**Webinar: WOAH International Standards Code Commission - February 2025 Report**

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**OPENING
He, Gary**
Alright. Good afternoon everyone. Thank you all for dialling in.
Before we get started, we're joined today by Australian Deputy Chief Veterinary officer. Doctor Sam Hamilton. So I'll first ask to him for Acknowledgement of Country and it will say a few extra words.

 **Hamilton, Sam**
Thanks very much, Gary. And just to explain, I'm Sam Hamilton. I'm acting Australian Chief Veterinary Officer. This week, while Doctor Beth Cookson's on leave, so I'll just open the meeting with an Acknowledgement of Country. So I'd like to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians on the land on which all of you are gathering from. For those of us in Canberra, that's the Ngunnawal and Ngambri people. But there's a number of other family groups that have long standing connections to this land.
I'd also like to acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the lands on which you're coming from today.
And extend the recognition to Traditional Custodians.
Joining us today as well as Elders, past, present and emerging. So thank you all for joining this meeting. I know a few people are still coming in.
Where this marks the start of our consultation for on Australia's position for the upcoming discussions that the World Organisation for Animal Health General Session on the terrestrial Animal Health Code standards.
As many of you know, one of WOAH’s key mandates is to safeguard, say, trade through the setting of international standards for animals and animal products.
In Australia, as well as many of our trading partners and members of WOAH and also the World Trade Organisation, we've got an obligation to adopt World Organisation for Animal Health standards where we can inter legislation. Of course standards are very important. I don't need to reiterate that too much but certainly with.
Global changing trade Environment Week on week rules based trade is very important for a nation such as ours, so I just wanted to thank you very much for your engagement today and I'll just hand over to Gary and Bri to deliver the rest of the webinar. Thank you very much.

 **He, Gary**
Great. Thank you very much, Sam. Well, first of all, just wanted to point out that this webinar will be recorded and it will be made available afterwards on our consultation website if you don't wish to be recorded, please turn off your camera. We're very happy to answer any questions as well. So you do have any put. Please put up your virtual hand or feel free to type it into the chat.
If we go to the next slide, please.
Thank you. So just a very quick introduction. Our office works under Doctor Beth Cookson as the Australian Chief Veterinary Officer and also as the WOAH Delegate that. So this means that we coordinate and submit positions on well as international status through her authority.
Very quick introduction to our team. I'm Gary He. I'm a Senior Veterinary Officer. I'm also Australia's disease focal. Sorry, Disease Notification Focal Point.
As and as you can see, I'm involved in coordination of Australian stakeholder comments into our positions for our international standards. I'll hand over to Bri now who's joining me if you want to give her introduction to yourself.

 **Curtis, Briallen**
Hi everyone. My name is Briallen Curtis, feel free to call me Bri. I'm a Veterinary Officer in the Multilateral Engagement team in the Office of the Chief Vet.

