

WOAH-IHSC Tools to facilitate international safe movement of competition horses- Ongoing Projects in Asia and South America

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Joint WOAHIHSC Subregional Workshop on “Facilitation of temporary international horse movement’ for Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), Jordan and Syria. Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. 24 February 2024

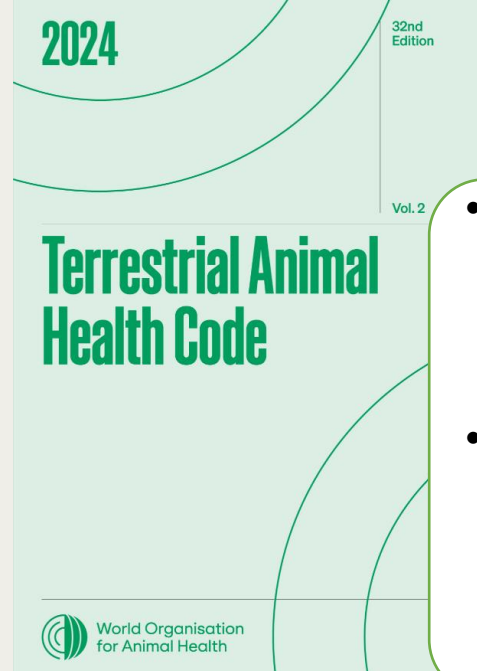
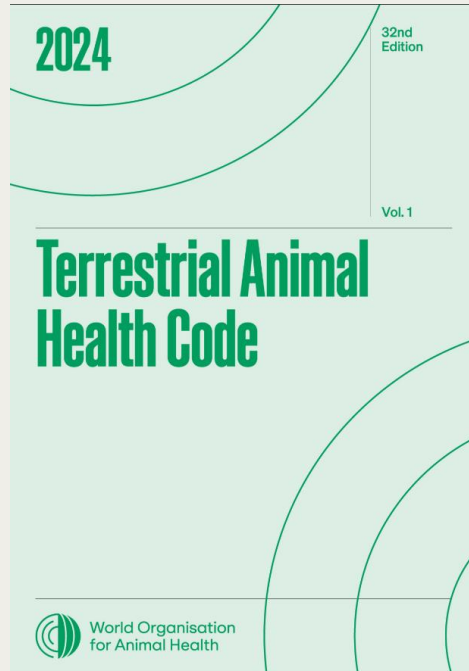


WOAH international standards

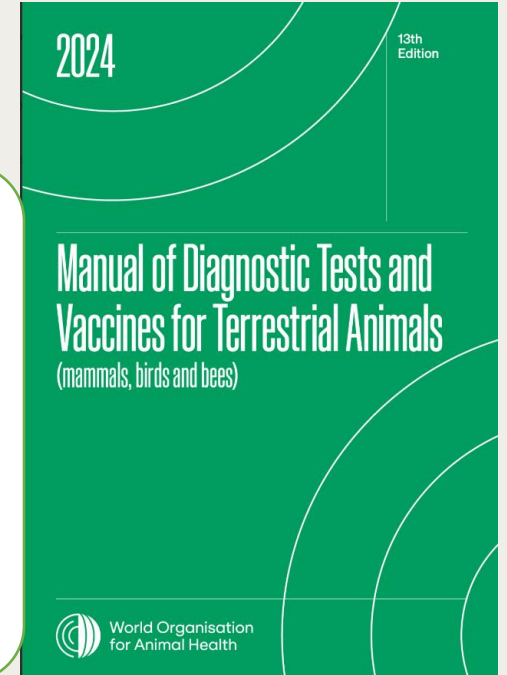


WOAH establishes standards for the improvement of animal health and welfare and veterinary public health worldwide, including the prevention of disease spread through international trade of animals and animal products.

