

**MEETING OF PAN AFRICAN CVO'S ON THE COORDINATED POSITION OF AFRICA ON ANIMAL HEALTH STANDARDS, 2-4
MAY 2011, NAIROBI, KENYA**

**COMMON POSITION OF AFRICA DELEGATES TO BE PRESENTED AT THE 79TH GENERAL SESSION OF THE OIE
22-27MAY 2011, PARIS, FRANCE**

Guidelines

- The Africa position presented in the table 1 below is the main outcome of the third meeting of African CVOs organized by AU/IBAR in Nairobi on 2 - 4 May 2011
- The position reflects the common view of the participating 45 African countries' delegates, the 6 represented RECs as well as AU/IBAR.
- The 7 African countries which were not represented in this meeting should adhere to and fully support this position that takes into account and guarantees the interests of the whole continent.
- The table below indicates consensually agreed positions on specific topics of interest along with identified countries to raise the issue as well as country (ies) to provide necessary support. The delegate taking the floor is strongly advised to mention that his position reflects the position of **52 African OIE member countries**. His statement should reflect precisely and faithfully what is indicated in the table.
- If the delegate indicated as nominee is not present, the first assigned supporting countries should take the floor and represent Africa. If none of the indicated countries are present, any other African delegate should take the floor and replace them as will be agreed before the session.
- Every delegate should have this document ready with him during the session and specifically during the session(s) of interest as outlined in the final remark.
- Final preparation shall be taking into place with all delegates in Paris on Monday 23 May at a time to be determined.
- All the comments indicated below will be made on
 - **For the presentation of the technical theme 1 on Monday 23th May at 11.00 am**
 - **For the presentation of the technical theme 2 on Tuesday 24th May at 11.00 am**
 - **For the Scientific Commission on Tuesday 24th during the 3rd plenary session between 2.45 pm and 6.00 pm**
 - **For the Aquatic Animal Health Standards commission on Tuesday 24th May at 11.45 am**
 - **For the Terrestrial Code commission on Wednesday 25th during the 4th plenary sessions between 09.00 and 16.00 am**

Please make sure to avail yourself/delegate to attend the session where you are kindly required to make the specified involvement.

STANDARD	ANNEX	CODE CHAPTER	PROPOSED CHANGE FOR ADOPTION	AFRICA POSITION	SPEAKER	SUPPORT
Technical Item 1 - Monday 23 May: 11.00 am						
The contribution of veterinary activities to global food security for food derived from terrestrial animals				Africa wishes to thank the OIE for including this item as a Technical Theme for this General Session. Food security for food derived from terrestrial animals is a priority issue in all spheres of livestock farming in Africa. Members are aware of the constraints facing Africa to ensure a continuous supply of food not only for local consumption but also international trade. The request is that standards set by the OIE to facilitate trade should always keep in mind that they be equally applicable for easy implementation by countries in Africa without unnecessary non-tariff barriers to trade and respecting the principle of equivalence.	Rwanda (Rwanda to be also at ad hoc Group for Resolution)	SUPPORT Niger
Technical item 2 - Tuesday 24 May: 11.00 – 11.45						
Implementation of a global strategy for FMD control				Africa welcomes the clarity provided by the speaker on this important subject and supports the global strategy. It is clear that there will be many role players driving this issue. Africa expresses the need for clarifying the respective roles and responsibilities of different partners in this global program. The unique circumstances to FMD control in Africa should be considered taking into account that in most regions in Africa due to the livestock/wildlife interface, eradication of the disease will be difficult. The request however is that this should not be held as trade barrier against African countries to enter the international market for trade in animals and animal products.	Sudan (Sudan to be also at the ad hoc Group for Resolution)	SUPPORT Lesotho

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Aquatic Code Commission – Tuesday 24 MAY; 11.45 -1.15						
	3	Glossary	Introduction of “living organisms” in definition of feed	Africa supports this change brought to the definition of animal feed for aquaculture	Cameroon	Alternate Somalia
Criteria for listing aquatic animal diseases	Annex 4	Chapter 1.2 Article 1.2.1 A. consequences Criteria number 2	Modification of Criteria No2 for listing of a disease	Africa supports the deletion of the part proposed but seeks clarification on the exact meaning of “negatively affect”	Nigeria	Alternate Tunisia
Principles for responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents in veterinary medicine	Annex 6	new Chapter 6.3 Article 6.3.3.: Definitions	definition of pharmacovigilance of antimicrobial agent	In the definition of pharmacovigilance of antimicrobial agent, we suggest to add the word “aquatic” before “animals” Other changes in the chapter are supported as they clarify the roles of key actors in the use of antimicrobial agents	Tunisia	Alternate Malawi
Quality of aquatic animal health services	Annex 8	Chapter 3.1.	Whole chapter	Africa commends the application of the OIE PVS tool to aquatic animal health services	Mauritania	Alternate Benin
Welfare aspects of stunning and killing of farmed fish for human consumption	Annex 13	Chapter 7.3. Article 7.3.5. : Unloading, transferring and loading	Duration of fasting before killing of fish	In order to make the sentence more clear we propose to remove the brackets in the last part of the sentence (e.g. to clear the gut or to reduce undesirable organoleptic properties).	Cote d’Ivoire	Alternate Namibia

