

Endorsement of official PPR control programmes by WOAAH

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Peste des Petits Ruminants Regional Roadmap

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Animal



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SOP for official recognition of animal health status and endorsement of official control programmes



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Application_SOP

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

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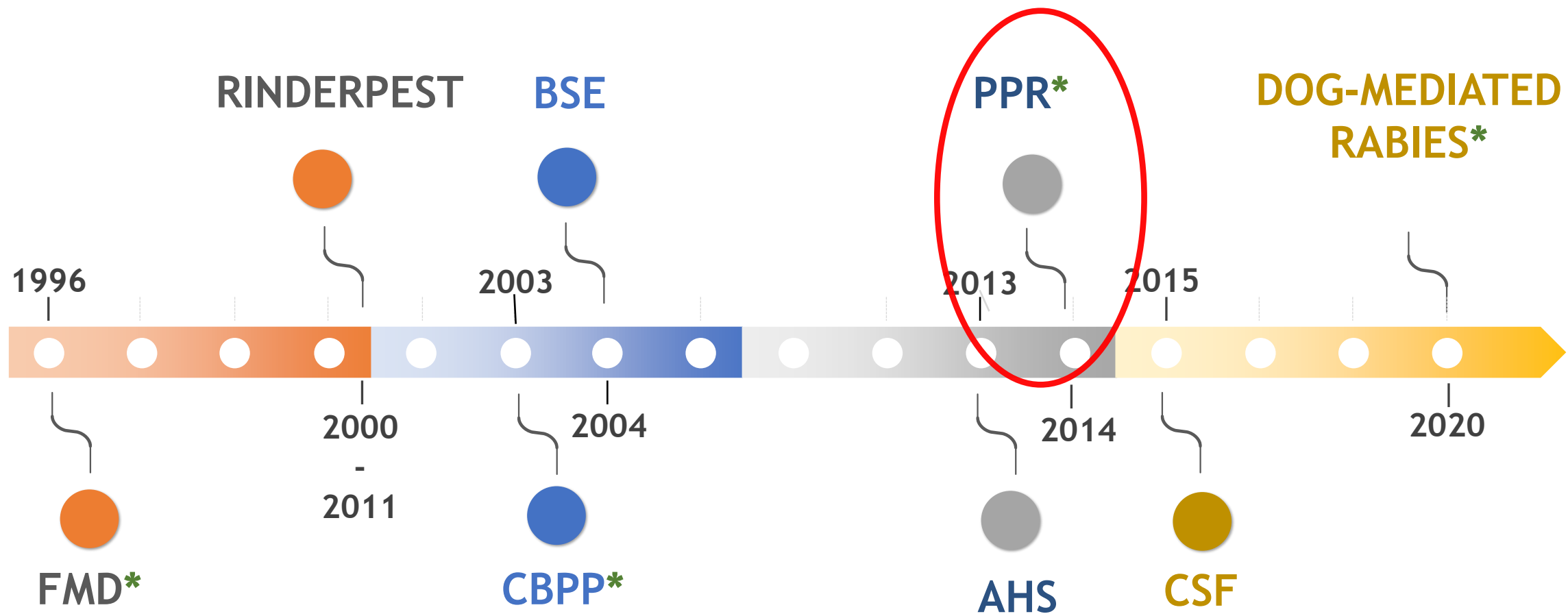
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- **In 1994**, the World Assembly requested a voluntary-based procedure for recognition of free status from certain diseases
 - Mandate given to the Scientific Commission
 - Recognition by the World Assembly
- **In 1995**, the procedure for FMD official recognition was adopted
- **In 1996**, the 1st list of Member Countries and zone free from FMD without vaccination was adopted
- Important legal link with the World Trade Organisation



WOAH official recognition of animal health status



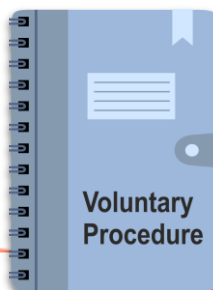
* WOAH endorsement of official control programme



Objectives & Benefits include:

- To progressively improve the disease situation and eventually attain official recognition of animal health status
- Wider access to international expertise and capacity-building activities
- Access to international funding
- Increased engagement of governments in disease control and elimination
- Opportunities for stronger coordination in disease control and elimination at regional level
- PPR stepwise approach Stage 3





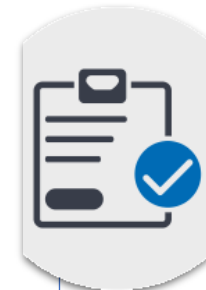
A voluntary procedure developed on Members' request to facilitate trade



