

codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
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Agenda Item 3

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**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME
CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD IMPORT AND EXPORT INSPECTION
AND CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS**

Seventeenth Session

Cebu, Philippines, 24-28 November 2008

**REPORT ON ACTIVITIES OF FAO, WHO AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
RELEVANT TO THE WORK OF CCFICS**

FAO

ACTIVITIES OF FAO FOOD QUALITY AND STANDARDS SERVICE

FAO's Food Quality and Standards Service is involved in a wide range of activities and programmes to meet the challenges that many member countries face in order to effectively regulate food imports and to meet the requirements of export markets. FAO continues to support governments and food enterprises to become more competitive in international trading markets, and promote economic development through increased food and agricultural exports through:

- Policy advice on specific issues related to food safety and trade;
- Harmonization of food regulations and standards with Codex and other international and regional regulatory instruments;
- Seminars and workshops to raise awareness and knowledge among officials in government agencies and the private sector about the importance of food quality and safety for food trade and economic development;
- Support to upgrade the capacity of food analysis laboratories and inspection services so that they meet Codex standards, conform to accreditation requirements, and/or comply with other relevant international and regional trade agreements;
- Assistance to food enterprises and exporters to obtain accreditation of their quality assurance and HACCP systems;
- Studies and applied research on specific subjects related to food safety and trade.

FAO GLOBAL TOOLS

FAO published 'Risk-based food inspection manual' which introduces a risk-based inspection approach and procedures for primary production operations and food processing establishments. The publication is currently in English but it will be available in French and Spanish in winter 2008.

'Guidelines for risk-based fish inspection' which provides technical information to support fish inspection systems is currently under development. This publication is a separate chapter of the above mentioned 'Risk-based food inspection manual' to cover fisheries products. The publication will be available in early 2009 in English, French and Spanish.

FAO and WHO are at an advanced stage of the development of Guidelines for national food safety emergency response planning. These guidelines refer to and are consistent with Codex Principles and guidelines for the exchange of information in food safety emergencies (CAC/GL 19-1995, Rev. 1-2004) developed within CCFICS.

FAO GLOBAL ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS

FAO participated in the China International Food Safety & Quality Conference & Expo 2008 which was attended by more than 500 food safety experts from around the world. Two presentations entitled “FAO’s Strategy on Food Chain Approach to Food Safety and Quality” and “Modern principles of food inspection – The role of FAO in building capacity in Asia and the Pacific” respectively were delivered at the conference. The presentations promoted the food chain approach to food safety and quality and the risk based principles of food inspection.

FAO REGIONAL AND NATIONAL PROJECTS

Asia

1. Enhancing food safety by strengthening food inspection systems in ASEAN countries

In the ASEAN countries FAO is currently implementing the project GCP/RAS/222/JPN “Enhancing food safety by strengthening food inspection systems in ASEAN countries”. The objectives of the project are to 1) strengthening food safety conditions in ASEAN countries, 2) improving systems of food inspection in ASEAN countries covering domestically produced food as well as food import and export control and 3) strengthening collaboration and recognition of inspection and certification systems throughout the ASEAN region.

In 2008 two training workshops were conducted under this project.

- “Modern principles for food inspection and certification” (April 2008): The purpose of the workshop was to 1) enhance the understanding of food safety issues including international requirements for food safety and the relationship between food inspection, food analysis and certification, 2) provide situation analysis of food inspection systems in selected ASEAN countries and 3) identify capacity building needs and priorities for follow-up assistance in the area of food inspection. The second workshop entitled
- “Good Manufacturing Practices Inspection – Principles and Practices” (October 2008): The general objective of this training workshop was to train food inspectors working in government food control institutions on the principles and practices of GMP inspection. The specific objectives were to disseminate information about the principles of GMP inspection, to exchange information about GMP schemes and GMP inspection in ASEAN countries, to discuss opportunities and constraints for GMP inspection in ASEAN countries and to discuss how a regional GMP scheme can be developed. Forthcoming activities under this project include a regional workshop on import and export inspection and certification and preparation of guidance documents to facilitate adoption of risk based food inspection systems in ASEAN countries.

2. Strengthening the capacity of government officials responsible for food safety, animal and plant health, and agricultural trade in Nepal to effectively implement SPS measures and related trade obligations

FAO is implementing the project MTF/NEP/060/STF “Strengthening the capacity of government officials responsible for food safety, animal and plant health, and agricultural trade in Nepal to effectively implement SPS measures and related trade obligations”. The overall objective of the project is to reduce food safety risks for domestic consumers in Nepal, enhance the protection of animals and plants and promote economic development through increased food and agricultural exports that meet international SPS requirements.

3. Strengthening Compliance of the SPS requirements for Expanded Export of Fresh and Processed Fruits and Vegetables

FAO implemented the project TCP/THA/3104 which is the second phase of TCP/THA/2903 “Strengthening Compliance of the SPS requirements for Expanded Export of Fresh and Processed Fruits and Vegetables”. One of the activities completed under this project in 2008 was the development of an inspection manual for fresh and processed fruits and vegetables. The manual is targeting inspectors responsible for inspection of fresh and processed fruits and vegetables prior to export. Another activity completed in 2008 was the

development of a website with relevant information about requirements and procedures for export of fresh and processed fruits and vegetables and standards and requirements at the main export markets for Thai fruits and vegetables.

4. Improving food safety, quality and food control in Bangladesh

FAO will implement the project “Improving Food Safety, Quality and Food Control in Bangladesh” in 2009 in close collaboration between FAO and WHO. The Impact and outcome of this project is improved consumer health in Bangladesh and reduced incidence of food-borne illness within the population and strengthened food safety, quality and hygiene control and prevention of food-borne illness in Bangladesh respectively. One of the four outputs of the project is strengthened food inspection and enforcement services in Bangladesh. This will be achieved through the development and implementation of risk-based inspection programmes, implemented by properly trained, resourced and supervised food and sanitary inspectors.

5. Modern Quality Control and Inspection System for Food Products

FAO was involved in the workshop “Modern Quality Control and Inspection System for Food Products” organised by Asian Productivity Organisation (APO) in December 2007. The aim of the workshop were to 1) review recent developments in quality control and inspection systems applied in the food sector in Asia, 2) study advanced quality control and inspection systems for food products in Japan and 3) to identify strategic measures for strengthening national food control systems for developing reliable, safe and green food supply chains. FAO’s participation in the workshop contributed to the promotion of aspects of risk analysis and principles of modern risk based food inspection systems in Asia.

6. Improving Food safety and its management in Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam (GCP/RAS/207/NZE)

This NZ-Aid funded project started in 2005 and is expected to be extended to mid-2009. The project aims at broad improvements to the systems of food safety management in Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam. The project has included technical assistance to the competent authorities on various aspects of the management of food inspection services and the legal framework for food inspection. Remaining activities under the project include training in inspection techniques and provision of limited food inspection equipment.

Another activity under the project that is directly related to the work of CCFICS is technical assistance for the development of National food safety emergency plans. National roundtables meetings have been held, inter-ministerial task forces have been established, and a work plan agreed for the completion of the plan. Further assistance is envisaged under the project to ensure the completion of the National plans. The project has also included a series of three national risk analysis training courses. Such training strengthens the capacity of food safety authorities to make sound judgement of food safety risks and to use this information in the planning of food inspection programmes.

Pacific

FAO will conduct a training course on imported food control for Pacific island countries (PICs) in early 2009. The training will be provided under the Regional Trade Facilitation Programme, Standards and Conformance Component, being implemented by WHO and FAO on behalf of the Pacific Island Forum Secretariat. Participants are expected to be drawn from Cook Islands, Fiji, FSM, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu.

Key aim is to strengthen the capacity of PICs to consistently conduct imported food control programmes and export control and certification programmes. The food control authorities will be trained in 1) risk-based imported food control planning, monitoring and evaluation, 2) imported food inspection practices in the field, 3) training and guidance methods to ensure national consistency in import inspection and reporting procedures, and 4) procedures to be employed prior to the provision of export certifications.

Latin America and Caribbean

1. Equivalence of sanitary measures and food control system

A workshop on Determination of Equivalence of Sanitary Measures and Food Control Systems, organized by FAO and the National Codex Committee was held in Lima, Perú on 10 – 12 September 2008. Participants were from Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture (SENASA) and Ministry of Production (Fisheries), Local governments, consumer associations, Andean Community, INDECOPI, and the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade and Tourism, among other institutions.

2. *Food inspection*

The workshop presented the sanitary and phytosanitary measures and agreements that are being implemented in their country and authorities and experts in the field of food safety presented case studies and local experiences on meeting these equivalence requirements.

A regional workshop on Risk-based Inspection previous to the 16th Meeting of the Codex Coordinating Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean (CCLAC) was held on 9 November 2008, in Acapulco, Mexico. FAO organized this meeting in collaboration with the PAHO/WHO and the Coordinator of the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Mexican Ministry of Economy. The purpose of this workshop was to provide information and the latest advances on food inspection systems, and their relevance to food safety and trade. International and local case studies were used to demonstrate their application in a regional context and the sharing of successful experiences with other participants that contribute towards improving national strategies, priorities, and performances in food control and mutual recognition of the inspection systems. This workshop also contributed to increase participation of Latin America and Caribbean delegates in the Regional Codex Coordinating Committee meeting.

An FAO Workshop on Inspection and Sampling for Mycotoxin was held in conjunction with the INFAL/RILAA Assembly on 27-30 October 2008, Panama City. The new FAO video on sampling guidelines and methods for mycotoxins was demonstrated and a round table discussed the new international standards and recently approved maximum limits for mycotoxins which include sampling specifications.

3. *Private standards*

An FAO Regional seminar on Private Standards for Plant and Animal Health and Food Safety – The necessity of a regional action to promote public goods, was held on 3-5 September 2008, in Santiago, Chile. The relationships of national laws in areas considered as public property - animal health, plant and food safety, for ensuring compliance with international standards, as per commitments made in the multilateral fields, and the new proliferation of private standards were discussed. Main conclusions of this seminar were that countries have the responsibility to supervise that private protocols fulfil the official national and international regulations; that governments should provide a legal framework to control the operation of the private certifying companies, national and international; foster private-public dialogues with the international reference organizations; strengthen the sanitary services and national phytosanitary capacities for the application of the sanitary and phytosanitary standards.

Europe

Food safety capacity building FAO is implementing the project TCP/RER/3201, which is the phase II of the project TCP/PER/3003, entitled “Food safety capacity building” in the Europe region especially in Armenia and Georgia. The overall objective of the project is to contribute to food security and support economic development of the rural communities in both countries by improving the performance of national food control programmes. The immediate objectives are to strengthen the priority components for strategic planning and coordination of food control activities, harmonization of food standards, inspection programmes and laboratory networks, and quality assurance programmes.

The Project Component on GHP, HACCP, food inspection include:

- 5-day training course on good hygiene practices, and HACCP: the topics include microbiology and chemical contaminants, GHPs, Practical introduction to HACCP principles and HACCP-based approaches and food inspection.
- 4-day training course on food inspection - detail on inspection practices: the topics include basis required in law, carrying out an inspection, risk-based approach to planning and monitoring inspection programmes.

Africa

1. *Strengthening of the National Codex Committee and Food Control System in Angola*

FAO is implementing the project TCP/ANG/3104 entitled “Renforcement du Comité national pour le Codex Alimentarius et du système de contrôle des aliments”. While major activities centered about the procedures of work of the National Codex Committee and review of food safety regulations, training will be provided to

the management staff of the food inspection services on how to use risk analysis as a decision tool to develop risk based strategies for inspection. Inspection procedures will also be reviewed in line with the CCFICS guidelines. The project was initiated in July 2008 for 2 years.

2. *Support the setting up of a National Codex Committee and the Strengthening of the Codex Contact Point in Guinea*

FAO is implementing the project TCP/GUI/3202 entitled “Appui à la création du Comité national du Codex Alimentarius et au renforcement du Service central de liaison du Codex Alimentarius”. While the core project activities centered around setting up a national codex committee and defining its procedures of work, as well as strengthening the participation of Guinea in CAC's work, policy advice and training will be provided to the management staff of the food inspection services on how to use risk analysis as a decision tool to develop risk based strategies for inspection. Inspection procedures will also be reviewed in line with the CCFICS guidelines. Activities will start at the end of 2008 and will continue for 2 years.

3. *Strengthening the capacities of the National Codex Committee in Côte d'Ivoire*

FAO is implementing the project TCP/IVC/3201 entitled “Renforcement des capacités du Comité national du Codex Alimentarius”. In addition to the main project activities focusing on strengthening the capacities of the national codex committee members and proposing a organizational setting for the committee, as well as strengthening the participation of Cote d'Ivoire in the CAC's work, policy advice and training will be provided to the management staff of the food inspection services on how to use risk analysis as a decision tool to develop risk based strategies for inspection. Inspection procedures will also be reviewed in line with the CCFICS guidelines. Activities will start end of 2008, and will continue over 2009

4. *Regional training of chief inspectors over the UEMOA region (participating countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Togo, Guinee Bissau, Cote d'Ivoire)*

FAO is implementing the project UTF/UEM/001/UEM entitled “Regional training of chief inspectors over the UEMOA region (participating countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Togo, Guinee Bissau, Cote d'Ivoire)” to update and harmonize principles and methods of inspection over the region taking into account the free trade zone and common procedures at borders. Guidelines for gathering preliminary data to start building risk based monitoring plans were provided. Mali is the process of implementing this preliminary survey.

