Chapter 3.1.

**Introduction to recommendations on Veterinary Services**

Article 3.1.1.

*Veterinary Services* are critical to global and national health security, food security and food safety, agricultural and rural development, poverty alleviation, safe national and *international trade*, [*wildlife*](http://127.0.0.1:54914/content/1ysvQbGhPPvTidTpAAAB/chYObID/OYuPCl4/9pTCHad/YrndtbT/pfZlRuR/Eu21EA8/Dtp3eq8/en_glossaire.htm#terme_faune_sauvage) health and environmental protection; as such they are considered a global public good. To achieve these goals, [*Veterinary Services*](http://127.0.0.1:54914/content/1ysvQbGhPPvTidTpAAAB/chYObID/OYuPCl4/9pTCHad/YrndtbT/pfZlRuR/Eu21EA8/Dtp3eq8/en_glossaire.htm#terme_services_veterinaires) require good governance, including effective policy and management, personnel and resources, veterinary professionals and ~~interaction~~ collaboration with stakeholders in a One Health approach, involving all relevant sectors and disciplines across the human-animal-environment interface.

Member Countries have the sovereign right to structure and manage the delivery of animal health, [*animal welfare*](http://127.0.0.1:54914/content/1ysvQbGhPPvTidTpAAAB/chYObID/OYuPCl4/9pTCHad/YrndtbT/pfZlRuR/Eu21EA8/Dtp3eq8/en_glossaire.htm#terme_bien_etre_animal) and veterinary public health in the veterinary domain in their countries as they consider appropriate. The veterinary domain covers a broad scope of possible activities. Section 3 focuses on aspects of the [*Veterinary Services*](http://127.0.0.1:54914/content/1ysvQbGhPPvTidTpAAAB/chYObID/OYuPCl4/9pTCHad/YrndtbT/pfZlRuR/Eu21EA8/Dtp3eq8/en_glossaire.htm#terme_services_veterinaires) that enable the OIE standards to be met even when under the responsibility of one or more [*Competent Authorities*](http://127.0.0.1:54914/content/1ysvQbGhPPvTidTpAAAB/chYObID/OYuPCl4/9pTCHad/YrndtbT/pfZlRuR/Eu21EA8/Dtp3eq8/en_glossaire.htm#terme_autorite_competente).

Member Countries should implement the OIE standards across their whole territory and should meet their obligations at the international level through representation by their respective OIE Delegate. The [*Veterinary Authority*](http://127.0.0.1:54914/content/1ysvQbGhPPvTidTpAAAB/chYObID/OYuPCl4/9pTCHad/YrndtbT/pfZlRuR/Eu21EA8/Dtp3eq8/en_glossaire.htm#terme_autorite_veterinaire), including the OIE Delegate, should coordinate with other [*Competent Authorities*](http://127.0.0.1:54914/content/1ysvQbGhPPvTidTpAAAB/chYObID/OYuPCl4/9pTCHad/YrndtbT/pfZlRuR/Eu21EA8/Dtp3eq8/en_glossaire.htm#terme_autorite_competente) to ensure that international standards and responsibilities are met.

[*Veterinary Services*](http://127.0.0.1:54914/content/1ysvQbGhPPvTidTpAAAB/chYObID/OYuPCl4/9pTCHad/YrndtbT/pfZlRuR/Eu21EA8/Dtp3eq8/en_glossaire.htm#terme_services_veterinaires) have responsibility for implementing the activities necessary for the Member Country to comply with OIE standards. These activities can be delivered by a combination of individuals or organisations, public or private, that are responsible to one or more [*Competent Authorities*](http://127.0.0.1:54914/content/1ysvQbGhPPvTidTpAAAB/chYObID/OYuPCl4/9pTCHad/YrndtbT/pfZlRuR/Eu21EA8/Dtp3eq8/en_glossaire.htm#terme_autorite_competente). [*Veterinary Services*](http://127.0.0.1:54914/content/1ysvQbGhPPvTidTpAAAB/chYObID/OYuPCl4/9pTCHad/YrndtbT/pfZlRuR/Eu21EA8/Dtp3eq8/en_glossaire.htm#terme_services_veterinaires) also include the personnel of the [*Competent Authorities*](http://127.0.0.1:54914/content/1ysvQbGhPPvTidTpAAAB/chYObID/OYuPCl4/9pTCHad/YrndtbT/pfZlRuR/Eu21EA8/Dtp3eq8/en_glossaire.htm#terme_autorite_competente) themselves. The term [*Veterinary Services*](http://127.0.0.1:54914/content/1ysvQbGhPPvTidTpAAAB/chYObID/OYuPCl4/9pTCHad/YrndtbT/pfZlRuR/Eu21EA8/Dtp3eq8/en_glossaire.htm#terme_services_veterinaires) refers to the combination of a number of separate actors, with different organisational affiliations.

Section 3 provides standards to assist the [*Veterinary Services*](http://127.0.0.1:54914/content/1ysvQbGhPPvTidTpAAAB/chYObID/OYuPCl4/9pTCHad/YrndtbT/pfZlRuR/Eu21EA8/Dtp3eq8/en_glossaire.htm#terme_services_veterinaires) of Member Countries in meeting their objectives of improving terrestrial animal health, [*animal welfare*](http://127.0.0.1:54914/content/1ysvQbGhPPvTidTpAAAB/chYObID/OYuPCl4/9pTCHad/YrndtbT/pfZlRuR/Eu21EA8/Dtp3eq8/en_glossaire.htm#terme_bien_etre_animal) and veterinary public health, as well as in establishing and maintaining confidence in their [*international veterinary certificates*](http://127.0.0.1:54914/content/1ysvQbGhPPvTidTpAAAB/chYObID/OYuPCl4/9pTCHad/YrndtbT/pfZlRuR/Eu21EA8/Dtp3eq8/en_glossaire.htm#terme_certificat_veterinaire_international).

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