Resolutions adopted by the World Assembly



SOPs and rules & guidelines

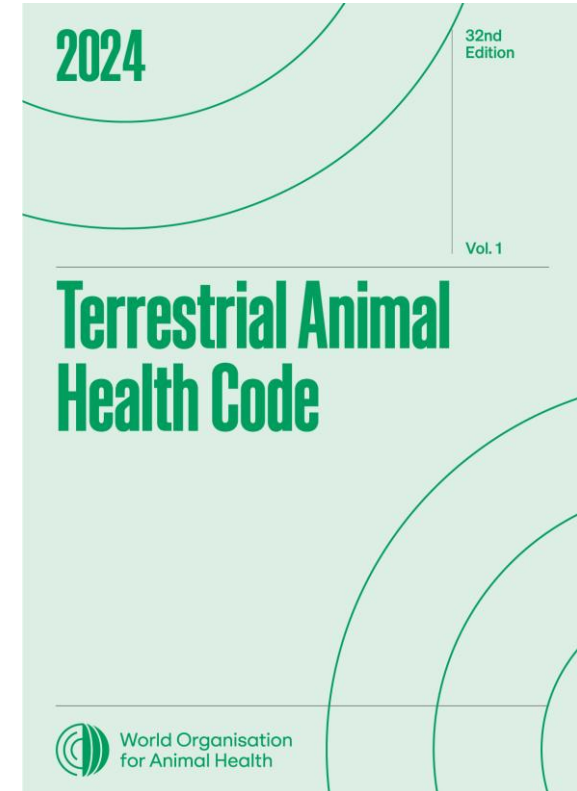


Updated when relevant



Available online in the three WHO official languages

- Compliance with the relevant provisions of the *Terrestrial Code*.
- Complete – relevant to template **Questionnaire** in the *Terrestrial Code* (also on WOAHA website) – **documented evidence**
- 50 pages + appendices (cross-referenced) + executive summary
- Proof of payment – fee
- Contact details of technical staff



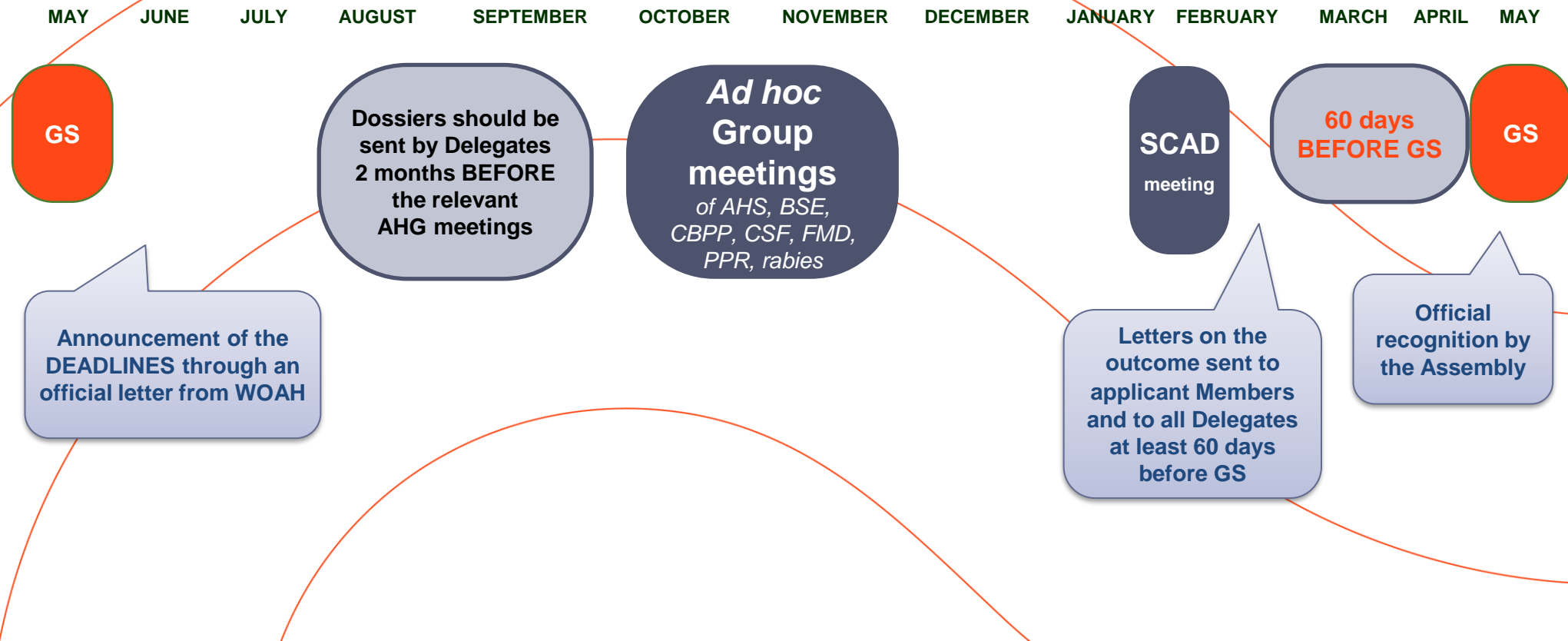
Demonstrate by **EVIDENCE**





WOAH calendar meetings:

