Annex 24

**USA EDITS IN RED FONT**

Chapter 10.X.

**Infection with AVIAN metaPNEUMOVIRUS (Turkey rhinotracheitis and swollen head syndrome of chickens)**

Article 10.X.1.

**General provisions**

For the purposes of the *Terrestrial Code*, *infection* with avian metapneumovirus is defined as an *infection* of *poultry* with avian metapneumovirus.

The following defines the occurrence of *infection* with avian metapneumovirus:

1) Avian metapneumovirus has been isolated and identified as such in a sample from *poultry*; or

2) nucleic acid specific to avian metapneumovirus, which is not the consequence of *vaccination*, has been detected in a sample from *poultry*; or

3) ~~seroconversion specific to avian metapneumovirus has been detected in~~ *~~poultry~~*~~;~~ or

**Category:** [addition, deletion, change, editorial, general]

Deletion.

**Proposed amended texts (or precise suggested deletion):**

Please see text in blue above.

**Rationale:**

Recommend to strike point 3, as seropositive status is covered more thoroughly in point 4, including explicit exclusion of detections resulting from vaccine response.

**Supporting evidence:**

4) antibodies specific to avian metapneumovirus, which are not the consequence of *vaccination*, have been detected in a sample from *poultry* showing clinical signs or pathological lesions consistent with *infection* with avian metapneumovirus, or epidemiologically linked to a confirmed or suspected *case*.

Standards for diagnosis and vaccines, as well as information on the epidemiology, are described in the *Terrestrial Manual.*

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