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Annex XXVIII

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## REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE OIE *AD HOC* GROUP ON *SALMONELLA* IN PIGS

Paris (France), 27–29 August 2014

The OIE *ad hoc* Group on *Salmonella* in pigs (the *ad hoc* Group) met at the OIE Headquarters in Paris from 27 to 29 August 2014.

The members of the *ad hoc* Group and other participants are listed at [Annex I](#). The Agenda and Terms of Reference adopted are given at [Annex II](#) and [Annex III](#), respectively.

The *ad hoc* Group agreed that to combat the occurrence of food-borne salmonellosis, a pre-harvest pathogen reduction strategy is important in reducing the presence of *Salmonella* in pig meat and therefore considered that the development of the chapter on the prevention and control of *Salmonella* in pigs was appropriate.

The *ad hoc* Group developed the draft chapter that provides recommendations on the prevention and control of *Salmonella* in domestic pigs kept for commercial breeding and production from farm up to slaughter to supplement the Codex Alimentarius Commission 'Guidelines for the control of nontyphoidal *Salmonella* spp. in pork meat', currently under development.

The aim of the chapter is to contribute to the reduction of food-borne illness in humans by controlling and where possible, reducing the prevalence of *Salmonella* infection in pigs. The *ad hoc* Group recognised the diversity of pig production systems, the variability of prevalence of *Salmonella* in pigs and the differing country approaches to the public health control of *Salmonella*. Therefore in developing the recommendations the *ad hoc* Group tried not to be prescriptive but rather produce a chapter that is relevant to all Member Countries.

The *ad hoc* Group developed recommendations for the control of *Salmonella* infection in pigs that considered the steps along the food chain from feed production and use, through primary breeding farms to lairage prior to slaughter, including transport and included both basic biosecurity procedures and specific *Salmonella* prevention and control measures. Recommendations are tailored and based on the strength of the scientific evidence available.

The *ad hoc* Group included specific recommendations for feed since it is an important means for the introduction of *Salmonella* into a pig herd. The *ad hoc* Group also included articles on transport and lairage because they considered that these activities increase the risk of *Salmonella* in the pigs. The *ad hoc* Group included cross references to articles in relevant chapters on animal welfare as these contain relevant recommendations.

The *ad hoc* Group included in the chapter definitions for 'feed' and 'feed ingredients' that are used in the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* Chapter 6.3. 'The control of hazards of animal health and public health importance in animal feed'.

Annex XXVIII (contd)

In the development of this chapter the *ad hoc* Group used information available in the 'FAO/OIE/World Bank. 2010. Good practices for biosecurity in the pig sector – Issues and options in developing and transition countries. FAO Animal Production and Health Paper No. 169. Rome, FAO' and wished to highlight this valuable resource to Member Countries.

The new Chapter 6.X. Prevention and control of *Salmonella* in pigs is presented in Annex IV.

*[Note: this Annex has been replaced by Annex XXIII to the report of the meeting of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission which was held on 9–18 September 2014.]*

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Annex XXVIII (contd)

Annex I

**MEETING OF THE OIE AD HOC GROUP ON SALMONELLA IN PIGS****Paris (France), 27–29 August 2014****List of participants****MEMBERS OF THE AD HOC GROUP****Dr Rob Davies (Chair)**

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Annex XXVIII (contd)

Annex II

**MEETING OF THE OIE AD HOC GROUP ON SALMONELLA IN PIGS**

**Paris (France), 27–29 August 2014**

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**Adopted agenda**

Welcome

1. Discussion on the OIE standard setting process and work in animal production food safety and relevant Codex Alimentarius standards.
  2. Development of a new draft Chapter 6.X. on the prevention and control of *Salmonella* in pigs dealing with the management of this pathogen in pigs in order to reduce risks to human health.
  3. Preparation of a report for the Code Commission for consideration at its September 2014 meeting.
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Annex XXVIII (contd)Annex III

## Terms of Reference

### Purpose of the meeting

To develop a new draft Chapter 6.X. Prevention and control of *Salmonella* in pigs, for Section 6: Veterinary Public Health of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*, dealing with the management of this pathogen in pigs to reduce risks to human health, taking account of relevant Codex guidelines, and OIE standards.