STANDARD	ANNEX	CODE CHAPTER	PROPOSED CHANGE FOR ADOPTION	AFRICA POSITION	SPEAKER	SUPPORT
Report of the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases - Tuesday 24 May 2h45pm						
			Extension of official recognition of diseases	The Delegates of Africa take note with appreciation of the work already done by the Commission to extend the list of diseases to be officially recognised for country and zonal freedom (Classical Swine Fever and African Horse Sickness).	Nigeria	Alternate Swaziland
			Wildlife/lives-tock interface	An important issue that need the attention of both the Scientific and Code Commissions is to define a clear strategy on the role played by wildlife in the transmission of OIE listed diseases and the need to have a clear policy as it relates to country or zonal freedom. Different rules apply for example for FMD relative to other diseases such as ASF, CSF, HPAI and Aujesky's disease.	Kenya	Alternate Swaziland

Terrestrial Code Commission –Wednesday 25 MAY; 09H00 – 12H00

	2	Glossary	<p>Definition for euthanasia</p> <p>Definition of wild animal + captive wild animal +feral</p>	<p>The Africa delegates take note with appreciation that their intervention on this definition during the 78th General Session was included in the new definition.</p> <p>Africa supports the proposed new definitions related to wildlife. However, Africa does not support the deletion of the definition of wildlife as it is commonly used. For instance, in the Code (in Chapter 5.10 - certification) the word wildlife is still used (e.g. wildlife management) despite the deletion of the definition, which is not consistent.</p>	Mali	<p>Alternate</p> <p>Togo</p>
Listing of diseases	3	<p>Chapter 1.2.</p> <p>Article 1.2.3</p> <p>Diseases for de-listing</p>		<p>Africa supports the changes proposed but requests that the OIE continue to review the OIE listed diseases and specifically the need for retaining Swine Vesicular Disease in the list, and to verify if it complies or does not comply with the criteria for listing.</p> <p>The Code Commission is requested to check the French version for duplication of diseases at article 1.3.2 e.g. African horse sickness.</p>	Cote d'Ivoire	<p>Alternate</p> <p>Gabon</p>
Evaluation of veterinary services	4	<p>Chapter 3.2</p> <p>Article 3.2.14-2a(vi)</p>	Veterinary education	<p>Africa considers that more clarity is needed if the day-1 competencies take into account competencies in aquatic animal health and welfare, and to clarify if a linkage can or will be made with the competency for veterinary training in the PVS manual</p> <p>In the French translation 3.14-2a (vi) we propose to write “enseignement vétérinaire” instead of “enseignement de la médecine vétérinaire”</p>	Cameroon	<p>Alternate</p> <p>Chad</p>

Zoning and compartmentalisation	7	Chapter 4.3. Article 4.3.2.	Changes proposed in second paragraph of Article 4.3.2: General considerations	<p>In the English version, the language is unclear. The word “and” in the following sentence appears to be redundant:</p> <p>“wildlife species and environmental factors, and on the application of bio security measures ».</p> <p>This remark does not apply to the French version. We propose to align the English version with the French version and to replace “and” with “as well as”</p>	Algeria	Alternate Niger
Zoning and compartmentalisation	7	Chapter 5.3. Article 5.3.7 (i)	Notification of disease outbreak relative to a compartment	Africa needs clarification if the reporting of an outbreak only refers to an outbreak within the compartment or does it also refer to outbreaks outside the compartment?	Algeria	Alternate Niger
Model health certificate for international trade in live animals	10	Chapter 5.10. Article 5.10.2 (2) Box 1.22	Requirements for wildlife management	<p><u>Comment to submit if request submitted on annex 2 has been accepted (definition of wildlife maintained):</u></p> <p>Africa notes that the term “wildlife” is used in the model health certificate for international trade in live animals. It is in this regard that the Africa delegates appreciate and reiterate that the definition of “wildlife” in the glossary should not be removed</p> <p><u>Comment to submit if request submitted on annex 2 has been rejected (definition of wildlife deleted):</u></p> <p>The definition of “wildlife” has been deleted from the glossary. Africa needs clarification on the meaning (definition) of wildlife referred to in this article in the absence of the definition of wildlife in the glossary</p>	Swaziland	Alternate Cote d’Ivoire