Codes



Manuals



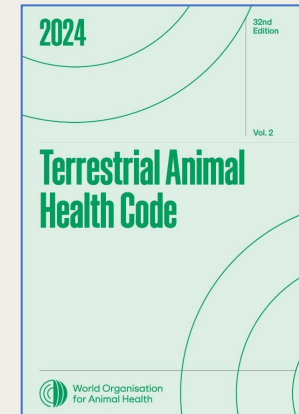
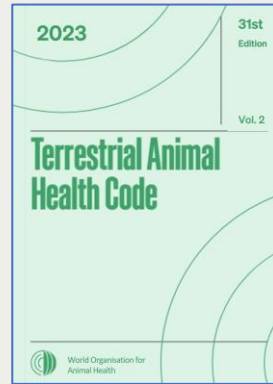
- Terrestrial Code: New version every year
- Latest version publicly available on the [WOAH website](https://www.woah.org/)

- ❑ Standards to improve health and animal welfare, and veterinary public health
- ❑ Adopted by WOH Member Countries during General Session each May by consensus
- ❑ This is the only way for adoption

Revision of international standards on Equine Diseases

Revision and adoption of **WOAH Terrestrial Code Chapters** on equine diseases (2023-2024):

- Contagious Equine Metritis,
- Equine Influenza,
- Equine Piroplasmosis
- Surra
- Dourine (proposal for adoption in 2025)



Inclusion of Temporary import provisions for competition horses

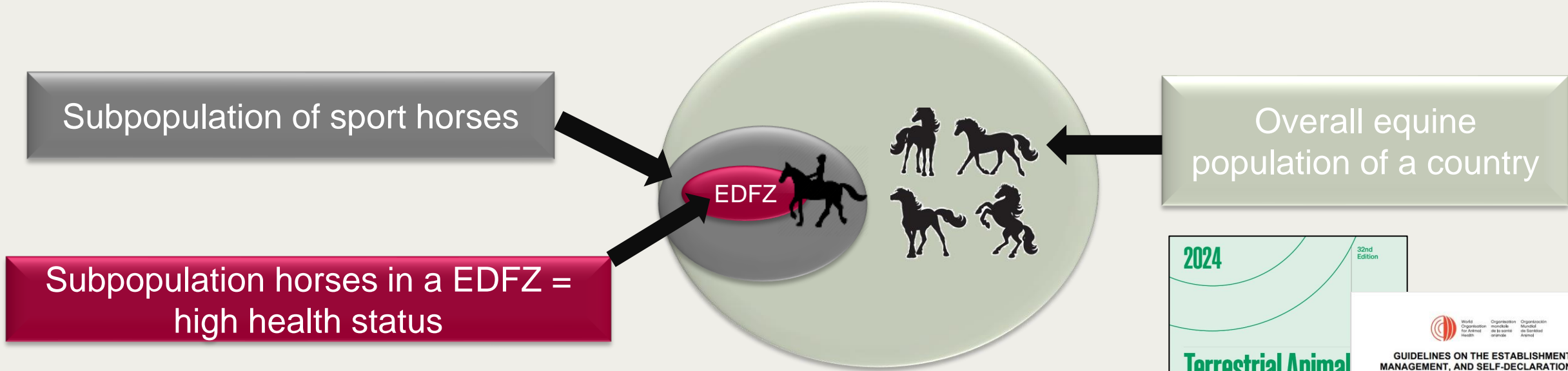
Under revision (2024-2026): Chapters on

- Eastern (EEE) and Western Equine Encephalomyelitis (WEE), and
- Japanese Encephalitis (JE)
- AHS revised Chapter (proposal for adoption in 2025)
- Venezuelan Equine Encephalomyelitis (ad hoc Group meeting April 2025)

Horses are safe commodities for EEE, WEE and JE

Tools to facilitate the international movements of competition horses : Equine Disease-Free Zone (EDFZ)

An IHSC-WOAH tool to facilitate hosting on international horse competitions events



Option for countries

Planning **to host an international sport event**, having not yet controlled/eradicated all equine diseases in their entire territory, BUT are able to do it in smaller zone

Equine Disease-Free Zone (EDFZ)



World
Organisation
for Animal
Health

Organisation
mondiale
de la santé
animale

Organización
Mundial
de Sanidad
Animal

GUIDELINES ON THE ESTABLISHMENT, MANAGEMENT, AND SELF-DECLARATION TO WOAH OF AN EQUINE DISEASE-FREE ZONE



EDFZ Guidelines



Establishment of a defined area under the control of the Veterinary Authorities.