 **He, Gary**
Excellent. Thank you very much. Pre, we do the next slide please.
Thanks. So look, we've covered this a few times before, so I'll be I'll be relatively quick. What was Terrestrial Animal Health Code Commission?
Is the group responsible for reviewing and updating the organisation standards for terrestrial health?
So they do so by requesting comments from all of WOAH members. These standards can take several rounds of consultation and sometimes up to even four years between their conception and the and the adoption at the WOAH General Session in May.
Next slide please.
So in the past we've conducted our consultation by to have Have Your Say website that website intend to be a one stop shop to all the documents and instructions you would need during this consultation.
Due to the current caretaker period, there's just been some additional process to finalise our consultation approach, but have actually just received.
Approval and confirmation for everything's relate to the Have Your Say website so that will be online very soon provide or send around the e-mail shortly after this.
Umm, just with more information about it.
So on the how do you say website you'll be able to find all the documentation you'll need to and also instructions to undertake this consultation. That'll include the meeting report of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code Commission.
It's also also you also find the various annexes of the each of the individual chapters. That's out for comment.
In the word format as well, which we should probably be a bit easier to go through.
Did you have a quick chat about how to submit these comments on the have your say website. There will be a survey for you to upload to complete and upload your comments into the way that the comments are submitted this time around has changed from past times.
So WOAH has provided a new template and will make that template available to you as well. So this new template requires members to pull the specific sections of the standards that they wish to.
Amend into a table and I think from WOAH’s perspective, this allows them to respond to the comments a lot more readily. Commenters will also be asked to identify the category of their comments. So in this case the five categories are additions, deletions, changes, editorial and also general comments.
But otherwise the convention hasn't changed at all. It's still strike throughs for any deletions that you want to make.
And double underlines for a proposed additions and please highlight the changes in blue as well.
When you're providing comments, it's also essential that they're all backed up by a rationale, and this is because because what we simply won't accept the comments if there's a rationale.
Please also be mindful of avoiding submitting repeated comments or repeated rationales as well. One won't accept the easy either either. The only exception here is where a rationale has changed, because perhaps the signs within that certain field has developed and there's new evidence, new evidence that's come out.
Something that the we'll go to the next slide please.
Something that the WOAH Code Commission has started providing more recently is the responses and considerations to while Member comments during the proceeding consultations. So this is Annex Three, you can find this soon on our Have Your Say website, it's a very useful document when you're undertaking the consultation, it's very much worth reviewing.
All of the Code Commission's responses to Australia's past positions.
Can be found on this document.
Great. Thank you. So we're about to go straight into these chapters that are for adoption. Sorry that I are for comment that these ones are for adoption specifically before we do that, do they want to have any questions about the consultation process?
Right. If not, we'll divide and conquer. I'll hand over now to Briallen to talk about the part A chapters.

