Annex 18

SECTION 4.

**DISEASE PREVENTION AND CONTROL**

**CHAPTER 4.X.**

**BIOSECURITY**

Article 4.X.4

Roles and responsibilities

The roles and responsibilities of different actors in *biosecurity* should be clearly defined and communicated ~~with consideration made~~and may vary depending on ~~to~~ the context (e.g. *establishment*, *compartment*, *zone*, or country ~~country,~~ *~~zone, compartment~~*~~,~~ *~~establishment~~*level), the scale and type of operations and existing public-private partnerships. Implementation of *biosecurity* requires engagement and collaboration among~~st~~ all actors involved.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Australia | **Category**: Addition  **Proposed amended text**: The roles and responsibilities of different actors in *biosecurity* should be clearly defined and communicated ~~with consideration made~~and may vary depending on ~~to~~ the context (e.g. *establishment*, *compartment*, *zone*, or country ~~country,~~ *~~zone, compartment~~*~~,~~ *~~establishment~~*level), the scale, population and/or subpopulation, and type of operations and existing public-private partnerships. Implementation of *biosecurity* requires engagement and collaboration among~~st~~ all actors involved.  **Rationale:**  Populations and their subpopulations can vary in their habitat/housing requirements, handleability, their degree of interactions with wildlife and the environment, disease susceptibility and specific welfare needs. These considerations would all have implications for biosecurity roles and responsibilities.  Whilst it could be argued that populations/subpopulations may be included broadly under “types of operation”, including it as a separate entity provides greater clarity for both terms. One population/subpopulation may be managed through different types of operations based on a specific context (e.g. within a country or zone), or throughout its lifetime (e.g. extensive on farm management, to feedlot, to abattoir). Furthermore, one type of operation could involve more than one population or subpopulation (e.g. mixed species farming enterprise, or dairy cattle herd with calves, heifers and cows). The addition of “population and/or subpopulation” means that the “type of operations” can be interpreted with a more defined scope to mean a specific farming, commercial industry or processing operation. |

Article 4.X.6.

Transmission pathways

Transmission of pathogenic agents can occur either through *animal*-to-*animal* contact without an intermediate (direct transmission), or through an intermediate such as fomites, water, *feed*, *animal products*, *germinal products*, *biological products*, humans and the relevant animal environment (indirect transmission). Transmission pathways of pathogenic agents should be assessed based on scientific evidence and considered when implementing *biosecurity* or developing a *biosecurity plan.* Transmission pathways are not mutually exclusive and include:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. Australia | **Category:** Editorial  **Proposed amended text:**  Transmission of pathogenic agents can occur either through *animal*-to-*animal* contact without an intermediate (direct transmission), or through an intermediate such as air ~~fomites,~~ water, *feed*, *animal products*, *germinal products*, *biological products*, humans and other fomites and ~~the relevant~~ animal environment (indirect transmission).  **Rationale:**  Transmission by air is a very common means of transmission and most of the others on the list are fomites. |

Article 4.X.7.

2. Components of internal biosecurity may include the following:

1. Sick *animals* should be isolated to prevent other *animals* from being exposed. Treatments should be administered ~~safely~~ to avoid iatrogenic transmission.
2. All-in all-out management should be applied, as appropriate, to all *animals* kept in the same space including cleaning and *disinfection* of the space between groups of *animals*.
3. Stocking densities that result in impaired health through increased transmission rates and higher virulence of pathogenic agents, or increased susceptibility to *infection*s, should be avoided.
4. Within the *population*, *units* with different characteristics impacting disease *risk* should be kept separately.
5. When the management of the *population* involves contact with different *units*, the workflow should be organised from the lowest to the highest risk of *infection*, considering transmission of pathogenic agents and susceptibility of the *units*. When moving between the *units*, measures to mitigate transmission of pathogenic agents should be applied.
6. Cleaning and *disinfection* of the equipment and surfaces should be applied between consecutive groups of *animals*.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. Australia | **Category:** Addition  **Proposed amended text:**  a) A surveillance plan should be in place to monitor the health of animals and to detect sick animals. It should outline the basic farm infrastructure, indicate the degree of animal observation and the famer’s ability to segregate, isolate and treat sick animals.  ~~a~~b) Sick *animals* should be isolated to prevent other *animals* from being exposed. Treatments should be administered ~~safely~~ to avoid iatrogenic transmission.  ~~b~~c) All-in all-out management should be applied, as appropriate, to all *animals* kept in the same space including cleaning and *disinfection* of the space between groups of *animals*.  ~~c~~d) Stocking densities that result in impaired health through increased transmission rates and higher virulence of pathogenic agents, or increased susceptibility to *infection*s, should be avoided.  ~~d~~e) Within the *population*, *units* with different characteristics impacting disease *risk* should be kept separately.  ~~e~~f) When the management of the *population* involves contact with different *units*, the workflow should be organised from the lowest to the highest risk of *infection*, considering transmission of pathogenic agents and susceptibility of the *units*. When moving between the *units*, measures to mitigate transmission of pathogenic agents should be applied.  ~~f~~g) Cleaning and *disinfection* of the equipment and surfaces should be applied between consecutive groups of *animals*.  **Rationale:**  Livestock husbandry varies enormously in terms of species farmed, intensity of production, farmed area, property infrastructure and hence time for detection of sick animals and the ability to observe, remove and isolate or otherwise control disease spread. If sick animals are to be isolated and treated (original paragraph a), they must first be observed and the ability to observe and so on is dependent on farm infrastructure and intensity of husbandry. It is important to capture. |