Identification of a limited equine population with a known health status.



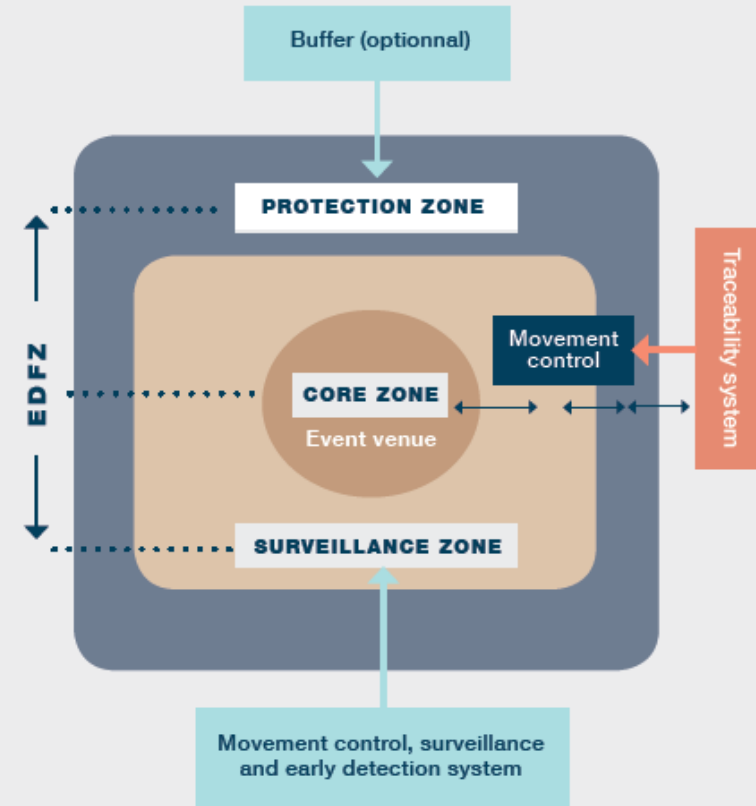
Implementation of specific biosecurity measures.



Traceability and movement control: certification procedures for all horses moving into and out of the zone.



Existence of a contingency plan for effective risk management.



Examples of EDFZ successful implementations:



EDFZ for the Asian Games in Hangzhou, China: Example of PPP collaboration

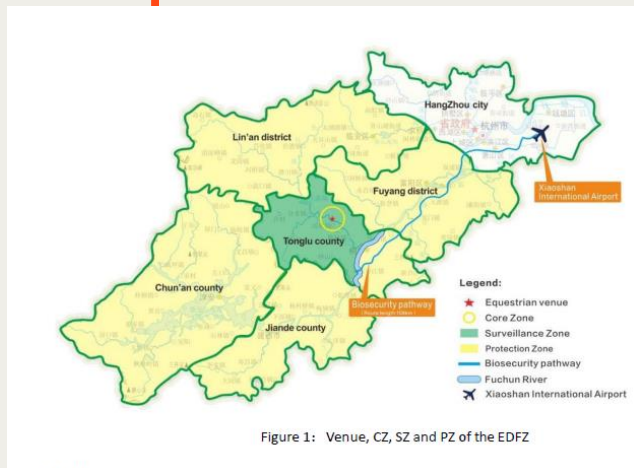


19th Asian Games in Hangzhou, China September-October 2023

Self-declaration of the Hangzhou Equine Disease-Free Zone (EDFZ) for the 2023 Asian Games made by the PRC Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Affairs (MARA) published in Feb 2023:

[WOAH website](#)

Importance of signing Memorandum of Understanding between horse industry and Veterinary Authorities: technical support, quarantine, health certificates, horse transportation and management, biosecurity in sport events, etc.



