

TERRESTRIAL ANIMAL HEALTH STANDARDS COMMISSION

SEPTEMBER 2010 REPORT

USA Comments

CHAPTER 1.2.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING DISEASES

General Comment: As requested in other Code chapters on which we have commented (i.e. Rabies and Swine Vesicular Disease), the United States kindly asks that the OIE share with its Members the report and any other supporting documentation used by the *ad hoc* group in order to understand the thinking and/or scientific reasoning behind certain recommended proposed changes. Such information is critical to be able to make informed decisions and provide valuable and meaningful input to the OIE.

Article 1.2.1.

...

Current proposed changes:

Article 1.2.3.

The following *diseases* are included in the OIE List.

In case of modifications of this list of animal *diseases* adopted by the General Assembly, the new list comes into force on 1 January of the following year.

1. ...

9. The following *diseases* are included within the category of other *diseases*:

- Camelpox
- = Chronic wasting disease
- Leishmaniosis.

Suggested changes:

Article 1.2.3.

The following *diseases* are included in the OIE List.

In case of modifications of this list of animal *diseases* adopted by the General Assembly, the new list comes into force on 1 January of the following year.

1. ...
9. The following *diseases* are included within the category of other *diseases*:
 - Camelpox
 - ~~Chronic wasting disease~~
 - Leishmaniosis.

Rationale: The United States does not support the addition of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) to the OIE list of notifiable diseases. Since the OIE is currently reviewing the criteria for listing diseases, it is premature to add any disease to the OIE list. Furthermore, CWD is a disease that has been limited to wildlife, has no zoonotic potential and is not of livestock concern internationally. Not listing it at this time will not present any country with any health hazard or risk. We also do not recommend putting the disease “under study”. Any consideration for adding new diseases should be withheld until the OIE finalizes, and the World Assembly of Delegates adopts, new disease listing criteria. Consistent with any and all procedural and transparency policies of the OIE, and in order to make an informed decision, the United States requests that all proposed changes and any reference material supporting such changes, be made available to Members for review prior to adoption.