Questionnaires on foot and mouth disease (FMD)

FMD FREE COUNTRY WHERE VACCINATION IS NOT PRACTISED
Report of a Member Country which applies for recognition of status,
under Chapter 8.8. of the Terrestrial Code,
as a FMD free country not practising vaccination

Please address concisely all the following topics under the headings provided to describe the actual situation and procedures currently applied in the country explaining how this complies with the Terrestrial Code.

Please use the terminology defined in the OIE Terrestrial Code and Terrestrial Manual.

National legislation, regulations and Veterinary Authority directives may be referred to and annexed as appropriate in one of the OIE official languages.

Any annex should be provided in one of the OIE official languages.

1. Introduction

   a) Geographical entities (rivers, mountains, etc.). Provide a general description of the country and, when relevant, of the region, including physical, geographical and other factors that are relevant to FMD introduction and dissemination, as well as a short description of countries sharing common borders and other links for the potential introduction of FMD. Provide maps identifying the factors above. Specify whether the application includes any non-contiguous territories.

   b) Livestock demographics. Provide a general description of the livestock industry in the country. 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;
      iv) herd or flock density;
      v) the degree of integration and role of producer organisations in the different production systems;
      vi) any recent significant changes observed in the production (if relevant documents are available, please attach).

      Provide tables and maps.

   c) Wildlife demographics. What captive wild, wild or feral susceptible species are present in the country? Provide estimates of population sizes and geographic distribution. What are the measures in place to prevent contact between domestic and wildlife susceptible species?

   d) Slaughterhouses/abattoirs, markets and events associated with the congregation of susceptible livestock (e.g. fairs, shows, competitions). Where are the major livestock marketing or collection centres? What are the patterns of domestic susceptible species movement for marketing within the country? How are the susceptible animals sourced, transported and handled during these transactions? Provide maps as appropriate.
2. **Veterinary system**

   a) Legislation. Provide a table (and when available a link) listing all relevant veterinary legislations, regulations and Veterinary Authority directives in relation to FMD and a brief description of the relevance of each. This list should include, but not be limited to, the legislation on disease control measures and compensation system.

   b) **Veterinary Services.** Describe how the Veterinary Services of the country comply with the provisions of Chapters 1.1., 3.1. and 3.2. of the *Terrestrial Code*. Describe how the Veterinary Services supervise and control all FMD related activities. Provide maps, figures and tables wherever possible.

   c) Provide information on any OIE PVS evaluation conducted in your country and follow-up steps within the PVS Pathway and highlight the results relevant to FMD and the susceptible species.

   d) Provide a description on the involvement and the participation of industry, producers, farmers, including subsistence and small scale producers, keepers, community animal health workers and other relevant groups in FMD surveillance and control. Provide a description of the structure (including number and distribution) and role of the private veterinary profession in FMD surveillance and control. Include a description of continuing education and awareness programmes on FMD at all relevant levels.

   e) **Animal identification**, registration, traceability and movement control. Are susceptible animals identified (individually or at a group level)? Provide a description of the methods of animal identification, holding, herd or flock registration and traceability for all production systems. How are animal movements controlled in the country for all production systems? Provide evidence on the effectiveness of animal identification and movement controls and a table describing the number, species, origin and destination of the animals and their products moved within the country in the last two years. Provide information on pastoralism, transhumance and related paths of movement.

   Describe the risk management strategy for uncontrolled movements of susceptible species (e.g. seasonal migration).

   Describe the action available under legislation, and actually taken, when an illegal import is detected. Provide information on illegal movements detected.

3. **FMD eradication**

   a) History. If the country has never had the disease, or has not had it within the last 25 years, please state explicitly whether or not the country is applying for historical freedom according to point 1 of Article 1.4.6. of the *Terrestrial Code*.

   If the country has had the disease within the last 25 years, provide a description of the FMD history in the country with emphasis on recent years. If applicable, provide tables and maps to show the date of first detection, the sources and routes of introduction of infection, the temporal and spatial distribution (number and location of outbreaks per year), the susceptible species involved, the date of last case or eradication and the types and strains.

   b) Strategy. Describe how FMD was controlled and eradicated (e.g. stamping-out policy, zoning, vaccination, movement control). Provide the time frame for eradication. Describe and justify the corrective actions that have been implemented to prevent future disease outbreaks in response to any past disease incursions.
c) Vaccines and vaccination. Briefly answer the following:

   i) Is there any legislation that prohibits vaccination? If so:
      – Provide the date when vaccination was formally prohibited;
      – Describe the action available under legislation, and actually taken, when an illegal vaccination is detected;
      – Provide information on detected illegal vaccination during the reporting period.

   ii) Was vaccination ever used in the country? If so:
      – Provide the date when the last vaccination was carried out;
      – What type of vaccine was used?
      – What species were vaccinated?
      – How were vaccinated animals identified?
      – What was the fate of those animals?

   iii) In addition, if vaccination was conducted during the past two years, provide a description and justification of the vaccination strategy and regime. Briefly answer the following:
      – the vaccine strains;
      – potency and formulation, purity, details of any vaccine matching performed;
      – the species vaccinated;
      – identification of vaccinated animals;
      – the way in which the vaccination of animals was certified or reported and the records maintained.

      Provide evidence that the vaccine used complies with Chapter 2.1.8. of the Terrestrial Manual.

d) Provide a description of the legislation, organisation and implementation of the eradication campaign. Outline the legislation applicable to the eradication and how the campaign was organised at different levels. Indicate if detailed operational guidelines exist and give a brief summary.

4. FMD diagnosis

   Provide documentary evidence that the relevant provisions in Chapters 1.1.2., 1.1.3. and 2.1.8. of the Terrestrial Manual are applied. In particular, the following points should be addressed:

   a) Is FMD laboratory diagnosis carried out in the country? If so, provide an overview of the FMD approved laboratories in the country. If not, provide the names of the laboratories from other countries providing the service as well as the arrangements in place, including logistics for shipment of samples and the time frame for obtaining results.

   b) Provide an overview of the FMD approved laboratories in the country. Address the following points:

      i) How the work is shared between different laboratories, logistics for shipment of samples, the follow-up procedures and the time frame for obtaining results;
ii) Details on test capability and the types of tests undertaken and their performance for their applied use (specificity and sensitivity per type of test). Provide details on the number of FMD tests performed in the last two years in the national laboratories as well as abroad;

iii) Procedures for quality assurance and for the official accreditation of laboratories. Give details of formal internal quality management systems, e.g. Good Laboratory Practice, ISO, etc. that exist in, or are planned for, the laboratory system;

iv) Provide details of performance in inter-laboratory validation tests (ring trials), including the most recent results and, if applicable, the corrective measures applied;

v) Provide details on the handling of live agent. In particular, describe biosecurity and biosafety measures applied;

vi) Provide a table linking the tests carried out to the laboratories where they are performed, the quality accreditation and biosecurity standards followed and the proficiency tests carried out.

5. FMD surveillance

Provide documentary evidence that surveillance for FMD in the country complies with Articles 8.8.40. to 8.8.42. of the Terrestrial Code and Chapter 2.1.8. of the Terrestrial Manual. In particular, the following points should be addressed:

a) What are the criteria for raising a suspicion of FMD? What is the procedure to notify (by whom and to whom) and what incentives are there for reporting and what penalties are involved for failure to report?

b) Describe how clinical surveillance is conducted, including which levels of the livestock production system are included in clinical surveillance, such as farms, markets, fairs, slaughterhouses/abattoirs, check points, etc.