World Organisation for Animal Health
Founded in 1924

Animal Diseases | Avian Influenza | Call for Experts | SEARCH

WHO WE ARE | WHAT WE DO | WHAT WE OFFER | MEDIA | WAHIS

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.

Recently published self-declarations

Please note that for some self-declarations' pdfs are available only in the original language of submission and for non-active self-declarations the links to the documents have been deactivated. If you wish to select multiple items in the table/dashboard, please click on Ctrl.

More information on Members' historical and current animal health situation will soon be available on WAHIS.

Member	Self-declared freedom from	Category	From	To	Country/zone/compartment	Status	Temporary
Egypt	Burhollera malle (Int. v. v. v.) (Glanders)	Terrestrial	2020-11-09		Country	Active	No
Kuwait	Burhollera malle (Int. v. v. v.) (Glanders)	Terrestrial	2020-06-17		Country	Active	No
Mexico	Burhollera malle (Int. v. v. v.) (Glanders)	Terrestrial	2019-04-23		Country	Active	No
Germany	Burhollera malle (Int. v. v. v.) (Glanders)	Terrestrial	2015-06-14		Country	Active	No
Lebanon	Burhollera malle (Int. v. v. v.) (Glanders)	Terrestrial	2012-03-23		Country	Active	No

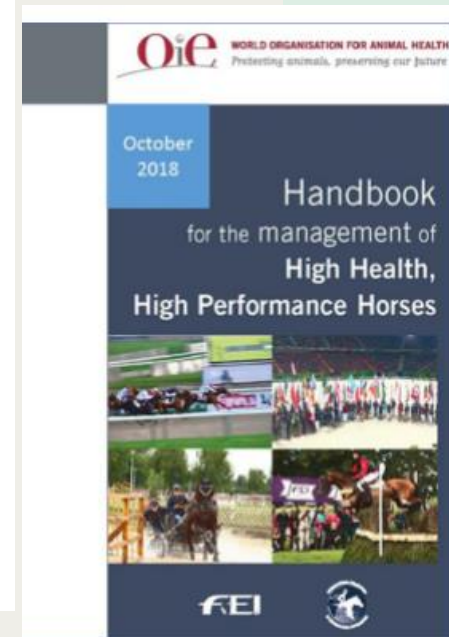
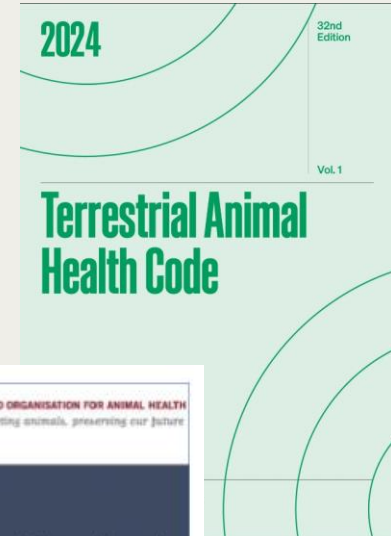
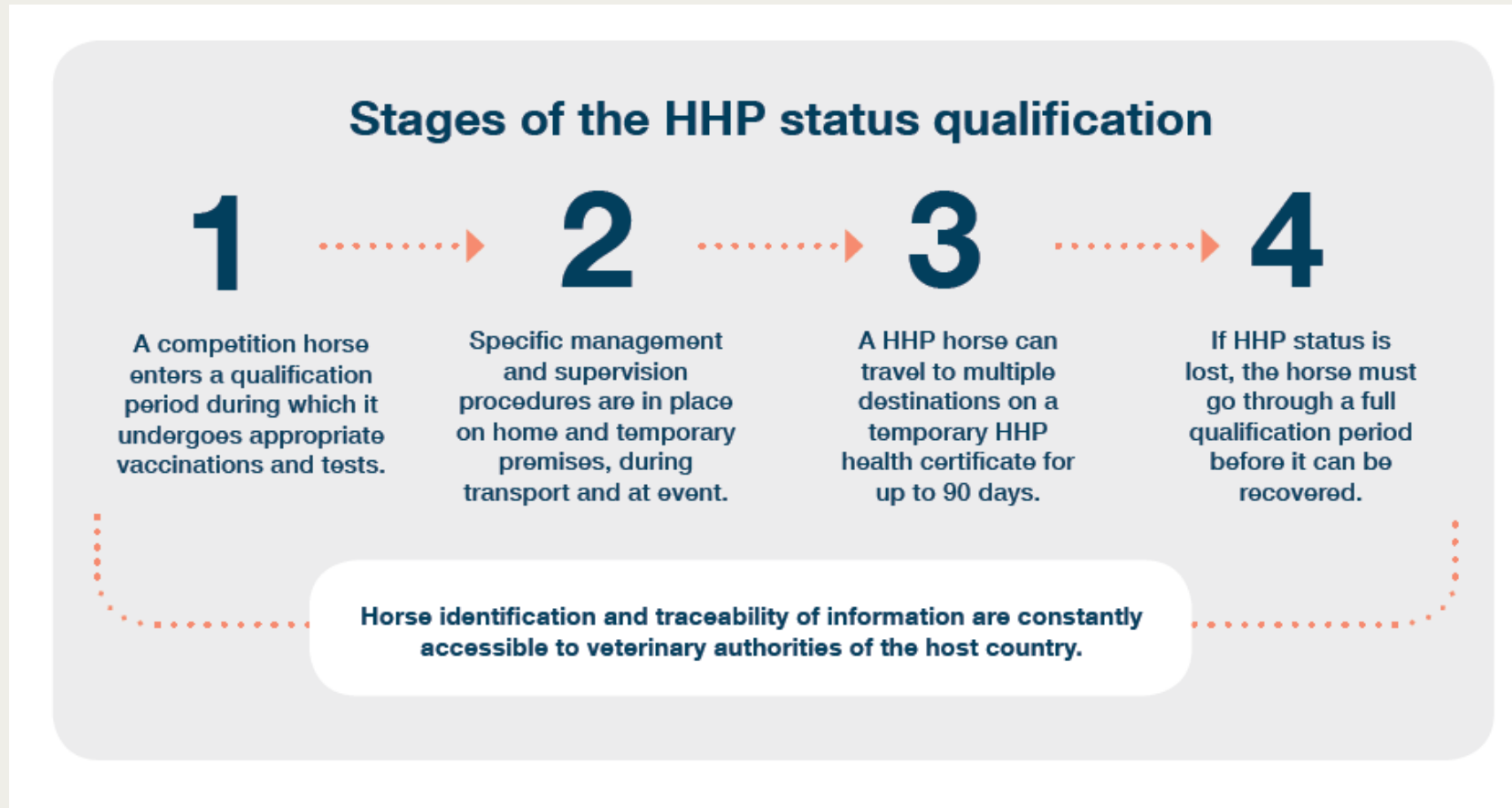
Public-Private Partnerships in the veterinary domain:

Learn more on how to develop impactful and sustainable PPPs in your country

WOAH WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH
Protecting animals, promoting our future

WOAH-IHSC Collaboration: Development of HHP framework

High Health High Performance (HHP) horse: [Chapter 4.17 of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*](#) on High-Health Status Horse Subpopulation