**PART A CHAPTERS
Curtis, Briallen**

Thanks Gary and please feel free to pop your hand up at any point if you do have a question on the specific chapters that we're covering at that time. OK, so part A, these are the chapters up for adoption at the upcoming General Session on the 25th and 29th to the 29th of May. Part A chapters are usually just out for information. However, this time WOAH is happy to accept comments, although they.
Really not wanting to make major changes at this point?
Hearing feedback on these chapters, though, helps form our voting position at the General Session, and if there are any concerns that you have on those chapters, we would appreciate hearing about them.
OK, so first up, is Annex 5 the user's guide? So the user's guide is frequently updated to reflect changes made in other parts of the Terrestrial Code. This revision has been circulated three times since September 2023.
The original changes were made to include a more detailed explanation of the disease specific chapters and development of a new point to explain the use of terms referring to host species.
This circulation round there were minor changes for clarity and for editorial purposes.
Australia only commented in February 2024 to suggest clarity around the glossary being added to the user's guide.
Next chapter is Annex 6, Chapter 1.3, diseases, infections and infestations listed by WOAH. For part A, the only changes here are to amend the names of diseases in Chapter 1.3 to align with the title of the disease. Specific chapters that have had a name change while being reviewed. This includes nipah virus, old World and New world screw worm.
Eastern and Western Equine encephalomyelitis and during.
Annex 7, Chapter 7.1 introduction to the recommendations for animal welfare background on this chapter is that a comment was submitted to WOAH when chapter 7.7 on dog population management was being revised, and this comment was to include the five domains of animal welfare concept in September 2022. While I looked at this suggestion and thought that it should go into this chapter 7.1.
And in doing so, they took the opportunity to open for other suggested improvements.
This is now being circulated three times changes this time around are relatively minor edits to expand for clarity, and Australia had minor comments in September 2024, many of which were accepted.
The next 8, which is chapter 8.13 New World screw worm and Old World screwworm changes for this chapter, include an updated title and addition to the definition that they are obligate parasites, which you can see.
On the screen there, this chapter was circulated once in Sept, September 2024 as a Part B Chapter Australia had no comments at that time.
And chapter 8 point Y infection with nipah virus is annexed 9 this chapter has now been circulated three times.
Changes this time are minor and include a change to clarify domestic population as can be seen in the highlighted text on the slide. In the past Australia commented to extend the host range.
Last circulation Australia provided a general comment regarding text that was removed in the September 2024 Terrestrial Commission report on the differentiation between detection of antibodies from vaccination versus infection.
And this comment has been noted by the Terrestrial Code Commission.
Thanks and Annex 10 chapter 11.5 infection with contagious bovine pleura, pneumonia, contagious bovine pleura, pneumonia is one of the six diseases that WOAH grants official recognition for this chapter and the chapter on African horse sickness virus which is coming up the last of the six to be updated. So in February 2024.
The Code Commission considered the impact that the potential adoption of changes to this chapter.
That could they could have on the procedure for the annual reconfirmation for the officially recognised status of contagious bovine through pneumonia, and therefore they agreed to not propose the chapter for adoption at the 91st General Session last year. But to reconsider this chapter at the September 2024 meeting, which they did this time around, there are minor changes for clarity and this.
Chapter has now been circulated four times.
OK, Annex 11 at Chapter 11, point X infection with bovine pesty viruses, bovine viral diarrhoea.
In September 2022, Australia included a comment which supported the case definition of BVD, but noted that the manual required at updating to match the code.
The revised bovine viral viral diarrhoea terrestrial manual chapter was adopted last year at the 91st General Session.
Which has allowed. Now the code chapter to be put up for adoption.
This chapter has been circulated five times for comment. No change this round of circulation and Australia had no comments on the September 2024.
Consultation.
Wonderful Annex 12, chapter 12.1 infection with African horse sickness virus.
Like contagious bovine pleura pneumonia, African horse sickness has official disease status and the potential then for changes to this chapter to complicate the procedure for annual reconfirmation of the officially recognised status was noted. Therefore, the Code Commission agreed not to propose this chapter for adoption at the 91st General Session last year, but to reconsider this chapter at the September 2024 meeting.
This chapter has now been circulated four times, and this time has minor editorial changes as well as amended text to encourage effective vector control, both at establishments and facilities and during transportation.
Australia did not submit comments on this chapter during the September 2024 consultation.
For the next 13 chapter, 12.3 Dourine, this chapter has now been circulated twice in the current round of circulation. There are changes to align with previously accepted changes to Articles, 12 point 3.1 and 12 point 3.6, which updated the amount of time required to have been in a country, zone or compartment.
Free of Dourine from six months to 90 days.
This change in incubation period.
Made to align during with other trypanosome chapters.
And for this change for Dourine, this circulation, these changes are seen in the recommendations on importation of semen.
Australia did not provide comments on the in the September 2024 consultation for this chapter.
And then the final part, a chapter is Annex 14, chapter 12.4 equine encephalomyelitis, Eastern and Western. So this chapter was moved to part A after being circulated once in September 2024. The Code Commission agreed to review East and Western Equine encephalomyelitis together with Venezuelan.
Equine encephalomyelitis and Japanese encephalitis due to their similarities and to ensure consistency.
Following the February 2024 meeting, the Code Commission convened an ad hoc group to revise the equine encephalitis code chapter, and that ad hoc group was to report back at the September 2024 Code Commission meeting.
At that meeting chapter 12.4 was reviewed and as the comments received, were supportive or editorial. The chapter was proposed for adoption at the upcoming 92nd General Session.
No further changes to this chapter in this circulation, and Australia had no comments in September 2024.
Passover to Gary now for Part B.