5. *Monitoring and Control Strategy for Food Quality in the Democratic Republic of the Congo*

FAO has implemented the project TCP/DRC/3002 entitled “Stratégie de contrôle et de surveillance de la qualité des aliments en République démocratique du Congo”. The activities included policy and organizational advice on food control management, review and draft of a food law and regulations, as well as support to the analytical testing capacities in place; a special focus was however provided with regard to inspection capacities through as series of training courses, at central (Kinshasa and provincial level) from November 2006 to January 2007, allowing to training 62 inspectors. An inspection manual was prepared allowing them to refer to specific inspection procedures to ensure a systematic approach throughout the country.

6. *Risk-based food inspection trainings in Tanzania under “One UN Joint Programme”*

FAO is implementing a series of training courses focusing on the modern framework of risk-based food inspection in Tanzania under the umbrella of One UN Joint Programme objective 1 (JP1), component 3. The initial inspection training will target senior officers of national stakeholders in the field of food inspection, disseminating the idea of risk-based inspection framework. Following this initial training course, number of hands-on training workshops will be held in several regions in the country. The activities are to take place in early 2009.

7. *Strengthening Food Safety in Botswana*

FAO is implementing the project TCP/BOT/3101 (A) entitled “ Strengthening Food Safety in Botswana »

The project started on My 2006 and will end on December 2008. The objective of the project is to assist the country in strengthening its food control system in order to improve consumer protection by ensuring the safety and quality of the food supply, be it domestically produced or imported food.

WHO**The International Food Safety Authorities Network INFOSAN**

WHO, in collaboration with FAO and other stakeholders, continues to maintain and strengthen INFOSAN. 167 countries¹ are members of INFOSAN, involving over 360 INFOSAN Focal Points and INFOSAN Emergency Contact Points² in national governments.

INFOSAN continues to be advised on its strategic functions by an external advisory group made up of experts from national food safety authorities from across the globe.

During the past year, as part of INFOSAN's information sharing activities, INFOSAN Information Notes³ continue to be published in six languages to provide information on emergent and topical food safety issues.

With regard to the food safety incident and emergency section of INFOSAN, on average, 200 food safety events per month are assessed to determine their public health impact, including events of unusual or unexpected natures, distribution, and possible trade restrictions. Over 16 INFOSAN Emergency Alerts, regarding food contamination and foodborne disease events of international concern, were disseminated to affected countries in 2007. INFOSAN Emergency, in collaboration with other partners also provides technical assistance to countries during food safety emergencies as required.

A test to determine the response time of the INFOSAN Emergency Contact Points was undertaken in May 2008. Of all the INFOSAN Emergency Contact Points, roughly 20% on the first run and another 13% on the second run, a few days later responded within the deadline. This is a poorer response than the previous test, possibly a reflection of the introduction of the secure website which is used during tests and alerts. INFOSAN Emergency Contact Points are requested to ensure that they can respond to urgent messages from INFOSAN and to learn to use the secure website prior to an actual food safety emergency.

With the introduction of the International Health Regulations (2005) (IHR(2005)) in 2007, INFOSAN Emergency now also operates under this umbrella and facilitates the identification, assessment and management of food safety events under these regulations⁴. A recent paper published in the Journal of Emerging Infectious Disease⁵ demonstrates the critical role of INFOSAN Emergency with regard to the IHR(2005). The article reviewed outbreaks in Australia between 2001–2007 that implicated internationally distributed foods. The authors found that 7 (50%) of 14 outbreaks would have required notification under IHR (2005).

To promote seamless action throughout the food chain continuum, INFOSAN and the Global Early Warning System for Major Animal Diseases, including Zoonoses (GLEWS) have strengthened its information sharing processes⁶.

A secure website was developed during 2007 for the INFOSAN members to promote multilateral communication and to increase the security of information provided in INFOSAN Emergency Alerts.

The Beijing Declaration was adopted by more than 50 countries and international organizations in November 2007. Among other recommendations, the declaration urges all countries to actively participate in the

¹ Countries who are part of INFOSAN are listed at: http://www.who.int/foodsafety/fs_management/countries_en.pdf

² WHO maintains the list of INFOSAN Emergency Contact Points in response to a number of requests, including CAC/GL 19-1995, Rev.1-2004)

³ All INFOSAN Information Notes are available at: http://www.who.int/foodsafety/fs_management/infosan_archives/en

⁴ Further information on INFOSAN and IHR(2005) see: INFOSAN Information Note No. 4/2007 "The identification, assessment and management of food safety events under the International Health Regulations (2005) available at: www.who.int/foodsafety/fs_management/infosan_archives/en/index.html

⁵ Kirk M, Musto J, Gregory J, Fullerton K. Obligations to report outbreaks of foodborne disease under the International Health Regulations (2005). Emerg Infect Dis [serial on the Internet]. 2008 Sept [22 September 2008]. Available from <http://www.cdc.gov/EID/content/14/9/1440.htm>

⁶ GLEWS is a confidential early warning network of the World Health Organization (WHO), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) to track, verify and analyse transboundary zoonotic diseases. This network brings the expertise of three different organizations together to maximize prevention and control of zoonotic diseases. <http://www.who.int/zoonoses/outbreaks/glews/en/index.html>

International Food Safety Authorities Network (INFOSAN) to share information on emerging food safety issues and experience about best practices.⁷

The INFOSAN strategic plan is being finalized and will be made available following the INFOSAN advisory committee meeting in November 2008. A two year work plan will also be developed at this meeting.

One of the main future areas of work will be to concentrate on capacity building at country level to strengthen the INFOSAN network and to meet core capacities obligations under the [International Health Regulations \(IHR \(2005\)\)](#) relating to food safety. To assist with this, FAO and WHO are developing the following guidelines: a) Food safety emergency response, b) Food recall systems, c) Food complaint systems and d) Risk assessment and risk management for urgent food safety events.

The INFOSAN Users Guide will also be reviewed during the coming year. As part of this review an INFOSAN notification form will be developed based on CCFIC agreed text and other forms already in use.

WTO

ACTIVITIES OF THE WTO SPS COMMITTEE DURING 2008

Report by the WTO Secretariat⁸

This report to the 17th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS) provides a summary of the activities and decisions of the WTO Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (the "SPS Committee") during 2008. It highlights the work that may be of most relevance to CCFICs.

The SPS Committee held three regular meetings in 2008: 2-3 April; 24-25 June; and 8-9 October.⁹ At the April meeting, Mr. Marinus Huige of the Netherlands was re-appointed Chairperson for the 2008-2009 period.

At its meeting of 2-3 April, the Committee adopted, on an ad referendum basis, revised recommended procedures for transparency (G/SPS/7/Rev.3). This decision was confirmed on 31 May 2008. The new procedures, *inter alia*, clarify the definition of the comment period, encourage the notification of measures conforming to international standards, request inclusion of HS codes in notifications, and provide links for access to full texts of regulations and their translations. New notification formats were adopted, which will be used as of 1 December 2008.¹⁰

Specific trade concerns

The SPS Committee devotes a large portion of each regular meeting to the consideration of specific trade concerns. Any WTO Member can raise specific concerns about the food safety, plant or animal health requirements imposed by another WTO Member. Issues raised in this context are usually related to the notification of a new or changed measure, or based on the experience of exporters. Often other countries will share the same concerns. At the SPS Committee meetings, Members usually commit themselves to exchange information and hold bilateral consultations to resolve the identified concern.

⁷ For more information see: http://www.who.int/foodsafety/fs_management/meetings/forum07/en/index.html

⁸ This report has been prepared under the WTO Secretariat's own responsibility and is without prejudice to the positions of WTO Members or to their rights or obligations under the WTO.

⁹ The report of the April meeting is contained in G/SPS/R/49, that of the June meeting in G/SPS/R/51, and the report of the October meeting will be circulated as G/SPS/R/53.

¹⁰ G/SPS/GEN/747, G/SPS/GEN/777, G/SPS/GEN/809, G/SPS/GEN/825, G/SPS/GEN/828.

A summary of the specific trade concerns raised in meetings of the SPS Committee is compiled on an annual basis by the WTO Secretariat.¹¹ Altogether, 261 specific trade concerns were raised between 1995 and the end of 2007. One hundred of these issues related at least in part to food safety.

Thirteen new specific trade concerns were raised during 2008, ten previously raised concerns were again discussed, and four concerns were reported to have been resolved. The following food safety issues were raised for the first time in 2008:

- Ecuador's concerns regarding modification of the EC maximum residue levels of Ethephon in pineapple;
- Brazil's concerns regarding Malaysia's price list for reimbursement of expenses for inspection missions.
- EC concerns regarding requirements by certain governments for diplomatic ratification of sanitary and phytosanitary certificates;
- US concerns regarding Japan's enforcement of regulations on maximum residue levels
- Senegal's concerns regarding EC restrictions on mango exports due to alleged pesticide residues;
- US concerns with Chinese Taipei's maximum residue levels for ractopamine in pork products;
- Ecuador's concerns about the failure of the European Communities to establish tolerance levels for residues of various pesticides used in cacao.

Issues relating to food safety that had been previously raised and were discussed again in 2008 included:

- US concerns regarding El Salvador's zero tolerance for salmonella in poultry and eggs
- Colombia's, Ecuador's, and Peru's concerns on the application and modification of the EC regulation on novel foods and its effects on traditional foods;
- US concerns regarding the EC's restrictions on US poultry exports due to use of antimicrobial treatments;
- China's concerns regarding EC restrictions on cooked poultry products due to avian influenza and hygiene issues;
- EC concerns regarding restrictions imposed on meat exports for BSE-related reasons;
- Canada's .concerns regarding Greek inspection of grain imports for the presence of GM wheat.

At the SPS Committee meeting in October, China's concerns regarding EC restrictions on cooked poultry products due to avian influenza and hygiene issues was reported to have been resolved.

Several of the specific issues raised in the SPS Committee relate to issues under consideration by CCFICs, such as the costs of foreign on-site audits and inspections; the acceptance of health certificates; and the operation of national food inspection systems.

Equivalence

In July 2004, the SPS Committee completed its work on guidelines on the implementation of Article 4 of the SPS Agreement on equivalence in response to concerns raised by developing countries.¹² The Decision on Equivalence adopted by the SPS Committee notes, *inter alia*, the work on recognition of equivalence undertaken in the Codex, the OIE and the IPPC, and requests the further elaboration of specific guidance by these organizations to ensure that such recognition is maintained. Equivalence remains a standing agenda item of the Committee.

The Decision on Equivalence adopted by the SPS Committee also encourages the parties to such agreements to inform the SPS Committee. Only two notifications of recognition of equivalence have been provided to date. In August 2007, Panama notified that as of February 2007 it had recognized the equivalence of US sanitary and phytosanitary systems and other related regulatory systems for meat (including but not restricted

¹¹ The latest version of this summary can be found in document G/SPS/GEN/204/Rev.8 and addenda. This document is a public document available from <http://docsonline.wto.org>. Specific Trade concerns can also be searched using the SPS Information Management System available at <http://spsims.wto.org/>.

¹² G/SPS/19/Rev.2.

to meat of bovine animals and swine), poultry and poultry products, and all other processed products (including but not restricted to milk products) for human or animal consumption.

In June 2008, the Dominican Republic notified that since November 2006 it had recognized the equivalence of USDA inspection system for products and by-products of bovine animals, swine and poultry.

The Codex representative has provided regular updates to the SPS Committee on Codex work in this regard, and in particular the work of the CCFICs.

Transparency

Since June 2007, a new information management system (SPS-IMS) was made public that allows easier management of all WTO SPS-related documentation. It is available at <http://spsims.wto.org/>.

At its meeting in April, the SPS Committee adopted, on an ad referendum basis, revised recommended procedures for transparency (G/SPS/7/Rev.3). This decision was confirmed on 31 May 2008. The new procedures, *inter alia*, clarify the definition of the comment period, request inclusion of tariff identification codes in notifications, and provide links for access to full texts of regulations and their translations.

Most importantly, the new recommendations encourage the notification of measures even when these are based on international standards. The legal obligation of WTO Members is to notify new or modified SPS measures when these are not based on or deviate from the relevant international standard, including the Codex standards for food safety. Although the new recommendation by the SPS Committee cannot change the legal obligation of WTO Members, it is expected that many Members will begin to notify all of their measures, thus providing useful information regarding the application of Codex food safety standards.

The new SPS notification formats will be used as of 1 December 2008.

Monitoring the Use of International Standards

The procedure adopted by the SPS Committee to monitor the use of international standards invites countries to identify specific trade problems they have experienced due to the use or non-use of relevant international standards, guidelines or recommendations.¹³ These problems, once considered by the SPS Committee, are drawn to the attention of the relevant standard-setting body.

In June 2008 the Committee adopted the Tenth Annual Report on the procedure to monitor the use of international standards.¹⁴ Several Members have suggested that this procedure may need to be revised in the future, in light of information that may be provided through the modified notification procedures regarding the use of international standards.

