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OIE Perspective on Animal Health in the Context of KAZA TFCA

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WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH *Protecting animals, preserving our future*

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Introduction



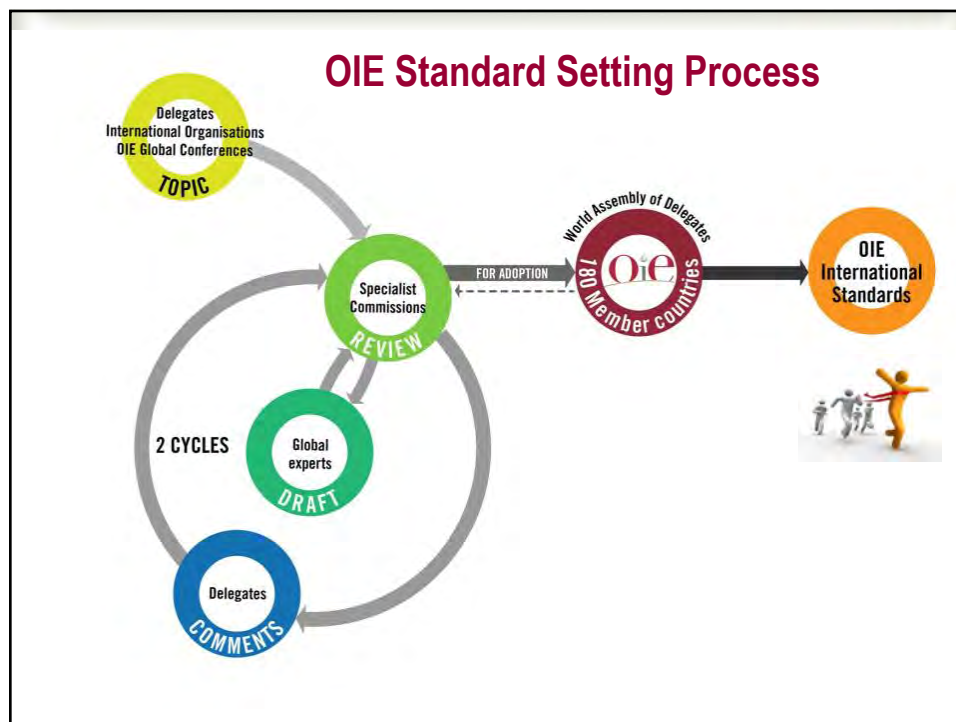
Background Information – World organisation for Animal Health (OIE)



- Formed in 1924 as the *Office International des Epizooties* (OIE) – to fight TADs (Rinderpest)
- In 2003 became the World Organisation for Animal Health, but retained acronym “OIE”
- Responsible for Animal Health, Welfare and Veterinary Public Health – **sets science based Standards for these**
- Recognised by the WTO as a reference body for this mandate
- Currently 182 member countries (**represented by their Directors responsible for animal health (Veterinary Services – OIE Delegate)**)
- Operates through a network of Regional/Sub-Regional Offices & Reference Centres (= Ref Labs + Collaborating Centres)

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OIE Standard Setting Process



Publishing OIE Standards – Codes and Manuals

CODES

- Terrestrial
- Aquatic



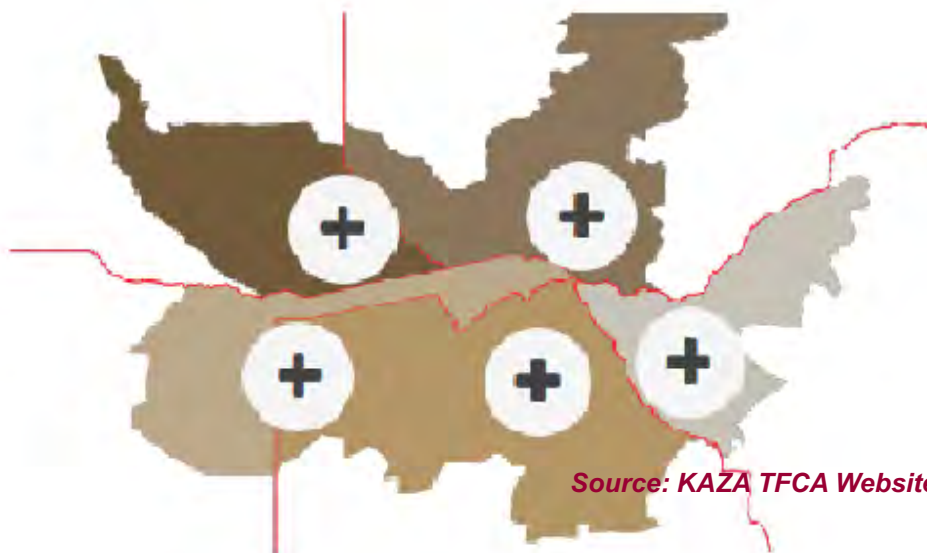
MANUALS

- Terrestrial
- Aquatic



Codes and Manuals available on the OIE website www.oie.int

Reflections on TFCAs



Source: KAZA TFCa Website

Reflections on TFCAs



- “Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCA) are defined as relatively large areas, straddling frontiers between two or more countries and cover large-scale natural systems encompassing one or more protected areas” – i.e. the opening of international boundaries and within each region. *(source:KAZA website)*
- Will require good international co-operation between the participating countries, amongst others, on issues related to animal health – both livestock and wild animals
- Free movement of wild animals
- May not be stock free – i.e. they may have livestock & people (settlements, villages, etc.) as well as wild animals