**PART B CHAPTERS
He, Gary**
Great. Thank you. Bri. I'm assuming we don't have any questions for part A.
OK, great. Well, I'll just start with Part B in that case. So these are Part B chapters. These chapters will not be going up for adoption at the General Session next month.
Because instead they'll need a bit more work before they get to that point. Probably what's important to point out about these chapters are that there is once of their development.
But usually the chapters that are newer, while is a lot more open to making larger, more transformative changes to them whereas.
A chapter you know within part A that's about to go to the General Session. All this is a critical issue, something read problematic generally well, is quite resistant on making big changes. That's probably why you're seeing some of the changes that Bri has pointed out. They tend to be more minor.
Yes, often relates to the interpretation of the provisions or often the editorial changes as well.
But we'll dive into these Part B chapters, then let's go to next slide. Thank you.
So this is the glossary definition. The Parliament that's in Part B currently. The Part B Glossary definition term is being reviewed listed here. I won't read them out, but yeah, this number items there previously.
Sorry, since the previous circulation of the Part B clustery definitions, there's been no new terms that been added. There's just been some monitorial changes to those that already proposed here.
In September of 2024, Australia provided some minor editorial comments on the definition of border inspection post, but this was not accepted.
Thank you. So this is Part B of also of chapter 1.3. So that's Diseases, infections, and infestations listed by WOAH.
There's only one change here, and that's the removal of narrowly sheep disease from the list.
So the WOAH Scientific Commission for animal diseases.
Had a meeting at a yeah bit of consideration around this.
The primary objective of WOAH listings is to support members notifications, but there's been a consideration that there hasn't been a notification of this disease in over 10 years, and it also didn't meet. There's got 4 criteria points for a disease to be listed to be a well listed disease, and this disease didn't meet two of those criteria points and was the and that is because.
There's been no evidence of cross regional spread, given that there's been no reports in the past 10 years.
And because of that, there's also no evidence or no recent evidence, that the disease is having a significant impact on domestic animals. So for those reasons I've just mentioned, they've decided to remove Nairobi sheep disease from the list.
Great, thank you. I'm going to dis chapter. This is chapter 1.6.
It's it's written here as procedures. It's the actual name. Is much longer as procedures for official recognition of animal health status, endorsement of an official control programme and publication of a self declaration of Animal Health. Satisfied while.
So the changes to this chapter actually came from one of Australia's comments we asked well.
To provide great clarity on whether Members can hold pathogenic agents in laboratories, and whether doing that affects their health status, so that is no, it doesn't affect our health status, but that's not been cleared within the terrestrial count, and something very worth clarifying. So as a response to our comment.
Or our position in the past. Well, it has now added a new ally. Call one point 6.4.
And this specifies that there's no impacts if a pathogenic agent is held in either a border inspection post quarantine centre or an appropriate laboratory.
Right. We can go to the next chapter before I go further. Do we have any questions about these three or four? Was it 3 that I've just covered? Yes, Mary.

 **Mary Wu**
Hi, Gary. Can you just go back to the slide before?

 **He, Gary**
Yep.

 **Mary Wu**
Reading that in without sort of context, the presence of pathogenic agent in an animal product at a border inspection post does that. Could that be read in a different way? Like to say you know like to give you an example hpai in poultry meat is not considered to be affected by the status like I'm just trying to read it in a very different way.
I'm not associated with the lab side of things.

 **He, Gary**
Yeah, sure. Sorry. What was that example, so is hpai.

 **Mary Wu**
Yeah. So like if HPA is declared and that product was then exported, so potentially there is pathogenic, you know they could be avian influenza virus in the poultry meat at a border inspection post.

 **He, Gary**
Yep.

 **Mary Wu**

But based on this this particular attestation, it means that it's not affected.

 **He, Gary**
Yeah, sure. I mean, I suppose, yeah, like if we think the language can be improved. I yeah, I suppose I see your point. That that's something. Yeah. We're very happy to raise as a comment.

 **Mary Wu**
Thank you.

 **He, Gary**
All right. Thank you.
Yes, Hendrick.

 **Camphor, Hendrik**
Yeah. Hi, Gary. Thanks.
Yeah, I guess it was just a a a comment regarding your question about the.
Issue around pathogens being held in labs and it just strikes me that it may. I mean, it's understandable, especially given given you know for example, pathogens held at all or at Plum Island or elsewhere, but.

 **Camphor, Hendrik**
It may also.
How can I put it constrain the ability of what's been quite a longstanding effort to get countries to surrender some of their Rinderpest virus stocks, and in particular, I think about South Africa. Many example.
I'm aware that they've they've been quite resistant and surrendering or destroying those, and yeah, I just you just I wonder if this isn't, you know whether this is not really helping that effort. Thank you. I'm just happy to hear anyone's thoughts about that. Thank you.