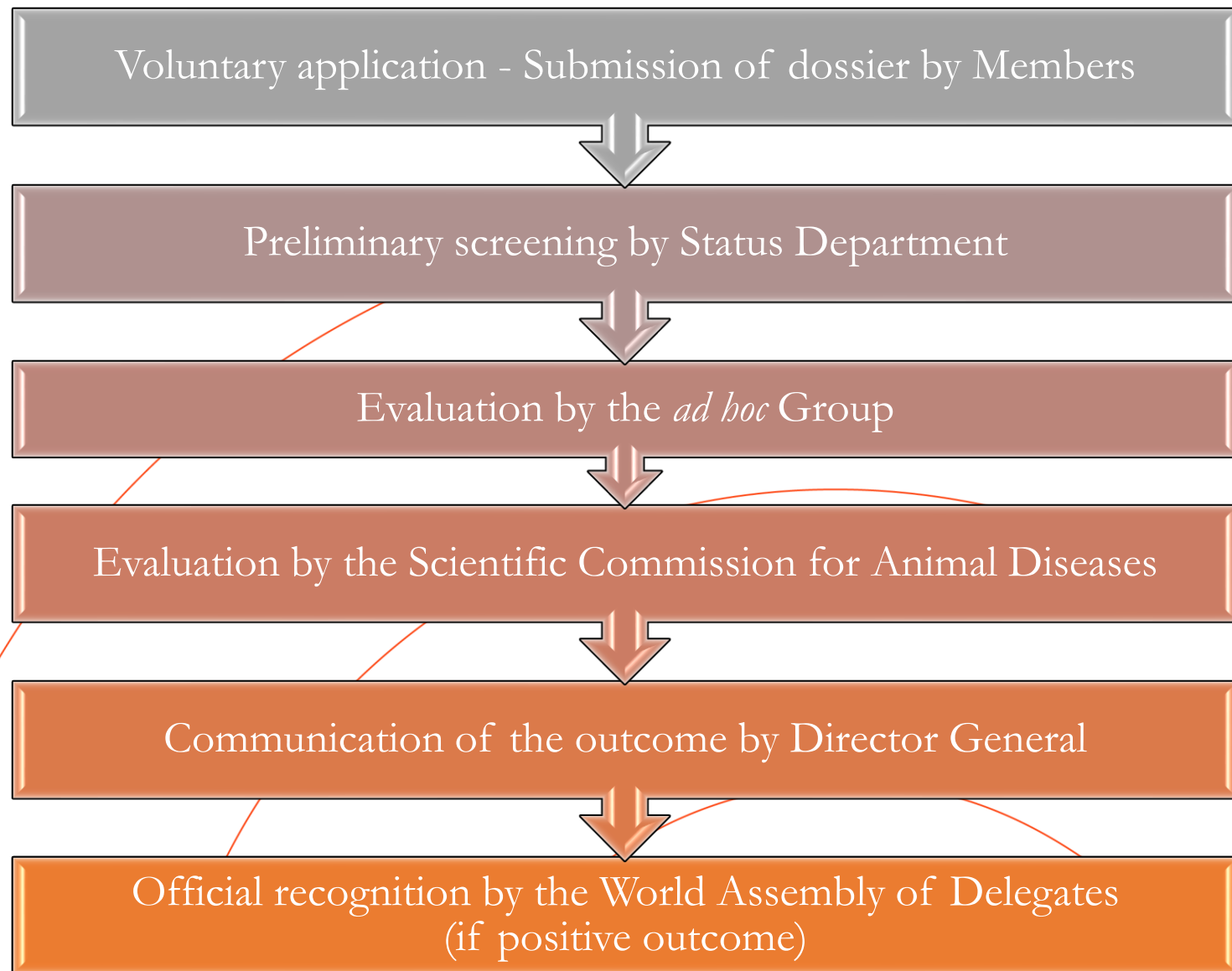
- Cycle from a General Session to the following one
- Letter from the DG after each General Session announcing dates of the AHG
- Deadline to submit dossier: 2 months before the meeting of the AHG