Provide a summary table indicating, for the past two years, the number of suspected cases, the number of samples tested for FMD, species, type of sample, testing methods and results (including differential diagnosis). Provide an indication of the timelines of the response including completion of testing to confirm or exclude FMD. Provide details on follow-up actions taken on all suspicious and positive results.

c) Serological and virological surveillance. Have serological and virological surveys been conducted to demonstrate freedom from infection? If so, provide detailed information on the survey design (target population, design prevalence, confidence level, sample size, stratification, sampling methods and diagnostic tests used). How frequently are they conducted? Are susceptible wildlife species included in serological and virological surveys? If not, explain the rationale.

Provide a summary table indicating, for the past two years, the number of samples tested for FMD, species, type of sample, testing methods and results (including differential diagnosis). Provide details on follow-up actions taken on all suspicious and positive results and on how these findings are acted upon. Provide criteria for selection of populations for targeted surveillance based on the risk and numbers of animals examined and samples tested in diagnostic laboratories. Provide details on the methods applied for monitoring the performance of the surveillance system including indicators.

d) Provide information on risk in different husbandry systems, and provide evidence that targeted studies are implemented to address gaps (e.g. targeted serological surveys, active surveillance, participatory epidemiology studies, risk assessments, etc.) and that the acquired knowledge assists in more effective implementation of control measures.

e) Provide details on training programmes for personnel involved in clinical, serological and virological surveillance and the approaches used to increase community involvement in FMD surveillance programmes.
6. FMD prevention

Describe the procedures in place to prevent the introduction of FMD into the country. In particular provide details on:

a) Coordination with other countries. Describe any relevant factors about adjacent countries that should be taken into account (e.g. size, distance from the border to affected herds, flocks or animals). Describe coordination, collaboration and information sharing activities with other countries in the same region or ecosystem.

Are protection zones in place? If so, provide details on the measures that are applied (e.g. vaccination, intensified surveillance, density control of susceptible species) and provide a geo-referenced map of the zones.

b) Describe the measures implemented to effectively prevent the introduction of the agent, taking into consideration physical or geographical barriers. Describe the measures implemented to prevent the propagation of the agent within the country or zone and through trade. Provide evidence that measures are in place at markets to reduce transmission of FMD such as enhancing awareness of FMD transmission mechanisms and human behaviour that can interrupt transmission, implementation of good biosecurity practices, hygiene, cleaning and disinfection routines at critical points all along the production and marketing networks (typically where animals are being moved, and marketed through the country or region).

c) What measures are taken to limit access of susceptible domestic, feral and wild animals to waste products of animal origin? Is the feeding of swill containing animal products to pigs regulated? If so, provide information on the extent of the practice, and describe controls and surveillance measures.

d) Import control procedures

Provide information on countries, zones or compartments from which the country authorises the import of susceptible animals or their products into the country. Describe the criteria applied to approve such countries, zones or compartments, the controls applied on entry of such animals and products and subsequent internal movement. Describe the import conditions (e.g. quarantine) and test procedures required. Advise whether imported animals of susceptible species are required to undergo a quarantine or isolation period and, if so, the duration and location of quarantine. Advise whether import permits and health certificates are required.

Describe any other procedures used for assessing the risks of import of susceptible animals or their products. Provide summary statistics on imports of susceptible animals and their products for at least the past two years, including temporary import and re-entry, specifying countries, zones or compartments of origin, species and the quantity or volume and eventual destination in the country. Provide information on whether or not outbreaks have been related to imports or transboundary movements of domestic animals.

i) Provide a map with the number and location of ports, airports and land crossings. Describe the management structure, staffing levels and resources of the service responsible for import controls and its accountability to the central Veterinary Services. Describe the communication systems between the central authorities and the border inspection posts and between border inspection posts.

ii) Provide a description on the methods used for the safe disposal of waste from international traffic, who is responsible and provide a summary, for the past two years, of the quantity disposed of and the disposal locations. What are the biosecurity measures in place at waste disposal sites?

iii) Cite the regulations and describe procedures, type and frequency of checks at the points of entry into the country or their final destination, concerning the import and follow-up of the following:

- animals,
- genetic material (semen, oocytes and embryos),
- animal products,
- veterinary medicinal products (i.e. biologics),
- other materials at risk of being contaminated with FMDV, including bedding, litter and feed.
7. **Control measures and contingency planning**

   a) List any written guidelines, including contingency plans, available to the Veterinary Services for dealing with suspected or confirmed outbreaks of FMD. The contingency plan should be attached as an annex and if not available in one of the OIE official languages, a brief summary of what is covered should be provided. Provide information on any simulation exercise for FMD that was conducted in the country in the last five years.

   b) In the event of a suspected or confirmed FMD outbreak:

      i) Is quarantine imposed on premises with suspicious cases, pending final diagnosis? What other procedures are followed regarding suspicious cases (e.g. livestock standstills)?

      ii) Indicate the sampling, dispatch and testing procedures that would be used to identify and confirm presence of the causative agent;

      iii) Describe the actions that would be taken to control the disease situation in and around the premises where the outbreak was confirmed;

      iv) Provide a detailed description of the control or eradication procedures (e.g. forward and backward tracing, movement control, disinfection of premises, vehicles and equipment, including verification methods, vaccination including vaccination delivery and cold chain, stamping-out policy, methods of disposal of carcasses and other contaminated products or materials, decontamination, campaign to promote awareness of farmers) that would be taken. In the case of emergency vaccination, indicate the source and type of vaccine and provide details of any vaccine supply scheme and stocks;

      v) Describe the criteria and procedures that would be used to confirm that an outbreak has been successfully controlled or eradicated, including restocking strategies, sentinel animal, serological surveillance programmes, etc.;

      vi) Give details of any compensation that would be made available to owners, farmers, etc. when animals are slaughtered for disease control or eradication purposes and the prescribed timetable for payments;

      vii) Describe how control efforts, including vaccination and biosecurity measures, would target critical risk control points.

8. **Compliance with the Terrestrial Code**

The Delegate of the Member Country applying for FMD freedom must submit documentary evidence that the provisions of Article 8.8.2. have been properly implemented and supervised.

In addition, the Delegate of the Member Country must submit a declaration indicating that:

a) there has been no case of FMD during the past 12 months;

b) no vaccination against FMD has been carried out during the past 12 months.

In addition, the Delegate of the Member Country applying for historical freedom must also submit documentary evidence that the provisions of point 1 of Article 1.4.6. of the Terrestrial Code have been properly implemented and supervised.

9. **Recovery of status**

Member Countries applying for recovery of free status of a country should comply with the provisions of Article 8.8.7. and points 1, 3 and 4 of Article 8.8.2. of the Terrestrial Code and provide detailed information as specified in sections 1–7 (inclusive) of this questionnaire. Information in relation to other sections need only be supplied if relevant.
FMD FREE COUNTRY WHERE VACCINATION IS PRACTISED
Report of a Member Country which applies for recognition of status,
under Chapter 8.8. of the Terrestrial Code,
as a FMD free country practising vaccination

Please address concisely all the following topics under the headings provided to describe the actual situation and procedures currently applied in the country explaining how this complies with the Terrestrial Code.

Please use the terminology defined in the OIE Terrestrial Code and Terrestrial Manual.