Review of the Operation and Implementation of the SPS Agreement

Article 12.7 of the SPS Agreement indicates that the SPS Committee should review the operation and implementation of the Agreement three years after its entry into force, and thereafter as appropriate. A First Review of the Agreement was completed in March 1999. At the Fourth Session of the Ministerial Conference in 2001, Ministers instructed the Committee to undertake this review at least once every four years. The SPS Committee adopted the Report on the Second Review of the Operation of the SPS Agreement in June 2005.¹⁵ At its meeting in October 2008, the SPS Committee agreed on the procedure for undertaking the Third Review, to be completed in 2009.

The second review report covered a wide number of areas related to implementation of the Agreement. For example, it recommended that the relevant international organizations keep the Committee informed of any work they undertake with regard to the recognition of equivalence, as well as their activities relevant to the

¹³ G/SPS/11/Rev.1.

¹⁴ G/SPS/49.

¹⁵ G/SPS/36.

recognition of pest- or disease-free areas or areas of low pest or disease prevalence. The report recommends that the Committee continue to monitor the use of international standards at each of its regular meetings.

The second report also identified issues for further consideration by the SPS Committee. One of these issues was to clarify the relationship of the SPS Committee with the Codex, IPPC and OIE. The WTO Secretariat provided an overview of the relationship between the SPS Committee and the three international standards-setting organizations.¹⁶ The relationship has been active and positive. The standards-setting organizations have given precise and quick answers to issues related to the monitoring of international standards and to the need for the development of new standards. There is a formal cooperation agreement between the WTO and the OIE, and very good working relations between the WTO, the FAO and the WHO. Training activities organized by the WTO usually involve the three standards-setting organizations. All the organizations are represented and contribute actively to the work of the STDF. The standards setting bodies have also provided technical and scientific advice, when requested, to the dispute settlement panels on SPS matters.

The SPS Committee recognized that coordination at the national level between representatives to the SPS Committee, the IPPC, Codex and OIE meetings was often poor, although it had become more important given the increase in cross-sectoral issues such as regionalization, certification and traceability. At the same time, it was important to avoid unnecessary duplication.

The SPS Committee has requested the WTO Secretariat to organize a special workshop on this issue in October 2009. Discussions concerning technical versus administrative processes, operational versus high-level guidelines, and specific versus general issues could provide clarity with regard to the relative roles of the SPS Committee and international standards-setting bodies. It would be useful for the Codex, IPPC and OIE to describe their respective mandates and for the SPS Committee to discuss the optimal process for collaboration and communication with these organizations. It has also been suggested that the three standard-setting organizations should work together on some issues and jointly elaborate standards. The agenda for the workshop will be developed in consultation with the secretariats of the Codex, IPPC and OIE.

Technical Assistance

At each of its meetings, the SPS Committee solicits information from Members and observer organizations regarding their technical assistance needs and activities. The representative of Codex provided regular updates to the Committee on relevant activities of the FAO and the WHO and of the FAO/WHO Trust Fund. The WTO Secretariat acknowledged the Codex's continued support in contributing knowledge and expertise to the WTO's regional technical assistance activities.

To meet demands for more advanced SPS technical assistance and training activities, a two-week specialized course has been developed and offered by the WTO since 2005. The fourth of these was held in October 2008.

Private standards

Since June 2005, the SPS Committee has discussed the issue of private and commercial standards on a number of occasions. The issue was initially raised by St. Vincent and the Grenadines with regard to EurepGAP (now GlobalGAP) requirements on pesticides used on bananas destined for sale in European markets.

On several occasions, and most recently in June 2008, informal information sessions were held in the margins of the SPS Committee meetings. A number of international organizations working on the issue of private standards, including OECD and UNCTAD, as well as a number of private standardizing groups, including GlobalGAP, have provided information regarding commercial and private standards. WTO Members have raised a number of concerns regarding the trade, development and legal implications of private standards.

While recognizing that there could be some benefits to producers who were able to comply with private standards, a number of concerns were expressed. Among these were that:

¹⁶ WTO document G/SPS/GEN/775.

- private standards often de facto set the conditions for access to certain markets, and went beyond official requirements;
- private standards were proliferating without any consultation with the recognized standard-setting bodies or with national authorities, creating confusion and a lack of transparency;
- private SPS standards did not necessarily have any scientific justification, nor was there recognition of equivalence of measures;
- the costs of certification of compliance with private standards was significant especially for small producers and often resulted in their exclusion from a market;
- private standards often addressed a number of issues other than health protection, including social and environmental aspects;
- private standards undermined the value of internationally agreed standards. Developing countries were doing everything they could to respect international and official standards, but private standards often went beyond their capacity to comply;
- the legal relationship between private standards and the SPS and TBT Agreements was not clear, making it difficult for adversely affected producers to challenge private standards.

In October 2008, the SPS Committee agreed solicit information from WTO Members regarding specific standards affecting identified products in certain markets, and evidence of the effects of these standards. An ad hoc group of WTO Members will work with the SPS Committee Chairman to produce a study on the basis of the information provided by Members, and to identify practical actions which the SPS Committee might take on this issue.

Dispute Settlement

The WTO dispute settlement procedure

Any WTO Member may invoke the formal dispute resolution procedures of the WTO if they consider that a measure imposed by another WTO Member violates any of the WTO Agreements, including the SPS Agreement. If formal consultations on the problem are unsuccessful, a WTO Member may request that a Panel be established to consider the complaint.¹⁷ A Panel of three individuals considers written and oral arguments submitted by the parties to the dispute and issues a written report of its legal findings and recommendations. The parties to the dispute may appeal a Panel's decision before the WTO's Appellate Body. The Appellate Body examines the legal findings of the Panel and may uphold or reverse these. As with a Panel report, the Appellate Body report is adopted automatically unless there is a consensus against adoption.

According to the SPS Agreement, when a dispute involves scientific or technical issues, the Panel should seek advice from appropriate scientific and technical experts. Scientific experts have been consulted in all SPS-related disputes. The experts are usually selected from lists provided by the OIE, IPPC and Codex, standard-setting organizations referenced in the SPS Agreement. The parties to the dispute are consulted in the selection of experts and regarding the information solicited from the experts.

¹⁷ A flow chart of the dispute resolution process can be consulted at (http://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/disp2_e.htm).

SPS Disputes

There have been 33 formal complaints under the WTO dispute settlement procedures alleging violations of the SPS Agreement. Twelve panels have been established to consider seven SPS-related issues. Two panels were never composed.

One complaint dealt with diseases of fish, brought by Canada against Australia's import restriction on fresh chilled or frozen salmon (*Australia-Salmon*).¹⁸ A US complaint on this same issue was resolved before the panel completed its examination. Two SPS cases dealt with plant pests and quarantine requirements: the United States complaint about Japan's requirement for testing each variety of fruit for efficacy of treatment against codling moth (*Japan-Agricultural Products*)¹⁹; and the United States' complaint about Japan's set of requirements on apples imported from the United States relating to fire blight (*Japan-Apples*).²⁰

Two dispute cases have concerned food safety regulations – the European Communities (EC) ban on imports of meat treated with growth-promoting hormones, challenged by both the United States and by Canada (*EC-Hormones*).²¹ On 13 February 1998, the WTO Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) adopted the panel and Appellate Body reports in the *EC – Hormones* case which recommended that the European Communities bring the measures at issue into conformity with WTO obligations. When the European Communities was unable to implement by the 13 May 1999 deadline, the United States and Canada obtained authorisation from the DSB on 26 July 1999 to suspend obligations up to the level of US\$116.8 million and CDN\$11.3 million per year, respectively. On 28 October 2003, the European Communities announced that its measures were now in compliance with the rulings, and on 17 February 2005 two new panels (with the same members) were established to consider EC complaints against the continued suspension of concessions by the United States and Canada. The hearings for this panel have been the first to be made public. The report of the Panel, which was circulated on 31 March 2008²², has been appealed. The report of the Appellate Body is expected on 16 October 2008.

A single panel was established in 2003 to examine the complaints by the United States, Canada and Argentina regarding the European Communities' measures affecting the approval and marketing of biotech products. The volume of submissions from the parties, the need to consult scientific advice and requests for time extensions meant that the Panel circulated its report on 29 September 2006. In its report, the panel concluded that the European Communities had applied a general *de facto* moratorium on the approval of biotech products between June 1999 and August 2003, as well as a moratorium on 24 specific product applications. As such, the European Communities had acted inconsistently with its obligations under Annex C(1)(a), first clause, and Article 8 of the SPS Agreement. In short, there had been undue delays in the completion of EC approval procedures. With respect to the safeguard measures taken by six EC member states against products authorized in the European Communities, the Panel found that the member states (and thus by extension the European Communities itself) had violated Articles 5.1 and 2.2 of the SPS Agreement. More specifically, those national safeguard measures were not based on risk assessments satisfying the definition of the SPS Agreement and, hence, could be presumed to be maintained without sufficient scientific evidence. The report was adopted without appeal.²³

¹⁸ The report of the panels is contained in document WT/DS18/RW. The Appellate Body report is in document WT/DS18/AB/R. The report of the panel established to review Australia's compliance measure is contained in WT/DS18/RW.

¹⁹ The report of the panel is contained in document WT/DS76/R. The Appellate Body report is contained in document WT/DS76/AB/R.

²⁰ The report of the panel is contained in document WT/DS245/R. The Appellate Body report is contained in document WT/DS245/AB/R. The report of the panel established to review Japan's compliance measure is contained in WT/DS245/RW.

²¹ The reports of the panels are contained in documents WT/DS26/R/USA and WT/DS48/R/CAN. The Appellate Body report is in document WT/DS/26/AB/R and WT/DS48/AB/R.

²² The reports of the Panels are contained in documents WT/DS320/R and WT/DS/321/R.

²³ The reports of the Panel are contained in documents WT/DS291/R, WT/DS292/R, and WT/DS293/R.

New cases

On 21 January 2008, a panel was established to examine the complaint by New Zealand against Australia's restrictions on imports of apples.²⁴

Other Relevant Activities - the Standards and Trade Development Facility

The Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) is a global programme in capacity building and technical co-operation established by the FAO, the OIE, the World Bank, the WHO and the WTO. It assists developing countries to comply with food safety, animal and plant health measures in international trade. Other international organizations, donors and developing countries also participate. The WTO administers the STDF and provides the secretariat.

The STDF aims:

- to act as a vehicle for co-ordination among technical cooperation providers, the mobilization of funds, the exchange of experience and the dissemination of best practice; and
- to assist developing countries in enhancing their capacity to analyse and implement international sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) standards with the ultimate objective of improving the human, animal and plant health, and thus gaining and maintaining market access.

Increasing emphasis is being placed on the STDF fulfilling its promise as a co-ordination mechanism and centre of good practice. A series of three regional consultations were initiated in 2007 which examined SPS capacity building needs and responses in terms of the provision of capacity building in East Africa, Central America and three countries in the Greater Mekong Delta Sub-Region (Cambodia, Lao P.D.R and Viet Nam). The first component of this work was a review of SPS capacity evaluation studies, overviews and SPS related technical assistance provided in the period of 2001-2006 in each region. Results were presented during the Regional Reviews of Aid for Trade in Peru, Philippines and Tanzania in September 2007.²⁵

The second part of this work was to take stock of where SPS capacity building needs are not being met and to identify actions to mobilize resources to address these needs. This was done at regional workshops in May and June 2008 in Cambodia, Uganda and Guatemala. A number of the needs identified relate to improving capacity in the food safety area.

As part of its co-ordination mandate, the STDF has organized a series of thematic events for delegates of the SPS Committee and additional participants from developing countries. A workshop on SPS-related capacity evaluation tools developed by international organizations took place in Geneva on 31 March 2008. An information session on private standards was held on 26 June 2008 with representatives of the Africa Observer Project, the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI), International Certification and Risk Services (CMi) and the World Bank. Information on these events, including the presentations made and podcasts of sessions, is available on the [SPS gateway](http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/sps_e/sps_e.htm) of the WTO website (www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/sps_e/sps_e.htm).

In collaboration with the Organization of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) the STDF presented a workshop on good practice in SPS-related technical cooperation, just prior to the October 2008 meeting of the SPS Committee in Geneva. The presentations made at the workshop, and the report of the event, are available from the SPS gateway on the WTO web site.

As a financing mechanism, the STDF provides grant funding to public and private organizations in developing countries seeking to comply with international SPS standards and hence gain or maintain market access. Two types of grants are available through the STDF: project preparation grants and project grants.

²⁴ New Zealand's request for the establishment of a Panel is contained in document WT/DS367/5.

²⁵ G/SPS/GEN/812.

Project preparation grants (PPGs) are a key mechanism for STDF programme development. PPGs help overcome constraints faced by developing countries in the articulation of their needs and are a mechanism for ensuring synergies with other ongoing initiatives in the SPS area. A total of 28 PPGs have been approved and funded since the STDF's inception. The main criterion when awarding PPGs is the likelihood that the project developed may receive funding. Final project funding may be provided by the STDF or from another funding source (e.g. bilateral donors). Greater reliance is being placed on the use of PPGs to provide a basis for donor interventions and as a vehicle for mobilizing funds for projects developed by the STDF.

A target has been set in the STDF Operating Plan for 2008-09 to fund at least 12 PPGs. Applications for PPGs are actively encouraged and requests for funding from food safety regulatory authorities will be considered.