Key elements of Code Chapter 4.17

Chapter 4.17 of the Terrestrial Code & HHP Handbook

1. General provisions:

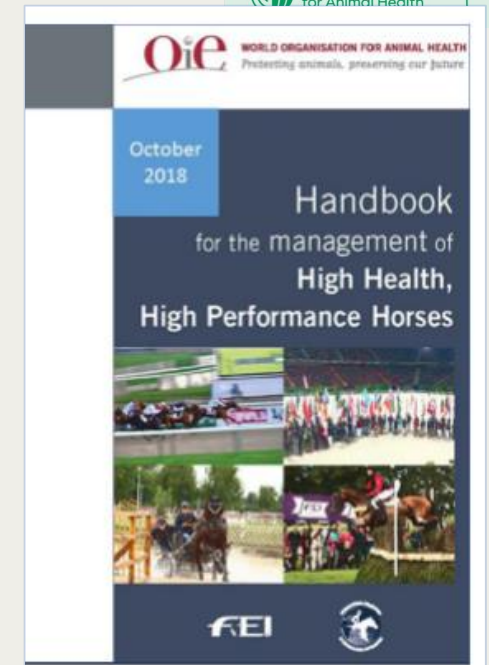
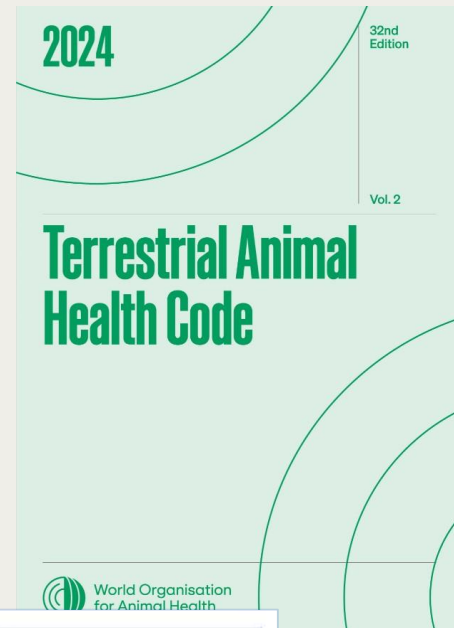
- Temporary movement with return to country of usual residence
- In line with compartmentalisation chapter
- Only for competition, not for breeding

2. Criteria for inclusion in subpopulation

- High health status (with respect to specified listed diseases)
- Identification and traceability
- Separation from other equids
- Management of subpopulation

3. Recommendations to the Veterinary Authorities

- Develop temporary importation
- Acknowledge WOAHP Biosecurity GL



Establishment of a high health status horse subpopulation

HHP Standard Conditions

Biosecurity

HHP
Management

Traceability

Contingency
Plans



Disease-specific mitigation measures

- African Horse Sickness
- Glanders
- Equine Influenza*
- Equine Piroplasmosis*
- Equine Infectious Anemia
- Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis



Horse Racing Authorities



National Equestrian Federations



Veterinary Authorities

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

6 Regional workshops on temporary international movements of competition horses (2017-2019):

- South Africa -FEI Group IX
- Guatemala -FEI Group V
- Uruguay -FEI Group VI
- Hong Kong -FEI Group VIII
- Morocco -FEI Group VII (plus Türkiye)
- Russia -FEI Group III

Objectives:

Bring together representatives of National Veterinary Authorities, National Equestrian Federations, National Racing Authorities and Customs Administrations to support further development of their necessary capacities for temporary regional movement of competition horses. **Develop Roadmaps.**



Follow-up Workshops in

- Lebanon (2019)- FEI Group VII,
- Azerbaijan (2020) - FEI Group III,
- Thailand (Jan 2024) - FEI Group VIII,
- UAE (Feb 2024)- FEI Group VII

Regional workshops on temporary international movements of competition horses

Roadmaps (priority actions)

Developed by groups:

- National Veterinary Authorities
- Horseracing Authorities
- Equestrian Federation
- Customs Authorities

- Participants in each group worked jointly to develop a **Roadmap** with actions for national stakeholders including timelines and indicators.
- Participants discussed then the way forward for the implementation of the regional **Roadmaps**.