National legislation, regulations and Veterinary Authority directives may be referred to and annexed as appropriate in one of the OIE official languages.

Any annex should be provided in one of the OIE official languages.

1. Introduction

   a) Geographical entities (rivers, mountains, etc.). Provide a general description of the country and, when relevant, of the region, including physical, geographical and other factors that are relevant to FMD introduction and dissemination, as well as a short description of countries sharing common borders and other links for the potential introduction of FMD. Provide maps identifying the factors above. Specify whether the application includes any non-contiguous territories.

   b) Livestock demographics. Provide a general description of the livestock industry in the country. 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;

      iv) herd or flock density;

      v) the degree of integration and role of producer organisations in the different production systems;

      vi) any recent significant changes observed in the production (if relevant documents are available, please attach).

   Provide tables and maps.

   c) Wildlife demographics. What captive wild, wild or feral susceptible species are present in the country? Provide estimates of population sizes and geographic distribution. What are the measures in place to prevent contact between domestic and wildlife susceptible species?

   d) Slaughterhouses/abattoirs, markets and events associated with the congregation of susceptible livestock (e.g. fairs, shows, competitions). Where are the major livestock marketing or collection centres? What are the patterns of domestic susceptible species movement for marketing within the country? How are the susceptible animals sourced, transported and handled during these transactions? Provide maps as appropriate.

2. Veterinary system

   a) Legislation. Provide a table (and when available a link) listing all relevant veterinary legislations, regulations and Veterinary Authority directives in relation to FMD and a brief description of the relevance of each. This list should include, but not be limited to, the legislation on disease control measures and compensation system.
b) Veterinary Services. Describe how the Veterinary Services of the country comply with the provisions of Chapters 1.1., 3.1. and 3.2. of the Terrestrial Code. Describe how the Veterinary Services supervise and control all FMD related activities. Provide maps, figures and tables wherever possible.

c) Provide information on any OIE PVS evaluation conducted in your country and follow-up steps within the PVS Pathway and highlight the results relevant to FMD and the susceptible species.

d) Provide a description on the involvement and the participation of industry, producers, farmers, including subsistence and small scale producers, keepers, community animal health workers and other relevant groups in FMD surveillance and control. Provide a description of the structure (including number and distribution) and role of the private veterinary profession in FMD surveillance and control. Include a description of continuing education and awareness programmes on FMD at all relevant levels.

e) Animal identification, registration, traceability and movement control. Are susceptible animals identified (individually or at a group level)? Provide a description of the methods of animal identification, holding, herd or flock registration and traceability for all production systems. How are animal movements controlled in the country for all production systems? Provide evidence on the effectiveness of animal identification and movement controls and a table describing the number, species, origin and destination of the animals and their products moved within the country in the last two years. Provide information on pastoralism, transhumance and related paths of movement.

Describe the risk management strategy for uncontrolled movements of susceptible species (e.g. seasonal migration).

Describe the action available under legislation, and actually taken, when an illegal import is detected. Provide information on illegal movements detected.

3. FMD eradication

a) History. Provide a description of the FMD history in the country with emphasis on recent years. If applicable, provide tables and maps to show the date of first detection, the sources and routes of introduction of infection, the temporal and spatial distribution (number and location of outbreaks per year), the susceptible species involved, the date of last case or eradication and the types and strains.

b) Strategy. Describe how FMD was controlled and eradicated (e.g. stamping-out policy, modified stamping-out policy, zoning, vaccination, movement control). Provide the time frame for eradication. Describe and justify the corrective actions that have been implemented to prevent future disease outbreaks in response to any past disease incursions.

c) Vaccines and vaccination. Describe any legislation regulating vaccination. Provide a description and justification of the vaccination strategy and regime. Briefly also answer the following:

i) the vaccine strains;

ii) potency and formulation, purity, details of any vaccine matching performed;

iii) the species vaccinated;

iv) identification of vaccinated animals;

v) the way in which the vaccination of animals was certified or reported and the records maintained;

vi) the date on which the last vaccination was performed.

Provide evidence that the vaccine used complies with Chapter 2.1.8. of the Terrestrial Manual.
d) Provide detailed evidence of vaccination coverage and population immunity as follows:

Describe how the number of animals intended for vaccination and the number of vaccinated animals are estimated.

For serological surveys to estimate population immunity, provide detailed information on the sampling frame (target population, age, species and vaccination status) and survey design (expected prevalence, acceptable error, confidence level, sample size, stratification, sampling methods and diagnostic tests used). How long after vaccination are samples collected? Describe how the threshold for protective immunity has been established.

Provide the results of the vaccination coverage and population immunity by year, serotype, species, as relevant.

Provide details on any additional methods applied for monitoring the performance of vaccination.

e) Provide a description of the legislation, organisation and implementation of the eradication campaign. Outline the legislation applicable to the eradication and how the campaign was organised at different levels. Indicate if detailed operational guidelines exist and give a brief summary.

4. FMD diagnosis

Provide documentary evidence that the relevant provisions in Chapters 1.1.2., 1.1.3. and 2.1.8. of the Terrestrial Manual are applied. In particular, the following points should be addressed:

a) Is FMD laboratory diagnosis carried out in the country? If so, provide an overview of the FMD approved laboratories in the country. If not, provide the names of the laboratories from other countries providing the service as well as the arrangements in place, including logistics for shipment of samples and the time frame for obtaining results.

b) Provide an overview of the FMD approved laboratories in the country. Address the following points:

   i) How the work is shared between different laboratories, logistics for shipment of samples, the follow-up procedures and the time frame for obtaining results;

   ii) Details on test capability and the types of tests undertaken and their performance for their applied use (specificity and sensitivity per type of test). Provide details on the number of FMD tests performed in the last two years in the national laboratories as well as abroad;

   iii) Procedures for quality assurance and for the official accreditation of laboratories. Give details of formal internal quality management systems, e.g. Good Laboratory Practice, ISO, etc. that exist in, or are planned for, the laboratory system;

   iv) Provide details of performance in inter-laboratory validation tests (ring trials), including the most recent results and, if applicable, the corrective measures applied;

   v) Provide details on the handling of live agent. In particular, describe biosecurity and biosafety measures applied;

   vi) Provide a table linking the tests carried out to the laboratories where they are performed, the quality accreditation and biosecurity standards followed and the proficiency tests carried out.

5. FMD surveillance

Provide documentary evidence that surveillance for FMD in the country complies with Articles 8.8.40. to 8.8.42. of the Terrestrial Code and Chapter 2.1.8. of the Terrestrial Manual. In particular, the following points should be addressed:

a) What are the criteria for raising a suspicion of FMD? What is the procedure to notify (by whom and to whom) and what incentives are there for reporting and what penalties are involved for failure to report?
b) Describe how clinical surveillance is conducted, including which levels of the livestock production system are included in clinical surveillance, such as farms, markets, fairs, slaughterhouses/abattoirs, check points, etc.