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Reflections on TFCAs



- Tendency for populations of humans and livestock to grow – leading to sharing of diseases (TADs & Zoonosis) and overstocking>>overgrazing>>erosion/degradation
- Establishment of TFCAs does not mean cessation of good management of animals (domestic and wild) – therefore Animal Health and Animal Production remain (even more) important and relevant
- Delivery of animal health services in TFCA remains a public good - so Ministries responsible for animal health should not desert TFCA as pure facilities for Ministries responsible for natural resources

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OIE perspective on TFCAs



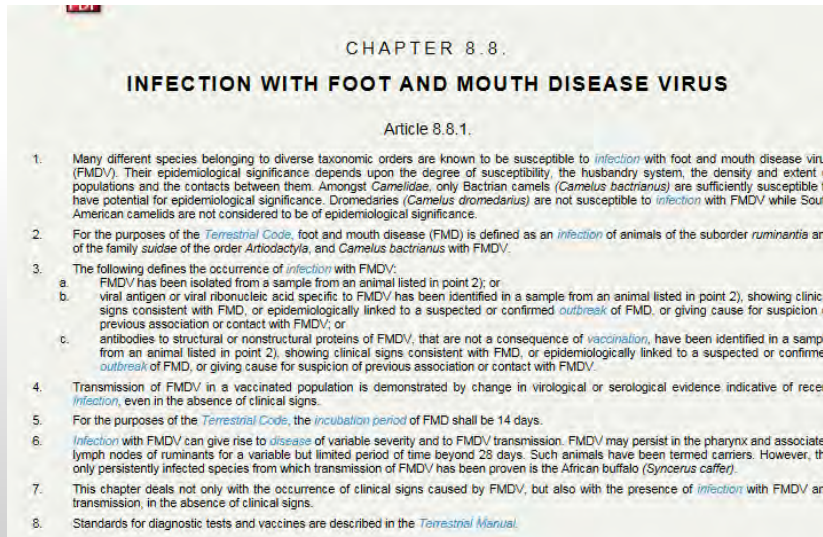
- OIE mandate (interest) is in animal (domestic or wild) health, welfare and veterinary public health – irrespective of where animal are.
- Mandate executed through implementation of Standards
- Therefore OIE Standards applies equally the same in TFCAs - *Horizontal (general provisions)* and *Disease Specific Chapters* of the Code
- Where wild and domestic, as well as humans are in close contact there may be an increased disease (including zoonosis) challenges, appropriate controls in accordance with OIE standards should be put in place (a *disease prevention and control program* is very essential)
- Where there may be a unusual animal health challenge – AH scientists need to come with innovative scientific ideas (new scientific knowledge) which can even influence OIE standards (e.g. Phakalane declaration by SADC countries)

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OIE Standards



Example of FMD



Example of FMD – Applicable OIE Tools



- FMD Control Program (Official disease control program)
- Trade in Safe Commodities
- Compartmentalisation
- Containment Zone
- Protection Zone

Official disease control program



- a programme which is approved, and managed or supervised by the Veterinary Authority of a Member Country for the purpose of controlling a vector, pathogenic agent or disease by specific measures applied throughout that Member Country, or within a zone or compartment of that Member Country.
- Simply – does national DVS know the national animal health situation in their country? – explains clearly the epidemiology of the disease and how all the risk factors, including the role of wildlife, if appropriate, are identified and managed.

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Trade in Safe Commodities - FMD (Commodity Based Trade)



- Good Livestock management
 - Separation of infected from non-infected
 - Robust vaccination regime with efficacious vaccines
 - Effective surveillance
 - Movement control
 - Quarantine
 - Thorough abattoir ante- & postmortem inspection
 - maturation
 - Deboning & Deglanding

In accordance with relevant provisions of the OIE TAHC

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Trade in Safe Commodities - FMD (Commodity Based Trade)



- Through CBT livestock within TFCAs may be traded;
 - Locally (within TFCA – hospitality industry, settlements, towns, etc..)
 - Nationally (rest of the country)
 - Regionally
 - Internationally
- Success will depend on existence and credibility of Official Disease Control Program

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Compartmentalisation



Article 8.8.4.