 **He, Gary**
Yeah.
Sure. Yeah, I suppose what this is, is that it's always been the position of WOAH at that polling, these pathogens in a lab is not meant to affect your your animal health status. It's always been a recognition that it's, you know, these pathogens or these diseases need to be occurring with you within your animal population for that to really like generally speaking, right affect your animal health status. So the inclusion of this isn't necessarily changing what was positioned or what the code is meant to be saying.
It's really just.
Actually, clearly dictating it and there's, you know, there's own benefits to that. I acknowledge that perhaps there could be certain outcomes as well. So like Hendrick, or if anyone else, if you have a view on the potential consequences or we view this as problematic again, we're happy to consider that as a comment and potentially something that we could submit to our.
So someone else put their hands up.
But I assume we're OK now.
OK, great. Well, we can move on to.
Chapter 4. Sorry, the new chapter 4X. That's on bio security.
This chapter was developed by a dedicated ad-hoc group and they first circulated the draught chapter back in September of 2023.
The purpose of this chapter from what was perspective is to provide guidance on the principles, the implementation and the evaluation of bio security.
There's been a fair bit of a fair challenges of this chapter, particularly around the scope, so some world members were really keen to see this chapter only encompassed by security for domestic premises, whereas the Commission, the Code Commission, is quite firm that it should also cover include provisions that or recommendations throughout international trade as well.
There's also been some concerns, concerns by other WOAH Members that the chapter.
Is read broad and being so broad.
The statements that.
The statements that are introduced that could be interpreted to counter or to run counter to international trade principles.
This chapter was originally slated for adoption at this year's General Session, but kind of given the breadth of the comments and the number of comments from while Members, while has actually decided to hold off of that as circulates, this chapter for 3rd consecutive.
The Commission has to start around stated's course, so it hasn't made any changes to the chatter scope. It hasn't been any really large.
Transformative changes there have been a lot of other kind of general changes and many that are quite technical as well. So perhaps too many to cover today. A lot of it is also around clarity of language.
Probably a few that may be substantially to point out some that we spent ourselves. So Article 4 point X .6 on transmission pathways just based on some of Australia's past submissions.
There's been language that's added by WOAH now that transit, submission pathways of pathogenic agents they should be assessed based on scientific evidence, and there's also the new acknowledgement of the role of format in this.
It's just probably also worth having a close look at. I call 4 point X .7, so that's on the components of external bio security and.
There are quite a few changes here as well. Again, too many go through, but quite a few changes that are either technical or they might change the way that the provisions be interpreted.
In terms of past positions here, we submitted positions in September of 2023 and in September of 2024 as well.
The 2024 Constitution, the latest one they were in minor comments and bar has accepted some of these.
We go to the next slide, please. Thank you.
This is a collection of three chapters from chapters 5.4 to 5.6, and they cover the measures and procedures applicable to exploitation of transit and also importation.
In the September 2024 meeting, the World Card Commission considered the part considered a report from the associated ad hoc group on this chapter. And if you're reviewing these chapters, I'd highly recommend everyone to also review the ad hoc group report because a lot of the deliberations and considerations actually made by the ad hoc group.
So there's been some changes to language conventions this time around, otherwise the changes I don't think are.
Yes, super substantial. Each of the chapters now have a separate.
Well, the each of chapters now separately defined the term operator. So for example in the exploitation chapter operator we just be the entity or person responsible for the export of commodities. So yeah, all of the language change, more of the editorial change.
The chapter also now differentiates illegal from informal pathways as well. It didn't before.
Some past positions well for the transit chapter, Australia was successful, embedding some text that indicated that our welfare should be maintained during transit.
And then we submitted comments on both the exportation and import and importation chapters during the very last consultation and most of our changes were editorial in nature.
So this is chapter 5.7 board inspection post and quarantine centres.
It's been circulated once we commented back in September of 2024, most of these were accepted.
And most of them were fairly mild probably.
Probably 1 worth pointing out was that for I call 5.7 point 5. So this is the I call on.
Additional requirements for board inspection posts by our request, while has now added some new text where for inspection posts for animals, they should include waste management for restricted areas.
There's also been some other requirements for regular board inspection posts and quarantine sensors as well. For example, requirements to ensure.