Provide a summary table indicating, for the past two years, the number of suspected cases, the number of samples tested for FMD, species, type of sample, testing methods and results (including differential diagnosis). Provide an indication of the timelines of the response including completion of testing to confirm or exclude FMD. Provide details on follow-up actions taken on all suspicious and positive results.

c) Serological and virological surveillance. Are serological and virological surveys conducted to demonstrate freedom from infection with FMDV in unvaccinated animals and of FMDV transmission in vaccinated animals, in particular applying the provisions of Article 8.8.42? If so, provide detailed information on the survey design (target population, design prevalence, confidence level, sample size, stratification, sampling methods and diagnostic tests used). How frequently are they conducted? Are susceptible wildlife species included in serological and virological surveys? If not, explain the rationale. Provide a summary table indicating, for the past two years, the number of samples tested for FMD, species, type of sample, testing methods and results (including differential diagnosis). Provide details on follow-up actions taken on all suspicious and positive results. Provide criteria for selection of populations for targeted surveillance based on the risk and numbers of animals examined and samples tested in diagnostic laboratories. Provide details on the methods applied for monitoring the performance of the surveillance system including indicators.

d) Provide information on risk in different husbandry systems, and provide evidence that targeted studies are implemented to address gaps (e.g. targeted serological surveys, active surveillance, participatory epidemiology studies, risk assessments, etc.) and that the acquired knowledge assists in more effective implementation of control measures.

e) Provide details on training programmes for personnel involved in clinical, serological and virological surveillance and the approaches used to increase community involvement in FMD surveillance programmes.

f) Provide evidence that surveys are carried out to assess vaccination coverage and population immunity of the target populations, show laboratory evidence that the vaccine strains used is appropriate.

6. FMD prevention

Describe the procedures in place to prevent the introduction of FMD into the country. In particular, provide details on:

a) Coordination with other countries. Describe any relevant factors about adjacent countries that should be taken into account (e.g. size, distance from the border to affected herds, flocks or animals). Describe coordination, collaboration and information sharing activities with other countries in the same region or ecosystem.

Are protection zones in place? If so, provide details on the measures that are applied (e.g. vaccination, intensified surveillance, density control of susceptible species) and provide a geo-referenced map of the zones.

b) Describe the measures implemented to effectively prevent the introduction of the agent, taking into consideration physical or geographical barriers. Describe the measures implemented to prevent the propagation of the agent within the country or zone and through trade. Provide evidence that measures are in place at markets to reduce transmission of FMD such as enhancing awareness of FMD transmission mechanisms and human behaviour that can interrupt transmission, implementation of good biosecurity practices, hygiene, cleaning and disinfection routines at critical points all along the production and marketing networks (typically where animals are being moved, and marketed through the country or region).

c) What measures are taken to limit access of susceptible domestic, feral and wild animals to waste products of animal origin? Is the feeding of swill containing animal products to pigs regulated? If so, provide information on the extent of the practice, and describe controls and surveillance measures.
d) Import control procedures

Provide information on countries, zones or compartments from which the country authorises the import of susceptible animals or their products into the country. Describe the criteria applied to approve such countries, zones or compartments, the controls applied on entry of such animals and products and subsequent internal movement. Describe the import conditions (e.g. quarantine) and test procedures required. Advise whether imported animals of susceptible species are required to undergo a quarantine or isolation period and, if so, the duration and location of quarantine. Advise whether import permits and health certificates are required.

Describe any other procedures used for assessing the risks of import of susceptible animals or their products. Provide summary statistics on imports of susceptible animals and their products for at least the past two years, including temporary import and re-entry, specifying countries, zones or compartments of origin, species and the quantity or volume and eventual destination in the country. Provide information on whether or not outbreaks have been related to imports or transboundary movements of domestic animals.

i) Provide a map with the number and location of ports, airports and land crossings. Describe the management structure, staffing levels and resources of the service responsible for import controls and its accountability to the central Veterinary Services. Describe the communication systems between the central authorities and the border inspection posts and between border inspection posts.

ii) Provide a description on the methods used for the safe disposal of waste from international traffic, who is responsible and provide a summary, for the past two years, of the quantity disposed of and the disposal locations. What are the biosecurity measures in place at waste disposal sites?

iii) Cite the regulations and describe procedures, type and frequency of checks at the point of entry into the country or their final destination, concerning the import and follow-up of the following:

- animals,
- genetic material (sperm, oocytes and embryos),
- animal products,
- veterinary medicinal products (i.e. biologics),
- other materials at risk of being contaminated with FMDV, including bedding, litter and feed.

7. Control measures and contingency

a) List any written guidelines, including contingency plans, available to the Veterinary Services for dealing with suspected or confirmed outbreaks of FMD. The contingency plan should be attached as an annex and if not available in one of the OIE official languages, a brief summary of what is covered should be provided. Provide information on any simulation exercise for FMD that was conducted in the country in the last five years.

b) In the event of a suspected or confirmed FMD outbreak:

i) Is quarantine imposed on premises with suspicious cases, pending final diagnosis? What other procedures are followed regarding suspicious cases (e.g. livestock standstills)?

ii) Indicate the sampling, dispatch and testing procedures that would be used to identify and confirm presence of the causative agent;

iii) Describe the actions that would be taken to control the disease situation in and around the premises where the outbreak was confirmed;
iv) Provide a detailed description of the control or eradication procedures (e.g. forward and backward tracing, movement control, disinfection of premises, vehicles and equipment, including verification methods, vaccination including vaccination delivery and cold chain, stamping-out policy, methods of disposal of carcasses and other contaminated products or materials, decontamination, campaign to promote awareness of farmers) that would be taken. In the case of emergency vaccination, indicate the source and type of vaccine and provide details of any vaccine supply scheme and stocks;

v) Describe the criteria and procedures that would be used to confirm that an outbreak has been successfully controlled or eradicated, including restocking strategies, sentinel animal, serological surveillance programmes, etc.;

vi) Give details of any compensation that would be made available to owners, farmers, etc. when animals are slaughtered for disease control or eradication purposes and the prescribed timetable for payments;

vii) Describe how control efforts, including vaccination and biosecurity measures, would target critical risk control points.

8. Compliance with the Terrestrial Code

The Delegate of the Member Country must submit documentary evidence that the provisions of Article 8.8.3. have been properly implemented and supervised. In addition, the Delegate of the Member Country must submit a declaration indicating that:

a) there has been no case of FMD for the past two years;

b) no evidence of FMDV transmission for the past 12 months;

c) surveillance for FMD and FMDV transmission in accordance with Articles 8.8.40. to 8.8.42. and is in operation, and that regulatory measures for the prevention and control of FMD have been implemented;

d) routine vaccination is carried out for the purpose of the prevention of FMD;

e) the vaccine used complies with the standards described in the Terrestrial Manual.

9. Recovery of status

Member Countries applying for recovery of free status of a country should comply with the provisions of Article 8.8.7. and points 1, 3 and 4 of Article 8.8.3. of the Terrestrial Code and provide detailed information as specified in sections 1–7 (inclusive) of this questionnaire. Information in relation to other sections need only be supplied if relevant.

FMD FREE ZONE WHERE VACCINATION IS NOT PRACTISED

Report of a Member Country which applies for recognition of status, under Chapter 8.8. of the Terrestrial Code, as a FMD free zone not practising vaccination

Please address concisely all the following topics under the headings provided to describe the actual situation and procedures currently applied in the country explaining how this complies with the Terrestrial Code.

Please use the terminology defined in the OIE Terrestrial Code and Terrestrial Manual.

National legislation, regulations and Veterinary Authority directives may be referred to and annexed as appropriate in one of the OIE official languages.

Any annex should be provided in one of the OIE official languages.
1. Introduction

   a) Geographical entities (rivers, mountains, etc.). Provide a general description of the country and the 
   zone and, when relevant, of the region, including physical, geographical and other factors that are 
   relevant to FMD introduction and dissemination, as well as a short description of countries or zones 
   sharing common borders and other links for the potential introduction of FMD. 
   