Project grants typically range from US\$300,000 to US\$600,000 in size and are up to two years in duration. Beneficiaries are required to contribute to the total cost of the project through an in-kind or financial contribution. The STDF funds project which address:

- underlying issues of SPS capacity building in beneficiary countries (in particular in LDCs or OLIEs, or on a regional basis), ideally through innovative, preventative and / or pilot projects which may be replicated by other donors; and
- gaps in SPS information, training materials or which aim to improve co-ordination among SPS technical co-operation providers through collaborative projects.

The STDF aims to fund a total of 12 projects in the period 2008-2009. Applications for project funding are encouraged and requests from food safety authorities will be considered. Proposals may be submitted at any point in the year. The STDF Working Group meets three times per year to consider funding requests. The next deadline for the submission of funding requests is 19 December 2008. Deadlines in 2009 are 24 April and 16 August.

Further information on the STDF, including the Medium Term Strategy, application forms, eligibility criteria and information on projects approved can be found at the STDF website (www.standardsfacility.org).

WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH (OIE)

[ENGLISH]

The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) would like to thank the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) and the Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS) for the opportunity to contribute to its standards development process.

The OIE and CAC have been working together since 2001. In 2002, the Director General of the OIE established a permanent Working Group on Animal Production Food Safety (APFSWG) with the view to improving the coordination and harmonisation of standard setting activities of OIE and CAC.

At the 31st session of CAC Dr Vallat, the Director General of OIE, informed the CAC on the progress of updating the existing inter-agency cooperation agreements with a view to fostering the development of joint standards. Harmonisation of international standards and avoidance of gaps and contradictory elements continues to be an important goal for Members of Codex and OIE. An OIE proposal for amendment of the cooperation agreement between the OIE and the WHO was approved by the 76th General Session of the OIE in May 2008 and is under consideration by WHO.

The OIE will continue to address food safety related issues at the production level as a high priority in its standard setting work and will work closely with CAC and other international bodies in pursuing the goal of safer international trade in animal products.

Restructuring of the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*

Commencing with the 2008 edition, the *Terrestrial Code* is now a two-volume publication. Volume one contains recommendations that apply to a wide range of species, production sectors and/or diseases (so-called 'horizontal standards') and volume two contains recommendations on specific diseases (so-called

'vertical standards') including recommendations on agent inactivation and on surveillance and risk assessment.

Volume 1 has a new Section entitled 'Veterinary Public Health', which includes chapters on the following topics:

- The role of the Veterinary Services in food safety;
- Control of biological hazards of animal health and public health importance through ante- and post-mortem meat inspection;
- Hygiene and disease security procedures in poultry breeding flocks and hatcheries; *Salmonella* enteritidis and *Salmonella* typhimurium in poultry;
- Harmonisation of national antimicrobial resistance surveillance and monitoring programmes;
- Monitoring of the quantities of antimicrobials used in animal husbandry;
- Responsible and prudent use of antimicrobial agents in veterinary medicine;
- Risk assessment for antimicrobial resistance arising from the use of antimicrobials in animals;
- Zoonoses transmissible from non-human primates.

The chapter on the Role of Veterinary Services in Food Safety was adopted at the 76th OIE General Session (2008). It provides guidance to OIE Members on the role and responsibilities of national Veterinary Services with respect to food safety. The document also highlights the need for cooperation with other authorities in the food chain continuum to ensure the protection of both animal and public health.

A new chapter on the control of hazards of animal health and public health importance in animal feed is under development and will be included in the Veterinary Public Health section of the *Terrestrial Code* once it has been through the OIE procedures for adoption of new text.

OIE offers the following comments on the agenda items to be considered at this CCFICS meeting.

Agenda Item - Proposed draft Generic Model Health Certificate (Annex to the Guidelines for Design, Production, Issuance and Use of Generic Official Certificates (CAC/GL 38-2001))

The OIE has developed, in collaboration from CAC, simplified model international veterinary certificates and notes for guidance on veterinary certificates for international trade in live animals, hatching eggs and products of animal origin and a modified chapter on certification procedures. These chapters were adopted at the 76th OIE General Session and will be included in the 2008 edition of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (hereinafter referred to as the *Terrestrial Code*). The OIE will take steps to encourage the use of electronic certification, where possible, and other systems that can help to prevent fraud, which is a key consideration for safe international trade.

The OIE welcomed the adoption by Codex of its *Model Export Certificate for Milk and Milk Products* at the 31st CAC. The OIE noted that the Model Certificate makes reference to the OIE *Code* regarding veterinary certification on animal health issues.

The OIE appreciated the invitation to participate in the CCFICS Working Group on a generic model official sanitary certificate held in Brussels, Belgium on 8 and 9 July 2008.

Agenda Item - Discussion paper on the need for Guidance for National Food Inspection Systems

The *Terrestrial Code* contains provisions for performance and assessment of the quality of Veterinary Services. By ensuring compliance with the OIE standards for Veterinary Services, countries can benefit more fully from the WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement) while at the same time maintaining safeguards for animal health and public health.

The OIE document on the *Role of Veterinary Services in Food Safety* (see above) provides valuable guidance for Members on this topic. The OIE encourages CCFICS to take account of these and other relevant recommendations in the *Terrestrial Code* in developing a Codex text on national food inspection systems.

Agenda Item - Discussion paper on the need for further Guidance on Traceability/Product Tracing

In 2006 the OIE International Committee adopted a *Terrestrial Code* chapter entitled: Principles on Identification and Traceability of Live Animals. This chapter was updated in 2007. In May 2008 at the 76th

General Session the International Committee adopted an additional text: Design and Implementation of Identification Systems to Achieve Animal Traceability. Bearing in mind the need coordination of standards on traceability of both animals and products, the OIE and Codex should maintain close collaboration on this topic.

The OIE is convening an International Conference on Animal Identification and Traceability ('From Farm to Fork') on 17-19 March 2009 in Buenos Aires, Argentina, with the objective of providing technical information on systems for animal identification and traceability (see Appendix 1). A member of the Codex Secretariat participates in the Scientific Committee and the OIE encourages other Codex experts to attend the Conference. Further information may be obtained from the OIE website at <http://www.oie.int/eng/traceability-2009/index.html>

Appendix 1



First OIE International Conference on Animal Identification and Traceability

« From Farm to Fork »

Buenos Aires (Argentina), 17-19 March 2009

INTRODUCTION

The OIE is pleased to announce the First OIE International Conference on Animal Identification and Traceability, which will take place in Buenos Aires (Argentina) with the kind agreement of the National Food Safety and Quality Service of Argentina (SENASA) and the Secretary of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in Argentina. The purpose of the Conference is to support the implementation of the relevant international standards for identification and traceability in live animals and animal products globally. The Conference will feature presentations from speakers representing international organisations, national Veterinary Services, agencies involved in animal products, the private sector (producers, processors, distributors and industry), consumer organisations and providers of technology and services relevant to animal identification and traceability.

The benefits of identification and traceability for animal health, disease control, food safety and quality including labeling, genetic selection and control over trade will be discussed. The experiences and perspectives of countries and sectors that have implemented animal identification and traceability will be presented and practical examples used to explain how the international standards can be implemented in a cost effective manner in consultation with stakeholders.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives that the Conference will aim to achieve in the various sequential sessions are as follow:

- Raise international awareness of the relevant international standards published by the OIE and the Codex Alimentarius Commission
- Give practical information and technical advice on how to implement these standards in different industry sectors and national contexts
- Review the latest experiences in public and private identification and traceability programmes with reference to the relevant international standards
- Provide practical advice and examples to help national Veterinary Services and other agencies to play their appropriate role in regard to animal identification and traceability
- Identify the kind of support that can be provided by international organisations and donors to Veterinary Services and interested parties operating in developing countries, as appropriate to their needs, as regards the implementation of the OIE and Codex standards
- Launch a discussion on the future needs for international standards
- Discuss priorities and propose approaches to research and development relevant to animal identification and traceability.

KEY INFORMATION

Approximately 500 participants are expected to attend, including:

- OIE National Delegates and other national government representatives
- Representatives of international standard-setting and economic development organisations
- Representatives of the private sector (producers, processors, distributors and industry) and agencies that are involved in animal identification and traceability
- Multinational food companies

The Conference will take place over 3 days, comprising keynote speakers and Ministerial Statements on day 1, technical presentations on days 1, 2 and 3 and a panel discussion and the Conference Resolutions on day 3.

Simultaneous interpretation in English, French and Spanish will be provided throughout the conference.

The Conference proceedings will be published and a copy will be provided to each registered participant.

Contact:

<http://www.oie.int/eng/traceability-2009/index.html>

By electronic mail: traceability-2009@oie.int

By telephone: 33-(0)1 44 15 18 88

[FRANÇAIS]

ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTE ANIMALE (OIE)

L'Organisation mondiale de la santé animale (OIE) tient à remercier la Commission du Codex Alimentarius (CCA) ainsi que le Comité du Codex sur les systèmes d'inspection et de certification des importations et des exportations alimentaires (CCFICS) pour cette opportunité de contribution à la procédure de développement des normes.

L'OIE et la CAC travaillent ensemble depuis 2001. En 2002, le Directeur général de l'OIE a constitué un Groupe de travail permanent sur la sécurité sanitaire des aliments d'origine animale en phase de production afin d'améliorer la coordination et l'harmonisation des activités de normalisation de l'OIE et de la CCA.

Lors de la 31^e session de la CCA, le Docteur Vallat, Directeur général de l'OIE, a fait le point sur l'actualisation des accords de coopération conclus avec différents organismes en vue de favoriser le développement de normes communes. L'harmonisation des normes internationales ainsi que la prévention des lacunes et des contradictions continuent d'être des objectifs importants pour les Membres du Codex et de l'OIE. Une proposition de l'OIE visant à modifier l'accord de coopération conclu avec l'OMS a été approuvée lors de la 76^e Session générale de l'OIE, en mai 2008. Elle est actuellement examinée par l'OMS.

L'OIE continuera de considérer comme prioritaires les questions liées à la sécurité sanitaire des aliments en phase de production dans le cadre de l'élaboration des normes. Elle travaillera en étroite collaboration avec la CCA et d'autres organismes internationaux dans le but de mieux sécuriser le commerce international des produits d'origine animale.

Restructuration du Code sanitaire de l'OIE pour les animaux terrestres

Depuis l'édition 2008, le *Code terrestre* est une publication en deux volumes. Le volume 1 contient des recommandations s'appliquant à toute une série d'espèces animales, de secteurs de production et/ou de maladies (normes dites horizontales) et le volume 2 présente des préconisations sur certaines maladies spécifiques (normes dites verticales), entre autres sur l'inactivation des agents pathogènes et sur la surveillance et l'appréciation des risques.

Le volume 1 comporte une nouvelle section intitulée « Santé publique vétérinaire » qui inclut des chapitres consacrés aux sujets suivants :

- Rôle des Services vétérinaires dans la sécurité sanitaire des aliments.

- Maîtrise des dangers biologiques significatifs pour la santé animale et la santé publique par les inspections intervenant avant et après l'abattage.
- Procédures d'hygiène et de sécurité sanitaire dans les élevages de volailles reproductrices et les couvoirs. *Salmonella enteritidis* et *Salmonella typhimurium* chez les volailles.
- Harmonisation des programmes nationaux de surveillance et de suivi des antibiorésistances.
- Surveillance des quantités d'antimicrobiens utilisées à des fins d'élevage.
- Utilisation responsable et prudente des agents antimicrobiens en médecine vétérinaire.
- Appréciation des risques d'antibiorésistance secondaires à l'usage des antibiotiques chez les animaux
- Zoonoses transmissibles par des primates non humains

Le chapitre consacré au rôle des Services vétérinaires en matière de sécurité sanitaire des aliments a été adopté lors de la 76^e Session générale de l'OIE (2008). Il fournit des orientations aux Membres de l'OIE sur le rôle et les responsabilités des Services vétérinaires nationaux en ce domaine. Ce texte souligne également la nécessité de coopérer avec d'autres administrations tout au long de la chaîne alimentaire, afin d'assurer la protection de la santé animale et de la santé publique.

Un nouveau chapitre portant sur la maîtrise des dangers sanitaires et zosanitaires significatifs liés à l'alimentation animale est en cours de développement. Il sera inclus dans la section du *Code terrestre* consacrée à la santé publique vétérinaire, au terme des procédures prévues par l'OIE pour l'adoption des textes nouveaux.

L'OIE propose les commentaires suivants sur les points prévus à l'ordre du jour de cette réunion du CCFICS.

Proposition de modèle de certificat sanitaire générique (annexe aux lignes directrices sur la conception, la production, la délivrance et l'utilisation de certificats génériques officiels) (CAC/GL 38-2001)

En collaboration avec la CCA, l'OIE a élaboré des modèles de certificats vétérinaires internationaux simplifiés, des notes explicatives sur les certificats vétérinaires applicables au commerce international des animaux vivants, des oeufs à couver et des produits d'origine animale ainsi qu'un chapitre modifié sur les procédures de certification. Ces chapitres ont été adoptés lors de la 76^e Session générale de l'OIE ; ils seront inclus dans l'édition 2008 du *Code sanitaire pour les animaux terrestres* (le *Code terrestre*). L'OIE prendra des mesures pour encourager la certification électronique lorsqu'elle est possible ainsi que d'autres systèmes de prévention des fraudes, ce qui représente un élément clé de la sécurité des échanges internationaux.