The procedure: Evaluation

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The procedure : Evaluation by the *ad hoc* Group

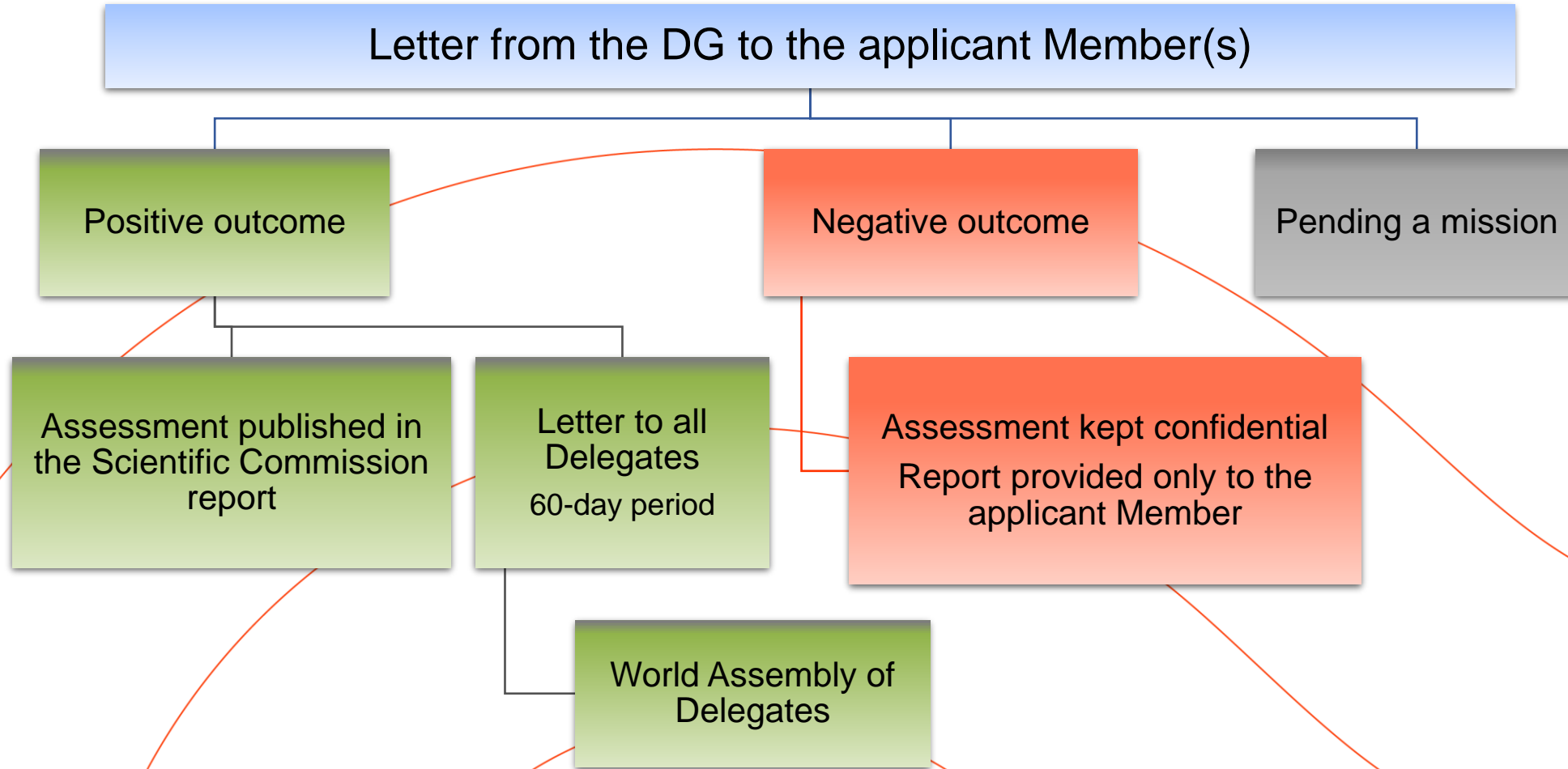
- *The ad hoc* Group usually comprises six internationally recognised experts. Gender, geographical representation, etc, is considered when selecting experts
- Assesses dossiers against *Terrestrial Code* requirements
 - Information from the application and other Member reports submitted to WOAH (e.g. WAHIS, PVS etc)
 - Expert knowledge
 - Information available in the public domain
- Possible interaction (electronic) with the applicant
- 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
- Final recommendation proposed for adoption by the World Assembly of Delegates
- May request an expert mission (field or virtual) to verify the dossier