There are operational procedures for cleaning for waste management and for rolling control.
Great.
Before I proceed further, do they anyone have any questions on those chapters?
All right. We'll move into these next two, which are pertaining to animal welfare. So this is not a full chapter. This is actually just an article as Article 7.5 point 30 and comes from the Chapter 7.5. And that's animal welfare during slaughter.
So this is a single article because the actual chapter itself, it was actually adopted at the General Session last year and it was adopted, was adopted with the exception of this article that we're looking at now.
And the reason being was because, well, Australia had voted to adopt this chapter, China and Thailand at the time had made interventions that they didn't support. .4 of dis article. Their concerns were around parameters that recommended parameters recommended for electrical, water, bus stunning and poultry. So while Members.
Agreed to adopt the whole chapter with the exception of the cycle, and then the cycle will understate further concentration. As you know we're doing now.
So I'm under, through his consultation, the Code Commission actually looked at comments that were submitted by China.
They didn't accept these comments, so they noted that the information provided by China.
Corresponded to electrical parameters used for multiple bird autobars saying under slaughthouse conditions and these however premises were targeted towards meat cause improvements, not animal welfare considerations, so they didn't accept these comments this time around.
No substantial changes in that respect.
Umm, it's always a few editorial changes for improved readability and also clarity of the various recommendations.
So probably still worth reviewing, even if there isn't that change, because yeah, like editorial changes can often affect the way that recommendations or provisions are still interpreted.
This is chapter 7.6. It's killing for Disease Control purposes.
Is this?
This chapter was originally circulated back in 2024 February. The Code Commission circulated only the first eight articles for comment.
And this was in parallel with the relevant ad hoc group work to finalise the remaining articles, so the scope of this chapter, it's essentially all the kind of animal sort of sorry, all of the decarbonization and killing purposes outside of slaughter for food purposes.
So it covers killing of all mammal and bird species.
In any numbers from the individual to large scale. And yet, as I stated for purposes other than sort of for food.
Diversion circulated this time around. Contains all the articles of this chapter. So.
If I recall correctly, over in here, Yep, so all 32 articles.
The additions.
The additional new articles they're constituted almost entirely on articles of various methods of killing, so.
It breaks them down or into animal welfare concerns. Some animal based and other measures.
The recommendations for these killing methods and any species specific recommendations as well.
We have some past positions on this. We provided quite a few comments on this chapter and while it has also received a lot of comments for this chapter from other member countries as well. If you go on to Alex.
Three, which is the document that compiles all the responses. You'll I think you'll notice how lengthy that particular section is for this chapter.
So Yep, we'll have time. Oh, sorry. Just go back.
Thanks. So it won't be enough time today to go through all these, probably highlight a few key ones. So again, we submitted continents in the February 2024 Constitution.
Bauer agreed to add some additional text regarding appropriate animal practise, such as in chapter.
Seven point.
Sorry, some additional text regarding appropriate animal handling practises, just like in chapter 7.5 and you will find this in the within this chapter in the Article 7 point 6.9.
Dave accepted some of our comments to expand the coverage of the recommendations on captive wild animals.
To cover especially some Australian animal species that were previously left out.
They've also accepted our comment to ensure Dad texts that ensures thermal comfort and minimise handling.
Well, it has accepted our recommendation for text that's specific to Valerie Wilmos and the fact that they should be prioritised when it comes to killing of depopulation. So these some of these examples are hours that are sick animals that can't obtain food, water, shelter, young animals or pregnant animals.
Or aggressive animals as well.
And while not so that they've accepted some of our comments to recognise methods of confirming death for whole house or shed killing for poultry.
However, I actually can't see this change has been made in the actual chapter, so we'll definitely follow up on this.
This time around.
Article 7 point 6.8 includes measures to assess animal welfare at the time of killing, while has accepted our comments.
To refer to signs of killing in a separate article instead of stunning and given that yeah, given that Dalek was about killing and not study, and there's a bunch of technical changes as well that we've accepted, we've suggested the WOAH they've been accepted to various degrees. So a lot of changes in this chapter, a lot of new articles as well, I expect probably.
One of.
One to be a focus to a lot of people and a lot of other world countries.
Right. We'll go into the next one I might pause for any questions because that was a favour to take in.
Right if Kathy.