   The boundaries of the zone must be clearly defined, including a protection zone if applied. Provide 
   maps identifying the factors above, including a digitalised, geo-referenced map with a precise text 
   description of the geographical boundaries of the zone. 
   
   b) Demographics. Provide a general description of the livestock industry in the country and the zone. In 
   particular, describe: 
      
      i) the susceptible animal population by species and types of production systems in the country and 
         the zone; 
      
      ii) the number of herds or flocks, etc. of each susceptible species; 
      
      iii) their geographical distribution; 
      
      iv) herd or flock density; 
      
      v) the degree of integration and role of producer organisations in the different production systems; 
      
      vi) any recent significant changes observed in the production (if relevant documents are available, 
         please attach). 
   
   Provide tables and maps. 
   
   c) Wildlife demographics. What captive wild, wild or feral susceptible species are present in the country 
   and the zone? Provide estimates of population sizes and geographic distribution. What are the 
   measures in place to prevent contact between domestic and wildlife susceptible species? 
   
   d) Slaughterhouses/abattoirs, markets and events associated with the congregation of susceptible 
   livestock (e.g. fairs, shows, competitions). Where are the major livestock marketing or collection 
   centres? What are the patterns of domestic susceptible species movement for marketing within the 
   country or zone, and between zones of the same or different status? How are the susceptible animals 
   sourced, transported and handled during these transactions? Provide maps as appropriate. 

2. Veterinary system 

   a) Legislation. Provide a table (and when available a link) listing all relevant veterinary legislations, 
   regulations and Veterinary Authority directives in relation to FMD and a brief description of the 
   relevance of each. This list should include, but not be limited to, the legislation on disease control 
   measures and compensation system. 
   
   b) Veterinary Services. Describe how the Veterinary Services of the country comply with the provisions of 
   Chapters 1.1., 3.1. and 3.2. of the Terrestrial Code. Describe how the Veterinary Services supervise 
   and control all FMD related activities. Provide maps, figures and tables wherever possible. 
   
   c) Provide information on any OIE PVS evaluation conducted in your country and follow-up steps within 
   the PVS Pathway and highlight the results relevant to FMD and the susceptible species. 
   
   d) Provide a description on the involvement and the participation of industry, producers, farmers, including 
   subsistence and small scale producers, keepers, community animal health workers and other relevant 
   groups in FMD surveillance and control. Provide a description of the structure (including number and 
   distribution) and role of the private veterinary profession in FMD surveillance and control. Include a 
   description of continuing education and awareness programmes on FMD at all relevant levels.
e) **Animal identification**, registration, traceability and movement control. Are susceptible animals identified (individually or at a group level)? Provide a description of the methods of animal identification, holding, herd or flock registration and traceability for all production systems. How are animal movements controlled in and between zones of the same or different status for all production systems? Provide evidence on the effectiveness of animal identification and movement controls and a table describing the number, species, origin and destination of the animals and their products moved within the country in the last two years. Provide information on pastoralism, transhumance and related paths of movement.

Describe the risk management strategy for uncontrolled movements of susceptible species (e.g. seasonal migration).

Describe the action available under legislation, and actually taken, when an illegal import is detected. Provide information on illegal movements detected.

3. **FMD eradication**

a) History. If the country has never had the disease, or has not had it within the last 25 years, please state explicitly whether or not the zone is applying for historical freedom according to point 1 of Article 1.4.6. of the Terrestrial Code.

If the zone has had the disease within the last 25 years, provide a description of the FMD history in the country and zone with emphasis on recent years. If applicable, provide tables and maps to show the date of first detection, the sources and routes of introduction of infection, the temporal and spatial distribution (number and location of outbreaks per year), the susceptible species involved, the date of last case or eradication and the types and strains.

b) Strategy. Describe how FMD was controlled and eradicated in the zone (e.g. stamping-out policy, modified stamping-out policy, zoning, vaccination, movement control). Provide the time frame for eradication. Describe and justify the corrective actions that have been implemented to prevent future disease outbreaks in response to any past disease incursions.

c) Vaccines and vaccination. Briefly answer the following:

i) Is there any legislation that prohibits vaccination? If so:
   
   – Provide the date when vaccination was formally prohibited;
   
   – Describe the action available under legislation, and actually taken, when an illegal vaccination is detected;
   
   – Provide information on detected illegal vaccination during the reporting period.

ii) Was vaccination ever used in the zone? If so:

   – Provide the date when the last vaccination was carried out;

   – What type of vaccine was used?

   – What species were vaccinated?

   – How were vaccinated animals identified?

   – What was the fate of those animals?
iii) In addition, if vaccination was conducted during the past two years, provide a description and justification of the vaccination strategy and regime. Briefly answer the following:

– the vaccine strains;
– potency and formulation, purity, details of any vaccine matching performed;
– the species vaccinated;
– identification of vaccinated animals;
– the way in which the vaccination of animals was certified or reported and the records maintained.

Provide evidence that the vaccine used complies with Chapter 2.1.8. of the Terrestrial Manual.

iv) If vaccination continues to be used in the rest of the country, give details of the species vaccinated and on the post-vaccination monitoring programme.

d) Provide a description of the legislation, organisation and implementation of the eradication campaign. Outline the legislation applicable to the eradication and how the campaign was organised at different levels. Indicate if detailed operational guidelines exist and give a brief summary.

4. FMD diagnosis

Provide documentary evidence that the relevant provisions in Chapters 1.1.2., 1.1.3. and 2.1.8. of the Terrestrial Manual are applied. In particular, the following points should be addressed:

a) Is FMD laboratory diagnosis carried out in the country? If so, provide an overview of the FMD approved laboratories in the country. If not, provide the names of the laboratories from other countries providing the service as well as the arrangements in place, including logistics for shipment of samples and the time frame for obtaining results. Indicate the laboratories where samples originating from the zone are diagnosed.

b) Provide an overview of the FMD approved laboratories in the country. Address the following points:

i) How the work is shared between different laboratories, logistics for shipment of samples, the follow-up procedures and the time frame for obtaining results;

ii) Details on test capability and the type of tests undertaken and their performance for their applied use (specificity and sensitivity per type of test). Provide details on the number of FMD tests performed in the last two years in the national laboratories as well as abroad;

iii) Procedures for quality assurance and for the official accreditation of laboratories. Give details of formal internal quality management systems, e.g. Good Laboratory Practice, ISO, etc. that exist in, or are planned for, the laboratory system;

iv) Provide details of performance in inter-laboratory validation tests (ring trials), including the most recent results and, if applicable, the corrective measures applied;

v) Provide details on the handling of live agent. In particular, describe biosecurity and biosafety measures applied;

vi) Provide a table linking the tests carried out to the laboratories where they are performed, the quality accreditation and biosecurity standards followed and the proficiency tests carried out.

