USA COMMENTS

CHAPTER 1.2.

CRITERIA FOR THE INCLUSION OF DISEASES IN THE OIE LIST

Article 1.2.1.

Introduction

This chapter describes the criteria for the inclusion of diseases in Chapter 1.3.

The objective of listing diseases is to support Member Countries by providing information needed to take appropriate action to prevent the transboundary spread of important diseases of aquatic animals. This is achieved by transparent, timely and consistent notification.

Each listed disease usually has a corresponding chapter that assists Member Countries in the harmonisation of disease detection, prevention and control, and provides standards for safe international trade in aquatic animals and aquatic animal products.

The requirements for notification are detailed in Chapter 1.1.

Principles and methods of validation of diagnostic tests are described in Chapter 1.1.2. of the Aquatic Manual.

Article 1.2.2.

The criteria for the inclusion of a disease in the OIE list are as follows:

1) International spread of the pathogenic agent (via aquatic animals, aquatic animal products, vectors or fomites) is likely.

AND

2) At least one country may demonstrate country or zone freedom from the disease in susceptible aquatic animals, based on provisions of Chapter 1.4.

Rationale: Editorial.

AND

3) A precise case definition is available and a reliable means of detection and diagnosis exist.

AND

4)

a) Natural transmission to humans has been proven, and human infection is associated with severe consequences.

OR
b) The disease has been shown to affect the health of cultured aquatic animals at the level of a country or a zone resulting in significant consequences (e.g. production losses, morbidity or mortality at a zone or country level).

Rationale: Editorial.

OR

c) The disease has been shown to, or scientific evidence indicates that it would, affect the health of wild aquatic animals resulting in significant consequences (e.g. morbidity or mortality at a population level, reduced productivity or ecological impacts).

Rationale: Editorial.