 **Gibson, Kathy**
Sorry, this might have already been covered, but if if we've already made a lot of comments on a chapter and we don't want to repeat the same comments, how will we know that those comments have already been made? Or do we just put in all of our comments and then you can just read them out afterwards?

 **He, Gary**
Yep, I mean.
Like if it if it's coming that you've made previously, then yeah, hopefully please don't make the same combination. If it's a comment that like if you're if it's comment that you're not sure whether it's been made in past by another.

 **Gibson, Kathy**
I wouldn't know.

 **He, Gary**
By another commenter within Australia, or the comments like ultimately combined into a single Australian position. So when the have you say website goes live which you will soon there will be actually a zip file.
That's just on the sidebar that contains all of Australia's past positions. Have a look into that. Yeah. And they'll contain all of our past positions. And yeah, I guess the comments that we won't want to repeat again, I said before, if the kind of caveat or the exception is if we're making the same comment again, it should be backed up with new evidence. So say this, you know the size within a certain field area has diverged since.

 **Gibson, Kathy**
OK. Thank you.

 **He, Gary**
And there's a new paper or new resources come out to support the comment.

 **Gibson, Kathy**
Thanks Gary.

 **He, Gary**
That's OK.
Chapter 810 Japanese encephalizes. So Bri mentioned before that.
While I was reviewing several chapters on equine encephalitis, so JV being one of them, that's been reviewed alongside those to ensure a consistent approach because of the extensive update that's needed. This chapters currently out.
This chapter.
That's currently out is entirely new.
Those who are familiar with the ojb version, you'll know that it's a very empty chapter. There isn't even the real case definition.
So this new chapter, the case definition, now includes Edwards sewers and wild boats.
However, worth noting that it's only the detection of JV within. So instead actually effects the JV status of a country.
Other components of this chapter, very standard for one of these. These disease specific chapters, so it's provisions around safe commodities around recovery of freedom and also on importation recommendations.
Article 810.8.
Also provides some provisions for protecting sewers from mosquito bites during the importation.
That's for this one. Let's go to the next one.
This is Tularemiabackground for this is that this is 1 dose another one of those chapters that only contains general provisions and it doesn't really have a case definition, so that's what's been provided in Delay's version or this new version.
This case definition here.
The new version also contains an article on the recovery of freedom so.
The kind of old version sort of, that's currently enforced that only contains provisions to define.
For any infected countries or zones. But now Article 4 recovery of freedom.
And we'll go to the next one.
Infection with Crimean Congo hemorrhagic fever virus. So this is a new chapter.
In in the Section 8 of the terrestrial code.
This chapter's been developed as almost like a priority because there's a recognition that this disease is a high priority to a dog disease in Asia and in Africa, so currently the Standards Commission. Sorry, the Code Commission is only focused on, again, creating a.
Base definition so that Members can better notify for this disease.
We submitted comments in the last consultation and included wording that recognises that this disease can affect sorry, infect a wide variety of vertebrates. Does include mammals, birds, reptiles. So this is this was accepted by WOAH. You can see that it's been added in. They just haven't included the kind of example of mammals, birds and reptiles again that said.
That doesn't necessarily, that doesn't affect the the actual status. The case definition still only covers ruminance dromedary camels and ostriches.
To the next one please.
This is the last one that I'll cover. This is AB and methanumovirus.
Chapter a new chapter 10 X.
So this new chapter also just provides a case definition for the disease. It will circulate once in September of 2024, but we didn't have any comments on it.
Avian methanum virus is defined only as a disease of poetry.
And this time there's some additional language that excludes vaccine strains from the case definition. There's also some there's also been an added condition that clinical science needs to be present alongside PCR detections.
But that's it for all my chapters. I'll pause for any questions on these last few chapters.
Otherwise, with the bit of time I had left, I thought well might be really useful as we go through the work programme relatively quickly.
This so while or the terrestrial code Commission.
They actually circulate their forward-looking work programme during every round of comments.
Three useful to have a look at this because it gives you an idea of the upcoming work and also what areas of work the Code Commission is prioritising.
And it's open for comments. So it means that we can comment on their work and we can actually suggest.
Any new work that we think the Commission could be should focus on, and it's actually quite a useful and.
Perhaps quite powerful thing to be able to do that, because the example was the the pathic declarity around pathogenic ages and laboratories. That was a comment that was.
That was provided by Australia actually through the work programme and they've.
Since taking them, taking it on board.
So probably several things that I could cover, but yeah, there's a lot more in the work programme, so it's worth having a look. One is that the while was looking at the relocation of the status question is so these are the questionnaires for those six officially recognised diseases.
They were originally looking to move that to the WOAH website rather than because these are more procedural.
Provisions, while it doesn't view them as international status, still hoping to move into their website. There's a fair bit of pushback from some countries we pushed back against it more, just noting that there used to be more transparency. And while we're in the process doing this should first consult with Members by providing a vision of or idea of what so looks like when it's on the website or somewhere else.
And if there's going to be a mechanism to make changes to these procedures in the future for transparency purposes so.
That's been the way then they're just exploring kind of alternatives approaches as well before they come to Members with that.
The glossary definition for poultry, the Code Commission's going to aim to develop a more simplified poetry definition that's based on our host.
And also revised chapter 10.4 to indicate the specific populations and exemption.
Had any exemptions, which concerns freedom for HPA Isas?
So the Commission will consider.
Proposed definitions from an expert group, and then they'll consider a the next meeting in September 2025 S not something that we'll see anytime soon, but is in the pipeline.
There's some new work going on for chapters around zoning, compartmentalization. They're looking to review the current chapter 4.4 and potentially put in a new one on the implementation of zoning and an ad hoc group is expected to be set up for that.
Expert conversation is also under is also ongoing for chapter 7.2 to 7.4, so these are the world animal welfare chapters for transport by land, sea and air.
And then finally, there's a Foot and mouth disease article as well, that's around the importation of foetal boviserum from countries with zones infected with for mouth disease virus so.
There's a there's a parameter in there around gamma radiation that Australia has had a bit of concerns with. We didn't think that it was.
It was sufficient to inactivate the virus in foetal Bovis serum. So while I was taking this on boards, it's not going to be circulated to start around. They're going to reconsider it for the future.
Yep, Yep. Those are just a few things that are highlighted from the work programme. Yeah, we encourage everyone to have a look at themselves.
We'll go in the next slide, please. Thank you.