5. FMD surveillance

Provide documentary evidence that surveillance for FMD in the zone complies with Articles 8.8.40. to 8.8.42. of the Terrestrial Code and Chapter 2.1.8. of the Terrestrial Manual. In particular, the following points should be addressed:
a) What are the criteria for raising a suspicion of FMD? What is the procedure to notify (by whom and to whom) and what incentives are there for reporting and what penalties are involved for failure to report?

b) Describe how clinical surveillance is conducted, including which levels of the livestock production system are included in clinical surveillance, such as farms, markets, fairs, slaughterhouses/abattoirs, check points, etc. Provide a summary table indicating, for the past two years, the number of suspected cases, the number of samples tested for FMD, species, type of sample, testing methods and results (including differential diagnosis). Provide an indication of the timelines of the response including completion of testing to confirm or exclude FMD. Provide details on follow-up actions taken on all suspicious and positive results.

c) Serological and virological surveillance. Have serological and virological surveys been conducted to demonstrate freedom from infection? If so, provide detailed information on the survey design (target population, design prevalence, confidence level, sample size, stratification, sampling methods and diagnostic tests used). How frequently are they conducted? Are susceptible wildlife species included in serological and virological surveys? If not, explain the rationale.

Provide a summary table indicating, for the past two years, the number of samples tested for FMDV, species, type of sample, testing methods and results (including differential diagnosis). Provide details on follow-up actions taken on all suspicious and positive results. Provide criteria for selection of populations for targeted surveillance based on the risk and numbers of animals examined and samples tested in diagnostic laboratories. Provide details on the methods applied for monitoring the performance of the surveillance system including indicators.

d) Provide information on risk in different husbandry systems, and provide evidence that targeted studies are implemented to address gaps (e.g. targeted serological surveys, active surveillance, participatory epidemiology studies, risk assessments, etc.) and that the acquired knowledge assists in more effective implementation of control measures.

e) Provide details on training programmes for personnel involved in clinical, serological and virological surveillance and the approaches used to increase community involvement in FMD surveillance programmes.

6. FMD prevention

Describe the procedures in place to prevent the introduction of FMD into the country. In particular, provide details on:

a) Coordination with other countries. Describe any relevant factors about adjacent countries and zones that should be taken into account (e.g. size, distance from the border to affected herds, flocks or animals). Describe coordination, collaboration and information sharing activities with other countries and zones in the same region or ecosystem.

If the FMD free zone without vaccination is situated in a FMD infected country or borders an infected country or zone, describe the animal health measures implemented to effectively prevent the introduction of the agent, taking into consideration physical or geographical barriers.

Are protection zones in place? If so, indicate whether or not the protection zones are included in the proposed FMD free zones, provide details on the measures that are applied (e.g. vaccination, intensified surveillance, density control of susceptible species) and provide a geo-referenced map of the zones.

b) Describe the measures implemented to effectively prevent the introduction of the agent, taking into consideration physical or geographical barriers. Describe the measures implemented to prevent the propagation of the agent within the country or zone and through trade. Provide evidence that measures are in place at markets to reduce transmission of FMD such as enhancing awareness of FMD transmission mechanisms and human behaviour that can interrupt transmission, implementation of good biosecurity practices, hygiene, cleaning and disinfection routines at critical points all along the production and marketing networks (typically where animals are being moved, and marketed through the country or region).
c) What measures are taken to limit access of susceptible domestic, feral and wild animals to waste products of animal origin? Is the feeding of swill containing animal products to pigs regulated? If so, provide information on the extent of the practice, and describe controls and surveillance measures.

d) Import control procedures

Provide information on countries, zones or compartments from which the country authorises the import of susceptible animals or their products into the zone. Describe the criteria applied to approve such countries, zones or compartments, the controls applied on entry of such animals and products and subsequent internal movement. Describe the import conditions (e.g. quarantine) and test procedures required. Advise whether imported animals of susceptible species are required to undergo a quarantine or isolation period and if so, the duration and location of quarantine. Advise whether import permits and health certificates are required.

Describe any other procedures used for assessing the risks of import of susceptible animals or their products. Provide summary statistics on imports of susceptible animals and their products for at least the past two years, including temporary import and re-entry, specifying countries, zones or compartments of origin, species and the quantity or volume and eventual destination in the country. Provide information on whether or not outbreaks have been related to imports or transboundary movements of domestic animals.

i) Provide a map with the number and location of ports, airports and land crossings. Describe the management structure, staffing levels and resources of the service responsible for import controls and its accountability to the central Veterinary Services. Describe the communication systems between the central authorities and the border inspection posts and between border inspection posts.

ii) Provide a description on the methods used for the safe disposal of waste from international traffic, who is responsible and provide a summary, for the past two years, of the quantity disposed of and the disposal locations. What are the biosecurity measures in place at waste disposal sites?

iii) Cite the regulations and describe procedures, type and frequency of checks at the points of entry into the zone or their final destination, concerning the import and follow-up of the following:

- animals,
- genetic material (semen, oocytes and embryos),
- animal products,
- veterinary medicinal products (i.e. biologics),
- other materials at risk of being contaminated with FMDV, including bedding, litter and feed.

7. Control measures and contingency planning

a) List any written guidelines, including contingency plans, available to the Veterinary Services for dealing with suspected or confirmed outbreaks of FMD. The contingency plan should be attached as an annex and if not available in one of the OIE official languages, a brief summary of what is covered should be provided. Provide information on any simulation exercise for FMD that was conducted in the country in the last five years.

b) In the event of a suspected or confirmed FMD outbreak:

i) Is quarantine imposed on premises with suspicious cases, pending final diagnosis? What other procedures are followed regarding suspicious cases (e.g. livestock standstills)?

ii) Indicate the sampling, dispatch and testing procedures that would be used to identify and confirm presence of the causative agent;
iii) Describe the actions that would be taken to control the disease situation in and around the premises where the outbreak was confirmed;

iv) Provide a detailed description of the control or eradication procedures (e.g. forward and backward tracing, movement control, disinfection of premises, vehicles and equipment, including verification methods, vaccination including vaccination delivery and cold chain, stamping-out policy, methods of disposal of carcasses and other contaminated products or materials, decontamination, campaign to promote awareness of farmers) that would be taken. In the case of emergency vaccination, indicate the source and type of vaccine and provide details of any vaccine supply scheme and stocks;

v) Describe the criteria and procedures that would be used to confirm that an outbreak has been successfully controlled or eradicated, including restocking strategies, sentinel animal, serological surveillance programmes, etc.;

vi) Give details of any compensation that would be made available to owners, farmers, etc. when animals are slaughtered for disease control or eradication purposes and the prescribed timetable for payments;

vii) Describe how control efforts, including vaccination and biosecurity measures, would target critical risk control points.

8. Compliance with the Terrestrial Code

The Delegate of the Member Country must submit documentary evidence that the provisions of Article 8.8.2. have been properly implemented and supervised.

In addition, the Delegate of the Member Country must submit a declaration indicating that:

a) there has been no case of FMD during the past 12 months;

b) no vaccination against FMD has been carried out during the past 12 months;

In addition, the Delegate of the Member Country applying for historical zonal freedom must also submit documentary evidence that the provisions of point 1 of Article 1.4.6. of the Terrestrial Code have been properly implemented and supervised.

9. Recovery of status

Member Countries applying for recovery of free status of a zone should comply with the provisions of Article 8.8.7. and points 1, 3 and 4 of Article 8.8.2. of the Terrestrial Code and provide detailed information as specified in sections 1–7 (inclusive) of this questionnaire. Information in relation to other sections need only be supplied if relevant.

FMD FREE ZONE WHERE VACCINATION IS PRACTISED

Report of a Member Country which applies for recognition of status, under Chapter 8.8. of the Terrestrial Code, as a FMD free zone practising vaccination

Please address concisely all the following topics under the headings provided to describe the actual situation and procedures currently applied in the country explaining how this complies with the Terrestrial Code.

