



Organisation
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Designation and Responsibilities of OIE National Focal Points

**Workshop for the OIE National Focal Points for Animal
Production Food Safety**

Tunisia, 4-6th April 2011



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Terms of Reference for the OIE National Focal Points



- During the 76th General Session in May 2008 the World Assembly of Delegates:
 - reiterated the importance of focal point for **animal diseases notification**
- requested to nominate additional focal points for:
 - **wildlife**
 - **veterinary products**
 - **animal production food safety**
 - **animal welfare**
 - **aquatic animals.**

Terms of Reference for the OIE National Focal Points



- **Activities** of the focal points in relation with OIE rights and obligations are under the authority of the OIE Delegate.
- **Information transmitted** to the OIE from focal points must be under the designated authority of the OIE Delegate either if focal points are:
 - **under jurisdiction** of the Veterinary Authority, or
 - located in other Departments or Ministries **not under jurisdiction** of Veterinary Authority
- From a legal perspective, the OIE considers the official OIE Delegate to be the **unique representative of the country**.

ToR National Focal Point for Animal Production Food Safety



- Establish a **network** of Animal Production Food Safety experts within his/her country or communicate with existing network;
- Establish and maintain a **dialogue, cooperation and communication** with the Competent Authority for animal production food safety and relevant authorities;

ToR National Focal Point for Animal Production Food Safety (contd)



- Receive reports of the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission and of the OIE Working Group on Animal Production Food Safety and other relevant reports and conduct the **in-country consultation process**;
- Prepare **comments** for the Delegate on relevant meeting reports, including comments on the proposals for new or revised OIE standards related to animal production food safety, taking into account *Codex Alimentarius* standards, when relevant.

● **APFSWG Report:**

- APFSWG meet during November each year.
- report is endorsed by TCC at their February meeting.
- once endorsed the APFSWG report is uploaded onto APFS pages on OIE website, usually 1 week after the TCC's Feb. meeting.

Availability of relevant OIE Reports



● Terrestrial Code Commission (TCC) Reports:

- TCC usually meet February and September each year;
- English version ('unofficial') usually available 3 weeks after each meeting on OIE Delegates site.
- French and Spanish versions ('official') usually available 9 weeks after each meeting on OIE Delegates site.
- once 'official', reports are then uploaded on the public OIE site.
- once public, OIE will inform FPs of report availability.

NOTE:

- TCC Report specifies what Members should comment on, e.g. *Code* chapters relevant to APFS.
- TTC Report specifies the closing date for Member comments.

Important points:



Make arrangements with your Delegate to ensure you have early access to reports.

This will allow maximum time for your consultation process and ensure comments reach OIE prior to the deadline.

Opportunities for OIE Members to influence international standard setting



=> **Members** are **primarily responsible** for setting and the adoption of international standards and should therefore always attempt to actively participate in the standard setting process



Thank you for your attention



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