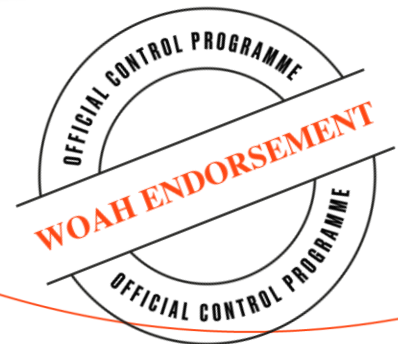
The procedure: Communication of the outcome

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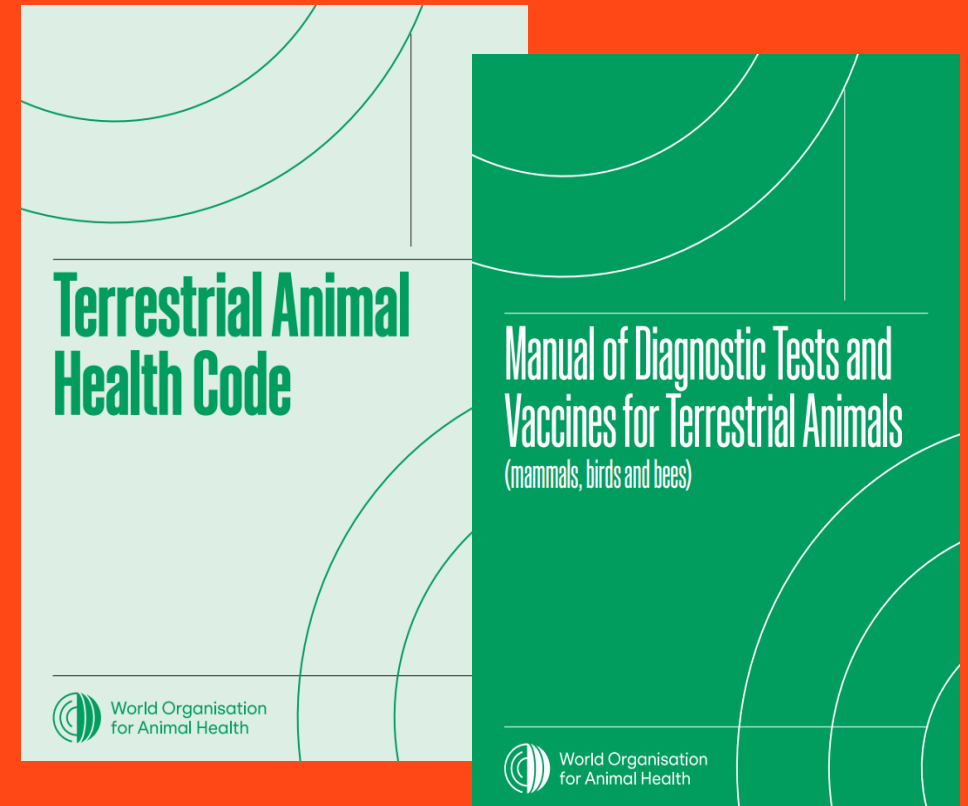


The procedure : Official recognition

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



Terrestrial Animal Health Code requirements for endorsement of official PPR control programme





Article 14.7.34. : WOAHA endorsed official control programme for PPR

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- A Member may, on a **voluntary basis**, apply for endorsement of its official control programme for PPR
- Measures listed in Article 14.7.34. should **already have been implemented** when the official control programme is presented for adoption, and results of their effectiveness **should be presented**
- Objective for Members is to progressively control and eradicate PPR in their territories and **eventually attain** official recognition of PPR-free status by WOAHA
- Should be **applicable to the entire territory** even if on a zonal basis
- Compliance with the relevant provisions of the *Terrestrial Code*
- Stage 3 of the PPR stepwise approach



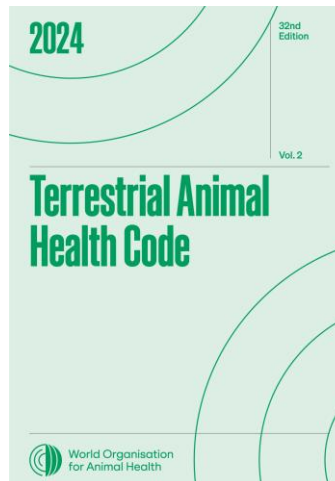
Horizontal Chapters

- 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 (14.7.1.)
- Safe commodities (14.7.2)
- Criteria for disease status: country, zone or compartment (14.7.3-14.7.7.)
- Provisions for import of commodities (14.7.8.-14.7.25.)
- Pathogen inactivation (14.7.26.)
- Specific disease surveillance (14.7.27.-14.7.33.)
- Endorsement of control programme (14.7.34.)





