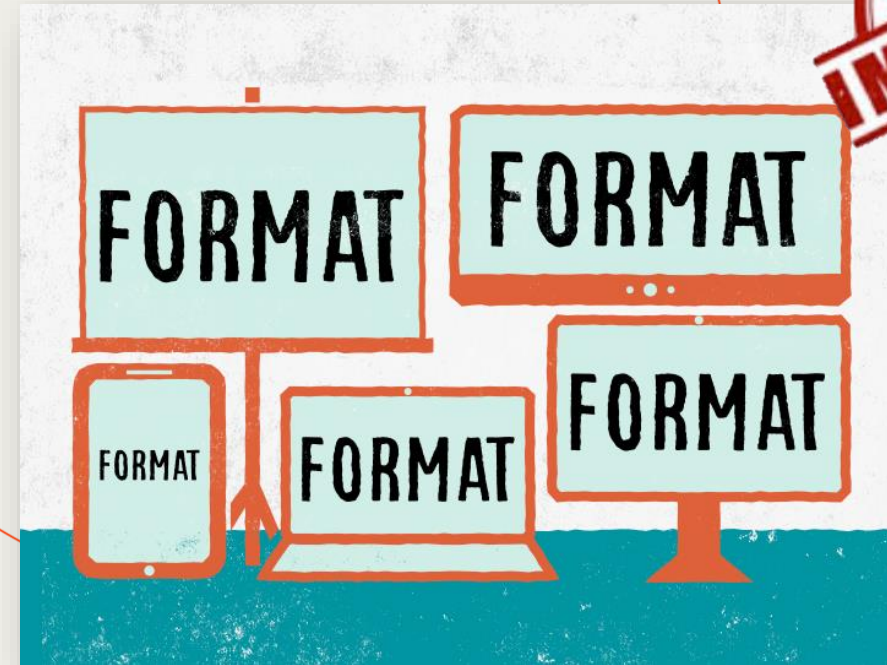


- **Loss of self-declared status**



• Format

- 📏 Size
- 📏 Language
- 📏 Structure
- 📏 File compatibility
- 📏 Submission format
- 📏 SOP
 - 📎 Annex II and Annex III



When in doubt, please visit the dedicated self-declaration webpage!

www.woah.org/self-declaration



• Challenges at the evaluation of self-declarations

- 🏠 Events not closed in WAHIS
- 🏠 Time requirements not included (surveillance after stamping out, time requirements for freedom)
- 🏠 Missing the starting date of the SD
- 🏠 Submission to another Department 😞
 - 🏠 self-declaration@woah.org



- **Strengths of the self-declaration process and procedures**
 - 🏠 **Transparency of veterinary structure and surveillance capability**
 - 🏠 **Submission ahead of time**
 - 🏠 **SDs that account for previous comments and publications**
 - 🏠 **Clarity and structure (follow SOP)**
 - 🏠 **Hyperlinks to legislation or documents that substantiate statements**
 - 🏠 **Description of laboratory structure/capability**
 - 🏠 **Presentation of test results**



- **Very important points**

It is not an official recognition by WOA

- ⌈ **The responsibility lies entirely under the WOA Delegate of the Member**
- ⌈ **WOA does not endorse Members' self-declarations**
- ⌈ **Self-declaration cannot be published for diseases with an official recognition procedure**
- ⌈ **No submission deadline**

Thank you for your attention!

- For more information contact: self-declaration@woah.org | 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