USA COMMENTS

SECTION 4.
GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS: DISEASE PREVENTION AND CONTROL

CHAPTER 4.2.
INTRODUCTION TO RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DISEASE PREVENTION AND CONTROL

Article 4.2.1.

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

From the extensive experience in combatting 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 eradicate them.

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

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

Rationale: to improve readability.

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 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.

Rationale: to improve clarity.

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

Rationale: To emphasize the importance of science based principles.

Prerequisites for devising such programmes may include:

- quality Veterinary Services including legislative framework and laboratory capacity;
- appropriate education to secure veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals;
- close link with research institutions;


Rationale: the additional point added because it is internationally accepted as critical for an efficient and effective disease prevention and control, especially for zoonoses.

- effective awareness of private stakeholders;
- public-private partnerships;
– regional cooperation among Veterinary Authorities on transboundary animal diseases.