National veterinary Authorities – “roadmap”: priority actions

Acronyms:
 NF: national equestrian federation
 NHV: FEI national head veterinarian
 NRA: national horseracing authorities
 NVA: national veterinary authorities

Objective	Action	Stakeholders to be involved	Responsible	Timeline for implementation	Indicator
					Submit collected certificate

Horseracing Authorities – “roadmap”: priority actions
To facilitate temporary horse movement
PRC, Hong-Kong, Singapore, Japan

Acronyms:
 NF: national equestrian federation
 NHV: FEI national head veterinarian
 NRA: national horseracing authorities
 NVA: national veterinary authorities

Equestrian– “roadmap”: priority actions

Acronyms:
 NF: national equestrian federation
 NHV: FEI national head veterinarian
 NRA: national horseracing authorities
 NVA: national veterinary authorities

Objective	Action	Stakeholders to be involved	Responsible	Timeline for implementation	Indicator
Risk assessment	1. Neurological virus 2. Strangles	NF veterinary department List of capable professionals to provide this assessment	FEI with Veterinary Authority of each country with support from OIE	N/A	
Improve disease surveillance	The industry to contact the Veterinary authorities to request collaboration and development of Competency of country to monitor and report Disease	NF, NHV, NVA, NRA, OIE	NF, NHV, NVA	Immediate	Outbreak of disease timely reported
	Contact the NVA to recognize/harmonise the list of notifiable equine diseases with OIE list	NF, NHV, NVA, NRA, OIE	NF, NHV	By 2020	List is harmonized



1. Asia and the Pacific :

Facilitation of international sport horse movement through harmonized import health certificates – Protocol discussed during the WOAH Regional Workshop on “Facilitation of International Horse Movement” in Thailand (Jan 2024)

Information sharing platform on equine diseases and diagnostic capabilities- in Japan September 2024



MODEL-VETERINARY CERTIFICATE
FOR THE INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT NOT EXCEEDING 90 DAYS
OF A REGISTERED HORSE FOR COMPETITION OR RACES

§
 Certificate number: §
 Import permit number (if applicable): Issued by (insert name of government authority)
 of (insert name of country of destination) §

This certificate is issued for a registered horse: §
 = dispatched from the country of usual residence to a country of temporary residence §
 = dispatched from a country of temporary residence to another country of temporary residence §
 = returning from a country of temporary residence to the country of usual residence §

§
 Numbers of previously issued certificates (if applicable): §
 Movement from: Movement to: Cert no: §
 Movement from: Movement to: Cert no: §
 Movement from: Movement to: Cert no: §
 §
 §

I - IDENTIFICATION OF THE HORSE
 §
 I.1 - Name: §
 §
 I.2 - Colour: §
 §
 I.3 - Sex: §
 §
 I.4 - Age or birth date: §
 §
 I.5 - Microchip number: Reading system other than ISO: §

VET SERVICES ATTENDEES AND CONSULTANT FUNDED BY MARA (CHINA)
REGIONAL EXPERTS FUNDED BY MARA
DR ZIENTARA (EU REFERENCE LAB FOR EQUINE DISEASES)
FUNDED BY MARA + IHSC, DR LAM, PATRICK LAU (HK)



A WORKSHOP ON LABORATORY EXPERTISE IN EQUINE DISEASES IN ASIA AND PACIFIC WAS HELD AT THE JRA EQUESTRIAN PARK IN TOKYO, JAPAN, SEPTEMBER 2024



AIM: STRENGTHEN LABORATORY CAPACITY FOR DIAGNOSING EQUINE DISEASES AND TO BUILD A ROBUST NETWORK OF LABORATORIES IN THE REGION.

