Annex 28

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, excluding vaccine strains, 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* showing clinical signs or pathological lesions consistent with *infection* with avian metapneumovirus or is epidemiologically linked to a confirmed or suspected *case*; or

3) seroconversion specific to avian metapneumovirus, which is not the consequence of *vaccination*, has been detected in *poultry*; or

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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