FMD free compartment

A FMD free *compartment* can be established in either a FMD free country or *zone* or in an infected country or *zone*. In defining such a *compartment* the principles of Chapters 4.3. and 4.4. should be followed. Susceptible animals in the FMD free *compartment* should be separated from any other susceptible animals by the application of an effective *biosecurity* management system.

A Member Country wishing to establish a FMD free *compartment* should:

1. have a record of regular and prompt animal *disease* reporting and, if not FMD free, have an *official control programme* and a *surveillance* system for FMD in place in accordance with Articles 8.8.40. to 8.8.42. that allows knowledge of the prevalence, distribution and characteristics of FMD in the country or *zone*;
2. declare for the FMD free *compartment* that:
 - a. there has been no *case* of FMD during the past 12 months;
 - b. no evidence of *infection* with FMDV has been found during the past 12 months;
 - c. *vaccination* against FMD is prohibited;
 - d. no animal vaccinated against FMD within the past 12 months is in the *compartment*;
 - e. animals, semen, embryos and animal products may only enter the *compartment* in accordance with relevant articles in this chapter;
 - f. documented evidence shows that *surveillance* in accordance with Articles 8.8.40. to 8.8.42. is in operation;
 - g. an *animal identification* and *traceability* system in accordance with Chapters 4.1. and 4.2. is in place;
3. describe in detail:
 - a. the animal *subpopulation* in the *compartment*;
 - b. the *biosecurity plan* to mitigate the risks identified by the *surveillance* carried out in accordance with point 1).

The *compartment* should be approved by the *Veterinary Authority*. The first approval should only be granted when no *case* of FMD has occurred within a ten-kilometre radius of the *compartment* during the past three months.

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Protection Zone & Containment Zone



- **Containment Zone (Article 8.8.6.)** - a defined zone around and including suspected or infected establishments, taking into account the epidemiological factors and results of investigations, where control measures to prevent the spread of the infection are applied.
- **Protection Zone (Article 4.3.3.)** - a zone established to protect the health status of animals in a free country or free zone, from those in a country or zone of a different animal health status, using measures based on the epidemiology of the disease under consideration to prevent spread of the causative pathogenic agent into a free country or free zone. These measures may include, but are not limited to, vaccination, movement control and an intensified degree of surveillance.

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Protection Zone & Containment Zone



Principles for defining and establishing a zone or compartment, including zones

The extent of a zone and its geographical limits should be established by the Member boundaries, and made public through official channels.

A protection zone may be established to preserve the health status of animals in a free country or zone, from those in a country or zone of a different animal health status. Measures should be implemented based on the epidemiology of the disease under consideration to prevent spread of the causative pathogenic agent into a free country or free zone. These measures may include, but are not limited to, vaccination, movement control and an intensified degree of surveillance.

Article 4.3.3.

Establishment of a containment zone within a FMD free country or zone

In the event of limited outbreaks within a FMD free country or zone, including within a protection zone, with or without vaccination, a single containment zone, which includes all outbreaks, may be established for the purpose of minimising the impact on the entire country or zone.

For this to be achieved and for the Member Country to take full advantage of the process, the Veterinary Authority should submit as soon as possible to the OIE, in support of the application, documented evidence that:

1. on suspicion, a strict standstill has been imposed on the movement of susceptible animals and the movement controls have been imposed and effective control on the movement of other commodities mentioned in this chapter are in place;
2. on confirmation, an additional band of susceptible animals has been imposed in the entire containment zone and the movement controls have been reinforced;
3. the definitive boundaries of the containment zone have been established after an epidemiological investigation (back-back, trace-forward) has demonstrated that the outbreak is epidemiologically related and limited in number and geographic distribution;
4. a stamping-out policy, with or without the use of emergency vaccination, has been applied;
5. no new cases have been found in the containment zone within a minimum of two incubation periods as defined in Article 8.8.1 after the application of a stamping-out policy to the last detected case;
6. the susceptible domestic and captive wild animal populations within the containment zone are clearly identified as belonging to the containment zone;
7. surveillance in accordance with Article 8.8.40 to 8.8.42, is in place in the containment zone and in the rest of the country or zone, taking into consideration physical and geographical factors;
8. measures that prevent the spread of FMDV to the rest of the country or zone, taking into consideration physical and geographical factors, are in place;
9. the free status of the areas outside the containment zone is being established. The free status of the areas shall be re-evaluated in accordance with the provisions of Article 8.8.1, once the containment zone has been approved by the OIE as a zone of a different animal health status.

In the event of recurrence of infection with FMDV in unvaccinated animals or FMDV transmission in vaccinated animals in the containment zone, the containment zone shall be re-established as a zone of a different animal health status.

The recovery of the FMD free status of the containment zone should be achieved within 12 months of its approval and follow-up.

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Conclusion

- OIE Standards are available to assist management of animal health challenges in a TFCA setting
- Emergence of new scientific information needed to improve standards

Thank you for your attention



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