Disease	Date	Main partners
Vector surveillance and control for AHS in Asia and Pacific	26 Jan 2023	Thailand, Malaysia, Cambodia, WOAHS Ref lab Spain
Vector borne zoonoses affecting equines: Japanese encephalitis and West Nile fever	29 Mar 2023	ANSES, France
Equine influenza	31 May 2023	WOAH Ref labs in Japan, Ireland
Glanders	30 Aug 2023	WOAH Ref lab ANSES, Dubai, NRCE India
Dourine and surra	11 Dec 2023	WOAH Ref lab ANSES, Japan
Equine Rhinopneumonitis (EHV)	27 Mar 2024	WOAH Ref lab ANSES in Ireland & USA, Japan-Presentations from FEI: lessons learnt after EHV outbreaks in Spain
Equine infectious anaemia (EIA)	5 Jun 2024	WOAH Ref lab Harbin, ANSES

The ppt presentations and the recording of all webinars is available on the project webpage on WOAHS Asia & Pacific website <https://rr-asia.woah.org/en/projects/horse-movement/international-horse-movement-in-asia-and-the-pacific/>



-**Enhanced laboratory capacities** in under-resourced regions (e.g., Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, Americas)

- **Focus on Diagnostic Improvements**

- Follow the development and evaluation new diagnostic tests for glanders (ELISA)
- Meetings with representatives of WOAHA Reference Labs (Surra, Dourine, Glanders, EI)
- Challenges in serological differentiation for diseases like Surra and Dourine

Low number of WOAHA Ref. Labs. for equine diseases in the Middle East Region

Consultancy Projects to harmonise the health certificates and requirements for competitions horses:

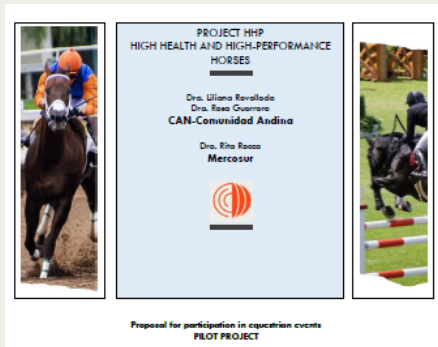
2. South America :

Project to harmonise the health requirements for the temporary movements of HHP horses in South America- Only HHP horses for competition purposes

Visit to 2 main events- protocols reviews- challenges

Simulation exercise on the application of the HHP protocol and health certificate

Test the Health Certificate in an FEI event in Paraguay (Sept-Oct 2025)



ANNEX 3
ADDITIONAL HEALTH CERTIFICATION FOR THE RETURN OF HORSES OF EXCELLENT HEALTH STATUS AND HIGH PERFORMANCE FOR EQUESTRIAN EVENTS OR COMPETITIONS

Date of emission: ____/____/____
Validity: This document is valid for XX days from the date of issue.

VI. Provenance

Country of Origin	
Establishment of Provenance/Event or Competition	
Exporter's name	
Exporter's address	
Departure point	
Destination country	

VII. Destination

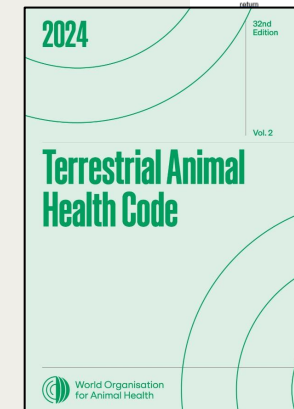
Destination Country	
Importer's name	
Importer's address	

VIII. Health information

The undersigned Veterinary Officer certifies that:

- 1) The event(s) were under the supervision of the Veterinary Authority.
- 2) On the day of embarkation, the horses did not show any clinical signs of disease.
- 3) The horse(s) of high performance and excellent health status were kept in isolation conditions and that no health event or disease occurred in the animal(s) in question, they were not in contact with animals of inferior health status and were not used in any reproductive activity.
- 4) At the time of the event(s), no cases of infectious and parasitic diseases affecting horses of high performance and excellent health status were officially reported during the period they remained in the importing country until their return.

...ance and excellent health status were transported directly from the place of the event(s) from the country, in means of transport with a closed structure, sealed, with adequate ventilation, previously cleaned, disinfected and disinfected, with products approved by the



Both twinning Projects in Asia and South America could help update the Code Chapter 5.12 and implementing a Model passport and Health Certificate for international movement of competition horses

Thank you

Questions?

Comments?

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