Effective prevention and control of contagious, infectious, transmissible animal diseases, including zoonoses, is a central mandate of the Veterinary Services of each Member Country.

Comment: African Union recommends to amend the title as follows: INTRODUCTION TO RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF TRANSMISSIBLE DISEASES.

Rationale: To align with the content of the Chapter which focuses on transmissible diseases.

From the extensive experience in combating contagious animal diseases, Veterinary Services around the world, supported by significant progress in veterinary science, have developed and improved a number of tools to prevent, control and sometimes even eradicate them, infectious, transmissible animal diseases.

The following chapters of this section describe these tools and the different aspects of recommendations for disease prevention and control that should be implemented by the Veterinary Services.

To effectively prevent effectively introduction and transmission of contagious, infectious animal diseases while minimising potential negative impacts of sanitary measures, Veterinary Services should consider devising a set of developing measures selected from based on the recommendations described in this section, taking into account various factors including their impact on trade, animal welfare, public health and environment. In parallel with disease-specific sanitary measures, Veterinary Services should take into account consider relevant commodity-based sanitary measures.

Furthermore, although the general principles covering the measures described in this section are applicable to multiple diseases, Veterinary Services should adapt them to their circumstances, because characteristics of the pathogenic agents and the situations in which they occur differ between diseases and between countries, are different disease by disease and country by country. To this end, recommendations in this section should be read in conjunction with listed disease-specific recommendations in Sections 8 to 15.

Veterinary Services should ensure that any prevention and control programme be proportionate to the risk, practical and feasible within the national context and be based on risk analysis.

Prerequisites for devising developing such programmes may include:

- quality Veterinary Services including legislative framework, and laboratory capacity and adequate and committed funding;
- appropriate education and training to secure veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals;
- close link with research institutions;
- effective awareness of and active cooperation with, private stakeholders;
- public-private partnerships;
- cooperation between Veterinary Authorities and other Competent Authorities;
- regional cooperation among Veterinary Authorities on transboundary animal diseases.