Please use the terminology defined in the OIE Terrestrial Code and Terrestrial Manual.

National legislation, regulations and Veterinary Authority directives may be referred to and annexed as appropriate in one of the OIE official languages.

Any annex should be provided in one of the OIE official languages.
1. Introduction

a) Geographical entities (rivers, mountains, etc.) Provide a general description of the country and the zone and, when relevant, of the region, including physical, geographical and other factors that are relevant to FMD introduction and dissemination, as well as a short description of countries or zones sharing common borders and other links for the potential introduction of FMD.

The boundaries of the zone must be clearly defined, including a protection zone if applied. Provide maps identifying the factors above, including a digitalised, geo-referenced map with a description of the geographical boundaries of the zone.

b) Livestock demographics. Provide a general description of the livestock industry in the country and the zone. In particular, describe:

i) the susceptible animal population by species and types of production systems in the country and the zone;

ii) the number of herds or flocks, etc. of each susceptible species;

iii) their geographical distribution;

iv) herd or flock density;

v) the degree of integration and role of producer organisations in the different production systems;

vi) any recent significant changes observed in the production (if relevant documents are available, please attach).

Provide tables and maps.

c) Wildlife demographics. What captive wild, wild or feral susceptible species are present in the country and the zone? Provide estimates of population sizes and geographic distribution. What are the measures in place to prevent contact between domestic and wildlife susceptible species?

d) Slaughterhouses/abattoirs, markets and events associated with the congregation of susceptible livestock (e.g. fairs, shows, competitions). Where are the major livestock marketing or collection centres? What are the patterns of domestic susceptible species movement for marketing within the country or zone, and between zones of the same or different status? How are the susceptible animals sourced, transported and handled during these transactions? Provide maps as appropriate.

2. Veterinary system

a) Legislation. Provide a table (and when available a link) listing all relevant veterinary legislations, regulations and Veterinary Authority directives in relation to FMD and a brief description of the relevance of each. This list should include, but not be limited to, the legislation on disease control measures and compensation system.

b) Veterinary Services. Describe how the Veterinary Services of the country comply with the provisions of Chapters 1.1., 3.1. and 3.2. of the Terrestrial Code. Describe how the Veterinary Services supervise and control all FMD related activities. Provide maps, figures and tables wherever possible.

c) Provide information on any OIE PVS evaluation conducted in your country and follow-up steps within the PVS Pathway and highlight the results relevant to FMD and the susceptible species.

d) Provide a description on the involvement and the participation of industry, producers, farmers, including subsistence and small scale producers, keepers, community animal health workers and other relevant groups in FMD surveillance and control. Provide a description of the structure (including number and distribution) and role of the private veterinary profession in FMD surveillance and control. Include a description of continuing education and awareness programmes on FMD at all relevant levels.
e) Animal identification, registration, traceability and movement control. Are susceptible animals identified (individually or at a group level)? Provide a description of the methods of animal identification, holding, herd or flock registration and traceability for all production systems. How are animal movements controlled in and between zones of the same or different status for all production systems? Provide evidence on the effectiveness of animal identification and movement controls and a table describing the number, species, origin and destination of the animals and their products moved within the country in the last two years. Provide information on pastoralism, transhumance and related paths of movement.

Describe the risk management strategy for uncontrolled movements of susceptible species (e.g. seasonal migration).

Describe the action available under legislation, and actually taken, when an illegal import is detected. Provide information on illegal movements detected.

3. FMD eradication

a) History. Provide a description of the FMD history in the country and zone with emphasis on recent years. If applicable, provide tables and maps to show the date of first detection, the sources and routes of introduction of infection, the temporal and spatial distribution (number and location of outbreaks per year), the susceptible species involved, the date of last case or eradication and the types and strains.

b) Strategy. Describe how FMD was controlled and eradicated in the zone (e.g. stamping-out policy, zoning, vaccination, movement control). Provide the time frame for eradication. Describe and justify the corrective actions that have been implemented to prevent future disease outbreaks in response to any past disease incursions.

c) Vaccines and vaccination. Describe any legislation regulating vaccination. Provide a description and justification of the vaccination strategy and regime. Briefly also answer the following:

i) the vaccine strains;

ii) potency and formulation, purity, details of any vaccine matching performed;

iii) the species vaccinated;

iv) identification of vaccinated animals;

v) the way in which the vaccination of animals was certified or reported and the records maintained;

vi) the date on which the last vaccination was performed.

Provide evidence that the vaccine used complies with Chapter 2.1.8. of the Terrestrial Manual.

d) Provide detailed evidence of vaccination coverage and population immunity as follows:

Describe how the number of animals intended for vaccination and the number of vaccinated animals are estimated.

For serological surveys to estimate population immunity, provide detailed information on the sampling frame (target population, age, species and vaccination status) and survey design (expected prevalence, acceptable error, confidence level, sample size, stratification, sampling methods and diagnostic tests used). How long after vaccination are samples collected? Describe how the threshold for protective immunity has been established.

Provide the results of the vaccination coverage and population immunity by year, serotype, species, as relevant.

Provide details on any additional methods applied for monitoring the performance of vaccination.
e) Provide a description of the legislation, organisation and implementation of the eradication campaign. Outline the legislation applicable to the eradication and how the campaign was organised at different levels. Indicate if detailed operational guidelines exist and give a brief summary.

4. **FMD diagnosis**

Provide documentary evidence that the relevant provisions of Chapters 1.1.2., 1.1.3. and 2.1.8. of the *Terrestrial Manual* are applied. In particular, the following points should be addressed:

a) Is FMD laboratory diagnosis carried out in the country? If so, provide an overview of the FMD approved laboratories in the country. If not, provide the names of the laboratories from other countries providing the service as well as the arrangements in place, including logistics for shipment of samples and the time frame for obtaining results. Indicate the laboratories where samples originating from the zone are diagnosed.

b) Provide an overview of the FMD approved laboratories in the country. Address the following points:

i) How the work is shared between different laboratories, logistics for shipment of samples, the follow-up procedures and the time frame for obtaining results;

ii) Details on test capability and the types of tests undertaken and their performance for their applied use (specificity and sensitivity per type of test). Provide details on the number of FMD tests performed in the last two years in the national laboratories as well as abroad;

iii) Procedures for quality assurance and for the official accreditation of laboratories. Give details of formal internal quality management systems, e.g. Good Laboratory Practice, ISO, etc. that exist in, or are planned for, the laboratory system;

iv) Provide details of performance in inter-laboratory validation tests (ring trials), including the most recent results and, if applicable, the corrective measures applied;

v) Provide details on the handling of live agent. In particular, describe biosecurity and biosafety measures applied;

vi) Provide a table linking the tests carried out to the laboratories where they are performed, the quality accreditation and biosecurity standards followed and the proficiency tests carried out.

5. **FMD surveillance**

Provide documentary evidence that surveillance for FMD in the zone complies with Articles 8.8.40. to 8.8.42. of the *Terrestrial Code* and Chapter 2.1.8. of the *Terrestrial Manual*. In particular, the following points should be addressed:

a) What are the criteria for raising a suspicion of FMD? What is the procedure to notify (by whom and to whom) and what incentives are there for reporting and what penalties are involved for failure to report?

b) Describe how clinical surveillance is conducted, including which levels of the livestock production system are included in clinical surveillance, such as farms, markets, fairs, slaughterhouses/abattoirs, check points, etc.