The Questionnaire

Article 112.3

Application for endorsement by WOA of an official control programme for peste des petits ruminants

The following information should be provided by WOA Member Countries to support applications for endorsement by WOA of an *official control programme* for peste des petits ruminants (PPR) in accordance with Chapter 14.7. of the *Terrestrial Code*.

The dossier provided to WOA should address concisely all the topics under the headings provided in Sections 1 to 4 to describe the actual situation in the country and the procedures currently applied, explaining how these comply with the *Terrestrial Code*.

In Sections 3 f) to 3 i) describe concisely the work plan and timelines of the control programme for the next five years.

The terminology defined in the WOA *Terrestrial Code* and *Terrestrial Manual* should be referred to and used in compiling the dossier.

National legislation, regulations and *Veterinary Authority* directives may be referred to and annexed as appropriate in one of the WOA official languages. Weblinks to supporting documents in one of the official languages of WOA may also be provided, where they exist.

All annexes should be provided in one of the WOA official languages.

The Delegate of the Member Country applying for endorsement of the *official control programme* should submit documentary evidence that the provisions of Article 14.7.34. have been properly implemented and supervised. In addition, the Delegate of the Member Country must submit the detailed national official control programme for PPR.

1. Introduction

- a. Geographical features (rivers, mountain ranges, etc.). Provide a general description of the country and *zones*, and where relevant of the region, including physical, geographical and other factors that are relevant to introduction of *infection* and spread of PPR virus, taking into account the countries or *zones* sharing common borders and other epidemiologic pathways for the potential introduction of *infection*. Provide maps identifying the features above. Specify whether the application includes any noncontiguous territories.
- b. If the endorsed plan is implemented in stages to specific parts of the country, the boundaries of the *zones* should be clearly defined, including the *protection zones* if applied. Provide a digitalised, geo-referenced map with a description of the geographical boundaries of the *zones*.
- c. Livestock demographics. Describe the composition of the livestock industry in the country and any *zones*. In particular, describe:
 - i. the susceptible animal *population* by species and types of production systems;
 - ii. the number of *herds* or *flocks*, etc. of each susceptible species;
 - iii. their geographical distribution;



- ✓ To assist Members
- ✓ To assist experts
- ✓ To give more transparency and consistency to the evaluation process
- ✓ To standardise the evaluation among countries



1. Introduction

2. Veterinary system

3. PPR control

- a) Epidemiology
- b) Surveillance
- c) Diagnosis
- d) Strategies
- e) Prevention
- f) Workplan and timelines for the next five years
- g) Performance indicators and timeline
- h) Assessment of control programme since its first day of inception
- i) Funding and annual budget

4. Control measures and emergency response





1. Introduction: set the context

- Geographical factors relevant for PPR introduction and dissemination
 - Countries sharing common borders and other epidemiologic pathways (include maps)
 - Zonal boundaries (if phased implementation) and protection zone location if relevant
- Livestock demographics
 - Population sizes, densities, distribution, and production systems of susceptible species, etc.
- Wildlife demographics
 - Sizes and locations of captive, wild, or feral populations; measures to prevent domestic–wildlife contact
- Livestock congregation points
 - Locations of abattoirs/slaughterhouses, markets and events involving susceptible livestock





2. Veterinary system

- Legislations, regulations and Veterinary Authority directives relevant to the PPR control programme
- Description of the Veterinary Services (VS)
 - Compliance with Chapter 1.1., 3.2. and 3.3. of the *Terrestrial Code*
 - How VS supervises, controls, enforces and monitors PPR-related activities
- PVS evaluations (if any)
- Involvement of industry, producers, farmers, keepers and veterinary paraprofessionals
 - Private veterinary sector
 - Trainings and awareness activities
- Animal identification, registration, traceability and movement control
 - Systems in place
 - Table detailing number, species, origin and destination of animals and their products moved within the country in the past 24 months
 - Uncontrolled movements (risk management strategy, legislations, illegal movements detected in the past 24 months)



2. Common shortcomings: Veterinary system

- Concise summary of the important points on legislation **relevant for PPR**, with cross-reference to Annexes
- Clear description of the capability of Veterinary Services – consideration of the PVS conclusion/recommendations
- Lack of specific info on PPR awareness on the part of farmers, veterinarians and other stakeholders
- Lack of description on identification system
- Lack on information on wildlife