Prevention of Samonella	12	Chapter 6.5 Article 6.5.6 (3)	Use and re-use of litter.	In the English version, this paragraph is confusing i.e. "Litter should not be reused" in contradiction with "if litter is not removed..." Consider rephrasing the paragraph. We propose to reformulate the first sentence as follow: "the litter should not be reused as such " In the French version, the whole paragraph 3 has been removed; there is a need to align both versions.	Nigeria	Alternate Burkina Faso
Biosecurity procedures in poultry production	12	Chapter 6.4 Article 6.4.1	Trade relation of chapter Whole chapter	Africa thinks that the expression "and is not specifically related to trade" creates confusion. If the article is in the code it becomes a standard (in terms of SPS agreement) and is binding for trade. This comment applies to several chapters in the Code that were previously "guidelines" or annexes and now are chapters. Does it mean that they become standards? This chapter contains too much detail and could considered to shorten to contain only the critical elements of biosecurity	Egypt	Alternate Ethiopia
Stray dog population control	13	Chapter 7.7. Article 7.7.2 (3)		In the definition of feral dog, Africa proposes to remove the term "for successful reproduction" at the end of the sentence. The new definition would now read "domestic dog that has reverted to the wild state and is no longer directly dependent upon humans". In the French version we propose to replace "naturel" with "sauvage"	Gambia	Alternate Angola

Animal welfare and broiler chicken production	14	Draft Chapter 7.X.	<p>Definition of backyard</p> <p>Definition of “intensive systems”</p> <p>Whole article</p>	<p>It is necessary to reconsider the definition as backyard chickens can have an acceptable level of biosecurity and/or be dedicated to export (e.g. in some West African countries, chickens produced in village systems are traded intensively at regional level)</p> <p>The definition of “intensive systems” needs to be clarified. It is not only access to outdoor that makes difference between intensive and semi-intensive, but factors such as density, level of inputs consumption, as well as productivity, also play a role.</p> <p>The whole article is too detailed and cannot be applied by all countries.</p> <p>Therefore, Africa recommends to the Code Commission to consider to refer the chapter back for review by the ad hoc Group following Member comments and not present it for adoption at this 79th General Session.</p>	Lesotho	<p>SUPPORT</p> <p>Burkina Faso</p>
Anthrax	15	Chapter 8.1		<p>Anthrax remains an important disease of livestock as well as wildlife in Africa.</p> <p>Africa wishes to thank the Code Commission for accepting the comments made by Africa at the 78th General Session. The changes are thus supported in their entire context.</p>	Tanzania	<p>Alternate</p> <p>Zimbabwe</p>
Aujeszky's disease	16	Chapter 8.2. Article 8.2.1.		<p>Africa takes note and support the principle that wildlife status does not affect the country status for this disease, and capacity to trade but this principle is not applied consistently in the Code. A clear policy on this is needed taking into account that for example in FMD, the presence of permanent carriers in wildlife do affect the free status</p>	Chad	<p>Alternate</p> <p>Ghana</p>

Bluetongue	17	Chapter 8.3.		<u>Support</u> : Africa wishes to express their support for the much needed changes in this chapter	Zimbabwe	Alternate Benin
Foot and mouth disease	18	Chapter 8.5.	Introduction	<u>In the English text only</u> : it is needed to add the word “also” in the sentence “For the purposes of this Chapter, ruminants include <i>animals</i> of the family of Camelidae (except <i>Camelus dromedarius</i>)” which will now read “For the purposes of this Chapter, ruminants <u>also</u> include <i>animals</i> of the family of Camelidae (except <i>Camelus dromedarius</i>)”. This remark does not apply to the French version.	Namibia	SUPPORT Sudan
			Article 8.5.47 (bis). OIE endorsed official control programme for FMD	Africa wishes to express full support for the insertion of this article in the FMD chapter. However clarity is needed on both the benefits as well as possible negative aspects for a Member in applying for endorsement of its official control program. We have in addition comments on the following points: At bullet point 1: “submit documented evidence on the capacity of the veterinary services to control FMD. This evidence can be provided by countries following the OIE PVS Pathway”. For Africa, the meaning of this sentence is not clear. The results/report of the PVS can be used as evidence, even it is not compulsory. Africa suggests to change the second part of the sentence after FMD to “such as reports of PVS analysis “	Namibia	SUPPORT Sudan

				<p>At bullet point 2, in the English version only (this remark does not apply to the French version which is clear), the bullet point 2 “submit documentation indicating that the official control programme for FMD is applicable to the entire territory;” Africa suggests to replace “territory” with “country”.</p> <p>In both versions at bullet point 4 “submit a dossier on the epidemiology of FMD in the country describing the following:” Africa suggests to replace “dossier” with “documentation”.</p>		
Procedures for self-declaration and for official recognition by the OIE	19	Chapter 1.6.	Questionnaires for evaluation of control programs and for applying for disease-free status	These questionnaires and the proposed minor amendments are supported as it facilitates members to obtain and submit the necessary data	Zambia	Alternate Tunisia
Lumpy skin disease	24	Article 11.12.1 (bis)	Safe commodities	An explanation is needed for the addition then the deletion of the text related to milk and meat as safe commodities.	Gabon	Alternate Egypt
Classical swine fever (CSF)	28	Chapter 15.2. Article 15.2.1	General provisions	Africa acknowledges the application of the rule of not discriminating against countries should the disease occur in wildlife and request that this principle also be considered for other diseases such as FMD (principle of jurisprudence)	Niger	Alternate Mauritania

				However, due to the current revision of the chapter by an ad hoc Group to provide for official recognition of CSF, it is recommended that the changes not be adopted until the new revised chapter is presented for adoption.		
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