

The Principles for the Recognition of Infectious Animal Disease -Free Status of a Foreign Country by Zoning Focused on Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) , Newcastle Disease (ND), or Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Where Vaccination Is Not Practiced

Point 1 Definition

- 1.1 Zoning: According to Chapter 4.4 of the “Terrestrial Animal Health Code” of the World Organisation for Animal Health (hereinafter as the **WOAH** Code), the extent of a zone and its geographical limits should be established by the Veterinary Authority on the basis of natural, artificial or legal boundaries in order to separate animal subpopulations of distinct health status.
- 1.2 Infectious animal diseases: Infectious animal diseases in the Principles refer to highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI), Newcastle disease (ND) and foot and mouth disease (FMD) free status where vaccination is not practiced.
- 1.3 The administrative division: The administrative division refers to the subnational entity designated by the applicant country based on its laws and decrees for the purpose of administration. Overseas territories, dependencies and autonomies are excluded.
- 1.4 The control unit: Based on the Principles that the control unit of the applicant country must have a permanent veterinary authority supervised by the central competent authority (CCA) in charge of veterinary affairs, and the permanent veterinary authority is the highest administrative division that can effectively implement animal disease prevention and control measures. Second tier of the administrative division can be used as a control unit after being evaluated and approved by the **Animal and Plant Health Inspection Agency** (hereinafter as “**APHIA**”).
 - 1.4.1 The control range of the affected zone shall comply with Point 3

of the Principles.

- 1.4.2 The adjustment of the control unit shall comply with Point 5 and Point 6 of the Principles.

Point 2

- 2.1 If the applicant country complies with the criteria established in Chapters 10.4, 10.9 and 8.8 of the **WOAH** Code and the conditions of zoning, the applicant country can apply for the zoning recognition of infectious animal disease-free status based on the “Procedure for the Recognition of **Infectious Animal** Disease-Free Status of a Foreign Country (**Zone**)” to **APHIA**. The recognition may be established after approval is granted.
- 2.2 The CCA in charge of veterinary affairs of the applicant country shall submit the dossiers and relevant documents to **APHIA** for review.
- 2.3 After **APHIA** completes the risk assessment process, one of the following actions will be conducted:
 - 2.3.1 Reject the application with the list of the facts leading to such a decision;
 - 2.3.2 Reprocess the risk assessment after the requested supplementary documents are provided by the applicant country;
 - 2.3.3 Approve the recognition when the risk assessment result is accepted and the applicant country agrees to comply with the requirements as stated in Point 3.

Point 3

- 3.1 If an outbreak of an infectious animal disease occurs within the control unit of the zoning-recognized country after acceptance and verification based on the Principles, the following measures shall be complied with and implemented by the CCA of the zoning-recognized country:

- 3.1.1 The affected premise(s) and in control unit within a 10 kilometer radius from the affected premise(s) are designated as the infected zone. Live animals and animal products susceptible to infectious animal diseases in the zones are suspended for export to Taiwan.
- 3.1.2 The CCA in charge of veterinary affairs of the zoning-recognized country shall notify APHIA with an official letter as soon as possible, and no later than 72 hours following confirmation of the outbreak. The letter shall include the following information for APHIA's review: etiology of the infectious animal disease (HPAI subtype or FMD serotype shall be specified), outbreak location, date of confirmation, map of the 10 kilometer radius control zones around the affected premises reflecting the control unit, and control measures (movement control, stamping out or slaughtering, and other preventive measures).

Point 4

The zoning-recognized country may submit the dossier with relevant documents (each control unit shall submit one application dossier **in principle**) for recovering the zoning recognition application based on the "Procedure for the Recognition of **Infectious Animal** Disease-Free Status of a Foreign Country (**Zone**)" once termination of the outbreak has been confirmed and the criteria listed in the **WOAH** Code has been fulfilled.

Point 5

The zoning-recognized country may submit the request to the CCA of Taiwan for adjusting the level of the control unit from the highest administrative division into a secondary division after a certain period of time of its implementation through bilateral consultation(s).

Point 6

- 6.1 APHIA reserves the right to revoke the recognition or adjust the control unit to the whole country when the zoning-recognized country fails to notify APHIA within 72 hours after confirmation of the outbreak or there is a lack of sufficient information requested in accordance with Point 3.
- 6.2 For a country which has its recognition revoked by APHIA, APHIA reserves the right to deny future application for the recognition of infectious animal diseases-free by zoning within 5 years from the date of revoking.

Point 7

Applicant countries that have signed a bilateral agreement for the mutual recognition of the zoning principle with Taiwan are excluded from the Principles.