3. Official Control Programme

a) Epidemiology

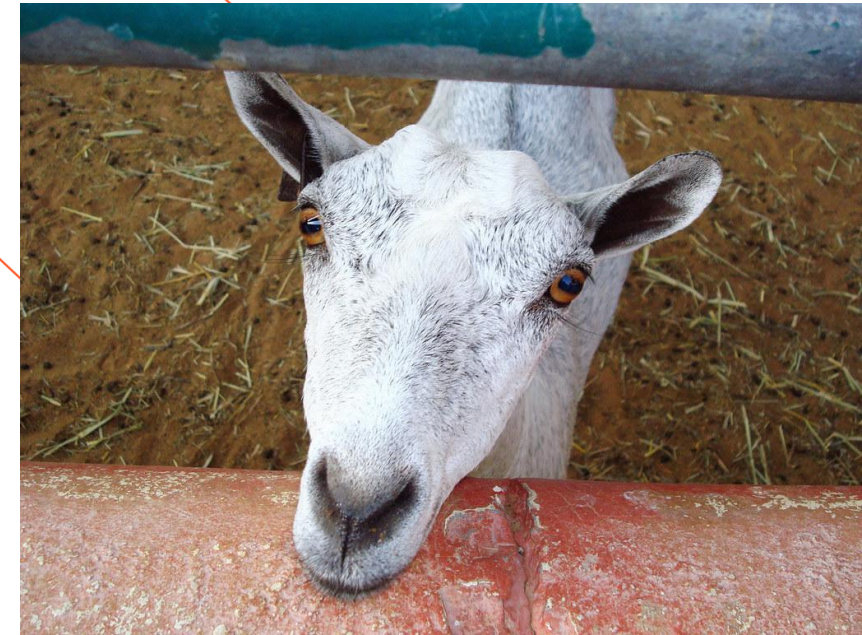
- PPR history and epidemiological overview
 - First detection, infection sources and routes, lineages present, species affected, etc.)
- Current PPR situation
 - National and regional status, including number and locations of outbreaks
- Maps of small ruminant density, movement patterns and estimated PPR prevalence
- Highlight current knowledge and gaps
- Date of implementation of the control programme





b) Surveillance

- Compliance with Articles 14.7.27.-14.7.33. of the *Terrestrial Code* and Chapter 3.7.9. of the *Terrestrial Manual*
- Suspicions and reporting
 - Criteria to raise PPR suspicion
 - Notification procedures (by whom and to whom) and incentives to report/penalties for failure of reporting
- Surveillance activities
 - Clinical: Methods, strategy and follow-up of suspicions
 - Serological and virological surveillance: Frequency, target populations, sampling strategy and tests used
- Surveillance data
 - Summary table (past 24 months) of suspected cases and tested samples, methods and results incl. differential diagnoses, follow-up actions

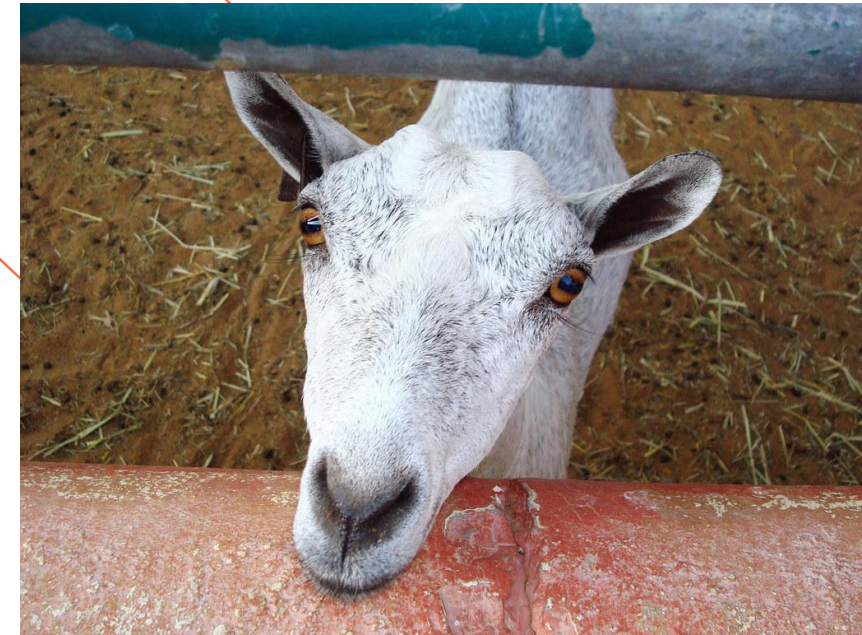




3. Official Control Programme

b) Surveillance

- Surveillance performance monitoring
 - Including key indicators
- Risk-based surveillance
 - Design and criteria for targeted surveillance
- Surveys and control assessment
 - Vaccine coverage, population immunity and PPR prevalence trends
 - Control measure evaluation (cost effectiveness, implementation, impact)
- Outcomes of outbreak investigations, awareness, community involvement
- Inclusion of wildlife populations or justifications for their exclusion