Provide a summary table indicating, for the past two years, the number of suspected cases, the number of samples tested for FMD, species, type of sample, testing methods and results (including differential diagnosis). Provide an indication of the timelines of the response including completion of testing to confirm or exclude FMD. Provide details on follow-up actions taken on all suspicious and positive results.
c) Serological and virological surveillance. Are serological and virological surveys conducted to demonstrate freedom from infection with FMDV in unvaccinated animals and of FMDV transmission in vaccinated animals, in particular applying the provisions of Article 8.8.4.? If so, provide detailed information on the survey design (target population, design prevalence, confidence level, sample size, stratification, sampling methods and diagnostic tests used). How frequently are they conducted? Are susceptible wildlife species included in serological and virological surveys? If not, explain the rationale. Provide a summary table indicating, for the past two years, the number of samples tested for FMDV, species, type of sample, testing methods and results (including differential diagnosis). Provide details on follow-up actions taken on all suspicious and positive results. Provide criteria for selection of populations for targeted surveillance based on the risk and numbers of animals examined and samples tested in diagnostic laboratories. Provide details on the methods applied for monitoring the performance of the surveillance system including indicators.

d) Provide information on risk in different husbandry systems, and provide evidence that targeted studies are implemented to address gaps (e.g. targeted serological surveys, active surveillance, participatory epidemiology studies, risk assessments, etc.) and that the acquired knowledge assists in more effective implementation of control measures.

e) Provide details on training programmes for personnel involved in clinical, serological and virological surveillance and the approaches used to increase community involvement in FMD surveillance programmes.

f) Provide evidence that surveys are carried out to assess vaccination coverage and population immunity of the target populations, show laboratory evidence that the vaccine strains used are appropriate.

6. FMD prevention

Describe the procedures in place to prevent the introduction of FMD into the country. In particular, provide details on:

a) Coordination with other countries. Describe any relevant factors about adjacent countries and zones that should be taken into account (e.g. size, distance from the border to affected herds, flocks or animals). Describe coordination, collaboration and information sharing activities with other countries and zones in the same region or ecosystem.

If the FMD free zone with vaccination is situated in a FMD infected country or borders an infected country or zone, describe the animal health measures implemented to effectively prevent the introduction of the agent, taking into consideration physical or geographical barriers.

Are protection zones in place? If so, indicate whether or not the protection zones are included in the proposed FMD free zones, provide details on the measures that are applied (e.g. vaccination, intensified surveillance, density control of susceptible species) and provide a geo-referenced map of the zones.

b) Describe the measures implemented to effectively prevent the introduction of the agent, taking into consideration physical or geographical barriers. Describe the measures implemented to prevent the propagation of the agent within the country or zone and through trade. Provide evidence that measures are in place at markets to reduce transmission of FMD such as enhancing awareness of FMD transmission mechanisms and human behaviour that can interrupt transmission, implementation of good biosecurity practices, hygiene, cleaning and disinfection routines at critical points all along the production and marketing networks (typically where animals are being moved, and marketed through the country or region).

c) What measures are taken to limit access of susceptible domestic, feral and wild animals to waste products of animal origin? Is the feeding of swill containing animal products to pigs regulated? If so, provide information on the extent of the practice, and describe controls and surveillance measures.
d) Import control procedures

Provide information on countries, zones or compartments from which the country authorises the import of susceptible animals or their products into the country or zone. Describe the criteria applied to approve such countries, zones or compartments, the controls applied on entry of such animals and products and subsequent internal movement. Describe the import conditions (e.g. quarantine) and test procedures required. Advise whether imported animals of susceptible species are required to undergo a quarantine or isolation period and if so, the duration and location of quarantine. Advise whether import permits and health certificates are required.

Describe any other procedures used for assessing the risks of import of susceptible animals or their products. Provide summary statistics on imports of susceptible animals and their products for at least the past two years, including temporary import and re-entry, specifying countries, zones or compartments of origin, species and the quantity or volume and eventual destination in the country. Provide information on whether or not outbreaks have been related to imports or transboundary movements of domestic animals.

i) Provide a map with the number and location of ports, airports and land crossings. Describe the management structure, staffing levels and resources of the service responsible for import controls and its accountability to the central Veterinary Services. Describe the communication systems between the central authorities and the border inspection posts and between border inspection posts.

ii) Provide a description on the methods used for the safe disposal of waste from international traffic, who is responsible and provide a summary, for the past two years, of the quantity disposed of and the disposal locations. What are the biosecurity measures in place at waste disposal sites?

iii) Cite the regulations and describe procedures, type and frequency of checks at the points of entry into the zone or their final destination, concerning the import and follow-up of the following:

- animals,
- genetic material (semen, oocytes and embryos),
- animal products,
- veterinary medicinal products (i.e. biologics),
- other materials at risk of being contaminated with FMDV, including bedding, litter and feed.

7. Control measures and contingency planning

a) List any written guidelines, including contingency plans, available to the Veterinary Services for dealing with suspected or confirmed outbreaks of FMD. The contingency plan should be attached as an annex and if not available in one of the OIE official languages, a brief summary of what is covered should be provided. Provide information on any simulation exercise for FMD that was conducted in the country in the last five years.

b) In the event of a suspected or confirmed FMD outbreak:

i) Is quarantine imposed on premises with suspicious cases, pending final diagnosis? What other procedures are followed regarding suspicious cases (e.g. livestock standstills)?

ii) Indicate the sampling, dispatch and testing procedures that would be used to identify and confirm presence of the causative agent;

iii) Describe the actions that would be taken to control the disease situation in and around the premises where the outbreak was confirmed;
iv) Provide a detailed description of the control or eradication procedures (e.g. forward and backward tracing, movement control, disinfection of premises, vehicles and equipment, including verification methods, vaccination including vaccination delivery and cold chain, stamping-out policy, methods of disposal of carcasses and other contaminated products or materials, decontamination, campaign to promote awareness of farmers) that would be taken. In the case of emergency vaccination, indicate the source and type of vaccine and provide details of any vaccine supply scheme and stocks;

v) Describe the criteria and procedures that would be used to confirm that an outbreak has been successfully controlled or eradicated, including restocking strategies, sentinel animal, serological surveillance programmes, etc.;

vi) Give details of any compensation that would be made available to owners, farmers, etc. when animals are slaughtered for disease control or eradication purposes and the prescribed timetable for payments;

vii) Describe how control efforts, including vaccination and biosecurity measures, would target critical risk control points.

8. Compliance with the Terrestrial Code

The Delegate of the Member Country must submit documentary evidence that the provisions of Article 8.8.3. are have been properly implemented and supervised.

In addition, the Delegate of the Member Country must submit a declaration indicating that:

a) there has been no case of FMD for the past two years;

b) no evidence of FMDV transmission for the past 12 months;

c) surveillance for FMD and FMDV transmission in accordance with Articles 8.8.40. to 8.8.42. and is in operation, and that regulatory measures for the prevent and control of FMD have been implemented;

d) routine vaccination is carried out for the purpose of the prevention of FMD;

e) the vaccine used complies with the standards described in the Terrestrial Manual.

9. Recovery of status

Member Countries applying for recovery of free status of a zone should comply with the provisions of Article 8.7. and points 1, 3 and 4 of Article 8.8.3. of the Terrestrial Code and provide detailed information as specified in sections 1—7 (inclusive) of this questionnaire. Information in relation to other sections need only be supplied if relevant.

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