L'OIE a accueilli favorablement l'adoption par le Codex, lors du 31^e CCA, du modèle de certificat d'exportation pour le lait et les produits laitiers. L'OIE a remarqué que le modèle de certificat fait référence à son *Code* à propos de la certification vétérinaire sur les questions de santé animale.

L'OIE a apprécié l'invitation à participer au Groupe de travail du CCFICS sur un modèle générique de certificat sanitaire officiel, qui s'est réuni à Bruxelles (Belgique), les 8 et 9 juillet 2008.

Document de travail sur les orientations nécessaires pour les systèmes nationaux d'inspection alimentaire

Le *Code terrestre* contient des dispositions sur les performances et l'évaluation de la qualité des Services vétérinaires. En assurant le respect des normes de l'OIE sur les Services vétérinaires, les pays pourront tirer un meilleur parti de l'Accord de l'OMC sur les mesures sanitaires et phytosanitaires (Accord SPS), tout en maintenant la sécurité au niveau de la santé animale et de la santé publique.

Le document de l'OIE consacré au rôle des Services vétérinaires en matière de sécurité sanitaire des aliments (voir ci-dessus) fournit aux Membres des orientations utiles sur ces questions. L'OIE encourage le CCFICS à tenir compte de ces recommandations et d'autres dispositions du *Code terrestre* lors de l'élaboration d'un texte du Codex sur les systèmes nationaux d'inspection alimentaire.

Document de travail concernant les orientations supplémentaires nécessaires sur la traçabilité et le suivi des produits

En 2006, le Comité international de l'OIE avait adopté un chapitre du *Code terrestre* contenant des principes généraux d'identification et de traçabilité des animaux vivants. Ce chapitre a été actualisé en 2007. En mai 2008, lors de la 76^e Session générale, le Comité international a adopté un texte complémentaire contenant des lignes directrices sur la conception et l'application de systèmes d'identification permettant d'assurer la traçabilité des animaux. Compte tenu de la nécessité de coordonner les normes sur la traçabilité des animaux et des produits, l'OIE et le Codex doivent continuer de collaborer étroitement sur ce point.

L'OIE organise une conférence internationale sur l'identification et la traçabilité des animaux (« De l'étable à la table »), qui se tiendra du 17 au 19 mars 2009 à Buenos Aires, en Argentine, dans le but de fournir des informations techniques sur les systèmes d'identification et de traçabilité des animaux (annexe 1). Un membre du Secrétariat du Codex participe au Comité scientifique, et l'OIE encourage les autres experts du Codex à assister à cette conférence. Des informations complémentaires figurent sur le site Web de l'OIE, à l'adresse suivante : <http://www.oie.int/fr/traceability-2009/index.html>

Annexe 1



Première Conférence internationale de l'OIE sur l'identification et la traçabilité des animaux

« De l'étable à la table »

Buenos Aires, Argentine, 17-19 mars 2009

INTRODUCTION

L'OIE a le plaisir d'annoncer la première Conférence internationale sur l'identification et la traçabilité, qui se tiendra à Buenos Aires (Argentine) et bénéficiera de l'aimable collaboration du Service national de la sécurité et de la qualité alimentaire en Argentine (SENASA) et du Ministère argentin de l'agriculture, de la pêche et de l'alimentation. L'objectif de la Conférence est de faciliter l'application des normes internationales sur l'identification et la traçabilité des animaux vivants et des produits d'origine animale dans le monde. Les intervenants représenteront des organisations internationales, des Services vétérinaires nationaux, des organismes chargés des produits d'origine animale, le secteur privé (éleveurs, transformateurs, distributeurs et secteurs industriels), des associations de consommateurs et des prestataires de services et de technologies pour l'identification et la traçabilité des animaux.

Les participants discuteront de l'intérêt de l'identification et de la traçabilité pour la santé animale, pour la lutte contre les maladies et pour la sécurité sanitaire et la qualité des aliments. Le marquage, la sélection génétique et le contrôle des échanges commerciaux feront aussi partie des sujets abordés. Les expériences et les perspectives des pays et des secteurs qui ont mis en oeuvre des techniques d'identification et de traçabilité des animaux seront également présentées. Des exemples pratiques seront utilisés pour expliquer comment les normes internationales peuvent être appliquées dans un souci de rentabilité, en concertation avec les acteurs concernés.

OBJECTIFS

Objectifs visés au cours des différentes sessions de la conférence :

- Susciter un intérêt mondial pour les normes internationales applicables, publiées par l'OIE et la Commission du Codex Alimentarius
- Fournir des informations concrètes et des conseils techniques sur les modalités d'application de ces normes dans différents secteurs de production et contextes nationaux
- Passer en revue les dernières expériences en matière de programmes publics et privés d'identification et de traçabilité, en se référant aux normes internationales applicables
- Fournir des conseils et des exemples concrets pour aider les Services vétérinaires nationaux et les autres administrations concernées à jouer leur rôle dans le domaine de l'identification et de la traçabilité des animaux

- Identifier le type d'aide que peuvent apporter les organisations internationales et les bailleurs de fonds aux Services vétérinaires et aux autres acteurs des pays en développement pour la mise en œuvre des normes de l'OIE et du Codex.
- Amorcer la discussion sur les besoins futurs en matière de normes internationales
- Discuter des priorités et proposer des approches pour la recherche et le développement en matière d'identification et de traçabilité des animaux

INFORMATIONS CLÉS

Environ 500 participants sont attendus à cette conférence, et notamment :

- Des délégués nationaux de l'OIE et d'autres représentants institutionnels nationaux
- Des représentants d'autres organisations internationales de normalisation et de développement économique
- Des représentants du secteur privé (éleveurs, transformateurs, distributeurs et industriels) et de structures impliquées dans l'identification et la traçabilité des animaux
- Des sociétés multinationales agroalimentaires.

La Conférence se déroulera sur 3 jours et comportera des interventions de personnalités et des déclarations ministérielles le premier jour, des présentations techniques les premier, deuxième et troisième jours, ainsi qu'une discussion générale et l'adoption de résolutions de la Conférence le troisième jour.

Une interprétation simultanée en anglais, français et espagnol sera assurée pendant toute la durée de la Conférence.

Les actes de la Conférence seront publiés et fournis à tous les participants inscrits.

Contact :

<http://www.oie.int/fr/traceability-2009/index.html>

Courriel : traceability-2009@oie.int

Téléphone : 33-(0)1 44 15 18 88

[ESPAÑOL]

ORGANIZACIÓN MUNDIAL DE SANIDAD ANIMAL (OIE)

La Organización Mundial de Sanidad Animal (OIE) agradece a la Comisión del Codex Alimentarius (CCA) y al Comité del Codex sobre Sistemas de Inspección y Certificación de Importaciones y Exportaciones de Alimentos (CCFICS) la oportunidad que le brindan para contribuir a su proceso de elaboración de normas.

La OIE y la CCA trabajan juntas desde 2001. En 2002, el Director general de la OIE formó un Grupo de Trabajo sobre la Seguridad sanitaria de los alimentos derivados de la producción animal a fin de mejorar la coordinación y la armonización de las actividades normativas de la OIE y de la CCA.

Durante la 31ª reunión de la CCA, el Dr. Vallat, Director general de la OIE, informó a la Comisión sobre la actualización de los acuerdos de cooperación con otros organismos, destinada a favorecer el desarrollo de normas conjuntas. Armonizar las normas internacionales y evitar las lagunas y las contradicciones siguen siendo importantes metas para los Miembros del Codex y de la OIE. En su 76ª Sesión General, en mayo de 2008, la OIE aprobó una propuesta de enmienda para el acuerdo de cooperación entre la OIE y la OMS, que está siendo examinada por la OMS.

La OIE seguirá tratando como prioritarias las cuestiones relacionadas con la inocuidad de los alimentos a nivel de la producción dentro de su labor normativa y colaborará estrechamente con la CCA y otros organismos internacionales para alcanzar el objetivo de mejorar la seguridad del comercio internacional de los productos derivados de los animales.

Reestructuración del Código Sanitario para los Animales Terrestres de la OIE

A partir de la edición de 2008, el *Código Terrestre* constará de dos volúmenes. El primero de ellos contiene recomendaciones que se aplican a una amplia gama de especies, sectores de producción o enfermedades (las llamadas “normas horizontales”) y el segundo contiene las recomendaciones relativas a enfermedades específicas (son las “normas verticales”), así como las relativas a la inactivación de los agentes patógenos, la vigilancia y la evaluación de riesgos.

El volumen 1 consta de una nueva sección, titulada ‘Sanidad pública veterinaria’, que engloba los capítulos sobre los siguientes temas:

- Papel de los Servicios Veterinarios en materia de seguridad sanitaria de los alimentos;
- Control de riesgos biológicos que amenazan la salud de las personas y de los animales mediante la inspección *ante mortem* y *post mortem* de las carnes;
- Procedimientos de higiene y seguridad sanitaria en las explotaciones avícolas y en los establecimientos de incubación; salmonella enteritidis y la salmonella typhimurium en las aves de corral;
- Armonización de los programas de vigilancia y seguimiento de la resistencia a los antimicrobianos;
- Seguimiento de las cantidades de antimicrobianos utilizadas en producción animal;
- Uso responsable y prudente de productos antimicrobianos en medicina veterinaria;
- Evaluación del riesgo asociado a la resistencia a los antimicrobianos como consecuencia del uso de antimicrobianos;
- Zoonosis transmisibles por primates no humanos.

El capítulo relativo al papel de los Servicios Veterinarios en materia de seguridad sanitaria de los alimentos se aprobó durante la 76ª Sesión General de la OIE (2008). De esta manera, los Miembros de la OIE disponen de una guía sobre el papel y las responsabilidades de los Servicios Veterinarios nacionales en lo relativo a la inocuidad de los alimentos. Este documento destaca asimismo la necesidad de cooperar con otras autoridades a lo largo de la cadena alimentaria para garantizar la protección de la salud pública y de la sanidad animal.

Se está preparando un nuevo capítulo sobre el control de los peligros para la sanidad pública y la sanidad animal que pueden entrañar los piensos. Este capítulo se incluirá en la sección consagrada a la Sanidad pública veterinaria del *Código Terrestre* en cuanto haya franqueado todas las etapas del procedimiento interno de aprobación de textos.

La OIE propone los siguientes comentarios sobre los puntos que figuran en el orden del día de la presente reunión del CCFICS:

Proyecto de modelo de certificado sanitario genéricos (anexo a las directrices para diseñar, producir, expedir y utilizar certificados oficiales genéricos (CCA/GL 38-2001)

La OIE, en colaboración con la CCA, ha elaborado modelos de certificados veterinarios internacionales simplificados, así como notas de orientación para los certificados veterinarios destinados al comercio internacional de animales vivos, huevos para incubar y productos de origen animal, además de un capítulo revisado sobre los procedimientos de certificación. Dichos textos fueron aprobados en la 76ª Sesión General de la OIE y figurarán en la edición de 2008 del *Código Sanitario para los Animales Terrestres* (o *Código Terrestre*). La OIE hará lo necesario para fomentar el uso de los certificados electrónicos, siempre que sea posible, así como de otros sistemas que ayuden a evitar los fraudes, lo que representa un elemento clave para la seguridad del comercio internacional.

La OIE acoge favorablemente la aprobación, por parte del Codex, del modelo de certificado para la exportación de leche y productos lácteos en la 31ª reunión de la CCA. La OIE observa que dicho modelo hace referencia al *Código Terrestre* de la OIE en lo relativo a los certificados veterinarios y a las cuestiones de sanidad animal.

La OIE agradece haber sido invitada a participar en el grupo de trabajo del CCFICS sobre un modelo genérico de certificado sanitario oficial, que se reunió en Bruselas, Bélgica, los días 8 y 9 de julio de 2008.

Documento de trabajo sobre las orientaciones necesarias para los sistemas nacionales de inspección alimentaria

El *Código Terrestre* contiene disposiciones sobre la eficacia y la evaluación de la calidad de los Servicios Veterinarios. Cumpliendo las normas de la OIE para dichos servicios, los países pueden beneficiarse mejor del Acuerdo de la OMC sobre la Aplicación de Medidas Sanitarias y Fitosanitarias, al tiempo que protegen la salud pública y la sanidad animal.

El documento de la OIE sobre el papel de los Servicios Veterinarios en materia de seguridad sanitaria de los alimentos (cf. supra) constituye una valiosa guía para los Miembros. La OIE insta al CCFICS a tomar en cuenta estas recomendaciones y otros lineamientos pertinentes que figuran en el *Código Terrestre*, cuando se elabore un texto del Codex para los sistemas nacionales de inspección alimentaria.

Documento de trabajo sobre las orientaciones adicionales necesarias para la trazabilidad y el seguimiento de los productos

En 2006, el Comité Internacional de la OIE aprobó el capítulo del *Código Terrestre* sobre los principios generales de identificación y rastreabilidad de los animales vivos. Dicho capítulo fue actualizado en 2007. En mayo de 2008, en su 76ª Sesión General, el Comité Internacional aprobó un texto adicional sobre las directrices para el diseño y la aplicación de sistemas de identificación destinados a rastrear a los animales. Habida cuenta de que es necesario coordinar las normas sobre la trazabilidad de los animales y de los productos, la OIE y el Codex deberían seguir colaborando estrechamente en este punto.