**CLOSING**
So that's everything in terms of the chapters.
Now the timeline the have you say website will be opened very soon not quite now webinars today the all the pill chapters. As Bri mentioned, they'll be up for adoption at the General Session at the end of May. So reencode everyone's feedback on those even if.
It is really useful to understand major issues or anything problematic about these charges, but it's also equally useful to understand if you support these chapters because it's ultimately your feedback that we take into the General Session and it informs how we vote. So that's both positive feedback and negative feedback. But otherwise Part B chapters, they're not being adopted, so they'll be.
They'll be provided while I just had a later date, so those are due just a bit later on the 6th of June.
And they'll be provided well on the 4th of July and will look to share the Australian positions publicly soon after.
Great. That's all that I had for everyone today. Again, thank you. Thank you very much for attending and hopefully that was useful.
I'll open to everyone for any questions before I do that, I just want to check with Bri if there's anything that we missed or you wanted to add.

 **Curtis, Briallen**
That's great. We will send out an e-mail with link to the Have Your Say website. Once that consultation's open for everyone.

 **He, Gary**
Perfect. Thank you.
And thank you very much, tee.
Any questions?
Right look.

 **Curtis, Briallen**
Of course, if you think of questions in the meantime, please do send us an e-mail out of session.

 **He, Gary**
Yep.
100% yeah, you have our e-mail addresses. You have the general e-mail address there. If you have our personal work e-mail addresses. Yeah, very well to send any questions there as well.
If there are any questions for now, again, thank you all for joining.
And hope everyone has a lovely afternoon and a real lovely Easter break.

 **Hamilton, Sam**
I just want to thank you, Gary, Bri, Nanette, and also Ash, who's on leave at the moment for all your hard work coordinating while comments, I know how much work it is to get it all done in time for the General Session. I'd just like to reiterate to everyone the importance of Australia's position being representative of all of our state and territory government stakeholders. The Commonwealth Government views as industry views as well. Thanks very much everyone, and I hope you all have a happy Easter.