### OIE standard setting work in animal production food safety

The OIE and the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) are two of the three international standard setting organizations recognized under the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (the SPS Agreement). In the context of the SPS Agreement, the OIE is responsible for setting standards in the domain of animal health (including zoonotic diseases) and the CAC in the domain of food safety.

Since 2002, at the request of its Members, the OIE mandate has included setting standards for animal production food safety, i.e. the management of risks arising at the level of the farm through to primary processing. In 2002, the OIE established a Working Group on Animal Production Food Safety with the aim of improving the coordination and harmonisation of standard setting activities of OIE and CAC. The Secretary of Codex and, on an observer basis, the Chair of Codex, regularly attend the annual meeting of the Working Group. Through this mechanism and through participation in each other's standard setting procedures, the OIE and CAC collaborate closely in the development of standards relevant to the whole food production continuum, taking care to avoid gaps, duplications and contradictions within and between SPS standards.

### *Salmonella* in pigs

Salmonellosis is one of the most frequently reported food-borne diseases worldwide and pork meat is considered to be an important source of this food-borne infection.

Since 2010 the Animal Production Food Safety Working Group (APFSWG) has been exploring the need for and feasibility of developing OIE standards on the control of *Salmonella* in food producing animals other than poultry (i.e. pigs, cattle, small ruminants) with the purpose of reducing food-borne illness. Based on a recent literature review requested by the APFSWG, 'A review of the scientific literature on the control of *Salmonella* spp. in food producing animals other than poultry' (Simone Belluco *et al.*, in press) and other publications, the APFSWG noted that a) salmonellosis attributed to cattle and pigs is an important cause of illness in humans, b) effective control measures can be implemented at the farm level and, c) Codex is undertaking work in this area.

They recommended that, should the Codex work proceed, the OIE should develop recommendations for the pre-harvest management and control of *Salmonella* in pigs and cattle to complement the Codex guidelines and ensure a whole food chain approach to *Salmonella* risk management in these species.

At the February 2014 meeting of the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission, they agreed that given that the Codex has commenced new work on guidelines for the Control of nontyphoidal *Salmonella* spp. in pork (and beef) meat, the OIE should commence work in this area to complement the Codex work to ensure that standards cover the farm to fork continuum for this pathogen.

The OIE agreed that work on standard development for *Salmonella* in pigs will be followed by the development of a similar standard for cattle.

Annex XXVIII (contd)

Annex III (contd)

**Relevant considerations:**

- The OIE has a mandate to develop international standards for animal production food safety, with a primary focus on measures applicable to zoonotic pathogens, for which measures can most effectively be implemented at the animal production level.
- As *Salmonella* in pigs is not an OIE listed disease and the impact on animal health (and direct economic impact) is usually low, this chapter will be part of Section 6: Veterinary Public Health of the *Terrestrial Code*.
- Standards for zoonotic pathogens at the animal production level should take into account:
  - feasible and cost effective means of controlling the pathogen at the animal level;
  - feasible and cost effective measures for animals and animal products that are internationally traded;
  - existing Codex standards and guidelines of the WHO and FAO.
- The *Terrestrial Code* contains general recommendations on veterinary public health and specific recommendations on controlling Salmonellosis in poultry.
- The OIE *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals* (2014) includes a chapter on Salmonellosis (Chapter 2.9.9.) which includes recommendations on diagnostic techniques, vaccines and competitive exclusion.
- The format of the new Chapter 6.X. should follow the style of existing *Terrestrial Code* chapters.

**Relevant documents**

1. A review of the scientific literature on the control of *Salmonella* spp. in food producing animals other than poultry (Simone Belluco *et al.*, in press)
2. *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* Chapter 6.5. Prevention, detection and control of *Salmonella* in poultry
3. *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* Chapter 6.4. Biosecurity procedures in poultry production
4. *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* Chapter 7.3. Transport of animals by land
5. *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* Chapter 7.5. Slaughter of animals
6. FAO/OIE/World Bank Good practices for biosecurity in the pig sector (2010)
7. Draft Codex Guidelines for the Control of Nontyphoidal *Salmonella* spp. in Pork and Beef Meat (under development)
8. Codex *Guidelines for the Control of Campylobacter and Salmonella in Chicken Meat* (CAC/GL 78-2011).



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