La OIE ha convocado una conferencia internacional sobre la identificación y la rastreabilidad de los animales («De la granja al tenedor») para los días 17 a 19 de marzo de 2009 en Buenos Aires, Argentina, destinada a aportar informaciones técnicas sobre los sistemas de identificación y rastreabilidad (cf. Anexo 1). Un miembro de la secretaría del Codex participa en el comité científico y la OIE alienta a otros expertos del Codex a que acudan a la conferencia. Se pueden consultar más informaciones en la página de la OIE en la web:

<http://www.oie.int/eng/traceability-2009/index.html>

Anexo 1



Primera Conferencia internacional de la OIE sobre identificación y trazabilidad de los animales

«De la granja al tenedor»

Buenos Aires (Argentina), 17-19 de marzo de 2009

INTRODUCCIÓN

La Organización Mundial de Sanidad Animal (OIE) se complace en anunciar la primera Conferencia internacional sobre identificación y trazabilidad de los animales, que tendrá lugar en Buenos Aires, Argentina, con el respaldo del Servicio Nacional de Sanidad y Calidad Agroalimentaria (SENASA) y de la Secretaría de Agricultura, Ganadería, Pesca y Alimentos de Argentina. Esta conferencia busca apoyar la aplicación de las normas internacionales de identificación y trazabilidad de los animales vivos y de los productos animales a escala mundial. Las presentaciones estarán a cargo de organizaciones internacionales, Servicios Veterinarios nacionales, instituciones que trabajan con productos de origen animal, representantes del sector privado (ganaderos, transformadores, distribuidores e industriales), asociaciones de consumidores y proveedores de tecnología y servicios en el ámbito de la identificación y la trazabilidad de los animales.

En el encuentro se discutirán las ventajas de la identificación y de la trazabilidad para la sanidad animal, el control de enfermedades, la seguridad sanitaria y la calidad de los alimentos incluyendo el etiquetado, la selección genética y el control de los intercambios comerciales. Se ilustrarán experiencias y perspectivas de países y sectores que han implementado sistemas de identificación y trazabilidad y, mediante ejemplos prácticos, se explicará la manera cómo se pueden poner en práctica normas internacionales de manera económica en consulta con las partes interesadas.

OBJETIVOS

Los objetivos de la conferencia son:

- Suscitar un interés mundial por las normas internacionales en la materia publicadas por la OIE y por la Comisión del Codex Alimentarius
- Brindar información concreta y asesoría técnica sobre la forma de implementar estas normas en diferentes sectores de producción y contextos nacionales
- Revisar los últimos adelantos de los programas públicos y privados de identificación y trazabilidad con respecto a las normas internacionales
- Ofrecer asesoría práctica acompañada de ejemplos específicos para ayudar a los Servicios Veterinarios nacionales y a otros organismos a asumir la función que les corresponde en el campo de la identificación y la trazabilidad de los animales
- Identificar el tipo de apoyo que pueden prestar las organizaciones internacionales y los donantes para que los Servicios Veterinarios y otras instituciones de los países en desarrollo puedan implementar las normas de la OIE y del Codex
- Iniciar una discusión sobre las necesidades futuras de elaboración de normas internacionales
- Definir prioridades y proponer acercamientos de investigación y desarrollo para la identificación y trazabilidad de los animales.

INFORMACIÓN CLAVE

Se espera la presencia de unos 500 participantes, entre ellos:

- Delegados ante la OIE y otros representantes nacionales institucionales
- Representantes de organizaciones internacionales con vocación normativa y de desarrollo económico
- Representantes del sector privado (ganaderos, transformadores, distribuidores e industriales) implicados en programas de identificación y trazabilidad de los animales
- Empresas multinacionales agroalimentarias.

La conferencia durará tres días: se inaugurará con las declaraciones ministeriales y los discursos de apertura; durante los tres primeros días habrá presentaciones técnicas y, el tercer día finalizará con una sesión plenaria y se darán a conocer las resoluciones de la conferencia.

Las actas de la conferencia se publicarán y se enviará una copia a cada participante.

Contacto:

<http://www.oie.int/esp/traceability-2009/index.html>

Correo electrónico: traceability-2009@oie.int

Teléfono: 33 (0)1 44 15 18 88

INTERNATIONAL PLANT PROTECTION CONVENTION (IPPC)

Pre-clearance for regulated articles.

The IPPC is working on guidance on the justification, establishing, reviewing, phasing out and terminating of pre-clearance (clearance prior to import) arrangements and a model framework for pre-clearance programs (where justified), including criteria for terminating pre-clearance arrangements in favour of other phytosanitary measures.

The movement of regulated articles in trade is increasing as international markets expand. This movement may also result in a higher risk of the introduction and/or spread of regulated pests associated with these articles.

It is the responsibility of the exporting contracting party to make arrangements for phytosanitary certification ensuring that exported consignments conform with the certifying statement of phytosanitary certificates issued. Inspection and related activities leading to the issuance of phytosanitary certificates should be carried

out only by or under the authority of the official National Plant protection Organization (NPPO) of the exporting country.

However, in exceptional cases, for facilitating trade logistics at the request of the exporting country, contracting parties may bilaterally negotiate an agreement for allowing clearance in the country of origin by the NPPO of the country of destination. Arrangements of that nature may be called pre-clearance. Also joint auditing of the export certification system to facilitate new trade may be called pre-clearance. The agreement should include procedures for the regular review, intensity reduction, phasing-out and termination of the arrangements.

Currently, some countries apply various arrangements of this kind. Arrangements differ significantly between countries and may in some cases turn out discriminatory and un-transparent. The standard will provide general guidance to criteria that may justify such arrangements and to their use and implementation compatible with the basic principles of the International Plant protection Convention (IPPC).

Guidelines for Phytosanitary Certificates

ISPM No. 12 - Guidelines for Phytosanitary Certificates (2001) contains a Model Phytosanitary Certificate developed by IPPC and can be found on the IPPC website at www.ippc.int

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF LEGAL METROLOGY (OIML)

[ENGLISH]

1. PURPOSE OF THE OIML

The International Organization of Legal Metrology (OIML) is an intergovernmental organization established in 1955 by the OIML Convention. The International Bureau of Legal Metrology (BIML), the headquarters and executive office of the OIML is located in Paris, France.

The OIML currently has 59 Member States and 57 Corresponding Members.

According to the OIML Convention, the purpose of the organization, amongst other things, is to:

- determine the general principles of legal metrology;
- establish model draft laws and regulations for measuring instruments and their use;
- determine necessary and adequate characteristics and standards to which measuring instruments must conform in order for them to be approved by Member States and for their use to be recommended internationally.

The main publications of the OIML are International Recommendations (OIML R), which Member States have a moral obligation to implement in their national legislation to the greatest extent possible, and International Documents (OIML D), which are informative and are intended to harmonize and improve work in the field of legal metrology. The OIML also publishes Guides, Vocabularies and Expert reports and the OIML Bulletin.

Under the terms of the WTO/TBT agreement, OIML is an international standard setting organization and (the relevant parts of) OIML Recommendations are considered international standards.

All OIML publications, except for the latest four editions of the OIML Bulletin, may be downloaded free of charge from the OIML website (www.oiml.org).

2. THE WORLD METROLOGY SYSTEM

Metrology is an indispensable element in our modern society. Trade, manufacturing, health and safety protection, etc. depend on reliable measurement results. A number of international organizations, each with their own specific expertise, together form what is named the *World Metrology System*:

- The BIPM, the organization of the Metre Convention, which is the highest authority with respect to the establishment of international measurement standards and the dissemination of the measurement units to the National Metrology Institutes (NMIs);

- ILAC and the IAF, which facilitate the traceability of measurements to the national and international measurement standards by providing confidence in measurements through accreditation of calibration and test laboratories;
- The OIML, which provides model regulations for the performance, use and supervision of measuring instruments, and organizes mutual acceptance arrangements to facilitate international trade.

3. COOPERATION AND LIAISONS AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

The organizations in the World Metrology System (BIPM, ILAC, IAF and OIML) have established cooperation in various fields of activity through regular meetings, joint action plans and joint promotion of metrology, such as the BIPM and OIML joint web portal at: www.metrologyinfo.org.

The OIML has concluded Memoranda of Understanding with ISO and IEC with the objective to avoid duplication of work and to establish procedures for joint technical activities.

The OIML is a member of the *Joint Committee for Guides in Metrology* (JCGM), managed by the BIPM. The JCGM is responsible for the *International Vocabulary of Metrology* (VIM) and the *Guide to the Expression of Uncertainty in Measurement* (GUM) and associated publications.

The OIML has established liaisons with numerous international organizations representing stakeholders in the technical work of the OIML, such as the WTO, Codex Alimentarius, Regional Legal Metrology Organizations (RLMOs) and international organizations of users and manufacturers of measuring instruments.

4. OVERVIEW OF OIML TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES

The technical work in the OIML is carried out in Technical Committees (TCs) and Subcommittees (SCs). Each TC and SC has a secretariat for which the responsibility is assumed by one of the Member States. The BIPM has a coordinating role and is responsible for the final editing and publication of OIML Recommendations and Documents.

Technical activities are grouped into TCs according to the kind of quantity being measured (such as: electrical quantities, mass and density) or field of application (such as: measurement of pollutants, physico-chemical measurements, prepackages). Some TCs deal with horizontal issues (such as: terminology, metrological control).

Information about the TCs and SCs, their composition and activities, may be obtained from the OIML website at: http://www.oiml.org/tc_sc/.

The OIML also manages a Certificate System for type-approvals of measuring instruments and a Mutual Acceptance Arrangement (MAA), facilitating the acceptance of test results by participating Member States. Both systems aim to reduce technical barriers to trade and avoid duplication of tests in national or regional type-approval procedures.

5. OIML-CODEX LIAISON

Through the exchange of information and participation in each others activities, OIML and Codex create the conditions to:

- align labeling requirements and sampling procedures for the control of prepackaged products with the objective to reduce barriers to trade in prepackages;
- improve and harmonize the metrological requirements for the instruments and methods used in regulated applications within the scope of Codex.

The OIML will endeavor to answer any needs expressed by the Codex Committees concerning measuring instruments of interest to them.

6. OIML INTEREST IN CCFICS

OIML is currently developing a certification system for the quantity of product in prepackages (provisionally named "IQ Mark Scheme") with the aim to facilitate international trade in prepackaged products.

Certification will be based on the requirements in OIML Recommendation 87 "Quantity of product in prepackages" and Recommendation 79 "Labeling requirements for prepackaged products" and the appropriate requirements for conformity assessment contained in the ISO/IEC 17000-series standards.

Under the certification system envisaged, packers (manufacturers of prepackages) have their facilities for the filling of, and controlling the quantity of product in, prepackages assessed and are licensed to apply a conformity mark on prepackages specified in a certificate.

OIML is seeking cooperation with CCFICS to ensure that the "IQ Mark Scheme" is compatible with existing international certification systems for food products so that contradicting requirements and duplication of work may be avoided.

[FRANÇAIS]

L'ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DE METROLOGIE LEGALE (OIML)

1. OBJECTIF DE L'OIML

L'Organisation Internationale de Métrologie Légale (OIML) est une organisation intergouvernementale établie en 1955 par la Convention de l'OIML. Le Bureau International de Métrologie Légale (BIML), qui est le siège et le bureau exécutif de l'OIML, est basé à Paris, en France.

L'OIML est actuellement composée de 59 Etats Membres et de 57 Membres Correspondants.

Conformément à la Convention de l'OIML, les objectifs de l'organisation sont, entre autres, de :

- déterminer les principes généraux de la métrologie légale,
- établir des modèles de lois et réglementations sur les instruments de mesure ainsi que sur leur usage,
- déterminer les caractéristiques nécessaires et appropriées, ainsi que les étalons, auxquelles les instruments de mesure doivent être conformes de sorte qu'ils puissent être approuvés par les Etats Membres et que leurs utilisations puissent être recommandées internationalement.

Les principales publications de l'OIML sont les Recommandations Internationales (OIML R), que les Etats Membres doivent, dans la mesure du possible, mettre en application dans leur réglementation nationale et, les Documents Internationaux (OIML D), qui sont informatifs et destinés à harmoniser et améliorer les activités dans le domaine de la métrologie légale. L'OIML publie également des Guides, des Vocabulaires, des rapports d'Experts ainsi que le Bulletin OIML.

Selon les termes de l'accord OTC de l'OMC, l'OIML est une organisation internationale à activité normative et (les parties pertinentes) des Recommandations OIML sont considérées comme des normes internationales.

Toutes les publications de l'OIML, à l'exception des quatre dernières éditions du Bulletin OIML, peuvent être télécharger gratuitement depuis le site internet de l'OIML (www.oiml.org).