3. Official Control Programme

Common shortcomings: Surveillance

- Lack of information on early detection systems for investigation of suspect cases – details of follow-up on PPR suspects
- Lack of detail on surveillance design
- No detailed summary table for at least the last 24 months – suspected, sampled (sample type), tested and testing methods, results (by species)
- Lack of explanation when targeted surveillance is used
- Lack of detailed protocol on vaccination coverage
- Absence of description on the follow-up of seropositive results





3. Official Control Programme

c) PPR diagnosis

- Compliance with relevant provisions of Chapters 1.1.2., 1.1.3. and 3.7.9. of the *Terrestrial Manual*
- If PPR diagnosis is carried out in the country;
 - List of approved labs, shipment logistics and result timeframes
 - List of PPR diagnostic tests performed per lab, sensitivity/specificity, proficiency testing
 - Accreditation, quality management systems
 - Inter-laboratory validation tests (ring trials)
 - Handling of live virus (yes/no)
 - Biosecurity and biosafety measures





3. Official Control Programme

c) PPR diagnosis

- If PPR laboratory diagnosis is not carried out in the country;
 - Names of international labs used
 - Shipment logistics and result timeframes
- Testing data
 - Numbers of PPR tests performed in the past 24 months (nationally and internationally)





3. Official Control Programme

c) Strategies

- Programme structure and implementation
 - Description of the organisation and implementation of the PPR control programme
- Control measures
 - Description and rationale for adopted strategies (e.g. vaccination, stamping out, movement control, etc.)
- Vaccination strategy
 - Schedule and data recording
 - Assessment of coverage, effectiveness and population immunity
 - Vaccine compliance with Chapter 1.1.8. of the *Terrestrial Manual*





3. Official Control Programme

c) Common shortcomings: PPR diagnosis and strategy

- Clarity on the relationship and level of oversight between National Reference Laboratories and other official labs
- Participation in inter-lab proficiency testing, validation and RESULTS
- Clear statement on the relationship with a WOAHP Reference Laboratory
- Protocol of the vaccination programme
- Description of vaccine used and compliance with the WOAHP *Terrestrial Manual*
- Post-vaccination monitoring



3. Official Control Programme

c) PPR prevention

- Coordination with neighbouring countries
- Measures to prevent the introduction and onward spread of PPR
 - Awareness of transmission mechanisms, good biosecurity, hygiene and disinfection along the production and marketing networks
- Import control procedures
 - Countries/zones/compartments from which import of susceptible species or products are authorised
 - Risk assessment and summary of imports in the past 24 months
 - Entry points: ports, airports, and land crossings (include map)
 - Quarantine, testing, and inspection procedures
 - Import permits and International Veterinary Certificates
 - Frequency and actions taken on illegal import detection





3. Official Control Programme

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Workplan, performance indicators, timelines and assessment of the plan

- SMART **workplan** including;
 - **Performance indicators** of most important areas and steps for improvement
 - The control plan to be **monitored** and successes measured since the date of implementation
 - **Timelines** (cessation of vaccinations, status to be achieved in the next five years)
 - Description of **funding & annual budgets** for the duration

Specific

Measurable

Attainable

Relevant

Timely



4. Control measures and emergency response

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c) PPR prevention

- Procedures for handling suspected or confirmed PPR outbreaks (written guidelines/contingency planning)
 - Attach the contingency plan as an annex or provide a summary of its content
- Various steps taken in the event of a suspected or confirmed PPR outbreak
 - Quarantine and other control measures imposed
 - Sampling and testing procedures used to identify and confirm outbreaks
 - Control and/or eradication procedures (e.g. tracing, disinfection, vaccination, stamping out, movement control, etc)
 - Procedures used to confirm successful control
 - Compensation
 - Critical risk control points targeted

- Lack of a contingency plan specifically for PPR
- Lack of detail on the structure of compensation



Take home message

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When applying for endorsement of official PPR control programme...

- Respond in full to all questions of the questionnaire and any subsequent questions raised by WOAHA and the *ad hoc* Group experts
- Acknowledge gaps and describe how they are being addressed
- Provide documented evidence whenever possible
- Describe in detail using clear, understandable language – put yourself in the expert's shoes!
- Use WOAHA terminology and refer to WOAHA Standards (*Terrestrial Code* and *Terrestrial Manual*)

How can I show in my dossier that we follow the requirements of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code?





Thank you for your attention!

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