CHAPTER 1.6.

PROCEDURES FOR PUBLICATION OF A SELF-DECLARATION OF DISEASE FREEDOM, RECOGNITION OF AN OFFICIAL DISEASE STATUS AND ENDORSEMENT OF AN OFFICIAL CONTROL PROGRAMME BY THE OIE

Article 1.6.1.

Publication by the OIE of a self-declaration of disease freedom by a Member Country

A Member Country may make a self-declaration of freedom of a country, zone or compartment from an OIE listed disease or another animal disease. The Member Country may inform the OIE of the claimed status and request that the OIE publish the self-declaration for information of OIE Member Countries.

A Member Country requesting the publication of a self-declaration should follow the Standard Operating Procedure\(^1\) for submission of a self-declaration of disease freedom and provide documented information on its compliance with the relevant chapters of the Terrestrial Code, including:

- evidence that the disease is a notifiable disease in the entire country;
- history of absence or eradication of the disease in the country, zone or compartment;
- surveillance and early warning system for all relevant species in the country, zone or compartment;
- measures implemented to maintain freedom in the country, zone or compartment.

The self-declaration may be published only after all the information provided has been received and an administrative and technical screening has been performed by the OIE. Publication does not imply endorsement of the claim of freedom by the OIE and does not reflect the official opinion of the OIE. Responsibility for the accuracy of the information contained in a self-declaration lies entirely with the OIE Delegate of the Member Country concerned.

The OIE does not publish self-declarations of freedom from diseases listed under point 1) of Article 1.6.1bis.

Article 1.6.1bis.

Official recognition by the OIE

Member Countries may request:

1. Official recognition of status by the OIE of:

   a) freedom of a country or zone from African horse sickness;
   b) risk status of a country or zone with regard to bovine spongiform encephalopathy;
   c) freedom of a country or zone from classical swine fever;

Annex 39a (contd)

d) freedom of a country or zone from contagious bovine pleuropneumonia;

e) freedom of a country or zone from foot and mouth disease, with or without vaccination;

f) freedom of a country or zone from peste des petits ruminants.

2. Endorsement by the OIE of:

a) an official control programme for contagious bovine pleuropneumonia;

b) an official control programme for foot and mouth disease;

c) an official control programme for peste des petits ruminants.

The OIE does not grant official recognition or endorsement of an official control programme for diseases other than those listed under points 1 and 2 above.

Member Countries should present documentation setting out the compliance of their Veterinary Services with the provisions of Chapters 1.1., 3.1. and 3.2. of the Terrestrial Code and with the provisions of the relevant disease chapters in the Terrestrial Code and the Terrestrial Manual.

When requesting official recognition of disease status or endorsement by the OIE of an official control programme, the Member Country should submit to the OIE a dossier providing the information requested in the following chapters (as appropriate): 1.7., 1.8., 1.9., 1.10., 1.11. or 1.12.

The OIE framework for the official recognition and maintenance of disease status is described in Resolution No. XV (administrative procedures) and Resolution No. XVI (financial obligations) adopted during the 83rd General Session in May 2015, as well as in the Standard Operating Procedures available on the OIE website2.

The country or the zone, or the country having its official control programme endorsed will be included in the relevant list only after the evidence submitted, based on the provisions of Chapters 1.7. to 1.12., has been adopted by the World Assembly of OIE Delegates.

Retention on the list requires that the information in relevant chapters be re-submitted annually and changes in the epidemiological situation or other significant events should be reported to the OIE in accordance with the requirements in Chapter 1.1.

[...]