2. LE SYSTÈME MONDIAL DE MÉTROLOGIE

La métrologie est un élément indispensable à notre société moderne. Le commerce, la fabrication, la santé et la sécurité, etc. dépendent de résultats de mesure fiables. Un certain nombre d'organisations internationales, ayant chacune leur propre domaine d'expertise spécifique, forment ce que l'on nomme *le Système Mondial de Métrologie* :

- Le BIPM, l'organisation de la Convention du Mètre, qui est la plus haute autorité au regard de la définition des étalons internationaux de mesure et de la dissémination des unités de mesure auprès des Instituts Nationaux de Métrologie (INMs),
- ILAC et IAF, qui facilitent la traçabilité des mesures aux étalons nationaux et internationaux en fournissant la confiance dans les mesures au travers de l'accréditation des laboratoires d'étalonnage et d'essais,

L'OIML, qui fournit des modèles de réglementation sur les performances, l'utilisation et la supervision des instruments de mesure et qui organise des arrangements d'acceptation mutuelle afin de faciliter le commerce international.

3. COOPÉRATION ET LIAISON AU NIVEAU INTERNATIONAL

Les organisations du Système Mondial de Métrologie (BIPM, ILAC, IAF et l'OIML) ont établi des coopérations dans différents domaines d'activité au travers de réunions périodiques, de plans d'actions conjointes ainsi que de promotions conjointes de la métrologie telles que le portail internet conjoint OIML – BIPM : www.metrologyinfo.org

L'OIML a conclu des protocoles d'accord avec l'ISO et la CEI dans le but d'éviter la duplication de travaux et de définir les procédures permettant des activités techniques conjointes.

L'OIML est un membre du *Comité commun pour les guides en métrologie* (JCGM), piloté par le BIPM. Le JCGM est responsable du *Vocabulaire International de Metrology* (VIM) et du *Guide pour l'expression de l'incertitude de mesure* (GUM) ainsi que d'autres publications associées.

L'OIML a établi des liaisons avec de nombreuses organisations internationales représentant les parties intéressées par les travaux techniques de l'OIML, tel que l'OMC, le Codex Alimentarius, les Organisation Régionales de Métrologie Légale (ORMLs) et les organisations internationales d'utilisateurs et de fabricants d'instruments de mesure.

4. VUE D'ENSEMBLE SUR LES ACTIVITÉS TECHNIQUES DE L'OIML

Les travaux techniques de l'OIML sont réalisés au sein de Comités Techniques (TCs) et de Sous Comités (SCs). Chaque TC et SC a un secrétariat dont un Etat Membre assume la responsabilité. Le BIPM a un rôle de coordinateur et est responsable de l'édition et de la publication finale des Documents et Recommandations OIML. Les activités techniques sont regroupées en TCs selon la nature de la quantité devant être mesurée (grandeurs électriques, masse ou densité...) ou selon le domaine d'application (mesurage de polluants, mesures physico-chimiques, produits préemballés...). Certains TCs traitent de sujets transversaux (terminologie, contrôle métrologique).

Des informations relatives aux TCs et SCs, leur composition et leurs activités, sont disponibles sur le site internet de l'OIML à l'adresse suivante : http://www.oiml.org/tc_sc/.

L'OIML gère également un Système de Certificat d'approbations de type d'instruments de mesure ainsi qu'un Arrangement d'Acceptation Mutuelle (MAA), facilitant l'acceptation de résultats d'essais par les Etats Membres participants. Ces deux systèmes ont pour but de réduire les barrières techniques au commerce et d'éviter la duplication d'essais dans les procédures régionales ou nationales d'approbation de type.

5. LA LIAISON OIML - CODEX

Par l'échange d'information et la participation aux activités de l'autre, l'OIML et le Codex créent les conditions pour :

- aligner les exigences d'étiquetage et les procédures d'échantillonnage du contrôle des produits préemballés dans le but de réduire les barrières au commerce des produits préemballés,
- améliorer et harmoniser les exigences métrologiques pour les instruments et les méthodes employées dans des applications réglementées du ressort du Codex.

L'OIML s'efforcera de répondre aux besoins exprimés par les Comités du Codex concernant les instruments de mesure, et présentant un intérêt pour leurs activités.

6. L'INTÉRÊT DE L'OIML POUR LE CCFICS

L'OIML développe actuellement un système de certification de la quantité de produit des préemballés (provisoirement appelé "IQ Mark Scheme") dans le but de faciliter le commerce international des produits préemballés.

La Certification sera basée sur les exigences de la Recommandation OIML R 87 "Quantité des préemballages" et de la Recommandation R 79 "Exigences pour l'étiquetage des produits préemballés" ainsi que sur les exigences pertinentes d'évaluation de la conformité contenues dans la série des normes ISO/CEI 17000.

Sous le système de certification envisagé, les préemballeurs (fabricants de préemballés) sont soumis à une évaluation de leurs installations, pour le remplissage et le contrôle de la quantité de produit des préemballés, et des produits préemballés proprement dit, et sont autorisés à apposer sur les produits préemballés une marque de conformité spécifiée dans un certificat.

L'OIML recherche à coopérer avec le CCFICS dans le but de s'assurer que le "IQ Mark Scheme" est compatible avec les systèmes internationaux existants de certification pour des produits alimentaires afin d'éviter toute exigence contradictoire et toute duplication des travaux.

ISO (CASCO)

[ENGLISH]

CASCO is a policy committee of the ISO Central Secretariat covering the area of conformity assessment policy and practice. At present CASCO membership comprises 107 members, including 76 P-members and 31 O-members.

ISO/CASCO in cooperation with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) provides a comprehensive range of standards and guides for the implementation and recognition of good conformity assessment practices, suitable for all forms of first, second and third party involvement and evaluation, widely used by suppliers, conformity assessment operators and accreditors and recognized by customers and public authorities.

1. CASCO STRUCTURE

CASCO consists of 3 policy groups and a number of working groups (WG's). The policy groups are:

Chairman's Policy and Coordination Group (CPC) - this group gives recognition to the policy role of CASCO and oversees the internal coordination of the CASCO work.

Strategic Alliance and Regulator Group (STAR) - of which CODEX is a member, provides the main mechanism that CASCO has to interact with intergovernmental and industry sector groups.

Technical Interface Group (TIG) - interacts with other Technical Committees in ISO to ensure that the policies of CASCO are consistently applied in the standards of other Technical Committees.

CASCO WG's are responsible for the development of the various standards and guides. The WG's are composed of experts nominated by CASCO P members and organizations in liaison with CASCO. CASCO WG's endeavour to maintain a balance of interests and all documents are consensus based.

2. ONGOING TECHNICAL WORK

The CASCO technical projects are progressed by their respective working groups. These projects include the development of the following documents:

- ISO/IEC 17007, *Conformity Assessment — Guidelines for the drafting standards and specified requirements for conformity assessment*
- ISO/IEC 17021 Part 2, *Conformity Assessment — Requirements for third party certification auditing of management systems*
- ISO/IEC 17043, *Conformity assessment — General Requirements for proficiency testing*
- ISO/IEC 17065, *Conformity assessment — Requirements for certification bodies certifying products (including services) and processes.*

CASCO will start to revise two standards: ISO/IEC 17020 on inspection and ISO/IEC 17024 on personnel certification in late 2008.

CASCO has to date developed 27 standards and guides which are commonly referred to as the "CASCO toolbox" covering:

- conformity assessment vocabulary, principles and common elements of conformity assessment;
- codes of good practice;
- product, system and persons certification;
- testing, calibration, inspection, marks of conformity;
- suppliers declaration of conformity, accreditation, peer assessment, and mutual recognition arrangement.

A full listing of the ISO/CASCO documents is given in annex A.

CASCO does not encourage the unnecessary proliferation of sector specific conformity assessment schemes. However where there is a valid need CASCO will assist the ISO Technical Committee in developing their conformity assessment requirements. Examples of which are:

ISO 22003 Food safety management systems – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of food safety management systems;

ISO 22222 Personal financial planning – Requirements for personal financial planners.

3. EXTERNAL REPRESENTATIONS

It is generally recognised that the non acceptance of test reports and certificates are one of the major obstacles to trade. CASCO actively promotes the use of the CASCO toolbox to intergovernmental organizations, regulators and stakeholders to achieve a harmonious approach to conformity assessment. CASCO also promotes the consistent application of conformity assessment standards and guides and thus facilitates the exchange of certificates and reports.

The CASCO toolbox is available to organizations to implement as a means of facilitating international recognition and acceptance of conformity assessment based on confidence and good practice

4. CASCO LIAISONS

CASCO has established A liaisons status with 15 international organizations. Recently CODEX Alimentarius established A liaison status with CASCO. This gives CODEX the right to participate in all CASCO working groups. The current list of A liaisons with CASCO is:

[BIPM](#)²⁶, [CEOC](#)²⁷, CODEX Alimentarius, [EQQ](#)²⁸, [Eurolab](#)²⁹, [IAF](#)³⁰, [IFAN](#)³¹, [IFIA](#)³², [IIOC](#)³³, [ILAC](#)³⁴, [IQNET](#)³⁵, [ITU-T](#)³⁶, [IPC](#)³⁷, [OIML](#)³⁸ and [UILI](#)³⁹.

CASCO has also established a number of D liaisons with other organizations which facilitates their participation in the specific WG's.

5. NEXT CASCO PLENARY MEETING

The next CASCO plenary will be held on 30-31 October 2008 in Geneva. CASCO will present a workshop on market surveillance immediately prior to the 2008 CASCO plenary (29 October). This will allow different experiences in market surveillance from around the world to be shared and to identify possible future actions.

²⁶ *Bureau International des Poids et Mesures*

²⁷ *International Confederation of Inspection and Certification Organizations*

²⁸ *European Organisation for Quality*

²⁹ *European Federation of National Associations of Measurement, Testing and Analytical Laboratories*

³⁰ *International Accreditation Forum*

³¹ *International Federation of Standards Users*

³² *International Federation of Inspection Agencies*

³³ *Independent International Organisation for Certification*

³⁴ *International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation*

³⁵ *The International Certification Network*

³⁶ *International Telecommunication Union, Telecommunication Standardization Sector*

³⁷ *International Personnel Certification Association*

³⁸ *Organisation Internationale de Métrologie Légale*

³⁹ *Union Internationale des Laboratoires Indépendants*

LIST OF CASCO GUIDES AND STANDARDS BY FIELD OF APPLICATION

<i>Vocabulary, principles and common elements of conformity assessment</i>	<p>ISO/IEC 17000: 2004</p> <p>ISO PAS 17001: 2005</p> <p>ISO PAS 17002: 2004</p> <p>ISO PAS 17003: 2004</p> <p>ISO PAS 17004: 2005</p> <p>ISO PAS 17005: 2008</p>	<p>Conformity assessment - Vocabulary and general principles</p> <p>Conformity assessment - Impartiality - Principles and requirements</p> <p>Conformity assessment - Confidentiality - Principles and requirements</p> <p>Conformity assessment - Complaints and appeals - Principles and requirements</p> <p>Conformity assessment - Disclosure of information - Principles and requirements</p> <p>Conformity assessment - Use of management systems - Principles and requirements</p>
<i>Product certification</i>	<p>ISO/IEC Guide 23: 1982 Reconfirmed in 2003</p> <p>ISO/IEC Guide 28: 2004</p> <p>ISO/IEC Guide 53: 2005</p> <p>ISO/IEC Guide 65: 1996</p> <p>ISO/IEC Guide 67: 2004</p>	<p>Methods of indicating conformity with standards for third-party certification systems</p> <p>Conformity assessment - Guidance on a third-party certification system for products</p> <p>Conformity assessment - Guidance on the use of an organization's quality management system in product certification</p> <p>General requirements for bodies operating product certification systems</p> <p>Conformity assessment - Fundamentals of product certification</p>
<i>Code of good practice for conformity assessment</i>	ISO/IEC Guide 60: 2004	Conformity assessment - Code of good practice
<i>Mutual Recognition Arrangements (MRAs)</i>	ISO/IEC Guide 68: 2002	Arrangements for the recognition and acceptance of conformity assessment results
<i>Accreditation</i>	ISO/IEC 17011: 2004	Conformity assessment - General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies
<i>Inspection</i>	ISO/IEC 17020: 1998 Reconfirmed in 2002	General criteria for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection
<i>System certification</i>	ISO/IEC 17021:2006	Conformity assessment - General requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems
<i>Certification of persons</i>	ISO/IEC 17024: 2003	Conformity assessment - General requirements for bodies operating certification of persons
<i>Testing/calibration</i>	<p>ISO/IEC 17025: 2005</p> <p>ISO/IEC Guide 43-1: 1997</p> <p>ISO/IEC Guide 43-2: 1997</p>	<p>General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories</p> <p>Proficiency testing by interlaboratory comparisons – Part 1: Development and operation of proficiency testing schemes</p> <p>Proficiency testing by interlaboratory comparisons – Part 2: Selection and use of proficiency testing schemes by laboratory accreditation bodies</p>
<i>Marks of conformity</i>	<p>ISO Guide 27: 1983 Reconfirmed in 2003</p> <p>ISO/IEC 17030: 2003</p>	<p>Guidelines for corrective action to be taken by a certification body in the event of misuse of its mark of conformity</p> <p>Conformity assessment - General requirements for third-party marks of conformity</p>
<i>Peer assessment</i>	ISO/IEC 17040: 2005	Conformity assessment - General requirements for peer assessment of conformity assessment bodies and accreditation bodies

<i>Supplier's Declaration of Conformity (SDoC)</i>	ISO/IEC 17050-1: 2004	Conformity assessment - Supplier's declaration of conformity - Part 1: General requirements
	ISO/IEC 17050-2: 2004	Conformity assessment - Supplier's declaration of conformity - Part 2: Supporting documentation

LIST OF CASCO PROJECTS UNDER WAY

<i>Writing specifications for use in conformity assessment</i>	ISO/IEC 17007 [CASCO WG 27] Revision of ISO/IEC Guide 7:1994 DIS launched on 2008-06-20.	Conformity assessment – Guidelines for drafting normative documents suitable for use for conformity assessment
<i>Auditing competence</i>	ISO/IEC 17021 Part 2 [CASCO WG 21] CD closed on 2008-07-12.	Conformity assessment – Requirements for third party certification auditing of management systems
<i>Proficiency testing</i>	ISO/IEC 17043 [CASCO WG 28] Revision of ISO/IEC Guide 43:1997 CD closed on 2008-06-14.	Conformity assessment – General requirements for proficiency testing
<i>Product certification</i>	ISO/IEC 17065 [CASCO WG 29] Revision of ISO/IEC Guide 65:1996 Working Draft in progress.	Conformity assessment – Requirements for certification bodies certifying products (including services) and processes

[FRANÇAIS]

Le CASCO est un Comité de l'ISO chargé de l'élaboration d'orientations politiques concernant les politiques et pratiques en matière d'évaluation de la conformité. A ce jour, le CASCO compte 107 membres, dont 76 membres participants (P) et 31 membres observateurs (O).

