

codex alimentarius commission

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FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME CODEX COMMITTEE ON MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS

**Ninth Session
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OIE CONTRIBUTION TO THE 9TH SESSION OF THE CODEX COMMITTEE ON MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS *

1. The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) thanks the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) and the Codex Committee on Milk and Milk Products (CCMMP) for the opportunity to contribute to the important process of standards development for dairy products.
2. Since 2001 the OIE mandate has included setting standards for animal production food safety, i.e. the management of food safety risks arising at the farm level. In 2002, the OIE established a permanent Working Group on Animal Production Food Safety (APFSWG) with a view to improving the coordination and harmonisation between OIE and CAC in regard to the setting of standards for the entire food chain. The Secretary of Codex and (as an observer) the Chair of Codex regularly attend the annual meeting of the Working Group. Through this mechanism and through participation in each other's standard setting procedures, the OIE and CAC collaborate in the development of standards for the food production continuum. This collaboration has proved beneficial in avoiding gaps, duplication and contradictions in the SPS standards of these two World Trade Organisation reference organisations.
3. The OIE continues to work with FAO and WHO towards the establishment of a legal base for the development of joint OIE-Codex standards. The OIE proposal to update the legal base in the Agreement between the OIE and the WHO is making progress and will be discussed at the World Health Assembly in May 2010.
4. The topic of joint OIE/Codex standards was discussed at the 25th session of the Codex Committee on General Principles, where it was decided that the Secretariats of Codex and the OIE should prepare a discussion paper for consideration at the next CCGP meeting. The OIE believes that this proposal would greatly assist in further strengthening the relationship between our two organisations.
5. Recent developments of relevance to the CCMMP include:
 - i. Terrestrial Animal Health Code Chapter 5.10. on Model veterinary certificates for international trade in live animals, hatching eggs and products of animal origin was adopted at the 76th OIE General Session in May 2008. These certificates replace previous versions and the chapter includes a new Model Veterinary Certificate for International Trade in Products of Animal Origin. This model certificate was developed to ensure harmonisation with the Codex Model Export Certificate for Milk and Milk Products (CAC/GL 67-2008). The chapter includes notes for guidance of officials preparing certificates for international trade.
 - ii. Terrestrial Code Chapter 11.7. on Bovine tuberculosis was reviewed and a revised chapter adopted at the 77th OIE General Session in May 2009.

* Document prepared by and under the responsibility of OIE

- iii. An OIE ad hoc Group on Bovine brucellosis will meet in November 2009 to review the Terrestrial Code Chapter. Inter alia, the Group will be asked to consider the need for recommendations for the importation of milk and milk products of bovine origin with respect to the risks associated with bovine brucellosis.
 - iv. Terrestrial Code Chapter 8.1. on Anthrax is under review, including the recommendations for heat treatment of milk and milk products intended for human consumption.
6. The OIE will continue to address food safety at the farm level as a high priority in its standard-setting work and will work closely with CAC and with other international organisations in promoting safe international trade in animal products.