L'ISO/CASCO, en coopération avec la Commission électrotechnique internationale (CEI), fournit une gamme complète de normes et de guides pour la mise en place et la reconnaissance de bonnes pratiques d'évaluation de la conformité. Ces référentiels, qui sont applicables à toute forme d'exercice ou d'évaluation par première, seconde ou tierce partie, sont largement utilisés par les fournisseurs, les organismes d'évaluation de la conformité et les organismes d'accréditation et sont reconnus par les clients et les autorités publiques.

1. STRUCTURE DU CASCO

Le CASCO est composé de 3 groupes d'orientation politique et d'un certain nombre de groupe de travail (GT). Les groupes d'orientation politique sont les suivants :

le Groupe du Président pour les politiques et la coordination (CPC) – ce groupe valide les orientations politiques du CASCO et supervise la coordination interne du travail du CASCO.

le Groupe Alliances stratégiques et réglementation (CASCO STAR) – ce groupe, dont fait partie le Codex, fournit le mécanisme principal permettant au CASCO d'interagir avec les groupes intergouvernementaux et industriels.

le Groupe Interface technique (CASCO TIG) – ce groupe interagit avec d'autres comités techniques de l'ISO afin de veiller à ce que les orientations politiques du CASCO soient systématiquement appliquées dans les normes élaborées par lesdits comités techniques.

Les groupes de travail du CASCO (GT) sont responsables du développement des normes et des guides. Ces GT, qui sont composés d'experts nommés par les membres participants (P) en liaison avec le CASCO, s'attachent à maintenir l'équilibre des intérêts représentés et à respecter le principe du consensus pour les documents qu'ils élaborent.

2. TRAVAIL TECHNIQUE EN COURS

Les projets techniques du CASCO sont menés à bien au sein des différents groupes de travail. Parmi les projets en cours figurent les documents suivants:

- ISO/CEI 17007, *Evaluation de la conformité — Lignes directrices pour la rédaction de normes et d'exigences spécifiques pour l'évaluation de la conformité*
- ISO/CEI 17021, Partie 2, *Evaluation de la conformité — Exigences pour les organismes procédant à l'audit et à la certification de systèmes de management*
- ISO/CEI 17043, *Evaluation de la conformité — Exigences générales pour les essais d'aptitudes*
- ISO/CEI 17065, *Evaluation de la conformité — Exigences générales relatives aux organismes de certification procédant à la certification de produits (y compris les services).*

A la fin 2008, le CASCO commencera la révision de deux normes: l'ISO/CEI 17020 (sur l'inspection) et l'ISO/CEI 17024 (sur la certification du personnel).

A ce jour, le CASCO a développé 27 normes et guides. Cet ensemble – la « Boîte à outils du CASCO » – constitue un dispositif complet, qui couvre différents aspects :

- vocabulaire, principes généraux et éléments communs de l'évaluation de la conformité;
- code de bonne pratique pour l'évaluation de la conformité;
- certification de produits, systèmes et personnes;
- essais, étalonnage, inspection, marques de conformité;
- déclaration de conformité du fournisseur, accréditation, évaluation par des pairs et reconnaissance mutuelle des résultats.

Une liste complète des documents de l'ISO/CASCO figure à l'annexe A.

Le CASCO n'est pas favorable à une profusion de systèmes d'évaluation de la conformité spécifiques à chaque secteur. Mais, si le besoin le justifie, le CASCO prêtera assistance au comité technique de l'ISO concerné, dans l'élaboration des exigences requises en matière d'évaluation de la conformité.

Quelques exemples :

L'ISO 22003, *Systèmes de management de la sécurité des denrées alimentaires — Exigences pour les organismes procédant à l'audit et à la certification de systèmes de management de la sécurité des denrées alimentaires* ;

L'ISO 2222, *Conseil en gestion de patrimoine — Exigences pour les conseillers en gestion de patrimoine.*

3. RECONNAISSANCE À L'INTERNATIONAL

La non-reconnaissance des rapports d'essais et des certificats est l'un des obstacles majeurs au commerce. Le CASCO s'attache à promouvoir activement sa « Boîte à outils » auprès des organisations intergouvernementales, des législateurs et des parties prenantes, en visant une approche harmonieuse de l'évaluation de la conformité. Le CASCO fait de même en ce qui concerne l'application cohérente des normes et guides relatifs à l'évaluation de la conformité, et facilite ainsi les échanges de certificats et de rapports.

La « Boîte à outil » du CASCO offre aux entreprises qui la mettent en œuvre une meilleure reconnaissance internationale et une validation des évaluations de conformité fondées sur la confiance et les bonnes pratiques.

4. LIAISONS

Le CASCO a établi des liaisons de type A avec 15 organisations internationales (voir ci-dessous) et, depuis peu, avec le CODEX Alimentarius, qui peut ainsi participer à tous les groupes de travail du CASCO. Les organisations internationales en question sont les suivantes :

[BIPM](#)⁴⁰, [CEOC](#)⁴¹, CODEX Alimentarius, [EOQ](#)⁴², [Eurolab](#)⁴³, [IAF](#)⁴⁴, [IFAN](#)⁴⁵, [IFIA](#)⁴⁶, [IIOC](#)⁴⁷, [ILAC](#)⁴⁸, [IQNET](#)⁴⁹, [ITU-T](#)⁵⁰, [IPC](#)⁵¹, [OIML](#)⁵² et [UILI](#)⁵³.

Le CASCO a également établi un certain nombre de liaisons de type D avec d'autres organisations, ce qui facilite leur participation au sein de groupes de travail spécifiques.

5. PROCHAINE RÉUNION PLÉNIÈRE DU CASCO

La prochaine réunion plénière du CASCO se tiendra les 30 et 31 octobre 2008 à Genève. Le CASCO organise le 29 octobre un atelier sur la surveillance des marchés qui permettra un échange d'expériences en la matière et d'identifier d'éventuelles actions à mener pour l'avenir.

ANNEXE A

LISTE DES GUIDES ET NORMES DU CASCO PAR DOMAINE

<i>Vocabulaire, principes et éléments communs de l'évaluation de la conformité</i>	ISO/CEI 17000 : 2004	Évaluation de la conformité — Vocabulaire et principes généraux
	ISO PAS 17001 : 2005	Évaluation de la conformité — Impartialité — Principes et exigences
	ISO PAS 17002 : 2004	Évaluation de la conformité — Confidentialité — Principes et exigences
	ISO PAS 17003 : 2004	Évaluation de la conformité — Plaintes et appels — Principes et exigences
	ISO PAS 17004 : 2005	Évaluation de la conformité — Divulgence d'informations — Principes et exigences
	ISO PAS 17005 : 2008	Évaluation de la conformité — Utilisation des systèmes de management — Principes et exigences
<i>Certification de produits</i>	Guide ISO/CEI 23 : 1982 Reconfirmé en 2003	Modes d'indication de la conformité aux normes dans les systèmes de certification par une tierce partie
	Guide ISO/CEI 28 : 2004	Évaluation de la conformité — Lignes directrices pour un système type de certification des produits par une tierce partie
	Guide ISO/CEI 53 : 2005	Évaluation de la conformité — Lignes directrices sur l'utilisation du système de management de la qualité d'un organisme dans le domaine de la certification des produits
	Guide ISO/CEI 65 : 1996	Exigences générales relatives aux organismes procédant à la certification de produits
	Guide ISO/CEI 67 : 2004	Évaluation de la conformité — Éléments fondamentaux de la certification de produits
<i>Code de bonne pratique pour l'évaluation de la conformité</i>	Guide ISO/CEI 60 : 2004	Évaluation de la conformité — Code de bonne pratique
<i>Reconnaissance mutuelle des résultats</i>	Guide ISO/CEI 68 : 2002	Arrangements concernant la reconnaissance et l'acceptation des résultats d'évaluation de la conformité

⁴⁰ Bureau international des poids et mesures

⁴¹ International Confederation of Inspection and Certification Organizations

⁴² Organisation européenne pour la qualité

⁴³ European Federation of National Associations of Measurement, Testing and Analytical Laboratories

⁴⁴ Forum international de l'accréditation

⁴⁵ Fédération internationale des utilisateurs de normes

⁴⁶ Fédération internationale des agences d'inspection

⁴⁷ Independent International Organisation for Certification

⁴⁸ Coopération internationale sur l'agrément des laboratoires d'essais

⁴⁹ Réseau international de certification

⁵⁰ Union internationale des télécommunications, Secteur de la normalisation des télécommunications

⁵¹ International Personnel Certification Association

⁵² Organisation Internationale de métrologie légale

⁵³ Union internationale des laboratoires indépendants

Accréditation	ISO/CEI 17011: 2004	Évaluation de la conformité — Exigences générales pour les organismes d'accréditation procédant à l'accréditation d'organismes d'évaluation de la conformité
Inspection	ISO/CEI 17020: 1998 Reconfirmé en 2002	Critères généraux pour le fonctionnement de différents types d'organismes procédant à l'inspection
Certification des systèmes	ISO/CEI 17021:2006	Évaluation de la conformité — Exigences pour les organismes procédant à l'audit et à la certification de systèmes de management
Certification des personnes	ISO/CEI 17024: 2003	Évaluation de la conformité — Exigences générales pour les organismes de certification procédant à la certification de personnes
Essai/étalonnage	ISO/CEI 17025: 2005 ISO/CEI Guide 43-1: 1997 ISO/CEI Guide 43-2: 1997	Exigences générales concernant la compétence des laboratoires d'étalonnages et d'essais Essais d'aptitude des laboratoires par intercomparaison — Partie 1 : Développement et mise en oeuvre de systèmes d'essais d'aptitude Essais d'aptitude des laboratoires par intercomparaison — Partie 2 : Sélection et utilisation de systèmes d'essais d'aptitude par des organismes d'accréditation de laboratoires
Marques de conformité	ISO Guide 27: 1983 Reconfirmé en 2003	Instructions visant les mesures correctives à prendre par un organisme de certification dans le cas d'usage abusif de sa marque de conformité
	ISO/CEI 17030: 2003	Évaluation de la conformité — Exigences générales pour les marques de conformité par tierce partie
Evaluation par des pairs	ISO/CEI 17040: 2005	Évaluation de la conformité — Exigences générales relatives à l'évaluation par des pairs des organismes d'évaluation de la conformité et des organismes d'accréditation
Déclaration de conformité du fournisseur (SDoC)	ISO/CEI 17050-1: 2004	Évaluation de la conformité — Déclaration de conformité du fournisseur — Partie 1 : Exigences générales
	ISO/CEI 17050-2: 2004	Évaluation de la conformité — Déclaration de conformité du fournisseur — Partie 2 : Documentation d'appui

LISTE DES PROJETS DU CASCO EN COURS

Rédaction des spécifications applicables à l'évaluation de la conformité	ISO/CEI 17007 [CASCO GT 27] Révision du Guide ISO/CEI 7:1994 Lancement du DIS le 2008-06-20.	Évaluation de la conformité -- Lignes directrices pour la rédaction de documents normatifs appropriés pour l'évaluation de la conformité
Compétence des auditeurs	ISO/CEI 17021 Part 2 [CASCO GT 21] Étape CD achevée le 2008-07-12.	Évaluation de la conformité -- Partie 2 : Exigences pour l'audit de certification par tierce partie de systèmes de management
Essais d'aptitude	ISO/CEI 17043 [CASCO GT 28] Révision du Guide ISO/CEI 43:1997 Étape CD achevée le 2008-06-14.	Évaluation de la conformité – Exigences générales pour les essais d'aptitudes
Certification de produit	ISO/CEI 17065 [CASCO GT 29] Révision du Guide ISO/CEI 65:1996 Projet de travail (WD) en cours.	Évaluation de la conformité -- Exigences pour les organismes de certification fournissant une certification de produit (incluant les services) et de procédés